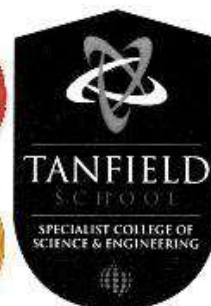


# TANFIELD ASSOCIATION

President: Prof. Bob Harrison



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NEWSLETTER No. 29

Summer 2014

## Editorial

Summer at last, bringing with it the labour of grass-cutting, the anguish of the world cup, hopes for Durham cricket, and another edition of your Newsletter. Life is not all work and worry!

There has been a dramatic change since you received Issue 28. We have lost our web-master and technical guru Peter Brown. Peter disagreed with us on the way the Association was running and felt that he couldn't continue to give his time. Peter did a massive amount of work for the Association, and brought us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century administratively. We are truly grateful. As you can imagine his leaving is a great loss to us all, and we did our best to persuade him to stay, to no avail. The outcome is that there is quite a hole in our administration, - we oldies are not well versed in the mysteries of the computer age. We desperately need someone who is!! We need a Web-Master to continue to develop the Association web-site and all that it entails. Someone who is able to handle the e-mailing of these Newsletters, and someone who can keep the rest of us on the right lines in all things relating to computers and the internet.

**Are you that man or woman? Please let us know if you are.**

The school is running an 'Accelerated Reading Scheme' for the younger pupils who are having difficulty in reading. A part of this Scheme is reading aloud to a listener. A few of us have been going into school weekly to be the listener, and to help

Dates for your Diary

High Tea at Tanfield

AJ Dawson

Rock Climbing

Thanks Card

Razzmattazz

How Incredible is this?

Dear Ted

Yvonne Ridley

Tanfield School by Gladys Welsh

Spud

Beat the Rat Race Event at Newcastle

52ers Easter Dinner

L E S Names and Photo

Dear Ted

Marjorie Murray

Michelle Cooper

Our Gift

Just How Old is he?

where it is needed. If you live locally and would like to be involved please contact Elizabeth to let her know. Before you can associate with the pupils you will need to be CRB checked, so if you are supplementing your pension by robbing banks don't bother asking!

We would like to initiate some kind of social framework to enable members to meet outside of school activities. We are thinking of informal, friendly, gossipy get-togethers with old friends and acquaintances. Monthly pub lunches have been mentioned, monthly outings to various 'attractions', and that sort of thing. We would like your input into this. What sort of thing would those of you who live locally wish to be involved in? Do any of you have 'contacts' where a visit might be arranged? Please tell us how we can enjoy ourselves as a group!

Occasionally it comes to our ears that someone who has been in contact with the Association is 'under the weather'. We have recently learned that Margery Smalley is not well and we would like to let her know that she is in our thoughts and that we extend our best wishes to her.

I would like to thank those who have contacted me and provided articles for our Newsletter. Without your input we would be struggling to put one together. I am sure that there are some interesting life stories or memoirs out there. We need 'copy'!! Don't put it off any longer, put something together and get it to me to make future editions equally interesting. I will thank you in advance!

Enjoy your read, and then enjoy your Summer.

Ted.

## **From the Secretary - Dates for your Diary**

### **Tanfield Association AGM**

This year we will be holding the AGM at the Peacock Inn, Tanfield Village, on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**, starting at 11.30am. Lunch will be at about 12.30pm. The inn will provide hot beef or pork sandwiches with potatoes and salad. (We are told that the sandwiches are excellent). The lunch will be paid for by the association, though voluntary contributions will always be welcome! If you have special dietary requirements, please inform us so that we can organise vegetarian and/or other options. We look forward to seeing you there.

NB Parking is available at the inn but if you can possibly arrange to travel with someone to reduce the number of cars, it would be a help.

### **Tanfield's 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday**

This year, Tanfield celebrates its 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. As we did last year on its 101<sup>st</sup>, we are having an Open Day at school. The school will be open to visitors from 12 noon till 4pm on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. There will be organised tours of the buildings, displays of photographs and memorabilia (including a modern display put up by students), a light buffet and the cutting of the birthday cake. The centenary book will be on sale and there will be a tombola (donations of prizes big or small greatly appreciated).

Parking will be available in the school yard and bus park. We look forward to seeing you there! If you can let me know of your intention to come along, it will help me to get accurate numbers for the catering. (We don't want to run out of food!) My address, phone number and e-mail address are on the front of the newsletter.

I look forward to hearing from you.

## For the future

Things that have not yet been finalised.

The school are going to honour their war dead by re-dedicating the memorial plaque relating to World War I. This will take place possibly in advance of Remembrance Day, some time from September onwards. Members of the association will be very welcome to attend. If you think you may be interested, let me know so that I can get back to you with details as soon as I know them. In the meantime, keep an eye on local papers, as the event is likely to be publicised.

The school intend holding a fund-raising Craft Fair near the end of the Autumn term. No date as yet but it will include card, jewellery, cake stalls and possibly a knitted items stall as well as the inevitable tombola. Anyone who might be interested in producing/supplying items for/manning a stall, please get in touch. Full details should be available in time for the next Newsletter.

Elizabeth

## High Tea at Tanfield

We are two cousins who both attended 'Tanfield', one in the 40's (you can do the maths!) and one in the middle to late 50's, and both of us were delighted to accept invitations to return to the school and join other guests for high tea. The event was arranged as part of the coursework for students who are considering entering the catering industry.



Under the wise guidance of their teachers, the students were responsible not only for the essential preparation and cooking of food, but all other aspects such as presentation, greeting, seating and serving their guests. Each separate table had been allocated two students, a girl and a boy - who, having taken part in making all the food - now became waiters! They could not be faulted - courteous, attentive, friendly and informative (especially about pointing out the "goodies" they had made!). On arrival, we were greeted by guitar music played by a group of students, and this pleasant opening gave everyone time to mingle, meet and greet familiar faces.

If one of the maxims of catering is: "first you must feed the eye", these students certainly did. The tables had an Easter theme and the food - both savoury and sweet - was so well done it seemed a pity to spoil it. But spoil it we did because everything tasted even better than it looked! Ritz and Savoy beware - competition is on the way! A final touch was that each guest received a small egg which contained a ticket resulting in one lucky lady winning chocolates. A \* for everyone involved.





After tea, we were entertained by the guitarists who had been joined by a girls' choir, and this was followed by a girl singing solo, accompanied by a boy soloist guitar player. Congratulations to all. Finally, a rousing record of Abba singing "Dancing Queen" encouraged some students and guests to show off their dancing skills - especially the boy who was in charge of our table - he proved to be quite a star!

Margaret Warwick and Lenore Ewart

What a lovely afternoon tea Easter celebration we had on 2nd April! So many happy memories of Tanfield's talented, creative, helpful, musical pupils...

I only wish I could still dance to Abba without the next day's stiffness!

With best wishes,

Margaret & Tony Bray

### **A.J. Dawson**

A photograph which has lain forgotten in a storage cupboard for a hundred years is about to find a new home in Durham University. The photograph, of A J Dawson, a leading educationist in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, is being presented by Tanfield School to the Science Faculty of the University, and will be displayed in the A J Dawson Building.



A J Dawson was a member of, and later Director of, the Durham County Education Committee which embarked on a massive project of building "new schools for the children of working men" in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Tanfield was the 100<sup>th</sup> school to be built. In total, £700,000 (more than £67 million today) was spent on the building programme - a huge amount a century ago, showing the Education Committee's determination to improve education at all levels in the county.

The presentation carries good wishes from Tanfield, a centenarian 'descendant' of Dawson (secretary of Durham County Council Education Committee when present at the school's opening in 1912) to the University as the A J Dawson Building (housing the University Science Laboratories at Stockton Road) prepares for its own centenary in 2024, 100 years after the opening of the building in Dawson's presence (as the County's Director of Education) to house teaching and research in botany, chemistry, geology and physics.

A strong tradition of science education has existed at Tanfield from its grammar school days, producing one of the University's Deans of Science, W.K.R. Musgrave, and a Fellow of the Royal Society whose research began in the Building, (Professor R.D. Chambers, currently a member of the Tanfield Association).

Tanfield is now a Specialist college of Science and Education. Former pupils are still working in important areas of science such as cancer research and marine conservation.

Press Release:

**A PHOTOGRAPH of a pioneering North-East educator with a passion for science has been donated to Durham University.**

The picture of Sir Arthur James Dawson was presented by Graeme Lloyd, head of Tanfield School, near Stanley, which he co-founded in 1912.

His portrait was found and refurbished by the Tanfield Association, which

is made up of past staff and students, while preparing for the school's centenary.

Durham University received the portrait in its oldest science-site building, which has been called the Dawson Building since 1952.

Professor Robin Coningham, pro-vice-chancellor of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Health, said: "For us it is the

opportunity to link in with one of the pioneers of science-based education in County Durham.

"He was also a pioneer in state secondary education of the county's working class communities."

Sir Arthur, who lived from 1859 to, 1943 was Durham County Council Education Committee's first secretary and went on to become director of

education. In 1924, he ensured a new building was ready and staffed at the junction between South Road and Stockton Road to receive Durham's first higher-education students in science.

Sir Arthur was awarded an honorary masters degree and Doctorate in Civil Law by Durham University and was knighted in 1931.

## Rock Climbing

Thanks to the Tanfield Association's good will and generosity, 10 Tanfield GCSE Physical Education students were granted the incredible opportunity to spend a whole day rock climbing at one of County Durham's top venues (Climb North East). The students spent the day covering the GCSE PE rock climbing syllabus and of course having lots of fun. This was the first time any of the students had been rock climbing and it surpassed all of their expectations, with the students smiling from the start of the day till the very end, even when they were dangling 20 feet from the ground!

The staff at Climb North East had nothing but positive things to say about our students stating that "their behaviour, attitude and ability are as good as, if not better than, any school group we have had visit the centre before". Our students felt very much the same about the centre with quotes including; "this is the best trip ever", "I was scared before I came sir, but now I love it" and the one phrase echoed by all was "when do we get to come back sir?" A possible highlight of the visit was the fact that one student had arrived at the centre with a phobia of heights but by the time the day had ended had conquered their fear!

The students wish to extend a great big thank you to the Tanfield Association and said they hoped other students in the future could be as fortunate as they had been.

John Rourke (Teacher)



Below is - A 'Thank You' card from the pupils involved.

To the Tanfield Association,  
Thankyou for providing us with  
the opportunity to go Rock climbing.  
We are all very grateful and all had  
a fantastic time!  
We hope that future Tanfield  
students are as lucky as we  
have been; and can be provided  
with wonderful experiences  
like the one we had.



Kind Regards  
AJ, Alaina, anna  
Summer, lauren  
Abi, Georgia,  
Pheby, Ryan  
and Liam.

## Razzmatazz

Do any of our younger readers remember spending a day at Tyne -Tees studios in Newcastle in 1984 ?

I'd heard that Posey Harvey at Tyne -Tees would arrange for coaches to collect 3<sup>rd</sup> year pupils ( year 9 ) from local schools ; subsequently , they and their teachers would be shown around the studios, then would form the audience for Razzmatazz. This could be exciting for all concerned, so I approached Mr Tron and obtained his permission. I made the call, we fixed a date, and the coaches arrived. We were told that they filmed two programmes in a day ,so we were able to watch several groups perform , the first being "Wham" –of course, George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley. They jumped around, miming to their hit song "Wake me up before you go go", wearing beach-type gear & wearing lots of lipstick. Nick Heyward and Haircut 100 were particularly popular then and the children were really enthusiastic about this group. Godley and Crème also performed, and Bob Geldof appeared in the staff sitting room looking totally exhausted. He promptly lay down on a settee and fell asleep; bang went my opportunity to get his autograph!

We were well looked-after during our exciting day, and were provided with a very nice buffet lunch. As the pupils boarded the coaches, they were each given a goodie- bag. Of course, by inviting school children to be part of Razzmatazz, they were guaranteeing huge audiences of whole families, hoping to catch a glimpse of their relatives on TV.

Amy Bilton.

### "How Incredible Is This?" asks Ted

While awaiting a train in Monaco station, I had a strange encounter. Yes, Mavis and I were in Monaco, but not for the Formula 1, we were there for the day from Antibes. What a life some people lead!

However, back to the station. We were waiting on a fairly busy platform when I was accosted by a hairy, bearded man. He had assumed from my National Trust camera bag that I was English, as he was. We swapped 'origins' and when I said that Durham was my home county he was really interested. It transpired that although he had lived in Dudley for 40 years he had been born in Sacriston. Then it emerged that his secondary education had been at Stanley Grammar School, and naturally I then became really interested. "When would that be," I asked, and he told me late 60's.



"I must have taught you" I said. He was absolutely flabbergasted, and asked my name. I told him that he would know me as Mr. Brabban the woodwork teacher. "Only too well" he said. "You told me, as a first year, that with a name like mine I should be good at your subject" I asked his name and he told me Woods. "You were wrong" he said.

So, Melvyn Woods had not followed up on his craft skills, or lack of them. He became a teacher and moved to Dudley to teach there with his wife. Now retired, he and his wife in their camper-van are touring Europe and enjoying life.

I do, every now and then, meet a past pupil, but as I have never left the old 'catchment area' you would expect that. However, swanning around on the Riviera, that was the last thing on my mind. It really is a small world.

I gave my e-mail address to Melvyn so if he should follow up on our meeting I will pass on what I learn. In the meantime I would be interested to know if any of our readers were his contemporaries and remember him. Do let me know.

One nugget that he did pass on to me was that his mother had been a baby sitter for Mr Hewitt (who was a Sacriston man) when he was small. There you are, even your favourite teachers were baby sat at one time!

**Dear Ted,**

Thank you for the latest Tanfield newsletter. The reminder about subs. went home; I joined up for the first time at the last reunion in October - only the second time I have been in the school since I left for Birmingham University in 1955 so I am unaware of when subs. become due. However, Jan. 1st seems sensible, so I will be sending my cheque for this year asap.

I doubt that you will remember me; you have no reason for doing so, but there may be just a small chance. I remember you very well, a handsome young sixth former probably 5 years older than me. I knew you because you were a protégé of Bob Harrison and were always hovering around the woodwork room. I liked him a lot, and was glad to be able to sing his praises to Bob Harrison in October last. He looked after me, (I was top in my class at the end of the first year!) and the lessons I had for two years have been very useful to me over the years. Imagine, dovetail halving joints and lathe work, sea-grass stools (rickety!) and cigarette boxes at the age of 11-12! I remember too doing some polishing for him. He made an oak magazine rack for the hallway at the main entrance (I think funded by a gift from a visitor, William Whiteley, the then government Chief Whip) and it is possible you had a hand in the making of it. I looked for it in my tour of the school at the reunion, but didn't find it. I was delighted when I heard that you had succeeded him in the woodwork room, where you spent your life. I do have an elephantine memory of my education, fondly remembering every minute of my two schools and University (or so I imagine!). It is hardly surprising that I too spent my days at the chalk face, with 29 years at the Boys' Grammar-Technical School (which became various Comprehensive schools) in South Shields as Head of Chem. and Science. I do often wonder what happened to those young Gods in the sixth form, like Brian Patterson. Bill Pattison, Ernie Barrass and Laurence Campbell, who impressed me so much. I did have some contact with Dick Rose, however. He showed me round Bristol Chem. Department when I went for interview, and I took over his job at Heaton Grammar School in 1958 when he left to become Head of Chem. at Consett at the suggestion of Dr. Sharp. I hear that Dick and wife Sheila Young, who was a classmate of mine, are both gone now - so he will never know the good he did for me.

I remember you for another reason! I remember chatting, many times, at the dinner table with a lovely happy smiley girl called Rosemary, whom I discovered is your little sister! I think I was in about form 3 of 4 then, and had she been older, I might just have made a move! Then suddenly I am flabbergasted to see a girl who may just be her in one of the pictures in the newsletter! The picture is the very last one of a group of senior girls with Miss Allison, and she is behind and to the left of Miss Allison! Same face, same smile! You were asking for names to be put to the girls, so.....voila! Am I right?

I do marvel at the education we had there at SGS, even from those 'daft old maids', as we called them - but now I know how good they were, married, as they were, to their work. The style of the teaching was unbelievably old-fashioned though, and I quickly realised that when I had my new responsibilities for standards and we quickly went from didactics to heuristics in my labs.

I am looking forward to the next reunion, and to making contact with you.  
Keep up the good work!

Brian E Thompson (SGS 1948-55)



## Editor:

It is good to know that you are remembered, and yes I did haunt the woodwork room with Bob Patterson in my upper years. The William Whitely piece was a folding display board. Somewhere along the line it must have been decided that it took up too much space because there is only the centre section (complete with dedication) attached to the wall as you enter the dining area and Hall.

I can't 'put in a good word 'for you with my little sister, because Rosemary is my cousin, but you were spot on with the name.

Subs. by the way, are due on the School's birthday which is October.

## Yvonne Ridley

When I saw Yvonne Ridley's photo in the Times again this morning I thought that I should write a piece about her for the Newsletter.

Yvonne was a pupil in my 4m French class when I began teaching at Tanfield in 1972. The 'm' meant that pupils studied 'O' level maths, but CSE French. She was such a nice girl, with heaps of character, so I was not surprised to learn that she had become a journalist.

Yvonne came into prominence in Sept 2001 when she was captured by the Taliban in Afghanistan while working for the Sunday Express. As she had been refused a visa, she decided to cross the border anonymously, wearing a burqa. However on her return journey, while travelling with her guides and riding a donkey, it bolted. The result was that her camera was seen by a Taliban soldier. She was 'captured' and accused of being a spy.

During this time, her daughter Daisy (born in 1992) was living with Yvonne's parents in Beamish, if I remember correctly. They must have been really worried for Yvonne's safety. However she was released on October 8<sup>th</sup> safe and well.

After her release, my son, Alistair and I contacted her via the internet. She said that she had wished that she'd paid more attention to my French lessons as she could have communicated with the Taliban in French, but in fact, had to wait for an interpreter who spoke English.



She has had a really exciting life. She has worked for many newspapers, has been married five times, and converted to Islam in the summer of 2003.

Do read her story and watch videos of Yvonne by 'Googling' her name and the Taliban.

Amy Bilton

Editor's note : Yvonne was in the Times as part of an article commenting on the Euro elections in Rotherham. She was a candidate for the Respect Party.

# Tanfield School

by

Gladys M. Frappell-Welsh BA (née Tonks)

My father died in July 1939 as a result of an accident at Burnhope Colliery but my mother was not paid any compensation as it was brought in by the coroner as 'accidental death'. My mother received £32 which was deducted from the miners' wages at the rate of one shilling per man. As we had no other means of support, because of family circumstances, my mother had to use the money before any other support could be paid. I mention all this because it affected my life at Alderman Wood Secondary School from 1941-1946.

I attended Greenland School in South Moor, as did my younger sister Elsie. We left there for the AWSS in 1941 and 1942 respectively.

The first thing I remember about the AWSS is standing in the front row for assembly in the school hall, and being overwhelmed by the number of people congregated there; a mass of brown and old gold. Later in the week, to my horror and to other girls' also, we had to do PE in our vests and brown knickers. The boys, of course, had a great time laughing at our embarrassment. In our second year we could wear shorts.

I remember a similar embarrassment whilst doing laundry as part of our Domestic Science studies, when we had to hang the washing outside the laundry room. The problem was that we had to hang out the rather large 'bloomers' of the Domestic Science teacher.

I remember my first uniform, which was new, consisted of a brown tunic, a cream blouse and brown blazer edged with old gold and, of course, the school badge on the pocket. However, the rest of my clothing and satchel were second hand, passed on by a former pupil. In the second year, my uniform was reduced to an old tunic and hand-made blouse, as my sister inherited the once 'new items' which were by then too small for me.

In my first year I had school dinners, which were two shillings and sixpence per week, but when my sister joined me at the Alderman Wood, my mother had to give us sandwiches. However, with poverty and the war, and supplies ever diminishing, it became really difficult. My mother was often upset and felt ashamed that she could not give us filling for our sandwiches. One day, as she had nothing left to put on the bread, she devised a substitute by crushing three arrowroot biscuits and adding water and cochineal colouring; she made a paste which, spread on bread, looked like Spam. We ate the arrowroot sandwich and pretended it was meat. Later, of course, all poorer children received free school dinners. It was a boon to our family and made quite a difference, even though everyone will remember lentil pasty, frog spawn ( tapioca) and 'blood and sand' (semolina pudding with jam). My sister and I ate everything as we were always hungry. The saying is true - "If you are hungry enough, you will eat anything."

I remember being reprimanded for not using glue to stick a map into my exercise book. I had used flour paste but it wrinkled terribly, so then I used stamp stickers. Another objection was raised but I couldn't say that my mother couldn't afford a pot of glue. We used many 'make do and mend' methods: we wrote in margins, used the backs of papers and I used the backs of one or two of my old exercise books to make soles for a pair of cork-work slippers.

By the second and third year, we could wear any kind of blouse - cream, white, cotton, satin, even, as the shortages were acute. I saved up, with School National Savings, the threepence a week I earned by taking out a baby after school each day. At school the teacher used to look at my threepence with disdain. I managed to save up ten shillings and sixpence and bought myself a blouse which I wore for dress and then for school.

In the school cloakrooms there were always items scattered about and I remember 'borrowing' a hockey stick from there, as the school sticks were almost useless. I hasten to add that I always returned it to its usual place.

We couldn't afford to buy hockey sticks, boots or tennis equipment etc. I did buy from the 'Lost Property Cloakroom Sale' a blazer for sixpence. It was plain brown, no old gold edging or badge, but it lasted me for over two years.

I also remember learning to dance the quickstep in the school cloakroom - this is of great significance to me as I still dance today!

Most of our teachers were quite elderly as most of the younger ones had been called up for the forces. One teacher, who took Maths and French, was terrifying to me, resulting in a total dislike of French during my whole school career. All were hard markers - 65% excellent, 50% very good, 40% good and 33% a pass mark.

I wanted to leave school, as many others did, to help my mother with finances but she insisted that my sister and I stay at school and sit our School Certificate, which we did. We both did quite well and stood outside the air-raid shelters and cried when we had to leave. I only remember being *in* the air-raid shelters about twice as they were constantly under water and it was impossible to do drills. I can't remember any air-raids at all but we had to carry our gas masks with us everywhere.

To conclude this 'subjective' story - when I left school, I went to work in the office of the Northern General Transport Co. I worked there for nineteen years, then left to do three years at Newcastle Training College to become a teacher. I worked at Beamish School for eleven years and then became Deputy Head at Ouston Infant School, with two hundred and forty infants. My dream of becoming a teacher was fulfilled. Sadly, my mother died during my second year in college. I feel that her dreams and efforts were not in vain and that her wishes came true also.

I believe the teachers at Stanley Grammar School (Tanfield) gave me an excellent grounding, a formal training, a desire to work hard and a determination to succeed. Can any child, pupil, grown up ask for more?

PS If the sign "Abandon hope all ye who enter here" is still there - IGNORE IT!

## Spud

I was musing the other day about Mr Glendenning, the Latin Master. Sadly he left in our O level year and we got a temporary teacher for a couple of terms before the exams.

I recall he was a great teacher whose classes were always something to look forward to even when translating the Iliad, particularly the long and boring speeches of the Sybil.

Mr Glendenning was always called 'Spud', the logic being that Raymond Glendenning was a famous BBC sports commentator and a 'common tater' is a 'spud'.

I remember he kept strict discipline and was a good aim with a piece of chalk. However, he always added humour to his lessons. He was interested in Music Hall and to help you remember Latin words he would say: Carmen is a song, just think of 'Carmen to the garden Maud' or tandem is at length 'tandem' just think of a 'a long bicycle'.

He would stand over you when you committed a misdemeanour and recite:

'You block, you stone, you worse than senseless thing'.

The punishment would be to stand up in class and conjugate the pluperfect tense of 'Appropinquo' or some such tongue-twisting Latin verb

Fred Davison (Thornton F Davison)

## Beat the Rat Race Event at Newcastle University

The Modern Foreign Language Department at Tanfield School was delighted to be able to take 15 pupils from Year 9 to the Beat the Rat Race event at Newcastle University in November with the support of Tanfield Association.



The aim of the event was to promote the study of Modern Foreign Languages at GCSE and beyond. The pupils were able to take part in workshops to try out other foreign languages and they enjoyed various games and activities which showed them how languages are a highly valued skill in a wide variety of workplaces.

Tanfield pupils were also able to listen to some fascinating speakers who explained just how vital languages had been in their working lives such as translators, engineers, entrepreneurs and even a spy!

It was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils which they all enjoyed and which will hopefully encourage them to develop their skills in modern foreign languages with the knowledge that they will always be in demand in the workplace.

## 52ers Easter Dinner

I enclose a photo of some 52ers and some of their spouses taken when we met at Beamish Hall for our annual Easter dinner. We had a most enjoyable evening.

Amy.

Back Row: Amy Bilton, John March, Alan Raine, Euan Ross, Harold Reay, Lisa Morgon, Peter Atkinson, Alan Jenson.

Front Row: Elsie Harris, Gwynneth Stephenson, Joan Nichol, Margaret Ledger, Norma Jenson, Sylvia Buxton, Robbie Ward.



Dear Ted,  
 Please find full listing for last photograph in latest  
 'LANFIELD ASSOCIATION' - courtesy L.E.S. (ret./d.)!

Back Row	Cathleen Waggott	Cynthia Stoker	Ann English	Anne Pendleton	Susan Rodham	Ann Davidson
Middle Row	Elizabeth Corker	Rosemary Brabban	Elizabeth Anderson	Sheena Armstrong	Catherine Mitchell	(Patrick?)
Front Row	Jean (McPhee) Patrick	Isobel Harrison	Ann (Richley) Middlemast (sen. Miss) Allison	Norma Riley	Margaret Icton	Jennie Batty

6g (lower) Easter 1957



As you might guess I had a note from Cousin Rosemary giving me the 'definitive' list of names - with no gaps!  
 Here they are:

Back Row, L to R

Cathleen Waggott, Cynthis Stoker, Ann English, Anne Pendleton, Susan Rodham, Ann Davidson

Middle Row

Elizabeth Corker, Rosemary Brabban, Betty Anderson, Sheena Armstrong, Pat Mitchell.

Front Row

Jean Patrick, Isobel Harrison, Ann Middlemast, Miss Allison, Norma Riley, Margaret Icton, Jenny Batty.

Dear Ted,

I can give you most of the names of the girls on the back page of Newsletter 28.

Seeing the photograph brought back some happy memories.

It was sad to read about Norma Brown who had been my mother's friend for many years.

Best wishes, John Jackson, 51 -58

**Dear Ted,**

Many thanks for another entertaining and informative edition of the Tanfield Newsletter. As ever it sparked a few memories. I am thinking particularly of the page featuring Margaret Little, Florence Hutchinson, and Wendy Herdman, all of whom I remember. The Particular memory that came to mind was stimulated by the mention of the marriage of Margaret and Maurice Robinson. They were married at St Andrew's Church in Stanley and I was a member of the choir that sang at their wedding. Maurice I remember because he taught me at Sunday School.

Oddly enough his name came up about 15 years ago at a funeral I did in Aylesbury when I was vicar of a parish there. I cannot now remember the name of the family involved, but the deceased had been born in Pelton, and his brother, who was present at the funeral, was born in East Stanley. He had been living in Watford for many years and one of his near neighbours there was Maurice Robinson!

Keep up the good work.

With every good wish,

Peter Atkinson (1952 - 59)

### **Marjorie Murray (nee Smith)**

I went to Stanley Grammar school from 1960 to 1967 and then went to Alnwick teacher training college. I left Alnwick College in 1970 and worked at Burnopfield Junior mixed and infant.

I married Raymond in 1971 and I left teaching in 1975 to have my family - Victoria, David and Steven. I returned to teaching in 1986 and worked at Pendower Primary until 1992.

I then moved to West Walker Primary until 2004 when I took early retirement.

I have three grandchildren [2 girls 1 boy] Retirement is busy with grandchildren, friends and hobbies.

I would love to hear from anyone from school or college. I realise I am late in joining and everyone will probably be on twitter etc but maybe I'll be lucky.

1967 - Head Boy: Ken Tyson, Head Girl : Janice Toal

**Hi Ted,**

**Subject:** Tanfield Association - Newsletter 28

Thanks so much for this; it is always a good read.

Nora was amazing to get to 108 !!

Kind regards

Michele

**Michele Cooper-Fay ACII ChIns**

## Our Gift

On the occasion of the School Centenary our Association marked the birthday by presenting the School with new stage curtains. For those who haven't had the opportunity to see our gift, here they are.



## Just How Old is He?

In case you are wondering, here is the way I signed myself while I was helping to put together the Lindisfarne Gospels. There was me and Brother Binks, whom everyone referred to as Joseph, kept in order by Abbot Pongo!! Ah, those were the days my friend!

