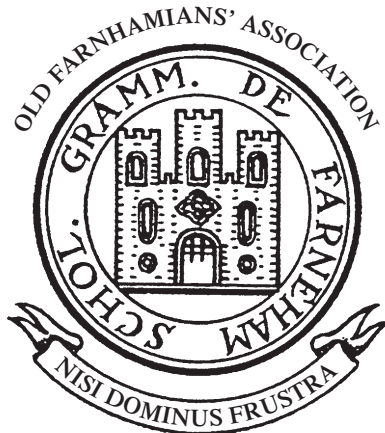


THE FARNHAMIAN



MILLENNIUM

JUNE 2001

THE RIDGEWAY SCHOOL



*A Surrey County Council School
for
Children with Special Needs*

14 Frensham Road, Farnham,
Surrey. GU9 8HB
Telephone : 01252 724562

**BONE
& COMPANY**
INSURANCE BROKERS

**For your
Complete
Protection**

Bone & Company (International) Ltd.
69a Castle Street, Farnham
Surrey GU9 7LP
Tel: 01252 724140 Fax: 01252 734072



**RANGER'S
FURNISHING STORES**

Established 1895

QUALITY FURNITURE

* Parker Knoll * Cintique
* Strongbow * Stag etc.

QUALITY CARPETS

* Wilton Royal * Axminster

QUALITY BEDS

* Rest Assured * Staples etc.

105-106 West Street, Farnham, Surrey.
Tel: 01252 715185

**FARNHAM AND
DISTRICT
CHARITY SUPPORT
GROUP**

*We support local charities
and offer help with small donations.
We run around 10 fundraising
events each year
including :*

*Markets, Sales, Barn Dances,
Strawberry Teas, Fondue and
Quiz Evenings.*

For more information contact :
Aldershot 22754 or Farnham 713170

THE FARNHAMIAN

June 2001

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOLUME 8

Once again a memorable twelve months with more activity than usual within the Association, mainly centred around the planning and opening of the 'Home of Memorabilia' for the old School.

At last there is a home for those old caps, ties, medals, books and photographs that you have been waiting for somewhere proper to store or show them. Over 250 photographs are now on a data base and the originals, plus other important memorabilia, will be stored for us at the Farnham Museum. The opening ceremony was attended by almost 100 people and it was appropriate that Sylvia Morgan performed the opening and said some well-chosen words. It follows that she should be elected an honorary vice-president of the Association along with the current Principal of the Farnham College.

Once again we have lost a few old friends and once again the membership has greatly increased when one feels that it should be waning. The Annual Dinner in the new College restaurant was well attended, as we had hoped after the record turn-out for the Millennium at Farnham Castle.

As you can see the magazine grows stronger with more articles offered by Old Boys, many being very funny and some nostalgic. Enjoy Volume 8 and hopefully it is even better than before.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MICHAEL HORNER

The opening of the permanent display of FGS memorabilia at Farnham College in December brought the Millennium year to a close for the Association. The display, which is to be changed periodically, provides a poignant reminder of yesteryear to those of us who like to indulge in nostalgia occasionally as light relief from the frenetic pace of our modern day world where increasingly, many of our traditions and beliefs are being challenged and eroded.

Political and world events, some of them harrowing, have been shaping the pattern of our lives for centuries and will continue to have their impact. However, one wonders what sort of lifestyle future generations will enjoy as technology moves us forward into an age of instant communication where much of the routine activity of our daily lives can be handled by the touch of a button.

Nevertheless, as Old Boys, we have much to reminisce and talk about to keep our feet on the ground when we meet at our Annual Dinner at Morley Road and it is this camaraderie and friendship which will continue to help and sustain us in the years ahead.

My term as President is running on apace and again I would like to thank all those, and too numerous to mention by name, who have given me their support during the year.

Meanwhile until we meet again.

OLD FARNHAMIANs RETURN TO MORLEY ROAD THE 69TH ANNUAL DINNER

After the special Millennium Dinner held at Farnham Castle last year, the members of the Old Farnhamian's Association returned to Morley Road, the home of the former Grammar School, to enjoy their 69th Annual Dinner. The new reception area, restaurant and kitchens are now open and the one hundred Old Boys took their seats in this new College facility. As usual former pupils had travelled from all over the country to attend and as usual the evening was one of nostalgia and fellowship.

Many of the guests took advantage of the visit to view the recently opened 'Home of Memorabilia' for the former school and here they could see photographs from the past, medals and cups that had been awarded for various sports etc. It was then time for the diners to be seated, hear Grace, and then sample the meal that had been prepared in the newly installed kitchens. Once the meal was over the main events of the evening began with an entertaining speech by E.P.Mayne, who went to the school in 1954. He reminisced about his years and paid tribute to the former headmaster George Baxter, his form master Alan Fluck and the popular chemistry master Leonard Evans. He was a 'Guildford Boy' and daily travelled across the Hogs Back on the number 31 bus with several colleagues. He quoted several amusing memories about an Australian class mate and his attempts to conquer French, as well as learning German on a one-to-one basis with 'Poppa Brink'. He concluded with a toast to the School and the Association.

The reply was given by the President, Michael Horner, who began by saying that this would be his third and final year as the President and how much he had enjoyed the involvement in the Association. The Millennium Dinner and the Opening of the Memorabilia in the year 2000 would not be repeated and he was pleased that these events had taken place during his time. He also announced that over the past five years the membership had increased by over twenty percent, which was outstanding for a school that had officially closed in 1973. He could see the number of Old Boys reaching 400 in the future and this was entirely opposite to what one would expect. He thanked John Crotty and Cyril Trust for the work that they do for the Association and is confident that the 'Farnhamian' magazine and the 'Farnham Lecture' will both continue for years to come. Michael Horner has proved to be an excellent President and will be a hard act to follow.

The traditional Loving Cup was then passed around the assembly and then former headmaster, George Baxter, read out the roll call. The oldest member in the room, apart from himself, started at the school in 1924 and as he called out the years the former pupils stood up. It was again remarkable that there was a member standing for each year until 1973, something that has remained constant over the 48 years that Mr Baxter has given the roll call. The dinner finished with the traditional singing of the School Song, followed by the National Anthem.

At the reception prior to the start of the dinner the Town Mayor, Sylvia Morgan, joined the Old Boys for an hour. Her father, F.A.Morgan, had been a very popular headmaster and was something of a legend amongst those present, whilst she had acted as secretary to him and to his successor George Baxter. Since the beginning of the Association it has been male dominated, and it was only this year that it was agreed to honour Sylvia Morgan and the current College Principal, Sally Francis, with the position of Vice-Presidents.

The evening was its usual success and the Old Boys left for their homes, having returned to school for a few hours and having relived their memories.

THE OLD BOYS RETURN TO MORLEY ROAD THE 69TH ANNUAL DINNER.

Attending; D.Homer; R.Kirk; G.H.Hewes; J.Bateman; R.Davis; J.Mitchell; S.Armstrong; J.Crotty; M.Sturt; P.Clark; R.Hack; T.Tidd; P.Huntingford; E.Hunt; C.Batterbury; W.Herrington; A.Rayer; G.Blunt; I.Bowler; R.Bowtell; A.Harland; M.Cox; P.Ford; B.Lake; T.Tubb; D.Phillips; G.LeVey; P.Mylles; A.Constantine; T.Homewood; H.Upfold; R.Studer; R.Jones; R.Edwards; A.Gatfield; A.Lovell; K.Mentzel; D.Cutler; B.Daniels; D.Bowtell; J.Backhurst; G.Hunt; R.Hewes; C.Trust; A.Common; H.Slingo; B.Bone; J.Falkner; B.Manning; J.Cockle; H.Brindley; D.King; C.Mullins; K.Mortimer; E.Mayne; G.Hooker; B.Waide; B.Webberley; I.Bolt; N.Timmins; M.Jeffreys; J.Travers; V.Bennett; C.Nash; J.Hirst; R.Phillips; D.Edgell; R.Diamond; H.Torode; B.Elson; G.Glazier; M.Owen; C.Fitch; M.Mehta; M.D.Seignot; M.P. Seignot; R.Welland-Jones; R.Kite; W.Walsh; C.Beal; R.Edgell; I.Sargeant; D.Coakes; C.Slyfield; S.Owen; L.Evans; R.Burns; H.Batchelor; G.Baxter; M.Horner; L.Saltmarsh; G.H.Hopkins; R.Robins; H.Stuart; A.Ryall.



Left to Right: John Crotty (Secretary), E.P. Mayne, Michael Horner (President), Sylvia Morgan (Town Mayor), Peter Clark (Toastmaster)

To preserve the old photographs of people and events at the old Grammar School we have begun to enter copies on to a data base so that they do not deteriorate with age, as so many have already, and there is easy access to them for use in the magazine or the 'Home of Memorabilia'. To enter on the computer and take copies is relatively easy and we are looking to expand on the amount of photography that we now have. To date there are just about 200 pictures in store, but there must be many more out there among the readers of the magazine. If you have any, please forward to the Editor, Cyril Trust, and they will be returned to you in a few days. Please look through your own album and see if there are photographs that can take their place in this new record of the history of the Grammar School.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2001

Once again the AGM took place in the Conference Room at Farnham College on Thursday 15th February and as usual there was a healthy attendance of some thirty members. The meeting was opened by the President Michael Horner who held one minutes silence as a tribute to those Old Boys who had died during the year. These included the 'oldest Old Boy' Redvers Godsland, Ian Sherfield, Joc Fisher, Leslie Lord, Eddie Marsh and John Hamilton-Jones.

The Secretary read the minutes of the 2000 meeting, which were duly approved and this was followed by reports from the various committees;

MEMBERSHIP; Secretary Tony Harland advised that payment of membership fees had improved and there was only a handful outstanding. He reported a further increase in membership with Life members at 156 and Annual members at 169. A total of 325 in all.

TREASURERS REPORT; Treasurer Stephen Pritchard went through the set of accounts. The Millennium Dinner had proved an exceptional cost for the year, but overall the balance remained healthy. A vote of thanks was made for the first class presentation.

OFA LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST; Ian Sergeant advised that with the passing of long-term treasurer John Goddard there had been a great deal of rearranging the working of the trust during the year. This had now been completed and the trust was looking for new ways to assist scholars at the college. No payments had been made over the twelve months.

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST; Graham Blunt reported that the Farnham Lecture by Roy Lancaster had attracted 100 people and had been a successful evening. However the cost of the speaker had resulted in a loss of £125 on the event. The opening of 'The Home for Memorabilia' had been successful with almost 100 attending, and money donated by 135 members had covered the cost of the cabinets and the event overall. The 2001 Farnham Lecture was being planned.

THE MILLENNIUM DINNER; Cyril Trust felt that although the event had lost over £1000 overall this was mainly due to the free gift of the engraved tumblers. It was a special one-off event and the committee had planned to present something special, and he felt that this had been achieved. Members felt that the evening had been first class and thanked the committee.

THE FARNHAMIAN MAGAZINE; Cyril Trust advised that the 2001 issue was well underway and apart from a few reports, such as the AGM and the Dinner it was ready to print.

MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE; Cyril Trust felt that this committee had presented the Dinner and the opening of the memorabilia area during the year and this had made the Millennium a year to remember for the Association. It was important that after many years trying to find a proper home for the memorabilia of the School a start had been made in the year 2000 and could be built on.

The meeting then received a report from the College Principal detailing the excellent progress being made academically. The election of officers followed and the current officers were re-appointed. John Travers and Bryan Bone were elected to the General Committee covering vacancies. The position of Honorary Vice-President was given to Sylvia Morgan and the College Principal Sally Francis. Ian Sergeant was elected to become the OFA Farnham College representative.

THE SOUTHAMPTON LUNCH - 2000

This year saw a record number of thirty two Old Boys travel to the charming Busketts Lawn Hotel in the New Forest to attend the 39th Annual Southampton Luncheon. Once again Dudley Backhurst had laid on a first class meal in lovely surroundings and as he explained this was the 30th occasion that he had made these arrangements. Of the original Old Boys who began this event he is the only survivor.

After the meal Dudley welcomed newcomers to the lunch, Bill Sturt, Ivan Bowler, Vic Bennett and Geoff Hooker and was pleased to see the return of both Lorrie Dowsett and Tony Brown after some time away. There were nine apologies to record, with one being from the former Headmaster George Baxter.

Dudley advised members of the death of the oldest Old Boy in the Association, Redvers Godsland, who died at the Isle Of Wight just before reaching 99 years of age. Redvers started at the Farnham Grammar School in 1908 at the age of six and left in 1916 and was the last Old Boy to have been at the school before the First World War. After time in the army Redvers bought a newsagents near Cowes in 1932 and finally retired in 1967 He was a great cricket follower and had been president of the local East Cowes club.. Married in 1931, his wife survives him. This amazing man last attended the Southampton Lunch in 1994 at the age of 93 years.

Dudley also said that stalwarts of the Association, John Goddard and David Horry (who had attended every Southampton Luncheon since it began as well as every Annual Dinner in Farnham) would be sadly missed. Of the 32 seated 26 had attended the school sometime during the 1940's and clearly the number retired is increasing.

Graham Blunt advised that he was looking for more support for the Farnham Lecture on the following Friday evening, when Roy Lancaster, the well known TV personality, would be speaking on the subject of gardening. He also advised that the recent appeal for money by the 400 Trust to pay for the proposed cabinets to house the memorabilia of the Grammar School had reached its target of £3000.

Cyril Trust advised that the Mayor of Farnham and former bursar at the school, Sylvia Morgan, had agreed to open the display on Saturday 2nd December. He said that the Millennium Committee that he chaired all agreed that as she had been associated with the school for so many years this would be the popular choice. Invitations would be going to all donors, ex-staff and certain special guests that the 400 Trust felt appropriate.

The 2001 Southampton Lunch will be on Wednesday 17th October and once again it is suggested that any Old Boy who wishes to spend a few hours of nostalgia in pleasant surroundings should make sure this date goes into the diary.

Attending; A.D.Harland; A.L.Brown; S.A.Armstrong; J.D.Backhurst; M.J.Horner; J.H.Crotty; R.D.Short; G.D.Blunt; I.F.A.Bowler; J.L.Vick; P.J.Ford; D.J.Phillips; G.L.Hooker; C.D.Trust; I.C.Sargeant; C.Nash; P.J.Clark; D.A.Bowtell; D.E.Lampard; W.H.Sturt; P.Huntingford; E.F.Hunt; T.Tidd; L.R.Dowsett; R.Robins; A.J.Ryall; M.E.H.Sturt; D.O'Sullivan; K.I.Mentzel; B.J.Daniels; V.L.Bennett; B.E.Webberley.

OPENING OF 'THE HOME OF MEMORABILIA'

Since becoming the Editor of the 'Farnhamian' magazine in 1993 I have not only collected news and stories for each issue but there has been a constant stream of memorabilia from Old Boys throughout the world. This has included old magazines, speech day programmes, entertainment evening programmes, sports programmes, medals, many photographs from the past and even one or two school caps and ties. All of these have been added to the boxes held at Farnham College and placed in a cupboard at best, or the old 'Coal Hole' at worst. When I undertook the task of cataloguing all of the old School cups and shields it was a mammoth job to clean away the black from the silver and make them reasonably decent for photographing. From the early days on the General Committee I have felt strongly that this important record of the past should be housed properly.

It was soon evident that several colleagues on the same Committee shared my view and eventually it was agreed that we begin to explore what sort of display cabinets were available and what was the cost likely to be. The team of Old Boys who made up the Millennium Committee and arranged the Annual Dinner at Farnham Castle were asked to take on the project and over the past months we have collated the memorabilia, obtained quotations for cabinets and generally priced how much the project would cost. Of course a proper opening ceremony would be required and this was also taken into consideration.

The current Principal of Farnham College, Sally Francis, is a member of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, who are pledged to look after memorabilia from the Grammar School and the College alike, and she was very supportive of the project. Permission was given to use the old School foyer, entrance Hall, stairs and landing for the purpose of laying out a permanent display of the past and the Committee presented their findings to the General Committee.

It was decided to try and obtain the £3000 plus for the initial phase by asking for donations from the membership of the Association and within a week or two this amount had been pledged and the project moved ahead. John Crotty took care of the ordering and fixing of the cabinets, Bill Luff and Don Homer planned the layout of the displays, Wally Walsh organised the catering and Roger Edgell and myself took care of most other aspects. A proper programme was produced so that guests could remember the day and Sally Francis and Mike Horner, our President agreed to say a few words.

When we came to the question of 'Who would open the display?' there was really only one candidate. Sylvia Morgan was approached and she readily agreed to perform the opening ceremony, with 2nd December being her only free date at the time. Of course Sylvia will always be remembered by most Old Boys as the Headmaster's daughter, the Headmaster's Secretary or the School and College Bursar. This year she is the Mayor of Farnham, which involves a heavy work programme throughout the Farnham area and we were lucky she had a Saturday free.

The Millennium Committee spent the final week busily putting together the display and at 2.30 on an almost dry December afternoon over eighty guests filled the Conference Room which is situated in the building at the bottom of the old school steps, as most of us knew them. They came from far and wide to spend a nostalgic afternoon at the old School. Len Saltmarsh and Maurice Jeffreys came from Devon, Terry Tidd and Dudley Backhurst from the South Coast and Norman Paget and his wife from Baltimore in America.

OPENING OF THE 'HOME OF MEMORABILIA' - CONTINUED

Not only did the guests include Old Boys but for this occasion, it was agreed that certain people with close ties to the old School should be welcomed. It was good to see Peggy Lewis-Jones, who is the daughter of Stanley 'Pecker' Lock, Violet Dowse, who is the daughter of 'Nick' Ridout and sister of Ronald Ridout, as well as the widows of well known Old Boys, John Aylwin and John Goddard. Because the display is a part of the history of Farnham, Chris Hellier from the Farnham Museum attended and found that the name of his grandfather was on one of the Honours Boards in the entrance hall. Former teaching staff were represented by George Baxter and Leonard Evans, both octogenarians and still looking well. The Farnham Girls Grammar School Association was represented by Stella Bolt, the hard-working secretary of the organisation for old girls of the school in Menin Way.

Sally Francis welcomed the guests to the College and then John Crotty said a few words and explained that parties of ten would be escorted around the display areas. The visitors seemed very impressed with what they saw and on returning to the conference room they listened to Sylvia Morgan say a few words about her memories of the old School and officially open the 'Home of Memorabilia'. Our President, Mike Horner, completed the speeches with a few words of congratulations to all who had worked on the project and hoped that this would spur Old Boys to send in their own memorabilia for display in the cabinets etc.

It is planned to complete a second phase sometime soon and the current cabinets will be changed for new items every six months or so. It is probable that the first alteration will be for the 2001 Annual Dinner and it is suggested that any Old Boy who wishes to see the first display should arrange to visit the College in the coming months.

THE OFA WEB SITE

IAN SARGEANT

Since May last year, the OFA has had a web site. Not everyone is familiar with the Internet and you may not know what a web site offers, or how to get to see one if you haven't got a computer with Internet access.

Using the Internet is well within the capacity of all former grammar school boys and there are many keen 'web surfers' amongst the older generation ! Even if you do not have a computer, you may find an opportunity to visit our site when you are with friends or family. Or you may be able to go to your local library or locality office to use a computer that gives you access. What will you find on the OFA Web Site ?

Web sites are like huge electronic notice boards that can show large amounts of information, pictures etc., through the computer screen. They are available 24 hours a day. Our site summarises the history of Farnham Grammar School and gives reports and photographs of OFA events. Future events are listed with contacts for people wanting to sign up or get more information.

There is a special section for news of the Old Boys and a list of those with e-mail addresses who would be pleased to hear from their contemporaries. This section is only accessible to those who are confirmed as bona fide old boys, or masters, who are then sent a password that allows them access (to avoid revealing personal details in the public section of the site).

The site seeks to be informative and enjoyable, a means of fostering communication between Old Farnhamians, and a support to the Association as a body. It contains similar information to this magazine, but is updated regularly throughout the year. Give us a visit sometime at;

LEST WE FORGET !

Anyone visiting Farnham College since January will notice that once again building contractors are to be seen and they are carrying out work to alter the Morley Road site yet again. No doubt the new facilities are needed and there have been many alterations and additions since I left the School in 1953. I applaud most of this work and the College now offers facilities that were just a pipe dream to boys in my day and before.

If you look over the older parts of the building you will still recall the framework that existed, although the old school hall has now been partitioned into classrooms and the science laboratories have been greatly modernised. It is not easy to remember the place as former pupils of the 'Morgan Era' and before remember it and I feel that it will bring back memories if this magazine covers this part of the past.

Among the memorabilia that has come my way are two prospectus booklets, with one being issued during the reign of the Rev. Samuel Priestley and the other in the early days of F.A.Morgan. Not only do they give details of what is on offer to the potential fee-paying pupils but they contain photographs of certain rooms that could be recognised into the 1960's.

Firstly I am showing the School Hall as I knew it, and I can recall the daily assembly and the hush that came over the boys as the Headmaster swept into the room. The classrooms on the left hand side housed Mr. Beadman (French), Mr. Beeken. (English), Mr.Horner (French) with Mr.W.Evans (Geography) in the room next to the stage. I am sure other readers will recall a different set of teachers in these same rooms.

Secondly I am showing the Dining Hall, where many boys ate their fill of school dinners. I lived near enough to the school to go home for lunch and did not experience these daily sessions, therefore the room for me was the home of Ned Godsil and the wonders of Geometry. On more than one occasion I have had to wipe custard or gravy from the table before laying out my books for the lesson.

Finally is a photograph of the old Entrance Hall, which looks the same to this day and is the area where it is hoped the Association will be able to display some of their memorabilia in the future.



SCHOOL HALL

LEST WE FORGET!

It is interesting to see the various charges shown in the two copies of the prospectus from earlier in the last century.

Rev. Samuel Priestley Prospectus;

Tuition Fees;

(Boys living in Surrey)	£3 3s 0d
(Boys not living in Surrey)	£3 17s 0d
Boarding Fees(per term)	£12 12s 0d
Laundress (per term)	£15s 0d

F.A.Morgan Prospectus;

Tuition Fees;

(Boys living in Surrey)	£4 0s 0d
(Boys living in Hants)	£6 0s 0d
(Boys living outside)	£10 0s 0d
Boarding Fees(per term)	£17 5s 0d
including Laundry.	



It is also interesting to note other charges appearing in these Prospectus booklets. In the earlier version there were the following charges extra; Games Fund 1/6d ; School Material 1/-d; Library 3d; Boarders paid 5/-d Entrance Fee; Day Boys could dine with Boarders for 9d per day. In the later version it cost 10s per annum as a Cadet Corps Subscription and 1/-d for the School Magazine (NOT EVERYTHING HAS SUFFERED INFLATION!).



DINING HALL



Life as a gymnast in 1919

Most readers would have been used to the strict disciplines of Bill Wickens in the School gymnasium. But in 1919 the role was filled by a Miss Crawhall-Wilson, who is shown above with several of the boys in the school team and is reputed to have been very popular. After her old Bill must have been quite a culture shock for everybody at Morley Road.



A Group from the Mid 1940's (photograph sent in by Roger Davis)

Front: Slater; R. Bowtell; Darroch

Second Row: Fry; Pagniez; Alderton; Lewis; Tingley; Rich; Davis; Secretary John Crotty (pushing back his hair); Naylor; Loveless; Herrington; Jennings;

Third Row: Short; Cheeseman; Lovegrove; Austin;

Back Row: Wisdom; Paddington; Rayer; Lassam; Winstain; Banks; Anderson; Vick.

THE FARNHAM LECTURE - 2000

An audience of over one hundred were fully entertained at the recent 'Farnham Lecture', held at Farnham College and arranged by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, which was created by the Old Boys of Farnham Grammar School. This year the speaker was Roy Lancaster OBE VMH, the well known writer and broadcaster, who gave a talk entitled 'Travels of a Plantsman' to the many gardening enthusiasts who made up the listeners.

Introduced by College Principal, Sally Francis, the speaker gave a brief introduction into the reasons why he became interested in plants at an early age in his home town of Bolton in Lancashire. He began as a bird watcher and whilst pursuing his hobby he noticed a strange plant on an allotment and wondered what it was. After asking several local botanists etc., he sent the plant to the British Museum and was surprised to receive a reply which advised him that he had discovered a Mexican Tobacco Plant in Bolton. It appeared that there had never been such a plant in the North of England and he was congratulated on his find. This gave him a brief claim to fame locally and inspired him to take more interest in plants generally.

He then began to show his collection of slides showing various plant life from this country and then from all over the world, in particular China and Nepal. As each slide appeared it was accompanied by several humorous comments and recollections and the enthralled audience soon warmed to this very knowledgeable man.

He said that he had been lucky to travel so much and he had been in several expeditions sponsored by various botanical bodies, starting with a visit to Nepal in 1971. He also leads plant enthusiasts on working holidays abroad to continue to look for new types of plants and will be taking a party 1000 miles up the Amazon in a few weeks time. All of these trips add to his knowledge and it was obvious that Roy Lancaster is an expert in his field. He also displayed a tremendous enthusiasm for plants in general and this came across to the listeners.

After almost two hours, including answering questions, he finished this first class lecture and was thanked by the President of the Old Farnhamians' Association, Michael Horner. This was certainly one of the better lectures of those offered since the first in 1978 and it will be difficult to promote a better one for 2001.

(As written by Cyril Trust and printed in the 'Farnham Herald')

The 2001 Farnham Lecture will be held
on Friday 28th September
at the Farnham College commencing at 8.00 pm

THE FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST

presents

'TIMETEAM - FARNHAM'

A history of Farnham over the past half a million years

talk by well known archaeologist Dr. DAVID GRAHAM FSA

A SNIPPET OR TWO FROM LONG AGO A TRIBUTE TO A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOOLMASTER

BY IVAN BOWLER

We armed ourselves with pairs of scissors when we were timetabled for Geography with Mr 'Old-Nick' Ridout in the classroom at the far end of the school hall. Some were truly miniature - the intelligent boys had those - while others were more akin to garden shears, difficult to conceal even when hidden in folders or atlases.

These weapons of war were a means of accruing wealth and prestige among our peers. Each Monday morning, all members of our form - 4B, I think, but more likely to have been 4Y or 4Z - handed a small sum of money (3d ?) to our hon. treasurer, who was responsible for the kitty until paying-out time on the Friday afternoon.

During the Geography lessons, we would lure the unsuspecting master to our desks with such comments as "I can't find Calcutta on my map. Will you help me please sir ?" This would be followed by "Silly boy, you won't find it in Africa. Find the right page." And this in turn by "I can't find it sir, please show me where it is." The sole object of this unseemly behaviour was to detain Mr. Ridout at your side long enough to enable you to snip a sizeable chunk of material from his gown. Each Friday, at a specially convened meeting of the cutters, the boy deemed to have acquired the most scooped the kitty and, speaking from experience, spent the ill-gotten gains on a super shopping spree on the Saturday. The 'evidence' was promptly flushed down one of the toilets to avoid the wrath of our much loved and highly respected Headmaster, Mr (Mog) Morgan and, more importantly, to prevent some of our less scrupulous fourth-formers using the same material again.

Looking back to those days of more than half-a-century ago and the pranks we perpetrated, we must have been an unlovely and troublesome gaggle of delinquents. But many of the masters who endured our slings and arrows earned respect, gratitude and yes, our love, in the months and years following our departure from that hallowed place of learning in Morley Road. Those of us fortunate enough to be known as 'red-top match-sticks', an apt description considering the design of the school cap, will always be grateful for the patience, the perspicacity and the professionalism so liberally given by the Headmaster and his staff of our much-revered Alma Mater.

A footnote. My father and Mr. Ridout met socially while I was a pupil and if my idleness and delinquent tendencies were a topic of conversation over the convivial jug or two, I never got to hear about it. As I was able to read my father's mind like an open book, I know that Mr. Ridout, deputy-head and teacher of Geography, did not tell tales out of school. The hallmark, in my book, of a schoolmaster - and a gentleman.

NB. Ivan Bowler attended the School from 1944 - 1949.

Helen Arkell
DYSLEXIA
DYSLEXIA
Centre

Frensham, Farnham, Surrey GU10 3BW
Tel: 01252 792400
Fax: 01252 795669

A Very Special Organisation

Helping with a Widespread

Learning Difficulty



First Eleven Cricket Team - 1954

Back Row: W. Wallis; B.E. Webberley; D.C. Clarke; A.J.Tull;
W.J. Luff; G. Baxter; A. Common; P. Callaghan; D. Moore; H. Beeken;
Front Row: M. Cooper; G. Coveney; J. Rhind; I.G. Bolt; A. Spink.



Headmaster George Baxter and his team of Prefects - 1955

Back Row: D. Andrews; A. Cox; I.G. Bolt; J. Wells; A. Common;
W.J. Luff; D. Lea; B. Pople; P. Callaghan;
Front Row: G. Toogood; J. Ward; G. Baxter; W. Wallis; D. Pullen.

THE SEARCH FOR THE OLDEST OLD FARNHAMIAN

With the sad passing of REDVERS GODSLAND we have lost our oldest member of the Association and over the past months have attempted to establish the person who now takes up that title. It has not been straight forward because after Redvers there is a considerable gap and his replacement is just reaching the age of ninety. If one looks at the Members List there are several who were at the School in the early 1920's and left around 1925, so who fits the bill?

One person to consider has to be SIDNEY NOEL WILTSHIRE who attended the School from 1923 until 1925. His story is made up of items from past magazines and details kindly supplied by his sister Clare ('Babs'), who still lives in Farnham.

Sidney was one of eight children and he had three brothers and four sisters. The family lived in Farnham and his father was the founder of the local company Heath & Wiltshire. For those who have lived in the town for some years they will remember that this company began as the supplier and repairer of bicycles and then developed into a motor repair and motor accessory company situated in West Street. Elder brother, Bill, attended the Grammar School first and Sidney followed, whilst Clare ('Babs') went to the Girls Grammar School. He was a first class sportsman and in 1925 won his weight in the Boxing, bowled for the First XI cricket team and in 1926 returned to the School to win the Old Boys two lengths freestyle swimming event.

In 1929 he took a short service commission with the RAF and in this year he won a most prestigious award. The following was published in 'The Times' of February 1st 1930;

'The King has approved of the award of the Medal of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to Pilot-Officer Sidney Noel Wiltshire, Royal Air Force, for conspicuous gallantry displayed at Temple Bruer Landing Ground, Sleaford on October 21st, 1929. This officer, who is a pilot under instruction, was flying with his instructor, Flying-Officer H.E.Power, in an aeroplane that crashed on landing and at once caught fire. Having extricated himself from the wrecked machine, he found that his companion's foot was caught in the wreckage and that he could not get out. Although fully realizing the risk he was running, Pilot-Officer Wiltshire re-entered the flames and helped Flying-Officer Power to get clear, during which process he received burns on his neck and face. Power's clothing was by this time well alight, and he would undoubtedly have lost his life but for the prompt and courageous action taken by his pupil. As it was, he was badly burnt. Both officers were shortly afterwards taken by air to Cranwell Hospital. The aeroplane was completely burnt out.'

(The award given is now known as the George Cross and Sidney Wiltshire is listed among the recipients of this medal for bravery).

Leaving the RAF Sidney followed brother Bill to the South Pacific and flew for a transport company in New Guinea, which in those days was very primitive and the only means of getting anything transported, be it food, animals or even small cars from A to B was by air. The company, 'Guinea Airways', used landing strips hastily cleared in the forest by local natives. The brothers also flew dredger parts to the goldfields in the mountains of New Guinea.

From this primitive existence he went to sophisticated service with 'Cook Strait Airlines - New Zealand' and was there when the second World War began. He was called up to serve in the Royal New Zealand Air Force, whilst brother Bill joined the Royal Australian Air Force. At home another brother, Norman, had joined the Royal Air Force and this resulted in three Wiltshire brothers with the Air Forces of Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

THE SEARCH FOR THE OLDEST OLD FARNHAMIAN

The photograph here shows Sidney in his uniform during 1942. On his return to civilian life he settled down with his New Zealand wife in Christchurch and worked for some time in the antiques business. He then moved on to a company using transporters to move motor cars for example. He clearly remained in love with his days in the air and when he built a home outside Wellington he named it 'Touchdown'.



Sidney is now well over ninety years of age and is living in an old peoples home.

Other candidates come to mind and our Secretary John Crotty visited MAJOR GENERAL FRED ELMSLIE who lives just outside Eastbourne. He has actually lived in a fifth floor apartment with his daughter for the past thirty years. He is still alert and interested in the Association and was 94 years of age in October 2000. The July 1921 magazine shows that he played for the School First XI at cricket and in one match took seven wickets against Salesian College. He was also an excellent athlete and sprinting seemed to have been his best event, but he was always highly placed in the School Steeplechase. Academically he won several form prizes and some special speech day awards.

Of course one Old Boy who would have been in contention for the position of 'Oldest Old Boy' was LESLIE LORD, but readers will be sad to see that he appears in the obituaries later in this magazine.

A phone call from SYLVIA MORGAN advised that she had been contacted by an L.C.CHAPPELL who had attended the School in the early 1920's and was well into his nineties.

He was not a member of the Association but was anxious to join. No doubt we shall hear more when our Secretary has made contact.

So the search continues and no doubt by the 2002 edition we will have sorted out the problem.

In the meantime, if there are any readers out there who feel that they should be considered then please let us know.

OLD FARNHAMIANs - MASONIC LODGE

John Mitchell has now installed William O.D.Evans (not an Old Boy) as Master of the Lodge for the current year which runs from March 2001 until March 2002.

The Lodge is still looking for new members and anyone 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.

BOXING - INTER HOUSE COMPETITION CUP
Given by R.Preston



1921;	HARDING.	1922;	CHILDE.
1923;	CHILDE.	1924;	MORLEY.
1925;	MORLEY.	1926;	MORLEY.
1927;	MORLEY.	1928;	HARDING.
1929;	HARDING.	1930;	HARDING.
1931;	HARDING.	1932;	CHILDE/MASSINGBERD.
1933;	HARDING/MASSINGBERD.	1934;	SCHOOL.
1935;	HARDING.	1936;	SCHOOL.
1937;	HARDING.	1938;	MORLEY.
1939;	SCHOOL.	1940;	SCHOOL.
1941;	SCHOOL.	1942;	CHILDE.
1943;	SCHOOL.	1944;	SCHOOL.
1945;	HARDING.	1946;	HARDING.
1947;	MASSINGBERD.	1948;	MASSINGBERD.
1949;	MASSINGBERD.	1950;	MASSINGBERD.
1951;	HARDING.	1952;	HARDING.
1953;	HARDING.	1954;	HARDING.
1955;	HARDING.	1956;	HARDING.
1957;	HARDING.	1958;	HARDING.
1959;	HARDING.	1960;	HARDING.
1961;	CHILDE;	1962;	MORLEY/HARDING.
1963;	HARDING.		

ATHLETICS - LONG JUMP CHALLENGE
Given by D.F.Wagstaff (1927 - 34)



1935;	R.R.KIRK.	1936;	R.R.KIRK.
1937;	A.R.TEMPLE.	1938;	A.R.TEMPLE.
1939;	M.C.COLWILL.	1940;	H.L.MACEY.
1941;	D.B.BOULTER.	1942;	D.A.BARNES.
1943;	B.T.KIRK.	1944;	B.T.KIRK.
1945;	D.DARROCH.	1946;	I.F.MITCHELL.
1947;	K.D.PAGET.	1948;	K.D.PAGET.
1949;	V.K.WINSTAIN.	1950;	G.C.ARCHER.
1951;	J.M.H.COTTERILL.	1952;	A.R.NAYLOR.
1953;	V.J.SNELLOCK.	1954;	E.B.WAIDE.
1955;	T.H.GOVIER.	1956;	E.LAMS.
1957;	E.LAMS.	1958;	T.S.HUNTER.
1959;	G.W.H.HUNT.	1960;	R.L.BRITTON.
1961;	B.E.CARRE.	1962;	G.P.GREEN.
1963;	M.D.GREEN.	1964;	G.R.MONK.
1965;	J.ADAMS.	1966;	NOT RECORDED.
1967;	L.C.BACKSHALL.	1970;	I.P.A.TURPIN.
1971;	A.M.BRAGG.	1972;	A.M.BRAGG.

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF MICHAEL FOSTER (1921-2000)

On Sunday 7th May 2000 the family of Mike Foster held a special service in Farnham and more than one hundred people entered St. Andrew's Church to the strains of the Glen Miller orchestra.

Rev. Andrew Tuck began the proceedings by saying how pleased he was to hold this service, as he was an ex-Grammar School boy and had known Mike Foster well and hoped that some of his teaching had helped improve his English. Mike Foster had joined the team built by F.A.Morgan and became an important member of the life of the School and later the College. He began as an English master as a member of the Harold Beeken team and ended his career by succeeding this legendary teacher as Head of English at Farnham College.

The initial address by youngest son Christopher explained the music being played on entry and he harkened back to the Second World War when his father piloted bombers over Germany and Glen Miller music was at its peak. Mike loved this music all his life, although in later years he also enjoyed Mahler as well as Miller! He recalled that his parents had a wanderlust and travelled Europe camping when the children were young and in later years went further afield to places like India and Brazil. Only months before his death they had holidayed in Switzerland.

Christopher remembered his father as a kind and gentle man, with a great wit, and the leader, with his wife Ann, of an extremely close and loving family.

Following the address came the first appearance of nine singers, who attended at the request of Christopher who is a professional singer himself, who sang an anthem 'Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace'. I would suggest that there have been very few occasions in the old building that such singing has been heard and one had to hold back from applause as these voices rang throughout the church.

A further address by Farnham College colleague John McLaughlin followed, and he gave an insight into Mike Foster the teacher and the effort that he had made over more than thirty years to offer the very best in the English language to his pupils. He touched on the partnership with music teacher Alan Fluck and praised their output, although not quite another Lloyd Webber and Rice. John finished his address by saying that he was certain that Mike Foster would like to be remembered as a teacher of English.

A reading by the Rev. John Innes followed, and then another anthem from the band of excellent singers, 'And I Saw a New Heaven'. Then came the Foster children with a selection of poems written by Mike Foster and Christopher, Charlotte, David and Caroline showed how talented their father had been with words. Finally grandson, Gavril, read a short limerick that his grandfather had written for him. Finally another colleague from the College and a part of Mike's English team, Elizabeth Firebrace, read two poems.

The Rev. John Innes, who knew Mike Foster well over many years, closed the service and this wonderful tribute ended with the special guests singing a requiem by Faure.

Among the many people attending was a member of Mike's bomber crew from the Second War, several ex-colleagues from both Farnham Grammar School and Farnham College and a good number of Old Farnhamians. It was a very special service for someone who will be remembered as a teacher, a sportsman, a writer, a traveller and most of all as a husband and a father.

N.B. It is hoped to print some of the works of Mike Foster in future issues of the magazine.

SOME POEMS AND LIMERICKS BY MIKE FOSTER - (1921-2000)

Bucking starts and twelve-point turns,
 Engine racing, stalling, churning,
 Grinding gears, a smell of burning -
 Watch your bumpers! My wife's learning!

Beethoven and Brahms
 And Byrd
 Might have qualms
 If they hyrd
 What's written
 By Britten

If you can keep your head when all about you
 Are losing theirs and aiming things at you;
 If you can leave a class to work without you
 And guarantee they'll keep hard at it, too;
 If you can mark and not grow tired of marking,
 Of counting money, writing your Reports;
 If you can stand the end-of-term-sky-larking,
 And still have spirit left to watch the Sports;
 If you can talk, nor lose your voice with talking,
 Give punishments without a biased mind;
 If you can stop an idle mob from squawking
 At every doubtful meaning they can find;
 If you can dream-and not make dreams your master;
 Or talk with Heads-nor lose the common touch;
 If you can save your subject from disaster
 By tactfully not plugging it too much;
 If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
 Twisted and laughed at by moronic fools;
 If you're prepared to watch equipment broken
 By 'scholars' who have scant regard for rules;
 If you can fill the unforgiving minute
 With ninety seconds' worth of distance run,
 Teaching's for you, and everything that's in it,
 And-which is more- you're welcome to it, son !

Camping in Greece

Under the olive trees
 Ten nations mingle,
 Share toilets and ablutions,
 Swap experiences.
 No common language
 But unspoken thoughts
 Of friendly co-existence.
 Three bikers set up camp
 Beside flash motor caravans.

A hitcher stumbles in
 And pitches tiny tent
 Next to palatial family encampment
 Night 'silence time', not heeded everywhere
 Is here obeyed implicitly, unforced.
 And over all, the olive branches stir,
 Politically neutral, shading equally
 The rich, the poor, the stronger and the weak.

Crufts is something that shouldn't happen to a dog...

THEN AND NOW - MAURICE STURT

(1943-1949)



Maurice Sturt was born at Tongham in November 1932 and three years later moved to a bakery and small shop in Abbey Street. Here his parents sold bread and cakes produced in grandfather's bakery at Tongham. Bread delivery rounds covered the Farnham urban district and business later extended to include grocery and green grocery.

On the advice of Vivian Clark, headmaster of East Street school, Maurice went to St. Polycarp's in Bear Lane, although the family are not Catholics. He was placed in the charge of one, Bill Smith, and entering the school after morning prayers had begun he spent a few minutes kneeling on the door mat.

Even in these early years Maurice enjoyed sport and took part in the Farnham School Sports Day, played football for one of the Farnham junior teams and learned to swim at the old baths. He attended the Congregational Sunday School and became a Life Boy in company with John Bertie, John Brown and David Gudgeon, all to become

classmates at the Grammar School. It was war time and he recalls that when the sirens sounded they moved into the shelters in Lower South View, where they prayed and sang popular songs. His personal war effort involved Sunday visits to forces canteens at the Church House (organised by Mrs Elphick snr.), the Congregational Church and one in East Street (next to Millers cycle shop) to make sure that they had sufficient bread for the troops.

Maurice joined the last intake for prep form (1c) in 1943 and with Bill Bodkin passed the scholarship (saving his parents about £6 a term until all fees were abolished in 1944). At the Grammar School were cousins Bill and Don and Maurice was to be followed later by his brother Bob. A member of School House he continued to enjoy sport and took part in the swimming, shooting, football and cross-country. Cricket, however, was not his strong point. He reached most standards in athletics and managed to win his weight at boxing on two occasions. He played tennis at Brightwells and regularly made the pilgrimage to Wimbledon, queuing with Bill Bodkin and Don Wilkinson for long periods. Other activities included playing with the FCW (Dan) Knight's bell ringing band at the parish church and singing for both the Church and School Choir.

Maurice remembers Summer Camps arranged by music teacher, Francis Crute, as they were the only holidays possible in the 1940's. Locations included Colwyn Bay, Torbay, Hastings and Guernsey and on at least one occasion John and Dan Goddard came along as assistant leaders. He has two abiding memories from this period, with one being the destruction made by the dropping of the atom bombs in Japan, and the other a demonstration of a cigarette being smoked through a handkerchief resulting in him being a non-smoker throughout his life. During his teenage years he was a keen member of the ecumenical youth club based at St James' Church in East Street. Here members played badminton, met young ladies and generally 'set the world to rights'.

In 1949 he matriculated and joined Colonel J B Marks, an Old Boy who was setting up a quantity surveyors practice in Guildford. He completed training with the aid of College of Estate Management correspondence courses and was elected ARICS in 1961. In August 1956 he married Christine Little who came from a well-known local family connected with Boundstone PostOffice

THEN AND NOW - MAURICE STURT**(1943-1949)**

In 1963 Maurice made a career change and moved to London, joining the multi-discipline development group of A & B (Architects & Building) Branch at the Ministry. A & B Branch were responsible for administering and regulating the large post-war school building programme, and the development group designed and built prototype schools to apply and test the new ideas in education as well as the technical changes in the building industry. To cope with the tremendous demand for school building in the 1960's the MOE encouraged the setting-up of LEA consortia and system building. The last one, formed in 1966, was the Metropolitan Architectural Consortium for Education which included the ILEA, Surrey and most London Boroughs. This coincided with the introduction of metric units in the building industry. Maurice was appointed chief quantity surveyor and subsequently became deputy leader of the multi discipline group.

In 1976 he transferred to the QS division of the GLC Architect's Department as a group leader. Subsequently returned to development work, initially with the application of computers to the preparation of bills of quantities and later, on secondment to the Housing Department, on resource management and project control. In 1986 with the demise of the GLC he returned to A & B Branch and later became principal grade QS in the then DES (later to become DFEE). Much of the work was devoted to establishing property and estate management systems after further changes in education and the introduction of PC's for all. Appointed Branch IT officer and, owing to the need for graphics, resisted the policy of standardisation and espoused the Apple MacIntosh cause before Windows appeared.

In 1993, after official retirement age, he became consultant for the European Schools Division of DFEE. Acting as the professional client, responsible for 5 years for the property management of the European School at Culham, Oxon. This exists for the children of staff employed on EEC projects and the premises are the only ones in the UK directly administered by the DFEE. It occupies the Grade II listed buildings of the former Culham College. In 1952 he became a member of the Methodist Church, and remained closely linked to Rowledge Methodist Church until recently. He has held a wide range of offices including Circuit Steward for the Farnham & Alton Circuit and for 6 years served on the Home Mission Board whilst secretary of the London SW District committee. In 1976 he was District representative at the Methodist Conference held at Preston.

For 5 years from May 1994 he represented the Farnham churches on the Police Community Partnership Group and chaired a working party seeking, by means of seminars and open meetings, to inform and raise public and parental awareness to the dangers of drug abuse.

Retiring in 1999 he moved to Grayshott and is now a member of the local Housing Association. Maurice and Christine have four daughters who all attended Farnham College and have been blessed with two grandsons, two grand-daughters and four step grandchildren.

Maurice played for the OFA 2nd eleven soccer team for some years. A member of the general committee and for 5 years, from 1992, secretary of the 400 Trust. In 2000 he replaced John Goddard as a member of the 400 Trust.



THEN AND NOW - DENNIS PHILLIPS

(1946-1952)



Dennis Phillips was born in 1935 at Wrecclesham in a house next door to the Recreation Ground, from where he claims his love of sport was born. He attended Wrecclesham Primary School where he first met Keith Mentzel who serves with him on the OFA General Committee.

He started at the Grammar School in 1946 and can remember his father, who also served on the OFA Committee for a number of years, returning from his first Parents Evening to say that he had met four of his former Masters who were at the School just after the First World War.

At the School Dennis took a great interest in sport, and in particular soccer and cricket but, as with his academic studies was not particularly successful.

He was one of the first boys to join the group who played tennis in the Davies family courts in York Road. His interest in tennis had started at the age

of ten when he joined the junior section of Wrecclesham Tennis Club and he is still an active player at the Club in Buckinghamshire where the present Prime Minister plays on a regular basis. Whilst at the School he was a member of the School Choir and Orchestra and well remembers trying to avoid sitting in front of Bill Wickens when he joined in the concerts playing his trumpet.

He joined the National Provincial Bank (now Nat West) in 1952 at Guildford and has fond memories of having to visit the former Westminster Bank on a Saturday morning where he met Eric Hunt, an Old Boy he still meets at the Southampton Lunch, who would organise a half of bitter whilst bank business was being transacted. Like most boys of his era Dennis did his National Service and was in the Royal Artillery, where he spent about a year in Hong Kong and ten months in Malaya whilst the Emergency was still on. Both countries were much different to what they are now and it was an education seeing how the Orientals lived back in the early 50's. It is his ambition to re-visit both countries in his retirement to see for himself how much they have changed.

Returning to civilian life he was posted from Guildford to Aldershot and from there to the Head Office of the Bank in the City. This proved to be a most interesting experience and he gained a comprehensive knowledge of all forms of branch banking which stood him in good stead when he was appointed to more senior positions. He spent a short period as a tutor at a Management Training Centre, which was followed by Branch Management at Wendover, Great Missenden and Chesham. He took early retirement in 1990 and decided he was too young to spend days in his slippers admiring the garden and took on two part time jobs. The first was as Finance Director of Age Concern in Buckinghamshire and the second as Town Clerk to his local Town Council.

Both jobs have proved to be rewarding and despite qualifying for a bus pass Dennis still works with both organisations.

Dennis married a local girl, Ann Baker, at the Bourne Church, and they have two grown up children, a boy and a girl, both of who studied at Oxford University at the same time. Both now work in the City as Management Consultants and have proved that it is much more rewarding in a financial sense to tell people how to do things rather than try and do it yourself!

THEN AND NOW - DENNIS PHILLIPS

(1946 - 1952)

For a number of years Dennis was Secretary of the Association and in 1993 he was very proud to be elected President of the Old Farnhamians. It was during his time that the revival of the 'Farnhamian' magazine was planned and eventually published.

For a number of years Dennis attended the Annual Dinner, and also the Southampton Dinners at the Dolphin Hotel, in the company of his father. He is very proud of his record that since he left the Grammar School he has only missed two Annual Dinners, whilst abroad on National Service, and has been present at all such functions since 1956. This is an achievement he hopes to keep up for many years to come.



MEMBERSHIP

It is suggested that since the introduction of the modern magazine over the past seven years it has helped stimulate the rise in the membership of the Association. If that is the case then one hopes that future editions will retain, and continue to increase, our numbers and prolong the eventual demise of the Old Boys for many years to come.

Considering that the Grammar School as we all knew it actually ceased to exist in 1973 the following membership figures are encouraging, especially when one considers that at its peak the Association had a membership of between 450 and 500.

Year	Life Members	Annual Members	Total
1995	163	106	269
1996	176	119	295
1997	179	118	297
1998	176	132	308
1999	172	146	318
2000	171	156	327

THE PHYLLIS TUCKWELL HOSPICE

Is your local hospice in the following areas, although patients may be admitted from further afield:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Camberley | Woking | Alton |
| Fleet | Frimley | Frensham |
| Farnborough | Aldershot | Godalming |
| Guildford | Farnham | Shere |



Cranleigh

*Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, Waverley Lane, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8BL.
Tel: 01252 725814 Appeals Tel: 01252 717665*

THEN AND NOW - ALLAN RYALL

(1924-1930)



Allan Ryall is one of the long-term members of the Association who has served as President(1983-84) and has also been on the General Committee for many years. He was born on 1st February 1916 within a short distance of the School. Before he went to the Grammar School he attended Elmsleigh Prep School, run by Mrs William Stroud.

He entered the School in 1924 and his six years there covered the end of the Stickland era, the beginning of the F.A.Morgan era, the writing of the School Song by Edward Dean and F.A. Morgan and the re-creation of the Old Boys Association.

The staff at that time were mainly 'returned warriors' from the First World War, all with different teaching skills but forming a great and continuing unit. He was introduced to the main school under Miss ('Ma') Brown, who over thirty years later was to teach Allan's daughter Patricia at

Miss Murrell's' Prep School. Allan progressed one form per year and obtained General Schools Certificate of University of London with exemption from Matriculation in seven subjects 18 months earlier than usual, although there was someone even younger the same year. Allan feels that he was probably better at accumulating knowledge than applying it!

Allan was middle of the road at soccer and cricket, and played for Harding House at both. His housemaster, George Bacon, encouraged everyone in the House to enter the Boxing competition to obtain a point. Allan can only remember ever winning once - against I.C.Patrick. His only school sports success was at High Jump. He never got into the first 100 in the Cross Country Run. His sport was lawn tennis and a court at home helped with this. He twice appeared on stage during his schooldays. Firstly at the Church House in Union Road in a short play as part of a School Entertainment event. As an Arabian Princess he was bedecked in costume jewellery and admired himself in a mirror which was handed to him by his maidservant. 'She' was later to become Brigadier Alan Smallman ! Secondly in 1930- a small part in an excerpt from 'Much Ado About Nothing' on Speech Day, at which he was presented with a prize. F.A.Morgan insisted Allan appeared in full costume to receive the prize and crossing the stage his yellow hose pre-empted Norah Batty by decades !

At the end of 6 happy years, and no careers advice, Allan attended a Commercial College from which he emerged with some knowledge of book-keeping and accountancy, and less of touch-typing, to take up his first job. The employers were a well established Farnham solicitors and both partners were Old Boys. Neither spoke of the School or the Old Boys during the whole time Allan worked with them! One partner was J.R.Nash (former Chairmen of the first Old Boys Association begun in 1899) and the other was R.W.Mason (Chairman of the School Governors). As a junior in the accounts department Allan dealt with quite a lot of clients money by way of property sales and purchases, mortgages and wills and gained some experience in taxation matters. During these years he learned to play chess and golf (which almost took over from tennis) and attended his first Old Boys Annual Dinner.

THEN AND NOW - ALLAN RYALL**(1924-1930)**

By the time the Second World War began he had started to look for pastures new and had applied for an RAF short service commission. With the outbreak of war the government pulped all outstanding applications and he ended up in the RAF in May 1940 and unexpectedly found that he was needed on Radar. The general public seeing radar masts for the first time were greatly disappointed that the expected 'Death Ray' did not down enemy aircraft which approached them, but given the state of radio and television at that time it still seemed pretty amazing to be able to pinpoint an aircraft with reasonable accuracy 200 miles away His first acquaintance with hostile aircraft came in July 1940 on the Northumberland Coast and lasted 4 months. A reasonably quiet introduction compared to the action on the South Coast. November 1940 saw a long troop ship journey around the Cape of Good Hope to Aden, where his radar station did not operate as the war in Italian Somaliland was virtually over.

April 1941 meant the radar was firmly established in Egypt on the edge of the Western Desert. Air activity built up until the Battle of Alamein and faded quickly afterwards. Operational in Tripoli and Sardinia, then home after nearly four years away. More radar at Fairlight in Sussex, marriage, and a brief spell in Belgium and then back to a complete change in civilian life by entering the Inland Revenue. Allan worked at offices in Farnham, Soho and The City of London. 1964 saw a change to the Land Commission and 1969 to Customs & Excise where 3 years on Audit and Inspection visits meant an insight into parts of the UK which would not have been seen otherwise. The final 7 years were spent in Kingston VAT Office partly taking prosecution cases in Magistrates Courts, agreeable in seeing the discipline which was maintained and conducting cases 'according to Cocker'.

His career had then taken him to homes in Epsom, Gosforth, Thorpe Bay, Surbiton and back to Farnham. Retirement has meant over 20 happy years with Marjory, whom he married in 1972, spent in Grayshott/Headley Down. Having been so involved with figures throughout his working life it seemed natural in retirement to undertake auditing accounts for local organisations. He served as Chairman of the Grayshott Conservative Party for three years, but his prime involvement has been with lip-reading and support for the hard of hearing. Sadly Marjory became completely deaf three years ago and it seemed natural to attend lip reading classes together, which lead to active help with a Hard Of Hearing Support Group.

Gardening and travel have been major enjoyments in retirement, both becoming restricted with *anno domini*. He still enjoys a driving holiday in France especially bringing home a few cases of wine.

Allan joined the Association in 1936 when a life subscription was 4 guineas. With his moves he has been on the General Committee on and off since 1958. He has served on the 400 Trust and the Leaving Scholarship Trust and helped with the birth of the Farnham Lecture and printing of the History of the School. He feels it has been a privilege to be involved with the School and the Association for more than 65 years.



THEN AND NOW - PETER LARBY**PUPIL (1938-1945)
MASTER (1956-1973)**

We think that Peter Larby is only the second ex-pupil of Farnham Boys Grammar School to return as a master years later. He shares the honour with Don Nicolson.

Peter was born in the local village of Churt in 1927 near to the Frensham Ponds Hotel, which was in Hampshire in those days. His father was a postman and Peter was a twin with his sister Freda. He first went to school at the Churt Elementary before passing the exam to the local Boys Grammar School in 1938.

He joined Childe House and over the years became one of the school's finest sportsmen. At football he played for house and school, becoming school vice-captain eventually. At cricket he played for the first eleven for five years with the last two years as captain. He was an excellent hurdler and

won the athletics Victor Ludorum as well as running for Surrey Grammar Schools. He also has a good record at the School Cross Country Run.

Whilst he achieved all of this at school he also found time to play in the local community and with Haslemere ATC won the West Surrey Soccer Cup. One of his team-mates was Ron Reynolds who played for Aldershot, Tottenham Hotspur and England. He also began a long association with Farnham Cricket Club and opened the batting for many years, being an ideal left handed batsman. He also played cricket for Surrey ATC and had one particular game at the Hove ground, which was the home of Sussex C.C. Being wartime it was difficult to get to this venue and Peter remembers that it took him two days to travel to that match. He still hurdled over 110 yards and ran in the National Pre-Service Championships at the White City.

Whilst sport was important to him he did not neglect his lessons and in 1943 passed nine subjects in the School Certificate, gaining five credits. The following year he added Chemistry to this list. Peter became Childe House Captain and was School Vice Captain, with Jack Chitty being the School Captain at the time.

Whilst Peter became a well-known pupil at the Boys Grammar School his sister Freda attended the Girls Grammar School, which at the time was at West Street.

In 1945 Peter Larby left school and joined the Royal Air Force for a period of three years. He did his basic training at Kimbolton in Bedfordshire and then served abroad, with some time in the lovely country of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka of course). During this period overseas he continued to play cricket, took up hockey and excelled at hurdling. The Ceylon team, of which he was a member, travelled by Sunderland flying boat to Singapore where he gained third place in the 110 yards hurdles in the South East Asia Command Victory Celebration athletics meeting.

Peter was demobbed from the Royal Air Force in 1948 and returned to begin a new career in teaching, something he had been interested in for some time.

THEN AND NOW - PETER LARBY**PUPIL (1938-1945)
MASTER (1956-1973)**

Just after leaving school in 1945 Peter had written away for an interview with a teachers' training college in Birmingham and the principal advised that he wanted to meet him. Unfortunately the war made a meeting difficult and eventually the interview was given whilst travelling underground on a London tube train. However, on re-entering civilian life Peter gained a place at a Church of England Teacher training college, being St. Mark & St. John which was situated in Chelsea. It was here that Peter qualified as a teacher after two years and then decided to carry on at the college with his studies to obtain a degree. Parallel to his Teachers Training he worked on and gained his B.Sc.(London).

During this time he continued with his sport and played football and hockey for the college, whilst he became cricket captain for one year.

He had met his future wife by this time, being Pearl Dewey who had attended the Girls Grammar School with his sister Freda. Pearl was a well known pianist and played at the popular Farnham Old Time Dance Club and at the time was teaching at the Church House Preparatory School. Peter and Pearl married at St. Thomas-on-the-Bourne in 1950.

He took up his first teaching post at Dorking Grammar School and taught Maths, Physics and Chemistry to the 11 to 18 year olds (both boys and girls). He also took PE with the juniors. The couple set up home in Brockham and whilst he was at the school children Robin and Susan were born. Of course Peter played some football locally, this time for the Old Dorkinians, and refereed for a time when not fit enough to actually play. He also played cricket for Brockham.

In 1956 Peter looked for a new challenge and heard of a vacancy at Farnham Grammar School. He was duly interviewed by George Baxter and offered a post teaching Maths and Physics. His prowess as a sportsman was well known and he took over the running of the school football team from John Wills and also ran the junior cricket team whilst Harold Beeken ran the seniors.

Peter played some football himself for the Old Farnhamians and regular cricket for Farnham CC. In 1973, when the Grammar School changed to a Sixth Form College Peter moved on to Eggars Grammar School at Alton as the Head of Mathematics. Here he widened opportunity for the pupils by introducing 'Statistics' at 'A' - Level.

Retiring in 1990 Peter has taken up golf and played until very recently at the Southwood Club in Farnborough. He has also experienced Bowls but now enjoys gardening and painting. At the time of this interview the garden was a picture and his own paintings hung around the house were first class. Peter belongs to the Old Boys and still keeps in contact with former classmates. His son Robin also attended the Grammar School and also obtained a B.Sc. He is now an actuary in Lancashire.

All the sport paid off and resulted in a very fit Peter Larby who is proud to state that he only lost one and a half days through sickness during his working life. Quite a record!



NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

In the Millennium magazine we outlined the interesting career of one of our newer members, NEVILLE TIMMINS(1948-52). His work took him to places like Tenerife, Gibraltar, Tangier, Madeira, the Azores, Puerto Rico, Miami and Hawaii, and one wonders what does someone like this do in retirement. Well Neville is certainly still busy, with the main interest being an involvement, on a voluntary basis, in a beautiful 30 acre holiday site at Freshwater on the Isle of Wight. The location overlooks the Needles, with some 280 people owning bungalows there, and Neville works on improving the land drainage, lighting, road surfaces, storage and parking areas He also does work schedules for the groundsmen, produces work specifications, makes drawings, obtains quotations for work, liaises with contractors and generally acts as a troubleshooter. As well as this interest Neville still finds time for narrowboating, travelling, photography, DIY, charity work, car maintenance and camping. A very busy life all round!

Another new member is ROGER DAVIS (1942-47), who has written with many memories of his time at the School. He recalls prefects holding regular hymn book checks and lost books resulted in attending the dreaded Prefects Meeting to receive your punishment. Roger remembers his first year at Morley Road and having to wear short trousers, an introduction to the noble art of boxing by Bill Wickens and joyful Thursday lunch times on the rifle range with 'Joe' Godsil. During the war pupils grew vegetables on the garden plot and proudly took them home to boost the family's wartime rations, and then there were Doodlebugs alerts in 1944 when the pupils were allowed to walk down the sacred school steps on their way across the playing fields and the safety of the air raid shelter. With the end of the war came the memorable day when the School was addressed by the hero of the hour, Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

Roger ends by claiming the dubious distinction of being the only FGS cadet ever to be in the hands of the Military Police. He was running through the train barrier at Aldershot Station to catch the Farnham train (fare 41/2p) when a giant hand grabbed him and roared "What the Hell do you think you are?" "Army cadet, sir" stammered Roger, with khaki battledress and tunic showing beneath his blue mac, and wearing a school tie and cap. The reply from the towering Redcap was unrepeatable in a respectable school magazine with connections running back to 1351. There will be more from this retired journalist in the next magazine no doubt!

In February 2000 we saw the passing of that popular English Teacher MIKE FOSTER(1949-82), and some weeks later we were asked by Ann Foster, Mike's widow, to write an obituary for the local newspaper and announce a memorial service on 7th May at St.Andrews Church. To compile a proper obituary I had to talk about the life of Mike Foster with Ann, and of course some of it was documented in the 1994 magazine. However, I was surprised to hear about the new career that Mike began after retiring from the College and I am sure very few people knew of his pastime. On leaving the College Mike took a correspondence course in journalism and began writing small articles and humorous verse, which he sent to magazines and newspapers etc. For a time he was 'Jim Clifford' who added limericks to the 'Frank Scribe Column' in the Surrey & Hants News and this brought him to the attention of the Sunday Times, who also used him for similar verse in their newspaper for several years. Ann and Mike travelled the world in their camper van and he began to write for travel magazines and then became interested in woodcarvings in churches and cathedrals throughout the world. He particularly liked 'misericordes' and 'benchends', which are carvings on seating, and became something of an expert in this field. There are many articles that he wrote for the magazine 'Woodcarving' and it is very interesting to learn of this type of carving that goes back many centuries. He also wrote for The Lady magazine and many others, and over the years was clearly a prolific writer.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

In our last magazine we promised to give more information about JOHN BROWN(1944-50) who has lived in Africa for well over thirty years, and made contact with us when he met another Old Boy, BRYAN BONE(1948-52), in South Africa last year. John was born in Shoeburyness, Essex in 1933 and at three months moved to India where his father was serving with the Royal Artillery. The family returned home in 1939 with his father serving in the War Department Police throughout the war and when peace time returned the family bought the sub-Post Office and shop on the corner of St. Georges Road, Runfold. John's first local school was West Street Boys. Here began a love for sport, and John excelled in soccer and cricket at the Grammar School and at the same time played in the Miller Cup for Tilford Cricket Club and for the excellent Hale Football Eleven. Leaving the School John completed an apprenticeship at Vickers Ltd. (now British Aerospace), working on such aircraft as the Viking, Valiant, Viscount, Vanguard, VC10, TSR2 and the Concorde, as a Production Planning Engineer. His love for sport and adventure remained and he learned to fly, sail, play rugby, squash and badminton. On one flight he came down low over Frensham Ponds to see the dinghy sailing and forgetting the slipstream knocked two of them over. The instructor was not amused ! John sailed regularly himself on the Norfolk Broads and even took part in an advertising film for Blakes.

In 1966 he took a position with East African Airways (later Kenyan Airlines) and with his wife Marion became interested in watching and photographing wildlife throughout that continent. John now lives in South Africa and is still developing his timber business which uses indigenous woods for the creation of floors, windows and doors. John and Marion have a daughter, Tina, who lives in Johannesburg and works in graphic design. Like her father she enjoys sport and like her parents is interested in photographing wildlife. The Brown family are devoted to animals and provide a local haven for cats who are lost, bewildered, starving, flea ridden, unwanted or unwashed.

If any former classmate of John Brown would like to contact him please request his address from the editor.

In the 'Farnham Herald' it was reported in May 2000 that Old Boy MARTIN WINGENT(1961-65) had been appointed director for treasury and capital markets at the Royal Bank of Scotland International. Martin has been in banking for nearly 30 years and held progressive appointments in London, New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore and Luxembourg for example. He joined the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1992 and was made senior vice-president and treasurer at its New York office the following year. He remained there until moving to Jersey where his new job made him responsible for off-shore treasury and capital market functions for the bank in Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Gibraltar and Nassau. Martin came to the Grammar School from East Street School and on leaving Morley Road joined Barclays bank at Farnborough. He is married with two sons, the elder at university and the younger at Marlborough College.

I was advised of a particularly funny story at the recent Millennium Dinner and asked TONY TUBB(1946-51) to send me the facts relating to a recent annual dinner held at the College Hall Tony was a journalist for many years and I am including his letter word for word.

'When youth is fled and the blood runs thin, it appears one is not above forgetting to load the suitcase into the boot of the car for the trip up from East Sussex for the Old Boys annual dinner. Which led to my wife and I arriving at the hotel in Farnham to find we had only the clothes we stood up in to last the three days we planned to stay. Worse, my particular attire was an old tweed jacket, check shirt and fairly ancient slacks. My wife was slightly better off, having an extra dress to her name, having hung it on one of the built-in coathangers inside the vehicle. Other than that, not a toothbrush, change of underwear or even a make-up bag... hers not mine!

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

TONY TUBB (continued). As we stood in the car park, staring into the empty boot, I did remember her calling to me from upstairs in the house that the case was packed and ready to take to the car. Naturally she assumed I had acted accordingly and didn't bother to check up on me as is usual.

It was decision time, and the prospect of driving nearly 200 miles and back to the seaside seemed all too much. A distress call to John Crotty, a man for all seasons and circumstances, was obviously the thing. "John," I mumbled embarrassedly over the phone. "Do you think I can turn up at the dinner tomorrow in an old tweed jacket, check shirt and slacks ? I'll stick out a bit, won't I ?"

He agreed, and as you would expect of such an excellent organiser, came up with the brilliant idea. "What about a charity shop ? There are lots in Farnham. You never know, you might end up with the best suit you've ever bought."

Saturday morning, then, saw Denise and I tramping up Downing Street. I finished up with two suits, buying the first for a few pounds in relief that it more or less served the purpose, and the second, for not much more, because it was clearly going to be the best I have ever bought. A white shirt for 50p, and the loan of an Old Farnhamian tie from John, and I was dressed for the occasion.

Faith, hope and charity. And the greater of these is charity !

Now that the Millennium Dinner and the 2000 edition of the magazine have been successfully completed there is time to look at more research into old classmates from the 1948 intake. Of the original 63 entering the Grammar School I have tracked down almost half and in some cases have met a number of them after almost fifty years.

In June 2000 there was a meeting at the local 'Six Bells' public house where I met BRIAN MANNING and HARRY SLINGO for the first time since leaving school. Apart from some grey hair it only requires a little time together before you feel as though you were still at school. The years roll away ! Brian has had a career in engineering design and Harry in electronics and both now only work part time. At the same meeting were BILL LUFF, JOHN TRAVERS, BRIAN WEBBERLEY, NEVILLE TIMMINS and JOHN FALKNER.

Later that month Brian, Bill and I travelled into the Kent countryside to meet IAN BOLT and ALAN(Alf)COMMON and spent an enjoyable lunchtime trying to fill in the details of the forty seven years since our last meeting. Ian has lived in a lovely 'Olde Worlde Farmhouse' in the small Kent village of Throwley for thirty years and Alan lives in the city of Canterbury, not far from the Cathedral. Whilst Ian has had a successful business career (we were ferried to lunch in his new Jaguar), Alan has taught Mathematics at the University of Kent for some years. His wife runs a guest house in Canterbury and I am sure that Old Boys would be welcome. Both Alan and Ian are near full retirement and spend many hours together battling with the local golf courses. They reminisced over the early years when they left school and lived in London (Kilburn NW) with other Old Boys BRIAN WYATT and MICHAEL PRENTICE and how they began their careers and met their wives etc. Ian still keeps in contact with Brian Wyatt in Canada and has visited him several times. In 2001 Brian will be holidaying here, so we may see him again. Alan still writes to JOHN RHIND in Hong Kong and GEORGE POUND in Australia.

After these meetings we now have four new members of the Association and I am sure we will meet again at the 2001 Annual Dinner (We did). Meeting again and filling in the gaps after so many years is most enjoyable and perhaps more readers would like to try it and at the same time increase the numbers on the membership list.

THE OPENING OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT MORLEY ROAD

The postcard below came to light recently and it shows a montage of four photographs taken at the opening ceremony of the School on 28th April 1906. The ceremony was by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and the photos show;

TOP LEFT; 'Handing His Grace the key'.

TOP RIGHT; 'His Grace Speaking'.

BOTTOM LEFT; 'His Grace opens the door.'

BOTTOM RIGHT; 'God Save The King.'



Some framed copies of this photograph were used for the raffle at the Millennium Dinner and there is now a copy hanging in the old School entrance hall. If any reader would like a framed copy for themselves please contact the Editor.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Once the magazine is printed the first job is to make sure that relatives of old masters receive a copy, and it is surprising that after many years they are still interested in the old Farnham Grammar School. Soon after the 2000 edition a letter came in from Rochdale where BARBARA WILLS and her daughter live. They are well, although Barbara has arthritis badly. She still recalls vividly her days in Farnham and the many happy years that she and her husband JOHN WILLS, that most popular Art Master, spent here. She enjoyed the article by DOUGLAS LEUCHARS and remembers that at one time there were three masters at the School who had all attended Cheltenham Grammar School, being ALAN FLUCK, Douglas and her own husband John. Barbara and her daughter Gill receive a copy of the 'Farnham Herald' every week and Gill, being an ex-FGGS pupil, is always interested in items relating to the Grammar Schools. She recalls that Miss Inman, the well known Head of the FGGS, would not dismiss the girls at the same time as the boys for fear of them meeting after school. Knowing how many Old Boys married Old Girls I would say that this policy did not have much effect.

Telephone calls or short notes from BARBARA WILLIS (daughter of GEORGE BACON), JULIA BEEKEN (daughter of HAROLD BEEKEN) and ANN FOSTER (widow of MIKE FOSTER) also indicated that they enjoyed reading about the past. I find it amazing how these close relatives still recall the names of many Old Boys and still correspond with several after all these years. It just shows that the School in the twentieth century was something special to staff, pupils and relatives and the bond still remains.

As a Millennium Project residents of the Bourne village outside Farnham have been working on renewing footpaths in the surrounding countryside and these were opened on 9th July 2000 by the local M.P. Virginia Bottomley. Playing an active part in support of the villagers were The Farnham Ramblers, who helped secure the old paths for the enjoyment of present and future generations. JOHN GODDARD (1930-39), one of our most prominent Old Boys, was a leader in the local ramblers until his sudden death in November 1999 and the members decided to include in this project a tribute to John. A wooden seat, with his name carved on it, has been sited along the walk and many friends and relatives attended the opening of this lasting memorial. Recently the Goddard family requested copies of the 2000 magazine for each son and daughter, plus John's brother, and we will be keeping in contact with his widow Madelaine in the future.

More news from JEFFREY TATE CBE (1954-59) who enjoyed a very successful run at the world famous La Scala, Milan, opera house. He received rapturous applause and reviews for his performances in conducting Benjamin Britten's best known opera 'Peter Grimes'. Jeffrey said that to stand where Toscanini had done so many years before, conducting the famous La Scala orchestra, was a great thrill. Despite being asked to return by many of the musicians Jeffrey will be unable to make another appearance until 2004 because of his tight schedule working around the world.

In July it was reported in the 'Farnham Herald' that the well known author JOANNA TROLLOPE was the guest speaker at the AGM of the Jane Austin Society. It reports that she was a teacher at Farnham Girls' Grammar School in the late 60's and also spent some time on secondment to Farnham Boys' Grammar School. She ended her days as a teacher in 1979 and has since become one of our most major authors with bestsellers like 'The Choir' and 'The Rector's Wife'.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

July 2000 saw a piece in the 'Farnham Herald' by HANS HOLM giving his review of the Millennium edition of the 'Farnhamian'. As he says there are now several candidates for the most famous Old Boy and we will return to the subject again in the future as no doubt more names will be put forward. The same newspaper carries regular articles by Hans on the movements and achievements of JEFFERY TATE, the well-known conductor. This time it was to announce the October appearance of Jeffrey at the Barbican to conduct the opening concert of the English Chamber Orchestra's 40th anniversary season.

We heard from BASIL FROST a few weeks after the Dinner saying that he had read a report of the event in a copy of the 'Farnham Herald' sent to him by DES O'SULLIVAN. Of the photographs printed he could only recognise TONY HARLAND. Basil had had a visit from PHIL BOWDEN, who he thinks left the School in 1949, and advises that Phil joined the Midland Bank from school and then moved to the Prudential where he became District Manager in Maidstone. He says that Phil keeps well and is still living in Maidstone.

We also hear from ALAN MORGAN who lives in Bungay in Suffolk, and recently took part in a sponsored parachute jump to help the National Deaf Childrens Society. Some Old Boys sent contributions and Alan had reached £1200 for his efforts, with more to come. He managed the jump, but suggests that anyone contemplating doing the same should do it before they are sixty years old.

An e-mail from E.A.DREW (1929-33) with a insight into his life so far, which now totals 83 years. Teddie recalls that his father came to Farnham as the railway stationmaster in 1929 and for a term Teddie was a boarder at the Grammar School. He joined School House and is still proud of this. In 1932 his father moved to West Croydon and Teddie became a boarder at the school once again for the complete school year 1932-33. He matriculated in 1933 and went straight to University College, London and obtained a degree in Civil Engineering in 1936. He then began his career with Surrey County Council Highways and Bridges Department. In 1939 he was Assistant Resident Engineer, and later Acting Resident Engineer on the Farnham By-Pass Project and left this position when the Navy mobilised reserve forces in that September. During his time on the By-Pass Project he kept in touch with the Association and the Staff at the School. On reporting aboard he came face to face with F.T.(Hefty) HOLMES and MICHAEL JUMP, both stalwarts of School House and in the same call-up. Teddie was stationed at Dover from October 1939 on magnetic mine-sweeping and during Dunkirk he was employed sweeping 24 hours each day. In August 1940 he was commissioned as an Engineer officer and spent the next four years in cruisers, two years in the Tropics and two years on the Murmansk runs. In 1944 he came ashore to the Artificer Training Establishment at Rosyth and was finally demobbed in December 1945. In peacetime he returned to Surrey County Council for two years, then moved to Stevenage and Harlow Development Corporations for twenty seven years and then on to a final thirteen years as a Consulting Engineer with the World Health Organisation, mainly working overseas. Teddie lost his first wife in 1974, re-married in 1980. He has three children (The eldest being 60 in 2001), lots of grandchildren and two great grand-daughters. Teddie attended the 1938 Dinner and then the 60th in 1992 and it is good to hear that he is well and using modern communications at his advanced age. (By the way he was known as Nobbie at School).

On 8th July 2000 there was a most successful reunion at the Farnham College of members of the 1970 intake, which was one of the last for the Boys and Girls Grammar schools. Much work was

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

(CONTINUED) done by PATRICK BLOWER and JACKIE MAY and between them they traced most of their classmates from the two Grammar Schools. In fact out of the 69 girls they traced 67 and out of the 66 boys they traced 63. ADRIENNE TAYLOR produced a comprehensive booklet, with photos and profiles on each person and the event was very professionally organised. On the day most of the number attended the buffet/drinks at the College and enjoyed meeting after so many years. Our own Secretary JOHN CROTTY was in attendance looking for new members for the Association. He is correct when he says that we must sign up as many of the younger ex-pupils of the Boys' Grammar School as possible if we are to exist well into the new millennium.

Just after the Millennium Dinner we heard from JOHN LLOYD, who lives in Bargara, Queensland in Australia, with his apologies for not being able to attend the event. With his wife he visited the Frensham/Farnham area in June and July and perhaps some Old Boys may have met him locally. Apart from still enjoying life in the New World he felt that the following poem that appeared as an epitaph to a recently deceased local dignitary may offer some comfort to lovers of the 'amber nectar'. Being in excess on three score years and ten and describing himself as an ardent lover of the 'elixir of youth', John hopes we can find space for the poem.

BEER

The Horse and the mule live thirty years.
 And never hear of wine or beers.
 The sheep and goat at twenty die,
 Without a taste of Scotch or Rye.
 The cow drinks water by the ton,
 And at eighteen is mostly done.
 The dog at fifteen cashes in,
 Without the aid of Rum or Gin.
 The cat in milk and water soaks,
 And then in twelve short years she croaks.
 The modest, sober, bone dry hen,
 Lays eggs for nogs then dies at ten.
 All animals are strictly dry,
 They sinless live and swiftly die.
 But sinful, Ginful, Scotch-soaked men,
 Survive for three score and ten.
 And if your fancy runs to beer,
 You can make it to your ninetieth year.
 Which proves it cannot hurt you none,
 To have yourself a lot of fun.
 Cheers !

Talking to ALLAN RYALL(1924-30) at the Southampton Lunch, he recalls the morning prayers in the School Hall very vividly. H.C.Kingcome treadling away on the harmonium and leading nearly 250 voices in one of Hymns A & M. Those who were 'railway buffs' and tall enough to see out of the Hall windows always looked out for the 9.24 to Waterloo, usually hauled by a named locomotive. Steam had a great fascination for many of all ages.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

During the afternoon of the Annual Dinner the Editor held a get-together at home for several ex-pupils who had started at the School in 1948 and stayed until 1953/54 or 1955. This had been arranged for some months in advance and the Old Boys travelled from far and wide. Attending were the following with their starting points; IAN BOLT (Faversham), JOHN COCKLE (Yeovil), HARRY SLINGO (Church Crookham), MAURICE JEFFREYS (Chagford in Devon), BRIAN MANNING (Farnborough), BRYAN BONE (Liphook), NEVILLE TIMMINS (Fleet), VIC BENNETT (Fareham), JOHN TRAVERS, JOHN FALKNER, CYRIL TRUST, BRIAN WEBBERLEY (All from Farnham) and the following who joined the party, ALAN COMMON (Canterbury) and TONY HARLAND (Farnham). It was quite an occasion, with some members meeting old classmates for the first time in 48 years.

PETER LARBY, ex-pupil and ex-teacher, has been chasing up some of his old team mates who appeared in a photo of the 1943 First XI Football Team and received letters from GEORGE RICKETTS and GEOFF BREHAUT. George retired way back in 1989 after a career in the aerospace industry. He celebrated his golden wedding last year, doubtless in the company of his two children and six grandchildren. Geoff is still in harness on the island of Guernsey.

Our Secretary advises that it can be surprising who you meet in the bookmakers. Queuing to place his bet on the Grand National he noticed that ex-pupil DAVID LEA (Lord Lea of Crodall) was also there hoping to win a few pounds. Not much opportunity for a long chat but we now know that our local Lord still keeps in contact with several of his old school friends.

There is obviously life after 75. HUGH JOHNS keeps busy as Press Officer for the Masonic Lodges in Wales, whilst GEOFF HEWES still manages a regular game of squash.

A recent recruit ANDY FRISH(1966-73) writes from Australia. He is wondering about the whereabouts of CLIFF REED, JEREMY EVANS, PAUL FENNEL and CLIFF MALLOWS. Perhaps somebody can help?



Opening of the 'Home of Memorabilia' - December 2000

Rear: Cyril Trust; George Baxter; Michael Horner; Graham Blunt; John Crotty;
Front: Sally Francis; Sylvia Morgan (Mayor of Farnham); Madeleine Hyde.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

On the 1st October the 100th Anniversary Performance of Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius' was performed at the Royal Albert Hall on behalf of the charity 'Help The Aged'. Apart from the London Philharmonic Orchestra and guest singers there was the 300 strong New Century Chorus conducted by Old Boy JOHN COTTERILL. This large, recently formed 'double choir' brought together singers from a number of choirs with whom John has been associated over the years. They included representatives from The Great Missenden Choral Society, Maidenhead Chamber Choir, Oxford Pro Musica Singers, Woking Choral Society and the Waverley Singers from Farnham. The evening was sponsored by the Cookson Group plc and some £30,000 was raised for the charity. John Cotterill was the conductor and musical director for the concert.

Some time ago I wrote to BRIAN WYATT in Canada asking him if he could send me a few lines giving an idea of his life since leaving school, but there was no reply. He has since been asked by 'Big Brother' VIC WYATT to reply and we now have the story in full of the past forty plus years since leaving the School. Brian writes as follows;

' On leaving the Sixth Form I was promptly press-ganged into National Service, where I rose to the dizzy rank of private (actually called signaller) in the Royal Corps of Signals. The good news was that I received a posting to SHAPE which was situated near Versailles, just outside Paris. This enabled me to improve my French and to visit many different areas in France and Spain. After demob I started work for a large Insurance Company in London, where I shared a variety of 'seedy' flats with an equally 'seedy' collection of flat-mates., notably ALAN COMMON, IAN BOLT, MIKE PRENTICE and brother VIC. During the soccer season we would travel down to Farnham to play for the Old Boys' teams. However, since most of our training was in 'The Coach and Horses' prior to the matches, we never fared too well ! (with apologies to John Crotty !).

After a few years, our numbers were whittled away by matrimony and I headed off to Teachers' Training College in Brighton where I spent three most enjoyable years obtaining my teaching certificate. I taught for a year in Birmingham before returning as a married man to Brighton where I completed a BA at Sussex University. From there my wife and I headed for Winnipeg, Manitoba, where we both taught for several years before moving to the milder climate of Vancouver in beautiful British Columbia. Taking advantage of the long summer school breaks we travelled extensively throughout Canada and the Western States, as well as Mexico and Hawaii. Time seemed to take its toll of our marriage and we went our separate ways. However, I was fortunate to meet another wonderful lady and we are still going strong after twenty years, partly due to the many shared interests as well as diverging ones.

After quitting teaching I tried a variety of occupations eg. Taxi-driver, commercial fisherman in the Georgia Strait and house painter. I finally zeroed in on tutoring and am really enjoying the one-to-one teaching experience in both Maths and French. I continued to play soccer into my mid-thirties and then switched to tennis. I still keep in shape by swimming at least once a week, and enjoy hiking with my dog in the local parks and forests. I also continue a love-hate relationship with golf (more hate at the time of writing) and I still do a bit of downhill ski-ing in the winter months.

I keep in contact with Ian(Bolt) and Alan(Common) over the years and hope to re-visit them in the UK during 2001. I have lost contact with Mike Prentice, but believe he is still working as a journalist in Ottawa. Hopefully when we visit I will be able to meet other Old Boys.'

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Attending a wedding reception at Chiddingfold just prior to Christmas 2000 I found myself sitting on the same table as another Old Boy, namely JEREMY REGAN (1954-60), who told me that during his time at the Grammar School he was something of a rebel. He left the School, with little or no examination results behind him, and became an estate agent locally and he is now retired. He is clearly a great golf fan and plays regularly at Farnham Golf Club. He also keeps in contact with old school friends such as; TONY CHUTER, BILL ROFFEY & MICK TUCKER (all 1953-59) and RAY MINGAY (1951-57). Jeremy actually handed over his subscription to the Association at the reception and is now a new member. He has also donated his old school cap, which is in good condition, to the memorabilia of the Grammar School that we are now displaying at the College. He promises to become more involved with the Association in the future, so he is not so much of a rebel as everyone thought, and will see if he can recruit old classmates. At the same wedding I also met KEITH PAGET (1942-48) who we featured in the previous magazine with his brothers Norman and Brian. Keith has promised to send us some of his own memorabilia.

Having attended the opening ceremony of the 'Home of Memorabilia' we received the following letter from TONY RAYER.

'Just a note to convey my appreciation for the 'Home of Memorabilia' - very enjoyable occasion and the perfect location, as that part evokes so many memories. On occasion I used to help out GEORGE BOYES (OR Baron de Bois as he signed autographs!) marking out the pitch or weeding the steps of the cricket pavilion (saddened to see that had gone) with a large undiluted can of Jeyes Fluid. No expense spared.

The photo of the entrance hall recalled the occasion when I slipped into the vestibule prior to a School match to collect my kit from the locker. George, with bucket and brush, was on his hands and knees scrubbing the tiles. Surprised by my unexpected intrusion he looked up, grinned, and said ' Step on the black 'uns, will you.'

(One sees the army of staff at the College now and realises that in the 40's and 50's George Boyes was responsible for cutting the grass, marking out the fields, cleaning the premises and general maintenance all on his own. He must have been value for money !).

In March of this year the Editor, CYRIL TRUST (1948-53), gave a lecture to the Farnham & District Museum Society entitled 'The Effect of Farnham Grammar School on the business life of Farnham'. From research it is clear that over the years many businesses in the town have been owned by Old Boys or their families, and although the lecture only covered about forty it is thought that over one hundred could have been included. The talk included several slides of premises old and new as well as Old Boys, and some anecdotes that have surfaced whilst editing the magazine. A few weeks prior to this talk MAURICE HEWINS gave one on the 'History of Badshot Lea', where he lives and is something of an expert on the village.

Try
Hirst
First

HIRSTEEL

(A DIVISION OF THOMAS HIRST & SON LTD)

- RSJ's, BEAMS, ANGLES, RE-MESH
- NEW & S' HAND-CUT WHILE-U-WAIT
- PROMPT SERVICE & DELIVERY
- SCRAP METAL MERCHANTS & PROCESSORS
- HOME D.I.Y. ENQUIRIES WELCOME



FARNBOROUGH 545081

YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL REUNION

After one or two very successful reunions there appears to be the need by several Old Boys to repeat such an event for their years, in fact the Editor has already tracked down several old classmates from the 1948 intake. I must say that to meet old colleagues after many years is a joy and it is good to hear of the 'life after Grammar School' stories that are told.

Only recently the reunion for the 1976 class has been held and here we have former pupils who entered the Grammar School, experienced the changes, and left the College. One of the driving forces behind the event was a new General Committee Member, Mike Mehta, who tells his story.

'After eighteen months of preparation a reunion of around one hundred pupils from the 'O' level class of 1976. together with past staff, was held at Farnham College assembly hall on the 11th November 2000. Past pupils comprised both girls and boys from the former Farnham Girls' and Boys' Grammar schools. Readers will know of course that the merging of the schools in 1973 effectively signalled the end of separate-sex grammar school education in Farnham. Inevitably from the merger, the individualities of the two schools became diluted. However, both schools share inherited traditions and memories and it was felt that a reunion to explore and revisit some of these was long overdue.

The initial inspiration for the reunion had come from Jane Tiffin (nee Ashby) and various old girls from FGGS had agreed to assist. I was duly co-opted as an Old Boy and to redress any gender imbalance on the committee ! Networking was successful in tracking most of the ex-pupils, while a private detective was employed to find those who had disappeared seemingly without trace. Once the initial invitation had gone out, the whole event developed an unstoppable momentum. The class photo from 1976 published in the 'Farnham Herald' rekindled memories and helped considerably as parents of former pupils still living in the area forwarded a copy of the article to their sons and daughters. In this way the net was spread far and wide and letters and e-mails poured in expressing great interest in the proposed event.

For most it was to be the first time they had been back to the school in over twenty years. While many attending the reunion still live locally, some had travelled from as far away as The States, Australia and Holland. The committee was particularly pleased with the good response from past teachers and rewarded with the presence of John Commerford (Physics), Jenny Commerford (Languages), Roger Grogut (PE), Rev. John Innes (RI), Howard Norton (History), Rev. David Page (History), Howard Thompson (Music), Linda Fox and Betty Morris (Biology), Mick Gorman (PE) and Steve Custance (Art). Some Old Boys were aware that Roger Grogut still teaches at the College.

A good selection of drinks and an impressive cold buffet was available and the photographer for the event had a busy afternoon. An air of nostalgia surrounded all those present and a 'memorabilia corner' helped by showing old photographs, programmes etc. It was noted by the ex-pupils, when thinking of the past, that several of the ex-members of staff were wearing the same clothing as they were when last seen in 1976.

On leaving, everyone received a millennium reunion year book compiled of potted histories sent in by ex-pupils together with their best and worst memories of life at the schools. The feedback from those present was tremendous and we will be repeating the event for certain.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

VIC WYATT (1947-50) says that he recently met two Old Boys. Something worth recording as he lives in Norfolk, which is cut off from the remainder of England by sea on three sides and Railtrack on the fourth. He recently travelled with the Norwich Old Vic to the Bristol Old Vic to see Old Boy, BILL WALLIS, appear in the title role of 'King Lear', but did not get the opportunity of talking to the well-known actor. Vic stayed overnight at his sister's and the following day met another Old Boy, GUY BELLAMY, in the lovely city of Bath. With Bill making the top grade as an actor and Guy becoming one of our most popular novelists we must try and get them to provide some news for the next magazine.

A little bird tells me that one of the Old Boys beat our current Prime Minister to the punch. In the 1980's Peter Mandelson worked at the TUC where his direct superior was DAVID LEA (Lord Lea of Crondall). Apparently Peter was not a good boy and David asked the then General Secretary, Len Murray, if he could dispense with his services as he was not happy with his 'out of office activities'. This was agreed and Mr Mandelson moved on. As my informant states 'That brings the score to Tony Blair 2 - David Lea 1.'

Towards the end of March The Coverdale Lecture in Farnham was given by Old Boy, MARTIN MILLETT, one of this country's foremost archaeologists. This was an important event in the town and is annually organised by the Farnham & District Museum Society in memory of a well known and loved ex-member. Martin is currently Professor of Archaeology at Southampton University and later this year will take up the same position at Cambridge University, which is probably the most prestigious in the land for this subject. His lecture was called 'Comparisons between Roman towns in Britain and Italy.' The Church House was filled to capacity.

The oldest Old Boy to attend the 2001 Annual Dinner, and the first man on his feet to begin the traditional Roll Call, was H.F.STUART, who started attending the School in 1924. During the evening I took the opportunity to talk to him and asked him if he could give me a memory for the magazine. He then told me a 'Moggy' story, as he called it, and recounted the day that he was selected by the Headmaster, F.A.Morgan, to see him after school lessons. On arriving outside the dreaded Headmaster's door he found that he was the last of five or six pupils and he had a long wait whilst they entered the room and were given their various punishments. Finally he stood before 'Moggy', who asked him why he was there and our pupil replied that he did not know. F.A.M. thought for a minute and then asked if the pupil was nicknamed 'The Carpenter' because he was so good at woodwork and the pupil agreed. F.A.M. then said 'Perhaps you could take my lectern away, Stuart, and fix the bottom rail properly, because it keeps giving way and all my papers fall on the floor during assembly.' A relieved pupil left the room complete with lectern and managed to repair it during the next woodwork lesson.

I feel sure that other readers have their own 'Moggy' stories and would appreciate receiving these for the next issue.

When this magazine was planned, two pages were set aside for an article by GUY BELLAMY, which was to have been called 'The reunion' and inspired by a book that he had read. He has had to cry off this time as he has just been contracted to write a screenplay of the book for television and the tight schedule allows little time for a 'Farnhamian' article. He has promised me that he will definitely write a piece next year, which will be most welcome. Whilst talking to Guy, he assures me that his health is much improved and he is back to work again.

LIFE IN THE FAS LANE

VIC WYATT (1947-50)

'Old Farnhamian Arrested'

My only recent foreign holiday was a short trip to Scotland in mid-February. A coach-load of us set off from Norwich on the Sunday evening and arrived at the Trident submarine base at Faslane at 7.00 am before the morning shift started. The aim was to block both gates for as long as possible. It was a lovely Spring morning and we had a fine view of the loch. Plenty of police and demonstrators were there already. Drums kept up a continuous beat, flutes were played and people danced, sang and chanted. Food and hot drinks were passed around and there was a really festive atmosphere. Everyone was in a good mood, even the police. One cheerful PC told me it was far more enjoyable than the previous day, when he'd been standing in the pouring rain, watching the crowd at the second Rangers-Celtic clash in five days.

Most of the action, we heard via mobile telephone, was taking place at the North Gate. (We were at the South). An MP, and MEP, an MSP and ten ministers of the Church of Scotland had already been arrested there - and, of course, lots of ordinary people. But then came our turn. We had chained and tied ourselves to various obstacles, and it took the police a long time to cut us free and place us under arrest. It must have been around 10.30 am.

Altogether nearly 400 were arrested (out of about 1000 people) and then distributed by sex among police stations all over Glasgow. It naturally took a long time to note down everybody's details and collect all their possessions - including watches and belts but no - mercifully, reading and writing materials. (If you are thinking of getting arrested, always make sure that you have a paperback with you). We had to leave our boots outside the cell door but somewhat to my surprise they hadn't been cleaned when we got them back. One of my cell-mates was a retired civil engineer who soon worked out that to walk around the cell 100 times would make one kilometre. But instead we chatted, joked and sang. And read.

The food ? Think of the cheapest package holiday airline and then move down-market from there. We were given blue plastic spoons, but they were no use at all for tunnelling. No birds to send messages and no cockroaches to race against each other. Time passed. Another meal came. Luckily the police at Maryhill (there were 60 of us there) were very friendly and some, I think, were sympathetic to our cause. But they were short-staffed and also rather slow at finger-printing. (To be fair, they were using a new electronic finger-printing gizmo imported from the United States which was about as effective as a Florida voting machine. Then we had to go to another room for the old-fashioned purple ink method because apparently NYPD's finest don't make use of palm prints). We were finally released at 1.30 am on the Tuesday.

Most people at the police stations had been let out rather earlier and our coach had had to leave at midnight. But this had been prepared for. There was a back-up mini bus from Norwich that collected the late ones (ten of us) and took them to the Friends' Meeting House in central Glasgow. Motherly Quaker women were still cheerfully serving soup and sandwiches. After a few hours lying in our sleeping bags on the library floor, we at last headed back South. It had been a very interesting couple of days. Life in the Fas Lane ! I've always wanted to have a bit of previous, but I'll try and play my 'Get Out Of Jail Free' card a little earlier next time.

OBITUARIES

It is sad news when one hears of the passing of one of our younger Old Boys, and such was the case when we heard of the death of ROGER STROYAN (1947-53). Roger attended the Boys' Grammar School, whilst sister Joanna went to the Girls' Grammar School. He represented Childe House at many sports and took part in the boxing, cricket, football and swimming, as well as being a well placed runner in the cross-country event each year. On leaving school he played for the Old Farnhamians' Soccer XI. He also became a first class table tennis player and for many years Roger was heavily involved in the local Scouts.

National service in the RAF took him to Singapore and on his return he joined Cornhill Insurance, where he remained for the rest of his working life. During his time with the company he worked at offices in London, Guildford, Glasgow and Norwich and was living in Suffolk with his second wife. His sister Joanna died some years ago.

The national press announced the death of another younger ex-pupil early this year, giving brief details of ROBERT FULLERTON-BATTEN (1950-55). Records show that Robert was a member of Massingberd House and enjoyed his sport. He played soccer for his house and was also a successful boxer, winning his weight in 1953 and appearing in the final two years later. On leaving the School he went to Birmingham University and gained his B.Sc. in Metallurgy and was asked to stay on to do research. There is little information about him since this time. His younger brother Robin also attended the School.

JOE HEWES (1929-35) was the eldest of the four Hewes brothers who went to the Grammar School. He joined the prep at the age of nine and was unfortunate in having to leave before completing his education, joining the 4th Hussars as a band boy. The regiment was amongst those which fell into the 'bag' in the 1941 Greek Campaign and so he spent the war years in a POW (Prisoner of War) camp. Joe continued his army career thereafter and was mentioned in dispatches during his service in Malaysia. After his retirement from the army he joined the West Country company, Clark Shoes.

SIDNEY PUTTICK (1926-32) ran the family motor cycle business in Shottermill. Sidney began managing the business quite soon after leaving school, owing to the early death of his father.

We hear from the Isle of Wight of the death of former master DEREK FRIGGINS, who joined the School in 1962 to teach Mathematics. He left the school in the early 1970's when it changed into a Sixth Form College and lived for many years at Sandown, IOW. He remained in contact with several colleagues in Farnham.

We also hear of the passing of KEN JAMES (1936-40). Ken contributed much to the life of the School and was an extremely good athlete, marksman and boxer. He was also the House Captain for Massingberd during his time at the School. His civil engineering studies at Birmingham were interrupted by war service in the Royal Engineers, serving in India, Iraq and Sri Lanka. Post war he completed his degree and joined the Colonial Engineering Service in Nigeria. After thirteen years he returned home and thereafter was with the private sector. As with the Hewes brothers, Ken had three brothers at the Grammar School.

OBITUARIES;

GROUP CAPTAIN CEDRIC MASTERMAN OBE DFC; The death of this Old Boy was reported in the 'Daily Telegraph' on 17th May 2000 and it told the story of an extremely brave man. He played a part in the ill-fated Norwegian Campaign of 1940 when he was sent to Norway to locate sites for makeshift airfields and whilst there came under heavy attack from the Luftwaffe. He stated that 'The machine-gunning was wicked, and amid bomb blasts and the stream of bullets I prayed as I have never prayed before.' He was finally evacuated by sea and awarded the OBE. Cedric joined the RAF in 1935 flying as a Hawker Audax biplane pilot and was soon posted to the West Frontier of India where he flew on counter-insurgency operations to frustrate the troublesome Waziri tribesmen. He returned home in 1939 and then flew Lysanders, and whilst with 225 Squadron had his 'Norwegian Adventure'. Afterwards he re-joined his squadron, then moved on to flying Hurricanes and in October 1941 took command of No.72 Squadron flying Spitfires in the celebrated Biggin Hill Wing. He led his fighters over France with great success and in 1942 became Biggin Hill's Wing Commander before moving to Malta, where he doubled as No 2 on the fighter staff and ADC to Lord Gort VC, the island's Governor. With the situation worsening he returned to flying and in two weeks his squadron shot down 16 enemy aircraft, he increased his own total to 6 and led his men shooting up aircraft on the ground, damaging enemy shipping, attacking trains, petrol dumps and road columns. For this bravery he received his immediate DFC (Distinguished Flying Cross). Having rested for much of 1943 as Wing Commander Training in Kenya he resumed operations in the Mediterranean with No 203 ground reconnaissance and light bomber squadron before moving to India for coastal patrols and convoy escort duties. Here he came to the attention of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten and served on his staff in Delhi and Burma.

Cedric returned home in May 1945 and after a spell at Transport Command he went to Commonwealth Air Forces HQ at Iwakuni, Japan. Later he served on the Intelligence staff during the Malayan emergency. His final posting in 1955 was as Air Attache in Prague. In 1958 he returned to civilian life and worked in the City of London until retiring in 1974. He married his wife Cynthia in 1940 and they had one son.

Cedric Audley Masterman was born on September 25th 1914 and he boarded at the Grammar School from 1925 until 1928 and was a member of School House. Results show that he was a good athlete and in 1928 he was Class 5 Boxing Champion and a member of the successful School House Rifle Shooting Team. He went to University College School in London and in 1932 joined Godsell & Co. a firm of foreign exchange brokers in the City before joining the RAF. He is remembered by Sylvia Morgan, who referred us to this obituary of an exceptional Old Boy.

**design studio · digital prepress · internet services
print production · copying services · business supplies**

riverprint

Congratulations from the
printer of the 'Farnhamian'
magazine

Riverprint Limited, Unit 9, Riverside Park, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UG

Tel 01252 722771 Fax 08707 702781

ISDN 01252 733898 Email sales@riverprint.co.uk Web Site www.riverprint.co.uk

OBITUARIES

LESLIE LORD, who left the School in 1925, passed away in January of this year at the age of 92, having lived in Farnham for all of his life. Leslie was born in 1903 and claimed the distinction of being the only person born in the council offices in South Street. His father was appointed the first care-taker of the newly-built Farnham Urban District Council offices, into which the council moved from its rented boardroom in the Corn Exchange in 1902, and the family occupied the flat over the adjoining fire station.

He first went to school at St.Polycarp's in Bear Lane and then moved on to the Grammar School at the age of eleven. He enjoyed a variety of sports at the School and played for the First XI at Football and was the captain of the Second XI Cricket team. He also boxed very successfully for Childe House. He took an active part in the cadet Force and by the time he left the School he was a sergeant.

He first worked for Swain & Jones for a short time and then moved to Mardon & Ball and then to Tarrants, who were both local building companies. During the second World War he was sent to East Africa to form batteries of African troops, then he took a commission and moved to India. The end of the war prevented him moving on to Burma. Les returned to Tarrants, now taken over by Parkinson's, and worked there until he was 65 years of age.

Les never married, but took part in many local activities. He played cricket for the Nelson Arms and in younger days played snooker at the Farnham Institute. He was a long-time member of the Conservative Club and was twice elected captain of Farnham Brightwells Bowling Club.

In his obituary in the 'Farnham Herald' it stated that Leslie Lord had a great sense of fun, and will be remembered for his kindness, courtesy and good humour and his talent for friendship.

EDDIE MARSH (1922-26) spent most of his whole adult life in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe but was never out of touch with the Association. A life member, his accounts of his life out there and his career with the railway services are to be found in many of the 'Farnhamian' magazines over the years. During much of his thirty years retirement he was a Justice of the Peace. Tragically his cause of death was, as his son wrote, 'murdered in his bed by a robber.'

Many members will recall the rather up-market men's outfitters in the Borough called 'Hamilton Jones'. This was the family business of JOHN HAMILTON JONES (1932-41) who was always a fine advert, being smartly dressed on all occasions. 'Ham' was secretary of the Association immediately after the war and during the hostilities he served in the navy. During that time he was moved to write in the 'Farnhamian' with the news that whilst serving on the HMS Edinburgh he was intrigued to discover that the scroll under the ship's crest contained the School motto. After the closure of the shop 'Ham moved to Exeter. In retirement he was secretary of the local British Legion.

IAN SHERFIELD (1935-41) was one of a family of builders whose yard and offices were situated in Castle Street on the north side. We lost touch with him for some years when he moved from that address, but restored him to the membership list two years ago. His cousin remains a life member of the Association.

OBITUARIES

A life member, JOC FISHER (1938-44), was a Guildford boy. His son wrote that his father valued his contacts with the School and the Association; 'As I write (in his study) there is in front of me on the wall a photograph of the 1943-44 Farnham Grammar School First XI football team.' We have no details of his career.

For many years DUDLEY BACKHURST regularly visited the Isle of Wight to see our oldest living Old Boy, REDVERS GODSLAND (1908-16) and it is appropriate that he should write his obituary now that Redvers has passed away in the latter part of the year 2000.

'Redvers Godsland was born in Middlesex in October 1901, but lived with an aunt in Aldershot. He started at Farnham Grammar school in 1908 and as his birthday was in October he was probably not quite seven years old. As one of the youngest boys in the school he was one of 'Miss Williams Little Darlings'. The school in Morley Road had not long been opened and he travelled by train each day from Aldershot. He had a cousin at the school who also attended when it was still situated in West Street.

Later on in his school life he became a boarder and even stayed at the school by himself during the half-term holidays. He was be-friended by Dr. Brown and his family and at Southampton Dinners Redvers and RAYMOND BROWN (1909-18) would recall those days together. His father, a regular soldier, was killed during the First World War and the news was given to him by the Rev. Samuel Priestley. By the age of about thirteen both parents had died and the school took on the role of surrogate parent. It is probably because of this that he developed such a love for the school. One of his happiest memories was the time he joined the school Cadet Force. He left school in 1916 when he was fourteen years old to work on the Bramshill estate. Later he joined the army and during the Second World War spent much of his time in India and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka).

He married in 1932 and he and his wife ran a newsagents at East Cowes until they retired in 1967. The residents of Osborne House were valued customers. It was whilst he was living in East Cowes that I first met him, at the inaugural Southampton Dinner in 1962 and he continued to attend until 1973. We then lost contact until 1992 when I visited him and his wife at their home in Northwood just outside West Cowes. They were enjoying a long and happy retirement and had taken up bowls. Redvers had always been keen on cricket and became president of the East Cowes Cricket Club.

I persuaded him to attend the Southampton Lunch in 1993 and 1994 and he enjoyed the occasions immensely. He had a great love of the school and with the passage of a great many years viewed everything with good humour. He maintained his impish ways and would sometimes telephone me to relate something new he had recalled. I visited Redvers a few days before he died when he was fast approaching his 99th birthday. We all hoped he would reach his century- but it was not to be. He had enjoyed a long and eventful life. With his death the Association has lost its last link with the early days of the school at Morley Road. It has also lost a chivalrous, gentle man. Our sympathies go to his widow, Clarissa, who still lives on the Isle of Wight, and to his son and daughter.

Acknowledgements;

The following were sponsors for the various adverts appearing in this issue.

Michael Horner; John Hirst; Ray Kirk; Bryan Bone; Norman Patrick; Stephen Pritchard; John Crotty; Cyril Trust; Ian Sargeant; John Mitchell; Christopher Hone.

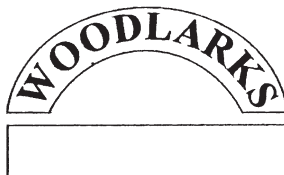
We look forward to the
Eighth Edition of the
'Farnhamian'
from

HONE LANDSCAPES LIMITED

*Landscape Contractors
to the Construction Industry
Design Consultants
Private and Commercial
Contracts*

Alexandra House
1 Waverley Lane
Farnham, Surrey
GU9 8BB
Telephone: 01252 721167
Fax: 01252 726490

WOODLARKS
*is a sheltered workshop
for physically disabled people
in beautiful countryside
near Farnham in Surrey.*



*If you would like to know
more about
Woodlarks Workshop
please contact:*

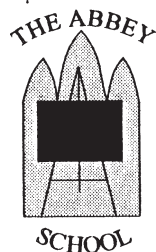
Administrator,
Woodlarks Workshop,
Lodge Hill Road,
Farnham, Surrey, GU10 3RB.
Tel : 01252 714041

We welcome any
help towards our
horticulture project

LEONARD CHESHIRE 

105-106 West Street,
Farnham, Surrey.
Tel: 01252 715185

The **ABBEY SCHOOL** at
Farnham
for pupils with Moderate Learning
Difficulties in South West
Surrey



The Abbey School
Menin Way
Farnham
Surrey GU9 8DY
Tel: 01252 725059



MENZIES

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

We've joined forces to serve you better!

With a total of 7 offices, 2 offices based in the Farnham area, Menzies have a great local knowledge of business needs and a wealth of experience and services in all areas of business finance and planning, tax and accountancy. We take great pride in providing a first rate professional service and in the strong relationships we enjoy with our clients.

We'd be delighted to help you achieve your business goals - to find out what we have to offer, contact a partner at your nearest office for a free initial consultation;

Office	Partner	Telephone	Email
Farnborough	Stephen Pritchard	01252 541244	spritchard@menzies.co.uk
Farnham	Michael McAleenan	01252 716434	mmcaleenan@menzies.co.uk

*For more information on our full range of services and on various topical issues
visit our website at*

www.menzies.co.uk

Registered to carry on audit work and authorised to carry on investment business by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Invitation

Old Farnhamians' Association

Southampton Luncheon 2001

Wednesday 17th October, 2001

at Busketts Lawn Hotel,
Woodlands, Nr. Southampton.

For details please contact
Dudley Backhurst
Telephone: 02380 739760

Invitation

Old Farnhamians' Association

Annual Dinner 2002

Saturday 30th March 2002

Farnham College,
Morley Road, Farnham

For details please contact

John Crotty
Telephone: 01252 793660