



Ventnor Church of England Junior School pupils: July 1962



A bolt from the past of 60-odd years ago: various pupils, most aged ten or eleven, pose for a photo outside the school buildings. In the top picture, they are left to right starting from the top:

Erika Tracey, Lynne Smith, Barbara Pollard, Linda Kerr, Lynda Evans, Hilary Nixon, Valerie Werlow.

Celia Feeney, Leigh Jackson, Angela Kent, Catherine White, Rita Long.

Rosemary Oatley, Gillian Thorne, Judy Pepper.

In the lower picture, they are left to right from top: Steven Brown, William Clarkson, Noel Whitmill, David Tatchell, Lewin Channing, Ralph Treloar.

Robert Greenfield, Alan Flux, Philip Groves, Michael Turner, Richard Amey, Ronnie Croad.

Michael Dawson, Robert Morris, Jimmy Hopkins, NK (not known).



Please do write in to the Heritage Centre with any name corrections and any other memories. This does not appear to have been a formal set of class photos, but perhaps ones taken on the initiative of a teacher. The print size is what was common to Box Brownie cameras.

Bob Trowbridge, though not in this particular photo, recalls that Rene Howe and Dorothy Atkins were favourite teachers at the time. Rene had a succession of white miniature poodles all named Kim: they always came to class. Bob Lived at St. Lawrence and the village kids there were taken to school in the van that was used to deliver the school dinners. One precious memory was of Kwaku Appiah, a Ghanaian boy who attended the school. He was the first black person Bob had ever seen, but he was just 'one of the lads': it was a time when racism seemed not to have been invented. Rita Gawn, again not in the picture, recalls being taken by

coach for swimming lessons at the Blue Lagoon in Sandown, films being shown in a Nissen Hut on the 'bottom plateau', and the daily supply of milk in glass bottles. They were 'happy days', looking back.

Michael Freeman, [Ventnor & District Local History Society](http://www.ventnorheritage.org.uk), from files in Ventnor Heritage Centre and with special thanks to Lynne Siequien, Bob Trowbridge and Rita Gawn for their help. Photos are from an Album of photos of Ventnor C of E Junior School, July 1962. *This is an updated version of the article published August 2023.*

