

Who organises the reunions?

Biennial reunions are organised by a team of volunteers comprising former students and staff and, in several cases, their husbands and wives. We meet as a team at Stoke Rochford Hall on Sunday mornings three or four times a year, after which many of us stay to enjoy Sunday lunch together. We are **always** keen to welcome new people to join the team. Whatever skills you may have to offer, there is a place for you so, don't be shy—come and join us! For more information, please contact John Hopkins. We look forward to welcoming you to the team.

Date of the next team meeting: 12th March 2017

Some useful contact details:

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Please also visit our website at www.kestevencollege.com

And finally.....

Once again I would like to say a huge and heart-felt thank you to all those people who have worked so hard to produce and distribute this newsletter, but special thanks go to:

- ☺ Chris Sullivan, Deputy Editor, for his ongoing help and support
- ☺ Everyone who has contributed articles
- ☺ Robert Naylor for the printing
- ☺ Chris and Linda Sullivan (née Collison, 1963-1966) for organising the mailing

Editor



Newsletter no. 1, 16-18
Autumn 2016

KTC/KCE Reunion Newsletter

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter of the 2016-2018 reunion cycle. This is rather a special newsletter as it is going to be mailed to everyone who has ever been to a reunion, or who has been “discovered” by our “people researchers” since I took over managing the mailing list over ten years ago. Of course, there is a reason for this mass mailing. We really hope that you will be so inspired by reading the newsletter, that you will fill in the enclosed membership form right away and post it back to me, together with your cheque for £15. Not only will becoming a member ensure you never miss an edition of the newsletter, you will also be kept up to date with information about the next reunion, and even given the opportunity to book early to be sure of a place. As well as funding the production of regular newsletters, the membership fee ensures we are able to cover the cost of organising reunions, so I really hope that everyone who reads this will join us.

I am very grateful to all those who have continued to send articles for the newsletter and would like to encourage even more of you to consider writing something. Memories of your time at college and of members of staff are always well received, as are accounts of what you have been doing since you left “Kesters”. We have also published some very interesting articles about Stoke Rochford Hall and other nearby places. You can email articles to me, or send them in the post and, as I've said many times before, they can be typed or hand written; they do not need to be in a “finished” form. Our editorial team, I and deputy editor Chris Sullivan, are more than happy to work with whatever is sent.

If you enjoy the newsletter, or even if you don't, why not drop me a line and tell me what you think?

Sue Ellis (Jack, 1973-1977)

**Find us on Facebook and on the internet at
www.kestevencollege.com**

A letter from John Hopkins (EJB) Chair of the Reunion Organising Team

Dear Friends

The next Kesteven Training College/College of Education Reunion is being planned for 29th June to 1st July 2018, which will mark 70 years since the founding of our College and 40 years since its closure.

It is my pleasure and privilege to invite you to join us for this landmark reunion weekend, which will be the ninth reunion to be arranged by the Organising Team.

Even though the 2016 Reunion Weekend was the smallest gathering to date, everyone enjoyed the experience immensely, and there were several enthusiastic people attending for the first time.

This time around, VERY EARLY BOOKING IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT to enable the team to secure sufficient bedroom accommodation and rooms for meals and activities. BE AWARE THAT STOKE ROCHFORD is nowadays a hotel and wedding venue, and rooms cannot be reserved indefinitely for our group. It would be helpful if bookings were made and deposits paid asap and please urge others to do the same.

The Organising team NEEDS YOUR HELP to book very early, persuade others to do the same and especially to CONTACT ALL known former KTC/KCE people (staff and students) and spread the GOOD NEWS about our very special forthcoming weekend in 2018. Don't forget that wives, husbands and partners are ALL most welcome to attend.

The preparations for 2018 are well under way. We look forward to renewing friendships (and making new ones) in the splendid surroundings of Stoke Rochford.

With best wishes

John Hopkins (1964-1967)

Summary of newsletter articles

I thought it might be interesting to publish a summary of newsletter articles from the last reunion cycle to give new readers an idea of what to expect, and to remind returning readers of the great variety of articles we have included in newsletters. If you missed any of these newsletters, and would like to read them, please get in touch with me. Copies sent via email will be free, but I'll need you to send a stamped, addressed envelope for paper copies.

Editor

time planning for the Arnhem mission of 1944 took place.

In 1948 the Hall became a Teacher Training College and remained so for thirty years. When its closure was announced it was offered for sale with a 999 year lease. The sales details listed a wide, but not exhaustive range of "rooms" numbering seventy to eighty. In all it was declared to have 41,000 square feet of accommodation. For this, and the "immediate surroundings" the National Union of Teachers paid £265,000 in 1977.

John Grocock (1967-1970)

Acknowledgements:

Terence R Leach, "Notes for the Society's Outing to Stoke Rochford and Easton, 24th June 1978", Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology (1978)

Reunion Review

At the last meeting of the Reunion Organising Team in September, we looked through the evaluation sheets from the 2016 reunion to see what those who had attended felt we had done well and learn what we could have done better.

Most people found the accommodation, the food and the tea/coffee/bar service average to excellent, with the majority judging all to have been good or excellent. As in 2014, a few minor niggles were raised, and these have again been passed on to the Stoke Rochford Management team.

As far as the weekend itself was concerned, we were interested to learn what people thought of the fact that we had returned to the "whole weekend" reunion after having had a shorter, two day reunion in 2014. Happily, everyone was extremely positive, most judging the reunion to have been good value for money, and 23 out of the 27 who responded said they definitely planned to attend another reunion. We had deliberately kept the organised events to a minimum as we knew from the 2014 feedback that what people most wanted from the weekend was the opportunity to catch up with old friends, meet new friends and enjoy being back in the beautiful surroundings of Stoke Rochford Hall. Having said that, the Folk Evening, back in its more usual Friday evening slot, the Memorabilia Exhibition, the Walk, the DVD and reminiscences session and the after dinner disco on the Saturday evening all went down well, with everyone grading them either good or excellent. The disco especially attracted comment. Those of us who like to dance thoroughly enjoyed "strutting our stuff" to the hits of our youth, whilst others who just wanted to sit and chat were able to do so whilst listening to the music from the adjoining room. Even in the same room as the disco, the volume was not so loud as to preclude conversation. As a result of the positive feedback, we have asked "DJ Dave" if he could come back in 2018. Watch this space.....!

The Reunion Programme Planning Team

A brief history of the Turnor Family and Stoke Rochford Hall

There had been numerous important houses in the vicinity dating back to Roman times. However, the Turnor family didn't begin their relationship with Lincolnshire and Stoke Rochford until 1653 when Edward Turnor (1619-1707) married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Harrison of Hertfordshire who had purchased the estate. It was in 1665 that Sir Edmund built a house which was positioned near the bridge by the lake. Interestingly, stables were added to this house in 1676 and the follies in the park are the reconstructed facades of these buildings.

In 1774, a year after Edmund Turnor (d. 1805) purchased Panton Hall near Wragby, the 17th Century house was demolished and replaced twenty years later by a smaller one on the east bank of the river.

By the 19th Century the Turnor fortune was considerable and, on 24th April 1841, a contract was signed between Christopher Turnor (1809-1886) and William Burn for the design and construction of the present Hall in the sum of approximately £60,000. Burn was an architect of renown and had been involved in the design and construction of Harlaxton Manor a few years earlier. As a consequence of this new-build, the house of 1794 was demolished. Christopher Turnor made this new house his main place of residence but Edmund, his son (1838-1903) preferred Panton and for a time Stoke Rochford was occupied by tenants.

It remained thus until Edmund's nephew and heir, Christopher Turnor (1873-1940) took up a more permanent residence after his marriage to Sarah Marie Talbot in 1907. He was the last of the Turnor family to live there. During their tenure Christopher served as Sheriff of Lincolnshire and Mayor of Grantham. He and his wife gained a reputation for their philanthropy and egalitarianism. They hosted conferences and gatherings of a diverse range of groups and individuals from across the political and social divides, including children from deprived areas, in order to encourage closer collaboration and understanding amongst them.

Christopher died in 1940 and as W.W.II progressed, Stoke Rochford was commandeered by the War Department and for eighteen months members of the Parachute Regiment were based there. During this

Subject/title	Author	Newsletter date
Buckminster Aerodrome	Naylor, Robert	2015-6, Winter
College memories - 1950-52	Bancroft, Dorothy	2015, Spring
College memories - 1950-52	Nutt, Winifred (Seamark)	2014, Autumn
College memories - accommodation - 1962-65	McWhinnie, Mike ("Min")	2015-6, Winter
College memories - first impressions 1973	Ellis, Sue (Jack)	2015, Spring
College memory - 1964-67	Green, Jenny (Battram)	2014, Autumn
Encounter with past life at Stoke Rochford Hall	Naylor, Jillian (Martin)	2014, Autumn
Jane Hallé Appeal - introduction	Hopkins, John (EJB)	2015, Spring
Life in Retirement	Chambers, John	2015, Spring
News of a former student, Sir Robert Salisbury	Reproduced from Nottingham Post, 21.10.15	2016, Spring
Perspective from one who was never a student at Kesteven!	Sullivan, Chris	2015, Spring
Remembering members of staff - Queenie Stearn	Ellis, Sue (Jack)	2015-6, Winter
Tramway, The	Grocock, John	2016, Spring
Water Meadows at Itchen Stoke - poem	Hallé, Jane (Hurst)	2014, Autumn
Where we lived then!	Hyde, David	2016, Spring

A sad, but important role of this newsletter is to inform you of the passing of former staff and students of the college. The following announcements have been published over the past two years. Again, please contact the Editor if you would like further information.

Name	Years at college	Newsletter date
ANDERSON, Steve	1959-1961	2015-6, Winter
BATLEY, David	1961-1964	2016, Spring
COLE, Janet (Davie)	1950-1952	2015, Spring
HALLE, Jane (Hurst)	1965-1968	2014, Autumn
HEAPS, Mabel Frances (Fisher)	1953-1956	2015-6, Winter
MACHIN, Peter	1963-1966	2015-6, Winter

Jane Hallé Appeal

The Organising Team is pleased to report that £145 was collected at the last reunion in memory of Jane Halle. This is in addition to monies sent and given at the time of her funeral.

In accordance with Jane's and Donor's expressed wishes the amount has been distributed as follows:

African Initiatives	£39.00
Practical Action	£44.00
Barnardo's	£62.00

Thank you to all who donated to the appeal.

Ian Burt (1967-1970)

College memories from the perspective of a member of staff

Thanks to former Education Lecturer Ken Regelous for sending in this article:

After teaching English in France, and French in England for about ten years, I got on a year's full-time Russian course (with full pay, courtesy of the then London County Council). This made me realise what I'd been putting children through! I'd done some practical psychology, so decided to make a change from languages. I added psychology as an "alternative subject" to my degree in economics, then did educational psychology with the Department of Education in London. There were several advertisements for lecturers in psychology at colleges of Education. I applied to Kesteven, had interviews, and was accepted.

So it was a bit of a surprise on my first day at the college to find myself in the sociology department with Roy Hopkins and Norman Greaves! Fortunately I'd done some sociology of Education with the Department of Education and this was enough to start off with. But I immediately began an external degree in sociology with the University of London, which took about four years. It was the most fascinating subject I'd ever studied, and became a lifelong interest.

How the psychology became sociology I was never told - and I didn't like to ask!

Ken Regelous, (Member of staff 1967-1976)

College Days Photographs

Hello, all you former students and staff of Kesteven Training College/ College of Education. As many of you know, we have built up a very large collection of memorabilia. However, we know that this represents only a tiny part of the experiences of students and, indeed, staff during their time at Stoke Rochford. We would like to add photographs of a more personal nature, relating to college days; of recreational and social activities, field trips and every day student life.

If you have any such photographs, and are willing to let us use them, you can scan and email them to me at:

davidrhyde19@hotmail.com

or send them to me, suitably packaged, at:

Rosewood Cottage, 19 Main Street, Scopwick, Lincs LN4 3NR

I promise to look after them, scan them and post them back to you. Even if you only have negatives or slides, I can convert them to digital photos and print them off. Thanks in advance!

David Hyde (1967-1971)

