

Memories and Messages from the Class of 1962

Colin Bowen (1962 BSc Chemistry)

Interesting chemistry. Great sports, particularly rugby. Bass beer brewery visits. Summer evening walks at Cadbury's. Excellent presentations & explanations.

Philip Chohan (1962 BSc Physics)

Shortly after graduation, I started in the oil and gas exploration business as a geophysicist, working initially for seismic exploration contractors and in the 70s for oil companies. After the mid 80s, I worked mainly on North Africa and latterly, on Algeria in particular. After 1995, I became a consultant. I started winding down work in 2002 and retired completely in 2003.

In 1965, I married Eva, who is Danish. We have two children and four grandchildren whose ages range from under one year to six years. We now have a quiet existence in Surrey.

Owen Davies (1962 BSc Chemical Engineering)

Exposure to students of different backgrounds (nationality) and organising "rag" weeks.

Doreen Gough née Stanyon (1962 BSc Applied/Pure Science)

My broad based degree worked well for me as although I started my teaching career teaching chiefly A Level Maths, after my marriage to Chem Eng student Howard Gough, I taught A Level Biology and ended my career teaching General Science and Physics. Howard and I have four children, nine grandchildren; celebrate our Golden Wedding next year. We are both playing a lot of golf – a great game to take up in your sixties.

Julie Harding (1962 BA English)

It was a thrill to be among the first students to study in the new Faculty of Arts site at Edgbaston (1960) and also be among the last students to attend lectures and seminars in the Old Edmund Street building.

Kay James née Nash (1962 BSc Mathematics with Physics)

Friendly atmosphere at Winterbourne, Mrs Friend even let us in late when we had been caught in floods after a Sunday visit to Elmley Castle. She allowed us to dry off and even loaned Mike (my future husband) dry clothes to go onto Loughborough.

Margaret Lee nee Ireland (1962 BSc Mathematics)

Favourite memories: Falling in love. Housing tutors who were such characters. Prof Hilton, Bleechley Park; Prof Pierls, Manhattan project; Dr Nora Calderwood – what a woman who loved us so much, she could barely keep exam questions secret – learnt music on sibelius. Finally – wonderful friends, Guild, undergraduates & playing bridge!

David Loveridge (1962 MSc Mechanical Engineering)

I was glad of the opportunity to try to learn something myself after having tried to teach others, and to discover that my bicycle often afforded the quickest means of getting around traffic – clogged Birmingham!

David Simpson (1962 BSc Electrical Engineering)

Wednesday football and rugby matches (interdepartmental). Sunday morning hockey. Darts playing in the Union Building. Refectory meals. Saturday night dances in the Union Building – Alan Ayres band!

Robin Wilson (1962 BSc Chemistry)

Playing rugby on the pitch in front of the University. Winning the sevens there for Chemistry. Bass Brewery visits. Coffee in the union. Meeting my wife – still my wife – at the Saturday Hop.

Michael Withers (1962 MSc Information and Systems Engineering)

Attending Birmingham University boosted my career far beyond my wildest dreams. Thank you everyone.