

Raising Aspirations

John Liversidge OBE

Pictured -John Liversidge with his OBE and a picture of Minsthorpe High School back in 1969.



Mr John Liversidge OBE returned to Minsthorpe Community College 54 years after being part of the original cohort of students to attend the school. John spoke to the students about his journey from Minsthorpe to the palace.

On the 9th February 2022 John was presented with an OBE by the Princess Royal at Windsor Castle. John has given numerous interviews about his work and on one occasion, was asked what inspired him to achieve his goals, he said "It is not a question I had been asked previously. I concluded that the catalyst for my journey began when I walked through the doors of a brand-new school, known at that time as Minsthorpe High School".

John went onto Loughborough university where he studied PE. He qualified from Loughborough in 1976 and became a PE Teacher at Bexhill High School in East Sussex. In 1980 after a chance encounter with a senior police officer, he left teaching and joined Thames Valley Police as a Constable. Serving 30 years in the Police before retiring in 2010 at the rank of Chief Superintendent.

During his service, he held a number of prestigious roles including Head of Operations, Head of CID and Commander of Milton Keynes. He was also the main adviser on all major incidents in England.

Following his retirement from the police he was employed by a charity to help protect high risk victims of domestic abuse (ie those at risk of being murdered). It is for this work that he was awarded an OBE. John developed a 'device' which enabled high risk victims to summon emergency assistance from the police. The 'device' is provided free of charge and is known as TecSOS (Technical SOS). Even if the user is unable to speak, the police know the user's identity, case details and exact location.

John has been in college for the last two days sharing his journey and experiences with our students, he has also been in the classroom sharing his knowledge and wisdom with our Criminology students.



John Liversidge OBE – In the classroom talking to our Criminology students.

