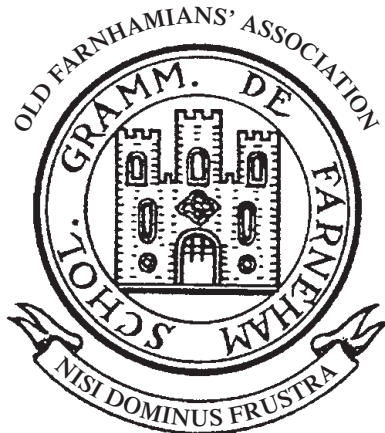


THE FARNHAMIAN

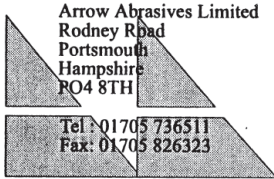


MILLENNIUM

JUNE 2000

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TO THE 2000 EDITION
OF THE FARNHAMIAN**

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THE FARNHAMIAN

June 2000

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOL 7

Here we have the Millennium edition of the School Magazine, and before we begin I am sure that several of you will disagree with the assumption that the year 2000 celebrates the millennium and consider that 1st January 2001 is the actual beginning of the new millennium. It has been decided that we will fall into line with the majority.

Once again the past twelve months have seen a handful of members of the Association pass away and the names of Alan Smallman, John Goddard, David Horry and Mike Foster will long be remembered as well loved and well respected members of the Old Farnhamians. Over the years they all gave so much to the association and we will miss their company at the Annual Dinner, Southampton Luncheon or on the various committees. In recent magazines we have printed a profile of Alan, John and Mike and in this issue we will give more details of David.

The year has seen a further rise in membership, even taking into consideration the losses, and we must thank our secretary John Crotty for his efforts to track down new potential members and persuade them to join the association. One of these is Guy Bellamy, the well known author, who has promised to provide us with articles for future magazines, with his first included here in this issue. We are continually searching for new members and we know that there are still many Old Boys out there who would join us if we could only make contact.

This issue we have not included the references taken from old magazines but have increased the information from Old Boys throughout the world. As you can see there are more and more members writing to us. Also the article by Sylvia Morgan is much appreciated and I am sure readers will enjoy reading of her memories of the School.

One of the last tasks undertaken by John Goddard was to set up a new arrangement for the Leaving Scholarship Trust and it is hoped that many of you will use this new scheme for your own insurances and enable us to continue to help worthy students etc.

Once again the 400 Trust Lecture proved a great success and I know that Graham Blunt and Co., have something special for the 2000 lecture.

The year has been dominated by the Millennium Dinner at Farnham Castle, where we had one of the largest gatherings of Old Boys for many years. The event produced ticket requests approaching 200, which is double the norm, and the lucky 160 enjoyed a 'special' evening to celebrate the millennium. Included in this magazine is an account of the evening and I hope that several Old Boys have their special menus, tumblers, wine, photographs and possibly raffle pictures to remind them of the evening. I am told that the vast majority of the guests enjoyed the dinner and hopefully we can repeat the use of the Castle sometime in the future.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MICHAEL HORNER

Strolling around Farnham today one is reminded everywhere of the long and varied history of the town and its people, dominated on the North side, as it has been for centuries, by the Castle and overlooked from the South by our former Grammar School.

We were fortunate indeed, to be dining in the historic splendour and setting of Farnham Castle this year and which was, by general acclaim, a popular choice of venue for our Millennium Dinner.

As we move into the 21st century it is fitting that we should be reminded of the traditions and values of the past which were, in their various ways, instrumental in shaping our own lives. Leaving school we all headed off in different directions in our chosen careers, but I believe it is that diversity of job interests of members and their individuality, coupled with the bonds which evolved imperceptibly between us at school, which make for the camaraderie so evident at our annual get-togethers.

The strength of the membership of the Old Farnhamians' Association and the record number attending the dinner this year will, I feel sure, see our Association continue to flourish for many years to come, notwithstanding the fact that our Grammar School passed into history nearly thirty years ago.

In closing these notes I should like to say how much I am enjoying my term as President and, particularly, I would like to thank all those Old Boys, and former masters, who have given me their invaluable support and shown me the way on occasion. I wish all of you pursuing careers a successful year and to those, like myself, who are less inclined that way, then enjoy a relaxing lifestyle.

Meanwhile I look forward to the occasion when we shall be able to meet together again.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2000

The AGM took place in the Conference Room at Farnham College on 3rd February and there were almost thirty members in attendance. The meeting was opened by new President, Michael Horner, and all present held one minutes silence for those Old Boys who have passed away over the year. These included Alan Smallman, Tony Garrod, John Goddard and David Horry. After the reading of the 1999 minutes the various committees within the Association reported.

OFA LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST; Peter Mylles said that the loss of long time treasurer, John Goddard, was a blow to the committee and this plus the resignation of Bill Bodkin had resulted in a need for two new members. During the year they had received four requests for assistance, and three had been granted with the remaining one being withdrawn at the last minute.

A new arrangement to stimulate income had been launched with the support of Bone & Co., which is owned by Old Boy, Bryan Bone. All members had received the leaflet regarding this new initiative and he hoped that the members would support this new facility. Bill Luff and Mike Mehta had agreed to fill the two vacancies on the committee.

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST; Graham Blunt advised that whilst the 1999 'Farnham Lecture' by Patrick Blower had been successful, the attendance for the evening was poor with only 60 people in the audience. For the 2000 Lecture he could confirm that the well-known horticulturist Roy Lancaster would be giving a talk 'Travels of a Plantsman'. It had cost £600 to obtain the services of such a celebrity and it required an audience of over 150 to break even on the event. His committee also would miss the presence of their treasurer, John Goddard. He also advised that the 'History of the first 25 years of the College' was soon to be printed.

ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE; Wally Walsh advised that the 1999 Dinner had been a financial success, with the raffle producing well over £300 profit and keeping the event in the black. The meal had been first class, but owing to lack of staff the service had been poor and he reported that the caterers had given the association a rebate accordingly.

FARNHAMIAN MAGAZINE; Cyril Trust reported that the 2000 Millennium edition was almost ready and should prove to be the best magazine to date. He advised that Sylvia Morgan had agreed to submit an article and this time the News of Old Boys would dominate the issue.

MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE; Cyril Trust advised that plans were well advanced and only last minute items were required. The requests for tickets to date well exceeded the number available and it would remain to be seen how many paid for tickets by the March 1st deadline. He felt that the castle setting and the planned evening would prove something special.

MEMBERSHIP; Tony Harland reported that the number of annual paying members had increased by 15 during the year and the number of life members had decreased by 5 members. It was encouraging to see that the membership had increased by 10 overall.

The Secretary, John Crotty, advised that Chris Slyfield felt that the death of members of the General Committee should be reported to other members of that committee. It was also proposed by the secretary that we consider making Sylvia Morgan an Honorary Member of the Association and this was generally agreed if it was included in the association rules. The absence of Chris Slyfield resulted in no Governors' Report this year. All existing members of the Committee were re-elected and one new member Michael Mehta was newly elected.

THE OLD FARNHAMIAN'S MILLENNIUM DINNER

When the Farnham Grammar School ceased to exist in 1973 and the Farnham College took over the Morley Road site, one would have hesitated before predicting that the Old Farnhamians' Association, made up of ex-pupils of the school, would still exist at the turn of the century. If you had been lucky enough to be at Farnham Castle on Saturday 8th April then you would have seen a gathering of Old Boys that turns any such hesitation on its head. Coming from all parts of the country, with some from overseas, one hundred and sixty Old Boys wined and dined, chattered and reminisced from 6.00 pm until midnight. They were there from every generation over the age of forty, with a fair sprinkling of eighty year olds among them. One pair of classmates met after a gap of sixty seven years for example.

This was the sixty eighth occasion that the Association had held its Annual Dinner and the gathering for the Millennium Dinner was one of the largest ever. For well over a year a planning committee of six had worked on every detail to make this a night to remember, and they certainly achieved that in spite of some criticism along the way. The special logo incorporating the school badge appeared on the serviettes, the menus, the red and white wine bottles, as well as the special gift to each guest of an engraved whisky tumbler.

The dinner began with the guests clapping in the President Michael Horner and nine old masters of the school. The last one in was former Chemistry Master Leonard Evans and his appearance was greeted by a huge cheer as this eighty something teacher took his seat near to another octogenarian, and former Headmaster, George Baxter. Silence prevailed as the assembly stood for one minute's silence in honour of Alan Smallman, John Goddard, David Horry, Ian Patrick and Mike Foster, who have all passed away during the previous twelve months. For the next two hours the Old Boys tucked in to a first class meal and exchanged stories across the tables.

On completing the meal there was a surprise for many as some first class entertainment had been arranged, something not done at these dinners for many years. Some twenty singers entered the Minstrels Gallery and under the leadership of David Victor-Smith 'Canzonetta' sang a number of songs for the spellbound audience. The quality of choirs, whether large or small, that David brings together is equal to any in the land, and this particular group is exceptional, with a wonderful soloist in Susannah Vango. To hear these voices in such lovely surroundings was magical and they proved a great hit with the Old Boys. Probably the special number put over quite brilliantly by young Rosie Horner was the hit of the evening.

The raffle followed, with the prizes being the result of co-operation between the Old Boys and the current Art students at the College. These framed pictures would be welcome on the wall of any Old Boy of the school and we will give more details of this in a future article. Sufficient to say that the raffle was heavily supported and the organiser Roger Edgell certainly had something new to offer to convince the guests to part with their money.

After toasting the Queen, Dudley Backhurst, who attended the school in the 40's, proposed a toast to the old Grammar School. He gave an insight into days at the school during the Second World War and the methods of the various teachers at that time. Sufficient to say that since those days education has changed greatly, but not always for the best. He referred to the words of the School Song and said that it 'still stands sentinel upon the hill' and will always be 'famed for the sons she bred'.

Replying to this was a pupil of the 70's, Stephen Pritchard, who came to the School just as it was changing from Grammar School to College. He gave several anecdotes regarding the

problems of the change in general and especially the introduction of girls to the hallowed halls of Morley Road. Stephen felt that his main benefit from those days was that he met his wife at the College and she was the headmaster's daughter.

Cyril Trust, Chairman of the Millennium Dinner Planning Committee, then gave a short appreciation to all those who had helped put on this spectacular event. Clarks Caterers, who supplied the meal, and Wrights Limited, who supplied the wine came first on his list, then Old Boys Simon Granville-Jones of Riverprint and Tim Small for his personalised wine were also thanked. The members of the planning committee were asked to stand and take a round of applause and finally Peter Clark, the regular Master of Ceremonies took a bow. Cyril hoped that after all the planning 'It Had Been Alright On The Night'.

Finally President Michael Horner completed the toasts, with one to the Association. He praised Cyril Trust and his committee for planning such a successful evening and hoped that the many newcomers to the dinner would return next year. He felt that the Association were entering the new millennium looking ahead and growing stronger all the time. A home would be sought for the memorabilia that had accumulated over the years, the Scholarship Trust had recently been revamped, the Farnham Lecture continued to be a popular event and the resurrected 'Farnhamian' magazine went from strength to strength.

George Baxter said a few words as he set the Loving Cup in motion around the room and held the customary Roll Call of ex-pupils and staff. Once again there was an Old Boy standing for every year from 1924 until 1976. The School Song, with words by that legendary Headmaster F.A.Morgan, were sung with gusto and the evening finished with the National Anthem.

It had been a special occasion for these former pupils of a school that played a part in the history of Farnham for well over five hundred years. The Old Farnhamians' are not a dying breed and that was certainly the message coming from Farnham Castle on the 8th April 2000.

Attending; D.Alderton; K.Anderson; G.Archer; S.Armstrong; J.D.Backhurst; C.Balchin; H.Batchelor; J.Bateman; C.Batterbury; G.Baxter; C.Beal; V.Bennett; P.Blowfield; G.Blunt; W.Bodkin; B.E.Bone; M.Booker; I.Bowler; D.Bowtell; R.Bowtell; H.Brindley; H.Brock; T.Chubb; A.Chuter; A.Clark; P.Clark; D.Coakes; J.Cockle; J.Commerford; R.Common; G.Comer; M.Constantine; P.Cope; M.Cox; J.Crotty; D.Cutler; M.Da Costa; B.Daniels; R.Diamond; D.Edgell; R.Edgell; R.Edwards; T.Ellwood; L.Evans; A.Everett; J.Falkner; C.Fairclough; J.Figgins; C.Fitch; P.Ford; R.Frampton; A.Gatfield; G.Glazier; D.Gray; S.Granville-Jones; D.Grimes; H.Groves; R.Hack; D.Hanks; A.Harland; G.Harnett; W.Herrington; G.Hewes; G.P.Hewes; R.Hewes; J.Hirst; D.Homer; T.Homewood; G.Honey; G.Hooker; H.Hopkins; M.Horner; E.Hunt; G.Hunt; P.Huntingford; M.Jeffreys; R.Jones; D.King; W.King; R.Kirk; B.Lake; P.Larby; M.Leishman; D.Leuchars; G.LeVey; F.Loveless; A.Lovell; D.Lucas; R.Luckhurst; W.Luff; G.Martin; A.Matthews; J.Matthews; P.May; E.Mayne; M.Mehta; K.Mentzel; R.Merrill; A.Merson; B.Mills; R.Mingay; J.Mitchell; A.Moore; G.Morris; K.Mortimer; P.Mylles; C.Nash; D.Nicolson; D.Nunn; D.O'Sullivan; M.Owen; S.Owen; N.Paget; D.Phillips; D.Pollard; S.G.Pritchard; S.J.Pritchard; F.Pullinger; A.Rayer; J.Regan; W.Roffey; A.Ryall; A.Saltmarsh; I.Sargeant; L.Scard; R.Short; J.Sherwood; D.Skillin; D.Slater; C.Slyfield; P.Steadman; P.Still; H.Stuart; R.Studer; M.Sturt; T.Tidd; N.Timmins; J.Travers; C.Trust; T.Tubb; M.Tucker; H.Upfold; D.Varnham; J.Vick; B.Waide; W.Walsh; C.Walsham; M.Watts; R.Welland-Jones; G.Woods; V.Wyatt.

THE MILLENNIUM DINNER RAFFLE

It may interest readers to know how the highly successful raffle at the 2000 Dinner at Farnham Castle was put together and how it linked the Old Boys of the Grammar School with the current art students at the Farnham College.

Roger Edgell and his team were responsible for the raffle and it was imperative that it resulted in several hundreds of pounds being raised and ensure that the event was self-financing. It is normal that we have bottles of spirits etc., for prizes, but this time we wanted something different. We certainly achieved that!

Roger came up with the idea of approaching the current Principal at the College, Sally Francis, and the Head of Art and Design, Julian Thompson, to see if they would assist the Old Boys. They readily agreed and a competition was held among the senior students to produce a copy of either a photograph of the old school in West Street or the new school in Morley Road. Over fifteen students took part and the results were excellent and after framing produced six 'special' prizes for the raffle. The top six entries were given cash prizes and below is a photograph of that presentation in February. For the record the six students, in the order marked by Julian Thompson and Roger Edgell were as follows;

1st; Kim Turner 2nd; Emily Callen

Joint 3rd; Hiba Tul-Haye Chaudhary, Toby Holmes, Chloe Railton, Nyasha Gardner.

The remaining framed photographs offered in the raffle showed the opening of Morley Road by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1906 came from a postcard found among the memorabilia given to the Association by the widow of John Aylwin. Enlarging the original and sharpening the image has produced a very clear picture of this memorable event and will make a handsome addition on the wall of the home of some Old Boys.

The raffle produced a record total and insured that the evening was a success financially. If any readers would like a copy of either the opening ceremony picture or any of the drawings (copies of course), please contact Roger Edgell who will be pleased to arrange for one to be sent to you.



THE SOUTHAMPTON LUNCH - 1999

Once again this event proved very successful and on Wednesday 20th October twenty six Old Boys sat down to a first class meal at Busketts Lawn Hotel, which is nestled in the New Forest near Southampton. This was the 38th Southampton event, with earlier ones being evening dinners and in recent years a Luncheon. This time there was no Dudley Backhurst, who usually arranges the event and has attended thirty four meetings to date, owing to the fact that he was taking a prolonged holiday in New Zealand. His deputy, Peter Clark, had made a first class job of arranging the event on this occasion and everyone agreed that it was up to the usual high standard.

After the meal Peter advised that there had been a few apologies for being absent, with the main absentee being Gordon Morris from the Reading area who was quite ill at the time. Before handing over to President, Michael Horner, Peter asked all those present to be sure to diary the millennium luncheon for Wednesday 18th October 2000.

Michael began by thanking Peter Clark for arranging the luncheon in Dudley's absence and said we were lucky that we had a stand-in who had many years experience in the catering industry. He felt that it was strange to attend this event with Dudley Backhurst absent and he particularly looked forward to meeting his old classmate of fifty-one years ago.

John Crotty advised that so far there had been 140 bookings for the Millennium Dinner and it was likely that 150 would be the limit if everyone attending were to be seated comfortably. He sent a final list around the table for any late additions to be made. He then passed over to Cyril Trust who advised that plans for the Dinner 2000 were almost complete and the committee would be visiting Farnham Castle later that week to finalise details. He said that a special Millennium logo had been struck and would appear on the magazine, the Dinner menu, the serviettes etc. He felt that all attending would find the evening very special and the Castle would provide a wonderful venue. He finished by saying that the Millennium Magazine was progressing well and that Sylvia Morgan had agreed to write an article for this special edition. As usual any information on Old Boys would be welcome.

Graham Blunt advised that the 400 Trust 'Farnham Lecture' would be the following evening with Patrick Blower talking at Farnham College about 'Life as a Political Cartoonist'. He hoped that this would be well attended.

George Baxter completed the speaking by saying that ex-master Leonard Evans was well, even though he had now lost his sight. Sadly he advised that stalwart Old Boy, Alan Smallman, had been taken into hospital for major surgery and was extremely ill, and he was sure that all present would wish him a successful recovery.

This was again an afternoon of nostalgia in the main, with several in the room over eighty years old and able to recall the Grammar School in the early days at Morley Road. It is a must for any Old Boy who likes to hear more of the history of the school.

Attending; P.J.Clark; E.Hunt; P.Huntingford; J.E.Goddard; T.Tidd; D.C.Horry; R.Robins; C.D.Trust; B.E.Webberley; W.J.Luff; B.J.Daniels; A.D.Harland; R.D.Short; G.D.Blunt; J.A.Bateman; J.S.Mitchell; C.Nash; C.R.Beale; R.Edgell; G.Baxter; M.E.H.Sturt; M.J.Horner; D.E.Lampard; J.H.Crotty; J.L.Vick; D.J.Phillips;

MY HEROby **GUY BELLAMY**

The first time I saw Bob Humphreyies he was beating a boy to his knees with such style and grace that it was a privilege to be watching. The scene of this violence was the old gymnasium.

at Farnham Grammar School where in the late forties and early fifties it was quite obvious that he was the finest boxer that the school had produced.

Boys who were bigger and stronger squared up to him with a ferocious aggression which was transformed in a matter of moments to visible embarrassment as they abandoned the will to win and turned their thoughts to the more urgent question of survival. Many were soon discovered sitting on the floor and clutching some part of their person which was unexpectedly giving them some discomfort.

Fifty years later I remember everything about Bob Humphreyies, including the strange spelling of his surname. For I had watched him year after year winning his weight in the annual boxing championships at school, and I was convinced that one day I would see him performing in one of the nation's sporting arenas.

In a way I was right. Five years later the demands of work deposited me in the Press box at the Recreation Ground, Aldershot, where the local heroes had a home fixture with Millwall. I was stunned to see that the number six in the blue shirt of the visitors (or left half, as we called it then) was Bob Humphreyies. What was he doing there? He was good at all sports but at boxing he was a genius. The world was full of would-be footballers.

I was pondering this strange development when an incident took place in front of me that made the years roll back. An Aldershot player, Albert Munday, who subsequently got into the Guinness Book of Records for scoring a goal in four seconds, essayed a tackle on Humphreyies that Bob wasn't too delighted about. At the speed of light and much too fast for the referee, Humphreyies' right fist sunk into Munday's solar plexus and the Aldershot player was sprawled face down on the grass. For me the nostalgia was almost palpable. It was just like old times and my boy hadn't lost his touch.

It was some moments before I remembered that footballers were not supposed to behave like this... and another twenty years before I discovered what a fine boxer like Bob Humphreyies was doing playing soccer in the first place.

I was drinking in a bar of the Bush Hotel in Farnham, and talking to an old gentleman who used to bus in from Hindhead and study his racing paper over a pint. Something was said, and I suddenly realised that this man was Bob Humphreyies' father.

"You know Bobby?" he asked.

"Not exactly," I said. "But I'd love to buy him a drink. What's he doing these days?"

"Coaching at Manchester United. Next time he's down I'll bring him in."

And so, a mere 30 years after I'd first seen him demolishing his contemporaries in the school gym, I finally got to talk to Bob Humphreyies. He was a year above me at school and so had no idea who I was, but he was polite and modest and accepted a drink.

He had no recollection of the fracas with Albert Munday (perhaps such incidents were too numerous to recall), and so I hit him with the question that had been nagging me for years. "Why didn't you carry on boxing?" I asked, and gave him my Brando. "You coulda been a contender!"

MY HEROby **GUY BELLAMY**

“I had 200 fights in the RAF,” he said mildly.

“How many did you lose?”

He looked slightly hurt. “None.”

“So,” I said, “a professional career beckoned! Fame and fortune!”

And then he told me what had happened. When he left the RAF he went to London to talk to Jim Wicks, the manager of Henry Cooper, and Jim Wicks gave him a piece of advice: do not become a professional boxer.

“Why did he say that?” I asked.

“My neck’s too long.” said Bob Humphreyies simply.

It was true. He did have a long neck. The most successful boxers, like Tyson and Ewbank, have hardly any neck at all which makes them almost impervious to their opponent’s punches; a long neck increases the chances of brain damage which in the professional ring, where fights are longer and harder, is always a possibility.

“So I took up football instead,” he said.

I got the answer to my question just in time. Two or three years later I read in a newspaper that Bob Humphreyies had been killed in a road accident in Spain. My hero was dead.

* Guy Bellamy (1948-52) is a columnist, journalist and novelist. Several of his 11 novels have been best-sellers, and one of them, *The Mystery of Men*, was screened on BBC television on August Bank Holiday (1999), starring Warren Clarke, Nick Berry, Neil Pearson and Robert Daws.

FARNHAM PAST (A NEW BOOK BY JEAN PARRATT)

Towards the end of November 1999 Jean Parratt, well known historian and former FGGS pupil, had her new book called ‘Farnham Past’ published and readers will find this volume of great interest generally. It contains many references to the Farnham Grammar School and follows its progress from its beginnings in 1351, through its support from the major benefactor Bishop Morley in the 1600’s, then to its home in West Street and finally in 1905 to the Morley Road site.

Throughout the book there are references to the School and some of its Old Boys, including that great Farnhamian Maurice Elphick, the town’s first Mayor Alan Smallman and the popular writer Guy Bellamy. The book contains well known names of Old Boys such as Bodkin, Worsam, Borelli, Falkner, Patrick, Parratt, Sturt and Rogers and there is no doubt that the School and the town are interwoven in the past of Farnham. The name of Harold Falkner, the well known architect, is prominent with this Old Boy being responsible for many buildings within the town.

There are many photographs in the book, and one shows a gathering of Old Boys at one of the Annual Dinners with John Crotty to the fore. One can look through the many pictures and try to identify relatives and friends who have lived in Farnham during the past 150 years.

The book is selling well and I would suggest that anyone interested in the history of the town and the school will find it a good read.

THE FARNHAM LECTURE - 1999

On Thursday 21st October the Farnham Lecture, which is organised by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, was given at Farnham College by Patrick Blower, who is the political cartoonist for the Evening Standard. Patrick attended the School, and subsequently the College, in the 70's and has worked for this newspaper for over two years and his lecture was entitled 'A Day In The Life Of A Political Cartoonist'.

He explained that his working week is Sunday-Thursday, starting each day by listening to the 'Today' programme starting at 6 am on Radio Four. This provides the source for ideas for the first of his two cartoons that he works on each day, being the small "Pocket" cartoon which appears on page two of the paper."I digest the programme and sit in the dark, in the living room, trying to think of an appropriate joke" he explained. On a good day there may be scandals like the house loan to Peter Mandelson, GM foods, spying grannies etc., where any cartoonist worth his salt can provide a topical cartoon for that day. On a bad day where the news is of economic figures or some disaster it is difficult, but eventually an idea will come and the initial sketches are made.

The finished product will be faxed from Patrick's home to the Kensington office of the Standard and scanned into the paper, ready to hit the first edition at 10.00 am. He said that he still gets a buzz over the short space of time that elapses from the basic idea to the final printed cartoon.

Once the pocket cartoon is completed he then has to turn his thoughts to the more difficult task of preparing the diary page illustration for the following day's edition. At 10.30 am comes the 'ordeal' of the leader writers' conference -chaired by editor, Max Hastings, - where the editorial line on the news is taken and Patrick gets a feel for the appropriate cartoon. After the meeting there follows a session of 'controlled mind wandering' when he reads various news stories and scribbles down possible cartoons. Eventually he will have several ideas and sketches to present to the editor and after much discussion a final decision will be made. A late liquid lunch follows and then he returns to the office to complete the cartoon, usually by 4.00 pm.

He works on A3 paper and although the whole thing appears rather hit and miss he does follow tried and tested formulae. Patrick then gave several examples of turning news stories into cartoons and showed how he developed well known characters into cartoons. He said that the Evening Standard has a very diverse readership and his work is seen by many people, even Tony Blair, who telephoned Patrick complaining about a certain cartoon. He does not feel that his work has much life outside of the newspaper, but his cartoons can crystallise an existing perception.

Patrick Blower said that he does very well by selling off his original drawings for anything up to £300 each, with a regular buyer being Jonathan Aitken's lawyer. He finished his enjoyable lecture by saying that he suspects he will not be producing cartoons as a long term career, but for the moment being a part of the 'revolving door of history' keeps Patrick happy in his work.

THE OLD FARNHAMIAN'S' LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST.

One of the last actions taken by John Goddard on behalf of the Association was to update this worthwhile trust that has been in operation since 1929. The Trust fund offers assistance to former scholars of the Grammar School and the College prior to them embarking on their careers, and for many years the driving force was John Aylwin and his father before him. The Trust has grown by receiving a commission from insurance companies on any premiums placed via John Aylwin. The new arrangement is very similar with premiums being placed via Bone & Co, which is owned by Old Boy Bryan Bone, and commissions going into the Trust fund. John Goddard and his committee produced a leaflet with Bryan Bone to explain the new arrangement and readers are encouraged to place insurance through the new scheme so that the good work offered by the Scholarship Trust can continue.

WHEN DID THE OLD FARNHAMIAN'S REALLY BEGIN?

It is generally felt that the Old Farnhamians' Association began under the leadership of F.A.Morgan in 1925, and we have the minutes of the initial meeting on March 28th of that year. The same minute book also covers several meetings of an Old Boys Club which was begun some 26 years before this date and one wonders which starting date is correct.

I am detailing below the actual minutes of that meeting in 1899 and you can see that there is a case for saying that the Old Farnhamians' are now over one hundred years old.

On the 14th September 1899 the leaflet below was issued and it clearly states its intentions and is an invitation to attend a meeting on the 21st September to elect officers etc.

Thursday, 14th, 1899.

DEAR SIR,

At a Meeting of Old Boys at the Grammar School after the Cricket Match *v.* the School, it was decided that an effort should be made (as is the custom with Old Boys of other Schools), to form a Club, having for its objects—

- (a) To arrange an Annual Dinner for Old Boys.
- (b) To form a Cricket and Football Club.
- (c) To afford a means of Communication between the Old Boys.
- (d) To enable them to associate themselves with the interests of the present School.

We have been appointed (*pro tem*) Secretaries to the proposed Club, and have the pleasure to invite you to attend a Meeting at the School, on THURSDAY, the 21st September, at 6 p.m., for the purpose of fixing Subscriptions, electing Officers, &c.

Yours sincerely,
 HAROLD FALKNER,
 W. E. LOE.

WHEN DID THE OLD FARNHAMIANs REALLY BEGIN?

The minute book reads as follows;

In respect of the formation of this club this circular was issued by the secretaries protem and the following attended at 6 o'clock on the 21st day of September 1899 at the Grammar School.

1. Messrs; Adams(Camberley); P.J.Bevan; E.E.Borelli; F.L.Borelli; C.Crosby; H.Falkner; J.Hoey; Gilbert Hunt; H.Goddard; W.Loe; A.Ransom; H.Sloman; G.Sturt; W.Stroud.

2. The following signified their inability to attend; Messrs; R.Sampson; H.Heath; A.Bide; A.Nash; P.Nash; B.Poulter; A.Poulter; A.E.Bennett; H.C.Ransom; F.G.Haward; W.R.Worsam; P.A.Stovold; P.Crosby.

3. The Rev. Priestley (Headmaster) proposed Mr.J.R.Nash took the chair.

4. The Chairman put it to the meeting (Whether it is the general opinion of the Old Boys that a club should be formed?)

5. Mr.H.Sloman was in favour of such a club being formed and pointed out amongst other things the advantage that the interest taken by past boys would be to the present, that it was the custom of the Public Schools to form such clubs, that it would be to the advantage of the school to assimilate as much as possible to the Public School code. He gave many other reasons for the desirability of forming such a club.

6. Mr.G.Sturt referred to the assembly after the funeral of the late Mr.C.Stroud (Headmaster) and to the feeling shown on that occasion, and that a club had been suggested at that time, that this kind of club would likely in time to grow larger.

7. The Chairman's proposition having been replied to in the affirmative. Mr.J.R.Nash (Governor and Old Boy) was unanimously elected First President, after discussion whether the President should be an 'Old Boy' or not.

8. The Rev. S.Priestley (present Headmaster) was unanimously elected vice-president. Mr Priestley in thanking the meeting said that he was sensitive of the honour etc., that the success of the society was his first consideration and that he did not see that his acceptance of the post could be in any way prejudicial to the interest of the society.

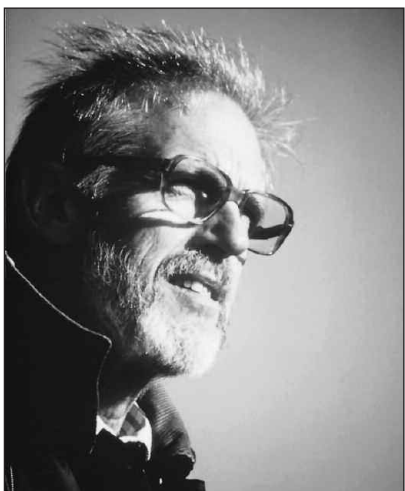
9. Dr.H.Sloman was proposed by Mr Nash as treasurer, and was seconded by Mr.H.Goddard. Dr.Sloman accepted on the condition that the work should not interfere with his many other duties.

10. The Secretaries were then appointed - Messrs Harold Falkner and W.Stroud. A Provisional Committee consisting of the previous officers and Messrs; Bevan, E.E.Borelli and A.Ransom were appointed.

11. The first committee meeting, to draw up the rules and submit them to the general meeting, the date of which was left to the secretaries, was arranged for Thursday 28th at 6.30 at the Grammar School.

PROFILE OF DOUGLAS LEUCHARS - TEACHER

(1962 - 1968)



Born 1928 in Cheltenham, that most English of towns, Douglas Leuchars was nevertheless of totally Scottish descent, the surname Gaelic in origin and dating back to 1300 or so. His secondary education at Cheltenham Grammar School exactly coincided with the war years '39-'45 and provided a circuitous link with Farnham Grammar School some 20 years later as one of his contemporaries was the redoubtable Alan Fluck. Both were steeped in music as Cheltenham Town Hall hosted all the orchestras, groups and big bands of the day and music-making figured large at school, Alan on the more classical side, Douglas with his own jazz quintet. They were parted in 1945, Alan to the Royal College of Music, Douglas to Edinburgh University to read forestry.

Having graduated in 1948, he signed up for what in those Empire days was termed the Colonial

Forest Service and soon set sail for Mombasa, then by train to Kampala in order to take up an appointment in Uganda. His bachelor tour comprised 15 months as District Forest Officer Kampala and the remainder of his time down in the south west corner as DFO Ankole and Kigezi, based in Mbarara then in Kabale, that most delightful of townships and still a major tourist area.

They were good and privileged times with work taking in areas of great beauty replete with wild life of every description and the rest of one's time devoted to sport - cricket, golf, tennis, squash, even rugby - music (Douglas hung on to his clarinet) and, of course, club life.

In those days the initial tour abroad was followed with a post graduate course at Oxford intended to deepen ones' forestry know-how on the basis of what had been learned abroad and also involved becoming a member of one of the colleges, Corpus Christi in Douglas's case. As far as he was concerned it also provided an opportunity to pursue his real interest, namely theatre in general, acting in particular through participation in the OUDS, the Experimental Theatre Group and the Corpus Owlets. Somehow not only forestry managed a look-in but he also met and married Barbara who just happened to be secretary of the Colonial Service Club in South Parks Road where those wild colonials were all based. So it was that they both travelled out to Uganda in 1952 and took up residence in Gulu in the north of the territory where Douglas was DFO in charge of Acholi and Lango districts.

By the time their first leave together came around in 1955 daughter Anne had arrived and all three returned to a seven year sojourn in Entebbe where Douglas was a member of the research team, primarily responsible for plantation research as against work in the national forest. This involved covering the whole of Uganda and also took in Kenya and further afield to America, Mexico, British Honduras and Cuba.

Meanwhile son David arrived in 1956. Socially it was once again sport, particularly cricket, with several encounters against a highly regarded NCO in the KAR who was a fearsome batsman as well as an Olympic boxer. His name...Idi Amin! Local theatre provided the opportunity to perform in a wide range of works from farce to musicals to serious works.

PROFILE OF DOUGLAS LEUCHARS - TEACHER (1962 - 1968)

Times and circumstances were changing however - independence was to come in 1962 and coincided with the need to choose between sending offspring to boarding school or packing up and heading home. The latter choice won but involved a change of career as forestry at home was at a very low ebb and his experience of tropical forestry was not attractive.

Teaching was an obvious possibility (on the basis of a science degree) and this thought found its way to Alan Fluck in Farnham who, enthusiasm personified, leapt upon the suggestion. Further correspondence led to George Baxter being involved, complete with the hint that there would be a vacancy in chemistry come September 1962.

So it was that Douglas delved into the mysteries of teaching (not to mention the mysteries of chemistry) and soon counted himself extremely fortunate to be under the wing of Leonard Evans - eccentric maybe, but kindness personified when it came to providing a guiding hand to a very raw recruit into the profession. In fact it was a marvellous staff to join and it soon became a secure platform on which to build a new career. Other bits of the time table came his way such as the 6th Form General Studies and in due course, drama classes with the 11 year olds. After 2 years the Biology post became available and with a feeling of greater familiarity Douglas moved over to a neck of the woods more attuned to his background, housed moreover in the splendid new laboratory quarters. In those days 6th Form Botany and Zoology were taught separately so that was the top end taken care of, whilst lower down the school Nuffield Biology loomed new and largely successful, and was well equipped and well funded.

So much for the academic 'day job'; what about the drama? On the other hand Douglas took over the adjudication of the splendid FGS tradition of 'Form Plays'. These involved every form in the School and were entirely home-grown so that each form, off its own bat, performed once a year a short piece of theatre. The range of works taken on was nothing short of remarkable with everything from home-made revue sketches through to Shakespeare, Pinter, Fry, Shaw, Eliot, Ionesco, Osborne and many more. They were a wonderful vehicle for actors, producers and backstage staff to learn the trade as it were and many pupils found their way into major school productions of which there were five during Douglas's time at FGS.

The first of these in December 1963 was a friendly double bill with the lower school tackling a fairly knock-about Ian Hay farce, whilst the upper school took on a Chekov one act melodrama, 'The Bet'. The following six months saw a strong link being forged with the Farnham Girls Grammar School which led to a joint production in July 1974 called 'The Wit to Woo', comprising 8 extracts of a romantic nature from Shakespeare. Mixed casts became the norm from then on and formed the basis of Robert Bolt's - 'A Man for all Seasons' in December 1964, Spewacks-'My Three Angels' in December 1965 and Thornton Wilder's 'Our Town' in December 1966. Whilst as many as 50 or more people were involved in any one production it is invidious to single out individuals, but Douglas recalls a number worthy of special mention. Of the actors, John Eldred, Gerald Frost, Rusty Moorcroft, Bill Stacey, Howard Torode and Stephen Twinn and of the actresses, Alex Johnson, Brenda Lewis, Pamela Tuson and Lesley Wootton.

He also acknowledges a great debt owed to members of staff, in particular Alan Fluck, Tony Moore, Stanley Owen and John Wills, all of whom were vital to these public performances. On a more lighter note, more than half the staff also displayed great talent when it came to script-writing and acting in the revue productions which formed part of the school's Open Day in July of each year.

PROFILE OF DOUGLAS LEUCHARS - TEACHER (1962 - 1968)

Concurrent with all the theatrical endeavour there was of course Alan Fluck's remarkable Farnham Festival. Douglas found himself happily involved in two world premiéres, firstly directing 'The Happy Prince', an opera written by Malcolm Williamson for the Farnham Girl's Choir and performed in the Parish Church, whilst John Dankworth's 'Tom Sawyer's Saturday' found him a role as narrator, complete with American accent.

Halycon days they were, but time came to move on and in 1968 Douglas took over the post of Deputy Head at Pierrepont School out at Millbridge. As he was also in charge of science that left him no time for what might be called his 'entertainment business'. However, it provided a stepping stone back into a state system, this time as Deputy Head at Rydens Comprehensive School in Walton On Thames. He was there for 15 years before retiring (on the dot of 60!) in 1988.

There followed a 6 month throw-back to forestry working in the Alice Holt visitors centre, then an interesting change of scene as he became, firstly, a part-time keeper at Birdworld before being moved into the newly-established incubation Centre there, being responsible for a roomful of incubators hatching an impressive range of foreign bird species, many on the endangered list. Fascinating work, but his final retirement came along in 1993 and that in itself seems to be a full time job! Douglas still lives in Farnham.

**A Group of Old Boys in the Castle Courtyard
before the Millennium Dinner**

Left to Right: R.Edgell, J.DBackhurst, A.Harland, P.Clark, M.Horner, G.Baxter, C.Trust, J.Crotty, A.Lovell.

**INVITATION TO THE SIXTY NINTH ANNUAL DINNER
OF THE OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION**

To be held at Farnham College. Morley Road. Farnham

on Saturday 7th April 2001

Please make sure that you bring as many other Old Boys with you as possible.

| Income and Expenditure for the year | 1999 | 1999 | 1998 | 1998 |
|---|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income: | | | | |
| Subscriptions and Donations Received | 745 | | 662 | |
| Life Memberships | 100 | | 50 | |
| Interest Received | 125 | | 548 | |
| Book Sales | 39 | | 60 | |
| Tie Sales | 108 | | 85 | |
| Annual Dinner Profit | 138 | 1,255 | 98 | 1,503 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Expenses: | | | | |
| Magazine | 970 | | 880 | |
| Less: Advertising Income | (290) | | (180) | |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| | 680 | | 700 | |
| Postage and Stationery | 253 | | 409 | |
| Printing of Membership Lists | 0 | | 199 | |
| Flowers and Gifts | 0 | | 70 | |
| Meeting and Sundry Costs | 54 | | 27 | |
| Audit Fees | 0 | (987) | 70 | (1,475) |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Donation to College re Clock | | 0 | | (908) |
| | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Net (Deficit)/Surplus of Income over Expenditure | | 268 | | (880) |
| Fund Balances brought forward: | | | | |
| General Fund | 5,212 | | 5,425 | |
| Perpetuity Fund | 679 | | 643 | |
| College Fund (closed during 1998) | 0 | | 883 | |
| History Project Fund | 163 | | 162 | |
| Life Membership Fund | 3,023 | 9,077 | 2,844 | 9,957 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Total Cumulative Funds | | <u>£9,345</u> | | <u>£9,077</u> |
| Represented by: | | | | |
| Balances at Banks and Building Societies | | <u>£9,345</u> | | <u>£9,077</u> |
| Allocated to be carried forward as follows: | | | | |
| General Fund | | 5,428 | | 5,212 |
| Perpetuity Fund | | 688 | | 679 |
| History Project Fund | | 165 | | 163 |
| Life Membership Fund | | 3,064 | | 3,023 |
| | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | | <u>£9,345</u> | | <u>£9,077</u> |

I have examined the books and records of the Association and in my opinion the above Accounts are in accordance therewith.



MC McAleenan FCA, Examiner

I have prepared the above Accounts from the books and records that I have maintained on behalf of the Association.



SG Pritchard FCA, Treasurer

ARE THESE THE MOST FAMOUS OLD BOYS?

Having raised some conjecture in the local press regarding the article on Ronald Ridout I would like to put the following ex-pupils forward as other possible candidates for the title of our most famous Old Boy.

PROFESSOR JAMES PICKERING KENDALL.

James Kendall was born in Chobham on 30th July 1889 and attended Farnham Grammar School from 1901 until 1907. During his time he wrote the '6th Form Chronicle' for two years under the name of 'Jimmus'.

He entered Edinburgh University in 1907, obtaining a double degree of B.Sc. and M.A. before beginning research on conductivity measurements of electrolyte solutions in 1910. For the next 15 years he was based in the USA and in the latter part of the First World War he held a commission in the US Naval Reserve. He rose to full professorship at Columbia in 1922 and in that year was asked to undertake the preparation of revised editions of Smith's famous textbook series on chemistry. In 1928 he became Professor of Chemistry at Edinburgh and held this position until 1959. In fact he was still associated with the University when he died in Edinburgh in June 1978. In 1933 he founded a prize at the School in honour of the former science master D G Brown. In 1952 he was Vice-President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

O.E.P.LLOYD.L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.

Surgeon-Major Lloyd was one of the few people to receive the Victoria Cross. He boarded at the School, when it was in West Street, from 1863 until 1865 under the well known Headmaster Charles Stroud. His father was a major stationed at Aldershot.

He was with an expedition up the Irrawaddy River to the border of Upper Burma and China in 1893 when Fort Sima (later Fort Morton) was attacked by the warlike Kachins. His CO, Captain Morton, was wounded whilst inspecting the picket outside the fort and Lloyd led a rescue party of native troops to save him. This was accomplished despite several of his men being killed under close-range fire. Unfortunately the CO died after being carried to the fort and Lloyd then took command.

SIDNEY NOEL WILTSHIRE.

Sidney Wiltshire attended the School from 1923 until 1925 and in 1929 took a short service commission with the RAF. Whilst at Sleaford in Lincolnshire he rescued his instructor from a crashed and burning aircraft and was awarded the George Cross for bravery. He later went to the South Pacific to join his eldest brother W.P.(Bill) Wiltshire, who also attended the School, and they flew dredger parts to the goldfields in the mountains of New Guinea. In the Second World War Sidney joined the Royal New Zealand Air Force and became squadron leader. After the war he made his home in Christchurch, New Zealand for many years.

C.F.GARBETT (1885-86)

This Old Boy was known to ride a pony from his home in Tongham, where his father was a vicar, to the Grammar School in West Street. On leaving the School he went to university, where he became President of the Oxford Union in 1898, before leaving to enter the church. From 1932-42 he was the Bishop of Winchester and then became Archbishop of York until his death in 1956. He was a member of the Association.

ARE THESE THE MOST FAMOUS OLD BOYS ? (CONTINUED)

FRANK FOLLETT CMG

He attended the School from 1915-1920 and on leaving became a 1st Class Honours Graduate of London University and then a Chartered Electrical Engineer in 1934. He was Director-General of the Ministry of Supply staff at the British Joint Services Missions in Washington DC from 1956-59. He became Deputy-Director of the Royal Aircraft Establishment and then Deputy-Controller of guided weapons for the Ministry of Aviation until retiring in 1966. For the next 3 years he was advisor to the Board of Trade. In 1959 he received the CMG and was a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers. In 1966 he became a Governor of the Farnham G S.

JEFFREY TATE (1954-59)

Leaving School he read medicine at Cambridge University and qualified as a doctor at St Thomas's Hospital. He soon felt that a medical career was not for him and won a scholarship as a 'repetiteur'(rehearsal master) at the London Opera Centre. Here he learned the basic skills of conducting opera and was rewarded with the position of rehearsal master at Covent Garden. Since then he has been personal repetiteur to Maria Callas and worked with Pierre Boulez in Paris, Herbert Von Karajan in Salzburg, John Pritchard in Cologne and Rudolph Kempe at Covent Garden. In June 1982 he made his début at Covent Garden as a conductor and is now one of the leading conductors in the world. His career continues to flourish in spite of being physically disabled, requiring him to remain seated when conducting.

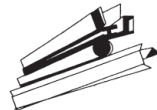
LT.GEN. SIR HAROLD REDMAN (1911-15)

On leaving the School he joined the Army in 1917 as a Field and Staff Officer. He was attached to the Chiefs of Staff Committee at the time of Dunkirk. In 1944, serving with the mission to the French Government he sent a telegram to Gen. Eisenhower which prevented the Allies bombing Dunkirk and obliterating 19,000 French people. He was Vice-Chief of the Imperial General Staff from 1952-1955 and Governor and Commander in Chief of Gibraltar from 1955-1958. On retiring he became Director and Secretary of the Wolfsen Foundation for 9 years. He died in 1986.

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**Combined Cadet Force - 'B' Company - 5th Battalion
Queen's Royal Regiment - Yaverland Camp I.O.W.
August 1946**

Rear: Wisdom, Paget, Kent, Herring, Lampard, Mead.
2nd Rear: Bowtell, Mitchell, Sercombe, Batterbury, Read, Young.
2nd Front: Parker, James, ?, Gallagher (CSM), Godsil, Morgan, Bowie (Col), ?.
Front: Rich, Aylwin, Hawkins, Bodecott, Lunn, Pagniey, Naylor.



Farnham Grammar School Camp - Mid 40's

Back Row: Basil Frost, Bill Bodkin, John Crowhurst.
Middle Row: Mike Comben, Don Wilkinson, Trevor Andrews.
Front Row: Bassett 1, Rodney Coveney, Mike Brazier, Bassett 2.

MEMORIES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL **by SYLVIA MORGAN**

How can one encapsulate so many years of memories in one short article? I could write about the ever-changing cast of boys or the ideosyncracies of teachers, but invariably my thoughts always go back to my parents.

They came from Whitgift School, Croydon, full of enthusiasm and idealism and for nearly thirty years their whole lives were centred on the Grammar School.

The teaching staff were mostly veterans of the Great War and perhaps that camaraderie helped to blend them into such a united team.

The sole women teacher was Doris Brown, in charge of the prep. class and I remember her joining my mother for the coffee break.

My mother made the welfare of the boarders her first concern and they took her to their hearts, like a second mother to many of them. She was persuaded to follow the various XI's for away matches for they said they only won when she was there !

School House was like an extended family, some of the boys even pushing my pram on Sunday afternoon walks. On winter days there were games of Mah Jong on my nursery floor. On Sunday mornings we all went to the Parish Church of St. Andrew, where my father became a churchwarden, to hear Canon Crum. The boys dressed formally in charterhouse suits and stiff collars.

At Christmas the Dining Hall was decorated for a fancy dress party before the boarders went home.

We kept our pets, Rabbits, Guinea Pigs etc., behind the Old Tythe Barn which was used as a gym under the watchful eye of caretaker George Boyes.

One summer afternoon the famous Ben Greet company came to play "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the garden - a magical experience for one little girl. I still remember the splendid ass's head worn by Nick Bottom. Later we went to the Old Vic in London to see "Julius Caesar", to be greeted by Lilian Bayliss whose cousin lived in Farnham. Another exciting excursion was the Annual Aldershot Tattoo.

I remember seeing the teams rolling the cricket pitch with a roller which in earlier times had been pulled by a donkey, This has stuck so firmly in my memory that there must have been a photograph. A later memory is of sheep cropping the field in wartime when the petrol ration was only enough for the centre pitch. One wartime summer the hay was mown with Messrs.Patrick's magnificent black funeral horses - I have the photograph to prove it!

The Summer Fêtes to raise money to level the Morley Road allotments were remarkable joint efforts by staff, parents and the OFA resulting in the fine Memorial Field. The levelling was done by two men with barrows, a Herculean task compared with modern earth diggers. For one fête the London Athletic Club came to compete against the OFA. I am sure I was not the only one to get their signatures in my autograph book.

My father took part in numerous activities in the town, from the Playing Fields Association, Swimming Club, Library, Youth Committee and many more. This was possible because my mother willingly and capably "held the fort" at School House. Our much loved spaniel, Diana, used to accompany him to meetings, sitting quietly under the table in the council chamber.

MEMORIES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL **by SYLVIA MORGAN**

He was very keen to co-operate with local schools and many years later I met a former West Street boy who told me how much he appreciated his goodwill.

When he was appointed he was promised new classrooms to replace the wartime Huts, but alas the County Council kept postponing rebuilding until the next war sent us back to the bottom of the list of priorities. The old Huts became the Headquarters to the Home Guard platoon commanded by my father. By a strange irony they were sent to guard the Girls Grammar School in Menin Way, leaving my mother and me armed with .22 miniature rifles to defend the Farnham Grammar School.

The old reservoir in Morley Road became an air-raid shelter and when the sirens sounded we all trooped across the field. It was very chilly when we and neighbours took refuge there all night. All the windows of the gym were shattered when an enemy aircraft jettisoned its bombs on Firgrove Hill and it was later discovered that the main stairs were dislodged by the impact. The house where teacher Eric Munton and his family lived was blown open and they stayed with us with their baby son, in School House until it was repaired. They were with us on the memorable night when waves of bombers passed over on the way to Coventry.

We were proud to welcome a number of refugees from Nazi Germany, rescued by the Save the Children Fund, and some who stayed in England subsequently remain lifelong friends. On the first anniversary of V.J.Day the School was proud to welcome a large gathering from the local schools to hear an address by Field Marshal Montgomery. I remember well my father's distress reading out the casualty lists during the war, every name a boy he knew. The solemn unveiling of the War Memorial and Alan Smallman's address was a fitting tribute.

On a happier note the School's musical achievements, greatly increased when it was possible to appoint a full-time music master, included memorable performances of Menotti's "Amahl", Britten's "Let's Make An Opera" and "St. Nicholas", not forgetting Mozart's "Impresario" when Jeffrey Tate sang a leading role.

My own involvement in the School came about almost by default, for I had envisaged a different career, but once caught up there was no going back and in the end I stayed successively with George Baxter and Paul French.

Looking back over the years I believe that Farnham Grammar School was always a friendly and welcoming place, an atmosphere generated by the people who served it so well. Naturally I regret the ending of the Grammar School, but it is re-assuring that the College has risen like the phoenix carrying on the same values.

NOTE; Readers would perhaps like to know that Sylvia Morgan has served Farnham as a local counsellor for many years and this year she will become the Town Mayor, having held the position of Deputy Mayor for 1999.

ATHLETICS - 440 YARDS FLAT

Given by R.Preston - 1919



| | | | |
|-------|----------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1919; | C.JARVIS. | 1920; | C.H.FALKNER. |
| 1921; | C.H.FALKNER. | 1922; | I.J.TEBBUTT. |
| 1923; | J.J.W.CULL. | 1924; | W.J.PINK. |
| 1925; | D.H.WEEDON. | 1926; | F.W.GRINSTEAD. |
| 1927; | J.N.COOKIE | 1928; | E.A.W.MORRIS. |
| 1929; | L.S.SMITH. | 1930; | N.F.LOWRY. |
| 1931; | N.F.LOWRY. | 1932; | A.H.SMITH. |
| 1933; | A.H.SMITH. | 1934; | C.L.LARMER. |
| 1935; | R.R.KIRK. | 1936; | R.R.KIRK. |
| 1937; | R.W.JUDD. | 1938; | J.H.JAMES. |
| 1939; | J.H.JAMES. | 1940; | O.H.L.MACEY. |
| 1941; | D.L.P.HOPKINS. | 1942; | D.L.P.HOPKINS. |
| 1943; | A.R.MORGAN. | 1944; | D.W.CHITTY. |
| 1945; | D.W.CHITTY. | 1946; | P.W.VENTHAM. |
| 1947; | D.SLATER. | 1948; | P.G.D.NAYLOR. |
| 1949 | R.A.J.CABLE. | 1950; | J.T.LEGG. |
| 1951; | V.J.SNELLOCK. | 1952; | V.J.SNELLOCK. |
| 1953; | V.J.SNELLOCK. | 1954; | J.MELVILLE, |
| 1955; | K.H.S.MORRIS. | 1956; | B.D.J.WILLIAMS. |
| 1957; | E.L.COLLINS. | 1958; | P.QUARTERMAN. |
| 1959; | P.J.CRANSWICK. | 1960; | J.R.MATTHEWS. |
| 1961; | D.J.BLUNT. | 1962; | A.R.MATTHEWS. |
| 1963; | NOT GIVEN. | 1964; | A.THOMSON. |
| 1965; | S.F.SMALL. | 1966; | T.A.BROWN. |
| 1967; | T.A.BROWN. | 1968; | C.JONES. |
| 1969; | P.ADAMS. | 1970; | G.A.LAWRENCE. |
| 1971; | A.M.BRAGG. | 1972; | A.M.BRAGG. |

ATHLETICS - VICTOR LUDORUM

Given by Ernest Borelli - 1919



| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| 1919; | F.NORRIS. | 1920; | F.NORRIS. |
| 1921; | F.NORRIS. | 1922; | I.J.TEBBUTT. |
| 1923; | W.J.C.SHIPLEY. & J.MILLER. | 1924; | W.J.PINK. |
| 1925; | D.H.WEEDON. | 1926; | F.W.GRINSTEAD. |
| 1927; | G.F.TILL. | 1928; | E.A.W.MORRIS. |
| 1929; | L.S.SMITH. | 1930; | L.R.BANNON. |
| 1931; | D.MURPHY. | 1932; | D.J.WAGSTAFF. |
| 1933; | D.J.WAGSTAFF. | 1934; | C.L.LARMER. |
| 1935; | R.R.KIRK. | 1936; | R.R.KIRK. |
| 1937; | R.W.JUDD. | 1938; | A.R.TEMPLE. |
| 1939; | M.C.COLWILL. | 1940; | H.L.MACEY. |
| 1941; | R.D.ELSMORE. | 1942; | D.A.BARNES. |
| 1943; | B.T.KIRK. & P.E.LARBY. | 1944; | B.T.KIRK. |
| 1945; | P.E.LARBY. | 1946; | I.F.MITCHELL. |
| 1947; | F.J.CARPENTER. & K.D.PAGET. | 1948; | P.G.D.NAYLOR |
| 1949; | V.K.WINSTAIN. | 1950; | R.J.CREASEY. |
| 1951; | V.J.SNELLOCK. | 1952; | V.J.SNELLOCK. |
| 1953; | V.J.SNELLOCK | 1954; | V.J.SNELLOCK. |
| 1955; | K.H.S.MORRIS. | | |

THEN AND NOW - DUDLEY BACKHURST

(1943 - 1951)



Having printed profiles of Messrs Aylwin, Patrick, Goddard and Robins in the 1999 magazine it is time that we looked at some Old Boys who attended the School in the 1940's and 1950's. All of these have made great contributions to the Association, and we begin with Dudley Backhurst who has held the position of President and is still on the General Committee and a trustee of The Farnhamian 400 Trust. Dudley Backhurst was born in Farnham in December 1932. His first school was East Street School and he came to Farnham Grammar School in 1943. Dudley was one of the last children to gain entry to the School as a scholarship boy as Eleven-Plus came immediately afterwards. In his day one entered the School via a scholarship or had to pay for a place.

His career at the School was quite memorable, with success in the classroom and in a variety of sports.

Probably his main success came in the swimming pool and from 1945 to 1952 he achieved 12 first places and 5 second places at the School Sports, with his main strokes being freestyle and backstroke. He was a first class athlete and won at 100yards, 220yards, Long Jump and Victor Ludorum at the School Athletics Sports. He was selected to run for the School in the Farnham and District Sports and also ran for Farnham in the Surrey Secondary (Grammar) School Sports. Although his main events were short distances he also ran regularly in the School Cross-Country.

He was also a fine rifle shot and he represented Childe House many times and his team was first on 5 occasions and second on 3 occasions. He won his weight at boxing in 1949, having been runner-up the previous year, played soccer for the School 2nd XI and started tennis as a school sport. He obtained School colours for swimming, athletics and boxing.

Outside of the field of sport he became School Vice Captain in 1948, Childe House Captain in 1949, School Swimming Captain in 1948 and School Captain from 1949 until 1951 when he left the school. He was also active in the Combined Cadet Force and in 1950 became C.S.M.

In 1950 Dudley was one of the last people to sit the old style Higher School Certificate and in 1951 he also obtained the new General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) in Pure Maths, Applied Maths, Physics and Chemistry. In the same year he left Farnham Grammar School after 8 successful years and entered University College, London with the help of a Surrey Major Scholarship.

In 1954 Dudley gained a degree as a B.Sc.(Chemistry Special) and then decided to remain at University College to take his Ph.D. After 3 years he achieved this in Physical Organic Chemistry and in 1957 moved north to Kings College, University of Durham, now the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. With the assistance of a Harwell Research Fellowship he spent two years at Newcastle in the Department of Radiation Chemistry.

THEN AND NOW - DUDLEY BACKHURST**(1943 - 1951)**

During his time in the North East he married a former FGGS pupil, Sylvia Dubut, who came from the nearby village of Ash. The couple lived in the North-East until August 1959 when Dudley accepted a position with British American Tobacco at their research department in Southampton. Here Dudley began life as a Research Chemist and in time became the Head of Sample Manufacturing on the R & D side of the business. During the years with this company he travelled widely and the job became more demanding as smoking and health issues became increasingly important. In December 1983 he retired from BAT.

Dudley and Sylvia have two children, daughter Marilyn(1967) and son Graham(1970). Currently Marilyn is in Sydney, Australia, whilst Graham remains in Southampton.

In January 1984 he took over the position of Secretary to the Tobacco Advisory Council. During his time here he was, amongst other things, joint secretary of the Government/Industry Committee monitoring tobacco advertising and sports sponsorship. He was also involved with issues arising from the European Community. Finally he retired in April 1989.

Soon after moving to Southampton Dudley met fellow Old Boys, John Stroud, Leslie Luff and Freddie Grinstead and they decided to arrange an Old Boys dinner in the that area. The first dinner was held at the Dolphin Hotel, and was attended by several staff and Old Boys from the Farnham area as well as those who lived further south. Thus the Southampton Lunch began, an annual event that Dudley still arranges now that he is the only person remaining from the original four. Old Boys who wish to spend a very pleasant and nostalgic few hours on the borders of the New Forest should attend this event.

Although he lives miles away Dudley still remains a loyal supporter of the Association and attends meetings at the School.

He was President in 1990/1991/1992, has sat on the General Committee for 10 years and regularly attends the Annual Dinner. Dudley still remains fit by playing tennis and badminton.

He also does woodcarving and woodturning. It will be difficult to find many Old Boys with such a sporting/academic record.



THEN AND NOW - BILL BODKIN

(1943 - 1950)



Once again we come to an Old Boy who is a member of a local family where several generations attended the School. Not only was Bill Bodkin a pupil, but his father Herbert William attended during the last century as did Bert's brother Carl. The son of Carl, H.G.W.(Jim) Bodkin also attended and still lives in the nearby village of Dockenfield.

Bill was born in Farnham in May 1933 in Weydon Hill Road, which is very close to the Grammar School in Morley Road. He had one sister, who attended the Farnham Girls Grammar School in later years, and his family were tailors. At one stage his mother actually taught at the Girls Grammar School.

Bill first attended school at the Church House Prep School (generally known as Miss Murrells) and stayed there until he was ten years old. Whilst at

the school a fellow pupil was Mike Hawthorn, who later became World Motor Racing Champion.

In 1943 Bill moved to the Grammar School entering prep form (1c) under a teacher called Dan Knight. This teacher was notorious for the use of a horse whip as part of his efforts to discipline pupils. The Bodkins had now moved to Bridgefield near the railway station in Farnham and were neighbours of the well known teacher Harry Beeken, and his family. Bill remembers that in those days he helped, with others from the Grammar School, ring the bells at the local Parish Church and as it was war time the bells were silenced. Strange!

Bill joined School House and in the early days specialised in swimming and rifle shooting, with interests in soccer and cricket coming later on. Although he won prizes at Freestyle and Breastroke in the swimming sports, he was best known for holding the school record for many years at the unique event of The Plunge. Here one had to dive into the pool and float for as far as possible without coming up for breath and it was common for competitors to stay afloat like this for more than two minutes. He managed to win the Heaviest Weight at the School Boxing Tournament in his final year at the School and after much training he actually finished 93rd in the Senior Cross Country Race. He is proud of the fact that School became Cock House in that final year.

Apart from sport he sang in both the School and Church Choir.

He took his matriculation in the fifth year and entered the Sixth Form for what would be one year only. After the year he discussed his future with the careers officer and decided to train to become an optician (it does not run in the family). In 1950 he entered Northampton Polytechnic, which is now City University in London, and began a three year course with some lectures given by a D.Wagstaff, who was a well known Old Boy of the Farnham Grammar School.

At the end of the course Bill became a Fellow of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers and a Fellow of the British Optical Association. On completing his studies, and like many other boys of that era, he was forced to begin his National service immediately.

THEN AND NOW - BILL BODKIN**(1943 - 1950)**

So after completing his course and spending only a little time working under supervision Bill entered the Royal Air Force. Here he was based at Nocton Hall Hospital in Lincolnshire where he worked out his two years as an optician.

On leaving the armed forces he began his career and joined the well known opticians G.C.Bateman, and stayed with this company for twenty years finally managing the Farnham and Alton branches. Bill actually ended up working in the Farnham premises at 76. Castle Street which was where his father and grandfather had run the family tailors business for many years.

In 1961 Bill married and later had two sons, with the family home being at Farnham.

In the early 70's he went into partnership and bought a practice in the nearby town of Basingstoke, which was in fact owned by an Old Boy called Harold North. He remained at this practice for over fifteen years and in 1988 sold it to Leightons, who were a well known large group. Bill continued to work with the new owners firstly full time and then part time before finally retiring in 1996. (The editor has had his eyes tested by Bill on more than one occasion).

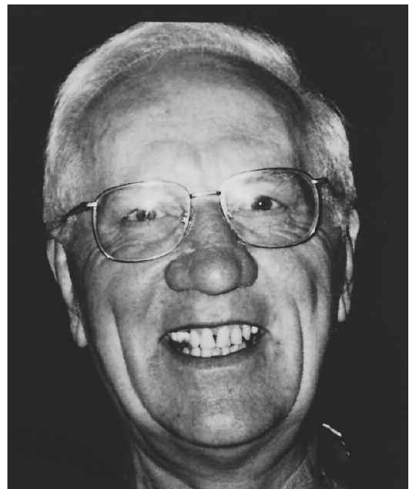
Bill Bodkin has always had many interests, including astronomy and geology and he still plays tennis and golf regularly. In 1949 he joined Waverley Cricket Club and only stopped playing cricket in recent years. One of his team mates was that well known Old Boy, Tony Harland, who is in charge of membership for the Association.

Like many other Old Boys he belongs to the Round Table, joining in 1963 and being Chairman in 1972. He moved on to the 41 Club in 1973.

Bill has always played an active part as an Old Boy and at one time played soccer for them. He only managed three seasons with the team but ended up in hospital on two occasions, firstly with a broken nose and secondly with a ruptured cartilage He was President of the Old Farnhamians' Association in 1987, 1988 and 1989 and held the position of Secretary for many years. He is still a member of the General Committee.

He remarried in 1991 and now lives at the small village of Bentworth, near Alton, with his wife Debby. They spend a third of the year at their holiday home in Portugal and like to travel to as many new places as possible. Their holiday to remember was in 1996 when they went around the World, and included in this was a stay in Hong Kong with Old Boy, John Rhind.

His memories of his time at the Grammar School include attending School Camps at Paignton, Hastings and twice in Guernsey. He has promised to write an article for the magazine telling us how they all survived storms, tempests and camp food.



THEN AND NOW - JOHN CROTTY

(1942 - 1948)



We now come to one of the most popular Old Boys, who after holding the office of Secretary for many years is the main link between the Association and the members. Without John the Association would not be as strong as it is today.

John Crotty was born in Farnborough, Hampshire in 1931 (above a bicycle shop), and his father was a soldier in the First Kings Dragoon Guards and his mother was a school teacher in neighbouring Cove.

Very early in life his father was posted firstly to Egypt, where sister Jane was born, and then to India. Whilst in Egypt John's father had the job of teaching King Farouk, the very notorious leader, how to ride a horse.

So John spent his formative years abroad and was educated in convent schools as there were no army schools available at the time. In 1938 the family returned to Aldershot and John began local education at West End School in Aldershot. With the outbreak of war John's father was posted and the family moved to Heath End, just outside Farnham, and he continued his schooling at East Street School.

In 1942 John began his days at the Grammar School, being a fee paying pupil, and became a member of Massingberd House. In his early days he was a first class athlete and was under 12 champion at 100 yards, 220 yards and the Long Jump as well as winning the cross country event. As he grew older he turned to longer distance running and soccer, representing the school First XI at the latter sport. Academically John says that he was middle of the road (or class!).

In 1948 the well known master, Eric Munton, advised John that there was a position available at the local council and John successfully obtained a position in the Public Health Department. From the ages of 16 - 18 he studied at Guildford Technical College, and after National Service, from 20 - 22 at Sunbury, finally becoming a Public Health Inspector. He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps for his National Service, becoming a corporal, and was posted to both Cyprus and the Suez Canal Zone.

On leaving the forces and obtaining his qualifications he joined Aldershot Borough Council until 1959 when he moved to Guildford Rural District Council. Here he worked under the Chief Health Inspector, Peter Meddowes-Taylor, who was also an Old Boy.

In 1959 John married Joan, who had attended Aldershot High School, and they set up home in the Sands village. By now they had two children, being son Patrick and daughter Elizabeth. Both John and Joan enjoy travelling and after ten years in this position there came the opportunity to begin to see more of the world when John was offered a position in Africa.

THEN AND NOW - JOHN CROTTY**(1942 - 1948)**

In 1969 John and his family moved to the 'copper belt' in Zambia where he had taken a position in the Public Health Department. Here he was involved in malaria control, under 5 clinics and the local abattoir, which was quite a change from working in Surrey and Hampshire. By this time John had joined the Round Table (in 1957 in fact) and played for the local branch whilst in Zambia. One day he played against another branch of Rotary from a nearby village and found that one of his opponents was Roger Alcock who had played soccer with John for the Old Boys FC.

Returning home in 1971 John joined Farnborough U.D.C. and worked there for some years until local councils were re-organised. For example Farnborough and Aldershot joined together to form Rushmoor Council.

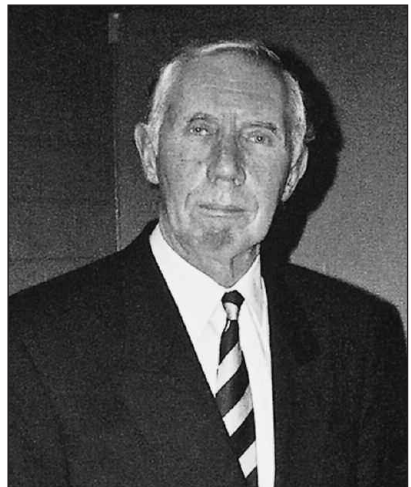
He then decided to begin his own business and with another Old Boy, Ray Bowtell, and a third partner he started Bourne Valley Homes which was a building and development business. The company was successful and John remained working until Christmas 1997 when he decided to retire.

Over the years John Crotty has been involved with several clubs and usually ends up taking a position to assist the running of that club. He has been the Chairman of the Farnham Round Table and is still an active member. For many years he was Secretary of the Old Boys soccer club and played until 1972, after his 40th birthday. He has been secretary of the Old Farnhamians' Association on two occasions and his current stint is in its thirteenth year. As the reader knows the annual dinner usually includes a thank you to John from the President and it is certain that he is a very popular and efficient secretary.

John has always loved tennis and has belonged to several local clubs, including Badshot Lea, Brightwells, Rowledge and the Nomads of Aldershot. He keeps remarkably fit and still plays regularly today. John and his friends in fact play all the year round and whilst most of us are huddled around the fire he is on an outdoor court playing a set or two.

John and Joan live just outside the town of Farnham and make sure that they travel abroad as much as possible in retirement. They now have two granddaughters, with Jemma being born in Edinburgh just prior to Christmas 1999. John and Joan make sure that they see their grandchildren quite regularly.

At the 2000 Millennium Dinner the loudest cheer of the evening was for John Crotty, as usual. He has earned this applause and is the backbone of the Association.



THEN AND NOW - CHRIS SLYFIELD

(1955 - 1962)



Once again we look closer at an Old Boy who has given years of excellent service to the Association. Chris Slyfield has belonged to the General Committee for many years and was the Treasurer for seventeen of those years. He is still the Association's Governor on the Board of Farnham College.

Chris was born in Guildford and lived in the village of Merrow with his parents, his father being a motor mechanic.

His first school was Down Road, Merrow and here he passed his eleven-plus exam to the Farnham Boys Grammar School. He joined Morley House and over the years was a leading athlete at the school, winning several races at the annual Sports Day and always amongst the leaders in the Cross Country Races. In the early 60's he was a member

of a successful Morley House Shooting Team and won house and school colours for both shooting and cross country running. He was House Captain for both of these sports and School Captain for Cross Country Running.

He represented the School in local cross country events and ran for the Farnham and District team. With fellow Grammar School pupils Bob and John Matthews he belonged to the Guildford and Godalming Athletic Club.

Whilst at the school he was an active member of the Combined Cadet Force and took part in school plays written and produced by those talented teachers Alan Fluck and Mike Foster.

In 1962 he began serving articles with Messrs Shipley Blackburn, a West End firm of Chartered Accountants. He was admitted to the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) as an Associate member in 1972. He joined R.A.Poole Ltd, a client of Shipleys, as Company Secretary and Accountant following several years as an Audit Group Manager. Whilst at Shipleys he ran the U.K. audit for H.J.Heinz & Co. Ltd., as well as other large companies. In 1974 he obtained his Practising Certificate with a view to partnership with Shipleys.

In 1973 he formed Hi-Lo Forklifts Limited and by 1976 this company was achieving double the turnover of the department he was running at Shipleys. The Managing Director asked him to become Finance Director of Hi-Lo Limited on a 2 day per week basis, which allowed time for Chris to build his own business as a Chartered Accountant. Initially he ran his own business from home, prior to moving to offices in Godalming.

He was admitted as a Fellow of the ICAEW in 1979. During this busy time he managed to meet and marry his wife Jenny and they had son Jason in 1973.

NOTE; Chris could find no photographs of himself in earlier days and we have therefore included this one of him in full mayoral uniform.

THEN AND NOW - CHRIS SLYFIELD**(1955 - 1962)**

Chris Slyfield has a very active life outside of work and has become well known in the boroughs of Godalming and Waverley. He is currently a Godalming Town Councillor and a Waverley Borough Councillor. From May 1996 until May 1997 he was Mayor of Godalming and has served as Chairman of Finance and General Purposes on the Town Council. For the Town Council he is on the Mayoralty Committee which recommends the new mayor to the council and he is also a member of the Millennium Steering Group. He represents the Town Council as a member of The Godalming Police & Community Partnership Group. The Godalming Association and The Godalming Joigny Friendship Association.

Chris was elected Deputy Mayor of Waverley in May 1998 and was Chairman of the Operations Committee. He has chaired the Godalming Joint Consultative Committee and sits on the Policy & Resources Committee, The Housing & Community Welfare Committee, The Waverley/Surrey County Council (SCC) Partnership Committee, Waverley Partnership area Transportation Sub-Committee and as a substitute on the Planning & Environment Committee.

For Waverley Council he is on the Godalming Swimming Pool Trust and the Wilfred Noyce Community Centre Management Committee and has sat on the Financial Strategy Task Group, The Public Consultation Task Group and the Millennium Task Group. He also represents Waverley on the Financial Issues Sub Group on the S.E. Regional Forum. He was also instrumental in forming the Godalming Initiative in June 1996 which resulted in the experimental pedestrianisation of Godalming High Street every Saturday and is now being implemented on a trial basis until Spring 2000.

Chris currently works for Hi-Lo, runs his own consultancy and has lectured at Guildford Technical College. He is Leader of the Opposition Group on Waverley Council, Governor and Vice-Chairman of the Trustees of Farnham College. He is an accepted candidate for Non-Executive Director appointments in the South Thames NHS region and will be on the regional data base for two years.

His main interest, when he has time, is classic cars and he attends many Rallies, Shows and Track Days. Here he uses either a TVR Tuscan V6, Ford Capri 3000S or a BMW M365 for raising money for charity.

He feels that his education at the School gave him an enquiring mind and an opportunity to progress in life. His proudest moment was the remark from George Baxter when Chris became a Governor of the Farnham College. 'Well done - you are the first of my boys to become a Governor of the College!'

Not a bad career for one of the Guildford bus boys who travelled across the Hogs Back to Farnham on the number 31, operated by the Aldershot & District Traction Company.





Retirement Presentation to Mr and Mrs F.A.Morgan - July 1953
 (Gift is presented by Mr Munton who is shown with Sylvia Morgan)

Staff include: Messrs; Carroll, Varey, Beeken, Fluck, Bacon, Brink, Foster, Wilcox, Wills, Beadman, Horner, Wickens, Godsil, Nicolson, Brister, Ramm, Mrs Cole, Lock.



Some of the team for a Mike Foster/Alan Fluck Production

Left to Right: David Bidwell, Terry Venables, 'Jack' Garrett, John Ward, Mike Foster, Vic Bennett, David Andrews, Brian Luff, Adrian Dewey.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 20's AND BEFORE

In the 1999 magazine we printed a late obituary for JIM CASBEN (1923-27) only to be advised by his family that he was still very much alive and well into his 80's. We would like to apologise for the incorrect information and trust that it has not caused any distress to the Casben family. In fact the obituary related to ARTHUR (JACK) CLIFTON and an appreciation of this Old Boy appears in this issue written by a classmate GORDON MORRIS.

We have recently been given several old photographs and speech day programmes dating back to 1879, 1880 and 1881 and they come from a former pupil of the school at that time, namely WILLIAM ROBERT WORSAM. He was a member of the family who were bakers in Downing Street, Farnham for many years, with the business actually starting in 1846. The programmes show that William received several prizes whilst at the school and in later life he became Chairman of the local Council for a time. He died at an early age of 45 in 1915. We will be publishing some of the photos in later magazines.

On arriving at the 1999 Southampton Luncheon the editor was approached almost immediately by one of the regulars at this event, DAVID HORRY (1925-1930), pointing out an error in the 1998 magazine. In the photograph of the masters at camp, showing them all smoking pipes, the man second from the right is in fact not Mr. Withinshaw, but Mr. W. Kingcome, according to David. Since the luncheon David has sent me some details of his career after leaving the School in June 1930. Initially he became a junior clerk in the Hindhead District Office of Aldershot Gas, Water and District Lighting Company, which had taken over the Hindhead Electricity Company about two years earlier. The company was expanding and in the early 1930's changed its name to Mid Southern Utility Company. In 1933 David moved to the Aldershot office.

On 1st April 1948 the Electricity Industry was nationalised under the Electricity Act 1947 and the Aldershot area became a 'district' of Southern Electricity Board within its Portsmouth Area. In 1951 David became an Associate Member of the Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants - now The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. March 1979 brought his retirement from Portsmouth Area as Assistant Area Secretary/Accountant (Accounts and Statistics). The industry has since been returned to private ownership and Southern Electric plc and Scottish Hydro Electric have managed to form Scottish and Southern Energy plc.

On retiring David moved to Portsmouth, where he lived until his recent death. (see obituary).

What always amazes me is how some of our older members remain 'with it' even in their 70's and 80's and ROY ROBINS (1926 - 31) is a typical example. As you know, from his profile in the last magazine, Roy is a very busy man and at Southampton he explained to me how he was looking for a more modern computer to enable him to keep information from the various committees that he attends in some order and within easy access. He is prepared to attend a course on computers so that he can take advantage of the latest technology. I cannot imagine having such an inquisitive mind at the ripe old age of 85 years !

In July 1999 we received a letter from EDDIE MARSH in Zimbabwe. Eddie left the school in 1926 and last year he was ninety years old and recalls MAJ. GEN. ELMSLIE who was at the school at the same time and left in 1923. He says that raging inflation is a problem in Zimbabwe but he still earns himself some pocket money, to add to his pension, from consultancy work in the public sector. His service with the Government of the late Rhodesia & Nyasaland leaves him with a great deal of useful experience in this area. Like others Eddie points out that the new Millennium does not start until January 2001.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 20's AND BEFORE

We have recently received a request for a copy of the School History from **FREDDIE WIMBLEDON** (1922-1927) and his apologies for not being able to attend the Millennium Dinner. He explains that over the years he has spent a small fortune on hearing aids, but with little success, and feels that he would not be able to fully participate in the evening. Freddie is ninety this year and is one of our oldest Farnhamians. He has remarried and his second wife is the widow of a Free French Air Force Officer, so this means regular visits to France for both of them with relatives to visit and good wine to purchase and bring back to the home in Guildford.

Another long term Farnhamian is **LEN SALTMARSH**, who is 85 years old and attended the school in the 20's and now lives at Bideford in North Devon. He says that he was a poor scholar but his life has been a great adventure. Len was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar for his bravery as a pilot in the Pathfinders during the Second World War. He explains that he has always been blessed with good health, and having survived cancer he still does a three mile jog twice a week. In fact he ran a marathon at the age of 74 in a good time. He hopes to meet old friends at the dinner in April.

We keep in regular contact with **GORDON MORRIS** (1927 - 29) who lives near Reading and is still a stalwart of the Old Farnhamians' Masonic Lodge. They hold their meetings in Castle Street in Farnham and several Old Boys still attend. They have placed their usual advert for new members in the magazine and it is hoped that this will result in some response. Gordon is 87 years old this year and still attends the dinners. Unfortunately illness has given him a poor start to the new millennium, but I am sure he will bounce back once again.

Not a newcomer but one brought back into the fold is **ROY GATES**, whose address went astray for a number of years. He heard via **HAROLD NORTH** and **JIM HALL** that we were still going strong and made contact. He is impressed with the number of over-eighties in our ranks and hopes to make the Southampton Lunch this year.

Another donation towards the dinner was received from **REDVERS GODSLAND**, who we think is our oldest living Old Boy. His son John tells us that after a slight stroke last year his father and mother have returned home following a spell in a residential home. Redvers is on the brink of reaching the milestone of 100 years of age, a nose in front of Major General **FRED ELMSLIE**. He says that he will be thinking of us on the 8th April and wishes to be remembered to all those he has met on former reunions.

One well known face absent from the Millennium Dinner was that of **NORMAN PATRICK**, who still lives just outside Farnham on the road to Alton. Some Old Boys take advantage of his generosity by regularly using the tennis courts that he has in the grounds of his house. We are advised that Norman, who is well into his eighties, is still keeping well. The magazine regularly receives old photographs of School football teams from the 20's and in almost all of them Norman appears in his goalkeepers jersey. For many years the name of Patrick has appeared on the guest list for the Annual Dinner and members of the family will be missed at future get-togethers.

It is truly amazing that we have found two pages of News of Old Boys who attended the School in the 1920's. With the turn of the century these former pupils of Farnham Grammar School are all into their eighties, and going strong it seems. If some of the younger members can achieve such longevity, who knows how long the Old Farnhamians' Association can continue to survive!

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 30's

The 'Farnham Herald' announced that the Farnham Oral History Group, which had been in existence for 8 years, now had an extensive collection of tapes made by well known citizens, passing on for all time their knowledge of Farnham. The article stated that EDDIE GODSIL (1939-71) had contributed a lively and characteristic description of life on the staff of Farnham Grammar School and as a member of the school's Home Guard unit during the Second World War. It also mentioned that there were some fascinating reminiscences of cherished personalities such as MAURICE ELPHICK (1927-32). The tapes are stored at the Farnham Museum in West Street and are available for hire to the public. The Editor will certainly be making sure that he listens to the two mentioned here.

The strength of the friendships which existed among the staff at the School is shown by the continued interest of widows and families in general of several of the teaching staff. We still hear on a regular basis from Barbara Wills (widow of John Wills). Joyce Evans (widow of Wendall Evans), Peggy Lewis-Jones (daughter of Stanley Lock) and Barbara Willis (daughter of George Bacon) amongst others. It is therefore sad to report on the death, at the end of 1999, of SYLVIA BEEKEN, who was the widow of HAROLD BEEKEN (1930-67). Like her daughters Julia and Diana, she was always interested in the School and remained in contact with the magazine. I am sure that all Old Boys are sorry to hear of her passing.

One Old Boy who could come under 'News of The Old Boys - 30's' or 'News of The Old Boys - 50's' is PETER LARBY who was a pupil at the School from 1938 until 1945 and later a teacher from 1956 until 1973. As far as we know only DONALD NICOLSON has been in the same situation. Peter suffers from asthma, but is keeping himself very busy by researching his family tree. We are trying to put him in contact with an old school pal, GEOFF BREHAUT, who we know lives in the Channel Islands.

The Conservative Club in Downing Street, Farnham, is a 'watering hole' for several Old Boys and you will often find them either playing snooker or in the bar playing dominoes. One of the regulars is CHARLIE LECLERQ, who attended the School from 1935 until 1939. Charlie left the School at the beginning of the second World War and in 1942 he joined the Army, as a member of the Royal Signals, and was part of the invasion force by crossing the Channel on D-day plus 7. He was demobbed in 1946 and started work for his father, who was the builder Fred LeClerq. Charlie worked in the company until his retirement in 1988 and the LeClerq name is well known in the Farnham area. Charlie is also well known for his various sporting activities and he played cricket for the Bourne for many years and football for Wrecclesham. He is also a member of Farnham Golf Club. Charlie's brother FRED LECLERQ also attended the Grammar School and his sister Mildred married another well-known Old Boy, DAVID HORRY, whose obituary is included in this issue.

EDGAR JEROME was obliged to give his apologies for the Millennium Dinner due to the constraints imposed by his dialysis machine. He enclosed a generous donation towards the event and the Secretary will be calling on him with a memento of the evening.

Congratulations to JOHN EDMUNDS on the award of the OBE for his services to agriculture. John is in touch with ROGER WARD who farms in Wales and hopes to attend a dinner with his brother-in-law BRIAN SMITH when 'we can get our act together'.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 40's

One name that dominated at the Grammar School during the 40's was that of Paget, with three brothers at the Boys Grammar School and a sister at the Girls Grammar School. The father's side of the family originated from Wiltshire farming stock, but Denis made a break with tradition and became headmaster at The Bourne School. BRIAN PAGET (1940-47) was the eldest son and the first to go to Morley Road. On leaving school he qualified and worked for Aldershot Borough Council for a number of years, with several colleagues who were Old Boys e.g. Fred Foley. Unfortunately Brian has not enjoyed good health over the years and is now retired and living in Leatherhead. It is hoped that he will write for the magazine as he now does some freelance writing.

Following two years later was KEITH PAGET (1942-48), the sportsman of the family and winner of many events at the School including the Victor Ludorum. On leaving school he returned to the family farm in Bromham nr. Devizes, where he also ran a smallholding for pigs to supplement the work on the farm. He married and has three sons and a daughter. After some years Keith changed careers and entered what was to become a very successful plumbing business. On retiring he moved to Wiveliscombe, Somerset, but has now moved back to the smallholding in Wiltshire which is managed by two of his sons. He is currently looking for a smaller retirement home in the Wiltshire, Somerset, Devon area.

Finally NORMAN PAGET (1947-53) came to the School and on leaving qualified as an accountant and worked in London for a number of years, (BRIAN DANIELS was a travelling companion!). He married Diana (née Rowe, another FGGS girl) and they made their first home in Farnham, moved on to Odiham and then on to Wem in Shropshire. From here he moved with his company to Baltimore in the USA and stayed with them until the company was taken over. Norman decided to become his own boss and purchased a local Ambulance Company. He now has quite a number of vehicles offering a 24 hour service of transportation, excluding emergencies. His only child Alistair works for the company as a paramedic and will marry a local girl in August. Norman and Diana still visit England when they can, and hope to return here once their working life is completed. (We would like to thank YVONNE PAGET, their sister, who still lives in Farnham, for all of this news).

We have received a letter from GORDON WEBBERLEY (1941-48) asking if the Waverley Cup had survived the years. The answer is in the affirmative and we have catalogued this trophy which was presented to the School Cadet Force by the Waverley Company of the Home Guard, who used the School as its meeting place, parade square etc. In 1948 Gordon was the first winner of this cup for .303 army rifle competition.

ROBIN BROATCH (1948-51) left the School and during his National Service at nearby Aldershot met Old Boy PAT CHANDLER. After his demob he worked at de Havilland's at Hatfield and whilst there met another Old Boy, BRIAN DAVEY. Subsequently Robin worked in Iran, India, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Australia. On various trips to Farnham he contacted Old Boys GUY BELLAMY, KEITH DOLLEY, JOHN FISHER, TONY TILSON, JOHN MOORE, STAN HOPTRUFF, TREVOR JOHNS, the WHITER brothers, JOHN BELLMAN and BASIL SPARROW. All of these Old Farnhamians attended the same class at Farnham Grammar School in the 1950-51 term. Robin is now retired in Armidale, Australia, with his wife Heather, who runs her own interior design business.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 40's

In the 1999 edition of the magazine we asked whether anyone had seen other Old Boys on the television and we hear from TONY RAYER(1942-47) that on May 1st he appeared on the 'Kilroy' morning programme. The subject under discussion was Youth unemployment and Tony, being involved with Jobsearch and Outplacement programmes, debated the matter with the Rt.Hon.Andrew Smith MP. Tony is now operating 'Ghost Tours of Farnham' and any Old Boys on his one hour tour of the town would be welcome.

News from relatives of JOHN LUNN(1942-48) that he has retired from his position at a Jobcentre in East Anglia and now lives with his wife in Ipswich. John joined the Royal Air Force Boys' service on leaving school and followed a career in this service until the mid 70's when he was demobbed and joined a Volvo agent in Norwich before moving on. He enjoys cycling and caravanning and spends a great deal of time across the Channel in France.

Over the 1999 August Bank Holiday viewers could see a full length TV film called 'The Mystery of Men', which was an adaptation of the book by former pupil GUY BELLAMY(1948-52). Guy has written a dozen books now and this is the first to be made into a film. He now lives in Somerset and recent news suggested that he had suffered a stroke this year whilst driving his car, but was recovering well. Guy has written to us offering to write an article for this magazine and no doubt you will enjoy some of his memories of time at the School. He says that he is regularly visited by BILL WALLIS and DAVID LEA, and we hope that we will soon have three new members for the Association. We have heard that BILL WALLIS, the well known actor, has not been too well and hopefully we shall have some news of him shortly.

At a recent pub lunch attended by TONY HARLAND (1944-51) and other Old Boys it was amazing to hear that on the previous Saturday Tony had played cricket for the local club Waverley C.C. at the age of 67 years. He explained that he had played for this club for over 30 years and had recorded that he had played between 1300 and 1400 innings for the team, which over the years has included many other Old Boys in the team. He could still bowl well and felt that he could still field well enough to keep his place in the team.

We hear from DUDLEY BACKHURST (1943-51) that he recently received a visit from Old Boy MICHAEL BARNARD (1943-49) and his sister Eileen. Michael was over here from the United States of America for a brief holiday and looked up his old school chum in Southampton. His wife, Joan, is unfortunately afflicted with MS and is no longer able to travel. In spite of a hip replacement and some shoulder problems Michael still manages to play golf when time permits.

We have received both letters and E-mail from KEN PAGNIEZ from his home in Ontario, Canada and he tells us that after leaving the school in 1947 he worked for Cunard until 1953 and then did his two years National Service. Returning to 'civvy street' he worked for CNR in London for a couple of years, married his wife Marion in 1954, emigrated to Canada in 1955 and went to work for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as an announcer in 1956. After 17 years he moved to Ottawa in 1972 and finished his career as a radio producer in Current Affairs. On retiring in 1987 he moved to his current location in Bloomfield. Ken and Marion have two daughters -Deirdre who is married, lives in Toronto and is Director of Marketing for Molson Beer, and Barbara who is marrying this year and at present lives in Nova Scotia. Ken recalls 'Pussy' Varey, 'Rashers' Bacon, 'Fanny' Crute, 'Johnny' Horner, 'Joe' Godsil and a short-lived French teacher, Miss George, who was passionately in love with General de Gaulle.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 40's

The following contribution is from BEVAN WAIDE OBE (1947-1954) who is now based in Warwickshire but is as likely to be found in Indonesia or Africa or indeed Oxford where he is Chairman of Oxford Policy Management Ltd., a management consultancy company. After two and a half decades with the World Bank, and some eight years as a Partner with Coopers and Lybrand in London, most of his work is now as an individual consultant. He has just returned from a year in Indonesia as the Government's privatisation adviser, which he notes was 'unexpectedly interesting' and this followed similar assignments in eastern and Southern Africa. His privatisation work has been extensive and by now, he says, he hopes he has atoned for all his earlier errors in setting up and supporting state enterprises in the developing world.

KEN PAYNE (1941-1947) writes from Saint Aidan's Catholic Church in Little Chalfont with news of his work since leaving the school. Direct from Farnham he went to Hull University to read Pure and Applied Mathematics, Logic and Scientific Methodology. It was about this time that he became convinced that the Catholic Church was the authentic voice of Christ in the world today and he was baptised in 1950 into the Catholic Church at St. Edwards, Sutton Park, Guildford. Five years later, having completed a diploma in education, he did two years with the RAF as an education officer at Halton, nr Aylesbury. He was then accepted by Bishop Leo Parker as a student for the priesthood, sent to St. Sulpice Seminary in Paris, and ordained at Notre Dame, Paris in 1960. Subsequently he served in St. Gregory's, Northampton, spent four years as a chaplain in the RAF (mostly in Cyprus), then parish priest in Bedford, Aylesbury and for the past 13 years as Administrator at the Cathedral in Northampton. His pastoral work has included work with youth, the 'Journey in Faith' for non-Catholics, as well as with the 'Teams of Our Lady' where small groups of married people meet monthly to share, pray together and help one another grow spiritually. He is also involved with 'Missionaries of the Poor' who work with the poorest of the poor in Jamaica, India, The Philippines, Haiti etc. He returned in late summer 1999 from a mini-sabbatical in several Third World situations both in Brazil and Jamaica. Father Ken would like to make contact with RICHARD D. PARSONS(1941-1947) if at all possible.

One of our new members is GRAHAM COSWAY (1947-1953) who works as a chartered building surveyor in Hereford. He says that he is approaching retirement and is looking forward to leaving behind the complications that arise from the Health and Safety laws in the building industry.

I like the story from the REVD. JEREMY HUTCHINSON (1943-1950) telling that once whilst sitting next to a young female reporter from the 'Farnham Herald' listening to a speech by former Headmaster F.A.MORGAN, she asked "What is his name?" Jeremy whispered back "F.A.Morgan". She wrote this down on her pad and Jeremy added "M.A.Oxon". The young lady crossed out F.A.Morgan and wrote M.A.Oxon.

Jeremy has been working in the Stepney Area of London Diocese since 1957 and retired in 1996. Like most of us 'retired' people he finds life busier than when he officially worked and there are several churches with interregnums needing to be filled, also Jeremy often stands in for his local vicar in Hackney. During a seven year break (1978-1985) when he helped set up a Huddleston Centre for young people with disabilities and their families he learned how to make things in wood, metal or plastic and this comes in useful when helping his nine grandchildren. The Centre is still running in spite of financial trouble, and it is filling a great need.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 40's

We have received a very long and interesting letter from TOM GODDARD (1947-1952) who now lives at Hay-On-Wye in Herefordshire. He explains that since leaving the school his career has been in three parts. On leaving school he took an apprenticeship as a draughtsman in a Godalming based engineers and founders and made good progress, passing exams and obtaining his HNC in his early twenties. Like many of us the career was halted by National Service and Tom joined the RAF and became an Air-to-Air Missile mechanic. On leaving the forces he felt that his original career ideas had been too delayed and he decided to change direction and became interested in Humanism in general, Family Casework and the treating of problem families in general. Needing social work experience he became a 'Children's Helper' at a Hereford Residential School for 32 maladjusted boys from 8 to 15 years old and what was planned as a two year stint became a 21 year odyssey. Tom finally left child care in 1984 being both mentally and physically drained and eventually looked for another career. In 1978 he had started a company called Booksearch and in his spare time took on the job of looking for books specified by customers, so he decided to do this full time and is still operating this one-man business today. Tom lives and works from a cottage in Hay-on-Wye, has never married, and clearly from his letter leads a most interesting life.

This time we have made contact with both Wyatt boys and received a letter from VIC WYATT, who left the school in 1947 and now lives in Norwich. On leaving school he worked at several jobs in London before returning to university to take a post-graduate qualification in teaching English as a Foreign Language. Soon Vic, and his wife Judy, were teaching African secondary school children in Uganda and over the years he has taught at schools and universities in Kenya, Brunei, Turkey and Cyprus-with a stint at an English comprehensive while their children were going through the secondary system. His last posting was Latvia, where he taught civil servants and business people as well as the President of the Republic. He had now reached 'advanced age', as he puts it, and applied to VSO where he was offered positions in such countries as Outer Mongolia and Rwanda before accepting a job in Vietnam. Before he could take up the position he was told that he was too old and the position was for someone under 45 years of age, VSO then offered him a position at Bonga, Ethiopia and as Vic could not find such a place on any maps available he decided to decline the offer. He has therefore hung up his mortarboard and gown and resides in Norwich, reading the Guardian, doing its cryptic crossword, gardening, decorating and corresponding to the many friends and relatives throughout the world. Vic's son lives in Australia, his elder daughter in Japan and his younger daughter in London. He would like to hear from any old classmates who now have the time to put pen to paper.

Yet another regular member of the local Museum Society is BRIAN CHEESEMAN (1942-48) who is now retired and still lives on the outskirts of Farnham. On leaving the School Brian spent two years National service in the R.A.P.C. He then began a long career at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough where he worked for almost forty years, with most of the time doing Analytical Chemistry. He says that he has lost touch with several of his old classmates, one of which was JOHN LUNN who we refer to in this issue, and is considering becoming an Association member once again. You would be welcome Brian!

Brian Cheeseman also told us that his brother RAYMOND CHEESEMAN, who also attended the School, is now living in Reading and he is not enjoying the best of health unfortunately.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 40's

Caught playing dominoes at the local Conservative Club with his brother Cliff and his friend CHARLIE LECLERQ was BOB PARRATT (1945-52). Bob left the School in 1951 and began his first job at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, where he only stayed until the following year. In 1952 he joined the Royal Air Force and began a distinguished career which lasted for forty years. In 1953 he was commissioned and began a chain of Tours of Duty which took him all over the world. From the first stop on the Isle of Man he served in Canada, Norwich, Germany, N.Ireland, Aden, Plymouth, Singapore, Scotland, Northolt, High Wycombe and two further tours in Germany. In 1976 he was awarded the MBE, and he retired in 1992 as a Squadron Leader. Although retired Bob still retained the association with the Royal Air Force and was the Community Relations Officer at nearby RAF Odiham until 1999. Bob, like many other Old Boys over the years, has had a dazzling career in the Armed Forces and seems quite happy to reside in Farnham and spend a few evenings with family and friends drinking the local ale and playing dominoes. Like his younger brother Cliff he was a proud member of Morley House.

We have recently heard from IVAN BOWLER (1944-49) who will be remembered by many Old Boys for his musical contributions to the School Orchestra etc. Ivan left the School and began his National Service in the Army. He had played the piano for many years and had hopes of becoming a concert pianist, but he says that he did not quite make the grade and turned to a career in teaching. His first appointment was at Portsmouth, with his main subjects being Mathematics and Music, and this was followed by a spell at a private school in Dorset. He then entered into a partnership with another Old Boy, ROY MEAD, and they ran a private school in Lewes, Sussex for two years before Ivan moved on to a Chichester school. Here he worked for many years and is still there in his semi-retirement. Ivan hopes to meet old classmates at the Millennium Dinner.

A recent telephone call to the 'Farnham Herald' resulted in ROGER DAVIS (1942-47) making contact with the Association after many years. Whilst at school Roger says that his main claim to fame was winning the 'School Essay Prize'. On leaving he worked for two years as a journalist with the local 'Farnham Herald' and then began his National Service in the Royal Artillery, where he served in Malta and North Africa. Returning to civilian life he continued his career in journalism by working for a local newspaper in Penrith before moving on to the 'Glasgow Herald'. Whilst with this larger paper he worked with fellow journalist Magnus Magnussen, who later went on to fame with 'Mastermind' on BBCTV. Roger moved on to other newspapers in senior editorial positions and ended up in Sheffield via Dumfries, Carlisle and Lincoln. He lives in Sheffield, having retired some six years ago, and unfortunately does not enjoy the best of health. Even so he is involved in Woodcarving and can be seen at several local exhibitions. He is hoping to make contact with former classmates and has now joined the Association. In our next magazine we will be re-producing a photograph sent in by Roger of almost thirty boys from his days at the School.

(Perhaps some readers will recognize themselves!)

We have to thank our President MICHAEL HORNER for enrolling LESLIE PIERCE last year. Leslie started his career in the Midland Bank at Farnham but soon found his progress halted by the Second World War. He spent his time with landing craft in Europe and the Far East before returning to his chosen career in banking. Over the years he worked at banks in the South and the West of England as well as in South Wales, during which time he also managed to marry a former Farnham Girls Grammar School girl called Joyce Taylor. They have three children. Leslie has been a Justice of the Peace since 1977.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 50'S

Another ex-pupil joined the Association when we managed to track down NEVILLE TIMMINS (1948-52), who lives at nearby Fleet.

On leaving the School in 1952 he embarked on a five year indentured apprenticeship in aircraft engineering at the R.A.E.Farnborough. On completion of the five years he was accepted by the Guided Weapons/Space Design office where he worked on a variety of experimental equipment, which usually ended up being tested either on Salisbury Plain, off the Welsh Coast, over the English Channel or mainly at Woomera in Australia. In 1968 he left the R.A.E. to work as a freelance on the Concorde test facility, aircraft installations and motor cycle engine development. In 1971 he joined the National Institute of Oceanographic Services near Godalming and worked on the design and development of a large range of marine scientific equipment for installing in/on ships or lowering into the sea. In 1994 I.O.S. moved to Southampton and Neville decided to take early retirement. He has several interests which we will detail in our next magazine. In 1968 he married his wife, Janet, who is a teacher-adviser working for Hampshire County Council. They have two daughters.

In the spring of 1999 it was announced in the local newspapers that JEFFREY TATE (1954-59) had been awarded the Legion of Honour by the French Government. This is the most esteemed award for services to music in France. At the time Jeffrey was in Paris directing an opera at the Bastille Opera House. His father, who naturally was delighted, had received the news by telephone from his son, who had just been made aware of the honour by the French Embassy.

We recently reported that GEOFF HOOKER (1947-53) had retired and now find that like many Old Boys he has begun another 'career'. He has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Woodlarks Workshop Trust. Woodlarks is a very large residential home for disabled people and is situated on the outskirts of Farnham. We are sure that Geoff will make a first class job of this important position in the local community.

News has been received of FRANKIE OLDHAM (1948-53), who always was, and still is, a 'super-salesman'. Frankie came to the School from St.Polycarps and although not a great academic, enjoyed the sport. He has always been a heavy smoker and has suffered from heart problems in recent years. He lives at Woking and still makes his living in sales.

After serving two years as Chairman of Governors for a local Special Needs School CYRIL TRUST (1948-53) has been appointed as the Special Needs Representative for the Schools Group of the Surrey School Organisation Committee. This new committee will be involved in the planning and development of schools within Surrey and Cyril will be supporting the case for more inclusion for handicapped children within the county mainstream schools.

The first lecture for the new season of Farnham Museum Society was a talk on the 'History of Farnham Girls Grammar School' excellently presented by Old Girl Hilary Earl. The hall was filled with Old Girls and the editor sat next to a lady in her 80's who had attended the school and told me that her son JEREMY FLETCHER (1955-1961) was an Old Boy. She recollected that her son was part of the very successful School Cross Country Team in the late 50's and early 60's that included Messrs; MATTHEWS, SLYFIELD AND HONEY. She also managed to whisper that her son was now living in New Zealand and still interested in athletics. Among those present it was good to see Julia Wilson, daughter of HAROLD BEEKEN, and Stella Bolt, married to Old Boy TONY BOLT and the vigorous secretary of the Old Girls Association.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 50's

In the summer of 1999 it was announced that DAVID LEA (1949-55) had entered the House of Lords as a Labour peer and had chosen the title of Lord Lea of Crondall (the local village where he now lives). After completing two years National Service and then four years at Cambridge University David worked for some time in Africa before joining the TUC in 1964. He became assistant general secretary in 1978, the same year that he was awarded an OBE. Vice-President of the European TUC and a member of the Treasury Advisory Committee on EMU, he has been much involved with economic issues and Europe. He has also worked on nuclear energy and led a delegation to Chernobyl in 1987, and on environment, attending the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 as part of the UK delegation. He is very active locally as chairman of 'Farnham Roads Action' and is committed to getting an underpass at Hickley's corner on the congested Farnham by-pass. He is believed to be only the third Old Boy to receive a peerage.

Thanks to Stella Bolt, secretary for the Farnham Girl's Grammar School 'Old Girls' Association we have made contact with IAN BOLT (1948-55) who now lives in Faversham in Kent. Ian has been in business for many years and is a director of a marine services company currently. He still keeps fit by long distance running and after taking part in several Farnham marathons in the 80's he now manages half marathons (13mils) in his 60's. He is married to a Professor of American History who teaches at the University of Kent in Canterbury, and on the same staff is ALF COMMON (1947-55) who is a Professor of Applied Mathematics. Ian says that he plays golf with Alf two days a week.

Ian Bolt still keeps in contact with an old classmate, BRIAN WYATT (1948-55) who now lives in Canada. Brian apparently took a degree in his 30's and became a teacher in Winnipeg before moving to Vancouver. He now resides in that city and does some private tutoring. His elder brother VIC WYATT, who left in 1947, was also a teacher and travelled the world teaching in many countries. He wrote to us in September and his brief career history is in the 'News from the 40's' section.

A well known inhabitant of the local village, Badshot Lea, MAURICE HEWINS (1949-54) is now involved in 'caving' and with other friends he explores various caves throughout the country. He is a well known historian and has written several books and articles about Badshot Lea. He is one of two original members of the local fund raising group The Hedgehogs, who celebrated their fortieth anniversary this year. When this group began it included several ex-pupils of the School, including ROGER STROYAN, ALEC GOOLDING and VERNON ALDRED who were joined in the inaugural year by HENRY BRINDLEY.

We have recently made contact with VIC BENNETT (1948-53) who lives in Fareham, Hampshire where he ended his career as the manager for the local Abbey National branch. Vic left the School and worked for a shipping company in the City before doing his National service in Malaya. He then joined the well known building society and worked at several branches during his 34 year career with them. Vic played for a very successful Childe House team whilst at school and also for the Old Boys for several seasons. Like many retired ex-pupils he enjoys a game of golf.

We have recently been in touch with PETER STORR (1948-53) who told us that after National Service with the Army in Malaya he began a career in horticulture and enjoyed this for some years. In 1963 he joined Friary Brewery as a stocktaker and remained with them until he was made redundant in 1995. Peter took early retirement and now lives in Guildford and is enjoying life, with his main interest being birdwatching.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 50's

We have heard from HARRY SLINGO (1948-53) who tells us that on leaving school he began a career in electronics. He started working for Sound Sales (Hi-Fi Equipment) in Farnham and over the years has been with Racal at Blackbushe and DERA at Pyestock before moving to Versus Technology who are based near Reading. Harry married in 1958 and has two children and four grandchildren and now lives at Church Crookham nr. Farnham. He says that he has two more years to work and is looking forward to retirement.

Another Old Boy from the Fleet area is JOHN (Minnie) MARSHALL (1948-53) who has lived locally all of his life. On leaving school he trained as a surveyor and for many years worked for Gilbert Ash, apart for his two years National service. He then decided on a career change and moved into retail and has managed several shops including, decorators merchants, glaziers and DIY decorators. John married in 1963 and has two children and like many of us is semi retired.

Also like many of us he has suffered a heart attack in recent years and decided to work part time until he is 65. For the past two or three years he has worked for the local council as a car park attendant, which keeps him active and involved with the local people.

Yet another Old Boy who has remained living locally is BRIAN (Ferdy) MANNING (1948-53) who resides in Farnborough with his ex- F.G.G.S. wife Ann. On leaving the school he began his apprenticeship with Vickers of Weybridge, which became British Aerospace. From here he did his National Service in the Royal Hampshire Regiment and served much of his two years in Malaya. Returning home he continued in contract engineering for most of his working life and was employed by some of our major companies e.g. Plessey, Ferranti and B.P.Chemicals. He finished his career at C.F.Taylor of Wokingham and is now semi-retired with 65 only two years away. He has three daughters and several grand-daughters and still keeps in contact with some old classmates in the Farnborough and Fleet area. He advises that one of his old pals PETER SINDLE (1948-53) who was a first class goalkeeper for Childe, the School and the Old Boys has been in Australia for many years.

We have received a cutting from the house magazine of Zurich Financial services announcing the retirement from the pensions team of BOB LUCKHURST (1952-1958). The article says that Bob will be greatly missed and that he was responsible for developing and running the highly successful pre-retirement courses. It says that Bob will remain in touch as a consultant and he is wished every happiness in his retirement.

A regular feature in the local newspapers is DAVID POOK (1955-61) who is a prominent member of the Farnham Lions. David has been the President in recent years, but he has played a major part in the increasing popularity of the 'Lions Beerex' festival, held annually at the Farnham Maltings. It is understood that this 'festival of local ales' is the second most popular in England and each April it attracts many thousands of serious beer drinkers throughout the country. David is part of the team organising this event, which raises a great deal of money for charity.

The editor has been trying to track down classmates from the 1948 intake of 63 boys and so far can account for almost half of them. The following have been traced; W.J.Luff; J.Travers; B.E.Bone; N.T.Timmins; M.E.Jeffreys; B.L.Manning; J.D.Marshall; V.Bennett; J.Falkner; B.E.Webberley; J.Cockle; I.Bolt; H.Slingo; B.Luff; P.C.Storr; M.Doyle; T.Andrews; B.Wyatt; H.C.Stone; A further six have passed away unfortunately.

Can anyone help with the whereabouts of other Old Boys from this intake of over 50 years ago?

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 50's



We have already heard of news of more honours for JEFFREY TATE (1954-59), but it is worth including a copy of a very special invitation card shown on the left. Recently former Headmaster GEORGE BAXTER, received this card from the French Embassy in London inviting him to attend the presentation ceremony of the Legion of Honour to one of his former pupils. George will accompany Jeffrey's mother on the 7th March and no doubt will be very proud of one of our most famous Old Boys.

Another regular at the Farnham Conservative Club is CLIFF PARRATT (1950-55) who for many years worked in a local estate agents. On leaving the School he joined Baverstocks in Castle Street, Farnham working under that well known Old Boy, JACK WING. National Service in the Royal Air Force interrupted his career from 1959 until 1961 and once demobbed he returned to Baverstocks, but at their Haslemere office. Subsequently his employer amalgamated with another estate agent and became Messenger, May, Baverstock, which in turn was bought by Hamptons. In 1966 Cliff was asked to open an office in Liphook and he managed this branch successfully until his semi-retirement in 1995. Having retired from full time work after forty years Cliff became a consultant for other local estate agents and is currently helping the Haslemere agents Lane-Fox.

He is clearly proud of being a member of Morley House and would like to meet some of his old classmates. He has been to the Annual Dinner but found that of those attending there were none from his year. Perhaps readers of this magazine from the same class as Cliff would like to make contact?

ALAN LOVELL (1947-53) has been an elected member of Binsted (near Alton) Parish Council since 1973, and Chairman from May, 1979 to the present day. His grandfather was Chairman of the Parish Council from 1907 to 1918 and his father was an elected member at the time of his death in 1946. Alan was elected Chairman of the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils in December 1998 - this has meant frequent visits to the Association offices in Winchester, and chairing a number of County committees.

On Thursday, 23rd March 2000, the Chairman and members of Hampshire County Council gave a reception for Hampshire Parish and Town Councils, with the reception being held in the Great Hall in Winchester. Following speeches by the Chairman and Leader of the County Council, Alan had to respond on behalf of the Association, and concluded his remarks on a personal note. He indicated that to have the privilege of making a response in the glorious and historic Great Hall in Winchester was something that he would naturally treasure for the rest of his life.

The Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire, Mrs Mary Fagan also officially spoke at the function, which was attended by some 300 Parish and Town Council representatives as well as County Councillors and Chief Officers of the County Council.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS FROM THE 60's AND 70's

Another new member to the growing Association is MICHAEL OVERBURY (1965-1972) who contacted us from his home in Newark in Nottinghamshire. He is obviously a talented musician with the following letters after his name; MA MusB FRCO (CHM) ARCM ATCL, and is currently teaching the Organ, Harpsichord and Piano as well as Music Theory. He is organist for Christ Church in Newark and Director of Music for Nottingham Boys Choir as well as a Founder Member of Mvsica Donvm Dei. He would like to attend the Millennium Dinner, but the dates clash with his conducting of the Nottingham Boys Choir and he will be unable to travel to Farnham. He would like to hear from old class mates and if anyone requires Michael's address please contact the editor of the magazine.

A recent letter from GEOFF HARNETT, who left the school in 1970, advises that he has just retired at the age of 45 years (Lucky Man!). Since retiring he has been keeping busy with charity work and is on the National Appeal Committee for the Cancer Research Campaign and last year was Vice Chairman of the Lord Mayors Appeal during the year of office of Sir Richard Nicholls. Geoff is also involved in other similar work and breaks this up with frequent trips to his house in Mallorca as well as other holidays throughout the world. Geoff has always been most generous towards the Association and once again this year he has sponsored one of the adverts that help to pay for 'The Farnhamian' magazine.

GERALD MEADEN, who is a newcomer to the Association, began his own carpeting business in Brighton in 1984 after gaining experience at Heals and Peter Jones. We have been able to put him in touch with IAN SARGEANT, but not with 'Jonah' Jones. Can anyone help? He gives us sad news of his brother PETER MEADEN, who achieved fame in the pop world as a press agent for The Rolling Stones, Georgie Fame, Chuck Berry and finally The Who. Peter became manager of this 'super group' until 1965 and then took over a well known soul band called Jimmy James and the Vagabonds. He left this group in 1969 and his last success was with the Steve Gibbons Band. Peter died in 1978.

OLD FARNHAMIAN'S MASONIC LODGE

Recently the members of the Old Farnhamians' Masonic Lodge re-elected John S. Mitchell, who left the school in 1947, as the master of the Lodge for another year. John held this position in 1974 and this is his second term in office which will run from March 2000 until March 2001.

The Lodge is still looking for new members and anyone who is interested can write to John Mitchell at 1. Bishop Sumner Drive, Upper Hale, Farnham. GU9 OHQ or telephone him on 01252 722485. Information can also be obtained by telephoning Gordon Morris on 0118 978 0931.

The Lodge meets at the Masonic Hall, Castle Street, Farnham on the evenings of the second Saturday in January, March, May and November.

OBITUARIES

AN APPRECIATION OF ARTHUR(JACK) CLIFTON

by Gordon Morris

Arthur Clifton was born in Farnham on 18th August 1913 and died at Truelocks Farm, Charlton Wantage, Berkshire on 27th March 1999 aged 85 years. He left a widow, Doreen, two daughters and two grandchildren.

In the early 1900's his father, also named Arthur Clifton, was chief ostler in charge of equestrian matters at the Bush Hotel in Farnham. He first attended what in those days was known as Farnham Council School and would recount the following story. Apparently once a week the girls had cookery classes at 42 Castle Street (the current Farnham Masonic Centre) on the ground floor whilst the boys had woodwork in the room above. The boys worked at two rows of benches and Jack and his classmates would drill holes in the wooden floor so they could pour sawdust on the cookery class below.

In 1920 he attended Farnham Grammar School and at one time we were in the same class. In 1941 he married a Rowledge girl, Doreen German, and in 1949 they moved to Truelocks Farm with Jack being transferred from the Inland Revenue Office in Guildford to Oxford, where he spent the remainder of his working life. He qualified in valuation as a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and his expertise in dealing with large estates was greatly respected.

During the war he entered the Royal Navy as an Ordinary Seaman, became a radio operator, and left six years later as a Lieutenant. During this period I understand that he was torpedoed on one occasion. His early hobbies included music and he played in a local dance band, appearing regularly at Farnham Institute. He was a crack shot with the rifle and with Eric Patrick and Stan Kimber, who also belonged to the Old Boys Lodge, brought back three of five trophies available to the teams of freemasons in the annual full bore week at Bisley.

His interests were mainly golf, tennis, motor racing, vintage cars and gardening, all of which received meticulous attention. The house at Truelocks Farm was over 350 years old and survived a fire in the 80's which burned down the outbuildings and some vintage cars inside. Each year Jack and Doreen would prepare many trays of bedding plants for charity.

Jack Clifton was a prominent freemason in Surrey and Berkshire, having been initiated into St. Andrews Lodge in Farnham during 1953. He was one of the first members of the Old Farnhamian's Lodge, joining in 1958 and being master in 1968.

ALAN SMALLMAN (1927-1934)

The passing of Alan Smallman is another blow to the Association, the College and the town of Farnham in general. It is well documented that he followed a brilliant career in the Army with many years of service to Farnham College as a Governor and then Chairman of the Trustees. He entered local politics and became the first Mayor of Farnham from 1984 until 1986.

The magazine gave a profile of Alan in 1998 and listed the important facts throughout his eighty plus years and there is little more to say on such a man and his career. However, as the editor of the 'Farnhamian' I spent some time with him and his wife Nancy recalling the past so that the profile would be accurate, and formed an affection for them. When the article was printed he proudly asked for extra copies for his children and grandchildren and was clearly very close to, and proud of, his family.

OBITUARIES**ALAN SMALLMAN (1927-1934)****CONTINUED**

After the time spent together on the profile we would always have a little chat at the General Committee meetings of the Association and often met in the town centre to exchange pleasantries.

Some years before this we had met at Farnham Parish Church when he became Mayor of the town and I was invited, as the chairman of a local charity group, to his inaugural service. For the following two years we often found ourselves at the same functions and he was always so professional with his speeches and the right man to go down in history as the first Mayor of Farnham.

It was planned that Alan would make one of the speeches at the Millennium Dinner in April 2000 and it is sad that he could not take his place among us on that occasion. Knowing him, you can be sure that he was there in spirit, forever a Farnham Grammar School Old Boy.

JOHN GODDARD (1930-1939)

On Thursday 4th November John Goddard sat at the O.F.A. General Committee Meeting and as usual reported on matters relating to the Scholarship Trust. On the Saturday I saw him walking in Farnham and that afternoon he suffered a fatal heart attack whilst leading a group of rambles. His passing was so sudden and his relatives and friends were shocked to hear of the sad news.

I came to know John Goddard when we worked together on his profile for the 1999 'Farnhamian' magazine and found him a most charming man with a keen sense of humour. Since then we had remained in contact and only recently we once again worked together on a project for the OFA Scholarship Trust.

John was part of a very well known Farnham family with a long history of involvement in local affairs. His first wife died some years ago and left him with four children between the ages of nine and fifteen to bring up on his own. It is clear that he did an excellent job and the four will always be indebted to him for his efforts on their behalf.

In 1986 he married again and enjoyed many happy years with an equally charming partner in Madeleine.

We will miss him in the Association, at the committee meetings, the Southampton Lunch and the Annual Dinner. Farnham will miss him!

John Goddard was a true Englishman, a gentleman, and many of us have gained from knowing him.

DAVID HORRY (1925-1930)

Since writing to the magazine late last year David Horry has unfortunately passed away. He was in his mid 80's, and until last autumn had been looking healthy and always seemed to be enjoying life. He was an ever-present at the Southampton Luncheon and a regular guest at the Annual Dinner in Farnham and always supported any Old Boys activities over the years. A brief profile which he sent in can be seen under 'News of Old Boys from the 20's' and I do not intend to repeat his words. He was a gentle, shy and extremely friendly man and he will be missed by many of us who attend the luncheon and the dinner. Our sympathies go to his widow Mildred, and to his daughter Jean.

OBITUARIES**MIKE FOSTER (1949 - 1982)**

In 1994 when the first issue of the modern magazine was planned the first person to help was Mike Foster, who for many years taught English at the Grammar School. The main reasons for this were that for many years he had been editor for the original magazines and his advice would prove helpful, and the other reason was that he lived in the same road as the current editor.

In that 1994 issue his life is well documented, although the original interview was well censored by him. Mike was a very modest man and did not want the reader to know of his various acts of bravery during the Second World War and the confirmation that he had been awarded the DFC (Distinguished Flying Cross) was included without his agreement. In the next edition we will have details of his life in retirement, which makes interesting reading.

Mike Foster was one of the last of the team recruited by F.A.Morgan and over the years earned his place among that excellent team of teachers. He took over as Head of English from Harold Beeken, which was not an easy task, and did it well. There are many Old Boys who knew him well and have him to thank for teaching them the various aspects of the English Language.

In recent years he suffered a stroke which made it difficult to walk, a tragedy for such a man who had been an active sportsman. His hearing was also deteriorating and life must have been frustrating for him, but he always put on a smile and soldiered on. I am sure that many Old Boys will join me in offering our deepest sympathies to his wife Ann and to his family in general.

TONY GARROOD (1931 - 1939)

Although war service and a career in engineering, which took him to Canada and then the United States, kept him away from Farnham, he never lost touch. 'The Farnhamian' regularly reported his whereabouts and in his latter years he would visit Sylvia Morgan when on this side of the water. He rarely left a mailing from the association unacknowledged, usually enclosing a donation in dollar bills, invariably accompanied by a cheery and rousing message. The account of his boxing final against M.C.Colwill in 1938 begins 'these two, the biggest boys in the school, provided a very good fight'. Tony, a boarder, was vice captain of the School and captain of shooting. He retired to a Dutch town close to the Canadian border and donated an inscribed stone to the war memorial in memory of his school chum Olly Levison, who was killed at Arnhem.

IAN PATRICK (1924 - 1934)

The 1999 magazine gave details of Ian's career following his return to our membership list after an absence of some years. A former secretary of the association and post-war committee member, he left his job at the Farnham Herald for journalism in the North. His war time travels are well documented in 'The Farnhamian' over those years. In one entry he reports on finding two other Farnhamians on the same troop ship and comments that they all looked forward to seeing each other again at the next dinner "probably in 1942". Ian was house captain of Massingberd.

ADVERTISING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS;

We would like to thank the following for either placing or sponsoring advertisements - Ray Kirk; Bryan Bone; Stephen Pritchard; Cyril Trust; Ian Sargent; John Hirst; John Crotty; Norman Patrick; Geoff Harnett; Gordon Morris; Chris Hone; Alan Lovell.

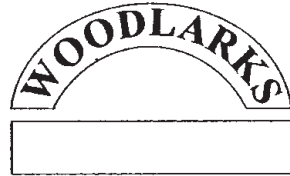
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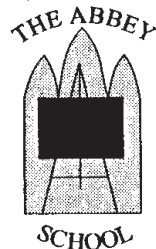
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Southampton Luncheon

Wednesday 18th October, 2000

at Busketts Lawn Hotel,
Woodlands, Nr. Southampton.

For details please contact
Dudley Backhurst
Telephone: 01703 739760

Invitation

Old Farnhamians' Association

The Farnham Lecture

by Roy Lancaster,
the well known Horticulturalist

'Travels of a Plantsman'

Friday 20th October, 2000
at Farnham College, Morley Road

For details please contact
Graham Blunt
Telephone: 01420 22262