

SEDBERGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM & MEDIA TIMELINE

- Pre 1940's 1970's
1940's 1980's
1950's 1990's
1960's 2000's

Barry Pain
School House 1879-1883
Pain was an English journalist, poet, humorist and writer. Attended Christi College, Cambridge. He became a prominent contributor to The Granta. He was known as a writer of parody and lightly humorous stories.



Viscount Bracken of Christchurch (Brendan)
School House 1920
After only one term at Sedbergh Bracken went on to become a journalist, MP and member of the Conservative cabinet. He made a successful career from 1922 as a magazine publisher and newspaper editor in London. His best-known business accomplishment was merging the *Financial News* into the *Financial Times* in 1945. The latter was published from Bracken House, London. He also published *The Economist*. In 1951 he helped found *History Today* magazine. He was also MP for Paddington, Parliamentary Private Secretary to Churchill, Minister of Information and First Lord of the Admiralty. A generous benefactor to the School and Chairman of Governors 1951-58.



Assheton Gorton
School House 1947-49
Studied architecture at Cambridge and fine art at the Slade. After designing about 50 TV plays he turned to art directing films. He was nominated for an Academy Award in the category Best Art Direction for the film *The French Lieutenant's Woman* and was the BAFTA nominated art director for Michelangelo Antonioni's 1966 film *Blowup*. After his retirement he wrote and illustrated children's books. Gorton credited his inspiration for design to the time he spent in Sedbergh and the Lake District as a child. His father was Winder housemaster and chaplain at Sedbergh.



Sir Christopher Bland
Lupton House 1951-56
Bland was both Deputy Chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority from 1972-1979 and Chairman of its Complaints Review Board. In 1982 he was appointed non-executive director of LWT plc and became Chairman in 1983 turning it into one of ITV's most profitable companies. As Chairman of the BBC Board of Governors from 1996 he led the negotiations which secured the funding of the BBC through the licence fee and oversaw the creation of BBC Online. After joining BT in 2001 he transformed the organisation by increasing revenues from their new wave services such as broadband. Sir Christopher was knighted for his work in the NHS in 1993.



Nigel Hawkes CBE
Powell House 1957-1962
Attended St Catherine's College Oxford, where he read Metallurgy. Hawkes was, first and foremost, a science journalist. He began work at the now defunct *Science Journal* before moving to *Nature*. In 1972 he was appointed science correspondent of *The Observer* until 1982 when he was promoted to Foreign Editor. He was *The Times* Health Editor from 2000-2008. He was appointed CBE in 1999 for services to the newspaper industry and science. In 2007 he was named journalist of the year by the Medical Journalists' Association. After retiring from *The Times* in 2008, he became director of a pressure group, Straight Statistics, and wrote columns for the *British Medical Journal*.



A (Jim) Muir
Powell House 1961-66
Muir studied Arabic and after five years in book publishing drove to Beirut in 1974 to cover the upheavals of a turbulent region. From 1975-90 Muir covered the conflict in Lebanon - thought to be the only western correspondent to cover it from start to finish. After Lebanon, the Gulf war erupted and Muir monitored Baghdad radio to provide news and analysis on Iraq. He joined the Kurds in northern Iraq and stayed with the guerrillas as they held Saddam's army at bay - continuing to send despatches. As peace took hold in the Middle East, Muir went to Sarajevo to report on the conflict in Bosnia. Since 1996 Muir has been the BBC's Middle East correspondent.



Brian Rotheray
Hart House 1964-69
After an academic career in foreign languages/ literary tradition Rotheray joined the BBC serving for over 25 years at BBC Monitoring, gathering foreign news. He then developed foreign news services for the BBC's World and UK Services. He has been involved in numerous research projects, publications and broadcasts about social and media history including *News from a Far Country*.



Peter MacPherson
School House 1966-1971
Macpherson moved into TV in the 1980's after completing a film course in New York and has experienced a wide range of work as director, producer and cameraman working around the world on stories about the environment as well as action and adventure films. He has worked on broadcast documentaries ranging from *Lovely Planet* to *Panorama* and shot aerial, underwater and mountain scenes for feature films and commercials.

Clive Kerfoot
Hart House 1969-74
Journalist and former Senior News Editor for Sky.



Tom Edwards
Lupton House 1983-90
Tom joined BBC London in 2003, where he covered the Damilola Taylor trials and received an award for his film on violence against minicab drivers in Croydon. Tom became BBC London's transport and environment correspondent in 2008.

Stan Ferguson
School House 1981-86
Radio producer.



Harry Jarman
Powell House 1979-1983
Jarman gained a position at the Moving Picture Company in London working in film and TV visual effects. He became senior visual effects artist at MPC and a supervisor on commercial film shoots. Some of his work won awards at the British Television Advertising Awards. Jarman then formed Golden Square Post Production providing services including online editing, commercials, TV visual effects and computer animation.



Thomas Alban
Powell House 1976-1982
Radio producer.



Paul Crone
Lupton House 1975-80
Paul began his career as a junior reporter with the *Lancashire Evening Post*. He then moved to Granada Television and also became involved in radio broadcasting. He is one of the best-known personalities of broadcasting in the Northwest directing and presenting documentaries, running TV charity appeals and presenting news programmes for over 30 years.



Mark Smith
Evans House 1974-79
As a cameraman and film maker for over 20 years, Smith has worked across all genres and shot news, documentary and drama. Best known for his work on *Frozen Planet*, *Planet Earth II* and *Nature*.



Simon Mallinson
Evans House 1974-78
Simon studied Media (Radio Production) at the University of Manchester. For the last 32 years Simon has worked in the advertising and film production business establishing successful companies such as MTP, MFP, MSP and HunkyDory. He now works mainly as an Executive Producer across a number of productions and production companies.



Andrew Leitch
Lupton House 1972-76
Leitch is a former BBC and ITV Producer who edited the popular Lookaround programme for many years on Border Television. Founded the Cumbria Film Archive which is the largest collection of nostalgic film and rare historic photographs that has ever been assembled about the county's past.



Nigel Barden
Powell House 1972-77
Nigel has combined a long career at BBC Radio with numerous TV appearances. He broadcast with Simon Mayo and Chris Evans on their BBC Radio 2 *Drivetime* show for 12 years and now presents the *Drivetime Show* on Greatest Hits Radio. He is the longest standing contributor to BBC Radio London (since 1990), with the last 25 years on the *Robert Elms Show*. Nigel is also a BBC rugby commentator, hosts live consumer events and food festivals, is a restaurant critic and a food and drink industry compère.



Hamish Beeston
Lupton House 1983-88
Hamish spent 13 years in TV as a producer/ director making over 30 films for primetime BBC1, BBC2, National Geographic and Discovery. Since 2005 Hamish has run Beeston Media, a corporate video/stills business, specialising in science and technology and higher education sectors for businesses and institutions.



Jamie Simpson
Hart House 1983-88
Initially a researcher on documentaries Simpson then produced and directed series including *Meet the Ancestors* for BBC2. He was awarded a BAFTA and EMMY for the Channel 4 series *Faking It*. He supervised the multi-award winning series *Who Do You Think You Are?* More recent projects include the *School of Saatchi* and *Rome Wasn't Built in a Day*.

Jonathan Gaskell
School House 1985-90
Jonny is an award-winning lighting designer, with over 25 years of experience, working internationally across music, live events, TV & film. He works closely with international artists, brands and production companies designing celebrated sets, lighting and video, and as a Gaffer, Lighting Director & Programmer.



Nolly Evans
Hart House 1990-95
Nolly is a media executive with over 18 years of corporate strategy and commercial experience at Dow Jones and NBC Universal. Since 2024 he has been General Manager of *The Wall Street Journal Digital*.



Charles Walford
Hart House 1993-98
Experienced sub-editor over 15 years on national newspapers. He was Deputy Chief Sub-editor of Sport and NFL writer for *The Times & The Sunday Times* until 2024. Charles is now Sub-editor of the *Daily Mail*.

Ashley James
Robertson House 2001-05
Worked at BBC Radio Cumbria, and then went on to work on URN, the University of Nottingham's radio station. Now a DJ on Hoxton Radio. Has presented TV shows such as *Style Stars* on PopGirTV, *Clothes Show Live* and *X Factor*. Has columns in the *Huffington Post* and *Closer Magazine*.



Ailsa Rochester
Lupton House 2005-07
Gained a Postgraduate Degree in Broadcast Journalism from Leeds Trinity University. Producer at Wire Free Productions Limited, Broadcast Journalist at Bauer Media Group, Producer at BBC Radio 5 Live and BBC Radio Leeds. Since 2021 she has been Executive producer at Audio Always.



Shay Waterworth
Hart House 2007-12
Shay gained a BA in Journalism from Kingston University. He was a reporter for Rugby Football Union and a website editor for Agile Media. He has worked for *Drinks International* website and magazine since 2017, first as a reporter and currently as Editor.



Chay Turner-Richards
Powell House 2009-16
Chay has worked primarily in the camera department in the film industry, from starting as a runner to now working as a cinematographer, filming on corporate shoots, live streaming events and on short and feature length films, for both independent and studio productions. He also works as a studio technician in Media City. Chay is Director at CSTR Film.



Alex Mason
Powell House 2011-16
Alex gained a First-Class Honours degree in Broadcast Journalism from Nottingham Trent University. He has been a writer for *The Cricketer*, reporter, presenter and producer for Notts TV and worked at *Mail Online* from 2019 to 2024. Since 2025 he has been UK Site Video Editor at *The Daily Mail*.



Richard Barker
Hart House 1984-89
Richard has over 20 years sales experience in the international television distribution industry across drama, entertainment, lifestyle, music and arts programming. Richard is Senior Vice President at DCD Rights, a company which sells content across all television and digital platforms to all territories.



Felix Duckworth
Lupton House 1989-94
Sub Editor of the *Daily Mail*.

Carl Partridge (Carter)

Powell House 1991-96
After writing and performing for BBC Radio 4 and Capital FM, Carl moved into TV writing. For a decade he worked as a TV comedy writer, mainly for the BBC. He earned a nomination for a Sony Radio Award and was shortlisted for the BAFTA Breakthrough Talent Award. He now works with companies to help them design and build robust, scalable software products and MVPs, from SaaS to mobile to A.I. and GPT-powered solutions.



Kate Reilton
Lupton House 2003-06
Kate studied Multi-Media Journalism at The Manchester Metropolitan University. She is now Freelance Journalist and has written for publication such as *Substack*, *Cumbria Life*, *News & Star*, *The Westmorland Gazette*, *Mancunian Matters*, *Times & Star* and *The Independent*, covering arts, culture, lifestyle, food, fashion and parenting.

Charlotte Bates
Robertson House 2006-08
Gained an MA in Broadcast Journalism from City University. Charlotte then worked for Sky Sports News for 3 years. She was a Sports Reporter for CGTN and Sports Anchor for Star News, both in Beijing. Since 2021 she has been Sports Anchor for TRT World in Istanbul.