

## Woldgate School Alumni

Pocklington and District Local History Group - WOLDGATE SCHOOL HISTORY

We will be trying to fit the history of Woldgate into the context of the development of education nationally since 1945 and locally (the East Riding). We are hoping that the personal accounts and memories that you provide will illustrate these national and county developments on a very local scale.

**Name** Samantha Traill

**Maiden name (if applicable)** Samantha Mercer

**Date** Sunday, August 1, 2021

Please answer the questions below about your past time at Woldgate School

**Date or year you started at Woldgate** 1980

**Date or year you left Woldgate** 1987

**My role at Woldgate**

Pupil

### Please enter your highlights of your time at Woldgate

First day: I was placed into 1SM (Miss Maclellan - became Mrs Richardson). Before starting school, my biggest fear was the size of the 'hedge'. Was glad to find it was only about 16in high!!

Favourite teachers were Graham Chaddock, & then Steve Barnsley - both inspirational art teachers. Always had great respect for the likes of Mr Brown, Mr Fletcher, Mr Williams (Art), Mrs Platten, Mr Birkenhead, Mr Robson, Mr Glew, & Mr Hall too.

We had the newly built D block & sports hall as recent additions to the buildings, & then in time for 6th form E block was finished. I do remember some early science lessons in the far end of A block - the old science labs!

I've kept in touch with several school friends from my year (Alex Culyer & Sharon Vickers, since school, & then with the advent of facebook have caught up with others.)

Since leaving school: studied Printed Textile Design, & worked as a self employed surface pattern print designer for 12 years (mainly fabrics & stationery for the likes of M&S, Jane Shilton scarves, BHS, Knickerbox, Boots & others). Then by chance became involved with The Body Shop At Home & have worked with the company for the last 22 years. I'm a Senior Team Leader & one of the UK Community Fair Trade & Activist Ambassadors for the company too.

Primary school: Warter

Travelled to school on one of the old red 'banger' buses, & then the yellow 'lego' bus, as we nicknamed them!

Yes had school dinners - my fave being Luncheon meat fritters, chips & beans, followed by chocolate concrete (shortbread) & custard.....bring back those school dinners!!

Special advice about my future: Steve Barnsley - 'Do something that you enjoy doing!'

Yes I was a prefect - trying to stop the 'little' ones jump the tuck shop queue at the end of A block!

My last day: A level art exam, then I went out to my car (borrowed parents old car) to find the battery flat as I'd left the lights on in the rain! Spent another 2 hours on site waiting for dad to get back from work to jump start it!! HaHa!!

They say schooldays are the best days of your life, & i can certainly agree that I enjoyed my time at

Woldgate!! Thankyou xx