

## LIFE AFTER TANFIELD



NAME **CHRIS HOGARTH**

**PUPIL AT TANFIELD FROM 1974 TO 1979**

### MY LIFE AFTER LEAVING TANFIELD

I missed a lot of school in 1978 because of illness. In 1979 I left school with 6 CSEs. In October '79 I was asked to go to the Careers Office where there was a manager of GEC Telecommunications and his one question was, 'Do you know the colours inside a plug?' The answer was yes and he said, 'You can start work on Monday at Gateshead telephone exchange.'

I worked for them for four years until I was made redundant. The following years were not in telecommunications but a few office jobs using keyboard and a couple of years working as a minder to the disabled.

I had another couple of years of illness but eventually I got a clean bill of health and ended up back in telecommunications and ended up working in Europe in such places as Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany and in more exotic places, Hong Kong and the USA.

I'm now retired and living in Portugal with my partner of 20 years and doing a little part-time job handing out flyers for a couple of restaurants.

[ photo – Chris working in a telephone exchange in Hong Kong (above) and in GB (below) ]

