

John Challoner

Sedbergh School is saddened to announce the death of Old Sedberghian and former Master John W. G. Challoner. John was a boy in School House 1945 – 50. After Sedbergh he spent two years in the Far East completing his National Service before studying at Cambridge. He taught first in Bavaria and later in Belfast between 1957 and 1962, but the call of Sedbergh proved too strong to resist and he returned as a Master in 1962, remaining in post for 29 years.

Working first as a House Tutor in Evans, John threw himself in to the life of a Sedbergh Master shepherding dramatic productions, revamping the CCF, running the School sailing at Killington, teaching French and spending a decade at the helm of Sedgwick House. Towards the end of his Sedbergh career John wrote of, ‘...the power Sedbergh has over people’s souls, and the loyalty, the generosity, and the sheer love that surrounds us, who are lucky enough to teach or be taught here.’

Sedbergh’s pupils and colleagues were tremendously lucky to have John’s energy, skill and influence. He will be sadly missed. The School sends sincere condolences to John’s wife Rosemary, sons Simon and Mark, and daughter Kim.