



**OLD PHAROSIANS'  
ASSOCIATION**



**NEWSLETTER**



**FIAT LUX  
DOVER GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

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### **Submissions for future newsletters**

The editor welcomes correspondence, articles, news and any other items Old Pharosians' would like to see included in future newsletters – don't be shy! These can be emailed to:

[John.robertson8664@gmail.com](mailto:John.robertson8664@gmail.com)

The newsletter will be published in January and July of each year. In order to allow for editing and formatting, the closing date for submissions will be:

- 31 May for the July edition
- 30 November for the January edition

# NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2019—2020

President	Sir William Fittall	(1964 – 72)
Past President	Dr. John Allingham	(1974 – 82)
Chairman	Jack Kremer	(1943 – 49)
Secretary	Philip Harding	(1967 – 75)
Asst. Secretary	Position vacant	
Treasurer	Jonathan Fullarton <a href="mailto:Jonathan.Fullarton@mfw.co.uk">Jonathan.Fullarton@mfw.co.uk</a>	(1997 – 2004)
Membership Secretary, Webmaster	Paul Skelton <a href="mailto:1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk">1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk</a>	(1972 – 79) (1979 – 2005)
Newsletter	John Robertson <a href="mailto:John.Robertson8664@gmail.com">John.Robertson8664@gmail.com</a>	(1976 – 83)
Archivist	Position vacant	
Auditor	Neil Beverton	(1974 – 80)
Committee	Barry Crush (1948 – 56), to retire 2020 Rev. John Philpott (1955 – 63), to retire 2020 Mick Palmer (1959 – 66), to retire 2020 Maurice Smith (1959 – 89), to retire 2021 Roger Gabriel (1966 – 73), to retire 2021 Terry Sutton (1940 – 47), Co-opted 2014 Peter Burville (1946 – 51), Co-opted 2014	
Headteacher	Mr Philip Horstrup	(2018 - )
Website	<a href="http://dovergrammar.co.uk">http://dovergrammar.co.uk</a>	
Email	<a href="mailto:1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk">1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk</a>	
Twitter	@DGSBPharosians	
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/440388319493377/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/440388319493377/</a>	

### Objects of the Association

The objects of the Association are to advance the education of the pupils in the School; by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education at the School (not normally provided by the Local Authority) and as ancillary thereto and in furtherance of this object the Association may:

- (a) foster more extended relationships between the staff, old boys and others associated with the School: and
- (b) engage in activities which support the School and advance the education of the pupils attending it.

# OLD PHAROSIANS ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the School on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 1.45pm.

Before the meeting, there had been a presentation from the Headteacher and the architect on the plans for the rebuilding of the School, a presentation to Maurice Smith to mark his sixty years of service to the School and the OPA, a tour of the buildings and a buffet lunch.

**Present:** President Sir William Fittall (1964-72), Headteacher Phil Horstrup (2018-); Secretary Phil Harding (1967-75); Treasurer Jonathan Fullarton (1997-2004); Newsletter Editor John Robertson (1976-83); Richard Andrews (1964-71); John Booth (1948-56); Tony Bradley (1945-52), Peter Burville (1946-51); James Chidgey (1965-72); Andy Devine (1976-83); Denis Doble (1948-55); Roger Gabriel (1966-73); Alistair Gardiner (1951-57); Richard Gretton (1965-73); Trevor Heaver (1949-55); Ken Lott (1945-53); John Mummery (1949-57); Wally Nadin (1955-63); Rev John Philpott (1955-63); Paul Skelton (1972-2005); Maurice Smith (1959-89+); Ross Stafford (1965-72); Martyn Webster (1966-67); John West (1947-54). (Total of 25 members in attendance.)

**Apologies for absence:** Rev Michael Hinton, Keith Medgett, John Newman, Mick Palmer, Terry Sutton

**Matters arising:** The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record and there were no matters arising.

**President's Report:** Sir William Fittall reported progress on the two immediate priorities that, in taking up his role, he had identified as crucial for the Association's development:

- **The financial well-being of the OPA:** In 2017/8 more money had been spent on printing and posting the Newsletter than had been received in annual income. This was not sustainable and the Committee were to be congratulated in grasping the nettle by making the default arrangement for Newsletter distribution electronic. Of the 25 or so members who had requested a printed copy many had agreed to make a donation. In addition, the school had generously agreed to do the printing
- **The website:** the archive built up on the website by Paul Skelton over many years was outstanding, but the website had been designed in the early days of the internet and was showing its age. Richard Andrews had generously given large amounts of time to develop a replacement site using current software. It would very shortly be tested by some members of the Committee before it went live within the next few months. All the features of the existing website would be retained. The aim was for a seamless transition.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jon Fullarton circulated an audited copy of the Association's accounts, which showed £8470.08 in reserve and a surplus of £207.38 on the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019- a significant improvement on the previous year. The surplus over the past year was the beginning of the savings on the printing and distribution of the Newsletter. The accounts were approved unanimously: proposed Roger Gabriel, seconded Trevor Heaver. Thanks were recorded to Neil Beverton for auditing the accounts.

**School Report:** Headteacher Phil Horstrup said that he was delighted that the OPA and the School had re-connected by having meetings in the School again, and that the School had been happy to assist with the printing of the Newsletter. Moving forward, he hoped that there could be fruitful discussions as to how to connect with more alumni.

He then gave an update on the School as follows:

- When he arrived in September 2018, morale had been low and he had made it a priority to improve it. He believed that the School was now a much happier place than before.
- He had initiated a "This Is Who We Are" project to identify the School's key values. Students had been heavily involved in this and had a sense of ownership of the outcomes, which were on display in every classroom and around the School.
- The "Fiat Lux" project had also been introduced to make students more aspirational and to make them look up rather than down.

- The House System had been revamped and a fifth House – Pharos - introduced. Having five houses rather than four better matched the five forms of entry at the School and had been welcomed by students.
- The “Progress 8” figure – a key indicator of school performance – had improved
- Ofsted, who last visited the School in February 2016 and had deemed it to be “Good” would probably be visiting again in the coming months.

The Head then answered a variety of questions from members about the 11+ Test and the Dover Test, the numbers entering the School at the age of 11, the School roll, girls in the sixth form and the House System. Boys were able to enter the School at the age of 11 via either the Kent Test or the Dover Test. Both tests were optional. The School’s PAN (Published Admission Number) was 150, though 142 was the best that had been achieved recently. The School roll was just over 800, and there were approximately 15-20 girls in the sixth form.

In response to a question from Martyn Webster, the Headteacher stated that it was his intention to have a “closing ceremony” at the School near to the time when the present buildings were vacated. The date would be dependent on progress with the new building but was likely to be in the summer of 2021.

In response to a question from Trevor Heaver asking if it would be helpful for a clear statement from the OPA in support of the new building, the Headteacher stated that this would be very welcome. The meeting agreed, with no dissenting voices, that the President should draft and submit a supportive statement before the close of the 10 October planning deadline.

**Election of Officers & Committee:** The following were elected:

- President: Sir William Fittall
- Secretary: Phil Harding
- Assistant Secretary: Terry Sutton
- Treasurer: Jonathan Fullarton
- Membership Secretary: Paul Skelton
- Newsletter Editor: John Robertson
- Auditor: Neil Beverton
- Committee Member: Mick Palmer.

(Continuing Committee members / Trustees not due for re-election: Peter Burville, Roger Gabriel, Rev John Philpott, Maurice Smith).

The President referred to Jack Kremer, who had served as Chairman for a number of years, but who had suffered a stroke some 18 months ago and not attended an Association meeting since then. It was agreed that the position, which continued to be provided for in the Constitution should be left vacant for the time being. The Secretary informed the meeting that The Kremer Trophy, donated by Jack and his late wife in memory of their oldest son Andrew and played for annually between the Schools 1<sup>st</sup> XI and OPA football teams, had been presented this year by Jack’s youngest son to his son – the captain of the School 1<sup>st</sup> XI.

It was also noted, with regret, that the Archivist position vacated by Peter Burville five year previously remained vacant. Peter continued to provide invaluable advice and was a co-opted member of the Committee but, given the big changes facing the school, the President hoped that someone would be willing to take on this important role. Martyn Webster, who had had some relevant professional experience, agreed to give the matter thought, though was not ready to say yes immediately.

It was also noted that Barry Crush was not present and had not attended Committee meetings for some time. In the circumstances the meeting decided not to appoint anyone to the place that he had occupied. This left the Committee with the flexibility to decide whether to co-opt him, or indeed someone else, once Barry’s wishes had been ascertained.

Maurice Smith enquired about the unfilled staff positions on the Committee and it was agreed that renewing links between the staff and the Association was a priority which the Committee needed to discuss further with the Head.

There being no further business, the President thanked everyone for their attendance.

## **Editor's Welcome.**

Welcome to the new decade, and the latest collection of news, views, updates and anecdotes from and for Old Pharosians.

Proposals to build new accommodation for the school have featured heavily in discussions and the news recently. This newsletter is no exception, with a number of updates and perspectives reported, along with an account of OP's visit and tour of the School in September 2019.

It appears that Mick Palmer's sporting interests are shared (to some extent) by our President William and Headteacher Phil Horstrup. William recounts the highs and lows of Dover's football team – Crabble Athletic. Whilst lamenting Crabble's recent dismissal from the FA Cup, William takes some consolation that the defeat was not as significant as that experienced by Phil's team – Southampton. Obviously, some good-natured sporting rivalry between the two!

As always, I'm grateful to headteacher Phil Horstrup for his informative updates for OPs and the newsletter. Phil reflects on a successful visit from the OFSTED inspectors and the improvements achieved by the school. There is news about the new school building project and the much-awaited outcome of the planning decision. As if that wasn't enough, Phil also talks about the DGSB history day held just before Christmas.

Since being employed as a metalwork teacher in 1959, Maurice Smith has had a long and happy association with the school. This passed the 60-year mark in September 2019. In an article penned specially for the OP newsletter, Maurice recalls his early years at the school, changes in workshop provision and being joined by colleagues who had attended the school or the same teacher training college. One feels the story may be only part told, look out for further updates in future editions.

Several other OPs have generously shared their 'autobiographies' for us to read. Some have been provided voluntarily and others under a degree of 'coercion' from the Editor! The newsletter belongs to us and should contain what we, as OPs would like to read. Experience shows that there is great interest in reading about the lives, careers, exploits and achievements of those who attended the same school as us, even if we never met. Please continue to send me news, articles, 'autobiographies' and photos to share with fellow OPs through the newsletter.

John Robertson – January 2020

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## **Note from the President**

It's many a year now since I lived in Dover but I have never been able to shake off the habit of checking how the town football team is doing in that large over-populated twilight zone just outside the football league. There was a time in my early years at the school, before I became linesman to the school first XI, when I used to walk from my home in Elms Vale to the Crabble ground to see the game.

I think I still have in my archive a programme of the match from 1967 (when I was in the third form) when Dover secured promotion from the Southern League First Division to the Southern League Premier Division by thumping Gloucester 7-1. If memory serves, some 3000 people had crowded into the ground to watch. It was shortly after this that I saw my first West Ham game at Upton Park when QPR were dispatched 4-3, the West Ham scorers, memorably, being Hurst, Moore, Peters and Redknapp.

Last Sunday was a sad day for Dover and those who follow the team from afar when they were knocked out of the FA Cup in the second round at Peterborough. Still the 3-0 defeat was not as grievous as that inflicted by Leicester on our Headteacher's team, Southampton, at the end of October. It says much for the loyalty and commitment of Phil Horstrup that not only did he make the round trip from his home in Gillingham to Southampton to see the game but he also stayed on right to the end of the 9-0 drubbing that his team received. That's what we expect to see in a Head.

Despite this he seemed in remarkable good spirits when he attended a Committee meeting of the Association ten days later. Inevitably much of our discussion, as it had at the AGM in September, focused on the plans for the rebuilding of the school and on the emerging ideas for recording and celebrating the legacy of the many decades in the present buildings. The Committee has subsequently agreed to provide £1000 towards the cost of an aerial photographic record that is being made of the present site. A number of Committee members are also due to assist in a special day when the school will reflect on its history since moving to Astor Avenue in 1931.

It was great to be able to welcome Old Pharosians from across the generations to the AGM in September. The presentation on the new building plans was illuminating and the tour of the present school enabled us to appreciate the challenges and limitations that the old buildings represent (as well as taking some trips down memory lane). The assembly hall remains magnificent but much of the rest is well short of today's standards.

We were heartened at the Committee meeting last month to hear that the school had successfully navigated another OFSTED inspection and achieved a rating of 'Good'. It was also good to hear that numbers at the school remain reasonably high despite all the current uncertainties and the limitations of what can be offered with the present facilities. Money follows pupils these days and it will be crucial that over the next, potentially disruptive couple of years business continues much as usual while, as we very much hope, the future begins to emerge.

William Fittall - 4 December 2019

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## **Headteacher's update**

As always, it gives me great pleasure to be able to update former students of the school on all matters pertaining to DGSB and its work. As we begin 2020, we have much to reflect on and also much to which we should look forward. As I was able to tell colleagues at the AGM in September, the school's A Level and GCSE results improved considerably in 2019 which is a first positive step towards ensuring that all our students achieve that of which they are truly capable. On the back of these results, we were able to welcome OFSTED to DGSB in mid October, an opportunity which - perhaps somewhat perversely! - I had been very much looking forward to as we have so much to be proud of. Our inspection, as I hope you will by now be aware, was successful with the school retaining its "Good" designation without caveat. This, we hope, will give us four clear years to continue to implement the developments that have already been initiated in teaching and learning, and to oversee the completion of our new build. As I have said to staff and Governors at DGSB, we were not defined by OFSTED before they came, and we are not defined by them now; we have our own ambitions and aspirations which will continue unabated. However, it is absolutely right that we celebrate the achievement of retaining our "Good" designation under what is both a new and more demanding inspection regime. I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to everybody at DGSB who helped us to achieve this very positive outcome.

December 2019 saw us take a significant step towards achieving our new build on the top field. Planning permission was granted by KCC at a meeting at County Hall in Maidstone on 4th December 2019 subject to Historic England deeming (in their response to an application for consideration for listing raised by a member of the public) that the current buildings are not listable. Historic England made their decision on 6th December 2019, confirming that the current school buildings are not listable. This now allows us to proceed with ensuring we deliver the facilities that our students so very much deserve and which they have lacked for so long. We have much to celebrate and be positive about in terms of our new build, and it is due to the commitment, dedication and tenacity of everybody involved that we have got to this point in what is a relatively short period of time. However, the hard work now begins and we will all need to ensure we approach the forthcoming construction phase with new determination and attention to detail to ensure the project runs as planned.

At the same time as acknowledging the importance of KCC's decision, I have been at pains to ensure that we recognise the role that our current buildings have played in the history of DGSB. Thus, on Friday 13th December we were able to hold the "DGSB History Day" where students engaged in activities in every subject linked to different periods of the current buildings' existence. These included producing men's lifestyle magazines in the style of such publications from the 1930s, recording war time radio announcements, breaking codes in Maths in the style of Alan Turing and making air-powered rockets to join the space race. It was an incredibly enjoyable day for all concerned, and it was lovely to be able to welcome some former students to enjoy the day with us.

I was also able to arrange, through a contact from a previous school, to have a drone crew visit DGSB on Tuesday 17th December to film our school buildings and also conduct a fly by with all students, staff, Governors - and Old Pharosians who were able to make it on the day - on the Quad. We will soon be producing an edited film of the event which we hope to put on our website, so watch this space! It was a wonderful day and a fitting way to celebrate all that our current buildings have given us over the last 88 years.

As ever, I remain extremely grateful to you as Old Pharosians for all the support that you have given the school over the last 12 months. As we approach the completion of our new build, there will be a number of events to celebrate the life of the current buildings which I hope and trust you will enjoy, and I will of course keep you informed as things develop.

With all best wishes,

Phil Horstrup

## **Old Pharosians' School Visit and Tour - 28 September 2019**

Proposals for developing new, fit for purpose, accommodation for the school have renewed interest and ignited debate about the existing buildings, classrooms, laboratories and facilities of the 'School on the Hill'.

Given the level of interest and discussion about the proposals, Headteacher Phil Horstrup invited Old Pharosians to a presentation about the planned development and a tour of the existing site. This proved a popular event, with over 30 OPs attending, some for the first time since leaving school.

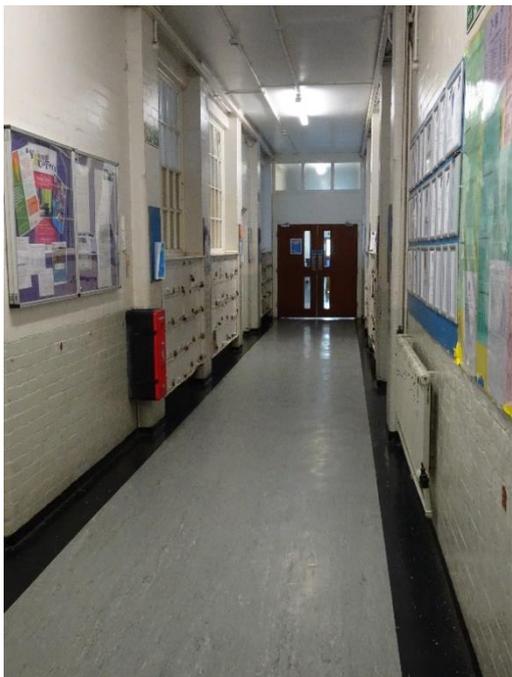


The weather was particularly kind, with bright sun and clear blue sky greeting a steady stream of OPs who - appropriately - assembled in the Main Hall. Old acquaintances were renewed, and new ones made over tea and biscuits. To keep us to time, William called the group to order with a splendid rendition of Bach's Toccata and Fugue, played on the school organ.



Headteacher Phil Horstrup and Architect Liz Gibney, partner at Lee Evans Partnership gave an overview of the journey to provide new school accommodation. Whilst acknowledging the high level of affection many OPs have for the current buildings, Phil explained the challenges they pose to providing suitable accommodation for 21<sup>st</sup> Century education.

The main concerns are extensive and severe decay of the buildings, combined with inappropriate classroom size and layout. The possibility of refurbishment was raised; however, this would be disruptive, prohibitively expensive and would provide only a short-term solution.



*Lower school corridor*



*Lower school classroom – Formerly Room 12 / Junior Library*

Phil outlined the principles underpinning the new development. These include sympathy of design - seeking to reflect the White Cliffs of Dover, and the practicalities of providing an accessible site which is also safe and secure. In further recognition of the extensive history of the school's buildings, there are plans to ensure a number of important features and artefacts are perpetuated in the new building, the memorial stained-glass window and the organ to mention but two. Provision will also be made to store and display the OP archives in the new school library.

*Who could forget this view down the tower stairs?*





*Dining room and workshops level*



*The dining room has a much lower ceiling than in the 70's!*

We heard about some of the organisational and project management hurdles which have been encountered. The need to allow school to continue in the existing buildings while development takes place; aligning funding and site surveys with various planning and environmental approvals; and the requirement to engage with a range of, sometimes opposing, stakeholders have served to test leadership and management of the project.



*Junior biology lab*

*Junior chemistry lab*



At the conclusion of the presentation, Phil and Liz fielded OP's questions, with a healthy discussion taking place. This showed a clear interest in the project but confirmed differing views amongst members. Whilst many were supportive of the project and details of the proposal, others had continuing concerns and reservations which they were able to share and discuss.



*The 'Quad' and main school buildings*



After the presentation, OPs were able to take a trip down memory lane with a tour of the school. This allowed us to get a sense of how things have changed and see many of the issues affecting the buildings first-hand. We were particularly grateful to the prefects who gave up their Saturday morning to guide the tour groups, provide a commentary and give us an insight to current school life.



On returning to the Main Hall, conversations about the building project and the School's future continued enthusiastically over a buffet lunch. The discussion continued into the afternoon and the AGM.

You will see from the AGM minutes that William, as our President, was asked to write to Kent County Council's Planning Department, expressing the association's support for the proposed development. A copy of the text of William's letter is below:

*I write as President of the Old Pharosians' Association, a registered charity whose members are former pupils and members of staff of Dover Grammar School for Boys. The Association exists to provide ongoing support for the life of the school as well as enabling old boys to stay in touch with each other.*

*The Committee of the Association has discussed the proposed development at each of its meetings over the past year and arranged to have a presentation from the Headteacher and the project's architect at the Association's annual meeting on Saturday 28 September.*

*Inevitably, for an organisation such as ours, it is not easy to contemplate with equanimity the demolition of buildings in which all of our members spent their formative years of secondary education. For all their idiosyncrasies the school buildings opened in 1931 have character and in certain respects-most notably the main hall- a touch of distinction. They helped shaped us and we shall mourn their passing.*

*Nevertheless, we recognise not only that they have become increasingly costly to maintain but also that their design reflects the priorities and needs of an earlier era. There are clearly a number of intrinsic limitations within the existing specification which mean that the option of refurbishing the 1931 buildings, even if it were affordable, would not deliver facilities that met modern standards.*

*As an organisation committed to the welfare of the school and the interests of its present and future students, we, therefore, strongly support these proposals for a rebuilt school on the site of the present upper sports field at Astor Avenue. We believe that they constitute an imaginative scheme that will offer an enhanced range of facilities and strike a shrewd balance between innovation and continuity. They will enable Dover Grammar School to continue to be 'the school on the hill'.*

*At our AGM at the end of September, those present unanimously passed a motion supporting the Head and the Governing Body in their proposals and authorising me to write to endorse the planning application.*

*Perhaps I could add a personal word. When I served an earlier term as President of the Association nearly thirty years ago there were already significant question marks over the future of the school. The state of the buildings, then only sixty years old, was already causing concern. At that point the school had had just four headteachers in the 85 years since its founding (at another, temporary location) in 1905. Over the past thirty years five further Head teachers have come and gone and the present Head has been in post for only just over a year.*

*While some of this turnover reflects wider changes in society and the education sector it is hard to believe that some of it has not also been due to the ongoing, unsatisfactory uncertainty over the school's future. These proposals create the opportunity for a new start under a new Head. He has greatly impressed the Association with his drive, commitment and good sense and appears to have the qualities needed both to manage the school through a major period of change and disruption and then lead it into a new time of opportunity.*

*We very, much hope, therefore, that, after three decades of delay and uncertainty, this project will now be given the green light.*

Sir William Fittall

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## **School Christmas Concert Tuesday - 10 December 2019**

I was invited by the school to attend the annual concert to celebrate the coming of Christmas. This was my 60th Christmas celebration attendance! The hall was, as always, a welcoming venue for this occasion. The audience of boys, staff parents and governors made up the school family.

As I write these notes, I am mindful of Ken Ruffell who so enjoyed this occasion and years after retirement attended and wrote similar notes to these for the newsletter.

Joe Wardhaugh, who left the school last year, returned to play the organ for the concert. A packed programme indicated both the talent and immense amount of hard work which went into the event. Lucy Simes, the head of Music organised the many items and those who presented them.

The audience participation included singing Once in Royal David's City, Silent Night, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, O Come All ye Faithful and an attempt to sing Frosty the Snowman!

Prayers were offered at the beginning by Rev. Andy Bawtree – Vice Chairman of Governors and by Mrs Williams to close the evening.

I always find pleasure in hearing John Betjeman's Christmas, read by the Head Boy. Various music groups offered programme items including the Rebel Clefs, the DGSB Big Band, the Rock Band, the year eleven band and the Major Highlights. A solo, Somewhere Only we Know was sung and a drama offering in an extract from Peter Pan. An augmented band featuring DGSB, Dover Grammar School for Girls, and Astor College played well under Mr Shaw, an assistant music teacher.

We heard readings from the Bible – Isaiah Chap 9, Luke Chap 1 and Chap 2 and, as appropriate and by long tradition, the Headmaster read John's gospel, Chapter 1 verses 1 – 14 – "I am the beginning". I enjoyed reading Luke 2 versus 1 – 20 on behalf of the O.P.A. And hope to live long enough to read it again next year – if invited!

In the interval we were warmly invited to partake of tea, coffee, soft drinks or mulled wine accompanied by a mince pie.

I wish the school every success as it moves forward into a new era and close by hoping you enjoyed a very Happy Christmas - past tense as you will be reading this well after the festivities have finished.

Maurice Smith

1959 – 89 and beyond!

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## Old Pharosians' Website

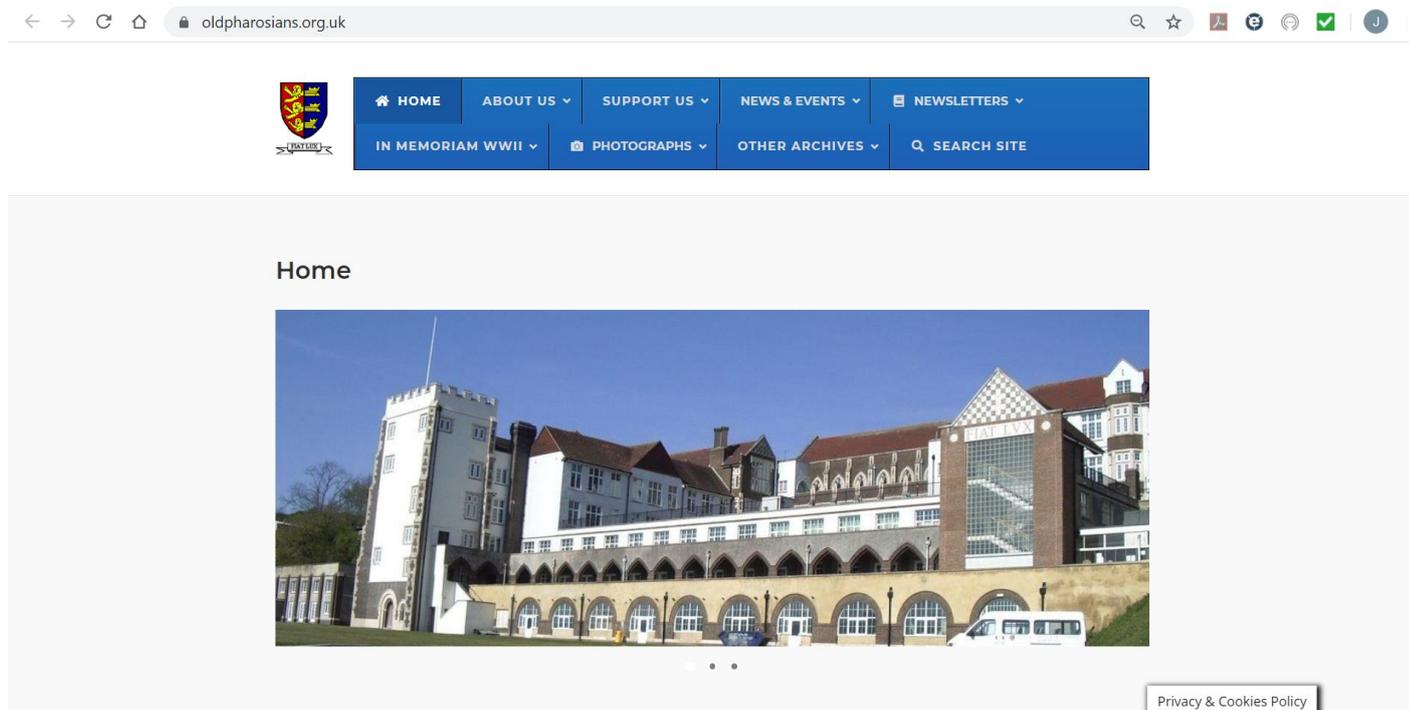
Having a 'web presence' is an essential requirement for most modern organisations, be they Government, commercial, public service or in our case, a social grouping.

Paul Skelton built and maintained the original Old Pharosians' website. Over many years, Paul developed and refined the website, creating an extensive online archive of school photos, publications, information and documents. Unfortunately, the computer software used to develop the original OP website was superseded, leaving no easy route to upgrade.

In late 2018, OP Richard Andrews offered his web development skills and experience to build a new website for the association. Working with Paul and William, a prototype site was built which Richard demonstrated to the committee in March 2019. The new look and layout of the website, offering quicker access to the huge online archive, was well received. Whilst transferring the archives and fully testing the new site took a while, the new website was launched in November 2019.

The OP committee would like to thank Richard, Paul and William for their work on the new website. There remain a few tasks to transfer some outstanding documents and web pages to the new site, but Old Pharosians can view the new website at:

[www.oldpharosians.org.uk](http://www.oldpharosians.org.uk)



## Old Pharosians' news and 'autobiographies'

### **Sir John Mummery (1949 – 57)**

I made a bad start at the school in September 1949.

On my first day I was late for the 9 am morning assembly. Having arrived at the building in time, I then got lost looking for my peg in the cloakrooms. I was told to report to the Headmaster (JC -the Baron-Booth) at 4 pm. After a nervous wait in the corridor outside his study I received a mild ticking off. I missed the 89 bus back home to the family farm in Coldred.

The rest of my eight years at the school went better.

I began in Middle 1. PH (Chalky) Downs was the Form Master. I remember his volatile temperament, his neglected moustache and the rough green jacket which he accidentally set alight while teaching us how to use a Bunsen burner in the chemistry lab.

After two terms I was moved to Upper 1. For the rest of my schooldays up to GCE O level and then at GCE A level in the Sixth Form I was well taught in all subjects by dedicated staff of high calibre: WE Lister for history, EG Smith for Latin, JP Marriott for French and KH Ruffell for Geography.

I grew in height from 4ft 7 inches to 5ft 8 ½ inches. At Easter 1956 I made my first trip abroad on a 10 day Paris Cultural Holiday with other Kent schools at a total cost of less than £20. The course included lectures at the Sorbonne, a Moliere play at the Comedie Francaise, a reception at the Hotel de Ville, a visit to Versailles, walks in the Jardin de Luxembourg and a dance at the Cite Universite. I fell in love with (and in) Paris and I have returned many times since to the place that is always Paris.

I left school in July 1957 with an excellent general education, an Open Exhibition to read history at Pembroke College, Oxford, a State Scholarship and many happy memories.

A similar level of achievement was not repeated on the sports field (unlike my goalkeeping brother Brian in the year behind me), in the gym or in the woodwork room, from which I was excluded for reducing a piece of precious wood to a pile of useless shavings. Fortunately, the school catered for and fostered a wide range of other enthusiasms amongst its pupils. I enjoyed being cast in leading parts in school plays staged by the Dramatic Society, debating politics in the Phoenix Club, writing pieces for the Form and School Magazines, being active as Charity Monitor and holding the position of Library Prefect.

I enjoyed my schooldays. I have much to thank the school for. It was a pleasant and well-run place in which to spend many worthwhile days of learning how to grow up. A good atmosphere was created by a sensible balance of work and play, an adult culture of responsible self-discipline and the friendly encouragement of all kinds of interests and talents. The school was fortunately free from the curses of bullying, fear, violence and boredom. It was also without the pernicious pressures of over-competitiveness, unrealistic expectations, intellectual pretentiousness and social snobbery.

In the rest of my working life and with the indispensable support of my wife and family I was lucky. I went on to spend:

(1) two years serving as a Sergeant Instructor during National Service in the Army and learning a lot about living in a world very different from school;

(2) four years in the stimulating study of jurisprudence (law) at Oxford;

(3) twenty four years in a busy and varied court and advisory practice as a barrister in chambers in Lincoln's Inn; and

(4) another twenty four fascinating years in the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand as a judge in the High Court and then as a Lord Justice in the Court of Appeal until compulsory retirement finally caught up with me in 2013 when I reached the age of 75.

## **Maurice Smith – Reflects on a 60 year (and counting) association with DGSB**

On this day in the year 1959, I joined the staff of DGSB.

To remind me of this day, 60 years ago, I asked the headmaster if I might again attend the first morning assembly for the new year seven pupils (150 of them!). He very kindly agreed to my request and made me feel very welcome.

I taught, full time, in the school for thirty years and a further twelve years on supply as and when required. Until recently I could boast of serving under every head teacher except for the first one, Fred Whitehouse (1903-1937).

When I attended the interview for the post and when walking up to the school from Astor Avenue, I was impressed and intimidated by the sheer size, design and appearance of the building from a distance; I did not expect to get the post! However, J.C. Booth, then headmaster and Alec Coveney, head of the technical studies department interviewed me – they seemed to like me and offered me the post.

I joined the department with Alec Coveney and Ernie Large and between us we taught metal work, woodwork, technical drawing and engineering workshop theory and practice. Mr Booth retired at Christmas 1959; thus I was his last appointment (with Roy Peacock who taught History). Soon afterwards Dr Michael Hinton was appointed Headmaster. All remained quiet for a little while but from September 1960 much changed!

We had been working a seven period day of 45 minute periods. In order to widen the timetable and curriculum content we changed to a 40 period week of 40 minute periods and finished early on each Friday at 3:25pm.

The forward looking Fred Whitehouse was insistent that the new school (in 1931) be provided with two large workshops for wood and metalworking. In 1955 the school started a new subject – Engineering workshop theory and practice and as the subject expanded an additional workshop was needed and extra member of staff (in due course). Next to the existing workshops was an open yard used by the caretaker (I think Mr Foad at the time). The yard contained two fuel oil tanks feeding the school heating boilers. The tanks were located elsewhere. A new metalwork shop was built in the yard.

Apart from the usual provision in a school workshop, the LEA arranged for a casting foundry, a large forge, a core drying oven, a heat treatment furnace and extra lathes and drilling machines to be provided. Later, plastics became available we had a vacuum forming machine an injection moulding machine and a hot dip powder coating tank.

Every boy in the first, second and third years (now years 7,8 and 9) had six months woodwork and six months metalwork. Geometrical drawing was offered in years 4 and 5 (10 & 11) to GCE 'O' Level and engineering drawing to L6 and U6 (12 & 13) to 'A' level GCE.

I had trained at Shoreditch training college for three years and it gave me great pleasure some years later to see Martyn Styles, Roger Gabriel and Ian Orvis attend my old college – all old boys of DGSB. Clive Fieldwick also joined the department from Shoreditch. Another colleague was Jim Goldthorpe together with Duncan Bray.

Engineering workshop theory and practice was taught at DGSB from its birth in 1955 to its end in 1995.

I was a member of the standing advisory committee for the subject for the associated examining board and later southern examining group for twenty-six years (the norm was five years!).

A building known as the extension was built on high ground above the main school (I think in 1964). This housed a large drawing office, a smaller 'A level' office and two art studios; one with a pottery and electric kiln and the other with countless printing machines, weighing many tons (imperial).

It was and is a pleasure and privilege to serve DGSB and to be given an honorary life membership of the Old Pharosians association. I joined the O.P. committee in 1973 upon the retirement of Bill Jacques as a staff member of the committee. At 85 I am still a member of the committee.

John Robertson, as editor of the newsletter will decide how much he is prepared to print of this piece!

John and I each have a photograph of the present Duke of Kent showing him talking to the two of us on his tour of the workshops in 1981 when he visited the school on the fiftieth anniversary in 1931 when the Duke's father, prince George, officially opened the school on 9th December. I wonder who will officially open the new DGSB!

My very best wishes to all who remember me

Maurice Smith

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### **James Chidgey (1965-72)**

After leaving school in the summer of '72 I spent a year in Denmark – my mother was Danish – where I worked in a department store. The pressure of interacting with customers was a huge challenge armed only with my rudimentary local vocabulary, but there was no better way to learn my mother's tongue!

They call these adventures now a 'gap year', but for me it was an early baptism in being an Englishman abroad, though looking back it was a rewarding time, and I came away the better for it, speaking a foreign language, something I couldn't quite grasp in French teacher, Mr Woollett's classroom.

Upon returning home to Deal, the big draw of that period for many old boys was London, if you were not off to university. I spent the next six years in the City, at the London office of a Middle-East bank and later for a Treasury bill broker, in the – now defunct - London Discount Market.

A complete change of direction came in 1980 as I went into partnership to start an estate agency business on the Romney Marsh, an exciting time as the housing market was beginning to change.

After six or so years however - keen to forge a better career due to the limitations of this business, and now 32 years old – I returned to London, to take up a management role at a French bank which had recently established a team in mortgage lending following the deregulation of the banks. No longer was mortgage lending to be the sole preserve of building societies.

The lender was part of the Compagnie Bancaire Group in Paris, who wanted to obtain a foothold in mortgage lending in the UK, something other foreign financial institutions were doing in the late 1980's. These new lenders only operated via financial intermediaries, not direct to consumer. We were the first mortgage lender in the UK, along with Lloyds Bank, to offer a five-year fixed rate mortgage, a product never before offered in the mortgage market.

In 1995 the French sold the business to Nationwide Building Society, and through various management progressions I became Head of Corporate Distribution, a role which focused on our intermediary relationships and sales strategy. In the first decade of this century, Nationwide decided to become the main sponsor of the England Football team. It fell to me to take small groups of business clients to many of the team's away fixtures in cities around the world, as part of the official FA Tour party. It was a great privilege but also enormous fun! In 2011 I was given the Mortgage Personality of the Year Award by the intermediary mortgage industry, a unique award, at a dinner in the Great Room at Grosvenor House Hotel in London, in front of a thousand people. A night I will always remember.

This continuous employment in mortgage lending ran through to my retirement from Nationwide in 2015, having completed 29 years of service. I now work for a large national network of mortgage advisers, assisting them in the area of new build homes, Shared Ownership and affordable housing, on a part-time basis.

My wife is also from east Kent and we married in 1992, and have two children now in their mid-twenties. We have lived in north Surrey since the late 1980's.

## **Graham Tutthill (1960-65)**

Graham, a former President of our association, has retired from his voluntary post as chairman of Dover Partnership Against Crime. He served on the partnership, known as Shopwatch, for 20 years and was chairman for the last 16 years. The local newspaper headlined his retirement as: Crimefighter ends Crusade. He remains chairman of a not for profit organisation, Love Dover, set up to safeguard building standards in the town.

A retired journalist, Graham worked on the Dover Express and then with the Kent Messenger group responsible for its Dover Mercury. He is an active member of the eight strong Honorary Freemen of Dover serving along with former headmaster the Reverend Michael Hinton and fellow journalist Terry Sutton.

Graham is a leading member of the Methodist community in Dover, a script writer for one of Dover's annual films and associated with a range of other charitable activities.

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## **JAN 2020 The Archivist Ephemitus's Corner**

As has been well recorded elsewhere, the School is in the process of moving into new premises. It is hoped the OPA physical archives will be found a suitable new home, at the moment they are in the challenging old Caretakers' Houses. A location conveniently close to the new library would seem appropriate so that supervised access to the archives could be easily arranged.

The physical archives would then be available much more readily for the pupils as well as Old Pharosians. Just as importantly, pupils could become involved in the archiving process as part of their information technology courses or just researching in the archives out of personal interest.

Eventually it is hoped the physical archive computer database will be linked up with Paul Skelton's (1972-79-2005) excellent online database ([dovergrammar.co.uk](http://dovergrammar.co.uk)).

### Items For Sale

Please note that the costs quoted for the items below are all minima and any extra money would be welcomed by the School. The quoted postage costs only apply to UK addresses, other areas will have to be dealt with separately with the School. The purchasing arrangements for all items are the same: sending a cheque for the appropriate amount (perhaps plus a little), payable to "DGSB", to the Dover Grammar School for Boys, Astor Avenue, DOVER, CT17 0DQ, 01304 206117.

The "Bugsy Malone, Dover Grammar School 09MAR1989" production, is now recorded on two DVDs. The viewing offered covers "behind the scenes" activities as well as the stage production and musical accompaniment. The School Junior Boys are ably assisted by girls from the Dover Grammar School for Girls. The Girls' School has been advised of the DVDs but, so far, I have not heard of any interest. The production is great fun. The two DVDs can be purchased for £20 plus £2 p&p.

Old Pharosians can no longer buy a 1905-2005 centenary tie from the School. However, an OP maroon tie can be obtained by sending a cheque for £7, payable to "DGSB", to the School. This includes the cost of package & posting.

The DVD Prize Giving One is offered at a cost of £10, plus £2 p&p (making £12). The DVD is based on a DVD created by Mrs Dorothy Mannall and covers some School activities during the time her son David (1991-98) was at the School. These include a Carol Service of 1993, Junior Prize Giving in 1992 and 1993, Middle School Prize Giving in 1995 and 1996.

The hardback Fifty Years on 1931-1981 history of the School have all been sold but a CD computer version can be bought. The cost is £10, plus £2 p&p (making £12).

There are still plenty of copies of the booklet The Dover County School 1905 to 1931 at a cost of £4 including p&p.

There are still a few tape video versions of The School on the Hill film, made in 1965, available from the School at the cost of £12 including p&p. A digital version of The School on the Hill is also offered on DVD at the same cost. My attempts to produce a "running sheet" of the film have made some small progress identifying the stars featured but there are still many people to be named and a few "double namings" that need to be resolved, even if only by a majority vote. Any help with the naming of people would be greatly appreciated.

The Film Clips One DVD, consists of films made by the School Cine Club during the 1960s, and features many items including the Potter's Wheel, the Grand Fete, Classroom and Blackboard fun, sport and games, Dover Castle, DGS Cine Club activities, Cars and Boats, tricks, A Typical Day. It is still available at the cost is £10, plus £2 p&p (making £12).

The Film Clips Two DVD features three monochrome 8mm silent films created by teacher Archibald Coulson (1928-71). These include the Silver Jubilee of George V (06MAY1935), the School Cadet Corps camp at Sandwich in AUG1935 and another Sandwich camp, possibly in 1938. In addition there are two more School films from the 1960s. The cost is £10, plus £2 p&p (making £12).

Outline running-sheets have been produced for the Film Clips DVDs and, as for The School on the Hill film, the identity of the participants in the films would be greatly appreciated by your archivist.

The Bolton Cartoons of twelve teachers referred to in the JUL2013 issue of the Newsletter can be obtained in two forms, hardcopy or digital format. The first hardcopy option is a set of twelve A4 sheets with the two versions (both "darted" and cleaned-up), for each teacher on a sheet, at £15 plus £2 p&p (£17); or twenty four A4 sheets with each of the images on its own sheet, costing £20 plus £3 p&p (£23). Alternatively, the images can be emailed to you at a cost of £12. There are only limited numbers of the hardcopy versions available.

Peter Burville (1946-51), Archivist Ephemitus.

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## **Old Boys Vs. School Football Match**

The 2019 renewal of the annual football match played on the 13th September saw the School team overcome a 3-2 deficit midway through the second to record a 5-3 success in a closely contested game. They thus broke a sequence of four successive victories by the Old Boys to reclaim the Andrew Kremer Memorial Cup

The game featured the participation of four sets of brothers, most notably Tom Kremer, nephew of Andrew, making his debut for the School, playing against his brother, Jack, representing the Old Boys while Fin Robinson for the School was also on the opposite side to his brother Callum.

In the Old Boys' team Kyle and Jake Miller featured together for the first time, the latter having left the School in the summer, in addition to the Castle twins, Neil and Paul, who made their customary appearance.

The Old Boys' squad consisted of:-

James Tonkin, Paul Castle, Neil Castle, Andy Bateman, Simon Gretton, James Durrant, Gary Beeden, Steve Betts, Jack Kremer, Kyle Miller, Jake, Miller, Jake Harris, Jack Gealer, James Snoad-Speck, Jack Tuckey, Liam Kalvaitis, Callum Russell and Brad Torrance.

The match was refereed by School P.E. teacher, Steve King, himself an Old Boy.

Mick Palmer

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## **From the local press..... DGSB in the news**

**Dover Grammar School for Boys achieved its highest percentage of A\* to A grades in the last five years.**

*Dover Mercury, Wednesday 21 August 2019.*

Results overall saw an increase in the number of students achieving A\* to B grades.

Head teacher Philip Horstrup said: "We are all immensely proud to have been able to play our part in helping our students to progress to the next stage of their lives, whether they choose to go to university, enter employment, begin an apprenticeship or join the armed forces."

*Dover Express, Thursday, 29 August 2019.*

At Dover Grammar School for Boys, 85 per cent of results in Maths, 84 per cent in Science, 91 per cent in Art and 85 per cent in PE were a strong pass - grade 5 - or higher. 92 per cent of students achieved five or more GCSEs at grade 5 or higher.

Head teacher Philip Horstrup said: "Everyone at Dover Grammar School for Boys would like to congratulate all our Year 11 students for their fantastic achievements at GCSE level this summer; their performance is testament both to their hard work and the excellent teaching they have received."

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**Band reforms for charity gig in aid of hospice - Honouring punk drummer Neil at reunion concert.**

*Dover Mercury, Wednesday 21 August 2019.*

A well known Dover man and musician is being remembered at a punk concert.

Friends and family of Neil Martin, 57, want to raise cash for Pilgrims Hospice in memory of the drummer, who they have dubbed a local hero.



*Neil Martin, a former DFDS,*

*P&O and Stena worker*

The event, called Punk Rock for Charity, features four bands, three of which Neil played in.

Son-in-law Aaron Doolan said: "He worked in Dover his whole life, mainly in the freight industry and was like many hundreds of people who never had a bad word to say about him.

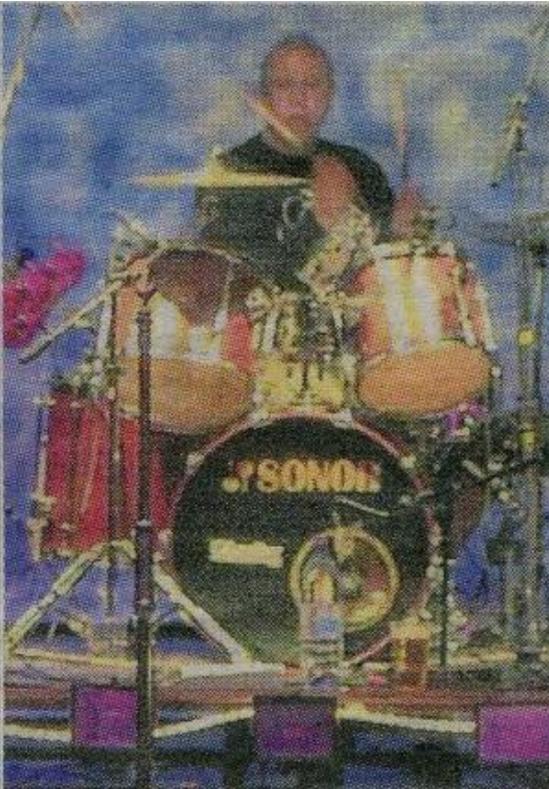
"In my opinion he was a local hero.',

Mr Martin died of cancer in December at Pilgrims Hospice, Ashford, after being diagnosed in 2017.

It was because of the treatment he received there that the family want to give something back. And having loved other people who were treated there too, Mr Dooley said "It's a charity close to our heart."

Mr Martin was known in the South East for playing with punk band Jester which formed about 20 years ago, with a line up that has changed over the years.

The musicians played at many pubs in Dover including at the renowned music spot The Louis Armstrong.



Jester had not played in the last decade and members were discussing holding a 10 year anniversary gig before Mr Martin fell ill.

Mr Doolan added: "The day after he died, I emailed the band and asked if they would be happy to play in a memorial concert. They were, and it's been in the planning ever since.

"I play the drums and will be taking Neil's place in the bands.

"Health Warning was his most recent band. In between Jester and Health Warning he drummed for The Remains. They'll all be playing.

"The fourth is Hands Up - my wife's best friend's band and it seemed right that we ask them to play."

The memorial takes place at the Booking Hall in Dover on, Saturday, August 31. It has been sold out for months.

*Drummer Neil Martin on stage*

Mr Martin lived for most of his life in the Elms Vale area of Dover and moved to Folkestone a few years before his death.

He worked in the freight industry for most of his life, starting at the Port of Dover when he left Dover Grammar School for Boys and he had spells at ferry companies including Stena Line, SeaFrance and P&O.



To encourage as many donations, a raffle will be drawn at the Louis Armstrong on the day after the gig.

It boasts many generous prizes including event tickets, vouchers and meals. The raffle is open to anyone who wants to buy a ticket, whether they are attending the concert or not.

Winners will be announced through the Health Warning Facebook page.

*The remaining members of Jester will be reforming in tribute to drummer Neil Martin (second left)*

## **Cathedral organist is behind bars.**

*Dover Mercury, Wednesday, 14 August 2019.*

A former cathedral music director has been sentenced to five years for a series of sexual offences.

Scott Farrell, 48, an ex-pupil at Dover Grammar School for Boys, previously admitted having indecent images, charges of voyeurism and gross indecency with a child.

He was suspended from his high-profile post at Rochester Cathedral in March last year after being arrested for gross indecency.

Farrell, of High Street, Wouldham, near Rochester, resigned eight months later.

He was working at Rochester when Cambridgeshire police were made aware of allegations surrounding Farrell's time at Ely Cathedral.

His electronic devices were then seized, which uncovered voyeuristic images and videos.

These were believed to have been taken on hidden cameras in bathrooms and bedrooms, some at his own flat, others at different homes.

In addition to this, 135 indecent images were found which he had taken himself.

In May this year, Farrell pleaded guilty to a count of having indecent images and two charges of voyeurism while he was employed at Rochester.

He further admitted three cases of gross indecency with a boy under the age of 16, while working at Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire as an assistant organist.

Police were told how Farrell would show children pornographic images and videos before carrying out sexual acts.

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## FaceBook discussions and comments

Geography fieldtrips led by Ken Ruffell.....

**Ken Goodwin** - 11 July - The great man himself, Ken Ruffell, on a geography field trip to, I believe, Swanage. Mid 70s? The image has been 'colourised', so the colours may not be entirely accurate. Anyway, it's my tribute to a memorable teacher.



**Alan Dalley** - Is that Mark Savage and Keith Nye I can see in the background?

**Ken Goodwin** - I think so...definitely Dave Almond in profile..(spelling?)

**Keith Welch** - *Alan Dalley* me (in hat) immediately to Ken's right (left of him in photo) and then Dave Arman. Sadly I can't recall any other student names from the photo.

**Alan Dalley** - *Keith Welch* how are you Keith. I got the names completely wrong! Must be the old memory going

**Keith Welch** - *Alan Dalley* very well thanks. Enjoying life, keeping busy doing not a lot having been fortunate to be able to stop work a couple of years ago. And you?

**Alan Dalley** - *Keith Welch* still working in IT as I have done all my working days but I still love it. Moved around the country a bit but settled just outside Milton Keynes now.

**Mark Savage** - *Alan Dalley* Does look like me but I don't remember it.

**John Hodgson** - KR what a Star, all geographic navigation by pubs; Mister Fry all by churches. Happy days in the mid-60s.

**Robert Mitchell-king** - Yes Scruff always used pubs as checkpoints on field trips.

**Carl Jepson** - As we get older no further proof is needed of the elapsed time than how young KR looks

**Keith Welch** - This is very realistically colourised and a wonderful reminder both of a great teacher and happy days on field trips. Thanks

**Clive Pilcher** - Never had him for geography but plenty of contact for cricket and football. I once scored the school's equaliser in a 1-1 draw in the annual old boys match - he loved it when that game was a draw and gave me a huge beaming smile on the Monday morning! Lovely guy.

**Dave Winter** - I believe there was once a drunken Geography field trip with the '73 or '74 intake in which KR lectured the participants with a "You might look grown up behind a pint, but you don't look so grown up stood behind a bush". Then, during a 'comfort stop', someone took a photo of KR behind a bush and this photo appeared on the school noticeboard complete with this quote.

**Carl Jepson** - A school noticeboard - social media in an analogue age for the older gentleman

**Dave Winter** - I don't think I imagined this, but I seem to recall hearing the story (my best mate's mother was deputy head there) of KR being gutted to have been 'let go' by DGSB on reaching retirement age, but was snapped up by Folkestone Girls' Grammar School.

**Carl Jepson** - I hope that is true

**Ken Goodwin** - When you consider how long after his retirement Tom 'Ted' Archer worked, that is truly sad. Perhaps Ken didn't fit in to the new way of teaching. Or perhaps it was cheaper to replace him with a NQT.

**Ken Goodwin** - 28 September - Geography field trip, 1970s. Ken is holding forth about a wave cut platform, I believe.



## Topper Headon – Another popular topic of conversation

**Dave Winter** - shared a link - 9 December 2019 at 15:06

Ex-DGSB's pupil...(from about 33 minutes in).

Topper Headon of The Clash and sound artist Jason Singh.

Cerys Matthews - London Calling - BBC Sounds

Topper Headon of The Clash and sound artist Jason Singh.



**David Cornelius** - Cerys Matthews? 😞

**Dave Winter** - In Marcus Gray's excellent "Last Gang in Town", he rather wonderfully dismisses Topper's claim of 'running with a gang' in Dover as a few DGSB schoolboys shoplifted sweets.

**Kevin Black** - They kept banging on about cabinet minister Lord Cockfield being the most important and most influential old boy, never any mention of expelled punk rock drummers. So, despite listening to nothing but The Clash back catalogue throughout the entire sixth form, I had no idea of his connection to the school until mid-80's when my brother joined Mrs

**Dave Winter** - I have in my mind that Biffo got special permission from Slater to see Topper's school record, thus proving that Topper wasn't kicked out of school for smashing up a classroom, but simply left before sitting his O Levels.

**Dave Winter** - Biffo gets a shout out!

**Ian Fuggle** - *Dave Winter* A bloomin big one at that!

**Dave Winter** - Well, Topper didn't really comment on it.

**Graham Proctor** - Dave yeah but that's not quite Rock n Roll is it? 😊

**Ken Goodwin** - I can remember Nick Headon. Can't say I knew him well, but he sometimes used to inhabit a lunchtime poker game in a grey portable classroom at lunchtime. Was he also in the band "Back To Sanity"? which seemed to consist of hairy hippies at the time (...See more

**Clive Pilcher** - Was in the year below me. A nice guy with a good sense of humour. Don't recall him being kicked out, though - he was already into music so I guess he just followed his dream. Part of a great band too.

**Ian Fuggle** - *Clive Pilcher* Clive - former DGSB and Orient supporter. How come our paths haven't crossed?

**Dave Winter** - He was probably in the 'A' stream whilst you were in Bonehead's 4E class.

**Ian Fuggle** - *Dave Winter* That'll be it then.

**Clive Pilcher** - *Ian Fuggle* No idea, maybe a timing issue? Thanks for the friend request - accepted 👍

**Clive Pilcher** - *Dave Winter* Can't speak for Ian but how did you know I was a swotty A stream type? 😊

**Dave Winter** - To be honest, it was more a comment on a conversation Ian and I were part of in a Bradford pub after an Orient away fixture there many years after leaving school when, to my incredulity, he declared "Of course, we weren't streamed back in our day." I then suggested he reconsidered this line, proposing that he thought back to some of the people he was in 4E with. It was only then that the truth dawned on him. And he's going to love me for bringing this up. Again

**Clive Pilcher** - *Dave* You're both obviously younger than me, streaming was ABXY in my time there. God knows where they got that from - maybe some were thought to have the X factor while with others it was a case of Y are they here? Good to meet another Os fan - strange how the school bred three of us!

**Dave Winter** - I think we only started following them in the mid-late 80s, when we both happened to be living/working in the area and discovered we'd made our way down the O's independently.

**Clive Pilcher** - *Dave* Strange how that happens. I moved away from Kent after uni in 1975, been in Essex ever since. Went to Spurs a lot in the late 70s/early 80s, but always followed how the Os were doing. Then came kids and no chance to escape to matches. When I retired in 2013 I got an Os season ticket. Had it for 3 years but had to give it up for health/mobility reasons. The addiction is still in the blood, tho - I just hope we stay up and regroup this season.

**Ian Fuggle** - *Clive Pilcher* Too good to go down.....

**Clive Pilcher** - *Ian* We're next to bottom over the past six games. Need to start winning again soon.

There were mixed views about the proposals for new school buildings.....

**Martyn Webster** - Visual storyteller - 5 December 2019

After little more than a one hour session on the subject yesterday KCC's planning applications committee decided to grant permission to demolish the existing school buildings and construct the replacement on the top playing field SUBJECT to Historic England determining that the existing school buildings are not of listable quality. The committee of ten councillors voted 8 in favour, 1 against with 1 abstention. A determination by Historic England was said not to be expected until near Christmas or just afterwards. It is to be noted that none of the voting councillors represented Dover nor, evidently, had they themselves actually visited the school buildings and viewed them from near and afar. No photograph of the existing school appeared in the report itself and none of those displayed on a screen in the session chamber depicted the building from any good angle. One of the more choice comments was "It is time to pull a shroud over its face". And thus was the matter done in detachment in Maidstone. But there may be more to it yet.

**Stefan Cork** - Great news. Make way for something much better suited to modern needs.

**Martin Luff** - *Stefan Cork* Agree. We cannot live in the past and should do what is best for the current pupils.

**Stefan Cork** - Martin it's a lovely old building with a lot of charm but it was pretty dilapidated back in 1982 when I started and no doubt absolutely beyond knackered by now. Practicality trumps nostalgia for me.

**Keith Medgett** - *Stefan Cork* I fully agree, it was falling apart in the 80s. It may be unusual but it is not properly historic.

**Martyn Webster** - <https://www.kentlive.news/.../sadness-dover-grammar...>

Sadness as Dover school set for demolition

**David Burridge** - Some of us are amazingly dry-eyed at the prospect.

**Paul Morris** - I agree, it looked ready for levelling when I joined in 1978. It really is well past its sell by date today.

I was fortunate enough to visit the school this Summer and it looked extremely tired. All very well being nostalgic, but I wouldn't want to teach or learn there now.

Think if the cost of maintaining it, even as a listed building. Quirky, yes, interesting, yes, value for money? I don't think so.

It has served generations of pupils well and we were lucky to have been a part of it; let's give it a good send off and move on

**Carl Jepson** Thanks for the update. You would want councillors to listen to the experts though. I was surprised that it had been poorly built because it always had that air of permanence

**Andy McCluskey** I did contact 'Historic England' requesting listed status after jumping through many hoops but it would seem all to no avail

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Sadness as Dover school set for demolition KENTLIVE.NEWS

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## Obituaries.

### **Kenneth Newing – Obituary by Terry Sutton**

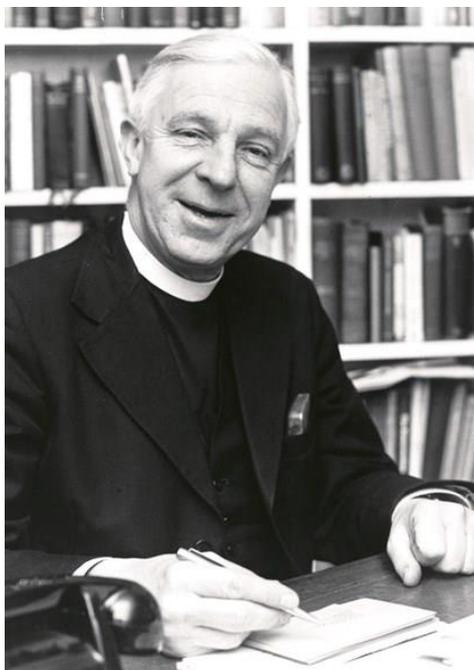
Ken, who became a bishop and then a monk, died in May 2019, aged 95. He was a member of the Old Pharosians Association and had been a regular attender at our social and other meetings.

He left Dover Grammar School in 1943 and went straight into the army, serving in the Royal Ordnance Corps. He took part in the Normandy invasion in 1944 and is reported to have enjoyed army life so much he signed on for additional years in peace time.

Out of the army he took a degree at Cambridge and then Holy Orders. He served as a priest in a number of parishes, was appointed Archdeacon of Plymouth and in 1982 was appointed Suffragan Bishop of Plymouth. He retired in 1988 when he joined the Benedictine community as a monk at Elmore Abbey near Newbury. Ken was a noted Anglo-Catholic.

### **Obituary: The Rt Revd Kenneth Newing OSB**

*CHURCH TIMES - 07 JUNE 2019*



*The Rt Revd Dr John Saxbee writes:*

THE Rt Revd Kenneth Albert Newing died on 15 May, aged 95. He was Bishop of Plymouth until his retirement in 1988, when he became a Benedictine monk at Elmore Abbey, in Berkshire.

Born in 1923, he was raised in Kent and attended Dover Grammar School. On leaving school in 1940, he served in the army, through and beyond the Second World War, after which he studied at Selwyn College, Cambridge, trained at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, and was ordained in 1955.

Here began his long love affair with the diocese of Exeter, serving first as an assistant curate in Plymstock, a fast-growing suburb of Plymouth, before being inducted as incumbent of the neighbouring parish of Plympton St Maurice.

Here, he endeared himself to the local community for nearly 20 years, including four years as also Archdeacon of Plymouth. His parochial ministry reflected his formation as a traditional Anglo-Catholic priest dedicated to the sacraments, a disciplined prayer life, pastoral care — and little affection for administrative

distractions.

For some years, he served as Warden of Readers for the archdeaconry, in which post his profound, but practical, spirituality left a lasting impression on an expanding cohort of lay ministers. Indeed, fostering vocations, especially among young people at confirmations, was an abiding passion.

Those who knew him best invariably testify to his humility — he demurred three times before accepting nomination to the episcopate. But, nevertheless, in 1982, he was consecrated to the suffragan see of Plymouth during a period of adjustment to significant pastoral reorganisation across the city itself and the rural/coastal communities around Dartmoor and Torbay.

His determination to ensure stronger traditional Catholic representation among the clergy, especially on the many post-war housing estates, was not universally welcomed, nor did it necessarily leave a positive legacy. But his care for the clergy, their families, and the parochial faithful was never in doubt.

His impish sense of humour came to the fore when he was delighted to have “sub-canopial status” conferred on him by the Bishop of Exeter to process in the manner to which a prominent Anglo-Catholic congregation had become accustomed.

A former colleague reports that, although in his leadership of retreats and quiet days he was always original and inspiring, when it came to preaching, he had a filing cabinet containing one sermon for each Sunday and holy day in the Church's calendar — and these were simply repeated year on year.

It came as little surprise when, on his retirement in 1988, he joined the Benedictine community of Elmore Abbey and then, on its closure in 2011, moved with three other brothers to form St Benedict's Priory in the Close at Salisbury, attached to Sarum College.

It is tempting to characterise Bishop Kenneth as essentially a non-claustrated monk who finally found his true self in the cloister. But this would be a mistake. He was fully at home in parochial and episcopal ministry, enjoying the delights of friendship, social engagements, and hospitality, as well as the pastoral encounters that mattered so much to him, and for which he is so fondly remembered.

Yet he was, indeed, equally at home in a monastic community, where he remained actively involved well into his nineties, even when confined to a wheelchair.

Throughout such a long life, his deep personal faith in God and Christ-centred discipleship were in the disciplines of daily prayer, with his ministry as a priest, bishop, pastor, and spiritual director underscored by one of his celebrated maxims: if you are too busy to pray, you're too busy.

His funeral will be held in Salisbury Cathedral on Tuesday 11 June at 2 p.m.

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### **Michael Sharp - 6 February 1939 - 28 June 2019**

A walk through the life of Mike Sharp, born in 1939, much loved son of John and Jessie Sharp. Born at 8 Astley Avenue Dover, he stayed in Dover the rest of his life a true Dovorain.

During the second world war, Mike and his mother moved to Barfrestone, where the rest of his maternal family were living. They were happy times with his grandparents, cousins and aunts. After the war, Mike and his family moved back to Snargate Street to live above the shop were, in the summer of 46 his sister Annie was born.

Mike attended Eythorne and St Mary's primary school, and the Dover Grammar School. He really enjoyed his time at school, having a tremendous thirst for knowledge he was top of the class !!!! At school he was also an active member of the Army cadets and later Navy cadets.

In 1955, he joined his grandfather and father at Sharp & Enright, this was to become a lifetime's work. "THE SHOP always came FIRST", he even worked on the morning of all the family weddings!

In the late fifties, Mike was called up and did national service in Malaya. "A real eye opener for a shy young lad from Dover". He had the time of his life and became the CO's driver.

Upon his return to Dover he joined the Dover Rowing Club, the Dover Rugby Club, and also went out on the lifeboat with his father. He also enjoyed the search for family history, in those days without the internet! His daughters recall many a Sunday afternoon in a graveyard searching head stones and visiting ancient aunts!

In 1964, in the White Horse, Mike met the love of his life, Margaret the daughter of another Dover business Lawrence's the fishmongers. They become engaged in 1965 and happily married 1966 at St Mary's church, with a guard of Honour from the Dover Rowing Club. In 1969 Sarah was born, joined later in 1972 by Becky.

The family lived in Elms Vale Road. There were many happy stories, including the time Mike had some out of date ship's flares. On Firework night the family went up to the park where Mike duly let off the flares. The whole of the Elms Vale valley was lit with the bright red explosion, sending many curtains twitching. He lost his nerve after two flares!!

His daughters also recall the time he spontaneously went up to Goulden and Winds, the local record shop and brought the 'Grease' double album, a complete surprise from a Victorian father. They also

recall other happy memories in the Yacht Club, drinking coke and eating crisps on the balcony, and ringing the bell on New Year's Eve!

The family moved to London Road, River in 1984. Mike loved this house especially the garden, his thinking place. In 1991 Sarah joined the family business, which allowed Mike and Margaret to have holidays. Returning to the Far East, the Caribbean and Europe.

During the late 90's both girls got married, Sarah to Mark and Becky to Jason. They are both an asset to the family. There are 3 grandchildren Megan, Elise and Jessie who all have added a certain sparkle to the Sharp family. Mike especially loved Christmas, it was the only time the shop was closed and he had a few days at home with family.

In 2015 Mike and Margaret moved to the Gateway. An ideal home, given his love for the sea and the people of Dover. A walk to the Yacht Club could take some time though! In 2016 Mike and Margaret celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary. Earlier this year (2019) Mike celebrated his 80th birthday, with a cream tea and lots of chocolate - one of his favourite things

Sadly, after a short but intense illness Mike passed away peacefully on the 28th June 2019 with his family by his side.

To quote a good friend:

*"Mike Sharp*

*Talented Dovorain*

*Ship's Chandler*

*Top Bloke*

*God Bless you Mike*

*Mr Blue Coat*

*Sharp & Enright"*

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### **George Albert Stourton 3 April 1916 – 17 August 2019**

It is with great sadness that I am writing to let you know that our father George Stourton passed away in August at the age of 103.

George was awarded a scholarship to Dover County School in 1927, leaving in 1934 to work at Dover Engineering works for a year before going to Shoreditch Training College to train as a handicraft teacher. Amongst his tutors there was Mr H W G Hazelden who had previously taught handicraft at Dover County School. On leaving Shoreditch in 1937 father taught in Dartford and then Chislehurst, where digging trenches initially took priority over teaching. In May 1940 he was called up and War Service saw him serving as a Captain in India, arriving there after a long sea journey during which the ship was torpedoed and several lives lost.

On returning to Chislehurst after the war he met Phyllis, who had started to teach there during his absence, marrying her in 1947 and setting up home in Gravesend. After a year teaching at Dulwich College George joined the Handicraft Department of Gravesend Grammar School for Boys, remaining there for the rest of his career. He taught Metalwork and Technical Drawing, established a Careers Service for the school and was in charge of 5th form. During this time he was also a founding member of Kent Careers Association, a member of the Kent Branch of Institute of Handicraft Teachers, and a Governor of the Gravesend Grammar Schools.

After retiring in 1978 father was a founding member of Gravesend Probus Club, Chairman of local charity The Varchell Trust, Chairman of Governors at a local Primary School, and a member of St George's Parochial Church Council, all the while keeping up his craft skills making items for the house and his grandchildren. He also returned to silversmithing, a skill he'd first started before family commitments took priority, and continued to take a full interest in the town where he had many friends and acquaintances.

Although he had moved to Gravesend in 1938 he always took a great interest in Dover, and over the last few years I often took him down there for the day to have lunch up on the White Cliffs before exploring the town. He was a member of Old Pharosians' and recently drafted a letter, that sadly didn't get sent, asking that you continue to send him a hard copy of the magazine as he 'didn't have an armoury of electronic equipment' to receive it electronically!

Although Phyllis died in 2011 at the age of 97, his good health meant he was extremely lucky to continue living on his own with little support until he was hospitalised shortly before his death. He will be sorely missed by his two daughters, his grandchildren, and his great grandson.

Anne Mitchell & Ruth Stourton, daughters

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### **Brian Coltman**

Dave Murray passed on the sad news of Brian Coltman's passing in early September 2019. Brian taught PE at the school from the late 70s to mid-80s. He also helped run the Army Section of the Combined Cadet Force. In an email to Dave, Keith Chambers remembers Brian with affection:

*Hi Dave*

*Thank you for letting me know. I had a lot of time for Brian. He was a breath of fresh air for the school - outgoing (I probably mean outrageous!), great sense of humour and good with the pupils. I remember him phoning me just before I left for Australia - it was a lovely touch and meant so much to me. All I can think about is the laughter and fun times we all had together.*

*Take care*

*Keith*

Brian's enthusiasm for sport, the Combined Cadet Force and 1 Park War Games Club were reported in the 1980 and 1983 editions of *The Pharos*:

### **1 Park War Games Club - 1980**

*The "1 Park War Games Club" was formed in October 1979. During the Easter Term initial enthusiasm petered out till only four people turned up regularly. There are plans to expand and revitalise the club by playing board games connected with war, Colditz for example.*

*Thanks must be given to Mr Coltman for his help and encouragement.*

*K. Medgett*

### **CCF - ARMY SECTION - 1982**

*Since last year the Army Section has grown from a small dedicated nucleus into an enthusiastic platoon. After a 10-day leadership course during last Easter holiday Sgt Thomas and myself returned to the rigours of '0' level revision. The course had involved 24-hour exercises, shooting, orienteering, assault*

*course work and, best of all, helicopter troop drills using Puma and Gazelle aircraft—an experience neither of us will forget for a long time.*

*Lt Col Houlton, RE, the Inspecting Officer at the June Annual Inspection congratulated all Army Section cadets for “excellent demonstrations”. At Annual Camp we were just as enthusiastic, with a 24-hour exercise and an assault course, on which W02 Saunders managed to break an arm. We were told that we were the best section to complete the night exercise during the 6 months it was held.*

*Sadly Lt Col Bird retired from the Section this term and all the cadets, especially the older ones, would like to thank him for everything he has done for the section. Flt Lt Philpott, with 2 Lts Bamford and Coltman, has taken over. We now have a successful and efficient unit. We are always looking for new recruits. Anyone interested? - Chris Saunders W02*

### **Prefects VS Staff Rugby Match - 1983**

*On the afternoon of Tuesday March 29th the entire School witnessed the exciting spectacles of the Prefects versus the Staff rugby match. Played at a tremendous pace, the presence of some six hundred screaming fans made for a superb atmosphere. The Staff, with a little help from their friends, came out winners by twenty points to nine. Scorers for the Staff were Sean Chaffey, Keith Chambers, Bryan Coltman and George Monk. Kevin Raine converted two tries, having missed two from in front of the posts. The Prefects' points were scored by Julian Wilson, with three sweetly struck penalty goals.*

*Thanks to the fine weather and good support a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all, enjoyment which continued late into the night.*

*John Shepherd Upper Sixth*

### **Dinard - 1983**

*We assembled at the bleary-eyed hour of 5.30 am and despite a prompt start, a well-timed 'phone call and a quick dash across Boscombe Down were required to ensure we got the only sailing of the day from Weymouth. We emerged at Cherbourg somewhat queasy after a rough crossing that was wet and dismal, and that was to remain all week.*

*The hotel in Dinard, squashed onto the end of a street of small, dismal shops and, grey terraced houses, proved to be comfortable but slightly cramped at times. The first night's meal was at best revolting, sickly meatballs that oozed blood at every poke of a fork. However, the meals improved, though the bread seemed to become progressively staler with each passing day.*

*On the first day the football team played a wet, slightly disappointing match that ended in a 4—0 defeat. Our better hopes were justified in the next game in an exciting, flowing affair that resulted in a 5-0 victory. This could have seen more goals particularly from a missed penalty by Jeremy Baines.*

*Between matches the party captured some of the flavour of France with trips to a market in Dinan, a tidal dam on the River Rance at St Malo and the historical site of Mont St Michel. On Thursday we celebrated the birth of Mr Chambers' first child and on Friday saw Mr Jolliffe's birthday celebrated in fine style with a trip to the beach in which he unaccountably found himself sitting waist deep in the sea, with several other members of staff and boys. That afternoon also saw the first rugby matches being won in appallingly muddy conditions. After wards the pitch had more in common' with the Somme than a rugby field.*

*After a three-hour coach journey on Sunday the road-weary rugby team took part in another tournament in which two matches were won, and one narrowly lost.*

*Despite these good results the team finished in the middle of the table, our position not justifying the effort put in by the team, few of whom had played together as a team before.*

*An early rise on Monday and a short journey to St Malo, in which the coach had a narrow scrape with a parked car, led to a nine-hour sea crossing through turbulent seas. Several times we found ourselves pressed flat against walls, unable to move because 'of the rocking of the boat. Nothing else could go wrong after this. Alas, not so. A problem with fuel meant an hour—long wait at Barham Crossroads. A fittingly hectic end to an unusual holiday experience*

*Our thanks must go to Messrs Murray, Chambers, Miller, Jolliffe and Coltman for organising such an enjoyable and memorable trip, and to Brittany Ferries for the ready supply of sick bags:*

*Jeremy Howitt Lower Sixth B and Simon Miller 4S*

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### **Jim E Halsey - 1946 - 1952**

Jim's wife Margaret has provided the following short note about his life:

Jim was 85 when he died. Born in 1934. He grew up at the Duke of York's Royal Military School where his father taught "The Drums". He enjoyed his time at the Grammar School and was advised by his Economics master to go on the London School of Economics where he got his degree. Most of his working life was spent at John Mowlem, building and civil engineers, as an economist.