Welcome
Standing room only for me in this edition of a news packed bulletin. So much to report of happenings and events. Thank you to everyone for their support for ROSA during the past 12 months, whether it be for the lunch, the reunions that have been arranged or by simply becoming a life member. Whatever kind of support you have given it is sincerely appreciated by the Committee.

2016 is looking very special already. The Annual Lunch, a Class Reunion of 1996 and a Cricket Match. Let us hope these events are supported in the same way that we so much enjoyed this year.

My space is coming to an end so it leaves me to wish you all a happy and wonderful Christmas fast approaching, followed by a healthy and peaceful New Year. The world seems a strange place at times so smile and be kind to.

Class of 1996 Reunion—Saturday 2nd July 2016
Delighted to announce that the class of 1996 are having an evening reunion at the College on Saturday 2nd July. There will be tours of the college during the early part of the evening, large screen photo presentation, video messages from people who cannot attend, two course buffet supper, raffle, background and dance music of the decade, plus, the opportunity to recreate the class photo below. Tickets are £10 per person. To reserve your place please contact Jon Colegrave at email jon_colegrave@hotmail.com Money will be collected on the night; reservation is for catering and setting up purposes. All proceeds will go to the Rye Old Scholars to assist with continued support to Rye College. Jon looks forward to welcoming as many people as possible from the school photo below. On behalf of ROSA can we thank Jon for co-ordinating this evening on our behalf. At the time of writing the bulletin I know that over 100 people have already reserved their places for this very special evening.

Life Membership
This still remains great value for money and I would encourage you all to complete the membership form on page 12 and return to our membership Secretary Judith Blincow. It would be wonderful to reach 1000 members by the end of next year. I know several attending the 1960’s reunion wished to join, so here is your chance.

If you have received the bulletin and know of someone else who was an old scholar that fancies some nostalgic reading, then simply forward it to them and encourage them to join us.

Website Progress
From our request last year for assistance we have received some from none other than pupil of the 60’s and then teacher of the 70’s Barry “Fred” Fuller. Barry has taken possession of our dongles and is currently collating the photos we have scanned to put them into some resemblance of order. I can think of nicer things to do, but it’s winter and it will keep him off the streets. Who knows, 2016 may see the website launched - we can only hope.
A SUMMER GATHERING OF THE 1990’S

It had long been a thought of mine to meet up with old school friends in the school year that we turned 50. Although we are all in contact with friends we've held on to from school it won't be a large group. Following the last reunion in October 2014 where only a very small number from our particular year attended, Dave Pepper set up a Facebook Group specifically for our school year (criteria: born between September 1st 1964 and August 31st 1965) and we set about finding people through social media. We were lucky to have a head start as Dave had already compiled an extensive and almost complete list of students from memory and both he and I have a brilliant recollection of 'kids' and connections. So, we searched and searched and pried and snooped through friends’ 'friends' lists and added them to our group. Various topics were discussed and pictures shared. The biggest topic was 'reunion'. Organising was actually a doddle. Social media is that easy. Raise an event and watch the numbers increase. Last minute and literally last minute change of venue to a school day favourite (honestly not underage!!) The Ypres (thank you John Shaw for sorting) was a very popular decision. The Gun Gardens are memorable for some reason! Saturday 4 July was a gorgeous day and we started meeting from 7pm. Out of the 104 members of our Facebook group 42 turned up. Most belong to the group, others turned up by invitation. A fantastic and memorable evening, some people you've only seen yesterday, some you haven't seen in 30 years. Yet all so familiar and comfortable. Hopefully friendships were renewed that night and will be again. Next year's meet is already in progress. We are still searching for those missing members and hope to increase attendees for next year. Thanks to Sarah Avery for all her efforts in this event and for the article and photos which we hope will become a regular article in future bulletins.

Rye Cricket Club and Rye Old Scholars Association

There has always been a strong link between Rye Cricket Club and ROSA, dating back many years to the likes of Sidney Allnutt, Mr Buttery, Stan Jones and Mike Thomas. Keen enthusiasts of the greatest game, who always made special allocation for “Tuesday” afternoon requests to play at The Salts, and provided the encouragement to share their passion for the game.

Reflecting on the 2015 season, those links between ROSA and Rye Cricket Club have not diminished. Last Season Rye finished 5th in Division 4 of the Sussex Cricket League, its highest ever position in League cricket. The 1st XI skipper Gary Willis and Vice Captain James Hamilton are all ex Thomas Peacocke, as were five other regular players. The 2nd XI led by ex teacher Martin Blincow featured ex students, including Pete Thomson who finished top run scorer in the Division. The 3rd XI were led by ex student James Jury, who led a team of a number of existing students from Rye College.

Rye Cricket Club fields 5 Colts teams, the majority of whom are students from Rye College, with the U13 team recording a 100% record for the season in winning the Ashford & District League. For a number of years Rye Cricket Club have hosted overseas players, but this Winter, ex-student Harry Smeed, makes the return journey, as an overseas player for Port Melbourne CC in Australia. He flew out in September and returns in April. He is featuring in their 1st XI and has survived a tornado already. Rye CC is already planning for next season in the newly named, Sidney Allnutt Pavilion. Pictured at the naming of the pavilion, (L-R) Chairman Kevin Jury, Vice Chairman Mark Cook, Pavilion Chairman Darren Smith and Secretary Martin Blincow, ALL Old Scholars. It would be good if these strong links could be celebrated with a game between Rye CC and ROSA on Sunday July 3rd 2016. So ROSA is looking for a team manager to raise a team to play Rye CC. Please contact Martin Blincow on blincsfamily@aol.com to discuss.
REMEMBERING MR TONY WHITE

Mr. Tony White died suddenly on the 5th June at the age of eighty four. The funeral was at Peasmarsh Church on 2nd July and was attended by several old scholars and a number of his former colleagues including Mr. Fooks, his last headmaster. Mr. White was appointed to Rye Grammar School in September 1956 as assistant master at the newly opened boys’ boarding house at Leasam. He had done his National Service in the R.E.M.E. in Germany and then did his degree at Southampton University and his teacher training at St. Catherine’s College in Cambridge. He was at Leasam for four years and enjoyed the experience. He ran the school Photographic Society. He was by now not just the Physics teacher but Head of the Science Department, a post he kept when the school went comprehensive in 1968. He had to retire early in 1983 for health reasons. Leading a more leisurely life enabled him to enjoy his gardening, his holidays and his voluntary work as a hospital car driver.

Thanks to Miss Maureen Getley for her words. Here are some messages from others who Mr White taught.

Sad new RIP Mr White, liked your lessons PAUL TREE. Yep, he was a good and pleasant teacher. Many thanks Mr White for setting me on the road to a Physics degree, which underpinned my most enjoyable Oceanography career. You were an example of “Teaching is a work of heart”. GRAHAM ALCOCK. He made me polish all the desks in the physics lab over lunch break, as a punishment. But I still liked him and actually enjoyed physics some of the time. RIP. LYNNE MORGAN. Yes he was a really good teacher and such a gentle sort of person. I loved physics. Thanks to him and because I enjoyed it I found it easy to do well. I will always remember him with affection, MARYCLARE LORETAN.

RYE WURLITZER ACADEMY UPDATE

Thomas Pickering our 2014 Young Theatre Organist of the Year and Runner-Up Jamyma Hanson have played in concerts in Woking, Guildford, Ipswich, Bristol, Uckfield & Bognor Regis during the past year.

Our fund raising events have been varied and well received. Donations still appear from all over the country and America.

One of the highlights of this year was Los Angeles Theatre Organist Tony Wilson coming over in May at his own expense and performed two concerts on behalf of RWA; he is currently arranging a Benefit Concert in Los Angeles on our behalf in Spring 2016, plus returning in early May for another concert.

Four entrants recently performed at the 2015 Young Theatre Organist of the Year Competition at the Music Museum at Kew Bridge, London. Jamyma Hanson achieved runner up and Robert Eldridge won the Christie Cup for the most promising student.

For more details of our very special and unique teaching project please visit our website www.ryewurlitzeracademy.org.uk OR our Facebook page.
Alison Bradbury 1972
Digby Hobson 1968
Vanessa Bourne 1966
Eric Bourne 1962
Irene Penn 1962
Sylvia Capps 1964
Sue Tomkinson 1966
Jen Tomkinson 1961
Roger Huxstep 1965
Geoff Hughes 1962
John Breeds 1965
Geraldine Breeds 1966
Joanne Burke 1974
Robert Carter 1966
Sandra Warre 1966
Francis Warre 1962
Martin Caree 1967
Peter Browne 1971
Janet Sherwood 1965
Sue Mendosuses 1967
Carole Russell 1970
Marie Breeds 1965
Anthony Breeds 1966
Christopher Breeds 1969
Kay Breeds 1969
Adrian Gray 1964
Sandra Whinhurst 1968
Mike Weetman 1963
Celia Hales 1964
Jenny Burke 1964
Jeanette Smith 1970
Alan Carter 1965
Patricia Barfoot 1964
Peter Gasson 1965
Malcolm Tree 1963
Christine Tree 1963
Roy Bourne 1965
Cherry Tottenham 1967
Marion Fuchs 1964
Pauline Perkins 1967
Gilly Winterbottom 1967
Jonathan Austin 1967
Tim Rothwell 1967
Libby Rothwell 1967
Lynne Morgan 1967
Joyce Gustard 1966
Jim Holmes 1964
Sam Ford 1968
Cathy Forward 1972
Andy Metianu 1961
Timothy Grant 1967
Deborah Birks 1969
Marjorie Pankhurst 1967
Jacqueline Crouch 1966
Susie Scott 1971
Barry Fuller 1969
Heather Barnett 1968
Richard Eldridge 1971
William Eldridge 1969
Kelvin Care 1964
Shirley Care 1965
Peter Buchan 1965
Graham Alcock 1965
Stephen Penn 1968
Carolyn Moss 1973
Katie Courtney-Bennett
Fred Courtney-Bennett
Sam Lambourne 1964
Steve Howles 1963
Alison Cousin 1965
Trevor Stiles 1963
Tony Hall 1966
Des Lambert 1964
Dianne Pope 1959
Alan Pope
Richard Care 1971
Roger Wyatt 1965
Linda Oakman 1968
Mervyn Oakman 1969
Angela Oakman 1972
Mick Kempster 1972
Beverely Gill 1972
Peter Goodsell 1967
Andrain Gumbley 1966
John Packham 1964
Graham Bourne 1960
Jennie Light 1963
Maureen Sinden 1963
Margaret Hall 1962
Pamela Cox 1969
Bob Davies 1962
Peter Eade 1965
Margaret O'Neill 1968
Nigel Foy 1963
John Cooper 1964
Keith Matthews 1969
Geoff Boxall 1968
Mary Matthew 1967
John Matthews
Jane Kendall 1966
John Walmsley 1965
Alexis Walmsley
John Luck 1865
Sheila Luck
Nick Marshall 1966
Gerry Tompkins 1959
Godfrey Tolputt 1964
Jane Robinson 1973
Paula Barnard 1969
Gillian Barden 1971
Marilyn Bellhouse 1960
Patsy Farley 1962
Cliff Arkley 1965
David Cleverley 1962
Stuart Cleverley 1963
Valda Care 1964
Lesley care 1966
Alan Care 1969
Terese Care 1970
Lynn Hills 1968
Colin Hills 1963
Sally Burke 1972
Jean McNaughton 1965
Anne Bowler 1968
Pam Lamb 1968
Elaine Gregory 1970
Pat Scott 1965
Vikki Winton 1970
Anne Williams 1969
Wendy Newble 1968
Mark Bianchi 1964
Alan Webster 1966
John Clay 1967
Jimper Sutton 1957
Derek Ballock

TEACHERS ATTENDING
Mr Richard Wright
Miss Lois Benton
Miss Maureen Getley
Mrs Janet Jones
Ms Jenny Banner

ROSA TEAM
Judith Blincow
Martin Blincow
Sue & Tony Moore
Clare & Andrew Spacey
Shirley Bannister
Margaret O'Neill
Tim Rothwell
Richard Moore
Ann Cockerham
Andrew Cockerham

THANKS TO THE KITCHEN CREW & ENTERTAINMENT WORKSHOP FOR RUNNING THE BAR & SOUND

Until the next time
A classic example of great ROSA teamwork proved a winning recipe of success for our 1960’s reunion on October 3rd. It was one of those events where you were proud and pleased to be in attendance. The evening was over all too soon and it is hoped that such was the success that we will arrange an evening of this type every three years in the future before age, memory and mother nature take a hold on us all eventually. To continue in a morbid theme with regard to such a happy event, I have listed opposite those who were in attendance in no particular order - this seems to resemble a war memorial, but one listing the survivors of school in the 1960s! I hastily return to happiness on this page and thank all those who made a real effort to attend, particularly Graham Alcock from New Zealand and Roger Huxstep and Pauline (nee) Prior from Australia. Some attendees met school friends for the first time again in 50 years – memory lane was overcrowded.

I am relying on photos that surround this double page to speak a thousand words and thank Andrew Spacey for walking amongst you all capturing the moment. Thank you for the nice words of thanks after the event; they were appreciated and made all the efforts very worthwhile. Thanks to Ann Cockerham for her support by arranging tours of the college and for allowing us to hold the event there, although to capture such an atmosphere it could not have been held anywhere else. To Claire and Shirley for touting raffle tickets and promptly raising £250 in a short space of time. To Sue & Tony for handling the registration on the door and taking the money. To Tim Rothwell for arranging the continuous 1960’s music, which was often drowned out by the sound of laughter and conversation.

Not only was it a wonderful social occasion but also a great fund raiser, with close on £1,400 being raised. Thanks again for your support - see you all again in 2018.
THE ARRCC & LINKS TO RYE COLLEGE

The ARRCC is the former RSM School site in New Road and has become a diverse cultural centre for those with physical and sensory impairments through holistic care to give a better quality of life. Many things are happening at the ARCC from art, textiles, music therapy, gardening, a wide variety of trips including fishing which I know Tim Philips gets involved with. There is even a furniture warehouse that helps with their own fund raising activities. In March former old scholar Calum Munroe held two events there. These formed part of his final project for BIMM. The first evening was supported by students at Rye College, the second was supported by former Old Scholars of his era. Both events were very well received. Former student Marina Osang, performed with the Rye College students and was quite taken with the considerable talent that is currently at Rye. For more information about this wonderful place visit their website www.arrcc.org.uk

VERY RECENT LEAVERS REPORT FROM

JAMYMA – MAY HANSON

Stewart Prentice attends the Brit school studying musical theatre. Luke Cooper is studying maths, physics and electronics a-levels at Welbeck Defence College and recently attended the Royal British Legion Festival. Ollie Wilson has competed in a variety of international and national chess events including the British chess championships 2015 and the Basamro international tournament.

David Swarbrick studies at Rye Studio school and has been involved in many projects, including producing a documentary for the Rye Wurlitzer academy and being a member of the committee for the Rye Arts Festival.

Editor’s Note

Jamyma has had a busy year herself, as runner up of the 2014 Young Theatre Organist of the Year Competition, she has played in concerts in Ipswich, Guildford, Woking & Bristol. More recently she has taken part in the 2015 Competition at the Musical Museum at Kew Bridge in London where she was awarded the runner up position again. Undeterred she is already planning her audio entry for the 2016 American Young Theatre Organist of the Year Competition. With my own involvement with the Rye Wurlitzer Academy Jamyma has been a model student and a wonderful ambassador to the project. All this, as well as taking four A levels at Highworth Grammar School in Ashford where she travels daily, a part time job in Rye and some regular voluntary work at the Rye Memorial Care Centre.
We were delighted to welcome Rye Community Primary School to the Rye Academy Trust in March and it is wonderful to be working closely as a group of three schools in one location in Rye. Sharing one campus, Rye College, Rye Community Primary School and the Rye Studio School meet the needs of learners from 2 to 19 years of age. Our staff train together and we are able to share best practice and facilities to advantage, as part of the same Trust. We call ourselves “The Rye Education Quarter”!

Rye Community Primary School
Rye Community Primary School, which has now amalgamated with the Pugwash Nursery, was first opened in 2008 and is already so popular that it has needed to expand to take in two forms of entry. Construction work is due to start soon to provide the additional accommodation needed for September 2016.

Rye College
Rye College grows from strength to strength and is proud of its history and tradition. However, its buildings are becoming increasingly costly to maintain and we are seeking support from the Government to rebuild the school on the former Lower School site (currently owned by Tesco and Sainsburys, who wish now to sell off the land).

Rye Studio School
Rye Studio School is the only Studio School in the South East, preparing 14-19 year olds for careers in the creative industries. It has provided post 16 education in Rye for the first time in well over a decade. In June, the Rye Studio School was judged to be outstanding in every aspect of its work by Ofsted. Rye Studio School now offers the Level 4 Foundation degree programme too and in order to house this programme, we have taken on the rental of The Old Brewery Yard premises nearby.

If you are interested in supporting our work or in finding out more about our work within the Rye Education Quarter, we would love to hear from you!

REMEMBERING PETER ROBINSON
Railway Historian and Campaigner for Better Public Transport.

Peter W Robinson, died suddenly on 6 August 2014, aged 74. Peter attended Rye Grammar School, where his father was Senior Master and Head of Geography, from 1951 – 1958. He was made Head Boy in 1957. He was a keen member of the Air Training Corps from 1954 – 1958 and was promoted to Flight Sergeant in 1957. On leaving school he followed in his father’s footsteps and studied Geography at Sheffield University followed by a post graduate course at Manchester in Town Planning.

Most of his working life was with Cumberland/Cumbria County Planning Department where he was the Lead Officer for Cumbria in the joint County Councils’ campaign for the retention of the Settle Carlisle Railway line. More recently he was the Campaign Co-ordinator for the West Coast Rail 250 campaign, set up to upgrade the West Coast Main Line. He was a member of the Rail Passenger Committee for N W England and when it was disbanded helped to set up Travelwatch North West to replace it. In recent years, up to his death, Peter was chairman of the Furness Line Community Rail Partnership and a leading campaigner for the line with strong concerns at the impact of both the electrification of the railways northwest from Manchester and of the upcoming re-franchising proposals.

He was a member of the prestigious Railway Photographic Society in steam days and subsequently joined the Railway Camera Club where he was noted for the high standard of his work. He had a huge collection of railway photographs taken both in the days of steam right up to the modern day. He was also a founder member of the Border Railway Society and the instigator of the Cumbria Railways Association, being its first chairman, then president and latterly its Archivist and Photographic Collections Manager. Peter was a passionate railway enthusiast and a highly knowledgeable one but his enthusiasm was always tempered by a wider social conscience. He saw railways as being about society. This understanding was reflected in the vital work Peter did to protect and develop rail services, particularly in Cumbria. He was a member of many other railway societies; a founder member of the Cumbria Industrial History Society; a Trustee of the Northern Viaduct Trust and an active member of the Railway Correspondence and Travel Society. He was the author of several books and an authority on the railways northwest from Manchester and of the upcoming re-franchising proposals.

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He was a competent pianist, had a great love of music and was an avid reader. Whatever Peter did he always gave it his full attention. He was a kind, gentle man who hated angry words and situations. He will be sadly missed by his friends in the railway community, the wider railway history fraternities and among the campaigners for better rail services across the country. He has been honoured by a commemorative plaque on his local railway station, Grange-over-Sands. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and daughters Louise and Amanda.
Joy recently hit the headlines during the 70th Anniversary of WW2 and as a former teacher at Thomas Peacock Lower School we acknowledge her achievements in this edition from two aspects. The first from one of the many media reports and the other from colleague and friend Andrea Chapman (Miss Lewis).

Seventy years ago Joy Lofthouse was flying Spitfires over Britain during World War Two, and now she has had the chance to do it all over again. Marking the 70th anniversary of the end of World War Two, Joy, who is now 92, was able to fly once again in the British air icon, the Spitfire. Joy says it brought back so many memories of her youth during the war, when her job was to fly the Spitfire across Britain delivering the aircraft to wherever they were needed. Joy was part of the Air Transport Auxiliary during World War Two, which gave mainly women the job of transporting military aircraft to air bases across the country, either to deliver newly built aircraft or to transport planes to different airbases to wherever military operations required them. Joy said that to have the opportunity to fly in a Spitfire at the age of 92 was a miracle, and she feels so lucky to be able to do it. Hundreds of Britons worked transporting aircraft across the UK during the war and ensured that the Royal Air Force had the aircraft it needed, when and where it needed them. Joy had to deliver many of the Supermarine Spitfires when they were first produced, and she recalls how ever since pilots have been envious of her. Joy's husband was also a pilot but he flew bombers over enemy territory. Joy recalls how his colleagues and pilot friends would all ask her about her exploits of flying the Supermarine Spitfire. She says that they would all say how they would have given anything for the chance to fly a Spitfire. Joy's recent flight in the Spitfire took place to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War Two and she says that while she was excited to take part in the event, she was aware that 70 years had passed since her last flight in a Spitfire. Nevertheless, once she was up in the air she says that she forgot her age and memories of 70 years ago came flooding back like it was yesterday.

Andrea Chapman adds: As you already know, she and her sister were in the Air Transport Auxiliary as ferry pilots during the 2nd World War. They were amazing women, ferrying aircraft from the factories to the airfields or whatever job might be required. They often flew several different aircraft in a day, from fighters to bombers, with basic instructions strapped to their knee, in all weathers, and in the early days they had no radios. Fog was their worst enemy and there were fatalities e.g. Amy Johnson. They were not always welcomed by the male RAF servicemen, who on one occasion even doubted that a slight woman pilot really WAS the pilot of the recently landed bomber. Joy really enjoyed her time as a ferry pilot and she certainly loved flying the Spitfire, calling it a plane for a lady! Incidentally, I knew little about her time in the war when we were in Rye - she never spoke much about it, very modest. I think she must have come to the Lower School for a post in the Special Needs Department in the late 70’s/early 80’s perhaps. When they came to the area Joy and her late husband Charles converted the old Icklesham primary school and Charles became the Head of Winchelsea. Joy was an easy colleague to work with, reliable, and full of common sense with a no nonsense approach to both children and her work. I got to know them both quite well, particularly after they had retired to Colchester, they were good company. Joy continued teaching for a while, doing supply in a nearby school. When Charles retired he was involved in helping people find where their relatives had been shot down.
A POTTED PIECE BY NIGEL LEEVES
(1970-77)

It seems such a long time since I left Thomas Peacocke School and it’s not surprising as it was over 38 years ago. However I can still remember many things from that time but the most important part is how the school helped set the future and in particular the teachers who inspired me. I caught the Chemistry bug, I’m not sure why but I have feeling it was partly due to it not being available until the 3rd year at school but mainly due to the chemistry teachers Mr. Halam, Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Leeds who had such much enthusiasm for the subject. So it’s off to read chemistry at Royal Holloway College, University of London- graduated and loved it stayed to complete a research degree. Along the way I managed to gain my University colours for Cricket and earn some money bowling off spin for a local club which seemed to mainly disappear over their bar in the evening.

Soon the real world of employment hit me with the shock of having to do regular hours but real money as well. I have spent most of my life in the health care industry working on products for heart disease, respiratory problems, mental illness and gastro intestinal issues. Working life when you see how it can help people improve their lives is very rewarding; it also allowed me to meet Debbi with us finally getting married in 1992. We have three children 20, 18 & 17, two boys are at university studying management with Caterina, is in year 10 in 2015!

Debbi is leading a company who provide robotic legs for people who have suffered lower spinal injuries and are not able to walk; the legs allow them to stand up and walk naturally. It’s very moving to see the videos of them walk and their reaction with their families.

I do have one final thank you and it is for Mr. Buttery the Head Teacher for most of my time at school.

CONTINUITY BY JOHN BREED

For some of us REALLY OLD scholars, even if we are fortunate enough not to have Alzheimer’s or Dementia, we do have problems in remembering where we left stuff yesterday. Such is my problem. I had a wonderful photograph of a third year class from 1927 (I think) and have mislaid it. It was to be the centrepiece of this article. The last three in the front row on the far right were Ken Breeds, Dick Burnham and John Smith. “Who were they?” I hear you ask.

Well – Ken Breeds was Roger’s father and was the Postmaster at Rye in the 1980s. His wife was a laboratory technician at RGS when I was a student there in the 1960s. Perhaps some of you remember her? Richard (Dick) Burnham I sang with in many a local choir. He was a chorister and hotelite of some renown!

John Smith was Rye Town Clerk when it ceased to become a borough in 1974. He was Chairman of the Governors at the School for many years and, at one time, Grand Master of the Wellington Lodge of Freemasons in Rye. You will see his name on a plaque in the Pugwash Nursery block.

In the library report in a bulletin of the mid 1930s, a Mrs Breeds (the wife of William Breeds the builder – Roger’s grandfather - who built the School in 1908) was reported to have donated some books to the library in grateful thanks for the education of her TEN boys who attended the school in the 1910s and 1920s. Ken Breeds was one of those boys!

My father (a cousin of Ken Breeds) attended RGS from 1929 to 1936, I attended from 1957 to 1965, my sons Jonathan and Richard from 1985 to 1995, and now my granddaughter, Caterina, is in year 10 in 2015!

Continuity of care, continuity in education – these are of paramount importance to most children. They hate change. Even if they dislike a teacher they resent a supply teacher even more. I know this – I have been a supply teacher for 15 years!

One of the great things about the Rye Old Scholars Association is that, by remaining in touch with former classmates, it gives members a chance to experience something of that all-important continuity.

John Breeds.

As always, John gives us all a fair portion of local gossip from way back when. It is hoped that should he find said photo that we will at least give it some space in the next bulletin. His last paragraph though, totally portrays what ROSA strives to achieve in such a special way.

REMEMBERING A LOYAL SERVANT TO THE TOWN—ROGER BREEDS

Roger Breeds died on 19th May 2015 ten days before his 74th birthday. He attended Rye Secondary School from 1952-3, then passed the 12 plus exam and spend the next four years at Rye Grammar School. After an apprenticeship in carpentry and joinery he went on to become a site agent supervising many large building projects in South East England. In 1976 he put his name forward for Rye Town Council serving until 2007. Roger was also a Rother District Councillor from 1987-95. He was Mayor of Rye and Speaker of the Cinque Ports 1984-6. For several years he served as a governor on Thomas Peacocke School and was still a member of the Rye Grammar School Foundation Governors. Roger and his wife (Amy Yates - RGS 1957-62) celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in March this year; his daughter Joanne is an old scholar of Thomas Peacocke School.
If I wanted to be slightly lapsed in my approach to reporting on the bulletin I could easily use the same words as the 2014 Luncheon, but I won’t and besides I can’t as this year we returned to the restaurant and more or less took it over. Other guests wondered why there was such excitement over jars of marmalade being presented. What was even more special was that more attended which made for more noise and merriment from start to finish.

Those attending included Mr T Rothwell Mrs L Rothwell Mr Peter Goodsell Mr J Holmes Mrs J Holmes Mr J Webb Mr B Hacker Mrs H Paige Mr T White Mr K C Thompson Ms L Benton Mrs M Getley Mr N Perry Mrs G Perry Mr A Shearer Mrs M Nettle Mrs J Kirkham Mr B Bellhouse Ms M Palmer Ms G Hardiman Mrs M O’Neill Mrs R Craggs Mr G Craggs Mr W Eldridge Mr T Moore Mrs Sue Moore Judith Blincow Richard Moore Claire & Andrew Spacey.

Such was the merriment and Richard’s early exit for an evening event at the college that we did not have the heart to uplift everyone from their seats for a group photo, so, this year we have a montage of table shots. It is hoped that our numbers will increase again in 2016 and welcome all Rye Old Scholars from the 30’s through to the 60’s to attend this what is becoming a popular social gathering with fine food and fine company. We look forward to seeing you. Note to self, ask someone else to write this report next year.

The three course lunch will be £19.95 per person.
RAE FESTING

After moving to Rye in 1937 Rae went first to Rye Collegiate and then RGS in 1943-46, under the headship of Mr. Jacobs. When she came to leave school, her careers' advisor suggested not Oxford or Cambridge - the advice to her friends - but said “You’ve got a brain Rae. Technical school will do you fine.” It did and Rae embarked on a 3-year course at what is now the Central School of Fashion in Barrett Street, London, living in different boarding houses and having a lot of fun. She learnt design, fabrics, fitting and is still an expert dressmaker and seamstress. She decided to go to Canada where, in 1959, she met her husband, Conrad, an English civil engineer. After their international travels and living in London, they moved in 1984 to 11 High Street, Rye, where Rae still lives. Every year in September the Rye Arts Festival relies on her to provide B&B for some of the visiting performers. Rae has regular garden parties during the Summer for local charities to raise money and runs a lunch club for the over-65s. On 13th October this year at the Buckingham Palace garden party she was awarded the British Empire Medal for her services to the community in Rye. She is now 84 and still active in the community.

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. We are aware that after the recent 60’s reunion that there were several that wished to do this, so now is your chance to put your desire into action.

Please send a cheque payable to R.O.S.A. To:-
Mrs Judith Blincow
ROSA Secretary
The Mermaid Inn, Mermaid Street,
Rye, East Sussex. TN31 7EY

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

MEMORIES OF TERRY THOMPSON:
RGS 1959-1966

Terry attended RGS, where his father, Tony Thompson, was the Woodwork teacher. During his schooldays he became a keen member of the Rye Scouts. He went to a Scout jamboree in Greece, achieved the scouts’ highest award by qualifying for “The Explorer Belt”, which involved hiking across Sweden & camping out under the stars and also went camping in Switzerland. His love of hiking stayed with him all his life. On leaving RGS he gained a BA at High Wycombe College of Technology & Art, then worked 21 years as a civil servant for the Crown Suppliers, until he was made redundant when the Government closed the Department of the Environment. He spent 5 years of this time assigned to the British Museum, Science Museum & the Tate Gallery and later worked for six years in the Foreign Office Procurement Group as planning officer for the interior furnishings of the new British High Commission building in Kuala Lumpur, also on-site supervisor. Terry loved his time as a civil servant and, on one occasion, had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty the Queen. After his redundancy Terry spent 2 years carrying out research for a book on Flight Lieutenant Richard Playne Stevens, (airline pilot 1938) due to be published in 2016. There is an article called “Lone Wolf: Top Blitz Fighter Ace” written by Terry and a close friend, Andy Saunders, in the Special Edition of November’s ‘Britain at War’. Terry worked with the Child Support Agency in Hastings and as a civil servant with the Ministry of Defence before he retired in 2009. He moved to Rye in 2012 where he became a volunteer at the Rye Art Gallery, involved himself with the building of the new scout hut and joined several rambler groups. He made contact this year with former RGS scouts and had said he would attend the 60’s reunion held on 3rd October. His sudden, tragic death two days before the event was a shock to all who knew him.
HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER PRAISED FOR HER PRECIOUS GIFT OF TIME

Delighted to read in the local press recently that former German Teacher Mrs Erika Longfield was recognised at a East Sussex Healthcare Trust Annual Volunteers Celebration Event. Mrs Longfield was recognised for 20 years service at the Conquest Friends Shop. “I started volunteering in the Conquest Friends Shop on a Monday and Wednesday after I retired from teaching in 1994. I still volunteer there one day a week and do so because not only do I want to help people but it also allows me time to be among people and keeps my brain ticking over. Volunteering has been a very important part of my life and continues to be”

CONTINUED SUCCESS FOR MAID OF ACE

The all sister band that grew up in Hastings and attended Thomas Peacocke have performed at Glastonbury this year on the BBC Introducing stage. The BBC website said of them: “Most bands will claim that they have a bond that is stronger than blood, forged by diversity and the trials of the road. In the case of Maid of Aces that biologically true. Alison, Anna, Abby and Amy Elliot are four sisters which makes them the full double Gallagher and every bit as troublesome”

Sharing a family taste for angry punk, the Maids first started writing snotty songs together at home, playing them at school and then anywhere that would have them. This led to gigs across the UK, Europe and even America in support of their 2013 debut album which was also called Maid of Ace. BBC Introducing picked up the song Bone Deth at the end of 2014 and were booked for the hippy festival with some rock’n’roll attitude. Which just goes to prove that the family that slays together stays together

FINAL REMINDER OF DATES FOR 2016

- ROSA A.G.M. 12 NOON FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT 12.45PM FRIDAY MAY 6TH MERMAID INN
- ROSA REUNION CLASS OF 1996 SATURDAY 2ND JULY AT RYE COLLEGE
- ROSA XI v RYE CRICKET CLUB XI RYE SALTS SUNDAY 3RD JULY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print in BLOCK letters

Surname __________________________  Forenames________________________________________

Years at School ______    To   _________


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) (b) Life Membership (£25)
(c) (c) donation/other
(d) (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