

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 martin helbrow

Date Sunday, August 8, 2021

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

Date or year you started at Woldgate 20th October 2008

Date or year you left Woldgate Still there

My role at Woldgate

Dinner Time Staff

Please enter your highlights of your time at Woldgate

I joined in the October of 2008. Mr Hugh Peake a tall gentlemen that was the then business manager had interviewed me in September and gave me the role of Catering Manager, his dog Bramble a border collie would live under the desk. He would be seen walking her every lunch up to the monastery. I was the first male and still am. My appointment had ruffled things, who was this person ? What was he going to change? Were all worries.

We were employed by East riding Yorkshire council and the County catering team run by Mr Alan woods from Beverley, the ladies wore a black and white uniform outfit there was 8 ladies Racheal was the Cook, Dawn Murray had been there for over 30 years, Sandra. Eileen, Sharon, Lynda, Carol and Val whom I still works in the kitchen as a senior kitchen supervisor whom started as part time and has ended doing over 15 years.

For the first few months I was in an office away. Sporting a shirt and tie with Terri and Diane from finance, we would have interesting conversations and future planning meetings between us. Eventually we found a place in the kitchen and we then " got our hands dirty" there was no Turkey twizzler moments when I started, they had gone, we were in the Jamie Oliver healthy school meals era. And saw numbers drop with healthy menus the order of the day which was challenging

We had 3 areas to cater for B- block, C-Block and the canteen It still has metal windows. And C- block is now a classroom. We are still a team of 7.

School meals and who we feed have changed greatly in my 12 plus years have changed greatly. But the one or two cheeky new yr7's always mark there card and become unforgettable for many reasons.

We've seen lots of memorable teaching staff come and go. Mrs Geary has always been a fan and Mrs Berry is longing for our hot puddings to return. I love my role at Woldgate It's been my longest stay in any job I've held, such is the power of a great team to keep you feeling young and enthusiastic.