



**OLD PHAROSIANS'
ASSOCIATION**



NEWSLETTER



**FIAT LUX
DOVER GRAMMAR
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Number 119

July 2021

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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

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 2020—2021

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 Jonathan.Fullarton@mfw.co.uk	(1997 – 2004)
Membership Secretary, Webmaster	Paul Skelton 1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk	(1972 – 79) (1979 – 2005)
Newsletter	John Robertson John.Robertson8664@gmail.com	(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	https://oldpharosians.org.uk/	
Email	1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk	
Twitter	@DGSBPharosians	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/440388319493377/	

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.

Editor's Welcome

Welcome to the July 2021 OP newsletter. Another full issue, with much news about and from our school and fellow students. In his notes, William talks about the challenges COVID has presented us all and the optimism for a return to some form of freedom which the vaccination programme offers, albeit somewhat muted due to the emergence of a new variant. He also pays tribute to Neil Slater, who died in December and updates us on work to amend the OPA constitution, to better suit the current context of the association and school.

I'm pleased to have received contributions from OPs who have put pen to paper (or finger to keyboard) for the first time to write for the newsletter. It's always good to hear from you, be it a few lines of news or a longer item about life at or after school. Your stories are interesting, and we enjoy reading them. Please do keep writing!

Ken Lott and Stephen Parrett have both written about their time at school, which spanned four decades from the late 1940s to early 1970s. Ken recalls with affection a number of teachers who taught in school for 20, 30 and in some cases 40 years. He recognises their contribution to the school and his own education. Stephen's focus is more on events which took place at the time and friends he made whilst at school. He also reflects on how his education and experiences at school led to careers in banking, project management and change consultancy. Keith Thompson has written a tribute to Michael Hinton, in which he thanks Michael for his encouragement to attend film school, which became a steppingstone to a career as a screenwriter and TV producer.

It was with sadness that we learnt in December last year of the death of Neil Slater, our fifth headmaster. We have included a tribute to Neil, who led the school from 1990 – 2002, with contributions from former pupils and staff. Phillip Horstrup has also kindly allowed us to include comments from the Book of Remembrance which the school produced in December.

Terry Sutton, our own 'Mr Dover' continues to use his keen journalistic skills and contacts to 'sniff out' and write contributions about OPs. There are several items from Terry in the newsletter, with more in the pipeline!

News from in school includes another welcome update from Flight Lieutenant Louis Martin. With some great photos, Louis talks about what has been a busy year for the Combined Cadet Force, despite the COVID restrictions. We also have two photo updates as construction of the new school buildings continues. There is a selection of photos showing progress on the buildings themselves. Additionally, we have some fascinating pictures of the memorial stained-glass window being carefully removed from the old school. It is now being conserved in readiness for installation in the new building.

Headteacher, Philip Horstrup is very supportive of the OPA and the newsletter in particular. Phil has taken time to give us a unique insight to the challenges he and the team at DGSB face as they navigate the many and various changes which COVID has necessitated in school. This, at the same time as overseeing construction of the new buildings and planning for the move to the new site in February 2022, no mean feat! I'm incredibly grateful to Phil for his contribution and continued support.

There are many other items in the newsletter, including details of a reunion planned for August and, COVID restrictions permitting, an opportunity to meet up at school for the AGM on 25 September. **Read on!**

John Robertson – July 2021

Notes from the President

I am writing this just after the Prime Minister's announcement that the lifting of Covid related restrictions is to be delayed for four weeks. It's a classic example of how good news and bad news can follow so quickly on the heels of each other. For the past few months, we have been thankful for the remarkable progress of the vaccination programme. Then, just when we thought that all was going to be fine, another variant comes along to dampen our celebrations.

Something similar is evident in the life of the school and of the Association. A striking new building is rising rapidly on the old top field, bringing the prospect of an exciting new chapter for DGSB when it opens in the first part of next year. Yet, here and now, the Head and his colleagues are having to struggle with the immediate challenges brought by the pandemic and all the special rules that staff and pupils are having to observe in order to stay safe. It's a tough business.

And the death of two former Headteachers within a few weeks of each other towards the end of last year was a further cause for sadness and reflection. We paid tribute to Michael Hinton in our last edition. In this Newsletter we include memories of Neil Slater whose death was announced just as the last newsletter was being finalised.

Neil arrived as a Maths master in 1970 when I was head prefect and stayed at the school for the following 33 years, becoming deputy head and then succeeding Reg Colman as head. He was the first of our heads to be promoted from the staff team though far from the first teacher in the school's history to drop his roots with us for a good long time. Career patterns have changed over the decades but it's good to be reminded that institutions benefit from having at least a few people who provide continuity and hold something of the collective memory. That's also a role that, in a small way, the Association can provide.

To that end we have now completed the transfer of our online archive from the old website to the new one. The former will be turned off in a few weeks' time so please put '<https://oldpharosians.org.uk/>' into your favourites so that you can access the new site, which has been up and running for a while. There's a fascinating hour or two to be spent looking back at old photos, magazines and other gems from 1905 to the present day.

I'm also pleased to report that the recent online consultation on amending the Association's Constitution was extremely successful. The Committee will be seeking the approval of the AGM in September to the new document, which will mean that membership will no longer be linked to the paying of a subscription. Instead, we shall rely on voluntary donations. We shall be writing individually to those with standing orders to the Association, encouraging them to leave them in place so that we continue to have funds to support the ongoing work of the school.

Do join us for the AGM on **Saturday 25 September** at the school, if you can, or by Zoom if you can't (see details in this Newsletter). It will, for many of us, be the last chance to visit the old buildings that played such a big part in our early lives.

William Fittall

Headteacher's End of Year Report

To say this has been a challenging year would be under-selling the word challenging! Working in education during a global pandemic has brought new and myriad challenges - from lateral flow testing to bubbles, from teacher assessed grades to remote learning - but I am pleased to say that my colleagues at DGSB have, as always, met these challenges head on and with no little success.

This year has once again been blighted by the need to enforce, on a national level, the closure of all schools for all students, bar the children of key workers and those children deemed vulnerable. In 2021, this absence from normal routines and normal interactions was made a lot easier by our familiarity with new and emerging technologies, which allowed us to deliver remote lessons, part-live, to all students in all year groups, wherever they may be domiciled. None of us wanted to have to do this, of course; but the way in which we managed this huge logistical exercise - with no great help from our national leaders - was nothing short of incredible. As so often in such crises, it is not the top brass bunkered down somewhere remote who make the difference; rather it is those of us on the front lines, dealing with the fallout from the pandemic, in this instance, on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. Thus, it is difficult for me to find suitable words to describe just how proud I am of my colleagues, our students and our parents for all they have done over the last 16 months. Our sincere hope is that September will bring something more akin to normality (remember that?!) and that we can rediscover the rhythms and routines of day-to-day life at DGSB.

With no examinations once again this year, it has fallen to us, as a profession, to provide the data and the grades which will see students awarded GCSE and A Level qualifications this summer. This, too, has been a mammoth undertaking, not helped by three of the four major examination boards suffering IT failures on the one day such failures could not be tolerated - the day on which we had to submit our grades! Thankfully, these were submitted in time once the issues had been resolved, but many a minor palpitation was experienced by many of us at school. Both results days this year will be earlier and - for the first time ever, as far as I can ascertain - will be in the same week, beginning 9th August. This will present further logistical hurdles which we will need to surmount. And we will, as we always do!

In more positive news (!), both sports day and our charity-driven football competition, Los M, return this year after a one-year hiatus, to much joy from the student and staff bodies. It will be a wonderful way to end what has been a difficult year.

And, of course, we have our wonderful new school to look forward to. Our moving in date is now confirmed for mid-February 2022, with further news on celebratory events both ante and post decant to follow in due course. However, I am delighted to be able to inform you that esteemed colleague and Old Pharosian, Maurice Smith, has generously agreed, at my invitation, to be our guest of honour and speaker at the new school's official inauguration. We are, therefore, looking forward - as we must, and as we should - to what will be a wonderful 'moving day' and a brighter future for all.

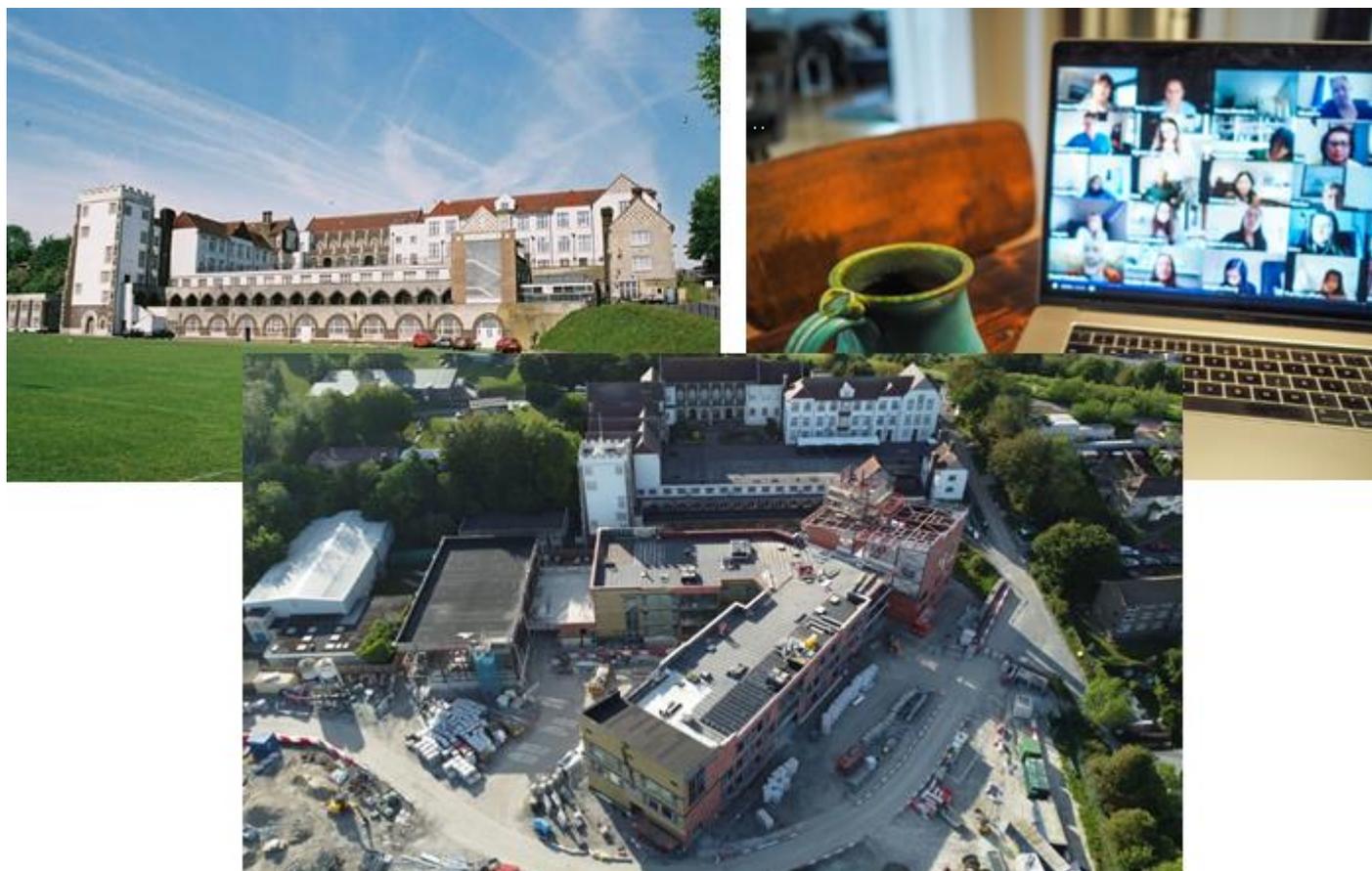
P.A.Horstrup, Headteacher

July 2021

Currently reading "The Lamplighters", by Emma Stonex

Old Pharosians – AGM

Saturday 25 September 2021



Covid restrictions permitting, this year's Old Pharosians' AGM will take place in the old school buildings for the final time. We hope that as many as possible will be there for this special occasion. There will also be a Zoom link for those unable to make the journey. Those coming to the school will have the opportunity to view the new buildings (from the quad), hear an update on the development from headteacher Philip Horstrup and tour the old school. There will also be a chance to hear the organ play one last time before its move to the new buildings.

Programme

11:30 – Coffee served – Great Hall

12:00 – AGM, to include report on the school and briefing on construction of new school buildings.

13.00 – Buffet lunch available in the great hall. Some organ music will be played.

13:45 – Opportunity to view new buildings (from quad) and tour of old school

15:00 - Close

Parking and Access – Parking space will be available in the staff car park. Visitors should access the school through the main entrance which can be reached from the drive adjacent to the Great Hall.

Registering- There is no charge for lunch but we shall be grateful for donations on the day. To know how many to cater for would you please confirm your attendance by contacting the President by the **end of Friday 10 September**. Please also contact him if you want to be sent the Zoom link so that you can participate virtually:

Email:- william.fittall@gmail.com

(or post:- Sir William Fittall, The Barn, Rectory Lane, Saltwood, CT21 4QA)

Tribute - Neil Slater – Head teacher 1990 - 2002



Neil, our fifth head, died late in 2020.

Here, former pupils and staff pay tribute to Neil and remember, with affection and gratitude, his time as teacher and headmaster.

We are grateful to headteacher Philip Horstrup for allowing us to reproduce the book of condolence which the school produced from tributes to Neil and comments submitted through the DGSB website.

Facebook

Liam Jordan

Very sad news. I was at the school during his headship and I loved my time there. When he left, happiness dipped.

Keith Tolputt

Thanks for sharing Dave. He somehow enabled me to scrape a Maths O level in the mid-70s, for which I will always be grateful. I also remember him playing oboe in the school orchestra.

Paul Matt

Sad news. Was a great gent and my first headmaster at DGSB.

Jamie Sutton

Such sad news. My condolences. He was always a gent and would always have time for anyone. We always enjoyed him referring to rugby as 'a good game of rugger!'

Giles Falconer

I worked on the SMT when Neil was Headteacher for 8 years, and learned a great deal from him during that time. It was certainly the most productive part of my career thanks to Neil's approach to leadership. I was surprised and very sorry to hear about his death.

Howard Golding

My enduring memory of Mister Slater was when he turned up as a substitute for some missing teacher. We must have been on top corridor somewhere. He set us work and we dutifully got on with it. He then left the classroom and about 10 minutes later was seen wandering along the path in front of the art block..... amazingly we just carried on and he reappeared towards the end of the lesson.....

Rob Neil

Sad news. He was deputy head during my time and valiantly tried to teach computer science A level at short notice as a result of an unexpected retirement... A true gent.

Larry Thomas

Sorry to hear the news. My favourite quote "You're here to work! If you can't be bothered you might as well be over the way." Waving his hand at arm's length towards Astor School.

Jim Fairfax

Took me for Further Maths and Maths A level in the Sixth Form. Was then the Deputy and spent most of the lesson producing the school timetable- something I ended up doing when I was also a grammar deputy. He did know my name though as he often said "Fairfax get on with your work", while I was discussing lyrics for stupid songs I wrote with Vince Leggett and Byron Chatburn. Nice guy though-never lost his temper with me - so he had some patience!! RIP Mr Slater.

Laurie Glover

I think one fond memory of Neil Slater that many boys must have noticed over the years was the unique way in which he tackled the stretch of the hill between the canteen level and the quad. Head down, hands clasped behind his back and he powered through it in moments.

Richard Michael

I remember him teaching us for O-level computer science in the fifth year. We weren't being perfect however his next move was very reminiscent of Basil Fawlty. He jumped up and down and shouted, " I work twenty-four hours a day for this school! (he could have stopped there but no he continued)and that is NO EXAGGERATION! " I'm afraid I was first to raise the eyebrow that caused the laughter. Didn't see him for the rest of the lesson. I think the character of Mr. Whacker in the ZX Spectrum game Skool Daze was based on him. I went on to teach secondary for 17 years and made a point of knowing my limits when losing it with a class with Mr. Slater very much in mind. RIP.

Dover Grammar School for Boys - Book of Condolence – Mr Neil Slater

I have many memories of Neil both as an inspirational speaker in assemblies and as an original early adopter of computing technology but most particularly as a musician. During Adrian Boynton's tenure as Director of Music, Neil and his bassoon were a major part of my own music making either in school or across East Kent accompanying choirs and shows. A truly gentle man.

Peter Fulcher, Former Student, Former Staff Member and Member of the Old Pharosians Association

My sincere condolence to hear the sad news of Neil Slater (Headteacher) who appointed me to the school in September 2000. He was a very understanding and caring Headteacher. He showed humility and kindness and he will be sadly missed.

Vincent Crofts B.A. LL.M. M.Phil. Bar (Middle Temple) Cert. Ed, Former Governor and Former Staff Member

I was at the school during his tenure. They were and remain so the happiest days of my life and I thank Mr Neil Slater for that. When he left, a raft of changes came in that on a pupil level were unpopular. Rest in Peace and thank you for your service.

Liam Jordan, Former Student

Very sorry to hear this news. I loved my time at this school, whilst Mr Slater was Headteacher. Always a very fair man and very well respected. Condolences to Mr Slater's family.

Ritchie Hulks, Former Student

I'm very sad to hear of the death of Mr Slater. He was extremely supportive of me when I was a student, and this has helped me a great deal on my life since school. I am sorry not to have seen him for many years and I hope his life after retirement was happy. I send my best wishes to Mr Slater's family.

Antony Hook, Former Student, Former Governor and Member of the Old Pharosians Association

Always remember Mr Slater as a quiet and friendly man. I'm sure he will be missed by many.

Paul Mulhearn, Former Student

Thank you, Neil Slater, for taking a risk in giving me the job I needed and loved and allowing me to make a small difference.

Francoise Lloyd, Former Staff Member

I had the pleasure of working closely with Neil on the Senior Management Team at DGSB for 8 years, as 'Senior Teacher' (later becoming 'Assistant Head'). Those were interesting times to work at DGSB as the school benefitted from greater independence to manage itself through the acquisition of 'Grant Maintained' status, and thanks to Neil's leadership some much needed updating and expansion of the school's buildings was achieved (for example the new Sixth Form area, the second tower, some new science laboratories etc). The threats of closure or amalgamation that the school had faced in 1994 (when its roll was, from memory, just under 500) were challenged and defeated. There is no doubt in my mind that the school Neil Slater left behind was far better than the one he had inherited when becoming Headteacher, and his careful leadership piloted the school through those difficult times. I am proud to have been able to work with him and other colleagues to achieve that and hope his legacy will be honoured when the school moves into its new buildings in 2022.

Giles Falconer, Former Staff Member

Annual school reunion – 21 August 2021.

From Mike Graham

John,

This may be of some interest to you as editor of the school newsletter.

For the past 15 years we have held annual reunions of former pupils of the school. These are held in Dover, usually at the Rugby Club but this year at the Cricketers in Crabble Avenue close to the Athletic Ground. Most of the attendees left the school in the late 50s to early 60s but there is no restriction based on age.

Several of the committee have joined us from time to time including Mick Palmer, Rev John Philpott, Philip Horstrup. Philip Harding is hoping to join us at our next get together on 21 August.

People come from far and wide. Pat Croskerry from Canada, David Marriot from Melbourne, Rick Kitchen from Aalborg Denmark, John Cage from SW France, Mick Bott from Brussels, Geoff Corby from Northern Ireland and Pete Piddock from Skye. Several others are in regular touch. Alan McCaig from Canada, Marcus Stocks and Louis Rednap from New Zealand, Bob Hopkins from Western Australia, Derek Thompson from Thailand and Paul Dunn from Singapore.

We have a couple of ladies from the Girls Grammar join us who were at our school in 1960/61 to study Physics. Possibly the first female pupils at the school. Wives or partners are very welcome.

The Headmaster will be updating us on progress especially on the new build.

Any former pupils will be welcome. I only ask that they inform me in advance so I can arrange the catering. We start at 12 noon, lunch around 1 p.m. and finish by 6 o'clock.

My contact details are mikegraham11@hotmail.com.

Kind regards Mike

Photo update - New school buildings

The new structure emerges against a wintry Dover backdrop.



Meanwhile, Leney fields has been levelled and seeded.



With steelwork complete, walls and other features of the new buildings start to take form.





****Note – The light brown/orange material visible in the above photos is insulation board and not the final finish colour of the building.**

Debt of Gratitude.

Ken Lott (1945-1953)

Clearing out my desk drawer recently I came across a plastic wallet containing nine sheets of KEA headed paper - VIth Science form reports from 1950 to 1953. As I read through them, I started to reminisce, remembering old classmates and recalling the teachers who had penned the reports and had been my mentors. It dawned on me that our group had reached the end of a stage in our development and we were about to leave the School and forge our way in the world leaving behind those teachers who had penned the reports. We had merely been passing through and those Staff members would still be there when the school returned for the next term. What names there were - stalwart members of staff who were to give some twenty, thirty and even forty years of devoted service to the school.

A.E.Coulson (1928-71) the relaxed mathematician; W.H.Jacques (1946-73) - the meticulous disciplinarian ; F.L.Kendall (1931-65) - the gentle chemist ; W.E.Pearce (1915 - 52) - the renowned Physics author and experimentalist replaced by the dry humoured northerner T.S.Walker(1952-75). These were supplemented by W.W.Baxter (1915-52) who had been responsible for teaching me French for seven years (and yes, I still appreciate the subtle difference between "Comme on aurait du/pu s'y attendre and in the Head's name a comma after C should be replaced with a full stop) and R.W.Murphy (1946-76) who extended our knowledge of the Arts subjects.

One only has to read the newsletter article VIth Arts -1948 by Tony Bradley a year or so ago to realise that the same applied to his teachers - decades of devoted service. Even the Head J.C.Booth who taught him History was in post for some twenty-plus years.

Nearly all of these Staff members had relocated with the School to Ebbw Vale when evacuation took place at the start of WW 2; several of them were prominent in the running of Cadet Forces both before and after the war. What prompted them to remain at the school for such long periods I wondered? Did they make some pact on a hillside in Wales to return to Dover and keep alive Freddie Whitehouse's dream? Having served ten years in HR with my local Education Authority, after retiring from my university post in 1989, and having the job of looking after staffing in 33 Primary and 6 Secondary Schools in one of our Districts, I know how difficult staff retention can sometimes be. There was little evidence of such a problem at the school then.

The results of such teachers' efforts are to be seen, not only on the Honours Boards, but also in contributions to this Newsletter over many years - as F. Whitehouse would have wished. In his appreciation of F. Whitehouse in the book 50 Years On 1931-1981 A.E. Coulson wrote - "academic success was for the more able, but FW was fervent that pupils ought to be taught to become good citizens". Mr Coulson recorded his meetings with OPs from around the world reminding him of such achievement in places far removed from Dover. I myself would like to record my indebtedness to those teachers for laying the foundations of my career. Would they were now here for me to again shake their hands and say "Thank you".

As the time comes after some 90 years for the Old School on the Hill to be demolished and another to rise from foundations new, I hope that the new will be equally long lasting and highly regarded by its pupils over the coming years with its Staff remembered with affection and gratitude - only time will tell.

Chris Cook (1979-1986)

News from Chris is that he has been promoted to Commodore, and since November 2020 has been working as Head of Strategy at Defence Digital, part of UK Strategic Command. This follows a 6-month secondment from the Royal Navy to BT, where he worked as Senior Manager Data Transformation, and before that a year's programme at the Royal College of Defence Studies where he studied international security strategy. Chris enjoys hearing news from the School and sends his best wishes all his old classmates from 1 Frith 1979, and other Old Boys from the '79 intake and more widely!



From: Michael H.E.Titmuss

Message:

I am an ex School Member, who left at age 15 and a half to join the Royal Air Force as Administrative Apprentice, retiring at age 55, when I became a Security Officer in the Tower of London, then the Dartford River Crossing. On retirement, I moved to the USA with my American Wife. My 3 Children remained in employment in the U.K. I recently lost my eldest son in Skiing Accident. Now have Great Grandchildren in the USA and one Grandson in U.K.

Stephen Parrett (1964-1971)

50 Years On!

2 years after man first set foot on the Moon, it was time for me to leave DGSB. As with others doing the same (leaving school!), life would change fundamentally and, in some cases, very quickly.

I had had a relatively quiet school life, hence little mention in school archives except some cricket XI photos, although I did receive the 1Y Form Prize in 1965 and the 5th Form Geography Prize in 1969. However, some entries from my diaries (kept continuously since 1967) illustrate a fairly wide range of activities, which others may remember too:

1966/7: May 10th – Middle School film “Around the World Under the Sea”; June 10th – beat Manwoods school by 10 runs (cricket); 26th Aug – start of “Narrowboat” holiday, led by Mr Freeman (my only claim to fame was throwing the cutlery into the canal after washing up and having to retrieve it!).

1967/8: Jan 9th – Heavy snow, roads blocked all week - back to school on 15th; July 1st – very hot (32°C), allowed to have ties and jackets off!

1968/9: January - start of a “card school” (players included Alan Fairclough, Graham Laird, David Prescott, Ian Miller and later, Trevor Wade and Martin Warden); July 1st – work experience week at Dover Express (courtesy of Terry Sutton); July 16th – school trip to Geology/Science Museum and watched live launch of Apollo 11 (in colour).

1969/70: Oct 14th – visit Elliott Automation to see Elliot 903 computer for Computer Science A-level (1st GPO transmission from school on Feb 10th, previously punched-cards, and lesson filmed Mch 11th for broadcast on Scene South East on Mch 13th); Mch 20th – Geography Field Trip to Devon (Pickwell Manor) with the girls’ school; July 13th – Mr King’s economics class to City of London, visiting Allen Harvey & Ross (bill brokers – long before “Big Bang”) and Barclays Bank.

1970/71: Mch 28th – Geography Field Trip to Dorset (Swanage); May 28th – last full day at school; June 29th – school leaving procedure.

So, what did DGSB do for me?

In addition to the general benefits of a good education, and the camaraderie of the card players mentioned above (plus others such as Pete Sturman and Robert Boyd), it gave me the foundations on which so much of my life has been built.

It began after A-level exams, when job interviews took priority due to my decision not to go on to university. The most significant influence can be traced back to Mr King’s Economics classes and his 1970 London trip as, from many career options, I chose the world of finance by joining Lloyds Bank (they seemed keen to take me) with my banking career starting at their Dover branch on 20th September 1971.

Studying continued, however, for the next 5 years as I crept towards my professional qualifications.

In 1973 I was transferred to Sussex (Hove, and bedsit land for 4 years), working in several local branches, with a 2-year secondment in Head Office doing research on the early use of computers in banking. The latter was another example of the impact that DGSB experiences

had on my opportunities and decisions, this time from having studied Computer Science at A-Level.

1981 saw me reach management (Uckfield branch), meet my wife-to-be at a friend's wedding, and complete a year as president of a local Rotaract club, bumping into Robin Terry at several events.

I married in 1982 and moved to Hertfordshire with my wife and 2 step-children in 1984, having various management roles at Lloyds H.O. in London, including audit and finance. From 1988 I entered project management which meant that I had two careers in one, a dual benefit of times at DGSB.

After early retirement from Lloyds in 2004, I began a 3rd career as a change management consultant that took me outside banking and into many interesting organisations.

Another life-long influence from DGSB was the development of my interest in geography, largely due to Ken Ruffell and his enthusiastic teaching (and those field trips, of course!). This included geology, culminating in 1999 when I completed an Open University degree in Earth Sciences, and meteorology, becoming a Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society in 1987.

Looking back over 50 years, I am very grateful for all the DGSB experiences (school, teachers & fellow pupils) that have played a significant part in shaping my life, whether in work, rest or play.

Tony Cook 1961-67.

From Terry Sutton

Tony left school to work in an advertising set-up in London but decided London was not for him. He returned to Kent and began helping his father in his baking business in Sandwich.

In time Tony took over the business and became known as The Sandwich Baker. He retired and moved to his hometown, living with his wife Sandra at Whitfield. He now describes his job as garden maintenance.

Tony is well known throughout Kent for his dedication to the Rotary movement. He was President of the Rotary Club of Sandwich twice, in 1994 and again in 2005. He is currently President of the Rotary Club of Dover of which several Old Pharosians are members, including Phil Janaway who is the club secretary.

Martyn Webster

From Terry Sutton

Martyn, a third generation Dovorian, has returned to live in his home town (at Whitfield) now that he has retired from the Immigration service.

He is extremely proud about Dover's history and very active to ensure it is not forgotten. This year he was elected to the executive of The Dover Society (joining his friend Terry Sutton). He has been a member of the civic group for many years.

Martyn has recently authored a series of articles, for the society's magazine, on the history of town clerks of Dover. He also gives talks about Dover's history including one on the background of the town's cemeteries including those buried there.

DGS CCF Report.

By Flt. Lt. Louis Martin

Well, it has been a very difficult year for everyone and the CCF has been no exception. We were permitted to resume face to face training with cadets for a few weeks at the end of 2020 before it all stopped again. Thankfully, we resumed face to face training again at the end of April, but effectively we have only seen cadets in their year group bubbles on two or three occasions over the year. Attached are some photos of cadets constructing bashas in the trees above the teacher's car park that used to be tennis courts.

Our CCF training reflects the COVID-19 restrictions in the school so currently we only invite small numbers of cadets to attend CCF in their year groups with limited access to instructors and equipment. Currently the DGGS cadets are not able to attend at all. We are hoping to provide additional training to our DGGS cadets soon with permission from the two schools to either take the training to them or invite them onto the DGSB site over a weekend when there are no DGSB students on site.

Annual Inspection

One of our Old Pharosians, Lieutenant Colonel David Goodacre AAC, was booked to attend the CCF Annual Inspection this summer but the event has been postponed, as last year's was, because we don't expect to get cadets together in anything more than year groups in time to lay on the event. We hope to see David next year for the 2022 Annual Inspection.

We have a few contact details for ex DGSB cadets who are current serving military officers and may wish to return to inspect the Contingent. If we have not already been in contact and you might be interested, please email me for further details at ccf@dgsb.co.uk.

Summer Camp

Last year our CCF staff planned a Contingent Summer Camp of activities run out of Lydd Training Camp. It was postponed and planned to be run this summer. Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions and MOD training site priorities have meant that our planned camp will now run as a non-residential week of day trips and training events. We will still be subject to a number of COVID-19 restrictions but hopefully it will be a big step in the right direction back towards normality and something to enjoy after so much time away from CCF.

The MOD are trying to provide residential camps and courses this year and one of our senior cadets is still booked to attend an adventure training week at the Centre for Cadet Adventure Training in Snowdonia in July.



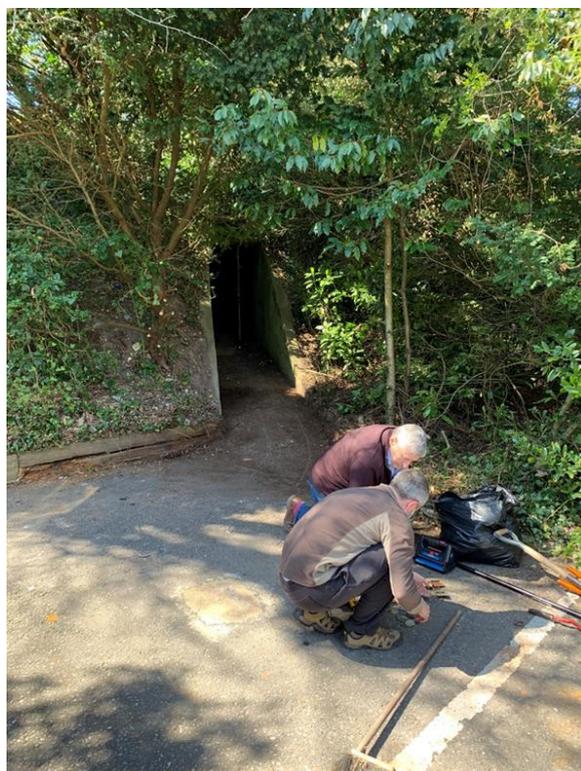


CCF Prizes:

Having lost almost a whole year of CCF training we decided we could not award the annual prizes for best cadets and best Section at the Annual Inspection. We have however decided to award the Squadron Leader Anthony Downing Shield for Outstanding Leadership. It is being retrospectively awarded to WO1 Ben Lord who was our senior cadet in 2019/2020. This year it is being awarded to CWO Max Stratton who has been our senior cadet this year. Anthony Downing's parents will hopefully present the shield to CWO Stratton in front of the memorial plaque to Anthony, on the steps up to the library next to the stained glass window. The window is being removed soon and moved to the new build, so this is a fitting location for the presentation in the absence of our annual inspection.

CWO Max Stratton was nominated this year for the Sir John Thomson Memorial Sword. This is a national award presented to a CCF RAF cadet for an outstanding contribution to the RAF Air Cadets. Outside of his role at DGS CCF Max has successfully completed all the national RAFAC courses and also attended numerous RAFAC courses as a staff cadet to assist with the instruction of junior and senior non-commissioned officers. He has also been on a panel of senior RAF cadets who meet on-line to discuss CCF RAF cadet matters nationally with the senior officer in charge of CCF RAF cadets. We thought he would be a very strong candidate for the award but unfortunately the award is not being presented this year due to COVID-19. Max was also due to represent the RAFAC this summer (delayed from last year due to COVID) in Canada as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange programme. Sadly, COVID has put paid to this year's programme too.

Some of our senior cadets are now from Dover Girls Grammar School and all three of our RAF Section nominations for the Air Cadet Leadership Course at RAF Cranwell this summer are from DGGS (one has now transferred to the 6th Form at DGGSB). Unfortunately, this too has been cancelled due to COVID, as was last year's course (when a DGGS cadet was also our nominee).



CCF staff clearing the tunnels.

Future Plans:

The new school build is progressing well. In April 2022 we expect the existing school buildings will be vacated and soon after that they will be demolished. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, funding for the new school did not specifically include the CCF and the MOD has not been able to assist. The existing CCF buildings are due to be demolished as part of the DGSB landscaping plan. The CCF will move and occupy a single classroom along with two music practice rooms above the existing tunnels. We hope to have access to parts of the new school, but we will be located some distance from those. There will be two positive outcomes of the new build for us though. Firstly, there will be more outdoor space for CCF training once the old buildings have been demolished and the area has been landscaped. Some of you will remember patrolling and conducting other training outside the school gates on a Friday evening. I certainly remember patrolling with rifles and practicing map and compass along the ridgeline that was the start of the cross-country route. All Friday training now remains within the school site and with a larger contingent of cadets over recent years decent real estate for training has been limited. Secondly, we will have much better access to the new stores by vehicles. No more carrying boxes of stores up the steps from the CCF buildings and down the steps to the vehicles for all our off site training events! To create more storage space for ourselves we have had a very productive year clearing some of the tunnels that will remain after the demolition of the existing school. We have also received a lot of furniture and other equipment from the closing RAF station at Manston.

In one of the tunnels we discovered a box of medals and badges from the early 80's that were mostly for team marching events such as Nijmegen and other national ATC marches. We are currently seeing if we can restore these items and display them in our trophy cabinet. If you were involved in those events and can write to me with any details, names and other memories I will print out a report to accompany them in the cabinet. lmartin@dgsb.co.uk

Attached are two photos of the cleared tunnel entrances showing two of our staff going through the box of medals (See previous page).

Recruitment

Having lost a year of CCF training we decided not to recruit Year 8 cadets this year. Instead, we will invite new cadets from Years 10 and above to join in September 2021 and new cadets from Year 9 to join in January 2022. We had already decided to postpone annual recruitment from September until January so that the evenings are getting lighter and warmer rather than colder and darker for all our initial outdoor training. COVID-19 has presented the opportunity to delay it a further year so that recruits will now come from Year 9 rather than Year 8 (Year 3 rather than Year 2 in old money). Pre COVID, we had a contingent that was practically too large in numbers for our staff and facilities. This delayed recruitment will reduce a cadet's time in CCF from six to five years but looking at other schools and knowing how the six year period works ourselves we have decided to trial it. We know that recruits will be more mature, fit easier into uniforms and be physically stronger for weapon handling. We also have a current six year training system that stalls in Year 10/11 when cadets have completed most of the training syllabus but not yet become instructors. At this point a lot of good cadets leave the CCF and we hope the new recruitment plan will help to deal with this.

Hopefully our next OPA report will have further good news about increases in our face to face training and news on what cadets themselves have achieved.

DR MICHAEL HINTON, HEADMASTER

From Keith Thompson – 1959 - 66

I was saddened to read of the passing of Dr Michael Hinton. I'd wanted to write an appreciation of him for some time but, as ever, life and lockdown gets in the way and I'm sorry now that he won't read what is essentially, a 'thank you note' for my career.

So, it's my final year and I'm summoned to The Doc's office with those three hi-tech (for 1966) light-up discs at the door (*Engaged, Wait, Enter*) to discuss career options. I fudged, at first. I said that I had a clearer idea of what I didn't want to do rather than what I did, but it wasn't the truth. I knew perfectly well what I wanted to do but didn't dare say it. Dr Hinton helpfully suggested some possibilities none of which appealed so I decided to come clean. For as long as I could remember, I'd wanted to work in the film & television industry. I didn't know in what capacity but it was the only thing I wanted to do. I also had form of a sort. I'd been 'continuity boy' on *The School On The Hill* movie (copies still available, elsewhere in this newsletter!) directed by Bernard Harrison and filmed by Bernard Denham, stalwarts of the Dover Film Society which I'd joined as soon as I turned 16 for their monthly screenings at the Harbour Board Hall where the classics of European cinema were projected in 16mm prints through a fug of cigar and cigarette smoke. On the downside, my parents had mentioned my ambitions at a parent-teacher night and been advised by my (nameless) form-master that I "needed to get my head out of those clouds." Mind you, feeling unwell one day and asking him if I could go home sick at lunchtime, he'd asked me whose form I was in ("Yours, sir"), so my future prospects weren't exactly big on his radar.

But remarkably I thought (and still think...), Dr Hinton took my ambition seriously and called me back to the office a little while later to show me the prospectus for the London School of Film Technique (now The London Film School). The LSFT was a private institution so I couldn't qualify for a KEC grant but, undaunted, he called me back a second time to hand me the prospectus for the inaugural year of a brand new course in "Moving Picture Communication" at Ravensbourne College of Art & Design, in Bromley (now Ravensbourne University, next to the O2 in Greenwich where spin-offs of the same course still run). Importantly, I could get a grant! Unlike today, Film Schools were a novelty in 1966 - there were maybe four in UK - but I was accepted, completed the course and after the obligatory few years of struggle, began a professional career in film & television. I'm certain that without The Doc's intervention and encouragement, my career may never have got a start and my thanks are forever due to him for listening to my unlikely ambitions... And helping them to happen.

In the end, I settled on a career as a screenwriter and producer. I've lived in Australia since 1974 writing television drama ("*The Heart Guy*", anybody?) and movies. "*Clubland*" screened at the Sundance Film Festival in 2007 and was released in the U.S. by Warner Bros as "*Introducing The Dwrights*" starring the glorious Brenda Blethyn ("*Vera*") from just down the road in Ramsgate. "*The Sapphires*" was an official selection at the Cannes Film Festival in the south of France in 2012 and turns up semi-regularly on BBC2. Set in 1968, it's about four aboriginal girls who go to Vietnam to sing soul classics for the American troops. Chris O'Dowd from "The IT Crowd" was their Irish manager. And coming to a screen near you early next year will be "*Mrs Harris Goes To Paris*", with Lesley Manville and French actress, Isabelle Huppert. Along the way I was Head of Writing for a time at the national Australian Film & Television School (AFTRS) in Sydney and Deputy Head of Drama at ABC TV.

And of course, I should thank our School. From my perspective, Dover was a blue-collar town with most of my DGBS class-mates - like me - coming from working-class families. Our parents

worked on the car ferries or the paper-mill or drove lorries or were postmen. Elsewhere in the last newsletter Dr Hinton discussed his preference for the comprehensive system and whilst it's undeniable that the 11+ system favoured the few and disadvantaged many, I was undoubtedly a beneficiary of a set-up that hot-housed working-class kids like me, keeping them at school until they were 18 and allowing them to pursue the sometimes unlikeliest of ambitions.

A final memory of Doctor Hinton was his first assembly in January 1960. Striding down the hall he generated a gasp of astonishment when he actually *sat down* on the Headmaster's throne. His predecessor, the Baron Booth had customarily stood imperiously throughout the proceedings.

One of my closest school friends was Bryan Owen, sadly no longer with us. I remember sitting with Bryan, Pete Clare and half a dozen of us, on Dover beach at midnight one New Year's Eve (1966??) vowing a reunion at the same spot, 10 years hence. It didn't happen of course, but I did visit the School when Bryan was deputy headmaster to sit in on one of his drama classes. I should also report the passing of Adlock May (1964-66) who came to the school from Castlemount with Francis Hawkins at the start of 5th form. Adlock became a respected primary school teacher in Essex and we shared a house for a while during my years of struggle. He is still greatly missed by his wife, Margaret.

Keith Thompson (1959-66)

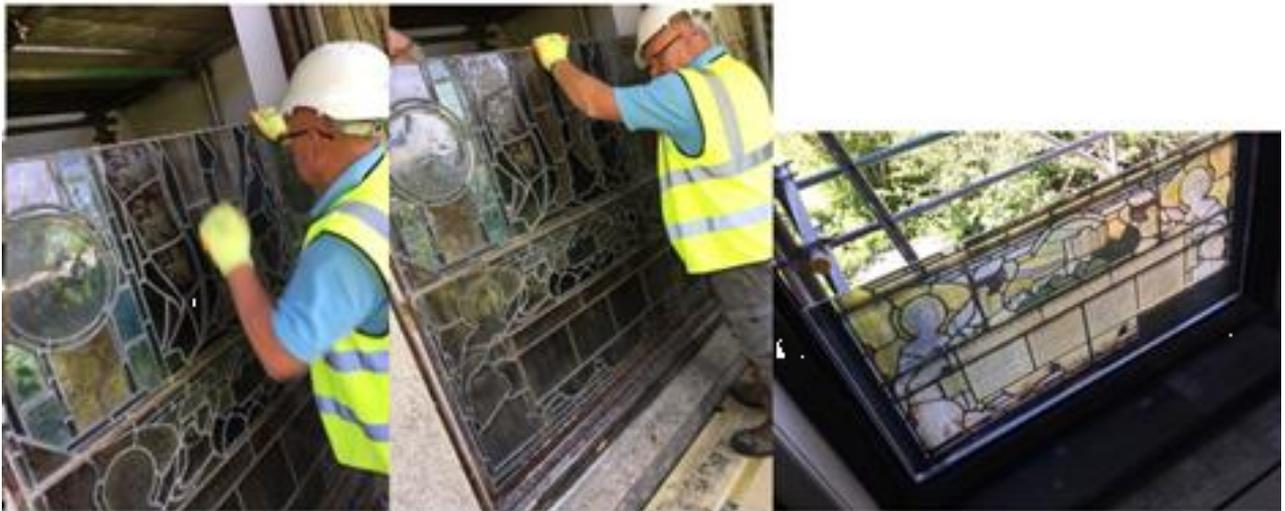
Staff football team of 1976.

Posted of Facebook, can you add to or confirm the players' names?

Left to right: Page, Murray, Benjamin, Quinn, Welch, T Raine?, Hill, K. Raine, Harris, Bailey, Burton....



Removal of the memorial stained-glass window – June 2021



Facebook posts – Metalwork projects

Robert Mitchell-King

Two questions:

1. Who remembers making these items in the school workshops?
2. Who still has them?

Mine in the photo were made in the mid-sixties and some are still used.



Dave Winter

I remember making a steam turbine. When I say a steam turbine, it was an old cocoa tin with a U-shaped bracket soldered to the lid. Mounted across the open end of the U was a spindle that ran through a circular piece of tin. The tin had been cut to form the blades. A hole was made in the lid of the cocoa tin and a lead pipe soldered into it. You'd then put water in the tin, heat it over the gas stove and the steam would escape through the pipe and make the blades spin. I reckon mine was the worst one made in 1975.

Steve Blake

I remember making a plastic coated Stanley knife.

Peter Futcher

My Dad still uses the dip coated hacksaw I made....

Peter Futcher

And the M H Smith patented fuse tester.....

Stephen Gavin

I made the flour scoop, which I had until recently, having kept it for 50+ years. I made a trowel, flour scoop, depth gauge, plumb bob, a little engine powered by compressed air, a toggle clamp for O'Level...

Kevin Black

1976-77 Embossed metal keyring fob, steam turbine and..... forgotten the other item but involved pouring molten metal into a sand mould

Dave Winter

Oh, yeah, I had the key fob with my name stamped into it on a wonky line.

Stephen Gavin

Kevin Black A g-cramp?

Dave Winter

Yes!

Paul Eades

Steam turbine using a syrup tin!!!

Paul Eades

I remember casting something but can't remember what? Possibly the handle for a hacksaw?

John Jackson

Still have my clamp & used it recently, circa 1973. Key fob with my name on it is used daily!

Dave Winter

Didn't Trevor Lovett make a hovercraft (full size)?

Paul Eades

Bernard Pope made an unforgettable teapot stand in woodwork, it was the stuff of legends.....

Stephen Gavin

Paul Eades I made one of those. A cross-halving joint from 2x1 with an octangular ply top.

Paul Eades

Stephen Gavin yes but Popey got it wrong and his top was cut from the inner diameter rather than the outer, rendering it a rather precarious place to rest a teapot!!!!

Bernard Pope

Paul Eades oh so that's where I went wrong 😏

Dave Winter

Derek, you finished your dove-tail joint yet?

Derek Mathieson

Dave Winter - Don't be ridiculous.

Dave Winter

"Where's your joint?"

Peter Frater

I made a metal ashtray that was so bad I can still feel the pain when I think about Metalhead's whack!

Paul Hannent

Good old Metalhead. I saw him when I went to Booga's funeral a couple of years ago

John Walder

I made a jewellers vice, my mother uses it as a door stop for her garden shed in River. !

Jon Glanville

My adjustable spanner is still going strong after 40+ years.



Andreas Wright

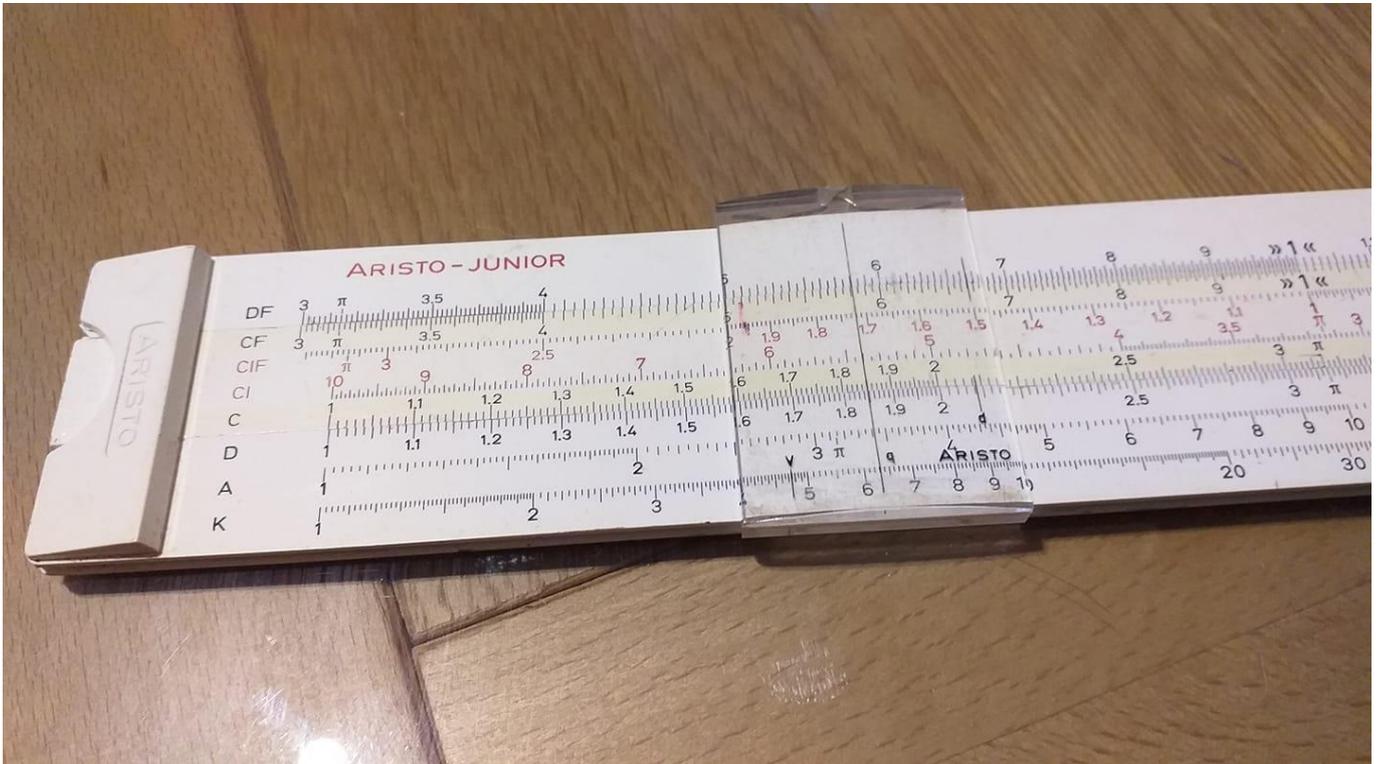
I made a ball-bearing, but I broke it.

Then I lost the bits.

Slide Rules

Ray Finlayson

Kids today don't know they're born ... 😞



John Jackson

Still got mine! Aristo, I think, circa 1970.

Chris Newman

John Jackson me too!

Steve Howard

Do you remember that book of log tables and sines and cosines and stuff. Trigonometry was more interesting then 😊

Sean Ellis

I do!

Howard Golding

Still got mine. Next time I'm sat next to an ox bow lake I'll whip it out.

Lee Hearl

Slide rule, and log tables. I don't have mine, but remember them well.

Simon Carter

2nd form maths... slide rules. 3rd form... someone invented the pocket calculator. Reminiscent of learning pounds, shillings and pence just before decimalisation.

Ray Finlayson

Simon Carter - and then a few years later you could take your calculator into the exam room



Robert Mitchell-king

Using a slide rule taught you to work out where the decimal point is which is a good skill for checking the answer even nowadays with a calculator.

Obituaries

Dick Jolley- 1922 - 2020

From The Times, Monday, November 23, 2020 – With permission.



Inspirational and heroic soldier who fought in the Far East and was twice awarded the Military Cross for his bravery and leadership.

In the spring of 1944, Dick Jolley was one of 200 reinforcements rushed to Kohima, a strategically important mountain pass on the eastern frontier of India. Serving with the 2nd Punjab Regiment, he was only 22 and had been given an emergency commission in the Indian army.

Years later, in a manner typical of many of those who had distinguished themselves during the Second World War, he had little to say about his role in the epic struggle at Kohima, which is sometimes referred to as the "Stalingrad of the East".

When asked about his war record by clergy at St Paul's Church in Rusthall, Kent, where he often attended matins, Jolley simply said that he had "done a job for King and country". The citation for his Military Cross is more precise. Signed by Lieutenant-General Bill Slim, commander of the 14th Army, which is perhaps better known as the Forgotten Army, the citation states that Captain Jolley "displayed courage and leadership of the highest order".

Japanese forces had invaded British India from Burma in a major operation known as U-Go, which had started on March 8, 1944, when they crossed the Chindwin River. Their troops encircled the British forward position at Imphal, the capital of Manipur, and then advanced towards Kohima, which was the administrative capital of Nagaland and offered the Japanese the best route into India.

The siege of Kohima began on April 4 when the British had 2,500 troops in the area — and only 1,000 of those, including Jolley and his men, were combatants — facing a much bigger Japanese force. They were cut off from the outside but, for what is thought to be the first time in history, an encircled position was successfully supported from the air, with British and American aircraft dropping supplies. In his diary, Jolley wrote that "the pilots were mad but heroically brave and could land anywhere".

Jolley commanded troops in two important defensive positions, first GPT Ridge, then Jail Hill, where the chicken coop in which he took cover was mortared by the Japanese. According to the citation for his MC: "Captain Jolley, by his personal example, did much to steady the troops who were under heavy mortar fire. His personal disregard for danger was an inspiration to his men. When their position was finally overrun by the enemy, he was in the forefront encouraging the remnants of our troops. He later led a party back into the position to get back a number of BORs [British other ranks] who had been cut off."

He then commanded a platoon at the district commissioner's bungalow, which overlooked the all-important road through Kohima. The fighting there, which became known as "the battle of the tennis court", was later described in a booklet issued by the defence ministry as "some of

the hardest, closest and grimmest". According to Williamson Murray, the American historian: "Nowhere in World War II — even on the Eastern Front — did the combatants fight with such mindless savagery."

The Japanese were dug into the surrounding hillside, with both forces holding areas of the garden surrounding the bungalow. Between the two sides was a tennis court. Jolley is reported to have said afterwards that he and his men ended up in a trench, short of water, with very little ammunition and were ordered to keep the last bullets for themselves.

The siege was lifted on April 18 when elements of the British Second Division and the 161st Indian Brigade broke through, but the fighting continued until June 22 when Allied forces from Imphal and Kohima met at Milestone 109 on the road between the two towns. Much of the landscape resembled a First World War battlefield, with stunted trees and craters overrun by rats.

During the fighting, which lasted three months, the Japanese lost more than 50,000 of the 84,000 men who had taken part in Operation U-Go. The Allies lost 17,000 men. For the British Army in the Far East, the battle was a turning point after the disasters in Malaya and Singapore two years previously and opened the way for the retaking of Burma. Among the injured was Jolley, who was evacuated to the Welsh Mission Hospital at Shillong, 200 miles away, suffering from shrapnel wounds.



Jolley later rejoined the 2nd Punjab Regiment and was soon back in action. He was ordered to attack a Japanese stronghold at Meiktila in central Burma on the night of March 29, 1945. With complete surprise, his company of about 100 to 150 men infiltrated the Japanese position, causing havoc before withdrawing without any suffering casualties.

In early May, Jolley was severely wounded when he was shot in the knee after his company came under fire in open ground. He ordered his men to withdraw and leave him there rather than risk heavy casualties in attempting to save him.

Many hours later, however, he was rescued by an Indian soldier. For "his readiness to sacrifice himself for the sake of his men in the full knowledge of what he might suffer as a prisoner of the Japanese", Jolley was awarded a second Military Cross. The citation said he was "an inspiration to the whole battalion".

Treated at a hospital in Calcutta, he was promoted to temporary major. In 1946 he was given a walking stick and put on a troopship back to Britain. After disembarking he was left to make his own way, still hobbling, back to his home in Tunbridge Wells.

Richard Frederick Jolley, always known as Dick, was born in Dover, Kent, in 1922, where he and his sister, Paddy, were brought up by their mother, Maud Jolley (nee Turnpenny). His father went to Canada and never returned. Dick was educated at Dover Grammar School for Boys and the Skinners' School in Tunbridge Wells, where he excelled at sport, particularly rugby.

Just before the outbreak of war, he had taken a job with Union Cold Storage Company, which was part of the Vestey Group, and joined the Home Guard. He enlisted in the Royal Scots Regiment two years later and embarked for India in 1942. Initially he was stationed in Bangalore, where he was issued with a bicycle for long journeys, and later was commissioned into the 2nd Punjab Regiment at Meerut, near Delhi. Posted to the 3rd Battalion, he was given an emergency commission as temporary captain in November 1943.

After the war, he rejoined the Vestey Group and in 1947 married Jeanne Hudson, his childhood sweetheart; they had been neighbours since the age of 14. The couple had three children: Stephen, who worked for a communications company in the US before retiring to Mexico; Alison, who is a psychotherapist; and Penelope, who died at the age of three. His wife survives him with Stephen and Alison, and his two grandchildren, Clara and Daniel.



In 1948 the family left for South America, where they spent many years. Jolley eventually became vice-president of Frigorifico Anglo, a meat-packing company owned by Vestey that operated out of Argentina and Uruguay and is known for the Fray Bentos brand.

Returning to Britain, Jolley was sent to the Whiteabbey meat-packing plant in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, but was withdrawn after receiving threats. He later became a director of the British Beef Company. He was also appointed to the Association of British Abattoir Owners, which represented the meat industry. A familiar figure around Whitehall and in Brussels, he was appointed OBE in 1987 and made a freeman of the City of London.

In retirement Jolley enjoyed watching rugby and football. He was also something of a bon viveur and kept up with his old schools. In 2016 he presented the archive at Dover Grammar School with his old Town House cap, featuring a light blue star. He is also quoted in the Old Skinners' Society newsletter, lamenting how few of the old boys remembered Dunkirk.

Memories of the war remained raw for Jolley. Shrapnel was still embedded in his stomach; the bullet in his knee ended his sporting career at the age of 23; and he found it increasingly difficult to walk, sometimes even to stand. He retained a deep affection for the Sikh soldiers with whom he served and a lasting hostility towards Japan. He suffered nightmares for the rest of his life.

At St Paul's Church, he was renowned for his sense of humour. It was only after his death that many in the congregation realised that he was also a courageous man who had, indeed, done a job for King and country.

Dick Jolley, OBE, MC and Bar, soldier and businessman, was born on July 10, 1922. He died on August 7, 2020, aged 98.

Alastair Lyon - 1951 - 2021

Terry Sutton writes -



Alastair, for sixty years a farmer St Margaret's-at Cliffe, died in January 2021. He had fought cancer for several years and, on the way to recovery in the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, fell victim to the Covid virus from which he died. He was born in June 1951.

Alastair was educated at Dover Grammar School for Boys and Hadlow Agricultural College before working on a farm in Canada for a year. He returned to his parents' farm at East Valley Farm, St Margaret's where he remained and worked for sixty years.

He was held in such respect that fellow farmers from East Kent provided a fifteen tractor guard of honour accompanying Alastair from his farm to his cremation at Barham. His grandson drove one of the tractors.

Alastair played a major role in the Young Farmers Association, the NFU, and the Rotary Club of South Foreland, Dover. The farm is now being run by his son Michael.

Anthony Frederick Rhodes

We have been informed that Anthony Frederick Rhodes, who attended our school from 1950 – 56, has passed away. There are no further details. If you knew or were at school with Anthony and are able to provide any more information or a written tribute, we'd be pleased to include this in the next newsletter.

Barton Manning.

Terry Sutton writes -

Barton, born in Dover in September 1922, was at our school at a time when many of his classmates died later in the 1939-45 war. He served in the Royal Navy.

He will be remembered as a dental surgeon in Dover where he lived for years and also in Folkestone and Hythe. At our school he proved to be a good athlete and, a little older, played rugby for Dover.

At the outbreak of war, he became an ARP warden seeing plenty of action in Dover before studying dentistry at Edinburgh School of Dentistry following which he joined the Royal Navy as a dental surgeon. One of his memories was that, during naval officers' training, he was taught how to fight with a cutlass!

Ill-health meant leaving the Royal Navy, following which he spent some time abroad before opening his dental practice in Dover (Terry Sutton thinks, from memory, in Folkestone Road).

Barton, who died on April 19th in 2021, worshipped at St Mary's in Dover Castle.

Derek C Belsey (1941 -1949)

Colin Bailey writes.

Derek was born 25th November 1930 and went to St Martins school. On 2nd June 1940 all Dover Schools were evacuated to South Wales; St. Martin's went to Cwm in the Ebbw Valley and Derek was billeted with an elderly couple. In September 1941 he then transferred to Dover Boys Grammar School in Ebbw Vale. The Canadians captured the Cross Channel Guns in September 1944, so the School were able to return to Dover in December 1944 but were unable to go to back the school on the hill in June 1946 because the WRNS were stationed there.

In 1949, Derek left School after gaining Higher School Certificate and went to London University with Physics and Maths. After National Service in Egypt, he worked for Hirst Research Centre in Wembley. At this time, he played for Wasps.

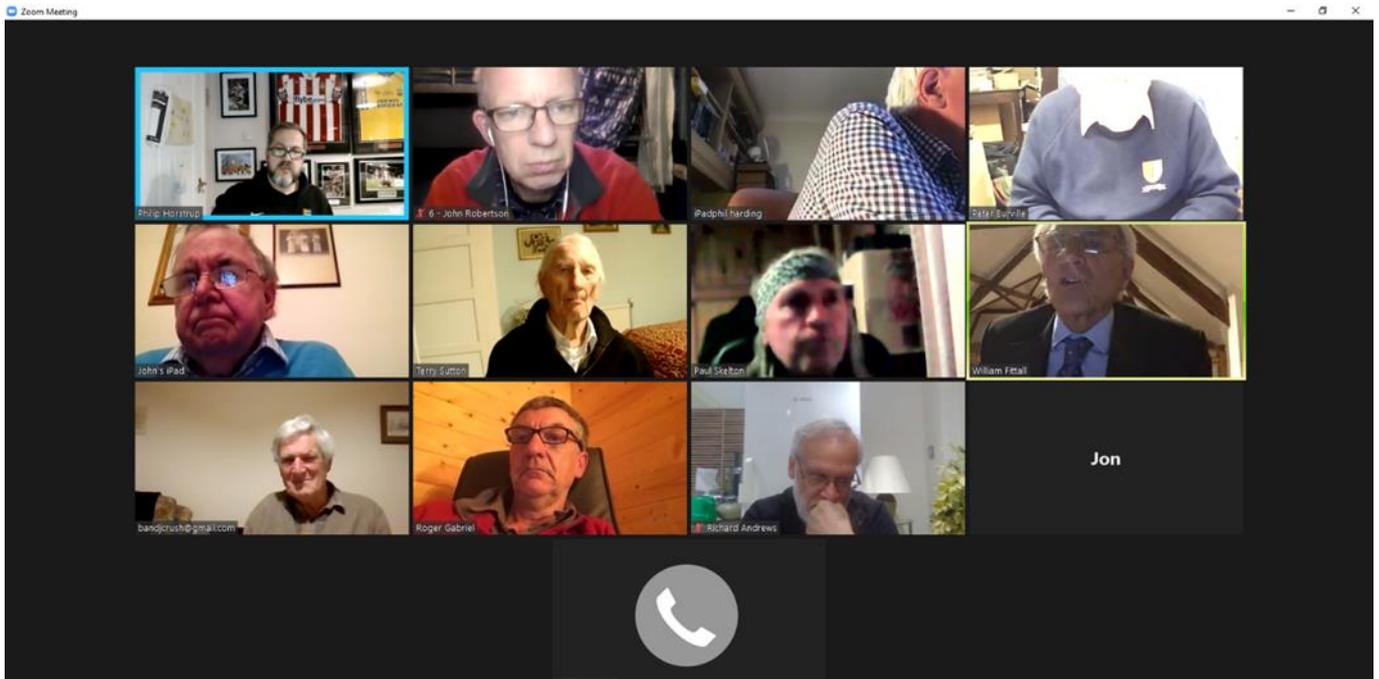
In 1955 he met Jeanette Bengé from Matamata in New Zealand. She was living in London at the time, and they married In December 1958 before sailing to Wellington arriving in February 1961. Derek worked for the Government joining the Photography Section in 1964. He later became Member of the N.Z Association of Scientists and Illuminating Engineering Australia.

In 1988 he transferred to the Electrical Standards Group to do Environmental Testing of Lights including Lighthouses all round N. Z.

Derek retired in 1990 at 60 years old. He enjoyed playing Squash for the Club in Upper Hutt. He had 2 children and 4 Grandchildren. He also enjoyed Tramping the local mountains.

Derek died suddenly and peacefully while in a Care Home on 17th April 2020.

Old Pharosians' Association Committee



Members of the OP Committee making the best of modern technology by meeting via 'Zoom'.

Minutes of committee meeting held on-line on Wednesday 25th November 2020.

Present: President Sir William Fittall, Headteacher Phil Horstrup, Hon. Secretary Phil Harding, Treasurer Jonathan Fullarton, Newsletter Editor John Robertson, Maurice Smith, Rev John Philpott, Mick Palmer, Membership Secretary & Webmaster Paul Skelton, Peter Burville, Barry Crush, Roger Gabriel.

Apologies: Mick Palmer

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held in May were approved and agreed.

Finance & Membership: Jon Fullarton reported that there is £7600 in the accounts, with Gift Aid to be added. Paul Skelton reported that we have 603 members.

Membership Discussion: The Committee considered the arguments for and against moving to open membership. The work involved in preparing constitutional change should not be underestimated. Nevertheless, the President was prepared to take the lead on this, with the help of a small group. In dealing with the central issue of membership there would be an opportunity to do some more general updating of the constitution.

A number of members said that they would previously have been cautious about quite such a radical change. Nevertheless, with the publication of the newsletter online and, crucially with the value which data now had they agreed that there was a strong case for making it easier to get school leavers and others to supply contact details without having to take on an immediate financial commitment. The ability to get in touch with as many former pupils as possible was really important. Some would be prepared to donate a small sum annually, indeed it would be good to encourage present life members to do so. A wider membership base also created new opportunities for crowdfunding as and when special needs arose.

After discussion the principle of moving to open membership for all former pupils was agreed. The President was invited to convene a small group to support him in preparing changes to the constitution to secure this. The group should also review the constitution more generally to see where it might benefit from updating, not least in the light of the fact that the association was now a registered charity. The group should bring its proposals back to the Committee for consideration. The aim should be for any agreed changes to be presented for approval to next year's AGM.

The group was asked to offer further thoughts on issues touched on in the discussion including the position of current life members and whether the right to receive a hard copy of the newsletter free of charge should continue.

Website: The January newsletter would be posted on the new website, which now had all the historic material available on the old site. For the moment both were accessible to the public but discussions were now well advanced on the final transition, which would enable the old site to be taken offline.

Newsletter: A substantial amount of material about Michael Hinton had been assembled. There were also a number of other interesting post AGM contributions and some useful pieces from Terry Sutton.

Headteacher's Report: The Headteacher talked of the challenges of keeping the school open despite teacher and pupil absences as a result of positive Covid. He had been particularly pleased that Year 11s had just done their GCSE mocks.

The building contractors were making good progress. 60% of the steels were now in and the project was on schedule. The move into the new buildings was scheduled for April 2022. A whole school photo was planned for around that time.

There would, subject to Covid, be no difficulty about having the September AGM at the school if that was what the Committee decided. Other events to mark the departure from the old building were likely to happen early in the Spring Term of 2022. The Head offered to talk further to the president before the next meeting about the various possibilities.

Future Association Events: As previously noted, the Headteacher and President would discuss further.

The President concluded the meeting by inviting members to keep a short period of silence in memory of Michael Hinton and in gratitude for his outstanding contribution to the school.

Any Other Business: The President concluded the meeting by inviting members to keep a short period of silence in memory of Michael Hinton and in gratitude for his outstanding contribution to the school.

Old Pharosians' Association

Minutes of committee meeting held on-line on Wednesday 24th March 2021.

Present: President Sir William Fittall, Headteacher Phil Horstrup, Hon. Secretary Phil Harding, Treasurer Jonathan Fullarton, Newsletter Editor John Robertson, Maurice Smith, Rev John Philpott, Membership Secretary & Webmaster Paul Skelton, Peter Burville, Barry Crush, Roger Gabriel, Richard Andrews.

Apologies: Mick Palmer

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held in November were approved and agreed.

President: The President reported that the latest Newsletter had contained many tributes to Michael Hinton, and his sons David and Chris had been in touch to express their appreciation. Maurice Smith expressed his hope that there would be a memorial service in due course.

Finance & Membership: Jon Fullarton reported that there is £8420 in the accounts. Paul Skelton reported no change in membership (currently at 603 members).

Constitution: The President had drafted a new Constitution, based on a Charity Commission template. It was agreed that this would be circulated to members with an explanation and an invitation to them to express views before the next Committee meeting in May. The Committee could then take an informed decision on whether to bring the Constitution for approval at the AGM. It was also agreed that twelve members should continue to constitute a quorum for the AGM; the Committee quorum should be six.

Headteacher's Report: Phil Horstrup reported that all students and staff had returned to school on 8th March. Subsequently two groups had had to work from home because of suspected Covid cases. The current focus was on preparing for the summer "exams".

The Head had walked around the new building earlier in the day. It offered spectacular views of the town and port. The work was on track for a handover in March 2022, possibly earlier. The stained-glass windows were to be removed from the existing building in May for cleaning and framing.

The Head was keeping a photographic record, and a time-lapse camera was located on the existing tower. A staff transition team was in place, and a student transition team was being recruited.

Early in 2022 an auction would take place of items in the existing building that would not be required in the new one.

Currently there was no confirmed date for the removal of the organ from the existing building. Covid and Kent test dates permitting the OP AGM could take place at the old school in September for the last time, with a lunch to mark the occasion. The possibility of other final events in the old school around the turn of 2021/22 had yet to be decided.

Website: Thanks were expressed to Paul Skelton and Richard Andrews for the major work on the website and online archive. Links were now in place from the old site to the new one, so everything was in place for the final switchover in the summer. Thanks were also expressed to OP Chris Tutthill for his support in the project.

John Robertson confirmed that he was now able to upload newsletters to the new site, and suggested that a blog would be the next addition.

Newsletter: John Robertson was currently working on the next edition. Tributes to Neil Slater would be welcomed.

Any Other Business: Maurice Smith expressed the hope that it will soon be possible to meet in person again.

The meeting closed at 19.15.

Old Pharosians' Association

Minutes of committee meeting held on-line on Wednesday 26th May 2021.

Present: President Sir William Fittall, Headteacher Phil Horstrup, Treasurer Jonathan Fullarton, Newsletter Editor John Robertson, Maurice Smith, Rev John Philpott, Membership Secretary & Webmaster Paul Skelton, Peter Burville, Barry Crush, Roger Gabriel and Terry Sutton (from item 6).

Apologies: Barry Crush, Phil Harding, Mick Palmer.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held in March were approved and agreed.

Matters arising. None.

Finance & Membership: Jon Fullarton reported that there was £8,695 following a donation of £250 to the Association via CAF. He was checking to see whether the donor wished to remain anonymous. Paul Skelton reported that there were 601 members of whom 172 were recorded as annual members, though Jonathan Fullarton had standing orders only from 128. Of the 601 members, 340 had supplied email addresses. The Bravenet distribution system had capacity for 500 names before charges were due and at the moment 227 people had opted in to that system.

The Head agreed to arrange the distribution of a letter from the Association to pupils in years 11 and 13 who would be leaving. The President agreed to circulate a draft. Although the new constitutional changes wouldn't come into force until September, now was the moment to encourage school leavers to supply contact details to the Association.

It was agreed that the letter would need to be drafted to be GDPR compliant. Roger Gabriel confirmed that the Committee had undertaken various compliance work when the regulations were due to come into force and had a privacy statement in place. The Head said that he would have a word with those who advised the school on these complex issues to see whether there were any additional GDPR points that the Association should bear in mind.

Constitution: The Committee welcomed the results of the consultation as reported in the President's paper. It was agreed that the 128 members with standing orders should receive a letter in October from the President and Treasurer thanking them for their subscriptions over the years and encouraging them to leave the standing order in place as a donation. Those not gift aiding could be encouraged to do so if eligible. The Committee agreed the proposed expansion of article 3 of the Constitution and resolved to submit the new Constitution to the AGM for approval in September.

Headteacher's Report: Phil Horstrup reported that the 'summer assessment period'-this year's substitute for external exams- was coming to a close. Staff had risen to the challenge though there was a weariness with the Covid related restrictions and a fervent hope that they would no longer be in place come September.

Scaffolding was going up to remove the memorial window the following week for restoration in a studio in Deal, preparatory to installation in the new building. There was no date as yet for the organ move. The organ should still be playable in the school hall in September.

The builders were about to start the brickwork on the new building. In response to a question the Head explained that the present yellowy coloured covering that was visible from afar was installation board and would be covered by brickwork. Welsh slate was also being used.

Despite some building material shortages, progress had been excellent and the expectation was that moving in would take place in February 2022.

There would be a ceremonial foundation stone for the new building. The date of an official opening (and the person to undertake it) had yet to be settled but would probably be around Easter 2022.

Preparations for AGM: It was agreed that the AGM would be on Saturday 25 September, at the school and with members able to participate virtually too. Coffee would be available from 11.30am with the business meeting starting at noon. The formal meeting would be followed by a presentation on the building project, an opportunity to view the new school from the quad and a chance to walk around the old school one last time. Lunch would be available at around 12.45 after the business meeting. The school caterer would be able to facilitate the occasion.

Events to mark closure of old school: Plans were still evolving. OPs would be invited to the opening ceremony of the new building and there would also be a pre-opening tour (though a visit would not be possible on 25 September given the restrictions of a construction site).

Events to mark the closure of the old school would take place before Christmas and to mark the opening of the new school from February to April. There would be a whole school photo at around the time of the move. An auction of artefacts was still planned.

Newsletter and website: The next edition was coming on well and would include an invitation to the AGM. The final transition to the new website would be made in August. Unfortunately the supplier of server space had made it impossible for Chris Tuthill to continue the very favourable resale arrangement under which the Association had for some years paid only £100 a year for the hosting of the website. So costs would increase somewhat. Chris Tuthill, Richard Andrews and Paul were working on a cost effective solution.

Any other business: Maurice Smith offered to source a replacement gnomon for the Rookwood sundial, which was to be moved to the new building. The Head said that the school would be happy to reimburse any expenditure.

The meeting closed at 19.20.