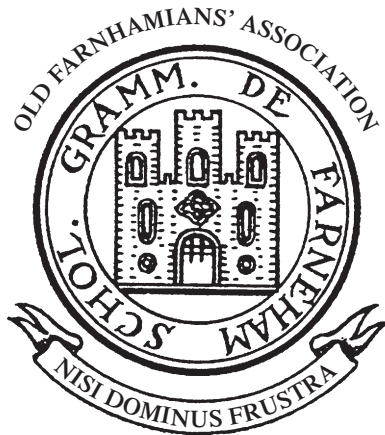


# THE FARNHAMIAN



March 2013

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# THE FARNHAMIAN

March 2013

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN - VOL. 20

This year celebrates the 20th year that I have edited the Farnhamian magazine and I would like to think that this is one of the reasons why the Association has continued to flourish. The magazine gives former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School the opportunity to retain contact with old schoolmates, to read about the considerable history of the school, and to find new friends who have the school as their focal point.

I attended one of my first committee meetings in the early 1990s, and at that stage Dennis Phillips, who was chairman at the time, was looking for a volunteer to resurrect the old school magazine and replace the photo copied newsletters that had been issued since the closing of the school in 1973. At the time I worked in a sales and marketing environment and had access to designers, printers etc., and agreed to attempt to put together a magazine similar to the editions available in the past. Information was scarce to begin with and I had to persuade Old Boys to write their profiles, to give information regarding former classmates who they were still in contact with, and ask for any memorabilia of the school that would be of interest to the reader.

We have come a long way since then, and now the next magazine is almost overflowing with information from all over the world, thanks mainly to the excellent website managed by Ian Sargeant. So, here is the 20th edition of the modern magazine and the 101st year that the Farnhamian has been in existence. This time we cover the 80th Annual Dinner, which is now rechristened the President's Luncheon, the 51st Southampton Luncheon, the Farnham Lecture, and another Garden Party in partnership with the Old Girls' Association. Again we have supported local education with sponsored awards for top students at Farnham College, Guildford College, Heath End School, Weydon School and Ash Manor School.

Sadly the list of Old Boys who have died during the past year is again longer than hoped, and contains some well known names. Former teacher, George Carroll, died at the amazing age of 93 after a full life that involved heroics during the Second World War. Another teacher at the former Girls' Grammar School and Farnham College was Alison Schofield, also the President of the Old Girls' Association, who was looking forward to hosting our Garden Party in June until illness struck. We have also lost John Mitchell, Fred Loveless, Michael Rowe and Ron Lehmann, Stanley Owen, Matthew Owen and the popular Henry Brindley.

## 2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

During the first week of February, around twenty ex-pupils of the former Farnham Grammar School met at Farnham College for the Annual General Meeting of the Old Farnhamians' Association. The meeting began with the President, Bryan Bone, asking all members to stand in memory of almost twenty Old Boys who had died during the past twelve months. This represented one of the highest numbers of deaths ever in one year.

After apologies, and the reading of the minutes of the 2012 meeting, reports were given regarding the various activities of the organisation during 2012. The Garden Party in May, held in conjunction with the Old Girls Association, had been very successful and attracted over 100 former pupils. The meeting decided that a repeat of this event in 2012 would be progressed and held later this summer.

The new President's Luncheon at Farnham Castle had also been a success, with over 80 Old Boys attending. Owing to increasing costs required by the castle it was impossible to hold the event there this year and on May the event will take place at the Ramada Hotel on the Hogs Back. There was disappointment that a long association with the castle had ended.

The Southampton Lunch was arranged by Derek Roe for the first time, and again nearly forty members from across the South and West of England, in the main, enjoyed a first class afternoon of nostalgia. The 2013 Luncheon will be on 16th October.

Cyril Trust, Chairman of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, reported on a good year, with the Farnham Lecture attracting 100 people to listen to an excellent talk by Caroline Redman-Lusher, who founded Rock Choir. The 2013 Lecture will be the twenty-fifth and a suitable high profile speaker is being sought.

Once again the Old Boys and their families had supported the College at the Annual Awards Ceremony and in 2012 they gave 35 sponsored awards to the top students. In addition the Trust gave Old Farnhamian Awards to top students at Guildford College, Heath End School, Weydon School and Ash Manor School. This support of local education is one of the key aims of the 400 Trust and will be continued in the future to reward students who reach the highest results.

Over the years the Leaving Scholarship Trust has given financial help to students who find it difficult to purchase books etc., and the trustees were disappointed that only a few students requested help in 2012. It is hope that in future more will take advantage of this Trust fund.

Cyril Trust reported that the new edition of the Farnhamian magazine was ready for printing, and he hoped to be able to distribute copies to members in March. This magazine and the excellent website continue to bind together former pupils of this famous old school and it is outstanding to have such an active organisation forty years after the closure of the school. All the existing officers for the Association were re-elected for a further year.

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## THE INAUGRAL PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON - 2012 (THE 80TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION)

Once again, the former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School gathered at Farnham Castle for the annual celebration, and this time it was decided to have the meal at lunchtime instead of the usual evening dinner. The change still attracted over eighty Old Boys, with Bill Bodkin coming from Portugal, Dick Kenward from Virginia, USA, and Mick Barham from South Australia. Many of the other guests travelled from across the country to be with old classmates for an afternoon down memory lane.

To begin the proceedings Bryan Bone, the current President, read out a list of Old Boys who had died in the past year, while all stood in silence as a mark of respect. This was followed by grace, given by the Guest of Honour The Rt.Rev. Bishop Christopher Herbert, who was a former rector of St Thomas on the Bourne and Bishop of St Albans. This was then followed by a first class meal prepared and served by Farnham Castle catering staff, under the direction of Teresa Clue.

After the meal and a profitable raffle, the Guest of Honour rose to give a thought provoking speech. He had learned of the history of the school, which began in the town in the 1500s, and tried to imagine what school life was like over the years. He felt that as well as offering academic lessons the schools and the teachers looked after the wellbeing both physically and spiritually. He wondered if the modern education system achieved this and the pupils lacked the attention to their other needs and not just teaching them by the book. It was the responsibility of the modern teacher to work more closely with the student. This was a first class speech and the Bishop sat down to loud applause.

The President was next to speak, and as usual dipped into his memories of his time at Morley Road and the guests could empathise with his words He felt honoured to have attended such a good school and proposed a Toast to Farnham Grammar School. Following was a Toast to the Association by Ian Sargeant, who said that those present had been lucky to have the opportunity to attend such a fine school, and with such fine traditions. He well recalls one of the teachers telling his class how lucky they were to be attending the school and many years on he fully agrees with that sentiment.

The President replied to both Toasts, and at the same time advised guests of the forthcoming events. On 23rd June there will be a Garden Party at Farnham College for Old Boys and Old Girls which starts at 2.00 pm and all former pupils are welcome. On 17th October is the Southampton Luncheon, which over the years has been very popular and offers a charming lunch with old pals in a New Forest hotel.

There then followed a special series of presentations for services to the Old Farnhamians' Association, which were presented by the Bishop. Firstly to John Crotty for many years of service to the Association, secondly to Cyril Trust for almost 20 years editing the magazine and overseeing many events over the years. The third award went to Ian Sargeant for his excellent website and for his work as link governor with the college and work for the Leaving

## THE INAUGRAL PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON - 2012 (80TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION)

Scholarship Trust, and finally an award to Treasurer, Stephen Pritchard, for his overseeing of the finances of the Association over many years. The service of these four was recognised with a cut glass decanter engraved with the school badge.

The Roll Call began with Peter Huntingford, who started at the school in 1935, and ended with a number of Old Boys who started just prior to the school closing in 1973. The afternoon ended with the School Song and the National Anthem. It had been a great success, and no doubt on 11th May 2013 many of those present will gather again for another celebration of a part of the history of Farnham. The new style President's Luncheon is here to stay. The room was full of grey hair and thinning locks, but the spirit lives on in these indestructible Old Boys.

Attending: M.J.Barham: H.Batchelor: J.Bateman: C.Beal: R.Bennett: P.Blowfield: W.A.Bodkin: B.E.Bone: D.Bowtell: R.Bowtell: D.Buckell: F.Carter: A.G.Chuter: R.S.Cleminson: J.Cooke: M.J.Cox: P.Cranswick: J.H.Crotty: D.Cutler: B.J.Daniels: D.J.Edgell: R.G.Edgell: K.Elkins: B.N.Elson: C.Fairclough: R.A.Frampton: A.Gatfield: G.R.Glazier: A.Harding: Rt.Rev. Bishop C.Herbert: J.Herbert: R.H.Hewes: J.Hirst: G.N.Honey: G.L.Hooker: M.J.Horner: P.Huntingford: Rev.J.Innes: R.G.Kenward: J.B.Kite: R.J.Kite: D.E.Lampard: M.Little: R.A.Lord: G.W.Martin: J.R.Matthews: E.P.Maynes: D.G.McManaman: K.E.Mentzel: R.C.Moorcroft: C.Mullins: C.Nash: R.A.Parker: J.Peace: I.H.Pearson: J.E.Pesterfield:D.Phillips: B.Philpott: D.Poleglaze: S.G.Pritchard: M.Purslow: P.C.Read: M.Rochefort: D.Roe: W.Roffey: I.C.Sargeant: L.Scard: M.D.Seignot: A.R.Spink: M.E.H.Sturt: C.S.Slyfield: J.Terrill: H.Torode: J.Travers: C.D.Trust: M.Tucker: H.Upfold: W.P.Walsh: R.Welland-Jones: J.R.Wilkinson: B.R.Williams.

***DON'T FORGET 11TH MAY 2013 FOR THE NEXT LUNCH***

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## YOUR OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2012/2013

### OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION GENERAL COMMITTEE:

B.E.Bone (President): S.G.Pritchard (Treasurer): R.G.Edgell (Secretary): B.R.Williams: K.E.Mentzel: A.Lovell: B.Daniels: C.Slyfield: M.Mehta: M.Horner: P.Mylles: W.Luff: W.Walsh: J.Travers: I.C.Sargeant: R.Welland-Jones: A.Gatfield: J.C.Crotty: D.Grimes: J.Clarke: C.D.Trust: R.Cleminson: C.Nash: J.Saunders: J.Walden:

### FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST:

C.D.Trust (Chairman): S.G.Pritchard (Treasurer): A.Gatfield (Secretary): W.Luff: M.Horner: B.E.Bone: B.R.Williams: H.Batchelor: R.G.Edgell: J.C.Crotty.

### LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST:

B.Daniels (Chairman): M.Mehta: P.Dunford: D.Grimes: C.Nash: I.C.Sargeant.

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## ANOTHER AFTERNOON OF NOSTALGIA FOR THE OLD BOYS AND OLD GIRLS

Such was the success of the first combined Garden Party for the Old Boys' and Old Girls' Association members in 2010; it was generally decided to hold a second 'Afternoon of Nostalgia' in June 2012. On this occasion the original plan was to hold the event in the gardens of Alison Schofield, President of the Old Girls' Association and a former teacher at the Girls' Grammar School and Farnham College. Unfortunately, Alison was taken ill during May and died before the end of that month, making a change of venue necessary.

Farnham College came to the rescue and made it possible to hold the event on the school field and use the facilities of College Court for catering purposes. Ticketholders were advised of the change and on Saturday 23rd June one hundred and fifteen former pupils of the Farnham Grammar Schools gathered at Morley Road. The two marquees soon filled and for most of the afternoon the weather was kind and remained dry.

Even though the schools were closed in 1973, old classmates came from across the country to spend a few hours reminiscing. Rosemary Godfrey (nee Walker) came from Australia, Maureen Bleeker (nee Turner) came from Holland, and others had travelled from the Midlands, the West Country and across the Home Counties to be there.

Patricia Atkinson, the Chairman of the Old Girls' Association welcomed guests and explained with sadness the reasons why the venue had to be changed at the last minute. She praised Alison Schofield for her loyalty to the Association, and was delighted to welcome her husband John, who had decided to attend for a short time.

She also thanked Fred Carter, Director of Farnham College, for enabling the event to be held on the College grounds. Fred and his wife Hilary were guests for the afternoon and it was sad to hear that they are both leaving the College at the end of the summer term. They have both been great supporters of the Old Farnhamians and Fred was delighted to be made an Honorary Member of the Association and receive the OFA tie.

The ladies had worked hard to produce a tempting display of cakes and savouries and the husband of one of the committee members did a sterling job behind the bar. The marquees were alive with the chatter of former pupils relating their favourite stories of the time at school. Many were well over eighty years of age, but seemed to step back in time and talk about old friends no longer with us. It really was 'An Afternoon of Nostalgia'.

The only negative from the event was the ratio of Old Boys to Old Girls attending. The girls outnumbered the boys by three to one and it is a shame that the membership do not support all the hard work put into these events. Let us hope that the Farnham Lecture and the Southampton Lunch will not suffer and the numbers will be at a reasonable level and make the events worthwhile.



Some of organising committee for the Garden Party with helpers on the day



Old friends meet again: Helen Collett: Julian Walden: Martin Collier: John Clarke:  
Gillian Mansfield: Mike Mehta: Anne Pullinger: John Saunders.



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## 2012 SOUTHAMPTON LUNCHEON

For the fifty-first time the Old Farnhamians, all former pupils and staff of the Farnham Grammar School, gathered in the New Forest for the annual Southampton Lunch. As usual the thirty-two present travelled from near and far to meet up with their old pals and drink a toast to absent friends. It is amazing that Norman Paget again made the visit to the old country from his home in Baltimore, to co-incide with this very popular event. Others were from Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Yorkshire, Kent, Surrey and Hampshire, to name but a few.

For the first forty years of the event it was organised by Dudley Backhurst, former school captain, and the next ten years by Cyril Trust. This year it fell to Derek Roe, who lives in Ringwood, to arrange the event and he made a first class job of it with a fine meal and the usual friendly ambience.

Cyril Trust, Chairman of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, said a few words about the association and told the gathering of the successful inaugural President's Lunch in May and the Garden Party in June when over 100 former pupils from both the Boys' and Girls' Grammar School attended. He said that the forthcoming Farnham Lecture by Caroline Redman Lusher, founder of Rock Choir, would be the twenty-fourth lecture and would probably be one of the most successful, with tickets selling well.

Cyril then reported on a meeting with the relatives of former headmaster, Charles Stroud, who was at the school from 1853 until 1897. The family handed over some very interesting memorabilia to the Old Boys and Cyril passed out copies of the programme and dinner menu for the opening of the Morley Road site in 1906. He also showed the diners a photo of HMS Farnham Castle, a corvette that was adopted by the old school during the Second World War. He also passed round a school cap worn by the boys in 1906, which differed greatly from that worn by the diners in their time.

This short speech finished with a toast to absent friends and the speaker saying that he felt that this year the Association had lost several Old Boys who would be sadly missed. He read out a list of over ten who had died since January.

Time is gradually catching up on the organisation, which has been a part of Farnham's heritage for many years, and the hope is that younger ex-pupils will fill the gaps.

The 2013 Southampton Lunch will be on Wednesday 16th October at the Woodlands Hotel.

Attending: C.D.Trust: N.Timmins: M.E.Jeffreys: J.Cockle: B.Daniels: N.D.Paget: G.Hooker: D.Cutler: G.LeVey: K.E.Mentzel: D.Phillips: J.H.Crotty: G.Andrews: D.Bowtell: D.Buckell: G.Honey: D.E.Lampard: H.Batchelor: M.E.H.Sturt: R.E.Hewes: P.Ford: D.Roe: R.Edgell: J.Cope: B.Williams: K.Mortimer: J.Peace: T.Withall: R.Phillips: R.E.Luckhurst: P.Mylles: P.Huntingford.

## FARNHAM LECTURE - 2012

Caroline Redman Lusher, founder of Rock Choir, interrupted her nationwide visit to all of her 150 choirs to give the twenty-fourth Farnham Lecture at Farnham College. The event, organised by the Farnhamian 400 Trust, attracted well over one hundred people, thanks to several choir members adding to the Old Farnhamian contingent.

Cyril Trust, the organiser and MC for the evening began by saying that as a member of The Hedgehogs he recalls having the local Rock Choir open their 2005 Farnham Fashion Show, with this being their first recorded public appearance. He handed over to Caroline, who proceeded to give an account of her early years and the rise to fame of Rock Choir across the country.

As a young girl she was taught to play the piano and violin and from that time had the desire to become a pop star. She studied music and obtained a degree, but subsidised this by appearing in one or two London clubs playing and singing at the piano. Eventually it was discovered that she was only fifteen and under age and thus ended this part of her career.

After trying a variety of jobs she returned to her parents' home in Farnham and after a few months was asked if she would teach music to pupils at Farnborough College. The pupils could not read music and she devised a simple way to teach them how to sing as a group and eventually the singers numbered over 150 pupils. Using this formula she decided to try to form a local choir and was surprised to greet about seventy volunteers at the first rehearsal. The first Rock Choir was from Farnham and practised in the very hall where she was speaking.

Soon the news spread and people asked for choirs across the country, which required musical graduates to help teach the singers, who in the main had little musical experience. As the phenomenon gathered pace the media showed interest and soon Caroline was being interviewed on Breakfast TV, The Paul O'Grady Show and finally ITV wanted to produce a three part documentary about Rock Choir. Next saw interest from the record companies and she signed a contract with Universal, who owned Decca Records, and the first album raced into the charts and made number two after only a few days.

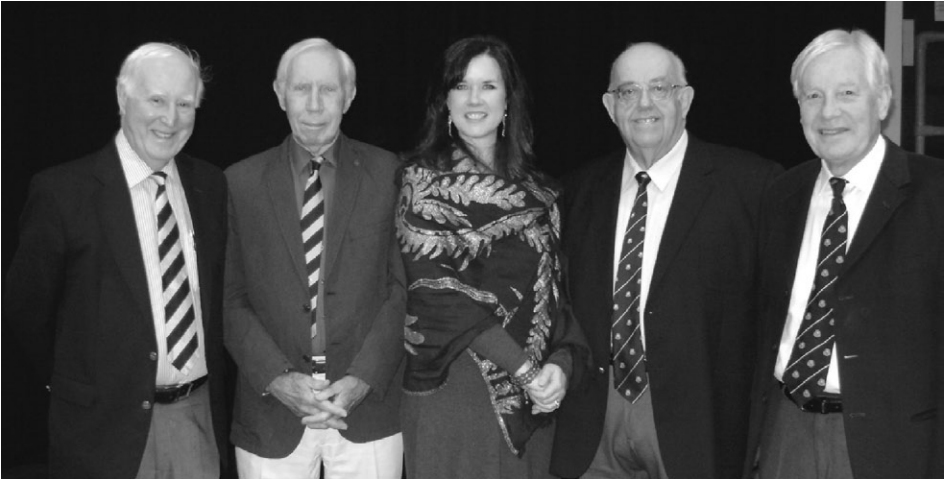
The organisation grew rapidly and there are now 150 choirs, over 50 musical graduates and an excellent support group. In 2011 she brought 10,000 singers together at Wembley Arena for a concert and plans to have two similar concerts in 2013, with one at the O2 and the other at Liverpool Echo. Not content with this huge work load she has sung on recent album hits by The Soldiers and on a Sting album and still enjoys singing in her own right.

The awards are coming thick and fast, and recently she was given a special award for her services to the music industry and has been short listed for Entrepreneur of the Year Award. She still aims to produce a number one album, still hopes for more choirs in the UK and is looking to spread the formula internationally.

## FARNHAM LECTURE - 2012

The talk ended with a short film showing some of the highlights of Rock Choir to date. This was a most accomplished lecture by a lady who knows where she is going and is destined for even more success. In 2013 the 400 Trust will present their twenty-fifth lecture and Caroline Redman Lusher will be a hard act to follow.

It is good to know that such success began life in the town of Farnham!



Mike Horner: John Crotty: Caroline Redman Lusher: Cyril Trust: Tony Gatfield



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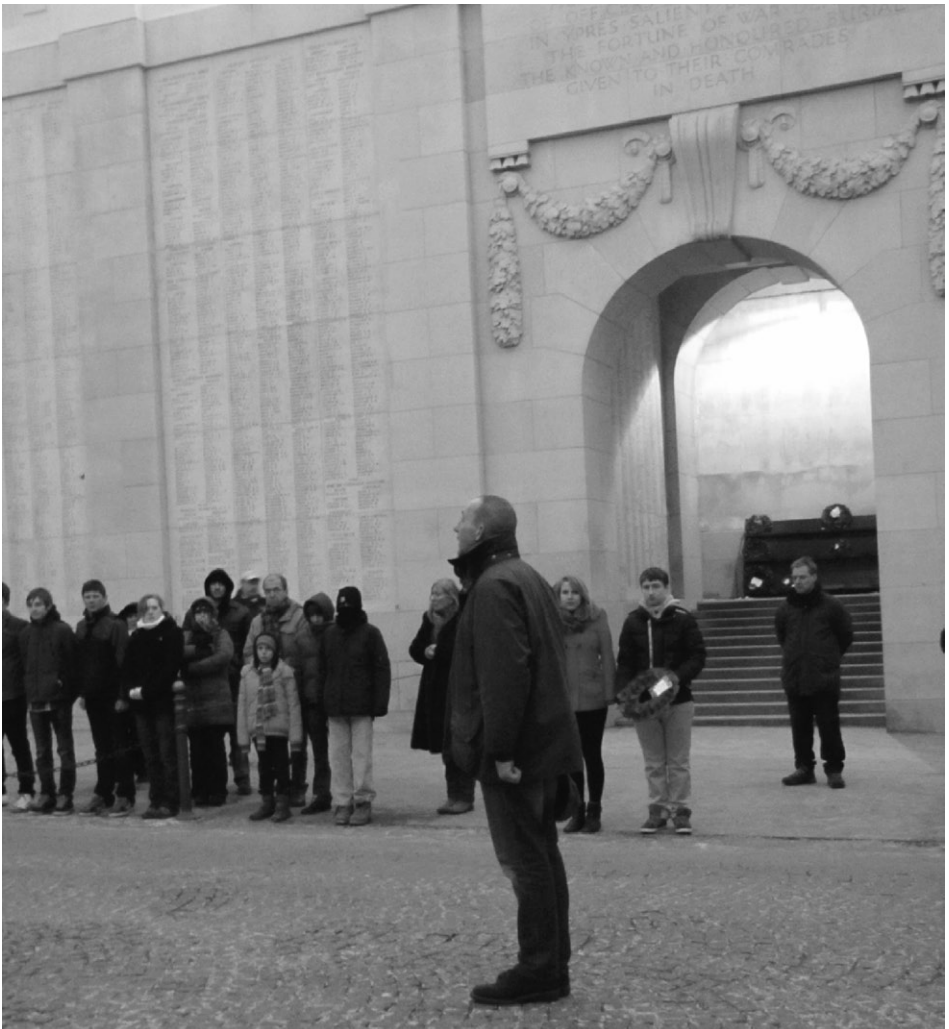
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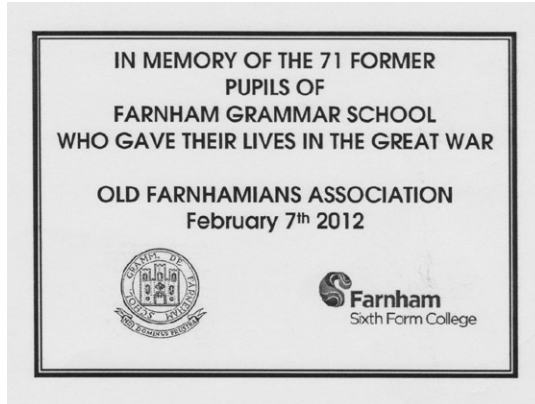
## FARNHAM COLLEGE STUDENTS SALUTE THE OLD BOYS AT THE MENIN GATE

In extremely cold weather, with temperatures below ten degrees, a coach party of students from Farnham College travelled to France to view the battlefields of the First World War. This is an annual journey for students and is part of their history course, but in January 2012 they added to their programme for a special occasion. Arriving at the Menin Gate they had arranged to place a wreath in memory of all the Old Boys who died in the First World War. Below we can see the students waiting with their wreath.



## FARNHAM COLLEGE STUDENTS SALUTE THE OLD BOYS AT THE MENIN GATE

Prior to the visit the Editor was asked to supply appropriate wording to accompany the wreath and the following card was attached:



The pupils use the names from the Roll Of Honour in the old school foyer and try to trace them at the Menin Gate Memorial or the various cemeteries in the area. On arriving back home, they prepare a small exhibition at the College, which is well worth seeing.

Yet another example of how well the relationship between the College and the Association is working.

## CADETS' FIELD DAY

AS REPORTED IN  
THE FARNHAM HERALD - 19TH MAY 1917

The Farnham Grammar School Cadet Company, attached to the Queens', had a very interesting and instructive field day on Saturday last. The general idea was that a convoy, proceeding from Farnham to Haslemere, had broken down near the Duke of Cambridge Inn at Tilford and that an enemy force had come up from Alton to attempt to capture the convoy. The attacking force crossed the bridge at Millbridge, and soon after came in touch with the opposing scouts on the heath to the east of Frensham Little Pond. By a feint attack, the main body of the Eastern Force, which was badly served by its scouts, was drawn away towards the left of the line, when the westerners, advancing by rapid rushes, turned their opponents' right, cut it off from the centre, and captured the convoy. The chief umpire, Gerald Ede Esq., spoke to the cadets afterwards, pointing out mistakes etc., and he especially commended S.Fusher and L.Chaffey for the way in which they handled their platoons. Tea was taken under the King's Oak, Tilford, and the Company reached home about seven o'clock, after a useful afternoon's work.

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

**Written by Henry Ellwood**

**WALTER PERCY WHITE**

Walter Percy White was the son of Walter and Charlotte White of Ridgeway Corner, Farnham. His father was born in Battersea, London and his mother born in Bristol. He had a younger brother named Charles and according to a plaque in the Bourne Church he was a member of the church choir.

He enrolled in the Army in Farnham and joined the 2nd/21st Battalion, London Regiment. He was 27 years of age and a Sergeant when he was killed on 8th December 1917. Severe fighting occurred up to that evening, when the Turks were driven from the City of Jerusalem by units which included the 2nd/21st Battalion London Regiment. On the following day the Turks counter-attacked, when it was believed that Walter Percy White was killed. According to a plaque in the Bourne Church he was killed on the Mount of Olives and is buried on the hillside facing Calvary.

His service number is 650891 and he is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery - Grave Reference: Q.77.

**General Information on 2nd/21st Battalion**

Before the war in 1914 the London Regiment comprised 26 Territorial Battalions and the 2nd/21st Battalion was the First Surrey Rifles. When these 26 Battalions were sent abroad they were designated the 1st/5th, 1st/6th, etc. Men were then recruited for these first line units and they became the 2nd/5th, 2nd/6th Battalions, and in the case of the 21st Battalion, the 2nd/21st Battalion. In time these second line units were also sent abroad as complete fighting Battalions. Third line units were then recruited, which were designated 3rd/5th and 3rd/6th etc., and these mainly became the training and reserve Battalions for the first and second line units. The 2nd/21st Battalion became part of the 6th London Brigade of the 2nd/2nd London Division. This division was renumbered as the 60th Territorial Division.

After five months service in France, which included trench and crater fighting at Vimy Ridge, the 60th Division received orders to move to Macedonia. Here it assembled at Salonika and in April 1917 took part in the Battle of Doiran. In June 1917 the 60th Division moved to Palestine with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force and helped capture and later to defend Jerusalem.

The name of Walter Percy White is included on the Farnham Grammar School "Roll of Honour".

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**FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES****(Taken from the REMEMBRANCE NO.2.)****Written by Henry Ellwood****ARTHUR HOPCRAFT**

Arthur Hopcraft was born in Alton and lived with his auntie and uncle, Charles and Alice Andrews, at 36. Long Garden Walk, Farnham. He attended West Street School and then moved to Farnham Grammar School. He enrolled in Ashford for the Army and joined the 1st/5th Territorial Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

His regiment sailed for India and fought in Mesopotamia. The town of Sannalyat was attacked in February 1917 and taken and it is probable that Arthur Hopcraft lost his life in this action on the 15th of the month. His service number is T/240302 and he is buried in Amara War Cemetery, Iraq - Grave Reference. XXI.M.10.

The Farnham Herald reported as follows:

‘Much sympathy has been expressed with Mrs.A.Andrews of Firgrove Hill, Farnham, who has received notification of the death of her nephew Lance Corporal Arthur Hopcraft of the 1st/5th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

He was killed in action on February 15th 1917 in Mesopotamia. Arthur Hopcraft was 23 years of age. He was the youngest son of Mrs Hopcraft of Bentworth. Lance Corporal Arthur Hopcraft was an old Farnham Grammar School boy and was well known and liked by the people of Farnham.’

**General Information on 1st/5th Battalion**

Before the war started in 1914 The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) had three Territorial Infantry Battalions, which were designated 4th, 5th (The Weald of Kent) and the 6th for Home Defence duties. These Battalions on being sent abroad became known as the 1st/4th, 1st/5th. Men were then recruited for reinforcements for these first line units and then became known as 2nd/4th, 2nd/5th, etc. Battalions. Initially they sent out their trained men for the first line units but after a time it was necessary to send out these units as complete Battalions. Third line units were then recruited which were designated 3rd/4th, and 3rd/5th. Battalions, which in time became known as the training/reserve Battalions.

The 1st/5th Battalion left Southampton for India on the 30th October 1914. It was part of the Home Counties 44th Division. It carried out garrison duties in India. In December 1915 it landed at Basra, and joined the 35th Indian Brigade and later the 14th Indian Division for service on Mesopotamia.



## ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE STROUD FAMILY

In the 2012 magazine I reported on a meeting with three members of the Stroud family and the information they gave regarding Charles and William Stroud in particular. Some months afterwards I was contacted by a lady regarding the family, and it was clear that she was from another branch entirely. The result was a number of e-mails and finally another meeting at the Museum of Farnham. It proved to be quite an emotional afternoon!

One must remember that by 1850 the Farnham Boys' Grammar School was at its lowest ebb, with only a handful of pupils and little future. In 1853, Charles Stroud was appointed, and over the next 44 years he shaped the school into the highly respected centre of education that we all enjoyed. Early in his time at the school he had to deal with it going into administration, but managed to get all of the creditors to accept a small percentage of the debts.

By 1897 the school roll totalled 197 boys and Charles Stroud took a well earned retirement. Sad to say that he died that same year, but before this he received a presentation of a cheque and a special album to acknowledge all the work he had done to put the school on the correct path for a brighter future.

Diana Barden, one of the ladies involved in the meeting, was the grand-daughter of William Stroud, who worked with his father Charles at the school and remained there well into the 20th century. She had unearthed a metal box full of memorabilia from the family and the school and had decided to offer some items to the Old Boys. She began by passing over an original programme for the opening of Morley Road in 1906 and the menu for the special dinner that would mark the occasion. In attendance at both events was the Lord Bishop of Winchester, His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and local MP the Rt. Hon. St. John Broderick. This was something special for our archives.

She then produced a box containing the special album that was presented to Charles Stroud and I was speechless at the workmanship involved in putting together this special gift. The opening pages have photographs of the Grammar School in West Street, including the frontage, the garden and some of the classrooms. The following pages are all written in perfect handwriting and list 352 names of pupils, Old Boys, staff, friends and local dignitaries who subscribed towards a cheque to accompany the book.

Looking through the book one can see the many names of local families who are well known in the town of Farnham:

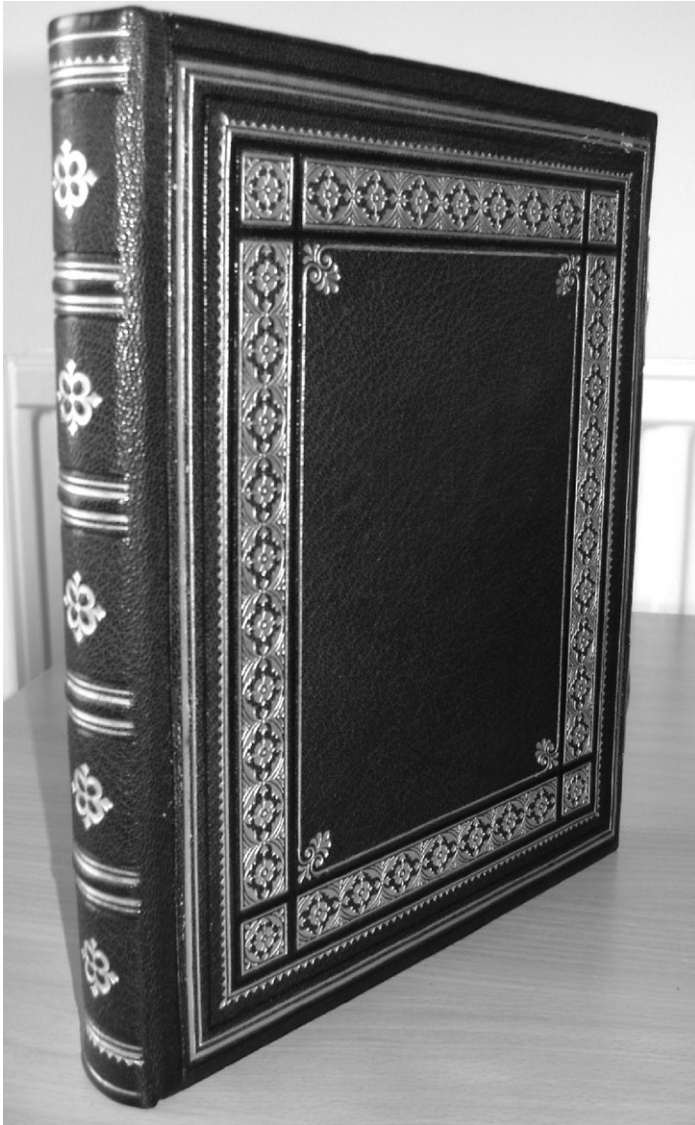
Aylwin: Borelli: Bide: Bentall: Caesar: Crosby: Elphick: Garbett: Goddard: Heath: Kingham:  
Mason: Nash: Pullinger: Robins: Simmonds: Sampson: Stovold: Loe: Tice: Worsam: Bodkin:  
Langham: Sturt: Falkner.



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## ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE STROUD FAMILY

In addition to this wonderful book, we have been given the school cap of Diana's father from 1908 and numerous documents written by William Stroud, which we can copy and then return the originals to the family. There were also many relevant photos of the family at the school. Overall the items opened the window to the past!



**THE SPORTS' CUPS**  
**ATHLETICS - JUNIOR - HALF MILE (880 YARDS)**  
**- GIVEN BY H.M.WADE**



1931	W.J.KINGCOME	1940	S.G.TILFORD
1932	A.H.SMITH	1941	P.HUNTINGFORD
1933	R.F.SYMES	1942	G.P.HEWES
1934	C.L.LARMER	1943	I.M.F.PERKINS
1935	R.R.KIRK	1944	I.F.MITCHELL
1936	M.C.COLWILL	1945	J.E.PLAYER
1937	M.C.COLWILL	1946	R.HUMPHREYIES
1938	J.M.HUTCHINGS	1947	R.HUMPHREYIES
1939	M.C.COLWILL	1972	J.C.FLETCHER

THE SPORTS' CUPS  
INTER HOUSE JUNIOR CRICKET CUP



1926	MASSINGBERD	1927	SCHOOL	1928	MASSINGBERD
1929	HARDING	1930	SCHOOL	1931	HARDING
1932	CHILDE/MASSINGBERD/MORLEY			1933	MASSINGBERD
1934	SCHOOL	1935	MASSINGBERD	1936	CHILDE/SCHOOL
1937	MASSINGBERD/SCHOOL			1938	MORLEY
1939	HARDING/SCHOOL	1940	MASSINGBERD	1938	MASSINGBERD
1942	CHILDE/SCHOOL	1943	MASSINGBERD	1941	CHILDE/SCHOOL
1944	HARDING	1943	CHILDE/MASSINGBERD		
1947	SCHOOL	1945	HARDING/SCHOOL	1946	CHILDE
1950	CHILDE	1948	HARDING/MORLEY	1949	HARDING/SCHOOL
		1951	CHILDE/MORLEY	1952	HARDING/
					MORLEY
1953	CHILDE/SCHOOL	1954	SCHOOL/HARDING	1955	SCHOOL
1956	HARDING	1957	MORLEY	1958	CHILDE
1959	MORLEY	1960	CHILDE/MASSINGBERD/HARDING		
1961	CHILDE	1962	MASSINGBERD	1963	HARDING
1964	CHILDE/HARDING	1965	MASSINGBERD	1966	MASSINGBERD/
					CHILDE
1967	MORLEY	1968	CHILDE	1969	CHILDE/HARDING
1970	HARDING	1971	HARDING		

## **'FAMOUS PEOPLE I HAVE INTERVIEWED' BY MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)**

**MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)** left school at 16 and did a three-year apprenticeship in journalism at the Farnham Herald. At one time he covered Aldershot Football Club in friendly competition with fellow Old Boy **GUY BELLAMY**, who worked for the Surrey and Hants News. Later Michael travelled the world as a foreign correspondent for Reuters, covering the Nixon White House and Middle East peace efforts among many things. Then he settled in the Canadian capital of Ottawa, where he worked for 24 years for the Ottawa Citizen. He still lives in Ottawa. Here Michael tells of meetings with famous people that stick out most in his memory.

### **HAROLD LARWOOD - BODYLINE HERO:**

I met the great English cricketer twice when I visited Australia on holidays to watch England play cricket. Fifty-five years before my first trip Down Under, Larwood destroyed Australia in the Bodyline Test series of 1932-33. Afterwards, he surprisingly retired to the country where the cricket establishment had considered his lethal bowling to be unfair.

I knew Larwood lived in Sydney, and there was only one "Larwood H" in the phone book. "There's someone to see you, Harold," his wife called out to him after I rang the doorbell of the couple's modest bungalow. This was in 1988, and Larwood was in his mid-80s. He invited me to sit on a sofa, and proudly said that was where Len Hutton and Fred Trueman sat when the two great Yorkshire cricketers had visited him while on tour with England years earlier. I was just there as a lifelong cricket fan, awed to be in the presence of the great man, and I didn't mention Bodyline. I asked him about the time he was out, caught, when two short of a century against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground. "Silly shot," he replied. While we chatted, his wife interrupted to say the Australian Cricket Board was on the phone, inviting Larwood to a big dinner celebrating Australia's 200th birthday. "Tell them, sorry, but the answer's no," Larwood said, seemingly without giving it any thought. I sensed he was too shy to go.

The second time I called at Larwood's home was in 1992, three years before he died aged 90. It was the morning of the day England defeated South Africa in the World Cup semi-final at the Sydney Cricket Ground, a short bus ride from Larwood's home. This time Larwood answered the door, and came outside to chat. On the spur of the moment I invited him to accompany me to the game later that day. "No, people would recognise me," he said. "No, they won't," I replied in my usual argumentative way. Then he said: "Anyway, I couldn't see because I'm nearly blind." I could not argue with that, and headed off alone to the match. But what a story it would have been if Harold Larwood had come with me.

### **MUHAMMAD ALI - THE GREATEST:**

It was my most fabulous assignment, covering the "Rumble in the Jungle", the world heavyweight boxing title fight between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman in 1974 in the

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## FAMOUS PEOPLE I HAVE INTERVIEWED BY MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)

heart of Africa, the former Belgian Congo. I sat in the front row at ringside, and was on the phone for three hours in a single call to the Reuters' bureau in New York. Goodness knows how much the phone call cost, but it was probably at least a thousand pounds. During those three hours I dictated pre-fight "colour", round-by-round commentary, and post-fight stories and interviews after Ali ran Foreman ragged and knocked out the fearsome champ in the eighth round to recapture the heavyweight title. (I had back-up. Another Reuters' correspondent was there to do the post-fight dressing-room interviews while I was dictating how Ali had stunned the boxing world.)

I got the assignment because I could write about boxing and spoke French (which was widely used in this part of Africa). For two weeks before the fight, we of the world's press hobnobbed with entourages of the two fighters. Angelo Dundee, Ali's manager, bought me oysters at dinner one night. Fresh oysters in the middle of Africa!

My fondest memory was of the interview I had with Ali in the departure lounge of the Kinshasa airport a few hours after the fight. I was one of only two reporters there, the other being a radio reporter for an American news' agency, who kindly gave me the tape of my interview. Ali was thoughtful and quiet-spoken as he answered my questions about his future plans. But then I asked him about complaints from his opponent's camp that the referee had counted Foreman out too quickly. Ali was, or pretended to be, indignant. He said that if Foreman had risen before the count of 10, he (Ali) would have knocked him down again. Then he launched into his I-am-the-Greatest routine, with me as his willing sidekick, enthusiastically agreeing with him. He put on a show just for me, which was almost as good as it would have been if I'd persuaded Harold Larwood to accompany me to the Sydney Cricket Ground.

### THE QUEEN AND THE SPORT OF KINGS:

Plenty of people meet the Queen. But I doubt many people get such candour from her as I did. The occasion was the state visit to Canada in 1977. On such visits, the Queen gives a cocktail party for journalists covering the tour. I had recently emigrated to Canada and was covering the visit for the Ottawa Journal, where I worked for two years.

Chris Cobb, my Manchester-born friend, was also covering the tour for the Journal. Together we edged our way up to the Queen, and engaged her in conversation. The Queen seemed to recognise, and be comfortable with, Cobb's strong Manchester accent. We got on famously with small talk. Then I remembered that one of the Queen's treasured race horses had been narrowly beaten in Europe's big horse race, the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris. That set her off, and she went on at length about how unlucky the horse had been not to win. Eventually, security men gently nudged Chris and me in the back, urging us to move aside so others could have a word with the Queen.

## FAMOUS PEOPLE I HAVE INTERVIEWED BY MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)

The ground rule of such events was (and I believe still is) that reporters don't report what the Queen tells them. But as we left the cocktail party, we considered headlines for a story that I never wrote until now. We decided ours would be: QUEEN CLAIMS SHE WAS ROBBED IN PARIS.

### KARSH OF OTTAWA:

He was probably the best known portrait photographer in history, and his most famous photo was a shot of Winston Churchill in defiant mood on a visit to Ottawa during World War Two. Professionally, he did not use his first name. He was just "Karsh of Ottawa". Karsh was born in Armenia, but Ottawa was his adopted home and where he lived much of his life.

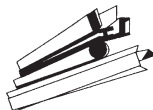
I met him in 1977, soon after I moved to Ottawa, while researching a lifestyles article on people and their pets. It turned out that Karsh's beloved pet dog had died a few years earlier, and he and his wife had felt too devastated to replace the animal. Karsh asked if he could be in the story anyway, so he could talk about how much his dead pet meant to him. Of course I agreed. He was a lovely, gentle man, who greeted me warmly every time we met.

Karsh gave me a major scoop. Towards the end of his life he invited me to fly from Ottawa to Boston, where he was then living, for what he said would be his final interview. At about the same time, he turned down an interview request from the highly-rated CBS 60 Minutes TV programme in the United States. He wanted his last interview to be with a newspaper in his beloved Ottawa, he explained. After the interview, Karsh together with his wife and his assistant took me for a lunch of lobster salad in one of Boston's poshest hotels. I had just one regret. For some reason Karsh would not allow me to record our interview. My note-taking is awful, and I felt an interview did not do him justice. But Karsh seemed to like it anyway. Or, he was too much of a gentleman to say otherwise. He died in 2002, aged 93.

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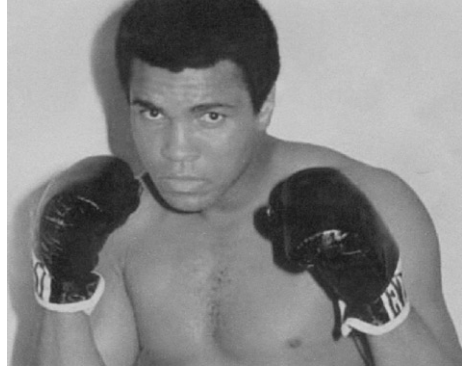
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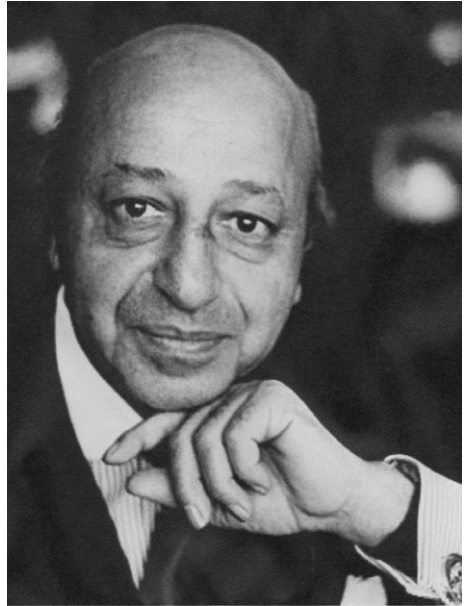
HAROLD LARWOOD



MUHAMMAD ALI



A YOUNG QUEEN ELIZABETH



KARSH OF OTTAWA



## CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT - 2012

On the penultimate day of term the students, staff, parents and sponsors gathered in the Performance Hall at Farnham College for the annual awards to the top performing students. This year saw Mike Potter speaking as the new Principal for the Guildford College Group and Bonita Norris as the guest of honour. Bonita is the youngest woman to climb Mount Everest and the audience listened with awe as she explained her journey to the top of the world. The number of awards sponsored by Old Farnhamians, or their families, totalled 35 and the new Principal paid tribute to this help in making the event memorable for the students.

The awards were as follows:

<b>Abdul Ahad</b>	The John Crotty Award for Mathematics
<b>Dillon Beagley</b>	The Tony Rayer Award for Media.
<b>Katie Bickerton</b>	The Derek Skillin Award.
<b>Katie Bickerton</b>	The Paul French Award for Science and Mathematics.
<b>Lisa Marina Borges Da Silva</b>	The Stan Armstrong Award for Mathematics.
<b>Leah Brine</b>	The Don Homer Award for Drama.
<b>Alex Daniels</b>	The Cyril Trust Award for Photography.
<b>Rosie Dobson</b>	The Hans Holm Award for English and Journalism.
<b>Eleanor Edmiston</b>	The John Mew Award for English
<b>Matthew Fowler</b>	The Peter Read Award for Drama.
<b>Robyn Gibson-Brown</b>	The Sturt Family Award for Computer Aided Design.
<b>Harris Hafeez</b>	The Knotts Family Award for Engineering.
<b>Stephanie Hannam</b>	The John Travers Award for Art.
<b>Paige Harris</b>	The Chris Nash Award for Art.
<b>Alice Harrop</b>	The Richard Phillips Award for Business Studies.
<b>Kimberley Holloway</b>	The Ian Bolt Award for Health and Social Care.
<b>Nicole Hordern</b>	The Audrey Egington Award for Hairdressing.
<b>Madeleine Howard</b>	The Bryan Bone Award for English.
<b>Josh Hunt</b>	The Maurice Jeffreys Award for Business Studies.
<b>Lucy James</b>	The Roy Robins Award for Psychology.
<b>Emma Joyce</b>	The Roy Robins Award for Psychology.
<b>Katie Lapworth</b>	The Alan Lovell Award for History.
<b>Menuka Limbu</b>	The Tony Bolt Award for Health & Social Care.
<b>Eleanor Littlefield</b>	The John Edmunds Award for English.
<b>Victoria Moore</b>	The Don Homer Award for Drama.
<b>Holly Russell</b>	The John Aylwin Award for Drawing and Design.
<b>Asshur Sinclair</b>	The Michael Horner Award for Sport.



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**CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT - 2012**
**Charlotte Skinner****Jordan Taylor****Millie Thaophayung****Jessica Tucknott****Jess Wreford****Elizabeth Wright****Andrew Field****Helen Green**

The Graham Blunt Award for Science.

The Ron Short Award for Business Studies.

The Geoff Hooker Award for Media.

The Brian Williams Award for IT.

The Dudley Backhurst Award for Science.

The Ian Sargeant Award for Art.

A John Goddard Award for charity work in China.

A John Goddard Award for charity work in Borneo.



Lucy Armstrong (widow of Stan Armstrong) and son with Bonita Norris (guest of honour) and Lisa Marina Borges Da Silva who was given The Stan Armstrong Award for Mathematics

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*Although the Old Boys and their families sponsored a record numbers of awards for the top students at Farnham College in 2012, there is still a need for more in the future. Since these awards two sponsors have died and need replacing, and any reader of this magazine should contact the editor if they wish to discuss sponsorship in the future.*

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## 2012 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS' SCHEME

With the arrival of autumn comes the 'Awards' Season' for the local schools and colleges and as usual the Farnhamian 400 Trust provides some awards for these. The main recipients are the three 'feeder schools' for Farnham College, being Heath End School, Weydon School and Ash Manor School. The Trust gives each school £100 annually to sponsor The Farnhamian Award to one of the top students, and all three now have a cup or shield especially for the award. 2012 was the sixth year of this scheme and it fulfils one of the Trust's aims in supporting local education in Farnham.

Mid-November saw the first ceremony of the year at Ash Manor, where the winner was Christopher Jones. The Trust was represented by Bryan Bone and Mike Horner and the speaker and presenter of the awards was Paul Marcus, the Mng. Director of Eagle Radio.

In the following week there were two ceremonies, with Bill Luff and Tony Gatfield attending the evening at Heath End School as the representatives of the Trust. This year the winner of the Farnhamian Award was Rebecca Walsh-Smith and the guest of honour was Jim Vincent, the former deputy head of the school, and a very popular member of staff at the school for many years.

The editor, accompanied by Brian Williams and John Crotty, attended a very special evening at Weydon School. The head-teacher confirmed that this new academy was placed third in the country for its results, with the girls reaching first place in their section. The students, parents and staff were using the evening to celebrate their achievements and it is good to see a Farnham school placed so high in the national rankings. The Farnhamian Award for Mathematics was won by Tom Reading and he was clearly pleased to receive the cup. The guest of honour was Deirdre Bounds, an entrepreneur who had started her own travel business in the 1990s and sold it for £22 million pounds in 2007. As a motivational lecturer she was excellent and the students sat and listened attentively to her words of wisdom. This was a first class evening from a first class school and the Farnhamian 400 Trust was pleased to be a part of it.

The final Awards' evening was held at the new G-Live centre in Guildford and was for the prize giving to the top students at Guildford College. In recent years this ceremony has also incorporated two awards to the top overall students attending Farnham College. This year the Trust was represented by Bryan Bone and Roger Edgell and the guest of honour was Mark Colbourne, Gold Medal Winning Paralympic Cyclist. The winners of the Farnhamian Awards were Louise Swan and Sam King who were presented with their award on stage by Roger Edgell.

The money supplied by the 400 Trust for the feeder schools' awards, Guildford College awards and the Farnham College awards over recent years has now passed the £20,000 mark. This is a positive sign that the Association supports local education in Farnham.

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## OLD BOYS ACROSS THE WORLD

The 2012 President's Luncheon guest list included three Old Boys who live abroad and the overall membership list shows that some twenty-five live in various countries at the time of writing. Looking back it is clear that it has always been the case that former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School have travelled the world and chosen to reside in other countries for a variety of reasons.

In the 1950s and 1960s two of the largest employers in the area were the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and British Aerospace at Weybridge and on leaving school many pupils gained employment with one of these. At this time Britain was a world leader in the design and manufacture of all types of aircraft, as well as one of the pioneers into space travel and the industry was booming. Then the Government decided to cut back this area, and overnight there was a large unemployment in the aircraft industry forcing people to look elsewhere to make a career.

It seems that several went to America to work with major companies like Boeing and Pratt & Whitney, whilst others went even further afield to Australia and the rocket launching industry at Woomera. Many carved out outstanding careers and settled down to live out their lives in their chosen country. Old Boys like Michael Brazier and John Mew reached high levels in the aircraft industry.

Others made their way abroad via the companies that they worked for and good examples are Terry Venables in Australia, Norman Paget in America and Michael Prentice in Canada. Others decided that other countries had more to offer and made a success like Terry Hall, Peter Downham, Cyril Payne and Mick Barham in Australia and Dick Kenward in America.

The membership list includes Old Boys from America, Canada, Australia, Spain, Portugal, France, New Zealand, South Africa and Holland and no doubt there are many former pupils across the world who are not shown as members. Although this phenomenon exists the old school is still a magnet for most of them and it is a pleasure to see several of them as regular guests at either the Annual Dinner or the Southampton Luncheon.

Of course there are also those who choose to move abroad to follow the sun and/or the way of life. Bill Bodkin is typical of someone who worked in this country all his life and chose to spend his retirement in Portugal near the sea and assured of regular sunshine. Who can blame him?

The magazine regularly features news of many of this growing number of Old Boys abroad and would welcome hearing from others listed as members. Perhaps this article will nudge them into sending in a few details of their lives abroad and how and why they are in that country. It would make the magazine more international and provide Old Boys who still live in Britain with news of old classmates. How about it?

## OLD BOYS ACROSS THE WORLD



Mick Barham, Dick Kenward and Bill Bodkin at Farnham Castle  
for the President's Luncheon

## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The theme for former pupils of the school visiting the UK continues with Old Girls from Australia and Holland attending the Garden Party. In June **MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-53)** spent three weeks here visiting family and friends. This avid sports fan included going to The Oval to see Surrey play cricket and Eastbourne to see the pre-Wimbledon tennis. He spent his final night here at the home of the Editor, which funnily enough coincided with the European Cup Final between Spain and Italy. He also had lunch with **GUY BELLAMY**, former workmate at the Surrey & Hants News, and now living in a Former Journalists' Residential Home at Dorking.

While on the subject of **GUY BELLAMY**, it was good to see that this well known local author has had his fourteenth book published in September 2012. It is a follow-up to his best-selling novel, *The Secret Lemonade Drinker*, and is entitled, *The Secret Vodka Drinker*, and continues with the life of 'Bobby Booth'. The book has been published as a Kindle book on amazon.com and is available as a downloadable Kindle book. It is welcome news that Guy is still writing from his new home in Dorking, as he has not enjoyed the best of health in recent years. The Farnham Diary printed a very positive review of the new book and perhaps some of our readers will enjoy a good read from the pen of an Old Boy.

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## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

One of the first members to contribute to any new magazine is usually **MIKE MEHTA (1973-1978)**, and this time he has done it again! Here he recalls the successful production, by the then Farnham Sixth Form College, in December 1977 of *'My Fair Lady'*. He remembers that he thoroughly enjoyed acting in the play. This photo shows him with Kim Larby, posing in readiness for The Embassy Ballroom scene, and showing that his trousers had still to receive final adjustments, hence the pins! He is still good friends with Kim and says that others in the cast were Alison Warren as Eliza Doolittle and James Mates (later to be the ITN news correspondent) as Professor Henry Higgins.



When taking the 2012 magazine into Riverprint Limited, who have printed the modern editions for the past twenty years, the editor was shown an important item of memorabilia by **SIMON GRANVILLE-JONES (1965-1970)**, who is the owner and an Old Boy himself. It appears that when Simon finished his apprenticeship, he was offered some of the old printing blocks used by well known printer E.W.Langham Limited. One of these was the original design for the front cover of the Farnhamian used in December 1912, and for many years afterwards. The design was by one of the pupils named D.C.Warner, and states that the school was founded in 1351, a date that has never been proven, and was rebuilt in 1905, although it was actually rebuilt a year later.

## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Some of the regular contributions to the magazine come from Australia, where a number of former pupils of both the Girls' and Boys' Grammar Schools have lived for several years. The membership lists for both schools show that couples like **PETER DOWNHAM (1942-1947)** and his wife, the former **RITA STONE**, are still happy living the other side of the world. No doubt this photo, taken late in 2011, will jog a few memories among our readers.



The 2012 Annual Dinner (now the President's Luncheon) took place without the usual strong contingent from the 1948 intake. It is usual that there are over ten former pupils and this time only Bryan Bone, John Travers and Cyril Trust were present. Several were abroad on holiday, including **TREVOR ANDREWS (1948-1953)**, who was in Florida to see relatives. Trevor writes to say that he celebrated his 75th birthday at the end of April and is still keeping fit playing badminton and table tennis. He also runs art classes and specialises in painting scenes relating to aviation. He is an associate member of the Guild of Aviation Artists and in July the Guild exhibit at The Mall Gallery in London. He also shows his paintings on [www.gava.org.uk](http://www.gava.org.uk) and sells his work via this website. Like most of the 1948 gang, it is hoped that he will attend the 2013 luncheon.

The Farnham Herald wrote an article in May covering the final service at St. Andrew's Parish Church given by **CANON ANDREW TUCK (1954-1961)**, the Rector of Farnham for the previous 22 years. Andrew was quoted as saying "We will never forget this weekend. It has

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## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

been so wonderful". Gifts presented at the end of the service included a cheque for £11,000, which had been contributed to by church members and friends in the town. A party was held the previous evening, hosted by the Parochial Church Council and attended by the Mayor of Farnham. The article stated that Andrew had been a minister for 44 years and included appointments at Poplar, Coventry and Farnham.

It is hoped that Andrew will write a profile for the magazine giving more details of his career after leaving the Grammar School, but here are some of the highlights from his years at the school.

Andrew Tuck entered the Grammar School in 1954 and joined Harding House. From the start he entered into life at the school and became a first class sportsman. In 1956 he entered the Boxing Tournament and reached the semi-finals. In 1958 he won in the final and the following year was runner-up. In 1959 he was elected to the Boxing Committee for the school. In 1959 he was chosen for the House rifle shooting team and represented Harding until he left the school. He was good at the High Jump and finished 3rd in 1958, 2nd in 1959 and the winner in 1960. He regularly ran in the cross country and always finished in the top half of the field. In his final year he was a Prefect at the school.

I am sure that I speak for the Old Boys in wishing Andrew Tuck a happy retirement and hope that we will be seeing him at some of our events in the future.

Having started the News of the Old Boys section with an article about **MIKE MEHTA**, we now move forward several years from his heyday at the School and College. Now retired, Mike decided to train for a very difficult charity run in aid of the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation's Tiger Time campaign. This involved running over 20 kilometres up the lower reaches of Mont Blanc in France, where he found that training in the Surrey Hills was not sufficient preparation for such a feat of endurance. He began to feel the effects of the steep terrain and thin air around the 18 km mark, but hung on until the finish. He says that on completing the course he sat down for 40 minutes at a height of 2016 metres doing a goldfish impression.

Mike could be seen selling sponsorship at the Garden Party and has raised a considerable amount of money for the cause. It just shows what can be achieved in retirement, although most of us would probably choose something a little more leisurely. A photo of Mike at the finish is shown on the following page.

**DENNIS PHILLIPS (1947-1952)** advises that in the summer of 2012 he stayed at a hotel on the front at Eastbourne and felt that he recognised another guest having dinner. He was surprised to meet **TONY TUBB (1946-1951)** staying at the same hotel and they spent time catching up. Tony was waiting for a cancer operation at the time and it is good to hear that it was a success. No doubt these former friends from the School will meet at the 2013 Lunch



## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS



Mike Mehta at the finish of his charity run in France

More news came from one of our overseas members, when **TERRY VENABLES (1947-1953)** sent in an update on his life across the other side of the world. He wrote as follows:

‘For the past two years we have spent much of the time travelling. It commenced in March 2011, when we flew to Fort Lauderdale and cruised for 20 nights around some of the more uncommon Caribbean Islands, returning to Fort Lauderdale. We then flew home to Australia after spending a few days in Las Vegas and making the compulsory trip to the Grand Canyon.

After a month at home, we set forth in our caravan on a 17 week journey through inland New South Wales and Queensland to Darwin, then down the West Australian coast to Perth and Albany and across the Nullabor Plain to Adelaide and back to Geelong. After a season of lawn bowls, we set forth again in our caravan on a 5 week journey across Tasmania via the Bass Strait ferry. Tasmania is a beautiful island of mountains, lakes and old growth forest, the blessed island of environmentalists.

After a week home re-stocking, we set forth again in our caravan on a 15 week journey to Adelaide, through the red centre to Alice Springs and Tennant Creek, then east to Cairns.



## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

We spent 7 glorious weeks near Cairns in a caravan park next to a beautiful beach in a constant temperature between 26 and 28 degrees Celsius. Somewhat reluctantly we then travelled home down the east coast via Brisbane and Sydney to Geelong, arriving home to cold temperatures.

Australia is a vast country, we travelled over 35,000 kilometres, with great distances between sights, but the countryside changes all the time and there is always scenery of interest. All the major cities have much of interest, but there are a number of wonderful natural sights, such as the Great Barrier Reef, Ayers Rock, Olgas, Bungle Bungles, Pinnacles and Waive Rock and many others, all photographers' dreams.

At the current time there is an airfare war on the Europe route, so I am hoping to be able to travel to the old country in October and attend the Southampton Lunch.

Sounds a wonderful life, Terry! Hope to see you and hear even more news.

The new President's Luncheon at Farnham Castle attracted Old Boys from across the country as well as three from abroad. **GLEN HONEY (1945-1950)** travelled to Farnham from his home in Cornwall, and brought with him a prized article of memorabilia from his days at the Grammar School.



Glen Honey at Farnham Castle with the home made school tie

## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

It appears that Glen objected to wearing the school tie and therefore decided to produce his own version. It was made of thin cardboard and the knot and first few inches were painted similar to the official school tie. The remainder was painted in many colours and with many designs, including the letters BSA, which was Glen's favourite motor-cycle at the time. He wore it with a polo neck sweater so that the knot showed and passed the glance of any teacher. He says that he managed to get away with this prank for many years and as you can see from the photograph taken at the lunch, it is still serviceable.

The editor continues to work with the archivist from Guildford College on the history of the group of colleges now owned by Guildford. Research on the visit of Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery on 5th June 1946 showed that on this special occasion the School presented the hero with a walking stick with a gold mount engraved with the Farnham coat of arms, the School motto of "Nisi Dominus Frustra" below, and the words along the side of the stick as follows, "A token in memory of a visit by Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery to Farnham Grammar School, 5th June 1946. Chairman of Governors, C.E.Borelli, Headmaster, F.A.Morgan.

Currently the stick is missing its ferrule and is held at the Imperial War Museum, catalogue number EPH 3750.

Once again we have heard from **JOHN MEW (1937-1942)**, who is another Old Boy living in Ottawa, the Canadian capital. John has remained in contact with former workmates via the RAE Apprentice Association, although they do not meet now as they are all well into their 80s. E-mail and modern communications enables him to speak to fellow members who all began work at the Establishment as 1942 apprentices. He explains that he and his wife enjoyed the Jubilee celebrations and the Olympic and Paralympic Games. They were lucky to escape the terrible hurricane that hit the east coast of America and Canada, although he went into some detail about the devastation in that area. John says that the editor of the magazine is his only contact with the old School, but he has renewed his awards' sponsorship for a further five years. Best wishes go to him and his family across the Atlantic.

Once again we have been able to provide information to someone who is researching an Old Boy from the end of the 1800s. Just before Christmas 2012 we received a request from an amateur military historian who wanted to know if we could provide any details regarding an **ARTHUR CECIL HOEY (1896-1900)**. With help of our website and the old magazines we managed to send several articles about this man and in return we received the following:

'In 1902 Arthur Hoey went to South Africa and was involved in the final month of the Boer War before moving up to East Africa in 1904. He lived the rest of his life in East Africa until his death in 1956 at Mombasa on the Kenya coast. He was very active in East Africa, being one of the first settlers on the Uasin Gishu plateau where he became a famous big-game

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## NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

hunter, conducting several safaris for a number of famous clients. He also started farming on a large scale, clearing virgin bush to do it. During the First World War he was commissioned in the East Africa Transport Corps and fought in German East Africa, and after the war was one of the first nominated settler members of the Kenya Legislative Council. Between the wars he was involved in various enterprises in addition to farming and professional hunting, including gold mining, and chose the sites for two new towns, Hoey's Bridge (now called Moi Bridge) and Kitale. In the Second World War he was Chief Welfare Officer to East Africa Command with the rank of local lieutenant colonel; for his work on welfare he received a mention in despatches and was appointed OBE towards the end of the year. He was also a leading supporter of racing in Kenya and bred a number of thoroughbred horses; for many years he was a steward of the local Jockey Club.

In the July 1913 issue of the magazine it was recorded that Arthur Hoey sent an account of his trip up Lake Rudolph. He also enclosed a cheque for £5 "for a prize of some sort at the Sports". After much consideration the Committee decided to give five "Hoey" prizes for Football, Cricket, Athletics, Shooting and Swimming.

In the September 1920 issue of the magazine it stated that shooting at Bisley in the second stage of the King's Prize Competition, Captain **WILLIAM HENRY HOEY** won the Silver Medal and N.R.A. Silver Badge with the best score of 144. Captain Hoey, who hired the rifle for the occasion, decided only a short time before the competition to enter for it. He is on a short holiday from East Africa, where he is a farmer and a big-game hunter.

It appears that both brothers attended the school under the Rev. Samuel Priestley and ended up in Africa. The historian is compiling information about Arthur Hoey in particular and will be submitting the finished article to the *Journal of the Orders & Medals Research Society*. A copy of the final article will be sent to the editor and will become yet another part of the memorabilia of the old school.

**WILLIAM STROUD (1871-1922)**, the son of Charles Stroud, wrote a number of letters for the local newspapers, and copies of these have been given to the 400 Trust. They have now been put into date order and during 2013 The Farnham & District Museum Society will be printing them in their quarterly magazine known as *The Journal*. The subjects cover a wide range of items relating to Farnham during the early part of the twentieth century.

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***THE SECOND PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE  
RAMADA HOTEL ON THE HOG'S BACK BETWEEN FARNHAM & GUILDFORD  
ON SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2013. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS NEW EVENT!***

**THEN AND NOW****A PROFILE OF CYRIL TRUST  
(1948-1953) - EDITOR**

The long established school magazine ceased to exist in 1973, when the former Farnham Grammar School became Farnham 6th Form College, and for 20 years the Old Boys remained in contact via a photo-copied newsletter. I attended one of my first General Committee meetings in 1993, where the then President, Dennis Phillips, asked for a volunteer to attempt to resurrect the 'Farnhamian' and I agreed to attempt to do so. You are now reading my 20th edition, and over the years I have managed to produce approaching 1000 pages of text or photographs, and at the same time had great pleasure in keeping the Old Boys across the globe informed of events and news of former classmates etc. As this edition is something of a milestone I thought it would be in order to let readers know a little about the editor. So here goes!

I was born in 1937 in Farnham and my mother was a local girl who married my father, a Cornishman serving in the Royal Horse Artillery at Aldershot. At the age of five I started school at St.Polycarps, although I am not a Catholic and it was only due to wartime ruling that I ended up at this tiny school in Bear Lane. The teaching was excellent and I managed to pass my 'eleven-plus' and enter Farnham Grammar School in 1948. I joined School House and over the years took part in many sports with little success, except for the annual swimming gala where I managed to shine. Academically I struggled, but to everyone's amazement managed to obtain five passes at GCE(O Level). I was 16 years of age and with National Service looming accepted a position with Elizabeth Shaw Ltd, a chocolate factory in Camberley. With six months to go before joining the RAF the company was sold and I was forced to take fill-in jobs until January 1955.

For two years I was stationed in Shropshire, miles from home, miles from civilisation, but overall had a good time, surrounded by southerners in the same position. I managed to become a corporal, and as the two years came to a close began to think about a career. I wrote a standard letter to several reputable companies and eventually obtained a position as a junior buyer with the Mobil Oil Co. Ltd. in London. After two years commuting, I moved on to become a salesman, and after taking a chance with a stock-taking company accepted a position with a Midlands' company that manufactured storage equipment. I began as a salesman in London and lived in a bed-sitter, then formed a special contracts' division dealing with major accounts, and finally became Area Manager, initially in the Eastern Home Counties and then the West Country.

Along the way I met my wife, Pauline, who was a London girl, and we had the first of our two sons. The fact that he was a special needs' child paved the way for much of our lives over the next forty years. After 15 years with the company I decided that a change was needed and accepted a position as Regional Sales' manager with a company in Walton-on-Thames, who sold own-branded fixings, fastenings etc. The company was sold after 3 years to Dunbee-Combex-Marx, the largest toy company in the world, and we became part of the non-toy group.

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**THEN AND NOW****A PROFILE OF CYRIL TRUST  
(1948-1953) - EDITOR**

Soon after the toy side of the company went into administration, whilst the banks supported the non-toy side. I became the General Manager of my particular company and eventually Managing Director and after 14 years we grew to a very large group and included the largest plant hire outfit in Europe.

After 15 years of success the economy began to fail and we were forced to look to America to inject cash and keep the company going. Whilst the Americans put in the money they also dictated terms and sold off parts of the group, including my own company. We were purchased by Guinness Peat, a reputable finance company, who also had their own ideas about the direction of the company. I did not agree with their plans and we parted company as I passed 50 years of age. Not a good age for having no job!

Whilst my career was experiencing ups and downs, our family had doubled and we now had two sons. One attended a Special Needs' School, whilst the other went to local schools, ending up at Farnham College and then to university to obtain a good degree. The special needs' school asked me to become their first parent governor, which opened my eyes to the problems of special education. At around the same time I joined The Hedgehogs, a local fundraising group, and found Brian Webberley, Henry Brindley and Maurice Hewins already members.

At a cheque presentation evening, I was approached by the head of a special needs' school and asked if I would consider being a governor. I accepted and began one of the most rewarding stages of my life. The school had problems, staff morale was low, no chair of governors and was soon to have an Ofsted inspection. The school was placed in Special Measures and given 18 months to improve or be closed. The head had a breakdown and I was asked to become the chairman of governors. I soon began recruiting a new head and some new governors, as well as improving the quality of staff. Luckily I made a good choice with the new head teacher and slowly the school began to improve. After 18 months we were out of special measures and the threat of closure was removed. What a celebration that was!

The Tony Blair Government was making sweeping changes to education and introduced 'inclusion' whereby special needs' children would integrate with mainstream children. I was asked by Surrey CC if we would become the 'guinea pig' for this new type of schooling and we agreed to begin a £3.5 million project. Children from 2-5 entered a newly built nursery, which would take special needs' and mainstream pupils. Children from 16-19 would enter Farnham College in a special needs' area provided for them. The remaining children would enter a brand new school built on the existing site. The project took two years and involved long hours planning, site meetings and a nightmare with incompetent builders. Slowly the work progressed.

**THEN AND NOW****A PROFILE OF CYRIL TRUST  
(1948-1953) - EDITOR**

Whilst the project was going forward Surrey CC asked me to represent all Surrey Special Needs' Schools on a new planning committee named SOC (Schools' Organised Committee), which planned ahead for 10 years, taking into consideration birth rate, changes of boundaries etc., within the county. We were responsible for selling off failing secondary schools to private owners, closing schools with a small intake as the birth rate slowed down and introducing new schools where large housing projects were undertaken. All very interesting, all a great deal of hard work, and resulting in a heart attack in my early fifties!

Eventually life became easier and I handed over the reins at the school and the county after 6 enjoyable, but stressful, years. Tony Blair wrote to me, thanking me for the work and saying that the governors of the school and Surrey CC wanted me rewarded in some way. The result was Pauline and the two boys joining me at Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE from The Queen.

Whilst this was taking place I had joined a Portsmouth company who manufactured abrasives and was asked by the owner, who was an old friend of mine, to manage the company now that he was getting into his seventies. Again changes were necessary and I employed an excellent finance director, who I knew well, and between us we revitalised the company. After a few years we were the major manufacturer of abrasive wheels in Europe and sold to large customers throughout the world. Names like Makita, Stihl, Black & Decker, Hilti, B & Q, HSS Hire Shops and Travis Perkins headed the customer list and we sold into all countries through export agents. The company was going well! As the owner reached eighty he wanted to cash in and sell the company and unfortunately he sold to an "asset stripper" who had little experience of the business. I decided to retire at 62, but stayed part-time consultant for a further three years.

65 years of age, reasonably healthy, where do I go from here? I began to get more involved with The Hedgehogs, who now raised and gave away almost £50,000 each year. Apart from editing the magazine I became more involved with the Old Boys and organised the Farnham Lecture, Southampton Lunch, Annual Dinner and the Sponsored Awards' Scheme. I also became chairman of Farnham & District Museum Society for several years. Through the fund raising I was involved with the Farnham Fashion Show, Farnham Carnival and various musical concerts to raise money for worthy causes. Retirement brought busy years and much enjoyment along the way.

My wife and I have travelled much of the UK and other parts of the world. This programme of holidays still continues as we find new places to visit. Our youngest son has married and given us two wonderful grandsons, and this has opened up a new life as a grand-parent. My other son became self sufficient and has been a postman for 12 years. Now well into my 70s I enjoy meeting old classmates, writing this magazine, and life in general.

## OBITUARIES

While the 2012 edition was being proof read prior to printing we heard of the death of **RON LEHMANN (left 1938)**. He was a member of Childe House and records show that he took part in few sports at the School and his name appears as part of the winning team in the School Spelling Team in 1936. He died on 27th February 2012, only a month before his 90th birthday. On 12th March a Thanksgiving Service for his life was given at the United Reform Church in Farnham. Ron attended the Cardiac Rehab Centre at Alton for some time and any donations went to this deserving charity.



Michael Rowe as a schoolboy in 1942



## OBITUARIES

Within days of the above we received advice from Christopher Rowe in Germany that his father **MICHAEL ROWE (1945-1953)** had died on 9th March 2012. After a healthy and active life Michael became sick in the November of 2011 and the illness caused his sudden and untimely death.

Michael entered the School in 1945 and became a member of School House. In 1947 and 1948 he ran in the Junior Cross Country Race and later in the senior version. He also took part in the boxing tournament in 1948. Sport was not of great interest to him, but he began to get involved in the plays being presented at the School and in 1951 became secretary of the School Dramatic Society. On the 28th February of that year he appeared in a School Concert and acted in a play entitled 'The Poetasters of Ispahan'. In the same year he passed five subjects at GCE Ordinary Level.

In 1952 he was elected a Sub-Prefect and later that year a Prefect. He became secretary of the School Debating Society and in 1953 was on the committee for the School magazine. In his final year he passed three subjects at GCE Advanced Level and left the School in August 1953.

Christopher Rowe, one of his sons, kindly sent us these details of his father.

Michael Rowe was born in Paris, father Vivian Rowe had worked in various positions, mostly journalism and PR, in Portugal, Spain and France; mother Mazie had spent her whole life in France as her father worked at the British Consulate. Michael was raised bilingually and spoke fluent French all his life. With possibility of war the family returned to England and settled in Glasgow. Michael spent his childhood and went to Primary School there until 1943, when Vivian became part of the D-Day campaign, providing detailed knowledge of Northern France to the Intelligence Corps. The family moved to Farnham and lived in Shortheath Road, and Michael attended a local prep school before entering the Grammar school in 1945. One of his great friends was John Cotterill.

After leaving the school in 1953 he did National Service for 2 years and was stationed in Germany. After demobilisation, he took a position with an advertising agency and became production manager until being made redundant in the 1980s. Michael then held a variety of positions with local companies until he retired in 2000.

Over the years he was a member of the Fleet Players, and an active Young Conservative. He met Benedikta Lippert, who worked in a Farnham sweet shop, who emigrated from Bavaria in Germany and settled in Farnham. They married in 1959 at St. Joan's Catholic Church and had three sons who all attended St. Polycarp's School. Christopher was one of the final intakes to the Grammar School in 1972.



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## OBITUARIES

In his spare time Michael enjoyed reading and listening to jazz and classical music. He later enjoyed trips to see son Jeremy, who lived in Singapore and son Christopher who lives in Berlin. After retirement he joined the Farnham U3A, taking part in many courses, leading one on appreciating opera and also occasionally speaking to the jazz group.

At his father's funeral Christopher read out the following passage by John Donne:

“O miserable condition of man! We study health and we hew and we polish every stone that goes to that building; and so our health is a long and regular work; but in a minute a canon batters all, overthrows all, demolishes all; a sickness summons us, seizes, possesses us, destroys us in an instant.”

Michael Rowe, who had for the most part been healthy all his life, was struck down by a terrible illness so quickly, that the family barely had time to come to terms with it. He slipped away suddenly, peacefully, with no suffering. He leaves a grieving family who will long treasure his memory.

In April 2012 the Farnham Diary, our local free newspaper, published a short article about **ERIC CRANE**, who left the school in 1969. The novelist and journalist, **GUY BELLAMY**, gave details of the life of one of his great friends. He advised that Eric died in Budapest in February at the age of 61.

After leaving the Grammar School he obtained a degree at Leeds University before qualifying as an accountant in London. His first job was for the *Playboy* organisation and he then opened his own advertising agency in Covent Garden. He subsequently went to work in America but moved five years ago to Bulgaria where he worked on marketing for the European Union.

In Farnham he was a regular customer at the (former) Eldon Hotel at the Bourne, where he was pools and darts champion. In 1966 he married Jackie Sewell, a national newspaper's Page Three model and a former pupil of the Farnham Girls' Grammar School. Their son Callum is now 23 years of age.

A wake in Eric Crane's memory was held at the Bat & Ball public house in Boundstone on 30th March 2012.

His time at school shows that he was awarded full colours for his success as a basketball player for the school. In 1969 he was the top scorer with 146 points in 11 appearances.

In the 2012 magazine we printed an obituary to **JOHN EDMUNDS OBE (1951-1958)** and owing to lack of space available omitted a photograph of him taken at Buckingham Palace, when he proudly received his OBE. The editor has spoken to his widow, Margaret, and she and the family were very pleased with the tribute to John.

## OBITUARIES



John Edmunds collecting his OBE at Buckingham Palace

Towards the end of March 2012 we heard that **MICHAEL BRAZIER (1946-1954)** had died from cancer at his home in the USA during October 2011. Michael came to the Grammar School from St. Polycarp's School and entered School House, where he was a first class sportsman. He became School House Captain and also the captain of the School Swimming

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## OBITUARIES

Team and as the latter he led the school to an almost clean sweep at the Annual Farnham & District Swimming Gala. The editor was part of that team and during the afternoon managed to win four events and come second in the fifth. Michael was an inspired leader.

Not only was he an above average sportsman, but he was highly successful with his studies. In 1953 he was one of very few boys who obtained a Surrey County Major Scholarship.

On leaving the school, he went to Canada and worked for several of the largest aircraft manufacturers in that country. He became an important consultant on safety in the aircraft industry and was chairman of one of the safety committees in America. His wife Pamela was a local girl and remains living in the USA.

At the end of April 2012 we heard of the death of **JOHN MITCHELL (1942-1947)**, who had been a great supporter of the Association and regularly attended both the Annual Dinner and Southampton Lunch. John was also well known as a long term member of the Old Farnhamians' Masonic Lodge and was their Worshipful Master in 1974, 1999 and 2000.

John was born in Farnham on 7th March 1932 and left when just two years old for Hayling Island before returning to the town aged seven and at the outbreak of the second World War. He attended Church House Prep School with Michael Comben, and both families had been friends for years and continued for the remainder of their lives. John attended Farnham Grammar School and then went on to Guildford Technical College to study Physics and Chemistry.

He then joined the family business (Newnham House in West Street - formerly the Bishop's Table). At eighteen he went into the RAF, where he spent three years working on RADAR at Yatesbury. On demob he joined Vickers Armstrong at Weybridge, and later on he specialised in precision measurements in various companies as Technical Consultant, Technical Sales manager and R & D Manager in Optical & Electronic Measurement Systems. John retired at 65 and considered this was the best move he ever made. He was married to Ruth for well over fifty years and they have a son and daughter and several grandchildren.

His Masonic career began in May 1962 when he was initiated into the Old Farnhamians' Lodge and became Worshipful Master on three occasions. He once held a meeting whilst in hospital and was 'suitably plumbed', but the meeting was unceremoniously curtailed by the Matron. Throughout the 70s, 80s and 90s he held several important positions within the Lodge and through this magazine advertised for former pupils of the school to join the Lodge. John Mitchell was a quiet man and one of life's gentlemen and will be sadly missed by the Association.

Also at the end of April we heard of the death of **FRED LOVELESS (1942-1948)**, who lived in Ash. Fred was a member of Morley House and entered into the sporting programme of the

## OBITUARIES

School. He was a regular runner in the Annual Cross Country Races and always managed to finish in the top half of field. In 1946 he was selected to represent his house in the Rifle Shooting Team and in the same year entered the Boxing Tournament. In 1947 he became an NCO in the Combined Cadet Force and passed his General School Certificate.

At the end of May 2012 we received sad news from Susan Hudson that her father **GEORGE D. CARROLL (1947-1954)**, former master at the Grammar School, had died. She was kind enough to write a profile of her father and the following includes some information from the Editor, who was taught by 'Curly Carroll'.

### **GEORGE DANIEL CARROLL (1918-2012)**

The son of an Assistant Fish Quay Master in North Shields, George Carroll won scholarships to high school and to university, where he completed a degree in Electrical Engineering. As well as being academically gifted, he was a talented all-round sportsman and amateur actor. George was taking a second degree in Mechanical Engineering in November 1939 when he volunteered for Army service.

Having passed out second in his Officer Training cohort, George joined the Royal Engineers and was posted to London as a bomb disposal officer in September 1940, serving through the Blitz. In April 1941 he was posted to Malta to assume responsibility for Army bomb disposal for the whole of Malta and Gozo. He worked alone with his section of 20 Other Ranks until January 1942, when in response to escalating Luftwaffe bombing a second BD officer and section were added to the establishment. George continued through the height of the blitz in Malta, until peritonitis from a duodenal ulcer interrupted his service in April 1942. After a period of convalescence, he returned to bomb disposal in London, where he continued to serve until ill health forced his early retirement from the Army in January 1944.

On the advice of the doctors to take up an occupation he loved, George became an actor and achieved success in repertory and on the London stage. He worked alongside Glynis Johns and was chosen by Noel Coward to act with Mary Martin in *Pacific 1860*. However, by then George had met Betty, whom he wanted to marry. Her father's approval was necessary and he stipulated a more secure profession.

George began teaching at Farnham Grammar School in 1947 and obtained a temporary position as Assistant Master for Physics and Chemistry, and six months later obtained the position on a permanent basis. While at the school he looked after the Scout Troop, played cricket with Harry Beeken (who became a dear friend), and produced a play as well as working with Alan Fluck on several productions. On one occasion he recalled Alan Fluck persuading Benjamin Britten to visit the cast at the Memorial Hall.

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## OBITUARIES

Outside of the school he followed Harry Beeken into Round Table and joined Catenians with the encouragement of Eric Munton. He sang with the Farnham Operatic Society and at many concerts at both the Farnham Grammar School and Girl's Grammar School. George and Betty had many friends in Farnham, of whom Sally and Eddie Glynn became very special.

In 1954 he left the School and joined Heath End Secondary School as Teacher in Charge of Science. In 1954 the opportunity for advancement came with a position at a pioneering Secondary Modern School in Gillingham, Kent. George became Head of Science at Ubury Manor, where he remained until his retirement in 1981. He was highly respected by colleagues and his firm but consistent discipline combined with compassion and commitment to his pupils' development earned him their respect and obvious goodwill. In 1977 George was concerned about the welfare of a school-leaver in his tutor group: after discussion with the family, he fostered the lad and Martin became an equal member of his family.

Active in retirement, Gorge lived by his teaching that boredom was not necessary-there is always something to do. He volunteered at the local primary school to help children with reading, provided transport for people with disabilities, took up and excelled at golf, designed and installed wooden double-glazing throughout his house. He was still tending the 200 foot garden until he was 90, when difficulties with balance and failing sight took hold. Despite increasing frailty he attended the weddings of all three grandchildren before his health failed and he passed peacefully away.

George Carroll enjoyed his membership of the Old Farnhamians' Association, although he was rarely able to attend meetings, he was always pleased to receive the newsletters. He retained lasting happy memories of his time at Farnham Grammar School, the experience of which convinced him that teaching was his vocation - to the benefit of thousands of pupils over many years.

On the 15th June 2012, **HENRY BRINDLEY (1951-1957)** died, after more than a year fighting cancer. Henry will be remembered by many at the old Grammar School and for the many years that he played football for the Old Boys' XI. He was a local man and an active member of The Hedgehogs' fund raising organisation for over fifty years, as well as a great supporter of the Old Boys' Association. Henry will be missed by many people and in this issue we have included a tribute profile to a popular man, which was produced with the help of his wife Penny.

On 30th July **STANLEY OWEN (1960-1973)**, former master at the School, died after a long fight with illness. He was a regular supporter of the Old Farnhamians and attended the annual dinner and other events arranged by the Association. He was a very popular man and well

## OBITUARIES

thought of by other members of staff, as well as the many former pupils who were taught by him. A full profile of Stanley appeared in the 1998 magazine and here we repeat the highlights of his life and career.

Stanley Owen was born in Ashford, Kent in 1924 and after attending grammar school he entered Bristol University in 1942 with a science bursary. He gained his colours for hockey and represented Southern Universities and the West of England. After leaving university he reported to Portsmouth and began training as a radar officer in the RNVR. Whilst in the forces he served in Australia, then Hong Kong, and finally Japan, where he visited Hiroshima.

He returned home after the war and took a Diploma in Education at Bristol before taking teaching posts at Isleworth, Maidstone and Kingswood, near Bristol. Another member of staff at Kingswood was Julia Beeken who introduced Stanley to her parents, Harold & Sylvia Beeken. The opportunity arose to apply for a post at Farnham Grammar School and he entered the School in 1960. He taught Science at the School and during his time the facilities were greatly expanded. He became involved in the Drama Group and arranged the lighting for several productions at the School.

On leaving the School he joined the Associated Examination Board and became Head of the Education Division. He was involved in several educational developments and his final appointment was as Organising Secretary for the Southern Examining Group. He enjoyed his years in retirement and will be remembered by many people at the School and in Farnham in general.

On the day that Stanley Owen was laid to rest his son, **MATTHEW OWEN (1969-1976)** was taken ill and rushed to hospital. He was suffering from an asthmatic condition, and tragically collapsed and died while the Owen family attended the father's funeral. This is an extremely tragic occurrence and sympathies from all the Old Boys must go to both the wife of Stanley and the wife and mother of Matthew. An old friend and classmate, **CHRIS FITCH**, spoke at the funeral and the following is taken from his tribute.

Matthew was born in Bristol in 1957, the son of Stanley and Faye and brother of Howard. The family moved to Farnham in 1960 and Matthew lived in the town ever since. He first went to the Church House Preparatory School in Farnham and later entered the Grammar School. He proved to be very good academically and popular with his classmates, some of whom recall him as a 'kind, honest and calm gentleman'. He also excelled at sport and represented the school at many sports, including hockey and rugby. After leaving the school he joined a team of ex-sixth-form friends and won the Farnham Town Volleyball competition one year. He also enjoyed a round of golf at the Farnham Park course.

In 1977 he entered Bishop Otter College, part of the University of Sussex, to do a teacher training degree, but after one term decided teaching was not for him and he would not

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## OBITUARIES

follow in his father's footsteps. On returning to the town he had various jobs and whilst working for Westminster City Council decided to apply for the Civil Service. He began working for the Ministry of Defence in 1982, and then moved to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 2000, where he worked in the Workforce Planning Department.

When he returned to Farnham after the short time at university he met and married Helen, who lived opposite to the Owen family, and they moved into their first home at Holybourne. Here their son Sam was born and in 1990 they moved to Wrecclesham, where daughter Amy was born.

Matthew was a devoted father and supported his son on Sunday morning football matches, and also encouraged his daughter's interest in music. He was proud that both his children did well at university. He was also a music lover and had a large collection of guitars and ukuleles. He enjoyed playing both instruments and would entertain friends at dinner parties at home. His other passion was bird watching, which Helen and he combined with their love of walking. His other hobby was his vegetable garden.

Matthew Owen will be remembered by many and is known as a 'lovely, kind, caring, reliable, calm and modest man.' These words were from his old friend and most of us would be happy with such a memorial.

At the end of September 2012 we heard of the death of **WILLIAM GEORGE LITTLE (1934-1940)**, who died at his home in Devon. He was a relative of Maurice Sturt and several people from the Farnham area travelled to Dartington to attend the funeral.

William entered the Grammar School in 1934 and became a member of Childe House. For once a pupil did not excel at sport in general, but this time we are looking at a first class academic attending the school. In 1936 he won first prize in his form and repeated this in 1937, 1938 and 1939. In the latter year he passed his Higher School Certificate in English, Latin, French and Pure Mathematics. In the same year he became a Sub-Prefect and his only claim to fame in sport was rifle shooting for his house in 1940. One of his great life-long friends was John Chuter.

In the December 1939 magazine he wrote an article entitled 'Gardening - Man's Natural Hobby', and this showed the path he planned to follow after leaving school. He won a scholarship to Wye College to study Agriculture, but the war prevented him taking the position. However, it was possible for him to attend Reading University to pursue his agricultural studies and he obtained a degree in the subject.

William worked at a small holding in Crondall Lane, Farnham after leaving university and later became acquainted with an American who had purchased Dartington College in Devon. He was appointed Estate Manager and began to study new techniques in farming



## OBITUARIES

throughout the world, which involved a great deal of travelling with his employer. One area that they developed was that of artificial insemination and such was the importance of the work that William was awarded the MBE.

He lived in Totnes for many years and entered the community by becoming a governor of various schools and chairman of many local groups. He had a son, and another of his relatives is **MARTIN LITTLE**, who attended the school many years later. At the age of 89 William could well have been our Oldest Living Old Boy in recent years.

On 20th December 2012 **JULIAN BENTICK (1938-1942)** died after a long illness. He was a staunch supporter of the OFA and attended most functions each year. His profile appears in the June 2003 edition of the magazine, but here are a few highlights. Julian was born in 1926 and attended the school as a 'fee paying boy'. He left the school in 1942 and joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and apart from a time in the services during the wartime he remained there all his working life. He worked on the development of many famous airplanes before switching to research on Anti Submarine Warfare.

Julian was married to Pat and they had three daughters. He was responsible for reviving the Farnham Swimming Club and served as Secretary and Chairman, as well as being a member of the swimming team. He taught many good swimmers, including the editor. He was a founder member of the Farnham Geological Society and for over twenty years was a part-time student of pottery. He worked as a volunteer for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and generally was a great contributor to the life of Farnham.

Julian Bentick will be greatly missed and was a credit to the Farnham Grammar School.

On Christmas Eve 2012 **DONALD SIMPSON (1960-1967)** was taken to hospital and died on Christmas Day. He was a member of Harding House and his main sporting achievements at the school were in the swimming pool. He was regularly first or second in The Plunge.

He appeared in the school magazine with an article entitled 'The Chateau de Chillon' and in 1967 he wrote 'Life in the Sixth'. For many years he was a regular contributor to the 'Letters' section of the Farnham Herald and was always supporting a new cause.

In 1966 he was elected a prefect and later that year appeared in the school play 'Our Town', which drew upon both the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools for the cast. In November 1967 he was awarded the prestigious William Stroud Prize at the annual Speech Day.

After leaving school he went to university and then worked for sometime in South Africa and later in Bosnia. He did not enjoy good health for many years which curtailed his career but was a religious person and close to the local churches.

Donald lived at Badshot Lea and helped with the elderly at the Farnham Gostrey Club.

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## A TRIBUTE TO HENRY BRINDLEY (1951-1957)

*This tribute was written with the help of Penny Brindley, Henry's widow. He was a special, well loved person. He played football for the Old Boys until he was 53. He supported the Old Boys' events, and is known for his work with The Hedgehogs' fund raising group.*

Henry Brindley was born in Farnham in 1939 and during the Second World War his father was the master and his mother the matron of Shortheath House, which was set up to house families who had been bombed out of their homes in London. He went to school at St.Peter's in Wrecclesham initially and then moved to East Street School, where he passed his eleven plus and entered the Grammar School in September 1951.

He joined Childe House and was always interested in sport, making his mark in several sports during his time at the school. For such a quiet and inoffensive person he became a successful boxer and each year he was at the school he reached the final or semi-final in the boxing tournament. In 1954 and 1955 he was school champion at his weight and in 1956 was elected School Vice-Captain for Boxing. One of the reports in the magazine said that he won with a ferocious exhibition of hard hitting and aggression, which was not like Henry Brindley at all. He played football for his House and in 1956 was awarded his half-colours for playing for the School team. This was the start of a long association on the wing for the School and the Old Boys, playing for the latter until he was 53 years old. He also played cricket for Childe House and in 1956 became a member of the House Rifle Shooting Team. He regularly competed in the Cross Country Run and always finished in the top 25%. In 1956 and 1957 he sat his GCE 'O' Levels and passed in French, English and Mathematics.

On leaving school he found a permanent job difficult as he was soon to do National Service. He finally volunteered to join the RAF, following on his years in the local Air Training Corps (ATC). He was posted to Wilmslow for 'square bashing' and then to Locking for trade training. He was trained in radio and radar and was then posted to Trimmingham in East Anglia. Here he met his wife, Penny, at a Carnival Dance and they married in 1965. While in Norfolk he played football three times each week for the station and also played for Cromer FC (Known locally as The Crabs). One headline in the local newspaper read, "Brindley to lead Crabs' attack!"

Returning to Farnham Henry joined the RAE at Farnborough and for the rest of his career worked on secret projects. During this time the couple had four children and Henry continued to play football whenever possible. In 1994 his section in the RAE was closed down and he was made redundant. It was very difficult to find work at his age and he finally accepted a short-term job at Guildford University as a glorified maintenance man. Shortly after starting he was asked if he could help with a problem in the Robotics' Dept. and he solved the problem. He was given a contract and became the 'electrical tester' for the university. He thoroughly enjoyed university life and finally retired in 2008. Henry contracted cancer in 2010 and after a long fight died on 15th June 2012.

ANNUAL AWARDS



Roger Edgell at the Guildford Awards Event with Mark Colbourne (Gold medal winner at the 2012 Paralympics) and Louise Small, winner of the Old Farnhamians' Award



Chris Nash with Bonita Norris (guest of honour) and Paige Harris (Chris Nash Award winner)

### A SPECIAL OBITUARY

#### - THE PRESIDENT OF THE OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION DIES

It is appropriate that the magazine records the death of Alison Schofield, the President of the Old Girls' Association and a former teacher at the Girls' Grammar school and Farnham College. The following appeared in the Farnham Herald in May 2012.

'A military funeral took place at St. Thomas-on-the-Bourne Church for a former vice principal of Farnham College and popular head of languages at Farnham Girls' Grammar School. Alison Schofield, before becoming a teacher, spent nearly twelve years as a commissioned officer in the regular Army, rising to captain. She died on 5th May aged 83, following a short illness, just a few months after a skiing holiday with her husband, John. Educated at Croydon School for Girls during the war years, Mrs Schofield (nee Senior) earned a degree in Spanish and French at the University of Durham and later, as a mature student, an MA in Hispanic studies in London.

On leaving Durham, where she had belonged to the university OTC, she attended the Women's Royal Army Corps School of instruction at Guildford and was commissioned as a lieutenant in 1953. Attached to the Royal Signals, she was posted to Orsett in Essex where she met John, who was also in the Army. Subsequent postings included commanding the TA unit in Worthing and with NATO in Germany during the Suez Crisis. Then, having married John in 1957, Alison became the first OC of 251 Signals' squadron in Aldershot and their association with Farnham began. After resigning her commission to raise a family, she taught languages in several independent and state schools locally and was head of languages at Farnham Girls' Grammar School in 1973, when the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools became Farnham College.

She was responsible for introducing Spanish at FGGS and the College, was responsible for twinning with a French school and took parties skiing to France, Austria and Spain. After 'retirement' she taught part-time at Pierrepoint, Frensham, and put on her Army uniform again to take charge of the Army Cadet Force there. An active member of the WRAC Association at Aldershot, when the branch folded she stepped in to make sure the same did not happen to the Winchester branch, taking on the roles of President and Secretary. "She was always selflessly devoted to others. Whatever job needed doing, she was the first to volunteer", said her husband. For 25 years she was the local representative for the Ski Club of Great Britain. She also served on the committee of Farnham WI Market, was President of the Old Girls' Association and, a keen tennis player, and was involved with The Bourne Club and the Frensham Tennis Club. Elected to the National Council of the WRAC, she was active in organising re-unions and on benevolent fund committees. As well as skiing, she and John enjoyed breeding cats-British short haired creams - and supporting village cricket at Brook, where her grandson played. She worshipped at St. Thomas-on-the-Bourne, where John has been a member of the choir for 51 years. At her funeral her coffin was draped in the Union Flag and the colours of the WRAC and Signals. She was buried at Aldershot Military Cemetery.

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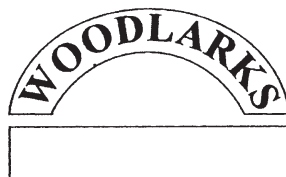
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