

MALTON COUNTY MODERN SCHOOL 1958 - 1971

As mentioned in the previous chapter, prior to 1958 pupils of senior school age not at the grammar school attended village schools which often accommodated a wide age range, or the National School in Malton, which struggled with inadequate premises and facilities at a central location in Malton, having to farm out tuition and activities around Malton to compensate for its limited five classrooms.

THE BUILDINGS

Malton County Modern School came into existence on 3 September 1958. It was housed in a purpose built, 'modern' building designed by Professor J. H. Napper & Partners of Newcastle-on-Tyne, the same firm who had been commissioned to design Ryedale Modern School at Nawton, near Helmsley, some eight years previously.

The main contractors for the work were Messrs. W. Birch & Son Ltd. of York; the contract sum was £151,014 and furniture and equipment cost £11,546. It was situated on the same Middlecave Road site as the grammar school, separated by a few hundred yards, but with adjoining playing fields and grounds totalling at that time twenty-seven acres. (This was to reduce later on the building of the A64 Malton by-pass in the 1970's, which sliced through some of the grounds.) There was a hedge partially separating the County Modern students from their grammar school neighbours, and where the hedge stopped 'an imaginary line beyond which you did not cross,' as one ex-pupil put it.



COUNTY MODERN BADGE

The white rose of Yorkshire, the eagle - recalling Roman times - and castle from the Malton coat of arms, and the red cross from the North Riding badge. The motto is 'Nothing if not active' or similar.

Donated by Derek Cuthbertson, via Mary Train, in July 2007.

MALTON COUNTY MODERN SCHOOL 1958

The school just before opening.



**MALTON COUNTY MODERN
1958**

Top:

FROM THE WEST

Still under construction, a view of the technology block from the west side.

Middle:

FROM THE NORTH

A view from the playing fields side of the technology block, and at the end the science laboratories

Bottom:

FROM ABOVE

An aerial view which shows the new County Modern and the extensions to the grammar school. Note the dividing hedge between the schools, and the four cricket practice nets.

To the right is a fresh planting of trees, horticultural beds neatly laid out, the beginnings of a rockery, and a greenhouse.

Bottom left:

HAZEL AND CAROL

Hazel Chapman (née McCavish) with friend Carol Saw on the steps leading down to the quad. Hazel notes that the photo was taken by head of English Alan Rudd as the school opened.



GEORGE C. HANSON, HEAD TEACHER 1958 - 1971

The head teacher of this new school was George C Hanson BA, originally from Barnsley. I am grateful to his daughter Elizabeth for a few biographical notes.

George Hanson was born in Royston, West Yorkshire. He was educated, coincidentally, at Holgate Grammar School, Barnsley - the third of the three schools founded by the Archbishop of York in 1547, though now moved from its original location at Hemsworth. After taking a degree in geography at Leeds university, he began his teaching career at Royston Secondary Modern School. He was called up during the second world war and served in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

After the war further teaching posts followed at Huntingdon and Raleigh, before taking on his first headship at Kinver Grammar School in Staffordshire. Mr Hanson was to remain the only Head of Malton County Modern for the entire duration of its brief thirteen years of existence. His wife was head teacher at nearby Welburn School. Biology teacher Robin Coulthard wrote of him in 2002:

He lived in the house next to the youth hostel on York Road, with a very large garden, which he loved greatly, reaching down to the river. The garden and particularly its birdlife were frequently the topic of his assembly sermons. Other fond topics for his assemblies were the writings of St Paul, Dickens (he was very knowledgeable about the author and his books) and clocks. He collected antique clocks and his house was full of them.

A man of few words but always judiciously selected, he had a very dry, laconic sense of humour. At the end of his school day his study door was always open and you would find a good cross section of staff draped across chairs and radiators and sat on the floor reviewing events of the day. As a young teacher I was on the end of some pretty terse criticism on occasions, but he was also very quick to praise and reward and he was constantly patrolling the school "taking its temperature". The best head I worked for in forty years.



GEORGE HANSON -

Above: on his farewell from Kinver School in Staffordshire

Below: As head teacher at Malton County Modern School



THE STAFF

At the time of opening there were about three hundred pupils and fifteen staff. The staff of the new school were a remarkable mix – many had come from the Malton area schools which had served the 11-14 age group who did not go into grammar or private education. As a result there were a number of headmasters on the staff, potentially a problem but in practice not so. Witness Robin Coulthard's comments above about the voluntary gatherings at the end of the school day in Mr Hanson's office – remembered by staff but also noted by pupils at the school.

Over forty years later, in conversation with his daughter, Mr Hanson still remembered staff according to where they had previously taught and lived; 'Slingsby - Gough' and 'Amotherby - Rudd' are examples. Brian Goforth (maths), Stan Grice (rural studies), Mollie Skelton (needlework and maths), Reg Waterworth (R.I., science); Audrey Lacey (RE, deputy head), Mr Thornley, Miss Rymer, Reg Linsley (deputy in the 1960's), and Mr Withers, were some of the early names. Sadly no full list of the first staff group exists, and only a few rather faded photos from the end of the period remain.

1. FINAL DAY 23 JULY 1971

Bill Owtram (English), George Hanson, Mr Symes (an American on exchange), Audrey Lacey, Ruth Duckels (later Ashman -home economics)

2. TALBOT HOTEL JULY 1971

At the staff dinner to mark the retirement of G. C. Hanson.

John Delavel (Science), Reg Waterworth (RE), Dave Weatherstone (PE), Bill Owtram, Peter Eggleston, George Rowntree (Maths and TD).

3. LADIES GROUP

Includes Ruth Duckels, Molly Skelton, June Appleyard (art), Eileen Dobson

4. TRIO

Stan Grice, Robin Coulthard (who provided many of the pictures in this chapter,) and Fred Pallister

5. TRIO

Mel Crawshaw (wgoodwork and TD) Vera Taylor (geography), and Peter Eggleston (metalwork)

6. QUARTET

Senior mistress Audrey Lacey, George Hanson and his wife, and deputy head Reg Lindsey, who also retired at the end of the county modern period.



THE PUPILS

George Hanson wrote a letter to *The Maltonian* (number 119) in 1964 which gives a few facts about the county modern school roll, and its class sizes:

Following its opening in September 1958, this school became fully operational in 1959 with its first intake of children aged eleven. The total number on roll since that period has steadily declined, with the intakes September 1963 and September 1964 being the lowest of all.

The school is designed as a three-form entry, and could quite easily accommodate a population of four hundred and eighty children aged 11-16, and during its 'occupation' by juniors there were over five hundred children in the school.

We have at present two 'A' classes with forty, and two of thirty-nine, while the rest are in the lower thirties, and some in the twenties. This is a deliberate policy of the school to enable the less able children to be taught in smaller groups. Of course if parity of esteem, of staffing in Secondary education, should be implemented by a future government which realises that teaching retarded children [*sic*] requires specialist techniques, then the figures of forty in the A forms would be drastically reduced, and much latent ability would be salvaged for the nation instead of being wasted as at present.

As the new school started, there was no official uniform. Mr Hanson explained to his governors that 'the wearing of school uniform could not be made compulsory', but he 'hoped that about 80% of children would wear it.'

Below:

FIRST DAY

The first assembly at Malton County Modern. A picture loaned by Bob Humpleby—his elder brother Gordon is on the second row.

Notice the absence of uniform. A sub-committee, consisting of all the lady governors (!), was convened to consider suppliers. Discussion with students took place, and there was a fashion show where different possibilities for the uniform were paraded in front of students on the catwalk. Following votes, a uniform was decided upon, and students could buy kits to make their own outfit.

Photo York Evening Press



QUALIFICATIONS

From early days, Mr Hanson was keen to find ways of certificating the achievements of his students. It should be remembered that the only exam available at that period was the General Certificate of Education (GCE). In 1960 he outlined plans to introduce a school leaving exam (for fourth years), hoping that the College of Ripon & York St John would moderate it. By 1962 the new CSE exam (Certificate of Secondary Education) was being discussed nationally, for first examination in 1965. When results arrived, the staff were congratulated on an excellent performance. In the meantime Mr Hanson seemed very positive about transferring any pupils he could to grammar school at 12+ and 16+, to ensure that they could achieve and realise their full potential.

By 1970 the Gazette and Herald saw fit to comment on the academic success of the school:

"The governors and the Chief Education Officer ... congratulate the Headmaster and staff on the last year's results in GCE O-level and CSE exams. 66% grade 1, compared with the previous best in 1968 of 61.5%. As a result seven pupils transferred to the grammar school to study for GCE A level. Of the pupils who transferred in 1968, four have already been offered places at universities, and three others have been accepted by colleges of education. A number of others are now studying at technical colleges."

Mr Hanson's belief in recognising his students' abilities was clearly well founded, and it is to his credit that he sought and found the best in his young charges.

The success achieved in exams was no doubt due to some very thorough monitoring of work. There was a policy of fortnightly reports for all fifth year candidates, on which there were spaces for student and parental comments. 'Hard work for us but with the desired results' recalled teacher Molly McKie.

PREFECTS?

Notice the badges—could this be a group of prefects or other officials? A photo loaned by Brian Botterill, who provided the caption "1957 County Modern", though the date must be later.



THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Pictures of the school grounds put modern day standards to shame: the difference lay in the existence of a permanent groundsman/gardener, and in the new school's inclusion of rural studies in its curriculum. There was a large glasshouse, a 'garden room,' allotments, and many students willing to work in the gardens as part of their studies, or simply out of interest. Even beekeeping was part of the daily routine, as former pupil Ketih Richardson recalls:

Soon after the arrival of Robin Coulthard, as replacement for Stan Grice, a hive of honeybees became part of the Rural Studies set-up. Graham Ibbotson, Stuart Cadamy and myself were responsible, with guidance from Robin Coulthard, to look after these creatures. Every week we would open up the hive and check for, and remove, any 'queen cells', as we did not want the hive to swarm. The following year it was decided that the hive was strong enough to swarm so preparations were made getting an empty hive ready to accept the 'queen bee' and her entourage - we hoped. One morning before noon, late May, we were summoned, the bees were swarming. To cut the story short we took the swarm and to our delight they took residence in the hive we had provided for them. During the afternoon we decided to lift the lid to see all was in order, when we did to our surprise the hive was empty - the bees had gone back to the original hive.

Some more complete hives were purchased and the second year we took them onto the moors at Saltersgate for the heather season, transport being Brian Durno's Mini van and my father's Morris 1000 Traveller. It goes without saying great care was taken to seal the hives before putting them into the vehicles. The honey those bees produced was the finest I have tasted, there was a great deal consumed whilst pressing it out of the comb.



SCHOOL GROUNDS

A selection of photos taken by Robin Coulthard, 1967-1971

1. TRIALS PLOT

P Bentley hoeing the beds in 1967

2. ESPALIER IN BLOOM

Apple variety 'Arthur Turner' in full blossom on the walkway up to the gardens and greenhouse, 1967

3. THE ORCHARD

A view of the orchard, with the rural studies room on the right.

4. THE GREENHOUSE

The house had a temperate zone and through the door was the hot stove house capable of supporting tropical plants.

5. THE ROCKERY

At the west entrance to the school

6. WALKWAY

Flower beds of wallflower and forget-me-nots line the walkway from the rural studies room.

7. BEE-KEEPERS

Stuart Cadamy and Keith Richardson.





Above:

FRED PALLISTER 1967

Groundsman at the school, and clearly a man of great pride and inspiration



Fred Pallister was the groundsman until the school closed, having been asked to stay on past retirement age given the impending change to the structure of the schools.

Fred had served his time at Easthorpe Hall and Eden House getting hands-on training in virtually every aspect of horticulture from ornamental lawns to management of the orangery and melon house. It was largely his expertise that lay behind the design and maintenance of the rural studies department at the county modern school. He exhibited sweet peas, dahlias and chrysanthemums at all the local shows, and took his holidays to coincide with the major flower shows!

Below:

JACK AND FRED 1968

Jack Davison was caretaker at the school for all but the final year of its existence.



Fred, together with caretaker Jack Davison, teacher Robin Coulthard and willing helpers, tended to an orchard of espalier and cordon apples, an ornamental pond, wallflower bedding, roses, a rockery, a herb garden which kept the home economics department in fresh produce, as well as, of course, the Sports pitches. What a picture the school was, and a delightful environment to work in. Economies of scale and the erosion of “spare time” for teachers during a normal day have sadly seen the demise of such attractive features.

The tidiness and pride in presentation outside the school was reflected inside, thanks to caretaker Jack Davidson. Robin Coulthard remembers:

Jack was a tall chap with an erect, military bearing. I think he had served for a spell in the Army, maybe the Guards, as that would explain the very high degree of polish and shine the School interior always carried. It was quite the cleanest, shiniest school I ever served in and most certainly the only one where the boys' toilets invariably smelt sweet! Immediately after School dinners on Friday the main hall doors would be locked, whatever, and Jack would spend the afternoon buffing the floor and surrounding woodwork to a high shine. Woe betide the person who subsequently marked the floor!

ANCILLARY STAFF

Having mentioned Fred and Jack, other non-teaching staff who were just as much a part of the school should not be left out. It is perhaps a measure of how much of a family feel there was to the school that there are pictures of the 'ancillary' staff in numbers equal, perhaps even greater, to any taken of the teaching staff. Mrs Kneeshaw was well known in the school, as was Mary Train, a cook and later member of the cleaning staff who was to continue to work at Malton School for many years, formally retiring in 2003, though returning to work even past this date as relief caretaker and part time cleaner, with her husband Wilson. Clearly all staff were valued and considered part of the team.



Top left:

MRS KNEESHAW 1971

Admiring the apple blossom in May
A photo from Robin Coulthard



Below:

THE CANTEEN STAFF

Three pictures of the kitchen staff and the new kitchens. Mary Skelton, Heidi Tierney, Wendy Ledingham and Ivy Lythe.

Photos loaned by Mary Train



Bottom right:

GLADYS MORRIS, IVY LYTHE

Pictured in December 2006 at the school's senior citizens' party. Gladys was in charge of school catering in later days, 1976 - 1982.





GORDON LYTHER

*All-in wrestler in the 1970's
A promotional photo donated by his
mother Ivy in 2002*

SPORT

Ivy Lythe, pictured on the previous page, had a son named Gordon who achieved fame after leaving school as 'Klondyke Bill', an all-in wrestler. Mollie McKie remembers him:

'The 43 stone Mountain Man straight from Madison Square Garden' weighed 23 stones in reality. I once saw him buy 6 'ones of each' at a fish shop for his own supper to be eaten with a whole loaf of bread! To me though I will always be eternally grateful to him as a slim 15 year old when he saved my 4 year old daughter from drowning in the then open-air baths at Norton.

Sport will always play an important part in the weekly calendar of any school. A list of fixtures and results is not available, and in all honesty it would probably make for dry reading, but there are photos of the hockey, netball and football teams worth enjoying. The games staff included Mr Blackford, Brenda Coles, Miss Cryer, Brian 'Doggie' Durno, Mr and Mrs Simmons, David Weatherstone, and Miss Train. Here is just one report on a latter day season of the successful under-13 football team:

This was the team that had just secured the Vale of Pickering Under 13's League Championship, but were beaten finalists in the Challenge Cup competition

The side had travelled to the George Pindar School at Scarborough for the last league fixture of the season, needing one point to secure the league title. To give the game extra "BITE", George Pindar School could have secured the title had they beaten us. In the event a well judged lob shot by G Waterton earned us a victory, 1 – 0, and the title. The following week the same team played in the Challenge Cup final against Scalby County Modern School, who had finished at the bottom end of the league table. The game was at Lady Lumley's, Pickering. We were awful, full of hubris after the league triumph and Scalby deservedly won 2 – 0.

Ironically the following season, 1970 –71 opened with a game v. Scalby. We won 5 – 0!

Bottom left:

STAFF IN 1971

*Sports teachers David Weatherstone
and Brenda Coles with Peter
Eggleston*

Bottom right:

UNDER-13 XI SEPT 1969

*Back Row: Szuman, Waterton
Chandler, Harrison, Tait, Fairbairn,
Dobson*

*Front Row: Stonehouse, Chugg, Ellis,
Davis (captain), Dunning, Cass*





1960s FOOTBALL XI's

Three photos from Trevor Wilford, who loaned them when he was site manager at the school in 2003

Top:

1964 TEAM

Back row: Michael Tierney, Paul Woollard, Colin Ward, Andrew Foster, Keith Davison, Mick Walker, Paul Ella
Front row: Marshall, John Farndale, Graham Waterton, Trevor Wilford, John Saw

Middle:

1965 TEAM

Back row: Miles Davis, David Chapman, Mazonas, Trevor Wilford, Brian Dunning, Clive Baxter
Front row: Stuart Wilford, Chuck Harvey, Steve Wood, Graham Waterton, Donald Cass, John Saw

Bottom:

1966 COLTS XI

Back row: John Hickes, ..., David Cuthbertson, ... Burns, John Render, David Dunning, Jamie Bowie, ...
Front row: Teasdale, Philip Wilford, Geoff Sedman, David Strangeway, Sawdon



Top:

1966 UNDER-14 XI

Back row: *David Cuthbertson, Geoff Whalley, Michael Fairweather, Keith Richardson, Robert Humpleby, Nigel Brearley, Martin Williamson*
 Front row: *John Render, Peter Harrison, Geoff Sedman, Colin Ward, Leslie Wrightson, Michael Dunning*



Middle:

1964-5 COLTS XI

Back row: *Michael Dunning, Michael Fairweather, Keith Richardson, Nigel Bramley, Keith Grice, David Lumley, Martin Williamson*
 Front row: *Colin Ward, Geoffrey Sedman, Michael Tierney, Philip Wilford, Geoffrey Whalley*



Bottom:

NETBALL TEAM 1960

Miss Cryer, Jean Metcalfe, Beatrice Dobson, Greta Dowding, Ann Stephenson, Kate Brisby

The top two photos were loaned by Keith Richardson in January 2003

The bottom photo was loaned by Hazel Chapman in May 2002. The names may be in right-left order





Top:

NETBALL VII 1965-6

A photo bravely loaned by current Malton teacher Carol Peters (née McSorley) . Carol was at MCM, then went to the MGS sixth form, and eventually returned as a maths teacher at Malton School in the 1980s. At the time of writing she was assistant head of sixth form.

Middle left:

NETBALL VII 1968

A second photo from Carol Peters with the team one year later.

Middle right:

NETBALL VII 1961

Miss Cryer, Beatrice Dobson, Jean Metcalfe, Ethel Craggs, Susan Skaife, Mary Ann McClaren Hazel McCavish Hazel Wood

Photo from Hazel Chapman.

Bottom:

HOCKEY TEAM 1965-6

A photo sent in by Sue Cooke (née Miller) in December 2002, via daughter Hannah who was a student at school at the time.

Back row: Linda Carter, Thalia Ward, Sue Miller, Ann Wood, Dawn Williamson, Shirley Fairweather, Helen Ward

Front row: Kay Lumley, Anne Duggleby, Joy Hutchinson, Jean Trousdale, Anne Mortimer



DRAMA MUSIC AND DANCE

Drama soon featured strongly in the new school . Hazel Chapman sent in a photo of the cast of *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Trevor Wilford a cast list for *Toad of Toad Hall*.

Toad	<i>John Simpson</i>	The Wildwooders:
The Water Rat	<i>Edwin Snow</i>	Weasels: <i>Susan Cundall, Jane Cass,</i>
Mr Badger	<i>Tony Bradley</i>	<i>Richard Creaser, Michael Dunning,</i>
Mr Mole	<i>Ian Reed</i>	<i>Susan Baker, Christine Ring</i>
Alfred	<i>Philip Coates</i>	Ferrets: <i>Kathleen Brighty, Marie</i>
Back legs	<i>Stephen Wood</i>	<i>Blanchard, Margaret Lombard,</i>
Chief Weasel	<i>Shirley Atkinson</i>	<i>Graham Waterton, Keith Holder</i>
Chief Stoat	<i>Dawn Swift</i>	Stoats: <i>Gillian Booth, Kathleen</i>
Chief Ferret	<i>Susan Davies</i>	<i>Pilmore, Trevor Wilford, John</i>
1st Field Mouse	<i>Frank Evans</i>	<i>Barker, Geoffrey Whaley, Pauline</i>
2nd Field Mouse	<i>Paul Wilford</i>	<i>Kilvington</i>
Judge	<i>Susan Taylor</i>	Squirrels: <i>Margaret Benton,</i>
Baker	<i>Lynda Temperton</i>	<i>Margaret McMurran, Sandra</i>
Policeman	<i>Kevin Nattrass</i>	<i>Welburn, Katherine Eddery</i>
Jailer's Daughter	<i>Elizabeth Cryer</i>	Rabbits: <i>Jennifer Wright, Joy</i>
Washerwoman	<i>Dorothy Fox</i>	<i>Hickes, Lorraine Welburn, Martin</i>
Mr Turkey:	<i>Christine Evans;</i>	<i>Jagger, Terry Langford</i>
Mr Duck:	<i>Diane Bowes</i>	

Needlework teacher Mollie McKie (formerly Mollie Skelton) remembered other productions fondly:

A lovely hall and stage gave rise to some excellent school productions under the guidance of first Mr A Rudd, head of English and later Mr G Bowman

The Importance of Being Earnest (Oscar Wilde) was memorable and although I can visualise the cast and the costumes the students made under my guidance, alas I cannot name them.

Pygmalion (Bernard Shaw) I do remember Eliza Doolittle - Elizabeth Cryer and an unforgettably funny performance by Donald Cass as Eliza's father. He brought the house down, so to speak.

Bon Adventure. The costumes of the nuns were loaned to us by Scarborough Convent. One jolly nun was the first to admit she was no nun so I won't name her. She was actually caught by me on the school playing fields displaying for first and second form boys the delights of the human female form and said 'I told you miss I was mis-cast as a nun.' She went on to more notoriety in her later school years! Of all the memories that sticks in my mind is one involving Chris Sellars from Amotherby and one of his pals. They were cast as Nubian slaves. Wearing only loin cloths and entirely in black stage make-up from head to foot, they travelled home on the last bus terrifying the passengers and causing a rumpus for the school.



MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

December 1959

Andie Dixon, Kate Westmorland, Keith Stalting, Eric Pawson, Keith Thompson, Hazel McCavish, Valerie Gilbank

Head of science John Delaval remembered some of the productions when he talked with John Dunstan in 2002:

We used to get a lot of fun out of the annual school plays. I used to help with the lighting and scenery. The scenery and sets were very good. I remember that Mel Crawshaw and Peter Eggleston made pillars for the set of *Pygmalion* and a stone fireplace with a very realistic imitation fire for *Bonaventure*, set in a monastery. For *Wuthering Heights* I remember that Alan Burns' son was to play the harpsichord. Bill Helling, who was the head of music, made a tape recording to recreate the music and I put a loudspeaker in the dummy harpsichord so that it sounded as if he were playing it. Brian Goforth used to be in charge of scenery painting but he used to get more paint on himself than on the scenery.



As to music, there is no record of an orchestra existing, but music teacher Mr Gough certainly ran a school choir from the early days, witnessed by a photograph sent in by Hazel Chapman .

Former pupil Valerie Lange (née Ashcroft) sent in photos of the 1959 country dancing team, organised by Miss Riby.



Top:

BILL HELLING

Head of music according to John Delaval, and acting deputy head in the final months of the county modern, following Reg Linsley's retirement. He became deputy head at a school in Bulkington, Warwickshire

Left:

COUNTRY DANCE TEAM 1959

Back row: Beatrice Dobson, Gwen Baker, Ethel Craggs, Valerie Ashcroft, Maureen Haines, Doreen Hall, Jean Metcalfe

Front row: Christine Bristow, Winnie Lythe, Miss Riby, Christine Marshall,

...

From a newspaper clipping.

Below:

THE CHOIR 1960

A photo sent from Australia via Hazel Chapman. Music teacher Mr Gough is in the middle.



SCHOOL TRIPS

There were many trips organised for the school's pupils. Certainly there was a party of twenty children plus staff went to visit Paris and the Loire Valley, Easter 1967. Perhaps the most significant extra-curricular trips were of the outdoor pursuits kind, increasingly popular in the late 1960s as improvements in transport and the advent of vehicles such as the minibus allowed people easier access to the delights of the countryside. There were regular visits to Danby Fryup outdoor centre, in the North York Moors, for field study work. Photos are included on the next page. From 1966 to 1971 there were two youth hostelling holidays a year – both in school holidays – one during May half term and the other during the summer break. The Yorkshire Dales and the east coast were the usual venues, and as the amalgamation of the county modern and grammar schools drew near, pupils from both schools were in the expedition parties.

And then there were the Lyke Wake Walk expeditions between 1967 and 1971, the forty-mile walk across the moors from Osmotherley to Ravenscar which had been established in 1955. Robin Coulthard and Brian Durno were the key staff behind these expeditions, supported by many others including Brenda Coles and Sally Train.

The next few pages show some of Robin's excellent photographs from the walks, accompanied by his brief notes and anecdotes.



RAMSGILL YOUTH HOSTEL

Nidderdale, June 1968.

'The group includes Messrs Whitwell, Nunwick, Burns, Sedman, Wilford and Dunning.'



Top:

LYKE WAKE WALK 1969.

'The day was a very hot one and this group which includes, Messrs Sedman, Teasdale and Dunning could not resist the opportunity to cool their feet in Wheeldale Beck. Misfortune struck Master Dunning (right) just seconds after this photo was taken when he stood on a broken bottle some idiot had thoughtlessly jettisoned. The support party whisked him to Whitby Cottage Hospital where he received stitches in his foot. His walk was over.'

Middle:

LYKE WAKE WALK 1971

'A crossing done in glorious hot sunny July weather.'



Bottom left:

FAT BETTY 1969

'The group includes amongst others Messrs. Dunning, Stansfield, Teasdale, Nunwick and Mazonas. This was one of the warmest Lyke Wake Walk crossings I can remember doing.'

Bottom right:

GRINTON FLUE 1968

'Robin Coulthard and Brian Durno outside the flue of Grinton Smelt Mill, on a school youth hostelling expedition.'



Top:

LOW FORCE, TEESDALE 1970

'PE teacher Brian Durno is just visible. With advanced qualifications in life saving, Brian's presence rendered this kind of fun safe and acceptable. The pool, a deep one with the bottom visible, was on part of the watercourse which was only used when the river was in flood and was easily supervised. The party were walking from Barnard Castle youth hostel to Langdon Beck.'



Middle

RAVENS CAR 1971

'They finished the course! Pupils who made it to the end of the Lyke Wake Walk, 1971. Teacher Robin Coulthard and ex-county modern pupil Dave Perry are in the rear of picture. (It was a Perry's of Slingsby minibus that ferried them to the walk.)'



Bottom left

SPENCE LEVEL 1968

'Messrs Wilford, Dunning and Sedman at the entrance to Spence Level, Hard Level Gill, Swaledale, June 1968. They were part of a group walking from Keld to Grinton Lodge Youth Hostel.'

Bottom:right

CLOUGHTON WYKE 1969

'There were occasional one day walks on Saturdays. This walk in 1969 took us from Robin Hood's Bay along the coastal path to end at the pub on the front at Scalby Mills, Scarborough. Here the lads all had an ice cool shandy and the staff a well-earned pint. The picture was taken at Cloughton Wyke and includes Brian Durno, (PE teacher) and pupils Messrs Hicks, Harrison, Fairbairn and Leadill.'





Top:

CATRAKE FORCE 1968

Teachers Sally Train and Robin Coulthard with pupils at Catrake Force, Keld, Swaledale.

Below:

SALTBURN 1969

Part of a group that walked the Cleveland Way from Saltburn to Scarborough, seen on the cliff tops above Saltburn 1969. With the group is PE teacher, Brenda Coles

Below:

SOUTH OF WHITBY 1969

The same group a little further down the coast



Bottom:

KELD 1968

Crossing the River Swale at Keld on the Pennine Way route



THE FINAL DAYS

By 1965, only seven years into the existence of the new Modern school, there was already discussion about the future structure of education in the area. The governing bodies of MCM and MGS met with county officials, and continued to do so for the next six years. Norton County Secondary School was now in existence, and staff there also had a view. Options included a comprehensive school and a bilateral school – grammar and secondary modern streams within one organisation, such as those operating in Thirsk and Easingwold. In June 1966 a joint resolution from a meeting of MGS, MCM and Norton County Secondary schools governors was made:

Before taking a decision to alter the system of Secondary Education, we request that the two Education Authorities should consult together and with the respective boards of Governors, on the basis that Secondary Education in the Malton and Norton Urban and Rural Districts should be treated as one unit

By 1967 the East Riding plan was to retain all pupils at Norton County Secondary up to O-level, with transfer to MGS at sixth form level. The governors' minutes have the first mention of a joint comprehensive for Malton. A question was asked: would the plans have been the same had Malton and Norton been in the same riding? The education officers intimated yes, though many were not convinced. We can but speculate on how true this was, but we know the course of events that followed, and Malton County Modern would cease to exist in secondary modern form from July 1971.





**A FINAL SELECTION FROM
ROBIN COULTHARD'S
PHOTOGRAPHS**

1. FINAL DAY 1971

A photo taken on the final day of Malton County Modern, 23 July 1971. He is unsure of the girls names in the photo.

2. CLASS 4B BOYS

Some of the class pictured in July 1971

**3. CLASS 3A GIRLS
& 4. CLASS 3A BOYS**

Robin Coulthard's form group. 'I have very happy memories of all the classes I taught at Malton but I was greatly distressed to say "farewell" to this class, they were lovely kids. I hope they truly "fared well."'

5. TOOL CLEANING 1966

'Messrs Abbey and Downing cleaning garden tools at break time. They often volunteered for this thankless job. I never discovered why they found it so appealing!'

6. 2c RURAL STUDIES

'The "gentlemen" of class 2c end their rural studies stint. Whilst the boys were undertaking rural studies the girls of 2c would be in home economics.'

7. FINAL DAY 1971

'In the top photo are R Kitching, S Wainwright, R Render, E Render and S Holder. The girl kneeling I am not sure of her name.'



Bottom:

FINAL ASSEMBLY 1971

The final assembly at Malton County Modern, July 1971. Standing are school secretary Joan Grice, Mr & Mrs Hanson



Above:
MR AND MRS HANSON
On the Isle of Mull, 1994

FINAL WORDS: GEORGE HANSON

George Hanson had been head teacher of Malton County Modern School for thirteen years. Reports from staff and students alike give nothing but praise and admiration for him as a head teacher and as a person. His final comments at the end of his time there - and his retirement from teaching - are recorded in the minute book:

...one of the happiest and most efficient schools in the North Riding. This is, of course, my last Report, and I should be guilty of base ingratitude did I not express my sincere thanks to all the Governors for their unremitting support and encouragement. I am not paying lip-service to tradition. I know I have been singularly fortunate in the active cooperation I have enjoyed from this Governing body over the whole 13 years of the School's existence. I shall always be in debt to the many men and women of the teaching staff to whose single mindedness of purpose any success is due. Their sole object without exception, has been to promote the welfare of the pupils in their charges. They have all worked assiduously, uniting in a common aim, freely giving of their time and energy.

Finally I must thank all the ancillary staff. Mr Davidson and Mr Dowding who have maintained the School in a first class condition. ... Mrs Ledingham and the kitchen staff. ...Mr Pallister the groundsman He has brightened the school with colour both inside and outside. He has been friend to countless children and an example to us all. My secretary Mrs Grice has been a great asset. Years ago I told Miss Dodds HMI how lucky I was to have charge of this school and what wonderful people worked here. Nothing has happened since to make me change my mind. I leave with very happy memories.

GC Hanson, Headmaster.

Below:
SCHOOLDAYS
Three girls walk through the cordon and espalier apple blossom. May 1971. The end of an era.
A final photo from Robin Coulthard.

