

## Ted

He was such a lovely man and an inspiration to me. I knew that Tanfield was a special place but my time spent with Ted and yourself has made me realise what a truly unique school it is and makes me feel very lucky to be the headteacher.

We will continue to keep his legacy alive and I will be doing everything I can to ensure that Tanfield remains a school that he would be proud of.

**Steven Clough**

I can't imagine the Tanfield Association without him. Such a gentle kind man, full of the best qualities of humankind. Thinking of Mavis and the family at this sad time. **Margaret Jones**

He was such a kind hearted willing man and will be such a miss to all of us. My heart goes out to Mavis and her family. **Jean Stoddart**

I am privileged to have known Ted for more than 60 years since he first taught me woodwork at SGS. He was a gentle man and I never heard him raise his voice in spite of being tested by recalcitrant pupils. I'm so pleased that Lestryne and myself were able to attend the school's 110th Birthday Celebration and see Ted in his element.

What a wonderful legacy Ted has left us, not least his "chair" (or more accurately "throne") but also his easy way of mixing with pupils past and present. He will be a great loss to Tanfield Association. **Howard & Lestryne Bott**

I have known Ted for so long that it was easy to think he would go on forever. He taught me when I was in the Sixth Form, we were both on Tanfield's staff for many years and then we worked closely together in the Tanfield Association. He was just always there, and always friendly, cheerful, helpful and all round nice. I feel devastated. **Elizabeth Hawkins**

As a contemporary of his throughout our time at Tanfield I have known him for 78 years. He was always a modest, generous and kind hearted person and I know how deeply respected he was by all who came in contact with him.

He was always willing to take on responsibility when invited to do so and had incredible inventiveness and talent. His home bears witness to his artistic and artisanal ability.

He was always a strong supporter of Tanfield School and a memorable member and Chairman of the Tanfield Association, which he served with

distinction. I shall miss him as a friend and, more recently, as a colleague on the Association's Executive Committee.

My heart goes out to his devoted and loving wife, Mavis, and their family at this sad time.

With deepest sadness, **Warren Pescod**

He Will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him. **Maureen and Walter Peacock.**

I, like many many others am shocked and deeply saddened by the news of the death of Ted. My condolences go to all his family at this time, and I know that all those who knew him will remember him with profound affection. **Christopher Morrison.**

Such sad news about a lovely man. Lovely memories of him; he has touched many young lives through the decades; I remember him framing Art Club paintings for display, in the early 1960s. He and Gina Jack worked so well together, encouraging youngsters and seeing possibilities in helping students to reach their potential. He will be missed by so many of us, but always remembered with affection. **Judy Hurst**

Our love and deepest sympathy to Mavis and all the family. Ted was such a lovely man and a true gentleman. - **Steve and Brenda Craddock**

You are all so important to the school past and present, there is not one other school I know of that is like Tanfield. That is all down to the association's continued work and dedication. I wanted to ensure the anniversary was marked with something tangible and am absolutely delighted with the mural and that Ted is named on there - rightly so. Please keep me posted and if I can do anything to assist the family I am available to do so. **Jonny Coates**

As a teacher I liked him and always enjoyed going to woodwork as it was then, despite not being really good at it. I should have told him that it was not all in vain as a few years ago I made my wife a potting bench which is so solid that in the event of a nuclear war I would hide behind and I could not have done that without my faltering start with Ted. I am sure he will be sorely missed. Please pass on my commiserations to his family. **Andrew Cogle**

Ted Brabban was a superb teacher, an outstanding colleague and a perfect gentleman in every respect. He was a man of great integrity and had high standards in everything he did. It was a pleasure being in his O- and A-Level classes. I was fortunate to be the only student in my year taking A-Level metalwork and got to know Ted well over those sixth form

years. His subject knowledge was encyclopedic, he was a superb craftsman and a talented artist. Through the inspirational teaching, support and encouragement of Ted and Alan Mills I became a CDT teacher. Six years after leaving school, it was an honour to return and spend three enjoyable years in his department. Throughout my schooling, teacher training and career he was the most consummate professional teacher and leader of the subject I have ever met: simply the best. Ted was a warm, sincere and caring man, and he was devoted to our school. His contribution to Tanfield School was immense and he was truly a pivotal figure in its history: a legend in fact. Our thoughts are with Mavis, Amanda and Alison and their families at this time."

### **Ian Goldsborough**

- I would like to add that although I have "only" known Ted and Mavis for 30 odd years, they have been a constant presence for us through life's ups and downs. Ted was a great sounding board for Ian when things got tough in teaching. We will miss him enormously.

### **Freda Goldsborough**

Very sad news to hear in school today.

A lovely man. A Tanfield legend. RIP Ted

**John Stephenson**

So sorry to hear this, it was lovely hearing his speech and all about the famous chair. **Alice Bone**

Although Ted was older than me and we never really were friends at school, when I started teaching and went to my first union meeting Ted was there and we remained friends ever since. When I moved to Tanfield he was there to help and guide. **Tom Cooper**

A gentleman through and through. A guide to so many and a wonderful friend. Joyce Charlton

He was a great teacher. **Michael Dunn**

I remember Ted working with Bob Harrison in the Woodwork Department. I was very grateful for the fact that the class I was in did woodwork rather than Latin. I also knew Mavis from Dipton Tennis Club where she was one of the grandees when I was an aspiring ball boy. My sincere condolences to Ted's family. John Bowes

He was a lovely gentleman. **Lynne Bell**

Such a charming, kind and generous man. **Margaret Batty**

Mr Brabban was one of my first teachers at Tanfield, lovely man. **Gary Hindhaugh**

Aah such sad news, I send my deepest condolences to family and friends, the loss of a total gentleman such as Mr Brabban, rip sir , you are now a star in the vast sky shining with all the other great people who have been taken from us, sleep easy Mr Brabban **Dan Paul**

He was one of the best! **Peter Brown**

He was an excellent teacher and learnt so much from him. A true gentlemen even to the point of helping me and some friends gain experience with Tyne Tees Television. God bless you. **Les Johnson.**

He was a lovely man. **Lesley Hindhaugh**

Great teacher, lovely man. **David Cook**

RIP Mr Brabban, sir. **Jack Nelson**

He was a lovely man / teacher. **Gillian Burrell.**

Cracking teacher. Sad loss. **Paul Reay**

A true gentleman. **Ron Bell**

RIP Mr Brabban. Got me through my engineering drawing O level. Probably the nicest teacher I ever had. He also taught me woodwork which I continue to do today. **John William Carleton**

One of the best. **Rosie Mountain**

Oh no! That's such sad news - I was lucky enough to work with Ted for many years and learned so much from him about the job. He really was an inspirational colleague. RIP Ted. **David Eccles**

So so sad to hear this. It was lovely to meet up with Ted recently; he truly was one of the best! **Rosalind le Quesne**

Incredibly sad news. A true gentleman, great teacher and tutor. So pleased I heard his lovely address at the recent Tanfield celebration. **Linda Coy**

What sad news. I had the privilege of chatting to him at the school anniversary recently. He will be remembered fondly by many students and staff past and present. **Steve Hind**

A total gentleman. **Michael Roberts.**

He had been part of my life since my O level days. We will miss him. **Alan Mills**

Such a gentleman and it was an honour to know him. **Jonny Coates**

So sad. Lovely man, well respected. A life well lived. **Lynne Breen**

I'm so pleased I got to see him give a tremendous speech at the school reunion a few weeks ago. What a lovely man RIP x **Pauline Smith**

A lovely gentleman **Jane Cain**

Mr Brabban was an absolute gentleman and a fantastic teacher, sending love to all his family and friends xx **Lynne Farrow**

He was a great man & an amazing teacher, that I'm sure will never be forgotten by anyone who knew him. ❤️ **Val Cullen**

He was a great teacher but also a lovely person. Sending condolences to all his family. Made some good memories x **Vida Elliott**

Great teacher won't ever forget what he taught me. **Bill Graves**

My favourite teacher. Told the best (sometimes swears) jokes. Hands up who remembers 'nut, screws washers and bolts'. Bumped into him a few times in Tesco, always spoke, totally genuine bloke. So sad, thoughts with his family. **Peter Cain**

So sorry to hear this. What a shock - he looked to be in fantastic health when we saw him at the Tanfield celebration in October. Sending sympathy and thoughts to his friends and family x **Sara Landale O'Brien**

Such a wonderful teacher to have known. **Philip Atkinson**

So sad ... I am shocked to hear the news as he looked well at the birthday celebration. I have fond memories of him as a teacher but also a friend of my Dad, Neal Dickinson. May he rest in peace. **Diane Abbot**

So sorry to hear about Ted I 1st got to know both Teddy and Mavis when we were all pupils there although I was a few years younger. It was lovely seeing and chatting to them at the celebration this year. My sympathies to Mavis and family. **Joan Callaway**

So sorry to hear this very sad news. Thinking of you and all his family. Xxx **Nisha Stephenson**

Great bloke was Ted, be sadly missed. **Gary Preston**

A lovely man and great teacher **Gavin Crozier**

Mr. Brabban was a lovely man **Lynne Margaret Davison**

What a lovely man. **Caroline Hobbs**

Lovely man, true gentleman. **Lisa Owen**

Such a nice man. **Michele Cooper-Faye**

A lovely man and a great teacher **Victoria Kay**

I also have very fond memories of Ted. May he rest in peace. **Graeme Swan**

My favourite teacher at Tanfield, he helped me a lot in passing 'O' level Technical Drawing. Which in turn was useful when I worked at Huwoods drawing up jig and tool designs. Rip Ted....I'll miss you. **David Findlay**

How very sad. Ted taught when I was a pupil and was very welcoming when I went to teach at SGS. A lovely man!! **Claire Humpherson**

Ted was my woodwork and technical drawing teacher 1961 -1963 and over the past ten years we have exchanged reminiscences of those happy times. His teaching was enthusiastic, gentle and helpful, yet somehow he effortlessly maintained order and safety in his woodwork room with its sharp edged tools and boiling wood glue.

Ted ran an after-school woodwork club where we could use the facilities to carry out our own projects - when I said I wanted to build a full-scale woodwork bench he encouraged me without pointing out any of the difficulties and even gave me some of the timber required. In 2020 he was pleased to see a photo of the bench (still used by my brother) and wrote me an enthusiastic account of some of his own recent projects.

Condolences to Ted's family. Best wishes, **John Cameron** (SGS 61-65)

I remember him as a gentleman and learned so much in his class.  
**Malcolm Clough**

A big hearted man who touched the lives of so many people. R.I.P. **Ann Galliard**

Was talking to Ted at The Reunion and I mentioned the Tanfield Chair. He told me that only one bottom was allowed to be placed on that Chair and it was The Doc's. He said there were a lot of people taking the opportunity to sit on it, without the fear of their own bottom being sore. Two seconds later I was sat on it. The joy of doing something once considered very naughty.

Am sorry he has gone, was a great guy. **Malcolm Fraser.**

His contributions to the newsletter were immense and in my view impossible to follow.

He taught me in the early 70's and was an excellent teacher, his commitment to the school unquestioned and a thoroughly decent human being.

Thank you for passing this very sad information on and may I pass my sympathy on to all Ted's family and many genuine friends. **Graham Kirtley**

Mr Brabban was a gentleman & an amazing teacher **Claire Mason**

Such very sad news, he was my form teacher for a year and also a genuinely great bloke. I bumped into him often at art exhibitions where either of us was exhibiting (he was a very good painter) and he was always encouraging of my work. RIP you will be greatly missed. **Trevor Watson**

A lovely person **Lee Hawley**

Such a lovely teacher. **Joanne Urquhart-Arnold**

He was a proper gent **Lesley Smith**

What a wonderful man. **Kevin Snow**

He was a fantastic teacher. **Clair Craggs**

Really sad to hear this news. He was such a lovely man. **Jennifer Chapman**

Oh I am so very sad to read this. He was such a lovely man and it was a privilege to have known him. Please pass on my deepest sympathies to his family. **Lynne Goulden** (the girl who shaved his beard off)

Our **Michael's** favourite teacher. We were just talking about him yesterday as we drove past the house he lived in at Flint Hill **Linda Ramage**

Sorry to hear the news about Ted. He was in the 5th or 6th when I started SGS in 48. He started a refectory table for the assembly hall under Bob Harrison, I worked on one of the legs years later also under BH. It was destroyed in the fire. **Keith Errington**

Condolences from

Sue Davies David Cook Jack Nelson Steven Clough Jonny Coates Amanda Moralee

Maureen and Walter Peacock Carole Middleton Joy Drake Tom Cooper Nisha Stephenson

Gary Hindhaugh Lesley Hindhaugh Stu Daglish Alex Gibbon Kim Robson

Janet Montgomery Kelly Dawson Michael Riddell Gillian Burrell Tanya Davis

Paul Reay Malcolm Trewick Ron Bell Catherine Robson-Smith Amy Patterson Linda Ramage

Cheryl Nicholson John W Carleton Rosie Mountain David Eccles Rosalind Le Quesne

Linda Coy Lynne Breen Diane Hall Mary Pilch Jeremy Webb Chris Hogarth

Steve Hind Susan Hunter Claire brown Joanna Bruce Michael Roberts

Pauline Brown Anne Henderson Louise Ellison Carol Price Lynn Turner

Lynn Lumley Paul Smith Val Cullen Sonia Robinson Amy Jackson Lindsay Chapman

Barbara Davison David Little Julie Eddy Dan Paul Dave Weller

Anne Hunter David Boland Elsie Williams Clair Crawley Michelle Newton

Christine Brown Abbie Urquhart-Arnold Sally Jones-MackieCraig Todd

Philip Madge Judith Baker Anne-Marie Hall Yvonne Murray Carole Delaney Angela Oyston

Steven Arnold Mark Gregg J B Harrison Steven Hodgson Colin Ash Joanne Robinson

Joanne Little      Lisa Notgnivo      Tracey A Storey      Steven Duffy  
Nicole Thompson      Shirl Heslop  
Dawn Hedley      Michele Cooper-Faye      John Hodgson      Adam De-Vere  
John Bowes