

News of Old Boys 1999

The article on the life of Ray Kirk in the last edition resulted in a letter from BARBARA WILLS, the widow of John Wills the Art Master at the school, saying that during the early days when they came to Farnham they lived in a flat at the top of the Kirk household, or 'Kirk's Castle' as she calls it. Ray was away in the army, but his brother Ken was very kind and helpful to the Wills family. When they eventually moved into a cottage at Heath End, the first property that they owned, Ken would bring out the groceries to them from the Ridgeway Stores.

She also remembers that Mrs Munton, wife of the well known mathematics master, would often use her wartime allowance of petrol to ferry her and daughter Gill up the long climb of Firgrove Hill to the crossroads at the Ridgeway. Barbara Wills lives in Rochdale now and it is good that she retains this link with the old school.

In the last edition information was given about BRIAN FITZPATRICK, who has retired and lives in Alton. It was hoped that he would come to the annual dinner, but nothing has been seen or heard of him since the chance meeting in Farnham. That is until early in October 1998 when the editor was watching 'Fifteen to One' on Channel Four. Who should be competing in this popular quiz ? None other than Brian Fitzpatrick. Unfortunately he did not survive to the later rounds and went out of the show for failing to answer a question on literature. One wonders how many more Old Boys have been seen on the screen !

After many years in the building industry our long serving Secretary JOHN CROTTY has retired and is now able to devote more time to his many interests. I find it amazing that this O.A.P. is still able to spend several hours each week playing tennis locally and he is looking remarkably fit. In the initial period of retirement he has visited America and Canada, where he met up with Old Boy TONY GARROOD, and followed this with a trip to the island of Crete. I am sure that all of the membership wishes John a happy and well deserved retirement !

In more than one old magazine the opinion has been given that BRIAN WEBBERLEY (1948-54) was one school soccer player who could have graced the professional ranks. Recently seen recuperating after an operation, he advises that after a lifetime in the aircraft industry he is enjoying retirement and is spending his time restoring antique furniture.

At the recent Southampton Luncheon it came to light that DAVID HORRY was the oldest guest at the ripe age of 84 years. It was also announced that he had attended every one of the Southampton lunches since the first one 37 years ago. Quite a record!

During October more than 300 people attended a concert in London to commemorate the musical career of ALAN FLUCK. The concert was introduced by Richard Baker and the performers included Johnny Dankworth, Cleo Laine and Evelyn Glennie. George Baxter and other Old Boys attended the concert. It was revealed that the late music master from

the School had left a substantial bequest to the Musicians Benevolent Fund for the benefit of British composers of any age for the composition of operettas, musicals, community theatre pieces or works for choir and/or orchestra, for young people to play, sing or listen to. As reported in our last magazine Alan was artistic director of Youth and Music for 25 years, died in Guildford aged 69, on Christmas Eve 1997.

One of the main supporters of the Farnham Museum Society is TONY MERSON, who is the treasurer for this popular local group. Tony informs us that the original printing plate from E.W.Langham (Printers), that was used on the front cover of all magazines from 1912 until the 1948 was given to him some years ago. The design was by D.C.Warner and eventually the plate wore out and was replaced by a much simpler version. If we ever have a proper museum of our own I am sure Tony would let us have this important piece of history for display.

Your secretary has received volume III of DAVID ROGERS' family biography, *The Jesse Rogers Mob*. Sub-titled 'The Exodus' its 400 pages covers in enormous and quite pains-taking detail his life from 1944 to 1965, during which time his passion for development and design involved him in planes, boats, photography, domestic radiators and, above all, people, both in England and eventually Australia. It is currently on loan to the technical department of Farnham College (who may pass it on to the music class because of his many references to his jazz band days). David has contacted IAN PERKINS, who lives just up the road in Queensland.

Another Queenslander, JOHN LLOYD, was moved by the reproduction of the 1912 *Farnhamian* cover to wonder if someone could pen an article sometime on the claimed foundation of the school in 1351. Sadly Ned Godsil is not here to help and the history (have you a copy John ?) runs out of steam after 400 years, but somebody might be inspired to take up the cause.

RICHARD LAWRENCE is thriving in Florida after a shaky start. A licensed estate broker, he is involved in the sale and letting of holiday and other homes. Having acquired some land, he is about to have a house built for himself.

One-time secretary of the OFA, IAN PATRICK, has returned to the association after an absence of many years. After war service in the Western Desert, Ceylon, India and with the Chindits in Burma, he returned to Farnham and *The Herald* for four years. He moved to Yorkshire where he remained in journalism until his retirement in 1981, his last post being a sub-editor on the *Telegraph and Argus*. Much of his free time has been spent supporting the Methodist Church at all levels. Contemporary rivals might like to learn that he thinks that his arthritis may be the price of his athletic prowess at school, although he also suspects his wartime activities may also contribute to his lack of mobility.

Another retired member is COLIN BATTERBURY. He spent 25 years in the building business as a Civil Engineer working for local authorities and consultants, which included a spell overseas. He recalls the school choir and

singing solos.

MICHAEL HALL writes from France. He is looking for a copy of the school photo taken between 1952 and 1957 at the top of the playing field just in front of the steps. Perhaps somebody can help. He remained in Farnham for ten years after leaving school and then crossed the Channel, married a local lass and is currently a financial translator with Deutsche Morgan Grenfell in Paris after having worked with several major companies such as Paribas, John Deere and BP.

Another ex-secretary, JOHN HAMILTON-JONES, tells us that he remarried in May last year in Jersey, his wife Joyce being from those parts. We send him our best wishes for the future.

Top marks to ROGER THOMPSON for giving his chum TONY BACKHURST the ultimate birthday present, i.e. membership of the association plus the tie ! Roger is in the antiques business with showrooms in Winchester and London. He makes frequent trips to Africa and Europe. Tony runs his own scuba diving business and regularly takes parties to the Red Sea, Thailand and Africa.

JOHN WONHAM writes to correct an error in the 1998 magazine. Far from being retired he holds the Chair of International Transport at the University of Wales, a position he took up in 1995.

RICHARD PHILLIPS sounds busy. He is currently managing director of Operations of Automotive Research and Consulting Group and last September he became non-executive chairman of Textile Bonding Ltd.

Sportsmen in the Guildford area should note that MICHAEL WILSON, formerly of the legal departments of BAT and, for the past 15 years, Esso Petroleum, has retired and intends to build up his tennis and golf and take up bowls.

A photo in *The Herald* resulted in your secretary contacting TOM ALEXANDER. Tom left the school as long ago as 1935 and took up teaching after leaving the services at the end of the war. He started at Badshot Lea, where he became a great friend of Don Sturt, and finished his career as the Head of St. Patrick's Primary School in Farnborough.

MARK WESTCOTT'S architectural practice continues to go from 'peak to trough' as he puts it, an exciting commission being landscape work for Powergen's H.Q., a project which is in its eighth year. He claims that his rates for advice are 'very reasonable' as far as Old Boys are concerned !

JOHN FALKNER has finally decided to take early retirement after many years as a policeman and latterly on the security staff of the University of Surrey at Guildford. He says that he is considering a move to the Isle of Wight, where his daughter lives, although he is a Farnham boy at heart !

DENNIS LAMPARD says that his only claim to fame is that he was born on August 11th 1929. So what is special about that ? It works out that he is seventy on the day of the eclipse this summer and he is having problems arranging a suitable celebration. Owing to the popularity of this event, the

cost of accommodation in Devon and Cornwall has been inflated and Dennis feels that there must be somewhere else that he can celebrate his birthday and see the eclipse for himself. At the time of going to press the best value for money was a coach trip to Paris for two nights, taking in the eclipse and a little Paris nightlife for £79. If there are spare seats on that coach maybe other Old Boys would like to join the party !

GEOFF HOOKER, who is now semi-retired, reports that he is now enjoying being a part of the Rushmoor Odd Fellows Male Voice Choir. This well-known local choir give their services to several local charities and Geoff finds that our most recent President BRIAN DANIELS is also a member. He still works in the aircraft industry and is responsible for the sales of aviation products to Brazil. In addition he is helping British Airways to re-fit their Concorde fleet so that the life of these planes can be extended.

As we go to press it is good to hear that MIKE FOSTER, the former English master at both the Grammar School and the College, is comparatively fit and well for a man in his mid 70's. Mike suffered a stroke some months ago and this has affected one leg, making walking difficult. However, typical of the man, he can still be seen making short walks to the local shops and he still retains his humour. He says that his son DAVID FOSTER, who also attended the School, is now living and working in Holland.

MAURICE JEFFREYS advises that he is enjoying his semi-retirement. He now lives on the edge of Dartmoor and comes to London, and Lloyds in particular, only two days a week. With more spare time available he has taken up rifle shooting, which was a sport that he excelled at during his days at the School. He has also begun to play both golf and bowls and clearly intends to keep himself fit in retirement. He still does some consultancy work in the field of insurance and recently attended a meeting with a solicitor who had flown over to the West Country from the Channel Isles. During the meeting Maurice found that the man from Guernsey was G.A.BREHAUT who attended the school in the early 40's. Hopefully we will have another new Old Boy to add to the list in the near future.

CYRIL TRUST was asked some time ago to write an article in a magazine going to the construction industry, and apparently it proved popular. As a result he was asked by the magazine to write a regular column and he has recently completed his tenth article under the 'Trust Cyril' heading. The success is probably the result of the practice in editing the 'Farnhamian' every year.

B.J.OELMAN is still living in Farnham and working for the Department of Transport, although no longer on the project of vehicle taxation. He says that after his time spent in the Gambia his current role is not too exciting.

BRYAN BONE recently visited his brother in South Africa and whilst there he met JOHN BROWN who was at the school from 1944 until 1949. Bryan has photos of John and his family as well as a write up on his career since leaving Farnham Grammar School. It is planned that this will form an article in the next edition of the magazine.

TONY MERSON advises that the recent talk to the Farnham Museum

Society by the editor about the 'Farnhamian' magazine has resulted in several requests for similar talks about old local schools. It has been arranged that in October someone from the Farnham Girls Grammar School Old Girls Association will be giving a talk about life at the old school in Menin Way.

BOB LUCKHURST retired last September after thirty years with Zurich Financial Services. The pre-retirement courses that he developed and ran with such success for the company should stand him in good stead.

The 2000 magazine will include a very interesting profile by retired member of staff DOUGLAS LEUCHERS. It is good to hear that he is gradually recovering from a serious illness.

News of Old Boys 2000

In the 1999 magazine we printed a late obituary for JIM CASBEN (1923-27) only to be advised by his family that he was still very much alive and well into his 80's. We would like to apologise for the incorrect information and trust that it has not caused any distress to the Casben family. In fact the obituary related to ARTHUR (JACK) CLIFTON and an appreciation of this Old Boy appears in this issue written by a classmate GORDON MORRIS.

We have recently been given several old photographs and speech day programmes dating back to 1879, 1880 and 1881 and they come from a former pupil of the school at that time, namely WILLIAM ROBERT WORSAM. He was a member of the family who were bakers in Downing Street, Farnham for many years, with the business actually starting in 1846. The programmes show that William received several prizes whilst at the school and in later life he became Chairman of the local Council for a time. He died at an early age of 45 in 1915. We will be publishing some of the photos in later magazines.

On arriving at the 1999 Southampton Luncheon the editor was approached almost immediately by one of the regulars at this event, DAVID HORRY (1925-1930), pointing out an error in the 1998 magazine. In the photograph of the masters at camp, showing them all smoking pipes, the man second from the right is in fact not Mr. Withinshaw, but Mr. W. Kingcome, according to David. Since the luncheon David has sent me some details of his career after leaving the School in June 1930. Initially he became a junior clerk in the Hindhead District Office of Aldershot Gas, Water and District Lighting Company, which had taken over the Hindhead Electricity Company about two years earlier. The company was expanding and in the early 1930's changed its name to Mid Southern Utility Company. In 1933 David moved to the Aldershot office.

On 1st April 1948 the Electricity Industry was nationalised under the Electricity Act 1947 and the Aldershot area became a 'district' of Southern Electricity Board within its Portsmouth Area. In 1951 David became an Associate Member of the Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants - now The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. March 1979 brought his retirement from Portsmouth Area as Assistant Area Secretary/Accountant (Accounts and Statistics). The industry has since been returned to private ownership and Southern Electric plc and Scottish Hydro Electric have managed to form Scottish and Southern Energy plc.

On retiring David moved to Portsmouth, where he lived until his recent death. (see obituary).

What always amazes me is how some of our older members remain 'with it' even in their 70's and 80's and ROY ROBINS (1926-1931) is a typical example. As you know, from his profile in the last magazine, Roy is a very

busy man and at Southampton he explained to me how he was looking for a more modern computer to enable him to keep information from the various committees that he attends in some order and within easy access. He is prepared to attend a course on computers so that he can take advantage of the latest technology. I cannot imagine having such an inquisitive mind at the ripe old age of 85 years !

In July 1999 we received a letter from EDDIE MARSH in Zimbabwe. Eddie left the school in 1926 and last year he was ninety years old and recalls MAJ.GEN. ELMSLIE who was at the school at the same time and left in 1923. He says that raging inflation is a problem in Zimbabwe but he still earns himself some pocket money, to add to his pension, from consultancy work in the public sector. His service with the Government of the late Rhodesia & Nyasaland leaves him with a great deal of useful experience in this area. Like others Eddie points out that the new Millennium does not start until January 2001.

We have recently received a request for a copy of the School History from FREDDIE WIMBLEDON (1922-1927) and his apologies for not being able to attend the Millennium Dinner. He explains that over the years he has spent a small fortune on hearing aids, but with little success, and feels that he would not be able to fully participate in the evening. Freddie is ninety this year and is one of our oldest Farnhamians. He has remarried and his second wife is the widow of a Free French Air Force Officer, so this means regular visits to France for both of them with relatives to visit and good wine to purchase and bring back to the home in Guildford.

Another long term Farnhamian is LEN SALTMARSH, who is 85 years old and attended the school in the 20's and now lives at Bideford in North Devon. He says that he was a poor scholar but his life has been a great adventure. Len was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar for his bravery as a pilot in the Pathfinders during the Second World War. He explains that he has always been blessed with good health, and having survived cancer he still does a three mile jog twice a week. In fact he ran a marathon at the age of 74 in a good time. He hopes to meet old friends at the dinner in April.

We keep in regular contact with GORDON MORRIS (1927 - 29) who lives near Reading and is still a stalwart of the Old Farnhamians' Masonic Lodge. They hold their meetings in Castle Street in Farnham and several Old Boys still attend. They have placed their usual advert for new members in the magazine and it is hoped that this will result in some response. Gordon is 87 years old this year and still attends the dinners. Unfortunately illness has given him a poor start to the new millennium, but I am sure he will bounce back once again.

Not a newcomer but one brought back into the fold is ROY GATES, whose address went astray for a number of years. He heard via HAROLD NORTH and JIM HALL that we were still going strong and made contact. He is

impressed with the number of over-eighties in our ranks and hopes to make the Southampton Lunch this year.

Another donation towards the dinner was received from REDVERS GODSLAND, who we think is our oldest living Old Boy. His son John tells us that after a slight stroke last year his father and mother have returned home following a spell in a residential home. Redvers is on the brink of reaching the milestone of 100 years of age, a nose in front of Major General FRED ELMSLIE. He says that he will be thinking of us on the 8th April and wishes to be remembered to all those he has met on former reunions.

One well known face absent from the Millennium Dinner was that of NORMAN PATRICK, who still lives just outside Farnham on the road to Alton. Some Old Boys take advantage of his generosity by regularly using the tennis courts that he has in the grounds of his house. We are advised that Norman, who is well into his eighties, is still keeping well. The magazine regularly receives old photographs of School football teams from the 20's and in almost all of them Norman appears in his goalkeepers jersey. For many years the name of Patrick has appeared on the guest list for the Annual Dinner and members of the family will be missed at future get-togethers.

It is truly amazing that we have found two pages of News of Old Boys who attended the School in the 1920's. With the turn of the century these former pupils of Farnham Grammar School are all into their eighties, and going strong it seems. If some of the younger members can achieve such longevity, who knows how long the Old Farnhamians' Association can continue to survive !

The 'Farnham Herald' announced that the Farnham Oral History Group, which had been in existence for 8 years, now had an extensive collection of tapes made by well known citizens, passing on for all time their knowledge of Farnham. The article stated that EDDIE GODSIL (1939-71) had contributed a lively and characteristic description of life on the staff of Farnham Grammar School and as a member of the school's Home Guard unit during the Second World War. It also mentioned that there were some fascinating reminiscences of cherished personalities such as MAURICE ELPHICK(1927-32). The tapes are stored at the Farnham Museum in West Street and are available for hire to the public. The Editor will certainly be making sure that he listens to the two mentioned here.

The strength of the friendships which existed among the staff at the School is shown by the continued interest of widows and families in general of several of the teaching staff. We still hear on a regular basis from Barbara Wills (widow of John Wills). Joyce Evans (widow of Wendall Evans), Peggy Lewis-Jones (daughter of Stanley Lock) and Barbara Willis (daughter of George Bacon) amongst others. It is therefore sad to report on the death, at the end of 1999, of SYLVIA BEEKEN, who was the widow of HAROLD BEEKEN (1930-67). Like her daughters Julia and Diana, she

was always interested in the School and remained in contact with the magazine. I am sure that all Old Boys are sorry to hear of her passing.

One Old Boy who could come under 'News of The Old Boys - 30's' or 'News of The Old Boys - 50's' is PETER LARBY who was a pupil at the School from 1938 until 1945 and later a teacher from 1956 until 1973. As far as we know only DONALD NICOLSON has been in the same situation. Peter suffers from asthma, but is keeping himself very busy by researching his family tree. We are trying to put him in contact with an old school pal, GEOFF BREHAUT, who we know lives in the Channel Islands.

The Conservative Club in Downing Street, Farnham, is a 'watering hole' for several Old Boys and you will often find them either playing snooker or in the bar playing dominoes. One of the regulars is CHARLIE LECLERQ, who attended the School from 1935 until 1939. Charlie left the School at the beginning of the second World War and in 1942 he joined the Army, as a member of the Royal Signals, and was part of the invasion force by crossing the Channel on D-day plus 7. He was demobbed in 1946 and started work for his father, who was the builder Fred LeClerq. Charlie worked in the company until his retirement in 1988 and the LeClerq name is well known in the Farnham area. Charlie is also well known for his various sporting activities and he played cricket for the Bourne for many years and football for Wrecclesham. He is also a member of Farnham Golf Club. Charlie's brother FRED LECLERQ also attended the Grammar School and his sister Mildred married another well-known Old Boy, DAVID HORRY, whose obituary is included in this issue.

EDGAR JEROME was obliged to give his apologies for the Millennium Dinner due to the constraints imposed by his dialysis machine. He enclosed a generous donation towards the event and the Secretary will be calling on him with a memento of the evening.

Congratulations to JOHN EDMUNDS on the award of the OBE for his services to agriculture. John is in touch with ROGER WARD who farms in Wales and hopes to attend a dinner with his brother-in-law BRIAN SMITH when 'we can get our act together'.

One name that dominated at the Grammar School during the 40's was that of Paget, with three brothers at the Boys Grammar School and a sister at the Girls Grammar School. The father's side of the family originated from Wiltshire farming stock, but Denis made a break with tradition and became headmaster at The Bourne School.. BRIAN PAGET (1940-47) was the eldest son and the first to go to Morley Road. On leaving school he qualified and worked for Aldershot Borough Council for a number of years, with several colleagues who were Old Boys e.g. Fred Foley. Unfortunately Brian has not enjoyed good health over the years and is now retired and living in Leatherhead. It is hoped that he will write for the magazine as he now does some freelance writing.

Following two years later was KEITH PAGET (1942-48), the sportsman of the family and winner of many events at the School including the Victor Ludorum. On leaving school he returned to the family farm in Bromham nr. Devizes, where he also ran a smallholding for pigs to supplement the work on the farm. He married and has three sons and a daughter. After some years Keith changed careers and entered what was to become a very successful plumbing business. On retiring he moved to Wiveliscombe, Somerset, but has now moved back to the smallholding in Wiltshire which is managed by two of his sons. He is currently looking for a smaller retirement home in the Wiltshire, Somerset, Devon area.

Finally NORMAN PAGET (1947-53) came to the School and on leaving qualified as an accountant and worked in London for a number of years, (BRIAN DANIELS was a travelling companion!) . He married Diana (née Rowe, another FGGS girl) and they made their first home in Farnham, moved on to Odiham and then on to Wem in Shropshire. From here he moved with his company to Baltimore in the USA and stayed with them until the company was taken over . Norman decided to become his own boss and purchased a local Ambulance Company. He now has quite a number of vehicles offering a 24 hour service of transportation, excluding emergencies. His only child Alistair works for the company as a paramedic and will marry a local girl in August. Norman and Diana still visit England when they can, and hope to return here once their working life is completed. (We would like to thank YVONNE PAGET, their sister, who still lives in Farnham, for all of this news).

We have received a letter from GORDON WEBBERLEY (1941-48) asking if the Waverley Cup had survived the years. The answer is in the affirmative and we have catalogued this trophy which was presented to the School Cadet Force by the Waverley Company of the Home Guard, who used the School as its meeting place, parade square etc. In 1948 Gordon was the first winner of this cup for .303 army rifle competition.

ROBIN BROATCH (1948-51) left the School and during his National Service at nearby Aldershot met Old Boy PAT CHANDLER. After his demob he worked at de Havilland's at Hatfield and whilst there met another Old Boy, BRIAN DAVEY. Subsequently Robin worked in Iran, India, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Australia. On various trips to Farnham he contacted Old Boys GUY BELLAMY, KEITH DOLLEY, JOHN FISHER, TONY TILSON, JOHN MOORE, STAN HOPTROFF, TREVOR JOHNS, the WHITER brothers, JOHN BELLMAN and BASIL SPARROW. All of these Old Farnhamians attended the same class at Farnham Grammar School in the 1950-51 term. Robin is now retired in Armidale, Australia, with his wife Heather, who runs her own interior design business.

In the 1999 edition of the magazine we asked whether anyone had seen other Old Boys on the television and we hear from TONY RAYER(1942-47) that on May 1st he appeared on the 'Kilroy' morning programme. The subject under discussion was Youth unemployment and Tony, being

involved with Jobsearch and Outplacement programmes, debated the matter with the Rt.Hon.Andrew Smith MP. Tony is now operating 'Ghost Tours of Farnham' and any Old Boys on his one hour tour of the town would be welcome.

News from relatives of JOHN LUNN(1942-48) that he has retired from his position at a Jobcentre in East Anglia and now lives with his wife in Ipswich. John joined the Royal Air Force Boys' service on leaving school and followed a career in this service until the mid 70's when he was demobbed and joined a Volvo agent in Norwich before moving on. He enjoys cycling and caravanning and spends a great deal of time across the Channel in France.

Over the 1999 August Bank Holiday viewers could see a full length TV film called 'The Mystery of Men', which was an adaptation of the book by former pupil GUY BELLAMY(1948-52). Guy has written a dozen books now and this is the first to be made into a film. He now lives in Somerset and recent news suggested that he had suffered a stroke this year whilst driving his car, but was recovering well. Guy has written to us offering to write an article for this magazine and no doubt you will enjoy some of his memories of time at the School. He says that he is regularly visited by BILL WALLIS and DAVID LEA, and we hope that we will soon have three new members for the Association We have heard that BILL WALLIS, the well known actor, has not been too well and hopefully we shall have some news of him shortly.

At a recent pub lunch attended by TONY HARLAND(1944-51) and other Old Boys it was amazing to hear that on the previous Saturday Tony had played cricket for the local club Waverley C.C. at the age of 67 years. He explained that he had played for this club for over 30 years and had recorded that he had played between 1300 and 1400 innings for the team, which over the years has included many other Old Boys in the team. He could still bowl well and felt that he could still field well enough to keep his place in the team.

We hear from DUDLEY BACKHURST (1943-51) that he recently received a visit from Old Boy MICHAEL BARNARD (1943-49) and his sister Eileen. Michael was over here from the United States of America for a brief holiday and looked up his old school chum in Southampton. His wife, Joan, is unfortunately afflicted with MS and is no longer able to travel. In spite of a hip replacement and some shoulder problems Michael still manages to play golf when time permits.

We have received both letters and E-mail from KEN PAGNIEZ from his home in Ontario, Canada and he tells us that after leaving the school in 1947 he worked for Cunard until 1953 and then did his two years National Service. Returning to 'civvy street' he worked for CNR in London for a couple of years, married his wife Marion in 1954, emigrated to Canada in 1955 and went to work for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as an

announcer in 1956. After 17 years he moved to Ottawa in 1972 and finished his career as a radio producer in Current Affairs. On retiring in 1987 he moved to his current location in Bloomfield. Ken and Marion have two daughters - Deirdre who is married, lives in Toronto and is Director of Marketing for Molson Beer, and Barbara who is marrying this year and at present lives in Nova Scotia. Ken recalls 'Pussy' Varey, 'Rashers' Bacon, 'Fanny' Crute, 'Johnny' Horner, 'Joe' Godsil and a short-lived French teacher, Miss George, who was passionately in love with General de Gaulle.

The following contribution is from BEVAN WAIDE OBE (1947-1954) who is now based in Warwickshire but is as likely to be found in Indonesia or Africa or indeed Oxford where he is Chairman of Oxford Policy Management Ltd., a management consultancy company. After two and a half decades with the World Bank, and some eight years as a Partner with Coopers and Lybrand in London, most of his work is now as an individual consultant. He has just returned from a year in Indonesia as the Government's privatisation advisor, which he notes was 'unexpectedly interesting' and this followed similar assignments in eastern and Southern Africa. His privatisation work has been extensive and by now, he says, he hopes he has atoned for all his earlier errors in setting up and supporting state enterprises in the developing world.

KEN PAYNE (1941-1947) writes from Saint Aidan's Catholic Church in Little Chalfont with news of his work since leaving the school. Direct from Farnham he went to Hull University to read Pure and Applied Mathematics, Logic and Scientific Methodology. It was about this time that he became convinced that the Catholic Church was the authentic voice of Christ in the world today and he was baptised in 1950 into the Catholic Church at St. Edwards, Sutton Park, Guildford. Five years later, having completed a diploma in education, he did two years with the RAF as an education officer at Halton, nr Aylesbury. He was then accepted by Bishop Leo Parker as a student for the priesthood, sent to St. Sulpice Seminary in Paris, and ordained at Notre Dame, Paris in 1960. Subsequently he served in St. Gregory's, Northampton, spent four years as a chaplain in the RAF (mostly in Cyprus), then parish priest in Bedford, Aylesbury and for the past 13 years as Administrator at the Cathedral in Northampton. His pastoral work has included work with youth, the 'Journey in Faith' for non-Catholics, as well as with the 'Teams of Our Lady' where small groups of married people meet monthly to share, pray together and help one another grow spiritually. He is also involved with 'Missionaries of the Poor' who work with the poorest of the poor in Jamaica, India, The Philippines, Haiti etc. He returned in late summer 1999 from a mini-sabbatical in several Third World situations both in Brazil and Jamaica. Father Ken would like to make contact with RICHARD D. PARSONS (1941-1947) if at all possible.

One of our new members is GRAHAM COSWAY (1947-1953) who works as a chartered building surveyor in Hereford. He says that he is approaching retirement and is looking forward to leaving behind the complications that

arise from the Health and Safety laws in the building industry.

I like the story from the REVD. JEREMY HUTCHINSON (1943-1950) telling that once whilst sitting next to a young female reporter from the 'Farnham Herald' listening to a speech by former Headmaster F.A.MORGAN, she asked "What is his name ?" Jeremy whispered back "F.A.Morgan". She wrote this down on her pad and Jeremy added "M.A.Oxon". The young lady crossed out F.A.Morgan and wrote M.A.Oxon. Jeremy has been working in the Stepney Area of London Diocese since 1957 and retired in 1996. Like most of us 'retired' people he finds life busier than when he officially worked and there are several churches with interregnums needing to be filled, also Jeremy often stands in for his local vicar in Hackney. During a seven year break (1978-1985) when he helped set up a Huddleston Centre for young people with disabilities and their families he learned how to make things in wood, metal or plastic and this comes in useful when helping his nine grandchildren. The Centre is still running in spite of financial trouble, and it is filling a great need.

We have received a very long and interesting letter from TOM GODDARD (1947-1952) who now lives at Hay-On-Wye in Herefordshire . He explains that since leaving the school his career has been in three parts. On leaving school he took an apprenticeship as a draughtsman in a Godalming based engineers and founders and made good progress, passing exams and obtaining his HNC in his early twenties. Like many of us the career was halted by National Service and Tom joined the RAF and became an Air-to-Air Missile mechanic. On leaving the forces he felt that his original career ideas had been too delayed and he decided to change direction and became interested in Humanism in general, Family Casework and the treating of problem families in general. Needing social work experience he became a 'Children's Helper' at a Hereford Residential School for 32 maladjusted boys from 8 to 15 years old and what was planned as a two year stint became a 21 year odyssey. Tom finally left child care in 1984 being both mentally and physically drained and eventually looked for another career. In 1978 he had started a company called Booksearch and in his spare time took on the job of looking for books specified by customers, so he decided to do this full time and is still operating this one-man business today. Tom lives and works from a cottage in Hay-on-Wye, has never married, and clearly from his letter leads a most interesting life.

This time we have made contact with both Wyatt boys and received a letter from VIC WYATT, who left the school in 1947 and now lives in Norwich. On leaving school he worked at several jobs in London before returning to university to take a post-graduate qualification in teaching English as a Foreign Language. Soon Vic, and his wife Judy, were teaching African secondary school children in Uganda and over the years he has taught at schools and universities in Kenya, Brunei, Turkey and Cyprus-with a stint at an English comprehensive while their children were going through the secondary system. His last posting was Latvia, where he taught civil servants and business people as well as the President of the

Republic. He had now reached 'advanced age', as he puts it, and applied to VSO where he was offered positions in such countries as Outer Mongolia and Rwanda before accepting a job in Vietnam. Before he could take up the position he was told that he was too old and the position was for someone under 45 years of age, VSO then offered him a position at Bonga, Ethiopia and as Vic could not find such a place on any maps available he decided to decline the offer. He has therefore hung up his mortarboard and gown and resides in Norwich, reading the Guardian, doing its cryptic crossword, gardening, decorating and corresponding to the many friends and relatives throughout the world. Vic's son lives in Australia, his elder daughter in Japan and his younger daughter in London. He would like to hear from any old classmates who now have the time to put pen to paper.

Yet another regular member of the local Museum Society is BRIAN CHEESEMAN (1942-48)

who is now retired and still lives on the outskirts of Farnham. On leaving the School Brian spent two years National service in the R.A.P.C. He then began a long career at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough where he worked for almost forty years, with most of the time doing Analytical Chemistry. He says that he has lost touch with several of his old classmates, one of which was JOHN LUNN who we refer to in this issue, and is considering becoming an Association member once again. You would be welcome Brian !

Brian Cheeseman also told us that his brother RAYMOND CHEESEMAN, who also attended the School, is now living in Reading and he is not enjoying the best of health unfortunately.

Caught playing dominoes at the local Conservative Club with his brother Cliff and his friend CHARLIE LECLERQ was BOB PARRATT (1945-52). Bob left the School in 1951 and began his first job at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, where he only stayed until the following year. In 1952 he joined the Royal Air Force and began a distinguished career which lasted for forty years. In 1953 he was commissioned and began a chain of Tours of Duty which took him all over the world. From the first stop on the Isle of Man he served in Canada, Norwich, Germany, N.Ireland, Aden. Plymouth, Singapore, Scotland, Northolt, High Wycombe and two further tours in Germany. In 1976 he was awarded the MBE, and he retired in 1992 as a Squadron Leader. Although retired Bob still retained the association with the Royal Air Force and was the Community Relations Officer at nearby RAF Odiham until 1999. Bob, like many other Old Boys over the years, has had a dazzling career in the Armed Forces and seems quite happy to reside in Farnham and spend a few evenings with family and friends drinking the local ale and playing dominoes. Like his younger brother Cliff he was a proud member of Morley House.

We have recently heard from IVAN BOWLER (1944-49) who will be remembered by many Old Boys for his musical contributions to the School Orchestra etc. Ivan left the School and began his National Service in the

Army. He had played the piano for many years and had hopes of becoming a concert pianist, but he says that he did not quite make the grade and turned to a career in teaching. His first appointment was at Portsmouth, with his main subjects being Mathematics and Music, and this was followed by a spell at a private school in Dorset. He then entered into a partnership with another Old Boy, ROY MEAD, and they ran a private school in Lewes, Sussex for two years before Ivan moved on to a Chichester school. Here he worked for many years and is still there in his semi-retirement. Ivan hopes to meet old classmates at the Millennium Dinner.

A recent telephone call to the 'Farnham Herald' resulted in ROGER DAVIS (1942-47) making contact with the Association after many years. Whilst at school Roger says that his main claim to fame was winning the 'School Essay Prize'. On leaving he worked for two years as a journalist with the local 'Farnham Herald' and then began his National Service in the Royal Artillery, where he served in Malta and North Africa. Returning to civilian life he continued his career in journalism by working for a local newspaper in Penrith before moving on to the 'Glasgow Herald'.

Whilst with this larger paper he worked with fellow journalist Magnus Magnessun, who later went on to fame with 'Mastermind' on BBCTV. Roger moved on to other newspapers in senior editorial positions and ended up in Sheffield via Dumfries, Carlisle and Lincoln. He lives in Sheffield, having retired some six years ago, and unfortunately does not enjoy the best of health. Even so he is involved in Woodcarving and can be seen at several local exhibitions. He is hoping to make contact with former classmates and has now joined the Association. In our next magazine we will be re-producing a photograph sent in by Roger of almost thirty boys from his days at the School.

(Perhaps some readers will recognize themselves!)

We have to thank our President MICHAEL HORNER for enrolling LESLIE PIERCE last year. Leslie started his career in the Midland Bank at Farnham but soon found his progress halted by the Second World War. He spent his time with landing craft in Europe and the Far East before returning to his chosen career in banking. Over the years he worked at banks in the South and the West of England as well as in South Wales, during which time he also managed to marry a former Farnham Girls Grammar School girl called Joyce Taylor. They have three children. Leslie has been a Justice of the Peace since 1977.

Another ex-pupil joined the Association when we managed to track down NEVILLE TIMMINS (1948-52), who lives at nearby Fleet.

On leaving the School in 1952 he embarked on a five year indentured apprenticeship in aircraft engineering at the R.A.E.Farnborough. On completion of the five years he was accepted by the Guided Weapons/Space Design office where he worked on a variety of experimental equipment, which usually ended up being tested either on Salisbury Plain, off the Welsh Coast, over the English Channel or mainly at Woomera in Australia. In 1968 he left the R.A.E. to work as a freelance on

the Concorde test facility, aircraft installations and motor cycle engine development. In 1971 he joined the National Institute of Oceanographic Services near Godalming and worked on the design and development of a large range of marine scientific equipment for installing in/on ships or lowering into the sea. In 1994 I.O.S. moved to Southampton and Neville decided to take early retirement. He has several interests which we will detail in our next magazine. In 1968 he married his wife, Janet, who is a teacher-advisor working for Hampshire County Council. They have two daughters.

In the spring of 1999 it was announced in the local newspapers that JEFFREY TATE (1954-59) had been awarded the Legion of Honour by the French Government. This is the most esteemed award for services to music in France. At the time Jeffrey was in Paris directing an opera at the Bastille Opera House. His father, who naturally was delighted, had received the news by telephone from his son, who had just been made aware of the honour by the French Embassy.

We recently reported that GEOFF HOOKER (1947-53) had retired and now find that like many Old Boys he has begun another 'career'. He has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Woodlarks Workshop Trust. Woodlarks is a very large residential home for disabled people and is situated on the outskirts of Farnham. We are sure that Geoff will make a first class job of this important position in the local community.

News has been received of FRANKIE OLDHAM (1948-53), who always was, and still is, a 'super-salesman'. Frankie came to the School from St.Polycarps and although not a great academic, enjoyed the sport. He has always been a heavy smoker and has suffered from heart problems in recent years. He lives at Woking and still makes his living in sales.

After serving two years as Chairman of Governors for a local Special Needs School CYRIL TRUST (1948-53) has been appointed as the Special Needs Representative for the Schools Group of the Surrey School Organisation Committee. This new committee will be involved in the planning and development of schools within Surrey and Cyril will be supporting the case for more inclusion for handicapped children within the county mainstream schools.

The first lecture for the new season of Farnham Museum Society was a talk on the 'History of Farnham Girls Grammar School' excellently presented by Old Girl Hilary Earl. The hall was filled with Old Girls and the editor sat next to a lady in her 80's who had attended the school and told me that her son JEREMY FLETCHER (1955-1961) was an Old Boy. She recollected that her son was part of the very successful School Cross Country Team in the late 50's and early 60's that included Messrs; MATTHEWS, SLYFIELD AND HONEY. She also managed to whisper that her son was now living in New Zealand and still interested in athletics. Among those present it was good to see Julia Wilson, daughter of HAROLD

BEEKEN, and Stella Bolt, married to Old Boy TONY BOLT and the vigorous secretary of the Old Girls Association.

In the summer of 1999 it was announced that DAVID LEA (1949-55) had entered the House of Lords as a Labour peer and had chosen the title of Lord Lea of Crondall (the local village where he now lives). After completing two years National Service and then four years at Cambridge University David worked for some time in Africa before joining the TUC in 1964. He became assistant general secretary in 1978, the same year that he was awarded an OBE. Vice-President of the European TUC and a member of the Treasury Advisory Committee on EMU, he has been much involved with economic issues and Europe. He has also worked on nuclear energy and led a delegation to Chernobyl in 1987, and on environment, attending the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 as part of the UK delegation. He is very active locally as chairman of 'Farnham Roads Action' and is committed to getting an underpass at Hickleys corner on the congested Farnham by-pass. He is believed to be only the third Old Boy to receive a peerage.

Thanks to Stella Bolt, secretary for the Farnham Girl's Grammar School 'Old Girls' Association we have made contact with IAN BOLT (1948-55) who now lives in Faversham in Kent. Ian has been in business for many years and is a director of a marine services company currently. He still keeps fit by long distance running and after taking part in several Farnham marathons in the 80's he now manages half marathons (13miles) in his 60's. He is married to a Professor of American History who teaches at the University of Kent in Canterbury, and on the same staff is ALF COMMON (1947-55) who is a Professor of Applied Mathematics. Ian says that he plays golf with Alf two days a week.

Ian Bolt still keeps in contact with an old classmate, BRIAN WYATT (1948-55) who now lives in Canada. Brian apparently took a degree in his 30's and became a teacher in Winnipeg before moving to Vancouver. He now resides in that city and does some private tutoring. His elder brother VIC WYATT, who left in 1947, was also a teacher and travelled the world teaching in many countries. He wrote to us in September and his brief career history is in the 'News from the 40's' section.

A well known inhabitant of the local village, Badshot Lea, MAURICE HEWINS (1949-54) is now involved in 'caving' and with other friends he explores various caves throughout the country. He is a well known historian and has written several books and articles about Badshot Lea. He is one of two original members of the local fund raising group The Hedgehogs, who celebrated their fortieth anniversary this year. When this group began it included several ex-pupils of the School, including ROGER STROYAN, ALEC GOOLDING and VERNON ALDRED who were joined in the inaugural year by HENRY BRINDLEY.

We have recently made contact with VIC BENNETT (1948-53) who lives in Fareham, Hampshire where he ended his career as the manager for the

local Abbey National branch. Vic left the School and worked for a shipping company in the City before doing his National service in Malaya. He then joined the well known building society and worked at several branches during his 34 year career with them. Vic played for a very successful Childe House team whilst at school and also for the Old Boys for several seasons. Like many retired ex-pupils he enjoys a game of golf.

We have recently been in touch with PETER STORR (1948-53) who told us that after National Service with the Army in Malaya he began a career in horticulture and enjoyed this for some years. In 1963 he joined Friary Brewery as a stocktaker and remained with them until he was made redundant in 1995. Peter took early retirement and now lives in Guildford and is enjoying life, with his main interest being birdwatching.

We have heard from HARRY SLINGO (1948-53) who tells us that on leaving school he began a career in electronics. He started working for Sound Sales (Hi-Fi Equipment) in Farnham and over the years has been with Racal at Blackbushe and DERA at Pyestock before moving to Versus Technology who are based near Reading. Harry married in 1958 and has two children and four grandchildren and now lives at Church Crookham nr. Farnham. He says that he has two more years to work and is looking forward to retirement.

Another Old Boy from the Fleet area is JOHN (Minnie) MARSHALL (1948-53) who has lived locally all of his life. On leaving school he trained as a surveyor and for many years worked for Gilbert Ash, apart for his two years National service. He then decided on a career change and moved into retail and has managed several shops including, decorators merchants, glaziers and DIY decorators. John married in 1963 and has two children and like many of us is semi retired.

Also like many of us he has suffered a heart attack in recent years and decided to work part time until he is 65. For the past two or three years he has worked for the local council as a car park attendant, which keeps him active and involved with the local people.

Yet another Old Boy who has remained living locally is BRIAN (Ferdy) MANNING (1948 -53)

who resides in Farnborough with his ex- F.G.G.S. wife Ann. On leaving the school he began his apprenticeship with Vickers of Weybridge, which became British Aerospace. From here he did his National Service in the Royal Hampshire Regiment and served much of his two years in Malaya. Returning home he continued in contract engineering for most of his working life and was employed by some of our major companies e.g. Plessey, Ferranti and B.P.Chemicals. He finished his career at C.F.Taylor of Wokingham and is now semi-retired with 65 only two years away. He has three daughters and several grand-daughters and still keeps in contact with some old classmates in the Farnborough and Fleet area. He advises that one of his old pals PETER SINDLE (1948-53) who was a first class goalkeeper for Childe, the School and the Old Boys

has been in Australia for many years.

We have received a cutting from the house magazine of Zurich Financial services announcing the retirement from the pensions team of BOB LUCKHURST (1952-1958). The article says that Bob will be greatly missed and that he was responsible for developing and running the highly successful pre-retirement courses. It says that Bob will remain in touch as a consultant and he is wished every happiness in his retirement.

A regular feature in the local newspapers is DAVID POOK (1955-61) who is a prominent member of the Farnham Lions. David has been the President in recent years, but he has played a major part in the increasing popularity of the 'Lions Beerex' festival, held annually at the Farnham Maltings. It is understood that this 'festival of local ales' is the second most popular in England and each April it attracts many thousands of serious beer drinkers throughout the country. David is part of the team organising this event, which raises a great deal of money for charity.

The editor has been trying to track down classmates from the 1948 intake of 63 boys and so far can account for almost half of them. The following have been traced; W.J.Luff; J.Travers; B.E.Bone; N.T.Timmins; M.E.Jeffreys; B.L.Manning; J.D.Marshall; V.Bennett; J.Falkner; B.E.Webberley; J.Cockle; I.Bolt; H.Slingo; B.Luff; P.C.Storr; M.Doyle; T.Andrews; B.Wyatt; H.C.Stone; A further six have passed away unfortunately.

Can anyone help with the whereabouts of other Old Boys from this intake of over 50 years ago?

We have already heard of news of more honours for JEFFREY TATE (1954-59), but it is worth including a copy of a very special invitation card shown on the left. Recently former Headmaster GEORGE BAXTER, received this card from the French Embassy in London inviting him to attend the presentation ceremony of the Legion of Honour to one of his former pupils. George will accompany Jeffrey's mother on the 7th March and no doubt will be very proud of one of our most famous Old Boys.

Another regular at the Farnham Conservative Club is CLIFF PARRATT (1950-55) who for many years worked in a local estate agents. On leaving the School he joined Baverstocks in Castle Street, Farnham working under that well known Old Boy, JACK WING. National Service in the Royal Air Force interrupted his career from 1959 until 1961 and once demobbed he returned to Baverstocks, but at their Haslemere office. Subsequently his employer amalgamated with another estate agent and became Messenger, May, Baverstock, which in turn was bought by Hamptons. In 1966 Cliff was asked to open an office in Liphook and he managed this branch successfully until his semi-retirement in 1995. Having retired from full time work after forty years Cliff became a consultant for other local estate agents and is currently helping the Haslemere agents Lane-Fox.

He is clearly proud of being a member of Morley House and would like to meet some of his old classmates. He has been to the Annual Dinner but found that of those attending there were none from his year. Perhaps readers of this magazine from the same class as Cliff would like to make contact ?

ALAN LOVELL (1947 - 53) has been an elected member of Binsted (near Alton) Parish Council since 1973, and Chairman from May, 1979 to the present day. His grandfather was Chairman of the Parish Council from 1907 to 1918 and his father was an elected member at the time of his death in 1946. Alan was elected Chairman of the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils in December 1998 - this has meant frequent visits to the Association offices in Winchester, and chairing a number of County committees.

On Thursday, 23rd March 2000, the Chairman and members of Hampshire County Council gave a reception for Hampshire Parish and Town Councils, with the reception being held in the Great Hall in Winchester. Following speeches by the Chairman and Leader of the County Council, Alan had to respond on behalf of the Association, and concluded his remarks on a personal note. He indicated that to have the privilege of making a response in the glorious and historic Great Hall in Winchester was something that he would naturally treasure for the rest of his life.

The Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire, Mrs Mary Fagan also officially spoke at the function, which was attended by some 300 Parish and Town Council representatives as well as County Councillors and Chief Officers of the County Council.

Another new member to the growing Association is MICHAEL OVERBURY (1965-1972)

who contacted us from his home in Newark in Nottinghamshire. He is obviously a talented musician with the following letters after his name; MA MusB FRCO (CHM) ARCM ATCL, and is currently teaching the Organ, Harpsichord and Piano as well as Music Theory. He is organist for Christ Church in Newark and Director of Music for Nottingham Boys Choir as well as a Founder Member of Musica Donvm Dei. He would like to attend the Millennium Dinner, but the dates clash with his conducting of the Nottingham Boys Choir and he will be unable to travel to Farnham. He would like to hear from old class mates and if anyone requires Michael's address please contact the editor of the magazine.

A recent letter from GEOFF HARNETT, who left the school in 1970, advises that he has just retired at the age of 45 years (Lucky Man!). Since retiring he has been keeping busy with charity work and is on the National Appeal Committee for the Cancer Research Campaign and last year was Vice Chairman of the Lord Mayors Appeal during the year of office of Sir Richard Nicholls. Geoff is also involved in other similar work and breaks this up with frequent trips to his house in Mallorca as well as other holidays throughout the world. Geoff has always been most generous

towards the Association and once again this year he has sponsored one of the adverts that help to pay for 'The Farnhamian' magazine.

GERALD MEADEN, who is a newcomer to the Association, began his own carpeting business in Brighton in 1984 after gaining experience at Heals and Peter Jones. We have been able to put him in touch with IAN SARGEANT, but not with 'Jonah' Jones. Can anyone help ? He gives us sad news of his brother PETER MEADEN, who achieved fame in the pop world as a press agent for The Rolling Stones, Georgie Fame, Chuck Berry and finally The Who. Peter became manager of this 'super group' until 1965 and then took over a well known soul band called Jimmy James and the Vagabonds. He left this group in 1969 and his last success was with the Steve Gibbons Band. Peter died in 1978.

News of Old Boys 2001

Vic Wyatt (1947-50) says that he recently met two Old Boys. Something worth recording as he lives in Norfolk, which is cut off from the remainder of England by sea on three sides and Railtrack on the fourth. He recently travelled with the Norwich Old Vic to the Bristol Old Vic to see Old Boy, Bill Wallis, appear in the title role of 'King Lear', but did not get the opportunity of talking to the well-known actor. Vic stayed overnight at his sister's and the following day met another Old Boy, Guy Bellamy, in the lovely city of Bath. With Bill making the top grade as an actor and Guy becoming one of our most popular novelists we must try and get them to provide some news for the next magazine.

A little bird tells me that one of the Old Boys beat our current Prime Minister to the punch. In the 1980's Peter Mandelson worked at the TUC where his direct superior was David Lea (Lord Lea of Crondall). Apparently Peter was not a good boy and David asked the then General Secretary, Len Murray, if he could dispense with his services as he was not happy with his 'out of office activities'. This was agreed and Mr Mandelson moved on. As my informant states 'That brings the score to Tony Blair 2 - David Lea 1.'

Towards the end of March The Coverdale Lecture in Farnham was given by Old Boy, Martin Millett, one of this country's foremost archaeologists. This was an important event in the town and is annually organised by the Farnham & District Museum Society in memory of a well known and loved ex-member. Martin is currently Professor of Archaeology at Southampton University and late this year will take up the same position at Cambridge University, which is probably the most prestigious in the land for this subject. His lecture was called 'Comparisons between Roman towns in Britain and Italy.' The Church House was filled to capacity.

The oldest Old Boy to attend the 2001 Annual Dinner, and the first man on his feet to begin the traditional Roll Call, was H.F.Stuart, who started attending the School in 1924. During the evening I took the opportunity to talk to him and asked him if he could give me a memory for the magazine. He then told me a 'Moggy' story, as he called it, and recounted the day that he was selected by the Headmaster, F.A.Morgan, to see him after school lessons. On arriving outside the dreaded Headmaster's door he found that he was the last of five or six pupils and he had a long wait whilst they entered the room and were given their various punishments. Finally he stood before 'Moggy', who asked him why he was there and our pupil replied that he did not know. F.A.M. thought for a minute and then asked if the pupil was nicknamed 'The Carpenter' because he was so good at woodwork and the pupil agreed. F.A.M. then said 'Perhaps you could take my lectern away, Stuart, and fix the bottom rail properly, because it keeps giving way and all my papers fall on the floor during assembly.' A relieved pupil left the room complete with lectern and managed to repair it during the next woodwork lesson. I feel sure that other readers have

their own 'Moggy' stories and would appreciate receiving these for the next issue.

When this magazine was planned, two pages were set aside for an article by Guy Bellamy, which was to have been called 'The reunion' and inspired by a book that he had read. He has had to cry off this time as he has just been contracted to write a screenplay of the book for television and the tight schedule allows little time for a 'Farnhamian' article. He has promised me that he will definitely write a piece next year, which will be most welcome. Whilst talking to Guy, he assures me that his health is much improved and he is back to work again.

On 8th July 2000 there was a most successful reunion at the Farnham College of members of the 1970 intake, which was one of the last for the Boys and Girls Grammar schools. Much work was done by Patrick Blower and Jackie May and between them they traced most of their classmates from the two Grammar Schools. In fact out of the 69 girls they traced 67 and out of the 66 boys they traced 63. Adrienne Taylor produced a comprehensive booklet, with photos and profiles on each person and the event was very professionally organised. On the day most of the number attended the buffet/drinks at the College and enjoyed meeting after so many years. Our own Secretary John Crotty was in attendance looking for new members for the Association. He is correct when he says that we must sign up as many of the younger ex-pupils of the Boys Grammar School as possible if we are to exist well into the new millennium.

Just after the Millennium Dinner we heard from John Lloyd, who lives in Bargara, Queensland in Australia, with his apologies for not being able to attend the event. With his wife he visited the Frensham/Farnham area in June and July and perhaps some Old Boys may have met him locally. Apart from still enjoying life in the New World he felt that the following poem that appeared as an epitaph to a recently deceased local dignitary may offer some comfort to lovers of the 'amber nectar'. Being in excess on three score years and ten and describing himself as an ardent lover of the 'elixir of youth', John hopes we can find space for the poem.

Beer

The Horse and the mule live thirty years
And never hear of wine or beers.
The sheep and goat at twenty die,
Without a taste of Scotch or Rye.
The cow drinks water by the ton,
And at eighteen is mostly done.
The dog at fifteen cashes in
Without the aid of Rum or Gin.
The cat in milk and water soaks,
And then in twelve short years she croaks.

The modest, sober, bone dry hen,
Lays eggs for nogs then dies at ten.
All animals are strictly dry,
They sinless live and swiftly die.
But sinful, Ginful, Scotch-soaked men,
Survive for three score and ten.
And if your fancy runs to beer,
You can make it to your ninetieth year.
Which proves it cannot hurt you none,
To have yourself a lot of fun.
Cheers !

Talking to Allan Ryall (1924-30) at the Southampton Lunch, he recalls the morning prayers in the School Hall very vividly. H.C.Kingcome treading away on the harmonium and leading nearly 250 voices in one of Hymns A & M. Those who were 'railway buffs' and tall enough to see out of the Hall windows always looked out for the 9.24 to Waterloo, usually hauled by a named locomotive. Steam had a great fascination for many of all ages.

During the afternoon of the Annual Dinner the Editor held a get-together at home for several ex-pupils who had started at the School in 1948 and stayed until 1953/54 or 1955. This had been arranged for some months in advance and the Old Boys travelled from far and wide. Attending were the following with their starting points; Ian Bolt (Faversham), John Cockle (Yeovil), Harry Slingo (Church Crookham), Maurice Jeffreys (Chagford in Devon), Brian Manning (Farnborough), Bryan Bone (Liphook), Neville Timmins (Fleet), Vic Bennett (Fareham), John Travers, John Falkner, Cyril Trust, Brian Webberley (All from Farnham) and the following who joined the party, Alan Common (Canterbury) and Tony Harland (Farnham). It was quite an occasion, with some members meeting old classmates for the first time in 48 years.

Peter Larby, ex-pupil and ex-teacher, has been chasing up some of his old team mates who appeared in a photo of the 1943 First XI Football Team and received letters from George Ricketts and Geoff Brehaut. George retired way back in 1989 after a career in the aerospace industry. He celebrated his golden wedding last year, doubtless in the company of his two children and six grandchildren. Geoff is still in harness on the island of Guernsey.

Our Secretary advises that it can be surprising who you meet in the bookmakers. Queuing to place his bet on the Grand National he noticed that ex-pupil David Lea (Lord Lea of Crondall) was also there hoping to win a few pounds. Not much opportunity for a long chat but we now know that our local Lord still keeps in contact with several of his old school friends. There is obviously life after 75. Hugh Johns keeps busy as Press Officer for the Masonic Lodges in Wales, whilst Geoff Hewes still manages

a regular game of squash. A recent recruit Andy Frish(1966-73) writes from Australia. He is wondering about the whereabouts of Cliff Reed, Jeremy Evans, Paul Fennel and Cliff Mallows. Perhaps somebody can help ? On the 1st October the 100th Anniversary Performance of Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius' was performed at the Royal Albert Hall on behalf of the charity 'Help The Aged'. Apart from the London Philharmonic Orchestra and guest singers there was the 300 strong New Century Chorus conducted by Old Boy John Cotterill. This large, recently formed 'double choir' brought together singers from a number of choirs with whom John has been associated over the years. They included representatives from The Great Missenden Choral Society, Maidenhead Chamber Choir, Oxford Pro Musica Singers, Woking Choral Society and the Waverley Singers from Farnham. The evening was sponsored by the Cookson Group plc and some £30,000 was raised for the charity. John Cotterill was the conductor and musical director for the concert.

Some time ago I wrote to Brian Wyatt in Canada asking him if he could send me a few lines giving an idea of his life since leaving school, but there was no reply. He has since been asked by 'Big Brother' Vic Wyatt to reply and we now have the story in full of the past forty plus years since leaving the School. Brian writes as follows; ' On leaving the Sixth Form I was promptly press-ganged into National Service, where I rose to the dizzy rank of private (actually called signalmán) in the Royal Corps of Signals. The good news was that I received a posting to SHAPE which was situated near Versailles, just outside Paris. This enabled me to improve my French and to visit many different areas in France and Spain. After demob I started work for a large Insurance Company in London, where I shared a variety of 'seedy' flats with an equally 'seedy' collection of flat-mates., notably Alan Common, Ian Bolt, Mike Prentice and brother Vic. During the soccer season we would travel down to Farnham to play for the Old Boys' teams. However, since most of our training was in 'The Coach and Horses' prior to the matches, we never fared too well ! (with apologies to John Crotty !). After a few years, our numbers were whittled away by matrimony and I headed off to Teachers' Training College in Brighton where I spent three most enjoyable years obtaining my teaching certificate. I taught for a year in Birmingham before returning as a married man to Brighton where I completed a BA at Sussex University. From there my wife and I headed for Winnipeg, Manitoba, where we both taught for several years before moving to the milder climate of Vancouver in beautiful British Columbia. Taking advantage of the long summer school breaks we travelled extensively throughout Canada and the Western States, as well as Mexico and Hawaii. Time seemed to take its toll of our marriage and we went our separate ways. However, I was fortunate to meet another wonderful lady and we are still going strong after twenty years, partly due to the many shared interests as well as diverging ones. After quitting teaching I tried a variety of occupations eg. Taxi-driver, commercial fisherman in the Georgia Strait and house painter. I finally zeroed in on tutoring and am really enjoying the one-to-one teaching experience in both Maths and French. I continued to play soccer into my

mid-thirties and then switched to tennis. I still keep in shape by swimming at least once a week, and enjoy hiking with my dog in the local parks and forests. I also continue a love-hate relationship with golf (more hate at the time of writing) and I still do a bit of downhill skiing in the winter months. I keep in contact with Ian(Bolt) and Alan(Common) over the years and hope to re-visit them in the UK during 2001. I have lost contact with Mike Prentice, but believe he is still working as a journalist in Ottawa. Hopefully when we visit I will be able to meet other Old Boys.'

Attending a wedding reception at Chiddingfold just prior to Christmas 2000 I found myself sitting on the same table as another Old Boy, namely Jeremy Regan (1954-60), who told me that during his time at the Grammar School he was something of a rebel. He left the School, with little or no examination results behind him, and became an estate agent locally and he is now retired. He is clearly a great golf fan and plays regularly at Farnham Golf Club. He also keeps in contact with old school friends such as; Tony Chuter, Bill Roffey & Mick Tucker (all 1953-59) and Ray Mingay (1951-57). Jeremy actually handed over his subscription to the Association at the reception and is now a new member. He has also donated his old school cap, which is in good condition, to the memorabilia of the Grammar School that we are now displaying at the College. He promises to become more involved with the Association in the future, so he is not so much of a rebel as everyone thought, and will see if he can recruit old classmates. At the same wedding I also met Keith Paget (1942-48) who we featured in the previous magazine with his brothers Norman and Brian. Keith has promised to send us some of his own memorabilia.

Having attended the opening ceremony of the 'Home of Memorabilia' we received the following letter from Tony Rayer. 'Just a note to convey my appreciation for the 'Home of Memorabilia' - very enjoyable occasion and the perfect location, as that part evokes so many memories. On occasion I used to help out George Boyes (OR Baron de Bois as he signed autographs!) marking out the pitch or weeding the steps of the cricket pavilion (saddened to see that had gone) with a large undiluted can of Jeyes Fluid. No expense spared. The photo of the entrance hall recalled the occasion when I slipped into the vestibule prior to a School match to collect my kit from the locker. George, with bucket and brush, was on his hands and knees scrubbing the tiles. Surprised by my unexpected intrusion he looked up, grinned, and said ' Step on the black 'uns, will you.' (One sees the army of staff at the College now and realises that in the 40's and 50's George Boyes was responsible for cutting the grass, marking out the fields, cleaning the premises and general maintenance all on his own. He must have been value for money !).

In March of this year the Editor, Cyril Trust (1948-53), gave a lecture to the Farnham & District Museum Society entitled 'The Effect of Farnham Grammar school on the business life of Farnham'. From research it is clear that over the years many businesses in the town have been owned by Old Boys or their families, and although the lecture only covered about forty it

is thought that over one hundred could have been included. The talk included several slides of premises old and new as well as Old Boys, and some anecdotes that have surfaced whilst editing the magazine. A few weeks prior to this talk Maurice Hewins gave one on the 'History of Badshot Lea', where he lives and is something of an expert on the village.

YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL REUNION

After one or two very successful reunions there appears to be the need by several Old Boys to repeat such an event for their years, in fact the Editor has already tracked down several old classmates from the 1948 intake. I must say that to meet old colleagues after many years is a joy and it is good to hear of the 'life after Grammar School' stories that are told.

Only recently the reunion for the 1976 class has been held and here we have former pupils who entered the Grammar School, experienced the changes, and left the College. One of the driving forces behind the event was a new General Committee Member, Mike Mehta, who tells his story.

After eighteen months of preparation a reunion of around one hundred pupils from the 'O' level class of 1976. together with past staff, was held at Farnham College assembly hall on the 11th November 2000. Past pupils comprised both girls and boys from the former Farnham Girls' and Boys' Grammar schools. Readers will know of course that the merging of the schools in 1973 effectively signalled the end of separate-sex grammar school education in Farnham. Inevitably from the merger, the individualities of the two schools became diluted. However, both schools share inherited traditions and memories and it was felt that a reunion to explore and revisit some of these was long overdue.

The initial inspiration for the reunion had come from Jane Tiffin (nee Ashby) and various old girls from FGGS had agreed to assist. I was duly co-opted as an Old Boy and to redress any gender imbalance on the committee ! Networking was successful in tracking most of the ex-pupils, while a private detective was employed to find those who had disappeared seemingly without trace. Once the initial invitation had gone out, the whole event developed an unstoppable momentum. The class photo from 1976 published in the 'Farnham Herald' rekindled memories and helped considerably as parents of former pupils still living in the area forwarded a copy of the article to their sons and daughters. In this way the net was spread far and wide and letters and e-mails poured in expressing great interest in the proposed event,

For most it was to be the first time they had been back to the school in over twenty years. While many attending the reunion still live locally, some had travelled from as far away as The States, Australia and Holland. The committee was particularly pleased with the good response from past teachers and rewarded with the presence of John Commerford (Physics), Jenny Commerford (Languages), Roger Grogut (PE), Rev. John Innes (RI), Howard Norton (History), Rev. David Page (History), Howard Thompson (Music), Linda Fox and Betty Morris (Biology), Mick Gorman (PE) and Steve Custance (Art). Some Old Boys were aware that Roger

Grogut still teaches at the College.

A good selection of drinks and an impressive cold buffet was available and the photographer for the event had a busy afternoon. An air of nostalgia surrounded all those present and a 'memorabilia corner' helped by showing old photographs, programmes etc. It was noted by the ex-pupils, when thinking of the past, that several of the ex-members of staff were wearing the same clothing as they were when last seen in 1976.

On leaving, everyone received a millennium reunion year book compiled of potted histories sent in by ex-pupils together with their best and worst memories of life at the schools. The feedback from those present was tremendous and we will be repeating the event for certain.

News of Old Boys 2002

Shortly after the 2001 Annual Dinner we were contacted via our website by JOHN WHAPSHOTT (1967-74) asking to join the Association. He said that after living in London for a while he is back in Farncombe and working for Ericsson in Guildford. He has stayed in touch with JOHN 'MAD VICAR' INNES since leaving the school and says that he has recently retired and is now living in Upper Hale. John was sorry to hear of the death of Mike Foster and says ' I had an enormous respect for him – he was a very witty man, as well a very intelligent and sympathetic one.'

In late May our Secretary received an e-mail from JOHN FLESHER, who lives in Australia, commenting on how pleased he was to see the Association still going strong. He said that he had been invited to attend a 30-year re-union in 1997 but was unable to attend and he had not been back to the UK since 1993 when his father died.

John says that geology exploration has had a pretty severe downturn over the past few years and after looking at small businesses over the past few years he decided to take the plunge. With his wife Kate, he recently started working from home running a domestic cleaning franchise which covers the northern metro area of Perth and he currently has nearly 400 clients and is hoping to double this in the next 2/3 years. He says it may be a long time before they can leave the business for someone else to manage!...Computers, phones, advertising plus a lot of problem solving is all it takes.

John advises that his oldest son William (23) has been away in the UK and Europe for the past two years and is currently working in London for Citibank and looking forward to going home at Christmas. Youngest son Simon (19) is in his 2nd year at university studying Commerce – Property/Finance and just hoping that he can manage to pass his exams. I am sure John would like to hear from old classmates.

On Tuesday 27th February 2001 the 'Harrow ' Group met once again. These are former pupils mainly from the 1955/56 intake and they hold a regular get-together at the 'Harrow' pub in Compton, near Farnham. This annual event is inspired by TONY HAYWARD and CHRIS NASH, who network their contemporaries with the details. I am told that the meeting is nothing elaborate – just a drink together to catch up on news of each other and to enjoy some nostalgic reminiscences. If you look at our website you will see the following enjoying a drink. CHRIS WILLIAMS, GERRY MEADON, JOHN WEAKLY, DUNCAN MCGREGOR, CHRIS SLYFIELD AND PAUL STEADMAN with Chris and Tony.

For many years the 'Frank Scribe' page in the 'Surrey & Hants' newspaper has printed articles to provoke people and provide some controversy and in May 2001 it included a piece from '20 Years Ago' which stated that the Farnham Grammar School had never produced a pupil who had obtained a high position and only served the purpose of producing middle management. The Editor replied to these comments and gave a list of

several ex-pupils who had some claim to fame after leaving the school and this was followed by a letter from LEONARD EVANS, our well-respected former Chemistry Master, also objecting to the columnist's point of view. He said that the School had a very happy atmosphere and an excellent staff with a fine academic record. He said that rather than producing middle management it has in fact seen the old boys pursuing many and various careers in very many levels and from different social backgrounds. It is good to see this near 90-year-old ex-master standing up for the Farnham Grammar School, and certainly Frank Scribe got the point.

We have recently heard from E.A.(Teddie) DREW (1929-1933) telling us about a request that he has had from the Imperial War Museum to give a taped interview on his war time experiences, which included the sinking of the HMS Cornwall. Teddie discovered, when researching this, that there was an account of the sinking of this ship on the Net and written by an 'Upper-Deck type' and he felt that he should write his own experiences of this tragedy as a 'Below-Deck type'. Teddie was an officer in the Engine room of this cruiser when it was sunk by the Japanese and his story is one of death, courage and companionship, and is well worth reading. For those who have the opportunity to use the net I suggest you log into the following;

www.world-war.co.uk/cornwall_loss

You will find this tale of bravery by an Old Boy is quite remarkable.

A recent addition to the ranks of the retired is past-chairman BRIAN DANIELS, who looked the picture of health at a General Committee Meeting. A holiday or two abroad and several hours in the garden provided a good tan for this long-time Farnham to Waterloo commuter. Brian travelled to the City for most of his working life and worked in the world of insurance, at Lloyds in the main. Such was his record with British Rail or South West Trains it was decided that on his final day commuting to the capital the local railway station staff would present him with flowers etc., and have the local press there for the occasion. Brian says that he does not miss the daily dash to the station, followed by the erratic train and underground services. He is finding that a quieter life in Farnham is much more agreeable.

As explained in past issues several magazines are sent to families of deceased Old Boys and staff and letters are received with comments that are worth recording. The 2001 edition resulted in a reply from BARBARA WILLIS, who is the daughter of that much-loved master GEORGE BACON, saying that she had passed her copy to a neighbour aged 94 years of age who's husband was E.WHITMORE (1916-1922) and brother STEPHEN STUART. There is no doubt that the modern magazine still has links with the old Farnham Grammar School, and thanks to Barbara we are able to include in this edition an excellent photograph of her father from 1933.

Once again our Secretary has tracked down a 'lapsed' Old Boy and a new reader of the magazine now is Rev. NICHOLAS WALTERS, who has moved to Godalming.

Nicholas thinks that many years ago he received a life time membership to the Association as a birthday present, but this may be a 'senior moment' and he has forwarded his subscription. He has been working at the University of Surrey, Guildford for many years and has recently been in contact with E.W.'Ted' MAINE,

as they share an interest in the plight of refugees and asylum seekers. Nicholas also remembers that during the late 1950's he worked with the then magazine Editor DON NICOLSON, designing a new front cover based on the new blazer badge and using a new style typeface. This was the forerunner to magazines printed in beige and maroon, which many of you still have in your collection no doubt. Nicholas says that the current Farnhamian still looks like an old friend. Quite a compliment!

The use of E-mail by members of the Association is growing and the following message was received by our Secretary from DAVID SLATER in America.

'Having perused the latest magazine, imagine my surprise at once again seeing the group picture printed backwards. What do you think the problem is? Possibly the person who sets everything out is ciscelsid, or has mad cow disease, or some other strange malady (Tony Blairitis). All the best, Divad Retals.'

This message is questioning the photograph printed in the 2001 magazine, showing a large group of pupils from the 1940's sitting on a grassy bank after their exams. The person printing the photo has produced it back to front and one can see that the boys have their hair parted on the right instead of the left. Apparently this mistake has been pointed out before and most of those involved know of the error. I wonder how many readers spotted the 'deliberate mistake?'

A few weeks after issuing the magazine we heard from BARBARA WILLS, widow of former Art Master John Wills, commenting on certain items that had interested her and provoked old memories. She remembers our current Treasurer STEPHEN PRITCHARD as a 'very nice small boy' and expects that he is still nice. She also enjoyed the article about the old classrooms and recalls that her husband was in one of the rooms in the old Huts. In the next room was 'BUZZ' VAREY, and she says that this well respected History Master would stay with the Wills family whenever he returned to Farnham during his retirement. She also enjoyed the piece on 'Old Nick' RIDOUT and says that her husband was his second in command for Morley House and took over when 'Old Nick' retired. She says it was a sad day when John Wills went with HAROLD BEEKEN to his funeral in Dorset. Barbara still remains in touch with Farnham people and finishes her letter by saying that she had received a telephone call from Sylvia Morgan only a few days prior to writing to me.

Through the wonders of the Internet we have made contact with other ex-

pupils of the School and it was interesting to hear from MICHAEL GROCOTT who gave us details of his career, which were not without humour. On leaving the School he went up to St Edmund Hall, Oxford to read English Language and Literature (with a little help from English master, Mike Foster, who had attended the same university). Having got bored with writing essays on literary works, he selected course options as he went along which resulted in him emerging with a profound expertise in Anglo Saxon and Old Norse, which stood him in good stead for his subsequent career in British industry!

Duly equipped for the fray he joined Ilford's, the photographic manufacturers, in 1964 as a management/work study trainee and spent the next couple of years with a clip board and stop watch doing time and motion studies of shop floor operatives, often in partial or total darkness (how you study people working in total darkness is a topic in itself!) This experience of working in the dark has stood him in good stead through the rest of his career.

Having developed a growing interest in training Mike left Ilford's to work in Birmingham for a government sponsored training consultancy, The Industrial Training Service, which had been set up to work with British industry to help improve (MIKE GROCOTT continued); their approach to training employees following the establishment of Industrial Training Boards with their grants/levy powers in the mid sixties. He spent several fascinating years with them, working on consultancy assignments in individual companies of all shapes and sizes as well as carrying out industry-wide surveys of training practices in industries ranging from ceramics through to 'footwear, leather, fur and skin'.

However he did not see himself as a lifelong consultant and in 1972 decided to move back into industry and obtained a post as a Training Officer with the 3M Company (Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing) at their tape manufacturing plant near Swansea
This was the beginning of many years of interesting and varied employment with 3M

In 1975 he was offered promotion to a pharmaceutical subsidiary of the group based in Loughborough and shortly after his arrival he became company Personnel Manager (a function in which he remained for the subsequent 24 years!) Over this period the pharmaceutical operation grew rapidly and the Loughborough site soon became the centre for the 3M Health Care business in the UK, and ultimately the European headquarters for this business with several thousand employees spread across most of the principal countries of Europe. By this stage he had become European Human Resources Manager for the operation and soon became familiar with departure lounges of a few good airports. On the positive side he became familiar with the wide variety of cultures and styles in which different nationalities conduct their business and enjoyed

many fine evenings out with excellent company. With 3M being an American-owned company he also spent time in the US and gained an appreciation of their outlook on life. He says that he could comment on several irritating aspects of some of the nationalities, but cannot for fear of litigation!

One of Mike's principal work ambitions was to stop doing any as early as possible. The age of 55 was his target and he missed it by one year and retired in 1999 at the ripe old age of 56. Since then he has become a crossword fanatic and enjoys family history research, computing and the Internet. He has ambitions of writing a book about the humorous side of business but feels that he may never actually realise this ambition.

Mike has been married to Mandy (formerly Mandy Park – Head-Girl of the FGGS) since 1965 and have two children, Robin (27) and Sarah (30). He would like to keep more intouch with the old School now that he has stopped travelling and will be a welcome new member of the Association.

We have recently been passed a copy of a 'Recommendations for Honours and Awards' set of papers relating to Old Boy LEN SALTMARSH, and the information makes fascinating reading. Dated 7th June 1945, the request for an award is signed by his Wing Commander, Commanding Officer, Air Commodore and Air Vice Marshal and they are all asking for the DFC (Distinguished Flying Cross & Bar) to be given. Len is shown to have flown 99 sorties in all, with 53 operational over France and Germany and a further 46 unspecified, as they were experimental or top secret. There is also a note from the famous Air-Chief-Marshal A.J.(Bomber) Harris advising that Squadron Leader Leonard Saltmarsh had been selected and had volunteered to form a new Squadron for the continuation of hostilities against Japan. Although Len and his men left for Malaya they took no further part in the war as the Japanese capitulated with the dropping of the atom bomb at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The papers also give a list of the operational sorties, plus items of particular bravery, and these are yet another fine tribute to an Old Farnhamian at war.

Through the wonders of Internet we have heard from PATRICK (PADDY) LANGDOWN, who was yet another ex-pupil from the 1948 intake. His ambition had always been to become a pilot in the RAF, but his father felt that he should take a 'proper job', just in case he did not like service life. He therefore began training to be a Quantity Surveyor in Chichester but did not like this career and decided to enlist in the service. He was awarded his commission in September 1958 and started pilot training in earnest, finding it not too difficult as he already held a private pilot's licence. He was awarded his wings in 1960 and his first posting was to fly Canberras with 45 Squadron in Singapore.

During his 30 months in the Far East he visited Hong Kong, Okinawa,

Burma, Australia, India, Pakistan and other exotic places. After completion of his tour he returned to the UK to convert to Vulcan B Mk 2 and flew with various squadrons, with regular trips abroad for three-month periods and three years in Cyprus. Patrick became an Instrument Rating Examiner and a Flight Simulator Instructor and was Captain of the Vulcan crew which won the 1974 Strategic Air Force Bombing & Navigation Trophy in the United States in competition with their top crews.

On retiring from the RAF in 1976 Patrick and his first wife took a pub in Northamptonshire for a couple of years, but neither the pub nor the marriage proved very successful. He decided to make a career change and joined the Financial Services Industry, which he liked from the start. He was the first person to be awarded the ALIA(dip) and the FLIA(dip) certificates and he also became a FCIFA. He remained in the profession until 1994 when he decided to retire to the Dordogne with Sue, his second wife. They missed their families and in 1999 returned to live in Canterbury where he has become Managing Director for a company providing availability service for the owners of self-catering holiday properties.

Between him and his second wife there are 7 grandchildren and Sue is a JP, whilst Patrick belongs to the local Lions group and enjoys the theatre and golf. He says that he has remained in contact with only one former Old Boy, being JOHN COOKE, who now lives in Wellingborough. Patrick is now another new member of the Association.

We have also heard from PAUL HALLETT (1963-68), a Massingberd man, who left School after the 5th Form and spent two years spells at Welbeck College and Sandhurst. He married in 1973 and has two daughters. Paul left the Army in 1975 and moved to Nottingham where he worked for Boots, NHS and Local Government undertaking internal consultancy, work measurement and Human Resources. He also spent 6 years in the TA. When writing he was 'in between' jobs, was divorced and living with a new partner on the outskirts of Nottingham.

Paul still has friends and relatives in Rowledge, nr. Farnham and has fond memories of the late Mike Foster, who was his English Teacher and Form Master. If any reader wishes to contact Paul please ask the editor for his e-mail number.

We have also heard from CLIVE BUCKLEY, who left the School in 1963 at the age of thirteen. He moved to Henley on Thames and qualified as a Chartered Surveyor and says that he has worked all of his post-qualification life in and around Oxford. For many years he was in private practice, but about four years ago he joined Cheltenham & Gloucester as their staff surveyor for the Oxford area and has found work much less hassle compared to private practice. Clive is married with three children and currently lives in Abingdon.

Good to hear from JOHN COOKE (1948-53) who now lives in Wellingborough and is a Blue Badge Tourist Guide for the county of

Northamptonshire. John writes that after leaving school in 1953 he initially worked in Guildford before joining the RAF for three years and spending most of his service at RAF Steamer Point in Aden. On his return to civilian life he joined Cow and Gate in Guildford and then decided to improve his qualifications by taking a Sociology Diploma Course at Guildford College. He then worked in a residential home for delinquent boys in Essex before going on to University to qualify in Social Work. Whilst in Essex he met his first wife, and together they moved to Wiltshire to further his career and whilst there son Tim was born. Promotion took John to Wellingborough, where he worked as a manager for Northants Social Services and whilst there his daughter Rachel was born. In 1992 his marriage failed and two years later John took early retirement. He trained to be a Blue Badge Tourist Guide and also worked for Saga Holidays as a Tourist Manager. In 2002 he will become an OAP but has already built up quite a list of interests to keep him busy in the local community. He is a churchgoer, a theatregoer and involved in choral singing and with ancestors of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin coming from the area he is busy guiding American tourists around. He has lost contact with most old schoolmates and is pleased to receive a copy of the new magazine and to re-join the Association after many years. No doubt we will see him at the next Annual Dinner!

An obituary for ROY GATES was sent in by his life-long friend HAROLD NORTH

and talks of true friendship from days before they were classmates at the School in 1924. Our Secretary replied to Harold and as a result we have another new member of the Association. Apparently Harold had an opticians shop in Basingstoke which was purchased from him when he retired by well-known Old Boy BILL BODKIN.

Harold has paid his £5 subscription and says that we should not expect many more as his date of birth is 19-04-1914, but he hopes to climb the ladder towards becoming the oldest OFA survivor!

In fact he is re-joining, as he was a member for some time after leaving School and still living in Farnham. During that time he shot on the school rifle range and played soccer and cricket for the OFA (all without distinction he adds). He married and left for London and before the war moved to Guernsey C.I. Over five years in the RAF followed during wartime and all thoughts of the Association were swallowed up in the events of the time. Harold says that he is a lapsed Old Boy and feels it is high time that he re-joined the Association. He is most welcome!

Yet another new contact and again a new member for the Association is DAVID STONE who left the school in 1957. David joined the Farnham Timber Co. after leaving school where he says the job was more slave labour than management! From there he joined local estate agents in West Street, Messrs. German, Addy & Co., and spent three years there until he became bored with office life. He decided to join the Metropolitan Police following contemporaries NORMAN BOLTON and DAVE KING, and such was the size of the force he only met Norman (Bubbles) Bolton once

during his many years with the force. David served from 1961 until 1995 before retiring as a Detective Inspector in Fulham and during his time he worked with various divisions, including Heathrow, Hammersmith and at Scotland Yard. He says that his career was always interesting, but he was not sorry to retire as Police Officers have become saddled with too much political correctness and are expected to be more of a social service than a police service.

We have also heard at length from W. (Bill) JOHNS (1949-56) who now lives with wife, Judith, in South Oxfordshire and since 1998 has run his own company, involved in Chemical Engineering software and consultancy. Bill left school and went directly to Imperial College London where he obtained BSc and PhD degrees in Chemical Engineering. In 1963 he joined ICI and spent 10 years with them, becoming Group Technical Manager for the Integrated Process Design Group. Early 1974 he moved to the Eidgenossche Technische Hochschule in Zurich as Reader in Process Systems Engineering and spent 3 years in Switzerland. He returned to become Sub-Dean of Mathematics and Computing at Westminster University and in 1980 moved to South Bank University as Professor and Head of Department of Chemical Engineering. After 10 years at South Bank he moved to become Chief Chemical Engineer for the environmental consulting and software company QuantiSci Ltd in Henley-on-Thames. He remained there until opening his own business.

Bill has been on the Council of the Institution of Chemical Engineers and a member of Engineering & Physical Sciences Council (EPSRC) committees for Design and Process Engineering. Whilst at the school he was captain of the Second VI soccer team and recalls travelling to school by motorcycle. He competed in trials and motor-cross in those days and would like to make contact with old pal Jim Knight. His brother R. (Bob) JOHNS, who also attended the Grammar School now runs his own small software company in Alberta, Canada, after retiring from the position of Head of International Sales for a telecoms company in Edmonton.

Another recent e-mail came from ROD PARKER who left the school in 1947 on gaining entry to the Royal Aircraft Establishment as an apprentice. He says that his entire working life was spent in the Aircraft Industry and was employed by Handley Page, Sperry and BF Goodridge where he was the European Avionics Manager. He recalls that in his class at the school were JOHN CROTTY, KEN ANDERSON, FREDDIE LOVELESS, JOHN VICK and PETER NAYLOR. For the past 15 years Rod has lived in Eversley on the Hampshire/Berkshire border and would welcome correspondence from anyone who attended the school between 1942/47. He also advises that his father, RONALD PARKER, was also at the school and was one of the first scholarship boys to enter. He finished as School Captain and captain of Harding House. He later played soccer for Farnham Post Office.

It is good to make contact again with one of the schools' finest soccer players in DAVID FAWKES, who left the school in 1955 and joined the

Kenya Police, as the youngest Police Inspector, during the Mau Mau Emergency. At the end of this he was moved to Nairobi where he continued to play football and representing the National Team in goal. He met his wife Cynthia when she travelled to Kenya to see her brother, who was also a policeman. They married in 1960 and returned to the U.K. later that year to start a family. They have three children, Nigel 40, Paul 39 and Julie 32, as well as five grandchildren. Over the years they have lived in Camberley, London and currently in Cambridgeshire.

They are now thinking of retirement and last year purchased a villa in Florida, some 60 miles north of Orlando, and visit there twice a year. It is a Retirement Village for over 55's with plenty of golf and sun. David and Cynthia will spend Christmas there and report that so far both are keeping well. Maybe we will see David at a Dinner soon.

Another Old Boy from the late 1940/early 1950 period is MICHAEL BARHAM who has e-mailed us from his home in South Australia and given us an update on his life after the FGS. On leaving the school he enlisted in the RAF for 5 years as an aircraft mechanic. Returning to civilian life he had brief periods delivering groceries and milk before being employed by Tourist Trophy Garage as a motor mechanic. After 4 years he moved to West Street Garage, then Colborne Garages Ltd at Ripley and then back to West Street Garages.

In 1969 Michael and his wife immigrated to Australia and lived in the N.E. suburbs of Adelaide, where he immediately obtained a job as a motor mechanic. In 1980 he purchased a 7-day convenience store in the western suburbs, at a place called Woodville which was a large industrial area at the time. In 1984 he sold the business and bought a grocery supermarket in the country town of Port Pirie, which was situated 230 kms. North of Adelaide. In 1995 he retired and returned to his original house, which he had retained. In 1997 Michael and his wife had a three-month holiday in the U.K. and he says that the only Old Boy that he met during that visit was BRIAN LAKE, who he met at a wedding reception in Farnham. As requested we will be sending Michael a copy of the magazine and hope to hear more from him again.

From the West Midlands we hear from FRED GILLSON, who left the school in 1955 returning to his former South London home. After National service (RAOC) he had several office-based jobs before starting to work in the computer industry in 1966. He has remained in this business since and now works as a freelance computer consultant, mainly in the West Midland area. Fred says that he totally lost contact with the school but recalls listening to 'Buzz' Varey reading from Conan Doyle's 'Sherlock Holmes Omnibus'. He also recalls placing a thermometer outside the Physics Room window in an attempt to persuade Mr Munton to let them wear their overcoats in class. He found Mr Brister very sarcastic about his work and got his own back by winning the Physics prize one-year. He will never forget Mr Godsil announcing the death of King George VI, and that one day when walking up the hill to school he saw a partial eclipse of the

sun. This is Fred's first contact with the school in almost fifty years and we hope he will write again.

Yet another ex-pupil to make contact with us after almost fifty years is NIGEL BURLINSON (1949-54), who now lives in France and has given us details of his career in brief after leaving the school. Like many of us he had to begin his National Service soon after leaving and spent three years in the Royal Air Force. Returning to civilian life in 1957 he entered the field of Music Publishing & Record Administration beginning at Philips records, where he remained for five years. He then moved to Northern Songs (The Beatles) for a further five years and then spent sixteen years at Rondor Music (The Carpenters, Bob Marley, Herb Alpert and Supertramp). Nigel moved to France in 1986 and became self-employed as a consultant to BMG, MCA, Warner-Chappell etc. In 1996 he retired to the French countryside, where he lives with his wife Maia.

Asked if he had any claim to fame Nigel replied that he was born on the same day (9th July 1936) as Victor (I Don't Believe It!) Meldrew. Hopefully we will have another new member of the Association from across the water.

Yet another ex-pupil from the website is KEITH ROBINSON (1951-56) who writes from his home in Basingstoke. On leaving school Keith joined Westminster Bank and some 36 years later retired from what is now National Westminster Bank. He began at Farnborough branch and in those days played soccer for the Old Boys with Tony Harland who worked at the bank's Aldershot branch. He can recall some heavy defeats for the team, which included BILL SPENCER, 'TITCH' DAVIS, VIC BENNETT & JOHN CROTTY (Captain). In 1962 he married Shirley and moved to Basingstoke, where he played soccer locally followed by refereeing in the local and Newbury Leagues. A further move to Newbury was followed by a transfer to the City in 1974 and two years later to the Victoria Street as Branch Accountant before going to Head Office in the Organisations & Methods Dept. in 1979. More promotions followed and he became an Establishment Manager from 1985-89, which consisted of travelling to various branches nationwide. Re-structuring of the O & M Dept. in 1989 resulted in Keith becoming Senior Operations Manager with a team of Managers and Asst. Managers responsible for making many changes within the bank during the early 1990's. The work was completed in three years and in 1993 he retired at the age of 52.

Keith and Shirley have three children and now enjoy travelling whenever possible, whilst his other great pastimes are bowls, the computer and recently caravanning. They will celebrate their 40th Anniversary this year by taking a long holiday in Australia. We now have another new member and will see him at the Dinner hopefully.

A rather humorous piece arrived from PETER MAY (1954-59) who is yet another ex-pupil who has had a career in the police and security. He says that in 1954 a letter arrived informing his parents that their daughter had

been awarded a place at Farnham Grammar School. He was one of the Guildford boys and made the bus journey across the Hogs Back each day, passing a bus going in the opposite direction containing Farnham boys attending Guildford Grammar School (including the son of his Headmaster George Baxter. School memories include going to Germany with the CCF and driving a Centurion tank, the Menotti operas, not to mention the two 45-minute bus rides each day with his girl friend who was at the FGGS.

Peter left the school in 1959 and decided that either the police or the army offered a secure career. However, he could not stand the rough army shirts, which gave him a neck rash after every CCF parade, so he applied to join the Surrey Police Cadets. He eventually became a regular policeman in 1961 on his 19th birthday. After thirty years he was a Superintendent and had the pleasure of running the police in his hometown of Guildford. Peter still keeps in touch with ALAN LONGHURST (1953-57) who joined the Metropolitan Police.

Peter is now Director of The Association of Police and Public Security Suppliers, which is a non-profit making trade association working for the part of the UK security industry which supplies equipment and service etc., to the police, fire, prison, customs and other Government-type security agency. Exports feature highly in the work and he has travelled to Japan, South Africa, Mexico and most European countries. He works closely with Government Departments and after the tragedy of 11th September in America aviation security is high on the current agenda.

Outside of work Peter is a founder of the Guildford Barbershop Harmony Club and has been singing barbershop harmony for around 24 years. He was National Chairman in the late 1980's and for the last 12 years has been involved in developing his hobby around the world. He is currently the President of the World Harmony Council, which is an international group of organisations promoting the art around the world. He is an avid gardener and recently won prizes for the best half-plot allotment in Hampshire. Like many Old Boys he has lead a busy and interesting life after his time at FGS.

One e-mail that tickled the fancy of the editor came early March from our new President JOHN CROTTY, who was on holiday in Thailand at the time. It read;

'Cyril, IF by chance you are looking at your e-mail today would you be good enough to record the video of the England game in France today, assuming that you can get the programme on your TV. I can look at it when I get home. Phew it's hot out here!

The wonders of modern technology come in useful to even some of us older Old Boys.

One of our more senior Old Boys, ALAN RYALL (1924-30), recently came across a very old newspaper called the Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette dated 11th June 1881, only to find the following advertisement;

Alan says that The Gazette was a weekly broadsheet folded into four and published on Saturday and this particular issue was NO 1137 and he felt that the paper had been going for about 20 years. It does not state how much it cost to be educated at Farnham Grammar School but some other items proved interesting;

Sports Goods; Cricket Bats – 12/6d, 14/6d, 16/6d, 21/-.
Cricket Balls – 7/6d.
Footballs – No.5 – 10/6d. No.6 – 12/-.
Lawn Tennis Balls – Plain – 6d each. Covered – 1/- each.

Bottles of Spirits; Port – 2/- . Claret – 1/- . Whisky – 2/- . Champagne – 2/2.

Funerals; Adult - £9. Children - £1.

Early in 2002 we received letters from ex-pupil IAN T JAMIESON telling us that he had attended the school before the First World War and would be 100 years of age on 2nd May this year. This immediately answered the question 'Who is the oldest Old Boy' and with information given by Ian an article was put into the Farnham Herald under the popular 'Peeps from the Past' columns. Whilst giving only a few details about himself Ian told the story of his best friend and his wife's brother WILFRED JUDD who was at school with him and also a member of Harding House. Wilfred became General secretary of the United Nations Association and was awarded the CBE, whilst one of his three sons (who were not ex-pupils) became MP for Portsmouth, Minister for Overseas Development in the Harold Wilson Government, and is now Lord Judd sitting in the House of Lords and representing them in the European Union. In his spare time he is chairman of the YMCA.

We have only recently heard from Ian, who lives in Worthing, and he explains that plans are well advanced to celebrate his 100th Birthday in May. It is planned for the Mayor of Worthing to present him with a letter of congratulations from the Queen and there will be a gathering of friends and family during the birthday week. On behalf of all Old Boys I wish him well and hope that we will be able to give more details of his special day in the next edition of the magazine.