

GOVERNOR OF THE MONTH: Richard West

Born in Beverley and brought up in Willerby my roots have always been in the East Riding. Like Mr. Loncaster and Mr Britton, I attended Wolfreton School (I was in the same class as Mr. Britton's brother) and then progressed onto Hull College studying Business and Finance. My career aspiration was always to join the police force something which I achieved in 1999, but having been unsuccessful at 18 I went to University in Hull to study Business Management.

Before joining the police I had numerous jobs ranging from delivering cars, working on the Humber Bridge to working in numerous bars including being a 'cocktail' barman juggling and throwing bottles around like Tom Cruise (I probably dropped more than I caught).

During my 17 years in the Police I was promoted very early in my career which found me working across numerous uniformed roles in Hull such as response, custody, youth diversion and community. I am currently on a career break from the police to further my studies which is kindly being sponsored by football.

My true passion is for refereeing football. As a 14 year old I qualified as a referee never realising the impact it was going to have on my life. 27 years on and nearly every week I walk out as an assistant referee (linesman in old money) in the English Premier League watched by half the world's population over 212 territories. I have been an assistant referee in nearly 450 professional matches of which nearly 250 in the Premier League. I have officiated at Wembley 4 times and represented my country in 21 matches in 15 different countries. I would highly recommend it to those youngsters who are not quite good enough to make it as a footballer but mad about football as there are so many opportunities out there from such a young age.

I met my wife Claire 21 years ago whilst working at Pepis on the marina (for those that can remember it) and have been married for 15 years. We have two girls one at the High School and the other in her final year at Molescroft. Like Adrian this is my second period as a parent governor one which I take very seriously. I have stepped up to support Adrian as his Vice Chair and hopefully between us we can strive to support the school through the next challenging few years.

