

THE CAISTORIAN



2021



THE CAISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION.

CONTACTS

EDITOR

Eddie Cook

eddie.cook@caistorgrammar.com

To contribute to the magazine please email Eddie or write to Eddie Cook, Old Rectory, Main Street, Osgodby, Market Rasen, Lincs, LN8 3TA.

SCHOOL OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Katherine Jago

katherine.jago@caistorgrammar.com

To contact the School please email Katherine.

THE CHAIR of THE CAISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION

Tom Hunter

tomjudyhun@ntlworld.com

To donate items to the School Archive please email Tom.

CAREERS EVENTS COORDINATOR

Kathryn Bradbury

Kathrynbradbury@caistorgrammar.com

To offer careers advice for School students please email Kathryn.

OUR WEBSITES

Main website:

[www.caistorgrammar.com/our school/caistorians](http://www.caistorgrammar.com/our-school/caistorians)

Photo archive

www.flickr.com/photos/caistorians/

THERE ARE ALSO TWO 'LinkedIn' GROUPS ADMINISTERED BY

Katherine Jago

'Caistor Grammar School' and 'Old Caistorians'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thank you to all the people who have helped to produce this year's Caistorian. Polly Baxter, Shona Buck, Shirley Bury, Janet Dobson, Enid Fowler, Katherine Jago, Charlotte Linsell, Jane Linsell, Tricia Sharpe, Sharon Woodhouse, Richard Davey, Graham Dobson, Alistair Hopkins, Andrew Hunter, Tom Hunter, Graeme Kemshall and Adam Pountney deserve particular thanks. Many thanks also to everyone who has contributed news, anecdotes and stories. Thanks also to current CGS students whose articles from the school newspaper 'Caistor Focus' have been used in this magazine.

Thanks also to Joanna Taylor and others at Systematic, Caistor for printing our magazine and to Martin Sizer at Caistor Post Office for his help.

To retain the authenticity of contributions, such as extracts from the School's newspaper 'Caistor Focus' as well as accounts from Caistorians, there may be grammatical errors and inaccuracies. The Editor accepts responsibility for any errors or omissions.

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AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Caistorians,

Thank you to everyone who has sent contributions to this year's magazine. Please keep the news and the stories coming! Having said that we have had to expand the magazine from 72 to 88 pages to fit everything in and even with the maximum number of pages that we could afford we have still had to keep some articles for the 2022 edition! I am pleased to say in 2022 there will be more from well-known Caistorians who have already kindly agreed to write articles.

In next year's edition we also want to explore "Caistor Grammar School Connections". We thought this could initially be family connections to School. For instance, have you a parent, grandparent or even great grandparent who attended the school as a pupil or who worked at CGS? I hope we'll be able to find the family who have the oldest connection with CGS. We are also keen to find the family with the most connections with the School. So please write and stake your claim. You could draw your CGS family tree or just write the family connections. How far back does CGS feature and how broad are the connections?

We'd also like to hear about connections around the globe and around the country. Where have you met Caistorians? Have you a story to tell of the most unusual place you came across a fellow Caistorian or the most distant place? I think Charlotte Linsell may well have met some of you in far away places. I know that Lee Jackson (2003 – 10) and Laurence Dobson (2006 – 2013) both work at Jaguar Land Rover at Gaydon in Warwickshire – but are yet to meet!

Last year the Sunday Times created the accolade of "Schools of the Decade". In a difficult year in so many ways it was wonderful to see CGS win in the East Midlands region. Quite an accomplishment! Roger Hale (Headmaster 1996 – 2016) sent me some interesting graphs from the Sunday Times showing CGS to be in the top 100 schools in the country for GCSE and A level in almost all of the years since 2010. As he says "It's a pity they didn't start this game in the nineties; CGS might have been collecting its fourth championship in a row today!". (Roger was never one to hide the achievements of students at CGS under a bushell).

Thanks to Jane (Handbury 1958 – 65) Willis for sending me the following. She writes "Some years ago I came across this piece. Perhaps a way to approach the future?"

Today I would like to share "lots" with you.

Care a lot, and share a lot but never court despair a lot.

Strive a lot, and thrive a lot, by keeping hopes alive a lot.

Befriend a lot, and mend a lot of bridges we can tend a lot.

Try a lot, apply a lot of never saying die a lot.

(Francis Gay)

I also hope it helps to make it clear to students past and present that 'alot' isn't a word!

Best wishes,
Eddie Cook (Editor)

A LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Caistorian,

October 2021

It is hard to believe that I am again writing to Caistorians. Last year I was ruminating on bubbles, control measures and close contact. These have diminished a little and the ability to risk assess absolutely everything that happens in School is an attribute that I hope we can put into hibernation for several more years.



School is now back to normal - or as normal as can be - but what has continued to impress me about School is its indefatigable spirit. The virus is still with us, but we are doing our best to cope with it. We have a new one-way system, students wait outside for lessons, and we have had to reduce the size of our assembly gatherings. Clubs have begun again. Sports fixtures are happening and we have just enjoyed a phenomenal version of *Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat* in the Town Hall. The year's gap between productions means the school production has returned with

more gusto than before - if you can imagine that. This production underlined for me the three attributes of CGS: community, creativity and collaboration.

No matter what is happening, there is a common urgency to support one another and to do our best for the students. This was also evident in lockdown when teachers were seemingly able to create the most amazing lessons via Microsoft Teams, despite only a few weeks practice. Although it was a challenge, during the January to March lockdown, the students were extremely well served.

In the summer term, we slowly returned to some form of normality. Extra-curricular trips could begin again, we were informed, if they were UK-based. Students were able to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, taking this opportunity with both hands. We welcomed more students than ever before into the Sixth Form (100+) and we ended the year with three days of friendly (but also competitive) House competitions in year groups to preserve the bubbles.

We also said farewell to several long serving colleagues. Mr Colin Sunter (Head of Maths, and then Assistant Head) retired, as did Mrs Tara Taylor (Biology), my PA Deborah Craddock, and Mr Dave Shepherd (PE). All will be remembered for their incredible contribution to the School: from French trips to timetabling, to field courses to simply making the School a kind place to work. Their legacy will live on through the lives of pupils they influenced.

All good wishes,

Alistair Hopkins, Headmaster.

Charlotte's year 2021 written by her daughter Jane Linsell (1965 – 72)

2021 was another challenging year for Charlotte with Covid restrictions limiting contact with family and friends as for so many others. Despite this she has managed to keep fairly well. Although her memory has got worse, she is still quick to correct my grammar. She was one of the few people to have both Covid vaccinations in the 3 week window before the timescale was extended. She has just received her booster dose.

Lockdowns and Tier restrictions meant that for the first time in 30 years, Charlotte spent Christmas in Caistor with her good friend Glenis, instead of joining John Brown and myself in Beckenham. Her lovely neighbour Lisa kindly provided them with Christmas lunch.

In the last 3 months, some normality has returned with embroidery classes, the WI and chapel attendance restarting.

Travel remains very limited. However, Charlotte, Jane and Glenis managed an overnight stay to attend Love's Labour's Lost at the Stamford Shakespeare Theatre at Toilethorpe Hall. Thankfully the audience were under cover as it poured with rain. It was the first time in over a year that Charlotte had spent a night away from Caistor.

She and Glenis managed a coach tour weekend away to the Cotswolds. Unfortunately, a September cruise to the Baltic and Russia was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. She is now looking forward to a cruise to the Canaries in December with all the family. My brother Charles and his wife are expecting to join us from Guernsey, meeting up for the first time in person since December 2019. Zoom doesn't seem to be the same as in person.

Charlotte has really appreciated phone calls and visits from Old Caistorians.

She sends her best wishes for 2022 to you all.



NEWS FROM CGS

The School said farewell and thank you to a number of key staff. Longest serving is Mrs Tara Taylor (Biology) who has been teaching for 28 years and has dedicated 27 years of her career to the students of Caistor Grammar School. Mrs Taylor has worked in the former boarding house (Lindsey), has run the mentoring system and has worked in different pastoral roles across the School. The Whisby Year 7 trip, one of the first trips we ran once restrictions were lifted, is part of her legacy. Mrs Taylor's gentle determination to get the best out of her students is the hallmark of an excellent teacher: students find the journey challenging, but they arrive at their destination, overcoming any impediment, due to the undiminished persistence of their teacher. We all wish Tara and husband Tim an exciting journey as they set to work on their small holding.



Mrs Deborah Craddock (Head's PA) is retiring after 18 years of exceptional dedication in the role. She has taken on several administrative roles in her time, including Clerk to Governors (2014-19) and Safeguarding Administration and Admissions (since 2019). She has led the updating of the admissions process by moving it online. We will remember her for her kindness, empathy and sharp sense of humour.

Mr Dave Shepherd (PE) is also leaving us having joined us from De Aston School in 2010. He has played several roles in the school, while continuing to focus on his PE job. He has supported careers, PSHE, run several successful football, cricket and badminton teams, run ski trips, supported the Year 7 Newlands trip and has driven the minibus for numerous Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions. Students will remember him for his dry sense of humour, calm nature and kindness. He has ambitious plans for travelling with his wife Anna once restrictions are lifted.



We also say farewell to Mrs Rebecca Shilling (Art Technician), who is stepping down after eight years to spend more time to support her family. In her eight years at the school, we benefited from her artistic flair: much of student art around the site was hung by her.

Thanks to Mr Lawrence Gardiner (maternity cover Classics) who covered Miss Ruth Wildman's maternity this year. He is starting work at James Allen Girls School in London in September.

Mr Josh Hughes (temporary Art Technician) who is heading to the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, Miss Maya McCann (Performing Arts Technician) who is heading to the University of Durham. Considering our extra-curricular activities have been significantly restricted, they have been busier than ever this year.



Staff joining CGS are as follows: Mr Will Wood joined the maths department in January 2021 and took up the position of Head of Hansard in Sept 2021. Mrs Charlie Coulston is the Head's new PA. Mrs Jo Banks has joined the science dept. (p/t) and Mrs Kelly Hutchings the PE department (p/t). Miss Emily Barratt has moved from PE Technician to Environment Technician (p/t). Mrs Kelly Lane is in the Humanities department teaching both Geography and History. Mrs Billie O'Leary has joined the site team and Mr Rio Rawlings (student 2014 - 2021) has joined the Art department as an Artist in Residence. Mrs Jessica Watts has joined the catering team.

News of the proposed new build and, at last, the removal of the portacabins.

We are still investigating the possible site options for the new build but hope to have that decided upon soon and planning permission submitted before Christmas, with a view to having work done, rather ambitiously, by September 2022. The intention is to build a new teaching block containing 3 classrooms, but the concerning issue we face, in addition to the uniqueness of the site, is the rocketing building costs. However, we are grateful for Sir Edward Leigh MP highlighting our plight in the House of Commons.

In January 2022 work will begin on the new roof over the gym and the Manning building. The focus for the next round of Condition Improvement Fund bids will be to improve the New Hall (the old

swimming pool for those with a longer memory). The bid will aim to remove the cladding and replace it while retaining the existing frame.

The staff and students are proving to be an athletic bunch who are up for a challenge! During this autumn's half term Dan Wilton (Head of German) covered the full 165 km length of the Berlin Wall. He ran 130km over 4 days and walked 35km on days 3 and 6. In



September 2021 Athanasia Ellerby (PE and Head of Y8 and 9) ran the London Marathon in London in 4 hours and 1 minute. Chris Frost (Assistant Head) ran the virtual London Marathon around Lincs in 4 hours and 32 minutes. Alice Fearn in Year 10 ran the mini marathon in London finishing 30th. This inspired Athanasia Ellerby to organise in school the Virgin Mini Marathon for Schools for all students to take part in 2.6 miles during a PE lesson - 350 students completed the distance. The aim was to increase physical activity and raise funds for new equipment for the Fitness Suite.

Stephen (Stevie) Markham is now the longest serving member of staff at CGS having joined in September 1998.



Bridget (King 1960 – 1965) Blow, CBE

Bridget Blow, is currently Chairman of GTP3 LLP, a Director of G-Labs and the Senior Independent Director of England Netball. Her previous non-executive roles have included Chair of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Deputy Chair of the Coventry Building Society and Chairman of Harvard International plc.



Bridget was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2014 for services to Business in the West Midlands and an Honorary Doctorate of Science by Aston University in 2015. Her inspirational words for the Annual Awards online due to the covid lockdown were as follows:

"Congratulations to all the prize winners, very well done! It's an honour to be asked to put a few words together for your ceremony which will not be quite as usual but nevertheless important as a milestone of progress in the life of everyone at Caistor Grammar School.

I found myself unexpectedly at CGS as an eleven year old boarder. I passed my 11+ and expected to go to Brigg High School, I even had the uniform and then my father (a civil servant) got posted to Nairobi, Kenya at short notice. Whilst at the time this seemed a disappointment it turned into a most beneficial thing preparing me for life which is rarely straight forward. The teachers were amazingly dedicated to our learning and our development as people, although I may not have always appreciated that at the time. I enjoyed my time there; the only major irritation I still remember is the walk up the hill after a hard hockey match, I am sure there were other irritations but it's amazing how they recede in importance if you keep your focus on your main goal.

The first part of my career was in IT and my maths and logic honed at CGS enabled me to progress at ease. However, it wasn't long before I moved into team leader and management roles. It was here that those debates with one of the masters about why we had certain rules in the school began to be useful. Understanding how people and organisations work and what makes them successful is not down to one particular subject, it's the teachers who encourage and willingly debate that open up these ideas. I still ask a lot of questions and continue to learn, it's the only way, you don't know what you don't know often until you ask an open question that provides the key. Another life lesson I learnt at CGS was listening all the time, otherwise I might miss something important or even worse a really funny remark. (I have always enjoyed a laugh).

Today's organisations require people with resilience and determination. We have all had a massive jolt this year from the COVID 19 experience which was unexpected, but there are always unexpected external events to push people and organisations off course. They may or may not be as serious as COVID 19 but still enough to disrupt plans, reduce profits, or change an individual's life forever. People need to have confidence, resilience and determination to analyse the issues, make changes and get back on a new plan. It helps to have faced some adversity for the first time at a younger age, as having come through it provides confidence if there is a next time. I am sure that the lessons learnt by us all over the last 7 months will provide us with resilience and determination for the years ahead so we can take advantage of the opportunities and happiness that a great education and a full life can bring. My very best wishes to all at CGS.

**THE CAISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING:
MARRIAGES, FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES and ENGAGEMENTS**

Greg Colebrook (2002 – 2009) & Zoe Dickinson got married on September 25th 2021

Alex Hibbert (CGS 2007-2014) and Ruby Tupling (CGS 2012-2015) on 31st July 2021 at Magdalene College Chapel, Cambridge

Georgina Gibbon (2002 – 2009) & Clifford Fearnley 14th August 2021

Georgia Rudd (2004 – 2011) married George Hebdon (2003 – 2010) earlier this year and they are now expecting their first child.

Louee Dessent-Jackson (2002 – 2009) & Emily Griffiths are to marry in March 2022



Sophie and Mark getting engaged just below the summit of Mt Teidi at sunrise in 2020



Mel Hall and Alfie Warwick on their wedding day

Alfie Warwick (CGS 2005-2012) and Mel Hall (CGS 2005-2012), married on

29th August 2021 in Caistor Church (photo left)

Sophie Purser (1994 – 2001) and Mark Quint got engaged in 2020 (photo above right)

Laurence Dobson (2006 – 2013) and Emily Naisbett became engaged on Friday 22nd October on a holiday in Sorrento, Italy.

Coel Fulton (2007 – 2009) married Jessica McVeigh this year.

Richard Paine (1996 - 2003) married Melissa this summer.

Milly Dent (2003 – 2010) married Gareth Batchelor this year and now live in Edinburgh.

BIRTHS

We are delighted to announce the following births:

Emma (Snell 2003 - 10) Hutchinson had a baby boy Finley in January 2021

Sophie Purser (1994 – 2001) gave birth to Oliver Lucas Quint on 5th August 2021.

PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY BIRTHS, MARRIAGES OR DEATHS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE RECORDED IN OUR MAGAZINE.

THE CAISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION REGRETS TO ANNOUNCE THE DEATHS OF THE FOLLOWING CAISTORIANS WHO, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, DIED BETWEEN JANUARY 1ST 2020 AND OCTOBER 31ST 2021.

Nicola (Steward 1973 – 78) Walker died in January 2020

Michael Sauer (CGS 1964-69) died Germany 2020

Barbara Joan (Empson) Hutson (CGS c1935 - 42) December 2020

John Steel (CGS 1955-61) died, Australia, April 2021

Peter Thompson (Staff 1984 - 1999) died May 26th 2021 aged 75.

David Naylor (staff 1961-1992), died 14th August 2021

husband of **Jill (staff 1964-66)**

father of **Mark (pupil 1972-79)**

and **Andrew (pupil 1974-81).**

Patrick Anderson (CGS 1943-48) died 20th August 2021

father of **Kay (Anderson) Perkins (1969-76).**

Jean (McDonald) Smith (CGS 1943-48) died 22nd Aug 2021.

Angela (Boniface) Ellis (CGS 1961-66) died 29th August 2021.

Obituaries

Brian Malcolm Steel – 1948-2019

Brian came to Caistor Grammar School in the September 1960 intake. He was the third member of the Steel family to gain entry to the boarding school and confirmed his father's belief in the value of



a good education. Jack Steel of Healing and his wife, Jessie, managed a successful butchery serving the villages around Grimsby and valued the physical education and mental 'stretch' that had not been available for them. Brian developed a keen interest in sport, was captain of the football team and retained his passion for rugby throughout his life. To his surprise, he was Head Boy (1966). His easy-going nature

disguised a determination to succeed and he in turn encouraged his children to develop similar skills to the highest level.

Brian ceased to be a boarder at Caistor Grammar and became day boy. He became a regular sight on his motor bike in the 1960s which gave him the freedom to keep in contact with his Caistor-based schoolfriends. He left school in 1967 when he gained a place at Sutton Bonington School of Agriculture, Nottingham University, where his prowess on the sports field was highly valued. He also enjoyed the outdoors, travelled widely and climbed many a peak.

After gaining his BSc, Brian worked at Plumpton Agricultural College then returned to Lincolnshire to teach at Riseholme Agricultural College in the 1980s where his skills with young trainees were appreciated. The main focus of his work related to recruiting young engineering students who had the capacity and/or desire to develop modern techniques and apply them to remote locations in Lincolnshire. His classes at the Louth outstation were always well attended. Unfortunately, he began to display symptoms of his multiple sclerosis diagnosis and fatigue was his constant companion. Eventually the organisation found him a role which was less physically demanding and he subsequently retired under medical supervision.

Brian and his wife, Linda, faced with fortitude the difficult challenges that MS brought. Linda encouraged him in many aspects of his life, gaining new skills and enjoying adventures along the way. They travelled to South Africa with their two children and Brian proved his fearlessness by white water rafting the Zambezi. Practical and innovative, Brian renovated their home in Muckton which became the hub of their family life.



Brian had maintained contact with his friends from CGS and he became a regular visitor to CGS reunions and other events in North Lincolnshire – often linked to fund raising for Multiple Sclerosis Research. He was Treasurer of the Louth branch of the MS Society for many years and his cheerful disposition gained him a reputation for courage which was second to none.

Brian knew how to enjoy himself and he made the most of the opportunities which came his way. He had an enquiring mind and in later life spent time learning to dinghy sail which afforded him freedom and the thrill of the elements which he relished.

His untimely death came as a great shock to many people and the service at Alford was a memorable family-led affair. The number of attendees will never be forgotten by those who were there. His amazing courage will always be his epitaph.

David Naylor (staff 1961-1992) 1936 – 2021

David William Naylor began teaching at CGS in January 1961, having successfully applied for a post advertised as "Latin Master, to help with music". He continued in this post until his retirement in 1992.



Photo taken by Brian's brother, John, on a visit to Muckton in 2011

In teaching Latin he was replacing Dai Davies, who had died the previous August (Mrs Mutimer had taught the subject in the intervening term). David was "Head of Classics", though one would search in vain through the staff lists for any other teacher of the subject. In teaching Music he found himself doing more than "helping with". The school had had no teacher whose principal subject was music since the retirement from full time teaching of Mr Storr in 1948. So it fell to David to devise a music curriculum from scratch.

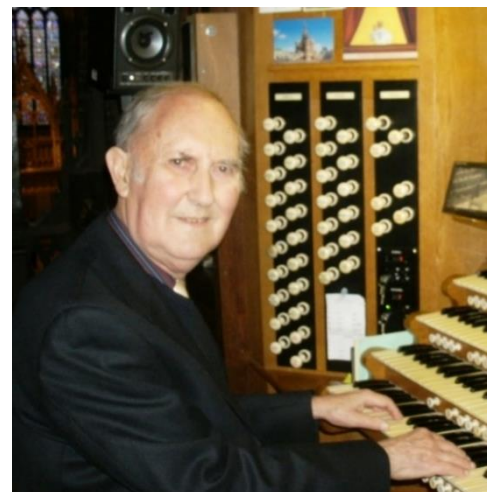
In Latin he had only to teach the "A" stream (those thought to have the aptitude and ability for the subject); in music he had to teach all pupils - at least in their early years - aptitude and ability or not.

Music meant not only teaching, but also playing the piano at morning assembly every day, and the organ when the school went to church services. (He was also, for more than 50 years, the regular organist at Caistor Church). And besides this he also found time to create a Madrigal group and a Recorder group. The recorder was not an instrument with which David was familiar, so he had to learn it himself before teaching it.

Lesley (Robinson) Hazel (1964-71) writes:

David Naylor was the man who introduced me both to the Classical World and Classical Music. I am forever grateful. From the word go, I enjoyed Latin very much and I was lucky to have some lessons with David introducing me to Ancient Greek, so at university it wasn't too much of a shock. I loved the language, the literature, the mythology and way of life of the Romans through David's own enthusiasm for his subject. He encouraged me to read an extra book at A Level on my own, a comedy of Plautus, and I had so much fun teaching it myself about 20 years later. I remember enjoying the Friday afternoon Latin Book with its funny little Latin sayings, '*festinalente*' and little excerpts from literature and '*Acta Diurna*', the Latin newspaper with its clever comic strips and articles. It was always fun trying to work out David's few jokes, like the message sent from General Sir George Napier "peccavi" and 'why don't you get hungry in the desert'...

And of course the Latin Reading Competitions held at Hull University! I loved them and was well tutored but also very much encouraged to work out the scansion for myself which held me in good stead both in the classroom and when preparing girls for the London Competitions which I also judged, all thanks to the encouragement and enthusiasm of David for this aspect of Latin.



David playing the organ in Lincoln Cathedral on his 80th birthday

But I am so grateful for being challenged with madrigals, classical music and, of course, Gilbert and Sullivan. We were lucky enough to put on not one G&S but two while I was in the sixth form! Charlotte Linsell directed us, David was our Musical Director and Mr Michel hovered, enjoying the whole experience. I was the Fairy Queen in *Iolanthe* and *Katisha* in *The Mikado* and I have David to thank for getting me pretty well note perfect for these performances and therefore for all subsequent ones.

I remember the occasion when he once came into the Hall for assembly and instead of opening the front of the piano he lifted the lid to remove the crumpled paper stuffed inside for April Fool's Day, sat down and started to play unfazed. Thank you, David.

Tricia Sharpe (1963-70) writes:

I must have been in the 2nd or 3rd year when I was invited to join the Madrigal Group. We sang challenging material unaccompanied and discovered quickly that each of us mattered as individuals with responsibility for our own part, and as members of the ensemble. Somehow David managed to develop our confidence and skill, and forge us into a vocal unit as near perfect as we could manage. I will be forever grateful that he helped to set me off on a life with singing in it.

Maureen (Sharp CGS 1962 – 1969) Moscrop writes:

I was sorry to hear of David's death in September. He taught me Latin and Music in the 1960s; it was only later that I realised how young he must have been then. When you are eleven years old, all adults seem old, but of course he would still have been in his twenties then. He was such a patient teacher and I never remember him losing his temper when we struggled with Latin conjugations and the Gallic Wars.

In those days, classes did not have music lessons apart from a bit of singing in Year 7, so I knew him best as the teacher who started the Recorder Group. He bravely took a group of excitable teenage girls to Grimsby to the annual recorder festival. The fact that we had some success at the festival was attributable more to his perseverance and talent than to any musical ability on our part. As music did not form part of the curriculum, any musical activity in school must have been organised by David in his spare time (any Madrigal Group members out there?) Having been a teacher for many years, I now know what hard work that is and most of his lunchtimes must have been devoted to the various music groups.

Such a talented, modest man and a great loss to his family and the wider community.

Barbara Joan (Empson c1935 - 42) Hutson

This is a photo (right) of my mother, Barbara Joan Hutson nee Empson, who died on 30th November 2020 aged 97. She is second from left on the front row. I think the photo was taken about 1936/37.

She worked as a booking clerk at Moortown railway station after leaving school and married in 1948. My brother Anthony was born in 1950 and I came along in 52. Mum loved reading, politics, gardening and her frequent visits to Arizona where my brother resides.

(We thank Charmain, Barbara's daughter, for the photo and words above – Ed).



John Winston Steel – 1942-2021

John achieved many things in his life but will probably be best remembered by CGS pupils of his generation as the Head Boy who led the overnight student march to Lincoln to "save the school" in February 1960. An excellent account of these events appeared in the 2020 edition of The Caistorian. According to John, the butcher parent who fortified the walkers with so-called beef tea was his father, Jack, a great admirer of Britain's wartime prime minister. Given John's own political leanings, the choice of middle name turned out to be somewhat inappropriate and one of his siblings never let him forget.

Like his younger brothers, Peter and Brian, John was a boarder at CGS.





Taken out the back of John's house
Alternate Sunday mornings were
spent with other volunteers doing
bushcare. He is taking a well
deserved (?) tea break on a newly
installed bench and admiring the
view ☺

Summers were spent working on local farms and on leaving Caistor he studied at Nottingham University, graduating with a BSc (Hons) in agricultural science in 1964. In 1965, having secured a position at the University of New England in New South Wales, he emigrated to Australia with his first wife, Sheila (nee Palmer, also a former CGS pupil).

The family moved to Sydney in 1969 where John joined CSIRO's Division of Animal Health as a Research Scientist. Awarded a PhD in ruminant parasitology in 1971 – a subject he described as guaranteed to kill instantly any dinner party conversation – he was appointed Head of McMaster Laboratory in 1989 and Assistant Chief of Division in 1990. He often spoke at overseas conferences and made the most of these opportunities to indulge his interest in travel and people and to visit the family back in Lincolnshire. He had four children of his own, two step-daughters and eight grandchildren.

Arguably a workaholic, John did not take kindly at first to retirement and continued as a consultant for a further ten years. He also became more actively involved in his local north Sydney community and preservation of its natural native environment.

John died fighting cancer for the fourth time. His local news sheet

wrote: "For over twenty years, John made an enormous contribution to the community he loved. He was a man of intellect, integrity and enthusiasm and will be greatly missed."

Graeme Kemshall adds "I think John was in the sixth form when I arrived at Caistor so I didn't know him very well. He would be one of the servers at boarding house meal times because of his seniority doling out dollops of porridge or mashed potato from the huge ladle employed. The main memory for me of John was his amazingly uninhibited style of jiving at the boarders Saturday night dances. The routine was for dances on two weekends out of three and for a film on the third weekend (subject to "boarders weekends" when we went home, or half terms).

You will recall that rock'n roll had just emerged in the mid-fifties and if some adventurous soul in charge of the record player at the dance weekend dared to suggest a modern record for a change (the normality was Military Two Steps and Progressive Barn Dances) John would be up on his feet giving it his best to the likes of Elvis or Buddy Holly. It was remarkable because otherwise John seemed to me to be quiet.

From Richard Steel (John's son)

Thank you all very much, our family will absolutely love the Caistorian article on the 1960 Walk.

My Mother and I have just read this with much joy. It was to be Dad's 79th Birthday this Sunday and I will send this to his close family members, many of whom do not know this excellent story, to remember him fondly on his Birthday. I have visited Caistor on 2 occasions and of course I am very proud of my Dad.

Angela (Boniface 1961 – 1967) Ellis, on 29th August 2021, having lost her long battle with cancer. A boarder from 1961 to c1966/7. Sue (Hill 1967 – 74) Handbury writes "She was incredibly strong throughout the whole journey and not once complained about anything, a truly remarkable lady."

John Fowler (Staff 1962 – 92)

A long awaited Commemoration Service was held on Saturday 2nd October 2021. It was a fitting tribute to John, with a full church and many Caistorians sharing memories afterwards in the Town Hall. Stuart Fraser (Staff 1967 – 1995) and Canon Ian Robinson both spoke warmly of JF – with particular emphasis on John's love of Caistor, History and Sport (including Bristol City!). At the end of the service Canon Robinson invited Bristol City supporters to leave the church first!



NEWS FROM CAISTORIANS

Ron Kirkby (1945 – 1951)

Thank you for the magazine. As with most people 2020 was a year that didn't go to plan. Planned walking holidays in Austria and the Yorkshire Dales were cancelled, fortunately without a loss of money. We managed to continue walking in the Wolds in a group of 6 when allowed. We realised that we prefer this to the larger R. A. Group that we previously walked with. This is probably due to advancing years as we can stop more often to regain our breath. We are extremely fortunate to be able to walk 7 to 9 miles and sometimes climb almost a total of 1,000 feet (so much for flat Lincolnshire).

Gary Robinson (1970 – 1975)

I'd love to try and connect with old classmates & catch up with what they have been doing since I last saw them in 1975 :)

I don't know where to begin, but reading through the 2018 magazine reminded me of a few of my teachers ... J.F. (Fowler) and Mrs Clilverd. And who could forget Mr. Minns :)

Whatever happened to Mr. Hibbert (Physics) & the wonderful gentleman who taught Art / brought his gramophone into class :)

I still remember some of my classmates names ...

Richard Parker, Norman Ward, John Hare, Richard Wilson, Lesley Greene, Debbie Cramp, Debbie Ellis, Paul Albrecht, Jason Clilverd ...

I don't suppose there is a class list available for any given year ... is there?

Anyhow I'm taxing my 61-year-old brain cells enough for today ... so ... thanks again

Elizabeth (Houlton 1957 – 1964) Dane

A very interesting article on the School Walk. I remember the tension and excitement as the weather worsened, knowing my sister would be walking through the snow.

Dr Laura (Moxon 2001 - 2003) Buckland

My family and I have recently returned to the area to be closer to ageing family after spending 10 years in Dorset on the south coast where I owned a veterinary practice. I am still a practising veterinary surgeon, fitting locum and referral work around my young family.

Brenda (Mellors 1954 – 1961) Marriott

Memory Lane. Congratulations to Adam Pountney for his very accurate and engaging account of the "1960 School Walk: 60 Years on". It brought back many memories of biting cold from the wind and snow, the feeling of 'when is this going to end' and the blisters – mine covered the whole of one heel. Most impressive of all was the feeling throughout the walk of the spirit and determination of the whole group. Of course, the great feeling of what we had achieved was realised. Mission accomplished!

I would also like to thank Rosalind (Wickham) Kirk for her old resurrected photo. The one of David Prouse and myself brought back memories of those days and dances when we practised dances in our PE lessons. David changed his name to Steel and went on to join the Rhodesian Police Force (now part of Zambia rather than Zimbabwe, I believe). If anyone is still in touch with him, please remember me to him. Thanks once again to the magazine team for an entertaining 2020 edition.



Julie (Walters 1952 – 1958) Henderson

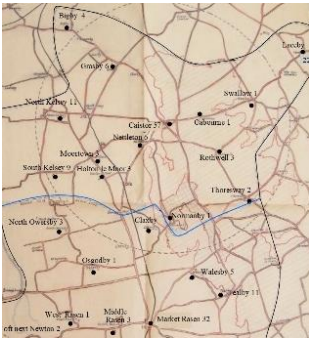
Firstly a big thank you for everything you produce in the magazine and a thank you for all the effort. My excuse for not sending this until March is again lockdown. Helping a grandson over the internet produce clothes (He is 24) is time consuming! After 57 years I have my degree! Kind regards.

Thomas Paine (2005 – 2012)

Tom is a physiotherapist and travelled as part of team GB to the paralympics in Tokyo.

Sarah Quinn (2001 - 2008)

Sarah has just returned from 4 years teaching PE at the International School Manila, Philippines and is now Director of Sport at Oxford High Prep School.



Loretta ‘Tich’ (East 1964 – 1971) Rivett

Loretta says that with reference to the 1960 map of the CGS Catchment Area in last year’s magazine, Hedley Mastin Smith of North Owersby suggests: North Owersby – Carol Baker, Brenda Vickers and himself. North Kelsey – Marion Schofield, Marjorie Johnson and David Ashford? South Kelsey – Mick Chapman and John Parkinson. Fir Park – Eileen Curtis and Malcolm Dennis. *(Any more names from anyone – Ed)*

Elsie (Jones 1967 - 1971) Bennett

Thanks for the Caistorian, I always enjoy flicking through it for news of those who were at Caistor during my time there. I joined as a boarder just after October half term 1967 and had not appreciated that Lindsey House had only just been opened until reading about it in last year’s magazine. I had hoped to attend JF’s memorial last year with some friends but sadly thwarted by lockdown. Hopefully I can attend once it’s been rearranged. JF helped to nurture my interest in history which I went on to study at Liverpool University. I have some fond memories of him as a kind person with a good sense of humour. He drove my younger sister (Lesley) and me down to Gloucester one half term to visit our older sister as he was on route to visit his home in Bristol. On another occasion Mo Whitely and I persuaded him to take us to the fair at Skegness in return for washing his sports car. An enduring memory is of him in the revolving barrel that we had encouraged him to try, with us in fits of laughter. Mo, Elaine, Veronica, Chris and I have stayed in touch through twice weekly Zoom meetings. Trisha and I have kept in touch via phone calls. Friendships made as boarders over 50 years ago are as strong today as they were then.

Margaret (Eyre 1951 – 1957) Bevan

Thank you very much for the latest Caistorian – so interesting and well produced. I have many happy memories of my days at CGS. Like Derek Snell, I can fairly well see all the faces at desks in our class, including me of course. I particularly remember Mr Tyack – I liked French a lot – Miss Creedy, Mr Armitage, Mr Cross, Mr Green, Mr Davies, Miss Simpson (PE), Miss Billington, Mr Linsell, Mr Holt (who in later years was form teacher to several of my own family at De Aston School) and of course Mr Capper – he was very anti-litter and pro good manners. We had a trip to Windsor Castle and a boat ride down the Thames, starting off for me by train at Holton-le-Moor station in Coronation year? A long day. School Speech Days were in the Town Hall. One year Judy Day and I chose to have “Lorna Doone” and I think that was the year the Rev. Tubby Clayton from Toc H presented the prizes. I remember enjoying hobby groups on Saturday mornings – my first year belonging to the drama group, which had a production of “Little Women” – I was cast as Beth and said about 12 words. Then to Mr Tyack’s music group, which was very popular, and being introduced to classical music (see page 28) A trip to Holland in the Easter holidays in 1956 for £20 for 10 days was a great highlight. Mr Holt, Mr Minns and Miss Billington escorted us, firstly by Brown’s bus (on the way had to deal with a puncture) to Harwich and the ferry to Holland. Stayed in a hotel in Amsterdam near the famous museum where Mr Holt was very happy to show us Rembrandt’s “Night Watch” amongst many other Dutch Old Masters. Visited Schipol airport and were allowed to walk into an aeroplane! Also “Madurodam” miniature village and diamond merchants. I think my memories nearly fill a book.

Ella (Saca) Mutimer (Staff 1956 - 1962)

Thank you so much for all your work and that of the committee! I really enjoy the magazine – it is sad, however, for me to see fewer names which I recognise! Do all stay safe and well.

Joyce (Spencer 1959 – 1967) Carrington

I have looked at this photo many times, and I really ought to be able to name that girl. I know her father was the police inspector at Market Rasen, but her name just won’t come to me. She was a great friend of Susan Kempson. I think she took science subjects for A level, so I didn’t have that much contact - I studied history, French and Latin. I’ll let you know if I have any more ideas.



David Murgatroyd (c1948 – 1953)

Thank you for sending me a copy of the 2020 Caistorian magazine which I am thoroughly enjoying reading. Sadly there is less and less news about students who were there during my days at school as all like me will be in their 80s. I am keeping in good health and thoroughly enjoy going for walks every day into the lovely Dorset countryside with my wife, Sarah, (of 53 years) and Binki, our Golden Cocker Spaniel. I also attend the Dorchester Mens' Shed in Kingston Mauward College two mornings a week where we have a workshop to do woodwork, making bird nesting boxes, repairing college furniture etc, etc. We can turn our hands to almost anything. I spend a lot of time building models out of wood eg boats, trams, and old steam engines, kits supplied by Occre of Spain.

Shirley (Davey 1943 – 1951) Connor

I went to CGS from 1943 (aged 8) as a paying pupil, I passed my 11+ and was there on a scholarship until 1951 aged 16. I enjoyed my time there and made many new friends, none of whom I am still in contact with. I found geography very boring and usually ended up in the corridor for talking too much. The first time this happened Mr Capper, the Headmaster, came past I was duly reprimanded but after several weeks of this he just came past and said "It must be geography again today, Shirley" and carried on walking. The Maths Master (Mr Armitage) often threw chalk at me for talking, which also got my friend in front in trouble too. Most of my reports read "Shirley is a pleasant and helpful pupil, but tends to talk too much." My dad, Lawrence Davey and my brother Christopher Davey also went to CGS, so hold a lot of memories for me as we were all taught science by Mr Linsell, also affectionately known as 'Pop', who was very respected and loved by all the scholars. Mr Linsell had the nickname 'Pop' for a long time as my dad called him by it and he was born in 1911. (The nickname comes from how he was seen by the boarders as a father figure)

Liseli Sumwanyambay (2005 – 2012)

Liseli has completed her MA at St Edmund's College, Cambridge. She leads beauty and care innovation for Unilever UK & Ireland. Liseli must be one of the youngest, if not the youngest, member of a leadership team in the UK business at the moment.

Jane (Handbury) Willis (1958 – 1965)

Jane has sent this photo of the U15 Hockey Team in 1962-3. Can anyone fill in the missing names please? Back row (L to R): Alison

Lucas, ?, Lexy Johnson, Sue Corfield.

Middle row: Jo Buckle (PE/Games teacher), ?, Margaret Keyworth, ?, ?,

Front row: Marilyn Mainprize, Jane Handbury, Vanessa Pearson, Jo Kellaway, Pat Lindley. Can anyone help with other names?

Also (below) a photo of me (forever a tomboy) with Alan Houghton (Huffy).



I do remember Christine Batty but not the anthem!! I may have written something!

(See Christine's 'Life as a Boarder' on page 40 - Ed)

It will be interesting to hear what life at CGS was like after I left. I agree, what a shame that Grove House had to go but that's progress. There must have been many interesting items under the floor boards. There are many more stories but perhaps best left untold! Thanks a lot.

Carolyn (Grant 1991 – 1998) France



Carolyn, Stacey (Blades 1992 – 99) Schultz and Helen (Westfield 1992 – 1999)) Watson all have children in Y7 at CGS. Carolyn sent the photo (left) of Ben on his first day this September and the photo of herself (right) on her first day at CGS in 1991. She was relieved when she found that Ben, thanks to the 'Harry Potter sorting hat' was in Rawlinson!



Midge (Johnson 1958 - 1963) Thomas

Roy and I have lived in North Kelsey since 2014 having lived at Moortown for some 50 years! We met at CGS following his move from South Wales to Irthlingborough and then to Nettleton when his father worked in Scunthorpe before becoming manager of the Nettleton Mines! Roy's eldest brother, Russell, also attended CGS but middle brother, Tudor, went to Miss Gledhill's in Market Rasen and then on to Tech College.

Many thanks for your recent missive on all things CGS!

I have always kept in touch with Charlotte over the years and see her at Methodist gatherings at Caistor and here in North Kelsey.

Angela Fenwick (1963 – 1970)

I am writing to thank you, Mrs Linsell, for your lessons all those many years ago. You may remember me as Angela Fenwick, a pupil at CGS from 1962 to 1969 (*But we think you were there 1963 – 70 - Ed*). During that time, I probably showed little interest in my English lessons as I was hell-bent on a science career. However, since retiring I have seen the light! After a gap of fifty years I 'found' Shakespeare and am pleased to say that during 2020 I completed my MA in Shakespeare and Theatre, at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford, which is part of the University of Birmingham. I had some great teachers there who supported me to pick up from where you left off, all those years ago. But I thank you for sowing the seed, it just took a while to germinate! Wishing you and all your family a Happy New Year and hoping that 2021 enables us to do all those things we missed in 2020

Megs Graham-Rack wife of Barry Graham-Rack (1941 – 1946)

Megs very kindly photographed this painting of St. Lukes church, Holton-le-Moor which hangs in the Moot Hall. It was painted by Mr Mr Derbaix who became Art Master at Caistor Grammar School.

After the seige of Antwerp in 1914, Mr and Mrs Derbaix and their three young children arrived in Holton le Moor as refugees. He made the original flagpole by the Village School. In February 1919, the family returned to their homeland and this letter was published in the Market Rasen Mail on 22nd February 1919.

"I have the pleasure to inform you that the Belgian refugees embarked safely on board SS Khyber last night and sailed early this morning for Antwerp. My Committee, in addition to cake and chocolate, presented each individual with a treasury note for £1. Thank you and all helpers during the last 4 years. I remain, Yours

sincerely, G S Wilkinson, Hon. Sec. Grimsby and District Belgian Refugees Committee"



Megs fell to thinking, at the same time, of Alan Holt, WW2 pilot and (she believes) approved RAF artist, also Art Master at CGS. Megs purchased one of his prints at one of the reunions. His story must surely be of interest. (*We agree and hope that Megs will write it for the next magazine – Ed*)

Sree Ghosh (2008 – 2015)

I'll be starting work at Sunderland Hospital within the next month and at present, I'm hoping to stay within hospitals and specialise. I probably won't rule out GP just yet though! I graduated as a doctor a couple of weeks ago (June 2021). An update from Sree says that she has settled in at Sunderland Hospital and, although hectic, everything so far has gone well.

Peter Taylor (Staff 1972 – 2012)

Thanks for the magazine. Enjoyed reading it. Didn't realise that Colin Sunter had retired in October.

Paul and Glenda (Taylor) (Both 1962 – 1969) Blackwell

(*Extracts from various emails – Ed*). We are Aussies now, took the oath in 1985.

Glenda was Glenda Taylor and was Head Girl in her last year.

What a strange day! The Caistorian magazine arrived on the day that temps here reached 42 on our back verandah and Trump supporters tried to change history. Fires are roaring through parts of our state, over east the cricket got rained off in Sydney and they are cool. Your infectious covid strain is being found in Brisbane, Sydney and Perth and our gov refuses to keep out UK arrivals and has only just started testing incomers.

And who is suffering the most? Well obviously, all those sick or worried about getting sick, those threatened by the weather etc, but standing off our coast, in plain view are at least 5 freighters picking up our grain and minerals from the port, whose officers and crews are not allowed ashore and some will have been on their vessels for over a year now, with extended contracts, or flown home if they are ill. They get no press and are suffering too.

You guys stay safe, look after each other and keep fit.

Barry Harriman (1960 – 1967)

We are doing some photo sorting during this lock down and I came across this. It was taken in 1967 I think on the Terraces. It shows from left to right Bill Hallett, John Brown and me, Barry Harriman.

We were paid Lab Assistants – Bill Physics, John Biology and me Chemistry.

Our duties were to stay after school for an hour or so to tidy up the Labs, washing up and preparing equipment for the following days experiments.

We also had to work on Saturday mornings for two or three hours. I think we all enjoyed it as it was not too onerous, but the best bit was we all got to wear white coats and we were paid about £13 a month! I do not know whether you knew my mother Mary (nee Dawson) who was cook at the school from 1964 to 1992, but her sister, Alma Marriott, has just been admitted to Nettleton Nursing Home. Alma was also a cook at the school for a lot of years but I do not know the dates. (*Can anyone help with dates? – Ed*)



Barry Graham-Rack (1941 – 1946)

We started to read last year's magazine as soon as you hand delivered it through the door. It was 2 o'clock in the morning before we got to bed!

I remember Mary Clark, we were in the same class. She visited us here once when she came up from Norwich, and we exchanged Christmas Cards. I know Harry Minns, he was appointed as School Secretary. 'Pop' Linsell gained our respect and we would do anything for him.

Henry Gillott (2008 – 2015)

Henry has graduated from the University College of Estate Management in MSc Quantity Surveying with Merit. He was sponsored by his employer, Currie & Brown, where he is an Assistant Cost consultant.

Thank you so much for sending my copy of The Caistorian magazine for 2020. It contains a great deal of interesting information. As the wife of a structural engineer, I can thoroughly endorse Peter Frankish's article. Although I was aware that John Fowler had passed away, I did not know that Angela Warmoth and Ellaline Sivil had also died during this past year. I remember them both very well and send my warm condolences to their families.

I remember at the end of the summer term when the Casterby boarders got their copy of the Caistorian they would get everyone who lived in Casterby, the members of their form and any other friends at CGS to sign the cover. Then they'd ask day staff and the Casterby boarding staff to sign it as well. I wonder how many of them still have their magazines? (*One from the archive is reproduced below – Ed*) I have a package sent to me by Ian Harrison who was Head of Geography and Housemaster in Lindsey House when Gerry and I joined the CGS staff in September 1975. Ian had had a clear out and asked me to pass them on to the Association. Ian and his wife Audrey lived in the flat which was connected to Lindsey House. Many old CGS students will remember Ian. He was always immaculately dressed which earned him the title of 'Smoothie'. In the sketch of a group of staff in the 2018 magazine Ian is the one wearing a gown with his umbrella by his side far left (*Sorry – you'll need to look at the 2018 magazine to see the sketch properly – Ed*)

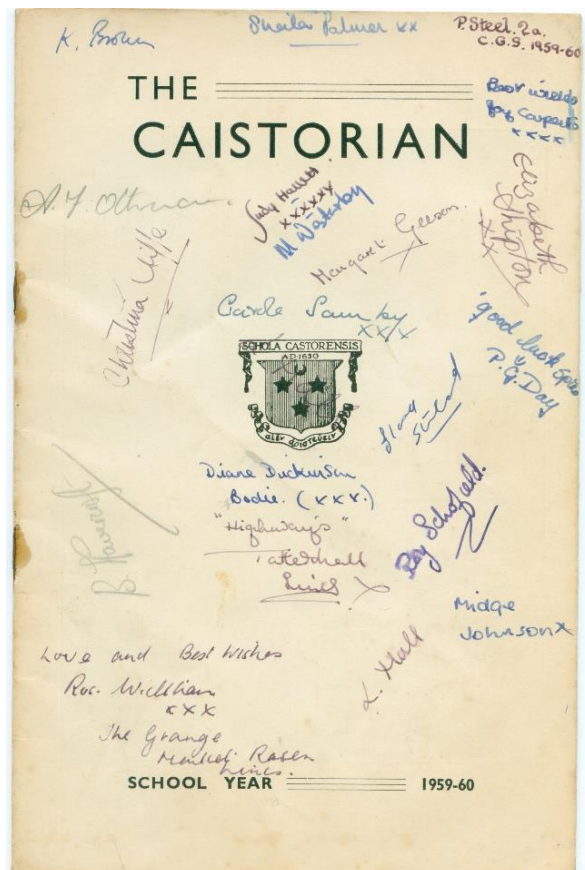
Caistor Staff 4/11/75-76

The four teachers (left to right) in 1975-76



I believe you have recently been in touch with one or both of my younger sisters, Elizabeth Dane and Rachel Loise (nee Houlton). I was particularly interested in the article on the Walk to save the school from closure, 60 years ago. I was on the walk and still have some articles from the Market Rasen Mail. I still keep in touch with a couple who were in my class at school and seem to have missed out on reunions as well. *(The photo [right] of the 1960 Caistorian's front cover is from our archive. It's been signed by a few familiar people! Ed)*

Many thanks for another excellent (and glossy) magazine. Although the sad news of John Fowler's passing is a major sadness in this most difficult of years, it is nice to see that many old friends of my vintage are still waving 2 fingers at the grim reaper! Particularly good to see Jonah (Derek Jones) is still swinging on the bells. I always seemed to bump into John and Enid on my then regular visits to Caistor, while my mum was still with us, but sadly I have only managed a couple of visits in the last 11 years since her passing. A couple of articles in the magazine resonated with me (both snow related), one was Shirley Bradbury's mention of the winter of 1947 when I was just a few months old. I contracted "spotted fever" - now known as meningitis - when I was a couple of months old and was given a week to live. My mother used to relate



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Roger Hale (Headmaster 1996 – 2016; Deputy Head 1992 – 1995)

I began at CGS in September 1992 (*Apologies – we incorrectly wrote 1993 in last year's magazine - Ed*). I was appointed on February 14th 1992. In all, I served for three years and one term as Deputy Head. I replaced Ken Oxspring. Eddie Cook replaced me.

The back cover story is a hoot! The reason the Daily Mirror chose us is because they did their calculations wrong in their 1995 A level State School League Table and made us second (rather than 7th!). Their number one was a girls' school, so when they wanted to send Prince William to a State School, they chose us. Rather out of character for Trevor to write that article, but, as I remember, he really relished it.

The boy who was used to be our half of the photo (ie the CGS dressed half) was a real tear away. That produced much amusement at the time!

Clare Gosling (1998 – 2005)

I have this year returned to teaching after a few rough years teaching in mainstream primary. I've been working at St Lawrence Special School in Horncastle and it is so much more rewarding than drilling 6 year olds to pass their SATs in mainstream. 😊

Matthew Atkin (1973-1980 and Head Boy 1979-1980)

This is me on my last day at the school. I was also Head of Lindsey House boarding. After Caistor I took a degree in Architectural Engineering at Leeds University.

The Old Caistorians I am still in contact with include:

Stephen Phillips, he and I are keen long distance walkers (sadly curtailed this year); Mike Vale and I spent a few days reminiscing in London last year; Paul Wilkinson we also recently visited in Yorkshire; plus my brother Gavin Atkin and sister Lindsay Atkin who I am pleased to report are both well.

Stephen and I walked the Viking Way (from the Humber Bridge to Oakham) a couple of years ago, passing through Caistor (which I hadn't been to since the 1980's) and meeting a number of Old Caistorians, including Rob Turner, Johnny Brant, Tim Lewis and of course Harry Minns.

(See the 2018 Old Caistorian for the photo)

Steve Plaskitt (1980 – 1987)

Many thanks for the magazine. Great to see I got a brief mention for identifying Mr McNaughton (or Mr Norton?). He only stayed for a year or so but had a big impact – particularly on the school's mid-week sports afternoon with Mr Fowler and 'Killer' McKinnel. So sad to see the passing of Grant Lockett and Mr Fowler.

Richard E Horton (1993 – 2000)

The magazine arrived on Christmas Eve. It is a little strange seeing other generations remembering CGS. In many ways so familiar and yet their experiences are very different mainly because the personalities change with different sets of teachers and students.

We had a good Christmas. Just the four of us. East Sussex went into Tier 4 on Boxing Day so we decided to be cautious and to cancel our Christmas Eve plans. But the girls had lots of presents and we had plenty of food and booze!

I am still in touch with Adam (Doswell) and Oliver (Ward). Gavin was Olly's older brother, two years above us. I'm also in touch with Russ Cain. Adam was my best man and Olly and Russ were ushers when I got married in 2013. Adam lives in Worcester with his partner and their five year old daughter. He works in IT for Malvern Instruments. Olly works as a dentist in Perth in Western Australia. He is married with two children while Russ has two boys and lives with his partner in Ilkley. He spent some time working as a researcher for Oxford University but recently took over his dad's business on Hull docks with his younger brother Sam. My parents are now in Brigg. They moved away for almost ten years so I didn't come back to Lincs that regularly until 2016 or so. But



when I do I tend to see Clare and Louise Knapton, Hannah (Fuller) Dale, Jack Dale and Judy Strawson. They all still live locally.

Jenny (Hornsey 1952 – 1956) Bushell

Thank you for the magazine. It is choc full of interesting and informative stories and the pictures are quite good too. I seem to remember the parish church being opposite the Grammar School. Our Art Master let us sit there to sketch the church.

I like to keep connected and would like to hear more from the Caistorians, particularly from some of my old classmates eg; Jennifer Parkinson, Julia Waddington, Janet Day and John Hornsey.

Jennifer Hather owes me a letter if you know where she is. I already exchange emails with Valerie Taylor who now lives in Liverpool. Of course if nothing comes of it I'm easy with that. Here in London the plague is rampant and we are all locked in and screaming to be let out. Best of British, Jenny

John (1947 – 1956) and Joyce (Parker 1950 – 1957) Good



Thank you very much for all you do in keeping Caistorians in contact with one another. I've been searching for a photograph of me to help complete the record of previous Head Boys. This one with the Harry Taylor cup, which I was fortunate to win on two occasions should fit the bill. I've also enclosed a photo of the prefects for 1955 – 56 with Bob Capper, which was my second year as Head Boy.

He was a fantastic Head, who pointed me in the right direction

and to whom I owe everything I achieved after leaving CGS. Mrs Holt at Nettleton Primary encouraged me to forget about working in the local iron ore mine and aim to be a bank clerk. On joining CGS I could not have imagined that a career in



Back row ?, Alan Storr, George Robinson, Roland Garrood, me, Michael Capes, and Richard Harrison. Front row ?, Judith Day, Julia Waddingham, Mr Capper, ?, ?, ?.(John's excuse for not knowing the girls is that they weren't his year and the boys were sportmen!



**Wedding Day August 13th 1960.
Reception at the Moot Hall. Mr Tyack was to propose the toast but was taken seriously ill days before.**

education lasting until I was 75 would take me from assistant chemistry master to Head of Department, to Head of Year 11, to Senior Teacher to County Education Inspector to Education Consultant and Ofsted Registered Inspector for Primary and Secondary Schools. Most of my career was in Lincoln but working for Ofsted took me to schools around the country. Of course, another wonderful thing CGS gave me was a wife! Joyce and I celebrated our Diamond Wedding in August 2020, but of course we could not celebrate with our children because of lockdown. Our daughter Carolyn and her husband live on the Devon edge of Weston-super Mare, and are now enjoying early retirement which makes us feel very old. Son Christopher lives in Winchester with his wife Joanne and 3 boys and is a Housemaster at Winchester College.

In normal times we see numerous former CGS pupils at U3A, HPS or Riseholme Garden Club, or when we have our own garden open for the National Garden Scheme.

We both look back on how fortunate we were to pass the 11+ from a small rural school (Joyce was at Holton le Moor) and have such a wonderful and rewarding education at CGS.



Joyce and John in their wonderful garden this summer



Prefects 1956-57 L to R Back row ? Peter Bartle, Alan Dixon, Alan Storr, Keith Barker and Edward Armitage. Front row - Josephine Roberts, Joyce Parker, Julia Waddingham, Mollie Bonsall and Ann Grey. Can anyone name the boy back left?

Pat (Harrison 1947 - 1953) Collinson

I came to C.G.S. in either 1945 or 1946, (*We think it was 1947 Pat – Ed*) one of the first children to have taken what came to be called 'The Eleven Plus'. My twin sister Pauline and I were boarders when Robert Capper was the Headmaster. We loved our time at school. I was pleased to read about Charlotte's Year, by her daughter, and Charlotte's own message from Navigation Lane in the last magazine. I think I was in the Fifth Form when 'Charlie' came to Caistor as a student from Hull University. She was doing her School Practice, I believe. She was young and lively and we grew fond of her. I wrote to Pop and Charlie for fifty-ish years...both at first and then just Charlie when Pop died. I will write to her again, as I missed all her news of exciting holidays and theatre visits...now, alas on hold! (*see page 35 for some of Pat's stories - Ed*)

Stephen Phillips (1971 – 78)

Hope to get a few OCs together to belatedly celebrate my 60th birthday. I now live in Edinburgh. I'm not sure how appropriate this is but a recent piece of homework I completed for my French class included two lovely CGS teachers who are sadly no longer with us.

Fête des profs

J'ai un bon souvenir de M. Fowler ("JF"), mon professeur d'histoire et de sport au collège (grammaire). Chaque lundi il me disait "es-tu en forme pour samedi?" quand nous avons notre prochain match de foot. Il m'a transmis son amour du foot et du sport.

Je n'oublierai jamais mon prof de français M. Oxspring ("Ken"). Il était heureux et sympa. Chaque année en été il prenait un minibus et une douzaine de garçons le joignaient pour un long trajet à travers France et Les Alpes jusqu'à Venice. Nous passions du bon temps et j'ai beaucoup de souvenirs charmants au camping. C'étaient mon premier voyage seul sans mes parents. Grâce à lui je m'intéresse toujours à la France et j'aime partir à l'aventure.

PS all being well I have a walk planned on the Peddars Way and Norfolk coastal path in October with fellow OC Matthew Atkin. (*Late news just in! As you can see from the photo Stephen and Matthew completed their walk, visiting another 'Caister' in N.E. Norfolk – Ed*)



Enid W.M. (Armitage) Fowler (Student 1946 - 55) (Staff 1960 - 64 and 1974 - 1992)

From the 'Deaths' you will have seen that sadly Peter Thompson (Staff c1984 – 1999) has passed away. Enid's scrapbook from 1999 remembers the day when Peter celebrated his retirement with a win!

Thompson grabs retirement win 17/5/99

WELL-known Brocklesby Park cricketer Peter Thompson's retirement from the teaching profession after lengthy service at Vale of Ancholme School, Brigg, and Caistor Grammar School was marked by a special game, staged at the Earl of

Yarborough's ground.

Played on one of the few cold nights of the summer it saw PJT's Vale of Ancholme Old Boys' XI (1970-80) beat a Caistor GS XI comprising staff, former and present pupils.

The highlight of the game was a magnificent stumping by former Lincolnshire wicketkeeper Nigel Dobbs off the bowling of Karl Dixon (South

Kelsey CC) to dismiss Caistor batsman Graham Dobson.

Leg-spinner PJT joked: "My night was spoilt when hit for two massive sixes by ex-Caistor GS head of boys' PE/Ross Sports batsman Mark Roberts, now deputy head at Cordeaux HS, Louth.

"But I did have ex-school captain Peter Briggs caught at cover by John Brumby."

Pictured bottom left are the Caistor GS players. Back row, left to right: Graham Dobson, Tim Taylor, Eddie Cook, Mark Roberts, Saul Foulds, Chris Smith, Adam Jacklin, Rupert White, Alan Saxton. Front row: Scott Eastwood, Bubbu Thava, Peter Briggs (capt), James Geldard, Nick Smith.

The picture below shows the Vale of Ancholme XI. Back row, left to right: John Phillips

(umpire), Karl Dixon, Nigel Dobbs, Paul Lawson, Nigel Martinson, Scott Mitchell, Pat Neal, Keith Smith.

Front row: John Brumby, Stuart Brumby, Brian Markham, Peter Thompson.

Pictured ~~below~~ are Stuart Brumby and Brian "Intersport" Markham, just two of the many local club cricketers to have honed their skills at school with help from Peter Thompson.



Caistor Grammar School XI.

Peter Thompson pictured with his team.

Veronica (Colver 1954 – 1962) Ward

To follow up quickly on the magazines otherwise I will lose track:

I remember "Twelfth Night" and Malcolm Fox as Malvolio particularly. Many teachers of 1958 recognised. Remember Rachel Scupham and Maureen Bremner with pleasure. Also my friend Stephanie Fox who lived in Bishop's Stortford for many years so we were able to meet up but now lives in Market Rasen. We exchange news every year. Also interested to see references to the Youth Hostelling holidays and Mr Minns key role. I have also always kept in touch with Dorothy Frank because as children we spent a lot of time in their house which was in the Square. Her mother baked wonderful bread which I knew came from a different place. The Franks were the core of the community and the church. It was good to read how the family were able to go back to Germany and meet up with friends and relatives after the catastrophe.

The Barry Graham-Rack article is interesting. Before my family moved to Caistor we lived in Little Coates outside Grimsby next door to the Smethurst family and we knew this firm was one of the frozen food pioneers. Also I remember the day while in school that the end of National Service was announced and the boys could get on with the next steps in their lives without this interruption. 'The 1960 school walk' of course, as I was one of the walkers, is one of the highlights of the Mag. Love it that this article was written by a recent student as a piece of history. It works so much better than reminiscence. I learned so much that I had either forgotten or maybe never knew. Congratulations to historian Adam Pountney. I had never read before my father's words about the importance of CGS to the community. Words which remain contemporary about

sustaining community and rural life. To this day the whole experience is very vivid in my memory and the determination that we had to get through and the camaraderie are the most vivid memories of all. And then the article on 'Why Engineers are important'. Absolutely. Very very important to keep plugging this message to policy makers and educationists in this country. As important as doctors. Nothing can happen without them. Watching the Shard grow, London Bridge Station transformed and a new railway bridge built over Borough market all at the same time and all on an area with no site and a big hospital across a narrow road, never mind getting the shards of glass fixed at the top, has always been for me a major feat I think totally without the glory assigned to so much else.

We also know Roger Steer who was at CGS 10 years after me. He and his French wife Brigitte lived across the road from us in Camberwell also for many years. It was some time before a conversation led to CGS. His family come from Grasby. They moved to France the year we moved to Liverpool and until last year (a whole plan to go together to a house in the middle of France abandoned) have visited them on the coast in the Vendee. We also quite regularly have fairly enraged phone conversations about Brexit.

I have surprised myself with the connections I still have with CGS. All best wishes for the magazine and all the work to keep archives/photographs etc. Must try to get to a reunion when we get to that possibility again.

Claire (Baker 1973 – 1980) and Alan Lee (1974 – 1981)

Looking through last year's magazine I came across my note and photograph of our wedding – what a lot of changes we have all had since then! We were extremely fortunate in that we were not impacted too greatly by the pandemic, unlike so many. Having no immediate neighbours, working based at home and being in a rural location made us realise, yet again, how fortunate we are compared to so many across the world.



Since the publication of the 2020 magazine we have been busy! After 34 years Alan decided to hang up his chainsaw boots at Shadwell Estate Company and we downsized in a major way to move from Norfolk to Lincolnshire. How difficult it is to decide which of your 40+ years' worth of possessions you should abandon to the charity shop/skip/Facebook marketplace and which you should retain in a house a quarter the size! Alan was not convinced that a badminton racket he bought aged 12 – and never used again – should be given to someone who might use it!

We spent two years touring various towns and villages in Lincolnshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire before deciding that the town we liked the best was Louth! So, we now have our cottage, a new life and a new business. Once I have found a job to occupy the hours when I am not gardening, decorating, doing Al's paperwork, or the myriad other things that seem to need doing every day, we will be firmly set in our new life.

Alan has set up his long anticipated gardening business

<https://ajlee2961.wixsite.com/alanjleegardening> and is loving every moment of it. [with particular thanks to Bob Suddaby (1974 – 81)].

Obviously, we are endeavouring to support all the wonderful local businesses, particularly the public houses! We are also trying to adapt our lives to be as climate friendly as possible. We thought that the pandemic was a big challenge but it is as nothing compared to the challenge we face trying to save our planet from ourselves.

It seems utterly amazing to me that those young girls and boys who started at CGS in 1973 are fast approaching their 60th birthdays.... There are many days when I feel slightly less knowledgeable, confident and adult than I did then!

The first days and weeks at CGS were so different from my time at the village school. About 340 more children, calling the housemaster 'Sir', having to do prep in a classroom (or occasionally in

Mr Crossley's hall when I had misbehaved!), fire alarms at night (which we initially thought was a wasp trapped in the bedroom!!), a separate classroom for each subject, apple pie beds and midnight feasts, being gated (a common occurrence for me!), having to go into town in pairs, quiet hour..... it all seems so long ago and yet all still very vivid.



My mother revisited her Grammar School a few years ago and she and her friends were asked to talk to the current students about their time at school – the things the girls remembered from her visit – having indoor and outdoor shoes and thick green knickers with a pocket for your handkerchief! I remember at CGS the smell of the boot room and the underwear!

Peter Steel (1958 – 1965)

Peter gave us the photo on the left. The girl is Jackie Hill and was taken on the Terraces by an unnamed photographer.



NEWS OF CAISTORIANS

Dr Ashley Whittington (1993 to 2000)

An Infectious Diseases Consultant was interviewed on Newsnight on 15th January 2021.

Cordelia Sheridan (2008 – 2015)

Cordelia's dad (Paul) says that she is "now an Associate of King's College, London (AKC) – more letters after her name. Nearly an alphabet. Her PhD is going well and she has secured a junior member of staff role. We are very proud of Cordelia and her achievements so far. 'Ever to Excel'."

Ben Young (2006 – 2013)

Ben is a project manager for Microsoft, working from his home in Caistor.

Bridie Salmon (2010 – 2017)

From the BBC website on 14th September 2021 we see that Bridie will be fixing wind turbines at sea! She is an apprentice technician for the wind firm Orsted, where she is learning how to service the giant machines, making sure the blades keep turning so they generate zero-carbon power. It was while seeing the dead corals of the Great Barrier Reef in Australia that Bridie decided to do something about damage to the environment.



Richard E Horton (1993 – 2000)

Richard completed his 57km walk in September. He took 12 hours and 53 minutes and has raised over £6,000 for Moorfields Eye Hospital, to say thank you to the staff for his care and to help fund new research, education and a clinical care centre. In December 2020 he was diagnosed with an uveal melanoma and recently underwent treatment at Moorfields Eye Hospital. He thanks everyone who has supported him. Anyone who would like to sponsor Richard could use the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richard-horton7>



Coel Fulton (2007 – 2009)

Coel is a body builder and in 2020 opened, with a friend, a gym in Sheffield called Steel Physique.

Alfie and Mel (Hall) Warwick (both 2005 – 2012)

After Mel and Alfie's wedding at Caistor Parish Church there was time for a pause in the Old Hall for drinks, a cone of fish and chips and the Caistorians slipped on old school blazers for a few photos before going to Elsham Hall for the reception. All were 2003 – 2010 unless stated. Back row L to R – Sophie Eckersall, Georgia (Parkinson) Stark, Leigh-Anne Lacy, Hollie Thompson (2003 – 2008), Katie (Johnson) Porter, Mel (Hall) Warwick, Gemma (Beety) Jarvis, Leesa (Wong) Blake, Hannah Godfrey, Olivia Pratt, Emma (Snell) Hutchinson, Hannah Quayle. Front row – James Smith, Rob Cook, Ashwin Pillay, Alfie Warwick, James Spencer, Tom Bishop, Will Young.



In the photo below the girls are in the same order left to right as above.



The photos above are of Mel and Alfie when they were in Year 7 in 2003!



Victoria Paine (2005 – 2010)

Victoria is now teaching ballet from a studio in her home in Cleethorpes.

Joey Dawson (2014 – 2019)

Joey has moved from Scunthorpe United and signed for Glasgow Celtic in June 2021, playing as number 44.

Katie (Rudd 2005 -2012) Buffey

Katie has moved into photography/videography and works mainly with local businesses in and around Cleethorpes.

Kevin Clifton (1994 – 2001)

Kevin will resume the role of Stacey Jaxx in the musical 'Rock of Ages' having performed in the London production of 'Singin' in the Rain' as Cosmo Brown. Over 7 seasons Kevin starred in BBC One's 'Strictly Come Dancing', well known as 'Kevin from Grimsby'.

Joe Laverick (2012 – 2019)

Joe was 10th in the National Time Trial Championship (U23) held in October 2021 on a circuit in the Wolds starting at Tealby and 36th in the National Road Race Championship held in Lincoln. Both really good results as Joe was recovering from a bad fall in France the previous week. The photo shows Joe storming up Walesby hill.



Class of 2012 Reunion – I am reliably informed that they will meet again in Brigg on the evening of Thursday 23rd December.

THE CAISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION

Chairman's Report 2021

The activities of the Association have been restricted by the regulations put in place to combat the outbreak of Covid-19. The last three meetings of the Association committee have been conducted on Zoom, as face to face meetings were not permitted. An unintended benefit of on-line meetings is that it is possible for members who are not based in the Caistor area to join in.

Despite the restrictions, in December we published the 2020 edition of 'The Caistorian' magazine. Two hundred and forty two copies were distributed, an increase of 10% on 2019. Eddie Cook and the team that supported him did an excellent job again of producing the magazine; some very positive feedback was received.

The Archive Group has merged with the Association, and all the material relating to the Archive is now stored on the school site, either in the Library or in the basement of the Science block.

At the end of March, Sharon (French) Woodhouse stepped down from the role of Treasurer. On behalf of the committee, I extend thanks to Sharon for the support that she has given to the Association, not only as Treasurer but also for her advice and guidance in setting up the legal status of the Association and establishing the constitution. Alex Newton (2012 – 14) has taken on the Treasurer's responsibilities. We look forward to working with him in the future.

The membership stands at five hundred and fifteen at the end of June 2021.

Looking to the future, although the Covid pandemic is not yet over, the easing of restrictions does make it possible to start thinking about events for next year.

We have a project to catalogue, digitise and make available online the content of the archive.

I hope that sometime either later this year or early next year, we can arrange the informal gathering in London that we had planned for March 2020. If there is sufficient interest, a general reunion could be organised for the summer of 2022, this could be an open day at the school, ex-students vs. staff cricket/football/cross country/athletics/chess, or Dinner-dance. Suggestions from members will be welcome. Looking to the future in general, we would benefit from more involvement from younger members. The position of Secretary has been vacant for the last two years, support in organising meetings and events by someone filling this role would be welcome. I realise that the task of taking minutes of the meetings that the secretary's position involves is seen as onerous, but now that the meetings are conducted on Zoom, the entire discussion can be recorded, and the minutes produced from the recording. I believe that more involvement from younger members as officers and on the committee is essential. Most of the committee members were educated well before the digital age, and as a result, struggle with present day communications.

Finally, I wish to thank other members of the Committee for their efforts and support in the past year, especially Polly as Vice Chair, Sharon for her work as Treasurer, Alex for putting himself forward as Treasurer, and the rest of the committee for their work and support in the past 12 months

Tom Hunter (1964 - 1969) July 2021

ANECDOTES AND STORIES FROM ALUMNI

Journalism And That Headed Goal! by Stephen Fidler (1968-70)

I left CGS, a half century ago after just two years in the sixth form, but it looms fondly among my school-time memories. It was in no way a period of academic excellence on my part--the self-discipline required to study came to me only later in life--but I loved the town, the school and my friends there.

Looking back, I suspect the staff regarded me as a little too pleased with myself and, in retrospect, they were probably right. But my time there was certainly unencumbered by glittering prizes. (The sole exception is the goal I scored for the First XI in a 7-1 loss I think to Louth. I was picked because people who actually could play football were playing for Lincolnshire Schools. Even now in my mind's eye, I can see that headed goal go in from a corner, through a forest of defenders. It's recorded there somewhere in the school magazine.)

I left, ignoring the advice of staff, and applied to an institution of lesser standing to study economics, instead of a more recognised university where I could have scraped in to study chemical engineering. (Perhaps more about that another time.)

I did the right thing: I would have been a mediocre chemical engineer and I doubt my heart would have been in it. On the other hand, the economics degree gave me insight into financial markets and economics journalism, which I entered just as the world was changing, borders to capital flows falling, and as financial assets and their derivatives started spinning around the globe. From that platform, I branched out to write about politics, foreign policy, international relations and a host of other things.

My career has taken me around Lincolnshire for a newspaper group that exists no longer, to Brighton, then to Reuters in London, New York and the Middle East, to the Financial Times in London, which took me all over Latin America and the wider world, including Washington, where I was based for three years. And finally now to The Wall Street Journal, with which I've spent almost 12 years, eight of them in Brussels running coverage on the European Union, and since 2017 back in Britain, and then this unusual plague year. I'm afraid this career has absorbed too much of my time, and I haven't spent too much of it looking back. When I get the opportunity, I will write at more length about my recollections of Caistor.

I'm not on Facebook, from which my kids wisely barred me 15 years ago so, apart from a handful of people I've kept in occasional touch with, the magazine is the only window into the lives of many of my contemporaries. My regards to them and many thanks to you and everyone else involved in its production, not least to Charlotte who kept the flame burning (and from whom I learned the word "guttersnipe", not employed in reference to me so far as I can recall).

Stephen Fidler (1968-70)

The Mayor is.....WHO? by David Hasthorpe (1966-1971)

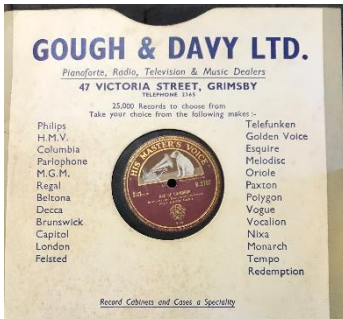
So, following what has to be described as at best a "lack-lustre" performance at an educational level, leaving CGS with minor achievements in CSE and GCE exams, but having had a great time and made a lot of friends, I knew that the world really needed an extra salesman and that was going to be me, given my quick thinking and sense of humour. Various jobs came and went in between (police officer, bread van man, bank clerk.....all pieces of life's rich tapestry!!) David became a car salesman. So, in 1986, having met Sandra when she bought a car from me, we married and I settled into life in Healing, at that time commuting daily to a Ford dealership in Lincoln, in all for a period of seven years. Winning several awards, my best year being a total of 287 cars sold in 1989! It was then in the 90's that I saw an advert in a village newsletter, asking for "new blood" for Healing Parish Council. I applied and Councillor Hasthorpe turned his talents to being a little different from the Dibley-style Parish Councillor. In the late 1990s, I became Chairman of the Parish Council, a position I held for several years, giving up in 2014 following my selection and subsequent election to North East Lincolnshire Council as a Ward Councillor for Wolds Ward, covering areas such as Laceby, where I had grown up and loved dearly.

Healing and other rural districts are also covered. In 2018, the Conservative group held a meeting to discuss the possible candidates for Deputy Mayor for 2018 and several pairs of eyes looked towards me! Gulp!! So it was, that in May 2019 Councillor David Hasthorpe became Deputy Mayor of N E Lincolnshire, a position held unusually for two years due to the pandemic, as no Mayoral Election was possible during 2020. The then Mayor was unfortunately, taken ill and unable to carry out his role from July of that year so Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress took the reins. A quiet year for functions but we started our apprenticeship. On May 27th 2021, I was officially made Mayor of our Borough, a tremendous honour and privilege. To be voted in by your colleagues to become the First Citizen is just such a wonderful personal achievement which makes me just so proud.

With customary aplomb, I have thrown myself into the role of Mayor for the year, promoting the area of North East Lincolnshire to visitors and businesses, unveiling projects completed within the area such as the new St James' Square in Grimsby, the new footbridge over the River Freshney, representing the Borough far and wide to showcase our leisure, tourism and food heritage, even managing to do a 15,000 foot skydive in August this year, to raise a wonderful £1800 for our local hospice! So, back to the question, The Mayor is.....WHO? This Mayor is proud to have learnt from Ken Michel (the hard way!), from Charlotte, I learnt manners, from JF and Stuart Fraser, I learnt sportsmanship. From Allen Prowle, who I often see in the village shop, I learnt to just be nice to my fellow man. THAT'S who The Mayor is, a fellow student (maybe, not so failed!?) David Hasthorpe CGS, 1966-1971



Mr Tyack's Saturday morning Gramophone Circle



Steven Millington, the relatively new Site Manager at CGS, is a wonderful supporter of the school. He has already found and restored the 1895 bell (see Tom Hunter's article on page 33) and found Mr Tyacks gramophone and records. The photos may bring back happy memories for many. As Joyce and John Good recalled about Saturday morning school - "We had 2 lessons until 11 am, then there were activities. There was a lot on offer, as well as sports fixtures. Mr Tyack offered a 'Gramophone Circle' which



was very popular. Pupils were exposed to a range of music and encouraged to talk about their feelings etc. John took some of these sessions when he was in the 6th form, even coming into school to lead a session when home from university. Mr Tyack once asked John to buy 6 skiffle records to play and discuss with pupils."

R-COBRA CARRIER (Regd.) Holds 25 Records.	
9 HIGHLAND FLING GRAND OLD DUKE OF YORK	18 ACE OF DIAMONDS COCHIN CHINA
10 STRIP THE WILLOW SCOTTISH JIGS	19 NORWEGIAN MAZURKA : MARSLEWS SHOEMAKER : HORAPIPPIN
11 ORCASSIAN CIRCLE DURHAM REEL : PLEASURE OF THE TOWN	20 LITTLE MAN IN A HIX SEXTOR : GALLOPINK
12 SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE STRATHGUY TULLOCH T WALTZ COUNTRY DANCE	21 VARSOVIANING : PEDER MIKKEL MALLEBRØK : LOTIS DEAD
13 FLOWERS OF EDINBURGH HUNT THE SQUARE	22 TROISY : LA VINCA TANCUJ
14 GAMERINS PERKODS LEADINS FOREST	23 I HAVE LOST MY STOCKING ETC : THE FRIENDLY NOD PEASANTS DANCE
15 NATTE MAGAREN LITENETIS : WAP DANCE	24 POLKA PIQUEE : PRICASSCE UNGKAA ELS DANS : PREMAD
16 FRENCH REEL SWEDISH MASQUERADE	25 FLEMISH DANCE : DJATCHKO KOLD. TENSCHELLING REELS : LANG 2
17 ROS PISSE POLSKA SWEDISH SCHOTTISCHE : TOAST TO K. SUSTAV	

From London to Liverpool – a brief life story from Veronica (Colver 1954 – 62) Ward

I had a gap year in London (1962 -63) followed by a degree in Social Studies from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (first year of breakaway from Durham University). Then with IVS to Southern

Africa for two years followed by a career in the voluntary and community sector and living, as I had on and off since the age of 16, in Camberwell SE5. I worked for MIND, then as a Community Worker for Southwark Social Services, then 2 daughters and Association of Community Workers (sole member of staff) then Southwark Council for Voluntary Service and finally for Age Concern England now Age UK retiring in 2005. In 2002 I became a local councillor and in 2010 Labour won the Council and I was grandly called Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport and did that for four years. We organised our own Olympics programme and had the South Bank from the Oxo Tower on downstream in our patch as well as Bermondsey, Camberwell and Peckham and Dulwich in the South. The final highlight of my working life were these four exciting years. I stood down in 2014 and started to plan a big move for family reasons and because we could see our house could not age any further with us ageing in it.

Big step to find ourselves in this fabulous city, Liverpool. What a place. Just love it. But we are Londoners and until COVID we visited about once a month with this and that event and seeing everyone. Miss London but love Liverpool with our family near us.

Veronica (Colver 1954 – 62) Ward

From Woody Top to Snowdonia and the Peak District notes from Veronica (Colver 1954 – 62) Ward

Woody's Top 1958. There are all my classmates in a photograph I had never seen before including my friend Linda Cotterill who I stayed in touch with ever after (far right in the photograph). There is Willy (Mr Williams) the biology master as well. He was a highlight for us young girls – never mind about Elvis Presley. I did not go on this expedition for reasons I cannot remember. But I went to Woody's Top several times with Linda. We cycled there and once I remember went with a horse. I can't account for that now! But for me the important youth hostelling expeditions were in three consecutive years we went to North Wales, The Lake District and The Peak District. Willy and Mr Minns were our leaders and there were 4 girls and 4 boys. Some in the photograph and always Linda. Those expeditions have remained very special to me all my life. My one regret in life is that I have not been able to continue to walk those hills as often as I would have wanted. One of the delights of moving to Liverpool (in 2016) has been that all these places are now, though belatedly, within such easy reach.



One delight this year was to be in N Wales and for the first time since I was 14 (but this time I 'climbed' Snowdon on the train with my two young grandsons) and to be in Nantmoor where we stayed in the Youth Hostel of which I could find no trace. In the cottage we stayed in, the information sheet explained that Nantmoor was the site of a film set supposed to be China for the film "The Inn of the Sixth Happiness". How I remember us four girls being lost and I went to check the surroundings by looking over a wall. I remember I said "I know we are lost but I didn't know we were this lost". There was a complete Chinese wall and villages and we wandered around admiring what you could do with paper mache. We found our hostel. I think it was that day that we had climbed Snowdon on the railway route and come down the narrower side and lost Russell along the way. It's OK to be lost I think now. We were always fine and probably these experiences have served us all well through our lives. I have tracked that trip and we just walked the whole lot in a week as far as I could make out from my very sketchy diary records. Did it in my school shoes and a skirt. It would be so good to reminisce with Mr Minns.



Front Veronica (Colver) Ward, Back L to R Joan Palmer, Linda Cotterill, Margaret Barr

Sadly Linda died in 2015. I had found an old map of the Peak District and marked out all the hostels we had stayed at. I planned to take it down with me to Seaford where she lived in a house more or less on the beach. But I got a phone call instead to tell me that she had died unexpectedly of a lung disease. Linda was a writer and a story teller and a very clever craftsman as well. Her daughter is Timandra Harkness who is sometimes on R4 doing programmes about IT/Communications and the future.



On the Carneddys – the next range to Snowdon.



On the summit of Snowdon. Harry Minns bottom left. Can anyone help with the boys' names? Veronica thinks that the boy in the middle at the back with glasses was Russell?

Shocking Treatment for School Pupils

Janet (Blow) Dixon (CGS 1969-76) remembers a physics lesson with Jim Hibbert.

"When teaching the theory of electric conductivity, Jim passed an electric current through all the boys in the class - resulting in many yelps. I don't think he would get away with that now!"

Jeremy Hunter (CGS 1972-79) also remembers physics with Jim Hibbert.

Jim demonstrated the working of a Van der Graaff generator. (For those who never did physics, those who were not paying attention at the time, and those for whom the passing of the years has erased the relevant memories, the Van der Graaff generator produces high voltages of static electricity. The top of the generator is a metal sphere on which a charge accumulates).

The demonstration required, besides the machine, a human volunteer (one of the boys) and a Bunsen Burner which was unlit, but with the gas turned on. The volunteer was directed to place one hand on the sphere, and reach out with his other hand, extending a finger towards the Bunsen Burner, whereupon a spark jumped from his finger and lit the burner.

According to someone who had heard, from someone who had heard... it was during another demonstration of this type that Mr Hibbert noticed that one of the boys appeared not to be paying sufficient attention. He therefore asked the volunteer to allow his finger to take a diversionary route, approaching first that other boy's ear. That woke him up.

Just a few recollections of life at CGS by Jane (Handbury) Willis (1958 – 1965). Head Girl, 1965.

Interestingly I still have the 1965 Magazine with signatures of friends on the cover.

The wonderful description of the School March in the last magazine evoked many memories of CGS. At the time the whole school was very proud of the Walkers. Sadly I was too young to go on the March but reading about it made me contemplate my time as a boarder.

Having read Reminiscences from Shirley Bradbury, 1947-53, I can confirm that the bathrooms and dining facilities were the same in 1958-65. Pretty basic.

I know that not all boarders enjoyed their experience but having lived on a fairly isolated farm, I was determined to make the most of my time at Caistor.

It is a known fact that, as we age, memory-wise we lose first our most recent memory but remember well our early years. That said I can't confirm that my early memories of CGS are completely accurate.

Grove House

The journey from home to school was often challenging in the winter with fog, floods and snow drifts but my farmer father was never deterred. We had to go to school! We sometimes picked up other boarders on the way, Dick Halliday being one of them.

Facilities in House were basic but we had space inside and out with a reasonable amount of freedom.

In the dorms we had metal framed beds, uneven, splintery floor boards which gave way if we bounced on the beds too much and I must not forget Charlie the ghost who haunted first year dorms!

We joined the Under the bedclothes club listening to the likes of Helen Shapiro on pocket radios. One April Fools' day we stuffed all the bells with socks and tied Matron Nellie's bedroom door handle to a pipe, but not tight enough as she managed to cut the string with scissors to escape. (We just wanted to have a lie in!)

Under our uniform we wore Liberty bodices and 2 layers of pants. We had to clean our shoes regularly. We sometimes starched petticoats with sugar prior to Saturday dance nights in the hall. I remember Mr Body sitting on the high windowsill to make sure we didn't dance too closely. We did the Jive, twist and locomotion, Barn dances and Dashing White Sergeant and some smooching when not observed!

We ironed with a flat iron heated on a gas ring in the seniors' kitchen and ate freshly made bread with butter and jam all from Dixons corner shop and bakery.

We had a shilling per week for tuck. Penny arrow bars were popular.

We went to the cafe in town to listen to the juke box, (Jo Brown was popular) ate toasted tea cakes and watched the teddy boys! Did Mrs Fox own the cafe?

Tobogganing in the Water Hills was enjoyed annually when school was closed due to heavy snow falls. (Climate change has put a stop to that.)

In good weather walking and liaisons in the Water Hills was another popular pastime!

We had cycle rides, went roller skating in the playground but occasionally on the roads! There was table tennis and judo lessons for any who wanted to learn about self-defence.

In the common room was a TV and we were the first generation to see Dr Who, the Daleks and Juke Box Jury. Dr Who was completely different, a new concept and a pretty scary programme.

Who had his ferret cross polecat in a cage outside the dining room?

There was a rota of boarders for washing dishes after every meal. No mechanical dishwashers in those days!

I remember watching Cassius Clay fight Sonny Liston at 4am on the tv in the boys common room. Our diets were substituted not only by the bakery and the cafe but by Mrs Baker and Mrs Johnson, day girl mothers who invited us for tea or sent in food parcels.

I can't remember if homework was done in school or in House but I do remember revising in the garden when it was warm and sneaking through the back gate to visit Alan Holt and his family for cakes and tea.

One summer we had a zip wire from the top of the terraces to the bottom, something health and safety would not allow in this day and age. No one was injured!

School

Teachers floating along the corridors in their black capes. Well before the days of Harry Potter. Individual wooden desks in our year form rooms. Great for hiding cockroaches to frighten the girls.

There were of course the mandatory lessons and some of my teachers were: TMO Cross, (Geography). Mr Tyack, (French). "if you are going to do something do it well or not at all" Pop Linsell, (Chemistry). A quiet and tolerant man. Enduring experiments that went wrong but rarely raising his voice. His wife, Charlotte Linsell, (English.)

I always think of her when using punctuation marks! "They must be used correctly". I'm sure there are plenty of mistakes in this piece!

Mrs Gibson, (English, Drama teacher) Regularly wore her mortar board and always large, pendant ear rings.

I remember many girls joining the astronomy club when Keith Flunder arrived! There was John

Fowler (history), Mr Jenkins, (biology). Alan Holt, (art) and the unforgettable Harry Minns, (School Secretary, YHA organiser) and Mr Michel, (Head). All memorable in different ways.

My brother, John, and John Ward joined the School in our 4th form. They were great assets to school life.

The Hall was used daily for assembly and also for PE lessons. Vaulting blocks, ropes and ladders for climbing with upturned benches used for balance and poise!!

Occasionally we had films, the most memorable being Henry V in black and white.

Team Sports were important regardless of the trek to and from the playing fields and having to wear shiny black pants under our skirts!

There was always great team spirit and support for all matches. There are too many exceptional people to name but I remember fondly some great contemporaries.

The multi-talented David Havercroft, Pete Steel, Roy Thomas, Alan Houghton and Robin Stones, a great athletics coach and distance runner. He helped me to achieve success in discus and javelin at the county championships.

Jo Kellaway, Pat Lindley, Vanessa Pearson, boarder buddies, Sue Baker, Marylin Mainprize, Mary Geeson and Ali Lucas as well as Midge and Rhoda Johnson, sisters who were also amazing vocalists, forming the Madrigal Group with Liz Roberts and Dot Franks, under the guidance of Mr Naylor.

Apologies for all those I haven't named, you are not forgotten.

Life was not always as rosy as described. There were challenging times, unhappy times with sad memories, but good times outweighed the bad. Luckily there were no mobile phones and social media to influence ideas, thoughts and actions. Life was relatively simple.

I had some fantastic friends but very sadly some are no longer with us. Over the years I have realised that, in each chapter of our lives, more than anything else, it is the people we meet who contribute most to the experience.

Some friendships continue others fade mainly due to geographic obstacles.

We had excellent role models and, with hindsight, I had a well-rounded education equipping me to train as a physiotherapist in Birmingham and work for over 30 years in the NHS.

Overall, life and work at CGS was FUN. A very happy chapter in my life.

Jane (Hanbury) Willis (1958 – 65)

Diversity and Inclusion by Liseli Sumbwanyambe (2006 – 2013)

Robert Frost once said “two roads diverged in the woods, and I chose the one less travelled”. The perfect phrase to summarise my journey since leaving Caistor Grammar School. When I look back at results day in 2013, having missed my A Level grades and entered clearing, I did not expect to one day be matriculating into the University of Cambridge. Three universities and a variety of roles later, as I look back over the past decade, the question I ask myself is what did I learn along the way?

Firstly, and perhaps most importantly, it is ok to not know exactly where you are going. My first internship was in a lab looking after mosquitos,

concentrating body odour, and researching why we get bitten. If there's one thing I learnt (bar not having bare legs when looking after mosquitos) it was that although I studied Biomedical Science, labs were not for me. Following this internship, I had a range of experiences including events management, communications and ultimately marketing Flora and Bertolli which led me to Unilever. I now lead Beauty and Personal Care Innovation for UK&I, overseeing the creation of household products for brands such as TRESemme, Lynx and Dove. All of my internships stemmed from an initial speculative email.



To anyone reading this article, do not be scared to reach out for roles and if someone asks you for help, please think of the impact your reply could have on a person's future.

Secondly, the power of the people around you. In my first year of university, my role model was an older student involved in the Student Union. One evening she pulled me aside and encouraged me to run for a sabbatical position, despite being younger than all contestants. This support led me to become the first black executive since the founding of the Glasgow University Union in 1885. We are often told visual representation is essential to drive career aspirations, but this cannot always be possible. In the 2021 Colour of Power Report, a summary of the most powerful people in Great Britain, 2% were black and 0.3% black females. This equates to 4 black females from the 1,160 inspirational individuals identified. Throughout my journey I have often been the only black person in the room. My success is directly correlated to people around me who did not necessarily look like me, but gave me their support to unlock my potential. Ultimately, everyone has the potential to be an impactful role model. It is difficult to quantify the effect your actions have on another's life. However, in some cases, you might become the catalyst to someone making a decision they might not have had the confidence to even consider before.



As the role of diversity and inclusion amplifies in society, we all have our part to play in supporting future generations and sharing our learnings. This is an area of interest for me both through my employer and in my spare time. If you would like to find out more on my work or join me on the journey, please contact me on LinkedIn or email me at

Liseli_s@live.com. I would like to thank

Mr Cook for the opportunity to contribute to this magazine. CGS has played a large role in mine and many other lives. If you have resonated with this article, please take some time to think how you can support our Caistorian Network.

Liseli Sumbwanyambe (2006 – 2013)



The School Bell by Tom Hunter (1964 – 69)

The School bell was attached to the outside wall of what is currently room O6, (previously Room 4, the language lab, before that the kitchen, originally the science lab adjacent to the double doors that lead to the reception area).

The makers name 'J. WARNER & SONS, LONDON 1895' is cast into the bell. Where the bell was sited prior to the building of O6 in 1908 is not clear. The photographs that we have of the school in the late 19th century do not show a bell on the outside of the building. It is possible that the school acquired the bell second hand. Nobody that I have been in contact with can remember the bell being used, except possibly in the event of a power cut. The bell that signalled the end of lessons from the 1950's onwards was the electric bell operated by a button on the wall outside the Headmaster's study. I believe that this had been installed when the main block of the school was built in 1930. Prior to that, the school had been lighted by gas, so it probably was not connected to the electricity supply.

From what I have been told by those who know about these matters, Warner's bells do not have a good reputation amongst bell ringers. One respondent states 'They sound like buckets'. Having said that, I understand Warner's were responsible for casting the original Big Ben, and four smaller bells that still hang in the Elizabeth tower.

They also produced the ring of eight bells in Emmanuel Church Plymouth, that sound nice, and are known amongst bell ringers as Warner's mistake.

I would like to thank the following Caistorians who have contributed information.

Gavin Atkin, Elsie (Jones) Bennett, Hilary (Michel) Farrell, Barry Harriman, Derek Jones, Emily Jackson, Jane Linsell, Adrian Louis and Joanne (Adlard) Raywood.

Tom Hunter (1964 – 69)

Barry Graham-Rack (1941 – 46) writes I don't recall ever seeing this bell. Apart from helping Pop by clearing-up the lab after school and keeping the weather records for him, it was my job to ring the school bell for class change-over, and it was not the one shown. It was hanging outside the first entrance. (*Can anyone shed any further light on the history of the bell?* - Ed)



4th Form CGS 1952-53 by Keith Edlington (1950 – 56)

In September 1952, (class 3b of 1950) now moved to the elevated position of the art room with form master Dai Davies. Here we began to feel that we had arrived and that we should act in a more responsible manner. After all, we were now being regarded as more grown-up and our behaviour ought to reflect our new position. However, I feel sure that we failed dismally in that regard.

The art room with its large windows allowed in much more light than our previous classrooms. The room was airy and bright, too, and on the walls Art Master Alan Holt began to stick paper strips bearing the names of celebrated artists; Manet, Monet, Renoir, Degas for example. Names one got to live with and to know and these have remained with me through the years.

In early October Form 4 was invited to go potato-picking on a farm belonging, I think, to a School Governor. We were collected when we arrived at school by tractor and trailer and taken to the potato field. A bumpy ride as I recall. A 'stint' was measured out along the field and an ash sticks stuck in the ground to indicate the length each pair of pickers was to work. The tractor and a strange looking piece of machinery attached at the rear spun the potatoes out one row at a time. We then scrambled along our stint on hands and knees picking up the crop in a basket and then transferring the contents into a sack at the end of stint. This was hard but enjoyable work being together, working together, in farmland surroundings and away from routine lessons and wearing an array of unusual and non-uniform clothing. We were returned to school in time to go home as usual. On the Friday we were paid for our labours and many of us would have returned for another week had we been asked.

In February 1953 I was surprised to find that I was to run in the senior cross-country race as I would not be 14 until April. I had two or three practice runs on Wednesday afternoons and on the day of the race decided to set off as fast as I could, get into a reasonable position and then do my best to hold on to it. I was aware there were some runners ahead of me as I ran towards the Union and then into Sandbraes. As I approached the bottom of Canada Lane I came across David Murgatroyd who was sitting down having a rest. I put distance between him and myself, jumped over the style at the top of the hill, ran down the field, over another style, along a narrow alleyway and across the Brigg Road, up the hill by the Methodist Church and down to school. If I remember correctly



those girls, who were not on point duty, were gathered together in the boys' playground cheering in the runners. I came in 5th. This should have earned me a place in the school team that took part a week later in the Inter-Grammar County Schools' cross country at Scunthorpe. Regrettably, Mr Capper, the Headmaster, told me I was too young to take part.

In July 1953, Coronation Year, a large number of us went on a school outing. After a train journey we boarded a boat on the River Thames which took us to Windsor. This was a memorable visit to the castle, and especially to see St George's Chapel where we were shown how badly the steps up to the main door had been worn away by the feet of so many visitors to the lying-in state of King George VI the previous year.

I enclose an old photograph, circa 1952, that has recently come to light. Myself and Malcolm (Killer) Schofield in short trousers by the school cycle shed which at that time was, as can be seen well used.

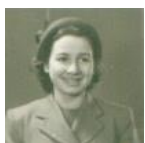
Keith Edlington (1950 – 56)

Stories for my Grandchildren by Pat (Harrison) Collinson 1947 – 1953

I saw that Shirley (Bradbury) Bury had written about us 'running away.' This was probably in my third year at Caistor and I wasn't really sure what caused us to leave. It was in summer and the milk the girls had been given for our evening drink was sour so I think this was why we joined the boys. Pauline, Maureen Fowler and I were some of the younger boarders, along with Tim Denby, Johnny McVeigh and older girls and boys.



Pat



And Pat's twin,
Pauline.

We waited till Matron was upstairs, supervising younger girls in the bathroom, then we let ourselves out of the gate that led into the lane, where we met the boys. We set off along the lane till it joined the road to North Kelsey. We kept to the footpath beside the road for a while, not knowing where we were headed. When we came to a finger post pointing to the left, saying footpath, I asked wouldn't it be better if we went along there? They will send cars along the roads looking for us, so we left the road and followed the path. At the very end of Navigation Lane, the footpath ended so someone decided we would go across the fields. One of these had been ploughed, and as we crossed it, we picked up lots of mud on our shoes. We could kick it off, but Moggy had an artificial leg and she was finding it too difficult. She took off the leg and two of the boys linked hands to make a seat for her.

I was put in charge of her leg. Earlier in the term, or one of our Saturday night film shows, we had seen the film 'Arsenic and Old Lace', a comedy-thriller. The old ladies in the film had an elderly man-friend, probably a former soldier. He went down the stairs into the cellar with a stick held in front of him, calling 'Charge!' I held Moggy's leg in front of me, foot first, calling 'Charge!' as we went along. It was growing dark as we reached a road that would lead us into Nettleton where we turned along the route that would take us back to Caistor. A teacher searching for us came along and Moggy,

Pauline and some of the others were given a lift back to school, with the leg. The rest of us trudged along till more cars later came to collect us. Not much was said to us at school. I think Mr Capper was pleased to have us safely back without having to ask the police for help and the publicity that would have caused.



Boarders Easter 1953 (Shirley [Bradbury] Bury is absent with mumps!)

'Eggie' Fenwick was sent home as he was the oldest boy and should have been setting us an example. I didn't think this was fair, but I didn't argue. It was many years later before I told my mother. Pauline and I hadn't mentioned this before as we didn't want to be taken away from Caistor as we loved our time there.

I also saw that Marione Brown had written about making the staff tea. The kettle was put on a Bunsen burner in the little lab at the bottom of the stairs. Tea was put in the larger tea pot and when the kettle boiled the tea was made. Pauline and John Marshall were in the lab as we were in the Lower Sixth Form. On one occasion Peter Withers, a Sixth-form prefect, added quinine to the water. Marione said she made the tea and it was taken upstairs to the Staff room. The staff complained that the tea tasted awful and when the bell rang for the end of break, the sixth form was 'invited' up to the Staff Room. There we were told to find a chair and we were all given a cup of tea, which we had to drink. Pop had remembered that Peter had been prescribed quinine earlier, so he knew that it wouldn't harm us, but our teachers were right, the tea did indeed taste awful and we were made to drink it!

I was interested to read that Enid (Armitage) Fowler was 'hopeless at Maths and hated it' although her father was her teacher. It was the subject that I liked least though Pauline was very good and loved it. One day, when I had got several sums wrong, 'Tags' picked me up and put me in the wicker waste paper basket saying that I was rubbish at Maths. I wriggled about till it tipped over and I fell out. I pretended that I had banged my head and was made to sit down and take things easy.

Another time, when I'd been in the sick bay for a few days, I went back to find that the class had been introduced to a new topic. I didn't understand any of it and was told, 'Get your sister to show you what to do.' Usually quiet and polite, I remarked 'That's what you are told to do!' I was sent out of the class to stand under the clock outside Mr Capper's office. I'm afraid that I didn't stay there. I went out and hid in the girl's cloakroom till just before the end of the lesson when I went back to where I had been told to stay, so that when Tags opened the classroom door to call me back in to pack up my things, I was there.

I liked all the lessons apart from Maths. I was particularly fond of English with 'Gawk'. I don't know who had given her the nick-name, but she was very tall and slim. It was said that her fiancé had died in the First World War and that was why she had never married. She was an excellent teacher and didn't retire till we had taken our 'O' levels, the first pupils to take this exam.

I remember that her hair was white, except that at the front over her forehead. It was yellow as were two of her fingers.. She must have smoked lots of cigarettes to cause that, but I don't think I ever saw her with a cigarette in her hand. I don't know where she lived, but she must have been a great help to Mr Capper when he became Headmaster as Harry Minns was just appointed as the School Secretary. He was always so good and helpful. Gawk was Deputy Head.

This story tells of how Pauline, Moggy and I were sent up to the Senior Common Room when younger boarders came to school. There, Joy Friday, one of the older girls, showed a pair of dirty shoes into my hand and ordered me to go and clear them. I threw them on the floor and said, 'Clean your own shoes!' so she hit me. I kicked her on the shins so Rosemary Horton and Bunty Baines each grabbed one of my arms and held me while Joy hit me again. She got another kick and I bit the arms of the other two, causing horse-shoe shaped teeth-mark bruises. When they let go, I pulled their hair as hard as I could.

The Senior Boarder (I'm not sure but I think she was called Barbara Grant) stepped in and stopped the fight. Joy told everyone that I was to be 'sent to Coventry'. Pauline said they could do what they liked but they wouldn't prevent her from talking to her sister and Moggy agreed, so they sent me back to the Junior Common Room. When Dollop, Miss Dowthwaite, came in she asked me what I was doing there. I didn't mention the fight but said some of the girls had told me they didn't want me there. She was furious and marched me along the corridor to the Senior Common Room where she asked how dare they change her decisions. They could stop all that nonsense, so it was all forgotten, but I never cared for Joy.

At school, Pauline was always called Polly, though I called her Paddy. Before we were born, Mum was told that she was having a boy and a girl. I was born first and half an hour later baby number two was born, another girl, so she became 'Paddy, the next-best thing' after a book that was popular at the time.

From time to time we would play 'Truth or Dare' and I always chose dare and would be challenged to do different things. Once it was to bring some tadpoles back from one of our walks to put in the small pond near the bushes in Grove House garden. On one of our long walks, we found a ditch with tadpoles in it. The frog-sprawn had 'hatched'. The only thing I had to carry the tadpoles' water in was my pudding-basin school hat. I filled it with water and lots of tadpoles and carefully carried it back. Luckily, we did not meet any members of staff so we put the tadpoles in the pool where we watched them grow into frogs. They were very small and soon disappeared. We hoped it was to a bigger pond in someone else's garden, but I now think that some of them must have been eaten by birds.

On another occasion, someone had arranged with one of the town pupils to bring us a bag of chips from the fish-shop. They would be at the wall behind the holly bush by 8:15 pm. We were then in bed. I was dared to be the one to collect them. The dormitory that Pauline, Moggy and I were in overlooked the gate near the holly bush. Now I had been a great fan of Enid Blyton books, and enjoyed the school stories about life at Mallory Towers. In one of the books, she told of one of the girls tying her sheets together to lower herself to the ground. If she could do it, then so could I.

I took the sheets off my bed and knitted them together. One end was fastened to the window and I threw the sheets out and began to go down it. All was well till I came to the knot and went onto the second sheet. Never having been a Brownie, I didn't know the difference between reef knots and granny knots. When I put my weight on the new sheet, the knot separated and the sheet and I fell into the border. I scooped it up into a tidy bundle and put it under a



CGS Staff 1947 Back L to R, ?, Mr Storr, ?, Mr B Tyack, Mr Hampson?, Mr Armitage, Miss M Coates, ?, ?, Front L to R – Mr TMO Cross, 'Pop' Linsell, Miss G Creedy, Mr Capper, Mrs Capper, Mr Evans, ?.

window in the bay in the Senior Common Room. Pauline said she would creep down and let me in, so I went to collect the chips from over the wall. Back at the window, Pauline collected the sheet and helped me to climb into the room, then while she took the sheet and with Moggy's help made the bed, I fastened the window, wiped my shoes, and crept upstairs with the chips. We ate one or two and took the paper parcel to the girls in the dormitory across the corridor. They had dared me and this would prove that I had carried out the task they had set. There were six girls in that room and they finished off the chips, thoroughly enjoying this treat.

We all had Music Lessons with Mr Storr. These were singing lessons. He taught us Nymphs and Shepherds Come Away (later recorded by the Glasgow Orpheus Choir and often on the radio, so I could join in), Linden Lea, The Ash Grove and Men of Harlech. He also taught us the School Song. Sadly I only remember the beginning and the end of it. Is there any chance of a copy of the whole song? (2018 Magazine page 7 – Ed). We always sang this in church at the end-of-year Commemoration Service.

In one of our lessons, Pam Lancaster (?) sat on the floor between two benches and then stretched out and pretended she had fainted. (I think this was Pam because we called her 'Planky' because she was tall and slim). Someone tried to attract Mr Storr's attention but he didn't want to know. The

song we were singing was more important, so Pam had to lie on the floor till the end of the lesson, when we had to put the benches away. Some of the boarders had joined the church choir. We sang our Matins and Evensong and went to Choir Practice once a week, meeting the older choristers. Because of our love of music, Maggie Griffiths' mother invited some of us to be in the opening chorus for a show that her Grimsby



CGS Boarders 1947

Choir was performing in Caistor Town Hall. It had grown-ups in the choir and several soloists whom we did not know. They were putting on Samuel Coleridge Taylor's 'Hiawatha's Wedding.' As a treat, we were allowed to stay and watch one of the performances. I still recall 'You shall hear how Pau-Puk-Keewis/How the handsome Yenadizze/Danced on Hiawatha's wedding.' (Spelling uncertain...the tune is right in my head but not when I try to sing it!)

Mrs Griffiths booked tickets for some of us to go to Grimsby where Kathleen Ferrier, a celebrated contralto, was singing. We had heard her on 'Family Favourites' and she sang some of her favourite melodies, 'Blow the Wind Southerly' and 'What is life to be without thee' from Orpheus and Eurydice by Gluck, a German composer. Mr Capper drove us there, packed in his car like sardines, for Health and Safety was unheard of in the 1950s.

I had just been writing about 1947 and the deep snow-drifts, so was glad to see Shirley Bury's account. I had forgotten Matron Hines' name, so I could add that. 'Brad' wasn't as daring as some of the other girls at the back of the crocodile. Matron led the way and she couldn't see some of us scrambling up to the top of a snowdrift. As it was about 7ft high, we were able to jump over the telephone wires in much the same way as we jumped over the skipping ropes in group activities. When we found a suitable place, we slithered down into the path, glad to be sheltered from the cold wind. This alley had been cut so that people living at farms along the route could get out to buy their groceries. We were glad to get back to Grove House, where we made a hot drink and warmed our tingling hands and feet, but most of us had enjoyed the exercise.

In the 2014 'Old Caistorians' magazine, Maggie Griffiths had written about becoming a boarder (1941 – 1951). She mentioned the Boot Room with the big mini and the little mini. We never called them lavatories or toilets, and the loo wasn't yet in the vocabulary. 'Minnie' was the name we used, called after Minnehaha in 'The Song of Hiawatha' by Longfellow. I think that Minnehaha became Hiawatha's wife. Her name meant 'laughing water' and this was the sound that the cistern made when we pulled the chain to flush the loo, and the water flowed out.

Don Shaw was the Head Boy in 1951 and I became the Head Girl till I left in 1953. I believe that the choice of Head Girl was between my twin, Pauline, Moggy Fowler, and me. We shared a small dormitory, and one night, when we were all in bed, Matron and Miss Bell, who had replaced 'Dollop' Dowthwaite, burst into the room and caught Moggy and Pauline smoking in bed. We were made to leave the dormitory and stand on the landing while they flung the window open to get rid of the smoke and smell of cigarettes.

It was shortly after this that in a School Assembly I was called to the front and given the metal badge that said Head Girl. I proudly wore this with another one



The School Tennis Team to play the Staff 1952

that said Games Captain. I hadn't realised that Brad hadn't yet taken her 11+ till I read her report. I knew that she was in a different class with Frances Baddeley and Anne Royall.

Peter Watts, who appears in one of the Croxby Park photographs was in the Kindergarten. He had gone to Caistor so that he could take the Common Entrance Exam a couple of years later for his father's public school. When he went there, Pauline and I had to find a different way to get to school. We had no car, so we travelled on the bus from Gainsborough to Grimsby. It went through Market Rasen and Caistor. We took our trunk down to Mrs Rushby's shop the night before when Dad could help us. On the day we went back to school, the trunk was put in the boot at the back of the bus. Once we reached Gainsborough, the driver helped us to take it out, and we carried it to the bus-stop not far away for the bus to Grimsby.

From the windows, we could see the scenery en route. There were still Lancaster bombers at Hemswell Aerodrome. It was still being used in 1951 when Yorkshire and England cricketer, Fred Trueman went there to do his National Service. When we reached Caistor, we left our trunk at a café along a road at the North of the Market Place. It was later collected from here with several others and taken to the Boarding Houses.

An Archaeological Dig in the Summer of 1961

This is written from email information exchanged between the instigator, Richard Halliday and Polly (Lingard) Baxter, Ros (Pentelow) Boyce, Mary (Reed) Thomson, David Yates, Graeme Kemshall and the editor. *(Any further information would be gratefully received – Ed)*

Richard sent the two photos on page 40 related to excavations by pupils within the garden of Grove House (now near to the 'New' Hall which before that was the swimming pool!). He wondered whether it was ever written up and who decided to do it. He thinks most of the finds were Roman. He remembers oyster shells, some glassware, which had turned iridescent, and a die (single dice), all probably 'rubbish' tipped from the settlement above. Richard qualified as an archaeologist "very much later in life, but this was my first, and for many years my only foray into 'digging'."

We think that the dig is related to 3 people in particular. Mr Philip Rahtz had led excavations in May and June of 1959 (see map) on a sizeable piece of land across Castle Hill from the school owned by Mr Holt (CGS Art Master) who gave Mr Rahtz 'every co-operation'. The excavation was done by 'local volunteers, including boys from CGS'. *(Please let us know if you were one of those boys – Ed)* The History Master at CGS at the time was Mr A Body who, we believe, was also involved. The report for the 1959 dig in Mr Holt's garden was written up by Philip Rahtz in The Antiquaries Journal Volume XL July-October 1960. Mr Body may also have been involved but we are not sure.

We think that Mr Body (boys' boarding housemaster and history teacher), perhaps with the help of Mr Holt, decided to do the dig at CGS near to the bastion B on the map (Right). Ros (Pentelow) Boyce remembers "It took place in the grounds of Grove House in the summer of 1961 after we had

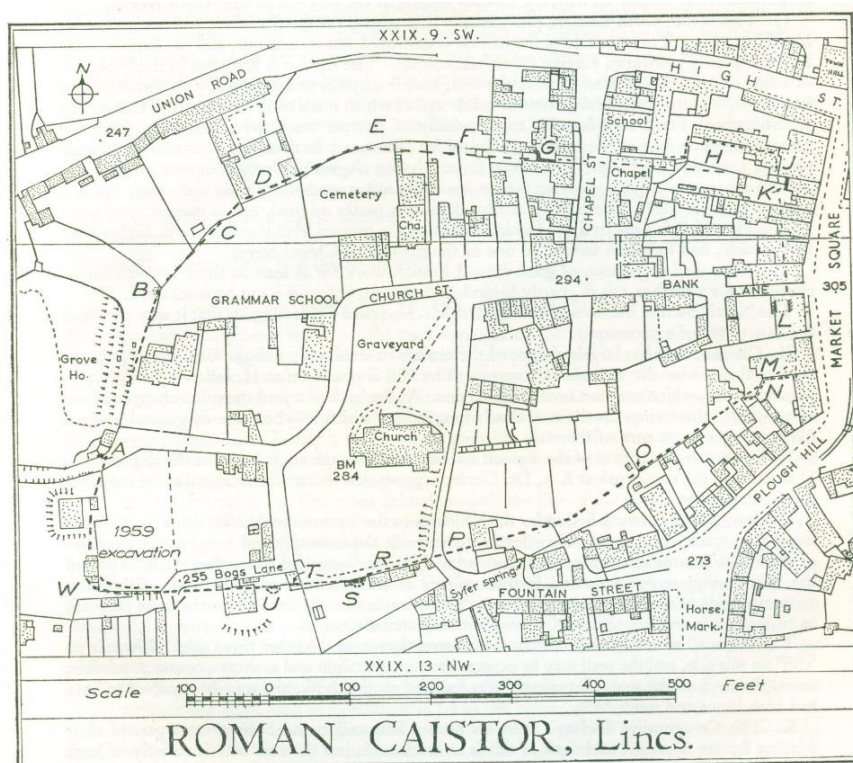


FIG. 3. Suggested circuit of Roman wall.

finished A-levels & before breaking up, possibly about 1 or 2 weeks. Presumably it was to keep us 'amused'.

[While researching the dig Richard came across something of interest that is perhaps a bit more than coincidence. There was a Mr AC Body connected with Uppingham School who appears (in 1949?) to have prompted a long distance protest march against the removal of county status from Rutland. Richard wonders whether that Mr Body was a teacher there and if so perhaps, even probably, "our" Mr Body. Was the 1960 Walk Mr Body's idea? (*I know that John Fowler spoke to me and wrote to me about the fact that he felt Mr Body had not had the recognition he deserved for the significant role he played in the 1960 Walk to Lincoln - Ed*)].

In the photo (right) David Yates is, as he says, "holding the wall up." Although he looks to be in charge he assures us he was not! Ros thinks that the teacher in the foreground is Miss Alderson, who might have taught biology (or was it history?) She hadn't been at the school very long at that time. Ros is second from left & Mary Reed



(Thomson) is on her right. Mary thinks the girl on the left of Ros is Veronica (Colver) Ward. We don't know who the other two are.



In the second photo (left) left to right are Brenda (Mellors) Marriott, Joy Dawson, Ros (Pentelow) Boyce and Margaret Barr.

Ros writes, "Philip Rahtz, apparently at the time from the City & County Museum in Lincoln, came to see what we were doing and we assume, advise." Ros and Richard found his obituary on the 'Guardian' website (29 July 2011). He had a distinguished career in archaeology, mainly in the south-west. There is no mention of Lincoln! He seems to have been a colourful character!

It is very likely that the original school and parts of the church have

been constructed with "Roman" dressed stone robbed from the wall.

Ros writes 'My memory has it that we didn't find very much of interest and that we were digging in the wrong place, but the photo tells me I am wrong. Presumably the items found were sent to the museum but after that, I don't know what happened to them or whether or not they were written up. It is quite possible they remain in the museum store in Friars Lane...'

Life as a Boarder by Christine (Batty 1964 – 69) Aram

1963, my father was posted to RAF Coningsby to join a Vulcan Squadron. I spent my last year of junior school at Tattershall primary, where I met Elaine Tanner. We became firm friends and remain so. As we would have gone to a number of secondary schools, our parents in their infinite wisdom decided to send us to a boarding school. September 1964 saw us both arrive at Caistor.

We were to live in Grove House. Along with two other girls, Mo Whitely and Wendy Lawson, we shared a 'dorm'. There were steel-framed beds whose mattresses bowed in the middle and we had a cavernous wardrobe called Charlie's cupboard (a ghost was rumoured to live in it). The best thing about the beds was that you could hold on to the end of them, jump on the mattress and hey ho they would move across the room! (We got into trouble a lot for doing that, in fact we got into trouble a lot!)

Going to boarding school means you have tuck boxes, these lived with matron, and were doled out at the weekend. Downstairs was the boot room, where our shoes, shoe cleaning equipment and coats lived. Someone was on 'boot duty' each week, which meant cleaning everyone's shoes. When they stopped sending our shirts to the laundry (too much starch) we were taught how to iron them, oh the joy . . .

When we arrived, Matron oversaw our unpacking, making sure everything on the school uniform list was ticked off and inspected for name labels, with uniform, and then whisked off to some unknown place in matron's domain! She then dished out clean clothes to us, not every day mind, so we took to washing our smalls and drying them over the big wide pipes.

Life was quite regimented at first. Up and dressed, had to air our beds, and over to the dining room for breakfast (good food, cooked breakfast daily). Back to Grove House to make our beds, unless you were on washing up duty (yes I know! It sometimes made us late for school where we would then get into trouble since we lived on the premises) If we hadn't aired the beds properly Matron would have pulled it apart making it harder to remake! Then grab our school bags for the beginning of a new school life. We were a big year, split into two classes and a 6 day rolling lesson schedule. We had our lunch back in the boarders' dining room. After school we were allowed to change into 'mufti' and got up to no good before tea at 5pm. We were allowed in to town, but only twice a week on a Wednesday and Saturday but not into the café. This was obviously a den of iniquity (which is of course where we went). We would phone home from the phone box in the Market Square. We had to sign in and out, whenever we left the premises. After tea we would have an hour's prep where we did our homework, overseen by our Housemaster or Mistress. These for us were Mr Fowler, Mr Naylor and Miss Holmes. Mr Prowle came later, we thought he was dreamy! They were all lovely to us boarders, but my we took some liberties! After that we had supper back in Grove House before lights out at 8ish. Once a week we all crammed into the common room to watch 'Top of the Pops'.

Saturday saw us getting our pocket-money, doled out by our venerable Headmaster, Mr Michel, (the Boss, Sneck). In our first year we got 1 shilling and 6 pence (old money) rising every year till we reached the 5th form and got 5 shillings. Off we'd go into town and spend our fortune!

Saturday night was the highlight of the week. We would have an 'activity' in the big hall. A dance, it was a mixture of country dancing and pop music, where if we smooched too closely to a boy, Sneck would sidle up to us and tell us off for having too much physical contact! Also, we couldn't refuse if a boy asked us to dance. The Christmas activity was the best. We got dolled up in our finest, had a posh Christmas tea then over to the big hall. Each year we were expected to do a turn, I remember one year being a floppy dummy, with Elaine being a stiff one and Mo trying to get us organised in a shop window, hilarious and no words to remember. And who can forget singing "sitting on the back seat kissing and cuddling with Fred"? Poor Mr Mudd, he was a good sport! Sundays saw us back in uniform for letter writing to home followed by Church! After lunch we were left to our own devices . . .

Between the beginning of term and half term we were allowed home for a boarders' weekend, unless you were gated. Of course, we spent our first one at school. Not only for being in trouble for being in dorm 2, caught sliding down the bannisters, but the last straw was Mo trying to open a window and putting her hand through it. Our punishment was to stay at school and paint our dorm!

School work was secondary to our lives in the boarding house, it was like a big social club. We left Grove House for the modern delights of Lindsey House where we managed to break the incinerator in the girls' bathroom by putting silver fag paper in it. Trying to hide the evidence didn't work.

Moving down there saw the arrival of another partner in crime, Elsie Jones. Poor Elsie moved into a dorm with 4 established friends. On her first night she was commanded to answer a question that would seal her fate, the wrong one could be perilous. Who do you like best, The Monkees or The Beatles? She looked concerned and replied she liked them both equally. The correct answer and another friend for life. Veronica joined the school at the same time, but as a day girl. She joined the boarders a couple of years later, but by then we were all already firm friends.

Of course, we had a boarders' anthem (below). This is only a small snippet of our lives there. We had happy times at school. Holidays were not so much fun, back home to a different base to make new friends, looking forward to term time and back to our second home.

We five have remained firm friends ever since and we meet up bi-annually, where we continue to misbehave and have good fun. This has not happened recently due to the bl**dy virus. Instead, we do zoom twice a week.

Boarding school gave us lifetime friendship (we won't mention the education) for which we will be forever grateful. Chris (Batty 1964 - 69) Aram, Elaine Tanner (1964 – 71), Mo (Whitely 1964 – 70) Leggott, Elsie (Jones 1967 – 71) Bennett and Veronica (Gower – Jones 1967 – 71) Shepherd.

Caistor Boarders Anthem

There is a grammar school not far away
Where we are forced to work
All through the day
And at night we also do
Prep instead of telly view
Leaving our cares behind
Far far away

There is a dining room not far away
Where we get nowt to eat
Three time a day
Ham and eggs we never see
Don't get sugar in our tea
That's why we're gradually
Fad – ing away

There is a boarding house not far away
Where rats gnaw through the floor
Day after day.
The shovelling of coal

Wakens every living soul
That's why we're half asleep
All through the day

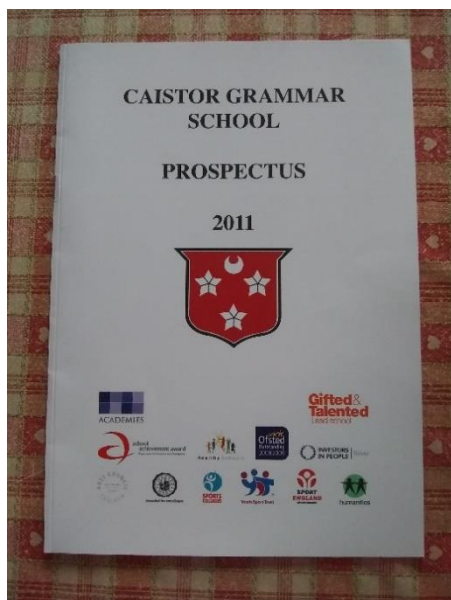
Also a verse about the playing fields too? i.e. distance from the school.

(I think copyright goes to Jane Hanbury? [Jane says she doesn't think she wrote it. Does anyone know the origin? – Ed])

ARTICLES FROM ALUMNI

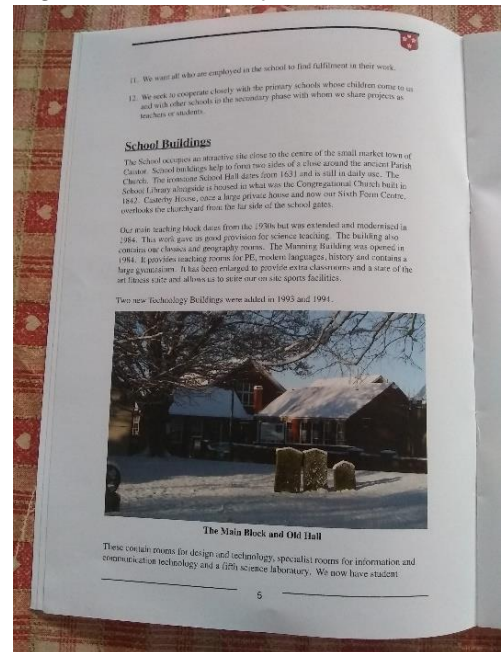
Students Wanted! A short history of the school's prospectuses by Adam Pountney (Student 2010 – 17 Staff 2017 - 18)

Applying to secondary school can be a testing process, to say the very least. The endless onslaught of open evening after open evening, coupled with the angst over whether this choice is right and that choice is wrong, make choosing where to spend the bulk of your adolescence sometimes a very turbulent time. However, my opinion is that most of the time, people seem to make a decision based on something ineffable: a mere 'feeling' that a teacher, or a building, or a landscape, or simply an atmosphere feels right. Somehow, there's a voice of belonging calling to you, and often your parents as well. Despite all the events and advertising material, I ardently believe this feeling is what makes you pick a secondary school. That's what happened in my case with CGS. That feeling - and the fitness suite. Somehow on my open day, I envisioned spending six years of my life running on a treadmill. That didn't exactly happen. The feeling definitely has its limitations. However, despite all that, advertising *is* important. As much as it sounds somewhat odd to talk about a school as an institution that advertises to an 'audience', prospectuses are a highly important way in which pupils and parents alike tend initially to encounter any school, including Caistor Grammar School.



Sometimes, you'll pick one up at an open evening, as a means of support for the events going on, as something to thumb through on the kitchen table back at home. Occasionally, you might find them slipped through your letterbox or even handed out at your old primary school. As someone who isn't ashamed to admit they're a bit sentimental, I still have mine from 2011, gathering dust in a box in a cupboard, from which I've attached a few photos. Taking a quick look through it is an odd experience. Prospectuses don't really hold any personal memories of school for me, or for anyone. They act more as a reminder of a moment in time. On the individual level, they mark that shift in life from early childhood towards adolescence, something that is inherently emotional.

Yet on the wider school level, prospectuses serve as a vital historical document. They act as a small window into Caistor Grammar's personnel, buildings and ethos, as well as a sense of what the school thought would attract pupils and parents to apply for attendance. This small window is even more valuable in the case of the older prospectuses existing in the Caistorians' archive, which are acutely important. For instance, prospectuses from the 1880s and 1910s provide photographs not available elsewhere to us, as well as names of teachers who otherwise might be lost to the historical ether. More generally, they tell us what the key 'selling point' of the school was thought to be – from 'clean air' in the case of the earlier prospectuses, to 'modern' buildings and technology such as the school gym or the BBC Micro in the 1980s. They even allow us a surface-level glimpse at the metamorphosis of the school in all forms of details – from buildings and rooms to uniforms and awards. Simply put, a prospectus can serve as a snapshot of a moment in time.



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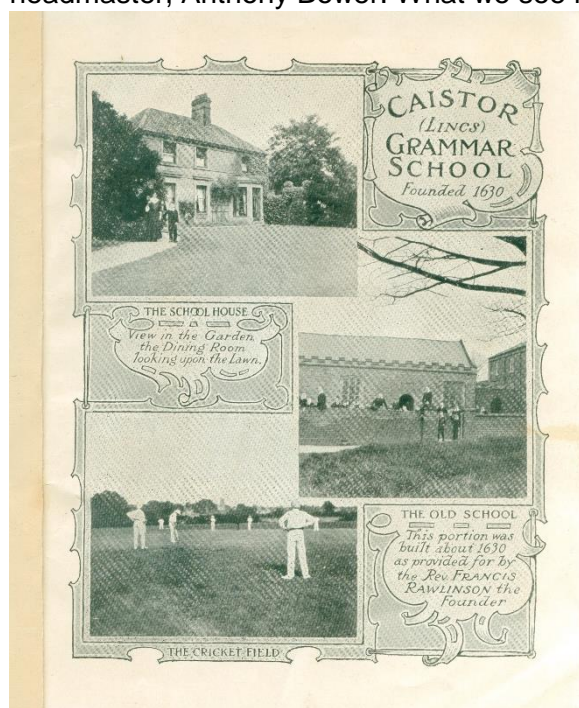
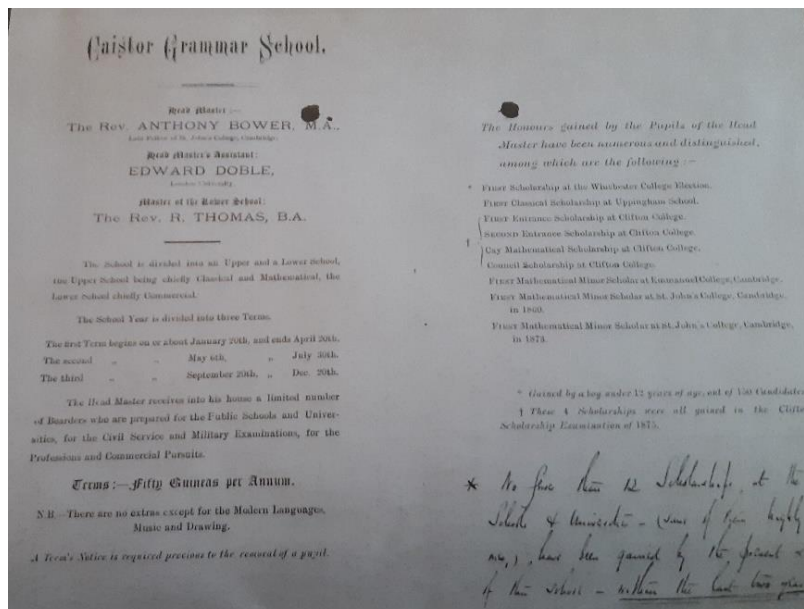
For instance, the earliest surviving prospectus that we hold seems to date from around 1887, and demonstrates the state of flux which late-Victorian secondary education found itself stuck in. Without turning this *completely* into a history lecture, a bit of context might be useful – so, bear with me.

From around the 1850s and 1860s educational commissions, such as the Taunton Commission, recognised that a tiered educational system was entrenched into English society. Whilst reforms such as the Elementary Education Acts of 1870 and 1891 to some extent improved access to schooling, by creating a number of non-religious board schools and free school places respectively, the actual form of the English educational system remained much the same as beforehand. The classical public boarding schools, such as Eton and Harrow, gave a classical education in Latin and Greek to the highest of the country's elites up to the age of 18, paying fees of around £100 a year. Below that, 'second-grade' schools were often only day schools teaching up to the age of 16. They often taught Latin, as well as more 'modern' or vocational subjects to only the middle-classes, including science, languages, and history, and cost around £35 a year. Below even that, 'third-grade' secondary schools cost only around £4 a year, and gave a so-called 'clerk's education' (often just arithmetic and the art of letter writing) to its pupils.

In the light of all this, where does the school stand in 1887? A simple answer is: 'Somewhere in the middle of all this.' CGS could reasonably be called a 'second-grade' school.

For instance, in terms of fees, the school is positioning itself at the higher end of the second-grade fee mark, at £50 per annum. Somewhat unsurprisingly, the prospectus takes great pains to stress the school's educational credentials and links to the higher-tier public schools. Much is made of *'the Honours gained by the Pupils of the Head Master'*, including four scholarships at Clifton College in Bristol, another for Winchester College (*'gained by a boy under 12 years of age, out of 150 candidates'*, no less), and three mathematical scholarships for St. John's College and Emmanuel College in Cambridge. The links with Clifton College were particularly apparent in these years, with the prominent late-Victorian and Edwardian poet and writer Henry Newbolt being one of several who made the journey from Lincolnshire to Bristol, later writing his semi-autobiographical novel *The Twymans* about his experiences in Caistor and Clifton College. But, more generally, the praise and positioning of the school is important. Here is a school that can easily serve as a bridge between rural Lincolnshire and what was clearly regarded as the stratosphere of British education: top public schools and Cambridge.

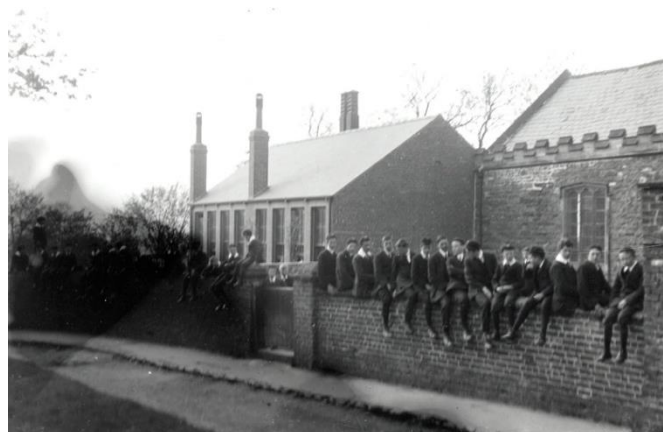
At the same time, Caistor is placing itself as a school that can also cater to those who require a 'clerk's education'. The prospectus clearly states that *'The Head Master received into his house a limited number of Boarders who are prepared for the Public Schools and Universities, for the Civil Service and Military Examinations, for the Professions and Commercial Pursuits.'* In terms of educational provision, it states *'the School is divided into an Upper and a Lower School, the Upper School being chiefly Classical and Mathematical, the Lower School chiefly Commercial.'* This effectively demonstrates the school being a hybrid between a second and third-grade school. The lower school offers a 'commercial' education, most likely being a polite euphemism for the clerk's education. Beyond this, we also see the intimacy of the school, with the small number of boarders received into the house of the headmaster, Anthony Bower. What we see is a school on the cusp of expansion and change in towards the turn of the 20th century.



By 1914, much had changed in Caistor, with a new Headmaster, H.E.J. Coxon, being appointed in 1913 and serving much as a new broom. Unsurprisingly, the 1914 prospectus champions much of the changes that Coxon and his predecessors had made. One change was simple, but reveals much about the change in British education from 1887 to 1914: far from being split between an 'upper' and 'lower' school, the renewed CGS was split between a *'Boarding School (for boys)'* and a *'Day School (for boys and girls)'*. Any sense of overt division based on subjects taught and any sense of educational standing being based on admissions to public schools had seemingly disappeared. Instead, the school was proudly claimed to be *'recognised by the Board of Education as an efficient secondary school.'* Approval now came, following the 1901 Education Act, from central government.

Coxon's vision also featured some deeply entrenched and developing ideas from late-Victorian and Edwardian environmental thought about the power of landscape and the importance of health for education. The environmental strain is particularly interesting, in the way in which it is intelligently used as a 'selling point' for the school's boarders, but also provides us a nice insight into the development of the school itself.

Much is made of the school being the '*healthiest school in Lincolnshire*, at an '*elevated position (400 ft.) on the Lincolnshire Wolds*', thus giving children a burst of '*bracing moorland air*.' This is particularly regarded as allowing the school to have '*a unique health-giving position such as few boarding schools in the East of England can offer*.' The prospectus also proudly linked this to improvements made in the boarders' dormitories, all of which were said to be '*warmed throughout by high pressure hot water pipes*.' More generally, it says '*the sanitary arrangements were all modernised and renewed in 1909*.' All this demonstrates the growth and modernisation going on within the school by Coxon. This was combined with a new sense of vigour about the school's own educational capabilities, something supported by the growth of subjects being taught in the school as well as in the actual physical growth of the school itself. Whilst the Old Hall is placed in the prospectus' photo supplement, possibly to root the school into tradition, the expansion of the school site is positioned more prominently on the front cover, with a '*new wing and workshop added 1909*' and an '*additional laboratory to be completed 1914*' being particularly significant in this regard. What is probably the former workshop can be seen adjacent to the Old Hall in this photograph.



This is directly connected to a broader range of subjects which the school can now provide an education in, with the prospectus claiming that the school now contains '*three modern classrooms, a Science Laboratory for Chemistry and Physics as well as 'adding another Laboratory for Biology and Agricultural Sciences, so that the work of those pupils whose future will lie in the Commercial World or a Profession shall not interfere with those who intend to take up Agriculture or Horticulture*.' The prospectus proudly demonstrates the school's new educational facilities, whilst also subtly demonstrating to us the entrenchment of the old educational divisions of the second-grade/third-grade schools of old, in terms of the division between 'commercial' and scientifically-minded pupils.

and Classics have been awarded the pupils in various University Final Examinations, while one of the pupils is still at Cambridge holding a scholarship, and two others are competing London University Bourses.

Situation.

The school occupies a **unique health-giving position** such as few boarding schools in the East of England and no other in Lincolnshire can offer. **The Wolds** attain at Ossett a height of **450 feet**, and on the Western slope of these the school is situated. The altitude renders the climate extremely bracing, while the air from the neighbouring Moorland is refreshing in the extreme. The **drainage** is on the **most modern system**, and it made the more effective on account of the position of the school on the hillsides. **Abundant supplies of pure water** are also available. In fact, the site is an ideal one for a boarding school.

Buildings.

The premises have been enlarged on several occasions to meet the ever growing demand for places, and now include a large **Hall**, three **modern Class-rooms**, a **Science Laboratory** for Chemistry and Physics, a large **Joinery Shop** for Manual Instruction, Play Grounds, **Playing Fields** (8 acres) for Cricket, Football, Hockey, and Tennis, while at the moment of writing plans have been prepared for adding another **Laboratory for Biology and Agricultural Science**, so that the work of those pupils whose future will lie in the Commercial World or a Profession shall not interfere with that of pupils who intend to take up Agriculture or Horticulture. For those pupils the school also possesses Experimental Gardens, where the best lessons in the Laboratory can be put into a practice, and where experiments in sowing, manuring, eradicating insect pests, grafting, etc., can be made.

Boarders.

The School House which adjoins is large and fitted with **every convenience for Boarders**. The **Dormitories** are very lofty and are warmed throughout by **high-pressure hot water pipes**. The sanitary arrangements were all modernised and renewed in 1909.

No pains are spared by the Head Master to make the school life of the Boarders one of the happiest parts of their lives. The **Diet** is unlimited in quantity and is of the very best quality. The health and comfort of the boarders are carefully attended to by the Doctor, to whom junior and delicate boys may refer for treatment. For leisure time gymnastic apparatus, a library, workshop, and facilities for photography are available.

A Dual School.

Until 1908 the school was reserved exclusively for boys. Acting upon a suggestion of the Board of Education, the Governors decided to throw open the opportunities for a first-class education to girls also.

Apart from certain lessons in common, boys and girls have no communication with each other. They enter and leave at opposite ends of the school. If boarders, they live in separate houses—the boys under the charge of the Head Master, and the girls under that of the Head Mistress. Organized games are arranged on separate days—for boys on Mondays and Thursdays, for girls on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Five years have now passed. The experiment has been a great success. The boys have not lost in manliness—they have gained consistency; the girls have not become boyish—they appear to feel constrained to adopt their most lady-like and refined manners.

The common presence in the Class-rooms of boys and girls has been found the strongest possible incentive to hard work; the boy inclined to be idle is prevented from following his inclination lest he should have to exhibit his ignorance before a girl. The reverse also is true. In fact, experience has shown that those lessons taken in common are followed with greater attention than those which are taken separately. It is not very astonishing however. The custom of having separate schools for each sex dates from a bygone monastic age, when the education of girls was considered superfluous. Hence our great Public Schools—for ages only. These naturally suggested *Girls' Schools*. And in spite of this still our *Modern Universities* where the education of our young people usually between the ages of 18 and 22 is carried on, are *Male*. Even at Oxford and Cambridge lectures and examinations are now open to both sexes. Why separate them in schools? The Dual School has come to stay; it has justified its existence.

Health Certificate.

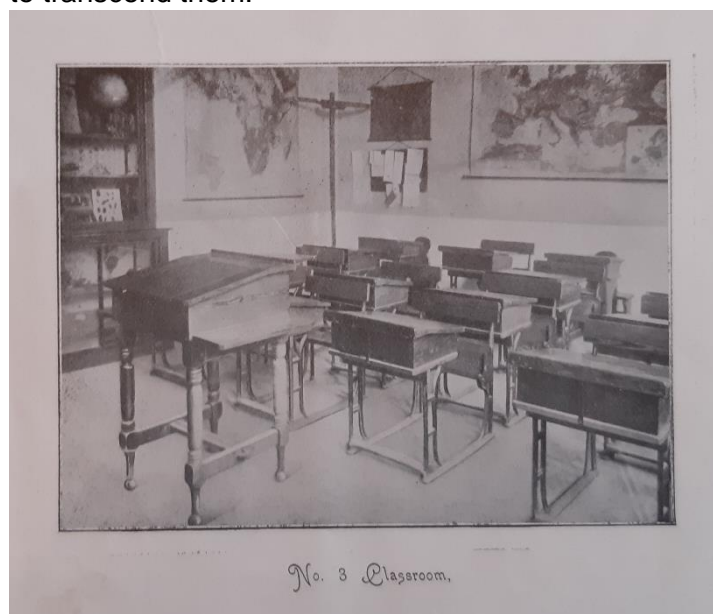
A Health Certificate and notice of the reopening of the school is sent one week before the beginning of each term, and must be signed by the parent or guardian, and returned when the school re-opens. No child who has been exposed to infection within three weeks of the opening of school is allowed to return until a medical certificate certifying freedom from infection has been forwarded.

Admission.

Pupils are admitted from the age of seven, and may remain until they are nineteen, or longer by special permission. Before admission they should be able to read, write from dictation, and do easy sums in the first four rules of arithmetic. An entrance examination, graduated according to age, is held on the first day of term. A Form of Application for admission may be had on application to the Head Master. In the case

Perhaps the most fascinating paragraph is that detailing the school's shift towards both male and female education from 1908, as suggested by the Board of Education. The prospectus uses this as an opportunity to stress the virtues of a dual educational system, which was limited to 'certain lessons in common.' The prospectus states that *'The common presence in the Class-room of boys and girls has been found the strongest possible incentive to hard work; the boy inclined to be idle is prevented from following his inclination lest he should have to exhibit his ignorance before a girl. The reverse also is true. In fact, experience has shown that those lessons taken in common are followed with greater attention than those which are taken separately.'* This is an interesting window into the gendered sense of Edwardian education that evidently persisted at Caistor.

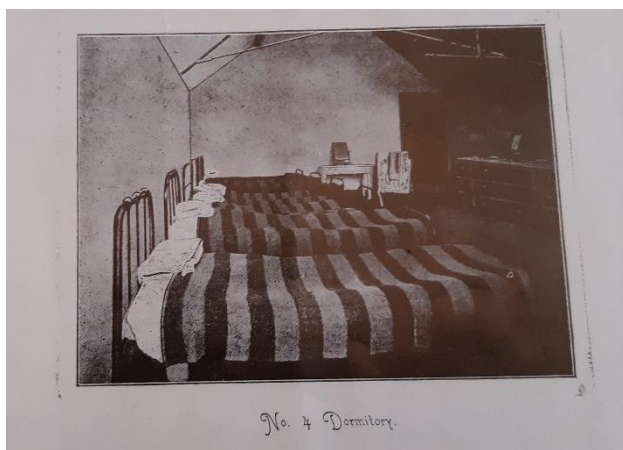
What is as interesting is the way in which Coxon and the prospectus uses it to stress Caistor's forward-thinking compared to the public schools that around thirty years earlier Bowers had sought solely to emulate. The prospectus notes that *'The custom of having separate schools for each sex dates from a bygone monastic age, when the education of girls was considered superfluous. Hence our great Public Schools—for Boys only. These naturally suggested Girls Schools. And in spite of this all our Modern Universities, where the education of our young people usually between the ages of 18 and 22 is carried on, are Dual. Even at Oxford and Cambridge lectures and examinations are now open to both sexes. Why separate them in schools? The Dual School has come to stay; it has justified its existence.'* Far from seeking solely to emulate public schools, Caistor seemingly desires to transcend them.



The 1919 prospectus mimics much of the content of the 1914 prospectus, but expands in regard to the school's links with universities and the Civil Service, much as Bowers' prospectus had done so in 1887. It states that *'The pupils of the School have won a long list of successes in Public Examinations and in subsequent life. At the present moment one of its past students is Vice-Principal of Birmingham University, and another is one of the Chief Permanent Officials of the Treasury, upon whom recently the title of K.C.B. was conferred.'* Scholarships it mentions include the *'Tancred, Prowde and Humphreys scholarships'* at Cambridge, the latter of which seemed to be a vestige of a long-running relationship between

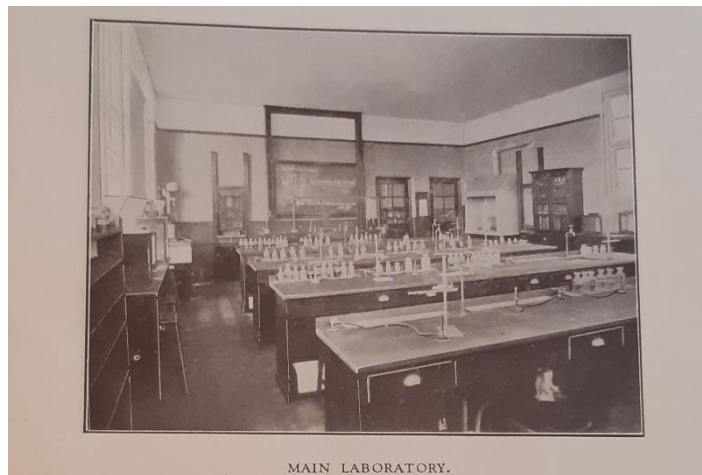
Jesus College, Cambridge and the school in the early years of the 20th century. In 1914, for instance, the school had *'first claim'* on the Humphreys scholarship. According to the Jesus College archives, this is named after Charles Humphrey, who matriculated at the college in 1718, and left a scholarship to be given to a *'Pupil of Caistor School, or failing that, Louth or Alford School, or failing such any from Lincs.'* This demonstrates an interesting connection between Cambridge and Caistor that so far, we know relatively little about.

What is most interesting is that we get images of the interior of much of the school in the 1919 prospectus that we don't have equivalent sources for elsewhere, at least not as early as 1919, showing that some of the claims in the 1914 prospectus may have been slightly grandiose. Despite the prospectus claiming that *'each boarding house contains numerous cheerful, airy dormitories'*, the dormitories don't exactly look terribly cheerful to my eyes. I'll leave it up to you to decide.



We also get a precious glimpse of the interior of one of the school classrooms as well, which may perhaps be what is today's staffroom.

Finally, we also get a look at the expansion of the school's natural and health-inclined outlook that was so central to the 1914 prospectus, with a couple of pages detailing the school's outdoor swimming classes in the Wolds. I can't say that's something I missed when I was at CGS, but it's quite an evocative image that demonstrates how much educational concepts about exercise (and health and safety!) have changed in the years since.



By 1931, the school had again significantly expanded once more, with the new (now Old Building) being opened by Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch in the year beforehand. Disappointingly for anyone interested in the history of the school, the 1931 prospectus essentially duplicates the contents of the 1919 prospectus, despite some interesting photographs of the restored Old Hall and the new wing which don't seem to exist elsewhere in our archive, such as this one of the school's *'main laboratory.'* Other photographs showcase additional modern developments similar to those praised in 1914 and 1919, such as the school's new showers, which appear to be the boys' toilets in the Old Building underneath the staff room. The photographs may showcase the new, fresh classrooms and facilities in the Old Building, but it also continues to duplicate photos from 1919 as well, such as the exact same photograph of the dormitory above. This proves frustrating, but is mitigated by the fact we hold extant photos of the interwar boarders' dormitories in postcard photographs from the 1920s.

Yet, despite this, some small changes have occurred from 1919 which are mentioned in the prospectus and are quite fascinating when trying to get a sense of how the school had altered in the interwar period. We see the school's extra-curricular provisions being particularly highlighted, such as the Chemical and Scientific Society (which also provided *'lectures on photography'*), and A.C. 'Tishy' Storr's school orchestra being hailed as something which will *'be of great advantage to [pupils] in after life.'* But in a broader sense of the school's educational provision, the prospectus seems oddly reticent in actually stating that anything had changed since 1919. Perhaps little had? We get some idea about the expanded teaching of French, or a wider scientific element to the curriculum (as demonstrated by the society above), but CGS seems to have been strong in science and mathematics even back in Bowers' day, judging by the number of mathematical scholarships in



the 1887 prospectus. Simply put, it's a frustratingly limited glimpse into the interwar period, a period of great change in British education before the educational reforms of 1944 and the significant shifts in British education that reared their head in the 1960s. Our archive of prospectuses from 1931 onwards is somewhat scarce, with perhaps the most interesting example we hold being the 1960 prospectus, which

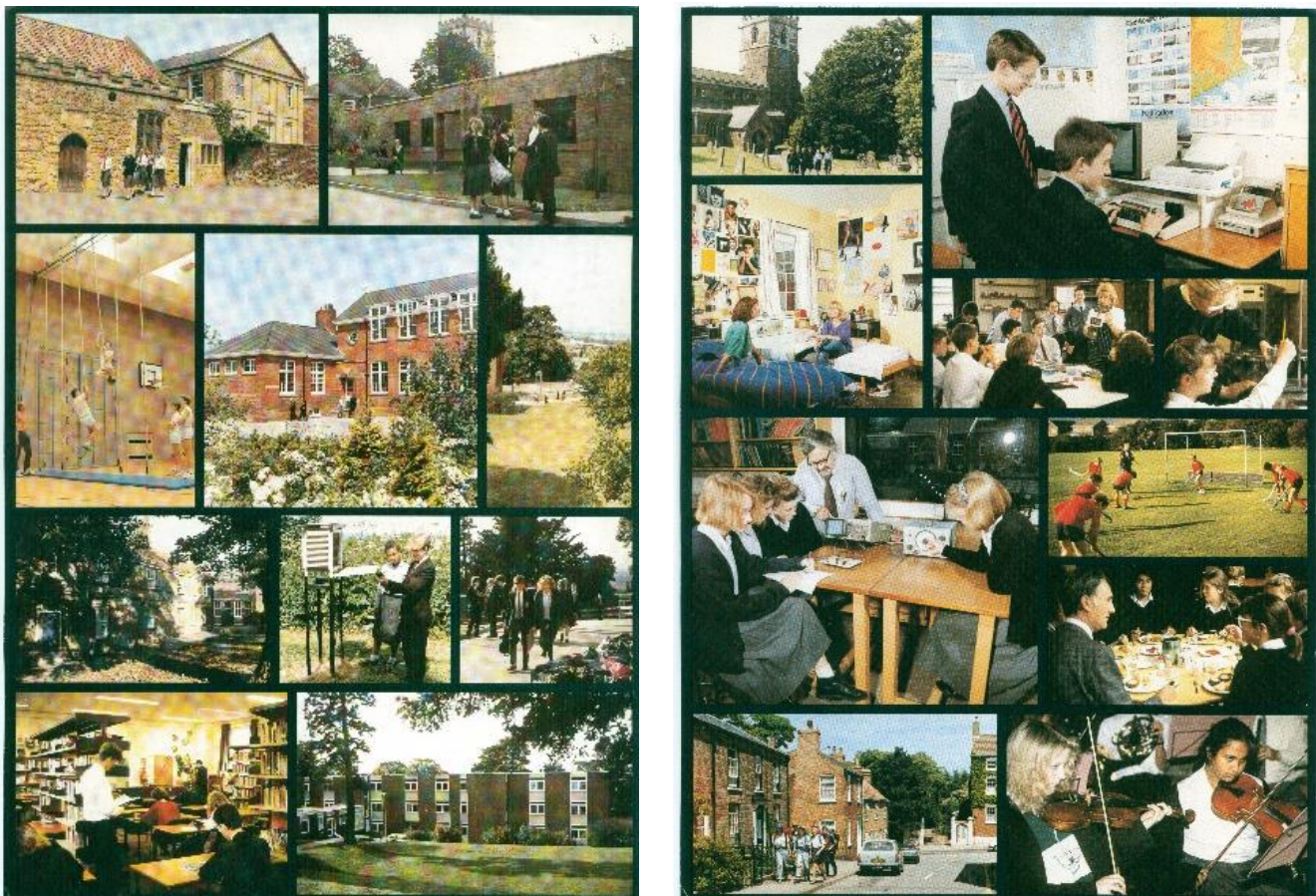
features a unique aerial photograph of the school site prior to the building and opening of Lindsey House in 1966, and also teases at the existence of the school's Folk Dancing Club, something that has alas since disappeared into the school's history. Maybe it's time for a revival?

Regardless, the school's metamorphosis through the 1970s and 1980s culminated in the building of the Manning Building between 1982 and 1984, something that marked a distinct shift in the topography of the school. By the late 1980s, many of the elements that made Caistor its recognisable 21st century self were beginning to be brought into being. Unsurprisingly, prospectuses from the 1980s highlighted the Manning Building as well as as the new school gym.

As with the earlier prospectuses under Coxon, modernity is regarded as a 'selling point', even extending to focusing on now-dated technology such as the BBC Micro. In around 1988, the school produced a special photo-prospectus to accompany the standard one. Despite being packed to the brim with black and white photographs, it also featured two extra colour supplements I've attached below, which are quite interesting. One shows other new additions to the school site, such as the new school library in the bottom left, which was opened by the poet Vernon Scannell in 1983 as a renovation of the former Caistor Congregational Chapel.

The second supplement together with the black and white photographs within the photo-prospectus also provides a unique glimpse into the later era of Caistor as a boarding school. We get a glimpse into the interior of Grove House, which was demolished in c1985 but stood at the top of the terraces near what is now Speakers' Corner as boarders' accommodation. For instance, the second photograph on the right of the second colour supplement gives us a rare look inside a Grove House bedroom, decorated in peach paint and papered over with Tom Cruise posters.

We also get a look at Casterby prior to its conversion into the Sixth Form centre, giving us another evocative glimpse into boarders' accommodation that seems quite alien to those of us who have attended the school since the end of boarding on the site. For instance, included within the photo-prospectus is a fascinating photograph of what is now C2, but which I knew perhaps most as the



home of the Debating Club in the last few years. Clearly, it was a larger boarders' room back in the 1980s, and it's quite interesting to see it looking so different from how I remember it. Despite dating as relatively recently as the mid-1980s, this prospectus is as vital a snapshot in time as that from 1887 for anyone interested in the history of the school.

One of the last prospectuses we hold dates from 1991, and is perhaps one of the last relics of advertising for boarders at Caistor Grammar, which finally ceased in 1995. Besides allowing another interesting glimpse into the boarders' accommodation, a venerable early-nineties timewarp, we also get to see another link back to the past. Here we see a school coming close to the turn of the century still looking to persuade people from as far as *'other parts of Lincolnshire and from Humberside and Yorkshire'* to board at CGS. It's even noted that *'Ninety minutes will bring you from Sheffield.'* In 1919, a similar (and perhaps slightly fanciful!) argument about Caistor's accessibility was advanced by Coxon, whose prospectus proudly noted that the school is *'conveniently reached from Leeds, Sheffield, Nottingham, etc.'* and that *'Many of its pupils come from London.'* More research is needed on those pupils making the journey all the way from London to board, but it's an interesting idea and connection between these two prospectuses. Both are trying ardently to sell a school perched on the Lincolnshire Wolds as being easily accessible from many parts of the country. How effective this was is something that it might be worth finding a bit about.

Using prospectuses as a way to seek an insight into the history of Caistor Grammar School does have significant downsides. They're not exactly the most in-depth sources about the actual day-to-day running of a school, something that to be quite honest is probably best found in students' diaries. In fact, besides the odd staged photograph, the absence of student voices is quite marked.

What we do get, however, is a really interesting series of documents that can be laid on top of each other, presenting both similarities and differences to how the school was run over the course of one-hundred years and more. We get to see how much ideas about landscape and environment, as well as the trappings of modernity (from sanitary pipes to a BBC Micro – not a phrase I ever

expected to write!), came to be seen as important for the school all across the period. We get to see the school's continuing focus on a scientific and mathematical education, from the scholarships highlighted by Anthony Bowers in 1887 through to the society noted in 1931.



Have you thought of Weekly Boarding?

Caistor Grammar School has taught local children for 361 years. We are proud of our reputation as a purposeful and friendly school that achieves very good academic results.

We have recently gained grant-maintained status and are expanding to meet parental demand. We want to increase our boarding by attracting boys and girls from other parts of Lincolnshire and from Humberside and Yorkshire.

Boarding at Caistor offers more than access to the Grammar School. It builds confidence. It is fun.

Boarders are free to go home every weekend if they wish. Those who stay enjoy the company of their friends and a programme of sport and recreational activities.

Boarding fees are £1,200 a term. The Governors offer three Humphrey Scholarships to assist applicants of high academic ability. County Council grants may also be available. There is no charge for tuition.

Why not pay us a visit and meet our boarders? Bring a friend and spend a night with us.

Sixth Form boarders have single or twin study bedrooms.

These Third Form girls share a dormitory for four.

After prep there's time to relax.

Caistor has good access by road. Doncaster is about an hour's drive away. Ninety minutes will bring you from Sheffield.

But, perhaps what is most stark and clear in the collections of prospectuses we hold is the continuing sense of a school that cares about its students in a way not just in terms of what academic grades they achieve, but as individual human beings made collective in year groups and classes. The joys of an education at Caistor Grammar School can't just be found in the material 'selling points' that these prospectuses belabour at us, but in an ineffable feeling that seeps in between the lines of all these pages, made concrete by the students and staff you meet along the way teachers and friends. It's that very same feeling that whispered to me ten years ago: one of kindness, friendship, home and belonging.

I carry it with me, always.

My Life Qualifying as a Doctor by Sree Ghosh (2008 – 2015)

I must admit it's a little surreal to be writing a piece as an alumnus of the school. As a recent medical graduate, I was invited to speak to some of the current sixth form students about the university application process. It was fantastic to see some of my former teachers but also see how much the school has changed in what feels like such a short period of time. Caistor Grammar School prepared me well for higher education and life outside of academia. I credit the school with helping me come out of my shell and showing that it's okay to go against the grain, and it can be cool to want to work hard. There really was a place for every kind of person at the School and for that, I'm grateful.

My time at Newcastle medical school has been full of highlights. I don't even know where to begin. I've already been lucky enough to travel all the way to the Falkland Islands where I flew in a lightweight aircraft with the other island doctors to provide healthcare to people



living in some of the remotest parts of the world. At the same time, I got to see the natural beauty of the sub-Antarctic winter. I've gained a Masters' degree in Cancer Studies and recently published an original research paper. My old English teachers would probably have a field day with that one – I was never a budding writer.



I even learnt how to surf in Newcastle and now I own more wetsuits and boards than is sensible for the size of my apartment! If I'm not at work, I can usually be found at Tynemouth or Saltburn beach with some of my surfing buddies getting tossed about in the North Sea.

These six years at medical school have flown by, and I now find myself dropped in the deep end working in the NHS as a foundation doctor in, what we all hope to be, the tail end of a pandemic. The journey to qualifying as a doctor has been a learning curve and now working as a doctor, that curve has become even steeper.

My work at present largely consists of the day-to-day workings of a care of the elderly ward – helping the consultants with the rounds, prescribing medications, writing discharge letters and attending patients who suddenly deteriorate. However, I find it's the conversations I have with patients and their relatives, often about very personal matters that are the most rewarding. To be able to guide someone through a particularly difficult time in their life, or sometimes at the end of their life is a real privilege.

It was always difficult to envisage myself holding this kind of responsibility when I was at medical school. Back then if a nurse told me that a patient had suddenly become unwell, my only job was to find a doctor who could help.





Now, I'm the doctor and I'm the one who is making the diagnoses and putting plans into place. It's easy for the imposter syndrome to creep in from time to time. Speaking to my medical colleagues, it's more common than you'd expect.

Healthcare professionals are expected to be superhuman, and the pandemic has presented new challenges to communication, particularly with the suspension of visiting hours. It's created heightened levels of fear and anxiety for everyone involved and I frequently see my medical and nursing colleagues bearing the brunt of these emotions.

Sree Ghosh (2008 – 2015)

A Brief Account of CGS History by our late friend John Fowler, history teacher at CGS 1962 - 92

Patrons and benefactors

For over 300 years, CGS has maintained the ideals of its founder, **Francis Rawlinson** (1554 – 1630), one time Vicar of Middle Rasen, Drax and later South Kelsey. The school still uses the original school house, built in the 17th century to accommodate the first master and his scholars, as an Assembly Hall. Instructions for the building of CGS were contained in Francis Rawlinson's will of **29 December 1630**:

"I give, commit and bequeath into the hands of the Right Worshipful Sir Edward Ayscough, Knight, the sum of four hundred pounds towards the foundation and maintenance of a free Grammar school to continue for ever in the market town of Caistor in the County of Lincoln."

Sir Edward Ayscough therefore became the school's patron and was required to appoint and pay a schoolmaster. The good people of Caistor were charged with erecting a School House within two years of the publication of the will. It is likely that they were assisted in this task by Sir Edward Ayscough who is thought to have gifted land to the school as well as helping to defray the building costs.

The other school benefactor was **William Hansard** who died in 1631, leaving money in his will for a school to be built at or near Caistor.

"I give and bequeath to the Headmaster the yearly stipend or pension of thirty pounds and unto the usher or under schoolmaster the yearly stipend of fifteen pounds." William Hansard gave £250 towards the building of a school and it seems likely that the Headmaster was paid by Rawlinson's bequest and the usher by Hansard's gift. The school building was probably erected in 1632. Former pupils will recognize the names of these three founders and benefactors: they were assigned to the school's House system for the purposes of competition in sport, drama etc. Little is known of the history of the school until the

early 19th Century. According to the list of rules i.e. '**Orders and Ordinances**' in the period (1631 – 46) children were admitted free of charge to be instructed in "*good literature*" unless "*by reason of some Leprosite, scall or infectious disease*" they were considered to be unsuitable by the constables and churchwarden of Caistor. The school's sessions were from 7.00 – 11 am and 1.00 - 5.00pm on weekdays. For two hours on a Saturday afternoon Scholars were to be instructed in the Catechism and "*the construing of chapters in the Greek or Latin Testament*".



Caistor Grammar School in the 19th Century.

During the 19th century, CGS had a precarious existence. Complaints were made about overcrowding at the school and about the dilapidated condition of its buildings and facilities. In addition, the conduct of some of its Headmasters appears to have been a cause for concern! The compulsory requirement of religious instruction and church-going caused further controversy. Originally, the curriculum was made up of almost entirely Greek and Latin. School fees were not charged for many years, not until the curriculum was broadened to include other subjects. At this point (1837) the Charity Commission was called upon to settle the question of fees. These were troubled times for CGS. The varying fortunes of the School can be traced from the careers of the Headmasters who followed.

Rowland Bowstead (1802 – 1834)

A native of Brampton, Westmoreland, Rowland Bowstead succeeded Christopher Cave in 1802. At that time, the number of pupils was between 30 and 40 and there were no boarders. Ushers at the School under Bowstead included George Oliver, a prominent Freemason, and Charles Foster (1826 to 1861).

In his later years as Headmaster Rowland Bowstead, and also his successor, The Rev John Tesh Bell, faced great opposition in the district. Bowstead, because of his age and state of health, was neither efficient nor capable of fulfilling his duties. It was suggested he should retire, but he demanded a pension of £60 a year, a sum that was to prove a heavy burden on his successors. The leader of the opposition against the Head was Sir Culling Eardley Smith of Nettleton Moor Lodge. He charged the Head with “neglect of duties” and tried to get a proper qualified teacher in his place. The people of Caistor and district in general supported Sir Culling and a large procession, with three horsemen and the Caistor amateur band in the forefront, greeted Bowstead on his return to the district after a short absence. The patron, Ayscough Boucherett, in the meantime, pensioned off Bowstead and appointed Rev John Tesh Bell, who was also to face strong opposition from Sir Culling Eardley Smith.

Rev. John Tesh Bell (1834 – 36)

Son of a Caistor wine merchant and Cambridge graduate, Bell became Head in 1834. In a letter to the ‘Stamford Mercury’, 25 July, 1834, John Tesh Bell showed his annoyance at Sir Culling’s opposition, describing the main procession of Caistor protestors in these terms: *“The pedestrians need no other description than that given of Falstaff’s Army, which he was ashamed to march through Coventry.”*

He also pointed to the strenuous efforts of Sir Culling to prevent his appointment as Head. The patron still favoured Bell who was not at all popular with the inhabitants, one of whom in a letter to the ‘Mercury’ thought that Bell *“snugly wriggled himself into the favour of some select friends, without thinking it requisite to make a general application.”*

There was a fear that Bell would only teach Classics and charge a fee for any ‘extra tuition’. A meeting of parishioners was then held to discuss the question of fee paying. Finally, JT Bell gave in to the opposition, especially that of Sir Culling Eardley Smith, and retired in 1836. He died a bachelor in Lincoln in 1886 at the age of 79.

William Ellis (1836 – 1853)

William Ellis was a graduate of Aberdeen University and a great classical scholar. He had excellent testimonials, *“being naturally endowed with a highly benevolent, active and intelligent mind, and capable of acting with invincible temper and perseverance.”* He was very stout and nicknamed ‘Puggy’ Ellis. He seems to have worn a clean white waistcoat each day at School because of his great addiction to snuff! The type of education provided at Caistor under Ellis can be seen from an advertisement in the ‘Stamford Mercury’ 16th March 1838:

Classical, Mathematical and General Education, Lincolnshire

W. Ellis, LLD, Head Master of Caistor Grammar School, begs leave to intimate that his arrangements for the reception of pupils are as follows:

“The system of instruction is such as to qualify young gentlemen for either of the Universities or for entering upon any scientific or practical pursuit. In addition to the usual branches of scholastic education, the elements of Natural Philosophy, Natural History and Chemistry are taught practically

*by experiments performed by the pupils themselves; and to those intended for agricultural pursuits the application of Chemistry to Agriculture will also be taught. The strictest attention is paid to the religious and moral training of the pupils and to the propriety and decorum of their habits and conversation; their health and domestic comforts are most assiduously attended to. Each pupil has a separate bed; and while no distinction is made, the style of accommodation and treatment for all is in no respect inferior to that of Parlour boarders in schools of the first respectability. Pupils are specially prepared if desired for entrance to the Military Academies of Woolwich, Sandhurst or Addiscombe. Terms including Board, Education, Washing, Books and all other charges, except for medical attendance when required: **for pupils under 11 years of age, 35 guineas per annum, and for pupils above that age, 55 guineas per annum.**"*

William Ellis quickly won over Sir Culling Smith. The School in 1836 was low in numbers, with 14 boys in the Upper School and 16 – 20 in the lower school. However, numbers gradually increased. An ongoing problem was the bad, dilapidated condition of the actual school buildings, and the Head made use of the Church Sunday School for his pupils. With great energy Ellis collected subscriptions, raising about £200 with which he carried out the renovation of the old building. He was far less successful when he tried to obtain a loan from his Uncle Wester for the purchase of property. An enquiry had been ordered by Parliament and the Charities Commission of Inquiry was sitting at Caistor when William Ellis became Head. Their report, which appeared in 1837, gives an account of the progress and difficulties of the School up to that date. The Commissioners reported on the inefficiency of Bowstead and Bell. Of great interest was their account of the differences of opinion between the patron, Ayscough Boucherett, who appointed the Head and the Usher, and the inhabitants of Caistor. Mr Boucherett wanted religious instruction (in conformity with the Church of England) to be a compulsory part of regular education and school discipline and also, he felt that elements of Natural Philosophy, Natural History and Chemistry should be demonstrated practically by attendance at the Parish Church on Sundays. The Dissenters were, of course, violently opposed, and said such regulations were not authorized by Rawlinson's will and were depriving most of the children of the town the right to a free education.

Finally there was a compromise over this religious issue, a decision which pleased most of the Dissenters. Attendance at church was not compulsory, but religious instruction in conformity with the Church of England was to continue.

This religious issue and the conduct of the Headmasters had been reasons for the low attendance at CGS. The old practice was to teach Latin and Greek for no fee, as legally stated in Rawlinson's will, but to charge for any other kind of education. A Classical education was only desirable for the children of wealthier parents and they would not be required to pay fees. As a result, most of the Caistor children did not attend the local school, now in a state of semi-decay, but attended the day school established at Nettleton one and a half miles away.

The question of the payment of fees was a difficult problem for the Commissioners. The charity income was small and more money was essential to obtain an efficient and able Headmaster. A completely free education would be thought by many to be of little value and the Head would have an added incentive to attract more pupils if small fees were charged. Most of the Caistor people and the patron accepted the view that very small fees were necessary, but wealthier scholars should be charged higher fees for a classical education. The pupils in the Upper School were to be taught by the Head: Latin and Greek, English Grammar and composition, arithmetic and some mathematics; the pupils in the Lower School were to be instructed by the Usher in reading and arithmetic, with the elements of English and, if required, of Latin Grammar'.

The progress of the School continued quietly under William Ellis, but trouble arose between the Commissioners and the patron on his death in 1853.

Anthony Bower (1853 – 1884)

Bower was the son of a Caistor tanner and a former pupil of William Ellis at CGS. A fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, he was ordained deacon in 1852. He was later Vicar of Usselby from 1877 to 1887 and then Cabourne until his death in 1893. His appointment as Head in 1853 caused a legal dispute between the Charity Commissioners and the Patron, Mr Boucherett. The Commissioner had suggested that, on the death of Ellis, the Trustees should take over the Estates and Management of the School. The Patron disagreed and appointed Bower. The Commissioners claimed Bower had not been legally appointed and took the case to court, but the judge decided

that the Patron had the right of appointment. The costs of the action - £827.2.11 - had to be paid out of the funds of the charity. Another expense arose on the retirement of Bower when it was agreed that he should be paid £600 to be raised by mortgage on school property.

Under Bower the old scheme of an Upper and Lower School was retained and Mr Thomas became Usher in 1861. He owned and enlarged Grove House and received boarders there. One difficulty faced by Bower was that of overcrowding in the School:

“About two-thirds of the present school room accommodation is taken up by the Rev Bower with 5 Day Pupils (the sons of two clergymen in the neighbourhood) while the other portion of the School is crowded to excess by the town boys and large numbers of Mr Thomas’ Boarders. The room in question has lost part of its ceiling and the interior walls have suffered from rain running down them. The old school desks are double and do not in any part contain a single square foot free from holes and rents. The fire stove nearby in the middle of the room is broken to pieces.”

Many details about Bower and the School are found in “The Twymans” by Sir Henry Newbolt, who for a time was Bower’s pupil.

“The room was filled with long desks and benches; it was lit by high mullioned windows and warmed by a large stove. At one end in a commanding position sat Nix (Bower) himself, enthroned at a larger desk with a semi-circle of seats around it, upon which class after class in turn took their place for judgement and execution. For in case of need the two processes were simultaneous: where the frown of this fiery dominie fell, there also upon the instant, rose and fell the cane which lay always at his right hand, and the weapon being a long one, as often as not, two victims smarted where only one had offended . . . Nix’s eye was upon every individual, his ear open to every sound, his attention miraculously awake to every sign of diligence or slackness. He seemed to be at the same time overseeing and working with each; and by an unexpected approach and the play of a strong right arm he would untiringly check or stimulate their various activities, . . . but it was impossible to feel lethargic when a cuff or a flogging might resound in any part of the school at any moment.”

Robert Thomas (1884 – 1893).

A student of St Mark’s College, Robert Thomas became Usher of the School in 1861. He was admitted B.A. of Trinity College, Dublin in 1869, was ordained deacon in 1871 and priest two years later. Chaplain of Caistor Union, 1889 – 99, he accepted the vacant living of Cabourne in 1893 on Bower’s death. Under Thomas the School was well-attended. He bought the present boys’ boarding house (*This is now Casterby – the sixth form block – Ed*) and playing field and sold them to the governors at a reasonable price.

Thomas James Thorburn (1894 – 1897)

A Cambridge graduate, Thomas Thorburn held posts in schools in Colchester, Chesterfield and Sheffield. He was ordained deacon in 1881 and priest a year later. He was Head of CGS for 3 years and then became Head of Odiham Grammar School. By now the number of pupils at CGS had decreased on account of the small income and the cramped and poor accommodation.

Arthur Frederick Glover (1897 – 1904)

He was educated at St John’s College, Cambridge. He lived at Nettleton House and later went to teach in a Military School.

The last years of the 19th century were a very unhappy time for the School and the threat of closure was always imminent. In 1904 there were only 7 pupils. The boarders were housed in Nettleton House, but this was only a temporary measure. Lindsey County Council did not recognise the School as efficient and therefore it was ineligible for any grants. Under Arthur Brooke’s efforts, however, numbers increased to 46 and in its 1912 inspection, the Board of Education concluded:

“The School has had a hard struggle for existence. Despite the difficulties caused by its limited financial resources, it shows vitality, and the opportunities which it affords are and are valued in the neighbourhood and recognised by the rise in numbers. Its future must almost entirely depend upon the measure of support given to it by the Local Education Authority.”

J.C.W. Fowler (1962 – 92)

(Contributions shedding light on the 20th Century Heads are invited for the magazine’s next issue. Ed)

Unearthed once more: the 1906 School Inspection Report by Adam Pountney (2010 – 18)

As an interesting bit of context for the article written on the school prospectuses, we've managed to find in the archives the 1906 report on the School's inspection. Despite the best efforts of Anthony Bowers to present a positive image of the school in 1887, the realities of the School's position under Bowers and his successor, Robert Thomas, were somewhat less than rosy. The inspector for the Board of Education, a Mr. Young, gives a pretty scathing account of the school before 1906, but seems to argue that the school was heading on an upward trajectory, something that H.E.J. Coxon managed to render apparent following his appointment as Headmaster in 1913.

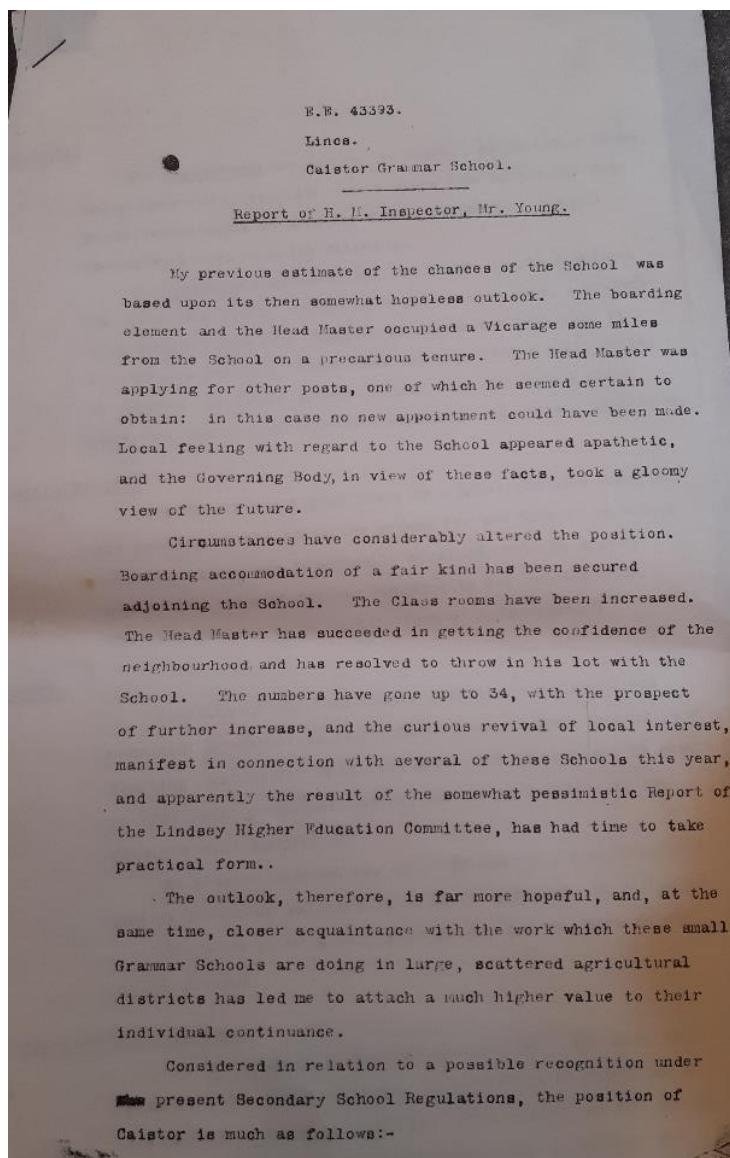
The first part of Young's report is as follows:

'My previous estimate of the chances of the School was based upon its then somewhat hopeless outlook. The boarding element and the Head Master occupied a Vicarage some miles from the School on a precarious tenure. The Head Master was applying for other posts, one of which he seemed certain to obtain: in this case no new appointment could have been made. Local feeling with regard to the School appeared apathetic, and the Governing Body, in view of these facts, took a gloomy view of the future.'

This is very interesting in itself. Far from the intimate bastion of learning that fed pupils to public schools such as Clifton College or Cambridge colleges such as Emmanuel College that was presented in Bowers' report of 1887, the school instead appears to have been in a dire state of morale with a Headmaster intent on leaving, and a governing body taking 'a gloomy view of the future.' However, by 1906:

'Circumstances have considerably altered the position. Boarding accommodation of a fair kind has been secured adjoining the School. The Class rooms have been increased. The Head Master has succeeded in getting the confidence of the neighbourhood and has resolved to throw in his lot with the School. The numbers have gone up to 35, with the prospect of further increase, and the curious revival of local interest, manifest in connection with several of these Schools this year, and apparently the result of the somewhat pessimistic Report of the Lindsey Higher Education Committee, has had time to take practical form.'

Here we get a small glimpse into the changing state of the School prior to Coxon's arrival. The numbers seem to have been dire prior to the 1900s (35 being noted as an achievement makes this quite clear), but expansion in terms of boarders' housing and classrooms (such as what may perhaps be the RE classroom, O6) seems to have made a massive difference to morale.



Additionally, the new Headmaster, Arthur Brookes, seems to have personally improved morale above and beyond the personality of Bowers. As Young notes:

'The outlook, there is far more hopeful, and, at the same time, closer acquaintance with the work which these small Grammar Schools are doing in large, scattered agricultural districts has led me to attach a much higher value to their individual continuance.'

Interestingly, as the opposite to what Young said, arguments about the closure of Caistor Grammar School from Lindsey County Council in 1960 often hinged around the idea of the School's irrelevance in the predominantly agricultural Wolds. It's a fascinating difference between the early century ideas of grammar schools being the best education for those in rural villages, to the mid-century ideas around larger comprehensives such as De Aston being best to pool students into one larger school.

The vast bulk of Young's report preoccupies itself with noting the then-current state of the school, in terms of buildings and student composition, which makes it another very useful source in addition to prospectuses of this time. We can see from the prospectus that:

'The class-rooms are now two in number, satisfactory rooms, and a Laboratory, adequate, and a class room in the Boarding house, which could be used for School purposes. A small Manual Work room is being fitted up. The Boarding accommodation, for 15-20, is old fashioned but clean and simple, including a fair dining room, a preparation room for boarders (usable as Classroom) bath room etc. The offices are bad. Under this heading, with a small outlay on offices, Cloakroom accommodation, etc., the School might pass, but additional rooms are desirable and offices imperative.'

The limits of the school, despite changes and improvements, are seen to be particularly acute in 1906. Despite investment in building new classrooms and improving facilities, the dire state of the School's offices and a lack of improvement in modern boarding accommodation seem quite damaging. But perhaps we see here a small glimpse at the passion behind the School's staff: far from spending the money available on improving their own offices, they first spend it on classrooms and educational provisions. This is seemingly confirmed by a comment from Young discussing the School's finances, which were in a bad way in 1906, with credit of £290, a debit of £287, and additional spending such as £40 for the 'board of the assistant master' which was 'paid by the Headmaster.' Arthur Brookes was literally personally investing in the school. As Young writes: *'It will be seen therefore that the School is not paying its way; that the Head Master is paying largely from his own pocket, and that the Governing Body are not financially responsible.'*

The limits of School finances even affected staffing; the staff only consisted of:

'...the Head Master (efficient and keen), one permanent assistant (a fair teacher), one student teacher, and visiting masters for Drill and Art. It is proposed to secure an additional permanent Master, but [unsurprisingly judging by School finances] it is doubtful if the finances will support it. At present, both on the score of numbers, qualifications and of amount of salaries it would be difficult to recognise.'

improbable that, while the numbers remain under 40, it could be assumed that the minimum of 20 in the Coûrse would be sufficiently assured for purposes of present recognition.

Finance.

Balance sheet, roughly, as at present:-

<u>Credit.</u>	[This has been usually under-estimated: £185 i.e., in the Lindsey Report]
Endowment, nett, (less Trust charges, Mortgage, etc.)	£185
Fees (34 boys at £3.15s less 6 scholars = 28 boys)	£105
	= £290
<u>Debit.</u>	
Establishment charges, Rates, Cleaning.	£13
Repairs, Heat, Light	£10
Head Master's salary	£130
Head Master's Capitation on 28 boys at £3 per head	£84
Assistant Master's salary	£50
	= £287

This does not include:-

Board of Assistant Master (Paid by Head Master)=	£40?
Rent of Boarding House " " " "	£25
Bursaries of £5 on 5 scholars (which they propose to terminate this year)	£25

It will be seen therefore that the School is not paying its way; that the Head Master is paying largely from his own pocket, and that the Governing Body are not financially responsible.

The conclusion on this score is again against the possibility of present recognition.

[The future prospects, if the School sustains its present improvement are better:-

3.

Despite the limits of staffing and the inability to expand the school in this sense, Young writes that: *'The work is of a very fair class, and the boys do well in the Locals.'* The actual number of these boys were tiny. Young states:

'Of the present 35 boys 27 are over 12: the ages vary from 11-17. The Head Master is confident of retaining a sufficient proportion until 16. The revival of the School, however, makes it premature to judge, and in view of the general difficulty experienced in the County, it is improbable that, while the numbers remain under 40, it could be assumed that the minimum of 20 in the Course would be sufficiently assured for purposes of present recognition.'



18 of these boys were from Caistor, whilst 6 more were from villages *'to the immediate North West and North East.'* Interestingly, *'only 9 of the boarders come now from outside the County'*, suggesting a decline in boarders from perhaps Yorkshire that had occurred since Young's earlier report. This was probably due to Caistor being *'poorly served by trains.'* Despite this, Young states that *'the Headmaster is already succeeding in establishing a connection with...scattered villages and Schools.'* and that *'The new docks, building at Immingham [on the Line to the North] and the proposed ironstone works [just South of Nettleton] may also have some effect on the future of the School.'*

What seems to have allowed the school to survive in this period seems to be a disposition against Market Rasen's schools from the villages around Caistor. As Young writes, *'Market Rasen is the real competitor'* but it: *'...does not touch the interior of the district, or any of the places from which Caistor might hope to draw. It appears to have the reputation of not providing a class of education suitable to 'rustic' needs, and there is clearly very strong local feeling against it in the smaller towns to the North. The best evidence of its failure to supply the place of Caistor is to be found in the fact that when Caistor was practically moribund, only two Caistor and Nettleton boys went to Market Rasen, and one of them was a County scholar. The rest went to no Secondary School at all and remained in the shops or farms, while some 4 or 5 went to distant Boarding schools.'*

Perhaps Caistor's ability to survive its *'moribund'* phase under Bowers was down in part to luck and local resentment of Market Rasen. The fascinating concept of *'a class of education suitable to 'rustic' needs'* might in fact suggest the continuation of a third-grade education within Caistor even under Coxon's curriculum, teaching agricultural skills and providing a 'commercial' education was something in fact prized by local residents alongside the route that provided a second-grade scientific route. As Young put it:

'It may be concluded that for the majority of boys in this scattered district it is a case of aut Caistor aut nihil [either Caistor or nothing.]'

Additionally, what the document allows us to see which the prospectuses clearly don't is who these students actually were. We might get the occasional photograph of boys sitting alongside the Old Hall in some of the early prospectuses, which also exist in the association archives. But beyond that, we know precious little. Young gives us an annoyingly brief insight; the students were: *'...sons of well-to-do tradesman, farmers and professional men. The majority are proceeding into the lesser professions, a certain number probably to the universities, and some back into business.'*

Regardless of who they were, the paltry number of students were considered to be something which could be used to try to help the school's finances.

The Governing Body, Young notes, considered:

'...that there would be no objection to its rising to £5, in view of the local interest now taken.'

In combination with the school expanding to 40 pupils, plus the paying off of the school mortgage in 1916, as well as *'the £75 conditionally promised by the County, and the Board's Grant of £40.'*, the report states that the School might have been able to raise £205, helping to bolster the shaky financial foundations

that Arthur Brookes had tried to repair himself. In his concluding remarks, despite the financial difficulties laying behind the school, Young writes:

'...no competing School can warrantably claim to fill with equal, or better, effect.'

What we therefore see in this report is the School in a state of flux, between the somewhat damaging leadership of Bowers and the long years in



which Coxon acted as Head. We see a School plunged dangerously over a financial precipice, with a Headmaster personally attempting through his own finances and willpower to keep the school viable. Yet, the School is gradually and slowly growing in size, and maintaining a peculiar influence as the educational destination for the sons of farmers and tradesmen in the Wolds. The boarding facilities might not be perfect, but they can be (and will be) improved.

So, despite the rocky state which the School is in, Young leaves in the report a sense of hope and optimism about the School's future, something arguably brought into more concrete being under Coxon's long Headship. We are provided with a vital historical document showing where the School had come from in the 1880s and 1890s, and where it was headed into the interwar period, and beyond.

CHOOKS, friendly and entertaining livestock, who can provide food in return for good care and shelter by Paul and Glenda (Taylor) Blackwell (1962 – 69).

We call domesticated chickens chooks in Australia and they have proved to be a very engaging activity when more confined to home during our lock-down months last year. We expect many folk in the UK have found the same with their hens and other domestic animals and pets. This is what we got up to with our chooks in Geraldton WA.

Having lost the last of our geese in August 2018 we decided to go back to chooks that we had kept in the '90s.

So now each morning begins with a routine of feeding our feathered friends, cleaning out their various houses and shaking the compost bin in their pen which usually releases numerous live cockroaches which all the hens gobble up to add a bit more protein to their diet! In return they chatter to us and compete with each other for fresh lettuce and trays of soaked bread. In return we get up to 5 eggs a day, depending a bit on the weather and their numbers, as well as who has gone 'broody'. It's often hard to get out of the house before 9am, thank goodness we are now both retired! Below is a 'potted history' of how our flock developed since 2018.

We met a couple of chook breeders at one of our local agricultural shows in September 2018 and placed an order.

So, in October we drove down to Jurian Bay to collect Jayney and Gracie, two Plymouth Rocks named after our grand-daughters.

In retrospect they were not in the best condition, scars of old wounds on their backs, probably from the breeder's roosters. Gracie died before Christmas and Jayney was alone till after March 2019. Then we got chooks from another breeder, Cassi. They were Shirley (Australorp), Gracie Too (blue laced Wyandotte), and Joelene (gold laced Wyandotte). Wyandottes have very attractive plumage. We named one after Joel, our grandson. Then we started naming them after friends who work in the Church Cottage op-shop with Glenda! As expected, Jayney died soon afterwards, but by then we had learned a great deal about chook care and nutrition. However, they were still not immune from complications and Shirley got eggbound. She was treated at home and dried with a hair dryer before a visit to the vets, but the damage to her rear was too severe and she had to be euthanised.

Our care for them was so good (despite the deaths! - fresh lettuce leaves and grain as well as pellets and plenty of water) that the neighbouring chooks got wind of it and Gracie Too and Joelene were joined by "Blondie-blow-in" who flew in over the fence! On the 4th Nov, we got Jayney Too (silver-laced Wyandotte) with 5 two week old chicks from Cassi.

Of the chicks, we soon discovered that 'Bruce' was a rooster (Plymouth Rock) and we returned him to Dongara Chickens [the crowing rather gave him away]. We are not allowed to have roosters even though we are classified as living in a semi-rural area.



Dianne and Marion grown up from chicks and on top of "The Manor"

Dianne with 2 ens and Marian were also Plymouths . Marion started to crow too, so she went back to Cassi for observation and was returned a few weeks later as a definite hen! (whatever that is!!).

Shirley Too and Pamela were Australorps, beautiful & black, but yet again proved to be roosters. So, back to Dongara. We didn't seem to be having much luck! They, on the other hand, fell on their feet & each now head up harems on a nearby farm! Jeanie Bungeye (Bluelaced Wyandote) with a rather odd eye and Constance a Barnvelder arrived in April.

Constance suddenly died after about 6 weeks! [out came the hankies again!!]

Jeanie was bullied by Dianne and Marian, the Kray twins. Our Aussie friends do not understand this reference & the standover tactic of their namesakes in the 40s & 50s in the East End have to be explained!

Blondie died in August 2020 of old age and was buried at the back of the pen as many of the others.

Soon after, another rather emaciated Isa Brown came over the back fence. We called her 'Madame'. She is now plump & rather cheeky!

In the middle of Oct 2020, we bought 5 new independent chicks from Cassi. They were about 1 month old. A dark Australoup (Pamelatoo), a Grey australoup (Shirleythree), Tiffany June (a Rhode Island/Sussex cross), a greyish Barnvelder (Constance Too) and a browner Barnvelder (Valerie) Jan 2021, Valerie started to crow and Constance looked 'roostery', they were returned to Cassi and will be replaced soon. The biggest challenge this summer has been



The Kray Twins discussing with Joelene who to beat up next!

keeping them cool enough in 40C+ days; we have even installed a pedestal fan at one of the nesting boxes one hot afternoon to help one of them lay!

The benefits of having the chooks also help with our garden by eating what they can of vege plants that have gone to seed or have otherwise been harvested. All in all, a great benefit to us in retirement, especially when travel has been limited. Thankfully one of our neighbours also likes chooks and cares for them when we are away.

Glenda and I hope this tale may inspire you to get some kind of companion pet/livestock if the pandemic in the UK is confining so many to home still. There may well be some indoor chook breeds!

Paul and Glenda (Taylor) Blackwell (1962 – 69)

Glenda with Jeane bung-eye. December 2020. "The Cabin" in the background.



Tewkesbury 2020 by Joanne (Adlard 1969-76) Raywood

It has been a very strange year and I guess a lot of people have some really interesting stories to tell but I would like to share a little of my 2020 with you.

Almost four years ago, I attended the annual meeting of my local town council and by the end of the meeting I came to the conclusion that maybe they needed my interference. They did! I was co-opted in August 2017, then properly elected in May 2019. In January 2020 I was chosen to be the Deputy Town Mayor. Who would have thought it when, in 1975, I won the CGS version of the general election, for the Conservative Party? I certainly wouldn't have. I don't regard myself as a political person and I don't belong to a political party, but I am keen on making sure that things are done properly, so I think that's why I decided to do this. But for me the most exciting thing about being Deputy Mayor in 2020, is that, all being well, I should become Town Mayor in May 2021, in time to commemorate the 550th anniversary of the Battle of Tewkesbury (May 1471) and the 900th anniversary of the consecration of Tewkesbury Abbey (October 1121). Well, for sure, 2021 is going to be very interesting, but it's anyone's guess as to how many of the planned events will actually happen. I have been polishing my Deputy's chain, in readiness for a big event, but haven't had an occasion to wear it yet but it would be nice to wear the Mayoral bling at least once, in company with the rest of the local 'chain gang' as they like to call themselves.

February brought floods to Tewkesbury. Luckily no homes were inundated, but many roads were closed, so my journeys to Gloucester Crown Court to do jury service were challenging, as I waded in my wellies through flood water and slithered over muddy fields to reach a bus which seemed to curtail its journey further and further away from Tewkesbury with every day that passed. There was one day when I arrived at court, doubting that I would be able to get home again, but then the high tide had passed and the waters began to recede a little.

At that time Covid 19 still seemed to be the problem of someone else far away, although I knew friends who had suffered from this mystery new illness, luckily, not too seriously. However, it wasn't long before I and other committee chairmen were sitting in the Town Hall, dusting off our emergency plan (which is really designed for adverse weather and flooding, not pandemics), agreeing enhanced delegated powers for the Town Clerk and organising home working arrangements for the officers. For a couple of weeks, my days were spent almost entirely on the computer or the telephone, as I collated all the latest information from newly-created community response teams and passed it on to the Town Council, the Borough, the County and Westminster, also passing the latest advice in the other direction, all the while very much aware that while I was safe in my workroom, other people in the town were taking actual physical risks to support those in need. There were many in need. Tewkesbury has a relatively elderly demographic and our historic streets and pavements are too narrow to facilitate safe social distancing.

The first lockdown in Tewkesbury was however, in many ways, a wondrous time. There was hardly any road traffic and the weather was beautiful. We walked a great deal, discovering how lovely the local golf course is when there are no golfers on it, watching the meadow on the Severn Ham bursting into flower and listening to the soothing sound of the river as it poured over the weir at the Upper Lode, while counting the twait shad as they wriggled upstream over the notch.

I made it my aim to ensure that the children of Tewkesbury Abbey were not forgotten, by creating online LINK (Sunday school) lessons for them that could be used as whole family activities. There is a freedom in taking the teaching into the children's homes and gardens rather than having to do it in the Sacristy or the Upper Room at the Abbey and the online resources have included lots of messy craft ideas, recipes and outdoor challenges. We were also able to have online LINK lessons on Easter Sunday and Corpus Christi, when the children would normally be too busy singing, ringing or serving. Between them, the children were able to visit and pray over almost the whole of the parish's 25-odd mile boundary on Rogation Sunday, whereas we usually walk together and can only cover about five miles. (I once found a wonderful newspaper article about a beating of the bounds in Tewkesbury during Victorian times. The Town Councillors and the Town Crier mostly toured the parish boundary by boat. We have no fewer than six rivers in our parish and that's why we have floods. The journey took all day and there were regular stops to eat and drink at the local hostelrys. Just before the journey was complete, the Councillors and Crier all fell into the water and they arrived back in town wet and muddy, in time to cram themselves into a tiny hotel parlour for yet another of the enormous civic banquets for which Tewkesbury was renowned.) This summer, I finally saw some of my written work in print. I have been a member of the Tewkesbury Historical Society for a couple of years. The society's president (John Dixon, whom Roger Hale will remember, as they taught together at Tewkesbury School) encouraged me to write an article, using my research into the life of James Blount Lewis, hosier and Tewkesbury's first formally elected Mayor. J B Lewis founded a knitting business in Nottingham, which eventually became the centre of the Courtauld's knitwear empire. He was a fascinating man, very determined, with a very strong sense of right and wrong and an involvement in just about everything notable that happened in Tewkesbury between 1837 and 1873. I became rather fond of him and was able to gain a clear idea of his character and his abilities, but I didn't know what he looked like until last month, when a photograph of a miniature portrait in a mourning locket was sent to me from Tokyo, just in time to be included with the second part of my article, which will be published shortly in the Tewkesbury Historical Society Bulletin no. 30. (Part one was in Bulletin no.29, which was published in July 2020).

I seem to have spent a lot of time on Zoom this year, mostly in meetings of the Museum Trustees, the Council of Friends of Tewkesbury Abbey, the Hospital League of Friends, the Tewkesbury Town Regeneration Partnership and the Town Council. I chair the Planning Committee, which held the Town Council's first Zoom meeting. Gradually, we have mastered the technicalities of working with Zoom; using two screens, sharing the Borough's Planning Portal in screen view and entering our responses directly into the portal during meetings. Unlike most people, my phrase of 2020 is not 'You are on mute' but 'Can you all see that now?'. In May I became an ex-officio Trustee of the Tewkesbury Commoners and had to swear on Zoom, bible in hand, an oath that was written in 1808. Not even the qualifications for holding such an office have changed in the intervening years. Does the ownership of over £100 prove me capable of distributing the proceeds from a not very profitable grazing contract equally between a hundred or so houses in a fair manner? Apparently it does!

In normal times, a really thorough continuing education can be had in Tewkesbury, with regular evening lectures on every subject from theology to ecology and the monthly 'Anchor University', which is basically an informal lunchtime history lecture, with nibbles, in a pub, all for the price of a glass of the most reasonably-priced wines and beers I know. There is usually so much going on that you have to choose what you will attend and what you will not. Some of this has moved online, so, apart from meetings, there have been online lectures, mostly from the Historical Society and the Civic Society. I even delivered a lecture myself, about the History of the Severn Ham; an ancient water meadow of about 7 hectares in size, with a fascinating past, that belongs to the Town Council.

Then there have been Zoom choir practices, which are a little bit different, because the musical director cannot tell whether you are singing in time, or in tune, or singing at all. But it has been lovely to see everyone and the practices helped me to familiarise myself with the music, which we were fortunate enough to sing, in person, in the Abbey, for Christmas. It has taken me many years to feel comfortable with the idea of singing in a church choir, because I always felt strongly that my proper place was in the congregation, so this was only my second Christmas in the Choir. Scottish composer James Macmillan's 'O radiant dawn' finally persuaded me otherwise. I had just mastered the art of singing in procession, with a lighted candle swinging perilously in a gimbal that was clipped to my folder, for Candlemas, when everything stopped and all was silent at Easter. So it was an emotional moment, standing there, clad in my surplice and magenta cassock (with matching hand-made face mask) ready to sing on Christmas Day. We were all standing at the required 2m distances but the presbytery is so huge and the acoustics are so amazing that we, all thirty-five of us, could hear each other perfectly.

So Christmas 2020 came, with singing, rising floodwaters, snow and a rapid transition from tier two, to tier three, then tier four on Boxing Day. We just managed to get our turkey, from a friend in the Forest of Dean, hours before the road was closed. In tier four, the golf course is without golfers again and is therefore a safe outdoor space for walkers whose customary pathways are only passable in big wellies. The Abbey is again closed to in-person worship and I think it's time I gave some thought to what the LINK children need to learn about Epiphany.

With my very best wishes for a safe, happy and peaceful New Year.

Joanne (Adlard, CGS 1969-76) Raywood

After Leaving CGS; 1962 to 2021 by Helen (Houlton 1955 – 1962) Cliff

I had always wanted to be a primary school teacher and so, after training, I began my first appointment at a school in Manchester. A couple of years later I moved back to live with my parents and teach at Binbrook Primary School, where I became Head of the Infant Department. Through connections at the air force base, I met my first husband, an RAF Navigator, flying Canberras. We married in 1970.



With my first dog Jenny



Before the Summer Ball 1970

I was able to continue in the same post until my daughter Anna was born in 1972, by which time we had a change of aircraft, the first Phantom jets, plus a house in married quarters followed by a move to our own home in Woodhall Spa. The social life in an officers' mess and amongst friends on the Squadron continued to be excellent and I made many good friends.

We moved to Germany in 1974, where my son John was born. It was strange to be so far away from home with a baby and a toddler, but the new friends I

made ensured life was never dull and family came over to have holidays. Our next move was a welcome one, back to Coningsby, followed by Cranwell, meaning I could return to live in my own home in Woodhall Spa. My life revolved around my children who went to the local Primary School.

Further disruption created by RAF courses led to a decision to move Anna aged 11 into St Hugh's School, Woodhall Spa, as a boarder, soon followed by John. I was able to do yoga, gardening, dressmaking, and gardening in spare times, along with supply



teaching. We had a new puppy and went walking regularly. I became a member of the RAF Coningsby theatre club and performed in pantomimes, one-act plays and took the lead in "Move Over Mrs Markham." Our children and wider family were close by.



In 1985 we sold our Woodhall Spa property and moved south to Lacey Green, a village in the Chilterns which was ideally located for a posting to Strike Command Headquarters, 1 mile away and for a future 'tour' at the Ministry of Defence, in London, less than an hour on the train. I began teaching full time at the school in Princes Risborough, where I stayed for 3 years. I joined the local amateur dramatic society, Lacey Green Productions, where we put on large shows biannually, with a cast of about 40 with whole families taking part. I also attended St John's Church, joined the choir and the local walking group. We continued to meet regularly with our friends from Woodhall Spa. We took several holidays to Germany and France. One memorable holiday involved staying at a Gîte in a vineyard and sleeping above several hundred bottles of Burgundy!

A holiday in France

In 1988 we moved to Wattisham, in Suffolk, where I became more involved in Air Force life as my husband was commanding 56 Squadron, flying Phantoms. It was expected that wives' activities, welfare of families, coffee mornings, suppers and dinner parties were organized. For a while I had a part-time teaching job as well. After this tour it was a relief to return to live in our house at Lacey Green in 1991. Civilian life resumed for me!

I returned to my classroom in Princes Risborough for a further 3 years. Drama with Lacey Green productions meant a new circle of friends, who met frequently for trips out, celebrations, picnics locally (several times above the nearby Chequers' Estate). Weekly trips to the pub for many years became a regular event.



Open day at RAF Wattisham



However, life in the Air Force means a disruption if promotion is offered, and we were on the move again in 1994 to RAF Neatishead, attached to Coltishall in Norfolk. The palatial house for the Station Commander was on a beautiful site in Norwich. For me, this was an ideal move as my sister Elizabeth lived with her family in Norwich and my mother, recently widowed, had moved to a small bungalow within walking distance. A new life with a lot of social engagements for senior RAF and local dignitaries followed. One of the highlights was for



our station to help do all the flower arrangements for the Battle of Britain service, for which I did a lot of organizing. Other remarkable experiences were a VIP invitation to the "End of Pier Show" in Cromer, (a trip into the past), Thurston Steam Show, The Muckleborough Collection (military museum) and a trip on the Norfolk Broads. During this period, I used to meet up with three good friends to walk sections of the Southwest Coastal path in Dorset and Devon, as well as Exmoor.

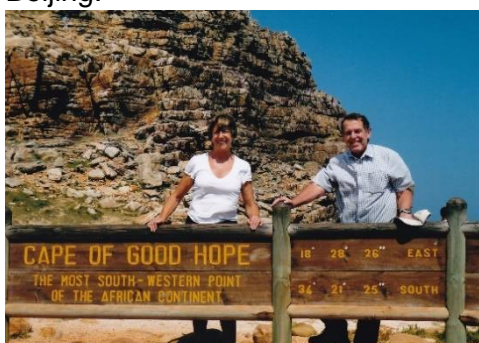
In 1996, Anna, having completed her degree, had been sailing as crew on the large yachts Astrid and Sea Cloud, whilst waiting to join the police who had delayed recruiting. She bought a small house with John and stayed in



Norwich. John had just completed his PGCE at Norwich after his first degree. My mother died and John's kidneys were failing, needing dialysis. Because of this, I was very upset when we were sent to Germany, a NATO posting at Kalkar. The personnel comprised German, Dutch, Spanish, American, Canadian, Danish, Polish and Norwegians and their wives and I tried to make the best of it by playing Bridge, begun in Woodhall and improved whilst at Norwich. The wives' club went on trips, a memorable one being to Russia. Our social life reflected the diversity of our friends. I was very homesick at this time and worried about my son John who had just begun dialysis, after his kidneys failed. I happened to be on a visit to Norwich, where he was living, when a kidney transplant became available, and I drove him to Cambridge for his first successful transplant. However, I had to leave him and return to Germany. It was a very unsettling time.

In 2000 we returned to England and moved into a small bungalow on a large plot in Lacey Green, as we still had tenants in our house. My husband enlarged and renovated it, something he had done to our previous properties. However, at this time, as I started part-time teaching and we resumed our village connections, our marriage had 3 people in it, to quote a well-known event and in 2006 we separated. I moved to live on my own.

I am now happily with David – we married in 2009. He sold his home in the Cotswolds and moved to be with me in Lacey Green. He was previously head of European exploration for the major mining company, Rio Tinto, but has since continued working as a consultant. We have had many adventures together, with holidays in Mauritius, Turkey, New Zealand, South Africa, America, Canada and Portugal, where we own a holiday home in the Algarve. I even joined him on a business trip to China in 2010. I was able to get a visit to the panda breeding centre at Chengdu while he had to attend a meeting! However, we visited Xian, saw the Terracotta Warriors and the Great Wall, just outside Beijing.



Cape of Good Hope 2012

My 70th birthday with David and friends at Almendres Cromlech, Evora, Portugal



While visiting friends in Dorset

Eating sardines in Portugal



My congenital kidney condition eventually caught up with me and I had some time on dialysis, until I was lucky enough to have a double kidney transplant in 2016. So far, all is well, and I still live an active life. My son John lives nearby, while Anna is in a village near Portsmouth with her husband and my two teenage grandsons.

We have resumed our hobbies (although David is still working part time – he is a co-founder and a director of Chesterfield Resources plc). When lockdown came, we still found plenty to do; walking around our village, growing things in the garden, reading, knitting and book club (me), and Telegraph crosswords, Rotary, business calls on Zoom and, when restrictions lifted, golf for David. Our emergence from lockdowns continues apace with appropriate precautions. This year we visited the Cotswolds, Anglesey and Cornwall (David's homeland) with a return to our house in Portugal next week. We are both fit, and I keep taking the pills.....!



With sisters Rachel and Elizabeth on my wedding day 2009



Walking by the Thames on my 77th birthday July 2021

Helen Cliff (Houlton 1955 - 62) October 2021

The following are extracts from the Awards' Evening and Speech Day programmes from 4 years (2020, 2010, 2000 and 1990). The 16 House Cups awarded for sport, drama, music and academic work, due to limited space, are not included.

ANNUAL AWARDS 2020

2020 will be remembered for the Covid outbreak and the lockdown that was introduced to minimise its effects. The lockdown meant that there could be no Speech Day, or Awards Evening, or public presentation of prizes. Instead of a programme for the evening a list of the awards, prizes commendations and achievements was created.

Academic Awards

Year 7, 8 & 9 Prize Winners

The Art Award for Outstanding Achievement:	Asmita Yogachandran
The Cup for Computing Contributions:	Jack Dowthwaite
The Dobson Design & Technology Award:	Mia Chong
The Jacques Prize for Junior English:	Edith Green
The Langues Vivantes Salver for French:	Megan Riley
The Langues Vivantes Salver for German:	Saqib Jajja
The Robinson Cook Cup for Geography:	Yasmine Sedaghat
The Jethwa Cup for History:	Jack Attridge
The Wolseley Cup for Latin:	Zamin Ali
The Potts Trophy for Music:	Renjay Chong
The Flunder Cup for Junior Mathematics:	Will Whitton
The Boys' PE Cup for Excellence:	Louie Osborne
The Girls' PE Cup for Excellence:	Charlotte West
The Friends' Cup for Junior RE:	Saqib Jajja

The Science Cup:	Saqib Jajja
The Harling Cup for the History Balloon Debate:	Yasmine Sedaghat (as Maurice Hilleman)
The Oxspring Cup for Drama:	Lukas Borgstrom
The Caistor Crusaders' Team Building Award:	Evie Bird, Alexander Lawrence, Reuben Smith, Ashton Tilling, Edward Watmough (Minecraft)
The Personal Achievement Cup:	Alice Fearn
The Richardson-Eames Cup for Outstanding Performance:	Daisy Williams
The Lamming Cup for Diligence:	Edith Green
The Russell Orr Cup:	Claudia Smith

Year 11 Prize Winners

The Tyack Memorial Awards:	Omar Aabed, Cindy Bazoua, Ella Clark, Ellis Clark, Neha Elangovan, Harry Nickells, Alston Rodrigues, Fareedah Salawu, Thushi Thulasiraj, Rojel Varghese
The Ruffell-Ward Prize for Art:	Oscar Khoo
The Dale Cup for Computing:	Harry Nickells
The Caistor Town Council Cup for Excellence in GCSE Design & Technology:	Oscar Khoo
The Carl Watson Cup for Progress in Design & Technology:	Harry Nickells
The English Cup:	Amelia Terry
The Livings Cup for Improvement in French:	Daisy Colley
The Geography Cup:	Ella Clark
The German Cup	Alston Rodrigues
The History Cup:	Rojel Varghese
The JW Ashley-Smith Cup for Latin:	Jasmin Lewars
The Sam Williams Cup for Mathematics:	Neha Elangovan
The Headmaster's Cup for Music:	Victoria Lewandowski
The Hunter Cup for PE:	Anna Bradley
The PE Progress Cup:	Dakota Sylvan
The Mary Audus Cup for RE:	Eleanor Wood
The Carr Cup for Science:	Harry Nickells
The Tennyson Shield for Citizenship:	Omar Aabed
The Trevor Foulkes Cup for Compassion:	Hala Aabed
The Harling Cup for Senior Public Speaking:	Rosie Barker, Fareedah Salawu, Eleanor Wood
The Judith Howitt Cup:	Ben Shale

Year 12 Prize Winners

The Young Enterprise Cup:	Stanley Acum
The Headmaster's Award for Leadership:	Nisha Prabhakar
The Colossus Award for Contribution to Computing:	Tom Harling
The David Fletcher Cup (for Mathematics Challenge):	Danielle Bate
The Peacock and Wooffindin Cup for Drama:	Rory Longcake
The Headmaster's Cup for Drama:	Ellie Brook
The Friends' Cup for Mentoring:	Emily Oldridge
The Cartwright Cup:	Rory Longcake

Sports Trophies and Awards

Cross Country

The Armitage Cup:	Henry Cullen
The Nickerson Cup for Girls:	Alisha Osborne
The Nickerson Cup for Boys:	Louie Osborne
The Girls' Intermediate Cup:	Alice Fearn
The Green Cup:	Elliot Smith
The Linsell Cup:	Annabel Peart

Football

The Todd Cup:	Owen Noble
The Junior Cup:	Noah Barnett

Hockey

Preston Shield:	Millie Wallace
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Lincolnshire County Representation:

Millie Wallace

Netball

The Caistor Netball Club Trophy:

Fareedah Salawu

Indoor Athletics

U17 Men's Championships:

Henry Cullen, 1st in 1500m

U20 Men's Championships:

Archie Yeo, 1st in Long Jump

Overall PE/Sport at KS4

The Clilverd Cup:

Alisha Osborne

The Brooking Cup:

Liam Doughty

Year 13 Award Winners

The Reverend Preston Cup:

Guy Lyons

The Davies Memorial Prizes:

Stephanie Goulding, Toby Hibbert, Jyothi Cross, Katherine Jennings, Ewan Martin

The Capper Memorial Prizes:

Abigale Brady, Emily Oldridge, Elizabeth Dee, Michael Durham, Eleanor Hills

The Sheppard Cup for Art:

Emily Dingwall

The Fell Cup for Biology:

Eleanor Hills

The Briscoe Cup for Chemistry:

Guy Lyons

The Rigby Cup for Classics:

Emily Oldridge

The Zernike Cup for Computing:

Samuel Pett

The Gorbett Cup for Design Technology:

Elizabeth Dee

The Panigrahi Cup for English:

Ewan Martin

The Butler Cup for Human Geography:

William Gale

The Lewis Cup for Physical Geography

Stephanie Goulding

The Slater Cup for History:

Katherine Jennings

The Rachel Loft's Cup for Mathematics:

Michael Durham

The Coxon Salver for Modern Languages:

Francesca Hannath & Katherine Jennings

The Governors' Cup for Music:

Henry Montgomery

The Dickinson Cup for Physics:

Guy Lyons

The Patterby Cup for PE/Sports Studies:

Eleanor Shepherd

The Coppin Cup for Politics:

Stephanie Goulding

The Bishop King Cup for RE:

Jyothi Cross

The Hale Cup for Poetry:

Culum Bond

The Headmaster's Cup for Head Girl:

Anna Carter

The Headmaster's Cup for Head Boy:

William Gale

The Chess Cup:

Isabel Taylor

The CGS Staff Cup for Going the Extra Mile:

Aidan Parker

The Maxine Jackson Trophy for Moral Courage:

Harry Wilkins

The Wilson Cup for Football:

William Gale

The Creedy Cup for PE:

Emily Barratt

The Harry Taylor Cup for PE:

Harry Wilkins

The Harvey Cup:

Grace Clark

The Dick Hudson Cup:

Jyothi Cross

On from the Sixth Form 2020

Fadwa Al-Moasseb

Gap Year, Pharmacy, University of Manchester, 2021

Joseph Andrews-Cifre

Strength, Conditioning and Rehabilitation, University of Derby

Xander Ashley-Turner

Animal Science, Nottingham Trent University

Paul Asumang

Gap Year, Applying for Dentistry 2021

Olivia Atkin

Education and Psychology, University of Lincoln

Emily Barratt

Gap Year, PE Technician CGS.

Georgia Bartley

Politics, University of Lincoln

Joe Basdeo-Taylor

German, University of Leeds

Thomas Baslington

Archaeology, University of York

Lewis Beighton

Professional Policing, University College London, 2021

Culum Bond	English and Creative Writing, University of Leicester
Haydn Boulton	Gap Year
Alicia Bowker	Law, The University of Law
Rosemary Brader	Medicine with a Gateway Year, Hull York Medical School
Abigale Brady	Mathematics, University of York
Euan Bryson	History, Newcastle University
James Bushby	Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University of Leeds
Louise Butler	Education, University of Leeds
Anna Carter	Law, University of York
Kieran Cheung	Mechanical Engineering, University of Salford
Grace Clark	History, University of Birmingham
Christopher Cook	Gap Year
Jyothi Cross	Human, Social and Political Sciences, St. Catharine's College, University of Cambridge
Lucy Cullen	Veterinary Nursing, Market Rasen Veterinary Surgery
Molly Davy	Paramedic Science, University of East Anglia
Benjamin Dawson	Computer Science + Year in Industry, University of Sheffield
Lizzie Dee	Medicine, University of Liverpool
Emily Dingwall	Industrial Design & Technology, Loughborough University
Owen Du Bedat	International Business, Leeds Beckett University
Michael Durham	Medicine, Keele University
Billy Ellis	Chemical Engineering with Env. Engineering, Uni. of Nottingham
Amelia Emerson	Chemistry with Education, University of Lincoln
Will Gale	Dentistry, Newcastle University
Alistair Glossop	Mathematics, University of Kent
Stephanie Goulding	International Relations, The University of Edinburgh
LiliRose Gregory	Forensic Science and Criminology, Keele University
Francesca Hannath	Modern Languages, Newcastle University
Toby Hibbert	Gap Year, Applying for Natural Sciences, Durham University, 2021
Eleanor Hills	Medicine, University of Leicester
Tegan Hinch	Data Science Degree, Leeds, & York St John University
Grace Holmes	Gap Year in Australia
Joshua Hughes	Gap Year, Applying for Conservatoires 2021
Freddie Hull	Classics, St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford
Katherine Jennings	Classics, Selwyn College, University of Cambridge
Jennifer Ketley	Pilot Training Course, Royal Air Force
Lucy Krofchak	Modern Languages with Bus. Man., University of Birmingham
Elliot Last	Apprenticeship, Lenzing Fibers
Oliver Levitt-Allen	International Relations and Politics, Keele University
Olivia Lin	Dental Hygiene and Therapy, University of Birmingham
Guy Lyons	Mechanical Engineering, University of Leeds
Ewan Martin	English, Clare College, University of Cambridge
Aimee Mason-Lynskey	History and Criminology, University of Liverpool
Maya McCann	Gap Year, Music Tech.CGS (2021-Music & Phil., Durham Uni.
Lucy McDonald	History, St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge, 2021
Eoin McHale	Mechanical Engineering, Manchester Metropolitan University
Henry Montgomery	Gap Year, Applying for Music, 2021
Jack Newrick	Royal Air Force application
James Niles	Computer Science with Ind. Placement, Newcastle University
Emily Oldridge	Classical Archaeology and Ancient History, St. John's College, University of Oxford
Samuel Pett	Aerospace Engineering, University of Sheffield
Tyler Pickerden	Dentistry, University Europa , Madrid
Verbena Sajjad	Medicine, Plovdiv Medical University, Bulgaria
Amy Sanderson	Sociology, University of Liverpool

Matthew Savage	Accountancy Apprenticeship, Forrester Boyd, Grimsby
Eleanor Schofield	Chemical Engineering, University of Huddersfield
Nathan Sharpe	Law, University of Lincoln
Eleanor Shepherd	Gap Year (2021-Sports Bus. Man., Manchester Met. University
Olivia Smith	Marine Zoology, Newcastle University
Elise Spencer	Veterinary Medicine, University of Nottingham
Beatrice Spivey	Art Foundation Course, Lincoln College
Aine Stenton	Human Geography, University of Kent
Harry Stones	History, University of York
Oliver Sullivan	Degree App. in Construction Management, Legal & General, Leeds
Jack Swain	Dental Surgery, University of Sheffield
Libby Tasker	Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Sheffield
Isabel Taylor	Physiotherapy, University of East Anglia
Sean Tooby	Military Police Training
Alice Ward	Nutrition and Dietetics, University of Nottingham
Harriet White	Law, Newcastle University
Harry Wilkins	Medical Science, Newcastle University
Clarissa Williams	Gap Year
Abilash Yogachandran	Mechanical Engineering, City University of London

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS 2010

The Presentation of Awards for 2009-2010 took place on Tuesday September 21st 2010 in Caistor parish church. The guest of honour was Mr Alan Bell, International Development Coordinator for the Youth Sport Trust. Mrs Lindsay Fell, Chair of the Governors, welcomed the guests. Musical entertainment was provided by Rebecca Williams (Ophelia's Song by Maconchy), and Thomas Drew and Cameron Richardson-Eames (Scherzo - Brahms in C Minor). Headmaster Roger Hale said "I am delighted with the school's achievements in the last year, including winning the Investors In people Silver Award". He went on to remark that the school had maintained its position in number one in the county at A level the eighth year in succession. A Vote of Thanks was proposed by the Head Girl, Harley Ryley and the Head Boy, Cameron Richardson-Eames.

Academic Awards

Year 7 Attainment:	Pollyanna Seamer, Eleanor Brown, Isabella Chase, Rachel Robinson, Harriet Haswell, Samuel Hamill
Effort:	Edward Kenny, Charles Kenney, Leonie Brummit, Dylan Moss, Rawan Jaibaji, Megan McKie
Year 8 Attainment:	Annabel May, Sreemoyee Ghosh, Alexandra McNeil, Sophie Thrippleton, Daisy Rudd, George Kirkby
Effort:	Francesca Altoft, Olivia Sowersby, Georgia Pope, Ellie Robey, Phoebe Atkin, Caitlin Bower
Year 9 Attainment:	Chloe Legard, Charlotte Twidale, James Travis, Zoe Hamill, Devon Hill, Jade Follows
Effort:	Olivia Amos, Emily Macklin, Martha Goulding, Molly Shipley, Lucy Hoggard, Xinya Guo
Year 10 Attainment:	Nathan Davis, Sophie Manson, Jessica Lewis, Latta Chauhan, Tiffany Barnard, Rebecca Twidale
Effort:	Benedict Harris, Zoe Doughty, Katherine Law, Sian Kennedy, Fiona Smith, Elysha Thompson
Potts Trophy for Individual Music	Rachel Twomey
The Flunder Cup for Junior Mathematics:	Liam Pettinger
The Langues Vivantes Salver for German:	Chloe Legard
The Langues Vivantes Salver for French:	James Travis
Peacock and Wooffindin Cup for Drama:	Rory Oldershaw
The Friends' Cup for Junior RE:	Jonathan Treadgold

The Jethwa Cup for History:	Alexander Hibbert
The Chess Cup:	Sean Guggiari
The Harling Cup for Junior Public Speaking:	Faith Hamiton
The Harling Cup for the History Balloon Debate:	Connor Spence
The Caistor Crusaders Team Building Award:	Georgia Moody
Headmaster's Cup for Music:	Rebecca Williams
Headmaster's Cup for Drama:	Jordan Carlton
Headmaster's Award for Leadership:	Harley Riley, Jordan Duckitt
The Lamming Cup for Diligence:	Alexandra McNeill
The Russell Orr Cup:	Matthew Walker
Tyack Memorial Awards:	Christian Rowlands, Raisa Islam, Olivia Jackson, Kaitlin Mapplethorpe, Emmeline Pinion, Jordan Duckitt, Laura Kaye, Grace Holland, Nicholas Smith, Abigail Walkington, Gemma Jackson, Jordan Carlton, Alice Kaye.
The English Cup:	Elysha Mawer
The Sam Williams Cup (Mathematics):	Emmeline Pinion
The History Cup:	Abigail Walkington
Ruffell-Ward Prize for Art	James Lee
The JW Ashley-Smith Cup for Latin:	Laura Kaye
The Mary Audus Cup for RE:	Jordan Carlton
The Carl Watson Cup for Progress in Design & Technology:	Charlotte Burniston
Caistor Town Council Cup for Excellence in GCSE Design & Technology:	Christian Rowlands
The Livings Cup for Improvement in French:	Oliver Abe
Dale Cup for ICT:	Robert Dunn
The Tennyson Shield for Citizenship:	Grace Herring
Personal Achievement Cup:	Alice Howard
The Judith Howitt Cup:	Jordan Duckitt
Lower Sixth:	
John Kenneth Mason Awards:	James Colley, Sean Guggiari, Abhilasha Gurung, Monketh Jaibaji, Harley Ryley, Emma Tattershall, Alice Twomey, Krishna Vadakattu, Patrick Cockburn, Henry Phipps, Cameron Richardson-Eames, Ania Sharp, Ann Silcocks, Harriet Stark
David Fletcher Cup (Mathematics):	Monketh Jaibaji, Sean Guggiari
Young Enterprise Cup:	Jack O'Toole
Cartwright Cup:	Grace McGregor
Young Ambassadors for Sport:	Alexander Warmoth, Katie Rudd, Jordan Duckitt, Olivia Jackson.
Upper Sixth:	
Reverend Preston Cup:	Ryan Cullen, Penney Elliot
Davies Memorial Prizes:	Heather Davis, Thomas Bishop, Stuart McErlain-Naylor, Ashwin Pillay, Brooke Powell
Capper Memorial Prizes:	Charlotte Marshall, Matthew Mitchard, Kieran Simpson, Rebekah Sutherland, Samantha Cooper, Martha Bateman, Jacob Hawkins
Panigrahi Cup for English:	Penny Elliot
Rachel Lofts Cup for Mathematics:	Jonathan Singh
Dickinson Cup for Science:	Matthew Mitchard
Briscoe Cup for Chemistry:	Brooke Powell
Gorbutt Cup for Design Technology:	Benjamin Dunn
Coxon Salver for Modern Languages:	Charlotte Marshall
Bishop King Cup for RE:	Melissa Smith
Rigby Cup for Classics:	Hannah Crowson
Slater Cup for History:	Ryan Cullen
Friends' Cup for Mentoring:	Frances Hoggard
Lewis Cup for Physical Geography:	April Shacklock
Butler Cup for Human Geography:	Kieran Simpson

Coppin Cup for Politics:	Ashwin Pillay
Sheppard Cup for Art:	Louise Watson
Governors' Cup for Music:	Sarah Bennett
Harling Cup for Senior Public Speaking:	Kai Robinson-Steer
Zernike Cup for Business Studies:	Ben Robinson
Oxspring Cup for Drama:	Harriet Stark
Harvey Cup:	Charles Gell
Headmaster's Cup for Head Girl:	Sophie Eckersall
Headmaster's Cup for Head Boy:	James Colley
Headmaster's Cup for Deputy Head Girl:	Frances Hoggard
Headmaster's Cup for Deputy Head Boy:	Matthew Mitchard
Dick Hudson Cup:	Heather Davis

Sports Awards

Football

Wilson Cup:	James Spencer
Todd Cup:	Joseph Hendy
Junior Cup:	Barnaby Seamer
County Representation:	Nadina Green, Joseph Hendy
Scunthorpe United Squad:	Charles Vernam

Hockey

Preston Shield:	Olivia Jackson
County Representation:	U15: Lauren McKitton, Rose-Marie Earnden U18: Olivia Jackson.

Cricket

Ben Jacob Cup:	Tim Brown
County Representation:	Gareth Johnson, William Sutton, Harry Capstick, Matthew Travis
Regional Representation:	Georgia Rudd and Katie Rudd (Yorkshire and Humberside Development Squad)
District Representation:	Harry Tasker, Harry Capstick
Y10 Winners of the John Turner Trophy, U15 Boys winners of the John Turner District League Cup	

Rugby

Preston Shield:	Robert Cook
Notts/Lincs/Derby Squad:	William Sutton, Edward Melton

Netball

Caistor Netball Club Trophy:	Kimberly Pratt
County Representation/County Netball Development Squads:	
U14:	Rosie Tate, Georgia Moody, Devon Hill
U16:	Sophie Prentice, Mollie Brown and regional trialists.
Regional Representation:	Kimberly Pratt

Tennis

Taylor Trophy	Gareth Johnson
Keating Trophy	Kimberley Pratt
County Representation:	Charles Vernam

Athletics

Individual Championship Cup Winners:	
Year 7:	Rosie Tate, Isabella Chase, Jacob Norburn
Year 8:	Kate Pattison, Charles Vernam, William Sutton
Year 9:	Sheree Smith, Shanaz Patel, Daniel Kent
Year 10:	Leah Altoft, Benjamin Smith, Ryan Parker
Individual Trials County Representation - Robert Dunn (Triple Jump), Alice Kaye (200m), Zoe East (Long Jump), Kate Pattinson (Discus)	
Individual Trials Anglian Representation - Alice Kaye ((200m), Kate Pattison (Discus)	

Cross Country

Armitage Cup:	Henry McTernan
Nickerson Cup for Girls:	Laura Kaye

Nickerson Cup for Boys:	Charles Vernam
Girls Intermediate Cup	Caitlin Bower
Green Cup	Luke Gray
Linsell Cup:	Sophie Cragg
County Qualifiers:	Tiffany Barnard, Charles Vernam
Overall PE	
Clilverd Cup:	Olivia Jackson and Joseph Hendy
Brooking Cup:	Alice Kaye
Hunter Cup:	Olivia Jackson
Creedy Cup:	Katie Rudd
Harry Taylor Cup:	Alistair Lusby

On from the Sixth Form 2010

David Allibone	Aerospace Engineering, University of Hertfordshire
Martha Bateman	Archaeology, Durham University
Gemma Beety	Classical Studies, Newcastle University
Sarah Bennett	Art Foundation Course, Lincoln College
Thomas Bishop	Economics, Durham University
William Browning	Mathematics with Finance, University of Leeds
Yasmin Carlton	Education Studies with English, University of Reading
Robert Cook	Architecture and Environmental Design, Sheffield Hallam University
Samantha Cooper	Medicine, Edinburgh University
Cameron Craigie	Property Management and Investment, University of Salford
Zoe Crookes	Zoology, University of Derby
Hannah Crowson	Pharmacology, University of Manchester
Ryan Cullen	History, University of Durham
Heather Davis	Medicine, Newnham College, University of Cambridge
Emily Dent	Theatre & Performance, University of Leeds
Sophie Denton	Classical Civilisation, University of Warwick
Thomas Dingwall	Communications Technology, Nottingham Trent University
Amy Dixon	Psychology, Cardiff University
Jessica Dobson	Nursing (Adult) University of Leeds
Emma Dooley	Forensic Computing, De Montfort University
Benjamin Dunn	Industrial Design and Technology, Loughborough University
Sophie Eckersall	Geography, Loughborough University
Carl Edmondson	Mathematics, University of Leeds
Penny Elliot	English Literature, University of East Anglia
Richard Fontaine	Chemistry, Bangor University
Charles Gell	Chemistry, University of York
Hannah Godfrey	Physical Education, Leeds Metropolitan, University
Sam Goffin	RAF training - applying 2011
Melissa Hall	Adult Nursing, University of Manchester
Jacob Hawkins	Sport and Exercise Sciences, University of Birmingham
George Hebdon	Automotive Engineering, Loughborough University
Frances Hoggard	Classical Civilisation, University of Warwick
Lee Jackson	Aviation Technology & Management, University of Leeds (entry 2011)
Katie Johnson	Gap year
Martin Lloyd	Pharmaceutical Science (industrial Option), University of Hull
Charlotte Marshall	German, St Catherine's College, University of Oxford
Billy Mason	Geography and Archaeology, University of Hull
Stuart McErlain-Naylor	Sport and Exercise, Loughborough University
Matthew Mitchard	Medicine, Trinity College, University of Cambridge
Eloise O'Brien	Law with German and German Law, University of Nottingham
Georgia Parkinson	Business Administration, ACT Consultancy

Ashwin Pillay	Law, Girton College, University of Cambridge
Joseph Plewes	History/Politics, University of York
Brooke Powell	Medicine, Sheffield University
Olivia Pratt	Sport and Exercise Sciences, University of Leeds
Hannah Quayle	Publishing with English, Loughborough University
Daniel Rhodes-Mumby	Politics, University of Salford
Ben Robinson	Accounting and Finance, Nottingham Trent University
Kai Robinson-Steer	Drama, Edge Hill University
Joseph Ryan	Archaeology, Edinburgh University
Sara Sanad	Media, Communication and Cultural Studies, Newcastle University
April Shacklock	English with Creative Writing, University of Birmingham
Kieran Simpson	Management, University of St Andrews
Jonathan Singh	Mathematics, Imperial College, London
James Smith	Innovative Manufacturing Engineering, Loughborough University
Melissa Smith	Dentistry, Newcastle University
Emma Snell	PE Technician, Caistor Grammar School
James Spencer	History/Politics, University of York
Sarah Stagg	Applying for Accountancy Employment
Philippa Stark	English/History of Art, University of York
Jonathan Sturgeon	Classical Literature and Civilisation, University of Birmingham
Rebekah Sutherland	Psychology, University of Leeds
Ryan Walker	Computer Science, Lancaster University
Alfred Warwick	History/Politics, University of York
Louise Watson	Contour Fashion, De Montfort University
Angharad Williams	Gap year
Lee-Sham Wong	Information Management for Business, University College, London
Samuel Wood	Gap Year
William Young	Law, University of Nottingham

AWARDS EVENING 2000

Awards Evening for 1999-2000 took place on Wednesday, September 13th 2000 in Caistor parish church. The guest of honour was Dr Cheryl Berry, Director of Education for Lincolnshire. Musical entertainment was provided by Mathuri Prabhakaran, Katie McAfee, Poppy Brennan and Rachel Munday, who performed "Remember" by Mathuri Prabhakaran and "Not You" by Katie McAfee. Headmaster Roger Hale paid tribute to the students at Caistor Grammar School who had helped produce the most impressive academic results in the school's history. Mr Hale said that the school headed the county in GCSE and A-level. He then paid warm thanks to Russell Orr, who had been a governor for over 15 years and chairman for more than 10.

Dr Berry praised the school for its high achievements, not only in the academic arena, but also in the areas of sport, drama, music and public speaking. "Caistor Grammar School is one of the leading schools in the country" she declared "I pay tribute to the superb staff and students here." A Vote of Thanks was proposed by the Head Girl, Hannah Horsley and the Deputy Head Boy, Kevin Clifton. The meeting finished with closing prayers by the Reverend Ian Robinson.

Academic Awards

Year 7 Attainment:	Hannah Wood, Eleanor Humphrey, Elizabeth Mitchell, Mallory Partridge, Kimberley Stothard, Rebecca Hayes.
Effort:	Katherine Willets, Michael Firth, Nicola Fell, Emma Boothman, Sarah Crowson, Sarah Marris
Year 8 Attainment:	Joseph Austen, Holly Sharland, Hannah Gibbs, Jennifer Ashby, Rachel Lofts, Hilde Dahmer.
Effort:	Clare Gosling, Rachel Simpson, Elizabeth Andrew Ruth Crocker, Rachael Bedford, Katherine Adams
Year 9 Attainment	Natalie Fontaine, Hannah Sutherland, Patricia Rea Emma Cruddas, Eloise West, Helen Cooke

Effort:	Amy Swales, Simon Owens, Abigail Salisbury, Lorna Cooper, Sophie Thompson, Rachel Hudson
Year 10 Attainment:	Natalie Barker, Libby Sutcliffe, Kathryn Date, Imran Yusuf, Grishma Patel, Samantha Taylor
Effort:	Simone Hambleton, Daniel Glover, Christopher Buckle, Alison Colquhoun, Donna Lamming, Wendy Lawson.

Junior Music Award:	Kathryn Spicksley, Matthew Fell
Flunder Cup for Junior Mathematics:	Ian Haigh
Lamming Cup for Diligence:	Christopher Buckle

Year 11

Tyack Memorial Awards:	Matthew Prabhakaran, Suzanne Martin, Florence Newton, Clare Nicol, Shoba Subramanian, Amy Lilley, Anna Macdonald, Javid Salim. Zoe Woodhead, Rachel Fenwick, Rebecca Thompson, Robert Clayton, Alexander Keen, James Sharp.
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J.W. Ashley-Smith Cup for Classics:	Clare Nicol
Personal Achievement Award:	Shoba Subramanian
Judith Howitt Cup:	Samantha Cartwright, Judith Stawson

Lower Sixth:

John Kenneth Mason Awards:	Sarah Dobson, Laura Greenfield, Nathan Hambleton, Alana James. Alexis Smith., Richard Stagg, Sarah Stone, Simon Ulyett
Cartwright Cup:	Hannah Horsley, Kathryn Nawrockyi

Upper Sixth:

Revd Preston Cup	Andrew West, Simon West
Davies Memorial Prize	Rebecca Wood, Anita Mohan
Capper Memorial Prize	Matthew Habgood, Andrew Smith
John Kenneth Mason Awards:	Mark Smith, Sarah Slater, Richard Thrippleton, Oliver Ward
Samuel Williams Cup for Mathematics:	David Fletcher
Dickinson Cup for Science	Ashley Whittington
Gorbutt Prize for Design Technology:	Shaonagh Cooper
Sheppard Cup for Art	Hannah Fuller
Coxon Salver for Modern Languages:	Naomi Ashley-Smith, Rachel Summers
Governors Cup for Music	Katherine Staniland
Headmaster's Prizes	Alice Spink, Richard E. Horton
Harvey Cup	Adam Ellis, Adam Taylor
Dick Hudson Cup	Adam Doswell, Lisa Jacklin

Sports Awards

Harry Taylor Cup:	Chris Swan
Creedy Cup:	Hannah Mitchell
Clilverd Cup:	Holly Lee

Football

Wilson Cup:	Chris Swan
Most Valuable Player Cup:	Marc Thompson
Todd Cup:	David Opie
Under 19 County Representation:	Alex Welbourne

Cricket

Ben Jacob Cup:	Tom Fowler
U15 County Representation:	Andrew Vipond

Gymnastics

National Squad:	Alex Lusby
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Cross Country

Armitage Cup:	Michael Butler (senior)
Nickerson Cup for Girls:	Florence Newton/Amy Lilley (senior)
Nickerson Cup for Boys:	Lee Smallwood (Inter)

Girls Intermediate Cxup	Nichola Oliver (Inter)
Green Cup	Ryan Allen (junior)
Linsell Cup:	Helen Smith (junior)
Colours:	Amy Lilley, Florence Newton, Lucy Mason, Rachel Moody, Simon Everett

Athletics

Individual Championships

Year 7:	Alex Lusby, Hannah Wood
Year 8:	Jeremy Parker, Krysta Wood
Year 9:	David Starling, Megan Smith
Year 10:	Marc Thompson, Holly Lee

Rugby

Preston Shield:	George Strawson
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England U19 Development Squad:	Russell Cain
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Tennis

Keating Trophy	Lorna Cooper
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On from the Sixth Form 2000

Naomi Ashley-Smith	MA Psychology, Aberdeen University
Oliver Birkwood	BSc Mathematical Economics, Birmingham University
Ian Blades	BA Business, Manchester Metropolitan University
Curtis Buck	BSc Mathematical Sciences, Birmingham University
Russell Cain	Gap Year - BSc Zoology, Durham University
Katie Chambers	BSc Biological Sciences, Lancaster University
Michelle Chuck	BA English Literature, Warwick University
Shonagh Cooper	Gap Year - BA Urban Studies and Planning, Sheffield University
Emma Cuncliffe	BA Modern European Studies, Loughborough University
Harini Dharmana	MBBS Medicine, Imperial College, London
Adam Doswell	BSc Building Surveying, University of Central England, Birmingham
Adam Ellis	BA English, York University
David Fletcher	MMath Mathematics, Warwick University
Hannah Fuller	BA Natural Sciences, Pembroke College, Cambridge
Elizabeth Garner	BSc Biology, Imperial College, London
Sudeshna Ghosh	MBChB Medicine, Sheffield University
Holly Graham	HND Interior Design with Business, Bishop Burton College
Matthew Habgood	MSc Chemistry, Imperial College, London
Samuel Haldenby	BSc Genetics, Nottingham University
James Hargreaves	BSc Economics, Nottingham University
Alexander Hasthorpe	Returning to CGS
James Hill	Continuing with further education
Julie Hodgson	BA Ancient History and History, Nottingham University
Richard David Horton	BSc Osteopathic Medicine, British Coll. of Naturopathy & Osteopathy
Richard Ellis Horton	BA History, University College, London
Georgina Hurst	BA Media and Communications Studies, Wolverhampton University
Lisa Jacklin	BSc Sports and Exercise Science, Sheffield Hallam University
Michelle Liddle	BA Art and Art History, Lancaster University
Rebecca Littleford	MBChB Medicine, Sheffield University
Anita Mohan	MBBS Medicine, Imperial College, London
Jonathan Mordue	BA History, Birmingham University
Ruth Noble	BSc Applied Biology, Nottingham Trent University
Sophie Purser	MChem Chemistry, Jesus College Oxford
Alexandra Quinn	Gap Year - BSc Biology, University of St Andrews
Paula Riggall	BSc Law with French, Newcastle University
Matthew Scutcher	MEng Chemical Engineering, Imperial College, London
Catherine Sheasby	BA European Studies, Leeds University
Sarah Slater	BA Modern Languages, Somerville College, Oxford

Andrew Smith	Gap Year - BSc Economics, Warwick University
Mark Smith	MMath Mathematics, Warwick University
Alice Spink	Gap Year - BSc Nutrition, Nottingham University
Katherine Staniland	BA International History and Music, Keele University
Rachel Summers	BSc Agri-Food Production, Harper Adams University College
Jennifer Sweatman	BA English with American Studies, Hull University
David Sylvester	BSc Mathematics, Bristol University
Adam Taylor	BSc Biomedical Science (Pharmacology), Aberdeen University
Hannah Thomas	Nat. Diploma Foundation Studies, Art and Design, Grimsby College
Richard Thrippleton	BA Computing Science, Churchill College, Cambridge
Sanjeev Varah	MEng Aerospace Engineering, Bath University
Lisa Vincent	BSc Health Sciences: Herbal Medicine, Westminster University
Oliver Ward	BDS Dentistry, Newcastle University
Saskia Welman	BA Ancient History with English, Kings College, London
Andrew West	BA Computing Science, Churchill College, Cambridge
Simon West	MEng Computing, Imperial College, London
Ashley Whittington	MBBS Medicine, Imperial College, London
Anna Williams	BSc Zoology, University of Wales, Swansea
Victoria Wise	MMath Mathematics, York University
Rebecca Wood	MA English Literature, Edinburgh University
Katherine Woodhead	BA American and Canadian Studies Birmingham University.

SPEECH DAY 1990

Caistor Grammar School held its annual prize-giving evening at the parish church on Friday 19th October, 1990, for the last school year. The prizes were presented by Mrs S.H. Stobbs, M.A., Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge, assisted by the Headmaster, Mr T. Foulkes, and the Chairman of the Governors, Mr R.J. Orr. The guests were welcomed by the school orchestra with pieces by Jurey and Beethoven, followed by the Headmaster's report. Mrs Stobbs then presented the rewards for the year's effort and attainment.

Academic Awards

Form One:

Form Prizes: Samantha Harris, Emma Cade, Jonathan Dove
 Effort: Emma Harwood, Emma Patrick, Jane Grantham

Form two:

Form Prizes: Clare Jones, Katy Woodhouse, Zoe Spyvee
 Effort: Clare Reed, Jenny Watson, Saul Foulds

Form Three:

Form Prizes: Nicola Dixon, Sarah Connis, Catherine Rigby, Jemma Townsend
 Effort: Cathy Robinson, Joanne Saxton, Maria Mager, Kimberly Lammin

Form Four:

Form Prizes: Claire Chappell, Abigail Clayton, Sarah Davis, Kerensa Heffron
 Effort: James Clarke, Phillip Parkin, Michael Doyle

Form Five:

Form Prizes: William Vessey, Shane Blanchard, Michaela Calvert, Benjamin Hendry
 Effort: Colin Chappell, Anjalina Majumder, Rebecca Taylor

Tyack Memorial Prize: Jake Townsend

Dickinson Cup for Science: John Hamilton

Capper Memorial Prize: David Threlfall

Davies Memorial Prize: Julian Orr

Sheppard Cup for Art: Richard Cross

Gorbutt Prize for Craft: Lee Mackrill

Lamming Cup for Diligence: Claire Chappell, Sarah Davis

John Kenneth Mason Memorial Awards: Elizabeth Hemmingway, Nicola Gardiner,
 Beverley Havercroft

Dick Hudson Cup
Headmaster's Prizes

Sports Awards

Harry Taylor Cup:
Creedy Cup:

Football

Wilson Cup:
Todd Cup:
U/19 County Representation:

Boys Hockey

U18 County Representation:
U16 County Representation:
U15 County Representation:
U14 County Representation:
U13 County Representation:

Girls Hockey

U18 County Representation:
U16 County Representation:

Cross Country

Green Cup:
Armitage Cup:
Nickerson Cup:
Linsell Cup:

Girls Tennis

Keating Cup:

Cricket

U16 County Representation:
U13 County Representation:

Table Tennis

First Year:
Junior
Girls Championship
Open Championship

Athletics

Individual Championships

Fourth Year:

Third Year:

Second Year:

First Year:

Colours (Re-awarded)

County Representation:

Robert Harrison
Audrey Bailey, David Threlfall

Graham Broe
Andrianne Edwards and Susan Smith

Paul Neve
Lee Mackrill
Graham Broe, Lee Mackrill.

Matthew Spencer
Jamie Graham, Simon Kendall
Matthew Keating, Matthew Leachman
Gordon Jones, Christopher Smith, Nicholas Smith
Dan Nicholson, Christopher Smith

Rachel Hall (captain).
Abigail Clayton

John Mager
Daryn Bunn
Rebecca Taylor
Hannah Knafler

Elizabeth Corringham, Susan Smith

Mark Allison, Shane Blanchard
Saul Foulds, James France (CYS)

Lisa Mortimer
Michael Cook
Lisa Mortimer
Daryn Bunn

Matthew Howson & Abigail Clayton
Martin Kullich & Samantha Burns-Salmond
Dan Nicholson, Carlton Ward & Sarah Wilkinson
Yin Wu, Xander Welman & Elizabeth Cook
S. Burns-Salmond
S. Burns-Salmond

Exam Results 1990

A-levels

Simon Appleyard (3), Audrey Bailey (1), Elizabeth Beal (1), Amanda Booth (3), Julian Chubb (3), Alistair Clark (3), Rebecca Clayton (3), Samantha Clayton (1), Richard Cross (2), Marie Crowhurst (3), Michelle Davey (3), Sarah Dunn (3), Fiona Eastaugh-Waring (3), Nicola Gardiner (1), John Hamilton (4), Robert Harrison (3), Jennifer Hartill (3), Elizabeth Hemingway (4), Elizabeth Johnson (3), Duncan Jones (4), Katherine Kidney (1), Lee Mackrill (2), Catherine Moffatt (1), Peter Morrison (2), Annalee Mumby (1), Paul Neve (3), Julian Orr (4), Rebecca Somerscales (1), David Squire (3), David Threlfall (4), Christopher Whiten (10).

CPVE Certificates, Lower sixth

Kerry Burchell, Heather Dunnett, Paul Gaynard, Michael Geraghty, Susan Gibbons, Clair Reeve, Nicholas Smith, Amanda Topliss.

GCSE. Candidates gaining grades A-C

Form 5:

Mark Allison (7), James Belcher (5), Shane Blanchard (10), Colin Chappell (10), Jonathan Esser (10), Dean Fowler (7), Jamie Graham (10), David Hammerton (5), Ben Hendry (10), Simon Kendall (5), Matthew Leachman (6), Niall McCabe (5), Darren McKay (3), Samuel Metcalf (4), Nicholas Power (8), Jonathan Pratt (9), Simon Robinson (7), Stuart Saxton (10), David Sheppard (9), Scott Siddle (5), Timothy Simpkin (10), Mark Simpson (10), Andrew Threfall (9), Jake Townsend (11), William Vessey (10), Ian Waddington (10), Paul Webster (10), Bobby Zaro (10), Claire Blewitt (10), Emma Braithwaite (9), Abigail Burton (9), Simone Chubb (5), Michaela Calvert (10), Lucy Coggon (8), Hannah Doswell (10), Sarah Gilbertson (9), Zoe Harrison (10), Beverley Havercroft (9), Charlotte Hoyle (9), Suzanne Johnson (10), Wendy Key (5), Anna King (5), Dawn Lister (8), Anjalina Majumder (9), Virginia Mason (9), Elizabeth McDonald (8), Samantha Moore (9), Roseanne Orr (10), Rachel Owen (6), Melanie Pottle (9), Sally Pye (5), Paula Raven (10), Emma Reynolds (9), Helen Robinson (9), Lisa Robinson (7), Hannah Rutter (10), Karen Smith (9), Amanda Smy (10), Sarah Somerscales (10), Rebecca Taylor (9), Zoe Welman (6), Jennifer Wood (9), Form 3: Thomas Cawley (1), Form 2: Peter McArthur (1), Joanne Farmer (1)

On to Higher Education October 1990

Simon Appleyard	BA, Accountancy and Finance, Leeds University
Sarah Bird	BEd, English and Education, Homerton College, Cambridge
Amanda Booth	BA, Accountancy, Lancashire Polytechnic
Julian Chubb	BEng, Engineering and Management, Strathclyde University
Alistair Clark	BSc, Food Technology, Reading University
Rebecca Clayton	Diploma in occupational therapy, St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton
Richard Cross	Foundation course in Art and Design, Lincolnshire College of Art
Marie Crowhurst	BSc, Psychology, Manchester Polytechnic
Michelle Davey	HND in Business and Finance, S. Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education
Sarah Dunn	BA, Philosophy and Italian, Reading University (1991)
John Hamilton	BA, Natural Sciences, Downham College, Cambridge
Robert Harrison	BEng, Civil Engineering, Nottingham Polytechnic
Jennifer Hartill	BA, European Studies and French, Wolverhampton Polytechnic
Elizabeth Hemingway	BA, French and Russian, Bradford University (1991)
Elizabeth Johnson	BSc, Agricultural Botany, Nottingham University
Duncan Jones	BSc, Computing Science, Aston University
Lee Mackrill	BA, Design and Technology with Education, Loughborough University
Peter Morrison	BA, Business Studies, Huddersfield Polytechnic
Annalee Mumby	BA, French, Royal Holloway and Bedford College, London
Paul Neve	Foundation Course in Accountancy, Huddersfield Polytechnic
Julian Orr	LLB, Law, Liverpool University
David Squire	BEng, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Aston University
David Threfall	BSc, Chemistry, Birmingham University
Christopher Whiten	MBChB, University College, London

Caistor Focus 2021 – I am indebted to Richard Davey (Student 1992 – 1999 & Staff 2004 to present), now Head of Year 10 and 11 and an English teacher at CGS, for producing and sending me copies of the School Newspaper. This last year saw only one publication in the last few days of the summer term as Covid had stopped so many of the extra-curricular activities throughout the year. We have produced this edition in its entirety on the following 8 pages to give you a flavour of the very different year students were faced with. The photo shows Richard (front centre) with the other House Officials in 1998 when he was at CGS.



CAISTOR FOCUS

COVID-19 mini-edition | THE AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER OF CAISTOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL | caistorgrammar.com

COVID and CGS



In this limited edition of Caistor Focus, we look back on how the school has experienced the COVID-19 pandemic and report on the final three days of exciting activities before we finished for the summer holidays in 2021...

Over the last eighteen months, Caistor Grammar students have experienced the school like no other generation before them. To commemorate the end of the 2020-2021 school year, we've taken a look back at what it's been like for students in each year group.



This is the view from inside the bubble.

Year 7

By Aishwarya West and Erin Ingham

After 18 months of living in this new tumultuous world, this has been a far from normal start to Caistor Grammar School. Way back in March 2020, we were thrown into an unreal universe. However, as Boris Johnson said time and time again, "There is light at the end of the tunnel". From clubs starting to open, to practical activities in lessons, there is an end in sight at CGS.

This year has been hard on all of us, teachers and students alike, so we have interviewed some of our classmates to see how they felt the school coped and dealt with Covid-19. As well as this, we've been finding out what they feel they have missed out on but are looking forward to next year. 2021 has been a year like no other, with home-learning and isolation thrown into the mix, although we are gradually taking control of the situation with the vaccine rollout. After talking to our friends, we have found out the ways they have coped and adapted to the current situation over the past year. "I coped during lockdown by getting my dog – Dave," said Liam Burke (7Z). "He was always by my side and always helped raise my mood when I was feeling sad." Some found new hobbies like baking, drawing and gardening to take up the time; others started projects like redecorating bedrooms and crafting lockdown scrapbooks. Bella Genney (7Z) added, "Because of spending extra time on screens, I tried to balance it out by spending more time outside. It was a great way to exercise, get fresh air and clear my head!"

From interviews, we have learnt what this year has been like for students. One student commented how hard this year was, especially when trying to get back into routine after home learning, having to get up earlier and pack their bag. However, they finished by saying that

overall, they enjoyed this year and feel they belong at Caistor Grammar School.

Many students felt that this year had been tough but, in the end, they felt like their time so far at CGS has been good and they've settled in well. Manpreet Padda (7Y) said, "This year has been a rollercoaster, really. I couldn't pick one thing and say it was my favourite and it was just a nice year in general. Like teacup rides they have at fairs." Another student: Dheethya Ananth Ramesh (7X) said, "This was a weird year because we missed out on so much, but I think we got to do a lot considering the situation and therefore enjoyed it!"

Another question we asked was 'What have been the challenges for students this year?' Dheethya Ananth Ramesh (7X) stated, "We missed out on a lot of practical work which meant it was sometimes hard to understand the work fully." Another student responded, "Some of the challenges this year have been not going to clubs and not being able to compete in sports competitions – in and out of school." We were faced with many challenges this year and unique problems past years didn't have to deal with when adjusting to secondary school.

Despite the negatives, there were many positives to 2021. Thanks to the Biology staff at CGS, Year 7 still managed to go on a school trip to Whisby Nature Reserve! Many described it as being such an exciting event and was definitely one of the highlights of this school year. Not only that, but as a year we have without a doubt become closer and got to know each other more than any other year group because of the bubbled break areas. Siobhan Kent (7X) mentioned, "I met so many new friends this year and can't wait to carry on my journey at CGS."



Year 8

By Evie Bird and Yash Vaddaram

Over the past few weeks, we have interviewed our peers to get their thoughts and opinions on how the last school year has affected them. This includes the challenges, the positives and how students have learned to cope whilst learning from home.

In terms of lockdown and home schooling, we received a varied response, with some people telling us that they found it tough to cope without their regular lessons, however some people seemed to have preferred the time at home. Ellie Linford said, "I didn't actually mind lockdown – I even found being isolated from other people preferable," which surprised us as many people found it tough to cope without social interactions.

Many students have coped by creating a structure to their day which worked for them. One student said, "I have adapted by keeping a steady structure which doesn't push me too far but keeps me on top of things." Students said that keeping to a timetable made their day easier and that's why a lot of students were glad to be back at school.

This pandemic has caused a lot of challenges for students, since it's hard for them to focus on schoolwork in an environment that they would normally be relaxing in. Ellie Linford summarized this well by saying, "I'd have to say schoolwork was more of a challenge than anything, but I'd say for more extroverted people lockdown would have been very challenging." Some people found masks distracting whilst working and made it harder to have conversations with your friends. Mia Smith describes masks as being quite awkward and she says that wearing masks made it harder to interact with people.

Even though this year has been tough, there has definitely been some positives. For some people

this pandemic and these lockdowns have been easier for them to be able to stick to a good schedule without being distracted. Ellie Linford has found remote learning quite good, and she thinks that it has been fun spending time with her family and by herself. Kasra Parhizi also thinks that working from home can have some positives by saying, "Working from home can have some good advantages like not having to wake up so early or even not having to get ready."

It's not just Y8 who have gone through a tough time, but other year groups have had to adapt and would've maybe found it easier or harder than Y8. Jemima Spencer and Kasra Parhizi think that it's harder for Y7 than any year since they haven't got the experience of being in a normal secondary school and that it will be hard to adapt again in Y8 into a normal secondary school. But on the other hand, Reuben Smith says, "Everyone went through the same amount of difficulty from this pandemic, and it wasn't different for any year."

Overall, the pandemic has been hard on everyone, but it's brought more opportunities to spend time with family and helped people to discover more about themselves.



Year 9

By Beth Crowther and Alice Fearn

This year has been hard for many of us and that is no different for the students of Year 9.

Year 9 is the year that GCSE options are chosen, and that process has in some cases been impacted by COVID-related issues. An example of this is how, for many subjects, teachers have not been able to give their students a full experience of what their curriculum has to offer (e.g. practicals, as stated by William Crowe, 9Z, who said "It's been sad that we can't go into the science labs to do experiments"). However, the staff have adapted incredibly well to this, with some even showing their classes YouTube videos of the practicals they can no longer teach. We're sure that everyone is looking forward to going back to a relatively 'normal' school year, so they can see these demonstrations in real life! Even next year though, there will still be reminders of the pandemic, such as the hand sanitiser dispensers, which the students have quickly gotten used to using. They have had to adapt to a new school routine, as shown by, for example, the masks worn on buses. Luckily, on school site these are no longer required for the students to wear.

Students have had to wear their PE kits for the entire day when they have PE, which has proven practical but sometimes annoying, especially for those who participate in PE during the morning periods. Speaking of sport, the PE department has faced some challenges this year since the school lunchtime has been shortened, making it impossible for lunchtime activities to take place. They have coped with this admirably, with the creation of the after-school sports club on Wednesdays, which was described as

being "a great thing for mental health" and "really fun" by Ayla Jafri, 9Z, and the fitness streak challenge set up by Mr Shutes. Not only this, but the PE department has ensured sports day will go ahead despite it taking place down at the field and the students taking part during different times in the day. Sadly, this year the school walk has been cancelled, a favourite of many students at Caistor Grammar School, although this has been replaced with the last three days of term being house events.

Extracurricular activities as a whole have been hit hard by the pandemic, especially those related to music. No concerts have been able to go ahead this school year, but alternatives have been offered: the autumn concert was transformed into a set of digital audio recordings for staff, students, and parents to listen to, while video recordings for the summer concert are currently underway, organised by the musical department and the tech team. Not only this, but the staff are also hard at work on the 2021 school play - Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat, which will be performed next school year around October.

Ultimately, this year has been challenging for everyone. However, here at CGS we remain hopeful for the year ahead.



Year 10

By Lara Baugh and Amelia Crompton-Howe

For Year 10 students at CGS, the past year has been a roller coaster ride to say the least. With the start of the new school year, our “new normal” once again morphed into something we never could have imagined only a year before. Friends who hadn’t seen each other in months were once again reunited yet restricted by that lingering 2 metre distance. The new rules and regulations dampened the heavy autumn air and excited atmosphere.

Despite this, many students rose to the challenge and still attempted to salvage a good school year. The carpark at break and lunchtime could be a bit “lively” according to some, though the atmosphere was generally friendly and pleasant. When interviewed, many mentioned the addition of benches as a form of salvation for the too long floor-bound Year 10. With students often eating outdoors for ventilation reasons, many took to sitting on the tough concrete floor scattered with stoned that would jab at them at any given opportunity. When the benches finally arrived presenting themselves patiently on the side of the staff room and O6, they were “long overdue” and generally very well received.

However, it added a new friendly competition into the school day as Year 10 students would race one another to salvage that one final spot on the bench rather than being left to sit once again on the disregarded gravelly ground.

But this relative peace could not last for long as only a few short months later another unexpected lockdown hit in the wake of a confined Christmas. To many this was “shocking” and despite their previous experience with confinement it was “hard to adapt”. However, one student said, “Many people have adapted by helping each other catch up with any work missed,” which shows

how we stick together even in the toughest of times.

Some seemed to enjoy the more relaxed lockdown lifestyle. One student, wishing to remain anonymous said, “I enjoyed rolling out of bed at 9 o’clock each morning” - a sentiment I am sure many relate to.

When we were finally allowed to spread our wings once again, school life began to return to the normal we had come to persist with over the past year. Many of the highlights of this post-lockdown school year occurred once we had received our upgrade to the picnic bench area, at the expense of the departing Year 11s. With a new and substantially greener area, things for Year 10 have started looking up again. Many students say they feel “hope for a better school year in Year 11”.

But unfortunately, many longed for our house events. “It’s sad to see that we may not be able to participate in House Plays next year, it was my favorite house event,” a student commented. But all hope is not lost as we look forward to the end of term with our 3 days of competition and games to make up for that which was lost this year.

With this completely abstract year, we never could have predicted that the start to our GCSEs would be so strenuous and even now the future ahead remains incredibly uncertain. Emphasis remains on preparing us for the frighteningly large range of possibilities open to us regarding GCSEs next year. Whether they be sat in an exam hall or decided by our teachers the effects of this past year will ripple through to the rest of our lives in a way not comparable to any other. We look to Year 11 now. It’s within arm’s reach yet still seems so far away. It will be our last uniformed year before some of us head off on another path away from CGS. Whilst bittersweet, it will be a memorable year for all.



Year 11

By Pearl McCann

To use a phrase that will haunt us for many years to come, the past year has been the epitome of ‘unprecedented circumstances’. I’m not planning to sugar-coat the events of the last year, because despite the opportunities for growth, so many of us have had to deal with challenges, whether it’s school, home, exams, mental health, loss, illness or anything else, it’s been so tough. Needless to say, I’m sure we’re all glad GCSEs are over.

Of course, learning at home on video calls has been one of the main challenges this year, and not knowing whether we had exams made things so hard. Frankie Whitton said that: “the uncertainty of how everything would turn out made things difficult to go through”. We have been so lucky to have Mr. Davey, the SLT, our form tutors and our subject teachers giving us so much extra support and lots of opportunities for catch-up time after so much online learning.

I’m sure we all have passions and clubs that have either been moved online or cancelled in the last year, and this has included almost all of the extra-curriculars at CGS. Luckily, we have incredible staff who were able to hold some events for us. Beth Sykes commented on the great efforts of the music department and the tech team, saying, “being able to record two CDs and a summer concert was amazing, as we were able to perform in different ways”. Charlotte Davey said that the PE department’s running competition during lockdown was, “a great motivator to stay active and get outdoors each day”. Another important event for students in our year has been the DofE award, which Emily Quill said: “has been harder to achieve due to the lack of extra-

curriculars we’re able to attend to check off our requirements”.

Mental Health has been a very prominent conversation over the last year. The pressure to do well during such uncertain times has been extremely overwhelming for lots of people. Eva Phillips said that: “as there was no solid plan for the year, we were under so much stress”. Other students have said they struggled not seeing friends, and the lack of socializing being stuck at home. Some students have taken the free time at home to practice self-care and being kind to themselves. Erin Cufflin said that: “I have begun to realize that when you have the opportunity you may as well talk to people and make new friends,” after being away from school for so long. Harry Giles said: “I’m happy I’ve lived through this in a school environment because it’s thrown some unique and character-building obstacles my way”.

I think we can all agree that Covid has had extremely polar effects on mental health for different people, but I think it’s really important that as restrictions get lifted, we learn from this time and continue to check in with each other. We can all be so proud of what we’ve achieved as a year group in the last year. Be kind to yourselves.



Year 12

By Theo Powell-Howard and Rosie Barker

The academic year of 2020-21 brought countless new problems for each of us to face together, while isolated. The Year 12 experience saw a promising start as we returned to school in September, after five months under heavy restrictions, bubbled but face to face. Immediately a new environment was presented to us as we attempted to socialize with our new year group while restricted to our own desks, strict seating plans and no Year 12 common room, but as a year group we persevered and manage to form a strong base to carry on from.

The difference for Year 12 is we've had to deal with rule changes that have had to occur due to the pandemic, such as for some of the year not being allowed out at lunch or as much freedom as we had come to know. The pandemic has limited us in having access to normal sixth form life and aspects which pre-COVID would have been seen as integral parts of Year 12. As the year progressed and cases rose and decreased, individual isolation became normalized as students were in and out of school as needed. For me this was the most challenging aspect of the year, having to isolate in one room at home while still maintaining a good social, schoolwork and mental health balance, as well as watching your friends still be able to capitalize on the loosened restrictions and go to school face to face. However, it has created a new, widespread, resilience throughout Caistor Grammar Sixth Form that I hope will continue into the next year.

The good thing is that after the most recent lockdown, restrictions have started to ease up and it's obvious that it won't be long before we're back to some form of normality. Harry Nickels, one member of the Senior Prefect Team, noted for him how a large struggle was lacking the sense of school community forced

onto us by the necessary bubbling of year groups. He acknowledged that he missed seeing students around the school and the full atmosphere that our school used to embody, and yet he rightfully remarked that we were now approaching the 'light at the end of the tunnel'.

For me, the year has been made less difficult by not experiencing what a normal year at sixth form is like prior to this year. It just seems normal to us. It has however been a difficult one to process and mentally has impacted some students, for the most part negatively; Ben Shale, another member of the Senior Prefect Team, phrased his experience as: 'it was at times a pressure on my overall mental condition but as a final sum of occurrences it was a relatively liveable experience.' Perfectly put. We've had to deal with hours and hours of Teams calls, which since we never experienced that as Year 11s was difficult to stay motivated, although this wasn't exclusive to our year group. I do truly feel that despite our personal and collective success of stoicism and continuation of normality this year, we can continue to rise and grow next September as the school community will be amended with spirit, and the year groups will once again be intertwined with one another, ever enhancing the experience for the student body as a whole.



Year 13

By Rory Longcake

Sixth Form is difficult under normal circumstances, but chuck in three lockdowns, two bouts of self-isolation, and an assessment system that no one really understands, and you've got yourself a couple of years of enormous fun.

We entered Year 13 with enormous amounts of anticipation and anxiety - for those who couldn't attend sessions in June, we had not entered the grounds in 167 days. Of course added to this was the knowledge that this was the most important school year so far. We had to apply to university, then of course get the grades to go to them.

Looking back, it is sad to think of the many cancelled events and traditions that we never got to take part in: our final production, sixth form ball, sports fixtures. Pippa Baugh, Year 13 said, "It would have been nice to have some kind of last event, as being a techie was a large part of my time at Caistor."

Day to day, however, it all felt strangely normal. There was an initial shock, of course - we had roamed the school freely for 6 years so it was definitely odd at first to be confined to certain areas and forbidden from certain facilities. After months of the dreaded Teams, we were quite happy to just get on with whatever in-person school had to be.

For us that meant spending breaks at the pond and the loss of Casterby. Despite its less than perfect condition, students missed the private spaces available for study and leisure. While this was a serious sore point for the year group, we eventually warmed up to the pond - it did, after all, have brilliant views of the surrounding landscape and the pretty cool robotic lawnmower in a neighbouring garden. The biggest change for Year 13 was in timetabling. Sixth form students could now

choose to either go home in free periods or stay in school for supervised studies. Local students greatly welcomed the ability to get up later or go home for an extended lunch while students from further afield appreciated the extra study sessions. Olivia Donson, Year 13, said: "I liked having extra studies as I had far less work to take home." Mr Hopkins has announced this change a success and intends to continue allowing students to stay at home for any periods they are not in lessons.

University applications were relatively unchanged by the chaos of the year. The main difference was that most students were facing the prospect of applying for and some even accepting offers at universities they'd never been able to visit. Certain students also had to do online interviews and some even had to take entrance exams invigilated over zoom. Heather Telfer, Year 13, interviewed for a primary education course - "It was very strange and nerve wracking, but it was interesting to see how the uni managed it. It was very informative despite the circumstances and was very exciting because it was a step closer to what I really want to do with my life."

Our school year ended on May 27th with a lovely leavers' breakfast. We enjoyed a quiz from the senior prefect team and performances from Imogen Horton and Elena Sedman and had the opportunity to thank our teachers. It wasn't the end we expected but it was nice to have a proper leaving event after so many cancellations.

Year 13 are now enjoying an extended summer break preparing for university, gap years, apprenticeships or employment.

In the last three days of the Summer term 2021, the school timetable was given over to the extra-curricular activities we have missed so much this year.

The remaining bubbles each took part in some friendly House competitions that covered Drama, Design and Technology, Art, Music and Sport. Our reporters were on the scene to give you an exclusive round up of everything that took place.



Drama

By Aishwarya West and Erin Ingham

For the drama challenge, we all enjoyed performing and creating our own 10-minute improvised scenes, using characters from plays we had recently studied in our English lessons. The buzz of the theatre was certainly alive as students enhanced their directing and acting skills to produce some moving but bizarre acts. To start off the activity, we were split into small groups within each of our houses (Rawlinson, Ayscough and Hansard) and given some planning paper to map out our scenes, with complete free rein over the plot. After that, we brought our scripts to life and started acting out our improvised lines. Acts ranged from light-hearted comedies to gruesome murder mysteries.

After a quick break, we returned to our classrooms in Manning to perform our

masterpieces to the rest of our house, before voting on which creation would represent us in the final stage of the acting challenge. Everyone did an amazing job in performing their creative pieces and went above and beyond to produce them.

Finally, everyone headed into the gym to watch the final performances that got chosen earlier on. After everyone had finished acting, applause erupted from the amazed audience. Then the judging panel (which consisted of Mrs. Jago and Mr. Harris) evaluated the performances and decided on a winner. The tension in the air was colossal and ever growing as everyone waited for the winners to be announced.

Overall, the event was an enormous success and an incredible experience for us all. Special thanks to Mr. Harris for organizing the activities.



Design and Technology

By Evie Bird and Yash Vaddaram

In the Tech department, we competed in a D&T competition to create three businesses per house in a three story building. The businesses could range from cafés to car dealerships. We had to construct the interior in the 1/10th scale box we were given, but were given the choice to do exterior as well. As well as the interior and exteriors, we also had to create a poster for their business and a logo. The posters listed the items that could be bought inside the business, for example, some of the posters served as menus and others served as posters to promote new products available for purchase.

In each house, we had three groups and each group designed one floor of the finished building. The building was made from MDF and cardboard and cut-off MDF were used to create the interior of the businesses. We split the floor into separate rooms to make the floor appear as realistic as possible. The structures we created ranged from balconies to outdoor seating areas and were designed to reflect the interior of each

floor. Each person worked on creating one aspect of the business. Some of the most creative designs featured a balcony and miniature sweets to go inside a sweetshop. We were allowed to use hot glue guns and the teachers gave us a range of materials to use whilst making the objects to go inside the building.

We found this activity to be very well organised and helped us work as a team. This challenge wouldn't have been possible without Mr Donington and Mr Birch organising this for us. Thank you to the other staff who volunteered to help us whilst we worked. This activity was a welcome break from the usual school routine and helped ease us into well-deserved summer after a year of uncertainty relating to COVID-19.



Art

By Lara Baugh

In order to promote a society free of single use plastic, the Art department decided to challenge students by creating sculptures made entirely of single use plastic collected around the school. As I write this, I am currently covered in the remnants of a colourful morning; my hands are spattered with a myriad of yellow shades. Now I know that even as the colours fade, I will always remember to be cautious about my impact on the world around me.

The morning began with a presentation in the cafeteria highlighting the importance of a life rid of single use plastic. Images of the great garbage patch drifting across a desolate sea and wildlife assaulted by our insolence inspired students to get active and get creating. When we arrived at our house classroom (when most of us did at least) we were presented only with a thoroughly sterilised bag of plastic, a pair of scissors and a handful of sharpies in our co-ordinating house colours. From there it was a race to the heaters, students rushing to colour and cut their bottles and get down those few too many steps to the Art room. Admittedly, melting the plastic into the correct shape was a challenge that both I and many around me couldn't quite get a grasp of first, but with a handful of effort and rather long paintbrush, for safety reasons of course, we got there in the end.

Some students took a unique approach to this challenge, opting to create incredible compound creations. Mid way through a rather mediocre leaf, I looked across the rows of tables to see a few students creating a quite striking replica of Nemo from the beloved film Finding Nemo. I have heard tales of magenta jellyfish from Rawlinson and floating cerulean

fish from Ascoug, which I am sure will make a good addition to our school.

I say most of us arrived in the correct rooms because in the Year 10 event Hansard, already handicapped by the great number of students self isolating, lost out on 1st place due to some students becoming "lost" when finding the correct room. Though I am certain that a few more of other houses slipped under the radar, it was Rawlinson who seized the lead by 20 points, their victory painted in purple and pink.

However, the true benefits of this activity will not be seen until next September when returning students will be able to see a chandelier of their houses' creations cascading down the middle of Lindsey's spiral steps. Mrs Porter explained that this will remain as a constant reminder to students of the great importance of recycling their single use plastic to forge a new future with a wiser new generation. Speaking of Mrs Porter, special thanks must go to her for conceptualising and organizing this event with such amazing intentions. Thanks should also go to Mrs Binks and Mr Hughes for wrangling students using the heat guns, a task I would not like to be burdened with.

Music

By Beth Crowther and Alice Fearn

For the music activity, two visitors were invited to come and run a workshop on percussion, using household objects such as buckets for instruments. Dave and Sue taught the students not only about drumming but also about musical techniques such as dynamics and tempos.

Dave began with imaginative warm-up exercises, including an enjoyable game of 'Don't Clap This One Back', to get the students used to different rhythms before the houses were split up into different rooms to each work on sections of their eventual performance.

Dressed in their house colours (well, mostly), we all performed the same piece of music, drumming away on empty hand sanitizer buckets, bin lids, egg shakers (more professionally known as 'ganzás') and dropping chains into buckets to create different sounds (percussion). The music contained three different sections which all were different

rhythms played separately at first, and then they were layered on top of each other to create a more complex piece with a mixture of rhythms and textures. Who knew that even bins could be recycled as part of a musical performance?

During the activity, we learned that, for music to succeed, you don't just need the ability to hit a drum. You also need teamwork and concentration, as proved when one house's performance was almost twice the speed at the end as it was at the beginning.

We would like to thank Mrs Thompson for her outstanding work in organising this wonderful activity for us, to Dave for coming in and dealing with us when he realised most of us had no idea how to play the drums, and Sue for helping out, judging, and encouraging everyone to have fun and get involved. All of the hard work put into the activity certainly paid off, and it was a great way to spend a morning.



Sport

By Amelia Crompton-Howe

Activities of tennis, Frisbee and rounders were the main occurrences of the Sports house event, causing all of the students to return back to school with droplets of sweat pooling on their foreheads and smiles slapped across their faces, apart from the unfortunate few that had taken the defeat of their house rather personally.

Initially we all met at the picnic benches, ready and waiting to be escorted down to the school field. The register was taken and then we were off. Upon arrival at the field we were prepped with information on what to expect from today's challenge. We would all be facing the hits of killer tennis, the outs of rounders and the spins of Frisbee. The houses were separated off.

To start was killer tennis. Each player collected a worn racket and a grassy green tennis ball was thrown to each court. Teachers looked on at the soon to be occurring games with a clipboard in one hand and a pen in the other. One house was practising their strategies on an empty court whilst the other two houses had been split into two to compete on the others. As one set of players strutted onto court with their heads held high and another standing, eyeing the opposition down the game was ready to begin. With each team only having 12 lives the stakes were high and the tension in the air could be cut with a knife. Someone served the ball and it went over the net. An opposing player lunged for the ball, outstretching their arm to hit it. They miss. Cheers erupt on the other side of the net. This would continue until one houses lives wittled down to 0 and had to admit defeat while the victors celebrated with one another.

Rounders would be next. A classic CGS sport. Students have had years of previous playing so they knew exactly what to do. As one of the house's players sprinted around the stumps, their legs moving faster than they can process, the other team scrambled around the grass trying to get the ball to the fourth base before the oncoming player. Many people were caught out and others were stumped, whilst the best of the best would claim a rounder or a half for their team. Who couldn't love a good game of rounders?

A new sport was brought in for this occasion. Frisbee. The aim of the game was simple but easier said than done. Throw the disc and get it as close as possible to the stationary mustard yellow pole that stood upright in the grass beyond. Players would take their positions behind the curb hoping that the flick of their wrist would help the breeze to carry the Frisbee gracefully through the air. However, for many the breeze was not on their side. Frustrated mumbles could be heard from players as their disc looked hopeful as it floated through the air but was then carried off in the completely wrong direction. Whilst frustrating it was really fun and all enjoyed this activity.

With special thanks to Mr Shutes for arranging such a fun afternoon/evening, it was a great way to bring everyone together and discover the real sense of team spirit.

Is this the only CGS student to be awarded the George Medal?

Thank you to Peter Steel (1958 – 65) who researched and found this newspaper cutting from the Yorkshire Post. We assume that David Bloom was at CGS 1936 to 1941.

What do you remember about your time at CGS?

The Archive Group is continuing its project to record the memories of people who attended CGS either as students or staff. We have a standard format covering the various areas, i.e. which years were you there, who were the teachers that you remember, the events you were involved with, etc. It can be as short or as long as you like, and it does not matter how long it is since you left.

We'd love you to contribute. We can send you a form, either e-mail or hard copy, to fill in, or we can do it by Zoom if you prefer to just talk about it and one of us will write it up. If you would like to take part, or like more information, please contact Tom Hunter at tomjudyhun@ntlworld.com or ring him on 01472 587685.

CGS Christmas Card?

We will produce the photo (right) as a Christmas card for 2022 if we have sufficient orders. The photograph was taken in December 2010 by the editor. The wording inside will be 'Season's Greetings'

Please let the editor know if you wish to order packs of 5 with envelopes for £5. All profit will be equally divided between the School Fund and the Caistorians' Association.



Anyone fancy a Caistorian tie (or scarf?) These are suggestions by Tom Hunter, Chair of the Caistorians' Association. We would love to have feedback – how might you change the design or are you happy how it is? Would you buy a tie or a scarf to show you are a Caistorian? Please let Tom know. You can contact Tom at tomjudyhun@ntlworld.com or ring him on 01472 587685.

If anyone would like an electronic or paper copy of the 2018, 2019 or 2020 magazines please email eddie.cook@caistorgrammar.com

Please also help us to produce the 2022 edition of The Caistorian magazine by sending news items, articles, letters etc for us to publish. Send them to eddie.cook@caistorgrammar.com or

Old Rectory, Main Street, Osgodby, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, LN8 3TA.

Many thanks.

George Medal for heroic action at schooner fire

By a Yorkshire Post reporter

The London Gazette has announced the award of the George Medal to Assistant Superintendent David Frederick Alfred Bloom, aged 31, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lionel Bloom, of Cookridge Drive, Leeds, for his heroic action when fire broke out on a schooner carrying 8,000 gallons of petroleum products on the night of March 20 last off Trinidad, British West Indies.

Superintendent Bloom was assisted in the operation by Mr. R. G. Cox, chief fire officer of Trinidad, who is also awarded the George Medal.

The citation states that "they were in the gravest danger of being killed had the schooner blown up. Their calm and cool leadership (of the crew) was outstanding and their actions were the biggest factor in preventing what might well have been a major disaster."

Mr. Bloom told The Yorkshire Post last night that his son was born in Leeds and educated at Caistor Grammar School. He joined the Mercantile Marine on leaving school in 1941, and became a first officer with the Harrison Line, who have a regular service to the West Indies. When he heard there was a vacancy for an officer in the marine branch of



D. F. A. Bloom

the Trinidad and Tobago Police Force, he applied for the post and got it, he added.

Superintendent Bloom has been living in Trinidad with his wife and two young children for about 18 months.



Joyce (Parker 1950 – 1957) Good has kindly loaned us her programme from the CGS trip to the Festival of Britain in 1951. The following are taken from it.



The 4 adverts (bottom right) are a little dated! (BOAC, Craven A cigarettes, British Electricity and Punch magazine).

THE WAY TO GO ROUND

The Exhibition, which tells a continuous story, will make most sense if the Pavilions are visited in the order shown; but each Pavilion can be visited separately if so desired.

UPSTREAM CIRCUIT - "THE LAND"

- The Land of Britain**
- The Natural Scene**
- The Country**
- Minerals of the Island**
- Power and Production**
- Sea and Ships Transport**

How the natural wealth of the British Isles came into being. (Pages 11-12.)
The rich and varied wild life that inhabits these islands. (Pages 13-15.)
A highly mechanised and most efficiently farmed countryside results from long experience, aided by science and engineering. (Pages 17-19.)
How the British have drawn on their natural resources to produce raw materials for industry. (Pages 21-22.)
Highlights in the growth of present-day industry—the lifeline of Britain, with many examples of first-class design and production. (Pages 23-27.)
Shipbuilding, propelling machinery and the fisheries. (Pages 29-31.)
British pioneering, and contemporary achievement in design, for Communications a

THE DOME OF DISCOVERY

British initiative in exploration and discovery is as strong to-day as ever it was.

- The Land**
- The Earth**
- Polar**
- Sea**
- Sky**
- Outer Space**
- The Physical World**
- The Living World**

Exploration leads to development of overseas territories. Science and technology provide the tools and methods. (Pages 41-43.)
Science is revealing the age and structure of the earth. Technology develops its underground resources. (Pages 45-46.)
A great tradition now applied particularly to scientific discovery and aided by mechanisation. Demonstrations in the Polar theatre. (Page 48.)
The great heritage of Drake and Cook has passed to the marine scientists who are yearly adding to our knowledge of the sea. (Pages 49-51.)
Weather forecasting and research. Exploration into the ionosphere, which improves long-distance radio communication. (Page 53.)
What we have learned from the old astronomy of Newton, and from the new astronomy which uses radio methods. (Pages 55-56.)
Explorations into the nature and behaviour of matter have made possible many of the material achievements of the present age. (Pages 61-62.)
Discoveries of the secrets of life. Darwin's great influence in the world of thought. Contemporary biological research. (Pages 57-59.)

DOWNSTREAM CIRCUIT "THE PEOPLE"

- The People of Britain**
- The Lion and the Unicorn**
- Homes & Gardens**
- The New Schools**
- Health**
- Sport**
- Seaside**

We are a people of mixed ancestry and now a blend of many different qualities. (Pages 63-65.)
Clues to British character and tradition. The Lion symbolises action the Unicorn imagination. (Pages 67-68.)
Many people on a small island create an urgent problem of space. Here are new solutions for six such problems in the home. (Pages 69-72.)
Equipment and classrooms from the new schools in Britain. (Page 74.)
British pioneering and modern achievement in public health, medicine, surgery and nursing. (Pages 75-77.)
Most sports originated in Britain and we have carried them around the world. Craftsmen at work. (Page 79.)
Our maritime character as expressed at home—the port, the seaside resort, the wild coastline between them. (Pages 81-82.)

OTHER DOWNSTREAM DISPLAYS

- Television**
- Telecinema**
- 1851 Centenary Pavilion**
- Shot Tower**
- Design Review**

Its development: how television shows are put on. (Page 83.)
First showings of new British documentary films in one-hour programmes: large-screen television. (Pages 83-85.)
Recalls, in model form, the original Crystal Palace and its Royal opening in 1851. (Page 85.)
Aerial and reflector of the radio telescope; lighthouse optic and lantern; at base, a small display about the South Bank. (Pages 85-87.)
A novel display, with information service, of 25,000 photographs illustrating the wide range of British manufactures. (Page 87.)

BOAC/BEA

Craven A

NEW POWER STATIONS

BRITISH ELECTRICITY

PUNCH