

# RYE OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

**BULLETIN 163 DECEMBER 2014**

## WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN & THE EDITOR

Who said men couldn't multi task. This year the Committee elected me as Chairperson once again, this is the fifth three year term since first being elected in 1991. During my last term in the chair I failed my own target of what I wanted to achieve in that period, that was getting the ROSA web site up and running. In short, its beyond me and although we have the highly talented Oliver Champion waiting in the wings to assist us, the task in putting the pictorial information down with text is immense. At best, we have scanned several hundred photos from the archive cupboard, but they all tell a story. Information on a website has to be interesting, factual, informative and non offensive. So the last thing we want to do is fail on all four counts, particularly the last category if we got someone's name wrong. So, the first appeal in this opening piece is for a human (male or female) with time on their hands and a yearning to assist ROSA. You don't have to be local in a modern day world of technology. There are no time constraints, if it took 2 years to complete then so be it, as so far, this idea has been dormant for six years now. Without sounding flippant I will compare this goal of getting the website operational to the Hither Green Memorial Bench which has graced Strand Quay since 2008, 41 years after the tragedy occurred. It took us a while, but we got there in the end.

ROSA was formed in 1929 and our original members are sadly no longer with us, but I sincerely hope they will be proud of what we are producing and circulating each year. With this in mind, our Centenary is on albeit a distant horizon, but I would hope my own efforts during this term of office gives the association some financial stability to help it towards this magical milestone for those who will be around to witness the occasion. If I can quote that wonderful phrase by John Smith (a long time ROSA member and Rye Town Clerk for many years), "god willing and a keen wind" I hope to be part of the celebration, even if they do have to spoon feed me some of my own antique jars of jam and chutney that I may have made for the occasion (if I remember). So, the second appeal and we are still only on page one of this bulletin is to encourage more life members to join the association. It's by far the best ever value for money and saves a lot of administering on our part. If you have acquired this edition either electronically or paper version please consider parting with £25 to assist us in the future, not only in producing this highly travelled bulletin which circulates the plant once a year to its hundreds of members but also in the hope that our continued support to Rye College as it is known now can assist future old scholars of Rye.

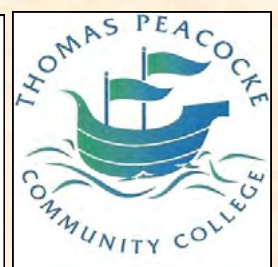
RGS Foundation governors have been doing a tremendous amount of good work in support of school , college and pupil activities pupils for many years. Could ROSA not do the same ? We assist a little with the Annual Awards evening but we could do more. Appeal number three and without sounding too morbid as you have eleven other pages to read yet, (it gets better) why not consider ROSA in your estate planning and leave a gift so that we can assist with projects and talented students that needed some assistance in the future.

I think I have said enough for now and as usual the end of the text box is fast approaching. So on behalf of the Committee can I convey our good wishes to you all for the Festive Season fast approaching and please enjoy a healthy and peaceful year ahead. Thanks to those who supported our events during the year and looking forward to meeting more Old Scholars during 2015. Best Wishes Richard Moore



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### REMEMBERING LEN ALLEN MB BS, MRCS LRCP, FRCS ( 1929-2014)

Len was born in Brede. His father was a much respected grocer, sub-postmaster and member of the local community. His mother was very protective of her last born and postponed his entry to primary school until he was 6 due to severe myopia which was not fully diagnosed until he was nine. On receiving his first pair of spectacles he "whooped for joy" on being able to see the world around him properly for the first time. Len won an entrance scholarship to RGS, shortly after joining he was evacuated to Bedford in 1939. On returning to Rye four years later he achieved great success with his studies, which enabled him to enrol at the University College Hospital Medical School ( after two years conscription in the RAF).

Len embarked on a surgical career. He obtained his FRCS in 1959 and after posts at the UCH he was appointed consultant surgeon at Edgware General Hospital where he spent the rest of his professional life. He believed in the importance of working together, in a cross fertilisation of talents, that one person's amassing of awards and research papers could be bettered by joint endeavour and shared recognition. Len as a consequence was elected Chairman of the consultant surgical group by his peers.

In his professional life Len was able, trustworthy and judicious to his patients and to his colleagues he was a faithful friend. In his personal life Len was a stalwart, strong, good humoured and ever loving husband, a thoughtful and caring father. All four of his children became doctors whilst three of his eight grand children are now studying medicine, there can be no greater compliment paid to a doctor from his family.

In his final illness which was sudden and unanticipated he showed staunch courage, boundless fortitude and tenacious good cheer, borne up throughout by his steady faith and the love of his wife and family

### REFLECTIONS FROM CHRIS WILLIAMS

Although it is over 30 years since I was in Rye (for the funeral and then aftermath of my father's sudden death), the splendid, annual ROSA bulletin brings much of it back - the drama (on stage), the sport, the Saltcote pursuits, and yes a little book work too - for which I thank you and the stalwarts on the committee.

I was at RGS for three years (1965-68), being one of a sextet of mostly male late developers / under-achievers who endured and enjoyed Year 14 while seeking higher grades. My sisters Anne and Nicky, and then brother Richard, all passed through the school in the years ahead.

Several decades later I am semi-retired after 34 years in teaching, latterly with two decades as deputy head and acting head of a large, genuinely all-ability school in Lincoln, and now work as a freelance consultant for the British Council, Lincolnshire schools and some overseas bodies with the grand title of 'International Schools Partnerships Specialist'. In my spare time, I plant trees as part of a woodland creation project.

This email is inspired by Bulletin 162! I played football with Geoff Boxall at RGS and Gordon Boxall's Kiwi article on the back page opened the memory banks. Best wishes to all. Chris Williams formerly of The Vicarage, East Street, Rye

### NEWS UP-DATE FROM LINDA WAUGH (SOUTHERDEN)

A brief bit of history, I was a pupil at RGS from 1955 to 1962, attended the Secretarial College of the French Lycee in London from 1963 to 65 and worked as a Bi-lingual secretary in London in the 1960s and 1970s (notably with Miss Pat Green at French Farmers) and then in the chemical industry. I married into the chemical business, but my husband died in 1989 and thereafter I was a director of the company until retirement in 2003.

Since then I have moved to Hythe, have re-married although not changed my name, I am active in the Royal Southampton Yacht Club, cruise to Brittany most summers in our Vancouver 34 sailing yacht and until recently taught French classes in Hythe Marina. I was a contemporary of Charles Knowles, Michael Winter with whom I used to be a bell ringer at St Mary's in Rye. My sister Jennifer Pugh nee Southerden is also a member of ROSA.



### A CORNER TO REMEMBER JOHN BROOMFIELD

1960's Leasam boy John Broomfield died on the 15th June 2014 after bravely enduring motor neurones disease.

John will be best remembered for his sense of humour and for plucky and talented football skills playing for RGS.

He leaves behind his wife Liz, four children and many friend who will miss him greatly



### MANY RYE OLD SCHOLARS MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN WORLD WAR 1

I'm sure that readers will remember the two boards commemorating Rye Old Scholars who died as a result of fighting during WWI.

The one on the left, from Rye Grammar School, has 24 names on it and the rather grander one, below right, from Rye County School has 97 names. This seems a huge number of young men lost from such a small town.

Each individual loss was devastating to the doting parents whose 'babies' had been at school only a very few months or years before. The first name on the RGS memorial is that of Joseph Adams whose father started Adams of Rye in the late 19th century. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, 1st Division and was killed in action on the Somme 23rd July 1916. He is commemorated on Thiepval Memorial.

Joseph Adams' father was Mayor of Rye from 1908-1911, so would have been Mayor at the opening of the School at its current site in 1908. The business of Adams of Rye was carried on by the younger son, Arthur Adams until the early 1950s when the Fosters took over.

The second name on the, larger, RCS memorial is that of Sydney Axell who was my great uncle - younger brother of my paternal grandmother. Private S. Axell G/4638, 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, 1st Division was killed in action at Richebourg L'Avoue 9 May 1915 Aged 20. He was the son of Mr & Mrs John Axell. He is buried in Rue De Bois Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix. His mother had taken her own life whilst still very young. After Sydney's death, John Axell sought consolation in drink and was subsequently shunned by his family. I met him once during his last days in Battle Hospital when I was about 5. His eldest daughter Beatrice, my paternal grandmother was, eventually, left to bring up her three younger sisters on her own. It is hard to imagine how awful this period in our history was. Many parents lost more than one of their sons. Of the five Tiltmans listed on the RCS memorial, three of these are the sons of William and Fanny Tiltman of 5 West Cliffe, Rye. The Tiltmans are still a prominent Rye family.

I am pleased to see these two memorials still treasured and affixed to the wall of a stairwell in the centre of Rye College. You will see many familiar Rye names on them, many of whose descendants attended the Rye Schools through the last century and, indeed, some still do to this day. We must never forget them. *John Breeds*



### N E W S O F B E T H

Beth Hall (1980's) went to the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff when she left school. She is married to a Senior member of the R.A.F. and has two boys. She sings in one of the many Military Wives' Choirs and theirs is the best in the Country. They were chosen to sing at the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall in November

### REMEMBERING WENDY BARDEN (Hillier)

As this years bulletin went to print we learnt of the sad passing of Wendy after a very long battle so bravely borne. A wonderful caring lady who only until recently when her illness got a little too much for her she was still regularly caring for others. Wendy was a pupil of the 1970's and lived in Northiam before marrying husband Steve after which they built their house and lived on the Hastings outskirts. May she be at peace and in a special place.

**FAREWELL TO FARMER BOB** Bob Langrish a respected and knowledgeable farmer in the Rye area passed away in July at age 94. Bob was born in the same house he died in at Beckley. Attended RGS and would often walk there or hitch a ride with one of the Carters that delivered goods from Rye station to the surrounding villages. A true countryman, always walking the land with a couple of dogs and his gun close by for vermin or for something for the pot. Bob built up an impressive flock of sheep over his long career. He was chairman of Rye NFU in the early 70's and served on a number of national committees. He was a keen snooker player for the Rye Club and enjoyed a game of cribbage in the winter months.

**WELCOME BACK TO RICHARD OF THE ROVERS ( IN THIS CASE UNITED)**

A former Rye pupil has returned to the area to play for Hastings United. Former Gillingham and Hereford United player Richard Rose has agreed to play for the club this season. Richard grew up in Three Oaks and after finishing at Rye started his football career with Gillingham where he came through the youth ranks into the first team. He made 58 appearances for the Gills before moving to Hereford in 2006 where he played 194 times for the Bulls over the next five years. From here he returned South to Dagenham & Redbridge for the 2011/12 season. Whitehawk was his next club for the following season. Richard now lives in Bexhill and has two young girls. He remains involved in the game on a day to day basis with the coaching and scouting work he does. Richard made his debut for Gillingham two weeks after his 17th birthday and winning an FA Cup replay with Hereford away to Leeds United were special moments in his career

**CAST YOUR MIND BACK TO SPEECH DAY 1965**

Graham Alcock has been rummaging through his drawers and came up with this photo. It's in the classic style of let us see how many people we can recognise. Wouldn't it be great if those who are still with us could all join together for our



1960's reunion event so that we could do a "this is what we look like now". Graham who is now in deepest New Zealand has started off the ID parade. Front row from left: Joyce Care, Karen ?, ?, Jenny Bell, Paul Oliver, Malcolm Marshall(?), Me, Gill Winterbottom, Ricky Spencer, ?, Gill Morley?, ?, ?, ?. Roy Foward is far left, centre. Back row: John Apps, Andrew Page, Melvin McGann, ?, Roger Huxstep, the rest .....over to YOU.

**ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS OF THE 1960'S FANCY AN EVENING OUT TO RYE FOR A CHAT ?**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2015**

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News of the college as it is arranged today has become a regular feature of our annual bulletin. This year is no exception. We thank our President Mrs Ann Cockerham for her continued support and for contributing such an interesting article of how the education in Rye is developing in the 21st Century.

**THE RYE ACADEMY TRUST**

The Rye Academy Trust is going from strength to strength, overseeing the work of Rye College and The Rye Studio School. In February, Rye Community Primary School will also join our Trust. All three schools share the same campus in Love Lane and we look forward to working closely together to meet the needs of learners from 2 to 19 years of age.

**RYE COLLEGE**



Rye College (11-16 year olds) continues to thrive. Nicola Midgley is now Head of Rye College and has introduced an exciting new curriculum that includes STEM in the lower school. This combines the teaching of Science, Technology and ICT so that young people see the connections between their learning and how it applies to the real world. We are



supported in this initiative by the University of Brighton and the programme is already proving to be a great success.

We would welcome contact from any Rye Old Scholars who have industry connections with these subjects to become partners in this work. Rye Old Scholars would still recognise most of the Rye College building, although parts have been modernised in recent years and spaces adapted. With grants from the DfE over the past two years, we have been able to replace a large number of the old windows and to upgrade the electrical wiring and plumbing. However, the school building remains costly in terms of repairs and maintenance and our dream would be to build a new school one day!

**RYE STUDIO SCHOOL**



The Rye Studio School for the Creative Industries(14 -19 year olds) is brand new, having opened in September 2013 with Jo Townshend as its Head. We are proud of the fact that the Rye Studio School (which offers A level, BTEC levels 2 and 3 and GCSE) is one of only fifty Studio



Schools in the country and the only one in the South East region.

Our Studio School prepares young people for work in the creative industries, specialising in fashion, fine art, photography, film making, graphics, business, drama, dance, performing arts, lighting and sound engineering and stage management. In 2016, we hope to extend these specialisms to include sport, leisure and tourism. Students are taught by a mixture of teachers and industry practitioners. Again, we are keen to have contact with any Rye Old Scholars who might be able to contribute to the Studio School experience.

**RYE PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Rye Community Primary School, which opened in 2008, has recently amalgamated with the Pugwash Nursery and now includes children from 2 to 11 years of age. The school is very popular and will expand soon to become a two form entry school. In order to accommodate the extra children, additional new building will be added to the school.



The school also has a Children's Centre On site. Jane Howard has recently been appointed as its Headteacher.

We are proud of the fact that, thanks to Richard Moore's Wurlitzer Academy, children and young people from all three schools have the opportunity to learn to play the Wurlitzer organ (still housed at Rye College). As a consequence, two Rye College Students had the honour of becoming *Young Theatre Organist of the Year* and *Runner Up* in this year's national competition.

These are very exciting times for our Trust and we have a dream that, with all three schools working collaboratively, we will be able to create between us an "Education Quarter" at the heart of Rye of which our community can be truly proud. *Ann Cockerham* Executive Principal, The Rye Academy Trust.

### 1970's & 80's REUNION OCTOBER 2014

In a word, a social success (but that is three). The first time we have combined the two decades together so it was a little bit of a gamble. The format was based on a previous plan that worked and I am delighted to say it all came together very well again. Special thanks to Judith Blincow for getting all the wheels in motion for the buffet, it was quite splendid despite the Lemon Tart (Apple Pie next time please). Thanks also to fellow ROSA team members Claire and Andrew Spacey and Shirley Bannister for being there to assist with setting up and clearing down and of course to Martin Blincow, many hands make light work so they say. Thanks also, for Mick Mephram for the extended cabaret spot. It was not planned like that but we could not seem to get a pianist to accompany Rebekah Gilbert and Jonathan Breeds who were also going to entertain us, this plan was aborted three days beforehand.

One of my New Year resolutions will be to try and take more pictures of events as although we had two cameras on site, pictorial evidence of the happiness that oozed from the hall is not recorded in the visual sense. However, those attending will have lasting memories, which is just as important.

On a personal note it was great to see a strong contingent from the mid 70's, some of whom I had not seen for many years. I seemed to have lots of little chats with lots of people rather than prolonged dialogue, but that's seems to be par for the course for me with an event such as this. The sixth form photos of both decades were on display and were witness to when we had more hair and teeth and also a reminder of those who sadly are no longer with us.

It was nice to see a compliment of teachers of the decades attending. I know its a challenge for them to recognise us as we are the ones who have changed the most. Special thanks to Mrs Ann Cockerham and Miss Nicola Midgley in arranging for tours of the college at the start of the evening I know this was a popular part of the event as always.

We list those who attended for the record inasmuch it will make those who could not be with us, say "ooh, did not realise he/she was still around" OR "what a shame we missed it, I could have had a chat with ....., really must go to the next one. Yes, make a note of the year 2019, probably the same month, unless anyone has a preference and a better reason to move it.

Finally, thanks for everyone who attended and supported the raffle and the bar, without your support we could not have raised the magnificent sum of £1024.75, a wonderful result. Here's to the next time.

#### ATTENDEES FROM THE 1970'S

Shirley Bannister, Carolyn Purdy (Ashdown), Stephen Phillips, Rhiannon Oliver ( Price), Diane Oliver, Sharon Ide (Duly), Phillipa Seymour ( Duly), Sally-Ann Wilson, Richard Moore, Ann Moore (Muggerdige), Kevin Moore, Karen Lushey, Vanessa Boon, Julie Stonham (Wood), Debbie Derbyshire (Wood), Mark Sherwood, Mike Sherwood, David Double, Sarah Edgecumbe, Caroline Macray, Tracey Jewsbury (Foster), Mark Easter, Debbie Brazier (Curley), Keiran Brazier, Robyn Bloomfield, Hayley Melchum, Aurelia Pyke, Ann Matthews, Kevin Burgess, David Dengate, Richard Pearce, Judith Crouch, Paul Dengate, Bernadine Fiddimore, Vicki Rose (Lelliot)

#### ATTENDEESS FROM THE 1980'S

Judith Blincow, Claire Spacey, Andrew Spacey, Daniel Owen Peta Marsh (Coram), Sarah Smith (Avery) Warwick Avery, John Shaw, Martin Woodwood, Gail Boustead, Sarah Elliot, Casey Rudgley, Lee Bowdler, Tim Bolton, Marie Williams, Steve Dawson, Geoff Saunder, Michelle Playford, Darren Marshall  
Amanda Tarrant, Caroline Hoad

#### TEACHING STAFF

Ann Cockerham, Martin Blincow, Paul Martin, George Hunt, Norma Hunt, Jo Kirkham, Lois Benton, Richard Wright, Maureen Getley, Tony White, Wendy Jasper, Pat Bean, Chris Rose, John Stewart

#### POST EVENT COMMENTS

I did want to say a big thank you. It was an excellent evening and no doubt a lot of hard work. These thing don't just happen. I only knew 4-5 people there but to meet Dick Wright again was a real pleasure and surprise. So many thanks and keep up the good work for us all! Best Wishes **Robert Nye**. May I compliment you on your jam and pickle just tried them very tasty. **Mark Easter** Cracking evening. Many many thanks to you, Judith and Martin for all the hard work you put in to it. What would we do without you! **Chris & Vicki Rose** Thanks Richard and Team for a lovely evening - as Chris said, what would we do without you! Looking forward already to the next one (in 5 years) and hopefully will bring the rest of the family! **Gail Boustead** Sweet evening. Very well done. Great to see old faces and reminisce. Thanks to everyone who made it possible. Had a blast. **Simon Ratcliffe**



#### Simon Ratcliffe [www.simonratcliffe.com](http://www.simonratcliffe.com)

Feelings, more than people and places, that's what I remember. Walking away from TPS on the very last day of my schooling, I had absolutely no idea about the direction of my life. Frustration, anger even, but mostly fear. I was scared. Leaving in '77 was unremarkable in almost every respect. The image that I recall is of my boot clad feet scuffing through grass, newly cut, damp clumps sticking, making a mess of my footwear. I was looking down.

My art teacher, Kitty French saw something, believed in the creative spark that burns inside me , I owe my place at Hastings Art College to her. I've always clung to the idea that, if nothing else, I am creative.

My Saturday job was at Photo Market in Hastings and I loved it. JC, the manager, cobbled together an enlarger for me and taught me pretty much everything you need to know about photography – take lots of pictures and look at lots of pictures. Oh, how he would have loved digital. The path along which my boots have trodden, to where my camera now hangs each night, winds through many varied places and projects. No longer just photography but video as well - it says on my too infrequently updated blog that I am an artist working in photography and video. I'm not good with labels. What I do is produce content for the tourism industry in British Columbia, Canada. A magnificent and vast region, British Columbia covers



nearly a million square kilometres of predominantly pristine wilderness. My boots and I will spend my lifetime exploring here, and barely scratch the surface of this wondrous landscape. There are still untouched watersheds with magnificent rivers and tributaries, towering mountains and lush valleys, alpine meadows and glacial tundra. Rugged, immense, sparsely populated, an adventurer's paradise. I've driven my Jeep for over four hours and seen only two caribou (reindeer) and a porcupine. I've floated in small boats through sedge grass until I can hear the breath of the grizzly bear. I've had fifty or more eagles soaring around me displaying dizzying acrobatics as they dive for fish and I've watched hump back whales bubble fishing in the Pacific ocean. I've kayaked with orca. When I think about the fear I had for my future, and compare that with the contentment and fulfilment that now embraces me, it's hard to imagine the feelings I had as I left TPS for the last time, all those years

ago. Perhaps that is the wonder of our lives, you just never know. I do know that my boots have travelled quite a distance from Rye and the old school. That scared young man that left TPS has grown. Now I stride out with my boots and camera as a confident adventurer – looking ahead. **Editors Note. Please visit Simons website for more stunning photos.**

#### REFLECTIVE THOUGHTS OF THE 1970'S by KEVIN MOORE

Following on from the Reunion for 1970s/1980s leavers, I felt it to be the right time to share some thoughts of mine relating to the Thomas Peacocke School. Can I first of all thank Richard and his fellow committee members for laying on the most recent event which took place on the evening of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Ann and I had a great evening meeting up with many people who we had not seen since we left in 1974/75. My only disappointment was that there was nobody there who left at the time that I did from the Upper 6th of July 1975. However, you can only lay on an event, it is then up to individuals to decide whether or not they attend. We found the tour of the school of particular interest having not been in the building for 40 years.

During the period leading up to the Reunion, I found myself thinking back to my formative years at the school. I suppose that I had not really appreciated just how much that period of my life influenced me in my endeavours in the years to come. I came round to thinking that this is probably the case with most of us.

We often hear it said that our school years are the best years of our lives. After all of this time I have come round to thinking that there is a lot to be said as regards the meaning contained within that statement. I have been very fortunate to have achieved a lot in my professional life. As a former senior police officer, I witnessed at first hand some of the very best and indeed on occasions the worst of society. The fact that I came through that relatively unscathed I attribute in no small part to my time at TPS. I was probably blissfully unaware of just what was happening to me during those important years but sub consciously, I was without doubt developing the life skills that would hold me in such good stead in the years to come. For this, I undoubtedly owe a considerable debt not only to the teaching staff in post at the time but also importantly to my fellow pupils and colleagues who also contributed to my development. I appreciate now the opportunities that I was given that assisted me in this regard. In my case, this was not so much about academic achievement, as I left school with some fairly low grade A Levels and it was not until later in life that I achieved a decent degree. What it was more about I believe was gaining an understanding of people and life and using this in my professional world. For example, as football, cricket and house captain, I learned an awful lot about leading and managing/motivating people and situations. Also I understood about winning and losing and recovering from setbacks. We all need to accept, that life is competitive and that there will always be winners and losers. In more general terms, my school life led me to understanding the value of friendships, camaraderie and loyalty.

Sadly, I have few physical reminders of my time at the school as I believe it was only in the years following my leaving that school photos in terms of years/classes became the norm. I often wonder what happened to many of my friends and colleagues during the period of my school years. It would be great to hear from them and to perhaps meet up and reminisce about those times. Many thanks once again for a great evening and I very much look forward to attending more of these in the future. Kind regards, Kevin and Ann Moore ( Muggridge).

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**FACEBOOK PAGE**

**NEWS DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN 164**  
**NOVEMBER 20TH 2015**

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**CLASS OF '72 GONE DOWN TO THE SEASIDE**

On the summer solstice weekend in June this year, a group of old friends, mainly from the class of 72, and assorted partners, gathered in Lyme Regis to celebrate two notable anniversaries: 60<sup>th</sup> birthdays for seven of us and, more importantly, nearly 50 years of friendship.

Nicky's younger brother Richard (Williams 1974) had kindly lent us his house in the centre of Lyme Regis, Nicky hosted superbly, the town was decked in colourful bunting and, as we'd requested, the weather was glorious throughout!

Those of you whose memories go back that far might like to see if you can recognise us in the accompanying photos: Sally Burke, Richard Care, Clare Eastland, Ruth Watt (Kendall), Vicky Tremeer-Jackson (Tremeer), Nicky Dean (Williams),



**THE BRITHDAY CELEBRANTS**  
**from left: Kevin, Ruth, Clare, Nicky, Vicky, Richard, Sally**

Kevin Williams (all from 1972), Jo Burke (1974) and David Johnson (1970). We don't think we've changed at all! We began gathering on Friday afternoon, fuelled by Richard's and Kevin's tasty homemade cakes, and continued through a fabulous weekend, until some had to be sent home on Monday. Rumour has it one or two stayed on even longer...

Highlights included fish and chips on the Cobb on Friday evening; for breakfast on Saturday Ruth's delicious Canadian pancake feast, with maple syrup, cottage cheese, bacon and blueberries, just like her mother used to make for us as teenagers; Vicky's champagne toasts and Phil's wonderful buffet on Saturday evening; and Sunday lunch overlooking the sea, and that was just the food.



**A TOAST TO FRIENDSHIP**  
**from left: Clare, Sally, Jo, Ruth, Donald, Tina, Kevin, Bill, David, Phil, Terry, Vicky, Nicky, Sue. Richard was taking the picture**



**SUPPER ON THE COBB**

Some of our party swam in the sea each day. Others paddled, walked miles along the coast, went shopping in Lyme Regis's independent shops, or visited the museum and became better acquainted with Mary Anning, Lyme's famous Victorian fossil hunter, inspired by copies of *Remarkable Creatures* that Sally had brought along.



We read old editions of *Rya* magazine, kindly lent by Maureen Getley, and marvelled at our young talent.

**SUNDAY LUNCH**

On Saturday evening Nicky had organised a grand quiz, with backstage help from Lois Benton and Nicky's niece Hannah (daughter of Chris Williams, 1968).

Two eager teams competed for the 'Lyme Cup' by answering questions on varied subjects from the teachers' nicknames to 1970s music. Ryers were, as always, competitive, but by a quirk of fate, the result was a draw and everyone shared the prize of sweets from the 1960s.



**WALKERS**



**ON THE COBB**



**NEVER TOO OLD TO PADDLE**



**THREE ON THE BEACH**

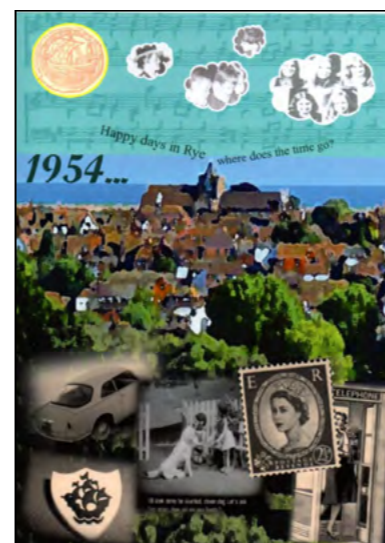
Thanks to everybody who came for making it so special:

Ryers (Jo, Sally, Richard, Clare, Ruth, David, Vicky, Nicky and Kevin) and partners (Terry, Sue, Tina, Phil, Donald and Bill), who all brought so much to the party in many different ways.

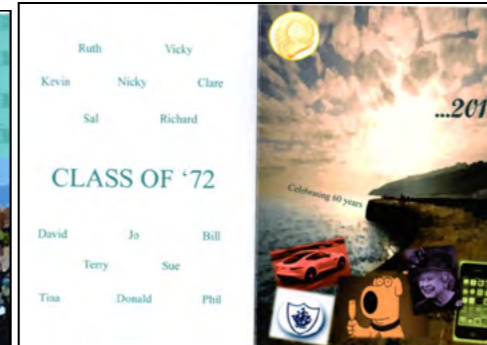
What good company, lovely atmosphere, fun and laughter, all captured in Richard's wonderful photo book of the weekend – happy memories to look back on. We can only say – when can we do it all again?

Clare Eastland and Nicky Dean

Photos taken by Richard, Nicky & Vicky



**SOUVENIR CARD**  
**PRODUCED FOR THE EVENT**



## THE ROSA LUNCH 2014

A Friday was chosen for a change for this years lunch, which did not appear to affect numbers as we had three more than last year attend. Our host Judith Blincow moved our party into the splendid Tudor Room. Apologies were received from Keith Cook, Keith Thompson, Lambert Parks, John Tanner, John Webb, Gill Perry, John Breeds and Ann Cockerham.

Attending this year were Tim & Libby Rothwell, Neil Perry, Betty Law, Peter Webb, Norman Glass, Prof. Brian Bellhouse, Gaye Hardiman, Helen Paige, Keith Thompson, Maureen Gage, & Norman Craggs together with three teachers music supreme Miss Lois Benton, Physicist Mr Tony White and Legendary Historian Miss Maureen Getley.

Food and service were the usual high standard expected of the Mermaid Inn and once again what now seems to be a tradition all those attending acquired a jar of jam or marmalade prepared by Richard complete with a historical label and frilly top.

As we had full use of the Tudor Room after coffee we were able to group and smile sweetly to get the snap shot below for what was a very enjoyable occasion.

If numbers can continue to rise we hope that we are able to have the Tudor Room next year.



## Why not join us in the wonderful atmosphere of the Mermaid Inn, Rye. Friday 8th May THE R.O.S.A. LUNCH 2015

To register your interest please contact **Richard Moore (01424) 444058** or email [r.fm@btopenworld.com](mailto:r.fm@btopenworld.com)

who will forward a menu to select from.

**The three course lunch will be £19.95 per person.**

**R.O.S.A. A.G.M. 12noon  
12.30pm for 12.45pm Lunch**



## Rye Memories Publication List

- |       |  |            |
|-------|--|------------|
| 1     | 'Goodbye Bijou': Memories of Arthur Woodgate   | £2.00      |
| 2,3,4 | Leisure Activities : 3 books   | £1.00 each |
| 5     | Rye Childhood's:Memories of Messrs Rhodes, Clarke & Croucher   | £2.00      |
| 6     | Postal History of Rye  | £2.00      |
| 7.    | 'Memories of My Town' -ladies of the Womens' Institute & Eileen Bennett & Theresa Hodgson                      | £2.00      |
| 8     | Recollections of William Cutting & Dolly Beeching.   | £2.00      |
| 9     | Recollections of Ella Harvey, Raymond Balcomb.   | £2.00      |
| 7     | 'In Those Days' - Recollections of Donald Sanderson, Herbert Wright, Donald Southerden                         | £3.00      |
| 8     | Schools In Rye   | £3.00      |
| 11    | Ryers Recall (including John Smith)  | £3.00      |
| 12    | 'When I was Young' (including Will Dunlop)   | £3.00      |
| 13    | Bygone Broad Oak & Brede   | £3.00      |
| 15    | Transport Around Rye   | £3.00      |
| 16    | Countryside Ways   | £3.00      |
| 17    | More About Transport Around Rye  | £3.00      |
| 19    | 'Rye Shipping'   | £3.00      |
| 20    | 'Wings Over Rye' 2nd Revised Ed.   | £3.00      |
| 21    | 'Elastic Down!!' Rye Bloomers.   | £1.00      |
| 22    | Memories of Rye, Winchelsea and District Memorial Hospital. (Proceeds to League of Friends of the Care Centre) | £3.00      |
| 23    | Bygone Rye Harbour New Illustrated Edition   | £5.00      |
| 26    | Huguenots in Rye and Winchelsea by Jo Kirkham  | £4.50      |
| 27.   | Rye, St.Mary's & The Fecamp Connection   | £2.00      |
| 28.   | Ghosts of Rye, and things that go bump in the night" in the 'Rye Memories' Series.                             | £4.50      |
| 29.   | The History of Rye College ( From Anglos Saxon times to the present day)                                       | £5.00      |
| 30.   |  |            |

### TO ORDER THE BOOKS CONTACT:

**C/o MRS JO KIRKHAM.  
LOCAL HISTORY GROUP  
RYE COLLEGE,  
THE GROVE,  
RYE, EAST SUSSEX.TN31 7NQ**

### CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:

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PLEASE ADD P & P  
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*Please support this unique Local History Group.*

## Four Seasons

**A Traditional Bed & Breakfast with a Picturesque Garden**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Short walk from the heart of Rye**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Warm hospitality & helpful advice For more information please contact**

**Rita Cox, Four Seasons,  
96 Udimore Road, Rye, E. Sussex, TN31 7DY.  
(01797) 224305 coxsam@btinternet.com**



### RYE WURLITZER ACADEMY WINS NATIONAL AWARD

This year I have adopted the policy that a picture can speak a thousand words. To your left is a photo of principal tutor Michael Wooldridge (himself a winner of the award in the 1980's who went on to make a professional career) along with Jamyma-May Hanson (Runner-Up) and Thomas Pickering winner of the UK Theatre Organist of the Year 2014 that was arranged in July in Solihull. So very proud of them both. This coming year they will be making Cameo appearances in concerts in Ipswich, Woking, Guildford and Bristol. We have arranged a good selection of varied and entertaining events that have featured the Wurlitzer and currently have around 25 students enjoying FREE tuition and a FREE home practice instrument. We hope to enter more students for the 2015 competition that takes place at the Piano Museum near Kew Bridge, London in late July.

Please visit our page on Facebook or our website [www.ryewurlitzeracademy.org.uk](http://www.ryewurlitzeracademy.org.uk)

If you would like more information about our

**Sponsor A Student Scheme** please email [r.fm@btopewworld.com](mailto:r.fm@btopewworld.com)

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

News and subscriptions go hand in hand in keeping the ROSA Bulletin alive. Can we remind you subscriptions are now £5.00 per annum.

Life Membership at £25.00 has been maintained for many years now, which we think offers great value for money for a one-off payment To keep our costs down we set and design the bulletin ourselves .

If you are reading this bulletin for the first time, please consider joining R.O.S.A.

### STANDING ORDER INFORMATION

Make it easy for yourself & ROSA by setting up a standing order to pay your annual subs.

**ACCOUNT NAME  
RYE OLD SCHOLARS**

**BANK DETAILS  
SORT CODE : 60-18-09  
ACCOUNT NO: 59114479  
PLEASE QUOTE YOUR NAME FOR REFERENCE**

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www.mermaidinn.com AA Rosette AA \*\*\* Supporting the Rye Old Scholars Assoc.*

### REMEMBERING MARY BREEDS - A VERY SPECIAL LADY

The 1967 Hither Green Rail Disaster is A poignant event and synonymous to certain members of the Rye Old Scholars none more so than the Breeds family of Guestling who tragically lost two daughters Judith & Gay. In November 2008 it was an absolute honour and privilege to arrange a dedication service for a memorial bench at Strand Quay to commemorate this event. Guest of Honour on the Day was Mary Breeds, mother of the two young girls lost. I am delighted that son Warwick has allowed me to use some of the eulogy that he read at her memorial service recently.



Mary lived her entire life in Guestling Thorn in three different houses all within 115 yards of each other. Mary died on November 5th the same day her daughters were killed in 1967, from there on Mary was denied the on going and close Mother daughter relationships to follow careers paths, organise weddings and the joy of seeing additional grand children.

Mary lived life on her own terms. She had a sharp mind, strong convictions coupled with determination, a generosity of heart as many were on the receiving end of flowers, plants, vegetables, Damsons, and anything else which might be in season. Her intuition regarding people character was seldom wrong, but above all she was loving and caring.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print in BLOCK letters

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Forenames \_\_\_\_\_

Years at School \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Day / Leasam / Saltcote / Rye Secondary Modern / R.G.S./ Thomas Peacocke School/ T.P.C.C. / Rye College

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque (sterling only if under £50) made payable to R.O.S.A. Being

- (a) Annual Subscription (£5)
- (b) Life Membership (£25)
- (c) donation/other
- (d) I have changed my standing order to the new subscription rate of £5.00 per year.
- (e) Don't forget a potted history

**HAVE YOU MOVED HOME RECENTLY ? HAVE ROSA GOT YOUR CORRECT DETAILS**