

THE FARNHAMIAN



100th Anniversary Edition

March 2012

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THE FARNHAMIAN

March 2012

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOL.19

Volume One. No.1. edition of the Farnhamian magazine was first published in December 1912, thus making this issue the 100th Anniversary edition of the official magazine for the Farnham Boys' Grammar School. This is quite an achievement, and one wonders if any other school in the country has such a record.

The past twelve months has given us the 50th Anniversary of the Southampton Luncheon, the 23rd Farnham Lecture and the 80th Annual Dinner, again significant milestones in the history of the old school and the Old Farnhamians' Association. On the minus side, the number of Old Boys who have passed away has also been a record, and one that we hope will not be repeated in future years.

Among the well-known names that have gone are Peter Clark, Stan Armstrong, Michael Barnard, Ian Perkins, Tony Rayer, John Edmunds, Derek Skillin, Maurice Binning, Hans Holm, Ron Short and Ted Grimes. How will these be replaced? Who will forget Peter Clark in his red coat as Master of Ceremonies at the Millennium Dinner at Farnham Castle?

Still the Association moves on, and a handful of new members bring some new life to the organisation. Derek Roe now arranges the Southampton Lunch, Roger Edgell and Brian Williams organise the Annual Dinner and a new generation takes over. There are many more years for the Old Boys to hold an important place in the town of Farnham.

Memorabilia and research into the past increases and over the year the editor has met the relations of Charles Stroud, exchanged emails with the descendants of Rev. Samuel Locke and entered into correspondence with the descendants of employees of Rev. William Grant Broughton, all headmasters during the 19th century. Slowly more of the history appears and gives us an insight into the Grammar School of the past.

So, what of the future? The regular events are being planned for another year, another Old Boys'/Old Girls' Garden Party is set for mid-June and again the Association will provide valuable support for Farnham College, which now inhabits our old home at Morley Road. The editor of the Farnhamian will begin to put together volume 20 of the modern magazine and wonders what new news or bad news will come forth over the next year. No doubt there will be more to interest the readers, and do not forget that the magazine relies on input from the membership. If you have anything to say, then please write to me.

I hope that you find this edition worthy of the 100th year in existence!

2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On a bitterly cold evening, over two dozen former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School gathered at Farnham College for their annual general meeting. It is now almost forty years since the old school closed, but the Old Boys membership remains fairly stable and younger members are taking over from those who are reaching their 80s and 90s.

Bryan Bone, the current President, began the meeting by asking all present to stand in silence as he read out the longer than usual list of members who had died during the past twelve months. This was followed by reports from the various members who organise the events in the Old Farnhamians' programme. Overall the organisation is healthy, not only financially, but continuing to have a good following.

Roger Edgell reported that the 79th Annual Dinner at Farnham Castle had been very successful, but the time has come when we need to consider the ageing of the membership. Many do not wish to attend an evening dinner and therefore the 2012 event will be the inaugural President's Luncheon, held at the castle at mid-day on Saturday 12th May.

Cyril Trust said that the 50th Southampton Lunch had been a great success and this event grows every year and is now one of the major events for the Old Boys across the south and west of the country. After organising it for ten years Cyril has handed over to Derek Roe and no doubt the 2012 lunch on 17th October will be just as successful.

Reviewing the work of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, Cyril Trust said that the College Awards owed much to the 34 sponsored awards given to students in 2011. There were also two awards for the top Farnham students at the Guildford College Awards and again the Farnhamian Award to the top pupils at Weydon School, Heath End School and Ash Manor School. This support to local schools is in keeping with one of the aims of the 400 Trust, in helping local education in general.

Ian Sargeant said that over the year the Leaving Scholarship Trust had helped six students from the College with financial support to help them further their higher education. He hoped that in future this number would increase.

Cyril Trust advised that the 2012 Farnhamian magazine was almost ready to print and it should be available in March. It will be a special edition to commemorate the 100th year that the magazine has been in existence.

On Saturday 23rd June 2012 there will be another summer garden party for Old Boys and Old Girls and Cyril Trust and Mike Mehta, who are on the organising committee hoped that the membership would support the event.

The election of officers was made and most of the Farnhamian 400 Trust committee, Leaving scholarship Trust committee and the General Committee decided to carry on for the next year. All present looked forward to a good year for the Association!

THE FINAL CURTAIN FOR THE EVENING ANNUAL DINNER

After much thought and consultation the annual dinner committee have decided that 2011 would be the last time that this event would be in the evening. Starting with the 80th Annual Dinner on May 12th 2012 it will be a lunchtime event. It is felt that as the overall age of the membership is now not so keen to turn out on a dark night and not so keen to travel far to the event and then have to get home or find somewhere to stay overnight. The new lunch will hopefully revive the dwindling numbers and at the same time provide a meal at a lower price level.

The 2011 magazine went to press prior to the dinner and the photograph below is included this time to show a group from that final enjoyable evening. It will prove very important memorabilia no doubt.



Front: Roger Edgell (Secretary): Tegan Creedy (Singer):
Bryan Bone (President): Clive Beal (MC)
Second: Ex-Masters: Tony Moore: Rev. John Innes: Hugh Batchelor: Stanley Owen.
Third: Former Presidents: Brian Williams: Cyril Trust: Mike Horner: John Crotty
Back: Former Presidents: Brian Daniels: Dennis Phillips.

2011 SOUTHAMPTON LUNCHEON - THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1961, Dudley Backhurst, Leslie Luff, John Stroud and Freddie Grinstead, all former pupils of Farnham Grammar School, met for a reunion dinner at the Dolphin Hotel, Southampton. They enjoyed it so much that they asked other Old Boys from the Hampshire area if they wished to join them and over the past fifty years the popularity of this event has grown.

On 12th October the 50th anniversary lunch was celebrated at the Woodlands Hotel in the New Forest and 46 sat down for the usual relaxed and enjoyable meal. This has always been an event that does not involve speeches and uses the time together to reminisce over the days at the school in Morley Road. However, Cyril Trust, who organised the lunch, opened the proceedings by asking all to stand in honour of Peter Clark and Stan Armstrong, past stalwarts of this event. Also included was Harold North, the oldest living Old Boy, who had died recently at the age of 97.

Following grace, given by Brian Williams, Cyril welcomed special guests Michael Barham from Australia and Norman Paget from America, both attending whilst they are in the UK. Other special guests were Patricia Atkinson, the chairman for the Farnham Grammar School Old Girls' Association and Julia Wilson, whose father Harold Beeken was one of the most respected and loved teachers at the school. Julia gave the only speech of the day, and delighted those present with stories about many of the old teachers who worked under F.A.Morgan. Her association with the school stretched over many years and her talk was an insight into why the old school had been so successful for so long.

As the closing of the schools in 1973 seems so far away and the numbers dwindle, the Old Boys and the Old Girls are contemplating some combined events, with a garden party already planned for 23rd June 2012. Both Associations still have several hundred members living across the globe and it is vital that events like this offer the opportunity to meet with former classmates. The 50th anniversary of this luncheon proved a great success and no doubt most who attended will assemble again at the same venue in October 2012.

Attending:

G.Andrews: Patricia Atkinson: M.A.Barham: H.Batchelor: C.Beal: B.E.Bone: D.Bowtell:
H.Brindley: D.Buckell: J.Cockle: J.Cope: J.H.Crotty: D.Cutler: B.Daniels: R.Edgell: P.Ford:
R.H.Hewes: J.Hibberd: G.Hooker: P.Huntingford: M.E.Jeffreys: G.LeVey: D.Lampard: R.
Luckhurst: D.McManamon: K.Mentzel: K.Mortimer: P.Mylles: C.Nash: N.Paget: J.Peace:
D.Phillips: R.Phillips: B.Phillpott: S.Pritchard: P.Read: D.Roe: Christine Sturt: M.E.H.Sturt:
N.Timmins: J.Travers: C.D.Trust: B.E.Webberley: B.Williams: Julia Wilson: T.Withall.

***Put in your diary the date for the 2012
Southampton Luncheon is 17th October***

2011 FARNHAM LECTURE

The audience at Farnham College who attended the twenty-third Farnham Lecture, presented by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, listened in awe as the speaker, Tess Burrows, told her story of courage, climbing the highest mountains of the world and trekking across the wildernesses of the planet. When one considers she is a grandmother and well into her sixties, her exploits are even more admirable.

Tess decided many years ago to try to do something to promote peace in the world, and with her partner Pete Hammond she planned to conquer six major journeys across the globe. They took with them messages of peace from all peoples and placed them at the final destination. The aim was to raise money for the poor people of Tibet and over the years they have generated well over £100,000, which has enabled them to build six schools in Tibet for the children. The charity is called 'Climb for Tibet' and its main patron is His Holiness the Dalai Lama and among its supporters are Joana Lumley and Uri Geller.



Bryan Bone (President), Tess Burrows, Cyril Trust (Organiser), Tony Gatfield (Secretary)

The first target was to climb Mount Chimborazo in Ecuador, which although not as high as Everest it is geographically further from the centre of the earth. This was followed by treks to the North Pole and across the Andes, and in 2009 they took part in the Amundsen Omega 3 South Pole Race which enabled them to reach yet another goal. The race was covered by

2011 FARNHAM LECTURE

BBC2 and highlighted the attempt to win the race by James Cracknell, the Olympic rower, and Ben Fogle, the TV personality.

Two years prior to the race Tess and Peter began an arduous training programme to reach the peak of fitness for this attempt at walking 500 miles across Antarctica. As she explained the agonies of this fitness regime, the audience listened in amazement at what two people over sixty could achieve. Tess could be seen walking around Haslemere, where she lives, dragging a huge lorry tyre behind her and managing to enter the Guinness Book of Records for doing this.

She explained with the aid of superb photographs the actual six week race and what life was like with temperatures reaching 89 degrees below zero, winds in excess of 200 miles per hour, and twenty-four hour daylight. They were using up to 9000 calories each day, whilst the conditions made it difficult to take in 3000 calories per day and caused a huge weight loss. It was a tribute to their fitness and their resolve when they completed the race and posed on the spot designated the South Pole.

This was an exceptional Farnham Lecture and only marred by the small number of listeners. If you have the opportunity to hear the story told by Tess Burrows, then take it, because it tells of great courage and shows what can be achieved if you have the will to succeed.

YOUR OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2011/2012

OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION GENERAL COMMITTEE

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

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST

Cyril Trust (Chairman); Tony Gatfield (Secretary); Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer); Bill Luff; Mike Horner; John Crotty; Bryan Bone; Brian Williams; Roger Edgell; John McLaughlin.

LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

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

THE FARNHAMIAN MAGAZINE REACHES A MILESTONE

This magazine makes history, not because it is the nineteenth edition of the modern version edited by myself, but because it is one hundred years ago that the first printed issue was put into print and made available to pupils and Old Boys alike. If one looks through the many magazines, it is easy to see why the Farnham Grammar School attracts such loyalty and enthusiasm over the years. The Farnhamian has been produced by pupils, teachers and Old Boys during the one hundred years and is a piece of history in itself.

The first school magazine (Volume 1. Number 1.) was printed in December 1912, when the Rev.Samuel Priestley M.A. was the Headmaster. It is understood that the idea came from Mr.W.Welch, then vice-chairman of the Higher Education Committee for Surrey County Council. The first number was edited, presumably by Mr.Priestley, and distributed by Mrs Priestley since the note in the back page declares, ‘Correspondence should be addressed to “The Editors”’. Annual Subscription is 1/9d (one shilling and nine pence), payable in advance, should be sent to Mrs Priestley, ‘The School House’.

For the next number a committee was formed of Mr. J.W.Withinshaw B.A. (French Master) and six boys, with the intention of ‘putting the editorship as far as possible in the hands of the boys’. The original six were: J.K.Dutton; C.Judd; H.A.Atton; A.W.Putnam; R.F.Harris and W.S.Todd. In their first editorial they expressed thanks to D.Warner (Form VI) for the excellent design on the cover he had drawn, under the direction of Mr. Allen (Art Master).

The original printers, who completed the task for many years, were Langhams of Farnham, who must be complimented on the continued high standard of the magazine.

One of the first masters to take over as editor was Eric Munton, who began in 1928 and wrote a brief article in the 1962 issue celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Farnhamian. He says that when he took over the editorship the magazine depended financially on the advertising revenue, however on his appointment a higher authority decided that this should not be continued. Consequently, it was a struggle to make ends meet and he began with a very slim edition, for which readers were charged sixpence per copy. Gradually the price rose with general inflation and was a shilling by 1950.

From 1950 onwards the financing of the magazine was taken care of in other ways. During this time various masters, notably Mike Foster, assisted by pupils, edited the annual issue and retained the high standard of previous years. In 1973 the School closed and the printed magazine was replaced by photo-copies of a general Newsletter written and produced by the Old Farnhamians’ Association. In November 1994 the ‘modern’ Farnhamian was introduced and continues to be published once each year. There is no cost to the reader and the Association finances the printing etc.

The new style editions have all been printed by Riverprint Ltd., which is a local printer owned by a former pupil of the School, and now includes many more photographs than the early versions. The quality is still a feature. We have every copy that was printed over the years, except one, and copies are now available at either the Museum of Farnham or the Surrey History Centre at Woking.

RESEARCHING THE HEADMASTERS OF FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Probably because of the popular BBC programme ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ many people are now researching their family tree via the internet, church records and census records etc. During the first half of 2011 the Editor was approached by two families to assist in tracking down information about their ancestors and the results make interesting reading for those who are associated with the former Farnham Grammar School. The research covers the headmasters at the school during the 19th century and we start with a lady who wanted to know more about **REV. SAMUEL LOCKE (1800-1923)**.

Samuel Locke came into Farnham and brought with him a few pupils who boarded at, and were taught at, premises in West Street, Farnham. He made it clear that he did not wish to teach any boys of the lower classes and immediately he became very unpopular. Over the years the number of pupils dwindled to almost nothing and the local residents asked him to leave the town and vacate the property which came with the role of headmaster. He refused and this led to large posters being printed and placed around the town asking this ‘despicable man’ to leave. He responded with his own poster denying the allegations, but in the end he moved on and local history shows that he was an unpopular man who almost ruined the Grammar School.

Jean Holmes, the researcher, has traced the family back to 1163 and feels that there is evidence that Samuel Locke was not the person that the people of Farnham painted. For example he was appointed Chaplain to the Duke of Kent in 1816 and on his death in 1849 it was recorded that he was for many years a magistrate, and was ‘a man of considerable learning and an eloquent preacher.’ Going through his family tree it is like reading a history text book and the following are some people included:

Lord Burghley, Lord Chancellor of England.
Francis Bacon.
Sir Thomas Sackville, Lord Treasurer of England.
Duke of Somerset.
Jane Seymour.
Princess Anne of Denmark.
Mary, Queen of Scots.
Princess Mary Anne of England.

With such a pedigree, perhaps Samuel Locke was not the rogue remembered by the people of Farnham. According to the researcher there is more information to come.

Following Samuel Locke as the headmaster of the School was Rev. H.A.Austen, the brother of famous author Jane Austen. He remained in place until 1827, and was followed by two short term heads until Rev. Richard Sankey took over from 1834 until 1853. By this time the Farnham Grammar School was almost nonexistent and Rev. Sankey resigned in 1853 and was replaced by **CHARLES STROUD (1853-1897)**.

There has been much written about Charles Stroud and his family, but the Editor was approached by **Jenny Stroud** in Spring 2011 and asked if he could help with information about the Stroud family in Farnham.

RESEARCHING THE HEADMASTERS OF FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Jenny Stroud was a descendant of Robert Stroud, a brother of Charles, and knew the details of the family tree on that side, but little about the Charles Stroud side of the family. By putting together her information and that of the memorabilia from the Old Boys and the Museum of Farnham she now has a much more complete picture of the Stroud dynasty.

Charles Stroud found the school unable to pay its creditors in 1861 and had to agree on a part payment to them before he could move the school forward. His brother, Robert, taught with him for a short time before starting a school in Clapham Common. His son, William Stroud was his deputy head and became one of the most popular teachers to have worked at the school. Sons Richard (Dick) and John (Jack) attended the school, whilst daughter Ellen opened a prep school on Station Hill called York House School and on his retirement William turned the school into Elmsleigh School.

Within weeks of retiring Charles Stroud died and by now he had built the numbers to one hundred pupils and had turned the Farnham Grammar School into one of the premier schools in the south. Looking through the family tree, prepared by Jenny Stroud, it shows that many descendants have become teachers and both she and sister Angela have only retired recently.

The Editor spent a morning with Jenny, Angela and Robert Stroud in Farnham exchanging information and seeing the various places associated with the Stroud family. Again there is still much to learn about the family and no doubt this information will come to the OFA.



Jenny, Angela & Robert Stroud

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES

As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations for the Museum of Farnham, Anne Jones, the curator, chose fifty items held at the museum that she felt were important to the town of Farnham. Each week of 2011 she gave a lunchtime talk on each item and the fourth one on her list was the story of former Farnham Grammar School pupil, Charles Varndell. A member of the family had given the collection, relating to Charles, to the museum in 1994. Anne kindly gave permission for her accompanying notes to be printed in the Farnhamian.

Object 4

World War 1 Charles Varndell Collection

Farnham Grammar School Head Boy's medal, School prizes for Maths and Science, Photograph of Farnham Grammar School Cadet Corps, Photographs of Charles Varndell in army uniform and with fellow officers at Purfleet, Photograph of Charles Varndell with fiancée, Janet Osborne, Photograph of grave of Lt. Charles Varndell.

Charles Henry Essex Varndell was born in Farnham in 1893 or 1894. He was his parents' only son although there were also three daughters. Charles attended Farnham Grammar School and was made Head Boy in 1911. While at the Grammar School he joined the Farnham Grammar School Cadet Corps.

Cadet training in British schools began in the 1860s, in response, it is generally believed, to the fear of a French invasion by Napoleon III. Many of the first schools to have cadet programmes were Public Schools but these were later joined by the Grammar Schools. The cadets ranged in age between 12 to 18 years old. In 1914 The War Office took control of all independent Cadet units. They became the Army Cadet Force (ACF) and a source of officers during World War 1.

Charles showed great promise at Farnham Grammar School, winning many school prizes, the prizes displayed in the museum were awarded to him in 1909 for Mathematics and in 1910 for Science. He had plans to become a scientist and went to Edinburgh University. He joined the Army at the beginning of the First World War through the Edinburgh University Officer Training Corps (O.T.C.) and graduated with BSc Honours in 1915.

It was in Scotland that he met his future wife, Janet Osborne, with whom he appears in another photograph in the collection. Charles had joined the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment and was sent with his regiment to Purfleet in Essex. A postcard shows him (seated) with two fellow officers.

The postcard is addressed to 'Miss Jenty K Osborne, Spittal View, Drymen, Dumbartonshire' and reads '*Purfleet, Wednesday. Dear Jenty, I am so sorry to hear you are an invalid, but trust you will soon get quite well at home. I should stretch out my convalescence if I were you. Things are pretty much as usual here. It's getting rather cold, and we shall be glad to get into huts at Sandling, nr Shorncliffe (in Kent) but that won't be for 3 weeks yet. Make haste and get well, Charlie.*'

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES

The couple were married in Scotland in 1915 but had only a short time to enjoy married life before Charles was posted to France.

Charles was a Second Lieutenant in the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment and his death was reported in 'The Farnhamian' magazine for March 1916:

'Lieut. Varndell is the first of the recent generation to give his life in the cause. It is but yesterday that he scored for the 1st XI; took the Major Scholarship; went off full of promise, mildly surprised at his success, to win new honours at Edinburgh University...He was killed while repelling a hostile attack on a crater, the evening of March 18th, and was buried in the British Military cemetery at Vermeilles. His captain says: 'He took the keenest interest in his work, and was so absolutely reliable in all he undertook.' We who knew him so well cannot refrain from adding that he lived the life and died the death that we are proud to claim as an example for all of us.'

The War Graves commission records show that 'Varndell, Charles Henry Essex, Second Lieutenant in The Queen's (Royal West Surrey regiment) was killed on 13th March 1916, aged 22 years. He is buried in Vermelles British Cemetery, grave reference II.J.7. Vermelles is a village 10 kilometres north-west of Lens which is near Loos on the Somme.

The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment paid a high price for its commitment in the First World War: 8000 men were killed out of the twenty-five battalions/thirty-one units formed. The Regiment gained five Victoria Crosses (VCs). In the 1st Battalion alone, five commanding officers, two majors, sixty-one company officers and 1,133 NCOs and men were killed in action.

The 1st Battalion fought at Mons, on the Marne and Aisne, Ypres, the Aubers Ridge, Loos on the Somme and Arras. When it came out of the line in November 1918, only seventeen men were left out of all the ranks that had gone to France in 1914.

The story of Charles Varndell and his young widow was a depressingly familiar one repeated in every town and village throughout the land. Bright young men, like Charles Varndell, were promoted straight into the officer ranks when they joined the army to 'do their bit' for King and Country. However, these officers led their men into battles and were therefore the first in the firing line when they 'went over the top'. The senseless loss of young lives, of the brightest and best like young Varndell, blighted an entire generation.

Charles's widow, Janet, married again after the war and had a son, Norman Wilson who gave this poignant collection to the museum in 1994. His mother kept her first husband's treasures, along with his officer's sword and other war mementoes, for the rest of her life. Mr Wilson grew up with his mother's stories of her lost husband who was regarded 'as a sort of mythical figure called Uncle Charlie.'

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

written by Henry Ellwood

SECOND LIEUTENANT GORDON MASON

Gordon Mason was the son of Fanny Elizabeth Mason, who lived at 13. East Street, Farnham. According to the 1901 census the Mason family lived in the Savings Bank in East Street, where his father, Robert Wykes Mason, was the Savings Bank Actuary. Gordon had an elder sister named Majorie Phyllis and a younger brother named Robert Godfrey.

Gordon was born on 20th June 1896 and entered West Street School in 1904 and left for the Grammar School in 1908. On leaving the School he joined the 21st Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps (Yeoman Rifles), which was made up from farmers and was part of the 124 Brigade of the 41st Division.

The Division was formed as part of the Fifth New Army at Aldershot in September 1915 and they moved to France in May 1916 and were concentrated between Hazebrouck and Boilleul. It entered the Somme offensive and in the September captured the village of Fles. In October 1916 the Division took part in the Battle of Transloy Ridges.

Operations for 1917 included Messines Ridge, Pilckem Ridge plus operations on the Flanders Coast. In November of that year the Division was moved to the Italian Front at the River Piave. In March 1918 it returned to France and took part in the actions at St.Quentin, Arras, Bapaume and the River Lys. Towards the end of the war it fought at Countrai and Ooteghem.

The 41st Division suffered over 32,000 casualties in France.

On 7th June 1917 some 500 tons of high explosive was mined under the Messines Ridge. On this day the Division was sent in to clear what remained of the enemy and it is believed that Gordon Mason was killed during this action.

(Note: A plaque in St.Andrew's Church, Farnham, states that Gordon Mason was killed at St.Eloi and that he was serving with the 2nd. Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps)

Gordon Mason was twenty years of age when killed and he is buried in Dickebusch New Military Cemetery Ex. Ieper, Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave reference: III. C. 20.

PRIVATE JOHN PATRICK O'DONNELL

John Patrick O'Donnell was the son of Mrs. Joanna O'Donnell of Oatlands, Fairfield, Farnham and the late Mr. O'Donnell. There is little information regarding his life at school, but his name is included on the Farnham Gostrey Memorial and on the Farnham Grammar School "Roll of Honour".

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

written by Henry Ellwood

He joined the 15th Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment in 1915, which was raised by the Mayor of Portsmouth and later absorbed the Hampshire Yeomanry to be designated the 15th (Yeomanry) Battalion and was part of the 122nd Brigade of the 41st Division. It was formed as part of the Fifth New Army at Aldershot in September 1915.

John Patrick O'Donnell and Gordon Mason fought at the same areas of France and Italy and it is believed that John was killed when the Division was advancing into Belgium towards the end of the war. The following obituary appeared in the Farnham Herald:

“News has been received that Private John O'Donnell, youngest son of Mr. And Mrs. O'Donnell of The Fairfield, serving in the Hampshire Regiment, who was previously reported as missing, is now reported killed on 4th September. Private O'Donnell, who was only twenty years old was an Old Grammar School boy, who joined up three years ago. He was home on leave quite recently and only returned to France a fortnight before his death.”

John Patrick O'Donnell is buried in Voormezele Enclosure No. 3. Ieper, Vlaanderen, Belgium. Grave Reference: XVI. T. 23.

FARNHAM COLLEGE REMEMBERS

It has been customary for students of Farnham College to travel each year to the former battlefields of the First World War and see for themselves the rows of graves where British soldiers were buried. Some of the party take with them details of relatives, and attempt to trace where they fought and where they fell.

Returning to the college, students prepare a series of large posters outlining the details of what they saw, what they thought, and any in depth information regarding relatives who died in the war. For several days this information forms a small exhibition and people are invited to view the room and read what the students have prepared.

In early 2012 a coach took current students to France and Belgium and this time they aimed to lay a wreath at the Menin Gate, where so many army personnel are remembered. The Old Farnhamians' Association were approached by the college and asked if they would like the wreath to come from Farnham College and the Association. The wreath therefore carries a message from the Old Boys honouring the 71 former pupils of Farnham Grammar School who died in the war.

THE SCHOOL CUPS

In the early 1990s the Editor and John Crotty were asked to visit Farnham College to view some memorabilia from the former Farnham Grammar School, which was being held in the former school 'coal hole' situated in the original school building. Apart from a quantity of paperwork there were several boxes containing blackened cups and shields which were mostly the sporting awards to pupils at the old school. It took considerable effort and time to clean the cups, which eventually were housed in cabinets at the top of the school staircase. Photographs were taken of the forty-nine awards and have been shown in the Farnhamian magazines for several years, accompanied by the list of winners. There are only a few still to feature in the magazine and the following two are among the most valued from the old school.

By following the progress of the second cup shown here it is possible to see when some of the changes in the School took place during the twentieth century. One can see that originally the award was for an inter-form competition and then changed to an inter-house award in 1902. In those days there were houses named Train and District, and after the move to Morley Road in 1906 Boarders became another house name. There was no contest in 1907, the football season being interrupted by the move from West Street to Morley Road.

In 1913 the new house names came into being with Dr Harding House, and the following year Henry Massingberd winning the cup. There then came a five year interval when the First World War took place and when resumed in 1919/1920 season the house names that we all knew were being used. The list shows that during the Second World War there was no cancellation of the school football programme.

The final name appeared on the cup in 1954/55 and one wonders why it ceased to exist in that year. The school continued until 1973 and a new award must have been put in place. The cups appear to cover most of the sports' events at the school, although it would be of interest if any reader knows of others. At least the former Boys' School have these important items of history, whilst the Girls' school appear to have lost all their cups and memorabilia in general when the Grammar Schools ended and the boys and girls combined to become Farnham Sixth Form College. Again, if any readers know of the whereabouts of either Boys' or Girls' cups please inform the editor of this magazine.

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THE SCHOOL CUPS
 INTER HOUSE FOOTBALL CHALLENGE CUP
 SECOND XI



| | | | | | |
|---------|----------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| 1919/20 | MASSINGBERD | 1920/21 | MASSINGBERD | 1921/22 | MASSINGBERD |
| 1922/23 | HARDING | 1923/24 | CHILDE | 1924/25 | CHILDE |
| 1925/26 | MORLEY | 1926/27 | MASSINGBERD | 1927/28 | MORLEY |
| 1928/29 | CHILDE | 1929/30 | CHILDE | 1930/31 | CHILDE |
| 1931/32 | CHILDE | 1932/33 | MORLEY | 1933/34 | SCHOOL |
| 1934/35 | CHILDE/HARDING | 1935/36 | SCHOOL | 1936/37 | MASSINGBERD/ MORLEY |
| 1937/38 | MORLEY/SCHOOL | 1938/39 | MORLEY | 1939/40 | SCHOOL |
| 1940/41 | MORLEY | 1941/42 | SCHOOL | 1942/43 | MASSINGBERD |
| 1943/44 | HARDING | 1944/45 | CHILDE | 1945/46 | MASSINGBERD |
| 1946/47 | SCHOOL | 1947/48 | SCHOOL/MORLEY | 1948/49 | MORLEY |
| 1949/50 | CHILDE | 1950/51 | MORLEY | 1951/52 | MORLEY |
| 1952/53 | CHILDE | 1953/54 | SCHOOL/CHILDE | 1954/55 | SCHOOL/MORLEY |
| 1955/56 | MORLEY | 1956/57 | CHILDE/MASSINGBERD/HARDING/MORLEY | | |
| 1957/58 | CHILDE | 1958/59 | MORLEY | 1959/60 | MORLEY |
| 1960/61 | MORLEY | 1961/62 | MASSINGBERD | 1962/63 | MASSINGBERD |
| 1963/64 | HARDING | 1964/65 | CHILDE | 1965/66 | CHILDE/ MASSINGBERD |
| 1966/67 | MASSINGBERD | 1967/68 | HARDING | 1968/69 | CHILDE |
| 1969/70 | HARDING | 1970/71 | CHILDE | | |

**THE SCHOOL CUPS
FORM FOOTBALL CHALLENGE CUP
- GIVEN BY THE RECTOR IN 1899**



| | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 1899 | FORM 6 | 1900 | FORM 5 | 1901 | FORM 6 |
| 1902 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1903 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1904 | TRAIN HOUSE |
| 1905 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1906 | DISTRICT HOUSE | 1907 | NO CONTEST |
| 1908 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1909 | BOARDERS HOUSE | 1910 | BOARDERS HOUSE |
| 1911 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1912 | TRAIN HOUSE | 1913 | DR HARDING'S HOUSE |
| 1914 | HENRY MASSINGBERD'S HOUSE | | | 1919/20 | SCHOOL/MORLEY |
| 1920/21 | MORLEY | 1921/22 | MASSINGBERD | 1922/23 | MASSINGBERD HARDING |
| 1923/24 | HARDING | 1924/25 | HARDING | 1925/26 | HARDING |
| 1926/27 | MORLEY | 1927/28 | CHILDE | 1928/29 | MASSINGBERD MORLEY |
| 1929/30 | MORLEY | 1930/31 | MORLEY | 1931/32 | MORLEY |
| 1932/33 | MORLEY | 1933/34 | CHILDE | 1934/35 | CHILDE |
| 1935/36 | CHILDE | 1936/37 | SCHOOL | 1937/38 | CHILDE/HARDING |
| 1938/39 | CHILDE | 1939/40 | CHILDE | 1940/41 | SCHOOL |
| 1941/42 | CHILDE/MASSINGBERD | | | 1942/43 | HARDING |
| 1943/44 | MASSINGBERD | | | 1944/45 | MASSINGBERD/CHILDE/HARDING |
| 1945/46 | HARDING | 1946/47 | SCHOOL | 1947/48 | SCHOOL/CHILDE |
| 1948/49 | CHILDE | 1949/50 | CHILDE | 1950/51 | CHILDE |
| 1951/52 | CHILDE | 1952/53 | CHILDE | 1953/54 | SCHOOL |
| 1954/55 | MORLEY | | | | |

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

As a new magazine is started it seems that one of the first people to make contact is **MIKE MEHTA (1971-1978)**. This time he has pointed out that four of his classmates attended the Annual Dinner in 2011, which is a record. He was joined at the table by **JOHN SAUNDERS, JOHN CLARKE and JULIAN WALDEN**. These four Old Boys were the youngest members in the room and they will hopefully help keep the Association going for many years to come.

Under obituaries we have given a tribute to **PETER CLARK (1939-1943)**, former Master of Ceremonies for the Association for many years, but another tribute that was on the website of the Calmore Sports' Club is well worth recording. It reads as follows:

'Former President Prof. Peter Clark has died'

It is with great regret that Calmore Sports' Club announces the passing of former President, Professor Peter Clark, who died peacefully in his sleep this morning (8th March 2011); the club sends its deepest condolences to his wife Tina and his family at the very sad time. Club chairman Pete Lavelle was called this morning to inform him of the news and he expressed his sadness. "Mine and the thoughts of Calmore Sports' Club are with Tina and his family. He was a very popular man at the club and worked tirelessly for us for many years. His passing will be felt by a great many people, not only here but in the community as well."

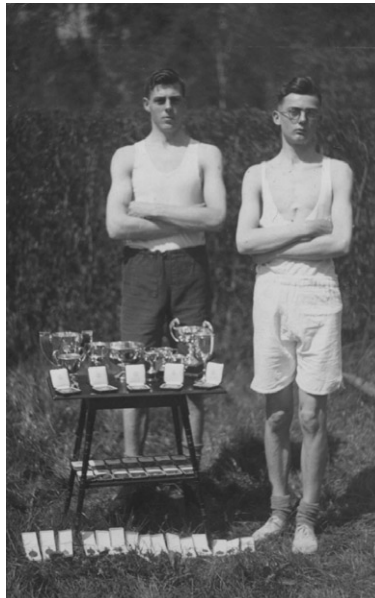
Professor Peter Clark had been ill for some time and confined to Lymington Hospital since before Christmas. He was moved to a nursing home in Fritham last week but was still in considerable pain with his legs. He was visited by the Chairman last week and he reported that the former President was in good spirits. However, his condition worsened and he passed away quietly in his sleep on Monday night/Tuesday morning.

Current President Mike Bowring added his regret at the news. "Calmore Cricket Club was his life," he said. "He put everything into it and his passing is a very sad day for the club". "As a young man, he was on the staff at Surrey County Cricket Club but moved to Hampshire and harnessed himself to Calmore and, for the club itself it was the best thing that could have happened. He was a generous, considerate man who put many thousands of hours into the club. When we bought the new ground at Loperwood Park 30 years ago, he was one of the driving forces behind it and without him I don't think it would have happened".

"Today is a very sad day for Calmore Sports' Club as it has lost one of its biggest characters and hardest working members over many years. Rest in peace Peter".

In May 2011 **CYRIL TRUST (1948-1953)**, chairman of the 400 Trust, and **BILL LUFF (1948-1955)** attended the AGM for the 1st Ash Vale Scout Group. During the evening a room at the Scout HQ was dedicated to **MICHAEL COLWILL (1936-1942)**, former Scout Leader and pupil of Farnham Grammar School. As part of the evening all of Michael's school medals and some of his memorabilia were presented to the 400 Trust. This magazine includes a special obituary to this Old Boy. With his brother, Malcolm, the Colwill boys were formidable athletes at the School and the locals of Ash Vale still remember them.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS



Malcolm Colwill on the left and Michael Colwill on the right, who dominated middle distance running at the Grammar School during the late 1930s and early 1940s. Most of the medals on show here are now with the Farnhamian 400 Trust memorabilia.

(The invitation to attend was from Christine Fitzpatrick, Group Secretary for the Group and a relative of Brian and Terry Fitzpatrick, who also attended the Grammar School)

During the early months of 2011, **ALAN LOVELL (1948-1953)** unfortunately was taken into hospital on more than one occasion for urgent treatment. He contacted the Editor and asked him to visit him as he needed some help and I was greeted by a sister who took me to a day room at Farnham Hospital. Alan was sitting in a chair surrounded by at least a dozen other people and I thought how nice it was for him to have so many friends who cared to call. I was then introduced to everybody and informed that they were all members of Binsted Parish Council and they were in the middle of a council meeting. Alan has been an important member and chairman for many years and the committee decided to go to him as he was unable to go to them. Although not well, it was business as usual for Alan!

As explained in another article in this issue, the editor of the magazine has become involved with the families of **SAMUEL LOCKE (1800-1823)** and **CHARLES STROUD (1853-1897)**, both former Headmasters of the Grammar School, in trying to research their ancestry. This is on- going and no doubt there will be more information to appear about both of these important teachers. In July 2011, a message via the Museum of Farnham involved yet another Headmaster of Farnham Grammar School.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The curator of the museum had received a request from a Ronald Hatton asking for help in tracing his great-great grandparents, Samuel and Hannah Hatton, who left England to go to Australia on 27th May 1829 aboard the John-transport. During the voyage they were in the employ of Archdeacon and Mrs **WILLIAM GRANT BROUGHTON (1827-1829)**, yet another former Headmaster of the school in Farnham, and Ronald wanted to know the connection between his great-grandparents and the Broughton family, and why Samuel and Hannah had been chosen to accompany the Broughton family as servants.

Whilst it is difficult to trace these facts, particularly because the 1821 census was destroyed, research gives us an insight into this former Headmaster who was appointed in Farnham in March 1872.

William Grant Broughton was born in Westminster in 1788 and his education included being a King's scholar at the King's School, Canterbury. He inherited a substantial sum of money which allowed him to study at Pembroke College, Cambridge. He graduated in 1818, was ordained a deacon and priest and married Sarah Francis in the same year. He graduated as an MA in 1823. He first became a curate in Hampshire, then in Surrey where he was noticed by the Duke of Wellington, whose influence resulted in him being offered the position of Archdeacon of Sydney, Australia.

He arrived in Sydney in September 1829 and became a member of the colony's legislative council and executive council, assisting the Governor in the administration. He was granted leave of absence and returned to England in 1834, there championing the cause of the church. The result was not as he expected, the diocese of Australia was formed and he was enthroned Bishop of Australia on 5th June 1836, just days after his return from England.

His wife died in 1848 and he returned to England in 1852 and was involved in administration and missionary fund raising. He died in London in February 1853 and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral.

The search for the link between the Hatton family and the Broughtons continues and it is hoped that we can publish more information in a future magazine.

THE OLDEST LIVING OLD BOY - HAROLD NORTH (1925-1932)

It is with great sadness that we that we have to announce that Harold North died on Saturday 10th September 2011 at the age of 97. His son, Graham, flew across from Australia to be with his father, but on arrival he found him unconscious and he died two days later in Blandford Forum Hospital. A profile of Harold North featured in the 2010 magazine and there is probably little to add for an obituary.

We now begin the process of finding his successor, which usually takes quite a time.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

On the 24th September 2011 the Farnham Grammar School Old Girls' Association celebrated their 110th anniversary with a special party to follow their Annual General Meeting at the old Menin Way School. The occasion attracted well over 100 Old Girls, with the 1961 intake of 60 girls represented by 52 of that intake in attendance. There was an invitation to several Old Boys and mingling with the ladies were former teachers, **JOHN McLAUGHLIN & the REV. JOHN INNES**. Also in attendance were **MIKE MEHTA, JOHN SAUNDERS** and **the EDITOR** of this magazine. The assembly welcomed news of the combined Garden Party in June 2012 and plan to turn up in significant numbers. I hope the Old Boys reading this will also make sure that we are not outnumbered by the fairer sex!

Among the members at the 50th Southampton Lunch was **MICK BARHAM (1948-1953)**, who was in the UK for a few weeks. When he saw that those present wore an OFA tie he asked to buy one to use at the event and the secretary ensured that he received one. Returning to Australia he met old friend **PETER DOWNHAM (1942-1947)**, who immediately wanted to know how he could obtain a tie. Peter's wife Rita overheard the conversation and contacted the editor, asking if a tie could be sent over for a Christmas present. This was done, and she sent her thanks and said that it was the best present that Peter had received this year.



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NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS**THE KNOTTS FAMILY**

The search to find out information about Hans Holm lead the editor to discover a great deal about another family with a long tradition at the Farnham Grammar School. His best friend was **JOHN KNOTTS (1940-1945)** and to make contact with John I had to speak to his sister Beryl, who had attended the Girls' Grammar School. She was able to give me the telephone number of John and also the sister of Hans Holm called Hannah Singer. Answering the phone to my call was her husband, another Old Boy named **ERWIN P. SINGER (1937- 1940)**.

I eventually made contact with John via e-mail and he provided me with an obituary of Hans Holm, which forms the basis of the wording under the 'Obituaries' section of this magazine. For good measure he also advised that his father and two uncles also attended the school and the detail is well worth recording.

We begin with John's father, **MAJOR LYN KNOTTS (1912-1917)**, who entered the school in the same year that the Farnhamian magazine was born. He was a good sportsman and in 1915 came second in the Junior High Jump at the Sports Day. That same year he played football for the School under 15's XI and was part of the team that won the S.S.S. (Surrey Secondary Schools) League. The following year he was made a prefect and also a Platoon Leader in the CCF at the school. In 1917 there are glowing reports about his skill and goal scoring ability as he played as an inside forward for the School First XI.

On leaving the school he entered the Royal Flying Corps as a pilot, but a crash at Old Sarum caused him to be in hospital when the war ended. In 1939 he was a Royal Engineers' Territorial Major who went out with his Company with the BEF (British Expeditionary Force) in September 1939. On his return he was based at Longmoor Camp near Bordon and involved in building the North Downs' defence line around the Guildford, Waverley and Crooksbury Hill section. John remembers playing in the pill boxes and tank traps "my Dad built".

He later went to the War Office planning an expedition to Finland, which was cancelled, and then the Norway expedition. Later he was involved in planning D-Day and post D-Day logistics, including getting the port of Antwerp working. After the war he was decorated by the Dutch Government for getting the railway working and helping to get food supplies into starving Holland. John and his mother accompanied him to the Dutch Embassy in London to receive the 'Officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau (Military Division)', which is the equivalent to the OBE. Before and after the war he worked on the Southern Railway, in particular the electrification programme between the wars and helping out with signalling repairs during the blitz. He died in 1989.

In 1913, a year after Lyn entered the school his brother **RAYMOND G. KNOTTS (1913-1917)** joined his brother at Morley Road and in 1914 won a Form 2 Prize. In the same year he came third in the Junior 100 yards. Our records show little else during his time at the school.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS**THE KNOTTS FAMILY**

He left the railways after the war and owned stores in Chiswick, Bognor and Harwell. When he married his mother-in-law had been, as a girl, ladies maid to Florence Nightingale. Raymond died in 1977. To help identify the brothers Lyn was known as Knotts (i) and Raymond as Knotts (ii). The family lived at Bordon and in those days there were different Houses at the school. The brothers belonged to Train House because they travelled daily by train to Farnham. Lyn Knotts would talk of the day that he met Lord Baden-Powell on the train journey.

Ten years later another brother, **GILBERT KNOTTS (1928-1934)**, started at the school and joined Morley House. He was also a good athlete and regularly ran in the annual cross country race. In 1930 he won the Long Jump with the Morley Team and dominated in this event for the rest of his time at the school. He also became a member of the Morley Rifle Shooting Team in 1930 and remained a part of the team until leaving. In 1933 he became a sub-prefect and in 1934 passed the London University Matriculation Exam. In 1942 Gilbert advised the school that he was a captain in the Royal Engineers and was now married. He served as a surveyor in North Africa and Italy during the war and was demobbed as a major. After the war he left Southern Railway and joined Langdon & Every in London where he was involved in the Estates' Office at Ascot Racecourse and its maintenance and modernisation. He was a first class golfer and belonged to the Wentworth Club and also designed a number of new golf courses. Gilbert won the Southern Railway Golfing Society Szlumper Challenge Cup in 1938. He lived at Ascot and died in 1995.

Both Raymond and Gilbert joined Southern Railway in engineering and John says that his mother was also from a 'Railway Family'. His grandfather worked in the Railway Accounts' Office at Waterloo.

In 1940 John entered the school and ran most years in the cross country race, was a member of the School House Rifle Shooting Team and reached two semi finals in the boxing. He joined his friend Hans Holm in the school House Relay Teams for 4 x 110 yards and 4 x 440 yards and like his uncle Gilbert was a first class long jumper. John left the school and entered the RAE at Farnborough as an Engineering Apprentice, thus breaking the family trait of working for the railways. He was accompanied by **ROY ROBERTS (1940-1945)** at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, and who eventually became Managing Director of GKN (Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds).

Research into the death of Hans Holm unearthed information about a further six Old Boys and one wonders how many more families exist who have a record of members attending the School throughout its history. We know that the Elphick, Kirk, Bodkin, Sargeant and Aylwin families, for example, had several generations attending and it would be of interest if any reader could supply such a record.

MEMORIES OF A GREAT CHARACTER**JOHN BATEMAN
(1942-1948)**

The arrival of The Farnhamian each year is guaranteed to set off a prolonged period of reflection. Events and personalities of nearly seventy years ago circulate in the mind with amazing clarity. The 2010 edition showed a picture of several masters sitting in a row at Speech Day with Bill Wickens in the foreground. It reminded me of the somewhat strained beginnings I had with Bill when I was a little lad way back in 1942 and had just started at the big school in Farnham.

Given a few moments to think about it, I always knew my left from my right; but on the parade ground, with Bill shouting commands, it was sometimes a different matter. The brain function faltered a bit and I turned the wrong way. Bill vented his wrath in no uncertain way. All sorts of dire consequences awaited anyone who was such a 'pillick'. The dictionary lists it as a 'pillock' - a stupid person. As far as Bill was concerned it was 'pillick' and I was one of them.

It was a most unhappy state of affairs. Morale suffered considerably - more so as my general prowess in the gym was, to say the least, only mediocre. I became increasingly apprehensive about P.T. in case I caused the great man's wrath by some stupid blunder.

Bill frequently referred to the Headquarters Gym - the Army physical training establishment in Queen's Avenue, Aldershot. My grandfather had served thirty-something years with the Royal Engineers. His last posting before retirement was to Aldershot Command. His office was responsible for the maintenance of the buildings within the area, which included the Headquarters Gym. My mother could remember some of the personalities involved. Ask Mr Wickens if he knew 'so and so' she said.

One day I plucked up enough courage to ask him. The response was immediate. Yes, he could remember 'so and so' - what was my connection etc. From that point onwards the situation improved noticeably. The seeds of comradeship had been sown and they prospered with, ultimately, some rather amusing results.

Travelling from Fleet each morning involved changing at Aldershot and getting the No. 10 bus to Farnham. There was a daily pattern of progress along the route. Boys were at their regular stops; Mr Knight was seen setting off on his nice shiny BSA motorbike: and Bill was seen pedalling along on his rather ramshackle bicycle. Often as I arrived at school, having walked up from Firgrove Hill bus stop, Bill was wheeling his bike across the playground - we would exchange greetings.

When it was wet Bill was toggled up against the elements, including highly polished black gumboots. One wet morning our paths crossed and he asked me if I would do him a favour - help him remove his boots. It was quite a palaver. Bill sat on a stool and held on to the parallel bars while I wrestled with the boots - much tugging and twisting was needed to get

MEMORIES OF A GREAT CHARACTER**JOHN BATEMAN
(1942-1948)**

them off. If the rain had stopped the procedure was carried out outside with Bill holding on to the doorpost of the little shed where he kept his clobber.

It meant that I missed morning assembly. Loitering on the premises with the intention of avoiding assembly was a capital offence with serious consequences. To have explained to the duty prefect that I had been helping Bill remove his boots would, I am sure, have been regarded as insubordination. Fortunately I was never challenged.

As the years roll on and the shadows lengthen, one looks back with appreciation and, dare I say it, a certain amount of affection that we were drilled and trained and shouted at so professionally by Sgt. Maj. Wickens - very much a soldier of the old school.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The editor was approached by Anne, the daughter of Frank Pullinger, regarding a number of original paintings that her father had left to her. Frank had the pictures printed on to postcards and sold them in the shop in West Street and Anne wanted to know if we had any idea who painted the originals. The only clue was the name H.J.Chitty, signed on each canvas.

Some research showed that a Mr Chitty worked at Goddard's (another Old Boy's family) the builders for many years before moving across the road and opening a small post office and general store in East Street. There were two sons, being **HOWARD J. CHITTY (1926-1933)** and **DAVID CHITTY (1938-1944)**, who both attended the Grammar School. On leaving the school Howard became a sergeant in Light Anti-Aircraft Battery and attended Officer Training in October 1940. He completed the course and became a Gunnery Officer and then a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery stationed in the north east of the country. He married in 1945 and transferred to the infantry and spent time in the south of England shooting down flying bombs etc. In his obituary in 1992 it stated that he was articled to Guy Maxwell Aylwin before the war and in 1948 he moved to Scotland, working first in local authority and then in private practice. He was President of the Inverness Chapter of the Royal Institute of Architects, Scotland, Grandmaster of his Masonic Lodge and President of the Inverness Society of Art.

Brother, David, left the Grammar School and studied as an architect in the Royal Engineers. In 1951 he passed his finals for the Royal Institute of Architects and worked for some years in Basingstoke. David is still alive and well and lives near Basingstoke and is still a member of the Old Farnhamians' Association, which he joined in December 1945.

The editor was able to put Anne Pullinger in contact with David Chitty and hopefully he was able to help her with the story behind the paintings by his elder brother.

A PROFILE OF AN OLD BOY**FRANCIS ERNEST KEET
PULLINGER (1925-1930)**

One of the retail shops in Farnham bears the name of Pullingers, and like Elphicks opposite and Rangers (the Kirk family) a few doors away, they are all well known families of former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School. We have told the story of the Elphicks and the Kirks and we now have the opportunity to read about the Pullingers, thanks to the information given to us by Anne Pullinger, daughter of Frank Pullinger.

Francis, better known as Frank, was born on the 24th June 1914. His father George Ernest was a well known stationer in the town and his mother Emily Ann (Field) was from an Evesham family of market gardeners. He grew up in Beavers Road in Farnham and was to live in the town all his life, except for serving six years in the Army in the 137 Royal Battalion Anti-Aircraft Battery between 1939 and 1945. His involvement took him to Egypt and to Palestine and led to his participation in the Victory Parade in Jerusalem. On returning from the war he went straight back into the shop, but times were really hard and there was a shortage of goods to sell. Frank decided not to display too much in the window in case they all sold out. It took ten years for things to return to normal. Newspapers were dropped after the war to make room for other stock and because the paper boys were difficult to deal with. There were several complaints of their misdemeanours; one urinated in the grounds of Farnham Castle whilst others left gates open.

He attended Elmsleigh School with his sister Nancy until he entered the Grammar School and remained there from the age of eleven until sixteen as a paying pupil. Frank was a member of Harding House and regularly took part in the boxing tournament and the annual cross country run. There is little other information about his academic and sporting activities whilst at the School. He joined the family business on finishing school and remained at Pullingers until he was sixty-four, where he specialised in selling Dinky Toys, Meccano, Triang, Corgi and Brittain's figures. He also sold artists materials, stationery, books and maps, which the shop still sells to this day. Frank took over the family business when his father's health was failing after the war. He attended all the Old Boys' Annual Dinners and kept in contact with his comrades from the School. He also remained in touch with army comrades attending and organising the Army dinners on a regular basis. Frank Pullinger, Maurice Elphick and Ray Kirk became great friends and would regularly meet and dine together.

He had some well known customers, many of whom were very demanding. Lady Anderson from Waverley Abbey House would park outside the shop and her chauffeur would usher Frank outside to attend to her. He would spend time fetching and carrying goods for her to inspect before she would buy anything. Harold Falkner regularly bought maps, but would always ask for credit and then not pay the bill when it was delivered to him. Frank would have to visit his house once each year to ask for payment and would receive a blank cheque and told to fill in the amount required. Harold Falkner explained that his writing was illegible and the bank would not be able to read it. Lord Montgomery would buy toy soldiers from the shop so that he could re-enact the war with some boys.

There was an incident when some sheep that were kept in the meadows were driven through the town to a slaughter house in Downing Street. On the way they wandered into the shop

A PROFILE OF AN OLD BOY

FRANCIS ERNEST KEET
PULLINGER (1925-1930)

and caused havoc by knocking things down and after that the shop door was firmly locked when the sheep were on their way to their final destination.

His interests included sailing on Frensham Pond in his younger days, playing cricket with the Wednesday cricketers, who were made up of businessmen from the town. He was a founder member of the Farnham Ramblers, helping to form the group in 1962 with Ned Godsil and George Baxter. The rambling group became very popular with increasing membership and is still thriving today.

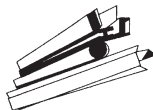
His passion was gardening and whenever he had free time he would be found digging the soil, planting vegetables or mowing lawns in his large garden at Wicket Hill, where he moved to in 1961. He also kept hens so that the family was fairly self-sufficient. He met Mary on a walking holiday and they married in 1956. Mary was from Leeds and they had two children Philip and Anne.

During his retirement Frank took a lot of interest in the history of the town where he was born, spending a lot of time in the Museum of Farnham where he was a good friend of Chris Hellier. In 1994 he recorded on tape some oral history memories of his working life in the town, which are now in the museum archives. He also volunteered as a printer in the early days at the Maltings; two mornings a week printing posters and tickets on an old printing press. He joined the Farnham & District Garden and Allotment Association and the Farnham Society and enjoyed their talks. He also continued to ramble for as long as he was able. Frank Pullinger died peacefully at home on 21st December 2001.

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THEN AND NOW

A PROFILE OF DAVID McMANAMON
(1959-1963)

David McManamon entered the Farnham Grammar School in 1959, with his former school being British Forces King Richard's School in Dheklia in Cyprus. Records show that apart from reaching a semi-final in the boxing he was not involved greatly in the sporting life of the school, however he played football for Massingberd House. David left the school in 1963 for Welbeck College, then the Army's Sixth Form College, where he obtained adequate A Level passes in Pure Maths, Applied Maths and Physics. After 2 years at the college he began training at RMA Sandhurst, where he qualified as a marksman and was a member of the Academy Shooting Team. He also qualified for entry to the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham (RMCS) to read engineering, and was commissioned into the corps of REME in December 1967.

After 4 weeks at Arborfield on a REME Young Officers' course he was posted as a Second Lieutenant to Munster, West Germany. Here he was given the responsibility of vehicle recovery and the training of Recovery Mechanics in the 4th Division of 1st British Corps, the fighting arm of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). After 8 months he was posted back to RMCS to begin a 3 year engineering degree course.

During his time at RMCS he played football for the College XI and met a farmer's daughter who he married in his 3rd year on the course. He achieved an ordinary degree, which was sufficient to remain in REME and after graduation undertook 8 months of REME young officer Post-graduate training at various UK locations. In 1972 he was posted to Munster and appointed Forward Repair Group (FRG) commander, leading 50 soldiers and with the responsibility for the forward area recovery and repair of all battle-winning equipment, command vehicles and combat net radio equipment of 4 Guards' Armoured Brigade. In the same year his wife Meg, gave birth to their first daughter Rebecca.

In June 1973 David was posted, on promotion to Acting Captain, to 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery (RA) in Dortmund, where his REME Light Aid Detachment (LAD) was responsible for immediate repair support of all the regiment's equipment. This included field artillery computing equipment, artillery detecting equipment, self-propelled howitzers, many tracked command and support vehicles, 45 six wheeled high mobility ammunition carriers, a large fleet of other assorted vehicles, all communications equipment and a wide range of small arms and artillery survey instruments. During this posting he completed an operational tour in Belfast city centre and was senior watch-keeper in the Regimental Operations' Room. This role involved controlling and monitoring the deployment of patrols in the city centre whilst liaising with surrounding Army units and the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

His second year with 19 Field Regiment RA was spent in Larkhill Garrison on Salisbury Plain. Here were military and civilian tradesmen and he found himself in the unfamiliar role of negotiating with trade unions! He was appointed Regimental Road Safety Officer and with a

THEN AND NOW

A PROFILE OF DAVID McMANAMON
(1959-1963)

campaign backed by statistical analysis reduced road traffic accidents significantly. He organised successfully the EEC referendum for the Regiment.

In June 1975 David was posted as LAD commander to the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers in West Germany. With an imminent Op Banner tour he began training volunteers for this forthcoming tour in Northern Ireland. Returning from a two week leave he was posted to 7 Field Workshop REME in Bad Fallingbommel, West Germany, as Second-in-Command. Here he understudied the Officer Commanding. His main duty was command of the Production Company which was responsible for all external repair activity of the Workshop. The FRG provided forward recovery repair and recovery of the command and battle-winning equipment of the three Brigades' units. The in-depth repair of the remaining equipment was provided by the Main Repair Group (MRG) in the rear of the Divisional area. On operations David was responsible for the tactical deployment and siting of the MRG.

In February 1978 David was posted to the Logistics Executive (Army) in Andover. His job was to develop reliability and maintainability requirements for the military electrical and electronic equipment procurement documentation. In April of that year Meg and David had a second daughter, Emily, at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. In late 1979 he was posted to RMCS to join the one-year degree course in Guided Weapons' Systems for a Master of Science degree, which he completed successfully. After this course he went to the Rapier Guided Weapon Project Office in the Ministry of Defence in London. Here he was in charge of reliability and maintainability (R&M) for the development of all test equipment for the Rapier missile system.

In August 1980 he was posted on Loan Service to the Royal Brunei Armed Forces to start in August 1983. However, he had to complete a 5-month unaccompanied tour of duty in the Falkland Islands, starting January 1983, as Officer Commanding 2 Field Workshop REME. His posting to Brunei involved speaking colloquial Malay and donning Brunei uniform and his role was to establish and command a military workshop in a new camp. David was one of four British personnel with the remaining staff all from Brunei. The current Sultan of Brunei was in David's platoon at Sandhurst as the Crown Prince.

Returning to UK in December 1985 he was posted to the MOD, to the TRIGAT Anti-Tank Guided Weapon Project Office. This was a tri-national weapon project involving France and Germany for a short range portable missile and a long range helicopter launched 'fire-and-forget' missile. His responsibilities were R&M and Quality Assurance. Early 1987 he began a two-and-a-quarter year posting to the REME Officers' School at Arborfield. Here he lectured on a range of REME courses.

THEN AND NOW

A PROFILE OF DAVID McMANAMON
(1959-1963)

After a Treasury driven cost-cutting exercise in 1989 David decided to leave the Army. He had become disillusioned with the impact of the spending cuts and their effect on morale and finally left the Army in April 1990. After 8 months looking for a position he was hired by the Post Office in the Training Office at Swindon. His job was the career development of its undergraduate and graduate engineers. He received an unprecedented five year accreditation for the IMechE Monitored Professional Development Scheme for accelerated progress of newly graduated engineers towards Chartered Engineer status. The Tory government decided to reorganise the Post Office and caused chaos. David was appointed to a part of the organisation dealing with the procurement of postal automation equipment. During two years he wrote procurement documentation for letter-sorting machine computers, code-marking printers and sorting plan software for use in about 80 Mail Centres.

In 1993 he moved to the Royal Mail Technology Centre in Swindon and initially was part of a team specialising in the printing and reading of code-marks for letter-sorting as used in the newly automated letter sorting system in Mail Centres. For the next 13 years he enjoyed developing a wide range of technologies relating to the 'letter automation pipeline'. He worked on Radio Frequency Identity Tagging (RFID) and in 2001 co-wrote and co-presented a paper on a project at the IMechE international conference, '*Mail Technology-Evolution to e-Revolution*'.

During this time David designed a portable letter code-mark reader and wrote its software. This was used in Mail Centres but also assisted several police forces and the Forensic Science Service, in the solving of crimes by de-coding the code-marks on evidential letters. In 2006, as he approached 60 years of age, David decided to retire from Royal Mail. He returned twice to write some code-mark reader software and still retains contact with a close circle of former colleagues who enjoy regular curry nights.

David decided to join the Association in 2011 and attended the Southampton Lunch. This profile is fascinating and shows the calibre of pupil that the old school produced. Welcome to the Old Boys, David!

OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION
& FARNHAM GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL O.G.ASSOC.

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THE SECOND GARDEN PARTY FOR THE FORMER PUPILS
OF THE TWO GRAMMAR SCHOOLS
IN THE TOWN OF FARNHAM

SATURDAY 23RD JUNE 2012 - FROM 2.00 PM UNTIL 5.00 PM

AT 'GRAY GABLES', 5 MIDDLE AVENUE, FARNHAM, GU9 8JL

A SPECIAL OBITUARY**MICHAEL COLWILL (1936-1942)**

Although Michael died on 24th September 2010, news of his passing did not reach the magazine until February the following year. Unfortunately he had few 'near or dear' relatives and Scouting friends and members of the 1st Ash Vale Scout Group and family trustees offered to the Association several items of memorabilia from his time at the Farnham Grammar School. This collection included medals, programmes, magazines etc., and the editor considered a late entry into the 2011 magazine. However, research into Michael's record at the school showed that he and his brother Malcolm, were truly very special sportsmen and it was decided to delay the article and allow sufficient room to do it justice.

OBITUARY**MICHAEL COLWILL (1925-2011)**

Researching old magazines shows that the 1930s sporting scene at Morley Road was dominated by Ray Kirk and his brother Ken, both excellent athletes performing at a high level. However, looking deeper it is clear that Michael and Malcolm Colwill were also wonderful sportsmen, as the following record will show:

When Michael entered the school his brother had already established himself at many sports and it must have been difficult to follow such an exceptional talent. Here is his record:

1937: In those days the school held inter-house athletic relays as well as individual championships and Michael helped Childe House win the Junior Medley Relay and to come 3rd in the Hurdles' Relay. He finished 53rd in the Junior School Run.

1938: In the individual athletics he came 3rd in both the Junior 440 yards and 880 yards. He also played junior cricket for the Childe House team.

1939: He played football for the School Under 14s and the School 'Colts'. In the individual athletics he won the 880 yards and the Hurdles and came 2nd in the High Jump. He was placed 22nd in the School Run, which his brother Malcolm won.

1940: He played for the School Second XI Cricket team and for the School First XI Football team. This year the brothers both played football for the School First XI. He won his weight (Class 4) at Boxing and ended the year finishing 15th in the School Run.

1941: In May he had a busy afternoon at the inter-house athletic relays helping Childe House achieve the following results: 4 x 440 yards Relay (2nd), Mile Medley Relay (1st), Hurdles' Relay (4th), Long Jump Relay (3rd), High Jump Relay (4th) and 880 yards Team Relay (1st). In June he was made a Sub-Prefect and at the School Athletic Individual Championships he won the 880 yards, the One Mile and came second in the 440 yards. Later in the year he again won his weight (Class 4) in the Boxing and came 4th in the Senior School Run.

1942: In May at the inter-house athletic relays he helped Childe House win the Mile Medley Relay and the 880 yards Team Relay, come second in the 4 x 440 yards Relay and the

A SPECIAL OBITUARY**MICHAEL COLWILL (1936-1942)**

Hurdles' Relay and 3rd in the High Jump Relay. In the summer he was captain of the School Second XI Cricket team. He was awarded his school colours for athletics by winning the

Individual 880 yards and One Mile and coming 5th in the 880 yards at the Surrey Secondary Schools Sports. Again he was a Sub Prefect.

Whilst at the school the brothers lived at Ash Vale. In 1944 Michael advised the Farnhamian that he was training as a teacher in Nottingham. Brother Malcolm left the school in 1940, became a sergeant in the RAFVR and was killed in action during December 1942.

The following was supplied by Scouting friends and trustees Pat & Len Scott:

The Colwill family moved to Ash Vale in 1930 and after serving in the Army the father worked at the R.A.E.Farnborough as an engineering blacksmith. Michael went to Ash Common School and obtained a scholarship to Farnham Grammar School, where he joined his brother Malcolm, who was 3 years older. Daily the boys walked to Ash Vale Railway Station to catch the steam train, and later the electric train, to Farnham. In 1938 he made the important step of joining the 1st Ash Vale Scout Group and began a lifetime of service in the Scouting Movement.

On leaving school he decided that he wanted to become a teacher and was accepted by Goldsmith's College in London, but it was bombed and the college was evacuated to Nottingham University. On completing his time at college he received his calling up papers for the armed forces but was persuaded by his Geography tutor to work in the mines instead. So began a period down the Gedling coalmine where he did hard physical work. After five months he joined the Royal Signals, before eventually taking up his teaching career at St. Bede's in Send, near Woking where he taught Geography and P.T. He then began working for Middlesex County Council, firstly at a camp boarding school at Petersfield, and then at the Sheephatch site near Tilford. The children would stay at the School for about four years and Michael enjoyed taking the children for cross-country runs and having a dip in the river to cool down. He also taught at France Hill, Camberley and finally at Park Primary School in Aldershot from where he retired.

Michael Colwill enjoyed singing and belonged to the local church choirs of St Peter's and St Mary's and later the Thursday Madrigal Singers. He joined the Farnborough U3A and belonged to a Bible study group, but his spare time was dominated by his association with the Scouting Movement. In 1947 he became Assistant Scout Master in Ash and in 1959 was appointed Scout Master of the Senior Scouts. In 1966 he became Group Scout Leader and in 1978 received the Medal of Merit for his work. 1987 brought him the second highest Scouting award with the Silver Acorn in the Association St. George's Day Honours List. In 1991 he became a member of the Scout Fellowship of the Aldershot Scout District and he remained involved with the Scouts until 2006 when ill health forced him to stand down. Michael had been 68 years in uniformed and non-uniformed positions with the one Group.

Michael Colwill's story is an obituary worthy of the 100th anniversary magazine.

2011 FARNHAM COLLEGE CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

Once again the Farnhamian 400 Trust was able to offer financial awards for the event and this year 34 sponsored awards were given. Since the inception of this scheme the Trust has given almost £15,000 to the top students at the college. These were the awards for the year.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Luke Best: | Richard Phillips Award for Business Studies. |
| Bromwyn Brett: | Audrey Edginton Award for Hairdressing. |
| Fay Burmingham: | Roy Robins Award for Media. |
| Jack Chapman: | Sturt Family Award for IT. |
| Nathan Clark: | Don Homer Award: for Drama. |
| Camille Cobbold: | Bryan Bone Award for English Language. |
| Jody Court: | John Wills Award for Art. |
| Tegan Creedy: | Cyril Trust Award for Outstanding Achievement. |
| Jenny Dudley: | Don Homer Award for Drama. |
| Andrew Field: | Paul French Award for Maths and Science. |
| Thomas Fricker: | Geoff Hooker Award for Graphics. |
| Sarah Frost: | Dudley Backhurst Award for Science. |
| Sushila Gurung: | Maurice Jeffreys Award for Business Studies. |
| Hamish Hall: | Tony Bolt Award for Sport. |
| Josh Hunt: | Maurice Jeffreys Award for Business Studies. |
| Sam Jackson: | John Aylwin Award for Drawing and Science. |
| Sam King: | Ian Bolt Award for Health and Social Care. |
| Athena Lawton: | Peter Read Award for Drama and Science. |
| Chen-Hsuin (Abraham) Lee: | Michael Horner Award for Biology. |
| Hannah Marsh: | Ian Sargeant Award for Hairdressing. |
| Patsy Middleton: | John Travers Award for Outstanding Achievement. |
| Nothando Mtungwazi: | Ron Short Award for Media. |
| James Murfin: | Dudley Backhurst Award for Science and Sociology. |

2011 FARNHAM COLLEGE CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Alice Nicholls: | Alan Lovell Award for Art. |
| Jazmin Overton: | Tony Rayer Award for Media. |
| Jennifer Owen: | Graham Blunt Award for Science. |
| Shelby Parker: | Don Homer Award for Drama. |
| Shashi Rai: | John Crotty Award for Health and Social Care. |
| Amy Rees: | Roy Robins Award for Childcare. |
| Tom Shuttleworth: | Chris Nash Award for Maths and Science. |
| Louise Swan: | John Mew Award for English Language. |
| Jack Wheatley: | Brian Williams Award for IT |

Other sponsored awards from former pupils and teachers of the Farnham Grammar School were from John Goddard, F.A.Morgan and William Stroud.



Fraser Doherty, Athena Lawton (winner of Peter Read Award for Drama), Peter Read.
Fraser is the founder of 'Superjam' and is a multi-millionaire at the age of twenty-two.

2011 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS SCHEME

For the fifth year running the Association, via the Farnhamian 400 Trust, awarded a Farnhamian prize for the top pupils at Heath End School, Weydon School and Ash Manor School. These are the 'feeder schools' to Farnham College and this scheme fulfils the pledge of the 400 Trust to help support local schools.

In October committee members, Tony Gatfield and Bill Luff attended the Awards' evening at Heath End School and presented our award, known as the Millennium Award for Excellence, to Kate Bickerton. The special guest for the evening was local athlete Emma Pallant, a member of the Dame Kelly Holmes squad and an exciting prospect for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. Emma became European cross country champion in December 2011.

In mid- November Cyril Trust and Mike Horner were guests at Ash Manor School, where our award is known as 'The Head Teacher's Trophy for Endeavour & Old Farnhamians' Award'. On this occasion the recipient was Emma Pullen.



Mike Horner with Emma Pullen from Ash Manor School

The special guest for this well organised evening was again Emma Pallant, who not only presented the awards, but gave an inspiring speech to the two hundred strong audience. She told them of her aims in her chosen sport and no doubt she will become one of our finest athletes over the next few years.

2011 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS SCHEME

The next Awards' Ceremony was at Weydon School, where John Crotty and Brian Williams presented our award to Joseph Tindall. This time the special guest was Simon Weston OBE, well known for his courage in the Falklands War where he suffered multiple burns to his face and body. In recent years he has been a great supporter of charities who help the Armed Forces. His speech was an inspiration to the young audience and just shows what can be achieved under the most difficult circumstances.



Mike Horner and Cyril Trust with Emma Pallant, one of our probable Olympic athletes

Just before the Christmas holiday Bryan Bone and Stephen Pritchard attended the Guildford College Awards at the new G-Live Centre. Here the two top students from Farnham College received our award at this high profile event, where the special guest was Austin Healey, the international rugby player.

This year the Farnhamian Award went to Tegan Creedy and Alex Hall, who both obtained exceptional results in the examinations. Guildford College have expressed their thanks for the support of the Old Farnhamians' Association and it is hoped that we can continue to fund these awards in the future. It certainly fulfils our pledge via the 400 Trust to support local education wherever possible.

OBITUARIES

As the 2011 magazine was being prepared to go to press there was a spate of deaths, which included some well known figures among the Old Farnhamians' Association. These first few tributes are well overdue, but I am sure that they will bring back pleasant memories for many readers.

In March 2011 we heard of the passing of **PETER J. CLARK (1939-1943)** who died in hospital in his home town of Southampton. Peter was our Master of Ceremonies at the Annual Dinner and the Southampton Lunch for many years, and who will ever forget him in his bright red coat taking control of the Millennium Dinner at Farnham Castle. Peter was always the 'life and soul of the party', and a loyal Old Boy proud of his time at the Farnham Grammar School.

Peter was born in 1927 and from an early age showed an interest in catering and at the age of ten was waiting table at his hotel. He entered the Grammar School as a boarder and joined Massingberd House, for whom he boxed and played cricket. He was a good amateur cricketer and soccer player before joining the Merchant Navy in 1953, where he held many jobs relating to catering. He started his own business, Clark's Outside Caterers, in 1961 and many Old Boys will not know that for many dinners at Morley Road he drove a van from Southampton to Farnham with all the crockery, cutlery and glassware on board so that the diners had decent place settings for the evening. On the Monday following the dinner he again drove to the school and collected everything before returning to Southampton.

Those who knew him would describe him a 'bit of a lad', but his marriage to Tina in 1970 calmed him down considerably. He took an M.A. degree and followed this with getting a BSc in Catering. He catered for Royalty on many occasions and became a major figure in the Southern branch of the CMA (Catering Managers' Association). He retired at 65, but still joined several Health Committees, Committees for the Department of Health and Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries & Food.

In recent years Peter suffered from poor circulation, which hampered walking, and the last few weeks of his life were spent in hospital. He was truly a memorable Old Boy and will be sadly missed by all.

Within days of the passing of Peter Clark we received news that **TONY RAYER (1942-1947)** had been found dead at his home in Farnborough, Hampshire. Gone, was another well known Old Boy who, in recent years, made a name for himself by running 'Ghost Tours' around Farnham.

Tony Rayer entered the Grammar School as a member of Harding House and during his time was a first class sportsman for his House and the School. He played football for the Colts' XI in 1944 and 1945 and for the School First XI in 1946. He played cricket for Harding House from 1944-1947 and for the School Second XI in 1945, 1946 and 1947. He also became a member of the Harding Rifle Shooting Team in 1947.

OBITUARIES

Somewhere along the way Tony became interested in horse racing and was a regular visitor to courses in the south of England.

He was proud of his association with the old school and worked with the College on several projects, including a film about 'The Ghosts of Farnham' that is among the memorabilia for the old School. A few years ago he decided to become one of the sponsors for awards to students at Farnham College and on his death his family decided to ask for any donations to be given to the College and help establish the Tony Rayer Memorial Award.

Tony was the first cousin of Alan Lovell (1947-1953) who provided this 'different' memorial.

'Tony was a total supporter of the activities of the Old Farnhamians' Association, also a very keen and respected sports' enthusiast, particularly on the flat racing side of horse racing, where he was a longstanding and knowledgeable member at Epsom and Ascot. To try to contact him or seek his presence at a family function in early June, the time of the major Derby and Oaks meeting at Epsom was totally impossible! Tony naturally would be following the horses, followed by those running at the highly important Royal Meeting at Ascot, some ten days or so later. Tony was also much respected in the betting side of the horse racing scene, and naturally followed the various daily racing events.

He was also a long standing follower of Arsenal FC, and was a fairly regular supporter of the great games at the Gunners former HQ at Highbury. Throughout his life he also had a great interest in history - as befits a town with evidence of Stone Age activity. Farnham also had a wealth of history that is regrettably fading into obscurity with the passing of time - Tony certainly promoted that it was the most haunted town in England! He led the highly respected Ghost Tours of the town, with particular emphasis on the happenings in the past at Farnham Castle, Vernon House and the Bush Hotel. Together with the assistance of the Media Section at Farnham College he produced and narrated an interesting video on the subject.

Tony was happily married to Sylvia late in his life, despite the fact that she was a year older than him. They very much enjoyed their own company and also his great interest in the horse racing field, as well as visiting relatives and friends. The aspect of Tony's life that will be sorely missed, particularly at birthday and Christmas times, will be his superb and immaculate hand writing - not only on the cards themselves, but also the envelope'

Nigel Rayer writes to say that his brother did a lot of rowing and coxing during his National Service for the RAF team at Henley. On being demobbed he worked for Watneys, first in Alton and then in the Farnham Castle Street Office as an office clerk. On moving to Farnborough Tony began working at the RAE as a clerk of transport and stayed there until he retired.

OBITUARIES

In mid-February 2011 we received news that **STAN ARMSTRONG (1943-1948)** had died in hospital in Monmouth as a result of a ‘bungled’ operation that went seriously wrong. Here was another loyal Old Boy, who attended most Annual Dinners at Morley Road and Southampton Lunches in recent years.

Stan has a good academic record as well as a good sporting one while at the Grammar School. He played cricket for his House, shot the rifle for them, played football for them and boxed for them. He played soccer for the School Colts’ XI and regularly ran well in the School Cross Country Races.

Academically, Stan won Form Prizes in 1945 and 1946 and obtained his General School Certificate with distinctions in Mathematics and Geography.

On leaving school he entered the world of insurance and was with Commercial Union for many years. Later in his career he joined another insurance company, B.E.Bone & Co, owned by Bryan Bone the current President. He moved to the village of Binsted, and became great friends with Keith Mentzel, with both attending many dinners and lunches together.

At his funeral his son read out a tribute to his father and I think that it is worth recording in this magazine as part of Stan’s obituary.

‘Welcome everyone, thank you so much for coming today. We know that many of you have made a huge effort to join with us to remember and celebrate Dad’s life.

Stanley Arthur Armstrong was born on 27th December 1931 at number 2, Gorse Cottages, Frensham, Farnham to Andrew and Bessie Armstrong. He was the second of two sons, the eldest being Roy who is here today. In his early years Dad attended Frensham village primary school and very soon proved to be extremely diligent, becoming the first boy to pass his eleven plus for admission to Farnham Grammar School. He spent the austere war years spotting low flying German bombers, studying hard and playing lots of football and cricket, which became his lifelong passions. He left the Grammar School at the age of 16 with his Matric and joined the Ocean Insurance Co. as an office boy in the bright lights of Guildford.

Dad turned out regularly for Frensham in both his favourite sports, excelling particularly at cricket, and when he was 18 his country needed him and he was drafted into the RAF for his National Service, based mainly at RAF Mountbatten in Plymouth. On his return to work after meeting some colourful and exotic characters, which he had rarely encountered before, Dad became an inspector for the Commercial Union Insurance Company and spent some of his happiest times driving around the by-ways and highways of Hampshire and Surrey in his Morris Eight meeting a whole range of interesting, yet challenging, clients. In 1954, after ‘futile resistance’ he married Lucy Agar, a determined Yorkshire woman who set about knocking some of the rough edges off him and ensuring that he became fully house trained.

OBITUARIES

With great application he studied for his insurance exams during the evenings and became a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute. From then on Dad rose rapidly through the ranks, with stints in: Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, London and finally as manager of the Wolverhampton branch, which covered offices from Newtown in Wales to Stoke on Trent. He loved his fishing, shooting, gardening and his rather bad tempered geese. He had an almost fatal attraction for the most useless gadgets, which were promoted by the Daily Telegraph. Everything from the mole scarers, which only mildly startled your average mole, to hand tools which severely injured the operatives and so called condensation preventers, which turned out to be 'toxic' to the touch.

A great countryman, he loved nothing better than the countryside around him and was thrilled to visit wonderful tracts of countryside and landscapes throughout the world. He could tell you exactly how high each glacier or mountain pass was, a pursuit which was perfect for his lifelong love of facts and figures. About 3500 feet was absolutely no good to Dad, it was 3542 feet or nothing!

On retirement Mum and Dad moved to Binsted in Hampshire and he renewed his love of cricket, returning to play for his beloved village and becoming vice-chairman of Frensham Cricket Club. Always willing to serve, Dad became secretary of BINSOC, which was not as I first thought some sort of revolutionary gadget, but the History Society for the village. He was Treasurer of the Parish magazine, Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party for Binsted and Bentley and also agent for the Conservative District Councillor in East Hampshire. He brought his great organisational skills to bear and carried out all of these tasks with great efficiency and with minimum fuss.

Dad could be outspoken, whose politics veered to occasionally somewhere right of Genghis Khan, which could not in any way be confused with the views of Mother Theresa. There is probably not a wall long enough to accommodate all those that Dad wanted to put against in the highly unlikely event of him coming to power. He was an enthusiastic golfer who believed he would always go round below par and who was continually on the verge of selection for the Ryder Cup Team. Many friends and acquaintances sought out his sound and wise financial advice and he was always ready to help anyone in that regard. He showed great kinship to all those around him that he knew and respected.

Dad, we will honour your memory, we respect your modesty, we salute your good sense, fairness and application, and we have basked in your love and loyalty.'

Ed: When the time comes, I would be pleased if my sons would pay a similar tribute to me!

Only a short time ago Stan and Lucy decided to move to Monmouth to be close to his family and his health began to deteriorate. Yet another familiar face that will be missed when Old Boys meet.

OBITUARIES

At the end of March 2011 we heard of the sudden death of **JOHN EDMUNDS (1951-1958)**, who suffered a heart attack at the age of seventy-one. His family supplied the magazine with a tribute that was read out at his cremation, and the editor has added to it his school record to complete the following obituary.

John Robert Edmunds OBE was born in Aldershot in 1939, just after the start of the Second World War. He enjoyed the proximity to the Army in Aldershot and access to the Army Ranges for catapult practice. Think of 'Just William' and you have John as a boy, aided and abetted by his school friend Roger Ward.

He entered Farnham Grammar School in 1951 and joined Massingberd House. His sporting record shows that he ran regularly in the School Cross Country with mixed fortunes, but always finished in the first 20 runners home. He seemed to take no part in football, cricket, boxing or swimming, but in 1954 found his niche as a rifle shot. He was in his House team from December 1954 until he left the school in 1958, and for the final two years was School Rifle Shooting Captain. He joined the Combined Cadet Force and became an NCO in 1957.

In 1956 he achieved passes in 7 subjects for the GCE (Ordinary Level), added Biology in 1957 and Physics and Chemistry in 1958. In total he passed 10 subjects at 'O' Level and Geography at 'A' Level. An impressive academic record!

During his teenage years he had several girl friends who allegedly he told his name was 'Jim', so that his sisters would not find out! He was a keen member of the local Young Farmers, where he acquired his first taste for Agriculture.

On leaving Farnham Grammar School John started an HND in Agriculture at Harper Adams College and this involved him in working on farms in Oxfordshire and Essex. He joined the National Advisory Service, soon to become ADAS (part of the Ministry of Agriculture), in the sixties and remained in the service of the Government for the rest of his working life. He started his career in Leeds and thence to Beverley and back to Leeds before coming to Reading in 1983 to work at the Intervention Board. During his long career he made many friends who stayed close to him for the remainder of his life.

He married Margaret in 1966 and would have celebrated his Sapphire wedding anniversary in 2011. He has three sons Roger, Robert and Peter and three daughter-in-laws Sarah, Teresa and Rachel and two grandchildren James and Amy who all loved him very much.

John was very dedicated to his work and awarded the OBE in 1999 in recognition of his achievements, however away from work he was quite a different person and definitely had a fun side. His favourite occupation was to sit on a sunny terrace with his friend Martin sipping wine or drinking beer and watching the world go by. This often took place in France and was accompanied by laughs and jokes.

John always had agriculture in his blood and during his retirement loved to get stuck in on Roger and Sarah's small-holding at Gatehampton, nobody else "*knew how to do it*" according to John. John was always willing to help anyone who needed it; in fact he asked his epitaph to be "*he only tried to help*". John was always active right to the end; he enjoyed long

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bike rides in the Oxfordshire countryside accompanied by Margaret. He loved Inspector Morse books and had almost read them all. The Bear Pub was his favourite in Oxford, but the place he loved the best was The Black Horse Pub in Checkendon where he enjoyed visiting his special friends Martin and Margaret, the Landlord and Landlady and their family.

John was suddenly taken away from his family whilst in Brighton visiting family and he will be sadly missed. He was a very special and wise person who gave a lot of good advice to many people. It is difficult for his family to sum up an interesting and full life in just a few words, but family and friends will have their memories of him to keep. To sum it all up he was "the Best of British!"

April 2011 brought the news of the death of **DEREK SKILLIN (1938-1943)** who for some years was an active member of the Association, including time as a trustee for the Leaving Scholarship Trust. Derek was a member of School House and during his years at the School proved to be a talented sportsman, and in particular won his weight at the annual Boxing Tournament in 1939, 1941 and 1942. He was a member of his House Rifle Shooting Team in 1942 and 1943, won the Breaststroke at the 1941 Swimming Sports, helped his House gain two first places and two second places at the 1943 Athletic Championships and ran the one mile for the School in the Surrey Secondary School Sports. Derek was an active member of the Combined Cadet Force, where he became a Sergeant and in 1942 received the Headmaster's Prize for his academic work at the School. Quite a record!

Derek was born in Farnham on 14th January 1927. He was the youngest of three children and is survived by his wife Molly, two older sisters Eileen and Joyce, his daughter Jane and three nephews and nieces. Early in his life he had an ambition to become an architect, and on leaving school went to the Architectural College at Kingston.

However, by then the Second World War was in progress and he joined the Army, serving with the 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays) in Italy, Egypt and the UK. He quickly rose through the ranks and was a rather dashing young man in his uniform and with his lifelong moustache. In fact his wife Molly never saw him without his moustache and on many occasions she and Jane threatened to shave it off whilst he was asleep! Whilst in the Army Derek became involved with the bands of his regiment and to this day he had a love of band music. In recent years preferably played very loudly as he was slightly deaf due to his time spent in the tanks during the war.

Although he had been asked to stay on in the Army he decided to leave and pursue a career in building and he studied surveying and became an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Insurance, and a Fellow of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors of which he was President. He was also a Fellow of the Institute of Risk Management and the Chief Surveyor of England for the Eagle Star Group. He travelled extensively over the world as part of his job to Canada, Singapore and also spent a good deal of time in Switzerland where he

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produced the Catalogue of Hazardous Materials, which sounds boring, but was in fact widely used by the Fire Service.

In 1954 he met Molly at the Bourne Tennis Club and after a short courtship they married at St Thomas on the Bourne Parish Church. They then started their married life in Portsmouth, followed by a very happy period in Somerset where their daughter Jane was born.

Derek was then transferred to His Company's London Head Office in Pall Mall and spent more happy years living in Fleet and then Hartley Wintney whilst he commuted. He was a keen golfer and became Captain of the North Hants Golf Club in 1999/2000. During this period he became deeply involved with the building of the new club house and also with the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme for young golfers whereby Derek and Molly were invited to St James' Palace to meet the Duke of Edinburgh at the presentation of awards.

Molly and Derek enjoyed going to many concerts and at one particularly loud rock concert he said that it was the only concert he had heard properly! Soon after their retirement they moved to Pulborough and a year later celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, followed by a holiday in the Swiss Alps. It was soon after this holiday that Derek played a round of golf and the very next day suffered a stroke. This resulted in over six months in hospital, many hospital visits and nurses becoming regular visitors to the Skillin household.

In recent times Molly pushed Derek around in a wheelchair and they travelled to Farnham in the spring of 2010 to attend the combined Old Boys'/Old Girls' garden party. Derek was a meticulous person and prepared a list of everything that needed to be done following his death as well as a thank you to all his friends who had helped him in the difficult years.

Derek Skillin was one of life's true gentlemen, with a wonderful sparkle in his eyes. Molly and Derek were married for 56 years.

(Text taken from the tribute to Derek Skillin at his funeral service)

We were advised mid July that on 16th June **MICHAEL J. BARNARD**, who left the school in 1949, had died at his home in California at the age of 79. Michael was yet another former Grammar School pupil who moved to America in the 1950s to follow a career in the field of aerospace.

He began his career as an apprentice with Vickers Armstrong, Weybridge and he ended it at the early age of 56 with TRW Space and Missiles as project manager. He stated in his profile in the 1996 magazine that one thing that helped English engineers was the apprenticeship system in this country, which was non-existent in the United States. Therefore modern Britain must have been a great disappointment to him!

Although he missed certain aspects of life here, he felt that the move across the Atlantic was good for him and his family. Financially he did very well and was able to retire at an early age. His wife was originally from Walton on Thames and attended Tiffins School, Kingston,

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and they had a daughter and three sons. He designed and helped construct his own house, which was situated between Los Angeles and San Francisco, and stood in 2 1/2 acres of land.

In retirement he took up golf and played regularly, but this past-time was curtailed when his wife was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1978, and as her health declined she was more dependent on Michael. He said that the change in life style had made him a good cook!

Whilst at the school he lived at Crondall, and his sister Eileen attended the Girls' Grammar School in Menin Way. Michael joined Massingberd House, and records show that he enjoyed most sports and became very good in several of them. He ran in the school Cross Country regularly and in his early years he finished 16th (1944) and 5th (1945). He also took part in the Boxing Tournament most years and in 1946 won his weight.

In 1947 he played for the School Second XI Cricket team and in the following two years was a member of the First XI. He was probably stronger with the bat, but would also take wickets on a regular basis. In 1948 he was selected for the House Rifle Shooting Team and remained a member until he left the school. In 1949 he was elected Captain of Cricket for the School.

Academically he won a form prize in his first year for good work, and in his final year he passed the General School Certificate in Physics.

He remained a friend of Old Boys in this country and was especially close to Dudley Backhurst and Michael Brazier. I am sure that many members of the Association will be sorry to hear of his passing.

The death of Michael Barnard happened to be the third advice received in 48 hours of the passing of an Old Boy. Only hours before we heard that **MAURICE BINNING (1934-1939)** had died at his home in Poole at the age of 88. In 2008 I had enjoyed a long telephone conversation with him and subsequently printed a profile from the details he gave me.

Maurice entered the Grammar School in 1934 and was in Massingberd House and performed well at many sports including, Boxing, Athletics, Cricket and Rifle Shooting. He excelled at Mathematics and Physics and joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough to work in the Materials' Department. He entered the RAF for the Second World War and owing to poor eyesight was unable to fulfil his ambition to become a pilot and had to settle for being a navigator. He was commissioned and served in Bomber Command and made many nightly raids on Germany. After the war he returned to work at the R.A.E. and among other projects he was involved with the development of the Concorde.

He was organist at Farnham Methodist church during, and after, his school years and travelled from Poole to Farnham for many years to attend the local church. He became interested in

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local opera and was the treasurer for Farnborough Operatic Society for many years. He recalled that Harry Beeken and his family regularly attended the operas.

He finally moved to Poole to be closer to his family and I had hoped that one day he would appear at either the Annual Dinner or the Southampton Lunch. Unfortunately this never came to pass!

Within the same two days we also heard from Australia that **IAN PERKINS (1941-1945)** had died at his home in Melbourne. The editor exchanged correspondence with Ian during 1997 and managed to include a profile in the magazine that year. He was clearly quite a colourful character and after leaving the school he travelled to Malaysia where he joined the police, but after two and a half years moved on to Australia. Here he entered commerce and worked in textiles, both in marketing and management until, tired of flying around the vast country he turned to investment and property, finishing with his own real estate property consultancy.

Outside of work he became involved in charity work with the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hear-a-Book (Queensland) and local politics. He became a JP and a member of the Royal Society of St George and he listed his interests as cooking, drawing, live theatre, good food and good wine, and good company. He was also an amateur poet.

He became involved in the Hutt River Province Principality, which is situated in Western Australia. This land along the Hutt River was privately purchased and turned into an independent state in 1970, despite opposition by the Federal Authorities. The owner declared himself sovereign, with the title of Prince Leonard and his wife became Her Royal Highness Princess Shirley. He conferred upon Ian Perkins the title of Lord and this enabled Ian to attend ceremonies in Malta, Europe and other parts of the world. When writing he advised that his official title was as follows: **Rt. Hon. Lord Ian Perkins, Marquess of Hindmarsh (H.R.P.), Baron Olethan (U.K.), K.R.O., I.O.M., J.P.**

As suggested Ian Perkins was quite a character!

Ian belonged to Childe House and was an excellent sportsman. He played Junior Cricket and swam for his House and finished 6th in his first Cross Country Run. In 1943 he won his weight in the Boxing and repeated this again in 1945. He ran for the School 4 x 110 yds Relay Team at the Surrey Secondary School Championships in 1944 and in 1945 played football for the School Second XI. Unfortunately, later in 1945 he contracted TB and was hospitalised for two years and unable to take any exams etc. I suspect that several Old Boys will recall him!

Early in August we heard of the sudden death of one of our most controversial Old Boys. On 26th July 2011 **HANS COHN/GERALD HOLM (1940-1943)** died at his home in St. John's Wood, London after a short illness. The editor has gathered information about Hans Holm, as we knew him, from his sister Hannah Singer who lives in Harrow Weald and his oldest friend, John Knotts, who lives in Stourbridge. The result of gathering this information is highlighted in the News of the Old Boys article about the Knotts Family.

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Hans was born in Germany and was of the Jewish faith. Early in the Second World War his father, who was a doctor, was taken away to a concentration camp by the SS and it was not until 1975 that the family discovered that he had died in Auschwitz. His mother, two sisters and Hans himself managed to escape to Switzerland with the help of friends and from there they travelled to England. Initially they made their home in Folkestone and his mother became a house keeper for a local school.

Hans was sent to South Wales and then to Farnham where he was billeted at the Knotts' home where he met John, who became a great friend and both attended the Farnham Grammar School, and Beryl, who attended the Girls' Grammar School. When Major Lyn Knotts, father of John and Beryl, returned after Dunkirk he was moved to the War Office in London and Hans was then billeted with the Davies Family. This well known Farnham family ran a newsagents in Castle Street for many years and their daughter Stella, is the long term Secretary of the Old Girls' Association to this day.

Hans joined School House and was a good athlete. He ran for his House in the relay teams for the 4 x 110 yards and 4 x 440 yards, with John being another member of the team. On leaving the school he moved to Raynes Park in South London and in 1952 changed his original name of Hans Cohn to Gerald Holm, but was always known as Hans Holm. Although he worked in insurance, then as an independent Financial Adviser until he retired, and later as a travel guide, it is felt that he was a journalist at heart. John Knotts recalls that while at the school Hans produced, by hand, a weekly "news sheet" covering the films showing at the town's cinemas. Price 1d a copy. Another keen interest throughout his life was classical music. Later in life he spent many hours at the Festival Hall, favouring seats behind the orchestra so that he could watch the conductor. He maintained contact with Jeffrey Tate, Old Boy and famous conductor, Alan Fluck and Sylvia Morgan for many years. Hans was a regular contributor to the 'Letters' section of the Farnham Herald and was often critical of the Old Boys, supported the attempt to resurrect the Redgrave Theatre and generally retained an interest in Farnham and district.

Family and friends of Hans Holm gathered in London for a memorial tea on 30th August 2011 at the invitation of his twin sister and her family and the numbers vouched for his sound advice and great friendship. He was a talented and humble man, with wide interests and a very kindly disposition.

David Grimes, who is a member of the General Committee, gave us the sad news that his father **TED GRIMES (1945-1947)** had died on 5th July 2011. 'Ted' was born on 19th December 1933 a few yards from the sea in Worthing. When he was born his father ran a garage business, but when the Second World War broke out the garage was mothballed and the family moved to Coventry.

After the war his father sold the business in Worthing and the family moved to Farnham. Ted went to the Bourne School initially, and then to Farnham Grammar School. The family then

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moved to Godalming and he transferred to the local Grammar School. His wife, Pam, already attended the school, although they did not meet properly until both had left school.

Ted always said that he preferred Farnham G.S. to Godalming G.S.! Poor health, which was to continue throughout his life, prevented Ted from doing National Service.

Ted left school and went to work in a business (Overton Plating Company), which had been started by his uncle in Churt, before moving to Tongham. The business was created to electroplate metal components used in the war effort. It was to be a very large part of Ted's life for the next 30 years. The business was small and struggling when Ted joined, however under his ownership it grew and prospered. It was to become an important part of the manufacturing sector in the Farnham and surrounding area during the 50s to the 70s.

Ted met Pam in 1953 at a square dancing club in Guildford, and in 1956 they were married in Guildford. The family remained in the Farnham area, living in Lower Bourne. Running a small business was demanding and meant little time could be devoted to other activities. Ted managed to follow an interest in motor sport, attending Grand Prix races from the 1950s. He was also interested in sailing and was a supporter and season ticket holder of Southampton F.C.

Records show that he was an excellent boxer and in 1947 he won his weight for School House and in the previous year reached the semi-finals.

Ted Grimes suffered a heart attack during Easter 2011 and although he survived he was left very weak and passed away in late summer. He is survived by his wife and four sons.

We must also report the sad loss of **RON SHORT (1942-1949)**, who had spent the past two years suffering from several health problems. Ron entered the school and became a member of Massingberd House. In the years 1944/45/46/47 he won a Form Prize, in 1948 the William Stroud Prize for Geography and in 1949 the George Sturt Prize for Essays.

In 1947 he was selected for the House rifle shooting team and remained one of their top marksmen for the following two years. He ran regularly in the Cross Country Race, became a corporal in the Combined Cadet Force and Troop Leader in the School Scouts.

In 1949 he obtained his Higher School Certificate in Physics, Chemistry, Pure Maths, and Applied Maths and obtained an exemption from intermediate science for a naval cadetship (electrical branch) at Dartmouth. Leaving the school he was destined to begin a distinguished career in the Royal Navy.

The following is taken from three tributes to Ron Short, given at his funeral by former colleagues and friends.

On 22nd September 1949 Ron was one of over 100 Special Entry Cadets who entered the famous Dartmouth College, where future officers were trained for the Royal Navy.

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During his time there he was on the training cruiser HMS Devonshire and sailed to the Arctic and Norway. He then entered Cambridge University to read Engineering and obtained a Double First Class Honours Degree. At the same time he coxed his college boat. Ron was not a tall person and when performing an after dinner speech, his reply to requests for him to stand on a chair so that the audience could see him was as follows, "I am up, Short by name and by stature".

Ron was clearly a very organised man and even marked his socks "left" and "right", presumably to even up the wear.

In 1955 he completed his Dartmouth Course and joined HMS Whitby, and followed this by returning to Cambridge to take a Further Engineering Degree. Whilst at the university he met and married Tessa. He was then appointed to work with Director-General Weapons at Portland and the Admiralty Surface Weapons' Establishment at Portsdown Hill. He then returned to sea and joined HMS Devonshire, before being posted to Australia to work at the missile test range. Ron had now been promoted to Commander. In early 1970s he joined HMS Norfolk, the first ship in the Royal Navy, indeed the whole world, to be fitted with Exocet missiles.

He then moved to the Underwater Division at Bath and the world of underwater torpedoes. By this time he had decided to make a career change, which fitted well with him being head-hunted by GEC - Marconi. Here, his Royal Navy experience became invaluable and he became a trouble-shooter for the company as well as lecturer at Shrivensham and elsewhere.

Ron and Tessa settled in Fareham and entered into a wide variety of activities. Tessa was elected Mayor of Fareham, with Ron her Consort, and Ron became a Governor for several schools in the locality. He was Chairman of Governors for many mainstream and special needs' schools, as well as Fareham College. He is one of the founders of the Mayflower Club and chaired the Village Trust where he lived.

Over the years Ticefell Cottage, where they lived, became the centre of much activity as Ron and Tessa took on more projects. When it came to organising an event the Shorts were always asked to contribute. Their attention to detail involved them in many large projects and there is no doubt that his neighbours will remember Ron Short for years to come.

Ron was a charming man, very organised, with a brilliant brain, and fully deserving of the epitaph from one of his greatest friends. "*He made a difference!*"

The local press announced the death of IAN MARKHAM-SMITH (1963-1968) who had clearly enjoyed a glittering career in the world of journalism. He joined the Farnham Herald at the age of 16 and then moved on to the Birmingham Post, the Evening Standard, the Sunday Telegraph and the Daily Mail.

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He worked in Africa, escaping from a Ugandan jail during the Idi Amin regime, interviewed both Nelson Mandela and Robert Mugabe. At one time he worked for the Sunday Mirror and met his second wife, journalist Liz Hodgson. The couple left England in 1980 and worked in Montreal, Hong Kong and then became freelancers in Los Angeles. He made headlines himself when he was hit by Sean Penn and deafened in one ear. He sued the movie star, winning a \$250,000 payout.

In 1988 he was Michael Palin's guide in Hong Kong during the filming of 'Around the World in 80 Days'. He returned to the U.K. in 1989 as assistant editor for the Sunday Mirror. He then began writing books, including 'The Outrageous Jerry Springer' and biographies of Nicolas Cage and Kim Basinger.

Ian and Liz spent the last ten years living in the Alps, continuing their freelance careers. He died on 23rd November 2011 aged 60 and is survived by his son Damian and grand-daughter Caitlin. The funeral took place in France in early December.

On 20th January 2012 **CHRIS WILLIAMS (1956-1963)**, died after a two-year battle with cancer. His funeral took place in Pembrokeshire on 26th January.

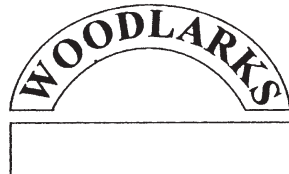
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D. C. Warner's design for the cover of the first issue.