

THE FARNHAMIAN



October 2018

The advertisements in this magazine require sponsorship to assist with the cost of producing the 'Farnhamian'. Each advert carries a sponsorship of £30 and we hope members will be generous and consider contributing via the Editor.

THE RIDGEWAY SCHOOL



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

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



antonvisual

Suppliers of quality printed
solutions for all business
requirements across
Southern UK.

01264 337 337
sales@antonvisual.com
www.antonvisual.com



**RANGER'S
FURNISHING STORES**
Established 1895

QUALITY FURNITURE

- * Parker Knoll
- * Cintique
- * Strongbow
- * Stag etc.

QUALITY CARPETS

- * Wilton Royal
- * Axminster

QUALITY BEDS

- * Rest Assured
- * Staples etc.

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

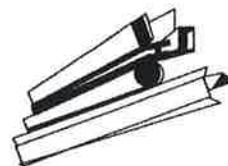


HIRSTEEL
Steel Stockholders
and Fabricators

www.hirsteel.co.uk tel. +44 (0)1252 545 081

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

Try
**Hirst
First**



FARNBOROUGH 545081

INTRODUCTION TO THE FARNHAMIAN

October 2018

It was originally planned to cease producing the annual magazine in 2018, thus the modern version would have existed for twenty-five years under the current editor. The magazine still appears to be popular to the membership and the editor is fit and well, even over 80 years of age. There is still news arriving and it has been decided that this edition will be the second from final issue.

The section headed Farnham Sixth Form College continues to grow as the College and Old Farnhamians work together on various projects. As you will read, the College has merged with Activate Learning and there are great opportunities for them to grow. The Old Boys will support the College wherever possible.

The year 2018 sees a change of President for the Association and Richard Phillips has taken over from Roger Edgell. Roger is a hard act to follow and has been an excellent President.



THE STORY OF THE FARNHAMIAN MAGAZINE

As we begin the 26th modern version of the Farnham Grammar School magazine it is interesting to look back at its roots and history through the years. It began with a suggestion from Mr.W.Welch, then vice-chairman of the Higher Education Committee of Surrey County Council, when he was guest of honour at the School Annual Speech Day on 29th July 1912.

He suggested that the boys who had left the School should form an Old Boys' Society, and that a School Magazine should be introduced. In fact, the Old Boys' Association had been started in 1899, but had failed to make much progress through the years that the School moved from West Street to Morley Road.

The Rev. Samuel Priestley was the Headmaster and he wrote the first magazine with the help of his wife. On the last page of this issue was printed "Correspondence should be addressed to 'The Editors. Subscription 1/9d per annum (payable in advance) should be sent to Mrs Priestley, 'The School House'.

For the next issue a committee was formed of Mr. J.W.Withinshaw B.A. and six boys, in pursuance of the original intention of "putting the editorship in the hands of the boys." The original six committee members were J.K.Dutton: C.Judd: H.A.Atton: A.W.Putnam: R.F.Harris and W.S.Todd.

In their editorial the editors expressed "our best thanks to D.Warner, Form VI, for the excellent design on the cover that he had drawn under the direction of Mr.Allen. The cover design was reprinted in the magazine and it is only recently that this block has come into the hands of the Old Boys and is on show at the College.

This, briefly, is how the magazine was founded and over the years it has survived two World Wars and contained articles from many teachers at the School and countless pupils. The editors thanked Messrs Langhams, who had printed the magazines for many years, with the owner Mr C. Langham being a School Governor.

The fiftieth issue was edited by Mr.Eric Munton (teacher) who took over this position in 1928. In the beginning financing the magazine was difficult and the readers were charged 6d for a copy, this rising to one shilling by 1950. Since then the funding has been by the Old Boys and still is today.

In 1973 the School became a Sixth Form College and although attempts were made to continue the magazine it stopped being printed a few years later and was not in existence for twenty years. In 1993 the Then President Dennis Phillips asked Cyril Trust, the current editor, if he would try and re-launch the Farnhamian and the first modern issue was printed the following year. The magazine has continued to be printed each year since then and records much of the history of the School, the many profiles of former students, and several items sent in from across the globe.

OLD FARNHAMIANs' 86TH PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

In spite of a heavy snow storm and an ageing of membership the former pupils of Farnham Boys' Grammar School, almost seventy attended this annual event held at the Hog's Back Hotel. As usual former pupils at the School travelled from across the country to spend time with their old pals, and one made this annual visit from America to coincide with the lunch.

It is usual to read out the list of those Old Boys who had died during the past year and this time there were sixteen names read out by Roger Edgell, the President, showing that in time this organisation will come to an end. A sad thought, as the School has been part of the history of Farnham for over 400 years.

The main guests were Dr. Jason Jones, current Director of Farnham Sixth Form College, and Mike Potter, former Chief Executive of the Guildford College Group. The Toast to the School was given by Richard Lord and the Toast to the Association by Barry Hall. The current President and organiser of the event, Roger Edgell, replied to both toasts. Roger has been the President for two years and Cyril Trust praised his dedication to the position and asked all present to applaud Roger.

The afternoon ended with all standing for the School Song and the National Anthem. Let us hope that this event will remain for a few more years and keep alive the memory of an excellent centre of education.

Attendees:

G.Andrews: T.Andrews: H.Batchelor: R.Bennett: D.Blunt: D.Bowtell: R.Bowtell:
J.M.Clarke: R.S.Cleminson: J.H.Crotty: D.Cutler: B.Daniels: R.G.Edgell: K.Elkins:
D.P.Elsmore: J.M.Fisher: R.A.Frampton: A.Gatfield: H.Groves: B.A.Hall: R.H.Hewes:
D.Hughes: Dr.J.Jones: R.D.Jones: G.LeVey: S.Linney: M.Little: R.A.Lord: R.Luckhurst:
W.J.Luff: J.R.Matthews: E.R.Mayne: D.G.McManamon: M.Mehta: K.Mortimer: P.A.Mylles:
C.Nash: J.J.Neave: N.Paget: J.Parker: J.E.Pesterfield: R.M.Phillips: D.Polglaze: D.Phillips:
M.Potter: P.C.Read: I.C.Sargeant: J.H.Sherwood: R.Shipton: H.Torode: C.D.Trust:
H.Upfold: J.R.Walden: W.P.Walsh: R.WellandJones: N.Wood.

The next event concerning the Association is the Farnham Town Mayor's ceremony to place a plaque on the Farnham Wall of Fame for Jeffrey Tate, who was knighted and then died in 2017. This will be in May 2018, and in the same month it is planned for the Old Girls to have an unveiling ceremony of a statue to commemorate the Farnham Girls' Grammar school at Menin Way.

The venue and date for the 2019 Annual President's Lunch will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in April.



Farnham Lectures: Ioan Davies (Teacher): Judith Apps: Tegan Creedy: Sarah Humphrys: Cyril Trust



Former Presidents: Dennis Phillips: John Crotty: Roger Edgell: Brian Daniels: Brian Williams: Ian Sargeant: Cyril Trust



PROFILE OF OUR NEW PRESIDENT RICHARD PHILLIPS (1961- 1963)

At the 2018 AGM, a new President of the Old Farnhamians' Association was elected and takes over from Roger Edgell. It is customary for the magazine to give more information about the new President and the following gives the reader a good idea of the record of a successful businessman.

Richard MacGowanPhillips is the Managing Director Operations and CEO of ARGC-Automotive Research and Consulting Group, established in 1981 and based in London, Detroit and Melbourne. A Fellow of the Institute of Directors since 1986, he is involved in providing strategic business development services to a range of international companies in the engineering and component industries and financial institutions, and has chaired company boards in a non executive capacity. He resides near the sea in Alum Chine, Bournemouth with his partner Joanna to whom he is engaged and who a number of OFA Members have met at different OFA and Farnham Sixth Form College related occasions during the past three years.

Born in 1945 in Merryck, Bournemouth, Richard spent his first eleven years growing up in Southbourne, Bournemouth before departing with his mother and brother Trevor for America when his father became responsible for defence procurement at the British Embassy in Washington DC. Living nearby in Chevy Chase and later Bethesda in Maryland, after attending junior high school he obtained his National Merit Proficiency Scholarship from Rockville Senior High School before returning with his family to England and Farnham, initially living in Moor Park and then moving to Seale. It was in Farnham that he was to start his relationship with Farnham Grammar School, which he attended from 1961- 63. To qualify for examination and education in England, Richard studied French and Latin at the weekends at Maret Institute in Washington DC.

As he first approached FGS in Morley Road, his father stopped the American car, seeing a man gardening in front of the school building– in fact the Headmaster's House. Richard got out and calling across the garden wall asked where they could find the Headmaster. The tall figure stood up, saying "I am the Headmaster!"

The majority of the senior school took sciences, while Richard and five other students took languages, religious studies and arts subjects. One issue was the complete change from co-educational high school studies in the USA to a boys' class where there was more emphasis on languages and a strict syllabus. Most of the classes were held in the old school house, while there were half a dozen 'temporary' modern wood classrooms in the grounds.

From Farnham Richard was accepted as one of eleven students to study the first HND (Higher National Diploma) in Business Studies at the Royal Aircraft Establishment technical college, which became Farnborough Technical College that year, yielding the equivalent of a third class honours degree qualification. The course included spending short spells in comp-

PROFILE OF OUR NEW PRESIDENT RICHARD PHILLIPS (1961-1963)

anies, in industry and commerce, at different locations in the UK, and Richard was accepted by General Motors Vauxhall Subsidiary as a junior market analyst in the Product Studies and Information Division, and later in a more senior capacity worked for GM Overseas' Operations. During that time he was sponsored by Vauxhall and was the first employee to pass the Institute of Marketing examinations. He was also made a Member of the Market Research Society.

1969 saw a move to a more senior position with Cummins' Engine Company, then and still now the world's largest manufacturer of diesel engines, as Market Research Manager for the UK and Northern Europe. In 1972 he married in California, and has a married son now living in Dunedin on the South Island of New Zealand, and a daughter who lives with her partner in Berkhamsted. In 1973 Richard was appointed Manager – Market Planning with creating new business responsibilities added throughout Europe, reporting to Cummins' Engine Company in Columbus, Indiana– which involved extensive visiting to report on the European market place and strategy. It was this period which saw research work throughout America for up to two months at a time, as not being a US employee Richard was not subject to anti-trust laws impacting contacting competitors. In 1975 he was additionally appointed Advisor to the UK Board of Cummins' Engine Company Ltd, and assumed market investigative and strategic planning for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, while acting in a support liaison role for developing manufacturing and marketing in India.

In 1979 Richard was approached by Fodens Ltd, the north of England truck, engine and military vehicle manufacturer with the support of the Ministry of Defence who requested Cummins to allow his secondment to assist turnaround of the company. Cummins consented subject to a change-over period, and Richard joined Fodens in Sandbach as Senior Executive responsible for all marketing, reporting directly to the Joint Managing Director. During the two year period Richard was there, with management he seconded to new positions he saw through the largest expansion the company had experienced, growing turnover from £38.5 million in 1979 to £63.5 million two years later. At that time County Bank suddenly withdrew finance from Fodens, forcing the company into administrative receivership. County Bank was subsequently censured by the City for unacceptable financial practice in taking this action against Fodens. Richard continued expanding the company's sales during the three month period to the surprise of all, and the receivers who provided more finance, and was commended by Sir Kenneth Cork of Cork Gully for his performance for the receivers and the company. Using his contacts, Richard travelled to Japan and the USA to discuss possible mergers, and brought Paccar Group (makers of Kenworth and Peterbilt trucks) to the UK who decided to acquire Fodens and run it with their own management.

One of the companies undertaking marketing support for Richard, SP & M (Sales Promotion & Marketing) Group in London, asked Richard to join them and develop more automotive

PROFILE OF OUR NEW PRESIDENT RICHARD PHILLIPS (1961-1963)

activities, which necessitated a move south to Farnham where Richard commuted to London by car from his home in Abbots Ride. In 1983 he joined the BJM Research Group, at the time the Britain's largest independently owned market research organisation, to head a new company, ARMC (Automotive Research & Management, and moved home to Oxshott where he lived with his family for 30 years. A year later he founded the US operation, and in 1985 following a divergence between the partners acquired the operation and worked with Ward's Communications – the World's largest automotive publishers, to grow their business.

During the period he became an Affiliate Member of the Chartered Institute of Bankers. In 1986 he was nominated through industry and became a Fellow of the Institute of Directors, an honour which he still holds. During the 1970's into the 1990's Richard wrote three books for the Economist Intelligence Unit on the future of the European and International Automotive industries jointly with Arthur Way, and had detailed technical studies of the component parts' industry also published.

In 1989 Stanford Research Institute of California invited Richard to become a Senior Partner in their global practice, based in Croydon and operating between Menlo Park in California, London, Chicago and Paris offices. Automotive consulting outside North America grew over two years to the greatest contract value since the institute was founded in 1945, and two years later the operation was acquired by him and put into the newly formed Automotive Research and Consulting Group based in London, Detroit and with an affiliate company in Melbourne, Australia – operating until this day. Acting as Managing Director – Operations, and also as CEO in the USA – his role has continued into his current semi-retirement.

During the period from 1989 through 2004 he acquired on behalf of private finance shareholders Britain's largest industrial automotive laminator based in Northamptonshire, raising half the finance required for its acquisition, and was appointed Non Executive Chairman with full financial control, bringing in the business development support services from ARCG. In 2004 he sold the operation to Takata Corporation of Japan, relinquishing his role.

In 2012 he became single, and moved to live near the cliff at Alum Chine in Bournemouth, returning to the town where many years earlier he had been born. He continues to participate in activities of the Institute of Directors, has become Chairman of the Friends of Canford Cliffs' Library, and makes periodic business visits abroad primarily to North America and seeing family. Besides supporting Farnham Sixth Form College through the efforts of the Old Farnhamians' Association, he has retained links with St. Laurence Church, Seale. In December 2017 he became engaged to his partner, Joanna Kordybacha from Pomerania, Poland.

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The first attempt to have an Old Boys' Association for Farnham Grammar School was in 1899, when the Headmaster was the Reverend Samuel Priestley. He took the position of President and had two secretaries in Harold Falkner and Willie Loe, who both became local councillors and played important parts in the growth of Farnham.

By the time the School was moved from West Street to Morley Road in 1906 there was little record of a buoyant Association, although in 1912 the Headmaster arranged to have a regular magazine issued. This was the Farnhamian. It was in 1924, when F.A.Morgan arrived as the Headmaster, that the organisation came into being as we know it today. He had a general committee made up of 23 pupils, each one overseeing the various villages in the Farnham district.

F.A.Morgan became a legendary Headmaster, and not only did he grow the size of the School, he turned it into one of the centres for excellent education in the South of England. He continued as the President until his retirement in 1953.

The following year saw the start of George Baxter, who continued the work of his predecessor, and worked closely with the Old Boys' Association. The closing of Grammar Schools throughout the country by the Labour Government was something that George Baxter did not approve of and he left the School in 1974 to take a position with Surrey C.C. Education Department. For the Year of 1971 the President was E.Godsil, Deputy Headmaster

Paul French joined the new Farnham College and had the difficult task of merging the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools and introducing new innovations in education. This gave him little time for the Association and in 1975 a former pupil of the Grammar School, and a member of the Old Boys' Association, was elected President. This was L.J.Stroud, a member of the family which included former Headmaster, Charles Stroud and deputy Headmaster William Stroud; an appropriate choice.

In 1977 the President, John Aylwin, took the position and he was a member of another well-known family in Farnham with several members who had attended the School. He was followed by that most popular teacher, Harold Beeken, and one could see that the staff and Old Boys were still close.

From 1981 well known Old Boys have been elected as President and in the main held the position for two years. The magazine had ceased to exist in 1973 when the changeover took place, but under Dennis Phillips it was resurrected and is issued annually. Events such as the Annual Dinner still exist, although it is now a luncheon. The Southampton Lunch ran for over 50 years and is now the Autumn Lunch. The Farnham Lecture still operates after thirty years.

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The history of the School and the Old Farnhamians' Association goes back almost one hundred years and below is a list of the Presidents through the years. It is a position of importance and we have been lucky in choosing the right men, who have all shown great loyalty to such a superb School.

1927-1953	F.A.MORGAN
1954 -1970	G.BAXTER
1971	E.W.GODSIL
1972-1974	P.W.FRENCH
1975-1976	L.J.STROUD
1977-1979	J. MAXWELL-AYLWIN
1980	H.BEEKEN
1981-1982	E.G.GLYNN
1983-1984	A.J.RYALL
1985-1986	R.ROBINS
1987-1989	W.F.A.BODKIN
1990-1992	J.D.BACKHURST
1993-1995	D.J.PHILLIPS
1996-1998	B.J.DANIELS
1999-2001	M.J.HORNER
2002-2004	J.H.CROTTY
2005-2007	C.D.TRUST
2008-2010	B.R.WILLIAMS
2011-2012	B.E.BONE
2013-2015	I.C.SARGEANT
2016-2018	R.G.EDGEELL
2018	R.M.PHILLIPS

With the membership growing older and the number of Old Boys still able to support the decreasing events, it is likely that the Old Farnhamians' Association will close down in the next few years. This will leave the above list, and the few who follow, with memories of holding a position of great esteem.

THE SCHOOL MOVES FROM WEST STREET TO MORLEY ROAD

With the Reverend Samuel Priestley as Headmaster, the School finally left the premises in West Street and moved to the newly constructed buildings in Morley Road. In 1906 the Sixth Form assembled a hand written newsletter and the one copy was passed around to pupils to read. The following report was included in the edition for The Middle of Summer Term 1906 and was written by James Kendall, who went under the nickname of Jimmus. This pupil became one of the top scientists in this country.

‘April 28th 1906 was indeed a red-letter day for Farnham. The magnificent, up to date, and new Grammar School was to be opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the morning, those who lived near assembled at the School, to which the hearts of many are still closely attached – especially as it is now turned into the Girls’ Grammar School. They then proceeded to the new building, via the churchyard and Firgrove Hill. In the playground was a large tent erected, on entering which, Dean was discovered squatting at the harmonium. After rehearsing the Psalm and Hymn and receiving general instructions, we dispersed for good. At 10.00 o’clock proceedings commenced with a huge luncheon in the Corn Exchange, given by Mr. Chapman (NB we were not invited, perhaps because Mr.C had not the tea to supply official tuck. We missed, however, several speakers, notably one about an hour long by Mr. Chapman – and as it was probably all for the best).

In the afternoon we again assembled at the old buildings and marched thence right through the town and past the station with ‘Hades flame helping us on. After noticing an amateur Zachuus, we arrived at the School. We then resumed our places in the tent, and waited a weary time (standing, mind) for the visitors. The tent was simply crammed in time, and the heat – there were two fiery furnaces about – soon became enough to roast us. The magnates then entered. A thrill of delight passed through us on seeing Mr. Brodrick, “Poor old chap”. He looked big enough to knock out little ‘Cowan’ any day, but the reverse took place last January! The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Davidson, The Bishop of Winchester and Mrs Ryle, Mr & Mrs Chapman, Mr & Mrs Brodrick and others were the most distinguished present (The House of Lords my distinguished people, could be spotted by the swagger blue and white rosettes).

The service was opened by the Headmaster, and the Bishop of Winchester read the “Bidding Prayer”, then, the Hymn having been sung, a procession, headed by the boys, was drawn up by Mr. Coleman (I wish he would buck up and cut the grass on our field). It then advanced to the main entrance, while the Highland band gave a selection. Mr. Mason then requested the Archbishop to open the School and Mr. Kempson solved the difficulty by producing the key.

The door was opened, and the National Anthem (first verse only, no confounding of politics etc.) followed, the proceedings finished with cheers for the Grace by Jimmus. Meanwhile multitudes had been vigorously plying the triggers of cameras, pointing them at all sorts of subjects. A certain well known animal attracted a good number, and Kiddie Mack (who was

THE SCHOOL MOVES FROM WEST STREET TO MORLEY ROAD

present) had the satisfaction of rotting up one of Gale & Polden's photos. He appeared as the central figure, but happened to be posing for Keable at the time, with disastrous results. Then came work for the House of Lords and a few others, who, entering by the Boarders Door, set to work (at least two or three did, the rest merely pretended to) waiting at the tea and showing people round, when they themselves did not know one room from the other. After the visitors had put away most of the fare, we did our share with the rest.

Poor old Toby Nash, our portly friend who weighs about a ton, evidently thought he was to spend the night there, for, as he put it, "I'd just lighted of my cigar and had put a chair out in the front (hope it was a strong one), to sit down and listen to the band, and I'm blowed if the people weren't hooking it!).

Some Old Boys present were: V.Page, T.Hine, J.L.Mack, The Brothers Poulter, H.Bachelor, A.S.Martin, R.C.Sampson, H.Bodkin, L.Patterson, L.S.Murrell and others.

Before the opening we had learnt (to our great joy) that we should not begin work till the Wednesday following.

May 3rd – At 10.00 o'clock, therefore, on Wednesday, we again assembled at the good old place, sang "God Save the King" to the accompaniment of Dean 'Junior's Cornet', seized our books (neatly or otherwise, done up in Crown paper) and then had to trudge in the rain by the longest way to near shop, after prayer had been held in the hall, Mr. Mason addressed an excellent speech to us, and was loudly cheered for it on the call of Jimmus.

(for this article the Magazine is indebted to Peter Keable)

This article appears in the Quarterly Journal of Farnham & District Museum Society.

OLD FARNHAMIANs' 87TH ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON

WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2019

AT THE BUSH HOTEL, FARNHAM

More details will be issued closer to the event

MAKE SURE THIS DATE IS ENTERED INTO YOUR DIARY

A TOAST TO THE SCHOOL BY JOHN AYLWIN FEBRUARY 1950

The following is a speech made by John Aylwin at the Annual Dinner 1950. It was given to the Editor by his wife, Elaine Aylwin, and the words sum up the feelings of most members of the Association today. I feel it is worth recording in the magazine.

“When I was informed that I had been detailed to propose the toast to the School, my feelings and reactions were mixed indeed. Although pleased at being asked, I was very apprehensive as to what I should say, and the only fact that determined my acceptance of the arduous commission was, that having bandy legs, I knew that at least my knees would not disclose my nervousness by knocking like castanets. Even so, I must admit that this being the last toast, has meant that until this is over, with apologies to our previous speakers, the evening as a social engagement has been a complete wash-out.

However, of the two toasts the one that comes most naturally to me is the toast to the School, and it is with great pleasure that I bend to my task.

Before I go any further I had best set your fears at rest and tell you that I have been told to keep it short. A true story that I heard the other day has further determined me in my policy of public speaking. The story is about an eminent man who was invited to speak at a dinner presided over by a famous wit of the last century, who must remain anonymous. The company had been looking forward to this occasion, and to the pleasure of hearing such a celebrity. However, on the day he stood up and talked on, and on, and on! There appeared to be no end to his volubility. The company became restive. The chairman, summing up the situation, made a quick note on his menu and passed it to the eminent man who glanced at it, went pink, and in great confusion wound up his theme and sat down, to the relief of all and amidst polite applause. Later, a friend of the chairman enquired how this miracle had been accomplished. He was shown the menu, and on it was written “Your flies are undone!”

I have gone to great pains to ensure that I am properly dressed and seated well clear of the President.

When we toast the School, it must raise in the minds of all of us, memories of the days when we were there. For some of us, those memories are far distant, some not so long ago, and others a close memory. Be they memories of long ago, or of recent times, to all of us they bring pleasure.

Generally speaking our first memories are of school boy pranks, successful, or otherwise, and the unfortunate members of Staff who were frequently so closely associated with them. There is something about schoolboy pranks that appeals to us all and I believe even the Schoolmaster enjoys them, at least after the first agony has passed! I suppose it is because they are performed with no malice in mind, which reminds me of the time when my partner in Practical Chemistry filled our master’s pocket with water, using a beaker and a funnel, whilst the unsuspecting man was endeavouring to solve the mystery of the hopeless failure

A TOAST TO THE SCHOOL BY JOHN AYLWIN FEBRUARY 1950

of our experiment. The master's face later, when he had the occasion to attend to his nose with a sopping handkerchief, is a picture that will live long in our memories. The chap who did it is here tonight, he must remain anonymous, he is a mild and peaceful gentleman, and I feel sure that there was no malice behind his daring deed - he liked the master believe it or not!

Our next memories in order of priority are those of the Staff. We remember them for their strictness and capacity for giving punishments, the memory of which fades slowly. We remember them because they were interested in sport, and there were those who enjoyed our badness almost as much as we did ourselves. We were fortunate in my time, in not having any bad teachers, and from current School results this happy state seems to prevail.

Following these come memories of the great sportsmen of our years, and of successful teams. What a sense of pride the schoolboy has when he is picked to represent his School I was fortunate enough to be at School with the All England Junior Sprint Champion. A great sporting triumph and one of which we were all exceedingly proud.

Although not generally known, and I hope I am not poaching on Mr. Morgan's ground, today the School First XI has lost only one match this season. That match was away, and the score 3-2, that deciding goal being scored in the closing minutes of the game. This is a very fine record and one of which we all approve.

I think perhaps the sporting activities of a School can be numbered amongst the most important aspects of a schoolboy's development. Not perhaps so much in individual events, but in the teams. They breed within the unformed mind a sense of working together, a sense of rightness and fair play. How important are these qualities in a man?

We do not hear a great deal about the School's sport, unless one is lucky enough to have a brother or son there today. I think we should all be interested to hear of the successes or otherwise of our School's teams. With a little publicity there will be promoted a greater keenness and we hope a raising of the standard of play, followed by an increase in the numbers taking an active part.

Lastly in our list of memories, for as we all know "the first shall be last and the last shall be first", come the scholars, those dreadful fellows whose mammoth brains made us feel so small in class. The School has a pretty fair showing amongst our more successful men in most walks of life. To mention a few, we have a professor on atomic research, a writer of a well-known History Book, and at least two very senior and well-known soldiers. Glancing back over history we can indeed be proud of our School with its ancient foundation, and constantly high record, in the class room, and on the sports' field. Our Old Boys are scattered to the far corners of the earth and are well thought of as men of character and initiative.

A TOAST TO THE SCHOOL BY JOHN AYLWIN FEBRUARY 1950

It is heartening in these days, when traditions are considered useless and likely to hamper progress, to find the old School still struggling to preserve its rights and dignity. Some of its independence has gone with the march of progressive education, but its traditions can never die. There has been one change in custom which has come about recently, and caused great concern amongst Old Boys. Possibly this is due to supply difficulties. I refer to the changing of the School football colours. My father, myself and two brothers wore the very same shirt of blue and white! I will not mention the age of the garment, but you can guess that it must now be pretty ancient! Long before that shirt was made, the same colours were carried on to the pitch and it seems a pity that these very pleasant shirts should be changed for the dingy ones now being worn by the School XIs. We all hope that our well-known blue and white shirts will soon return, perhaps Mr. President you can tell us more about this?

Looking at our recent history, how proud must those people be who were at School with the late Don Robins, and to have known him personally, and how fortunate were the masters who helped him to find himself, and form his mind. When a school can look back and find so recently a wonderful character such as this amongst its numbers. It is the greatest inspiration to all members, past and present.

Whether one can claim full credit for such a man, by virtue of his presence at the School during his formative years, is a matter for a psychologist to decide (if he can), but one thing is certain in the light of our own experience, a school can influence the boy by two means: by its tradition, and by the quality of the men who teach. Our school has been fortunate in both, without exception.

So often the work of the schoolmaster remains but barely recognised, and seldom does he receive anything but criticism (a healthy state perhaps) but it is important that sometimes a little agreement is included in it.

I feel sure that the Association will not disagree with me if I say on their behalf a most heartfelt "thank-you" to our School, and to the Staff of our respective years thank you for all the hard work and patience you have shown in fitting us to face the ordeals of the after school years.

Now it is my great pleasure to ask you to rise with me and drink the toast to the School, coupled with the name of Mr. Morgan.

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2017

On Saturday 10th November 2017 the Editor decided to research the school days for four Old Boys, who had unfortunately died during the week. As usual, he turned to the copies of Farnhamian magazines and opening the one dated 1941, two sheets of typed paper fell out. The date of 10th October 1941 was typed on the sheets and one gave a list of Old Boys who were being held as Prisoners of War at the time and the other a list of Old Boys who had died in the war during the 1940– 1941 period. The following day was the annual Remembrance Sunday when the country pays tribute to all the men and women who sacrificed their lives for their freedom during the First and Second World War and it seemed appropriate to show the lists for all readers to see.

F.G.S. PRISONERS OF WAR:

C.H.MARRETT – PRIVATE – QUEEN’S R.REGIMENT France– Belgium – May-June 1940, L.M.ROBERTS – PRIVATE – QUEEN’S R. REGIMENT France – Belgium – May-June 1940, G.H.STRATTON – PRIVATE – QUEEN’S R. REGIMENT France– Belgium – May – June 1940, J.V.HEWES – TROOPER – ROYAL ARMoured CORPS (HUSSARS) Greece – April 1941, C.J.BLOXHAM – SERGEANT – R.A.M.C. Crete– May 1941, J.A.D.WOOD – PRIVATE – R.A.M.C. Crete– May 1941, H.DE BROCK HELD AT SULMONA, ABRUZZI, ITALY.

CASUALTIES UP TO DECEMBER 1941:

HARRIOTT-HILL, STROUD, HEATH-BROWN, ALLEN, RICHMOND, ROGERS, TILLEY, STEADMAN, DUTTON, JEPP, NOLAN, BRISTOW, WHEELER, DEBENHAM, GODWIN, DANKS H.E. (1928-1933) SGT.PILOT R.A.F. MISSING AUGUST 1940 ALSTON T.R. (1929 1038) SGT. OBSERVER R.A.F. MISSING MARCH 1941 SMALLMAN W.S.L. (1927 1933) FL/LT. R.A.F. KILLED AUGUST 1941 LINTERN D.W. (1926-1930) PILOT OFFICER. R.A.F. MISSING OCTOBER 1941, DIMMOCK W.H. (1923-1932) FLYING OFFICER. R.A.F. KILLED OCTOBER 1941, COOKE J.H. (1920-1927) INSTRUCTOR LT. COMMANDER ROYAL NAVY MISSING MAY 1941, TRANDALL J.H. (1929-1934) L.A.C. R.A.F. KILLED DECEMBER 1941, WOOD J.A.D. (1928-1936) PRIVATE – R.A.M.C. DIED IN P.O.W. CAMP AUGUST 1941, JENNINGS F.H. (1922 1927) SGT/W.O/A.G R.A.F. KILLED JANUARY 1941, KILBURN M.H.S. (1932-1940) PILOT OFFICER- R.A.F. KILLED JANUARY 1942, WINTER H.E. (1936-1938) LEADING SUPPLY ASSISTANT ROYAL NAVY MISSING MARCH 1941, ANDERSON V.G. (1933-1936) SGT.PILOT– R.A.F.– PRISONER OF WAR– JUNE 1941, LOUGHLIN F.M. (1931-1936) PRIVATE –R.A.S.C. – MISSING FEBRUARY 1942.

THE TONY MERSON COLLECTION

Tony Merson (1961-1968) who died in 2016 was a great hoarder and specialised in coins, photographs of Farnham, postcards of Farnham and most items appertaining to the Farnham Grammar School. Friends from the Farnham Museum and his family spent several days combing through the piles of paperwork he had assembled and some of it regarding the Grammar School was handed over to the Editor of this magazine.

The newspaper cuttings included an article from the Farnham Herald dated May 1915 and were a list of former pupils and staff who were serving in the First World War. This list was actually printed in booklet form and he also had a copy of this, which is now part of the School memorabilia. Tony was a musician and part of the Farnham Grammar School Music Club. The School, in conjunction with The Farnham & Bourne Music Club, presented several classical concerts at Morley Road in the period 1965-1968 and Tony left copies of the programmes signed by most of the players, including Marisa Robles, the well-known harpist.

Among the photographs are a few taken of the dismantling of the former woodworking block as part of the 1962 development programme. In the foreground are the tennis courts from the Davies' home opposite the School. The School used these courts for many years.

Photographs were mainly part of his collection of postcards of Farnham. In the early part of the 20th century the School photograph was produced as a postcard and could be purchased locally. The School photograph below is in postcard form and shows the staff and pupils at Morley Road under the leadership of the Reverend Samuel Priestley. This must have been taken between 1899 and 1916 when Mr Priestley was headmaster.



THE TONY MERSON COLLECTION

One photograph that interested the Editor in particular was one taken in the early 1950s and featured all of the staff assembled by F.A.Morgan at the time. There was a mixture of teachers who had been at the School in 1924 when he became the new headmaster plus newer teachers who came to the School after the First World War, during the Second World War, and after the Second World War.

It is the general opinion of many Old Boys that this was the finest collection of teachers ever assembled at the Farnham Grammar School. The older generation of Messrs. Munton, Horner, Wickens, Lock, Bacon, Beeken, Godsil and Varey were joined by the younger Beadman, Brister, Fluck, Wills, Evans (Leonard), Evans (Wendall), Foster, Nicolson and Carroll. There are two teachers who the Editor is unable to name.

Perhaps some of the readers of this magazine can recall all of them and remember the part that some played in shaping their education.

As usual Mrs Morgan and Sylvia Morgan were part of the team and the lady sitting on the right taught music as I recall.

Perhaps some readers can supply all those shown!



F.A.Morgan and his teaching staff, sometime at the end of the 1940s and early 1950s

PROFILE OF A FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL HERO

Looking through the history of the old School, there have been many characters that have done something special in life and contributed to this country. One of these is a man called Owen Pennefather Lloyd, who was the only Old Boy to be awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery. He attended the School from 1863 until 1865 and we have on record a copy of the newspaper report telling the story of his bravery.

The Editor decided in February 2018 to visit the Museum of Military Medicine at nearby Ash and was surprised to see more about this man and to hear of how he earned the VC. The museum gave the editor a copy of the Citation from Queen Victoria herself and I think it will be of interest to the readers of this magazine. Below is a copy of the main parts of the citation.

Citation

The Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the under mentioned Officer of Her Majesty's Army, whose claim has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his conspicuous bravery during the attack on the Sima Post by Kachins, on the 16th January last, as recorded against his name – Surgeon Major Owen Edward Pennefather Lloyd, Army Medical Staff.

Theatre Burma Action date: 06/01/1893

Surgeon Major Lloyd won his VC on 6th January 1893, during the Kachin Expedition in Burma, when 500 Kachins made a determined attack on Fort Sima. At about 2.00 am on the 6th the picket commanding the approach on the Kamja Road opened fire and reported that 2 Kachins were seen creeping up. All was quiet until 7.00 am when the Kachins suddenly attacked on the south, east and west sides, taking cover behind felled trees within 20 yards of the defenders. The Sima Post had a garrison of 275 men of the Magwe and Mogoung Military Police Battalions under 3 British officers. The commanding officer, Captain Morton, ordered out a party from the north gate of the fort to attack them. Another party, under Lieutenant Dent of the Yorkshire Regiment, was sent around the east side to dislodge the Kachins. Morton then left the gun emplacement by the south gate, accompanied by a bugler, to visit a picket about 80 yards away which was a position overlooking the Kamja road. On reaching it he fell mortally wounded in the abdomen. Surgeon Major Lloyd and Subadar Mahtab Singh went at once to his assistance and found him lying close to the picket, in the arms of the bugler. The enemy were only about 15 yards away and kept up a heavy fire and three out of the five men manning the picket were killed. Surgeon Major Lloyd then stayed with the officer while the Indian NCO went back to fetch further help in carrying the wounded man. He returned with five Sikh Sepoys who carried Captain Morton to the fort, where he died a few minutes later. Surgeon Major Lloyd now took command. The heavy fire continued and the bugler, Purna Singh, was killed and Surgeon Major Lloyd

PROFILE OF A FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL HERO

wounded on returning to the fort. Eventually, the parties sent out by Captain Morton managed to drive the Kachins into the jungle and the post was secured. At 10.00 am firing was heard from the direction of Kanja village and Lloyd, on looking through his glasses, saw that a convoy was coming. He ordered out a party to meet them and clear the road which had been blocked. He was relieved when the convoy arrived at mid day. The Subadar and the 5 Sikhs of the Magwe Battalion, Burma Military Police (Kishen Singh, Laina Singh, Gyal Singh, Outam Singh, Gundah Singh,) were all awarded the 3rd class Indian OM) for their part in the action. Purna Singh's widow received the pension that went with the OM.

Born: 01/01/1854 Place of Birth: Co. Roscommon, Ireland

Education: Farnham Grammar School, Fermoy College, Cork & Queen's University.

Married in 1878 to Florence Morgan, daughter of the 3rd Earl of Mount Cashel of Bridestown House, Co. Cork. One son and one daughter

Career:

He joined the Army Medical Service in 1878, went through the Zulu War in 1879 and was present at the attack and capture of Sekukunni's stronghold. Lloyd was Assistant Instructor to the Bearer Column in the Transvaal War of 1881- 82. He was promoted to Major in 1890 and served in the Kachin Expedition of 1892-93, during which he won the VC at the attack at Fort Sima. Lloyd was recommended for the VC by Sir James Dormer and the Chief Commissioner of Burma. In 1898 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and was Medical Officer to the Franco-British Boundary Commission for the Mekong River in 1898 99. He then served as Medical Officer to the British-Chinese Boundary Commission for the Burma Frontier. He was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Viceroy in 1899. He was next appointed Principal Medical Officer in South Africa during the Boer War. Promoted to Colonel in 1900, he was appointed Surgeon General in 1909. Lloyd was created Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1910. He retired three years later in 1913. From 1922 to 1924 Major General Lloyd was Colonel Commandant of the RAMC, being created a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in 1923. Sir Owen Lloyd had been a well-known sportsman in his youth, famous as a shikari when in Burma, he accounted for 150 head of big game in 1897, including six tusker elephants. He attended the VC Dinner in the Royal Gallery at the House of Lords on 9th November 1929.

Died: 05/07/1941 Place of Death: St. Leonards on Sea, Sussex

Buried: Kensal Rise Cemetery London

Other Decorations: KCB

This is a remarkable story of a former pupil of Farnham Grammar School.

PROFILE OF A FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL HERO



Photograph and display of medals for Sir Owen Pennefather Lloyd at the museum

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2018-2019

OLD FARNHAMIAN GENERAL COMMITTEE: H.Batchelor: R.S.Cleminson: M.Collier: J.H.Crotty: B.J.Daniels: R.G.Edgell: A.J.Gatfield: D.Grimes: W.J.Luff: M.Mehta: P.A.Mylles: K.I.Mentzel: C.Nash: R.M.Phillips (President): S.G.Pritchard (Treasurer): I.C.Sargeant: C.D.Trust: J.R.Walden: W.P.Walsh: R.Welland-Jones: B.R.Williams (Hon. Secretary)

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST: B.R.Williams (Chairman): S.G.Pritchard (Treasurer) : A.J.Gatfield (Secretary): C.D.Trust: J.H.Crotty: R.M.Phillips: Dr.Jason Jones (College Director): H.Batchelor: R.G.Edgell.

SCHOLARSHIP TRUST: B.J.Daniels (Chairman): B.R.Williams (Secretary): P.Dunford: D.Grimes: C.Nash: I.C.Sargeant

WEBMASTER: I.C.Sargeant

EDITOR OF MAGAZINE: C.D.Trust

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The first week of September 2017 saw the arrival by post to the Editor of the magazine, two books written by Old Boys. The first was from **MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)** in Ottawa, the capital of Canada and was the story of the Prentice family from 1838 to the current year. The book traces the roots of his parents and is entitled “A Love Story Cut Short”, and if any reader would like a copy please contact Michael direct on mprentice@sympatico.ca

The second book came from Sylvia Backhurst whose husband Dudley had been presented with a copy in 1989 by **LORRIE DOWSETT (1926-1931)** and was a crime novel entitled “The Last Time”. Lorrie was a regular at the Southampton Lunch and not many people realised that he had written at least four crime novels and had them published. In time the Editor will read the story of John Master, the hero of three of the books.

The School memorabilia now contains several books written by former pupils, and the Editor will attempt to list them all for any possible readers.

On the subject of memorabilia, the few words by the Editor at the Annual Lunch seemed to have inspired several Old Boys to send in something of interest. One of the first letters was from **GERALD LeVEY (1947-1952)**, who enclosed a programme from the stage show at Farnham Church House of opera the “The Lowland Sea” plus two short plays. The show was in March 1953 and ran for four nights.

The programme includes several well-known Old Boys and Old Girls and John Wills, George Wilcox, George Carroll, Alan Fluck, Mike Foster, Harry Beeken, Sylvia Morgan and Mary Eggar, all staff from both Grammar Schools, helped put on the show. Gerald also enclosed a photograph of the entire cast, choir etc. and this is reproduced on the page following this.

Did you take part? Can you name some of the people in the photograph?



NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

For several years the Editor has met with **BILL LUFF (1948-1955)** and **TONY GATFIELD (1950-1955)** at Squires' Garden Centre in Badshot Lea for a full English breakfast and two hours or more reminiscing about the old School. The picture below was our Christmas meeting and we sat surrounded by all the signs of the time of the year.



On leaving the School and completing National Service Bill became a teacher at a local Aldershot primary school. He worked his way to the top and finished his career as the Headmaster of the school. Always a football fan, Bill's proudest moment was taking his school eleven to Wembley to compete in a six a side tournament. Bill went to see England play at times and when watching a game at Wembley in the 1970s realised that the Editor was sitting in front of him. Amazing to find another Old Boy among nearly 100,000 people! We have remained in contact ever since. Tony joined Timothy White's at Farnborough and among his workmates were **BOB EDWARDS (1949-1954)** and **TERRY VENABLES (1948-1953)**. This well-known company was soon taken over by the Boots Group and Tony worked there for some time. He eventually moved to an Alton Builders Merchants company as the buyer, and soon became Purchasing Director. The company grew and opened several branches as well as a plant hire division. The growth of the super stores made life difficult for these local retailers and in 1993 the board decided to sell the company. For some years Bill and Tony opened the batting for their local village and in retirement they regularly spend a day at the Rosebowl in Southampton watching Hampshire play. Bill and his wife holiday each year in Guernsey, whilst Tony has a caravan sited in the New Forest and enjoys getting away from it all. This type of friendship over more than seventy years is typical of the close relationships moulded by the Farnham Grammar School. It is hoped that there are more breakfasts to come!

In late November 2017 it was announced in the local press that Riverprint, the local printers, had been purchased by Amalgamated Holdings Limited. The founder of Riverprint was **SIMON GRANVILLE-JONES (1965-1970)**, who had built the company into one of the most successful businesses in Farnham. For well over twenty years Simon has worked with the Editor of this magazine to produce The Farnhamian magazine. It is understood that the offices will remain in Farnham and the presses will move to Basingstoke. Overall there should be little changes and any future Farnhamian magazines will be printed for us as usual.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The increase in elderly people in the population has brought with it an interest in the past. Farnham Museum Society holds monthly meetings about the history of the town and villages, like Hale and Wrecchesham, have their own History Groups. The Hale History Project attracts over 100 local people each month for a get together and a viewing of memorabilia from the villagers. The collection of local photographs is very large and a small museum will probably open in a few months.

In 2018 Hale intend to introduce talks by local people about Farnham and the village and the Editor of this magazine has been invited to speak about "The History of Farnham Grammar School". Once the date is agreed members of the OFA will be advised and hopefully some will attend.

For several years the Editor has remained in contact with members of the Stroud family. In 1853 **CHARLES STROUD (1853 – 1897)** became the Headmaster and his brother **ROBERT STROUD (1861 – 1863)** was a teacher. We have a great deal of information about Charles, but little about his brother, who left the School after a short time to open a school in Clapham. The family are writing a book about Robert and his family tree and the Editor has been sent a copy of the life story of Robert, which includes several references to the days in Farnham. If any reader is interested in reading this book please contact the Editor and he will e-mail a copy to you.

Each year the Editor waits for an envelope full of work done by **TOM GODDARD (1947-1952)**, and when it arrived in February it contained more than the usual number of cartoons. It is clear that Tom wishes Great Britain to leave the EU and this is the main theme of his work. The quality of the drawings is excellent, and this, plus Tom's sense of humour, makes the items very readable. One item shows a drawing of Hercule Poirot on the cover of an Agatha Christie book entitled "Murder on the Referendum Express"

Tom still displays his work at his home town of Hay-on-Wye and clearly earns some extra cash from the sales of his work. After an illness he started to ride his bicycle on a regular basis and says that he is now super-fit. He logs how many miles he peddles and this now totals thousands. He cross references the miles ridden to journeys across the world and so far there is little of the globe that he has not visited. In typical Tom Goddard manner all of this is laid out in elaborate statistics.

I look forward to the next letter from Tom and copies of his new drawings.

In March 2018 the local Farnham and Aldershot press printed a large coverage celebrating the 95th anniversary of the Aldershot men's outfitters called Jerome's. This shop specialized in supplying Army clothing, and uniforms etc., to selected local schools. One of the schools was Farnham Grammar School and on joining the school you were asked to visit Jerome's to purchase all the uniform required. **EDGAR JEROME (left 1941)** was a pupil at the School.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Members of the 1971-1978 intake at the Grammar School regularly meet at the Beerex event at Farnham Maltings every April. In 2018 several of them seemed the worst for wear judging by this photograph.



Chris Stacey: John Clarke: Mike Mehta: Martin Collier: Mark Bravery. Enjoying a pint!

It is rare to receive a profile from one of the last intakes at the Grammar School and I am very pleased to print this interesting article from **IAN NICHOLSON (1972-1979)**.

Ian starts by saying that he really does not like talking or writing about himself so he usually does neither. However he has been persuaded by former classmates to relate what he has been doing since leaving Morley Road in 1979.

“The summer of 1979 was something of a disaster in terms of ‘A’ level exam results. I had no interest in going to university and therefore lost motivation and spent a lot of those last two years at Farnham Sixth Form College wondering what the hell I was doing there! Just before sitting the exams I had managed to line up a job at British Aerospace, but the bad results meant I had lost it before I had even started it. That led to a year at Brooklands Tech re-taking the failed ‘A’ levels, plus a new one, to buy some time while I decided what to do. Then in the summer of 1980 I saw an advert in the national press. Shell were looking for new

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

recruits for their oil tanker fleet. Still with no idea what I actually wanted to do with my life and the end of my year at Brooklands approaching I enquired and was invited to attend a selection process over two days at Shell Centre in London. From that point on everything happened at an alarming rate. I already had the necessary academic qualifications and somehow successfully completed the selection process. I was offered a job there and then, for some reason I said yes, and was then pushed through the seafarer and registration and seagoing preparation process that would normally take a few months unusually quickly. Within three weeks of making my initial enquiry, and before I really had time to think about what I was taking on, I was signed on a VLCC (super tanker) and heading from Rotterdam to Forcados in Nigeria. And so began my love affair with seafaring and the Merchant Navy. It is a job that either makes or breaks you. The rate of attrition amongst new recruits was very high and most people who knew me at the time (parents included) thought I just wasn't the "right Stuff" and would not last. But now, 38 years later, I am still at it and have been sitting on the top chair for quite a few years now.



After 3 years training at sea and at college and a lot of exams I gained my first junior licence (or Certificate of Competence to give it its proper name) in 1983. After gaining the required sea time as a junior officer and after two more sets of college time, some firefighting training with the fire brigade, some very unpleasant training in medical matters and an awful lot of more exams covering everything from Navigation to Business and Employment Law to Ship Construction and Stability to Meteorology and more (including rather scary face

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

to face oral exams) I gained my Chief Officer licence in 1987 and qualified as a Master Mariner holding an Unlimited Class 1 licence in 1991. That was just about as quickly as the qualifying process would permit back then.

Over the years I have worked for quite a few companies sailing mostly, but not exclusively, on tankers of all descriptions ranging from 1,800 tonnes to well over 400,000 tonnes. Shipping lines that I have worked for include Oil Majors like Shell, Mobil and Saudi Aramco, plus a few famous ones like Cunard and P & O. I have traded literally worldwide for the majority of the last 38 years and presently work for Stena, the Swedish company that you might know as a ferry operator. I work for them in their international tanker fleet. My present charge (as of April 2018) is called Stena Supreme, a suezmax tanker of about 160,000 tonnes that trades in the spot market and so tramps around all over the world. I have been tied to this ship with my back to back partner (a Croation Captain) for the past 5 years since it was almost brand new, working on a more or less 3 months on, 3 months off basis. As I am writing this we are anchored off Rizhao in China waiting to go alongside and discharge a cargo of Castillo Crude Oil. We had a long 7 week voyage from Covenas in Columbia where the cargo was loaded, through the Caribbean, round the Cape and made a brief stop in Singapore to load some fuel and stores and change a few crew. I flew out to Covenas to pick up the ship after a few months off. I have no idea yet where we will be when I am due to come back home, but knowing my luck it will require another long haul flight to get back. I have grown to hate these long-haul flights. At least I do not have to pay for them.

The job has afforded me a lot of personal freedom and up until the age of about 40 I was a typical “Jolly Jack”. Up until that age, apart from a motorbike that lived at my parent’s house, I could fit all of my worldly possessions into a suitcase. And with that suitcase I spent most of my time off ship also travelling around the world (hence no-one could find me for the big 20 year reunion in 1999 or whenever). For quite a while in the 1990 s, I spent a lot of time in South Korea with a lovely local lady I met there while seconded to a ship new building group and standing by some new ships under construction in one of the shipyards there. We came close to getting married but too many things got in the way and we eventually went our separate ways. At the age of about 40 I decided it really was time to “move out of the suitcase” and buy a house like most sensible people do. Since then my wanderings during my time off have been rather more local, but I still enjoy the freedom of the single lifestyle, something too difficult for me to give up now.

I often wonder how my life would have turned out had I got good ‘A’ level results and ended up working at British Aerospace. I might well have forged a successful career there but I am sure I would not have enjoyed anything like as many adventures as I have done. Being a seafarer is not so much a job as a way of life. I feel privileged to have been able to see so much of the world; i.e. the real world, not the touristy type world that most people are limited to seeing, and also, to meet so many people of different backgrounds. I have lived and

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

worked alongside people of all colours, nationalities and creeds. Often, I am the only British person present in whatever team I am working with. While I look back I cannot help feeling that messing up those exams in the summer of 1979 was actually one of the best things that has ever happened to me, though I felt a bit worse than that at the time. And, incidentally, if anyone is wondering, I passed my A' levels second time around with reasonable grades during those hectic three weeks that changed my life back in the summer of 1980.

May 2018 was not a good month for the class of 1948. It began with news that old pal **MAURICE JEFFREYS (1948-1953)** had fallen from a ladder in his garden and broken three ribs and suffered severe brain damage. The ribs healed themselves, but it took several operations on the brain to correct damage to his brain. The outcome was similar to a stroke and he is now working with a physio to correct this. It appears that he will soon be back to normal.

It is customary for this sort of news to be sent to others from the 1948 intake and back came a reply from **TREVOR ANDREWS (1948-1953)** saying that he too had fallen in the garden and was currently flat on his back in hospital recovering from a variety of broken bones. He was in plaster and hoped that he would improve. Another reply was from **JOHN COOKE (1948-1953)**, saying that a brain scan had resulted in his driving licence being taken away and his memory was a problem. Add to this both **JOHN TRAVERS & NEVILLE TIMMINS (BOTH 1948-1953)** having heart and cancer problems respectively, the former pals have all entered their 80s with problems. The Editor of this magazine has undergone major heart surgery and is back to good health. Father Time marches on!

OLD FARNHAMIANs' SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The Trust was established in the 1920s to make grants to former pupils of Farnham Grammar School who were pursuing further education or career training. The objectives were subsequently fulfilled by making the grants to former students of Farnham College. The awards have mainly been used to fund the purchase of text books for further education courses.

The number of applicants has been low of late and the Trustees considered extending the scheme to cover supporting the current students at Farnham Sixth Form College. After seeking advice from a QC (an Old Boy!) the Trustees applied to the Charity Commission to alter the objectives of the Trust and reflect these in the new name of 'Old Farnhamians' Scholarship Trust'; these changes were agreed by the Commissioners on 4th January 2018.

In conjunction with the Dempster Trust, the College sought applications, and four £250 scholarships were awarded in February 2018. These scholarships helped support two students who volunteered for nursing in Ghana, another for work experience at the National Marine Aquarium and one for a visit to the Large Hadron Collider in CERN.

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Almost twenty members attended the AGM, which was after the 400 Trust AGM attended by Dr. Jason Jones, Director of Farnham Sixth Form College. He announced that it had been decided to merge the Guildford College Group with another group entitled Activate Learning who already has Reading College, City of Oxford College, Banbury & Bicester College, Bracknell & Wokingham College, in their group. Dr. Jones approved of this choice and it was hoped the merger would take effect later in the year.

The meeting of the General Committee began by standing in silence as the President read out the names of many Old Boys who had died during the year. This was followed by approval of the 2017 AGM minutes and Treasurer's Report, which showed the Association in a healthy position financially. The following were the main points from the meetings.

Brian Williams reported changes, with the Leaving Scholarship Trust changing its title to Scholarship Trust and gave £250 to the first four students to be awarded this scholarship.

The College Award's Scheme was growing and there will be over forty sponsors for 2018. This will bring the total sponsored since the scheme began in 2003 to over £35,000.

There will be a 2019 Farnhamian magazine edited as usual by Cyril Trust.

The Happy Space lectures were very successful and the College will plan to hold this set of talks for each of the next five years. Mental illness among students is a major problem and it is hoped that Happy Space will agree a contract with the College.

Roger Edgell said that the Annual Lunch had been successful in spite of lower numbers. It is planned to hold the lunch in 2019 at The Bush Hotel in Farnham. The Autumn Lunch, which replaced the Southampton Lunch, will be on 3rd October 2018 at the same venue.

The Jeffrey Tate ceremony adding his name to the Farnham Wall of Fame will be held on 29th May 2018. A restricted list of attendees was issued.

Cyril Trust was having talks with Dr. Jones regarding the possibility of having a room made available for the Old Boys to have a long term museum. Dr. Jones felt that this was possible.

The work with students by a group of Old Boys to help them prepare for future employment will continue. This has been a great contribution for many students leaving the College.

As well as the change of President from Roger Edgell to Richard Phillips there were some changes to the members of the various committees. Most members agreed to stand for another term, while any changes due to health were covered by new people.

The meeting ended with a few words by the new President congratulating Roger Edgell on a first class term in office. He will be a hard act to follow.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER CRANSWICK

A TRIBUTE TO PETER CRANSWICK

KEITH ELKINS-(1952-1960)

Peter Cranswick died at his home in Nottingham on 15th September 2017 aged 76. He had been suffering from a rare form of Leukaemia for the past eight years. Typically he never allowed it to overwhelm him and set about organising his life around regular blood transfusions. The care provided by the Nottingham City Hospital haematology department was superb throughout. He knew most of the staff by name and they could not have done more for him.

One story picked up from his cousin Bill at the funeral service relates to his early days as a sportsman. Peter and his sister Sandra went regularly to stay with Uncle Jack and Aunt Muriel at Leigh in Lancashire. Cousins Bill and Chris made great playmates and on one occasion Peter, aged about 8, suggested that they play street hockey. The only trouble was that they did not have hockey sticks. Peter had the solution. Uncle Jack's golf clubs in the shed! As you can imagine Uncle Jack was not aware of this sporting event played on hard concrete and paving slabs. He was aware however on seeing the damage to his precious clubs and the loss of golf balls when he came home.

Peter entered Farnham Grammar School in the autumn of 1952, becoming a staunch member of Harding House and was immediately at home in his new environment. During his final year as well as captaining his House he was made School Captain. He loved sport and participated at various levels. He was a member of the Football First XI and was Captain of Cricket, Athletics and Shooting. He also represented Surrey Schools at Cross Country. Outside of school he was a server at St. Thomas on the Bourne and a regular cast member in their annual production. He left school in 1960 to be part of the initial intake of the new Nottingham Teachers' Training College at Clifton, which is now part of Trent University. He was accompanied by his school friend, Keith Elkins. They were billeted in the same staircase along with David Ditcham who was to become a lifelong friend and who gave the eulogy at Peter's funeral. It was David who initiated the Farnham boys into the pleasures of traditional jazz and the trip spent many a happy hour at the Trent Bridge Inn (TBI). Having initially continued to play football he switched to what was to become one of his abiding passions. The trio became a quartet with the arrival of "Sandy" Sandhu, a Kenyan hockey international. They survived a number of dragon landladies and not a few insalubrious flats. After marriage the group met regularly in each other's homes instigated by Peter the eternal organiser.

On leaving college in 1963 he was appointed a history teacher at Player School, one of the most challenging schools in Nottingham. Peter stayed there all of his teaching career and retired Senior Teacher when the school closed as part of the reorganisation of the City schools in 1992. These days such devotion to one school is extremely rare.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER CRANSWICK

KEITH ELKINS-(1952-1960)

Peter was an avid traveller. This had begun while he was still at school when the youth club entertained parties of Swedish youths who convinced him of the wonders of Scandinavia. David accompanied him on a month long tour through Scandinavia in 1962. Peter had been working at Butlins in Skegness. Finnish girls working there were delightful and convinced them that travel to Helsinki was very cheap after the main continental holidays were over....so their tour was extended. Peter and bargains were synonymous!

Further travels took Peter towards Greece and it was en route he met his future wife Kate on Munich railway station (as one does) where they were both waiting for a train for Athens. They celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary in the month before he died.

(The wedding almost did not take place. Three weeks before the due date a hockey team mate broke Peter's lower leg with a desperate but hard hit clearance. Peter went up the aisle on crutches and came away leaning on Kate....according to Peter this continued for the rest of his life).

After playing college hockey for three years he had joined South Nottingham Hockey Club, was appointed vice captain and, over 25 years as fixture secretary, helped the club grow from three to six Saturday teams. As hockey teams tended to share grounds with cricket teams, he was able to indulge in one of his other passions – cricket. When he first joined the club the changing room was a space behind a curtain in a wooden clubhouse. Things are very different today. After he married Kate the hockey team improved considerably as she made sausage meat pie with baked beans. Kate probably did the teas and latterly scored for cricket, so that she could see Peter at weekends.

In 1979 he became Nottinghamshire County Hockey Association assistant secretary and a year later became the hockey correspondent for the Nottingham Post, a position he held until 2014. He served Midlands' Hockey in a number of positions for over 40 years.....member of the Council, secretary of the men's leagues, match day official.....finally becoming a life member of the Midlands' Regional Hockey Association, where he became highly respected by those who knew him well. Having finished his playing career he devoted much time to administrative matters, a role he relished.

In 1981 while at a hockey match, he saw over 700 runners taking part in the first Robin Hood Marathon. Consequently he was inspired to take part the following year. He had rediscovered his enthusiasm for running. Training on the grassy meadows by the River Trent between Gunthorpe Lock and Hazelford Ferry he was still running in his 70s. Altogether he collected 20 of the lace panels awarded to Robin Hood's marathon men. He completed the Great North Run and the Amsterdam Half Marathon. His favourite event however was the Oxford Town and Gown 10k with its high proportion of student runners, but he was not too keen when he was overtaken by young, fit runners in dinosaur suits.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER CRANSWICK KEITH ELKINS – (1952-1960)



Peter Cranswick
14th April 1941 - 15th September 2017

Less time running meant he could take up golf this time with his own clubs. He spent many happy hours hitting the little white ball.

The arrival of his Labrador “Trent”, a stray, who, like Aphrodite rose from the water— in this case from the river Trent one very foggy morning coincided with him giving up running. He walked her by the river nearly every morning and the last time he walked with her was two weeks before he died, although he was very ill. He was still very determined; one of his many qualities.

To return to his passion for travelling, he and Kate visited nearly every country in Western Europe, which played havoc with turning out for South Nottinghamshire Village Cricket League fixtures. Recent summers saw trips to the wine co-operative sale at the wonderfully named Buzet village in the South West of France. Over the years he had come to the conclusion that the French were much better than he. Peter also enjoyed tracking down Cranswick names on memorials to the missing along the western front cemeteries.

In the winter, as well as his hockey commitments he supported Nottingham Forest Football Club and was a season ticket holder for the last 15 years. He was disappointed in the recent decline from the heady days of Brian Clough and the European triumphs.

He felt that he had a good life. He was close to his supportive Mum and Dad, his sister Sandra and her husband Alan. He took pride in his nephews Adam, Tom and their families and goddaughters Laura and Flavia. He took great delight in Laura’s son Freddie (there is a picture of Peter and Freddie taken only six weeks before his death). Flavia, who had worked as a carer during university vacations, came to stay with Kate to help her through the final days. She was with Peter when he died, as was Harry his ginger cat.

Those of us who have known Peter over a lifetime will recall not only his determination and ability to focus but also his loyalty. If he devoted himself to a cause or a person, that devotion was rock solid. A trait, no doubt, that George Baxter appreciated when appointing him School Captain. He was also very disciplined. He was legendary in hockey circles for being on top of the fixture list. Most fixture secretaries were happy to be on top of the current list: Peter had things sorted 2 years hence! There is also a kindness and a generosity of spirit towards those he called a friend. He was always interested in how everybody was getting on and in the minutiae of their lives. He was popular at school and to quote a junior member of Harding House at the time, “he was my hero”.

Peter’s one regret was that he had to cancel the June trip to France to stock up supplies for the winter.....a winter that never came.

OBITUARIES

With Old Boys living in various parts of the world we are often very late in receiving news from distant relatives. Such is the case with **MIKE LOCK (1938-1944)** who lived in Auckland, New Zealand, for much of his life. He would e-mail the Editor from time to time with news and especially when New Zealand was beating England at cricket. Mike would go to the local ground and watch the Test matches. We are advised that he lost his fight with cancer in 2016.

It is with much sadness that we heard of the death of **GEOFF (G.H.A.) HEWES** late in October 2017. The name of Hewes has been closely associated with the former Farnham Grammar School for many years, with several members of the family attending both the Boys' and Girls' Schools. On record are **J.V.HEWES (1929-1935)**, **G.H.A.HEWES (1938-1942)**, **G.P.HEWES (1939-1944)** and **R.H.HEWES (1943-1950)**. Sister **AUDREY HEWES** attended the Girls' Grammar School and was on the committee of their Association up to the closure of the organisation in 2016.

Records show that the address given by the Hewes' family when leaving school and joining the Old Farnhamians was 'The Coach & Horses' Castle Street, Farnham. Their father worked for Courage Brewery and managed this well-known public house.

Like all the brothers, Geoff was a first class sportsman and played football for the School Colts and School Second XI. He ran in the Cross Country Races each year and was always placed in the first few runners to finish. He was a member of Childe House.

On leaving the School Geoff joined the Royal Air Force and trained to be a pilot. He eventually became a Sergeant/Pilot and stayed in the force for over eight years. He met his wife Barbara, who was a local Farnham girl, and they had a son and a daughter.

On leaving the RAF he started a career in Marketing and worked for several large companies, including Newton & Chambers and American Express.

Geoff and his family lived in Slough and his funeral took place at Amersham Hampden Chapel on 3rd November 2017.

The October/November period in 2017 brought news of a number of deaths. The first was for **A.E.CRAWTE (1933-1938)** who died at the age of 96. He was a member of Massingberd House and was successful academically, as well as being an excellent all round sportsman. He earned Form Prizes in 1935, 1936 and 1937, both for his progress and his industry.

He played Cricket for the School at Under 15s, Second XI and First XI. He followed the same route for football. As well as these two sports he was in the School Rifle Shooting Team and represented his House at Boxing, Swimming and Athletics.

In 1938 he obtained his General School Certificate.

OBITUARIES

Almost the same time we heard of the passing of **E.C."EDDIE" KNIGHT (1947-1952)**, who had died in August. Eddie was a member of School House and research shows that he was not a great sportsman, although he ran in the Annual Cross Country Race most years. He was at the School at the same time as the Editor and is remembered as being a very likeable classmate.

The third Old Boy to die was **PETER CANNINGS (1962-1967)** who was another member of Massingberd House. On entering the School he joined the School Chess Team and played for them for his time at Morley Road, receiving his half-colours in 1965. His interests were varied and he played football for the School Colts, was the Colts' Cricket Captain in 1966 and also represented the School at Tennis and Hockey. He seemed to have concentrated on the Triple Jump and High Jump at the Annual Sports' day and was successful in both events. He was a member of the Dramatic Society and acted in several productions in partnership with the Girls' Grammar School. In 1966 he was elected a Prefect and in the same year won a Special prize for Reading.

On leaving the School Peter became a teacher and for most of his career taught at Uppingham School in Rutland. He began there in 1977 and left in 2000. From 1986 to 1995 he was Housemaster of West Deyne and from 1995 to 2000 he was Head of Economics and Business Studies.

Early in the new millennium he left teaching to become involved in consulting Business Management, calling his company MMT Digital. Through this company he gave advice financial and commercial, to companies.

He was obviously a very popular man and entered into the local Uppingham lifestyle. He was an excellent tennis player and also played hockey, and some Old Boys recall playing tennis with him at Brightwells.

A celebration of his life was held at Uppingham Parish Church on 2nd October 2017.

A few days after we heard of the death of these three Old Boys we were advised that early in October **P.R.M.'PETER' STILL (1945-1950)** had died. Peter lived in Farnborough and sometimes attended the annual dinner. On researching his school record there is nothing to show he was a sportsman and his only claim to fame was winning the Junior Chess Tournament 1949.

In April we learned of the death of **PETER SINGER (1937-1940)**. His brother-in-Law, well known Old Farnhamian, **HANS HOLM**, was very active in the Association in the 1980s and 1990s.

Peter was born in Nuremberg, Germany, of Jewish parents, who sent him to school in England in 1936. He was a boarder at Morley Road from September 1937 until May 1939.

OBITUARIES

He was grateful to Headmaster, F.A.Morgan, for his influence in the move to England of Peter's parents in time to escape the Nazi treatment of people of the Jewish faith.

In 1954 he met Hanna Cohn, the twin sister of Hans Cohn. Hans changed his name to Hans Holm (later known as Gerald Holm). Hanna and Peter had twin daughters.

Hans Holm, his mother and two sisters, managed to escape to England, with Hans and Hanna arriving on the Kindertransport in July 1939. It was not until 1975 that they discovered that their father has died at Auschwitz.

In recent years Peter and his wife Hanna have given generously in Hans' name to the Farnham Sixth Form College Sponsored Awards' Scheme, which helps students going to university or other forms of Higher Education. Hanna died peacefully in April 2018, but their daughters would like to continue to sponsor the "Hans Holm Award".

Peter died in October 2017 at the age of 94, after a short illness.

The following is taken from the eulogy prepared by his family.

"Peter was a very talented and creative man who loved his life with high personal standards and great enthusiasm.

After the Second World War he joined CCD (Civil Censorship Division) in Kassel, Germany. This was an American Army Unit where one of the missions was to find the war criminal, Martin Borman. They never did find him.

His career was varied and he worked as an engineer, a buyer in a handbag firm and as purchasing director for a slipper and shoe manufacturer supplying Marks & Spencer.

He took flying lessons, flying solo at the age of 76, and on his 90th birthday his family treated him to a helicopter ride over London.

He loved music, especially classical and Indian music, as well as jazz and blues. He was a passionate driver and won many trophies in rally driving. He went on walking holidays and remained fit even after a stroke at the age of 80.

Even in hospital during the final two weeks he remained in good spirits listening to tracks of his favourite jazz and reading books on Photography.

Peter Singer had many interests and many friends. He will be remembered and missed by many."

SIR JEFFREY TATE JOINS THE FARNHAM 'WALL OF FAME'



On 29th May 2018 over forty people gathered at Farnham Town Hall to take part in a ceremony to add the name of Sir Jeffrey Tate to the Wall of Fame in South Street. This number included several Old Boys, members of the Tate Family, and people who knew Sir Jeffrey at Farnham Grammar School and afterwards.

Those attending were greeted by David Attfield, the new Mayor of Farnham, who led the way to the Wall of Fame. He gave an address at the site regarding the reasons why this world famous Musical Conductor had been chosen. He then asked if Roger Edgell, former President of the Old Farnhamians' Association, and Jill Denbigh, Sister to Sir Jeffrey, would unveil the plaque.

Returning to the Town Hall for afternoon tea and cakes the Mayor then gave a more detailed history of Sir Jeffrey Tate, who died in the summer of 2017. The man had conducted orchestras across the world in spite of suffering from cerebral palsy and being in a wheelchair for most of his lifetime.

Jill Denbigh, sister of Sir Jeffrey then spoke about the early days when she and her brother were very close. She recalled several times where illness was a problem and she praised her brother for his courage in overcoming these difficulties and becoming a famous conductor.

Ian Sargeant, who was a student at the Grammar School at the same time as Sir Jeffrey, spoke on behalf of the Old Farnhamians. Both were influenced by Alan Fluck, the well-respected

music teacher at the School, and took part in concerts together. Ian said that as well as being an excellent musician he was also a first class student and conquered the exams he took and achieved many GCE passes.

Sir Jeffrey Tate left the School and went to Cambridge University to become a doctor and passed the exams to enable him to follow this profession. However, his love of music and his outstanding ability as a conductor resulted in his decision to follow this way of life. He was renowned throughout the world and conducted most of the great orchestras. In the 2017 New Year Honours' list he was knighted, adding this to the CBE he already held. In the summer of that year he died in Bergamo, Italy whilst on holiday, and the world of music lost one of its great talents.

Attending the ceremony were Andrew Tuck, an Old Boy of the School and former Vicar of St. Andrews, and his wife. Dr. Jason Jones, current Director of Farnham Sixth Form College, and Julia Wilson, daughter of Harold Beeken, former English teacher of the School, who had worked with Sir Jeffrey on many musical projects in Farnham.

The Old Farnhamians' Association was represented by Mr & Mrs Roger Edgell, Mr & Mrs Ian Sargeant, Mr & Mrs Cyril Trust, Derek Bowtell.



OLD GIRLS REMEMBER A GREAT FORMER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Farnham Girl's Grammar School was founded in 1901 and its building in Menin Way was opened by The Duchess of Gloucester in 1939. The girls had taken over the West Street premises when the boys moved to Morley Road in 1906 and desperately needed a larger area as the school gained in popularity.

Sometime after the move, an Old Girl 's Association was formed and for many years had a membership of well over 500 former students. Like the Boys' School the Girls' School was closed in 1973 and both sexes combined in the newly formed Farnham Sixth Form College. In recent years the two Associations held combined events and arranged concerts, special parties and lectures to raise money for various charities.

It was with much regret that in 2017 the FOGA decided to close as there were no volunteers to take over the position of Chairman Treasurer and Secretary. It was also decided that any money left would be used to have a lasting memorial to this first class school.

The committee commissioned local sculptor, Jane Jones, to produce a life size statue of a 1940's era school girl, which would be positioned at the former grammar school and which was now South Farnham School. The Old Girls' are indebted to Sir Andrew Carter, the headmaster of South Farnham School, for his co-operation.

In May 2018 around forty members of the Farnham Girls' Grammar School Old Girls' Association, who all attended the school between 1930 and 1970, gathered at the Menin Way School to share old memories of former friends and teachers while enjoying tea and cakes in the sunshine.

Pupils of South Farnham School served refreshments to the visitors and enjoyed listening to the memories of school days past whilst sharing snapshots of their own school life. Many of the Old Girls' Association enjoyed a tour of the school to see the facilities enjoyed by the children of today.

One of the current pupils at the school recited the Thomas Venables poem "The School Girl", reflecting the concept of youthful mystery and friendship invoked by the sculpture.

Susan Shoveller, deputy CEO of the South Farnham Educational Trust said, "We are delighted with the sculpture that embodies the strong link that the Old Girls' Association has had with South Farnham School through the years and it will stand as a reminder of the importance of being part of a school community that honours the past while embracing the future for all its pupils."

In the not too distant future the Old Farnhamians' Association will have to face the same problem of an ageing membership and decide the type of memorial they will leave for the Boys' Grammar School in Farnham. Not an easy decision!



NEWS FROM FARNHAM SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

2017 CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

On 14th December the College held its annual awards' evening in the Performance Hall and the top achieving students received a certificate and a cheque as a reward for their efforts. Once again the majority of the awards were sponsored via the Farnhamian 400 Trust, and this year forty students were rewarded.

Jason Jones, Director of the College opened the proceedings and welcomed his guests for the event. This was followed by music from two students, after which the Principal and CEO of the Guildford Group of Colleges, Jacki Hughes, welcomed the audience and gave a first class introduction.

This was followed by the actual presentation of awards and each student went on stage to receive their award from Guest of Honour, Tegan Creedy, and Jacki Hughes. Following this Tegan addressed the audience and gave an excellent speech about her days at the College and her experiences since leaving. She obtained a First Class Honours' Law Degree at the University of London and is now working for Latham & Watkins, an American company who are the largest law firm in the world. As a former student at Farnham she was able to give the students present some good advice.

The Director of Farnham closed the evening with news that Farnham is now one of the major Sixth Form Colleges in the South of England. There was the usual photocall and a reception to finish off the evening.

The Awards for 2017 were as follows:

Ellie Warner The Audrey Erdington Award for English, **Jonathan Lassiter** The Brian Williams Award for IT, **Ollie Tipple** The Bryan Bone Award for English Literature, **Ross Gannon** The Derek Skillin Award for Geography (Surveying), **Katie May Baker/ Rebekah De'Antiquis** The Don Homer Award for Drama.

Ed Hartz / Amy Rimmer The Dudley Backhurst Award for Science, **Anna Drewett** The Geoff Hooker Award for Mathematics, **Annabel Rieden** The Graham Hunt Award for Science, **Fran Downton/Charlotte O'Connor** The Hans Holm Award for English & Journalism, **Beth Howden** The John Edmunds Award for English.

Emma Wiltshire The John Mew Award for English Literature, **Shivani Bathia** The John Terrill Award for Mathematics, **Sam Welfare** The John Terrill Award for Sport, **Catherine Bookham** The Knotts Family for Engineering, **Liam Trussler** The Maurice Jeffreys Award for Business Studies.

2017 CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

Anna Middlehurst The Michael Lampard Award for French, **Catherine Bookham** The Paul French Award for Mathematics and Science, **Paris Nash** The Peter Read Award for Drama, **Ed Hartz** The Robert North Award for Science, **Nick White** The Sturt Family Award for Computer Aided Design.

Ellie Blake The Tony Moore Award for Geography, **Harry Macer** The Chris Nash Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Sophie Hunnings** The Cyril Trust Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Patricia Medina-Capila** The David Milburn Award for Most Promising Student, **Nicola Dobson** The Davies Family Award.

Paris Nash The Gerald LeVey Award for Team Player, **David Tandi** The Ian Bolt Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Alice Forward** The Ian Sargeant Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Hannah Thorpe** The John Crotty Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Hannah Skevington** The John Travers Award for Outstanding Achievement.

James Wills The Keith Mentzel Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Jonathan Howe** The Michael Horner Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Tiffany Cooper/Jasmine Gyamfi** The Roy Robins Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Gursharon Grewal/ Rhiannon Jones** The Spencer/King Award for Outstanding Achievement, **Joseph Banning** The Tony Bolt Award for Outstanding Achievement.

Special Awards:

Katie Baker The F.A.Morgan Award for Drama, **Emilio Hidalgo** The William Stroud Award for Music, **Harry Macer** The Farnham Educational Foundation Award for Contribution to College Life, **Catherine Bookham** The Farnham Educational Foundation Award for Outstanding Work with the Student Council.

Rebecca Brislen The John Goddard Award to help her complete two weeks work in the Dominican Republic, shadowing midwives.

ALTHOUGH THE SPONSORSHIP AWARDS' SCHEME HAS BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS OVER THE PAST FOURTEEN YEARS AND GIVEN THE TOP STUDENTS WELL OVER £30,000 IN TOTAL, THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR MORE. ANY READER WHO WISHES TO BECOME A SPONSOR PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR ON cyriltrust@btinternet.com



Dr. Jason Jones addresses the audience. Ian Sargeant with David Attfield (Deputy Mayor)



2017 CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Tegan Creedy (Guest of Honour).who gave a memorable talk to the students, with Jacki Hughes (Principal of the Guildford College Group and CEO) who complimented the staff of Farnham Sixth Form College for their excellent results in 2017.

FARNHAM SIXTH FORM COLLEGE LEADS THE WAY

In recent months the national press has highlighted the problems that stress is causing many students and a large sum of money has been earmarked to address the problem. The total of £1.7 billion has been pledged by the Government to improve children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The Local Government Association want to have mental health counsellors for every secondary school in the United Kingdom and are calling for £90 million to be used to make it mandatory for every student in a secondary school.

Dr. Jason Jones, Director of Farnham Sixth Form College, is well aware of the situation and has taken the initiative by arranging for a series of lectures at the College in March 2018. These three lectures on the 21st March were presented by the College and the Old Farnhamians' Association in conjunction with a charity entitled "Happy Space".

"Happy Space" is a preventative mental wellbeing non-profit making organisation helping university and college students answer the question "Why don't I feel OK?" The group provide engaging content, foster partnerships and host events to enable students to reach their own Happy Space.

Mental illness, including depression and anxiety, can result in a lowering of academic achievement, dropping out of college or university, and in some cases suicide. The Happy Space group began by raising money to prepare and publish a Guidebook, which gives the student guidelines to dealing with their problems. The group then began a programme for lectures, with a major talk to over 1000 students from the University of London. This was followed by lectures at Frensham Heights School and St. Paul's School for Girls in London. The group also did a presentation at the House of Lords and the charity was endorsed by the members.

One of the group founders was Tegan Creedy, who was educated at Frensham Heights and Farnham Sixth Form College. She was accepted at the University of London and gained a first class Honours' degree in Law. It was a matter of time before she was invited to Farnham to lecture to the current students and students from other local schools. A total number of students to attend the lectures was almost 400 and will be a major move in Farnham to address the problems of mental illness among students.

Dr. Jones said that Farnham Sixth Form College is leading the way in supporting students in the locality and he is delighted that one of the former students is leading the new charity group. Tegan Creedy welcomed returning to her former college to help the current students. The lectures were introduced by Ioan Davies (Pastoral Lead), whose remit includes supporting students with mental difficulties. The Old Farnhamians was represented by Cyril Trust, who organised the event.

FARNHAM SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Just prior to Easter 2018 it was announced in the press that the Guildford College Group, which includes Farnham Sixth Form College and Merrist Wood College, was to be merged with a new group of colleges. This followed a Government initiative to restructure the post-16 education training sector.

Several groups were interested in merging with Guildford, but after much deliberation the Activate Learning group was chosen. This large group already includes Reading College, City of Oxford College, Banbury & Bicester College and Bracknell & Wokingham College. This is a very successful group and can only help the Guildford College Group move forward.

There will be a process of Due Diligence and Activate Learning will be publishing a report for consultation later in the year to set out the benefits that joining together will bring the colleges and the individuals. Following the consultation the Corporation Boards will decide whether to go ahead with the merger with a target date towards the end of 2018.

On March 13th two students from the College were on hand to witness the Commonwealth flag being unfurled by the Mayor of Farnham. First year students Jacob Welch and Freya Chandler were part of the ceremony when John Ward, the Mayor of Farnham, read a short message from the Queen to commemorate Commonwealth Day.

A group of students was given the opportunity to pitch a business plan idea to the Rotary Club of Farnham. 'PopPersonal' is a small group of students from the College taking part in the Young Enterprise Company Programme. They have been running for more than a year under the guidance of a Young Enterprise adviser.

During one of the Rotary Club's lunchtime meetings, the students pitched their product "Able Cable" – a three in-one multifunctional charger that works for both Android and Apple phones. The students gave a detailed description of their product and outlined their future plans. The members of the Rotary Club showed a strong interest in the PopPersonal product, purchasing many units and placing bulk orders.

SAD NEWS!

Towards the end of June 2018 a document was issued by the Guildford College Group/Activate Learning laying out details of the benefits of the merger between the two groups early in 2019. At the same time the work of Due Diligence began and heralded several changes at an early stage.

On 13th July 2018 the current Director of Farnham Sixth Form College left the College and an interim head, Neil Brookes, would take over the role of leading Farnham Sixth Form College. It was explained that this was an interim situation and more details would follow. From the Old Boys' point of view this is sad news as for three years they have worked closely with Dr. Jason Jones and found him to be an excellent leader of the College.

MORE CHANGES AT MORLEY ROAD

For more than ten years Farnham Sixth Form College, whose home of the former Farnham Boys' Grammar School has been part of the Guildford College Group. This group also includes Merrist Wood Agricultural College.

Early in 2018 the Secretary of State for Education announced that she regarded the group as “financially naïve” and demanded that the Guildford College Group was merged with a more successful partner.

Ten college groups initially showed an interest and these were reduced to four contenders. In the summer of 2018 it was announced that the chosen group was from Oxford and named Activate Learning.

So, who is Activate Learning? This organisation already has in its group, Reading College, City of Oxford College, Banbury & Bicester College, with Bracknell and Wokingham College to join in the autumn of 2018. From a single Further Education College they have evolved into an international group, including secondary, further and higher education, an apprenticeship scheme and work force training, consultancy and commercial business.

At the heart of their approach is a unique learning philosophy, which recognises how people learn best and empowers them to thrive in the right learning environment. This Learning Philosophy is made up of three elements:

1. Brain – From the study of neuroscience, they know how the brain forms new networks when learning takes place;
2. Motivation - The brain will only develop if you are motivated to learn. The programmes from Activated Learning are motivating because they give learners opportunities to put theory into practice;
3. Emotions – Students must be safe and secure in their learning environment to take the risks required to learn.

The group invites people to join them on their journey of transformation as they provide innovative learning, energise communities and generate prosperity.

Farnham Sixth Form College will be joining this group with a probable list of seven colleges involved. Activate Learning have five units in their “Schools Division”, apprenticeship training through ATG Training (Aylesbury), and an “International Division”. The latter includes managing three colleges in Saudi Arabia, developing teacher training programmes in China, and a vocational training programme in Malaysia and Myanmar.

Already Activate Learning is involved in ‘due diligence’ with Farnham Sixth Form College and at the early stages some major changes have been made at top management level. To alter the current structure of the Guildford College Group will take time and there will be many changes along the way.

MORE CHANGES AT MORLEY ROAD

The new situation will still involve a close association with the Old Farnhamians. The actual land and buildings at Morley Road are still owned by the Farnham Educational Foundation. The College Sponsored Awards' Scheme will probably remain and the Old Boys will still be available to support the College wherever possible.

The aim is to increase the number of students at both Farnham and Guildford, which will make the College more financially viable. The syllabus requires improvement in size and quality and the future students from Farnham and district must realise that there is a first class Sixth Form College on their doorstep.

The College will be a different educational centre from the one that most of our readers knew in the days of Farnham Grammar School. On behalf of the Old Farnhamians' Association I wish the new enterprise well and hope the new venture will prove successful. It will be a shame that there will be no magazine to report the progress being made.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE?

In the summer of 2020 it is planned to publish the 27th and final modern Farnhamian magazine and the editor will be looking for articles etc. to make this a memorable edition. I have written to several Old Boys who are well known to most of the membership, and asked if they would write a few words about their links with the Association since leaving School.

I am looking for items of interest, items to make one laugh, and memories of days gone by. This will be the final words to come from a magazine that originated in 1912 and was resurrected by the editor in 1993.

If you have something to say, please send it to me and we should go out on a high note!

THE FINAL WORDS

Over the 27 years that I have been editing the Farnhamian magazine there have been a number of people who should be thanked for their support over the years.

BILL LUFF – A former pupil and then a career as a teacher and headmaster. He has spent hours pouring over the draft magazines, correcting the punctuation and the wording

SIMON GRANVILLE-JONES – **and** his team at Riverprint who have collated and printed the magazines since the first two issues. Special thanks to the Operations Manager, **DARREN WOODS**, whose father was an Old Boy.

Each year I ask for somebody to pay for an advert to help with the costs of the magazine and each year the following contribute £30. **STEPHEN PRITCHARD, CHRIS HONE, JOHN HIRST, ROBIN WELLAND-JONES**

We work hard to be the best accountancy and advisory firm to privately owned business and we benchmark our performance continuously.

- Audit and accounts
- VAT and corporate tax
- Acquisitions and disposals
- Business consultancy
- Private client and offshore services
- Payroll and outsourcing

To learn how your business could benefit, please contact Stephen Pritchard on 01489 566707 or email spritchard@menzies.co.uk (Quoting Farnhamian).

www.menzies.co.uk



Menzies is a member of  International. A world-wide network of independent accounting firms and business advisers.

**We look forward to the Next Edition of the
'Farnhamian'
From**

HONE PROPERTIES

Est. 1908

Commercial and Residential Property

The Granary, 1 Waverley Lane, Farnham, Surrey
GU9 8BB

www.honeproperties.co.uk

Telephone: 01252 721167 Fax: 01252 726490

*Traditionally constructed timber
framed garages and outbuildings*

**ROOKERY BARNES
LIMITED**

Hartley Wood Farm, Oakhanger, Hampshire.
GU35 9JW

Tel: 01420 488870

Website: www.rookerybarnes.com

Printed by ANTON VISUAL, ANDOVER – 01264 337337