

Christina (Chrissie) Meads



An Old Girl notified us on 24th July 2021 of the sudden and sad death of Chrissie who for well over 40 years (perhaps longer) – until the closure of the school – brought happiness, hugs, puddings and cakes into the lives of girls and staff at St Mary's Hall.

Our last Headteacher, Sue Meek, wrote: I am saddened beyond words to hear this news. Chrissie was quite simply the life, soul and loving heart of the dining room. She brought joy to us all every single day with her warm and cheerful greetings at the servery and her amazing repertoire of songs as she cleared away after us. She served SMH loyally and lovingly. She genuinely cared for every one of us and looked after us all.

I send my deepest and sincerest sympathy to dear Mick and all her family, of whom she was so proud and to whom she was so completely devoted.

I have Chrissie's hand written recipe for her rock cakes...once tasted never forgotten! I shall treasure it, as I do my many, many happy memories of a truly remarkable and overwhelmingly generous colleague and friend.

Many others also paid tribute:

Anne Corris: I'm devastated to hear this news. I have been talking about Chrissie, just this afternoon. I met a neighbour of Pete Hambrook, sadly deceased, who was one of the maintenance men at SMH. Chrissie was a stalwart of SMH and much loved by the girls and staff alike

Lucy Marie Dinning:

Lovely Chrissie who used to give me double portions of my fave puddings. I was obsessed with 60s music (in the 90s), and used to have long chats with her about the Beatles and the Monkees. One of the loveliest people!

Trish Glasspool (Ireland): I remember her vividly. She was so lovely, bubbly & friendly.

Justine Keet-Mayers: That's so sad. She used to sneak me a biscuit every break time when I went to chat with her and gave me double portions of pudding! So kind!

Laura Stoneman (Higson): Oh no! Her chocolate shortbread and chocolate custard was the favourite part of school lunches!

Sue Moley: Such sad news. Chrissie was a true diamond and looked out for everyone, staff and students alike.

Tina Johnson: This is such sad news....I'm devastated. Such a lovely lady, loved by absolutely everyone... all the girls adored her....

Alex Tabor (Lyons): That's so sad to hear, Chrissie was such a gem.

Naomi Hyde-Smith: Oh what sad news. She was such a lovely lady, so kind and generous.

Lucy Ives: Chrissie was the most glorious woman - I also benefitted greatly from the double helpings of pudding! A true SMH legend x

Phoebe Williams-Hine: So incredibly sad to hear this too. She not only made the tastiest puddings, but gave the best hugs. Such a wonderful lady with the kindest heart

Betty Ho: Such a sad news. I loved the chocolate shortbread and chocolate custard plus the apple crumbles. I still remember she always gave us the warmest greets and smiles when we returned after term breaks I always had an asthma attack after I returned to school and had to stay in for 1 week, and whenever I returned, She would say to me 'how are you dear?'

Catherine Bartram: Chrissie was always there with a smile and delicious desserts. Such sad news, sending love to her family.

Adela Hussain: I'm so sad to hear this as Chrissie radiated such positive energy every day in the dinner hall. I remember her vividly. I actually think my love of desserts came from her delicious daily puddings. Love and condolences to her family.

Emma Thomas (Davies): Oh no, not Chrissie! She was a legend. She remembered me at the 2009 reunion too as well as lots of memories and stories I had forgotten! Very sad news. RIP.

Sarah L Cockburn: I remember Chrissie. She was such a wonderful lady! Very friendly and kind and fantastic with all the children there.

Jayne Dempster: Chrissy was a friend to the girls and the teachers. She always had a smile and a story to tell. Very sad news, condolences to her loved ones.

Anita Jensen: So very sad to hear this. My thoughts are with Mick and the rest of the family at this very difficult time.

Melanie Morrison: Lovely Chrissie, so sorry to hear this.

Jemma Grinnall: I remember Chrissie. She was lovely and always gave me extra portions!

Miriam Demirates: Apple and rhubarb crumbles is what I remember with great fondness. Desserts at St Mary's were always so nice. Sad news.