



## Message from the President of the Baines School Former Pupils Association and Secretary of Baines Alumni – David J Astall

*It is with the greatest of sorrow to hear news of the passing of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. She will be very sadly missed. For many of us she has been our Queen throughout our lifetimes. The Queen's devotion, humility and service to her country will never be surpassed. Our thoughts and prayers will be with the Royal Family at this very sad time.*

### Dear Alumni member,

I hope you will join me in sending our condolences to HM King Charles III and his family on the death of his mother, HM Queen Elizabeth II. I have on your behalf this morning written to the new Private Secretary of HM King Charles III our condolences.

September is traditionally a time of change, whether it is a new school year or embarking on a university or college course. Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September sees the start of the meteorological Autumn season so its downhill all the way now. As September is traditionally a time for change in the UK it seemed a good time to listen to your comments and revamp both the website and the newsletter. So, I hope this edition of the newsletter matches your expectations. Originally the newsletter was meant as a way of keeping in touch in lockdown but recently it had lost its way so now lets rewind to the origins. The result of these changes has meant that both the October and November editions are in the planning stage which is unprecedented.

I hope you all have had a good summer and managed to get away (if you could, and not just to an airport lounge) to have some quality time in the sun. I managed to get some time away and to go to the theatre as well to see 'The Ramsbottom's go to Blackpool'. This will make one member of the Alumni envious. A play about Mr and Mrs Ramsbottom and their son, Albert based on the monologue The Lion and Albert made famous by Stanley Holloway..

### New newsletter

It is getting more and more difficult to find information for the Alumni News. You will notice from this edition that more of the younger members of our community are getting a mention. There will still be room in the newsletter for items from the archive and mention of those members of the Alumni that are no longer with us as well as news from the FPA.

### Interactive

Click on the images shown to link to the websites.

### Baines Alumni website



This is the general website for all Baines Alumni news.

<https://e-voice.org.uk/bainesalumni/>

If you wish access to the members only part of the website then please contact me.

### Baines Alumni Archive



A new website dedicated to the archive is coming soon. Before this is operational the archive

can be viewed on the Baines Alumni website.

### Baines School Website



This is the link to the main school website

<https://baines.lancs.sch.uk/>

### Email links



To contact me about the newsletter or website or to contribute simply email

[bainesalumnui@btinternet.com](mailto:bainesalumnui@btinternet.com)

### Email Forwarding Service

If a member, in the directory, is ex-directory and you wish to contact them then simply contact me and I will pass on your message.

**Former Pupils Association: email**  
[fpa@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:fpa@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

### Social Media



Baines School 300



Baines School

## Meet the Alumni

### **Lancashire and England T20 Cricketer – Richard Gleeson (1998-2006)**



Richard was born in Blackpool in 1987 and attended the school between 1998 and 2006. According to the Speech night programme for that year (2006) Richard left Baines to take up a course on Coaching and Sports

Development at the University College of St Martins. However this was not to be his only job though before picking up the willow professionally. According to the BBC prior to becoming a T20 England cricketer he had had a number of jobs including teaching and construction work.

In his cricketing career Richard has played for a number of county teams including Northamptonshire and Lancashire.

He made his first-class debut for Northamptonshire against the Australians on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015 and his County debut for Northamptonshire against Lancashire on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in the Royal London One-Day Cup. He then had to wait a further seven years to make his international debut for the England cricket team in July 2022.

Whilst playing at Northamptonshire Richard was holding down a full-time job coaching in schools and cricket clubs on behalf of the Lancashire Cricket Board. He then signed full time for Northamptonshire and a contract to play T20 cricket for the Rangpur Riders in the 2016 Bangladesh Premier League. But as a Lancastrian there could only be one move and that was to his home county – he did this towards the end of the 2018 season.

At the age of 33 (May 2020), he was named for the England's training squad, which was quite old for a top-class cricketer. Richard said at the time "never give up, keep following your dream and keep pursuing things". On 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020, Richard was included in England's 24-man squad to start training behind closed doors for the One Day International series against Ireland and was later named as one of three reserve players in England's squad for the series.

On 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022, in the 2022 T20 Blast, Richard took his first five-wicket haul in T20 cricket, with 5 wickets for 33 runs against the Worcestershire Rapids.

In July 2022, Richard was named for England's T20 International squad for their home series against India. He made his T20 debut on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022, taking the wickets of Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Rishabh Pant, for only 15 runs. Recently Richard has been seen playing in the Hundred series.

## **Stronger Together**

Baines Alumni is here to help and support you. Its members have many skills, expertise, and friends to give you advice and support if we can.



## **Drop in Sessions**



The School re-opens on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022. We hope to restart our regular Tuesday morning sessions shortly after that.

We are looking for former pupils and former staff, who have a few hours to spare and would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you. If you are interested, please drop me an email at [bainesalumni@btinternet.com](mailto:bainesalumni@btinternet.com)

## **Alumni Snippets**



For those of you that visit the website will notice the Alumni Snippets.

This is your way of letting others know what is going on with your links with the Alumni.

Click the link below to see the up to date Snippets.

[Alumni Snippets](#)

## **Welcome**

Another addition to the Alumni directory is **Stephen Bishop**, who now lives in Smithville, Texas. He was at Baines between 1967 and 1974.

## **Congratulations**

### **Mike Johnson (2006-14)**



Congratulations to former student Mike Johnson on being promoted to Senior Executive Education Consultant at In

Professional Development (InPD).

More information in the next newsletter about Mike.

Richard a degree in Coaching and Sports Performance and lectures at Myerscough Cricket. He has developed into an impressive short-form bowler: high pace, high accuracy.

### Sir William Lyons

Thanks to Lesley Robson former teacher at St Aidan's School for this information on Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar Cars Ltd., and an old boy of the school. See we spread our net for news even over Wyre. A chance remark at Great Eccleston Show led to finding out information about this forgotten Old Boy.

Whilst I watch the penultimate race of this season's formula E (electric car racing) which was won by Mitch Evens driving a Jaguar we see how far Jaguar cars have come from the idea dreamt up by former pupil William Lyons.



William was born in Blackpool on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1901. He may not have been at the school long before moving to Arnold School but he claims dual citizenship. William stated that of his time at Baines he was, an 'average scholar'

William known as "Mr. Jaguar", working with fellow motorcycle enthusiast William Walmsley, co-founded in 1922 the Swallow Sidecar Company, which after the Second World War became Jaguar Cars Limited. William took a small sidecar manufacturing business and developed it into a prominent World-wide Company in a few years.

William certainly lived up to the school motto – Nil Sine Labore (Nothing without hard work). He was a charismatic man, single-minded and certainly strong-willed. Tremendously hard-working William expected his staff to do likewise. He surrounded himself with exceptionally talented people who were just as keen on the enterprise as he was. They may not always have agreed with the Boss, but they were loyal, both to him and to Jaguar.



By 1911 his parent's business was doing well and they moved to Red Cottage in Newton Drive, close to what would later become Stanley Park, and they had enough money to send William to Arnold School

On leaving school in July 1917 William was due to become an apprentice at Vickers shipbuilding yard at Barrow-in-Furness, but his father came to the rescue; he knew the Managing Director of Crossley Motors in Gorton, Manchester, and asked if there was a place for his son. The result was that young William took up an apprenticeship with them. Part of the arrangement included studying engineering at Manchester Technical College some of the week. William wanted to get closer to the Crossley cars but production at the time was concentrated on ambulances and lorries for the military.

### Stuart Beatty

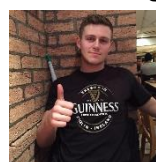


We congratulate former student Stuart Beatty after 17 years at the Canadian Utilities company CGI as a

Directing Consultant.

Stuart lives in Leatherhead and works in London although he does travel a lot. More about Stuart in future editions.

### James Burgess



To former pupil and one of my former tutor group James Burgess for being awarded his first class degree from University of Cumbria

### Speech Night Guest

This year's school speech night had as its guest former Baines pupil and Head Boy – **Samuel Dow**

### Au revoir

Former Maths teacher **Chris Sharp** and his family emigrated to Qatar on 31st July. We wish them all the best in their new home.

### Visitors

Former pupil **Lorna Batters** was over from Canada recently and met up with former Maths and ICT teacher, Margaret McCann.



Hopefully with a bit of persuading I might be able to get Lorna to write a few lines about what she has been doing since leaving Baines.

### Contacts

**Chairman: Alumni**  
Muriel Ryding

**Secretary: Alumni**  
David J Astall

After leaving Crossley's he moved back to Blackpool where he found work with Jackson Brothers and then Jack (John Edgar) Mallalieu offered him a sales job at his new dealership – Brown and Mallalieu. He attended the first post-war motor show in London in 1919 where he helped on the Brown and Mallalieu stand. William was just eighteen-years-old and was now as experienced with motor cars as he was with motorcycles.

In August 1922, William Lyons senior and Thomas Walmsley put up £500 each to fund the enterprise by guaranteeing a £1,000 loan (roughly £30,000 in today's terms) at Williams Deacon's Bank in Blackpool.



They found suitable premises at 5 Bloomfield Road and the partnership agreement was signed on 21<sup>st</sup> November. This became the Swallow Sidecar Company which was the start of Jaguar Motors. The big break came when the company moved to Coventry and mass production of Jaguar Cars started. Due to his work in the motor industry William was knighted in 1956.

William died on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1985 at Wappenbury Hall, his home in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, at the age of 83.

## **The Baines Alumni Website**

### **The changes**

Not only has the newsletter had a bit of a makeover but so has the Baines Alumni website. Those of you that visit it will notice that there is a new members section which is only accessible by a password. If you wish access to this part, please email me. This section houses the directory and will house the more personal information like the school photos. If you wish to join the members area you will receive an email with this heading:

The site is still a work in progress and if anyone has any ideas for pages etc then please email me.



### **The Directory**

In the old days when anything could be written without permission the FPA had a 'yellow' book – a directory of its members. I have revamped this directory, made it electronic and placed it on the members part of the Baines Alumni website.

It is split into former pupils, teaching staff, governors and other staff/friends. The directory is now open to all members

## **Items for the Newsletter and Alumni News**

The newsletter and the Alumni News section of the website is very important to let other members of the Alumni know what is happening.

If you have any items for the newsletter or Alumni News then please email me at [Bainesalumni@btinternet.com](mailto:Bainesalumni@btinternet.com) and I will endeavour to publish the information.

## **Baines School Former Pupils Association**

### **FPA News**

The website also includes news for the FPA. If you wish to contribute to the news then please email me.

### **Sad News**

Passing of Former President (1993-94) **Eric Appleby ("Apse"), (1956 - 61)**

Eric had been fighting cancer of the oesophagus for 2 or 3 years, and although he had briefly overcome the illness, sadly it returned some 6 months ago. He was able to get away to Cornwall for a couple of weeks with family but on his return contracted pneumonia and sepsis, passing away at 5.30pm on 13th July.

Eric was a tenacious football wing half and a reliable cricket wicket keeper for both the school and Founders teams throughout his time at school. He was a committee member of the FPA for many years and served as President in 1993-94.

On one memorable occasion in the 1980s he somehow managed to assemble the entire under 12 Gazette Cup winning football team of 1957 for a reunion at the Old Boys annual dinner held at The Imperial Hotel that year.

The Gazette photo of the cup winning team; Eric is helping to hold our

of the Alumni. If you would like to be added to it then please contact me. You can either share your email address or be ex-directory.

### Email forwarding service

If a name is not listed in the directory or the member is ex-directory and you wish to contact them then please contact me and if I have the email address I will contact them on your behalf; If they are not listed then I will post a message on site or in the newsletter.

### Get well soon

I have heard recently that some of the Alumni have been ill, I hope they all on the road to recovery. One male member has had Covid for the third time recently – that's just being greedy. Also, I heard in the past few days that Michael Ardron has been in hospital, it must have been serious as he missed playing golf. He is now back home and improving, I have spoken to him and past on your best wishes. We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to Michael's son, former pupil Robert Ardron who has been in hospital. Robert used to organise the FPA Golf.

### From the Archive

Nowadays we take it for granted that someone will do it for us, but over 100 years ago things were so much different.

### All about boarders

In the early 1900s the school had a number of boarders living in the Headmaster's House [Music block]. The dorms were situated on the right hand side of the building, one downstairs and one up. The one upstairs is one of the current music rooms. Entrance to these dorms appears to be from the back of the building and their canteen was in what is now the house garden.



This image clearly shows the house and the section between the house and the next building (the old school [sixth form]) the dorms. The building to the left of the house is the

shower block with the canteen not shown just to its left.

The boarders were in charge of the 'house' and its grounds and if they wanted things, they did it themselves. We read in Poultonian that the school needed a new cricket pitch so the boarders made a new cricket pitch. A different class of pupil. In 1918 the number of day and boarding school boys in the school was increasing and more activities and food, especially food have to be found.

winning captain aloft by supporting his left knee and calf. Alan Christy is the goalkeeper wearing his school cap to shield his eyes from the late evening sun at Bloomfield Road.



### Keith Bentley

He was an auctioneer and estate agent in Blackpool. Keith supported many events, especially the golf and annual dinner.

### Birthday greetings

I can write this as I know he won't read it. As I write this, we all send birthday greetings to **Paul Bamber**, FPA Secretary. I'm not going to tell you how old his but there is no truth in the rumour that there was a birthday card with a Windsor Postmark, and a corgi paw print.

### Contacts

#### School contact

**Helen Kenyon**

[hke@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:hke@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

### Former Pupils Association 2022/23

#### President

David Astall

#### President Elect

Muriel Ryding

#### Secretary FPA

Paul Bamber

#### Treasurer FPA

Mick Baron

### Joining the FPA

If you wish to join (£10 per year) please contact Paul Bamber (FPA Secretary) on

[fpa@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:fpa@baines.lancs.sch.uk).

In front of the school house was a lawn and we read that early in 1918 there was an infestation of rabbits. One or two to start with but then more and more. Unfortunately these rabbits appear to have died out before reaching maturity - the disappointment was that the boarders had lost a source of food.

However, this was a minor setback as later that year they dug up the front lawn and planted potatoes. The headteacher then allocated part of the school vegetable plot to the boarders to plant salad crop and vegetables to help feed them in the house.

In order to improve the colour in the garden the boarders planted 50 Sea Candy [thrift] on the banks of the Wyre and then transplanted these in the garden border.



### **Share your story**

The archive needs to be preserved and added to. Much of the archive is from the old days but it is an ever-developing entity and therefore it is our duty to add to it before it is lost for ever.

Therefore, as it is YOUR archive; we need your help to add to it. Some of the information will be placed on the website whilst other information can be added to the newsletter, but ultimately much of the archive is in the form of memories and therefore these need to be preserved as well. We have in the JB room recording equipment if you wish to share and preserve your memories of the school, alternatively you can send in voice recordings, and these can be saved.

### **Reporting back**

#### **BBQ Report**

According to the BBC weather forecast Saturday 20th August was going to start off nice then rapidly deteriorate into rain and winds. Well, the windy weather came but the rain did not and it was warm and sunny in the back garden on Paul Bamber's house for the annual BBQ.

Everyone that attended had a great time, the food was all home cooked and great especially the blackberry trifle with limoncello and we all chatted whilst relaxing and eating in the garden. Thanks to the Bamber's for hosting and cooking, that's Paul and his wife and Phil (his brother) and his wife.

### **What's happening at School?**

#### **Then there was light**

Remember that light corridors in the main building? As you walked towards the library or the gym/refectory the light streamed through from the classrooms, then the

### **Baines Alumni Volunteers**

We are looking for people to help with the Archive. Either helping to catalogue it; or scan the items so that they can be stored electronically within the new archive. There are also a number of images that show 'unknown' pupils that need identifying.

We also need items for the archive so if you think you can help in any way then please do not hesitate to either contact me or Muriel Ryding.

### **Noticeboard**

As I receive notices from the Alumni they will be published on the Noticeboard section of the website.

### **Events**

#### **20<sup>th</sup> Sept:**

FPA Committee. If you have anything you would like brought up at the FPA committee, can you please contact the FPA secretary or myself and I will pass it on.

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Dec:**

FPA Christmas Dinner

### **Social Events**

As I receive information about any social events they will be published on the Events Calendar on the Alumni Website.

If you wish to publicise any Alumni events or add to the noticeboard then please let me know.

### **Poultonian**

As the Poultonian can contain personal information it has been moved to the members area of the Baines alumni website.

Currently the Poultonians being posted are very apt in this Jubilee year as they are from 1952 and 1953.

### **Headteacher's Newsletter**

The headteacher's newsletter and any relevant correspondence is available on the Alumni website. To read these on the website please click this link.

[Newsletter](#)

noticeboards went up to block these windows. Well the windows of Room B5 (Room 35) bottom corridor saw the light of day recently but only briefly. This room is being changed into a toilet with the old boy's toilets at the bottom of the stairs becoming a medical room. They may need to size the walls well.

Perhaps in this age of rising energy prices the bottom corridor should be lit with natural light again.



The windows revealed. These are the windows into the corridor.



This looks like the room looking at the back wall with the outside windows on the right. This was looking out onto the passage way from the refectory/gym, depending on your age.



This is the image looking the other way with the internal windows. The toilets were due to be completed before the new term started. Its not the only building work in the school, news about another project in later newsletters

## Next month

The missing boy  
Meet the Alumni:  
Roger Bingham and Mike Johnson

## The message sent to the King

*We at Baines School Alumni send our condolences to HM King Charles III and his family on the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. Our thoughts are with the Royal Family at this sad time and they should know that the hearts of the whole Nation are with the King and his family at the passing of such a remarkable lady, the like of which we shall never see again.*

*From: Secretary Baines School Alumni, David J Astall*

## Newsletter compiled and written by

David J Astall, President of Baines FPA and Secretary of the Baines Alumni.