

## **Governor Pen Portraits**

### **Rachel Riddell: Chair of Governors**

Rachel gained a BSc Hons from Aston University, specialising in Accountancy and Marketing. Her early career was with the Distributive and Knitting, Lace and Net Industry Training Boards, ahead of moving into manufacturing industry. She has held Director of HR roles, in the textile sector, working for large suppliers to Marks and Spencer, with strong operational interest, including responsibility for a manufacturing plant. Her last role before retiring to North Yorkshire was as Director of Human Resources for Nottingham Trent University. Rachel brings significant expertise in human resource management, continuing professional development, leadership and change management. She has a son and daughter who are now grown up; both of whom attended Newcastle University gaining degrees in Chemical Engineering and Architecture. She has chaired the Personnel Committee, and led the board for the last two years.

### **Matt Graham: Parent Governor**

Matt grew up in St Albans before reading Natural Sciences (Physics) at Selwyn College, Cambridge. After Cambridge he went to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and was commissioned into the Royal Signals. He spent 16 years in the army, serving on operations in Northern Ireland, Bosnia and Afghanistan, as well as tours at the Defence Procurement Agency and the Ministry of Defence. He attended the Joint Services Command and Staff College and gained an MA in Defence Studies from King's College London. In his final tour he was based in York with 2 Signal Regiment and spent 8 months in Kandahar leading his squadron providing communications for NATO forces throughout southern Afghanistan. Matt left the army in 2008 to join UBS Investment Bank, but after a year in the South East the pull of Yorkshire proved too great.

The family returned to York in early 2010 and Matt joined the NHS, initially working for South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in Middlesbrough. More recently he was Strategy Director for a large teaching hospital in Manchester and he now leads a joint programme between the six acute hospital trusts in West Yorkshire. Matt has a daughter in Year 8 and two children in primary school.

### **Ruth Hatton: Parent Governor**

Ruth attended Malton School before gaining a BSc Honours degree in Mathematics from the University of Warwick. She worked as an Engineering Specialist, undertaking research and development projects at BAE Systems. She was responsible for managing collaborative research programmes, working with a number of UK companies and universities. She was awarded Chartered Engineer and European Engineer status and achieved membership of the Royal Aeronautical Society. In 2001 Ruth and her family moved to The Netherlands where they experienced living as part of an international community, meeting other families from all over the world. Ruth returned to Malton in 2007. She became a Governor at Malton Community Primary School in 2008 and has been a Governor at Malton School since 2010. She has chaired a number of committees and currently sits on the Accountability and Student matters committees. Ruth is also a leader with 1<sup>st</sup> Malton Guides. Ruth has two sons, one at Malton School and the other at York University.

### **Richard Oakes: Staff Governor**

Richard was born and raised in Malton. He attended Malton School to do his A Levels, after which he gained a BA Hons in French Studies from Hull University. Having spent a year abroad at Disneyland Paris, he looked to get over to France so that he could master the language and embrace the culture. After completing his degree, he studied as a teacher of English as a foreign in York and gained his CELTA. He moved to Paris where he worked for the next six years teaching conversational and business English to professionals in companies such as QBE, Crédit Agricole, Euronext and BNP Paribas. To take his career to the next level, he decided to bring his family back

to Yorkshire in 2008 (his wife insisted that they move to Malton!) to complete a PGCE at York University. He worked as a supply teacher for some months before securing a maternity cover at Fulford School. He then went to Graham School in Scarborough for 18 months before securing a place at Malton School in 2012. His son is currently in Year 9 and his daughter will be starting in Year 7 this September.

### **Rod Anson: Invited Governor, Vice Chair, Chair of Finance & Premises Committee**

Rod grew up in Scotland and the West Country before gaining a BSc Eng Hons degree from Aberdeen University in Engineering. His early career took him from technical manufacturing, through to product development and marketing of textiles for Courtaulds in Nottingham. After gaining an MBA Masters degree at the Strathclyde Graduate Business School he followed a passion and moved to Yorkshire, developing international business for Sara Lee Bakery and marketing the UK's favourite dessert. Rod then brought big business experience to a local farm diversification project creating a new business strategy, developing its marketing and operations and rapidly growing its stature as an innovative national supplier to major multiples, councils and private nurseries with exclusive international distributorships. He then gained investment from a leading Japanese PLC and lead the merger with their original UK company as Managing Director. Rod was also elected to the industry committee that founded and promoted the new sector accreditation scheme and acted as an independent consultant for a leading German Plant Breeder.

Rod moved to the public sector to lead commercial and business development for Defra's Central Science Laboratories outside York and developed the new "Fera" corporate identity while on the senior leadership team designing and delivering a new organisation by merging multiple government agencies. Rod now works for the core department, Defra, leading commercial and corporate change projects investing in improved services and capabilities and leading assurance reviews of other major government projects.

Rod brings significant experience of developing business models, teams and brands and of investing in innovation and service improvements, managing operations within tight constraints and introducing corporate changes to diverse organisations and sectors.

He was first a parent governor at Amotherby Primary School and has served at Malton School across all committees as well as on the PTA. Both his daughters have fully taken up the opportunities at the school, progressing through to A levels and now thriving at their chosen Universities.

### **Rebekah Dale: Invited Governor, Chair of Student Matters Committee**

Rebekah grew up in Scarborough, gained a BA in Human Biology and Philosophy and Ethics from Liverpool Hope University and an MA in International Politics: Global Justice and Human Rights from Newcastle University. Since graduating in 2013 Rebekah has worked in a Scarborough Secondary School supporting students with behavioural and learning needs and at Bishop Burton College in Student Recruitment and Student Progression. For the last two and a half years Rebekah has worked at York St John University leading the University's Widening Participation agenda. In primary, secondary schools and colleges across the region Rebekah works with young people to raise awareness of, and aspirations to, higher education. Rebekah has a detailed understanding of post 16 options and access and application to University. Rebekah is a Youth Leader at Elim Ryedale Church and runs the 'Ablaze' youth activities. Rebekah has been a Governor for nine months and chairs the Student Matters Committee.

### **Philip Jackson: Invited Governor**

Philip grew up in Ripon and gained a BSc Hons in Biochemistry from Sussex University. He decided initially to follow a career in academic research, winning a Medical Research Council scholarship to study for a PhD in Protein Chemistry at the University of London before moving on to a Post-

doctoral Fellowship at the University of Birmingham supported by the Cancer Research Campaign. Enjoying his teaching duties at university, Philip gained a PGCE and moved into teaching chemistry. He has taught at several schools during his 39 year career, working as Head of Careers and then as Head of Chemistry before retiring in 2010. Since then he has continued to work for various schools in London before retiring properly in March, 2017. Throughout his career Philip has participated with enthusiasm in organising school sport, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, music and drama, believing strongly that such activities enrich the lives of everybody in the school. He is a keen runner and has run all six of the World Marathon Majors.

Philip brings a deep knowledge of schools and is keenly interested in their staff and students, especially in the relationship that they have with the governing board. He is a member of the Student Matters committee and the Link governor for Key Stage 4 and Student Experience.

### **Sue Jefferson: Invited Governor, Chair of Personnel Committee**

Sue grew up in a village near York, gained a BA in Maths and Linguistics from London University then worked in the West and East of the country before returning to Malton 20 years ago with her husband. With 30 years in grocery businesses in UK Director and Global Leadership roles with Danone Group, Jeyes and the last 18 years with McCain Foods, Sue has a pedigree of transforming teams, businesses and brands to be the best they can be, before setting up her own business transformation and talent development company, Possibilities Realised.

A background in marketing & change management, as well as author of Boardroom Ready Women, Sue works with organisations to develop their hidden talent of high potential people to deliver transformational results & thrive in today's work environment, so they benefit from broader talent and thinking, becoming smart and agile in delivery, whilst the individuals are balanced and making a difference

She has been a parent at Malton School for 12 years since her older son attended from Year 7 through to A levels and her younger son is now starting sixth form.

Sue chairs the PTA and has been a school governor for almost 2 years, being part of the Finance committee, involved in strategic projects and now chairs the Personnel committee.

### **Ian Lovat: Invited Governor, Chair of Accountability Committee.**

Ian has lived locally since 1993. After obtaining a BSc joint honours in Physics and Applied Physics from Nottingham University he gained his teaching qualification from Cambridge University. He retired from teaching in 2015 having been Head of Physics, Head of Science, Director of Science and Technology and finally in a Senior Leadership role in school for 19 years, with a focus on curriculum and academic management. His particular area of expertise is in the gathering, interpretation and use of data in education. Throughout his teaching career he was involved in curriculum development and training both nationally and locally. In the year 2000, Ian gained a prestigious Teachers of Physics award from the Institute of Physics.

He is a trained team school inspector, author of several A-level text books, a past examiner, current examination team leader and contributes regularly to a specialist A-level subject magazine. He has been a school governor at Malton School for almost two years and is also a governor of a local Primary School.

Ian has two grown-up sons, both of whom graduated from Cambridge University, gaining degrees in Natural Sciences and Theology.