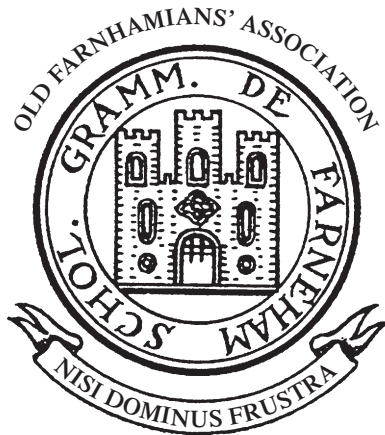


THE FARNHAMIAN



March 2014

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THE FARNHAMIAN

March 2014

We now celebrate the coming of age for the modern Farnhamian, with this, the 21st issue and the 102nd edition since the first in 1912. Over the years the magazines have contained a great deal of history, about the boys, the teachers, the two World Wars and many of the landmarks in the history of this country. Still new facts arrive, and the overall picture of the life of the Farnham Grammar School gets clearer each year.

So what will this year bring? The new style President's Lunch at a new venue, the Farnham Lecture by A Minister of State, another nostalgic Southampton Lunch, another record breaking Sponsorship Awards' Evening, the fortieth anniversary of the closing of the old School and the third Afternoon of Nostalgia. The events continue, and the Association features regularly in the local press, covering current news and items from the past and the present.

The first event of the year was the President's Lunch, held at Farnham Ramada Hotel instead of the expensive Farnham Castle. The afternoon proved a great success and the number attending was one of the highest for some years. A good start to the 2013 events' programme!

The former Farnham Grammar Schools for both boys and girls closed on 5th September 1973 and a few days after this date in 2013 over 100 former pupils gathered at South Farnham School (formerly the Girls' Grammar School) to commemorate 'Forty Years On!' It was a first class reception and enjoyed by all, including the new Director of Farnham College, who arranged to take a party on a tour of the old Morley Road School.

The Southampton Lunch was its usual relaxed occasion in the New Forest and although the numbers were a little down on previous years it was a most enjoyable event and one that will continue for years to come.

The 25th Farnham Lecture was a triumph and Jeremy Hunt gave an excellent talk on 'The Health of the Nation'. He was presented with an Old Boys' cuff links and tie and chose to wear the latter for the lecture.

The year ended with the usual spate of award ceremonies, with 36 awards sponsored by former pupils and their families at the Farnham College 'Celebration of Achievement Evening'. The Old Boys were also represented at Guildford College Awards, Weydon School Awards, and Heath End School Awards. The Ash Manor Awards for this year will be in July.

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Over twenty members of the Association attended the AGM, which began with the traditional moments of silence for those Old Boys who had died during the previous twelve months.

After Apologies, Minutes of the 2013 AGM and Matters Arising, Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer) presented the set of accounts for the year and went through the various items in detail. Overall they show a healthy picture with events making a small profit and the only area to consider is the huge rise in the cost of postage.

In the absence of Bryan Bone, current President, Ian Sargeant gave the Chairman's Report. He said that the membership had only dropped a little and there were still over 300 active members. The Annual President's Lunch had been successful at the new venue on the Hogs Back and the Southampton Lunch continued to attract good numbers, although this year there was some dissatisfaction with the meal. Once again the Old Boys and Old Girls had joined forces to enjoy 'Forty Years On!' a celebration party to commemorate forty years since the former Grammar Schools closed.

Cyril Trust, Chairman of the 400 Trust, said that during the year the Trust had taken part in the Surrey Showcase in Farnham and this had been a successful venture. The 25th anniversary Farnham Lecture by Jeremy Hunt MP had been one of the best to date, although it was proving difficult to attract large numbers to attend. The Sponsorship College Awards' Scheme goes from strength to strength and there are now 36 sponsors for awards to current students at the College. On the other hand there was some concern over the Partnership Awards' Scheme which will need reviewing in the coming months.

Roger Edgell, current Secretary, announced that the President's Lunch had attracted 94 members and the venue had proved highly successful. With the help of the raffle the event had made a small profit and the venue had been booked again for March 29th this year. It was hoped that the numbers attending will approach 100 again and that the new Director of the College will be Guest of Honour.

Cyril Trust was congratulated on his 21st magazine and he confirmed that the 2014 edition was ready for printing and would be available by the end of March. As usual he welcomes any news from members of the Association and hopes the new issue will be up to standard.

There was some concern over the service at the Southampton Lunch venue and it was agreed that an alternative should be considered. Derek Roe is now in charge of this event and will try to arrange a suitable event for October.

The meeting closed with the election of officers and Ian Sargeant was elected as the new President of the Association, with Roger Edgell as Vice- President.

2013 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL LUNCH



All former Presidents of the Old Farnhamians' Association

Cyril Trust: Brian Daniels: Bryan Bone: Mike Horner
Brian Williams: John Crotty: Dennis Phillips.

After many years holding the annual dinner/lunch at Farnham Castle, the Association decided to move the 2013 venue to the Farnham Ramada Hotel on the Hogs Back. This long standing event, for pupils of the now defunct Farnham Grammar School, has also altered the reunion to a lunchtime instead of evening. Therefore Saturday 11th May brought several changes, but the result was one of the best reunions for many years. The number of Old Boys and former staff totalled ninety-four, which was the highest number for several years. Roger Edgell, the organiser of the event deserves much praise for bringing together so many Old Boys.

The first class meal was followed by a number of speeches, with Maurice Jeffreys being the first on his feet to speak about his days at the School, and to propose a toast to it. His nostalgic and humorous speech resulted in a standing ovation. He was followed by Julian Walden, who spoke about the Association and proposed a toast to the organisation that began in 1925. Both speakers praised the old Grammar School and the way that it had shaped their lives, and valued the opportunity to remain in contact with former class mates.

2014 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL LUNCH

Bryan Bone, the current President, and in his final year in the role, replied and endorsed the words of both speakers and hoped that the Association would remain active for many years to come, although gradual shrinkage was inevitable. He particularly praised Roger Edgell for arranging the event.

Cyril Trust, chairman of the Farnhamian 400 Trust, spoke about anniversaries in 2013. He pointed out that in 1853 Charles Stroud became headmaster and inherited fewer than ten pupils and a school in debt. He managed to overcome the School entering administration in 1861 and proceeded to build the School we all know, until its closure in 1973. When he retired in 1897 there were almost 200 pupils and the plans for the Morley Road school had begun. Each place setting had a copy of the programme and menu for the opening ceremony in 1906. It was 160 years since Charles Stroud entered the School.

Cyril then pointed out that this year is the 40th anniversary of the closure of the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools in Farnham. He said that a commemorative reception had been arranged for September and hoped that many former pupils from both Schools would attend. The annual Farnham Lecture celebrates its 25th anniversary this year and he was delighted to announce that Jeremy Hunt MP and Minister of State for Health has agreed to give the lecture at South Farnham School on 1st November. It was also the 10th anniversary of the College Awards' Sponsored Scheme where Old Boys or their families give financial rewards to the top students at Farnham College. Over those years the amount given has exceeded £20,000.

The Roll Call followed and then the traditional singing of the School Song and the National Anthem. As usual the ageing singers raised the roof with their enthusiasm and departed to various parts of the country, indeed the world, having enjoyed meeting old friends. This new venue had proved highly successful and the Old Farnhamians are still very much a part of the town of Farnham.

Attending: G.E.Allman: G.Andrews: H.Batchelor: J.Bateman: C.Beal: R.Bennett: P. Blowfield: D.J.Blunt: B.E.Bone: D.Bowtell: R.Bowtell: M.Burchett: M.Burgess: M.Byfield: F.Carter: J.Clark: M.Collier: J.Cooke: P.Cranswick: J.Crotty: D.Cutler: B.Daniels: J.David: D.Edgell: R.Edgell: A.Gatfield: A.Gathercole: G.Glazier: H.Groves: R.H.Hewes: J.Hirst: T. Homewood: G.Hooker: P.Huntingford: Rev. J.Innes: M.Jeffreys: R.Jones: R.Kite: D. Lampard: G.LeVey: M.Little: R.Lord: R.Luckhurst: J.Matthews: E.Mayne: M.Mehta: D. McManamon: R.Parker: J.Pesterfield: D.Phillips: R.Phillips: B.Phillpott: D.Polglaze: D. Pollard: S.Pritchard: P.Read: M.Rochefort: D.Roe: L.Scard: M.Seignot: M.D.Seignot: J. Sherwood: C.Slyfield: A.Spink: M.Sturt: J.Terrill: N.Timmins: J.Travers: C.D.Trust: K. Elkins: B.Elson: C.Fairclough: C.Fitch: R.Frampton: A.Gatfield: A.Moore: K.Mortimer: C. Mullins: P.Mylles: C.Nash: J.Neave: J.Peace: H.Upfold: J.Walden: W.Walsh: R.Welland-Jones: B.Williams: M.Wingent: N.Wood: M.Horner: S.Lord.

2013 FARNHAM LECTURE

Left to Right: John Travers: John Crotty: Bryan Bone: Andrew Carter (South Farnham):
Jeremy Hunt: Cyril Trust: John McLaughlin: Tony Gatfield: Mike Mehta: Maurice Sturt.

On November 1st 2013 around one hundred people attended the 25th anniversary Farnham Lecture given by Rt. Hon. Jeremy Hunt MP, Minister of Health and local MP. His subject was 'The Health of the Nation' and he split the evening into part lecture and part question time.

He explained that the NHS (National Health Service) was the fifth largest employer in the world with MacDonaldis and Wallmart among the first four. The size of the job was enormous and presented many problems, with two being the major issues at this time.

The first major problem was the ageing community in this country, as well as most other countries in the world. The improvements in medication and health care had resulted in people living much longer and therefore putting pressure on the Health Service. He could see this escalation continuing in the future and every decade the life expectancy increases by two years or people live longer for five hours in every twenty four hours.

The hospital network is unable to absorb this increase as it stands and he feels that the answer is much better home care for patients. There needs to be a much improved liaison with

2013 FARNHAM LECTURE

the local GP's and local support services which would offer better home care than it does currently.

The second major problem is the accountability of the hospitals themselves and trying to have the ability to find out who actually is to blame for failure within a hospital. With this in mind he has introduced a system similar to the Ofsted system in education. He has appointed a chief inspector of hospitals who travels to all hospitals and carries out checks in the general running of the unit as a whole, as well as certain sections of the hospital.

Having introduced this new scheme he has already placed twelve hospitals into 'special measures' and has found that each hospital has responded differently to the scheme. Some have objected to the intrusion, while others have been pleased to have somebody advise what is wrong and where to put it right.

He feels that health is not a political football and whichever party is in power should only be concerned with the people in their care. Some things done by other parties have been good, whilst others have not.

Jeremy Hunt answered many questions from the floor and made it clear that to cut down the great load of paperwork the NHS requires a proper IT system. He feels that the current system is out of date and he is determined to install a good IT system and have the doctors, nurses etc. linked into accurate information which would greatly reduce current paperwork.

The lecture was worthy of the 25th anniversary and the speaker stated his case well and in a friendly manner. He is a natural and likeable man and this came across to the audience.

Cyril Trust brought the evening to a close and thanked the speaker for giving the lecture on his birthday. Prior to the talk the speaker was presented with an Old Farnhamians' tie and cufflinks. This lecture will be difficult to improve on in the future.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR 2014

GENERAL COMMITTEE: Ian Sargeant (President): Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer): Roger Edgell (Secretary); B.R.William: B.E.Bone: K.E.Mentzel: B.Daniels: C.Slyfield: M.Mehta: M.Horner: P.Mylles: W.Luff: W.Walsh: J.Travers: R.Welland-Jones: A.Gatfield: J.C.Crotty: D.Grimes: J.Clark: C.D.Trust: R.Cleminson: C.Nash: M.Collier: J.Walden: A Lovell.

FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST: Cyril Trust (Chairman): Stephen Pritchard (Treasurer): Bill Luff: Tony Gatfield (Secretary): John Crotty: Hugh Batchelor: Bryan Bone: Brian Williams: Mike Horner: Roger Edgell.

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

2013 SOUTHAMPTON LUNCH



Old Boys from the September 1948 intake meet at Southampton.

Left to Right: Maurice Jeffreys; John Cockle; Brian Webberley; Neville Timmins; Cyril Trust.

The Woodlands Lodge Hotel in the New Forest played host to over 30 former pupils of the Farnham Grammar School at the 52nd Southampton Lunch. As usual Old Boys travelled from afar to join old classmates. Gerry LeVey came from York, Maurice Jeffreys from Chagford in Devon and Norman Paget from Baltimore USA. As usual the room buzzed with memories of the old School and Cyril Trust said a few words at this informal affair. He said Surrey was celebrating the birth of George Sturt 150 years ago. Also The Old Farnhamians would have a stand at the Surrey Showcase on 19th October at the Adult Education Centre in Farnham, the original home of the Grammar School. On 1st November the 25th Farnham Lecture would be given by Jeremy Hunt, local MP for South West Surrey and Minister of State for Health, speaking about 'The Health of the Nation'. Secretary, Roger Edgell, advised that the Annual President's Lunch would be on Saturday 29th March 2014 at the Ramada Hotel, Farnham.

Attending: G.Andrews; H.Batchelor; D.Bowtell; D.Buckell; J.Cockle; J.Crotty, D.Cutler; B.Daniels; R.Edgell; J.Hibberd; G.Hooker; M.Jeffreys; D.Lampard; G.LeVey; D.Lucas; K.Mentzel; D.Macmanamon; K.Mortimer; C.Nash; N.Paget; J.Peace; D.Phillips; R.Phillips; S.Pritchard; D.Roe; N.Timmins; C.Trust; B.Webberley; T.Withall; B.Williams.

SURREY HERITAGE SHOWCASE



Hugh Batchelor and John Travers manning the OFA Stand at the Surrey Showcase

Each year Surrey History Centre chooses a town in the county to hold an exhibition to show the local people something about the history of the town. In 2012 it was held at the village of Warlingham and in 2013 the town of Farnham was chosen. The exhibition was held at the Adult Education Centre in West Street and as this was the original home of the Farnham Grammar School the organisers wanted the Old Farnhamians' Association to be included and show people the history of this remarkable School. The OFA stand was put together by a supporter and during the day it was manned by former teacher Hugh Batchelor, John Travers, Bill Luff and Tony Gatfield. Several Old Boys and their families visited the show and general opinion was that the OFA stand was first class.

Other organisations attending including The Museum of Farnham, William Cobbett Society, The Farnham Society, Farnham & District Museum Society, Farnham University for the Creative Arts, West Surrey Family History Society, Surrey Records' Society, Rural Life Centre, East Surrey Family History Society, Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey) and many more.

Farnham Grammar School plays an important part in the history of the town and deserved being in such good company.

FORTY YEARS ON!



The organising committee for the Forty Years On! event, held at the former Girls' Grammar School in September, to commemorate the closing of the Farnham Grammar Schools in 1973

As Sir Bradley Wiggins and the Tour of Britain cyclists sped through Farnham, well over 100 former pupils and staff of the now defunct Farnham Grammar Schools held a special reception to remember those schools which closed forty years ago. The Boys' Grammar School is now Farnham College and the Girls' Grammar School is now South Farnham School.

The school in Menin Way hosted the reception, entitled Forty Years On! and guests enjoyed a finger buffet and drinks before getting down to much nostalgia about the times at the old schools. The Chairman of the Old Girls' Association, Patricia Atkinson, welcomed the guests, which included Old Boys, Old Girls, former staff from Farnham College and Jonathan Stewart, the new Director of Farnham College.

During the afternoon some of the Old Girls broke away for their Annual General Meeting, but soon returned to continue meeting and speaking to former classmates. Later in the afternoon Jonathan Stewart took a party of Old Boys to the College and gave them a guided tour of the old and new buildings. He also showed them some of the new developments at the College, including a new gymnasium and shower block.

FORTY YEARS ON!

Several guests attended with their wives, who they had met when both attended the Grammar Schools. This was achieved in spite of the warnings that female and male pupils should not be seen fraternizing.

Guests travelled from across the west and south of the country to attend this third event combining the Old Boys' and Old Girls' Associations. Clearly it was a great success and the organizing committee will be considering a similar get-together sometime in the future. It is a pleasure to see that both the old schools bred pupils who have a great affection for their school, their teachers and their classmates after so many years.



The above party enjoyed a guided tour of the former Boys' Grammar School and saw the many changes that have been made since their days as a pupil. It was good to see that two Old Girls decided to join the party.

THE SCHOOL CUPS
INTER – HOUSE BASKET BALL CUP
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1966	CHILDE HOUSE	1967	MORLEY HOUSE
1968	MORLEY HOUSE	1969	HARDING/MASSINGBERD
1970	CHILDE HOUSE	1971	CHILDE HOUSE

INTER – HOUSE JUNIOR ATHLETICS SPORTS CUP


1926	MASSINGBERD	1927	MASSINGBERD	1928	MORLEY
1929	CHILDE	1930	CHILDE	1931	CHILDE
1932	MASSINGBERD	1933	SCHOOL	1934	SCHOOL
1935	CHILDE	1936	CHILDE	1937	MORLEY
1938	SCHOOL	1939	MORLEY	1940	MASSINGBERD
1941	CHILDE				

FARNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL WAR HEROES
(Taken from the REMEMBRANCE BOOK – NO 2.
By Henry Ellwood)

SECOND LIEUTENANT THOMAS CHARLES HINE

In the 1901 census the Hine family, consisting of mother, father and two sons, is shown living at 47 Castle Street, Farnham. Thomas Hine, the eldest son, attended Farnham Grammar School and on leaving joined the staff of the Farnham Herald before becoming a teacher. He worked in Dover, before enlisting in the 20th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (known as the 3rd Public Schools). He was the only Farnham man to join this battalion. It is recorded that he was killed in action on Thursday 20th July 1916. It is probable that he was killed in action when the Division was attacking Bazentin Ridge during the Battle of the Somme.

Lieutenant T.C.Hine is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face: 8C 9A and 16A.

Previous to his death the following appeared in the Farnham Herald: "Congratulations to Mr Thomas Charles Hine, son of Dr. and Mrs Hine of West Street, on securing a commission in the Public Schools' Corps at Epsom. Mr. T.C.Hine was formerly a member of the Farnham Herald staff and subsequently entered the teaching profession. On joining up he had been quickly promoted to a Sgt. before receiving his commission. Mr. Bert Hine, his younger brother, was formerly the assistant stage manager to Mr. Forbes Robinson with whom he toured the USA before the war. Bert Hine joined the Royal Artillery and is now at the front in France.

The 20th Battalion Royal Fusiliers was formed on 11th September 1914 within the 98th Brigade of the 33rd Division. In November 1914 it was transferred to the 19th Brigade in the same Division. The 33rd Division moved to France and was concentrated around Morbecque on November 21st 1915. They then entered the Somme Offensive on July 12th 1916 and took part in the attack at Bazentin Ridge on July 16th, and were in action at High Wood.

There was a series of actions which included the capture of Dewdrop Trenches. In 1917 the Division was engaged in the 2nd Battle of Scarpe and an assault on the Hindenburg Line. In September the 33rd Division transferred to Ypres Salient and fought in the Battles of Menin Road Ridge and Polygon Wood.

In 1918 the Division took part in the Battles of Messines, Hazebroick, Bailleul and Kemmel Ridge. They then took part at the Battles of Epehy, St. Quentin Canal, Cambrai, Picardy and the Battle of Selle.

The 33rd Division suffered 37, 404 casualties in the First World War.

Thomas Hine appears on both the Farnham Gostrey Memorial and the Farnham Grammar School Roll of Honour.

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

SIGNALLER LESLIE BAYNES STARLING

Leslie Baynes Starling was born in Farnham and was the son of Charles and Augusta Starling of Bridgefield, Farnham. Leslie attended Farnham Grammar School before joining the staff of the London and County Westminster Bank and at the time of enlistment for the First World War lived in Slough, where he had many friends. He was a very clever musician and gave great promise of becoming a brilliant cellist. He was ever ready when in Farnham to give his services and frequently played at the Congregational Church and the P.S.A. and at concerts in the town.

Leslie Baynes Starling was killed in action on Thursday 29th August 1918 and his parents received the news from a colleague at the front, prior to the official news from the Army. The official letter said, "His loss was keenly felt by us and more especially by those of us who were with him in training at Brigade Signal Schools. He was a generous, willing and ever cheerful comrade and well liked by us all. We do feel for you in your great loss and trust the blow will be somewhat softened by the knowledge that your son died a hero's death, making the great and supreme sacrifice in a just and righteous cause. Please accept this, our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, and regret that only a few lines cannot express our deep feelings".

The 1891 census shows that Charles Starling, the father, was the Editor of the Surrey & Hants News.

Leslie Starling is buried in Queant Cemetery, Buissy, Pas de Calais, France. Grave: I.H.29

Before the war started in 1914 the London Regiment comprised 26 Territorial Battalions and the 14th Battalion was known as the London Scottish. These Battalions on being sent abroad became known as the 1st/5th, 1st/6th, 1st/7th, and 1st/8th etc. Men were recruited for reinforcements for these first line units and they became known as 2nd/5th, 2nd/6th etc. Battalions. Initially they sent out their trained men to the first line units and after a time it was necessary to send out these men to complete the Battalions. Third line units were then recruited which were designated 3rd/5th, and 3rd/6th Battalions which in time became known as the training/reserve Battalions.

The 1st/14th Battalion became part of the 4th London Brigade of the 2nd London Division. In the 1914 to 1918 reorganisation the Territorial Divisions were renumbered and the 2nd London Division became the 47th Division. In 1915 the 47th Division was in action at Aubers Ridge, Festubert, Loos and the Hohenzollern Redoubt. The Londoners were holding positions at Vimy Ridge in 1916 and during the Somme offensive gained honours at Courcelette and Le Transloy. In 1917 they fought with distinction in the 3rd Battle of Ypres at the Cambrai. During this battle they lost 30% of their strength.

THE NEW SCHOOL AT MORLEY ROAD

Brian Webberley (1948-1954) came across a Prospectus for the Grammar School when visiting a local Antiques Fair. It was undated, but was clearly issued shortly after the Morley Road School opened in 1906. It gives details of our old school and shows how things have changed in education over the past one hundred years. I hope you find it of interest.

Situation: Farnham is situated in one of the prettiest parts of Surrey; the country round is well-wooded, the soil gravel, the climate bracing.

The New School Buildings: Are about three minutes' walk from the Station, which is reached in little over an hour from Waterloo on the L.S.W.R. The School proper contains on the ground floor a large Cloak-room and Changing-Room, a Dining Hall for 90 boys, a large Laboratory and an Art Room; on the first floor is the Big School-Room beautifully panelled in oak, and five Class-Rooms, each capable of accommodating 25 boys. The Class-Rooms are all lofty, well lit and ventilated, and every room is heated by hot water. The School has been newly furnished throughout, and the whole of the equipment is of the most modern character. Alongside of the School is the Carpenter's Shop and Workshop for boys, and a large barn fitted up as a Bicycle House. In the Headmaster's house are the boys' Dormitories, very lofty and heated by hot water. In the Senior Dormitory is the private sleeping apartment for the Resident Master; and the Junior Dormitory for the little boys is in the charge of a Senior. Altogether there is accommodation for 23 Boarders. There are two large Bath-Rooms for the use of the boys. In front of the School are the Playing Fields, six acres in extent. The Infirmary for cases of sickness is situated about 150 yards from the School.

Admission: A boy may enter the School at the age of eight. The Examination for admission is graduated according to age, but never falls below the following standard: Reading, Writing from Dictation, and the First Four Rules in Arithmetic. Parents are advised to send their boys to us as young as possible, because boys who enter at 12 or 13 have as a rule so much to unlearn. If a boy has been to school before, a certificate of good conduct is required before admission.

Preparatory Department: In order to make the work of the School continuous the Governors have sanctioned the formation of a Preparatory Department for boys between 7 and 10. These boys are in charge of a capable Mistress; they have much shorter hours than the boys of the School proper; they have a portion of the Playing Field set apart for their use; they do not mix with the other boys except at Prayers; only very short Home Lessons are set: their work is arranged on the latest educational lines. Boys who are intended for Grammar School should enter the Preparatory Department as soon as possible.

Objects of the School: The main object of the School is to train boys to be worthy Christian citizens. The great majority of the boys go into Business or Commercial Life, while some few

A NEW SCHOOL AT MORLEY ROAD

go every year into the Professions, or to the Universities. All the arrangements of the School are made to meet these ends. The Subjects of Instruction set out below are not merely taught; but the greatest attention is paid to neatness, accuracy, method of work, mental alertness, and use of leisure. While the Headmaster and his Colleagues seek to co-operate most earnestly with the Parents in developing and fostering those sound principles of duty, obedience and uprightness, which are the basis of life. Many of the Subjects of Instruction may have only an indirect value for some of the boys, but that indirect value is a very great one. And for those boys who shall be called to leading positions in their towns, the value of some culture, of something more than so-called Useful Knowledge is recognized by everybody. For those who proceed to the Universities the qualifications of the staff of Masters is sufficient guarantee that the boys will be well-grounded and well-prepared. The Headmaster is most anxious for parents to consult him at all times with reference to the progress of their boys at the School, and also with reference to their proposed work in the world after leaving School.

School Terms and Hours: The School Year is divided into three Terms of about 13 weeks each. The School Hours are from 9 to 12.30 and from 2.00 to 4.10. There is a break of a few minutes between the Lessons, both in the morning and the afternoon. Wednesday and Saturday afternoons are half-holidays, but if a boy is persistently idle, he is liable to lose one or both half-holidays.

School Fees, Per Term:

Tuition (Boys living in Surrey)	£3 3s 0d
Tuition (Boys not living in Surrey)	£3 17s 0d
Games Fund: 1s/6d,	Library: 3d, School Material: 1s/0d.

Reduced Fees. There are the following reductions off the Tuition Fees:

Boys under 10 a reduction of One Guinea per Term.

Boys between 10 and 11 a reduction of Half-Guinea per Term.

Boys provide themselves with Books, Stationery and Drawing Materials as required and at their own charges. These things can be obtained at the School at cost price.

Boarding Fee (per term):	£12. 12s 0d.	Laundress.	15s 0d.
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Reduced Boarding Fees. There are the following reductions off the Boarding Fees:

Boys who enter under 11, boys who have been 2 years at the School, boys who have or have had brothers in the School All pay Ten Guineas per Term.

Weekly Boarders pay One Guinea per Term less than the usual Fee.

All Fees are payable in advance to the Headmaster at the beginning of Term. There is an Entrance Fee of 5/-

LETTERS FROM WILLIAM STROUD

Among the important memorabilia given to the Association in 2012 by Diana Barnden, a relative of both Charles Stroud and William Stroud, were several handwritten letters by the latter. These letters may have been copies of those sent to the local newspaper, or may have been for his own records. They include information about Farnham, the School, dating back many years and the editor feels that they should be recorded in the magazine for all to read.

THE FARNHAM SWIMMING CLUB

BY WILLIAM STROUD

The Farnham children of today have no idea of the difficulties their forebears had in getting a bathe, much less a swim. True, there was a spot in the Bishop's Meadows, but people of a neighbouring lane fancied that it was a good place to deposit their broken glass, and cut feet resulted.

The Headmaster of the Grammar School thought that the canal at the bottom of the School garden would make a good bathing place, as it had brick sides and a brick bottom. He had it cleared, but all in vain, as a neighbour emptied a drain into it. The Urban District Council Sanitary Inspector must have been slack in those days.

The East Street boys bathed at Penstock. Even that had its drawbacks. There is the record of one boy diving in, and coming out with a saucepan fixed tightly on his head.

The Grammar School boys held their swimming races over at Eelmoor Bridge on the Aldershot Canal. It was a hot walk at the end of July across the Long Valley. Sentries were posted above and below the course to keep a watchful eye for the Military Police.

At last a Swimming Club was formed in the town and a portion of the river just east of Brightwells was enclosed with canvas screens, and bathing boxes were erected. The Committee were puzzled to find at times pieces of half-eaten fish (no chips) in the boxes, till one morning the mystery was solved when a fine dog-otter was seen to come swimming up the stream with a fish in his mouth, and to enter one of the boxes.

The otter's mask adorns the hall of one of our most noted sportsmen. He never wishes the slaughter of that otter mentioned, for he received letters from all parts of the country acclaiming him as a 'villain' of the deepest dye.

The bath had its disadvantages. The bottom was very muddy- dead cats or Brewery refuse at times came floating down – people cut holes in the canvas screens to watch the bathers.

Then in 1897 the Old Bath was made. Mr. Borelli, Mr. Harold Falkner, Mr. Arthur Bide, Mr. Charles Trimmer, and many others worked like Trojans to bring this about.

The Duchess of Albany opened the Bath and now, thanks to the far sighted and wisdom of the present Urban District Council we have a splendid new Bath, an asset of immense importance to the town.

A PROFILE OF RAY BEADMAN - (FRENCH MASTER - 1946-1961)

Tony Aylwin-(1946-1951) has always wondered about the career of his French teacher and decided to try and trace his life before and after his time at Farnham Grammar School. Ray Beadman was an excellent teacher and pupils associated him with the French Resistance during the Second World War. The following profile by Tony answers several questions.

The making of a gifted Teacher and an ‘outstandingly good’ Soldier. By Tony Aylwin.

In September 1961 Poole College of Education welcomed a new head of the Language Department. Both staff and students soon found his leadership excellent. Mr Beadman made a good impression, yet in a modest way he seldom talked about himself or his extraordinary background. The College Principal was less surprised by Ray’s ability when he read the references supporting Ray’s application. At the interviews he heard Ray’s answers to his questions about his life, it turned out to be an extraordinary life.

Ray Beadman was born in Enfield and his personality and intelligence was evident in his youth. In 1930, when he was 17, he was successful in applying to King’s College, London to study French. The 3-year course also included a year of studies in Paris at the Sorbonne University. After he had received a good degree in French at King’s, Ray entered the Professional Course in Education with special attention to the methods of teaching Modern Languages. He did his teaching practice on French at Edmonton County School and was rated as “Very Good” by his tutor who noted his interest in modern methods and how he related his teaching to the experience of the boys there. His tutor described him as an attractive personality who was always ready to take part in the school’s activities. (Most of the above paragraph has been extracted from the tutor’s reference to help Ray get his first post in a school). In the late 1930s, a successful teaching career seemed to await Ray, but the inevitable approach of another World War demanded military training. Ray was rated as suitable for the Intelligence Corps. When war was declared in September 1939, his life became busier than ever, with his wedding already planned a few months ahead in 1940. In March 1940, he played a part in the desperate retreat of the British soldiers from Dunkirk by boat to England.

Back in England Ray’s efficiency and skills kept him working in 1941 on the security of important war sites. Among these were the Churchill underground Bunker and rooms for the War Cabinet. They were situated by Birdcage Walk near Downing Street. When Ray examined the doors he saw a flaw and forced open a door to demonstrate the danger.

From 1942 to early 1946 Ray served in Persia and Iraq in Field Security for the oil fields. Mainly based in Teheran and Basra, he also used his language skills as a ‘Spy Catcher’ for interviewing certain suspicious foreign people. Hearing that one suspect had fled, Ray rushed to the property and found a kettle still warm and some significant papers had been left. His respect for the Persian and Iraq people was increasingly appreciated by them. On

A PROFILE OF RAY BEADMAN - (FRENCH MASTER - 1946-1961)

the 1st July 1945, Lieutenant General Arthur Smith, Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Persia and Iraq Command awarded Captain H.J.R.Beadman of the Intelligence Corps a Certificate saying 'In token on my appreciation of the outstandingly good service which you have rendered – this shall be noted in your Record of Service'.

Ray continued his service in the Middle East until the early months of 1946. His Commanding Officer was Colonel E.P.J.Ryan, who also praised him highly for his ability, common sense and keenness to understand and control the local people. Colonel Ryan's supportive reference was dated 25th February 1946. In his war Ray Beadman had served under Colonel Ryan's command during three years of the war, first as a N.C.O. and later he won promotion to the rank of Captain. When the "Big Three", Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt held their first meeting from 28th November to 1st December 1943 in Teheran, Captain Beadman had probably organized his most important security exercise.

Ray was demobbed in 1946 and with his wife he set out to find a suitable school for his return to the classroom. By September they had found a house in Farnham and Ray had become the new French teacher at Farnham Grammar School. Their daughters Josephine and Christina were born in his early days and after five years at the School he was selected by the Ministry of Education to serve one year in France at the College Chaptal in Paris, a school of outstanding reputation in France. As usual Ray impressed everyone who encountered his work. The Director of the College wrote the following 'Attestation' for him to inform future employers.

"Mr Henry Beadman, during the school years of 1949/50, has carried out the functions of a teacher exchange in the College Chaptal in Paris. He has taught in the 4th and 3rd classes (pupils of 13 & 15 years). Gifted with remarkable teaching qualities, spirited with impeccable consciousness, Mr Beadman has adapted without any difficulty to our methods and to our school environment. He carries the approval of the Administration and of his colleagues, the respect and affection of his pupils and the gratitude of the families."

Ray returned to Farnham in September 1950. As usual he organised the teaching of French throughout the School with an infectious enthusiasm. He had been missed, but soon the Upper 6th class found they could read French Neo-Classic plays and enjoy them. Outside of lessons he helped in organising School athletics and eventually took command of the School Combined Cadet Force. In 1961 he was attracted to a Senior Language post in Dorset and decided to move on. For the next 16 years the family enjoyed their life in Dorset and in 1977 he retired. He continued to enjoy fishing, boating, gardening, bridge, painting and caravanning. As always he had strong, knowledgeable views of the way of the world.

Ray Beadman died at the age of 95 in 2010. I hope the people of Dorset appreciate the good man who chose to live and work in their county for 16 years.

DEATH EXPRESS

BY JOHN CLARKE (1972-1978)

The following article was written by Old Boy, John Clarke, for the November 2012 issue of the Farnham Magazine. John is the Historical Consultant for Brookwood Park Limited and author of The Brookwood Necropolis Railway (£12.95): brookwoodcemetery.com, and the editor felt that the article would be of interest to readers of the magazine.

'Most train travellers buy return tickets to their chosen destination, with a view to getting back home. Yet the vast majority of passengers who made the rail trip to Brookwood Cemetery, near Woking, never came back. Brookwood (or the London Necropolis as it was originally called) was opened in 1854 because London's burial grounds were bursting at the seams. At that time it was the largest cemetery in the world, designed as a permanent solution to the problem for a home for all of London's dead, forever.

And perhaps its principal distinguishing feature was its railway funeral service. A special train, which carried coffins and mourners, ran daily from the capital until 1941, when the London terminus – a specially designed station near Waterloo – was bombed. Leaving London, funeral trains rattled mournfully down the main line through Clapham Junction, Wimbledon, Woking and Brookwood, generally reversing into the cemetery grounds. Here there were two stations: North Station to serve the Non-Conformists and non-Christian sections of the cemetery, lying next to the main railway line, and South Station for the Anglican plots, at the end of a short spur. Both had waiting rooms for mourners, toilets and a refreshment room complete with fully licensed bar. More than one visitor, no doubt, would have noted the sign above the counter informing customers, apparently without irony: 'Spirits served here'.

Death is meant to be the great leveller, but at Brookwood the class system was still very much in evidence. Graves in the cemetery were sold as 1st, 2nd or 3rd class (pauper), depending on their position in the grounds. Coffins and mourners also travelled 1st, 2nd or 3rd class, depending on their position in society. Special railway tickets were issued to passengers, both living and dead. Coffin tickets were sold as singles: the ultimate one-way tickets. In 1854, the charges for coffins were £1 for 1st, £1.5s (25p) for artisans, and 2s. 6d (about 13p) for 3rd or pauper class.

"The London Necropolis Company" observed the magazine Punch wryly, "advertises First, Second and Third Class graves, and First, Second and Third Class funerals. This sort of nomenclature suggests the remark that Life is a railway of which the terminus is at the Cemetery". Times change, South West Trains, which serves Brookwood Station today – live passengers only – adopts a less discriminating approach.

Within the cemetery itself, almost every imaginable faith and culture are represented. There are areas for Muslims – including one for Ismailis – Zoroastrians, Catholics and those of Orthodox faith. There are sections for specific churches, hospitals, prisons and convents, as

DEATH EXPRESS**BY JOHN CLARKE (1972-1978)**

well as for actors and Chelsea Pensioners, Latvians, Swedes, Czechs, Americans, Italians, Turks, Japanese, Poles, Serbs and many other nationalities all have plots of their own. There are traditional burials, shroud burials, green burials, woodland burials, military burials and the burial of cremated remains.

As for the sleepers – a quarter of a million of them – the cast includes such diverse characters as John Singer Sargent (the acclaimed portrait artist), St Edward the Martyr (a Saxon king), Charles Bradlaugh (the first avowedly atheist MP) and Edith Thompson (hanged in 1923 for inciting her lover to murder her husband, after one of the most notorious trials of the day). Saints and sinners; sultans and servants. All are welcome within the 400 acres of the largest burial ground in Europe.

Nor was the business of the cemetery confined to the burial itself. Embalming, cremation and coffin making, conveyance by hearse and carriage, or motor hearse and limousine, to the graveside itself. Brookwood took care of it all. It had private chapels of rest and at one stage, operated its own masonry works, where memorials could be ordered. And then there were the vast greenhouses where plants were grown for bedding displays, or use on graves.

Today the main route of the railway can still be traced, while a track panel and plaque just outside Brookwood Station commemorate the Necropolis Train. The two cemetery platforms still survive, though both are within private burial areas. And the cemetery has chosen to mark its former rail connection by naming one of the paths, formerly part of the track bed, Railway Avenue. Guided walks show interested visitors the entire railway route.

And the work continues. Brookwood is far from full, with space for around another 200 years. The railway may have expired, but life rumbles on in this peaceful place of death.

BROOKWOOD CEMETERY FACTFILE:

- *The cemetery was opened in 1854, following the closure of crowded London burial grounds four years earlier. An 1852 Act of Parliament had seen the creation of the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company, which purchased 2,000 acres of land from the Earl of Onslow.*
- *Horticulturists from the Royal Botanical gardens at Kew, were brought in to advise on the planting of exotic trees and shrubs, which have now reached maturity, including avenues of Giant Sequoia.*
- *The cemetery is now a designated Grade 1 Historic Park and Garden.*
- *The cemetery is open daily, with reduced opening hours during the winter months (Oct-Mar). Dogs are not permitted and there are restrictions on photography.*
- *The Brookwood Cemetery Society arranges regular guided walks through the cemetery.*
- *The Editor has made three walks with John Clarke and would recommend a visit.*

OLD FARNHAMIANs' LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

I feel sure that many readers do not fully understand the history and the purpose of the Leaving Scholarship Trust and perhaps this article will enlighten them regarding a Trust, within the Association, that has existed since 1929.

In 1927, C.N.Brooker, The Treasurer of the Association at that time, spoke at the AGM to urge that they should apply their energies to some worthwhile and altruistic purpose, and that they should vote £10 into a trust account as the nucleus of some special effort. His suggestion was warmly accepted. In 1928 a sub-committee was formed to explore ways and means of raising funds to infuse the Association with more power and vitality. It was this sub-committee that devised the insurance bureau which became the main source of capital funds in the Trust. A Special General Meeting early in 1929 approved and adopted the report and the Leaving Scholarship Trust is thus related to that date. In 1939 the funds were formerly taken over and a charitable trust properly constituted, named for the first time by its current title, "The Old Farnhamians' Leaving Scholarship Trust", with objects clearly defined in its educational purposes.

The Trust is a Foundation to which anyone may subscribe either as individuals or jointly through the Association. Over the years personal donations have been important, while from time to time money has been transferred across from the Association or the Farnhamian 400 Trust. This has grown the original £10 into a very useful fund. The other major income came from an insurance agency held by the trustees with insurances available to members and non-members of the Association and the usual agency commissions going into the Leaving Scholarship Trust. For many years this provided the majority of the income, but in recent years this has declined and provides little income.

For years the Trust has provided support to pupils, staff and ex-staff of the old School depending on build-up of the fund. The following show some of the grants made available:

In 1933: A grant of £5 for the purchase of technical books by a student.

In 1940: A maintenance grant of £20 a year for 3 years to a University student.

In 1948: A grant of £90 spread over 5 years to an articulated pupil in one of the professions.

In 1950: A maintenance grant of £20 a year for 2 years to a College student.

In 1953: A maintenance grant of £25 a year for 3 years to a University student.

When the School became a College in 1973 several of the original terms were altered and the funds of the Trust were made available to students of Farnham College as well. This continues today and each year the trustees receive requests from students in need of financial help and decide whether to give or what to give. The number of requests differ each year, with 2011 being a good year, followed by a poor 2012. There is still money available and the trustees are always pleased to receive donations from individuals which will increase the fund. Perhaps some of today's members would like to consider a donation.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

The first items coming under News of the Old Boys should be under 'News of the Teachers' on this occasion. We still have contact with several of the former masters of both the School and the College and begin with a change in the Farnhamian 400 Trust Committee. Since the inception of this Trust within the Association it has been normal that a former member of staff from the School was included in the committee of ten. For many years this position has been carried out by **JOHN McLAUGHLIN (1972-1993)** and his input has been invaluable over the years. At the end of 2012 he felt that poor health made it necessary to cut back on his activities in general and decided to stand down from the Trust. He will still be involved in the Education Trust who are the landlords of the Morley Road site. We are fortunate that in his place we have **HUGH BATCHELOR (1964-1971)** who is a great supporter of the Association and will be welcomed on the 400 Trust committee.

Christmas 2012 arrived and the editor received a card from another former teacher in **DONALD NICOLSON (1950-1982)** who resides in Cambridge. His card was typical of an English teacher and contained 'Elegy written in a Country Churchyard' by Thomas Gray, 'Kubla Khan' by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, 'Daffodils' by William Wordsworth and a section of 'Pippa Passes' by Robert Browning. He wrote that he had plenty of things to say about the old School and its staff, but just did not have the time to send it to the editor at that time. It is hoped that soon we will hear from him with some interesting news.

In the 2012 magazine we included a profile of **FRANK PULLINGER (1925-1930)**, with the help of his daughter Anne. She has since written to say that the following has come to light.

'At the start of the War Francis Ernest Keet Pullinger volunteered for the 137 RA Battery. His time was spent on defence posts along the South coast and then he sailed on a troop ship via South Africa to India and then on to Iraq. Finally he was posted to Egypt. As he could already drive a family car he was put to driving trucks. One day he had to drive across unsigned posted tracks to Syria to collect some supplies (No SATNAVs in those days!!)

He enjoyed his time in the Army and always enjoyed the reunions held annually in Farnham and organised by him, **MAURICE ELPHICK, RAY KIRK and FRANK COX.**

The Editor heard that after many years living at the family home just outside Farnham **ALAN LOVELL (1947-1953)** had been forced through ill health to move into a Residential Home in Bentley. On visiting Alan he was found to be in good spirits and his room was full of 77th birthday cards. Over an hour was spent discussing the old school and Alan still recalls the teachers and many of his former class mates. He would welcome any visitors and if readers are interested in seeing Alan please telephone the home on 01420 525 899 and ask for Room R202.

At the beginning of March the press, both local and national, appeared to include several pieces involving former pupils of the old School. The Farnham Herald had received a photo

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from a lady who was the sister of former pupil, **STEPHEN ALLEN (1947-1953)**. The photo showed two cricket teams, including her brother, and she wanted to know the names of the players. The editor replied and gave the newspaper all the names of staff and pupils who played in the match on 6th May 1954 between the School First XI and Harold Beeken's XI.

The Daily Mail included an article about the new radio show entitled 'Jeremy Hardy Speaks to the Nation', which starred former pupil **JEREMY HARDY (1972-1979)**. The review was not very complimentary and felt that the show was a "Tory and Coalition-bashing comedy". The past tells us that Jeremy is not a great lover of the establishment and much of his humour is a result of this. I suspect that he speaks for much of the voting public.

Finally, the Farnham Diary included an article about another former pupil, **MARK WESCOTT (1963-1970)** who was doing battle with Farnham Town and Waverley Borough Councils. He was not satisfied with the service given to the inhabitants of the village of Rowledge and was advocating these locals to break away from the councils and manage their own affairs. This would mean that the people would no longer pay Council Tax and would therefore have to pay for, and arrange for, their own collections of refuse and other services from the councils. There is a debate in progress as this is written and one wonders whether Mark will be a pioneer in breaking away from local councils. It was also revealed that he would be standing as an Independent candidate at the local elections as he felt that the major Parties did not represent the village.

While snowed under at the end of March 2013, the editor decided to make contact with several Old Boys who have not featured in the magazines for some time. The first reply came from **MIKE LOCK (1940-1944)**, who lives in Auckland, New Zealand. He wrote that it was a strange world, with the UK under deep snow and New Zealand under drought conditions for most of that country.

Mike said that towards the end of March he celebrated his 85th birthday and after sending his e-mail to the editor he was off to Eden Park Cricket Ground to watch a few hours of New Zealand versus England. He says that he is still busy as Chairman of the Residents' Committee of his local village, Treasurer of the New Zealand Branch of the Warsash Association, Committee Member and past Treasurer of Auckland Master Mariners (an Honorary Company of the Master Mariners, London), and member of a Probus Club. Quite a busy lifestyle at that ripe old age!

The following day the editor received an update from **TERRY HALL (1948-1953)**, who lives in New South Wales in Australia. Terry recalled his early days in Farnham when, after serving his two years in the Army, he joined The Hedgehogs' fund-raising group and recalled several caving expeditions. He remembers visits to the Mendips with other local cavers and we know that another Old Boy, and a member of that group, **MAURICE HEWINS**, is still a fan of

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the sport and makes the occasional trip below ground. Apart from that, Terry has little news, and like many of us in the 75 year plus bracket enjoys life as it comes. He says that he and his wife enjoy good health and make the most of life.

Yet, another reply from Australia. This time from **TERRY VENABLES (1947-1953)** who lives in Victoria. Terry is still heavily involved in the game of lawn bowls and not only plays but is part of the administration side of the game. The season ends around Easter, and Terry and his wife then take a cruise and explore new areas on the other side of the world. This time they board the liner at Sydney and cruise to Bali, Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Xiamen and three ports in Japan. The holiday finishes with four nights in Tokyo making the holiday twenty-nine nights in all. On their return they plan to spend the Australian winter (our summer) in their caravan in Queensland as they do not like the cold in Geelong, where they live.

Terry says that he will be unable to visit the UK in 2013, but plans to return to this country in 2014. Let us hope he will put in another appearance at the May dinner or the October Southampton Lunch.

More from Australia, and this time news of **PETER & RITA DOWNHAM (1942-1947)**, who have been struggling with the hot weather and praying for lower temperatures. Peter broke a foot last year and has now recovered and begun to play bowls again. Rita has also had some health problems, but is still a busy quilter.

Peter and Rita recently helped a cousin celebrate her 80th birthday and were accompanied to the party by **MICK & MOLLY BARHAM (1948-1953)**. Mick has had problems with a terrible crippling of his hands, but a specialist has diagnosed the problem and he is now back to normal. Wife, Molly, has also had some health problems.

The Downhams and the Barhams left these shores for Adelaide in 1969 and it is forty-five years since they left Farnham behind. They have remained close friends since then and Rita feels that they are almost like 'one family'. Through this magazine and other old friends from the town they remain in contact with the past, and particularly the old Grammar Schools. Let us hope that they continue to send news to us and continue to make us jealous of that lovely climate across the seas.

After messages from Australia, Canada and New Zealand we come to another Old Boy who lives across the sea. This time from **JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)** on the Isle of Wight. John has had health problems for some time, but struggles on and still manages to get around locally. He does not venture across to the mainland very often and it is unlikely we shall see him at either the Annual Lunch or the Southampton Lunch. John and his wife lived in Farnham for many years before moving to be close to their daughter and grandchildren and like to keep in contact with old classmates and old friends. We send our good wishes!

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

This item is becoming international, with a message from **MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1954)**, saying how pleased he was with the article about the famous interviews he has been involved with during his career as a journalist. He still writes the occasional article for 'The Citizen' in Ottawa, Ontario, and says that it is sufficient to keep his hand in. His wife, Marie Louise, was born in Holland and having retired works in a local shop selling Dutch products.

After all these years Michael is still a great Aldershot FC fan and makes sure he sees them play on Sky TV from time to time. He recalls the names of all the players in the 1940s and 1950s. Like many of us, he is a regular cruiser and explores much of Canada and the USA by boat or by road. We look forward to seeing him again this year in Farnham.

More news from Australia, this time from **JON STRATFORD (1954-1959)** with an article about his move across the world. In 1965 a friend of his showed Jon an advertisement in the Daily Telegraph for water supply engineers. The New South Wales State Government wanted to upgrade water supply in the outback country towns and needed to find engineers to carry out the work. He was one of many UK recruits at the time and spent several years helping to design and manage various schemes. With his new wife he travelled to Australia by ship via the Suez Canal and looked on it as a great adventure. Their parents probably wondered when they would see them again, but within a few years airlines had transformed long distance travel and they returned often for holidays with their children. For a time both their son and daughter worked in London, but returned to Australia and now have families of their own.

They enjoy exploring the country and in July 2012 it was their son's 40th birthday and all the family, including Jon's four grandchildren, left the wintery chill of Sydney and flew to Cairns in North Queensland to celebrate the event. They rented a house on a lovely beach just north of Cairns and toured up Cape Tribulation, named in 1770 by Captain Cook as he searched for a way through the Great Barrier Reef. In September Jon and his wife travelled to the Murray River and cruised in a large houseboat with five other couples through a part of South Australia. Steering the vessel was not easy as the river was flowing faster than usual, but they succeeded in mooring each night far away from any habitation. After the cruise they did a long drive north to the mining town of Broken Hill and then west to the Flinders Ranges in South Australia, where some of the world's oldest fossils have been found. South Australia is famous for its wines and they called in many wineries to taste the offerings. Their last excursion before writing to the magazine was to a ski lodge in the Snowy Mountains, not long after much of the winter snows had melted. The mountains are rounded rather than craggy, similar perhaps to Scotland rather than Switzerland, and good for walking.

Living in Sydney, Jon plays golf with a large social group contacted by e-mail every week to find out which course they will be playing. After the game they retreat to the 19th hole to

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discuss the results and recover to try to do better next time!! There are several good courses in the immediate area along the northern beaches of Sydney and there is good variety.

All of this sounds like a wonderful lifestyle and is far removed from sleepy Farnham, the awful UK winter and the problems of recession etc. I think in retrospect, Jon would feel that his move in 1965 was a good decision.

If one could choose an ideal place to hold a reunion, then I suggest that the choice of five of the members of the Class of 1971 was perfect. Every year the Beerex-Farnham event is held at Farnham Maltings, and is now one of the largest in the country. In recent years this has been the place to meet for those shown in the photo below. As you can see, they seem to be enjoying the occasion and no doubt will meet for many years to come.



Mike Mehta: John Saunders: Chris Stacey: Martin Collier: John Clarke.

At the highly successful President's Lunch in 2013, the number attending included three former teachers from the old school and one from the College. It was good to see **HUGH BATCHELOR**, **TONY MOORE** and **REV. JOHN INNES**, who all taught at the Grammar

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

School, and **FRED CARTER**, the former Director of Farnham College. The Reverend promised to send me some news and the photograph below and the information came a few days later.



No! Not a terrorist, but the Reverend John Innes well wrapped for a visit to Snowdonia.

John was a part-time teacher at the School and the College from 1967 until 1996. He lives in Upper Hale, just outside Farnham, and leads a busy retirement helping out in the local parish (St.John's, St.Mark's and St.George's) and occasionally in other churches when the need arises. 2013 was a sad year for him when he took the funeral of fellow teacher, Stanley Owen, and two former pupils in Matthew Owen and Donald Simpson.

John still does some teaching, being involved in the local U3A (for over 50's) with a World Faith Course and another on Russian Literature. He used to travel abroad each year, but now holidays closer to home in places like Wales and Guernsey. His daughter Jill suffers from Multiple Sclerosis, but still attend Sailability at Frensham Ponds, son Michael works in Bournemouth, daughter Elizabeth works in Bath helping with parental guidance at four schools.

John enjoys new reading and study and realises that good general health is a must as age creeps up on you.

In the 2002 edition of the magazine I was sent a letter from the widow of **PETER LILLYWHITE (1932-1936)** advising of his death. There was little time to include more details as the magazine was ready for printing. In April 2013 the editor and his wife enjoyed a holiday on the East Coast of the country, and at the hotel sat next to a charming lady, who turned out to be that very widow of this Old Boy. I asked her if she knew much about her husband's school days and she said she knew a little, so I promised to send her as much information about the school highlights of Peter Lillywhite as I could.

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

As I researched old paperwork it became clear that this Old Boy was probably one of the most gifted sportsman who had attended Farnham Grammar School. He took part in the Swimming Gala, Boxing, Athletics, Rifle Shooting, Cross Country, and except for Boxing, excelled. He swam for the School Team against other schools, at the Farnham Town Gala and the Surrey Secondary Schools' Galas. In most cases he won the races. He was a member of School House with Ray Kirk and over a few years they dominated athletics at the School. Between them they won most relays and most distances and ran for the School at the AAA Southern Championships. He was a member of the School House Rifle Shooting Team for 1934/35/36 and regularly shot for the School against other grammar schools in Surrey.

On leaving the School he joined the National Provincial Bank before entering the Second World War with the RAF. He served at the Air Ministry and in India before returning home to a career in banking. It is possible that there are still readers of the magazine who knew him and I hope that this belated profile will bring back memories. Meeting Marion Lillywhite miles away from home shows that this is a small world!

The Editor had an interesting chat with **ROD PARKER (1942-1947)** at the President's Lunch and it seems that Rod entered the School twenty-four years after his father had also been a pupil. In 1918 **RONALD PARKER (1918-1925)** was one of the first scholarship boys to enter the School. He was a member of Harding House, with the same Housemaster, "Rashers" Bacon, as Rod in 1942.

Money, at the time, was a very short commodity and he entered the School wearing boots which he had paid for by collecting acorns in the park and selling them to the local pig farmer. Ronald was subjected to bullying as a "poor", but in later years he gained his revenge in the boxing ring. (The magazines show that Ronald won his weight in 1922, 1923 and 1924). He excelled in all sports and academic studies, he was the House Captain of Harding House and when possible played football for Farnham Town. In 1924 he was elected a prefect at the School.

On leaving, he entered London University and then took up teaching as a career> his first appointment was in Wrecclesham School. In 1937 he joined the Territorial Army and was soon to become a full time soldier. He saw service with the Ghurkha Division of the XIV Army in Burma and as a Lt. Colonel returned to civilian life and the teaching profession in Carshalton in 1945. He continued to teach until his death at the age of 62.

We hear from **TREVOR ANDREWS (1948-1953)** that he has had five paintings accepted for the 2013 Guild of Aviation Artists' Annual Exhibition at the Mall Gallery in London. The event runs from July 22nd – 28th and Trevor will be demonstrating his painting of 'all things to do with aeroplanes and flying' during the show. You can see his work on www.gava.org.uk

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

When the modern magazines were first produced in the mid 1990s the back covers had a series of excellent drawings contributed by **PETER FIGG (1939-1946)**. At the time Peter lived in deepest Cornwall, but has now moved to Dorchester, where he contacted the editor with an offer of further examples of his work. It enables the magazine to once again have an attractive back cover and we thank Peter for his work.

In August 2013 we received a visit by **MICHAEL PRENTICE (1948-1953)**, who flew over from Canada to visit relatives in the UK. Before returning home he met a group of old classmates from 1948 for a lunch in Farnham. The re-union was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Michael explained that after a career in journalism he is still writing some articles for a local magazine in Ottawa.



Bryan Bone: Cyril Trust: John Travers: Brian Webberley:
Michael Prentice: Trevor Andrews: Derek Elstow

FARNHAM COLLEGE made some alterations in 2013, and to provide more space they decided to reduce the size of the college library. Several books from the old Grammar School library were offered to the 400 Trust and they will now form part of the memorabilia of the school. Among the books was a signed copy of 'The Story of a Catholic Church' by Etienne Robo, which was presented to Leo Borelli, chairman of governors, and a copy of the

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

Holy Bible, given to the School by the boys to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2nd 1953. Probably the most important books were three volumes of the Domesday Book (Surrey). There were 1000 copies printed of this important book and we now have edition number 306 in our catalogue of the old School.

We received a request from **DR. DAVID PARKER (1967-1973)** asking if his tribute to former teacher **STANLEY OWEN** could be included in this issue. We are pleased to print the following:

“Looking back, now over 40 years, I have fond memories of Stanley Owen, or “Stan” as we used to call him. I was moderately keen on physics, but much less so than chemistry or biology, and Stanley knew this. Stanley taught me physics to O level and then I joined a small group who had been persuaded to do a new A level, physical science. This was a combined chemistry and physics A level which I enjoyed very much though it was clear that we were doing one and a half A levels in terms of work. The fact that I did well and got an A grade was, in part, down to Stanley and his quiet but inspirational way of teaching.

I remember his attention to my project on spectroscopy, which I had to do as part of the course. He had some relatively new equipment to which I was entrusted and he guided me through its use and helped me with the interpretation of the results. Looking back, his teaching style was effective and much more so than I realised at the time. He taught me the importance of having sound evidence before drawing any conclusions, advice which has stuck throughout my scientific career.

I also remember him throughout as a master who you didn't trifle with; he had the respect of the class and there was very little bad behaviour. This was in contrast with certain other masters who did not have the ability to control a class. What was it about him that made this difference? I am not sure, but I suspect that he must have made things clear from the outset and then the quality of his character and teaching style built on this firm foundation.”

What a great tribute to a teacher, from an ex-pupil!

We have heard news from **ALAN LOVELL (1947-1953)** who seems to be making progress. In his profile we said that he had been a Binsted Parish Councillor from 1973 until 2011 and Chairman for 24 years. In recognition of his work over many years the council decided to name a new housing development after him and in March ten houses were completed and named Lovell Gardens. By June all of the homes were purchased and adds this attractive estate to the village of Binsted. Alan is delighted with this acknowledgement of his council work over such a long period of time.

In the final programme of the popular TV series in 2013, the person trying to trace his family was John Simpson, well known foreign correspondent for the BBC. On his mother's side the

NEWS OF THE OLD BOYS

family name was Cody and he visited relatives in Farnborough to find out more about the line that included the famous Samuel Cody, one of the leaders in the invention of the airplane. The Farnhamian magazine dated April 1917 stated that the son of Samuel Cody, **SAMUEL 'FRANK' CODY**, was a boarder at the Farnham Grammar School. The article commented that "Frank Cody's death was reported on the 12th February. We have no particulars, but we are confident that he met his death in the same plucky way as his brave father. The Boarders will never forget his merry ways and his merry days here".

It was advised that Frank Cody was born in Switzerland in 1895 and entered the School on 21st January 1909. He was a member of the Royal Flying Corps and died on 23rd January 1917. Another member of the Cody family, **P.H.CODY**, also attended the School and left in 1947 and it would be interesting to know more about him after leaving Morley Road. Perhaps one of our readers would know!

Former pupil and teacher at the old School, **DON NICOLSON**, is approaching 90 years of age and sent the following poem to our Secretary expressing the reflections of a former teacher.

The Ageing Schoolmaster – Vernon Scannell

And now another autumn morning finds me
 With chalk dust on my sleeve and in my breath,
 Preoccupied with vague, habitual speculation
 On the huge inevitability of death

Not wholly wretched, yet knowing absolutely
 That I shall never reacquaint myself with joy,
 I sniff the smell of ink and chalk on my mortality
 And think of when I rolled, a gormless boy

And rollicked around the playground of my hours,
 And wonder when precisely tolled the bell
 Which summoned me from summer liberties
 And brought me to this chill autumnal cell

From which I gaze upon the April faces
 That gleam before me, like apples ranged on shelves,
 And yet I feel no pinch or prick of envy
 Nor would I have them know their sentenced selves.

With careful effort I can separate the faces,
 The dull, the clever, the various shapes and sizes,
 But in autumn shades I find I only
 Brood upon death, who carries off all the prizes.

A FRIENDSHIP FORGED AT MORLEY ROAD

In 1948 the editor entered Farnham Grammar School and was placed in Form 1p with over thirty other boys from around the district. One of those boys was Maurice Jeffreys, who lived in Seale and Sands, just outside the town, and both boys remained in the same class for the next five years. During that time they developed a friendship which remained through the years of National Service and the early days of their careers. When Maurice married a local Devon girl he asked if his school pal would be his best man and the photo below shows the two former pupils standing outside the church at the lovely village of Chagford. Maurice and his new bride started married life living in Tonbridge in Kent, but the friendship between him and the editor remained intact. The couple moved to Hong Kong for over six years and still the contact remained, and on returning to Camberley in Surrey the old pals met regularly and both families were close. On retiring Maurice moved to Chagford, where he lives today and where he is visited from time to time by the editor.



A FRIENDSHIP FORGED AT MORLEY ROAD

Both the editor and Maurice are over seventy-five and are surrounded by their children and grandchildren, with Maurice still living in Devon and the editor still living in Farnham, where he was born. They keep in contact by e-mail and telephone and manage to meet at least two or three times each year. Both managed to carve out a successful career and both feel that the start of this was the day they entered the gates of the school in Morley Road. The old school introduced them to each other and they still enjoy talking about the 'Good Old Days' at Farnham Grammar School. They still enjoy the same music and the same sense of humour and both of their wives stand back and listen to these aged school pals reminisce.

In 2013 Maurice and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and once again the editor was on hand to say a few words at the reception as he did fifty years before.



Cyril Trust and Maurice Jeffreys meet again at the Farnham Ramada Hotel on 11th May 2013

MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY THAT THE 2014 PRESIDENT'S LUNCH WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2014 AT THE FARNHAM LEGACY HOTEL FROM 12.00 MID-DAY UNTIL 4.00 PM. TRY AND BRING AN OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL PAL WITH YOU TO ENJOY THE OCCASION.

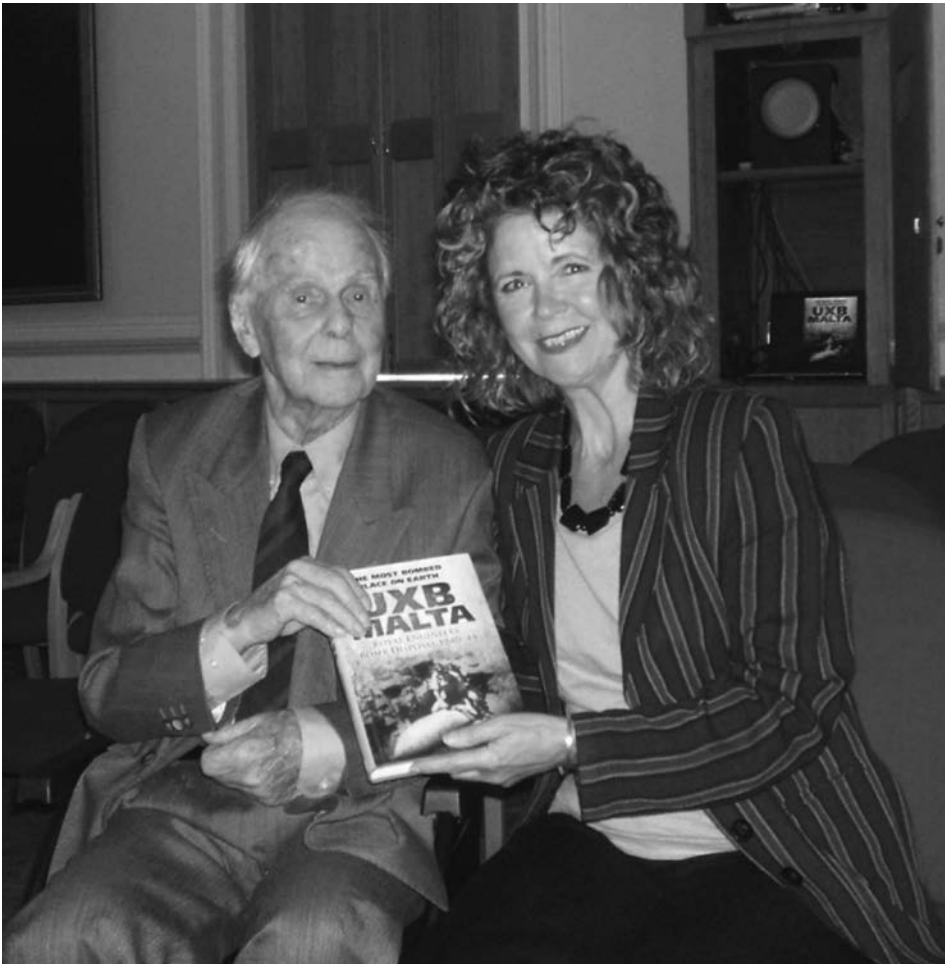
TRIBUTE TO GEORGE D. CARROLL (1947-1954)

In the 2013 magazine we included in the obituaries the profile of George D. Carroll, who was at the School soon after the ending of the Second World War. For the pupils, there was no hint of what he had achieved during the war, which he spent as a bomb disposal officer. It was not until his daughter wrote the book about the harrowing years experienced on the island of Malta that we realised that this former teacher was indeed a very brave man. After the death of her father Susan remained in contact and sent us two photographs of her father, with the one below as a young officer.



TRIBUTE TO GEORGE D. CARROLL (1947-1954)

As a young Lieutenant George Carroll spent his early years in the bomb disposal unit in London and was then transferred to the island of Malta. Here he joined the local population in their desperate fight to repel the attempts of Germany and Italy to take over this important island. The number of bombs dropped there exceeded the number dropped on London during the war and it was a huge task to keep the airstrip, roads, towns etc., free of the variety of bombs dropped. The book entitled **UXB Malta** by **Susan Hudson** tells the story, and former pupils of this courageous teacher will see him in a different light. The photo below shows George Carroll, aged 93, with his daughter, shortly before he died.



COLLEGE AWARDS CEREMONY – 2013

Once again, the Old Farnhamians and the 400 Trust played a large part in making this annual event a great success. This year former pupils of the old Grammar School and their families numbered thirty-six, and this enabled the College to hand out over forty financial awards. Mike Potter, Principal of the Guildford College Group, opened the proceedings and he was followed by Josh Taylor, a young man with a vision to take a submersible deeper into the Ocean than ever before. He explained how he had started a successful business at the age of 23 and told the students that if they want things strongly enough, then they will obtain them.

A few words from Jonathan Stewart, the current director at Farnham College, followed and then it was time for the student awards. Each one received a certificate and a cheque in the name of the sponsor. The full list is as follows:

Abdul Ahad	The Maurice Jeffreys Award for Business Studies
Oliver Aston	The Sturt Family Award for Computer Aided Design
Shawn Blair	The Bryan Bone Award for English
Amy Day	The Ian Sargeant Award for History
Megan Dolan	The Stan Armstrong Award for Mathematics
Fabienne Dupres	The Chris Nash Award for Outstanding Contribution
Joseph Flanagan	The Don Homer Award for Drama
Ellie Gaskin	The Dudley Backhurst Award for Science
Ross Glew	The David Boulter Award for Outstanding Achievement
Meghan Glue	The Graham Blunt Award for Science
Natasha Hard	The Cyril Trust Award for Business Studies
Katie Hunt	The John Mew Award for English/ English Literature
Alma Hysenaj	The Ian Bolt Award for Outstanding Work in Textiles
Jessica Keene	The Roy Robins Award for Art
Matthew Kirby-Brown	The Knotts Family Award for Engineering
Melissa Knight	The Audrey Edington Award for Hairdressing
Elan Layne	The John Terrill Award for Mathematics
Rebekah Leonard	The Hans Holm Award for English/Journalism
Harry Lynch-Bowers	The Peter Read Award for Drama
Catriona Matheson	The Michael Horner Award for Media
Tia McFarlane	The Gerry LeVey Award for Outstanding Team Player
Sam Merryweather	The John Terrill Award for Sport
Sarah Mills	The John Edmunds Award for English
Polly Morgan	The Dudley Backhurst Award for Science
Elaine Noakes	The Geoff Hooker Award for Mathematics

COLLEGE AWARDS CEREMONY – 2013

Verity O'Connor

Stephanie Power

Parbhat Rai

Abigail Rees

Hannah Shaughnessy

Zoe Simpson

Rachel Speed

Jordan Taylor

Rungthanwa Thaophayung

Luke Treder

Jack Underwood

Oliver Brotherhood

Josh Thompson

Leah Brine

Jess Wreford

The John Aylwin Award for Drawing & Design

The John Crotty Award for Health & Social Care

The Brian Williams Award for IT

The Paul French Award for Mathematics/Science

The Derek Skillin Award for Geography (Surveying)

The Roy Robins Award for Art

The John Travers Award for Geography

The Richard Phillips Award for Business Studies

The Alan Lovell Award for Photography

The Stella & Tony Bolt Award for Effort & Progress

The Don Homer Award for Drama

The John Goddard Award

The John Goddard Award

The F.A.Morgan Award for Drama

The William Stroud Award for Performing Arts

There were several Bursaries awarded by the Farnham Educational Foundation and the winner of the Chair of Governors' Prize for Outstanding Contribution to College Life went to **Katie Bickerton**. The evening ended with a reception for the students and guests, which included the Deputy Mayor of Waverley.



All of the award winners at the 2013 Ceremony of Achievement.

2013 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS



Brian Williams from the Farnhamian 400 Trust, with a tearful Lisa Borges da Silva (second right) who won the Commitment to Learning Award for 2013, sponsored by the 400 Trust.

During the third week of November, members of the Farnhamian 400 Trust committee were kept busy attending awards ceremonies and presenting prizes sponsored by the 400 Trust. The major one was at the G-Live Centre in Guildford, where Brian Williams was our representative and joined the young lady who won our award. Lisa Borges da Silva had suffered much personal tragedy in the family and emotionally accepted our award. The other award for the Farnham College 16-19 – Outstanding Achievement Award went to Katie Bickerton, who was unable to leave her studies at Oxford University to attend.

Stephen Pritchard and Hugh Batchelor were our representatives at Weydon School with the 400 Trust Award going to Jake Smart. This was a very large event, with over 500 people attending and the main speakers for the event were Bryn & Emma Parry, who started the ‘Help The Heroes’ charity.

On the same evening Bill Luff and Tony Gatfield represented the Trust at Heath End School, where the 400 Trust Award went to Robyn Eveson. This year the event was much shorter and did not include a speaker for the evening.

Ash Manor postponed their usual Awards’ ceremony until July 2014.

OBITUARIES

The first Old Boy to pass away in 2013 was **DAVID BOULTER (1934-1942)**, who was a former School Captain, Captain of Morley House and a pupil who excelled at many sports. David, son of an Army Officer, was born in Aldershot in 1925, a third child with two elder sisters. In 1934 he entered Farnham Grammar School and over the next 8 years was an outstanding pupil.

In 1937 he won his weight in the Boxing Tournament and was elected a member of his House Rifle Shooting Team. The following year he was runner-up in the Boxing and began to show that he was a versatile athlete in the School Sports, by winning the Long Jump. In 1939 he continued doing well at Athletics and was selected for the School Colts' Football XI. In 1940 he again did well as an athlete, but showed that academically he was gifted by winning the Form Prize and obtaining the General School Certificate.

In 1941 David blossomed and became School Captain, School Captain for Athletics, Cricket, Football, Morley House Captain. He again won his weight in the Boxing, rifle shot for his House and at the Annual Sports he managed one First Place, one Second Place and Two Third Places. In the same year he passed four subjects in the Higher School Certificate. In his final year he remained School Captain and First XI Cricket Captain, was First Place twice and Second Place once on the athletics' field. He also came second in the Long Jump at the Surrey Secondary Schools' Sports at Imber Court.

On leaving the School he joined the Services and entered the Second World War. He joined HMS Britannia at Dartmouth and subsequently served in the Royal Navy on Arctic patrols and in 1944 was aboard a cruiser bombarding Omaha beach at the Normandy landings. At the end of the war he marched through the streets of Sydney, with his ship's company, in a Victory parade.

Following this he returned to a routine Naval career with service around the world until 1961. While serving on HMS Pembroke at Chatham as First Lieutenant he met his wife Mary, who was a young WRNS Officer, and they were married in January 1963. A year later their son John was born and David decided to leave the Royal Navy and set up home ashore to further a career in teaching. After two years at St. Luke's College in Exeter, during which their second son Richard was born, the family moved to Dorchester and in September 1966 David began to teach at St. Osmund's School. He stayed there for ten years teaching 9/10/11 year old children before becoming Deputy Head at Radipole School in Weymouth until he retired in 1988.

David enjoyed his large garden which produced fruit and vegetables for the family. He was joined by a Jack Russell puppy, a gift from the children of Radipole School, whom he christened Bosun. The pair were inseparable for over sixteen years and retirement was largely walking with Bosun, working in the garden and doing the Times crossword every day.

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He was a proud father and delighted when two grandchildren arrived and he spent his time with his family, his garden and his faithful dog. He served on the PCC's of St. George's and St. Mary's Churches and David and Mary attended Mass every Sunday at 8.00 am. It is clear that he was much loved by his family and friends and he will be greatly missed. Yet another Old Boy who made his mark in the world.

On 7th June 2013, **VERNON ALDRED (1949-1954)** died in hospital after a short illness. Vernon lived in Fox Yard, off West Street, and attended West Street Boys' School before passing the exam to enter the Farnham Grammar School. He became a member of School House and entered fully into the life of the School. He ran regularly in the Cross Country Race, but was an excellent sprinter and became the 220 yards champion in 1953 and the runner-up the following year. He was selected for his House Rifle Shooting Team.

After gaining three passes at GCE 'Ordinary Level', Vernon joined Crosbys, the largest Farnham employer, and worked for them in sales for many years. He travelled abroad for the company and met his wife Sue at the company. He was a member of Young Farnham, which became The Hedgehogs' fund raising group, and helped write the Constitution for the group which still exists today.

The family moved to Alton and Vernon left Crosbys and worked for several years with Messrs Phillips, a local builder's merchant, on the timber side of the business. His wife died at an early age and Vernon enjoyed a quiet life, with painting as a hobby. He leaves Emma, his only child.

In July 2013 we heard of the death of **DAVID NUNN (1947-1952)** who had been a stalwart member of the Old Boys for many years. David was born in 1935 and the first family home was in Aldershot, followed by a house in Farnborough. His father was in the Army and in 1938 the Nunn family was shipped off to the garrison in Gibraltar. However, dependents were moved back home in 1940 and David, his mother and his sister ended up in Farnham with relatives Sydney and Frances Sargeant (grand-parents of Ian Sargeant who looks after the OFA website so well).

David went to a school in Rowledge and in 1947 he passed the new 11+ exam and entered the Farnham Grammar School as a member of Harding House. He made his mark at the School both academically and at sport. In 1950 he was highly commended for his form work. He joined the Scientific Society and became a committee member and in 1951 won the Crosby Senior Prize for Manual Work. He boxed for his house and won several events at the Swimming Sports, which led to swimming for the School at the District Gala and gaining two second places.

In 1952 he passed six subjects in the new 'O' Level exams and leaving School joined Boots in Farnham, where he gained a scholarship in Pharmacy and completed his professional

OBITUARIES

qualifications in 1958. Whilst he progressed his career he became an above average cyclist and with Farnham Road Club set many records over 25 mile time trials etc. He was runner-up in the Surrey 4000 metres pursuit championship

David became a dispensing chemist at Odiham and then joined Glaxo as a pharmacist. In the 1970s he entered the Civil Service and ended up as Principal Pharmacist in the Ministry of Health. In 1958 he married Shirley Carr, who was a Farnham Girls' Grammar School pupil and very musical, with an excellent voice. Shirley later became a botanical artist, but sadly died in 2001 at the age of 63.

David lived in Sutton and regularly attended the annual dinner and Southampton Lunch. Again, he is an Old Boy who will be sadly missed!

On 6th September 2013 one of our most well known Old Boys died at his home in Bath. **BILL WALLIS (1948-1955)** left the School to become one of this country's most famous character actors, appearing regularly on stage, television, radio and film.

Bill was Farnham born and entered the School as a member of Harding House. Academically he was very successful and won several Form Prizes as well as the George Sturt Prize. He was involved in several school stage productions and became Secretary of the Dramatic Society. He was also Vice-President of the Stamp Club, Vice-President of the Debating Society and a member of the committee that produced the school magazine. He was an excellent swimmer and became School Vice-Captain for Swimming. He was also Company Sergeant Major of the Combined Cadet Force, Captain of Harding House, Prefect and in his final year, School Captain.

He obtained a State Scholarship and went to Cambridge University, where he met Peter Cook, who was making a name as a comedian. When 'Beyond the Fringe' became a huge hit for the former Cambridge students, Bill replaced Alan Bennett on the West End stage. He appeared in a number of television programmes, including *Chelmsford 123*, *Doctor at Large*, *Blackadder*, *Just Good Friends*, *Yes, Minister* and *Not Only....But Also*

Bill appeared in the original cast of 'Jeeves', which was one Andrew Lloyd Webber musical to fail. He appeared regularly on Radio for The Afternoon Play, Classic Serial and many more. His film appearances included *The Other Boleyn Girl*, *Splitting Heirs* and *Keep the Aspidistra Flying*.

In later life Bill contracted a form of cancer but managed to continue with his stage, radio and television career. He has two children by his first wife Jean Spalding, a noted cellist and former Girls' Grammar School pupil. He also has two children by his second wife Dr. Karen Wallis, a noted artist and lecturer.

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At the end of September we received news that **MIKE COMBEN (1943-1951)** had died and yet another well known Farnham name had gone. Mike was a member of School House and was more of an academic than a sportsman. He was a member of his House rifle shooting team for three years, but there is no record of him excelling in other sports. He was a member of the Combined Cadet Force and during his final two years was a Sub-Prefect. In 1950 he obtained his GCE in Mathematics (with exemption from matriculation) and in 1951 he obtained his 'A' Level in Physics. He completed his time at the School by obtaining entrance to Northampton Engineering College.

One of his great friends from the School was **GLENN HONEY** and I asked him if he would provide the magazine with a tribute to Mike. The following are the words of Glenn, and Janet Comben, Mike's widow.

'Michael was born in Farnham on 20th June 1933, the second child of Victor and Edith Comben. His father was the proprietor of well-known automobile engineers Arnold and Comben. He shared a happy childhood with his sister Wendy, both educated at the Church House Preparatory School and subsequently Farnham Grammar Schools.

*Much of Mike's early life was also shared with his friend **JOHN MITCHELL** who remained a close friend until his death in 2012. Their enquiring minds quickly became apparent when they tried to make a rocket along with Robin Lock, John's cousin, which exploded in Michael's face, as a result of which he lost an eye.*

Michael obtained a place at Northampton Engineering College, part of London University, and he had a varied career in design technology and management, 23 years of which was as the manager of a local garage Barnet & Small.

He had a keen interest in motor racing and in the late 1950s accompanied Glenn Honey and two other friends to see the 24 hour sports car race at Le Mans. The race is run over temporary closed roads and before the race the four friends took it in turns to see how fast they could drive around the circuit in Glenn's Ford van. Mike managed a very creditable time. During the official practice sessions Mike and friends found a back way up on to the roof of the pit counter and had a really splendid view of the proceedings. On race day they again managed to get on the roof but were quickly escorted off the premises by the marshals.

Mike also liked visiting Brands Hatch with Peter Gammon, the local racing driver.

He was active in Farnham Young Conservatives and together with Glenn ran several successful fund raising "live" donkey derbies. He was an active member of Farnham Round Table and then Farnham 41 Club. He married Margaret, the daughter of the Tory MP for Manchester Moss Side in 1960 and they had 3 children, twins John & Gill, and Anthony. They

OBITUARIES

were all baptized in the Crypt Chapel of the House of Commons. Sadly the marriage failed and they divorced.

Mike had an interest in local politics and was elected to serve on the Farnham Urban District Council for the Hale and Badshot Lea wards. He was elected as President of the Farnham Chamber of Commerce for 3 consecutive years. He suffered a stroke in 1983 and after recuperation became a QA inspector for 6 years finishing his working life as an engineer for Laser Instrumentation om.

MIKE'S LIFE THROUGH THE EYES OF JANET, HIS SECOND WIFE.

Mike and I met through Solitaire Social Club in May 1997; we fell in love and started a relationship in December of that year. We married on 16th June 2001 in our local church, and had many good wishes from our friends in Solitaire which helped to make our wedding day so very special. Mike quickly became an integral part of my family and I of his. We were a happy and contented couple, enjoying each other's company.

Mike was a lovely man, kind and caring, but good fun too. I know his gentle ways helped many new members of the Social Club settle into the club. He was well liked and respected within the group, as he was at other clubs and organisations he belonged to. He was a highly skilled engineer, an enthusiastic member of the Guildford Model Engineering Club and the Steamboat Association. He was producing his own 21 ft steamboat amongst other very successful completed projects.

Over the years his health deteriorated and I became his main carer. Towards the end of his life I had to use the services of a care agency to provide additional help. The various carers were charmed by his gentlemanly way of kissing their hands to thank them for the care and attention they had given him.

In short he was a delightful man and it was my privilege to be his wife. I shall miss him very much but I have some happy memories to sustain me. I have a wonderful extended family and many friends to help me during the coming months.'

What an excellent obituary from an old pal and his wife, and well worth printing in the magazine!

In late November we received news that **JOHN FALKNER (1948-1953)** had died after a long illness. John became a member of Childe House when entering the Grammar School and played in goal for his house soccer team. Like several others, he joined the Air Training Corps and here he learned to shoot a rifle and eventually gained his House colours at the school. He loved literature and was an avid reader. Leaving school he became a police cadet in Hampshire and spent thirty years in the force in the Surrey and Hampshire areas.

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In the 1970s he began to write about people who had a connection with the County of Surrey. He remained in contact with his former English teacher, Mike Foster, and at one stage joined a literary discussion group which Mike held at the old School. John had an adventurous streak and in 1980 he spent a month trekking from Kathmandu to Everest base camp. In 1998 he accepted an invitation to fly in a Spitfire from the Second World War and part of the museum at Duxford. In 2006 he moved to the Isle of Wight to be closer to his family and joined a local metal detecting club which found the Brightstone Hoard.

John and his wife Marion loved living on the island and were surrounded by children and grandchildren. They were married for 53 years and the last two years were not easy as his health deteriorated. John will be sadly missed by many former classmates as well as people in Farnham and Ryde.

October 2013 saw the passing of **D.I. (IAN) HIGTON (1945-1952)**. Records show that he was a very successful pupil at the School both in sport and academically. He was a member of School House and in 1946 he entered the Annual Cross Country Race and the Boxing. Over the years he continued to take part in both of these events and always finished half way down the field across country, and never reached a semi final or final in the Boxing. In 1948 he joined the School Orchestra playing First Violin, and remained a stalwart of this excellent orchestra for the remainder of his time at the School.

In 1949 he won his first Form Prize and repeated this in the following year. In 1950 he became a member of his House Rifle Shooting Team, won a prize for Music, and passed his Certificate A with the Combined Cadet Corps and passed Grades 6 and 7 for playing the pianoforte in the Royal School of Music exams. The next year he became a Sub-Prefect and in 1952 a Prefect. Again he won a Form Prize, passed three 'O' Levels, and passed Grade 8 at the Pianoforte exams. He also became Headquarters' Company Sergeant Major for the CCF.

In his final year he passed in 4 subjects at 'A' Level, won the Dr. George Brown Prize, won the William Stroud Prize and gained a County Scholarship to King's College London. Overall a school career to be proud of and one wonders what sort of career he followed after leaving the School. Perhaps one of his contemporaries can offer some information regarding this!

At the beginning of October we heard of the death of **CLIVE HUNT (1952-1957)** at his home in Medstead. Clive was a member of Massingberd House and excelled as a cricketer and boxer. He was in the top ten runners for the 1954 and 1955 Junior Cross Country, played cricket for his house and for the School Colts and Second XI, and won his weight at boxing in the 1957 championships.

On leaving school he became a builder and eventually ran his own business locally. He had been ill for some time prior to his death.

AN OBITUARY FOR ERIC HUNT (1937-1942)

Eric Hunt was the third child of Alfred and Elizabeth Hunt, who lived in Farnborough, Hampshire. His father was an engineer and they lived initially in Cove, near Farnborough before moving to 40 Castle Street in Farnham, where he lived all of his schooling years. He attended the infant school – School for Young Children, junior school – West Street School, and then on to Farnham Grammar School.

Eric entered Massingberd House and during his time at the school was involved in many sporting activities. He ran in the Cross Country, played House soccer as a junior, boxed each year in the School championships, losing in the final in 1939. He became a member of the House Rifle Shooting Team, but his major sport was cricket and he represented the School as a Colt, in the Second XI and finally in the School First XI. He became House Captain and was involved in the church choir.

Eric left School in 1942 and joined the Westminster Bank as a clerk. He joined the Air Training Corps (ATC), became proficient as a pilot in the Glider Regiment, and finally joined the Royal Air Force in May 1944. He did not see any active service and after being discharged joined the Territorial Army as part of his National Service. He was invited to Sandhurst College for officer training and was commissioned with the rank of Lieutenant into the Wiltshire Regiment. He was posted to the Middle East at the end of the war and assisted in ‘mopping up’ in Egypt and Libya.

After being demobbed he returned to the bank and passed several exams in those early days. He met Pauline Friend at a production of the Farnham Operatic Society and they married on 29th May 1954. They moved from Farnborough to Camberley and started their family of son Nick (1956) and Diane (1959). While in the area he played cricket for Farnham Cricket Club and was a left-arm spin bowler. He also supported Aldershot FC throughout his life and later became a season ticket holder for Southampton FC. The highlight for him was being at Wembley to see the ‘Saints’ win the FA Cup in 1976. His brother Theo became Chairman of Luton FC in the 1970s. In 1970 he joined the Farnborough Round Table and became chairman for one year. He was also a freemason at Farnham Lodge and became ‘Worshipful Master’ for one year.

Eric was moved by the bank to the South Coast and he set up home initially in Warsash for 14 years and then to Locks Heath. Eric and Pauline remained in the area for 46 years. He stayed in banking for 43 years and worked in several branches in the area, ultimately becoming a Branch Manager.

While at Warsash he became a member, and eventually president, of the local Sailing Club. Eric and his children loved sailing. He was a proud member of the local Probus club and with Pauline became active members of the Portsmouth Music Festival. His family meant a great deal to Eric and he idolized his two children and three grandchildren. Recently he had lost Pauline after 58 years of marriage and this was a bitter blow.

AN OBITUARY FOR ERIC HUNT (1937-1942)

Eric enjoyed discussing Politics, enjoyed a wide range of music, was a great lover of animals and always enjoyed his food. He was no handyman, a hoarder, and rather untidy! He loved to travel and often visited Australia to see family, and over the years visited many countries around the globe. Even so, he was always happy to return to his beloved England.

Eric Hunt was a man of deep and abiding faith and involved in his local church for decades. His commitment to Christ and his work in the Church of England are reflective of the quality of the man that he was.

Earlier this year, Eric was hospitalized at University Hospital with a bowel obstruction. It was from complications of that condition that he died at the age of 87 in March 2013. He was a regular at the Southampton Lunch in particular and will be missed by his many friends in the Old Boys' Association.

OBITUARIES

Several weeks after his death we received news of the passing of **DAVID DANBY HILL (1953-1958)** at his home in Devon. David was a member of Harding House and took part in many sports at the School. He threw the discus, ran in the Cross Country and boxed for his House. He made quite a lot of money as an estate agent and later in life he entered agriculture by buying a farm at Okehampton in Devon. He became a keen exponent of developing the beef sector by focused marketing and adding value to the product.

David joined the NFU (National Farmers' Union) and progressed quickly through the ranks, earning a well earned reputation for being outspoken. He became chairman of Devon NFU. His finest hour came during the foot and mouth crisis, when many thousands of animals were slaughtered in the country. He was awarded the MBE for his services to agriculture and after the crisis he retired to the village of Chagford

He died at the age of 72 and left his wife Susan. The funeral was at Chagford on 18th July. His wife has been kind enough to send us the following tribute from the British Farmer & Grower.

“ONE OF LIFE’S GREAT ACHIEVERS WHO LED DEVON FARMERS THROUGH FOOT & MOUTH“

The funeral of David Danby-Hill MBE, 72, chairman of Devon NFU in 2001, took place at St. Michael the Archangel Church, Chagford, on 18th July when a large congregation heard a fitting tribute on behalf of his family from his brother-in-law Andrew Peters. Mr Peter's said: "David was one of life's achievers but he was always the epitome of politeness, courtesy and generosity and had a wonderful sense of humour. He was always interested in other people's views and liked nothing more than to advise and help others, particularly the younger generation.

OBITUARIES

David started life in Shottermill, near Haslemere, attending Farnham Grammar School. He left at 16, joined the estate agents Cubitt & West rising from office junior to senior director. When he joined the firm it was a small outfit of around 3 branches and when he eventually sold it to the Prudential Assurance Co. in late 1986 there were 25 branches selling over 4000 properties with a transaction value of over £260 million in the year before the takeover.

His career change was quite dramatic moving from Surrey to Devon to buy a farm which he operated in partnership with his nephew, Colin. "For David, this was unknown territory." said Mr Peters. "but he threw himself (and his wife Susan) into it with his legendary enthusiasm and gusto. In the space of only a few short years he had become a very knowledgeable beef farmer. And David being David, he was not content at simply being a farmer. He decided to involve himself in the affairs of the NFU in Devon, being a way in which he could put his commercial and business acumen and his management, organizational talent and experience at the disposal of the whole farming community." "Not surprisingly, in only a few years, he rose to become chairman of the Devon NFU, not bad for an estate agent who only became a farmer four years previously. His tenure as chairman coincided with the national outbreak of foot and mouth disease and many of us recall his regular appearances on BBC News broadcasts, giving nightly interviews at his farm gate, greatly reassuring the nation that there were, at least in Devon, responsible farmers on top of the situation and acting to control and contain the epidemic. It was no great surprise that, on 31st December 2003, it was announced that his contribution to Devon and national farming was to be recognized by the award of an MBE."

In December we heard of the death of **R.A.NORTH (1951-1958)**. While at school Bob lived with his parents in the village of Boundstone, Farnham. His father was a skilled craftsman working at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough. He had a sister, Sheila, who was two years older and was to marry **DAVID BIDWELL (1948-1953)** who reached the rank of Brigadier in the Army. Biking to the Grammar School one day he was involved in an accident with a local bus. Bob suffered several injuries, including a fractured skull, which affected his hearing for the rest of his life. He also attended the local Sunday School and became great friends of **JOHN COOKE (1948-1953)**. He was a member of the local Air Training Corps' Squadron before going to London University to read electrical engineering. On graduating he worked for an electronics' company on military defence work. During this period he purchased a flat in Shepperton and lived there for the remainder of his life.

A THANK YOU FROM THE EDITOR OF THIS MAGAZINE FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF ADVERTS IN THE 2013 MAGAZINE BY THE FOLLOWING OLD BOYS: *Robin Welland-Jones: Stephen Pritchard: John Hirst: Cyril Trust: Simon Granville-Jones: Christopher Hone.*

CARTOONS BY TREVOR

During his time at the old School Trevor Andrews developed his drawing skills and became a very accomplished cartoonist. After leaving the School he had a regular cartoon slot in the local newspaper. Since then he has developed his painting ,with some of them shown on the Guild of Aviation Artists (<http://www.gava.org.uk>), which specialises in anything to do with aircraft. He still retains his cartoon skills and has agreed to send the editor some new ones for the magazine. The following will hopefully raise a laugh among readers.



MORE CARTOONS BY TREVOR

This second cartoon by Trevor Andrews makes up a pair with the first one on the previous page. I hope it brings a smile to the readers and hope that Trevor will be able to supply cartoons for future magazines. Beware!! He may be sketching you at the next Annual Lunch.



INTRODUCING THE FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST

In 1978 the School celebrated its 400th anniversary and from this event came the introduction of the 400 Trust. The editor found this report of the celebrations written by former OFA stalwart, Eddie Glynn and felt that readers may find it of interest.

THE FOUR HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Yes, I know, many of us will still argue that Farnham Grammar School was founded in 1351 and it is true that there is a certain amount of cloudy evidence to support the fact that an ancient chapel or chantry was established in Farnham in that year by William Edington, Bishop of Winchester. There is, however, rather more concrete evidence that in 1578 Robert Horne, the then Bishop of Winchester, set on foot a scheme for the erection of a school in Farnham – possibly a revival of the fourteenth century Chantry School – adjoining the Parish Church. This date of 1578 was then the hook on which we hung our reason for the celebrations which took place in May of this year.

The main celebrations were concentrated in the weekend of 19th/21st May, but as a pipe-opener we were successful in prevailing upon the BBC to broadcast their “Any Questions” programme from the College Hall on the evening of Friday 12th May. The panel, chaired by David Jacobs, consisted of Barbara Castle, Professor Eric Laithwaite, Dick Taverne and Ted Leather, and the College Hall was filled to capacity with students, parents, friends and townfolk to hear and take part in a most interesting and lively broadcast.

The first event planned for the main weekend was a Reception with an Elizabethan format to be held on the evening of Friday 19th May, but, sadly, as by the deadline date dictated by the acquisition of boars’ heads and much other appropriate and costly provender the number of tickets sold was insufficient to guarantee it being a viable project, it had to be cancelled. Afterwards, of course, there were many expressions of – “Oh, what a pity: we were going to come.” Yes, it was a pity, for much hard work had gone into its organisation, all to no avail.

The major event of the weekend took place on the Saturday afternoon – The Four Hundreth Anniversary Fete. Weatherwise we were blessed with a glorious day and some fifty stalls and sideshows were all set up on the College field in time for the official opening at 2.00 pm. by Old Farnhamian, Bill Wallis, that well known character of stage, T.V. and radio. A special edition of the College magazine had been produced for the occasion and sellers mingled with the crowd offering copies for sale.

In the main arena we were entertained to a very colourful display of marching and counter-marching by the Reading Pipe Band and to an historical pageant with children wearing home-made costumes appropriate to the period. All young children present were also encouraged to take part in children’s races and games.

INTRODUCING THE FARNHAMIAN 400 TRUST

At the bottom of the field, pony and trap rides were on offer whilst on the patio the College Drama Society staged continuous performances throughout the afternoon, and the Area Youth Orchestra entertained us to delightful sessions of music. Down by the Cricket pavilion, Punch and Judy spread their spell over the very young, whilst would-be marksmen tested their skill on the rifle range. There was an historical exhibition in the library and teas were served throughout the afternoon in the College Hall. We were honoured by the attendance of our Member of Parliament, Mr. Maurice MacMillan and his wife, who toured the ground with the College Principal and Mrs French.

The big spectacular billed for the afternoon – the ascent of an hot-air balloon from the Memorial Field – turned out to be a slightly damp squib as, owing to the possibility of interference with flight-lanes at Heathrow and Gatwick as well as planes from Farnborough and Odiham, it was not possible for it to take off on free flight. However, a tethered ascent was achieved and intrepid Old Farnhamian photographer, Christopher Shephard, was able to take a number of interesting photographs of the fete ground from the air.

A grand draw with a first prize of £100 had been organised, tickets for which had been on sale for some weeks before the fete, thereby giving an insurance against a wet day. All in all, a very enjoyable and rewarding afternoon which produced a profit of around £1,100 for the general funds of the College. In the evening, a very successful Barn Dance and Barbecue was enjoyed by the young in heart and the not too tired of leg.

On the Sunday evening, Evensong at St. Andrew's Parish Church incorporated a service of thanksgiving conducted by the Rector, Canon Donald Gray, who is one of the Foundation Governors of the College.

This report would be incomplete if mention was not made of "The College Goose" project. This project is for the planting of a commemorative copse of trees in Farnham Park to replace old and diseased trees and to mask certain unsightly urban development. The fund, organised by Mrs Yvonne Gowers, is still open and donations sent to her at the College will be gratefully received.

The Committee responsible for the organisation of the foregoing events comprised representatives of the College staff, present and past students of the College, the Parents' / Teachers' Association, the Old Girls' Association of FGGS and the Old Farnhamians' Association. As can be imagined, many long meetings and much hard work was entailed for the Committee members and helpers. It would be invidious to mention any by name except that of John McLaughlan, Deputy Principal of the College, who chaired the Committee and to whom all who took part in and enjoyed the celebrations owe a considerable debt of gratitude.

E.G.Glynn

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