



Mr Busbridge

It is with much sadness that we announce the passing of Mr Ed Busbridge, a much loved and inspirational gentleman who taught Science at The Lakes School from 1990 to 2016.

Ed passed peacefully at his home with his wife Mrs Lucy Gilbert on Thursday 27th September 2018 after a period of illness, during which time Ed and Lucy were devoted companions to each other on many an adventure. Thank you to everyone who has contributed the memories that are captured in these pages.



Whilst we have all spent a sombre moment reflecting on the loss of our dear friend and colleague, the school has been filled with wonderful memories and stories of Mr Busbridge's unique gift of capturing the hearts and minds of young people through science and his genuine desire to inspire, entertain and educate. Whilst we cannot capture every memory, we hope that this dedication to Mr Busbridge brings a broad smile and a fond tear to all who remember him.



Jodie Groves

'CATions are PUSSitive, anions are like onions (they make you cry) so are negative.' 😄

He had funny ways of explaining things that I still use at uni. An amazing, inspiring man who believed in everybody. Thank you for not giving up on me even when I was being lazy!! Rest in peace. X

1 h Like Reply



Lotti Ducksbury

He had huge amounts of enthusiasm, was always in good spirits, and gave us endless support and encouragement. Rest in peace Mr Busbridge 🍀💛

1 d Like Reply

Becca Hayes

Oh Mr Busbridge, so sad to hear this news. I'll never forget your green shirt; long, 'always in a hurry' jangling strides; rosey cheeks; unkept hair; 80's all in one ski suit; extremely kind and gentle nature and, My goodness, you spent hours trying to help me understand chemistry. I truly hope you're now in a place free from any pain and illness. Kindest wishes to all family and friends.

1 d Like Reply



Helen Batey

So sad to hear this news. An inspirational teacher. He always had time to help and encourage. He also inspired me to take chemistry at university and I was delighted to have the opportunity to go back to the lakes school and tell him what a wonderful teacher he'd been.

Hannah Clark

So sad, he was such a legend! Always cared so much about students and always did what he could to help, Rest in peace x

1 d Like Reply



Fond Memories from Mr Ince

It was brilliant working with Ed. There is no doubt that his massive commitment and drive for the very best created a synergy between us.

For a while, we ran an informal prep-room league table for staff breakages. In true Ed fashion, he topped the table, gathering more points than the rest of the department together. He resorted to sending students with the broken bits in the end.

I loved the work we did on the old A Level Chemistry Individual Investigation. Where I was in my element working with students in the lab, trialling and running the experiments, Ed's amazing skill was drawing out the very highest theory, not only from the students, but from me.

I foolishly volunteered for the staff v Taverners annual cricket match. I think Ed arranged the field to keep me on the boundary but I always needed to move position by just one step to the right.

It was inevitable that we would be great mates. We shared so many ideas but our long and deep philosophical wanderings over that last beer would always help me refine my own thoughts.

We spent a lot of time on school excursions. Either trudging around in a driving gale and zero visibility with the DofE Gold group or skiing in the French Alps. We traversed a full high-altitude range in one day. Me at my absolute limit and Ed effortless. One of the best days in the mountains ever. Ed also turned out to help me prepare for my Mountain Leader assessment. We were practising my night navigation skills. Ed knew exactly where he was but didn't make me feel like an idiot for getting lost. He loved the Scottish mountains. I think that's where we differed. I like rock and he likes thigh deep soft snow lying on heather with no discernible summit (and the massive empty wide-open space with all its peace and tranquility).

Trekking in the Ecuadorian Andes with the school group ranks as the best trip ever. My favourite photo is displayed proudly in school. It shows us before the magnificent snow-capped summit of Cotopaxi volcano. I've always walked past it with massively fond memories. It's a bit hard at the moment but it will always be a reminder of amazing times with an amazing man. The trip to Ecuador was unusual for Ed. I think it was the first trip Ed did where he didn't take marking to do on the coach. We learnt to scuba dive together culminating in dives in the Galapagos. His reassuring confidence really helped allay my natural fear of the water. The planning for Ecuador lasted three years. We must have done forty car boot sales. Ed was always looking at ways to make them better. We were very slick by the time the expedition set off. I don't miss the 5:30am starts but I do miss the buzz when we were planning.

There are way too many great things to remember. I could never do them justice. Ed was an amazing man.

Memories from Mr Robinson

"Teaching is a noble profession and it so because of people like Edgar Busbridge!"

I first met Ed 17 years ago when I arrived at the school and little did I know at the time that he would become a lifelong friend. Here was this quirky scientific man with an obviously well-endowed brain, a whacky hair style and graced daily in an un-ironed shirt and yet, such is the organic nature of relationships it quickly became apparent that mountaineering in all its forms would become a common theme between us and it is those 'special times' in the mountains that I shall remember most. There are too numerous occasions to mention in entirety however, the school ski trips and the Scotland trips including trekking across the Ben Alder estate for 2 days and walking the entire South Kintail ridge stand greatest in my memory. Most experiences were shared with a peaty malt whisky too!

The depth of a sound relationship is based on trust, integrity, humour, humility, respect, spirit and dignity and Ed had these qualities in abundance, in truth he became a 'true' friend. The Lakes School has lost a legendary teacher, I have lost a wonderful friend and Lucy has lost her beautiful husband. I shall miss you greatly but you will never leave my thoughts!



Memories from Mr Theobald

Ed was the loveliest of human beings - To see them getting married and spending the last few years together was like a Hollywood film and, when I mentioned their marriage on facebook, I got over 200 replies from ex-students overjoyed at this news!

Ed was the cricket captain and we spent many occasions losing to The Tavener's - Ed has a distinctive 'googly' style of bowling where he ran 90 degrees to the crease and inverted his body to send down the most confusing of deliveries. He would run around the cricket pitch to move someone 2 yards to the left and then run back again.

A fantastic skier too - I went on 5 trips with him and his infectious personality and mannerisms made him the loveliest of friends to all.

One more thing - the old chalk boards - he would write left handed onto them with his arm raised and his elbow would rub off what he had just written! A lot of people remember that from school!

Much loved, totally missed.

Memories from Mr Revell

Ed was a keen sportsman and has left us with many fond memories of time spent climbing on Lakeland crags, hill walking, golf, team sports, canoeing and cycling.

For many years he organised the annual charity cricket match against the Taverners. Trying to set the Staff XI field was always a bit like herding cats, but Ed never gave up, enthusiastically shouting instructions even as the bowler was on his run up! At the crease he was a steady bat and could play a variety of 'proper' cricket shots, especially behind square, which contrasted strongly with the more 'agricultural' techniques of some other staff.

Despite the richness of the English language, his bowling action cannot be described with words, but those who witnessed it will never forget it, much like his unorthodox driving on the golf course. After the match, he was always first to put his hand in his pocket, to bid on an auction or buy some raffle tickets. A true sportsman and a gent.



Robert James Hodgkinson

Mr Busbridge was a hero to me... he started at the Lakes when I was doing GCSE's and because of him I went on to do A-Level chemistry... I then got a degree in Chemistry and I remember telling him that and he couldn't stop laughing!! But he was such a lovely man with time for everyone. We organised a Golf trip to Scotland with Mr B and we had such a great time, like his cricket his golf was unorthodox but effective 😊 I will always have the most wonderful memories of him as a great teacher and a wonderful man.

Ali Maybug

This is such sad news!! He was my 6th form tutor and I'll never forget the disbelieving looks he used to give me when I gave dodgy excuses for missing registration. I have very fond memories of him - a lovely man.

1 d Like Reply

Laura Swainson

The passion he had for his subject inspired me to become a teacher and I still refer to him in my lessons as recently as Friday (Martin Swainson class of 2003)

Liz Barton

It's been great to read how warmly mr busbridge is remembered by so many pupils. He was our form tutor in sixth form and managed the rabble superbly. Of course we laughed at his board writing skills and his shuffley walk and shirt that always hung out a bit at the back, but what I remember most is his genuine kindness and patience, which so many of us got to experience in our time at the Lakes. Much love to Lucy Gilbert Adam if you could pass on.

Becca Myers

Oh Mr B 😭😭 he had to be one of my favourite teachers right through to a-levels. Very enthusiastic. Loved his scribbles on the blackboard, rubbing out what he'd written frantically with his hands instead of the board rubber. Or rubbing it out with his hand as he wrote left handed and nobody could tell what it said. Very fond memories of my chemistry lessons. 😊😊

1 d Like Reply

Andy Dickson

Very sad to hear this news and lots of love to everyone close to Ed. In my brief encounters with him he was a true gent always looking to create something special with the people around him. He will indeed be sorely missed.

1 d Like Reply

Memories from Mrs Musetti

My younger son did a fantastic impression of "Mr Busbridge" whenever he wanted to make us laugh. Aged 13 and quite small and chubby, he didn't look anything like Ed but he did a marvellous job of sticking his hair up, waving his arms around and talking about atoms very quickly and with great excitement. It never failed to make us all howl with laughter and nobody was more delighted than Ed himself when I told him about his party piece at our family do's!!

Mr Busbridge taught all 3 of my children at The Lakes and was without doubt one of their very favourite teachers. He cared so much. He insisted that they aimed incredibly high, worked hard and achieved so much. Louis was encouraged to take his Chemistry GCSE in Year 9 (Yes you CAN do it) and with Ed's support and encouragement he went on to get an A* aged 14 and go on to study A level and a science degree. This belief in himself and his academic ability was ignited by Ed and has impacted on his whole life. Hundreds of other ex Lakes School students have similar stories. No one worked harder than Ed (except perhaps Lucy!). He simply insisted that students could do it and refused to accept second best!

Although Ed was known for his superb intellect and high standards he had time for all students. He was a brilliant form tutor and the warmth, care and support he provided for all students over the years has been remembered by our family with lots of smiles and happy memories.

The unfailing professionalism he always demonstrated to his colleagues, as well as that infectious guffaw of a laugh, his enthusiasm and his joy for life made our staff room a lovely place to be. I loved working with Ed and miss him every day. My children niece and nephew are so lucky to have been taught by such a selfless, dedicated funny, warm, lovely man and want to say thank you. Cath and Ric Musetti, Chiara, Dom, Mario, Louis and Rosie Musetti x

Memories from Sixth Form Students

I remember when he made us all pretend we were particles in a chain bumping against each other and making us vibrate on the spot to pass the kinetic energy on, all whilst he was animatedly describing the process; it was really funny.

He was always patient with me and helped me in my work whenever he could. He would never give up on us no matter how long it took us to understand. He was always happy to help and it certainly made science easier.

I remember him teaching us about kinetic theory and getting us to run around the room and how he made movements for us to remember the different types of rocks. I remember how truly passionate he was about teaching.

He was always kind and if I didn't understand anything he went through it again and again until I did.

I remember him writing frantically on the board, but he always managed to rub it out with his hand as he went.

We are all extremely saddened by the passing of Mr Busbridge. He was such a great teacher who has given the school many great years of teaching and we all really treasure our memories with him; memories that will stay with us for many years to come.



Nicola Conway

Letting me wear his full ski suit on a ski trip!! The best!!

1 d Like Reply



Jeff Jackson

Taught my boys who loved him. He was always the highlight for me at parents evening. A lovely lovely guy. Education needs teachers like Ed.

Katrina Moss

Such a kind, enthusiastic man. RIP

