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To all NAPE Members

It is with deep regret that the National Association for Primary Education reports that one of the founders of this organization in 1980, John Coe, has passed away. John steered NAPE through some extraordinary times in developing the organization in a variety of roles, most notably as Chair, Secretary and Editor of Primary First. A service commemorating John's life and work for primary education in this country was held in his village church at Chalgrove, Oxfordshire, on Friday 8th March. This included a loving tribute from Hilary, his daughter, a very moving tribute from his carer and an engaging and illuminating set of reminiscences from Pip Marples, a former NAPE Chair who captured the nature of John's professional achievement in the world of primary education, relaying some thoughts as well from two other former Chairs. We will be looking at ways of marking the distinctiveness of John's contribution to the primary sector and will share this with you in due course. John was a great thinker of education, much respected by all who came into contact with him, teachers, students and politicians alike and was renowned for his capacity to speak with integrity, conviction and vision, expressing a belief in the inordinate value of primary and early years education. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Mike Aylen, NAPE Chair

