

## **Graham Stew - *personal profile***

I have many memories of Harlow College, where I spent a few happy years before it closed in 1965.

These include :

- Playing football with a tennis ball in the 'Tec' and wearing out my shoes!
- Bowling out 'Spud' Murphy with a great off-spin.
- Breaking a window accidentally in Dora Stanley's classroom, just before she walked in.
- Watching 'Chewy' Overton dribbling as he tried to teach me Latin.
- Hitting myself in the mouth with the clapper when ringing the bell for break.
- Being slippered by Mr Rose for something I didn't do!
- Avoiding boys from Mark Hall school as they waited to ambush me in the old town.
- Slipping out to the Chequers at lunchtime for egg and chips, or a cream bun from Dorringtons.
- Being clobbered regularly by the prefects, for no apparent reason.

I realise now that the educational standards were not up to much, and when I moved to Bancroft's School later I struggled and left at 16 with 4 'O levels'. But I enjoyed the camaraderie at Harlow, and a feeling that I was part of a real community that somehow cared for each other.

Every teacher was a character who has stayed in my memory all these years... the one I remember with most fondness was Miss Stanley, who really cared.

I am now a principal lecturer at the University of Brighton, having caught up with my education as an adult, and

completing a doctorate in 1994. If anyone's interested, I am in the back row (last on right) in the Rodney House photo from 1963.



Fond regards

Graham Stew

You can email me at [g.stew@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:g.stew@brighton.ac.uk)