

Miss Lynette Cheesman

Memories of St Paul's School 1971 - 1977

“Hello. My name is Lynette Jane Cheesman. I was born in Dorking Hospital on 26 August 1966. I lived at 51 Dene Street – a little white cottage – with my brother Mark James Cheesman, born 8 April 1969. We both went to St Paul's School.

I started school when I was five in 1971. I was the youngest in the class. I started out in the main school in the classroom with the big square windows overlooking the playground. My teacher was Miss Rathbone. The F unit was being built. When it was ready I went into F2, the middle classroom.

We had milk in bottles for a snack. We sang French songs on the carpet.

In F3 I had Miss Finn. She was my favourite teacher. One day I wasn't concentrating and got dressed for gym when everyone else was getting into school clothes! We got changed in our classroom at the tables. I learnt to read and write with “Peter and Jane” and had a spelling folder. I learnt to tell the time. I made friends.

I then moved to the Middle School and in M2 I had Mr Ling. One day I was sitting at the back of the class next to a boy who put a compass through his finger. Apparently I went very white and was taken to the front of the class and given a glass of water.

In M5 I had Mr Sidal and then in M7 I had Mr Draper. He was also my Sunday School teacher at St Paul's Church.

I was on the cross-country team and the netball team. I liked playing on the field and in the Copse.”

LC May 2011