

# BFES/SCEA Association Email Bulletin

## January 2022



From: Membership Secretary,  
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### First thoughts:

Happy New Year – although as we begin another year Covid19 still seems to be playing a big part in our lives. The Committee hope that you stay free from the current wave of illness and wish you all good health for the year ahead.

We hope too, that you are all pleased that this year is free from subscriptions for all Association members. The Committee felt that we all needed a 'lift' and hope that this initiative has provided one for you. On the administrative side of things -if you usually pay by Standing Order and requested a refund, please be patient with us and we will process this as quickly as we can.

Thanks must go to members who decided to pay the fee regardless of the free offer, so thank you again very much.



### New Year's Honours:

You will be delighted to know that an ex-service teacher has been awarded an MBE for services to education in the New Year's Honours list. Tracy Luke (née Garner) taught at King's School, Gutersloh between 1989 and 1991 and says that she has very fond memories of her time working at King's and living in Mansergh Barracks. From King's she went on to become Director of Studies at Welbeck College for nine years before taking up the Deputy Head, then Headship of Folkestone Grammar School. During her career she also became an Ofsted Inspector and National Leader of Education. Her influence and involvement with education continues today as Chair of Governors for Turner Free School, Folkestone.

We are sure that you, like us, wish to congratulate her on such an achievement. No doubt old friends and colleagues amongst the association membership will feel proud of her contribution to education.



### Archive Updates:

As you know, the BFES/SCE Archives are collected by IOE (London Institute of Education), which is the Faculty of Education and Society belonging to UCL (University College London) and they are always looking for material to collect that represents service schools, particularly for that large number of schools that have closed down. **Attached to the email bulletin** is a guide to the sort of item the UCL is

looking for – so if you plan a clear-out for the New Year, please save items to give to Walter Lewis, our archivist, to pass on. You might also notice that they collect personal recollections, so consider writing down your memories for our Newsletter (which is collected by the UCL) or send on to Walter. They do not have to be lengthy tomes, short writings about memorable events or people are also welcomed. As many of us are getting older, it is perhaps more important to record them so they can be recorded for future researchers to enjoy and study.

Photographs are always interesting – doesn't the saying go that "a picture is worth a thousand words"? In particular, at the moment, the search is on for photographs of School Buildings. Again, you can pass these on to Walter, or even add to the growing photographs collected on Facebook, where you can share them with members now.

The association website works towards establishing an easy to access record of schools across the globe that supported service children's education. Any information that you can supply about schools is much appreciated, so do visit the website, check out the information and consider adding your personal knowledge to the collection there. The website address is: [www.bfposchools.co.uk](http://www.bfposchools.co.uk)



### Future Events:



### **Two dates for your diary!**

Gurkha Museum in Winchester for a Curry Lunch on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022**

Applications for Winchester event will be attached to the February Bulletin.



St Cross College, Oxford for Lunch and AGM on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

And applications for Oxford will follow later in the Spring/early Summer.



### New Members:

We continue to welcome new members to the Association, and many new requests have come in over the Christmas period from the website. Obviously, old friends and associates are finding their way to the website and enjoying what they see there and want to know more. It is great to see the reach the

association has across the world. We have had new members join us who live in Canada, New Zealand, Portugal, Germany, Cyprus and elsewhere! It just shows power of technology!

We are also pleased to see that new members are representative of the different groups of people active in MOD schools. Former pupils, administrative staff and staff from all three services are members of the association, although the majority of members is made up from teachers. It feels as if pieces of the bigger puzzle are now getting together to share and record the experience of being part of the MOD school 'family'.



### **Spotlight on Members:**

*We plan to include this feature in each Bulletin, so if you have something to say, please do let us know. It can be about anything! Recent news, an enquiry or memories of your experiences! Do email us!*



**This month, we focus on a very happy event!**

The Marriage of Mike Ford and Valerie Horrocks at Kingsleigh Methodist Church, Leigh took place on Thursday September 9th 2021.

Mike was the Chair of BFES/SCEA Association for ten years, during which time he worked tirelessly for the association. He stepped down during Christine's last illness, and we shared in his grief when Christine died. It is wonderful that Mike has again found happiness with Valerie, and congratulations are sent to them for their future life together.



### **November Bulletin's Quiz answers:**

Hopefully, the Christmas Quiz kept you amused for a few minutes – here are the answers:

1. Queen Victoria – adhesive stamps appeared in 1840.
2. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, Rudolf.
3. Tonga, Samoa & Christmas Island.
4. Japan.
5. Clarence.
6. Tom Hanks (Hero boy, father, conductor, Hobo, Scrooge & Santa Claus).
7. Oslo, Norway.
8. Green.
9. 365.
10. White Christmas (sung by Bing Crosby in 1947, then in the film 1954)



### **And so, signing off until next month:**

Sending you our regards \_\_\_\_\_ Hugh and Christine Ritchie      *Membership Secretaries*