

THE FARNHAMIAN



JUNE 1997

GOOD LUCK
TO THE 1997 EDITION OF THE
OLD FARNHAMIAN MAGAZINE

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THE FARNHAMIAN

JUNE 1997

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOLUME 4

The last edition of the 'Farnhamian' produced by the School was dated December 1972 and indexed Volume 59 Number 2. Our own version is, naturally, dated but eschews further classification lest we are suspected of being too ambitious. We do nevertheless anticipate that having acquired a certain impetus the magazine will not be allowed to expire for some time yet.

Looking ahead, what we lack that our predecessor had in abundance is a regular input from the living and changing organism that was the School. That final edition included sports results, poetry, students' contributions and photographs of live people at play and at work.

Our Association and its activities will always fill many of the pages as will 'peeps-into-the-past' articles gleaned from past 'Farnhamians' but as far as living organisms go we have to rely on members for contributions and to this end our enquiries directed at Old Boys in distant lands have borne fruit as you will see in this edition; in fact so generous has been the input from all sources that it will be necessary to publish a separate list of members for circulation at another time of the year.

In this issue the editor is grateful for the help given by some relatives of former masters and Old Boys and the profile on Mr Lock owes much to his daughter Peggy, whilst Violet, the daughter of Harry Ridout and sister of Ronald Ridout was the main source of information for the profile on her father. We continue to try and obtain information regarding Messrs. Horner, Munton, Beadman, Wendall Evans, Brister etc., and hope to have profiles of some of these in the future.

We do rely on our advertisers to help balance the books but would like to see fresh copy from time to time. The charge of £30 per quarter page is really quite modest when one takes into account the quality of the readership. Peter Figg was most generous in providing the wood prints that adorn this and past copies; it may be that we have other artists or craftsmen, retired or not, who have something to contribute.

Invitation

Old Farnhamian's Association

SOUTHAMPTON LUNCHEON

Wednesday 15th October 1997
at Busketts Lawn Hotel,
Woodlands, Nr. Southampton.

For details please contact Dudley Backhurst
(Telephone; 01703 739760)

Invitation

65TH ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday 4th April 1998

To be held at the Farnham College

Please round up as many Old Boys as possible
to help make this a record attendance.

Message from the President**BRIAN DANIELS**

This year I would like to begin my comments by saying a big thank you to John Aylwin from all Old Boys of the Committee. John has decided that the time has come for him to step down from the Old Farnhamians' Association leaving scholarship fund. As you know the fund was started many many years ago by John's father and when he retired, John took on the job of looking after the fund, and has now decided to retire.

This severs John's last link, apart from remaining an OFA member, with all of the committees and trusts associated with the Old Boys and I feel we must acknowledge the enormous debt we owe him for his many years of unselfish service to the School and then the College, as a governor, including a spell as chairman, and to the Association as a past secretary, committee member and eventually President. A record of service which I am sure will remain unsurpassed in the annals of the Association.....Thank you John !!

Looking back over the past year and soon after last year's dinner, John Crotty and I with our wives attended the F.G.G.S. Old Girls reunion. This is always a very relaxed and pleasant evening with plenty of opportunity to renew acquaintances of yesteryear. It would be nice if a few more of us could attend next year.

The end of the summer term saw us accompanying the Old Boy Governors to the official opening of the new teaching block called College Court. This is situated at the bottom of the school steps leading from the original school building and visually fits in very well on the college site as well as providing some very modern and 'high tec' teaching facilities for those interested in the computer sciences.

The autumn involved us in the 400 Trust lecture given by the Bishop of Guildford before a good sized audience on the theme of the Recovery and Renewal of Community (in our towns and cities) and the Role of the Church. The brackets are mine - the lecture was very thought provoking especially when one thought of the problems which arise within a college community such as we have in Farnham.

By contrast this year's lecture will be given by another old college student - Jeremy Hardy - which promises to be fun and should appeal to a younger audience.... so let us hope for a packed hall.

The 400 Trust was set up after the 400th Anniversary of the Grammar School in 1978. It has a limited capital base and the trustees have been concerned to secure an increase in this for some time as they could well be faced with paying reasonable fees and expenses in order to continue to attract lecturers of national stature. One way we as Old Boys could help might be to leave the Trust a small donation in your will, I mentioned this in my address at this year's dinner and I commend the idea to you for consideration.

The A.G.M. earlier this year saw all the existing officers re-elected, including myself as President for the second year. Before I finish I must pay special thanks to our secretary John Crotty for all his excellent work on our behalf, and special thanks from me for the notes he prepares for me before each meeting which makes my life very easy.

With Best Wishes to you all!

Old Farnhamians Association 64th Annual Dinner**TONY TUBB**

It was the night of the round tables at the 65th annual dinner of the Old Farnhamians' Association held at Farnham College on Saturday 5th April. The non availability at a late stage of the usual rectangular type meant no "top table" and the traditional loving cup going round and round in circles until vanishing empty into the outside bar area. On a show of hands, though, diners seemed to favour the new layout.

Ingredients of the loving cup are unknown other than to the secretary John Crotty and fellow organisers, but none of the 100-plus Old Boys of the defunct Grammar School are believed to have suffered either the effects of the alcohol content or from slurping, one after the other, from a single bowl over the years. Shades of Brussels and today's hygiene regulations!

The Toast to the School was proposed by Brian Bone, circa 1948, who spoke of the changing standards in the present society.

"We learnt a sense of belonging to the school and belonging to one another... a sense of integrity and proper behaviour," he reflected. "Our academics might not have been good, but we learnt we were part of the Farnham Grammar School. Whatever the vagaries of our life, we can look back with a sure and certain confidence that the school did us well."

Recalling the relationship between pupils and masters 50 years ago, Mr Bone, citing such legendary names as F.A.Morgan, Harold Beeken and Ned Godsil, drew nods from his audience when he said: "We were afraid of them in a proper sense in our school years. And we adored those men in our later years."

President Brian Daniels discussed the continuing close links with Farnham College, pointing out that the current governing board included four Old Boys. He congratulated the Sixth Form establishment for leading the way in Surrey with its examination results.

Looking ahead to the millenium, Mr Daniels suggested the O.F.A. might organise a dinner of extra large proportions and perhaps sponsor a new work for the Farnham Music Festival in the year 2000.

The roll call was conducted by former headmaster George Baxter, and the oldest Old Boy to get to his feet being, ironically, ex-undertaker H.C.Patrick, one time boss of the town's best-known monumental masons. H.C. started at the school in 1921.

Formalities ended with the customary singing of the School Song, the last verse of which begins; "When youth is fled, and the blood runs thin, and gone are the zest and will to win." As far as the Old Farnhamians Association is concerned, youth has indeed fled...none of the membership is sub 40 years of age and the eldest now in their 90's...but the zest to sustain and maintain friendships from school days shows no signs of colling and would appear to guarantee its future for a good many years to come.

Attending: J H Crotty, G D Blunt, J L Vick, A J Rayer, R C Bowtell, F H Loveless, M J Horner, J S Mitchell, G V Hunt, J D Backhurst, M E H Sturt, D A Bowtell, J Munday, T Tubb, A D Harland, R H Hewes, P J Ford, D O'Sullivan, K.I. Mentzel, D J Phillips, A G Lovell, DR Lucas, M F Constantine, A Homewood, R G Diamond, C R J Beal, R G Edgell, I C Sargeant, D Polglaze, J H Sherwood, R D Jones, H J Upfold, C Fitch, M Owen, H Groves, R J Kite, B J Daniels, G Baxter, S J Oxen, D Leuchars, D W Nicolson, N H Patrick, K W Baigent, R Robins, H F Stuart, G W S Morris, D C Horry, J E Goddard, T Tidd, R E Hack, F F Foley, R R Kirk, G H A Hewes, E f Hunt, A J C Clark, G J Baker, P J Clerk, J Bateman, J B Kite, G P Hewes, cont'd.../

Old Farnhamians Association 64th Annual Dinner**TONY TUBB**

E P Mayne, C C E Slyfield, D C E Coakes, C Nash, C B Mullins, D R Edgley, C D Trust, M Jeffreys, W Luff, B E Bone, J Travers, J A Cockle, D W Richards, B E Webberley, C h Brindley, D King, K Mortimer, J M Fisher, A J Gatfield, R Edwards, C R Studer, I Beagley, C Balchin, P A Mylles, M Booker, J D Ivison, C Fairclough, P Blowfield, T Ellwood, J A Cope, P S Cope, I H Pearson, D Simpson, J Hofburg.

The Southampton Lunch - 1996

A very sunny day greeted those Old Boys who travelled to Busketts Lawn Hotel in the New Forest for the Southampton lunch. This was the thirty fifth meeting and the sixth that has been at lunchtime instead of the original evening meeting. One really has to attend this event to appreciate just how enjoyable it is, and the surroundings, the luncheon, the service and, of course, the company are first class.

After the meal and the toast to the Queen it was the turn of Dudley Backhurst, who organises this excellent day out, to say a few words to the twenty one Old Boys attending. Firstly he welcomed our new President Brian Daniels to his first Southampton lunch, and Bill Luff to his first attendance at any Old Boys function since leaving the School. He then read out the many apologies which included our oldest Old Boy Redvers Godsland, Kathleen Kimber and several general committee members.

Dudley then explained how the Southampton Dinner was first begun by John Stroud, Leslie Luff and Freddie Grinstead and held at the Dolphin Hotel in Southampton - 17 Old Boys attended. He started to organise the event himself twenty five years ago and the annual meal is a separate event from the Old Boys' programme and therefore financially independent.

For a few minutes Dudley Backhurst took us back to his early days at the School and remembered taking the exams to gain entry to the School. He finished his speech with a tribute to Ned Godsil, who had attended the event on many occasions over the years and would be sadly missed by all.

Brian Daniels replied and asked for support in increasing the membership. Currently the major events of the Association are the Annual Dinner and The Farnham Lecture and the committee are discussing involvement in the Millenium Celebrations. He referred to the new buildings at the College and the excellent facilities offered by the Conference Room and the Art Room in particular.

The luncheon ended with all present recalling amusing times whilst attending the School and everyone enjoyed the various reflections made. It is interesting to note that at the table was Allan Ryall who began school at FGS in 1923 and George Baxter who left the school in 1970 and someone in the room was at the school for each of the 47 years spanning these two years. Next year the Luncheon will be on Wednesday 15th October at the same venue. You will be foolish to miss this occasion.

Attending on 16th October 1996;

D A Bowtell, A D Harland, J D Backhurst, R D Short, J H Crotty, L R Dowsett, D C Horry, G Baxter, A J Ryall, T Tidd, G D Blunt, P J Clark, D E Lampard, E F Hunt, J E Goddard, C D Trust, W J Luff, D J Phillips, B J Daniels, B E Webberley, C Nash.

1997 Annual General Meeting**JOHN CROTTY**

On the 6th February 1997 twenty two members of our association gathered at Farnham College in a room devoted to media studies, which all present still refer to as the chemistry lab., to receive reports from the association's officers and generally mull over the preceding year. The report of officers and activities appear elsewhere but here are some of the items that excited discussion or comment.

It was known that Ned Godsil had accumulated a mass of documents and notes of his researches into the history of the school and his daughter Kate had informed the secretary that she had them in safe keeping and was happy to hand them over. George Baxter offered to collect them on our behalf and it can now be said that they are in the safe keeping of the association and awaiting 'sifting'.

Under the membership item the secretary read a letter from John Hamilton Jones suggesting that the meeting urge each member to try to persuade one other to join the association. He had used this ploy with great effect as secretary of the Exeter branch of The British Legion. More news of this elsewhere.

The treasurer seemed reasonably happy with our financial state. He had hopes of possible windfall gains from money in the Building Societies but it was too early to be certain. He pointed out that the dinner was only showing a profit because of the raffle; the meeting thought that this means of covering the costs was preferred to that of raising the ticket price providing that attenders did not feel they were being bludgeoned into spending more on raffle tickets than they intended. The secretary informed the gathering that for the 1997 dinner a rationalisation of winter and summer rates of booking fees had resulted in a 30% increase in the price of hiring the hall.

The secretary of the Old Farnhamians Scholarship Leaving Trust spoke of the sparsity of applications for assistance from college students, circumstances supported by Alan Smallman, chairman of the Farnham College Trust, which provides similar support in the form of grants and bursaries. A vacancy in the Leaving Trust caused by the retirement of John Aylwin was filled by Ian Sargeant; the members now consist of P A Mylles (secretary), W F A Bodkin, J E Goddard (treasurer), R Robins, D R Skillin and I C Sargeant.

Maurice Sturt, secretary of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, appealed for more memorabilia from the Old Boys. John McLoughlin had been into the former 'coal hole' that now stores records of both the Grammar School and the Girls Grammar School and come across many interesting items and objects. It was rumoured that another place to look was in the vicinity of the clock tower, which is to be explored, certainly before the workmen arrive to replace the old clock and renovate the tower. Members of the Trust are the president (Chairman), M E H Sturt, J E Goddard (treasurer), J H Crotty, R Robins, J McLoughlin, C C E Slyfield and D J Phillips. Mrs Kimber, as Principal of Farnham College also attends the meetings.

Cyril Trust was congratulated by all his work for the 'Farnhamian'. He said that he was delighted by the response he had experienced from members when approached for information or a contribution, particularly those overseas. The next issue was well on the way to completion.

1997 Annual General Meeting - continued**JOHN CROTTY**

The election of officers got off to a good start when the president and all the serving officers were re-elected en bloc but not before Brian Daniels had thanked all those who had supported him and worked for the association throughout the past year. The one vacancy on the General Committee was filled by Bill Luff. The committee now consists of B J Daniels (president), J H Crotty (secretary), C C E Slyfield (treasurer), A D Harland (membership secretary), G W S Morris, I C Sargeant, J E Goddard, M E H Sturt, W F A Bodkin, A G Lovell, D J Phillips, R G Edgell, R Robins, G D Blunt, K I Mentzel, J Munday, A W Smallman, W P Walsh, J D Backhurst, W J Luff, P A Mylles and C D Trust.

Chris Slyfield, our representative on the College Corporate Board and Farnham College Trust, told members that the college had received an excellent report from the Inspector of Schools. He and Alan Smallman spoke highly of the college's debt to its Principal, Mrs Kathleen Kimber, for her contribution to the academic success and her resolution in dealing with a more prosaic problem when a burst pipe during the holidays threatened the use of College Court at the beginning of the Spring term.

OLD FARNHAMIAN MASONIC LODGE

The current master of the lodge for March 1997 until March 1998 is Gordon W S Morris (1928-30) who would be pleased to receive enquiries from any Old Boys, ex-staff or their relations or friends who might require further information.

His address is :
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The Farnham Lecture**14TH OCTOBER 1996**

(Report taken from the Farnham Herald)

BISHOP POINTS TO THE 'ENEMIES OF COMMUNITY'

"NETWORKING" could help to foster a sense of community in professional and mobile Surrey, the Bishop of Guildford John Gladwin said in a lecture on the recovery of community at Farnham College.

The Bishop was invited to give the 1996 Farnham Lecture by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, founded to mark the 400th anniversary in 1978 of the former Farnham Grammar School and its successor Farnham College.

Joking that "Tony Blair must have had an advance look at my script", the Bishop asked; "What are the forces which are undermining the possibility of family and community for us?"

"Surely, the enemies of community are unbridled individualism, a competitive understanding of our relationship to others, the delusion of materialism and selfish greed."

"These forces are let loose among us by the secularism of an age which has lost touch with its spiritual roots and so with the capacity for imagination, beauty, poetry and humanity to sustain us through this time of change."

The Bishop, who was formerly Provost of Sheffield, suggested that some wealthy Surrey estates had one thing in common with some inner urban estates in that they almost totally lacked any community amenities - they were just houses and people living in isolation."

"Just as in the areas of great poverty, so in these areas of great wealth one wonders exactly what the quality of life is really about. What happens behind the doors of these wealthy establishments?"

"In the urban priority areas, marriage has broken down, single parenting is predominant, casual relationships rife and domestic stability on the knife edge. But what goes on in our wealthy estates? We know there are high levels of divorce, problems of isolation in which no doubt wealth is no substitute for community."

"All round the circle of our society, whether you touch poverty or wealth, the question of community cannot be escaped." "In Surrey, "professional people have lost the sense of knowing their place and the security of it. Redundancy, rapid changes in skill, the impact of new systems of communication upon management systems, financial stringency, changing patterns of home life, mobility of life....all into the pot, make for a cauldron of social change and for a challenge to community life."

The issue of poverty was different in Surrey; "In Sheffield you could not miss it. Here is a culture which is more about success and more middle class poverty is hidden."

The Bishop warned against attempting to turn the clock back and associating community solely with locality. "Community is located in people and in relationships first of all, not in place and locality. We have to talk the language of community in a world of much greater mobility, flexibility and inter-relatedness than we have experienced in the past." Families were very spread out today and there was considerable movement in and out of areas."

The Farnham Lecture - continued**14TH OCTOBER 1996**

"So we might profitably talk about the community of work, of shared interests, of networks we belong to and of the places where we live."

"People stay with their jobs not because the pay is wonderful but because of the sense of place, of dignity and community afforded to them in their work."

"When this was recognised, the notion that making profits and meeting the demands of the balance sheet was all there was to it, fell apart."

"The essential task of the church was to be present in the community at all levels, "not just in the locality, but in the sectors of work, in the interplay of home and family experience and across the many faces of human life as we live it today."

Speaking of how the church could promote networking, the Bishop said; "These are real communities. If we think only in terms of locality we cannot support the diverse needs of people in this highly mobile and professional world."

The church could offer better support to crucial services, especially in the area of domestic living; "Here the special events, activities and group work become community building.... Churches become communities of help." Bishop Gladwin stressed the need for support of those caught in the isolating trap of very demanding care.

"These days when these things happen because of some local authority provision are over. The days when they happen through people and agencies co-operating together are in. So churches are having to learn to work with others. Local government is having to learn to be an enabler of such community collaboration."

"It's a new world, beyond the political issues, but it is one which will offer us hope."

George Baxter, a head of the former Farnham Grammar School, welcomed those present and the Bishop of Guildford was introduced by the principal of Farnham College, Kathleen Kimber. She presented him with a book token from the college and the 400 Trust. Brian Daniels, president of the Old Farnhamians Association, voiced thanks to the speaker.

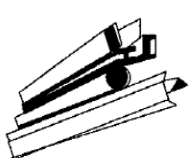
THE 1997 FARNHAM LECTURE
by JEREMY HARDY - WELL KNOWN BROADCASTER
at Farnham College, on 13th October
commencing at 8.00 p.m.

Note; Jeremy Hardy is an ex-pupil of Farnham College.

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Farnham College is the Highest in S.E. England**CYRIL TRUST**

I feel that it is worthwhile putting on record the achievements of the Farnham College as I am sure that Old Boys find this of interest. It is good to know that the old school is in good hands and the following press release was issued after the School Inspection in 1996. It is a tribute to Kathleen Kimber and her staff.

'Farnham College was in the top ten colleges nationally in 1996 for A Level results. It was also the highest scoring college in the South East region of England, and the only one to appear in the top ten. This is partly attributed to the high quality of student care at the College, and the great energy which the College puts into ensuring that learning is of the highest standard.

The College is continuing with its six-year programme of exciting developments in its range of courses and learning methodology. The variety and richness of its outside activities are also expanding. The record A Level results in 1996, with over 93.38% of students passing, and 56.39% obtaining the highest grades, reflect the work which has been undertaken by staff and students. Staff are working rigorously to improve the effectiveness of teaching and learning even further. This includes a research project with the University of Durham, on the most effective learning and teaching methods for students of Advanced Level Courses.

The 1996 full inspection by the Further Education Funding Council commended the College commenting that "the College is strongly committed to student care, and this is evident from....its assiduous monitoring of students' progress". The Inspectors also identified as particular strengths of the College "good teaching, good examination results at GCE A Level, the strong ethos of support for students, including the close monitoring of progress and achievement, its links with schools, its effective managers, and the information technology facilities for students".

Another comment from the report was as follows, "Enrolment and induction are well organised.. (and) students benefit from the calm, supportive atmosphere. Full time students have a personal tutor...(and) students speak warmly of their tutors. ... There is close contact with parents (who) feel that the College keeps them in touch."

Also included in the report. "Students spoke with enthusiasm about the teaching and support they received from staff. Students...absorbed themselves in their work and were responsive to the opportunities they encountered. (Students' exam results) placed the College in the top 10% (in 1995)."

This term has seen the opening of the new three-storey building, College Court, the final touches to the Video Studio (with SVHS multi-machine edit facility), the up-grading of the Library and Information Centre computer suite, the opening of the very high-spec further multi-media computing suite, and the computerisation of the Performance Studio lighting system. The upgrading of the Refectory will continue during 1996-97, and there will be an upgrading of PE accommodation to provide an enhanced Multigym and new seminar room.

EDITOR; Clearly the aim for quality in education goes on at Morley Road.

Extracts from the Farnhamian

CYRIL TRUST

Since the last magazine I have been given a bound copy of the original handwritten magazines dating from 1905 to 1907 and the photograph below shows you the book and the type of news issued at that time. It is apparent that one or two copies were written and then passed to all pupils at the school to read, or in some cases add drawings to the pages.

It is my intention to include some of the articles and I must apologise for the 'nicknames' used at that time for various pupils and masters as I have no way of knowing the actual people concerned. You will see that in those days there were no houses as we know them, and interschool competitions were between Boarders, District, Train and Town.

I find it strange to see that whilst at the West Street school the cricket matches were played at Broomleaf, where today I write the modern magazine. One wonders how many runs were scored from my own garden.



June 1905;**THE HEADMASTERS' ILLNESS**

We were all very sorry to learn, on returning from the Easter holidays, that our much respected Headmaster had been for some time very ill with rheumatic fever. It seems that he had caught a chill by going out too soon after recovering from the "flu". Billy was the new Head, and a porky animal had arrived to try and learn some maths. from the Sixth. All noises were strictly forbidden. Even the Sixth Form Musical Society had to cease operations, but a rumour that Mack would always have to go about the house in slippers proved to have no foundation.

We all anxiously awaited the time when Mr Priestley would return, both because we missed him, and because his return would bring with it the departure of the new arrival, who had managed to make himself universally disliked. At first Mr Priestley's progress towards recovery was not very rapid, but, after a time, his health rapidly improved, and about mid-term he departed to Bournemouth, to spend a fortnight there before resuming his work here.

September 1905;**THE EDITORS' PAGE**

It is sad to think that the Old Sixth Form- the great Sixth Form- has at last been broken up. Others have gone, but the one we most miss is Mack, who has at last departed after being here for eleven years, the majority of which was spent in the Sixth. The best of friends must part, however, and Mack, no doubt, found the parting hard with the old school he has brought honour and glory to for so many years.

The school has lost its Captain, the Sixth Form Magazine has lost its founder, we have all lost a good friend. When Mr Priestley, on the last day of term, described Mack as the best boy he had ever known, I am sure we all echoed his sentiments. The regard of the Sixth Form for him was shown by the gift of a gold mounted fountain pen and a great feast.

September 1905;**SNEATH**

We were all very glad to hear, about half term, that the Head Master, after a fortnight at Bournemouth, would resume his work in the school. This meant that a person - or rather an animal - who had made himself generally obnoxious would then disappear. When at last Mr Priestley returned (after having spent a few days at Brockenhurst, the home of the Badger) we were all - except Keable II, who saw that he would now have to do some work again - in great glee. However, the old rotter, whose name appears at the top of the page, hung on here as long as he was able, although we were such an assembly of cads and he was such a gentleman (?). When at last he went he actually had the cheek to shake hands with as many of the "cads" as were about, even with one whom he, in a moment of blindness or insanity, had once mistaken for an animal of his specie. Since his departure we have never seen anything of him, and, I am sure, never want to.

That rotter Sneath has gone
We see him here no more,
If pork had been in season,
He'd have left us long before.

1905 - 1907 continued**March (1906)****EDITORS' NOTES**

When this magazine was first started the Bacchanalian suggested that a debate on some subject of school interest should be held in its columns. The first debate has yet to appear, probably because a suitable subject is hard to find. Some weeks ago, however, whilst reading an article in a well known boys' paper, I came across a discussion on "Should School Magazines cheek Masters, or not?" Now this publication has never kept itself back from gentle cheek, and, for my own part, I don't see why it should. The chief argument of the editor (who was an anti cheekite) was that it was nothing but impertinence, and tended to weaken the discipline of the school.

If the magazine is a school magazine, I should say this was right, but ours is a private publication. I am sure we stick up for the discipline of the school, while, as for impertinence, "the Masters we cheek most we like the best." Some of the Masters even like to read our cheek of themselves, though the observation of one was "It is a good job you are all under 21, or there would be some cases for libel in the neighbourhood."

I should be glad, however, to hear the opinion of others on the subject, and hope to have a goodly batch of epistles, for and against, in time for the next issue.

May (1906)**EDITOR'S NOTES**

This is our last half term in the Old School, and many of us will be sorry to leave it for the new show, the opening of which is fixed for April 28th. It was at first rumoured that that ass Birrell was coming down to perform at the function. He had probably, however, enough to do in getting his Education Bill ready, and so broke the engagement. We then pitched upon a much more decent chap, the Archbishop of Canterbury, whom most of us remember as the Bishop of Winchester in this town. 'Hades flames' will again, we suppose, be out in all their glory, but the summer will not be advanced as it was last year when the Foundation Stone was laid, so the heat may be just bearable.

January (1907)**EDITOR'S NOTES**

A case of diphtheria among the servants in the early part of December created hopes of breaking up for the Christmas holidays earlier than usual. A note was, however, sent round to all the parents, telling them the circumstances of the case, and although a few timorous kept away for a few days, the alarm quickly subsided.

March (1907)**SCHOOL FOOTBALL**

Jan.30th. v Farnham Wednesday 'B'. This match ended in an easy victory for the school by 12 goals to nil. The points were obtained by Walker (4); Cole (3); Foster (2); Heyward (2) and Bedbrook (1). In the course of the game the 1st XI scored their hundredth goal of the season, a thing that has not been done for many years.

1913 - 1919**April (1913)**

The Magazine Committee are able to offer to present boys of the School a prize of books for the best short story sent in to them by June 25th next. Stories should not exceed 1,500 words in length. They must, of course, be original, and competitors will be expected to give their word that they have received no help from other persons.

July (1913)

Sports Day - July 16th;

To the boys the Band Race was a disappointment. They had looked forward to seeing the bandsmen run with their instruments, and no doubt hoped to see the Big Drummer trip, and go head-first through the big drum - Alas, the Band Master had fears for his beloved instruments and forbade the venture.

An Egg and Spoon Race for the Mothers brought out a number of competitors. Their methods at any rate, were "ingenious."

The starter found the Sisters, in their race, so eager to be off, that they had to depute an assistant to hold one young lady back by her muslin skirt, till the word "Go" was given.

A Freak Race this year took the place of the Animals' Race. It was most amusing. One boy thought it the most useful event on the programme, because, as he said, "It teaches you to get up quickly in the mornings."

Of course the Sack Race as usual caused great merriment - the smile on the face of the winner as he approached the tape being quite of record breadth and picturesqueness.

December (1913)

News of the Old Boys;

Alderton is in the Aldershot Secondary School, where he is said to be not the least happy of eight happy boys in a class with twenty-five girls!

No one seems to have any news of Cooke of last year's VIth. Why doesn't he write to us?

Gravenor, whose auto-wheel is still to be heard wheezing up and down, is in the drawing office of the Pilgrim's Way Motor Works.

Atton holds a clerkship in the Patent Office. He seems to be leading a strenuous life, getting home to Woking towards 7 p.m., only to fall to two or three hours' work for further exams. He plays each week for a city football team. Bertie Hine came to Farnham to take the waters as usual this Summer. He is now in the States as Assistant Stage Manager in Sir A. Forbes Robertson's Company.

April (1919)

Cadet Corps News;

We have to thank Lieut. Brown for several thousand rounds of ammunition, the Staff of the "Herald" for gifts of circulars, and Cadet Larkin, Cadet Husted, Mr. L.H. Poole, Mrs. Stroud and Mrs. Thornburgh for various donations.

The bad weather this term has made it very difficult to "carry on", particularly as the Company has now so many members that lectures in the Art Room, or drill in the Gymnasium, are very crowded affairs.

The 20's**January (1920)**

It is with great sorrow that we have to record the death of Cecil H Crosby, at the age of 39. He was suffering from pneumonia, and appeared to be making good progress towards recovery, when he suddenly collapsed, from heart failure, on December 24th.

A large number of Old Boys attended the funeral.

Boys, who were at the School in the nineties, will remember him as the life of his form - always cheerful and good tempered, and a splendid draughtsman.

On leaving school to work with his father, he still found time for athletic pursuits, representing the town at hockey and footer, and was one of the "stars" of the Farnham Gymnasium, then at the height of its fame.

March (1923)

As for "friendly" football games, our colours have been lowered only once, and in that instance not by a school team, but by St. James' FC - one of the best elevens in the local Junior League. Odiham certainly drew with us at Odiham, but they were fortunate to do so. Odiham's goal-posts always remind me of the "needle's eye"; it is practically impossible to put the ball through should anyone be standing between them.

July (1925)

The value of assiduous and regular net practice has been proved, and we hope that the members of the First Eleven, as well as all would-be cricketers in the School, realise that nothing can be accomplished with bat or ball without practice and plenty of it. Perhaps just here it would be fitting to pay a tribute to the work of Mr. Boyes, who has done so much to bring the cricket of the School to its present state of efficiency.

July (1926)

Last term a system was inaugurated by which the House who did the best work during the term should receive a half-holiday at the end of the term. Last term this holiday went to Harding House, and this term the members of Morley were the lucky ones.

July (1929)

Impressions of the Boxing, 1929.

First let me take Monday's Preliminary Series. One hundred and thirty entries in a school of 240 boys. This is something to be proud of. Naturally, it was a mixed grill, ranging from young Davies, whose fat little face positively asked (but in vain) to be punched, and young West (blindman's buff and miniature windmill) up to the kingly rigours of Class 1.

December (1929)

Cadet Corps' Camp, 1929.

Let us first get the facts and figures out of the way. Our camp this year was at Whitecliff Bay, near Bembridge, Isle of Wight, and nearer still to the Whitecliff Cafe, which one of the more uncritical officers insisted on calling an hotel. There were 5 Officers and 65 Cadets, and the weather was what one is not led to expect in an island, rather intemperate.

The 30's**December (1930)**

The summer General Meeting of the OFA took place at the School on Saturday evening, July 19th. The Headmaster presided, supported by Mr.R. W.Mason and William Stroud (Vice-Presidents). The meeting stood in silence as a mark of respect for the memory of Dick Stroud, a member of the association since its foundation.

March (1931)

After dinner at the fifth Annual Dinner there was the usual ceremony of calling the roll, and Mr.R. W.Mason, who was found to be the only one present who was at the School before 1870, was greeted with much applause.

March (1932)

Speech Day - This usual annual public parade of the School took place on Wednesday, December 16th. For the second year in succession there was a crowded gathering in the Memorial Hall to hear the Headmaster speak of successes in games and examinations and of the progress of all those activities which go to make a complete school. Would that this function and others could be held in a hall under our roof; but this is still a dream.

December (1933)

Not long ago we printed in this column an appeal for a large Union Jack to replace the old outworn flag which has been in use for many years. The appeal has borne fruit and we offer our warmest thanks to Mr.W.A.Bartlett of Camberley, for the gift of a handsome flag indeed.

December (1934)

O.F.A. Memorial Field- At long last the levelling is completed and the grass is up. But we have an overdraft of £120.

The Committee decided that it would be fatal to leave the scheme derelict simply because we are not able to raise the necessary money last summer. They were confident that the money would soon be forthcoming; so much so, that three of the Committee, in order to secure the overdraft, gave a personal guarantee to the Bank.

March (1937)

It is with profound regret that we have to record the death of Mr.R. W.Mason, a boy at the School from 1867 to 1872 and a Governor of the School from 1910 to the present year. Since 1922 he had been Chairman of the Governors.

December (1938)

It was with profound regret that the news was received of the death of Mr.J.M.Aylwin at the beginning of term. He was a pupil at the School from 1865 to 1869, and was in fact the oldest member of the OFA.

December (1939)

Now, of course, we have the old reservoir converted into a convenient and roomy shelter. Rehearsal has proved that every boy can go from the School buildings to the shelter in a very few minutes without hurry or excitement. We are fortunate in having such a good protection.

The 40's**June (1941)**

Roll of Honour - A.G. Steadman (1904-07) - killed by enemy action in London, December, 1940.

To one who, with deep sadness tinged with pride, peruses this list, the first thought that comes is of the long period it covers in the life of the School. Who would have thought that the School's losses would extend right back to 1904?

Arthur Steadman was at the old school in West Street under Mr. Priestley. But he did not forget us, and was a loyal member - he and his brother - of the O.F.A. Indeed, I remember well meeting him at one of the Annual Dinners. Alas, he was a victim of the cruel indiscriminacy of this grim war. - F.A. Morgan.

June (1943)

One more "Farnhamian" is offered to its readers under the shadow of war, fulfilling its dual purpose of recording the events in our little school world and taking them to the many Old Boys scattered all over the wider world, and of bringing news of those elder brothers to the present generation. The tale of tragic loss and of the rewards of glorious endeavour goes on along with the more peaceful story of young minds and bodies and wills being made fit to play their part, whether in war or peace. Please God it will be the latter.

January (1945)

Roll of Honour - J.O. Levison (1935-40), Staff Sergeant, Glider Pilot Regiment, killed in action.

The name of John Levison, who died a hero's death at Arnhem, will recall many memories among Old Boys. Brilliant athlete- excelling in the swimming bath, in the gym., and on the football and cricket fields- he managed to retain his modesty and endeared himself to all.

December (1945)

To the great majority of the "Present" Mr. A.J. Wills, A.R.C.A., will appear as a new master. But this is not so. After being with us only a year, Mr. Wills was called up in 1940 and served in the R.A.C. The Army has now released him, and to our great pleasure he has returned to the teaching of Art among us.

July (1947)

At the commencement of the annual meeting of the O.F.A. those present stood in silent tribute to the 61 Old Boys who fell in the war, and passed naturally to consideration of the memorial. It was decided to launch an appeal for contributions towards this object.

July (1948)

The Colts' Football XI went through the season unbeaten until the final game, and thoroughly deserved its successes. When we lost to Hale in the Chamber of Commerce Cup, the occasion was one on which it might truly be said that we had "bad luck", although this is usually a synonym for bad football. This is as good a school team of any kind as we have seen for several seasons - full of will and "go", which we hope it can carry up into the senior teams in future.

The 50's**December (1952)**

The Reunion cricket match and tennis tournament took place at the School on Saturday, May 31st. The weather was disappointing, but in spite of-and between-the showers both events were completed. The Old Boys made 96, of which G.F.Till scored 39, and quickly dismissed the School for 29. In the American mixed doubles tennis tournament fourteen couples entered and the winners were D.Skillen and Miss Fry.

December (1956)

The gymnasium, as mentioned in our last issue, is out of action, and has been condemned as unsafe. Now a brand new gymnasium is promised us and is on the drawing board. Building will begin next year. To refresh the memories of older Old Boys, we include a fine drawing of the gym.-"that magnificent barn which has stood for centuries," as the Headmaster called it in his report at Speech Day-done by D.Pearson,V, who was awarded for it the prize in the school Christmas Card design competition.

July (1958)

We said farewell at Christmas to Mr.N.W.Evans who had been with us for 10 years and left to be head of a department at a bi-lateral school at Westgate,Sussex. His keen support and work for Harding House will be greatly missed and he was well known for his encouragement and help in the field of boxing; he had given valuable service to the Cadet Corps and the school marked its appreciation of his work in and out of the classroom by the presentation to him at end-of-term assembly of a shooting stick.

July (1958)**F.A.Morgan Memorial**

On the evening of Tuesday, July 8th, a memorial tablet to the late Headmaster was unveiled in the School Library in the presence of Mrs.Morgan, Miss Sylvia Morgan, and the General Committee of the Old Farnhamians' Association representing the hundreds of others who would have been invited had there been space to accommodate them.

Mr.G.M.Aylwin, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, carried out the unveiling and briefly addressed the gathering in tribute to the name they were honouring.

The tablet is in polished Roman Stone, with Roman lettering incised,gilded and enamelled, in the following terms;

1887 ~ IN MEMORIAM ~ 1957
FRANCIS ARTHUR MORGAN
HEADMASTER 1924 TO 1953
Exegi monumentum aere perennius

December (1958)

On July 19th, the Old Farnhamians' Association fete was held in perfect weather with an attendance of over a thousand. Between £300 and £400 was realised for the O.F.A.'s fund to help the school by providing extras which cannot be obtained from public funds. Masters and boys alike, with members of their families, had worked hard beforehand and on the day did much to make it the success it was.

The 60's**July (1961)**

The retirement of Mr. Munton, well known as maths. master to many generations of Old Boys, was marked by a presentation at the Annual Dinner of an inscribed pen and pencil set by Dr. L.J. Stroud as a gift from the Association, and after his expression of thanks Mr. Munton was applauded with "For he's a jolly good fellow" and three cheers.

December (1962)

With this issue the "Farnhamian" reaches its golden anniversary. In December 1912, when the Rev. Samuel Priestley, M.A. was headmaster, Volume 1, Number 1 of the School magazine appeared, perhaps in response to the suggestion of Mr. W. Welch (then vice-chairman of the Higher Education Committee of Surrey County Council) who was the principal guest at speech day on July 29th of that year. The account of his speech in the magazine records that "he would like to suggest that the boys who had left should form an Old Boys' Society, and that a School Magazine should be started".

July (1963)

The School Sports on 12th June were held in glorious sunshine before a pleasingly large number of parents and friends of the School. Thirteen School records were broken. As usual the Under-15 Group provided many exciting and close finishes in the track events, P.J. Barnett impressing everybody by his powerful sprinting, although Moorcroft, Thompson and Marshall also ran well.

Emerson startled many by his 100 yards victory, and Childe, winners again of the championship, demonstrated their superiority well in the final relay.

July (1966)

The Old Farnhamians' Association subscription was doubled at the association's annual meeting held at the School on January 29th. In proposing the increase - from 7s. 6d. to 15s. - Mr. John Goddard (treasurer) said that the annual subscription had remained unchanged since 1953 and the association had to do something to boost their income. He added that there had been a loss of £55. 12s. on the year, which was a serious state of affairs.

December (1967)

This year's C.C.F. summer camp was held at Proteus Camp, near Ollerton, Nottinghamshire. There were 15 cadets on the camp under Major Fordham and Lieutenant Owen. The training was carried out on three training areas in the Sherwood Forest and included reconnaissance patrols, sectional attacks, map and compass work, radio exercises and map-making. The highlight of the camp was a visit to Welbeck College to do some boating on the college lake. The camp was not all work; in the evenings one could go to the camp cinema, the N.A.A.F.I. or play an unusual game of cricket, using a shovel as a bat.

The 70's**July (1970)**

We hope this issue will dispel the illusion created in previous "Farnhamians" that the school is bogged down in a mire of gloom and morbidity, whereas in fact humour and satire are very much alive at all levels.

December (1970)

Dr.L.J.Stroud (1921-33), headmaster of King Edward VI School, Southampton, 700 boys, who lives at Farringdon, near Alton, has been appointed Educational Researcher with the Schools Council, London. Son of a former headmaster of Rowledge village school, he took degrees at London and Leeds Universities. He was the speaker at F.G.S. Speech Day in 1962 and he is an active supporter of the O.F.A. dinners at Southampton.

December (1970)

Many senior Old Boys will remember, Michael Noel, youngest of three sons of the Rev. Samuel Priestley, headmaster from 1897 until his death in 1918. He died at Eastbourne recently, aged 63.

July (1971)

A record number of 143 Old Boys and members of staff attended our 39th annual Old Farnhamians' Association Dinner held at the school on Saturday, 17th April. The occasion was highlighted by a presentation to Mr. George Baxter, headmaster of the school and president of the association from 1953 to 1970.

July (1971)

As mentioned elsewhere, Alan Fluck is leaving at the end of this term to take up an appointment with "Youth and Music", and we wish him every success in this new venture. The many friends he has made in school and in the district will be happy to know that he will still be living in Farnham and that his musical and organising talents will not be lost to us. His infectious enthusiasm and drive have won for Farnham Grammar School a privileged place on the musical map.

December (1972)

Next year heralds the 60th anniversary issue of the "Farnhamian", and the term following sees the beginning of the gradual disintegration of Farnham Grammar School. We don't want to be sentimental, but surely this is good reason to help make Volume 60, number 1, a magazine to remember.

July (1973)

Farnham Grammar School's future and its adaptation to a sixth form college concerned speakers at the Old Farnhamians' Association 41st annual dinner. Mr Ted Mayne, replying to the headmaster, stated, "Bearing in mind that 60 boys have been leaving the school annually since the war, it seems a pity that the membership is not higher. I realise that the Association is not floundering, but I am sure that the benefits it hands out to the school would have been greater had the membership been higher and with recent changes at the school it is our duty to see that the Association does not die; it would be marvellous if the membership could increase during the next few years."



FOOTBALL FIRST XI - 1954 / 55

Rear: B Wyatt, W Luff, A Common, D Hawkes, R Langdon, D Moore.

Front: I Bolt, P Moore, G. Coveney, A. Cox, G. Toogood.



CHILDE HOUSE SENIOR FOOTBALL XI - 1952 / 53

(House League & Cup Winners)

Rear: E Nixon, A Wright, V Bennett, C Smith, W Luff, A Common, A Marsden.

Front: D Gunner, R Stroyan, J Melville, J Crossingham, A J Tull.

**Old Farnhamians Association
Accounts Year Ending 30th November 1996**

CURRENT ACCOUNT		1996	1995		1996	1995
Opening Balance	3226.92	2985.10	Purchase of Ties	-	404.79	
History Sales	37.50	150.50	The Farnhamian	1020.39	880.18	
Life Memberships	150.00	150.00	Farnhamian Adverts	(390.00)	(180.00)	
Annual Dinner Profit	237.67	-	Annual Dinner Loss	-	18.92	
Sales of Ties	105.00	176.00	Post & Stationery	90.79	154.52	
Subs & donations	658.00	702.28	Flowers	35.00	50.00	
Interest Received	95.75	88.85	Meeting Expenses	29.56	36.88	
Rifle Club Cessation	-	339.48	Closing Balance	3725.10	3226.92	
	<u>4510.84</u>	<u>4592.21</u>		<u>4510.84</u>	<u>4592.21</u>	

PERPETUITY ACCOUNT

Opening Balance	617.10	600.16				
Interest Received	17.29	16.94	Closing Balance	634.39	617.10	
	<u>634.39</u>	<u>617.10</u>		<u>634.39</u>	<u>617.10</u>	

COLLEGE ACCOUNT

Opening Balance	847.21	823.94				
Interest Received	23.72	23.27	Closing Balance	870.93	847.21	
	<u>870.93</u>	<u>847.21</u>		<u>870.93</u>	<u>847.21</u>	

HISTORY PROJECT ACCOUNT

Opening Balance	159.93	158.74				
Interest Received	1.37	1.19	Closing Balance	161.30	159.93	
	<u>161.30</u>	<u>159.93</u>		<u>161.30</u>	<u>159.93</u>	

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT

Opening Balance	2717.94	2628.39	Tfr to Current a/c	-	-	
Interest Received	82.49	79.55	Closing Balance	2800.43	2717.94	
	<u>2800.43</u>	<u>2717.94</u>		<u>2800.43</u>	<u>2717.92</u>	

I have examined the books and vouchers of the Old Farnhamians Association, in my opinion the above accounts are in accordance therewith.

**R.J. PAYNTER F.C.A.
HONORARY AUDITOR**

**C.C.E. SLYFIELD F.C.A.
HONORARY TREASURER**

WILLIAM STROUD



A Profile of William Stroud by C E Borelli (1871 - 1922)

Real schoolmasters and mistresses, like successful Prime Ministers, are born and cannot be made out of unsuitable material; and I believe that several generations of Old Boys of Farnham Grammar School would express the opinion that there never was a man more suited to his work than the subject of these notes.

I first came into contact with William Stroud in the middle eighties, when the Grammar School was still more or less the personal property of the Strouds. Mr. Charles Stroud was then the Headmaster, and he will ever be remembered by those who knew him. Courtly and picturesque, he was of a type which unfortunately is now all too rare.

The active life of the School was, however, even in those days, centred in "Mr. William", who was unwearied, both in School and out of School, in his efforts to labour for those who were his pupils. So much time, indeed, did he give to others that one cannot but fear that his own studies for various degrees were seriously handicapped at this period by the excess of time he spent on his boys. Not only was he busy during the day, but also night after night, after school, he would lead a troop of boys along Timberclose, and through the hop-fields of the Hart, to the Park, for the particular games which were in season. In specially hot weather the popular resort was Brown's Hole, in the river, across the Bishop's Meadows. Even now I can remember how delightful it was, after a hot afternoon in School, to jump into the warm and somewhat muddy water in which Farnham boys then learned to swim, in spite of brickbats and broken bottles.

William Stroud was a strict disciplinarian during school hours, and was, I think, liked none the less for that; and he had a peculiar knack of making lessons interesting, and driving knowledge into a boy. If one could not learn under "Mr. William", then the case was hopeless!

Praise from him was greatly valued. Even after all these years a quaint little fact sticks in my memory. I remember the intense pleasure I experienced when one day I succeeded in doing a back circle on the horizontal bar, which then stood in the playground, and "Mr. William", who happened to be passing, and noticed it, presented me with an apple.

No trouble was too great for him, and expeditions were organised to Reviews and Sham-Fights on the Long Valley, or any other interesting event which was taking place.

It is impossible to estimate the good which William Stroud's intense enthusiasm has done for the boys who have passed through his hands, and one hopes that the results are to him some reward for such unwearied labour. Certainly they have been appreciated by any boy worth his salt. In my generation, and after leaving school, when one met an old schoolfellow, a question that was sure to be asked was, "And how is Billy?" One knows, too, that William Stroud takes a continuous interest in his Old Boys, and that he glories in their successes, and sympathises with them in trouble.

There comes a time when cold-blooded County Education Committees say that a man has reached an age when he should rest from his labours. But those who know are fully aware that they are entirely wrong in their calculations as regards William Stroud, who will never be old, because he is a boy at heart.

STANLEY LOCK



A Profile of Stanley Lock**(1921 - 1949)**

Stanley Lock was born in Cardiff in 1890 and was the son of an engineer. Whilst he was very young his family took him to live in Cradley Heath near Birmingham where he eventually attended the local grammar school. From here he entered the University of Birmingham, where he read Physics and Geology.

Mr Lock began his teaching career at Trowbridge in Wiltshire and then moved on to another post in Abertillery. Here his career was interrupted by the First World War and he volunteered for the Army, joining the Royal Engineers in 1914. After only nine months service he received a gun shot wound in the spine and was invalided out of the forces and returned to teaching in Abertillery.

In 1919 he married Eirene, the daughter of the Reverend and Mrs James Davies and in 1921 he moved on to a position at Farnham Grammar School. He taught Physics for many years and became the Housemaster for Childe House. Pupils like to give nicknames to members of staff and over the years 'Pecker' Lock became one of the stalwarts of the teaching staff.

Whilst at the School he became very involved with the Old Farnhamians Association and regularly attended the annual dinners, both at Farnham and at Southampton. It was generally not known that during many of these years he suffered as a result of the shrapnel left in his spine and 17 years after he had been shot a large piece of metal found its way out. Apparently a gentle game of golf helped the process.

Mr Lock retired at Christmas 1949 and will be remembered as an exceptional Science Master, a loyal Housemaster and a skilful shot whose tuition enabled Childe to dominate the shooting competition for many years. As a mark of appreciation the School presented him with a clock and by coincidence the Captain of the School who presented it was also the Childe House Captain. Later in the intimacy of the Common Room, he received a pair of silver candlesticks from the staff.

In the spring of 1950 he proposed a toast to the OFA at the annual dinner, which was dominated by the retirement of two of the great Farnham Grammar School teachers.... 'Pecker' Lock and 'Rasher' Bacon.

Mr Lock was a keen gardener and enjoyed both motoring and the countryside in general. His sister-in-law, Muriel married George Ashton, the Maths master, who left Farnham for Monmouth School and later became the Headmaster of Prices School at Fareham. George Ashton retained his connection with Mr Lock and the School by attending the Old Boys dinners held at Southampton.

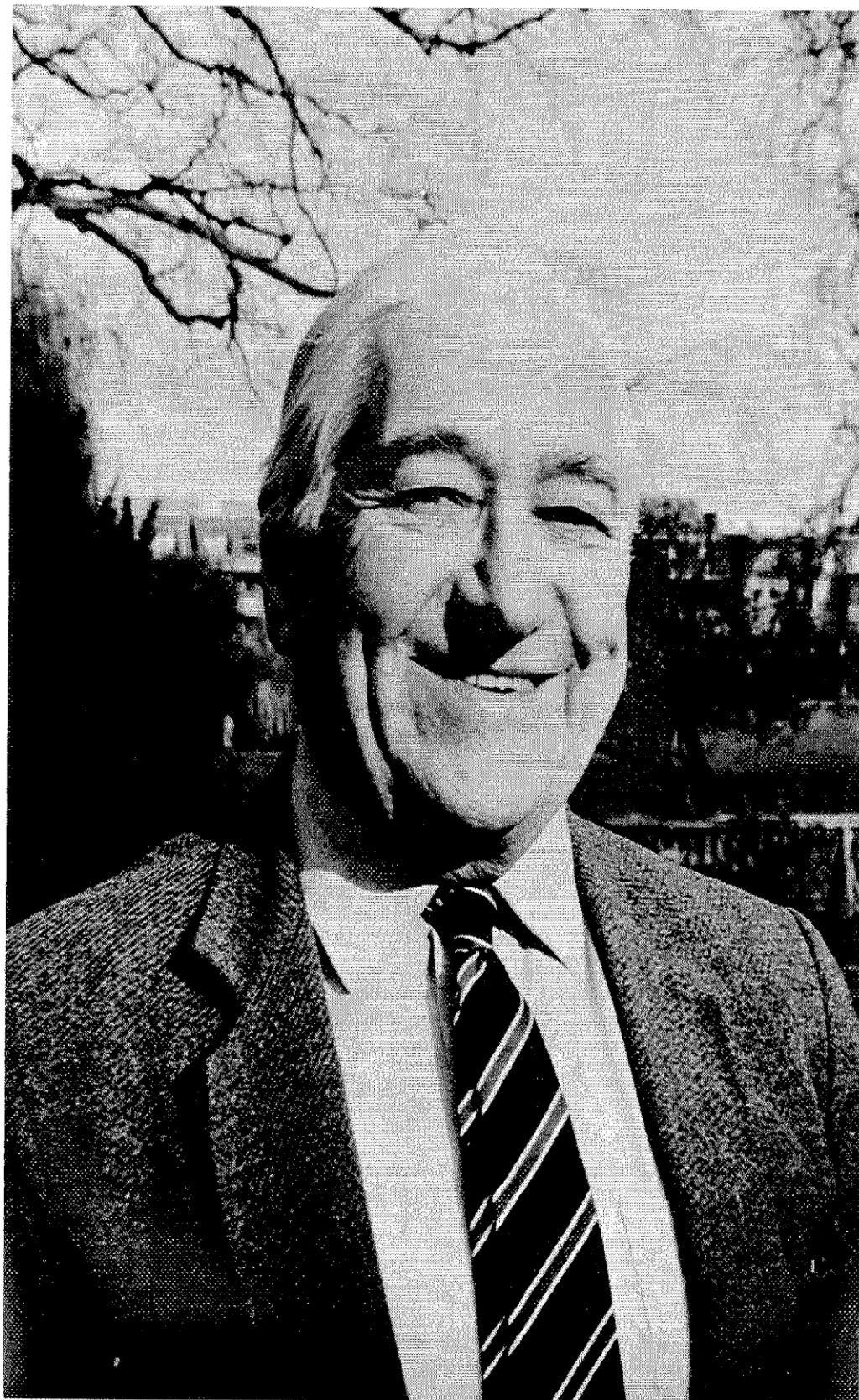
When the Second World War started and after Dunkirk, Mr Lock joined the Home Guard.

In 1946 his only child, Peggy married Donald Lewis-Jones from the major garage in Farnham.....Swain and Jones, and their two sons Peter and Michael are still working directors of the company. Eirene Lock died in 1965 and Stanley Lock remarried and moved to High Park Road in Farnham.

Stanley Lock died on 19th April 1978 at the age of 88 and is a former master who is held in great affection by former staff and pupils alike.

(The Editor would like to thank Mrs Peggy Lewis-Jones for her help with this profile).

DONALD NICOLSON



A Profile of Donald Nicolson**(1950 - 1982)**

Donald Nicolson was, we believe, the first boy of Farnham Grammar School - but not the last - to come back as a master! He was born in London in 1925. After four years at Haberdasher's Aske's, Hatcham, he came to Farnham in October 1940 as an LCC evacuee, to be taught by Mr Morgan, Mr Munton and Mr Beeken in the Sixth Form. His studies in classics (under encouragement from F A Morgan) at University College, London, were interrupted by three years in the RAF where he failed to complete his pilot training and ended up as a radar mechanic.

After a brief spell in other schools, he joined his erstwhile teachers as a colleague in 1950, at first to teach Latin, English and Maths, later to take over as head of Latin. He joined Morley House under John Wills, to whose and Eddie Godsil's support he was greatly indebted. The usual duties in those days included refereeing and umpiring on Saturday afternoons, and he also ran the Chess Club and for thirteen years produced the school magazine.

He greatly enjoyed taking - very amateur - part in plays and revues in the school and with a Parish Church group, an interest which he kept up at University and to the present day. For rather longer than most masters, he used to wear his gown to lessons, earning the name of 'Batman' or of course 'Old Nick'!

With the reduced demand for Latin from the universities, he added German to his degree and shared in the German teaching and also took a Diploma in mathematics : he ended up teaching mainly English. He was Librarian for several years, taking over from Mike Foster, and also succeeded Eddie Godsil in the unenviable task of constructing the school - and later the college - time-table, and served as a sixth form tutor. Like Mike he had two sons - Laurence and Andrew - at the school, and his two daughters were also at FGGS.

"One of the highlights of my teaching years was the school cruise on the 'Nevasa' which, besides being an eye-opening experience in itself, ultimately brought me to my present life in Cambridge since it was my first contact with modern Greek."

After a stint of thirty two years, he took up the offer of voluntary redundancy and decided on some further education, first an M.A. at King's College, London and then to Darwin College, Cambridge, to work towards an M.Litt. in a topic in early Modern Greek. This is going rather slowly because of his involvement in drama and chess at the College and various new interests including Italian: he has also been able to fulfil a life-long ambition to learn and practise bookbinding, which he puts to use in repairing and conserving books in the college library as well as friends' and his own.

Now living in Cambridge, he has a punt on the Cam, an active social life in the college, involvement with the U3A and little bits of research and scraps of writing- articles and verses - for magazines and, in short, is thoroughly enjoying his retirement. He has some contact with three or four of his former pupils who are now fellows of colleges, lecturers or professional men in Cambridge. He looks forward eagerly to the annual Christmas Governor's Lunch reunions with sadly each year fewer of his former colleagues, but regretfully has only attended a few OFA Annual Dinners.

G.H. ('OLD NICK') RIDOUT



Profile of G.H. ('Old Nick') Ridout**(1912 - 1947)**

It was in 1912, when the headmastership of the Farnham Grammar School came under the Rev. Samuel Priestley, that four young teachers joined the staff. They were H. ('Chips') Wood - History, John W. Withinshaw - French, H.C. Kingcome - Mathematics/Sport and G.H. Ridout ('Old Nick') - Geography.

'Old Nick' was a member of staff when Frank Morgan joined the school in 1924 and became one of those long serving teachers in the same mould as Messrs. Bacon, Varey, Horner, Munton, Lock. For many of the ex-pupils these names are legend and formed the base that saw the school grow into a place for high achievement and a place held in much affection by so many.

It appears that Mr Ridout spent most of his teaching years in the middle room of those well known wooden huts that were built during his early years at the school. His pupils were experts at boyish pranks and these consisted of burning rubber on the stove, placing booby traps over the doors, piling furniture on the tables and many writings on the blackboard. Any unfortunate pupil who was caught was punished with a slipper, an article used by many teachers at the school over the years. He was housemaster for Massingberd House for many years and was very supportive of those who did well for their house, but very critical of those who failed to give one hundred percent effort. It was quite common to hear his warcy at various events "Pull your socks up, Massingberd"!

Although the names of George Bacon and Frank Morgan would be those most associated with the birth and early days of the Old Boys Association, Harry Ridout was in fact helping a great deal behind the scenes. He was quiet, reserved, self-effacing, but conscientious, hard working and energetic to whatever he put his hand. Over the years he played his part as a member of the entertainment committee.

During his time at Farnham he raised his family and one of his sons Ronald Ridout, who was born in 1916, is probably one of the most famous former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School. Ronald still holds a place in the Guinness Book of Records for the most number of textbooks sold by any author.

In 1947 the Ridout family retired to Dorset and only a few weeks after this move the masters and Old Boys of the school held a dinner for him as a tribute to his years of service. The evening was clearly one whereby those present showed a true affection for this man. The speeches from Messrs. Morgan, Lock, Borelli and Maxwell-Aylwin all praised this teacher and felt that he had had an effect on a generation similar to that of William Stroud. He was presented with a pen stand, an inscribed silver plate and a cheque (which was put towards the purchase of a sporting gun).

In reply to the plaudits he said, "Thank you for this evening and this present from the bottom of my heart. I will always treasure this expression of your affection for an old master who tried to do his best for you". G H Ridout died in 1965. His son Ronald died in 1994 and his son Geoffrey and daughter Violet are still alive. It is thanks to the latter that this article has been put together and give some record of one of the most loved masters of the school.

Mr F.A. Morgan - Some Brief Encounters**JOHN BATEMAN**

The interesting profile of Mr F.A.Morgan which appeared in the 1995 edition of the Farnhamian, brought back memories of my days at school (1942-1948) and of my few meetings with the headmaster.

Small boys did not know about his distinguished career. He was seen as a figure of absolute authority. He presided over morning assembly. Sometimes he was seen crossing the playground at high speed - gown billowing in the wind. One knew that for serious misdemeanours boys went to his study for punishment. One heard that he taught classics to the sixth form. Such advanced aspects of education were almost beyond the comprehension of a small boy at the bottom end of the learning process. During my time at school there were just three occasions when I had to go to the headmaster's study for, what would now be called, one-to-one discussion. Not one of these encounters could ever be described as being an encouraging experience!

Soon after starting school in September 1942 my school cap disappeared from its peg in the cloakroom. To be seen in the street without a cap was a capital offence; to lose such an important part of one's apparel was a serious matter. Trying to be helpful my mother wrote a note to the headmaster. I was summoned to his study after assembly. By then my errant cap had turned up so that part of the crisis was resolved. Once in the great man's presence I was overcome by a combination of fear and awe. Words failed me; I was reduced to a gibbering idiot. All I could do was to show him my cap and hope he would deduce that it was no longer lost. It was an unhappy episode. I got the impression that he thought he was dealing with an imbecile!

Time moved on and nearly three years later I made my second visit to the study. It was shortly after VE Day in April 1945 when school reassembled following the Easter holiday. During the holidays my father had died after a short illness. My mother wrote a note to Mr. Morgan. I was summoned to his study after assembly. It was to be the second unsatisfactory encounter. Overcome with grief the words would not come and again I was struck dumb. I stumbled out confused and upset. Despite the circumstances I felt sure the incident had confirmed his initial opinion.

The third and last visit to his study was in the closing stages of my school career. The year 1947 was dominated by final preparation for School Certificate. In a somewhat terse address to our form the headmaster conveyed the stark message that boys who failed to pass had little chance of success in life. That message struck home.

At the first attempt I just managed to achieve a pass. Encouraged, I sat again later that year and, much to everyone's surprise, pulled off rather a coup. It had an immediate effect on morale. I was fired up with enthusiasm and ready to take on the world single handed and climb to great heights.

As I saw it, the next step along the road was to go for Higher School Certificate. I mentioned the plan to Mr.Munton, the Sixth Form Master. His response was simple and unequivocal - firstly, the Sixth Form was full; and secondly, he did not regard me as a suitable candidate. Morale took rather a nosedive. But the seeds of resolve had been sown and, unknown to me, the hand of fate was at work behind the scene.

Mr F.A. Morgan - Some Brief Encounters - continued**JOHN BATEMAN**

The headmaster wrote to my mother recommending that I should accept a vacancy for a junior clerk at the Westminster Bank in Farnham. An excellent opportunity offering prospects and security and one for which he considered me ideally suited. My mother agreed and wrote at the time. I was to take her letter to the headmaster in the morning and confirm my acceptance verbally. Somehow my own views on the matter had been overlooked!

On the way to school that morning there occurred one of those turning points of life. Travelling from Fleet each day meant changing buses at Aldershot. As the No. 10 bus trundled down Eggar's Hill the seeds of resolve were crystallised. I was filled with a great determination not to go into the bank in Farnham. I would rather join the Foreign Legion than submit to pen pushing drudgery for the rest of my life. To hell with job security and all the rest of it.

It was to be my third and last meeting with Mr. Morgan. I cannot remember if I handed him my Mother's letter but this time I did find my voice. I told him that I had decided not to take the job at the Westminster Bank. He expressed surprise and disappointment. He thought it an error of judgement. It was a short meeting; unnecessary words were not wasted. It must have confirmed his view that he was dealing with a congenital idiot!

It brought to an end my years at the Farnham Grammar School. Shortly afterwards I left school and moved out to face what life had in store. One looks back now, nearly fifty years on, with faint amusement and a certain sadness at the conduct of events of long ago which helped to shape one's course through life.



The Duchess of Gloucester opens the new hall extension in 1963
George Baxter presents Messrs; Wills, Varey, Evans, Beeken and Godsil.

From the Original 'Farnhamian'

CYRIL TRUST

MAY 1906 - THE OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL;

April 28th 1906 was indeed a red-letter day for Farnham. Its magnificent, up-to-date, and new Grammar School was to be opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the morning those who lived near assembled at the Old School, to which the hearts of many are still closely attached - especially as it is now turned into the Girls' Grammar School. They then proceeded to the New Building, via the Churchyard and Firgrove Hill. In the playground was a large tent erected, on entering which Dean was discovered squatting at the harmonium. After rehearsing the Psalm and Hymn and receiving general instructions, we dispersed for grub. At 10 o'clock proceedings commenced with a huge luncheon in the Corn Exchange, given by Mr Chapman (N.B. We were not invited, perhaps because Mr C had not the tin to supply sufficient tuck. We missed, however, several speeches, - notably one about an hour long by Mr Chapman - and so it was possibly all for the best.)

In the afternoon we again assembled at the Old Buildings, and marched thence right through the town and past the station, with "Hades' flames" helping us on. After noticing an amateur Zaccheus, we arrived at the school. We then resumed our places in the tent, and waited a weary time (standing, mind!) for the visitors. The tent was simply crammed in time, and the heat - there were two fiery furnaces about - soon became enough to roast us. The magnates then entered. A thrill of delight passed through us on seeing Mr Broderick. Poor old chap! He looks big enough to knock out little Cowan any day, but the reverse took place last January! The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Davidson, the Bishop of Winchester and Mrs Ryle, Mr & Mrs Chapman, Mr & Mrs Broderick and others were the most distinguished present. (The House of Lords, were distinguished people, could be spotted by their swagger blue and white rosettes).

The service was opened by the Head-Master, and the Bishop of Winchester read the "Bidding Prayer". Then, the hymn having been sung, a procession, headed by the boys, was drawn up by Mr Coleman (I wish he would buck up and cut the grass in our field). It then advanced to the main entrance, while the Highland band gave a selection. Mr Mason then requested the Archbishop to open the School, and Mr Kempson solved the difficulty by producing the key. The door was opened, and the National Anthem (First verse only, no confounding of politics, etc.) followed, the proceedings finishing with cheers for His Grace by Jimmus. Meanwhile multitudes had been vigorously plying the triggers of cameras, pointing them at all sorts of objects. A certain well-known animal attracted a good number, and Kiddie Mack (who was present) had the satisfaction of rotting up one of Gale and Poldens' photos. He appeared as the central figure, but happened to be posing for Keable at the same time, with disastrous results. Then came work for the House of Lords and a few others, who, entering the Boarders' Door, set to work (at least two or three did, the rest merely pretended to) waiting at the tea, and showing people round, when they themselves did not know one room from another. After the visitors had put away most of the fare, we did our share with the rest.

Poor old Toby Nash, our porky friend who weighs about a ton, evidently thought he was to spend the night there, for, as he put it, "I'd just lighted up my cigar and had got a chair out in the front (hope it was a strong one!) to sit down and listen to the band, and I'm blowed if the people weren't hooking it!"

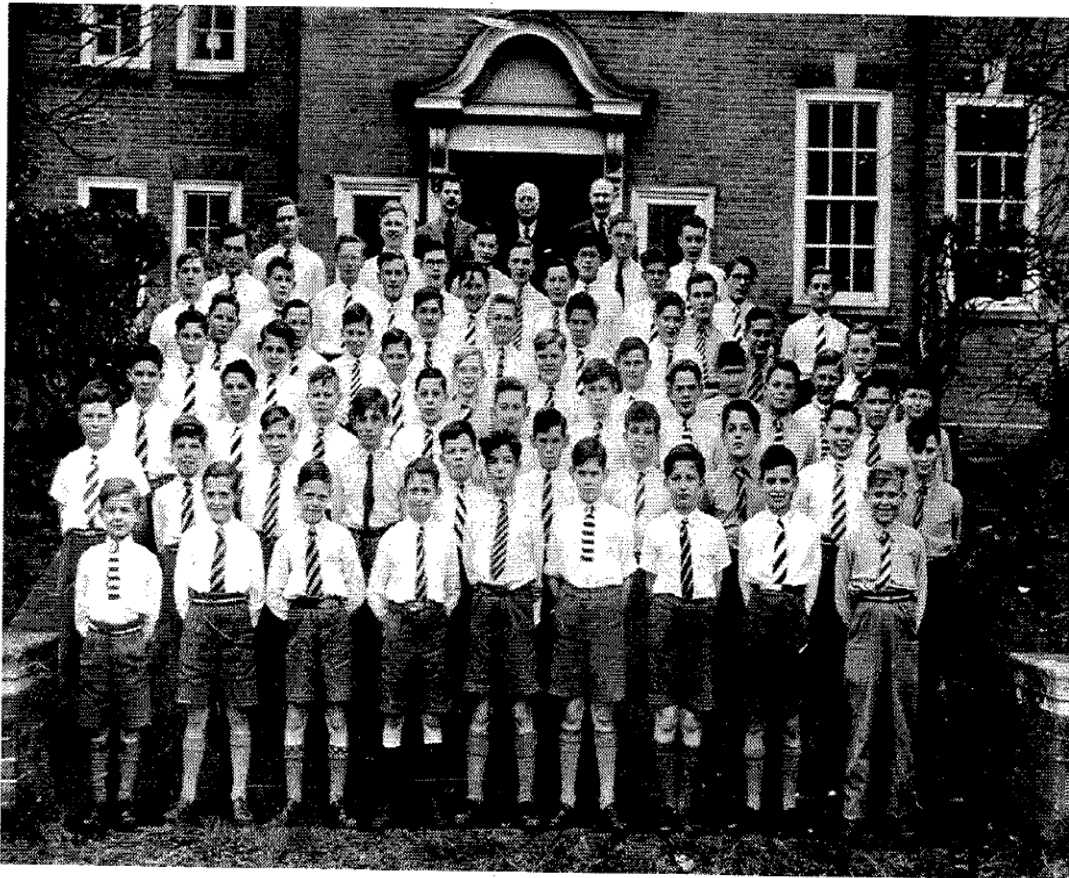
Some old boys present were; V Page, T Hine, J L Mack, The Brothers Poulter, H Bachelor, A S Martin, R C Sampson, H Bodkin, L Patterson, L S Murrell and others.

From the Original 'Farnhamian' - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

Before the opening we had learnt (to our great joy) that we should not begin work till the Wednesday following, May 3rd. At ten o'clock, therefore, on Wednesday, we again assembled at the good old place, sang "God Save The King" to the accompaniment of Dean Juniors' "Cornet", seized our books, (neatly or otherwise done up in brown paper), and then had to trudge in the rain by the longest way up to the new shop. After prayers had been held in the Hall, Mr Mason addressed an excellent speech to us, and was loudly cheered for it on the call of Jimmus.

(For this article the Magazine is indebted to Peter Keable).

NOTE; This article was handwritten by J Kendall, who appears to have been the 'Jimmus' referred to, and was the editor of the magazine at the time.



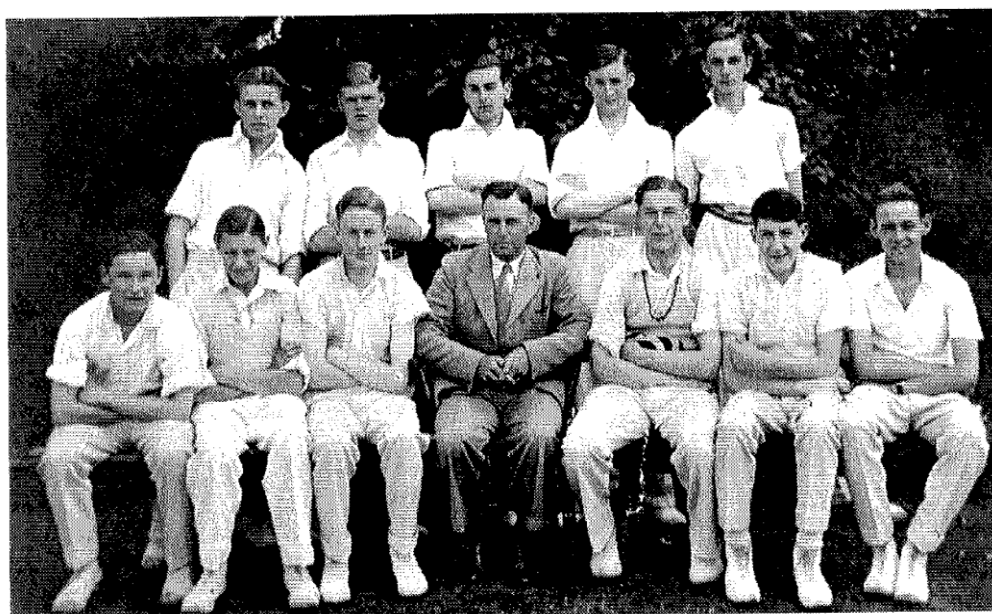
The School Choir for the period 1948/49, under the direction of Mr Read, pose on the School steps. There are many familiar faces here for you to find.



FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FIRST ELEVEN CRICKET TEAM - EARLY 50'S

Back Row: Harold Beeken; May; Harding; Hammond; Batten; Govier; Tyrell.

Front Row: Kenward; Milford; Callaghan; Cox; Toogood.



FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FIRST ELEVEN CRICKET TEAM - EARLY 1936'S

Back Row: Little; Bacon; Brown; Robertson; Well.

Front Row: Moir; Williams; Job; Harold Beeken; Kirk; Levison; Evans.

Around the World with the Old Boys**CYRIL TRUST**

In the 1996 magazine we included profiles of Old Boys who had taken up residence in the United States of America and this time we have tried to expand this by making contact with Old Boys in other parts of the world. Looking through the membership they are to be found in several countries and continents and they have all been contacted to see if they are prepared to make an entry into this 1997 magazine.

The first reply came from Australia;

DAVID ROGERS; Left the School in 1936 and is now living in Victoria and his letter made it very difficult to piece together a proper history of his career etc since leaving. The reason for this is that he has already published two books on his life under the title 'The Jesse Rogers Mob' and feels that it would be better to read these if one is interested in his life story so far. Volume 1 covers 1919-1940 including 3 years at RAF Halton No 1 School of TT. 34th Entry and Volume 2 covers 1933-1948 RAF Service and he is now writing Volume 3 which covers 1944 - 1965. It is the intention to finish with a set of six books and if any Old Boy wishes to purchase a copy please let the editor know as order forms are available.

David does refer to the obituary in the 1996 magazine of 'Ma' Doris Brown and like Norman Patrick he was also in her class in 1928. He remembers the School Song and feels that it can be played as a stirring march or sung by a barber's shop quartet plus one boy soprano. He feels that it also works as a traditional jazz tune with banjo.

David says little about his wartime experiences and refers to Volume 2 of his life story for those who are interested. After the war he settled in Southampton and had to find new friends and adjust after 12 years in the Royal Air Force. Jack Winsor of Williams Martins Limited had processed many of David's 120 box camera films and offered him a job to sell cameras or operate them commercially. He was paid the sum of £3 per week to start.

He recalls many days covering the construction by Cristiani and Neilsson of the Fawley Oil Refinery for Esso; or photo recording the bounce of a pile driver hammer - yes up the lattice work of the crane to within a foot of the impact face. He was counting the number of strokes it took to develop the bounce which indicated that the pile would not need to be driven further.

He also remembers riding on the roof of a van filming with a 35mm silent film in the time honoured way of movie cameramen, "the last Southampton tram to run". It ran to the Shirley Depot from Floating Bridge he seems to remember. He also covered the movement of the 'cat cracker' retort which came by sea, and Pickfords pushed and pulled the very heavy duty trailer with about 100 pneumatic tyred steerable wheels (at both ends). It took all day to move from the docks to Fawley via Totton.

David stayed about a year with Williams Martins and then joined the Ministry of Supply under the Chief Inspector of Armaments (C.I.A.) as an examiner of goods manufactured under contract. This took him into many large factories, heavy and light engineering and H.M. Prisons; the latter making mail bags and bandoliers. He remembers that Folland Aircraft Ltd. were manufacturing guided weapons such as the Red Dean and Black Knight, for Woomera in Australia.

Around the World with the Old Boys - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

David also remembers another factory called Parsons Engineering where gear boxes for Bofors, Orebro, Sweden were manufactured. He continued with this work under the Local Inspector until 1953 and then joined Saunders Roe at Eastleigh, still as an inspector. After a short time here he joined Westminster Airways at Gosport as a planning engineer, and whilst here David had a meeting that was to change his life. He had always been a great jazz fan and was a friend of the well known trumpeter Nat Gonella. He was playing with the actual Nat Gonella band at Southampton when he was asked by one of the audience if he was interested in the new Dimplex factory and if so would he like to see the place. David visited, was interviewed and moved to the new Dimplex factory.

For details of his story after this date he refers us to his forthcoming Volume 3. However he has obviously been in contact with John Crotty in recent years. Apparently some two years ago he had his boat "Goldilocks" on the slip at Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron at St. Kilda when he discovered that the owner of the yacht on the next set of rails was a Mr. Peter Brooker. His brother David Brooker had recently sold No.37 The Borough, Farnham. This was of great interest to David as his family once owned No.37 which was known as Rogers Cake shop and was located in the Borough directly opposite the bottom of Castle Street in Farnham. The Brooker family also owned the same property some years later.

David Rogers was 77 years old on October 8th 1996 and no doubt we shall be hearing more from him in the future.

IVAN DADSON; Left the Grammar School in 1941 and joined the Royal Navy and was sent to the Isle of Man for basic training as Boy Seaman-Second Class. In the following year he joined his first sea going ship which was H.M.S. King George V and saw action with her off the north coast of Africa, Malta, Italy and later in the Far East right up to the end of the war with Japan.

Ivan remained in the Royal Navy until 1956 and retired whilst serving as Chief Bosun's Mate on H.M.S. Magpie. He moved to Durban in South Africa in the same year and joined the construction company of Dorman Long as a rigger. Here he worked on a number of contracts in what was then Rhodesia, Mozambique, South West Africa, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Also many of the sugar mills up and down the Natal Coast.

He retired in 1985 and is now living a quiet pensioner's life with his wife in Durban. His family consists of three children, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. His hobbies now are making and flying kites and the game of Mah Jong.

JOHN CADIER (1941-45) was a very disappointed pupil when he left the School, having failed to pass his Higher School Certificate in mathematics and science. At the time he wished to be an engineer, but as the years went by he found that he was not scientifically minded and would probably have been a very mediocre and unhappy engineer!

During his last year at the School he was privileged to be a guest of the Morgan family as his parents had returned to London. Mr Morgan is probably the man whose influence he owes more to than to any others, apart from his parents. Of the many outstanding qualities displayed by Mr Morgan, John would like to quote his "absolute honesty" which is a rare quality in our tumultuous world. Mrs Morgan and Sylvia Morgan were very interested in music and John says that the very many happy hours he has spent at concerts, in opera houses and just listening to music are a reflection of the gratitude that he owes both of them.

Around the World with the Old Boys - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

Three years at University College, Southampton and the London School of Economics brought him a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Politics were also of great interest and he founded and presided over the University Conservative Club. At the time, universities tended to be very "pink". Later he believes that he was the only Frenchman ever to serve as a lecturer of the Tory Party speakers panel!

His first job was with Courtaulds. Very boring; but during one year, he was able to learn some of the fundamentals of the textile industry from the work and from evening classes at London Polytechnic. Textiles seemed quite interesting, they were also a family tradition. So off he went to Lyon and spent a year working behind looms or in very smelly dyeing and printing works.

On his return to London, the British affiliate of a French company engaged John to sell their wares to garment manufacturers. A little later, he was appointed export manager to sell the wares worldwide. This meant travelling. Young and unattached, nothing could be better. Soon, many European countries, the Middle and Far East, Australia, New Zealand, South and eastern Africa were on his regular visiting schedule. This was great experience and a lot of fun with many solid friendships created in many (in those days) far off places. For example it took four days and nights to reach Sydney by Constellation! Some of his trips would last three months and include 28 stopping places.

By 1955, textile exports from Europe were becoming rather difficult and he also wished to marry and therefore find a more static occupation. The large Australian store group, The Myer Emporium, had a London office for their purchases in Europe and he was engaged as head textile buyer. John says that he was greatly helped by the Queen. The Myer management thought he was a little young for the job. The night before his final interview, the Queen dined at the Mansion House on her return from a trip to Nigeria. She was also very young for the job and someone at the dinner mentioned this. In her speech she quoted a Nigerian proverb "a young person who has travelled beyond his village is often more experienced than a so-called wise man who has never left his neighbourhood". John quoted this at his interview and all of the panel had heard the speech on the B.B.C. the previous evening. They gave him the job!

In 1956 John married Brigitte, who came from a Lyon textile family, and they settled in New Malden in Surrey where John had spent most of his young life. Work was pretty smooth and there were many weekly trips all over Europe. He soon had a fair knowledge of the European textile industry. After a few years, The Myer Emporium offered him a job in Australia, but there were family ties and varied interests which did not make this move possible.

In 1962, John heard that the important synthetic fibre company, Celanese Corporation of America wanted to start up operations in Europe and were looking for experienced personnel. He applied and was engaged to open a sales office for France in Paris. By this time they had three children. Paris was difficult in those days; there was not an office to be had, finding staff, and particularly secretaries, was like looking for the proverbial needle. As for a home, estate agents would just laugh at you if you were rash enough to ask them if they might have a place where you could install a small family. Anyway, the business got off to a start and they had a rather luxurious office and a home of sorts.

Four Months later, Brigitte gave birth to their only daughter (the four others are boys) in a nursing home just off the Champs Elysees. The following day, as she was recovering, John called and told her that they were moving to Brussels forthwith where he had been appointed director of marketing for Europe! Brussels was marvellous.

Around the World with the Old Boys - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

The European headquarters were well underway, homes, personnel, (ultimately of 11 different nationalities), telephone lines, motor cars were all readily available. They were to spend eight very happy years in Brussels. By 1970, they had created an important and profitable market for Celanese products and the factory was doing well. But patent agreements and worldwide strategy caused the American management to decide that no further developments would be undertaken in Europe. John did not particularly wish to work in Charlotte, North Carolina, or somewhere in South America!

D.M.C. the leading textile group in France asked John to join their management team. So they moved back to Paris, but in much improved conditions this time. The work was interesting and included a great deal of travelling and outside contacts. By the mid 80's signs of a general depression in European textiles were developing. D.M.C. took preventative action and John spent three years cutting back divisions and affiliates, closing mills and laying off people. He was more than pleased to take early retirement in 1985, aged 58 years.

After a year of voluntary work of different sorts John decided to be very selfish and work just for himself and his own pleasure. He had always been interested in art and history and he attended l'Ecole du Louvre (similar to the Courtaulds Institute) for three years, then the Sorbonne for four years and gained a PH.D. diploma in History of Art. John says that the attractive young ladies who attended these courses were very charming, but passing numerous exams was pretty tough.

When they returned to Paris they lived in an apartment for the first time; no garden for exercise. So they took up golf. They joined a pleasant country club where the children were looked after and could pursue their own sporting activities. Ever since, golf has played an important role in their lives and is the reason for discovering many beautiful places. Eire, Scotland or Florence golf club in the Chianti hills for example are places they would probably have never visited otherwise.

John and Brigitte spend most of their time in their house in Brittany and travel a great deal, mainly to historic or archaeological sites. They also visit many museums and art galleries and golf courses whenever possible! John gives a few lectures and occasionally writes an article and reserves some time for reading each day. They also try to be available to laugh at all the silly things that their seven grandchildren say and do.

IAN PERKINS; There is a reference in the News of Old Boys to the matter of status of members and this certainly arises in Ian's case because he is entitled to, and does use the title Lord Ian Perkins. The circumstances of his elevation are most interesting and will be explained later.

Ian was at the School from 1941 to 1945, leaving before his final exams because he contracted TB which took some two years and four operations to overcome. He was soon off to Malaysia where he joined the police, but after two and a half years of the climate he looked for something more congenial and so moved to Australia. There he entered commerce and worked in textiles, both in marketing and management until, tired of flying around that vast country, he turned to investment and property, finishing with his own real estate property consultancy.

Around the World with the Old Boys - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

Outside of his business activities Ian's interests and commitments make up an imposing list, with the emphasis very much on charitable and community activities. These include the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hear-a-Book, Queensland (he is serving President and Chairman), and local politics. He is a J.P. and a member of the Royal Society of St George. He lists his interests as cooking, drawing, live theatre, good food and wine, and good company. He is also an amateur poet.

Ian's official title and description is Rt.Hon.Lord Ian Perkins, Marquess of Hindmarsh (H.R.P.), Baron Olethan (U.K.), K.R.O., I.O.M., J.P. Some years ago he became interested in The Hutt River Province Principality which is situated in Western Australia. This is an area of privately owned land along the Hutt river which in 1970 established itself as an independent state, not without some difficulties with the Federal Authorities, but of which the owner, satisfied of the legality of his actions, declared himself sovereign with the title of Prince Leonard and bestowed upon his wife the title of Her Royal Highness Princess Shirley. He has conferred upon Ian the title of lord. Hutt River Province is a story in itself and I would be happy to loan to any interested members the literature that Ian has sent me.

The conferral of his title has enabled Ian, who undoubtedly has interest in chivalrous and noble orders and gatherings, to attend ceremonies in Malta, Europe and other parts of the world. I look forward to seeing him again some time in May of this year. JC.

JOHN LLOYD who now lives in Australia replied via John Crotty to my request for news and I am repeating below his letter.

"Regretfully I will be unable to attend the Old Farnhamians Association 65th Annual Dinner on 5th April '97. However on the morning of the 6th April at 0700hrs EST Queensland time, I will raise my early morning cup of coffee and drink a slurp to the Old Boys and a School of memories. I have no doubt that other Old Boys throughout the world will also be recollecting scholastic capers of mis-spent youth at the school.

During my sojourn at the F.G.S. from 1937-1944 vivid impressions still remain of the deadly black board rubber as thrown by Messrs. Horner, Ridout and Beeken, corporal punishment as laid on by Varey's drumstick or the ultimate punishment of six of the best from headmaster Frank Morgan and how during English classes under Bacon, we would edge him off the subject in hand and start him on his reminiscences of life in the trenches during the war of all wars.

As part of our pre service training, one afternoon a week was devoted to Army Cadet Corps and foot drill, or if one was a member of a local Air Training Corp Squadron learning the Morse code under the auspices of Munton, who coached us to a very high standard of sending and receiving at up to twelve words a minute!

During 1941 we used to get frequent air raid warnings, hand bells would be rung and everybody would do a fast walk across the playing field to the old reservoir which had been converted into a large air raid shelter that held some three hundred of us in dusty sub darkness until the all clear sounded usually about an hour later. At the least it was a welcome break from tedious lessons.

Around the World with the Old Boys - continued**CYRIL TRUST**

About this time we had quite a few boys from Kingston Grammar School as well as two or three French and Belgium boys. We also had one or two boys from other European countries. As a result of the overcrowding the art room was done away with and all art classes were transferred to the Farnham School of Art in West Street, this was somewhat of a logistical nightmare for the school's time tables but somehow or other it worked well and I for one got a first class grounding in art, a hobby that I still practice with some modicum of success.

I note from the membership list of 1995 that one of my old class mates - M.J.Lock now resides just across the ocean from me in Auckland NZ. I wonder how many other Old Boys reside in the antipodes? Perhaps you might raise the subject in the next 'Farnhamian'.

My wife and I will hopefully be in the UK in June '98, that is providing that our old broomstick is still airworthy and we can find enough elastic bands to power the launching catapult and drive the prop.

With best wishes for a memorable evening and kindest regards.

EDDIE MARSH has written from Harare, Zimbabwe to say that after 27 years in retirement he is still going strong and in fine enough fettle to offer our secretary a bed should his longed-for tour of that country materialise. He was pleased to learn that **LES LORD** was still with us and recalled playing in the Mystery 'Victorian' cricket team which Les captained.

THE PHYLLIS**TUCKWELL****HOSPICE**

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Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, Waverley Lane,
Farnham, Surrey. GU9 8BL.

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Obituaries

JOHN CROTTY

ERIC WILLIAMS (1926-1932). Eric was a dedicated athlete and in 1928 won the Junior Steeple Chase, coming fourth in the open event, his house winning both senior and junior events. As a member of Morley he helped them win Cock House with appearances in Junior distance relay, high jump and long jump. He was a prefect and left in 1932 joining Watney, Coombe and Reed at Castle Street, Farnham, where he found Messrs. Glynn, Meddows Taylor and Thursten. He was also a member of the Reading Athletic Club. He married Winnie in 1939 and they had three children. After war service in the army he re-joined Watneys at their London office. He was a keen bowls player and a charity worker for Action For The Crippled Child. Eric was a social worker for Grand Metropolitan, formerly Watneys, and continued in that capacity after his retirement at 60. We thank Frank Hobbs for these details.

RAY SIMES (left 1928). Joined and eventually ran his father's bakery business in Sandhurst and neighbouring towns during which time he became a master baker. He rose to the rank of captain in the RASC during the war, meeting up with Eddy Glynn in Italy. Ray sold up in 1964 and retired to the West Country but his irrepressible energy soon had him working again, this time round for others as a manager in the bakery business; at one time he oversaw the production of three million mince pies for supermarkets at Christmas. He was an early member of the Old Farnhamians Lodge of freemasons and moved on to high rank in the Honiton area of Devon. His wife Mary died in 1994. They enjoyed two daughters and sons, ten grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Eric did not suffer fools gladly (if at all) but in his forthright way would always help those willing to learn. We thank Gordon Morris for this appreciation.

ALAN KENNARD (left 1961). We last saw Alan at the dinner of 1995 after having lost touch for a number of years. After leaving school he joined Esso and stayed with them for most of his working life. He was a Farnham boy, his mother being the daughter of Archie Harrison who ran the Nelson pub. Although not an outstanding footballer, he played occasionally for the OFA 2nd XI and was a regular member of the Red Dragon FC, a Sunday team that many Old Boys supported, particularly those who frequented the Marlborough Arms.

LEONARD CHAPMAN DFC (1926-1931). Leonard took over his father's business, a small cobblers in Bagshot, and from it built up a string of shoe shops in the area which, continue to prosper. His war service was with the RAF as a rear air gunner. At the school he excelled at boxing and middle distance running. He will be missed by the regular attenders at the dinner who occupy that part of the room which claims the right to begin the round of the loving cup.

JEFFREY MELVILLE (1948-1954). A Frensham boy, Jeffrey made his mark at the school, particularly in the range and on the field. He captained Childe, played first XI soccer and was runner-up intermediate Victor Ludorum, winning the 100 and 200 yards and the high jump. He repeated his success at the Farnham School Sports and, together with Snellock, Hooker and Tyrell broke the 440yards relay record for that event. He worked firstly at the RAE and then moved to the Farnborough Technical College.

Obituaries - continued**JOHN CROTTY**

ARTHUR DENYER (1923-1928) Arthur, or Dickie, was a lifelong member of the Association and, up to a few years ago, a regular attender at the dinners. He was a naturally exuberant fellow and enjoyed tennis, football and the company of others. His career was with the Civil Service, particularly the MAFF, ending his time at their Guildford offices. In retirement he greatly enjoyed his garden at Seale.

LESLIE COCKELL Not a pupil of the school nor a member of the staff but remembered by a host of Old Boys who played for the football club or Farnham Cricket Club. Leslie, who attained the age of 93, was for some of the post-war years the linesman for the FirstXI. His smart turn-out (often superior to that of the referee) and military bearing might well have tipped the scales in favour of our team in tight matches, and invariably added a touch of class to the occasion. His son, Brian, a member of the Association, recalls quiet Saturday lunches with his mother because father would invariably go straight from his bank to the match, perhaps via the Nelson.

News of Old Boys**JOHN CROTTY/CYRIL TRUST**

The Annual Dinner produced some faces from the past, one being **JOHN MUNDAY (1946-52)** who is now retired and says that he has now taken up cooking as a hobby. He worked for 37 years with the same company and became their Regional Director in charge of the Middle East, Indian Ocean and African areas. In addition to expanding his culinary expertise he is now studying for a Maths Degree with the Open University. Once a first class athlete at the School, John still looks very fit and obviously enjoys life.

Another well known Old Boy at the Dinner was **KEITH MENTZEL (left in 1953)** who is now the Secretary for the British Association of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers, working out of offices in South Street Farnham. Keith was in the Army for 30 years and retired a few years ago with the rank of Major. He points out that any changes in career have left him little time for holidays as he left the School on a Friday and joined the Army the following Monday and then left the Army on a Friday and started work on the following Monday.

Another familiar face was that of **CHRIS MULLINS (1952-59)** who after leaving the School went to University and obtained a degree in Chemistry. He then entered industry as a chemist and is now the Marketing Manager for a company selling chemical analysis instruments. The work involves a great deal of travelling throughout Europe in particular and he clearly has little time for hobbies at this stage. He has one son of 27 who has followed Chris into business.

Local Farnham man **KEITH MORTIMER (1952-59)** also put in an appearance and explained that after leaving the School he became a qualified Chartered Engineer. For the past 13 years he has been self employed and operates as an independent engineering consultant to the dielectric heating industry. Keith is still something of a fitness fanatic and still runs half and full marathons as well as being a regular user of his bicycle.

A late arrival at the dinner was **BOB EDWARDS (left 1954)** who is still in the importing business and looking well. Once one of the better swimmers at the School, he now lives near Farnham and it is hoped that he will become a regular at the Annual Dinner.

News of the Old Boys - continued**JOHN CROTTY/CYRIL TRUST**

From recent news it appears that several Old Boys have become historians in their late or middle age and the Farnham Herald printed an article in August giving details of the book on the life of Lloyd George that is being written by **BRYAN BONE**. Bryan attended the School in the late 40's and early 50's and now has a very successful insurance brokerage in Castle Street, Farnham. His interest in his subject is such that he now has shoulder length white hair and a large moustache and is now looking very much like our ex-Prime Minister who lived in Churt for some years.

I have recently received the programme for the new season of lectures at the Farnham Museum and find that in January 1997 **MAURICE HEWINS** will be talking on 'John Henry Knight and Badshot Lea.' Maurice also attended the School in the early 50's and has written several books about Badshot Lea, where he has lived for many years.

Another local historian is **MICHAEL LEISHMAN**, who researches the life of George Sturt and gives talks on this well known local scholar to various clubs etc in the area. Michael, who attended the School in the late 40's, is looking for a link between George Sturt and his great friend Doctor Brown (Badger Brown to some). Perhaps one of our readers may be able to assist?

One of our more recent members is **W.J.(Bill) LUFF**, who has given up a lifetime's work as headmaster of a local school and is now writing a history of Hale Cricket Club. On a similar track is **PETER MAY** who attended the School in the 50's and is completing a history of Frimley Cricket Club.

PETER STILL, who did not join the Association until 1994, has now finally retired (August 1996) from the DRA Farnborough. He had stayed on part time for 18 months which helped to 'ease' into retirement. Peter left the School in September 1950 for an RAE apprenticeship (electronics). After National Service in the Navy he returned to industry, with several local firms, to finalise graduation and membership of the IEE. He returned to the RAE in 1963 as a scientist and apart from 8 years at the MOD in London, in the seventies, he remained there until retirement. He will continue to keep an interest in his hobby of motor sport (was President of Guildford Motor Club for 6 years) and has bought a Classic Car as an alternative to working on the bungalow that they have retired to. He will continue to be the DRA Farnborough Operatic Society's Box Office Manager, so if you require good seats for their two shows a year, you know who to contact.

DONALD SIMPSON who left the School in 1967 attended the Annual General Meeting of the Association and asked if the following could be included in this issue. Apparently he was awarded a School Prize during his final year, this being a copy of a book on the last Chinese Empress. He loaned it to another pupil at the school and it was never returned, and Donald would like the book if that former pupil reads this by any chance. If the book can be returned please contact the editor.

Just prior to the Christmas holidays one of our more well known Old Boys, **BILL WALLIS**, was seen rushing through Farnham shopping centre. He is a busy man these days and has a regular role in the TV series 'Dangerfield'. It would be of interest to readers if he could let us know how his acting career is progressing in general.

News of the Old Boys - continued**JOHN CROTTY/CYRIL TRUST**

The first scalp to be collected as a result of our 'introduce a member' exhortation may well belong to **BRIAN HEELIS**, who, giving his apologies for the Dinner mentioned that he was shortly to meet up with **D C (Dizzy) TAYLOR** and hoped to enrol him.

MARK BOOKER continues to run his domestic and international transport legal practice which takes him to various inhospitable regions of the former Soviet Union. In addition to grand tours of the Central Asian Steppe he has spent, as he says, more time in a Volga saloon than in his own car.

...meanwhile, back at the Jubilee Line extension **BOB STUDER** is continuing to apply his structural engineering skills to a scheme which, he confides, is very complex and behind programme.

'They were the golden days!' writes **NORMAN PATRICK**. He is referring in particular to the success of the school soccer eleven that won the Surrey Senior Secondary Schools Championship three years in succession. Norman kept goal; another member of the team **KEN DUTTON**, whose family kept the Royal Deer (now, perversely, the offices of the Water Board) turned professional and played for Reading. He did not survive the war. Although Norman did not mention it, we know that he has never lost his passion for the game, a life-long supporter of Arsenal, he still travels to most of the home games and also supports the ladies team.

The problem of titles for Old Boys occasionally arises but in the case of Major General **A F H ELMSLIE C.B., C.B.E., C.Eng., F.I.Mech.E., F.C.L.T.**, we feel that the bald name would hardly suffice. Fred left the school in 1923 for Sandhurst and was commissioned into the R.A.S.C. in 1925. He served in Shanghai and Ceylon before the war, Madagascar, India, France, Germany and Denmark during the war, and after in East Africa, Singapore, Malaya, Hong Kong and Korea. After retirement he was appointed Chairman Traffic Commissioners for the NW and then SW areas. He keeps very much in touch with his old corps, now part of the Royal Logistics Corps at Blackdown.

JOHN FISHER reports on a reunion last Spring of form mates which was organised by **ROBIN BROATCH** who was visiting from Australia. Another scalp perhaps, John?

LEONARD EVANS passed on a letter from **JON WONHAM**. Jon's academic career has turned full circle, having graduated at Cardiff and currently occupying a chair in his old college. He describes his post as intellectually demanding with expectations of a steady flow of published material and a fairly heavy teaching load. In addition he is in demand on a consultancy basis which takes him away from the Principality from time to time.

BASIL FROST requested a tie, a badged one that his sons would not appropriate. He described it as a 'tie for all seasons'. He is kept busy with his work for the local Talking Newspapers and more recently the treasurership of the Wiltshire Blind Association.

HOWARD TORODE is working in Brussels for the next three years. He writes that he was saddened by the news of Ned Godsil's death. He was proud to consider Ned both a teacher and a friend.

A number of our members will recall serving as bell ringers at St Andrews Parish Church and will be pleased to hear that **DUDLEY ELSMORE** is the current Tower Captain.

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'Farnhamian'

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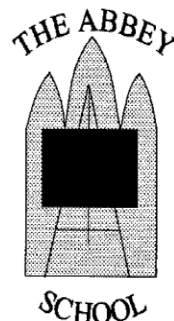
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