

HEADMASTERS AND HEADMISTRESSES OF SEDBERGH SCHOOL THROUGH THE CENTURIES

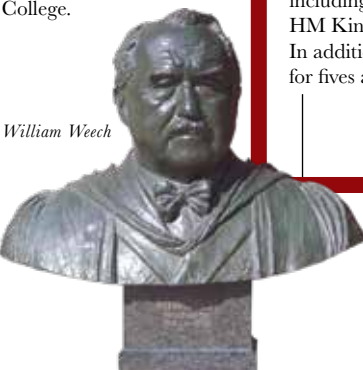
- 1525-1600
- 1600-1700
- 1700-1800
- 1800-1900
- 1900-2000
- 2000- present



A boy's room in School House c.1905



**Frederick Malim** BA, MA (Cantab) 1907-1911  
Malim encouraged science and fell walking. He also wrote the words of the School song 'Winder'. During his time work began on Malim Lodge (the Bursary). He left to become Headmaster of Haileybury and later of Wellington College.



William Weech



**Charles Lowry** MA (Cantab) 1900-1907  
Lowry oversaw a growth in staff and pupil numbers, leaving in 1907 to take up the post of Headmaster at Tonbridge. 1901 – The CCF was formed and Armoury built. 1906 – Powell Hall was built.



**William Weech** MA (Oxon) 1912-1926  
Came to Sedbergh from Cheltenham College where he was an assistant master. During his Headmastership the numbers in the School reached 400  
1913 – Knowles Pavilion was built  
1916 – Powell House was converted from the Masters' Hostel  
1921 – The first chemistry labs were built  
1924 – The War Memorial Cloisters were completed  
1926 – Winder House was completed  
Further building took place during Weech's tenure including the King's Steps, to commemorate the visit by HM King George V and Queen Mary in 1917. In addition playing fields plus courts for fives and tennis were created.



**G. B. Smith** MA (Cantab) 1927-1936  
Smith, a fine historian who encouraged art and music, came to Sedbergh from Repton. Although he served at a time of recession he oversaw the building of Busk Pavilion, the Memorial Lodge and gates, the Sanatorium and the first squash courts. He retired due to ill-health



Lupton among the Cannons

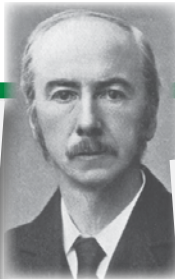


**Henry Blomeyr** 1525-1543  
Blomeyr was the Chaplain under whom a few scholars were gathered from 1525, the accepted date on which Roger Lupton, Provost of Eton College, began to provide for a Chantry School in Sedbergh. In his will Blomeyr left six silver spoons to his successor and some books for the use of the School.



The ceremonial trowel used for the laying of the foundation stone of the new chapel

**Henry George Hart** BA, MA (Cantab) 1880-1900  
Hart, an Old Rugbeian, was the first lay Headmaster and founded the modern Sedbergh, its institutions and traditions. During his tenure: 1885 – Lupton House was acquired 1890 – Hart House was completed 1893 – The Masters' Hostel was built 1896 – The staff helped form Sedbergh Golf Club 1897 – The new Chapel was built 1897-8 – the OS Club was founded



Henry George Hart and the 'Old Gang' of masters c.1887

**John Harold 'J-H' Bruce Lockhart** MA (Cantab) (OS) 1937-1954  
Bruce Lockhart was a brilliant all-rounder whose influence was felt in all departments of the School. Like his predecessors he was also a Housemaster of School House. A staff common room was built, academic studies flourished and art and craft became an integral part of the curriculum. The importance of music was emphasised by the appointment of permanent music staff and the provision of practise rooms and instruments.



St John's College, Cambridge



**Robert Heblethwaite** BA, MA (Cantab) (OS) 1544-1570  
In 1527 the School had been bound to St John's College, Cambridge through the foundation deed which decreed that St John's was to appoint the School's Headmasters. Heblethwaite was the first Headmaster to be chosen by St John's. The School was re-established and re-endowed in 1551 as a Grammar School with St John's retaining the right to appoint the Headmasters who were always clergymen and often pluralists.



Letters patent of King Edward VI refounding the school in 1551

The Iconography and Platform of Sedbergh School engraved by Johannes Kip c.1710



1874  
This was a significant year for the School as control was taken from St John's College, provision was made for external examinations and regulations were drawn up for the keeping of 'Trust accounts. The Governing body was widened and it's first meeting took place at the Bull Inn, Sedbergh on 10th December.

**John William Burrow** 1879  
Classics Scholar of St. John's Coll., Cambridge



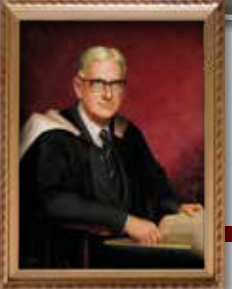
**Frederick Heppenstall** BA, MA (Cantab) 1875-1879  
Former Headmaster of the Perse School, Cambridge, Heppenstall was a man of immense energy and foresight who raised the numbers to 56 in five terms. During his time the Governors requested plans for a Headmaster's House with boarding accommodation, four other master's Houses, also to accommodate boarders, classrooms, a gymnasium, a swimming bath and a chapel. Some of this was completed by 1879 when Heppenstall died suddenly.



Guldrey Lodge



**Peter Attenborough** MA (Cantab) 1975-1981  
Came to Sedbergh from Uppingham where he was a Housemaster. During his tenure Cressbrook House, the preparatory department, was established in the former Sanatorium and the Danson Room and new squash courts were built. Attenborough left to become Headmaster of Charterhouse.



**Michael Thornely** MA (Cantab) 1954-1975  
A graduate from Cambridge in classics and modern languages. In Thornely's time science was given due recognition and the new science and mathematics block built. In addition, the design centre was constructed and swimming baths and boarding Houses modernised and enlarged. A record number of boys attended the School, music and drama flourished and Guldrey Lodge was acquired as a music school. All this was achieved despite staffing and other problems due to the war.

**Roger Baxter** B.Sc., Ph.D 1981-1995  
Baxter came to Sedbergh from Winchester and oversaw an ambitious programme of refurbishment and building including the sports hall, Queen's hall, boarding Houses and classrooms. In 1989 numbers rose above 500 for the first time in the School's history.



Sedbergh Junior School

**Henry George Day** BA, MA (Cantab) 1861-1874  
Day was an excellent scholar but not so Headmaster. Under him there were only an average of 9 new boys per year, many of whom left after a year or so. For a few years he even gave up accepting boarders. By 1867 only 15 boys remained in the School. Day resigned in 1874 with a large pension of £450 per year which he enjoyed until his death in 1900.

**Christopher Hirst** MA (Cantab) 1995-2010  
A history graduate from Cambridge, Hirst became a Housemaster at Radley in 1978. He was then appointed Headmaster of Kelly College before moving to Sedbergh. During his tenure, Sedbergh School became co-educational with Lupton House reopening as a girls House and Cressbrook becoming Robertson, a second girls House. Sedbergh Junior School was formed in 2002, operating firstly at Sedbergh, then from the former Bentham Grammar School and finally from Sedbergh in 2009.



**Hartley Coleridge** 1838  
Eldest son of poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. A well-known poet and author in the 19th century, Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford.



**Henry Wilkinson** BA, MA (Cantab) 1819-1838  
When Wilkinson arrived the School House was closed but he expanded the cohort to 50, amongst them some fine scholars. The first surviving admissions Register dates from this time.



**Sara Hirst** SJS Headmistress 2008-2010  
Sara Hirst became Head of SJS when the School moved from Bentham back to Sedbergh until her retirement in 2010.



**Andrew Fleck** BSc (Nottingham), MA (Sussex) Principal 2018-2021  
Prior to joining Sedbergh Fleck was Headmaster of Ashville College, Harrogate. Previously he was Deputy Headmaster of St Bede's School, East Sussex, and Head of Geography and a Housemaster at Hurstpierpoint College, West Sussex. He read Geology at Nottingham University and gained an MA from Sussex University. In 2018 he became Principal of Sedbergh School, CSPS and Rong Qiao China.



**Scott Carnochan** 2010-2017  
SJS and CSPS Headmaster  
Carnochan was Headmaster of SJS and then became Headmaster of Casterton Sedbergh Preparatory School in 2013. Previously he had been Head of Boarding at Foremarke Hall and Housemaster at St John's College Prep School, Cambridge. He was educated at Dollar Academy and gained a BEd from Heriot Watt University.



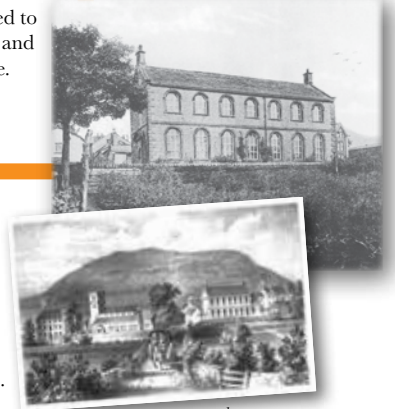
**Will Newman** CSPS Headmaster 2017- present  
Newman joined CSPS from Taunton Prep School where he was Deputy Headmaster for 3 years. He is also a compliance inspector for the Independent Schools Inspectorate. He has taught Science and English and has a first class degree in Education from Exeter University. He gained an MA in Physical Education from the University of Victoria in Canada.



**Olly Wells** Executive Principal of Rong Qiao Sedbergh School China 2018-present  
Wells graduated with a BA in Business Studies from the University of Sheffield. He gained a PGCE(ICT) and an MA in Education Management from King's College London. Appointed in 2018 to be the Principal at the new Rong Qiao Sedbergh School China after previously being the founding Headteacher of Oxford International College, Changzhou.



**Dan Harrison** MA (Cantab) Headmaster of the Senior School 2018-2021  
Headmaster of Sedbergh 2021-present  
Dan joined Sedbergh straight from Cambridge in 1993. He taught Chemistry and was Director of Rugby for 11 years. He was appointed Second Master in 2015 and Headmaster of the Senior School in 2018. In 2021 he became Headmaster of Sedbergh with responsibility for the Senior and Prep Schools and Rong Qiao Sedbergh School, China.



Engraving showing the school building and what is now Evans House c.1750

**William Broxholme** A, MA, BD (Cantab) 1742-1746  
Previously Master of Hawkshead Grammar School, only six boys went to University in his time. Broxholme was considered to have neglected his duties and died after 4 years in office.



**William Stevens** BA, MA (Cantab) 1799-1819  
A former Chaplain in the Royal Navy Stevens inherited only a few pupils. Although he succeeded in building up the numbers for some years the School was finally reduced to 8 day boys and no boarders.



**Richard Jackson** BA, MA (Cantab) 1648-1656  
Jackson was reported to be 'a man of proved abilities and conversation'. However, his appointment saw the beginning of a period of disputes over property and the management of the School and allegations of drunkenness led to his dismissal.



**Richard Garthwayte** BA, MA (Cantab) (OS) 1646-1648  
Went on to be Master of Kirkby Lonsdale School and later of Newcastle-upon-Tyne Grammar School.

**Gilbert Nelson** BA, MA (Cantab) 1623-1646  
Won praise from the famous Dr Peter Barwick for his teaching methods.

**John Mayre** A, BA, MA (Cantab) (OS) 1577-1623

**E. Maude** BA, MA (Cantab) 1574-1577

**Thomas Dwyer** BA, MA, BD (Cantab) 1706-1709  
Formerly Headmaster of Pocklington and Leeds Grammar Schools, during his three years of office only 12 boys joined Sedbergh. He retired to become Rector of Medbourne in Leicestershire.



**Samuel Saunders** BA, MA, DD (Cantab) 1709-1741  
The son-in-law of Wharton, Saunders was able to sustain the pupil cohort. The School owes to him the present Library, built in 1716 as the new School House. During his time the Lady Betty Hastings Scholarships were established.

The Library, built in 1716, as it would have looked in 1874

