

# TEESSIDE HIGH FORMER STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## NEWS SHEET 126<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

### CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to our new News Sheet. As you may be aware, we decided to produce this instead of a full Annual Magazine due to rising postage and printing costs.

My thanks go to Caroline Chapman for putting this together with news from the Association alongside historical items into the new format. The News Sheet will be published on the Teesside High School website on the Alumni section and I would urge you to look at the website to see how the School is doing from time to time and if you are in the area, attend functions such as the Senior Speech Day where they always have an interesting speaker, and the Christmas Fair. The dates for these are :

Christmas fair – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Senior Speech day – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Association numbers, attendances at the AGM and our annual get together continue to dwindle, however we will try to keep operating as long as we can.

Hopefully I will see some of you at our next annual event which we hope will be on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2026.

Best wishes

Helen Vaughan

#### Winners of the THFSA Speech & Drama awards:

Prep Department – Francesca Longstaff (year 4) Also won the National Trust Shield for the highest mark in LAMDA Speech examination.

Senior School Speech & Drama award went to Max Affleck

Alexandrina Ruth Chalmers Award went to the head girl, Emmeline McGloin

## ANNUAL AGM AND AFTERNOON TEA HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025 AT EAGLESCLIFFE GOLF CLUB

We were pleased to host an afternoon tea at the Eaglescliffe Golf Club following our AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Twenty-four of us enjoyed plates of cakes, sandwiches, quiche and sausage rolls and endless cups of tea. There was much chattering and catching up to be done, and all agreed it had been an enjoyable afternoon. A raffle was held and even the flowers which had been so artfully put together for the tables were raffled.



### TABLE 1

JOYCE WILLIS  
JANE HERBERT  
JETTA YUILL  
PAULINE DONNELLAN  
JOANNA LAKE  
SUSAN STANSFIELD

### TABLE 2

JUNE PLACE  
DOROTHY SIMPSON  
MARION ALDERSON  
VERA WADE  
HILARY THOMPSON  
JEAN THORNTON





### TABLE 3

HELEN VAUGHAN

JEAN  
GOLDSBROUGH

JOHN WEBSTER

FIONA WEBSTER

NICOLA STEPHENS

SUSAN WILKINSON

KATHRYN GILLIE

### TABLE 4

JAN BEETON

ALEX CAREY

JUNE GRAY

MARGARET FRASER

CAROLINE  
CHAPMAN

KIRSTY MACKENZIE

EMMELIENE  
MCGLOIN





## **TEESSIDE HIGH FORMER STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS:**

*If you have any news you would like to share with us please email it to [Caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com](mailto:Caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com) or post to Caroline Chapman, 24 Mill Farm Road, Hamsterley Mill, Co Durham NE39 1NW*

### **News of Former Students:**

**Sylvia Dalton** celebrated her 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024. She is fit and healthy and lives in Montpellier Manor, Stainton. She put out a post on Facebook hoping she might receive 103 cards, the total by 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 was 1800! She spent her Birthday at lunch with family at Muse in Yarm and the home were having a little get together that afternoon.

She puts her long life to being happy.

**Caroline Chapman** celebrated the Birth of her third Grandchild on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024, a daughter, Adeline to her son Philip and wife Amy. Already standing at 9 months.



### **Deaths:**

*We sadly report the following deaths during the year:*

**Wendy Waite** (Nee Lawson) died on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 shortly after her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. She had been one of Miss Chalmers original pupils at Cleveland School.

Also in March 2025 **Elizabeth Dowsett** (nee Guthrie) who was at School from 1951-1958.

### **Change of Address:**

**June Place** has moved to Rowandale, 86 High Street, Swainby, Northallerton, DL6 3DG.

# Lets travel back in time to the 1920s...



Fashion of the day in the year Sylvia Dalton was born.

The 1921 Census of England and Wales depicts an era of great change. From Divorcees to fuller classrooms.



## ***What was our Association up to in 1921?***

There were 37 Honorary Members, 213 Members and 22 Life Members. *About twice as many as we have today.*

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting had taken place on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1921 and 43 members were present. Apologies were given by Miss Browne, the founder of Queen Victoria High School.

Miss Carpenter, who presided, opened the meeting with an inspiring address. She spoke of the materialism of the present age, and of how an Association like ours, being in such a flourishing condition and with all the traditions should be dominated by a spirit of idealism: with the growth of membership and increase in vitality so should our high ideals be maintained and developed.

With regard to the raising of money for "The Cot", it was proposed that a Fancy Dress Dance was arranged to raise funds. It was decided that Fancy dress was to be optional.

[Today we still send money each year to the Butterwick Children's Hospice in memory of the Stockton Hospital Cot that was sponsored all those years ago.](#)

It was also decided that Old Girls should have a blazer of dark blue with pale blue binding at a cost of 40/- (£2 equivalent! In today). Eventually this became the norm for the pupils at School. I remember myself wearing one, which is in the display cabinet at the School today.

Items of Interest: Nancy Elliott has gained first class honours in both parts of the third Professional Examination, being the only one to do so out of 450 Men and women students. Later in 1927 it was noted that she had gained her F.R.C.S, the only woman to achieve a distinction and the youngest one ever to do so.

Other achievements were a History Honours at Oxford, Final Nursing examination, Apothecaries Hall for Dispensers, Intermediate examinations in Law and Book keeping, An exam in Massage,

There were 230 pupils at QVHS at the time.

In 1927, about the time Sylvia would be at School, the Old Girls put on a production of "Of Mice and Men" From every point of view the result was splendid. A high standard of acting and the fact that women impersonated men did not spoil the effect as is sometimes the case, although their gestures were those of women rather than of men!

A trip to Knossos in Crete at Easter ( No mean feat in those days) marked an epoch in one's life reports Miss B Carpenter. For 12 days they feasted on beautiful landscapes and Art, from standing on the site of the Olympic Games and putting our fingers in the groves used by the first runners at the beginning of their races to sitting in the seats of the theatre where the Athenians, in the Golden Age of Pericles, witnessed those plays of immortal grandeur. But all agreed that the visit to Knossos topped it all. Where the discoveries made in 1900 by Sir Arthur Evans showed that a great Palace, a seat of government of a potent dynasty, the representative of , about 2000BC, was King Minos.

## ***University Life...***

For those sixth formers who are venturing forth to University this Autumn, maybe even to Leeds, here is an article written in 1927 about University Life at Leeds then.

University life has characteristics all its own, differing widely from home life and yet one falls so easily into the new way of living, that the difference is not always realised.

Students in residence become so soaked in University atmosphere that it cannot help but become a part of themselves, and so reacts on all their activities, intellectual and athletic.

The number of people in each hall varies between 40 and 70, nearly all rooms are single or double study-bedrooms, these are our own private havens. It is here we spend our evenings, and our afternoons if we are free from lectures and lab work.

Food is of deep interest to all Students, I for one have fattened visibly (so they said) by the end of my first term. Breakfast is the speediest meal of the day, at least it is for people who are not good at getting up, I have never been there to see how the early birds breakfast. (Four and a half minutes is the record minimum, not omitting any item on the menu).

Lunch is not at all interesting: tea is bread, jam and cakes, two or three times a week. The University seems to float on tea between 4pm and 5.30pm so it is possible to have three teas: If you are in the Lab from 2 till 5, you slip out at 4pm and have a cup of tea and a bun in the Union Rooms at the tea club, which is an essential feminine institution where, with a bit of luck, you may find an easy chair near a blazing fire and someone to gossip with, or someone to dance with to gramophone music, as a brief respite from toil. Then tea No 2 might be hostel tea at 5pm and tea No 3 could be at a society meeting at 5.15pm.

Dinner is more ceremonious than satisfying. Supper is the jolliest meal of the day. Unofficial, what you like, how you like, at your own fireside. Work is finished so no need to hurry. Have you drunk coffee out of a milk jug, if you haven't washed the cups, it tastes none the worse. Could you eat sardines on toast with a teaspoon? Difficult but practice makes perfect. The you talk and think and talk again of dreams and dresses, doubts and distress, dear people and diaries, discoveries and diaries until the fire burns out.

There are often plans afoot for one or other of the many social evenings we have. Plays are the usual form of entertainment and very popular, are the Prof's socials, when we invite staff to our Hall. One goes in to supper arm in arm with servants who have forgotten all their "ologies" for the time being and show that they are quite normal people with a goodly capacity for enjoying merry-making.

Now for a glimpse into the wider sphere of the University as a whole. It is a small world in itself, where you are constantly meeting new people, from near and far studying the same subjects and even subjects you have never heard of. There is a sweet Indian woman student who always wears her National costume although the grace of her long –flowing saris becomes incongruity when she dons also a "varsity blazer" and I think the funniest subject of study I ever heard of was that of a man who said, when I asked him what his work was "Pig's insides".

Kathleen Berry 1927

**President**

The Head Teacher – Ms Kirsty MacKenzie

**Vice Presidents**

Mrs J Hennessy ; Mr M Wilkinson

**Chairman**

Mrs Helen Vaughan: ✉ [heelnvaughan541@btinternet.com](mailto:heelnvaughan541@btinternet.com)

**Minutes Secretary**

Mrs Alex Carey: ✉ [trick2life@hotmail.com](mailto:trick2life@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer & Secretary**

Mrs Caroline Chapman: ✉ [caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com)

**News Sheet Editor**

Mrs Caroline Chapman

**Committee Members**

Mrs Kathryn Gillie, Miss Jean Goldsborough, Mrs Alex Carey, Mrs Joyce Willis, Mrs Joanna Lake and Mrs Sue Wilkinson.

*We are still collecting your email addresses – if you have not sent us yours or have changed your email address, please email it to [caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.chapman1816@gmail.com)*

## **At the AGM on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 it was decided the following changes would be made.:**

**Voting Proposals results:** Voting papers were circulated with the AGM papers, and 11 papers were returned. The proposals were again shared with those in attendance at the AGM. The current School is now over 50 years old and the Association is mostly a link to the old girls of the two previous Schools.

**Proposal A:** Current members to become Life Members -Agreed by those in person and all 11 proxy votes.

**Proposal B:** To continue to donate to Children's Butterwick Hospice on behalf of the "Cot" - All agreed in person together with 9 of the proxy votes. 2 proxy voters abstained.

**Proposal C:** Continue to hold AGM and Lunch/Afternoon tea, notice to be given via email, postal, and School website. All agreed in person plus 10 proxy votes. 1 abstention who wanted to look at other venues. This is done anyway on an annual basis whilst organising the event.

**Proposal D:** We only need to hold one other meeting per year to organise the AGM etc. – All agreed plus 9 proxy votes, 2 abstained. It was reiterated that an extraordinary meeting could be called at any other time if deemed necessary.

**Proposal E:** The Luncheon/ Tea + raffle would be self-funded hopefully – All agreed with the amendment that it should be self-funded to be kept as an annual basis via email.

**Proposal F:** Shorter version of the magazine – All agreed except 2 of the proxy votes. The magazine will be in a Newssheet format about 4 A\$ pages long and will be put on the school website as well as being emailed/posted out.



# TEESSIDE HIGH FORMER STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO DATE FOR THE YEAR TO 30.09.2024

CURRENT ACCOUNT	£ LUNCH FUND	£ GENERAL	£ TOTAL
<b>Balance B/Fwd at 1.10.2023</b>	247.09	844.95	1,092.04
<b>INCOME</b>			
Subscriptions		120.00	120.00
Donations		560.00	560.00
Christmas online & Fair Raffle		235.00	235.00
Afternoon Tea receipts	2,375.00		2,375.00
Afternoon Tea raffle receipts	308.00		308.00
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	2,683.00	915.00	3,598.00
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Sub-Total	2,930.09	1,759.95	4,690.04
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
RIP Card– Anne Smith		2.50	2.5
Speech & Drama Award Emmeline McGloin		15.00	15.00
Christmas Fayre Raffle prizes		80.00	80.00
Postage to date		13.25	13.25
Afternoon Tea Raffle prizes bought	80.00		80.00
Afternoon Tea caterers	2,440.00		2,440.00
Afternoon expenses – Helen Vaughan	78.86		78.86
- Sue Wilkinson	65.76		65.76
- Caroline Chapman	153.00		153.00
Charity Donations – Butterwick Childrens		100.00	100.00
-Yarm Wellness Centre		100.00	100.00
- Daisy Chain		100.00	100.00
Magazine print costs for 75 copies		160.00	160.00
Magazine postage		106.70	106.70
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	2,817.62	677.45	3,495.07
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<b>Balance as at 30.09.2024</b>	<b>112.47</b>	<b>1,082.50</b>	<b>1,194.97</b>
<b>£</b>			

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## INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

<b>Balance at 1.10.2023</b>	1,574.50	
Interest 1.1.2024	12.18	
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<b>Balance at 30.09.2024</b>		<b>1,586.68</b>
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