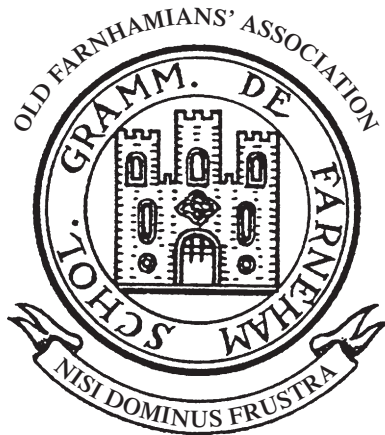


THE FARNHAMIAN



JUNE 2010

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THE FARNHAMIAN

June 2010

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOL. 17

This issue was begun a few days after the 2009 edition was posted to members, and from day one there was a steady flow of information coming in to make this another interesting magazine. Whilst the last issue was being finalised we heard of the death of Ray Kirk, and in this volume we can print a suitable obituary to this much respected Old Boy. A few weeks prior to this, Mike Power was reported as dying at his home in Worthing and again we thank his widow, Winifred (or Wink as she is known), for the details of his career etc. Sadly at the end of July, Terry Tidd passed away and those who regularly attend the Southampton Lunch will miss his presence.

On a bitter-sweet note readers will see that in August 2009 Phillip Spencer, our Oldest Living Old Boy, celebrated his 105th birthday. This was an amazing achievement and reports informed us that he was very healthy. Unfortunately Father Time caught up with Phil in the November and he passed away peacefully. He suffered no illness and died of old age.

In October the Farnham Lecture and Southampton Luncheon were both successful events, as were the Partnership Awards and College Awards in November and December. We then entered 2010 and again Farnham Castle was the venue for the Annual Dinner and is an excellent place for such an important event in our calendar. This year again proved very successful with over 80 Old Boys sitting down for the meal and speeches.

Work continued with the lodging of the school memorabilia at both the Museum of Farnham and the Surrey History Centre at Woking. It is time that items were unearthed from attics and garden sheds and presented to the public for all to see, and obtain an insight into the Farnham Grammar School as we knew it. With more items held at the Museum of Farnham, plans have been made for an exhibition for the months of March and April about the former Boys' Grammar Schools in Farnham. In May a two week Old Farnhamians' display can be seen at the Farnham Library.

A committee involving some Old Girls and some Old Boys have completed plans for a garden party, with members of both organisations attending. Ian and Margaret Sargeant have kindly offered their house and garden as the venue on Saturday 19th June, and it is hoped that about 100 former Grammar School pupils will enjoy 'An Afternoon of Nostalgia'. A full report will appear in the next magazine.

Finally we must record that the bust of former headmaster, George Baxter, has been moved from the Farnham Maltings, owing to extensive reconstruction, and as we go to press it should be on permanent display at the Farnham Library, based at Vernon House in West Street.

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION

Over twenty Old Boys attended the Annual General Meeting at Farnham College in late January and the following were the main items covered:

The membership of the Old Farnhamians' Association stands at 327 paid up members and a further 150 who are in regular contact via the excellent website operated by Ian Sargeant.

It was reported that the 77th Annual Dinner at Farnham Castle had been a great success and the venue would be used again for the 2010 dinner on Saturday 13th March. Likewise, the Southampton Luncheon becomes more popular each year and the 49th luncheon will be held on Wednesday 13th October at the Woodlands Lodge Hotel in the New Forest.

Stephen Pritchard, the Treasurer, reported that finances remained stable and healthy.

Cyril Trust, chairman for the 400 Trust, reported that the Trust had now completed the cataloguing of all of the available memorabilia from the former Farnham Grammar School and items were now deposited in either the Museum of Farnham or Surrey History Centre at Woking. During the months of March and April 2010 there will be an exhibition entitled 'Farnham Grammar School' at the Museum of Farnham and in August there will be a display for the Association at Farnham Library. The chairman said that the 2009 Farnham Lecture given by Anne Jones, curator of the Museum of Farnham, had been successful and well over 100 people attended with £250 given to the museum from the proceeds. The 2011 Lecture would be given on Thursday 30th September at Farnham College by David Victor-Smith, leader of the Farnham Youth Choir and former Head of Music at the college. In the 2009 Farnham College Awards there were 26 sponsors from Old Boys or their families and special Farnhamian Awards were given to top students at Heath End School, Weydon School, Ash Manor School and Guildford College.

Cyril Trust also reported that plans for the combined Old Boys' and Old Girls' Associations Garden Party were well advanced and the event would be held on the Saturday afternoon of 19th June 2010. This new event would be held at a private house and it was hoped that over 100 will attend. He also reported that the 2010 Farnhamian magazine was almost complete and would be available in May, and 2012 would be the 100th anniversary of the magazine. .

Ian Sargeant advised that the website was increasingly popular and it may require another person to help him with the site and eventually take it over sometime in the future. As the chairman of the Leaving Scholarship Trust he reported that during the year they had given financial support to 9 students from Farnham College and are trying to help a greater number this year. As the link governor between the old Grammar School and the college he reported that he felt that the College was retaining the high academic standards of the old school and the relationship between the old and the new was first class.

Brian Williams was re-elected as President for his third and final year and all the various officers were prepared to remain and were therefore also re-elected. It was felt that in the future a Vice President should be appointed and begin a line of succession for the office of President. It was also hoped that some of the younger members would become more involved in the activities of the Association.

2010 ANNUAL DINNER

Once again Farnham Castle was chosen as the venue for the 78th Annual Dinner and without doubt this is a wonderful setting for such a prestigious event. This year there were just over eighty Old Boys in attendance and they sat down to a first class meal, supported by excellent service from the castle catering staff.

The proceedings began with the traditional reading of the list of members who have died in the previous twelve months, followed by a welcome to Terry Venables, who had flown over from Melbourne in Australia to attend. This time a former member of staff, The Rev. John Innes, said grace and he sat with fellow teachers Stanley Owen and Tony Moore.

As usual the hall was filled with old classmates meeting after some time and replaying old memories of their time at the Grammar School, whilst organiser, Roger Edgell and his team went from table to table with the raffle tickets. As the coffee was served the first speaker took the floor and a genuine welcome was given to Fred Carter, the current Director of Farnham College. He explained that the college had amalgamated with Guildford College and in recent years the academic achievements at Farnham had been among the highest in the land, and the standard was still up to the Grammar School levels. He thanked the Old Boys and their families for their support sponsoring individual awards for the better students and hoped that this would continue to grow. He wanted to see the relationship between the College and the Association come closer and would welcome any initiatives from the Old Boys to reach this goal. He finished with a toast to the old school and sat down to hearty applause.

Following on was Richard Phillips, who gave a humorous and nostalgic speech relating his days at the school. He particularly praised former headmaster, George Baxter, who had helped shape his life and offered him wise council as well as a good education. He also praised Ned Godsil for his support and recalled certain humorous events involving Leonard Evans and Don Nicolson. He echoed the feelings of the former speaker in wishing to see the College and the Old Boys working closely together in the future. Richard finished with a toast to the Farnham Grammar School.

The final toast was given by David Cutler, who stated that having become a life member soon after leaving school he had neglected to become involved with the Old Boys until the 2000 Millennium Dinner at the castle. Since then he and his great friend Gerald LeVey have attended most dinners and Southampton lunches and realised what they had missed over the years. David also fitted in one or two appropriate jokes and finished with a toast to the Association.

Brian Williams, the current President replied to the three speakers and thanked each one in turn for attending and their words. He was presented with a framed photograph of the recent sponsorship awards' ceremony by Fred Carter and thanked him for this gesture. He then moved on to the new committee, under Roger Edgell, who had arranged the evening and said that in his opinion it had been a great success. Next he mentioned the former teaching staff who were present and hoped that in future more of them would attend. He asked all present to rise and toast the three former masters.

2010 ANNUAL DINNER

Finally the President announced that there was a busy programme for the year ahead and hoped that many present would attend the new Old Boys/ Old Girls Garden Party taking place on 19th June. It was hoped that one hundred former pupils of the old schools would attend and perhaps this could become an annual event. On 13th October the Southampton Lunch would be held at the Woodlands Lodge Hotel in the New Forest, and having attended twice he said that it was an outstanding event and more members would be welcome. On 30th September the Farnham Lecture would be given at the college by David Victor-Smith, one time Head of Music at the school and well known leader of the Farnham Youth Choir.

He announced that for the months of March and April there was an exhibition of Farnham Grammar School memorabilia at the Museum of Farnham and in August there would be a display for the Old Farnhamians at Farnham Library. He finished by thanking Ian Sargeant for the excellent website and Cyril Trust for his continued involvement producing the magazine and arranging the Farnham Lecture, Southampton Lunch, Awards Evening and this year the new OFA/OGA Garden Party. He said that the 2011 Annual Dinner would be at the same venue on 26th March and the following year it may be possible that the committee would try out the event being held at a lunch time, instead of the evening.

With the end of the speeches the Loving Cup was passed around the tables and this was followed by John Crotty giving the Roll Call. This time the oldest pupils attending stood up as the year 1938 was read out.

The evening finished as it has for many years with the Old Boys standing to sing the school song, written by former headmaster, F.A.Morgan. As the chorus was sung the various house names were shouted out by former members and the hall resounded to the names of Morley, Massingberd, Harding, Childe and School. Still standing the guests heartily sang the National Anthem before gradually dispersing to all parts of the country. Again the Old Boys of Farnham Grammar School showed that they are very much alive and kicking and will never forget those golden days at Morley Road.

Attending:

T.Andrews; P.Barnett; C.Beal; R.Bennett; D.J.Blunt; B.E.Bone; D.Bowtell; R.Bowtell; D.Buckell; E.Buer; F.Carter; J.Clark; R.S.Cleminson; D.Coakes; J.Cooke; J.A.Cope; P.Cope; P.I.Cranswick; J.Crotty; D.Cutler; B.J.Daniels; D.J.Edgell; R.G.Edgell; R.E.Edwards; K.Elkins; C.Fitch; P.Ford; R.A.Frampton; A.Gatfield; T.German; R.Golding; D.Grimes; G.H.A.Hewes; R.H.Hewes; J.Hibberd; M.J.Horner; D.P.Hughes; P.Huntingford; Re. J.Innes; M.Jeffreys; R.J.D.Jones; G.LeVey; D.Lucas; R.Luckhurst; J.R.Matthews; M.Mehta; K.Mentzel; A.L.Moore; K.Mortimer; C.Mullins; P.Mylles; C.Nash; D.Nunn; M.Owen; S.J.Owen; J.Peace; J.E.Pesterfield; D.Phillips; R.M.Phillips; T.W.Phillips; B.Philpott; D.Poleglaze; A.J.Rayer; I.Sargeant; J.Saunders; M.D.Seignot; M.E.H.Sturt; N.Timmins; J.Travers; C.D.Trust; T.Tubb; H.Upfold; T.Venables; M.Watts; R.Welland-Jones; J.R.Wilkinson; B.R.Williams; M.A.Wingent; M.Wood; T.Withall.

2009 SOUTHAMPTON LUNCHEON

THE OLD BOYS ENJOY MEETING IN THE NEW FOREST

On a beautiful sunny autumn day, forty six former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School descended on the Woodlands Lodge Hotel in the New Forest to celebrate the 48th Southampton Lunch. Once again the Old Boys came from as far as Wellingborough, Plymouth, Criccieth and even Baltimore in the United States.

Cyril Trust, the regular organiser of this event, welcomed three special guests before the meal commenced. One was Sylvia Backhurst, whose husband, Dudley, was one of the four Old Boys who started this event in 1961. Another was Norman Paget, who lives in Baltimore, and once again had arranged his visit to England to coincide with this luncheon. Finally to Hugh Batchelor, who was the only ex-teacher from the school present. A round of applause was given to John Crotty who was attending a record 38th Southampton Luncheon.

After an excellent meal the organiser outlined some of the future plans for the Old Farnhamians' Association, beginning with the 21st Farnham Lecture to be given at Farnham College on 22nd October by Anne Jones, curator of the Museum of Farnham. Her talk will be entitled 'Who Cares about Farnham's Past?' and should prove of great interest to those who would like to know more about Farnham.

In recent months much of the memorabilia from the old school has been catalogued and housed in either the Surrey History Centre at Woking or the Museum of Farnham. These items will form the basis of an exhibition entitled 'Farnham Grammar School' to be held at the museum in West Street during March and April 2010.

Old Boys or their families have increased their sponsorship awards to Farnham College and in December will give cheques to twenty five top students. They also sponsor 'Farnhamian Awards' to top students at Guildford College, Heath End School, Weydon School and Ash Manor School. This is in keeping with the aims of the Farnhamian 400 Trust to support local education and reward excellence in general.

Cyril Trust also announced that in June 2010 there will be a Garden Party combining the Old Girls' and the Old Boys' Associations as well as the Annual Dinner on 13th March. Finally those present stood in silence as a sign of respect to Terence Tidd, who had supported the lunch for many years, and then raised their glasses to drink a toast to Phil Spencer, who is the oldest living Old Boy at 105 years of age.

Once again a first class event, which attracts an increasing number of Old Boys each year.

Attending: Mrs Sylvia Backhurst: H.Batchelor: C.Beal: J.Bentick: B.E.Bone: D.Bowtell: H. Brindley: D.Buckell: P.Clark: J.Cockle: R.Common: J.Cooke: J.H.Crotty: D.Cutler: B. Daniels: R.Edgell: P.Ford: R.Hewes: J.Hibberd: A.Holmes: G.Honey: G.V.Hunt: P. Huntingford: M.E.Jeffreys: D.Lampard: G.LeVey: R.Luckhurst: J.Mitchell: K.Mortimer: C.Nash: N.Paget: J.Peace: D.Phillips: B.Phillpott: P.Read: D.Roe: I.C.Sargeant: R.Short: M. Sturt: N.Timmins: J.Travers: C.D.Trust: B.Webberley: B.Williams.

2009 FARNHAM LECTURE

Over one hundred people enjoyed the 21st Farnham Lecture at Farnham College Performance Hall, when Anne Jones, curator of the Museum of Farnham, gave a talk entitled 'Who Cares About Farnham's Past?' After more than an hour, the audience knew that Anne and her staff at the museum in West Street certainly did care!

The story she told centred around Willmer House, a beautiful property and one of few that are listed buildings in the town of Farnham. She showed paintings of the house at different times, by different local artists, until reaching the period where photography took over. Number 24, West Street had been a family home, a girls' school, and a home for the Canadian soldiers during the Second World War and in the hands of the family of Canon Crum, who sold it to Waverley Borough Council.

There had been several attempts to open a museum in the town and many artefacts were housed at a variety of locations in the area. However, in 1961 the Museum of Farnham was opened and the house became a home for Farnham memorabilia as well as several items with little or no connection with the town. To have a well laid out collection in what was a family home proved difficult and photos were shown of the rooms in varying states of disarray. It was not until the 1990s that the building received backing for a huge refurbishment programme that the lay out enabled rooms to be segregated sensibly into archaeology, costume, education etc. During the work a Tudor cellar was developed into a suitable room for use as a backdrop for the exciting schools' programme encouraged by the curator, and the education officer working at the museum.

As the speaker moved through the building one could see the wealth of memorabilia available at the museum, and anyone wanting more information about Farnham would be wise to make a visit and ask to see the various articles. It was clear that the actual museum could not hold all of the articles and there was a substantial archive off site, but still available to the researcher by giving the staff a few days notice of a proposed visit.

There are regular exhibitions held at the museum and in March and April 2010 there will be a 'Farnham Grammar School Exhibition', where much of the history of the old school will be on show. A 'must-visit' for Old Boys and their families.

The lecture encouraged the listener to visit the museum and see for themselves and it was good to see many students from both Farnham College and Weydon School listening to this interesting story. This was one of the most interesting Farnham Lectures and very appropriate for the twenty first in the series.

Cyril Trust, the organiser of this annual event oversaw the question time and announced that the 2010 Farnham Lecture will be given by David Victor-Smith, one time Head of Music at the college and well known for his successes with the Farnham Youth Choir. This event was presented by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, who made a gift to the museum of a high percentage of the proceeds from the evening.

FAMILY ALBUM NO.7.



These photographs were sent in by Mrs Julia Wilson, the daughter of Harold Beeken who was one of the most loved and respected of teachers. Above, shows how he loved cricket and I wonder how many readers can name all the pupils and staff in the group.



Here is a photograph of many of the staff seated in the front row at a Speech Day and in the old main hall that was used for assemblies and important occasions. Who can you name?

2009 FARNHAM COLLEGE AWARDS' CEREMONY

The giving of awards to top performing students began early for the Old Farnhamians in 2009, owing to the introduction of a two new awards for Farnham students. The two awards were given to students at the prestigious Guildford College Star Awards' Event on 13th November 2009, and it had been agreed that a trophy and a cheque for £100 , provided by the 400 Trust, was the reward for the excellent work.

Former Presidents, John Crotty and Mike Horner, represented the Old Boys and actually presented the awards on stage with former tennis star Annabel Croft, the guest of honour for the event. It is hoped that this will be an annual award from the Old Boys, and will help to maintain the good relationship with Guildford College and Farnham College.

The initial winners of the 'Old Farnhamians' awards were as follows:

Daniel Kirkbride: 16-19 A Level Student of the Year from Farnham College.

Charlotte Murphy: 16-19 Vocational Student of the Year Award from Farnham College.

On 17th December 2009 Farnham College held their own Awards' Ceremony, and again the Old Boys and their families were heavily represented. This time the guest of honour was Greg Searle, who with his brother won a gold medal at the Barcelona Olympics. The full list of awards, and the names of Old Boys and families who sponsored them, is detailed below.

William Beattie	The John Crotty Award for outstanding achievement.
Amy Bell	The Mike Horner Award for outstanding achievement in History and Sociology.
Emily Cabrol	The Cyril Trust Award for exceptional achievement during the college year 2008/2009.
Miranda Chadkirk	The John Mew Award for exceptional achievement in English during the college year 2008/2009.
Milissa Chattaway	The Bryan Bone Award for outstanding endeavour in English during the college year 2008/2009.
Samantha Collins	The Sturt Family Award for outstanding achievement in Art & Design, Design Technology Graphic Materials, Media & Photography during the college year 2008/2009.
Oliver Cummin	The Graham Blunt Award for outstanding achievement in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics during the college year 2008 and 2009.
Jessica Daughters	The John Aylwin Award for exceptional achievement in Design Technology Graphic Materials and Photography during the college year 2008/2009.
Elizabeth Dawes	The Paul French Award for outstanding achievement in Mathematics and Science during the college year 2008/2009.
Biddy Element	The John Wills Award for outstanding achievement in Art & Design during the college year 2008/2009.

2009 FARNHAM COLLEGE AWARDS' CEREMONY

Rosie Ellis	The Ian Sargeant Award for exceptional achievement in Photography and Art & Design Applied Double.
Claire Preston	The Audrey Edington Award for outstanding achievement in hairdressing during the college year 2008/2009.
Hannah Fox	The Geoff Hooker Award for outstanding achievement in Biology, Media and Critical Thinking during the college year 2008/2009.
Prabin Gurung	The Stella & Tony Bolt Award for outstanding endeavour and progress during the college year 2008/2009.
Edward Hains	The Dudley Backhurst Award for outstanding achievement in Science during the college year 2008/2009.
David Horner	The Tony Rayer Award for outstanding achievement in Film Studies and Photography during the college year 2008/2009.
Daniel Kirkbride	The Maurice Jeffreys Award for outstanding achievement in Economics.
Katie Lloyd	The Ian Bolt Award for outstanding achievement during the college year 2008/2009.
Teige Matthews-Palmer	The Alan Lovell Award for outstanding achievement during the college year 2008/2009.
Rebecca Phillips	The John Travers Award for outstanding achievement during the college year 2008/2009.
Megha Rai	The Ron Short Award for outstanding achievement in Science during the college year 2008/2009.
Hazel Simpson	The Chris Nash Award for outstanding achievement in Mathematics Geography, Chemistry & Physics during the college year 2008/2009
Anna Tindall	The Roy Robins Award for outstanding achievement over the past year in French, Spanish & Psychology during the college year 2008 and 2009.
Kerry-Anne Usher	The Peter Read Award for exceptional achievement in Drama during the college year 2008/2009.
Jessica Winter	The Don Homer Award for outstanding achievement in Drama during the college year 2008/2009.
Josh Wreford	The Brian Williams Award for outstanding achievement in IT during the college year 2008/2009.
Joshua Caren & Emily Stevens	The John Goddard Award to assist them in their future careers.
Qiong Wang	The William Stroud Prize for maximum effort in A Level Mathematics.
Jessica Winter	The F A Morgan Prize for Drama-for excellence in Drama.

2009 FARNHAM COLLEGE AWARDS' CEREMONY

Bryan Bone presents his award to Melissa Chattaway for outstanding endeavour in English.



Cyril Trust presents his award to Emily Cabrol for exceptional achievement.

The two sponsored awards shown here were among twenty-six in total given by Old Boys or their families in 2009. There is still room for more awards of this kind and details can be obtained from the editor of this magazine.

2009 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS' SCHEME

Once again the Farnhamian 400 Trust agreed to continue with the Farnhamian Award to the three feeder schools to Farnham College and representatives of the trust attended the award evenings at Heath End School, Ash Manor School and Weydon School.

This year the awards' programme began at Heath End, with Tony Gatfield and Bill Luff acting as our representatives and being treated as special guests for the evening. The Farnhamian Award is the premier award for the school and is coupled with the Millennium Award and goes to the top student each year. This year it was the turn of Louise Ashwell, and she accepted the award from Councillor Peter Martin (Surrey Cabinet Member for Children & Learning at Surrey County Council).

The next school to hold their awards' evening was Ash Manor, where new headmaster David Garrido has taken over from long-serving Bob Linnell. On this occasion the 400 Trust was represented by Mike Horner and Stephen Pritchard. Once again our sponsorship was used for the premier award of the evening with The Head Teacher's Trophy for Endeavour & Old Farnhamians' Award going to David Crow. David had achieved ten passes in his GCSE exams and all subjects between 'A' and 'C' grade.

The evening was in the presence of the Deputy Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Marsha Moseley, and the guest speaker and presenter of the awards was Rhys Jones, a well known adventurer and mountaineer and the youngest person to climb Mount Everest. Aged less than twenty this amazing young man was the mountaineer who claimed the world record by becoming the youngest person to climb the highest mountain on each continent, known as the Seven Summits Challenge.

The final awards' evening was at Weydon School, where the 400 Trust was represented by John Crotty and our current President, Brian Williams. Here again the Old Farnhamians' Cup was given to an outstanding pupil in Susan Wright, who gained eleven A* Grade results and two A Grade results. The award was given for her particularly high marks in the field of Mathematics.

The guest of honour for the evening was Damien Hughes, who is a motivational speaker and works all over the world with multi-national companies. He joined Unilever early in his career and became the youngest-ever Human Resources Director. He has worked in the field of sport in particular and has been involved with Manchester United, the England Rugby Union and Rugby League squads in recent years. He has written three best-selling books on the subject and runs his own company called 'Liquid Thinking'.

There is no doubt that the Old Farnhamian Award for each of these schools is now regarded as the award for their very best pupils. In 2009 the recipients of the award from all three local schools were exceptionally talented. One of the purposes of the Farnhamian 400 Trust is to support the improvement of education in Farnham, and through this scheme they are providing the incentive and the reward to the pupils of the schools involved.

2009 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS' SCHEME

Mike Horner (left) and Stephen Pritchard (right) with David Crow from Ash Manor School.



Tony Gatfield (left) and Councillor Peter Martin with Louise Ashwell from Heath End School.

THE FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL CODE - JANUARY 1968

One of the criticisms of modern education, and the general behaviour of young people is the lack of discipline, both at home and at school. When most of the Old Boys attended school, the disciplines were almost like 'standing orders' in the armed services, and among the vast memorabilia being collated for the Museum of Farnham was this copy of the School Code dated 9th January 1968.

This code of rules (none of which are new) draws attention to some which are being neglected. It is not meant to be exhaustive and does not imply that irresponsible behaviour not mentioned in the code is therefore allowed.

1. To ease movement in the school, keep to the left on the stairways and in corridors. Do not run inside the building.
2. The proper place for games is the playground and they are not to be played in the courtyard in front of the school, in the area of the steps leading to the field nor in the area near room 20.
3. Transistor radios and musical instruments (other than those used in recognised school musical activities) are not to be brought to school.
4. Unless written permission has been given beforehand by the Headmaster, on the day of a boy's return from absence a parent's note of explanation must be brought to his form-master.
5. Because the cost of upkeep of the school is heavy, school property must always be treated with care. When a boy breaks or loses anything belonging to the school, it is a point of honour that he reports it immediately to his form-master. He will be required, within reason, to pay for the loss or damage.
6. All personal property must be plainly marked with the owner's name. When a boy loses something he should, after a thorough search, report the loss to his form-master, or in the case of games and P.E. kit to Mr.Tarr.
7. Borrowing of games and P.T. kit is forbidden. A boy found wearing another boy's kit will be punished.
8. Money and other valuables are not to be left in the cloakroom or changing room. When he changes for games a boy should hand such valuables to a master.
9. School uniform will be worn to and from school and by school teams to and from matches. This means a school blazer, tie (which must not be covered with a high-necked pullover) grey trousers and cap. The wearing of the cap is optional by sixth, fifth and fourth forms, by teams on Saturdays and in the summer term by the whole school. The use of the school scarf is optional.
10. When a boy is given permission not to wear school uniform on a particular day, the alternative clothes must be reasonably formal and must include jacket, collar and tie.
11. When waiting for a master at registration or at lesson time a class will remain quietly seated, except in those practical rooms where a class is required to wait quietly outside.
12. Ball point pens are not to be used for written work.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS!

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL MEMORABILIA

For years any memorabilia relating to the former Grammar School has ended up in the loft, office, garage etc., of committee members of the Association and the editor of this magazine felt some time ago that action should be taken to hold these important documents etc., in a central place and available to all. It was clear that the Museum of Farnham and the Surrey History Centre at Woking held little information regarding the old school and much work was required to gather everything together and make it available to Old Boys and the public in general.

When I began to write the first 'modern' magazine in 1993 I asked for any information that was available and could be used for articles. I was taken to the 'coal hole' at the school (the original coal hole used for heating the school) and shown many boxes of paperwork and more importantly sports cups. The cups were black and it took many days and a great deal of soap and water to make them shine once again. By the time 2000 arrived there were a sufficient number of items to open 'The Home of Memorabilia', and the display cabinets were purchased and to this day the 48 cups, various photographs and some medals etc., are on show.

As editor of the Farnhamian I became the focal point for Old Boys and their families to send any photos or items to, and over the years our home has become something of a storage warehouse. By 2009 it was time to take some action to consolidate all the items and the editor, Tony Gatfield and Bill Luff began to collect as much as possible and started to catalogue the memorabilia. The local museum and the Surrey History Centre were delighted to receive the many items as it gave an insight into the history of Farnham, as well as the Grammar School.

The first move was to arrange to have a copy of every magazine printed over a sixty year span available at both centres and this has now been achieved. Both centres now hold a copy of original school magazines (1912-1973), OFA Newsletters (1973-1993) and modern magazines (1994-2009). Further shipments were gathered together and placed at the local museum, and over a period of several months all of the memorabilia had been catalogued and housed in one place and under suitable conditions to insure some of the older items would not deteriorate. As 2009 ended, there were only the photographs to be taken care of.

Now Old Boys, members of the public, historians can view the items and the Association is assured that they will be well looked after in years to come. Everything is still the property of the Association and can be used if the Old Boys wish to show items at dinners etc. At the same time the Museum of Farnham has agreed to hold a 'Farnham Grammar School Exhibition' for the months of March and April 2010 and in August a smaller display will take place over two weeks at Farnham Library. We will be showing the town something about the school that existed in Farnham for well over four hundred years.

If you have any items that you feel would add to the memorabilia of the old school then please contact the editor and he will arrange to transfer it to the museum or history centre.

ENTERTAINING THE OLD BOYS

In 2006 and 2008 those members attending the Annual Dinner at Farnham Castle enjoyed the added attraction for the evening of a group of lady singers, who sang popular songs and a special song for the Old Boys. In Accord, under the leadership of local Police Inspector Sue Lampard, broke new ground for the modern dinners. However looking through the old menus it was common to have entertainment at the dinners in the early days.

The first few dinners were held at the Bush Hotel in Farnham and in 1929 and 1930 the guests were entertained after their meal by a group known as 'The Dandy Entertainers'. The following two years saw an act known as Messrs. J. Goodall & C. Murray with nothing to say what type of entertainment was involved.

In 1932 the dinner was held in The Strand, London and again a group named 'Pitt & Marks' appeared. For 1933 and 1934 the members enjoyed the 'Gay Companion's Concert Party' and one can only wonder what they did (In those days 'gay' did not mean the same as today!). In 1935 Fred C Shadwell appeared as the 'Hampshire Yokel' and perhaps he was a latter day Jethro (hopefully not the same jokes!).

The late 1930s saw the dinner at either the Memorial Hall or the British Restaurant and in 1936 the entertainer was Mr Walter Newman. For 1937 the guests were entertained by four acts and the dinner must have been in danger of becoming a variety show. There was Mr Robert Brooks - Baritone, Mr Reginald Fears - Piano, Mr Archibald Brown - Entertainer an act that I would love to have seen, Mr W Green - Bones & Wine Glass Manipulator. Those present certainly got their money's worth!

As the country entered the Second World War we had John Brearley in 1938, John Knight and his Ukelele in 1939 and The Two Syds in 1940. The war began and the dinners ceased

for several years until they began again in 1947. For that year and 1948 the entertainer was a Cecil Harrington and in 1949 it was Billy Phelps. The last recorded entertainment at an annual dinner was in 1950 with H W Hunt at the piano.

After this dinner the only planned music is the singing of the School Song and the National Anthem, both a necessary requirement, but hardly entertainment. It is understood that on one or more occasion Bill Wickens did bring his cornet along and blow a tune for the diners.

So you can see that having entertainment at the dinner is not new, and the appearance of In Accord, after almost sixty years with just speeches, is not innovative. The question now is who follows this excellent act and does the membership approve of entertainment at their premier event of the year?

If it is decided to continue with entertainment perhaps we can hold auditions among the members. We may find a magician, a singer, a juggler or even a female impersonator within the ranks.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS

The following was submitted by TONY RAYER (1942-1947) and should bring back memories.

Old Farnhamians will recall those blessed weeks at the end of term, exams were over, the curriculum completed, just a few days when our masters had to keep us occupied before we were unleashed and were no longer their responsibility.

Rashers used to read us Rider Haggard, Boozy compiled crosswords from the names in his class, and there was classroom cricket when all the masters had to do was keep the score. To refresh the memory it could be Latin cricket, French cricket or any other school subject. The class was divided into two teams with the bowling side asking the questions and the batting team giving the answers. Whenever a batsman answered correctly the next bowler took over. If the batsman failed to give a correct answer he was out and gave way to the next man in.

The game I will refer to was General Knowledge cricket. The form, the school, the principals concerned I will leave to the reader's imagination (or recollection if they happened to be there).

One of the batsmen - we will call him James - was having an inspired run of success. So intense was the game the boys were unaware that the schools' inspector had quietly entered the room, nodded to the master and was standing by the door. This is what followed:

Where is Felixstowe?	On Felix's foot.
What do you call a half man, half animal?	Buffalo Bill.
Who was born in a stable and followed by millions?	Red Rum.
Name two days of the week beginning with T?	Today and Tomorrow.
Who was the father of the Black Prince?	Old King Coal.
Where are The Andes?	On the end of your wrists.

Already appalled at what he witnessed the school inspector butted in. "Here, Let me have a go. Who blew down the wall of Jericho?" There was a lengthy pause as James was plainly disconcerted. "Please sir, it wasn't me."

Turning to the master the inspector asked "Are you going to stand for that?"

"Well," replied the master "I've known James for some time and he is a very honest lad. If he says it wasn't him then I am inclined to believe him."

The inspector stormed off and related the whole sequence to the headmaster and asked what he was going to do about it.

"I agree with the master," said the Head. "I also believe James is telling the truth. Perhaps the best solution is for you to go back to this Mr Jerry Coe, or whatever his name is, tell him to have the wall restored, send the bill to me and we'll say no more about it."

FAMILY ALBUM NO.8.

These two photos were supplied by Bob Hewes who attended the school not long after the Second World War. They contain some well known faces.



Mr. Beadman's form. Summer 1949

Back row - Bodkin, Burt, Moore, Harris, Hewes, Cock, Mansell, Shakeshaft
 Front row- Purslow, Harland, Williams, Mr Beadman, Wall, Brewer, Aylwin,
 Gudgeon, Sturt



Farnham gathering July 2009

From left- Hewes, Aylwin, Cox (nee Cock), Bodkin, Purslow, Sturt, Phillpott

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES
(Taken from the REMEMBRANCE BOOK-NO.2
written by Henry Ellwood)

DANIEL ARTHUR MARDON

Daniel was born on 31st December 1894 and his parents Mr Arthur George Mardon and Mrs Ellen Louisa Mardon lived at 68 Castle Street, Farnham, although Daniel was actually born in Hale. He initially attended West Street School before entering the Farnham Grammar School.

On leaving school he joined the Royal Engineers. During the First World War the Royal Engineers expanded their duties as greater technology became available. Each Infantry Division usually had three support field companies of Sappers. Among their general duties were laying and clearing mines, tunnelling under enemy trenches and maintenance of communications with their Signalling Companies. There were specialist teams for railway transport, inland waterway transport, bridge construction, and many other duties.

Daniel was one of many local men who died while serving with the Royal Engineers.

The following information was printed in the Farnham Herald dated 25th August 1917.

‘News has been received by Mr & Mrs A G Mardon that their only son Daniel Arthur Mardon has been wounded whilst on service in France. (As reported he later died of his wounds).

He is a second corporal in the Royal Engineers and for two years had seen service overseas.

He enlisted in September 1914 and was posted first overseas to Gallipoli and was present at the evacuation where they were transported to Egypt. For six months he served in Egypt and from there moved directly to France. On the sea journey to France his ship was torpedoed. He had served for twelve months in France before being wounded.

Daniel is a Farnham Grammar School boy and he was so sad to read of the Memorial Service to the fallen old boys since he had been at school and knew so many of them.

Daniel enrolled at Guildford and his Service Number was: 46424

He served in 11th Signal Company of Royal Engineers.

He died of wounds on Monday 20th August 1917.

British Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Confirm the above information.

Daniel Arthur Mardon is buried in Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Poperinge, Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Reference: 1V. F. 19.

When he died he was 22 years of age.

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES
(Taken from the REMEMBRANCE BOOK NO.2.

written by Henry Ellwood)

THOMAS HOLLINGSWORTH TOVEY

The following obituary was taken from the Farnham Herald:

'It is with feelings of real regret that we have to announce the sad news of the death of Sergeant Thomas Hollingsworth Tovey, only son of Mrs Tovey of 78 West Street, who, it is reported, was killed in action on 5th August 1917. In a letter to Mrs Tovey "2nd Lieut. J.O.S.Porter, the deceased soldier's section officer of the Machine Gun Corps states: 'I feel his loss very much as he was a most cheerful fellow in the line and proved himself a capable sergeant.'

At the time of his death he was with one of the foremost guns and it so unfortunately happened that the Germans attacked in a very thick mist at dawn. I regret to say that the Germans apparently crawled right up to the gun and bombed it and the crew out. No trace of Sergeant Tovey could be found afterwards and the long list of names of the Roll of Glory at the Farnham Grammar School is added to for the deceased was a scholar of the school for several years.

During his school days Tom Tovey took a great interest in the Cadet Corps and Scout Movement and was a patrol leader and an assistant and a great help to the scoutmaster of the Farnham troop of scouts. Upon leaving the school in 1912 he joined the Farnham Company of Cadets and rose to the rank of colour sergeant. He transferred into the Farnham Company of Territorials in February 1914, and was in camp with them at Salisbury upon the outbreak of the war. When the company was mobilised he volunteered to go overseas but being underage he was not allowed to go.

Before he attained his 19th birthday he held the rank of sergeant and in November was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps, as, to use his own words, "There would not have been a chance of going out otherwise." He went to France about a week after Easter of this year and was for a time at the base as an instructor in machine guns, but later went into the first line in charge of a gun and its team.

His death is greatly deplored, occurred at the age of 21 years. The late Sergeant Tovey was formerly a Sunday school teacher at St.Andrew's and a member of the C.E.M.S.

The Machine Gun Corps was a vital support unit for infantry operations and became essential in trench warfare. The corps was formed in 1915 as a specialist unit with Companies detached to support infantry Battalions. High quality soldiers were recruited from Infantry Regiments.

Thomas Hollingsworth Tovey enrolled in Farnham. Service No. 6830. Formerly Queen's R.W.S. Regiment No. G2038

He is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, leper, Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 56. He was killed at the Battle of Passchendale.

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES**(Taken from the REMEMBRANCE BOOK - NO.2.****written by Henry Ellwood)**

SIDNEY JOHN ELLIOT SPENCER

It was reported in the book "Farnham in War and Peace" that J.E.Spencer, the well known draper and shopkeeper of 51 The Borough, had received a letter from his son, Sidney, who was serving in the Bankers Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. Sidney was recovering in a hospital in Brighton from wounds received in France and the letter was a great relief to his parents since Sidney had previously been reported as missing. However, it was stated in the book that Sidney, after recovering from his wounds, returned to France and was later killed fighting on the Somme on 28th February 1917. The Germans had tried to kill him again and this time they had succeeded.

At the start of the war in 1914 the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London) was stationed at Calcutta in India. In that November they sailed for Plymouth and in March 1915 sailed to Egypt and landed at "X" beach on the Gallipoli Peninsula. After fighting they were among the last troops evacuated back to Egypt in January 1918.

In March 1916 the Division embarked for Marseilles, France in time to enter the Battle of the Somme. It fought at the Battle of Albert, then the Battle of Le Transloy and then took part in the Arras offensive, the Battle of Ypres and the Cambrai Operations. It was involved in the advance to Flanders from 18th August to 6th September 1918.

Sidney Spencer and his brother both served in the Army in France and his brother returned home to be commissioned. It is understood that Sidney also had the opportunity to attend an Officers' Training Course but after recovering from his wounds wanted to return quickly to the front and catch up with his friends. Unfortunately when he arrived back in France he found that most of them had been killed or wounded.

The family home until 1938 was at Driftway, No.9. Greenhill Road, Farnham and the Spencer family was well known in the town of Farnham. Sidney enrolled in the Army at Kingston. His Service No. was B23378.

His death is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

Pier and Face: 8.C., 9.A. and 16.A.

It is believed that Sidney John Elliot Spencer was killed shortly after the Somme offensives. When he was killed he was 23 years of age.

The Spencer family was large and one of Sidney's brothers is Phillip Spencer who was the Oldest Living Old Boy for some time.

ATHLETICS CUP - HURDLES CHALLENGE CUP
Given by CAPTAIN W.H.MARTIN



1937:	G.A.BACON	1952:	M.W.DAWSON
1938:	J.J.LOWRY	1953:	M.J.TYRELL
1939:	J.M.AYLWIN	1954:	M.BOSWELL
1940:	R.D.ELSMORE	1955:	M.BOSWELL
1941:	R.D.ELSMORE	1956:	G.J.TAFT
1942:	D.A.BARNES	1957:	R.B.P.SMITH
1943:	P.E.LARBY	1958:	I.S.HUNTER
1944:	P.E.LARBY	1959:	B.J.DIDRIKSEN
1945:	P.E.LARBY	1960:	R.D.JARVIS
1946:	J.A.DONALD	1961:	G.GREEN
1947:	K.S.TROLLOP	1962:	M.S.HARRISON
1948:	K.D.PAGET	1963:	C.R.J.BEAL
1949:	V.K.WINSTAIN	1966:	D.LANCASTER
1950:	R.T.CREASEY	1968:	P.J.MURRAY
1951:	R.T.CREASEY	1971:	P.E.FENNELL

Not awarded for the years - 1964, 1965,1967,1969,1970.

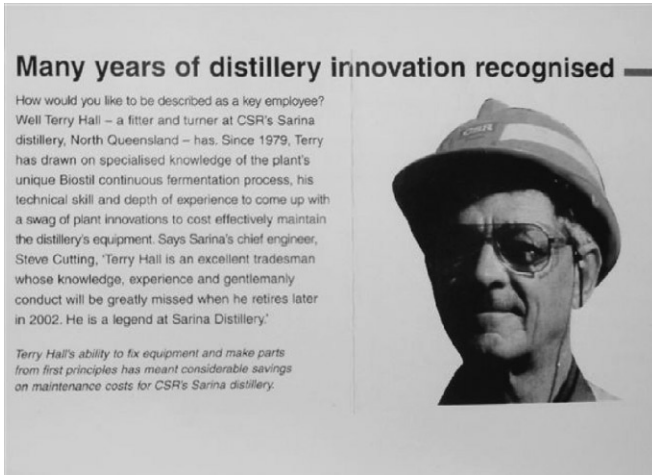
LONG JUMP - INTERMEDIATE
Given by the parents of R.E.MAIR (1932-1936)



1949:	A.J.TILSON	1950:	A.J.TILSON
1951:	R.J.CHEESEMAN	1952:	D.A.WHEELER
1953:	B.FITZPATRICK	1954:	B.FITZPATRICK
1955:	W.J.SPENCER	1956:	R.R.PAINE
1957:	R.S.WATKINS	1958:	R.I.HILL
1959:	R.D.JARVIS	1960:	G.R.GREEN
1961:	R.F.BARNETT	1962:	G.R.MONK
1963:	A.D.MARSHALL	1964:	A.J.KETTLE
1965:	M.H.MOLONEY	1966:	T.S.WHATSON
1967:	B.POSBORNE	1968:	H.J.OWEN
1969:	NOT PRESENTED	1970:	E.SAVAGE
1971:	E.SAVAGE	1972:	T.M.SAUNDERS
1973:	T.M.SAUNDERS		

IN RETIREMENT

More news from **TERRY 'TITCH' HALL (1948-1953)**, in Australia, attaching a copy of a certificate given to him when he retired in 2002. What a worthwhile gesture from an employer saying thank you for years of loyal service! Perhaps other companies could learn a lesson from this example of employee relations. Accompanying these words was a healthy sized cheque.



More news from Australia in July 2009, giving an update on retirement from that regular contributor, **PETER DOWNHAM (1943-1948)**. After many years we have persuaded Peter to become a member of the Association and we now have quite a number of Old Boys living across the ocean. October 2010 will be the fortieth anniversary of the move to Oz by Peter and his wife Rita, and they say that they enjoy life with their family and their friends, Mick and Molly Barham, and have no regrets about the move.

Peter has had a second knee replacement operation and is looking forward to playing the game of bowls once again during the winter months. He is beginning to reduce his busy life style and has resigned his commission as Justice of the Peace after twenty four years and at the end of the 2009 season he will stand down from the positions he holds with the bowls club. Rita, an Old Girl and the former Rita Stone, has not been too well, suffering from a bad back and an asthmatic condition, but is recovering slowly. The Downhams still enjoy life in Oz, and we hope that they enjoy many more years making the most of retirement.

MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1953) spent his working life as a journalist, including spells at Farnham Herald, Reuters and finally many years at the Ottawa Citizen. In retirement he still keeps busy writing for his former employer and for a local magazine. For the magazine he has a monthly 'gossip column' and offers news about the rich and the famous from the capital city of Canada. For the Citizen he writes regular features about these people in more depth and recently did a large article about a local car dealer who built himself a \$9 million dollar home on one of the Thousand Islands. From years as a sports reporter Michael enjoys mixing with the Canadian 'aristocracy', seeing how the other half live.

THE FARNHAM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS

The Farnham Festival was founded by Alan Fluck in 1961, so it will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2011. At a time when there was very little music by contemporary composers suitable for schools and youth choirs, Alan's idea was for local businesses and individuals to fund new music which would be written for a specific school or group. The young people would meet and work with the composer before giving the first performance of their commissioned work.

The Festival was held biannually and was a tremendous success. When Alan left the Farnham Grammar School in 1972 to become Artistic Director of Sir Robert Mayer's 'Youth and Music', the Festival ceased until Chris Hand, his successor at the school, and subsequently Farnham College, revived it in the early eighties. The Festival has continued biannually, and there have been over 120 first performances. Chris was the Artistic Director until 1992, and I took over for 10 years in 1993. Jo May followed her and is the current Artistic Director. Jeremy Bennett, the superb Administrative Director, has been the driving force behind the Festival since its revival. Most of the concerts during the first ten years were held in St. Andrew's Parish Church; the Maltings has been the main venue since 1983, but the link with St. Andrew's is maintained by holding the first concert of each Festival there. Over 1200 young people between the ages of 5 and 19 are involved in the week of 10 concerts, which have also included Dance for several years and there is always a high standard Art Display.

I feel particularly honoured to be the President of the Festival at this time, as I was a member of the first committee and conducted in the 1961 Festival and many subsequent ones. My father, Harold Beeken, was the Treasurer throughout the ten years of Festivals organised by Alan, and my sister, Diana, wrote a setting of Psalm 150 for the Farnham Girls' Choir, conducted by Mary Joynes, in the first Festival.

Now for the main purpose of this article! We are hoping that a large number of former participants in the Festival will come together to sing 'Zadok the Priest' in the opening Thanksgiving Concert on Sunday 20th March 2011, in St. Andrew's Parish Church, with a rehearsal in the afternoon and a performance in the evening. If any of you, or your sons, daughters or grand-children would like to sing in this and to receive a brochure to apply for tickets, please send the following information to Bob West at 37. Longhope Drive, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey. GU10 4SN or e-mail west@longhope.eclipse.co.uk before September 1st 2010, so that we can assess whether there are sufficient numbers to make this item viable:

1. Name, Address, Telephone Number and e-mail address.
2. Whether you are Soprano, Alto, Tenor or Bass.
3. Whether you have a 4-part (SATB) copy of 'Zadok the Priest' (so that we know how many copies to hire).

We will let you know when we send you a brochure in January 2011 whether this item is being included, and, if so, the time of the rehearsal and concert. I hope we shall have a wonderful gathering of past Farnham Festival participants.

Julia Wilson (nee Beeken)

THEN AND NOW

TONY TUBB (1947-1952)

Tony Tubb grew up in St James Avenue, Farnham, across the road from little East Street School, and recalls his feelings of awe at the sheer size of the Grammar School as he stood in the playground just after the Second World War to do his Eleven-Plus examination.

“I thought to myself, I’m too scared and don’t want to pass”. However in September 1947 he found himself in Form 1P and a member of Harding House.

Tony’s one academic high, guided by Mike Foster, was to be awarded a special prize for a distinction in English by the Chairman of Governors at Speech Day. Fortunately the then Chairman, nurseryman Alan Tice, did not recognise the seventeen year old recipient as the young man he had verbally chastised a few months earlier for being too slow at potato picking near Badshot Lea.

Although a regular in the Harding House football team, Tony never caught the eye of Art Master John Wills, who selected the school teams. During National Service in the Royal Air Force, however, he hit a sufficiently purple patch as a right winger in Sussex football to be offered a full-time contract with Hastings United. This team was in the former Southern League and had average attendances of over 3,000 people, and Tony played against such top class players as Bobby Moore, Jimmy Greaves and Harry Redknapp.

One of Tony’s favourite tales from those days is when his manager, Jack Treserden, ex-England and West Ham, told him after one match:

“Son, you remind me of Matthews.”

Tony replied: “Well, thanks, boss. To be compared with Stan.”

Treserden’s response: “It’s not Stan I’m talking about.....it’s Jesse.”

A bad foot injury and loss of form convinced Tony a few seasons later that journalism as a career was slightly more stable.

For the following thirty-five years Tony worked as a general news’ reporter, much time spent with evening newspapers like the Sussex Argus and Southampton Echo, and as a regular contributor to various national newspapers.

“It’s an old adage that behind every front door there is a story.” Reflects Tony.

“I knocked on the door of a house in 1960, which was advertising a bedsit and a girl greeted me. Two years later Tony married Denise who answered that door, and they have two children and are still together at their home in Bexhill-On-Sea. In addition to finding Denise he found himself the brother-in-law of a multi millionaire property developer with a 2000 ac re estate in Kent.

A brush with cancer led to him missing the annual dinner at Farnham Castle in 2009. He says, “With a bit of luck, I should survive a few more years. The real danger is the Loving Cup, I reckon.”

THEN AND NOW

TONY TUBB (1947-1952)



Tony Tubb felt that instead of the usual head and shoulders photograph to accompany his profile he would like an action shot for a change. Tony and his wife greatly enjoy visiting Alaska to spend time with old friends and the photo shows Tony with a 40lbs salmon which he managed to catch. The fish took two and a half hours to land, and the three others Tony caught that morning were all returned safely to the river. Not only does this show Tony in action but the hat hides the fact that he has little hair now.

Tony has always been an intrepid world traveller, including upriver in Borneo, safaris in East Africa and all four corners of North America. He says, "My most dangerous encounter was what turned out to be a clip joint after midnight in Shanghai a few years ago when he thought he would be murdered for his credit cards and dumped in the Yellow Sea.

He asked that I mention that he is second cousin to the editor of the Farnhamian magazine, so clearly writing news runs in the family.

THEN AND NOW

JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)

I remember 1948 as if it were 60 years ago. Mr. Paget, the headmaster of Lower Bourne school beaming as he announced that I had won a scholarship to the Boys' Grammar School. He appeared overwhelmed, and told me I was the only one that year, I remember feeling largely underwhelmed thinking to myself, "Oh God, a new school and leaving all my mates behind". I was not very happy.

September arrived and I sullenly reported to Morley Road. My first teacher was a kindly man, Mr. Wills. I failed to settle and as I progressed to thirteen, fishing seemed preferable to school. I spent several days angling at the Lodge Pond, where I enjoyed the scenery but failed to catch very much. What I was about to catch would set the hooks. My mother 'shopped' me to Mr. Morgan and I accepted what I was about to receive knowing that I deserved every one of the six swipes. Nelson had a theory that flogging made a good man better but a bad man worse. As with most things Nelson was usually right, I crept away to nurse my degradation and shame. The bruises lasted for over three weeks. I do not know who the person was who originally thought that six of the best was the appropriate number for this form of punishment. Probably Nelson!

It was my first step on the road to redemption. I held no grudges against Mr. Morgan or my mother for that matter, but a new man was to enter my life and give me the lead that I badly needed. My own father had been away for five years fighting in North Africa, Normandy and Germany. We lost our male influence at the most critical time of our lives and they had lost their children's most formative years. My one natural talent was music. I had played the piano to quite a high standard. Alan Fluck became the catalyst for my upward trend towards respectability. After my fishing escapades and general lack of co-operation, I blotted my copy book by getting caught using the prefect steps as a short cut to the playing fields. Lunch-time cricket was not to be missed. I was arraigned before Dudley Backhurst and his cohorts and I think sentenced to write one hundred lines, to be returned within a week.

Alan Fluck was of the new school, he was young, he had different ideas on teaching, and instead of sitting beside me whilst I played, and having a ruler ready to rap my knuckles, he would walk off around the hall singing and humming to the music, applauding on occasions and generally giving me a free hand. It was liberating. He would allow the odd mistakes that everyone makes, but dispensed with the mechanical monotonous style of learning an instrument and I began to enjoy something. As a result of his style and friendliness I became part of the school orchestra, accompanist to the boys' choir, school pianist during 1952 and 1953, and school music prize winner in 1953. My chosen book was the 'Story of Everest' by W.H.Murray, it had a signed label inside and a gold embossed school badge on the front cover. I was proud of my prize. Everest loomed large in Coronation year; the British were back for their final attempt before the French had their chance. I felt compelled to write a history of Everest, which appeared in the school magazine for that year. It was my first stab at 'proper' writing.

At age fourteen my great friend and best mate, Tony Delves, got me to join the local air training corps, 229 Squadron. 229 had been a squadron flying Blenheims from Lincolnshire.

THEN AND NOW

JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)



At the outbreak of the war they converted to Hurricanes and were brought down to Northolt to help in the Battle of Britain. We had a wooden hut which sat on the edge of Farnham Park and in later years, after the new territorial hall was built, we relocated in the old drill hall in Bear Lane. This was a priceless acquisition with an upstairs .22 rifle range. Never in the field of human endeavour was so much owed by me to Tony Delves for getting me into a flying environment. Several boys from the school, including John Cooke, John Travers, Henry Brindley, Harry Slingo and I am sure John Cockle were with us.

It was still in the days of the RAFVR, the weekend flyers, and at weekends we would visit Fair Oaks flying club, sitting around

hoping for a spare seat. We flew on Chipmunks and Tiger Moths, I was enthralled with it and have been a casual flyer ever since. On one occasion we all went off to RAF Odiham, where we achieved a flight in an Avro Anson. We did not realise at the time that we were flying in what would become a vintage aircraft. The Anson became an essential part of Coastal Command but was later relegated to the role of a flying classroom for training wireless operators and navigators. I noticed at the same time as John Cooke that the co-pilot's seat was available. I think John was a corporal at the time and I was a sergeant, I pulled rank and got in first. I flew the plane for twenty minutes whilst the pilot sat Buddha-like beside me with his hands in his lap. We communicated by sign language and I thought at one time he had gone to sleep, but after we landed he broke his silence and said to me, "You're a natural."

The ATC became my abiding interest, rifle shooting gained me a house colour with Childe and school was beginning to appeal. Then complete transformation with the arrival of Mike Foster. I admired and respected this man, my English and English Literature became my top subjects, together with pre-Roman history. I talked to him about my fascination with Everest and all climbing in general and lent him my book on Annapurna. The book dealt with the first ascent of an 8000 metre peak by the French in 1952. It is two stories in one. The first half deals with the climbing of the peak and the risks taken by the climbers, risks which other nationalities would perhaps not have taken. The second half covers the journey out from the mountain with Oudot, the expedition doctor, saving the lives of badly frost bitten men by constant amputations of fingers and toes. Oudot became the hero.

THEN AND NOW

JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)

Mike was taken by the last line of Herzog's book, "There are other Annapurna's in the lives of men." Often I found myself put up to study with the sixth form under another stalwart, Harry Beeken. I once found him gazing at the Old Boys' Roll of Honour for the war dead, he had tears in his eyes, and said to me, "I knew them all." Mr. Beeken had a way of making a point by advancing on the miscreant from the rear, twisting a small portion of hair on the nape of the neck and then pulling. It hurt, but it did not scar.

As part of my rehabilitation into school life I was given the responsibility of sounding the loud bell for morning assembly. Mr. Morgan would sweep up the stairs from his office and enter a hushed hall. Being school pianist gave me the perk of being the one who chose the morning hymn. I did not do the quiet hymns, but concentrated on the crash, bang, wallop type, not for any religious reason, but on the basis that I enjoyed playing them. Old Boys may remember an excess of 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven', 'For All the Saints', 'Oh valiant hearts' and 'Onward Christian Soldiers'.

A good number of us failed the 1953 English Literature O Level, for what reason I know not, it may have had something to do with sixteen year old boys trying to get interested in Mansfield Park. It was the one subject I had taken for granted and it was a disappointment not to get it. Mike was furious, not with us but with the markers. He appealed against the high failure rate, but never got anywhere with it. In those days you passed or failed. Mike asked me what was I going to do after I left school, I had no idea although I toyed with the thought of joining the Forestry Commission. I envisaged walking through the woods shooting grey squirrels, but found on enquiry that there was more to it than that. Mike said, "Have you considered journalism?" Prophetic words indeed!

I joined the Police Force as a cadet in Hampshire and spent the next thirty years serving in Hampshire and Surrey but mostly in Farnham, a lucky posting. I enjoyed the work greatly and did every aspect of police work, motor cycling, and advanced driving and in later years C.I.D. I frequently met Mike Foster coming from the library and Joe Godsil always stopped for a chat as did 'Chemistry' Evans. Their memory for Old Boys was remarkable.

In the 1970s I returned to my old interest of writing, this time seriously, and cultivated a style of composing 1500 word articles relating to people, living or dead who had some sort of connection with the County of Surrey. My first effort was a piece on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who had lived at 'Undershaw' by Hindhead cross roads. His historical romance 'Sir Nigel' and also the companion story 'The White Company', which focussed on Beaulieu and the New Forest. The editor of Surrey Life took the article first time and asked for more. My second article related to Henry Haversham Godwin Austen, an Army surveyor from Shalford and the first man to map K2 in the Karakoram Himalaya, and this in the 1850s. The editor offered me a monthly slot, I declined as I did not wish to commit, small articles require much research, and we agreed that he would publish whatever I wrote and he was true to his word. Our liaison lasted 4 years and spread to Sussex Life and the Hampshire County magazine. My last article ended up in English Heritage, it was on Waverley Abbey. I was paid more for the photographs than I was for the text.

THEN AND NOW**JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)**

One or two highlights! To meet Tony Delves again would be a highlight as I have not seen him since we both left school. When Mike Foster was in his late 70s he ran a small literary discussion group, we met in the old school discussing the book set for the week. Life then had indeed come full circle. In 1980 I spent a month trekking from Kathmandu to Everest base camp. We reached close to 20,000 feet and less than five miles from the top as the chough flies.

In 1998 I accepted an invitation to fly in a Spitfire from Duxford. This plane shot down the first German aircraft over the D-Day beaches. In 2006 having moved to the Isle of Wight I joined a metal detecting club, we discovered the Brightstone Hoard, 967 silver iron age staters, dating from 150BC to 50AD. The last coinage in use before the Roman occupation.

I have been more than lucky in my life, and now have the good fortune to live on a most beautiful island. Mr. Morgan wrote on my final report, "He deserves success." I thank him for that!

John currently lives on the Isle of Wight with his wife Marion and they will celebrate their 50th anniversary in April 2010. He has a daughter living on the island and a son living in Bridport so there are no shortages of seaside holidays. He has a miscellany of grandchildren, three young men and four young ladies. Christmas is an expensive time!

OFFICERS OF THE OLD FARNHAMIAN'S ASSOCIATION**ASSOCIATION:**

Brian Williams (President): Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer): Roger Edgell (Secretary): Bill Luff: Alan Lovell: Keith Mentzel: Bryan Bone: Tony Gatfield: John Travers: John Crotty: Michael Horner: Ian Sargeant: Robin Welland-Jones: John Clarke: Mike Mehta: Wally Walsh: Brian Daniels: David Grimes: Chris Slyfield: Cyril Trust: Chris Nash: Ray Cleminson: Peter Mylles.

(Brian Williams is acting as Membership Secretary).

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST:

Cyril Trust (Chairman): Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer): Tony Gatfield (Secretary): Bill Luff: Brian Williams: Michael Horner: John Crotty: Roger Edgell: Chris Nash: John MacLaughlin.

LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST:

Brian Daniels (Chairman): Ian Sargeant (Treasurer): Mike Mehta: Phil Dunford: Chris Nash: David Grimes.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

As the 2009 magazine was completed we received an Easter message from old friends and regular contributors, **PETER DOWNHAM (1943-1948)** and his wife Rita. Writing from their home in Australia they said that they were enjoying the last of their summer and having meals outside to keep cool. Like others in South Australia they were praying for rain, unlike those from Queensland, who had had so much rain that water restrictions had been lifted for the first time in three years. As we look forward to our own summer we wonder if there will be sunnier times ahead, after the bleak and depressing winter months.

The Farnham Diary, our local free newspaper produced by former Grammar School pupils, Jean and Ted Parratt, continues to feature articles concerning Old Boys. Each month they unearth more about the Cody family, including a piece by **TONY RAYER** recalling **PAUL CODY**, who left the school in 1947. He was a good gymnast, excellent rifle shot and almost unbeatable boxer, representing Harding House at the time. He became House Captain and a prefect and achieved first class results in the Higher School Certificate. It also appears that he was a talented piano player, although he kept this a secret whilst at school. In the year to celebrate the achievements of Samuel Cody one wonders where is Paul now?

Whilst mentioning the Farnham Diary, I like the piece by **TED PARRATT (1949-1954)**, who recalls Bill Wickens mentioning that he spent time in the Army at the "Headquarter Gyms." One day, Ted climbed the wall bars in the old gym at Morley Road and found the following scratched into the brickwork by a wag, 'Ed $\frac{1}{4}$ Jim's'.

Yet another Old Boy who now resides in Australia was featured in an article covering a visit home by **BILL SPENCER (1951-1956)** and his wife Carol. Bill went to Oz on a £10 ticket in 1965 and among those at the homecoming party were **BOB STURT** and **HENRY BRINDLEY**. Bill now lives in New South Wales and as well as attending the Grammar School he was a well-known Scout and played football for the Red Dragons. We will try to make contact with him and ask for a profile.

We hear that The School of History and the Centre for American Studies at the University of Kent have established an annual 'Bolt Lecture' to honour the memory of **IAN G. BOLT (1948-1955)** and his wife Christine. The first, for his generous benefactions to the university, and the second for her scholarship and service to the school and centre. The 'Bolt Lecture' will be given by an eminent academic in fields relating to Christine's interests in American History and Gender Studies. The inaugural lecture was given on Wednesday 13th May 2009 by Professor Phillip Taylor on the subject of "The failure of US Strategic Communications since 9/11". The Bolt family are also sponsoring the 'Ian Bolt Award' for an outstanding student at Farnham College, and this will be presented at the end of the year awards' ceremony.

June 2009 and we are inundated with leaflets from various candidates, from various political parties, to vote in the council elections and European elections. With the furore regarding the expenses for various politicians at its height we are asked to make a choice. Like many, I am a trifle disillusioned by the three main parties, but want to use my vote.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The latest leaflet is from the Independent Party and the candidate explains who he is.

On leaving Farnham Grammar School I have been self-employed ever since leaving university, running businesses in engineering, distribution and management. Having returned to Farnham from Swindon in 1995 I currently live near the station, opposite my old school. I am chairman of the Friends of Farnham Park and a member of the Farnham Society, the Farnham Theatre Association and River Watch.

JERRY HYMAN (1970-1977) managed to come second in the fight for North Farnham!

It is a pleasure to congratulate one of our Old Boys via this magazine. In the Farnham Herald business pages they announced that local company, Rookery Barns, had reached two milestones in June 2009. Firstly they had been in operation for ten years and secondly they had recently completed their five hundredth contract to erect a timber building. One of the original team that began the company is **ROBIN WELLAND-JONES (1969-1974)**, who is the Managing Director and also sits on the General Committee of the Old Farnhamians' Association and is a regular supporter at their events.

The advert for Rookery Barns is inside the magazine each year and designs and erects oak, barn-style buildings. The range of buildings covers garages, home-offices, games rooms, guest accommodation, stabling and pool houses and the company now operates throughout Surrey and Hampshire with a team of designers and installers.

Many congratulations, Robin, and we are delighted that you are still successful, even with this awful recession!

Within a few days of issuing the 2009 magazine, the editor received a call from Mrs Jill Chapple, wife of former teacher **CHRIS CHAPPLE (1968-1996)**, saying that she was in contact with **BARBARA WILLS (widow of former Art master, JOHN WILLS)**, and advising that Barbara had left hospital and was now residing in a nursing home just outside Manchester. A letter and a magazine have been posted to Barbara and no doubt she will reply with interesting comments as usual.

In the 2009 edition we advised that in retirement **JOHN COCKLE (1948-1953)** was enjoying life playing in a Trad Band called 'The 4-4 New Orleans Jazz Band'. The editor received an excited call at the end of June from John to say that he had just appeared at the world famous Glastonbury Musical Event. Some time ago the band played at the home of the family who own the land where the event is held, and they were asked to play on the preview day when the world's press were attending. They appeared on the Greenpeace Stage and played for two one-hour sessions before retiring for much needed refreshments supplied free of charge. The band was given the photos of the appearance, one is shown on another page, and was also shown on BBC Television the evening of their appearance. John said it was an experience he will never forget, with 175,000 attending and his band being followed by Status Quo on an adjoining stage. Not bad for a 72 year-old trumpet player!

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

One of our new members last year from Australia has been in regular contact since. **TERRY HALL (1948-1953)** noticed that old pals from the 1950s were featured in the 2009 edition and began to search through old photos to see if he had something including them. The result below, shows **NORMAN PAGET (1947-1952)** and **BRIAN FITZPATRICK (1949-1954)**, when they were teenagers.



Who's thumb is this?

We have heard from **STEPHEN HALL (1959-1965)**, who lives in Ontario, Canada and gives the details of his life after the Grammar School. After leaving, he attended Essex University for a BA in Sociology (process of elimination rather than choice according to Stephen). After the usual aimless drifting and beer drinking, there was a shift in direction to the building industry in the form of a programme for "Arts" graduates at the London Polytechnic. It was shortly after completing this that he left for Canada, under the influence of a Canadian girl he met when she was on holiday in England. She became his first wife and they had two children. The marriage failed, and Stephen has since remarried and feels certain that he has got it right this time!

In Canada he worked for Wimpey Homes for a while as a field superintendent and this started a varied career with several home builders in the Toronto area. The formative phase was in the 1980s, with a company called Bramalea Limited, where he began as a contracts' guy in high rise and finished up as Senior VP of the housing group. Sadly, the company hit the 1990s recession in poor shape and went under. Since then Steve has started and managed a homebuilding company for a local land developer and then another partnership with a very special Armenian! There has been reasonable success with this and modest needs have allowed him to retire at 60, although he still does some freelancing marketing.

Stephen wonders how old pal Tony Backhurst is getting on and would like to hear from any former classmates. To contact Steve please e-mail: steve_hall@rogers.com

FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM NO.9.



This photo from 1958 was supplied by Howard Diamond and shows this rescue helicopter landing on the school field and surrounded by pupils. Howard is in the centre wearing shorts

Massingberd Swimming Team 1958



Standing: IR Dowle, JM Jones, BA Harmes, P Lambs, P Mitchell, P Kuchemann,
Mr Beeken, Mr DM McKecknie-Smith.

Seated: I Jolliffe, MR Jones, D Roe, E Crawte, MJ Allison.

This photo was supplied by Derek Roe, one of the swimmers above.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

During the past year we decided to try and cut down the number of old magazines being held and advertised them to the membership and the website in general. Initially there was a brisk demand and one of the requests was from **BRIAN HARMS (1951-1958)**, who agreed to write a few words for this edition. Clearly he had read through the old issues beforehand.

‘Recently, an e-mail from the Old Farnhamians’ website was offering past copies of the ‘Farnhamian’ magazine. I know all past issues are available in pdf format but there is something magical in being able to read the originals.

Fortunately the complete set for 1951 to 1958, the period when I was at FGS arrived through the post to my amazement. It might seem a little egotistical but the first thing was a quick scan through all of them looking for any mention of my name. The first occurred in Vol.38.... Salvete.....B.A.Harms.....with about sixty other newcomers, thirty assigned to form 1 and thirty to form 1p. The beginning of the friendly rivalry between the two forms.

Seven years later the last mention was Valete....Harms (PM,AM,P) in the ‘A’ exam results. In the volumes sandwiched between these occasionally my name stood out, which the following are a sample:

Junior cross country.....	12th
880yards.....	3rd
Junior diving	3rd
Senior cross country	27th
Discus.....	1st

Later I looked at the volumes in more detail. I read many names I’d not thought of in over fifty years. These names triggered memories thick and fast. Such as:

‘Blowing into a gas tap and watching all the bunsen burners go out one by one as they were starved of coal gas, much to Len Evans surprise.’

‘The wind blowing the wooden door of the physics lab away from ‘Blotch’ Harding’s head and ‘Conk’ Brister was heard to say ‘like poles apart.’

‘Bill Wallis doing the plunge at the swimming sports and gliding for what seemed forever before coming up for air. The winner was the swimmer who glided the furthest.’

‘Dave Milford breaking his leg playing for Surrey Grammar Schools on the new pitch then later putting the shot with his leg in plaster.’

‘Going up and down the school steps when no prefects were about.’

Not world shattering events, but treasured moments nevertheless.

So if you get the chance to download the magazines that cover when you were at FGS you are in for some serious nostalgia.

EDITOR: there are still many old magazines available if you wish to revive old memories!

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Brian Harms included a potted version of life after school and began when leaving he went to London University with **KEITH MORRIS** (who died tragically in recent years). Brian did a B.Sc. and M.Sc. maths degree. His first job was teaching mathematics at Woking Boys' Grammar School for a couple of years. He then obtained a similar position at Guildford Royal Grammar School, where he became a colleague of 'Conk' Brister who had then moved from the FGS. Brian and his former teacher became good friends, even though he had had to discharge Brian and Peter Harding, when in the Lower Sixth, from the school cadet force as they showed little interest.

He then moved on to Hatfield Polytechnic (now University of Hertfordshire) to teach computer science. He stayed there for twenty years or so when they made him an offer he could not refuse and he took early retirement. This gave him the opportunity to go to City University, Hong Kong, where he lectured in mathematics and computing for seven years. On returning to England he settled in Newcastle upon Tyne as two of his three children lived there. Brian completed his article with a request to join the Association. You are most welcome Brian!

As anticipated earlier in the magazine we have finally heard from **BARBARA WILLS**, widow of art master, John Wills, from a nursing home in Didsbury, Manchester. She suffered a bad stroke in November 2008 and lost the use of her legs and to some extent her arms and hands. She managed to write a card advising how she enjoyed the 2009 magazine and commenting that she was pleased to see mentions of **MIKE MEHTA**, and sad to hear about the death of **TONY HARLAND**. She says that **BILL WALLIS** telephoned when she first became ill and she had recently seen him in a repeat of Midsomer Murders. Barbara still keeps in touch with Farnham by receiving the Herald each week from Jill Chapple (wife of former teacher **CHRIS CHAPPLE**).

A headline in an August 2009 edition of the Surrey & Hants newspaper read, 'Discover ghostly goings on in Farnham.' It reported that students of Farnham College have made a DVD telling stories of Farnham's ghosts. The film follows local historian **TONY RAYER (1942-1947)** as he tours the town talking about its history and its ghostly inhabitants. It is the first film to be made about the town's spooky history. Tony has been taking visitors on tours of Farnham for 10 years. He said, "It seemed time to commit the details to film and with the students' help, this has now been achieved."

For details, visit www.ghosttoursoffarnham.co.uk.

***CORRECTION:** In the 2009 magazine we printed an article taken from the Farnham Herald, whereby Alan Lovell had criticised the poor traffic situation in Farnham. It has been pointed out by **ALAN LOVELL (1947-1953)** that the person referred to was his namesake and not an Old Boy as printed. Apparently the two Alan Lovell's had a similar career and this was an easy mistake.*

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Early in August 2009 the Farnham Herald and Surrey Advertiser printed photos and details of a special lunch held at Squires Holt on the Hogs Back to celebrate the 105th birthday of our Oldest Living Old Boy, **PHILIP SPENCER (1912-1919)**. There were more than 30 people attending to mark this wonderful milestone, among which were four generations of his family. The staff at the local nursing home have taken Phil to their heart and as you can see from the photograph below they made sure his birthday was something special. His niece, Jean Allen said, "We know if he hasn't opened the paper he isn't well. He is the charming English gentleman, one of the last left. He is very well read, and an interesting person with quite a sharp wit at times."



Phil Spencer and the staff at Puttenham Hill celebrating 105 not out!

In late August 2009, the editor and his wife spent a day with **MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1953)** at Eastbourne, where he was taking a holiday from his home in Canada. Apart from the many memories of days at the school Michael told of the day in Ottawa when new American President Obama, visited a few weeks after his election. He made his way to the parliament buildings in the Canadian capital, camera ready to take a photograph of this historic occasion. The presidential motorcade arrived and there were several black, stretch limousines with the windows blacked out for security. So which one held the president?

This was standard practice, in order to make it difficult for any terrorists to attack when they could not be certain which vehicle held the president. Michael had to make a choice, and concentrated on a particular car, only to find it was a decoy and did not hold Barack Obama. This great occasion therefore took place in Ottawa and Michael did not see the man and did not get that prized photograph.

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We have heard from **ROY WALTER WEARING (1941-1945)** who attended the school during the Second World War. Roy was a member of Childe House and although he says he was not a great sportsman, he took part in the annual cross country race, the boxing tournament and represented his House at rifle shooting. He recalls that he was good at English, English Literature, Algebra, Maths and Physics and not so good at History, Languages or Geography. He sat for the School Certificate and passed four subjects, whilst it required passes in five subjects to obtain the Certificate.

His best friend at school was Ken Lovegrove, who lived in Aldershot, and on Wednesdays they would bribe the form attendance monitor to mark them present in class and then 'bunk' the time off to watch Aldershot FC Reserves play football. Using money given to them for dancing lessons they would buy meat and fruit pies, from Wasley's shop opposite the football ground, to eat during the match.

Roy rode his bicycle to school from his home in Tongham and recalls the debris and unexploded bombs in Grange Road, Tongham after an ammunition train had been bombed by the Germans in August 1940. In his final year he used the train from Aldershot to Farnham and recalls throwing the hats (boaters) of the FGGS girls out of the train window.

Roy and his elder brother **PAUL WEARING (1938-1941)** were fee paying pupils and in war time conditions at the school were austere, but good. He sums up his years at the school as "A good education, but I was no good academically". On leaving school, Roy went to work for the GPO and became a telephone engineer until he retired in 1990. He married a local girl from Tongham, Valerie Baston, and they have a son Philip and daughter Celia. Roy and Valerie now live in a retirement flat in Aldershot. Brother Paul died some years ago and many will remember him playing the drums at local dances for many years.

On 19th September 2009 over seventy people joined **JOHN & JOAN CROTTY** in celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The day was sunny, the food and drink first class and the local venue excellent. Over many years John has been a loyal servant of the Association and without him it would not be as strong as it is today. On behalf of all members and former pupils of the school in general, we would like to offer John and Joan our heartiest congratulations on reaching this considerable milestone.

The number of sponsorships from Old Boys and their families totalled twenty-six for the 2009 Celebration of Achievement Awards at Farnham College in December. One of the new sponsors was **PETER READ (1941-1946)**, who gave his award for excellence in Drama, and as an actor has many interesting stories to tell. He is rightly proud of the following:

'In 2006 I managed to win a role in the filming of the Dan Brown best-selling novel, 'The Da Vinci Code', with scenes being shot at the Louvre museum in Paris. I was to double for the well-known actor called Jean Pierre Marielle, who played the part of Jacques Sauniere, the curator of the Louvre.

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In the opening scenes of the film we see the curator being chased through the museum corridors by the killer and finally murdered and left to die in one of the time-locked chambers. Jean Pierre was to play the victim being killed and I was to be photographed running through the corridors trying to escape.

The scenes were filmed and I returned to London via Eurostar on the day of the London bombings, and was delayed in returning to my home near Guildford. On arrival a message awaited me from the director of the film, asking me to return to Paris immediately to shoot some extra footage. I was collected by car the following day and taken to Ashford in Kent and took the train to Paris, where I completed the scenes and was told that I would be required for further filming at Pinewood Studios and in Lincolnshire.'

Clearly Peter had made an impression with the director and was given his own caravan to use while on the set. This was all very exciting and as Peter says, " Financially, very rewarding!"

Early in 2010, the editor received an e-mail from **TREVOR ANDREWS (1948-1953)** who was one of his classmates. Trevor included a brief history of life after the Grammar School, starting with two years National Service in the RAF. He had not studied either Physics or Chemistry at school and on returning to civilian life he went back to college and did Applied Physics (which included pure and applied mathematics, chemistry etc.). He then began a forty year career at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, as a scientist. During his career he was at one time into inertial navigation and for the last ten years working he was involved in a space programme which entailed working in the United States for long periods.

In retirement, Trevor moved from Farnham to his present home in Caterham on the Hill. Always an accomplished artist he still works part-time as a watercolour painting tutor. He is well into painting and is a member of the Guild of Aviation Artists (see www.gava.org.uk), although he says he paints anything. He has been Chairman of the local Art Society and has a one man exhibition at the Caterham Miller Centre every other year.

To keep fit Trevor plays badminton and table tennis once a week. Let us hope that here is another former pupil who will join the Association and make an appearance at the Annual Dinner.

It was good to hear from **ALAN LOVELL (1947-1953)** who has not had the best of health of late, but still retains his interest in the Association. Since his profile printed in the 2005 magazine he has remained a busy man and thought that it was time for an update on his activities in retirement.

MAGISTRY: Alan was a Justice of the Peace for some 22 years, serving on the Farnham Bench from 1979 to 1992 and the South-West Surrey Bench (the amalgamation of the Farnham and Guildford Benches) from 1992 until 2006. He was Acting Chairman of the Divisional Licensing Committee (licensing, betting and gambling) for a period in the mid

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1990s. He was the only Old Boy from the school who had been appointed a magistrate for a considerable period of the 27 years on the Bench.

BINSTED PARISH COUNCIL: Alan is still a member of the Parish Council and was first elected in May 1973. He was the Chairman from 1979 until 2003.

HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS (HAPTC) - (now Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC)). Alan was Chairman of the County Executive Committee from 1998 until 2005. In 2005 he was appointed a Vice-President.

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK: The Government has now agreed to a new authority, with it starting in 2010/2011. Locally the whole of Alice Holt Forest, which is within the Binsted Parish Council area, is to be included within the boundary of this new authority.

SEERA (South East England Regional Assembly): In mid 2008 Alan stood down from this Assembly and its important Regional Planning Committee.

Yet another Old Boy who contributes to the community and keeps busy in retirement!



John Cockle playing cornet at the 2009 Glastonbury Festival. Not bad for seventy plus!

OBITUARIES

As we went to press for the 2009 magazine news arrived that **RAY KIRK (1932-1937)** had died at the age of eighty nine. All readers will know this popular Old Farnhamian and he is truly a sad loss to the organisation. Annual Dinners will not be the same and he was always a great supporter of the Old Boys.

His profile appeared in the 1998 edition of the magazine and showed that Ray was probably one of the most gifted sportsmen ever to come from the town of Farnham. These days we have Jonny Wilkinson for rugby, David Beckham for football or Andy Murray for tennis, but Ray Kirk excelled at many sports. With his wife Binny he dominated local tennis for years, he played at a high level at cricket and soccer and sprinted for his country as a young man and later became a good golfer. An all round sportsman in every way!

His funeral, attended by the family, was followed by a memorial service at his local church in the Bourne near Farnham, where Ray and Binny married over sixty years ago. The large number of mourners included many Old Boys paying a final tribute to this well loved man of Farnham. All the staff from Rangers' Furnishings, his company, were there and people from many walks of life.

The name of Kirk will always be synonymous with the Old Farnhamians and will form a part of the history of the school and the town. The following obituary appeared in the Farnham Diary with details provided by the editor of this magazine and the Kirk family.

Ray Kirk: a man for all (sporting) seasons.

'A man with sparkling eyes, a ready smile and - at least in youth - seemingly with wings on his feet, has died aged 88. Ray Kirk, born and bred in Farnham, was also very well-known in the town because, until very recently, he remained working in the family store of Rangers' Furnishings, in West Street.

A former Old Boy of Farnham Grammar School, Ray, who was born on December 20th 1920, first went to school in Wrecclesham, but, when he was 12-years-old he joined Farnham Grammar School as a pupil. During his five years there he excelled in a number of sports but specifically in football, cricket and athletics. In the two former games he played for FGS but Ray will be remembered best for his outstanding success in athletics at school, district, county and national levels. In 1934 he won the 100 yards at the All England Schools Championships held in Blackpool and two years later he won the 400 yards at the same event. However, at the London White City, in 1939, he achieved his greatest victory when he was first in the Junior Amateur Athletics Association 220 yards championships.

In September of the same year he joined the army for war service. In 1943 he took a commission after which he was posted to Lagos to join the Royal West African Frontier Force where he helped to train troops for the campaign in Burma before moving into Egypt to help guard the Suez Canal. He left the army in 1946 to return to Farnham as Major Ray Kirk.

OBITUARIES

On his return Ray married Binny Ayling (by whom he is survived) whose father owned Rangers', in West Street. He joined the furnishing shop's team in 1950 where he remained 'in harness' for well over 55 years. As relaxation from shop life Ray and Binny played tennis and became well-known in lawn tennis mixed doubles, winning the title in Farnham on many occasions. In recent times the couple played golf and then, as the years went on, took up the more sedentary pursuit of Mah Jongg.

For their parents' Golden Wedding, in 1996, their sons, Peter, Jamie and Terry had a cabinet made specially to display all the sporting medals and trophies which Ray had received.'

A few weeks before the death of Ray Kirk we heard of the passing of **MICHAEL I. POWER (1932-1939)**, who was a contemporary of Ray, Fred Foley and John Aylwin among others. Mike joined the school in the early 30s and became a member of Massingberd House. He took part in the annual cross country with little success, but he soon showed that he was an excellent rifle shot and represented his House and the School on several occasions.

On leaving the school he worked as an accountant with the Alton Battery Company before entering the Royal Navy when the Second World War began. After the war Mike returned to the Alton firm initially and then joined Taylor Brothers, wholesale confectioners in Heath End, just outside Farnham. Mike had married the daughter of one of the Taylor brothers. Winifred Taylor, known as 'Wink', was a former Farnham Girls' Grammar School pupil and they met at school and were married for 64 years.

When the business closed Mike worked as a commercial traveller and was also the landlord of 'The Alma' public house in Hale. He then became Sales Manager for Sharp's of Haslemere, confectioners with the 'Trebور' brand. Later he moved with the company to Worthing where he remained living for the remainder of his life. Mike and 'Wink' had two daughters, Susanne and Linda.

Mike was a member of the Old Farnhamians' Association and during the 1950s joined the General Committee. He regularly attended the Annual Dinner, but in recent years illness has prevented him from doing this. Ray Bowtell recalls that after the General Committee meetings members would adjourn to 'The Waverley' public house where Mike would offer his latest array of jokes and stories. He was well-known for his broad smile and his jokes.

An abiding memory of him was a conversation at 'The Waverley' after a meeting when there was a discussion about countries where members had found themselves during war service. Mike indicated that he had been in the Merchant Navy and estimated he had travelled some 70,000 to 80,000 miles on voyages. George Baxter, ex-officio President of the Association, assuming his schoolmaster mode, remarked "That's about three times around the world", at which Mike, without pause, rejoined "Yeah! It didn't 'alf make yer giddy".

His wife 'Wink' still lives in Worthing and is a friend of former schoolmate, Binny Kirk.

OBITUARIES

On 26th April 2009, **DEREK CRANHAM (1968-1970)** died. We have little details about him and he was not a member of the Association.

On July 20th 2009, one of our most respected and valued members died. The wife of **TERRY TIDD (1935-1938)** telephoned to advise that he had died in his sleep after several months of ill health. She was doubly saddened by the fact that, four days before she had contracted swine-flu and had been refused entry to the hospital where Terry was spending his final days. She did not see him before he passed away.

The profile for Terry appeared in the 2006 magazine and was used as the major part of the eulogy at his funeral. A memorial service was held on 4th August and old friend, **PETER READ (1941-1946)**, reported that over 120 people attended. Terry was cremated at a family ceremony the following day.

Terry came from a military family and whilst his father was stationed at Aldershot he entered the FGS as a boarder. He belonged to School House and was an all rounder at sport. Soon after leaving he joined the Army and during the war was involved in several units and rose to the rank of captain. According to his wife his period in the army was shrouded in some secrecy and it was only after fifty years that he was allowed to speak of events during the wartime. To this day the full story has not been told.

On being demobbed he joined Petters Ltd of Staines and became an experienced buyer. He was a leading light in the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply and lectured at Portsmouth Polytechnic and Highbury Technical College. In December 1959 he joined De Havilland for a short period and then moved to Colt Ventilation, who were then in Surbiton, and subsequently moved to Havant.

As well as having a successful career Terry found time for many outside activities, especially with Lions International. In 2005 he was presented with the 'Melvin Jones Fellowship' which is the highest award worldwide for the Lions.

Terry was a regular supporter of the Southampton Lunch, and also attended many Annual Dinners in Farnham. He was liked and respected by all Old Boys and will be sadly missed.

'Farewell to our Oldest Living Old Boy'

In the News of the Old Boys section of this magazine we celebrate the 105th birthday of **PHIL SPENCER (1912-1919)**, and now we must unfortunately report his sad passing on 4th November 2009. The editor had been in contact with him and his family prior to the annual Southampton Lunch and as promised arranged to drink a toast to Phil in honour of his 105th birthday. The history of this amazing man has been documented in recent magazines and it seems impossible to imagine that any future Old Boy will reach this age. He died in his chair at the Puttenham Hill Retirement Home during the afternoon and officially the cause was given as old age. To reach 105 years and avoid death from a major illness is amazing. We will remember him!

OBITUARIES

We have received advice that **A.RANGER TEMPLE (1934-1938)** has died early in the year. His family lived in West Street and he entered the school and became a member of Childe House. He was an accomplished soccer player and played for the School Second X1 in 1937 and 1938 at left back. He had a first class record as an athlete and won the school Long Jump in 1937, and came second in this event when he represented Farnham at the Surrey Secondary Schools' Sports at Motspur Park. He was also an excellent sprinter and won several events at the annual School Sports. In 1938 he was successful in passing the General school certificate. We have no details regarding his career after leaving the school.

We have also received belated news that **C.J.BAKER (1940-1946)** died in February 2009 at his home in Alton. He was a member of Harding House and represented his House at rifle shooting and cricket. He was also a regular member of the School Second XI cricket team.

With the death of Phil Spencer we began to search for the Oldest Living Old Boy and it seemed that this honour would go to **JIM HALL (1925-1932)**, one of our longest serving members and a great supporter of the Southampton Lunch. Before we could confirm this position to him we heard from his daughter to advise us that during January 2010 Jim died at his home in Poole. As you can see Jim entered the school in 1925 and was well into his 90s when he passed away.

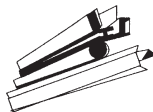
His profile is recorded in the 2002 issue of this magazine and re-reading it you will see that he had a long career in the Civil Service and held positions at the War Office and the Ministry of Defence. I well remember that at one Southampton Lunch he asked if he could say a few words and proceeded to give a most interesting and enjoyable speech about meeting other Old Boys as he travelled the world. He was sitting at a table in Malta during the war with Montgomery, Eisenhower, Mountbatten and other service dignitaries and a Lieutenant Colonel sitting opposite Jim said, "I think I know you, Weren't we in the same class at Farnham Grammar School?" It turned out to be Allan Smallman, and they began to meet regularly after making this contact.

Jim and his wife Barbara loved their penthouse flat overlooking Poole Harbour and sat watching the ships and ferries come and go. He was a charming gentleman and all who knew him will miss his company at our gatherings. He was 96 years of age when he died and had two daughters, four grandchildren as well as great-grandchildren.

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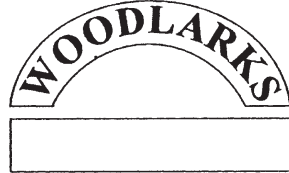
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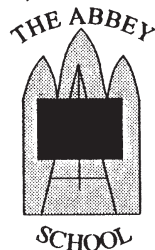
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