

A photo of ... 3

1. A photo of ... Mr. Hamilton takes a break.



Photo from Brian and Maureen Ardron. Thank you.

## 2. A photo of ... School Holiday to Switzerland and Italy 1960.

### Starting out at Hemsworth Station.



After the comparatively short journey from Hemsworth to the coast via London, we crossed the Channel in the evening and started on our long over-night journey through France to Switzerland. Having gained a few hours sleep on our couchettes, we welcomed the breakfast on Basle station. It was not until lunch time that we arrived at Montreux and were taken up to the hotel in the little mountain village of Glion. From here we had a breath-taking panoramic view of Montreux, Lake Geneva, and the blue mountains beyond. In the afternoon we walked down to Montreux through the woods.

The hotel was 2,000 feet up and about 1,000 feet above the lake, but to us who clambered down the slippery steps and paths it seemed much further. We were surprised to find how dear most things were but we were all enchanted by the carved Swiss chalet musical boxes and by the end of the holiday many of us had bought one. After our shopping we were thankful to use the funicular to return to the hotel.

After dinner we explored Glion and saw a marvellous sunset light up the unusual Château of Chillon and the village and mountains behind it. The scene was really peaceful and beautiful.

After sight-seeing and shopping during Friday morning we went by steamer to Lausanne, another lake-side town, but more commercialized than Montreux. The sun was hot and most of us were burnt. This was the one really hot day we had in Switzerland, for the next day it was raining slightly as we went by coach to the St. Bernard's Pass. Unluckily the top of the Pass was in cloud and it was cold and raining as well. The way up to the Pass provided us with magnificent views although at the same time the tortuous hair-pin bends gave us many qualms. At the top we did have the satisfaction of seeing the massive St. Bernard dogs and their puppies. Because it was raining the next day the trip to the Rochers de Naye was cancelled and so we spent the day shopping and packing.

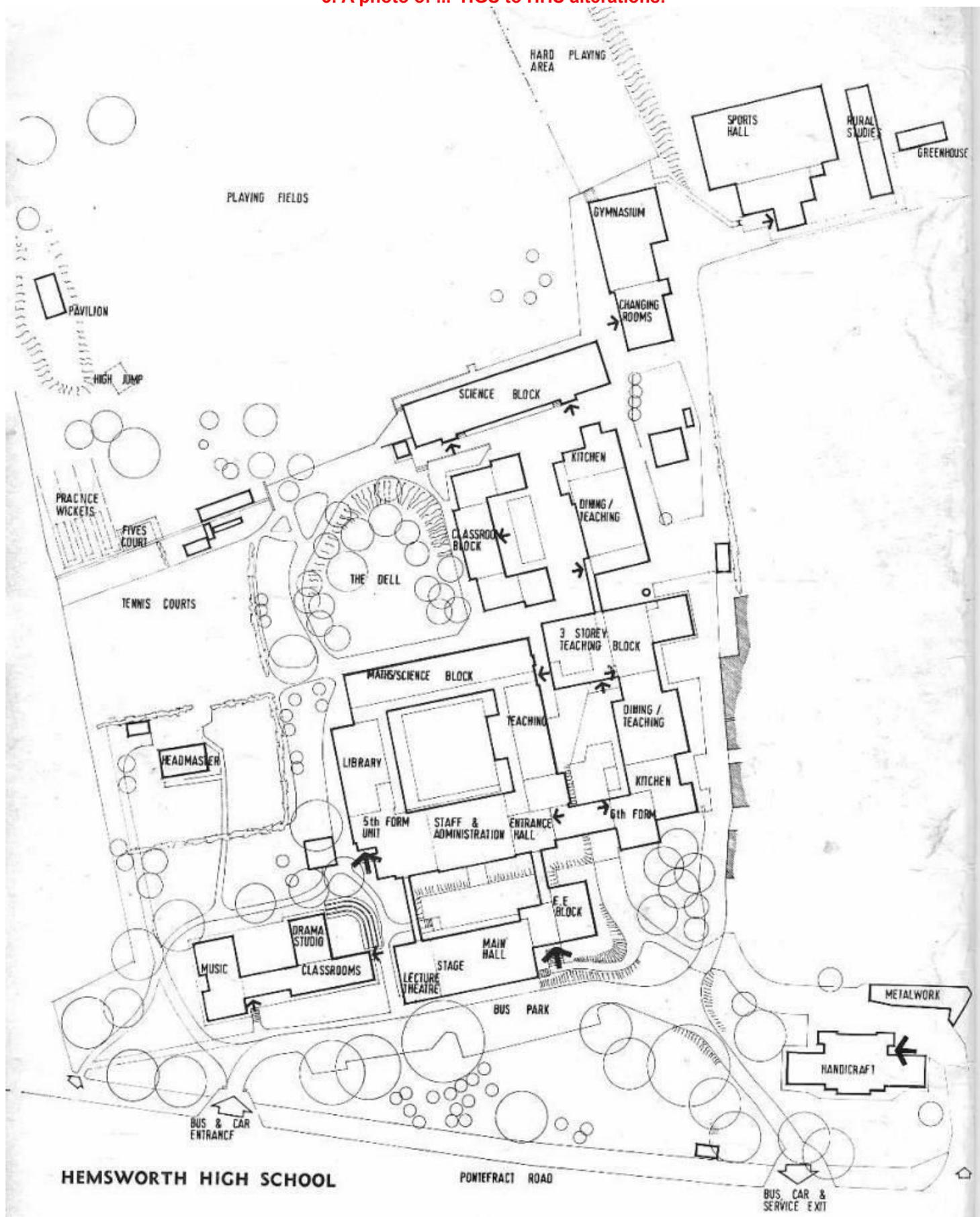
The journey to Rimini was long and tiring but when we were swimming and sun bathing the next day we realised it had been worth it. The beach was covered with colourful striped awnings which gave us welcome shade, and the "gelati" men continuously supplied us with ice cream to cool us down. Bathing costumes and bikinis provided brilliant contrasts of colour against the pale yellow sands and the deep blue of the sea. The glorious sun beating down from an almost cloudless sky soon burnt us red or brown and nearly everyone was dabbing creams and lotions onto tender skin.

On Thursday afternoon we had an enjoyable trip to San Marino, the smallest republic in Europe. This is a unique old town perched on a craggy mountain. The coach could only go part of the way up and the rest of the way was made more difficult by the slippery, polished cobble-stones which led the steep way to the top. Apart from this excursion we spent most of our time swimming and sun bathing, all of which we enjoyed, immensely. At night we went out in mixed groups walking, stopping at the open-air cafes, or spending our money at "Luna Park", a fair ground. On Sunday morning we left the heat, sun, sand and sea and returned to the cool rainy summer of England. We had all thoroughly enjoyed our holiday, and left with many happy memories.

I would like to thank Mr. Wharton and all members of staff who worked so hard to make our holiday a complete success.

**J. Leonard. U.6.A. (Holgate)**

3. A photo of ... HGS to HHS alterations.



## Comment from the School Magazine (Insight) of 1968

I have been asked to write about the new opportunities that will be available at Hemsworth High School from September 1968. First, I wish to say a little about what is most important: People. The success of this and any school will be mostly determined by the relationships between pupils, teachers, parents, and administrators. September 1968 presents a difficult time for all who find change uncomfortable.

There will have to be special efforts to ensure that those pupils leaving Hemsworth and Kinsley Secondary Modern schools are soon made to feel at home. Hemsworth Grammar School pupils who might find some of the changes difficult to accept, will also

have to think sensibly about the advantages to be gained. It is certain that we must be patient and tolerant. If we are willing to respect each other and the facilities provided for us, then we shall get the best out of Hemsworth High School.

I now wish to give you some important facts about the pupils, buildings, staff, and organisation of the new school. In September, those pupils already at the Grammar School will be joined by 12-15 year old pupils from Hemsworth and Kinsley Secondary Modern schools. There will be a total of over 1250 in September 1968, but no further intake will arrive till September 1970. Then, pupils will come to us from four Middle Schools (9-13), at 13 years of age: these will be Middle Schools in Kinsley, Hemsworth (2), and Ackworth. So that from September 1970 the School will be a mixed comprehensive, 13-18 school of about 1150 pupils.

Many new buildings have been added for September, and each is provided with completely new furnishings and equipment. Here is the list:

A main hall (with lecture theatre and stage), able to seat 450 people; a Further Education unit with a common room and offices for evening activities; a sixth form library/study which will provide 150 students with excellent conditions for private study and research; a sixth form common-room with its own snack-bar; a dining-hall; a 3 storey block with eight new art and craft rooms and their specialised equipment; a new Sports Hall-probably as fine as any in the country-large enough for indoor cricket nets, football, badminton, and so on, along with its own laundry; a rural studies unit that will be part of the work of the science department. By Easter 1969, there will also be ready a Music/Drama unit with practice rooms, a drama studio, and an open-air theatre. In the old school there are newly decorated rooms; the hall is now ready to become a large general library with a library work-room and classroom; there will be a fifth form study and reading lounge, and a fifth form common-room; two of the larger rooms will be general science laboratories; and there are re-designed staff-rooms, offices, and a careers room. Along with the playing fields (for soccer, rugby, hockey, tennis, athletics, netball, cricket) and the other older facilities, there is clearly an outstandingly good provision for all pupils at this school.

There will be 65 staff and a Head Master. These are not only teachers working in departments, but also staff appointed to make possible the smooth running of our affairs: the Deputy Head Mistress (Miss. Smith), the Senior Master (Mr. Groome), Head of Upper School (Mr. Minards) for 5th and 6th years, Head of Lower School (Mr. Wilson) for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years. Heads of Years (Mr. Pacy, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Knox), and a Careers Master (Mr. Greensmith). In addition, we shall have a full-time School Librarian, a Bursar, a Matron, two clerical assistants, laboratory assistants and a workshop technician, groundsmen and caretakers. I am sure, too, that - as in the production of this Magazine - both staff and pupils will continue one of the Grammar School's most important traditions, that of unselfish voluntary work after school hours and at week-ends.

How will it work? Since January, 1968, the staff have been planning and organising so that everything will be ready for September. We shall not open with the whole school in attendance on the first day, but pupils will come to the school in year groups for the first four days, in order that we shall gradually introduce everyone into the routine. Many new pupils, perhaps all, will have visited the school by the end of this term.

Pupils will be grouped into forms according to age so that there will be a complete social mixing-up of all, regardless of their previous schools. For work, the pupils will be placed into those studies that suit their individual needs, interests, and abilities. They will find that the school will be 'blocked' into areas of work (Sport, Science, Mathematics, etc.) in order to make the teachers' work easier and more effective. They will probably find the work groups smaller than they have previously experienced. All who wish will be able to remain at school to enter the 5th and 6th forms, either to take advanced studies, or to gain necessary qualifications for employment, or simply to further their education and personal development.

It is up to us to make certain that we bring about a civilised, tolerant, and stimulating community. I hope you will all play a full and useful part in this necessary social and educational change.

**Head Master.**

#### 4. A photo of ... A woodwork display on Sports Day 1952



**Standing L-R:** Neil Johnson, Terry Swift, Addy, Alex Harper, Needham, Scales.  
**Sitting L-R:** Roland Mellor, Mick or Mark? Jagger, Des Waller, Lowe J.

To those who go on about 'equality of opportunity in Education' and how the Grammar Schools didn't offer any....I would direct them to spend a little time looking at this photo. These are Third and Fourth Year pupils who are understandably proud of their achievements in creating and displaying their pieces. Free of charge, they and others like them were offered chances to excel in practical, sporting or academic fields. All they had to do was absorb the knowledge and use it. That was not elitism, it was giving life's chances to anyone who could try hard.

Sheila

5. A photo of ... Morris Men 1953



**Back Row L-R:** Tony Allsopp, Robert Walker, Geoffrey Manning  
**Middle Row L-R:** David Manning, Christopher Gascoigne, Peter Robinson, John Butterfield  
**Front Row L-R:** John Riggott, Barry Johns

Hi Sheila

The other Manning is my elder brother David who went to QEGS in Wakefield. He was at Oxford in 1953 and had taken up Morris. As his term finished early he formed a Morris side at HGS in the latter half of the summer term. We performed at the Folk Dance festival that we had in those days. As far as I remember it was only that one year.

Geoff Manning

## 6. A photo of ... Chemistry Exhibition 1952-53



**Names L-R:** Jim Stead, Joan Dyson, Brian Ardron, Ann Greetham, Colin Megson, Michael Nurney, Mr. C. Owen, Hodgson D., Mr. D. Taylor, Brian Toulson, John Farnsworth, Anthony Allsop, Geoff Graham, Terry O'Marr, Peter Haverty.

I suspect the photo was taken in 1953. It was probably taken by Mr. Hamilton in the Chemistry Lab. It is a photo of the Lower and Upper Sixth Form chemistry pupils. The Upper Sixth students are Jim Stead, Pete Haverty and me. When we started in the Lower Sixth, Dudley Taylor (in the photo he is almost hidden behind Hodgson) was assigned to teach us Chemistry even though Mr Owen was the senior chemistry master. Dudley Taylor remained our teacher right through the Upper Sixth. He was not much older than us, almost straight out of university. But he was keen and pushed us hard (we were keen students). In our last year we were covering Chemistry which was above A-Level standard and he was setting us scholarship questions. I have always thought that it was largely due to him that Pete Haverty and I were able to win scholarships.

You may notice that there is something mounted above the blackboard but obscured by the light. I believe this is a copy of the Periodic Table. If you are not familiar with the Periodic Table, it is a tabulation of chemical elements into groups according to their atomic structure. Also one of the two girls in the photo is Joan Dyson. For the last few years Joan has attended a mini-reunion which is organized by Roy Frost and held in May at a pub in Brierley.

**Terry O'Marr**

I would make a few remarks stimulated by this extraordinarily high quality photograph. That quality lends support to the proposition that it was owned by the Headmaster! I certainly could not have afforded anything better than a Box Brownie at the time. Most important however, I concur that the mystery wallpaper scenery panel which is supported high in the room would have been scenery for the Staff Play "When We Are Married" by J.B. Priestley (March 18th, 19th and 20th, 1953). **Mr Hamilton ALWAYS starred in the Staff play! Brian Toulson and I painted much of the scenery for these plays under the direction of Mr. Combs whom I admired intensely I recall. His untimely death was such a terrible blow for the Art Dept in the school.** Brian and I went on to "flog" ice cream during the plays' intervals - Midland Counties. Isn't it astonishing that we remember such trivial details as the brand of ice cream and at such distance? We also forgot to switch on the power to one of the fridges whereupon the contents melted but inside their substantial foil wrappers. Mr Collette, who I admired enormously, was i/c business arrangement and in fear and trepidation we confessed to him our catastrophic error. This brought out in Mr. Collette that loveable rouguish streak in his very pragmatic nature. I'll never forget next hearing what for me was a new and very profound piece of folk common sense. "Never mind, it will soon re-freeze and ..... What the eye does not see, the heart does grieve after." He was right. We received no customer complaints on the night. I know I am rambling now but during one of those plays I was smitten by the interval music which was new to my ears and was called "The Nutcracker suite". So another stage in HGS's conversion programme from heathen to man of taste had taken place! I never hear it without my mind going back to those school plays.

In 1952/53 G. Graham was a mere fourth year student in 4S (Mr Dodd I believe Form Master that year) So if I am listed by the photographer then this was not only the 6th forms in the Lab. The names are mixed in the sense that they seem to me have been taken from several different Forms. In a normal Chemistry class I would not expect to see all of these pupils together in the same study period. The clue I believe lies in the "Chemistry Exhibition" title. I can't remember just what these were but I certainly do now remember that they happened. I guess that they were occasions when parents and the public perhaps, were invited into the school to observe work taking place in the class rooms. We must have been made to feel oh so important posing over our experimental rigs.

Your wonderful website has once more served to stimulate memories that without that stimulus would perhaps never again have surfaced. I had another run through its pages yesterday and I am so grateful to you, to Dave and all of the contributors. That aerial photograph is stunning! Must have been early fifties I think as the New Block is there but the rest of the old school looks to be as I recall it. I do hope that Miss Ward (Kath) is still in good health. She was a wonderful teacher and like Dave, I went to the trouble of tracing her in the early 1980's where I met up with her and after a lovely chat I left her with my affection for her stronger than ever. What profound effects are made to our lives by our good teachers. I am sure that they know this and derive great pleasure from that fact.

Geoff Graham

7. A photo of ... Mr. Hamilton, Geoff Booth and Sedbergh School August 1943



"The pictures show the people who went to the Harvest Camp in August 1943. The building is the cricket pavilion of Sedbergh School where we lived. We slept on the floor on palliases."

On the top steps right at the back are: Mr.G.E. Greenwell, Mr. R.W. Hamilton and Family and various helpers.  
Down on the lower steps are:-

**Back Row L-R:** Derek Birley, Oldroyd, 3

**Middle Row L-R:** George (Willie) Wilstrop, 2, Jack Thompson, Bailey, 5, 6, 7.

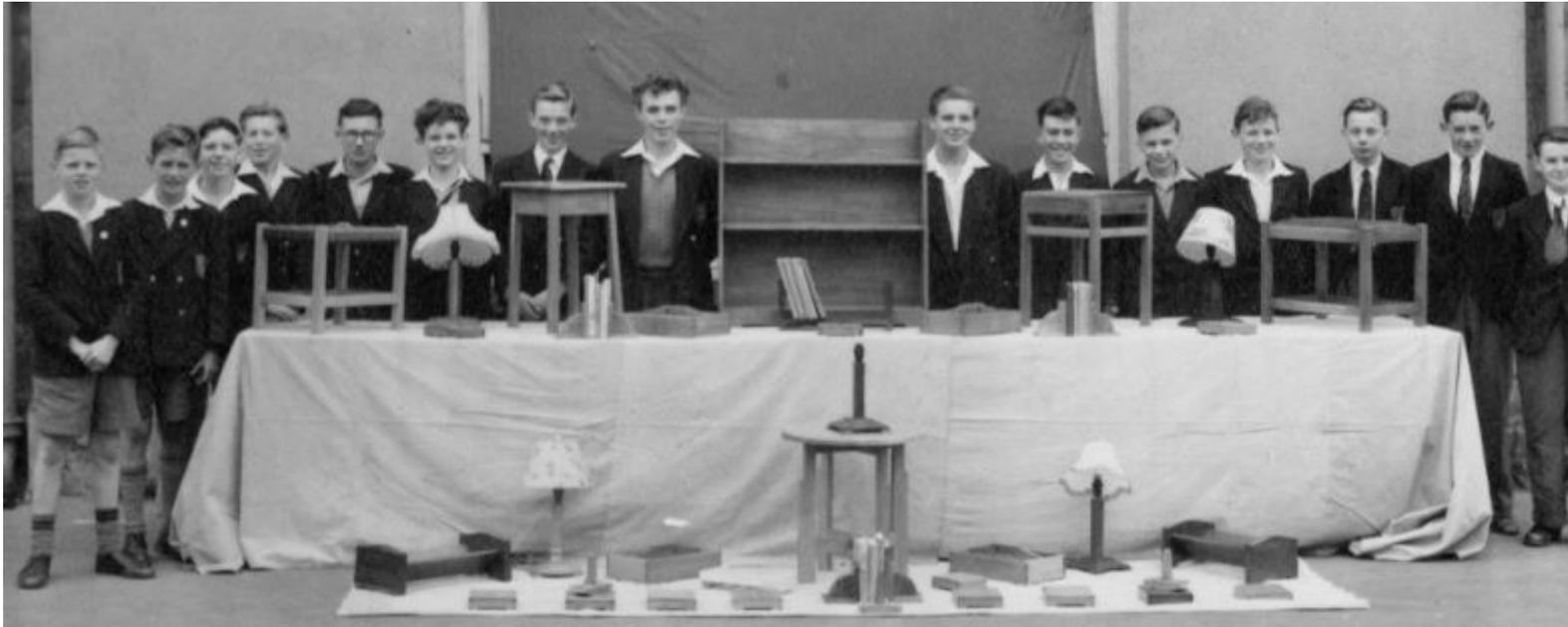
**Front Row L-R :** Jas Young, 2, Robin Batty, Robinson, 5, 6, 7. 8.

Extract from Geoff Booth's mail .....

"We had been there one week of a three weekstay when my parents rang R.W.H. and asked him to tell me that my brother had died in an Italian P.O.W. camp. He had gone through the whole North African campaign and survived both sieges of Tobruk before being captured there when the South African commander capitulated with the largest garrison the town ever had. Mr. Hamilton (and his Family) treated me with a sensitivity and kindness that I have never forgotten and organised my journey home immediately. I was treated as though I was his own son, and it wasn't until many years later that it dawned on me that we were his Family and were treated accordingly. A truly remarkable man."

## 8. Woodwork Exhibitions 1955-56

### Juniors



L-R: Albert Parkin, Brian Pawson, Robert Taylor, Byrom W., Robinson P., Tebbett S., Ward A., John Sudworth, Ronald Nunn, North B., Ball J., Crossland C., Robinson P.S., Michael Taylor, Neil Sumpter.

### Seniors



L-R: Orange G., Frank Morley, Dickinson C., Peter Richmond, Allan Cole, Kearns A., George Baum, Ray Winstanley, Peter Sell, John Smith, Geoffrey Boycott, Waterhouse K., Dickens A., Kendall M., Sam Whitehouse.

9. A photo of ... A Winter Sports Dance 1966



**Back Row L-R:** 1, 2, Kathleen Lowe, 4, Neil Stones, 6, Jack Marston, 8, 9, John Covell  
**Front Row L-R:** 1, Anna Nye, Susan Holder, Marrion Pearson, Denise Sell, Dianne Sell, 7

A happy group of pupils. Can you please help to name them? Were Sports Dances organised by the team captains? Perhaps this entailed getting the tickets printed, organising the live music and so on.

10. A photo of ... The HGS jazz band 1962-65



The photo has been sent in by Reg Bancroft. Thank you.

**Standing L-R:** Mike Fairclough, John Smith (Biology master), Geoff Thompson, Dick Bateman, Andy Hudson  
**Seated L-R:** Norman Tate, Reg Bancroft

**Reg has added this comment:**

"I recently came across this photo of the HGS Jazz Band and thought it might be a useful addition to the excellent website. It was taken in the school music room around 1963. The band formed in 1962 with encouragement from Biology master John Smith who had played with the Merseyssippi Jazzmen. We played at school events and generally provided indoor entertainment on miserable winter days! In 1964-65 the Band participated in a competition sponsored by the Yorkshire Evening Post. It was held in the old Leeds City Tram Shed. This photo appeared in the YEP in the lead up to the competition. The band played until 1965 when most of its members left school."