



RGS



CLASSES OF 1963, 1973 & 1983

OLD NOVO REUNION

OCTOBER 2023

Welcome Message

It was lovely to see significant contingents from the leavers of 1983, 1973 and even a dozen from 1963 returning for the recent ON dinner weekend. We are actively trying to create much more of a tradition of regular reunions for different year groups so thank you for setting the standard for future years to live up to! Some of you live locally while others came a long way, even one over from Australia and one from Zimbabwe for a long weekend. Some I know are regular attenders at RGS events but for some, this may have been your first time returning to the school, in which case things may have changed a fair bit since you were here. However, I hope you recognised the same energy and enthusiasm from your own time here.



One thing I suspect may be different though, is the extent of our work outside the school, aiming to raise aspirations and attainment across the North East. We operate in a region where there is a huge amount of poverty and some of the weakest academic results in the country - indeed the North-South academic gap has never been greater. We have had a strong bursary programme for many years, providing fully funded places to hundreds of deserving young people and I am very grateful to all of you who have supported such an important part of our work.

Additionally, for the last three years, as part of an ongoing project, the Reece Foundation have funded two teachers for maths and physics, based at the RGS, who go out into local schools and deliver specialist support. In recognition of the demonstrable impact this initiative has had, British Engines are now funding a robotics teacher and other partners like TSG are coming forward to fund a computer science teacher. These organisations are leveraging both RGS's expertise and our organisational capacity, in order to reach young people across our region.

Geoffrey Stanford

RGS Newcastle Headmaster

The state schools we support are doing great work in the face of extreme, systemic issues. Through helping them promote excellence we aim to raise aspirations and attainment, and create opportunities for all young people across the region. In the last academic year, we ran more than 50 projects in over 100 schools. We engaged regularly with well over 10,000 students and supported more than 700 teachers. We can demonstrate direct benefit for individual pupils (for example students who have achieved further maths GCSE when it is not offered by their schools). Perhaps the longest term impact will be where we work to upskill non-specialist teachers. This will improve the experience of teachers and students for many years to come. We believe this is a scalable and sustainable model for having real positive impact.

As a result of this work, you may have seen that we were recently announced as the Telegraph's Magazine (Independent School Parent) Independent School of the Year. When we put our partnership programme forward for the Outstanding Educational Partnerships category of the award, we had no idea that it would lead to us winning the overall award. This is on top of securing The Times' North East overall Independent School of the Year, and now ranking 51st in the country for academic results. The starting point for everything we do is that what happens on site has to be excellent but our awards recognise that doing well and doing good are compatible. The impact that our students and staff have been having on young people across the North East, really delivering on our charitable objectives, is something that you can take pride in. Anything you can do to help us promote, whether through giving your time, introducing us to potential funding partners or just helping to spread the message about what we are doing, would be deeply appreciated.

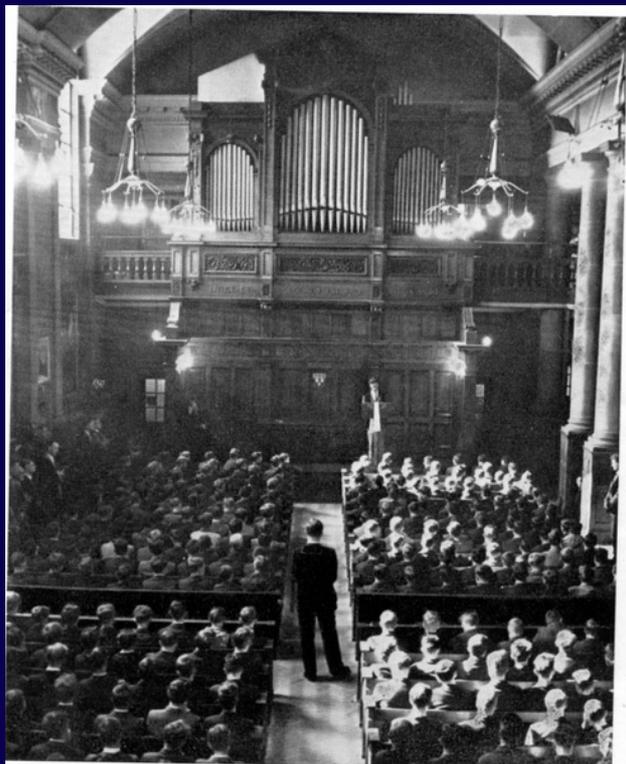
With very best wishes, from your RGS Family in Eskdale Terrace.



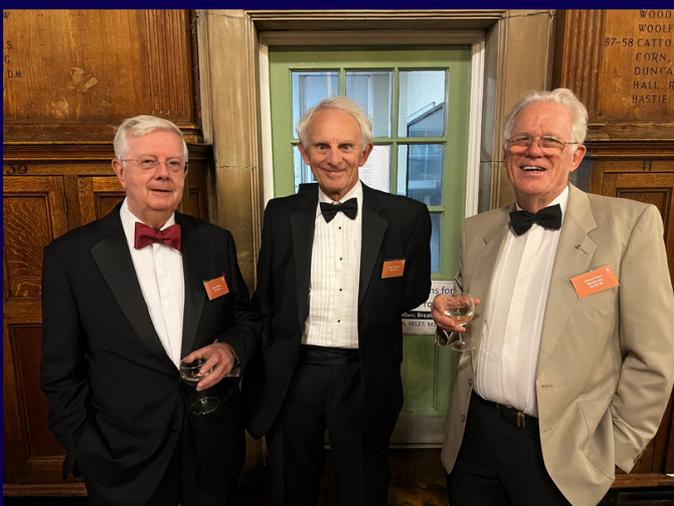
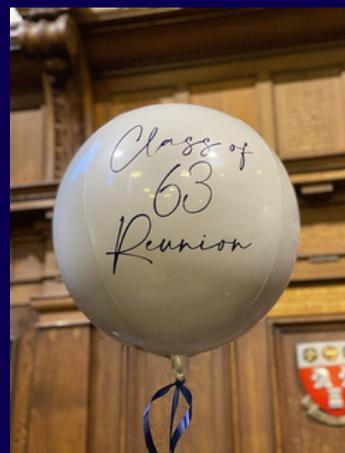
Class of 1963



Class of 1963



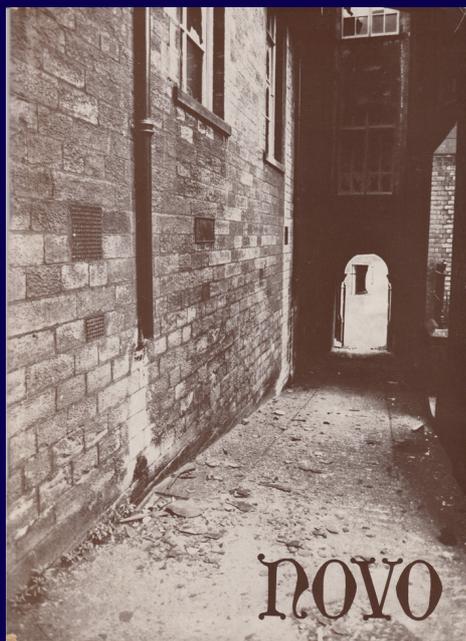
Class of 1963



Class of 1963



Class of 1973



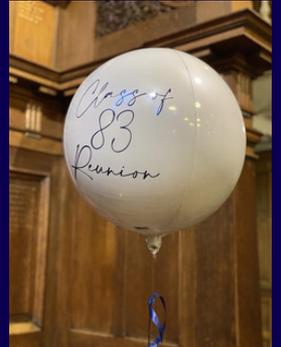
Class of 1973



Class of 1983

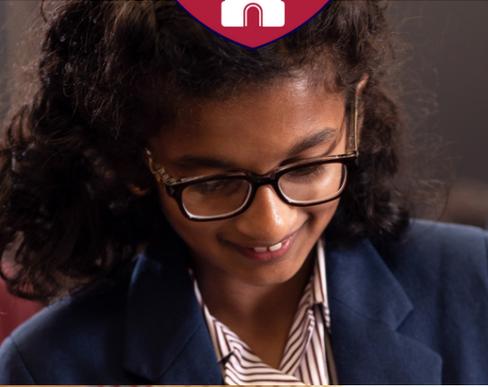
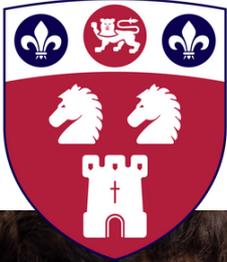


Class of 1983



Class of 1983





Your lasting impact...

As an Old Novo yourself you will understand, first hand, how attending RGS can enrich your educational experience and shape a child's future .

The generous donations from our bursary benefactors provide exceptional young people with means tested bursaries, opening the door to an RGS education for bright young people who would otherwise be unable to access such opportunities.

Providing bursary places for outstanding individuals to attend our school not only raises aspirations across generations of whole families but also improves social mobility in the North East.

We have an ambitious aim to further increase the number of bursary students accessing RGS; our ultimate ambition is to return the school to the social diversity of the days of Direct Grants and Assisted Places.

You and your contemporaries could play a meaningful role in this, perhaps collectively, your year group could collaboratively give a child the opportunities afforded to you. How wonderful would that be?

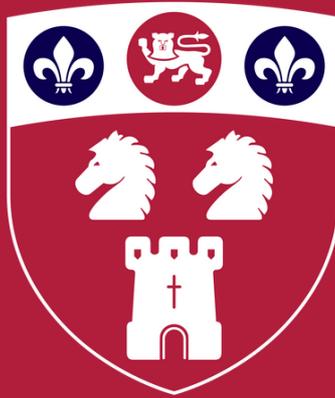
All contributors to our 'class of.. bursary' will receive a regular update on the donations you have collectively made. You will receive our bi-annual bursary bulletin, and most importantly, a letter each academic year direct from your supported bursary student, keeping you updated with their progress and experiences during their time here.

Please click on the links below to find your Year group's JustGiving page and use the live totalizer see how close you are to changing the trajectory of a child's life.

[Class of '63 Bursary](#)

[Class of '73 Bursary](#)

[Class of '83 Bursary](#)



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