



**OLD PHAROSIANS'
ASSOCIATION**



NEWSLETTER



**FIAT LUX
DOVER GRAMMAR
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Number 120

January 2022

Contents

News of the Association	1
Officers and Committee	1
Objects of the Association	1
Editor's welcome	2
Note from the President	3
Update from Headteacher Philip Horstrup	4
Money and membership	6
News of and from old boys:	
Reunions – Alistair Gardiner	7
Jim Fagg	8
Aaron Shilson	9
Mike Cooper	9
A day in court – Terry Sutton	10
Sir Clifford Jarrett Memorial – Terry Sutton	10
Reminiscences – Sir Clifford Jarrett	11
Portmanteau words	14
The old school and the new school – Martin Stubbs	15
Staff football team - 1976 (Part 2)	24
OPs vs school rugby photo – 1940s/50s	26
OP website photos – Help needed!	27
DGS – Combined Cadet Force – Flt. Lt. Louis Martin	28
Obituaries	31
OP AGM – 25 September 2021 - Photos	42
OP AGM – Minutes and attendees	48

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 2021—2022

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	Terry Sutton	(1940 – 47)
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	Mick Palmer (1959 – 66), to retire 2022 Barry Crush (1948 – 56), to retire 2023 Peter Burville (1946 – 51), to retire 2023 Rev. John Philpott (1955 – 63), to retire 2023 Maurice Smith (1959 – 89), to retire 2024 Roger Gabriel (1966 – 73), to retire 2024	
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

September's AGM was a wonderful opportunity for us to meet up in school, renew old friendships and take a look at the new buildings from the safety of the 'old quad'. It was great to see so many OPs who made the journey to visit the school. From a personal point of view, it was really important to remind myself exactly how poorly suited to modern educational needs the school which we are all familiar with is. There are certainly many nostalgic memories that go with the old place. However, confronted with the size, facilities and crumbling state of repair did nothing but reconfirm to me the need for the new buildings which are currently taking shape on the top field.

Alistair Gardiner is a regular contributor who is particularly passionate about the school. He has written about school reunions and asked for help identifying OPs and friends from the huge range of pictures on the OP website. There is also news about Jim Fagg, Mike Cooper, Aaron Shilson and a 1989 article by the late Sir Clifford Jarrett.

Martin Stubbs, Old Pharosian and Kier's commercial lead on the new build, gave an interesting talk about the project during the AGM in September. Martin has written an article about the history of the existing buildings and development of the new school. It is a fascinating look at the history and design roots of the original buildings, decisions about the new build and comparison of the construction techniques used for both.

We have the regular CCF update from Flt. Lt. Louis Martin. It is good to see the contingent continuing to provide training, military experience, and outdoor activities, despite continuing COVID constraints. The contingent is currently looking for volunteers to assist with the RAF section. Louis would be pleased to hear from you if you have some time to support the section.

The newsletter concludes with a selection of photos of the AGM taken by Old Pharosian Dave Winter. Dave, a professional sports photographer, took a fantastic photo record of the meeting. These and other photos are also on the Old Pharosians website:

<https://oldpharosians.org.uk/agm-2021-gallery/>

<https://oldpharosians.org.uk/old-school-buildings-gallery/>

And finally..! I've discovered that one of the unwritten requirements of editor is to regularly persuade and cajole OPs to write and send items, photos, reminiscences etc. for the newsletter. Judging by the steady stream of contributions, my words are being heeded. I'm grateful to everyone who has been in contact and provided something for the newsletter. We have another good range of stories in this issue. Do keep writing and sending your items for future publications. The closing date for submissions to the July newsletter is 31 May. Your contributions are welcome at any time – do drop me an email – john.robertson8664@gmail.com.

John Robertson

January 2022

Notes from the President

Saturday 25 September 2021 was a notable day in the history of the Association as we gathered for our final AGM in the old school building. More than 75 old boys turned up for the meeting - the biggest turnout in living memory. A few others joined us by Zoom and some appeared after lunch for the chance to see the old buildings and hear an excellent presentation on the new school buildings from an old boy who has been part of the construction team.

It was an uplifting occasion. I felt privileged to be able to offer a few concluding reflections at the end of the meeting and then lead us into the singing of the school hymn, with Stephen Pinnock expertly supporting us from the organ.

Next September's meeting will be the first in the new school buildings and it would be good to have another exceptional turnout for that, as we get the chance to see the new environment in which the school will experience the next phase of its life.

The AGM wasn't just about looking back. The meeting agreed to adopt the new constitution, under which membership of the Association is no longer linked to a subscription. This means that we are now wholly dependent on the income that we receive by way of donations.

We very much hope that those who have standing orders with the Association will keep them in place and that those who haven't given for some years, perhaps because they were life members, will now consider making a regular contribution. The costs of running the Association are minimal; we raise funds so that we can pass them to the school for specific purchases and projects.

At its last meeting in November, your committee agreed to support the school in an appeal which it will be launching early in 2022 for the purchase of several new pianos. We'll send round further details when they're available but in essence all of the school's existing pianos, including the Steinway grand, are in a poor state and beyond economic repair.

So, this will be a big appeal, not just to old boys but parents and the whole school community. Since the Association is the only registered charity within the school family, we have agreed to create a restricted fund for the appeal, so that donors who are taxpayers have the option of gift aiding their donation, thereby increasing it by 25% at no cost to themselves.

If you missed the 25 September meeting and visit, there is going to be one more opportunity to walk round the old school buildings on Saturday 5 February. This is not an Association event but former pupils are very welcome to attend. You need to register in advance. Please do this as soon as possible and by 31st January at the latest. To register, contact Lizzie Reynolds at the school by email - lreynolds@dgsb.co.uk.

Sir William Fittall

December 2021

Headteacher Update - January 2022

It was incredibly pleasing that we got to the end of Term 2 of this academic year relatively intact. With so many schools across the country sending entire classes or even year groups home for Covid-related reasons at various points, and with teachers in the UK being heavily impacted by the virus, DGSB managed to get to Christmas having had an average of only 10-15 students off at any one time. Whilst we did have staff off due to self-isolation whilst waiting for a PCR result or when affected by Covid, only on one day did the perfect storm of many staff being absent at the same time affect us. This may have been by sheer good luck or as a result of the careful observance of hygiene regulations. However, having HEPA filters in each classroom, in my view, has been a hugely worthwhile investment. While nobody can point definitively to this having been the difference between low and high staff and student absence, I would like to think that having these school-funded air purification systems in place will have helped us avoid the worst of Covid.

All the above said, January presents us with the now enormous Omicron wave. We do not know how badly this is likely to affect us, but with no further mitigations put in place by central government and with this new variant transmitting far more easily, it is not uniquely the severity of any one colleague or student's infection which is of concern, but rather the number of people who become infected. It is this which will decide how big an impact this new form of the virus will have. As ever, we will continue to do our best to mitigate against its potential toll on us and will hope that the DfE and local health protection teams do likewise.

I am pleased to report that as a result of the hard work and commitment of my SLG colleagues and the staff at DGSB more widely, Terms 1 and 2 ran pretty much as we would expect in more normal times, which was hugely positive. Mock examinations for Years 11 and 13 took place uninterrupted (data from which may yet prove critical, should any form of TAGs be used in 2022 – though we still don't know if they will or – if they don't - what exams *will* look like), open mornings for prospective Year 7s took place in October on two consecutive days, and the Dover Test ran as usual in mid-September. It was wonderful to see so many Association members at the final AGM in the current buildings in late September, an event which took place in an atmosphere of great positivity and celebration.

Having put in a significant amount of work to provide opportunities for prospective Year 7 students and their parents to visit the school and hear from the HT, senior leaders and key stage leaders – including outdoor events in June and July and in-person open events in October – our recently published first choice numbers for 2022 entry are incredibly positive and pleasing. If one considers that 114 first choices for September 2021 translated into a cohort of 148 (the largest in the school's history), having 141 first choices for 2022 bodes very well for the school.



We are now only *weeks* away from possibly the most significant moment in DGSB's history: the move to our wonderful new school. Work on both the exterior and the interior of the new school has really moved on significantly since September and even though we will be moving in a little later than we had hoped (28th March) this is still 3 weeks in advance of the original contractual handover date. All staff have now had the opportunity to visit the school, with some going over more than once. Everybody has come back feeling both amazed and uplifted! Our student and staff transition teams have continued their work over Terms 1 and 2, and the student transition team is being prepped to act as guides and ambassadors when we move. Rooming allocations and room names have all been finalised and the decluttering and decant process continues apace at school.

We look forward to the formal opening of the new school, when Association member Maurice Smith will be our Guest of Honour.

Here is to a positive and uplifting 2022.

Fiat Lux

Phil Horstrup

P.A.Horstrup, Headteacher

January 2022

Currently reading "When They Find Her", by Lia Middleton

Money and membership

Until September membership of the Association for former pupils was dependent on the paying of a subscription, either annually or through life membership. At the AGM in September the Association adopted a new Constitution which makes membership open to all former pupils simply by supplying their contact details (see President's Notes).

This doesn't mean that the Association no longer needs funding! On the contrary, your committee would like to increase the level of financial support that we provide to the school. But we can only do that if members of the Association continue to give us the means to do so. The committee would therefore ask:

- The 125 or so members who have been paying their subscription each summer by standing order to keep the standing order in place as a donation to the Association. Since there is now no fixed subscription level, please feel free to review the amount and increase it to take account of inflation.
- Life members to consider making a regular donation to the Association (perhaps by taking out a standing order). The vast majority of life members paid to join the Association many decades ago and have been perfectly entitled to give nothing more since then. The move to a donation basis for supporting the Association and, through us, the school is a good moment, however, for reviewing whether a one off or regular gift would now be possible.
- All members to stand ready to respond generously to special appeals when they come. The school will be launching a major appeal for funds for new pianos early in the New year- more details soon.
- All members who are taxpayers and haven't yet signed a gift aid form to consider doing so. Gift aid means that for every £10 given the Association gets an extra £2.50 from HMRC, at no cost to you.

The bank account number of the Old Pharosians' Association is 01991864 and the sort code 30-93-34. A standing order and gift aid form are available online on our website:

<https://oldpharosians.org.uk/> under the 'support us' heading. Alternatively, you can email our treasurer, Jon Fullarton - jonathan.fullarton@mfwdover.co.uk , with any queries.

We are also in the process of setting up a Just Giving page for those who are used to supporting other charities that way and will circulate the details of that when the appeal for the piano fund is launched. Be aware, though, that Just Giving charges a small fee for each gift to cover their costs, so if you want to maximise what comes to the Association and the school a bank transfer or standing order to our account is the route to go.

News of and from Old Boys

REUNIONS.

By Alistair Gardiner

It all started about sixteen years ago when Peter Piddock contacted somebody called Pat Croskerry living in Canada. Pat confirmed that he had attended Dover Grammar School for Boys between 1953 and 1960 and had, indeed, played in a Group with Peter and other DGS boys during that time.

Peter mentioned this to his old classmate, Mike Graham, who then contacted Pat to suggest a get-together sometime with some other old school pals. Pat agreed to come if Mike could gather half a dozen or so.

Mike set about contacting as many of his old friends and classmates, generally from his own era at the School ---the 1953 and 1954 intakes---and so the Reunion took place at the Churchill Hotel on Dover seafront when about 50 Old Boys gathered to renew old friendships and memories. Several people, such as Pat Croskerry, Mick Bott and Rick Kitchen travelled from abroad to attend. In later years Dave Marriott joined the group from Australia and John Cage came from the south-west of France.

The Reunion was such a success that it was agreed to hold one annually from then on. So it was, and the first several were held at the Churchill Hotel until the hotel was taken over by a new management.

A new venue was chosen and, since then, the Dover Rugby Club at Crabble has hosted every occasion except 2020, when the Covid Pandemic made it prudent to cancel it for that year, and this year because of extensive renovations being necessary at the Rugby Club due to a major pipe burst and water damage not spotted for some time as the Club was not being used due to the Lockdown.

The Rugby Club gatherings have still been largely made up from those who started at the School in 1953 and 1954 but in the intervening years the age group has expanded. John Booth, who started School in 1948, is probably the Senior regular with Alistair Gardiner not far behind. Mick Palmer and Ray Durrant represent the late '50s and early '60s and John Mercer, past Captain of the Rugby Club, who provides an excellent Buffet Lunch each year, attended the School from 1976. Joan (Ellis) Griffiths who joined the 6th. Form in 1959 with others to study "A" Level Physics is also now a regular with husband, Darryll, who attended " the Dukies".

This year the Reunion was held at the Cricketers' Pub at Crabble but will be back at the Rugby Club next June in a year when many of the regulars will celebrate their 80th. Birthday. Unfortunately, Covid travel restrictions prevented the usual overseas contingent from attending, although Peter Piddock travelled from the Isle of Skye which must qualify as "overseas", and some with ill-health problems were unable to make their usual "pilgrimage". However, the attendance was around the usual thirty with some accompanied by their wives and partners. Vern. Lewis and Jenny, Derek Beer and Christine, David Rees and Claire, Bill Bloomfield and Sylvie, Richard Graham (Chairman of the Kent Branch of the Royal British Legion) and Jane all met up with Alfie Fatcher and his two sons who had accompanied him from his home in Swindon. Incidentally, one of Alfie's sons Captained the English Schools Football team and in his early professional years as a League player with Chelsea shared lodgings with John Terry.

In several previous years, the Reunion has been joined by former members of Staff including Nigel Horne and Arthur Elliott. In 2019, the gathering welcomed the company of new Head Teacher, Phil. Horstrup.

This year, Phil Horstrup was unable to come to the Reunion being otherwise occupied as Best Man at the Wedding of an old friend but he thoughtfully sent the gathering a report on recent events at the School and a resume of the meetings, the planning and the progress of the construction of the New School.

His relationship with the Contractors has been excellent and he congratulated Keir Construction on their magnificent progress throughout against the background of the Covid restrictions and the shortage of materials due to Brexit. In fact, progress has been so good that the Planned Handover date of the New School has been improved upon such that the switch over from Old to New School will begin in February 2022 with the Official Opening of the New School in the late Spring. The Guest of Honour at the Event will be Maurice Smith whose teaching career at the School spanned the years from 1959 to 1989 and his association with the School continued thereafter through his membership of The Old Pharosians' Association where he has served as a member of the Committee and as its President.

The Head said that there is considerable excitement in the School at the prospect of the New School and what it offers. Apart from the new classrooms and the academic facilities to be explored, including a Food Technology unit, a Drama Studio and state-of-the-art Wi-Fi across the site, there is a 4-court Sports Hall fit for national level Basketball, Netball and Volleyball games and two multi-use, year-round, games surfaces outside. Leney's field has been levelled and grass seeding is in progress ready for games to be played next year.

Attending this 2021 Reunion were (in years of entry to the School) : 1951 A.W.(Alistair/Scotty) Gardiner; 1950 S.A.(Sid) Dolbear; 1953 D.E.(Derek) Beer, W.(Bill) Bloomfield, E.J.T. (Sunny) Clark, R.F.(Roger) Constable; J.D.(John) Cox; J.E.(John) Fagg; M.(Mike/Ike) Graham; P.A.(Jim) Green; C.C.C.P.(Charlie) Hall; J.T.(John) Husk; V.A.(Vern) Lewis; S.W.M.(Tim) Padfield; P.(Peter) Piddock; 1954 A.C.F (Alfie) Futchler; W.K.(Bill) Hutchison; R.V.(Roy) Lewry; D.J.(David) Rees; P.J.(Peter) Wakelin-Smith; 1955 R.(Richard) Graham; 1959 M.(Mick) Palmer; Joan Griffiths; 1961 R.(Ray) Durrant ; 1976 John Mercer (Catering).

Alistair Gardiner.

A.J. "Jim" Fagg. (1940-46).

By Terry Sutton

Jim, who spent a long career with management in British Rail, is living in retirement, aged 92, in Stoke-on-Trent. During wartime evacuation with the school to Ebbw Vale he shared a billet with Richard Spear who died in Canada.

Terry Sutton (1940-47) contacted Jim Fagg recently and reminded him of the days in 1947 when they "suffered" together their National Service military training with the Royal West Kent's at Maidstone.

On one "Education Class" parade Sergeant Slater, facing about 50 ill-sorted recruits, shouted: "Any of you clever blokes got School Certificates." He well knew Jim and I had because, a few months earlier Sergeant Slater (son of our DGBS teacher Spud Slater) had been a sixth former prefect at DGBS. He knew us well.

Jim and I admitted our School Certificates fearing the admission would result in some dirty fatigue jobs (In those days all part of the training!).

Jim and I were ordered to the front of the "Education Class" where Sergeant Slater whispered: "Now clear off to the cookhouse, get a cup of tea and push off for the rest of the morning."

Kindness at last. Well worth being an Old Pharosian!

(The Sergeant's actual quotes have been watered down in case his actual words might offend young OPs!)

Aaron Shilson

By Terry Sutton

Aaron Shilson, who began his organ-playing studies while a student at our school, has been appointed Assistant Director of Music at Llandaff Cathedral. At one stage, while still at our school, he was organist at St Mary's Church, Dover where he was assisted by "old boy" Stephen Yarrow.

Aaron, who started his full-time post at Llandaff in September last year, moved from Ely Cathedral where he was assistant organist. In other posts he has made BBC radio broadcasts and toured the USA with a Cambridge College.

Mike Cooper (1983 – 1990)

Mike writes:

Having left the school way back in 1990, I thought after all these years it's about time I gave a little update.

I left DGSB and completed a Mechanical Engineering degree, to then have a total career change and join Kent Police where I stayed for 10 years, following on from that I joined National Grid getting back to my engineering roots, working at the IFA interconnector at Sellindge, Nr Ashford Kent for the next 11 years. I now work for Eurotunnel who are in the later stages of building their own interconnector, connecting the UK and French electricity networks together via cables installed through the channel tunnel. I've never ventured too far away from the area currently living in St Margarets!

My nephew is now a pupil at DGSB, often giving me updates on how the new school is progressing, I guess times and needs change, but it will be sad when you can no longer see the old school from across the town

A day in court

By Terry Sutton

Terry Sutton (1940-47) is appearing in court, to be judged by thousands of tourists visiting Dover's 12th century Maison Dieu.

The Maison Dieu (Town Hall) is undergoing a multi-million pound restoration. One section of the Town Hall is the court room and Terry was asked to record, on video, some of his court room memories during his 70 year journalistic career.

This video will be played in the renovated court room to the many visitors touring the Town Hall.

Terry tells of reporting Quarter Sessions chaired by the Recorder, police courts, magistrates' courts, scores of inquests including those with murder and insurance fraud in the back story. Most with amusing incidents.

In another part of the video he tells of "early memories" of the Connaught Hall (part of the Town Hall) including the day he was given a 48 hour pass by the army in Barnard Castle to travel to Dover to receive, in Connaught Hall, at DGBS prize giving, his school certificate.

"I was in army uniform while the rest of the prize receivers, 16 and 17 year old, were in school uniforms. Showed how thick I was at school. I was 18, the majority of the others were 16. Well I got that certificate in the end-but no prospective employer has ever asked to see it! " says Terry.

Sir Clifford Jarrett - Memorial

By Terry Sutton

The memorial to Sir Clifford Jarrett, who won a scholarship to Dover County School (now DGSB), which once stood on Dover's Prince of Wales Pier has been reinstated on the new-constructed Clock Tower Square on Dover sea front promenade.

The compass-style memorial was provided by The Dover Society of which Jarrett was a member. The memorial points out he was chairman of Dover Harbour Board. He was born in Dover in 1909 (his father a professional photographer), won a scholarship to our school before further education at Cambridge. He joined the civil service and was appointed Permanent Secretary to various government departments in the 1960s. Sir Clifford died in July 1995.

REMINISCENCES

17

BY SIR CLIFFORD JARRETT

written in December 1989

Not many people were bombed out in World War I, but we were. My father had a photographic business in Dover and when he was called up for the Army early in 1917, my mother managed to carry on the business with the help of the girl who had been my father's assistant. All this suddenly came to an end in the autumn of 1917, however, when one of the German bombers, which used to make hit-and-run raids on Dover, dropped a bomb in our back garden, which wrecked the studio and made the house uninhabitable. With nowhere else to go, my mother moved up to Canterbury to live with her mother and she took my sister with her. I went to live with my father's parents in the "Jolly Sailor" public house, which my grandfather kept.

As a result of the move to Canterbury, I lost a month's schooling because at first the local education authority refused to give me a place because my mother was not a rate payer. Such callous meanness would have been unthinkable in World War II. However, I was eventually admitted to a local elementary school - Payne Smith School - which no longer exists.

I was at this school, which I did not really enjoy, for about a year. Early in 1919 my father was demobilised and his premises were repaired, so we were able to resume our old life in Dover. I transferred to St. Mary's school there (it, too, has long been demolished). It served a rather rough part of the town, so life there was rather rugged; but it had a superb Deputy Head and the teaching was good, so much so that in 1920 I was able to win a scholarship to the County School - now the Grammar School. There I spent eight happy years and was lucky in being taught by two especially

inspiring teachers. I joined the school cadet corps, of which I eventually became Company Quartermaster Sergeant. I also became Captain of my House. In the Higher Schools Certificate exam in 1927, I did well enough to win a State University Scholarship. This led me to develop an ambition to go to Cambridge and late that same year I went there to sit the scholarship exam for a group of 5 colleges. I was fortunate enough to win an Open Scholarship to Sidney Sussex.

I wanted to read Modern Languages, but my school only offered French, so I spent the year while I was waiting to go up, teaching myself German. At great sacrifice to themselves, my parents sent me to stay for three months with a German family in Bad Harzburg. As a result, as my tutor in German at Cambridge said, I acquired an idiomatic style of German, but with a limited vocabulary.

I went up to Sidney in October, 1928. I was a bit lonely at first, but soon made friends with a group of young men, in other colleges, from Alleyn's School, Dulwich. I got a double first in the Modern Languages Tripos when I graduated in 1931. This was the very bottom of the great depression and there were practically no jobs going and I saw that I should either have to go teaching, which had no great appeal, or try for the administrative class of the Civil Service. My college was very good to me and extended my scholarship for a fourth year, so that I could read Part II of the History tripos and thus improve my chances in the Civil Service exam. This I took in 1932 and, to my great surprise, I came out in first place. There were not many vacancies and in the end I opted to



Lady Jarrett at the Memorial Ceremony, 26 April 1998

go into the Home Office, where I was assigned to the Criminal Division, where the work was dealing with petitions from men in prison. I found the Home Office rather stuffy, although my colleagues were friendly people; so when, in 1934, word came round that the Admiralty was looking for a couple of Assistant Principals with two years' experience, I applied and was accepted. It was a decision I never regretted. My first assignment was to the Political Section of the Military Branch, which was a sort of Admiralty Foreign Office and offered a fascinating variety of work.

In 1936 I was appointed Private Secretary to the Parliamentary Secretary. I served two of them, Lord Stanley and Geoffrey Shakespeare. In 1938 I went back to the Military Branch, this time as head of the Political Section. When war broke out we had a number of reinforcements, including

Cyril Radcliffe, an eminent lawyer, who later became a peer. Our main work was the monitoring of breaches of international law by the Germans. We were also concerned with seeing that the Uruguayans behaved properly as neutrals when the Graf Spee took refuge in Montevideo. When A.V. Alexander became First Lord in 1940, I was appointed his Private Secretary and I stayed in that post for four years. It was a hard time. We frequently worked a fifteen-hour day. I was living in the Admiralty building and sleeping in the basement when the building was hit by a German bomb in 1940.

In May 1944 I was promoted, to a branch concerned with locally recruited employees of the Navy's overseas bases, but was soon returned to Military Branch as head of my old section. Around the end of 1945 I was moved again, to head a branch concerned with personnel work on civilian

employees in England. While there I enjoyed, in 1946, a short trip to our naval missions in Ottawa and Washington D.C. which gave me a much needed rest. Later the same year I was promoted to Under Secretary in charge of all civilian personnel work, a post I held for four years. I made an interesting trip to Hong Kong and Singapore and on my return, in 1950, was promoted to Deputy Secretary. I found this was not a very satisfying job but it had its compensations. I wrote the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Admiralty and I had some very good trips abroad. In 1955 I led a small team to South Africa to discuss the future of the Simonstown naval base and the following year I went out again to attend the ceremony for the formal handover of the base to the South African Navy. In 1960 I went to Australia on my own, to negotiate arrangements for the refitting of British submarines based there.

Early in 1961 I succeeded Sir John Lang as Secretary of the Admiralty. Early in this job I had a lot to do in the case of the spy, Vasall, and had to give evidence at an enquiry, conducted by Lord Radcliffe, whom I had known during the war.

In early 1964, Harold Macmillan, the Prime Minister, set up the present-day Ministry of Defence, abolishing the separate service departments, whose permanent secretaries were then scattered among other departments. I got the Ministry of Pensions, which was really pretty dull after the Admiralty. We spent much of our time examining two proposals for changing the National Insurance scheme, neither of which came into force. When Harold Wilson lost the General Election in May 1970, the new Minister of Social Security, Sir Keith Joseph, wanted me to stay on, but I declined, as I was due to retire from the Civil Service in July.

After leaving the Civil Service I had another ten years of considerable activity. First, I took over the chairmanship of a committee set up to review the medical services of the armed forces. This worked for two years, producing a report in 1972. I was also a member of a small tribunal set

up to deal with appeals from foreigners expelled from the U.K. on security grounds. I also had three other major appointments; trustee of the Maritime Museum, Chairman of the Tobacco Research Council and Chairman of the Dover Harbour Board. The T.R.C. was set up by the tobacco industry to conduct research aimed, very optimistically, at identifying the constituents of tobacco smoke which caused cancer and then filtering them out. As time went on it became clear there was no hope of achieving these objectives. Tobacco smoke had over 700 constituents and it was impossible to isolate more than a few of them. In the end the industry admitted defeat and the T.R.C. was wound up in 1978.

The Chairmanship of Dover Harbour Board was about the most enjoyable job I have ever had. In this job one could hardly go wrong because traffic was growing continuously. To cope with it the Board went in for a big programme of reclamation from the sea at the Eastern Docks. In my time we reclaimed about 10 acres at a cost of about £1 million per acre. I would have been very happy to have continued in this job until I was senile, but the Ministry of Transport had a policy of not renewing appointments over the age of 70, so my chairmanship came to an end early in 1980. I could not complain. I had had a good run.

Lady Mary Jarrett has kindly deposited the following books with the Society. The books formerly belonged to Sir Clifford.

History of the Castle, Town and Port of Dover	Statham
<i>Dover and the Great War</i>	J B Firth
<i>Annals of Dover</i>	Bavington Jones
<i>Dover</i>	Bavington Jones
<i>Souvenir of Dover</i>	

(Photographic View Album of Dover)

Picturesque Dover

(Collection of Photographs)

Should any member wish to borrow any of the above books please contact:

Jeremy Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover
01304 211348

Portmanteau words

From Peter Burville – Archivist Ephemitus – With thanks to Susan Watkin and Mensa Magazine

THE LAST WORDS

Portmanteau words

Peter Burville recently contacted me about a portmanteau term he had created - Archivist Ephemitus. When Peter resigned as the long term archivist of the Old Boys' Association (The Old Pharosians' Association) of Dover Grammar School he couldn't find a replacement so carried on as archivist and writing an "Archivist's Corner" in the biannual Newsletter. Peter needed a title for this role. His tenure was ephemeral, and his continued activity was emeritus which provided the title Archivist Ephemitus.

The date after a word is the first recorded use in the OED.

Portmanteau words (1877)

In "Alice in Wonderland" Humpty Dumpty explains portmanteau words to Alice. Alice recited a verse to Humpty Dumpty. "That's enough to begin with," Humpty Dumpty interrupted: "There are plenty of hard words there. 'Brillig' means four o'clock in the afternoon – the time when you begin broiling things for dinner."

"That'll do very well," said Alice: "and 'slithy'?"

"Well, slithy means 'lithe and slimy.' Lithe is the same as 'active.' You see it's like a portmanteau – there are two meanings packed up into one word."

Portmanteau (1553) is from the French porter (to carry) and manteau (a cloak or mantle). The earliest meaning of portmanteau was a bag for carrying clothing etc. on horseback.

Archivist (1753): Perhaps from Latin and Italian archivist, or French archiviste. From "A London encyclopaedia, etc." (1820): "Under the emperors the archivist was an officer of great dignity, held equal to the pro-consuls, vested with the quality of a count, styled clarissimus, and exempted from all public offices and taxes." Clarissimus is a Latin title of honour meaning most illustrious. The English word

is clarissimo defined in the OED as "A Venetian grandee; a magnifico, a magnate."

Emeritus (1794 in US): From the Latin meaning to serve one's time and earn one's discharge, and originally referred to soldiers. Today emeritus is mainly used in the phrase emeritus professor.

Ephemeral (1576): From the Greek ephemeros meaning diseases lasting only one day.

Grammar school (c1387): "gramer scole", referring to a school in Alexandria, in Egypt. Grammar Schools were founded in England to teach Latin. The grammar school I went to was founded in the late 1920s, became a comprehensive school shortly after I left, and is now a care home. I went to an open day for old girls before the care home opened. The gym had been converted into a dining room and bar. The school hall was laid out as a street scene with benches and shops.

Old Boys' Association: The earliest reference to old boy in this sense in the OED is in Tom Brown's School Days. Early editions were described as being "By an Old Boy." The author was Thomas Hughes (1822–1896).

Some pre 1800 portmanteau words in the OED.

Acidulcis (1682): Latin acidus (sour) and dulcis (sweet). Sweet and sour blended together

Aldermanikin (1640): alderman and manikin. A small or young alderman.

Biscake (1650): biscuit and cake

Bloysterous (c 1570): Perhaps boisterous and blusterous

Cacodemical (1610): cacodemon (from Greek meaning evil genius and academical). An evil spirit, or a nightmare.

Describble (1794): Describe and scribble

Knavigation (1613): Knave and navigation. A statement that is

Susan Watkin



fraudulent or dishonest, or otherwise characteristic of a knave. Knave is from the German Knabe (boy or lad).

Macquignon (1798): Perhaps from French maquereau (mackerel) and barguigner (bargain)

This mackerel is not the fish, but is from the Anglo-Norman makerelle meaning a procuress. A horse-dealer.

Ninneversity (c 1592): Ninny and university, and means a university! The origin of ninny is uncertain, perhaps innocent.

Nobodaddy (c 1793): Nobody and daddy. A disrespectful nickname for God, created by the poet William Blake (1757-1827).

Novanglian, novangle 1650: Nova and Anglia. From the Latin nova and Anglia - New England.

Peddelapotecary (1561): Pedlar and apothecary. An itinerant medicine seller.

Perhappen (1578): Perhaps from perhaps and mayhappen!

Piccalilli (1758): Perhaps pickle and chilli

Scraze (1703): Scratch and graze

Sisternity (1603): Sister and fraternity.

Withweed (1567): Withwind and bindweed. Withwind is a dialect word for bindweed. Withweed means bindweed, and also other climbing plants.

Wlappe c1380: Wrap and lappe or lap Means to wrap.

Woebegone (c1330): Woe and begone Begone is the past participle of the verb bego

Finally some portmanteau words in the news recently.
Chumocracy... Coronafatigue...
Ecoeffectiveness... Infodemic...
Neurobic (An exercise for the brain)...
Staycation... and on December 15, 2020, when a newly discovered strain of coronavirus was in the news, stranger... strain and danger.

The Old School and the New School

By Martin Stubbs

Martin gave a very informative talk to OPs about the history, design and construction of the old and new school buildings at the AGM on 25 September. Martin has written this article based on that talk.

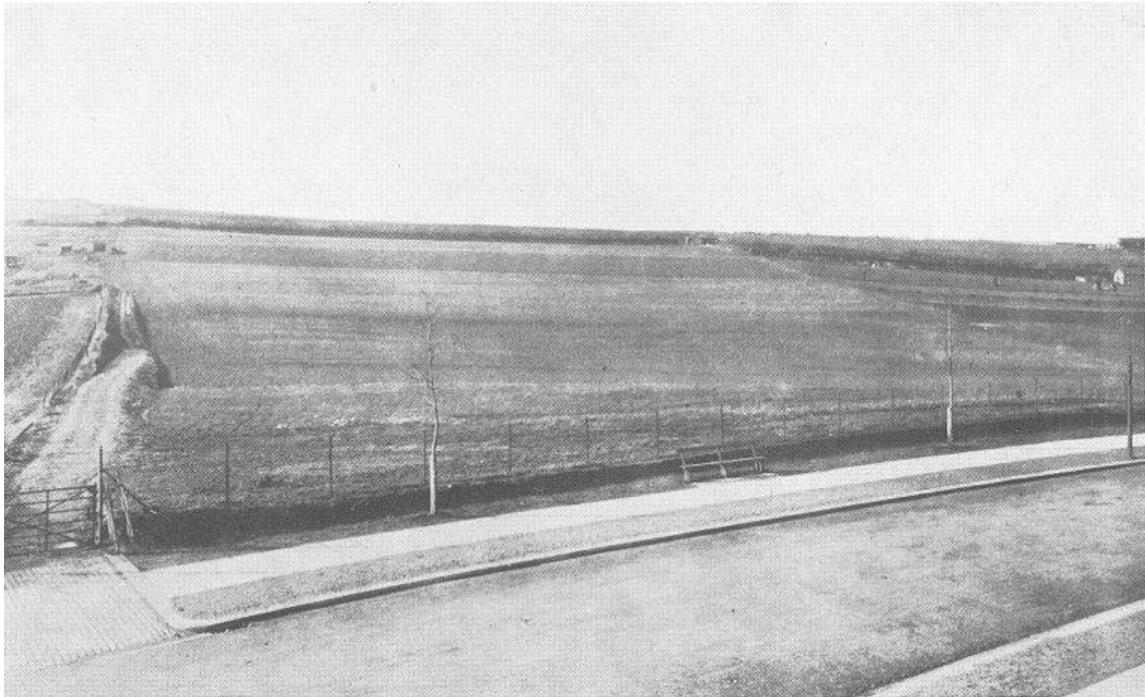
1. The architecture/construction of the old school, its position in the landscape and its links in the historic buildings of the town.

Imagine, it's 9th December 1931, HRH Prince George, Duke of Kent, has declared the Dover County School for Boys 'Open', planted the Weeping Beech (*Fagus Sylvatica* 'Pendula') tree near to the top gate to commemorate the occasion and is being driven back to London, his public duties complete for another day. The assembled members of the education committees, benefactors and school governors have eaten their sandwiches, drank their tea and are starting to drift away from the school. Fred Whitehouse, Headmaster, sees an informal group of Old Boys and former teachers gathered on the Quadrangle and walks over to talk to them.



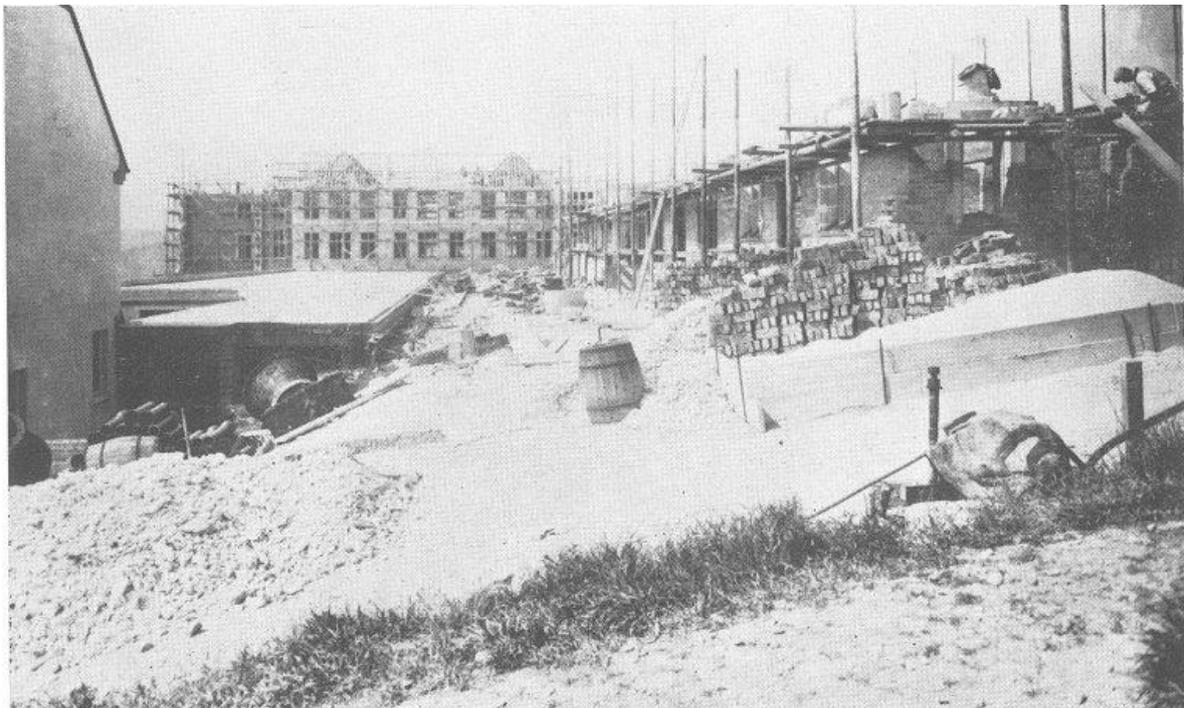
HRH Prince George with Fred Whitehouse at the official opening of the school – 9 December 1931

“Isn't our new school magnificent?” Everyone agrees. “It has taken a long time to get here since this land on Whinless Down was purchased and the 1st sod was cut on 6th March 1924 but now, finally, we have a home to call our own of which we can be very proud. Construction work by our good friends at Claysons of Lyminge only began in earnest in 1929 once the finances were in place and was completed in time for the start of the September term this year. Such a large amount of money had to be raised to construct such a large school in a single phase.



Site for the new school before construction started, seen from Astor Avenue

“Of course, we would not be standing here at all but for the many school benefactors who have contributed to the cost of construction, and we thank them for their generosity, in particular Mr Hugh Leney who has gifted money for the construction work generally and for the gymnasium, as well as gifting the old brickworks field to the school. We should also not forget the considerable fundraising efforts of the parents and boys of the school and in particular, the bazaars held in the town, which have helped with the payment of school equipment and the magnificent pipe organ in the hall.

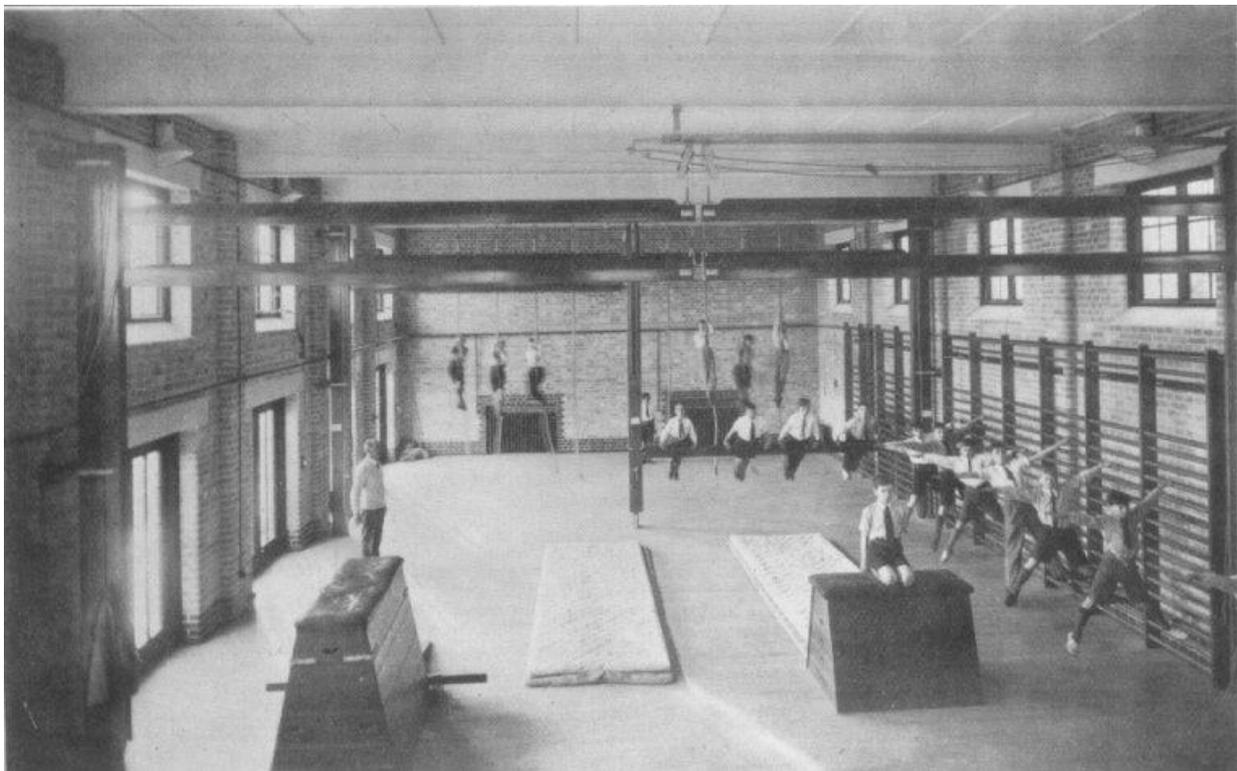


New school during construction. Viewed from the hill looking across the quadrangle

“We have worked very hard with the KCC architect to exploit the dramatic topography of the site, to create a new striking local landmark in the landscape of Dover. It joins Dover Castle and the Citadel & Drop Redoubt on the Western Heights to form the 3rd corner of a triangle of major buildings visible from the town, high on the North Downs.

“This school has been built to be seen. It has been constructed over 6 levels and takes its Architectural inspiration, inside and outside, from other great historic buildings of the town:

- The changing rooms that lead onto the Upper Field show a row of semi-circular brick arches that remind us of the entrances to the Casemates at the Western Heights.
- The dining room level has a covered walkway of pointed brick arches that resemble a quarter of the cloisters at Dover Priory (the Priory suppressed in the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1538, rather than the Railway Station).
- The Stair Tower, with its buttresses, crenelations and flagpole is a direct reminder of the Keep at the castle. The concentric, decorative semi-circular stone arches to the door and window at the bottom of the tower are typical of Norman architecture.
- The main Hall, with its buttresses, curved dressed stone window reveals and mullions and intermediate transoms and other stone detailing is inspired by the facade of Maison Dieu.
- The timber detailing to the hall and the library ceilings also reminds us of the interior of Maison Dieu.
- There are also hints of Tudor in the building with bay windows and flint chequerboard patterns to the roof gable ends.



The gymnasium, shortly after the school opened in 1931

“Before the construction of the new structure could commence, there has been major earthworks to deal with the steep sloping site. A series of terraces have been cut into the hillside to allow the construction of the new building and the levelling of the Lower Field. The resulting chalk has been used to form the Upper Field and this work has taken approximately 30% of the whole construction budget.



The library in the newly opened school.

“The structure of the school has been constructed as Britain has been constructed – by starting at the bottom and putting one brick on top of another but incorporating stone detailing and render finish to the facade. Insitu concrete floors, timber roof structures and clay tiles complete the building structure.

“The result of all this effort and hard work by so many people is that we have a structure that is bold and strong in the landscape, with magnificent architecture and a sense of permanence. I wouldn’t be surprised if the building stands tall and strong for many hundreds of years to come.”

Everyone also agrees with these sentiments and soon they too leave the quadrangle to walk off into the chill of the evening to make their way home.

2.The reports commissioned, and the decisions taken that have led to the upcoming demolition.

Meanwhile, back in 2021, history has not been kind to Prince George or the architecture of the school.

Prince George was the 4th son of King George V and Queen Mary, younger brother to King Edward VIII and King George VI. Born in 1902, he died in a RAF plane crash in 1942 in Scotland, aged 39 and he is not well known to history.

As for the school, in 2014, faced with an aging building with significant maintenance issues, DGSB made an application to the Priority Schools Building Programme 2, which was successful in that the main building on the site was identified as successful in being considered for refurbishment or replacement.

Mace Construction Consultants were subsequently appointed to carry out a Feasibility Study to weigh up the options for the building that demonstrated value for money and would lead on to developing the design that could secure the support of Kent County Council to enable a planning application to be made.



Newly built school, seen from the top field.

This process involved the Department for Education commissioning various reports:

A Planning and Heritage Assessment completed in 2017 notes:

- DGSB provides evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal value which contributes to the asset's high significance on a local scale. However, whilst a strong and striking building on the local landscape, the building exhibits architecture influenced by aesthetic principles, and not a thorough historic architectural knowledge and not worthy of statutory listing. The building is not a good example of Victorian/Edwardian medievalism architecture and, built in 1930, is a particularly late example of this style.

- It borrows medieval and gothic tropes to create a striking and unusual building of the period. The plans for the building seem to have regional and national aspirations, but these were not achieved.

A property development company report from 2018 considers alternative uses for the existing school site. Location dictates that residential development is the only possible scenario and various alternatives of property density and affordable housing content were considered but even a high-density scheme of 79 units with 0% affordable was non-viable. The report concluded:

- The building has no commercial value due to its location, construction, condition and lack of further development land.
- The School is continuing to carry out maintenance and make emergency repairs, but this is still leading to continuing decline in the fabric and M&E systems in the building.
- There is evident spalling to concrete (reconstituted stone, particularly in main hall), cracks to the main entrance, leaking roofs in dark corners of the building and very poor conditions to the gym and changing rooms.



Aerial photograph of the school prior to the new build.

The Conclusion / Recommendation of Feasibility Study.

- Construction of whole new school on Leney's Field and demolition of the existing buildings.
- Entire new facilities designed to current guidelines.
- Capacity to expand in the future.
- Design Life of 40 – 60 years (Refurbishment life of 5 – 15years).
- Significantly reduced lifetime maintenance costs.
- No legacy issues with retained blocks.

- Improved parking and pupil transport arrangements.
- Enhanced teaching & learning spaces of a size that can accommodate a full class (several of the rooms are too small due to the structure of the building).
- Allows flexibility to accommodate future changes in the curriculum.
- An energy efficient building results in reduced carbon footprint and reduced running costs.
- Best value for money option.

Kier Construction Ltd became involved with the feasibility of the project in early 2019 which resulted in:

- Public consultations being held in February & July 2019 which resulted in 75 responses: 73 supported new building/demolition scheme; 2 argued that the existing school should be retained.
- Subsequent design developments which moved the new school building to the Upper Field, confirmed the demolition of the old school and provided landscaping to improve the access onto the site and car parking.
- Leney's Field being reconstructed to Sport England grass sports pitch specification to offset the loss of the Upper Field.

A Planning application was made to KCC in September 2019 based on the Kier proposals. As part of process, the application was passed to KCC Heritage Conservation who wrote a report in support of retaining the existing school and concluded that they did not agree with the findings of the Planning and Heritage Assessment Report in that the building may be of listable quality.

The documentation was then passed to Historic England, who are the ultimate authority on the listing of buildings, who reviewed the various reports and concluded that "while certainly of local interest, DGSB does not have sufficient claims to special architectural or historical interest to meet the criteria for listing".

So, the fate of the existing school was sealed as planning permission was granted for the "demolition of existing school buildings and proposed erection of a part three part four-storey teaching block with attached sports hall and associated hard and soft landscaping, a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) together with parking and ancillary works". Enabling works started in March 2020 with the main construction works proper commencing at the end of June 2021.

3. The architecture/construction of the new building/fitting it onto the Upper Field.

Kier are constructing the new school as part of a Framework Agreement with the DfE. There is a Kier 'standard' school design, which comprises a 3-storey steel frame structure on insitu concrete pad foundations; precast concrete plank floors with insitu concrete topping; precast concrete stairs; external walls formed by structural metal framing, boarding, insulation and brickwork to ground floor, insulated render to upper floors; flat roof with "green" sedum covering.

There is a certain degree of flexibility in the design as the architect tries to fit a standard 860 pupil school building onto the non-standard Upper Field site. The steeply sloping topography of

the site and the Upper Field consisting largely of chalk fill results in changes to the standard design:

- The building foundations incorporate Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) piles up to 15m long.
- The full height of the façade of the building is constructed of brickwork due to the exposed location of the building.
- The school is constructed 'upside down' as the main entrance is located on the 2nd floor with access from the new landscaped site entrance area off Noah's Ark Road via a 15m long steel footbridge.
- The school is V-shaped on plan with 2 teaching wings and a central 4-storey tower that houses a lift, the 6th Form areas, main hall, drama studio, organ loft and flag tower.
- Full height curtain walling to the 3-storey high dining area provides views over the town to the Western Heights, harbour and castle beyond.
- Double height windows to the main hall and art room also take advantage of these views.
- The area of landscaping to the site entrance area includes a mass earth retaining wall and soil nailing and netting to the cliff behind the current gym and Astor's sports hall.
- The structural engineer was concerned over the stability of the Upper Field (as it was only ever intended to be a playing field) and so a contiguous CFA piled wall is constructed parallel to the bank edge to ensure the stability of the Upper Field.

There are limits to the architectural enhancements that can be made to a Kier standard school design, but the architect has designed the central tower and flag tower (without crenelations) as a nod to the stair tower of the old building. The 'green' roof to the teaching blocks and the diamond white splitface bricks (riven face) that feature on the tower hint at the flora and chalk of the downs rather than the historic buildings within the town.



Aerial photo showing the new buildings in the foreground with the original buildings behind.

To maintain continuity with the existing school, the St. George and Pharos stained glass windows, honours boards and pipe organ will all feature in the new school building.

Finally, it should not be forgotten that, although conservation of historical assets is important, the main purpose of this development is to provide a quality environment to enable the curriculum to be taught to 860 pupils, with flexibility for future expansion and updating as technology/curriculum dictate, which the old school could no longer provide. Currently, buildings have a design life of 60 years and so in the 90-year life of the old school, it has exceeded current standards by 50%. I'm sure Fred Whitehouse would be proud of his building.



Martin Stubbs talking to OPs about the school buildings during the AGM – September 2021

Martin Stubbs (Old Boy 1972-1979), employed by Kier as commercial lead on the construction of the new school, based on site since June 2020, working out of the old caretaker's house, which has been refurbished as site offices, overlooking the Upper Field construction site.

Staff football team 1976 (Part 2)

This photo of the 1976 staff football team, which was included in the last OP newsletter, produced a couple of letters regarding names



Hi Paul,

Getting the notification about the AGM has reminded me that I meant to reply to something in the July newsletter.

There was a photo of the staff football team from 1976. Only one mistake in the names. The person between me and Basher Quinn was not Dave Benjamin. It was Bob Phillips. He was Welsh, taught Chemistry, joined the same year as me - September 1974. I think he only stayed 3/4 years before leaving teaching and moving to Nailsea to work for Rio Tinta Zinc (or a name like that). In fact, Reg Colman frequently mixed us up as we were both 'foreign' and had long hair and moustaches.

Hope all well with you. Unfortunately, I'll be in Portugal enjoying the sun and cheap wine so not able to go to AGM. Do hope someday to visit the new school. When does it officially open? Won't be any staff there who remember me - unless Steve King is still there?

All the best,

Dave Murray

Good morning John.

Attached, please find an annotated version of the 1976 Staff Football XI.

Perish the thought but I think there may be some ringers in the team!

I was in the Lower Sixth when this pic was taken and don't recognise the faces/names of a couple of the players.

Those I remember well are:

Brian Quinn. Redoubtable biology teacher, with an Irishman's eye for a likely looking nag on the turf! Owner of a shillelagh called "Chastiser." I never knew him use this in anger, but the threat was ever-present. I believe BQ left teaching c.1979 but died (natural causes I think) soon afterwards. I doubt he was much over 40 at the time of his death. Shame. Nice chap.

Kevin Raine. I can't remember what he taught (maths, possibly) but I do recall that he kept goal for Dover FC in the mid-1970s

John Harris. Deputy Head and rumoured to have been involved in military intelligence when he was in the army. He certainly spoke Russian fluently. Went on to be Headmaster at Simon Langton's Boys' Grammar in Canterbury. I bumped into JH at an RNLI fund-raiser in Canterbury a couple of years ago and he was on very good form.

Stephen Bailey. Taught geography and left teaching c.1978 in order to focus on developing some kind of art and design company, along with his wife.

I hope this helps and that other OPs have contributed more information.

Rory Kehoe

(1971/77)

Old Pharosians vs school Rugby Match – Late 1940s/early 1950s

Still on the subject of school sports teams. This photo shows the Old Pharosians and school rugby teams who competed against each other in the late 1940s/early 1950s. Phil Janaway, who found the photo is in the school team (Top), whilst Terry Sutton appears as an OP (Bottom).

Were you in either team or do you know any of those in the picture? Do contact the editor if you have recollections of the game or the year the photo was taken.



OP website photos - Help needed

Hello John,

I wonder whether you could send out a plea with the next Newsletter for help in identifying people on School photographs----sports teams, School plays, various events such as School trips, spectators standing around the School athletics Sports Day, small groups etc., etc..

Now that we now have a new OPA website, I have been trying to help Richard Andrews by identifying people on photos and tidying up a number of mistitled and misdated pictures. Having attended the School 1951-57 and taught there 1992-99, I can identify many by recognition and by association with those I can identify but I can only really scratch the surface.

Over the years, many photos have been sent in to the OPA webmaster and there are also the long whole School photos taken periodically.

Unfortunately, in nearly every case, only a few, if any, of those pictured are named and many pictures are not dated.

There is also a bit of a problem in identifying the correct year the photo was taken because the " School Year" starts in September and runs to July the following Calendar Year. However, for some event or group, whatever, the picture might just be given a year number.

For example, a senior football team might be correctly labelled, say, 1956 but the rugby team would be labelled 1957----School Year 1956-57.

Not a problem to identify those or the athletics team or the cricket teams because they are played at specific times of the year----although junior football teams ran Autumn and Spring terms, as I recall, thereby existing in two Calendar years.

However, a picture of the School Choir, which exists throughout the year can mislead. I noticed that a picture of the School Choir dated 1957 was not quite that----it was of the Choir taken at the start of the 1957-58 School Year, i.e. in Sept. 1957 which was very different from the 1957 School Choir that existed in the first half of 1957----School Year 1956-57.

My plea would be that anybody who has ever sent in a photo might look that photo again on the new website or in their photo album and tell our webmaster everything they know about it---which might even be a story or a memory of something about the people or the circumstances of the picture.

Regards,

Alistair Gardiner.

You can view all the photos on the Old Pharosians website: <https://oldpharosians.org.uk/>

If you can provide information – names, dates etc. - about any of the photos, please contact the webmaster using the form on the 'Contact us' page - <https://oldpharosians.org.uk/contact-us/> - stating the page address and title.

DGS CCF Report

By Flt. Lt. Louis Martin

It will not surprise you to read that the CCF is still experiencing many restrictions due to COVID. As much as we do what we can within the contingent, almost all of the activities provided regionally or nationally have been cancelled. Many events were proposed or even planned but eventually cancelled. Flying and Gliding have been two key activities that we have lost. There have thankfully been a few exceptions which you can read about below.

Prior to the pandemic we had the largest number of cadets we have seen for a good few years but currently our cadet numbers are down by about half. This fall is partly due to the pandemic but primarily due to not recruiting in 2020 or 2021, with the exception of new cadets joining from Years 10 and above. In January 2022 we are accepting new cadets from Year 9 in both DGSB and DGGs and we hope to work towards building our numbers back up once again.

Squadron Leader Anthony Downing Shield

Our CCF Annual Inspection was cancelled in 2021. We hope to set a date soon for the Annual Inspection in 2022 and, as always, OPAs are most welcome to join us. We were however fortunate to see ex WO1, now Sapper Ben Lord return to school to receive the Squadron Leader Anthony Downing Shield for Leadership that was awarded to him in 2020.



WO1 (now Sapper) Ben Lord receives the Anthony Downing shield from CCF Contingent Commander Major John Wiggell



Contingent Warrant Officer Max Stratton receives the Anthony Downing shield from Mr & Mrs Downing and Officer Commanding RAF Section Squadron Leader Glyn Shaw



Many of you will be aware that the memorial to Anthony Downing is currently mounted on the wall on the stairs going up from the reception to the library (the old staff room). You may recall from our last report earlier last year the stained-glass window was removed from this stairway to be placed in the new school building. Just prior to this we took the opportunity to invite Mr and Mrs Downing to DGSB to present the Squadron Leader Anthony Downing Shield for Leadership to then Contingent Warrant Officer Max Stratton who was awarded the shield in 2021.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp 2021 was a huge success after so many obstacles to the planning and logistics. Captain Victoria McKnight deserves a medal for her efforts to not only produce a summer camp but achieving such a high quality of activities that everyone appreciated. Because we were unable to stay anywhere overnight we finally planned a week where cadets were delivered daily

by families. Activities included the Dismounted Close Combat Trainer (DCCT) and outdoor 5.56mm ranges at Hythe Ranges, navigation exercises, pairs fire and manoeuvre, and a stalk on the Cinque Ports Training Area, kayaking, rafting and monster SUP (inflatable stand up paddleboard) on the Hythe Military Canal, a 3G swing, buggy building, climbing, leap of faith and Jacobs Ladder at Grosvenor Hall, Signals training and exercise. RAF cadets took a day out to visit Southampton University Air Squadron at RAF Boscombe Down where cadets were shown and able to try out the latest RAF fast jet simulator. A second day away for the RAF cadets was a visit the Shuttleworth Collection at Old Warden. Army cadets took a day out to visit the Royal Engineers Museum at Chatham and then go onto the river Medway with the Royal Engineers for a raft building activity.

One national RAF Air Cadet event that did go ahead this year was the National Aerospace Camp (NAC) held in August at RAF Syerston. Cadets Leo Trevett and Thomas Turnbull attended the camp on a daily visiting basis and amongst experiencing other activities they both gained their Gliding Wings.

DGGS Cadets

After a long period of sending our instructors to DGGS each Friday, the DGGS cadets were finally permitted back to CCF into DGSB in October as the COVID restrictions eased in schools. Not only was this a relief for the instructors it was great to see all the cadets back training together again.

Once the DGGS cadets had returned to DGSB one of the first training tasks for the RAF Section was preparation for the Regional Air Squadron Trophy (RAST) that was held at RAF Halton in November. Sgt Isabelle Davies-Wolfe led our team of thirteen cadets throughout a day of competition activities that included, air rifle range, first aid scenario, command task, aircraft recognition, drone flying, RAF knowledge and drill. Fifteen teams entered from schools across the Southeast and our DGS CCF RAF section came a very respectable eighth. This was a significant achievement as many of the other schools in the competition have significantly larger RAF sections from which to select a team and they have full time CCF staff. Having had only three weeks of training together after the DGGS cadets had returned to DGSB this was an excellent result for our team.

Training

Our Army Section ran a Method of Instruction (MOI) weekend for senior cadets and junior non-commissioned officers (NCOs) at DGSB in November. Although aimed at Army cadets one of our RAF NCOs also attended. The RAF Air Cadet Training, Evaluation and Support Team (TEST) ran another MOI course at Chatham and Clarendon Grammar School in Ramsgate. DGS CCF RAF cadets were offered places and two of our cadets attended. After both MOI courses we are much better placed for training our new cadets in January.

Flight Sergeant (FS) Emma Andrews has been awarded a place on the Air Cadet Pilot Scheme (ACPS) at Teesside Airport in Easter 2022. This commercial course is provided and funded by the RAF Air Cadets and by the end of her course, weather permitting, she will have been provided with sufficient flying hours and instruction to go solo in a single engine propeller aircraft. Let us hope that the weather and any further COVID restrictions do not prevent her from taking this tremendous opportunity.

The contingent Christmas Party was held on the last day of term after which we were able to relax for a few weeks before January when we returned to meet an intake of new recruits.

In Summer 2022 two of our RAF Cadet Force Adult Volunteers are stepping down. We are hoping to find someone to step in and support the RAF section so, if you or anyone you know, might be interested please contact us at ccf@dggsb.co.uk and we would be happy to explain what the roles are and what you can offer. Previous cadet or military experience is not essential.

Obituaries

Ian Killbery – 1971 - 80

Reproduced with permission of KM Media Group

Tributes have been paid to the man who successfully led a campaign to bring High Speed trains to Deal.

Ian Killbery, a former town and district councillor, died suddenly, having suffered years of bad health.



Ian Killbery in 2012. Picture: Wayne McCabe

He battled for the fast trains to stop at the town after the service was introduced in December 2009 and that happened partially in 2011 and finally with an all-day and daily service in 2014.

That year he and fellow campaigner, Tom Rowland, were awarded the Railfuture User Group Gold Award for their efforts. The task was carried out through the pressure group Trains4Deal.

Mr Rowland now said: "It was Ian who spearheaded the campaign, who pointed out the injustice and quantified the damage to the local economy,

"He built up a highly effective local campaign, recruiting a talented team and after a four-year battle, the Kent rail franchise was amended and the fast trains stopped in Deal.

"He will be missed so much by his family, colleagues and friends."

"He was always professional and courteous."

Sandwich town councillor Paul Carter said: "I knew Ian for at least 20 years and worked with him on many transportation and environmental projects in Deal and Sandwich.

"He was always a professional and courteous man who spent so much of his time on community based issues to make living in this part of Kent a much better experience. He will be sadly missed by so many."

Cllr Michael Conolly, chairman of Dover District Council, said: "We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of former councillor Ian Killbery, and our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time."

Mr Killbery, who was in long term poor health, died at his home in Western Road, Deal, on Monday, September 20, aged 74.

He was a lifelong member of the Labour Party and served as a Dover district councillor for the Middle Deal ward from 1973 to 1991 and again from 1995 to 1999.



Ian Killbery, right, and Tom Rowland in 2014 after being awarded for helping bring a full time high speed service to Deal.

He was also a Deal town councillor where he was leader of the Labour majority for a time. This was also for Middle Deal from 1999 to 2007 and for North Deal from 2012 to 2015.

Ian Killbery was born in Portsmouth on February 1, 1947.

He was the son of a Labour city councillor and dockyard worker. Mr Killbery was the first student from his school, then the Southern Grammar School for Boys, to go to Oxford University.

He won an open scholarship to Wadham College to read politics, philosophy and economics.

Mr Killbery began his career as a teacher, first in the north of England, then moving to Deal in the early 1970s to take up a post teaching economics at Dover Grammar School for Boys.



The first High Speed train stopping at Deal in September 2011. Picture: Martin Apps

Mr Rowland said that throughout his working life, Mr Killbery was a pioneer in the world of education and developing technology.

He was seconded to Kings College London to be part of a team developing early computer aided learning materials for schools, the precursor of the online learning tools now.

Mr Killbery continued to develop new ways of using technology to bring children's lessons to life in his later role as Director of Kent Educational Television.

In 1994, he was diagnosed with kidney failure, took early retirement and began the first years of dialysis treatment followed by a kidney transplant in 1997.

At the same time, Mr Killbery and his partner Ilsa Rowe set up a new company, Early Start Languages, to promote the teaching of foreign languages in primary schools.

"We will bring his visions to life."

Their reputation of over 25 years has been built upon engaging films, featuring real French, Spanish and German children at home, at school and out and about in their communities.

Mr Killbery also suffered sight loss and despite having to shield during the height of the pandemic he continued to work and take an active part in local affairs.

Most recently he helped to plan and develop the White Cliffs Community Rail Partnership, which was launched on July 2 this year at Sandwich Railway Station.

The date of the celebration was chosen to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the electrification of Kent's rail network.

Although very fragile, Mr Killbery joined the celebrations and travelled with the official party from Deal to Sandwich by train rather than by car.

WCCRP chairman Cllr Oliver Richardson said: "Ian was a very passionate member of our steering group.

"We will honour him by continuing to work hard and ensure we have a successful Community Rail Partnership and bring his visions to life."

Deal Town Council revealed that it had held a minute's silence for Mr Killbery at its last full meeting.

Mayor Chris Turner told Kent Online: "Ian was an enthusiastic campaigner for the High Speed service to Deal and Sandwich. " His knowledge of local transport issues was the reason the Deal Town Council transport and infrastructure committee was keen to co-opt him again in 2019.

"Councillors remember him with affection and respect for the contributions he made to the life of Deal."

Cllr Ben Bano, a long term Labour colleague of Mr Killbery added "He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace."

Mr Killbery was also chairman of the Dover District Cycle Forum and sat on the Spokes East Kent Cycle Campaign Committee.

He was instrumental in creating the Skylark Trail – an alternative quiet cycle route between Deal and Dover following the tragic road death of 18 year old cyclist Daniel Squire on the Dover Road.

Mr Killbery is survived by Ms Rowe who was his partner of 30 years, their 16-year-old son Sammy plus his grown- up children Martin, Stephen and Emma.

He also leaves five grandchildren, James, Alex, Jude, Milly and Jasmin.

Glyn Hale

By Terry Sutton

Glyn died in hospital on Friday 24th September, 24 hours before the OPs AGM. He was aged 89.

He was quite a character in his home village of Temple Ewell where he resided until a month before his death.

At one stage he was an active member of The Dover Society but, although still listed as its archivist, not very active in recent years.

The Society's newsletter lists Glyn as "Dr S.S.G. Hale" although his Doctorate was clouded in some mystery. He certainly was not a medical doctor, although at times he did nothing to refute that impression. When operating in his village as a newspaper's local correspondent he often wore a "Press" ticket in his hat!

According to Glyn, who listed a number of professional initials after his name, he served as a Major in the Canadian Army. He certainly had links with Canada where his only son now lives.

Terry Sutton remembers Glyn as an interesting character, although, says Terry, not a typical Old Pharosian.

Peter Brothwell – 1961 - 68

By Terry Sutton

Peter Brothwell, at DGSB from 1961-1968 has died. He lived at East Cliff, Dover and was a former partner in Dover solicitors Stilwell and Harby. Peter was born in 1950.

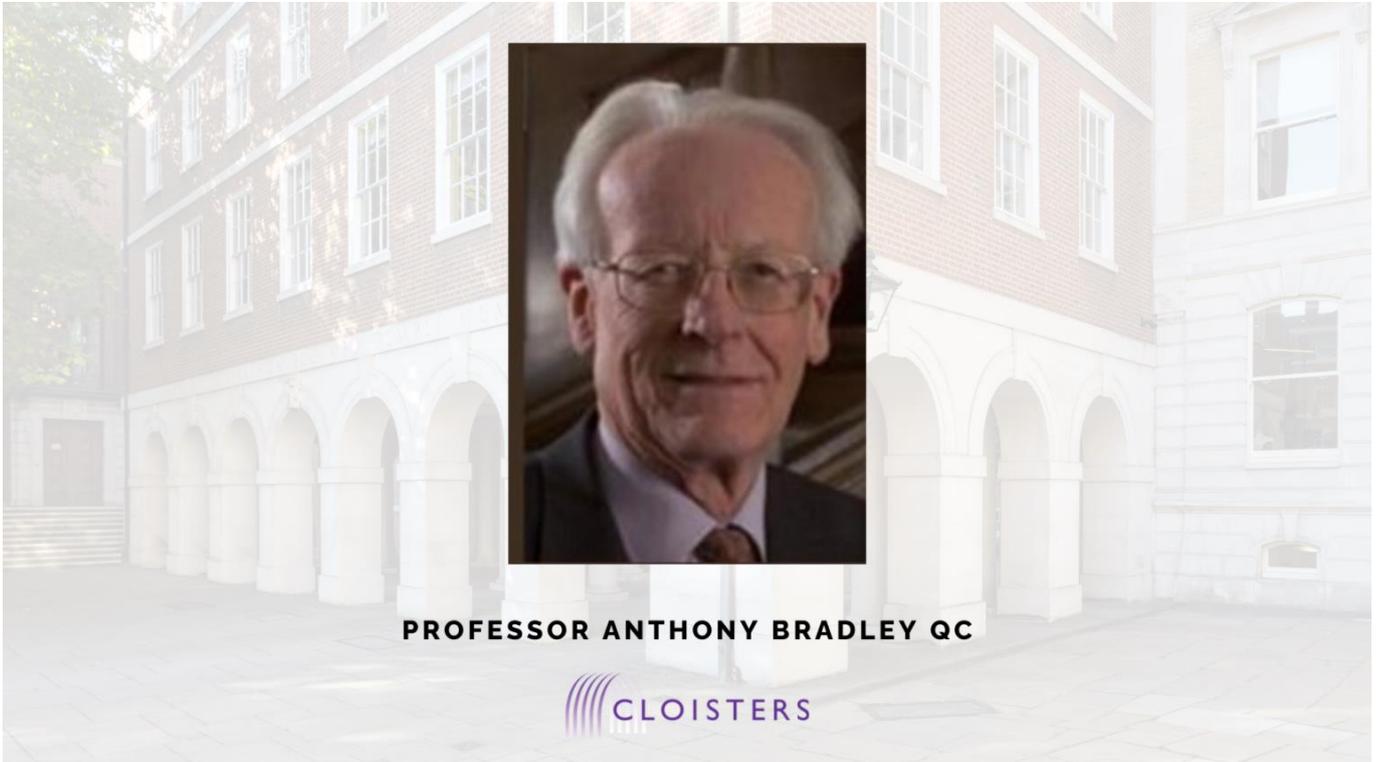
His friend (at school at the same time??) Peter Chambers paid a tribute to Brothwell at the funeral service in October 2021



Peter Brothwell (R) photographed with partners at Stillwell and Harby in the early 1980s.

Professor Anthony Bradley QC – 1945 - 52

Shortly before publication we received sad news that Tony Bradley passed away on 20 December 2021. We are grateful to Cloisters, Tony's Chambers, for permission to use the attached photo and obituary and hope to include a longer obituary in the July newsletter.



Chambers is very sad to learn of the death of our dear friend and colleague, Professor Anthony Bradley QC.

Anthony was called to the bar in 1989 and practiced in human rights and public law from Cloisters. He was made an Honorary QC in 2011. Among the highlights of his career at the Bar was representing the Chagos Islanders who had been forcibly removed by the UK Government to Diego Garcia in 1971, and being involved in litigation to determine the extent to which the Crown and its servants could be held in contempt for failing to comply with court orders.

Tony was among the greatest constitutional lawyers and thinkers of his generation. He was Professor of Constitutional Law at Edinburgh University before coming to the Bar, and a long time editor of *Public Law*. His distinguished appointments included being the UK member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law ("the Venice Commission") and Legal adviser, House of Lords Committee on the Constitution, 2002-05. Tony was well known to generations of students as the author (with Keith Ewing) of *Constitutional and Administrative Law*, which has run to 14 editions.

Tony combined his intellectual ability with a charm and kindness which made him an ideal colleague. He was a friend to all at Cloisters and to many in the service of the law. He will be greatly missed but his contribution to the law will endure for a very long time.

Michael Bodiam

By Terry Sutton

Michael Bodiam, one of our Old Boys who was evacuated with the school to Ebbw Vale, died in June 2021 in a care home in Scotland.

He and his wife Beb lived in Dover Road, Guston for many years before they decided to move to Scotland. While in the village he wrote a short history of Guston. He was an experienced mariner who commanded ferries that sailed from Dover and from Folkestone.

During his year as President of Dover Rotary Club (1985-86) he hired a Sealink ferry and took paying passengers from Folkestone to Boulogne to raise money for Dover RNLI.

Mike attended St Martin's Church, Dover where, at one stage, he was a churchwarden.

Allan Godfrey – 1956 - 63

By Michael Graham

Sadly, Allan Godfrey passed away on 10 September 2021 in his home town of Dover.

As well as being a bright student, Allan represented the school 1st XV at rugby and played for the basketball team and 2nd XI at cricket.

He studied Geography at Reading University and then went to Mackerere University in Uganda to qualify as a teacher - a life long commitment. He worked at Sebei College for 6 years before returning to Edinburgh to take a MPhil in education. He taught in Midlothian for several years and met his first wife Jenny. They had 3 children before Allan obtained a post at Kamuzu Academy, the "Eton of Africa" where he taught RE and Geography. The family enjoyed many trips around Africa until the children reached secondary school age and they and Jenny returned to Britain.

After divorce Allan remarried. He and his new wife Vera had several more children and Allan gained teaching work in Namibia, Jordan and Nigeria. They set up home in Dover for 6 years before he obtained a post in Lesotho.

They returned to Dover when Allan was 66 and he spent his work time marking exam papers. His passion for the outdoor life continued and he read widely.

Allan was a devoted Christian throughout his life. In his latter days he spent as part of the congregation of St Mary's Church and later on St Martin's even more so after his wife died in 2016.

In his younger days he represented Uganda, Malawi and East Africa at rugby. He never boasted about his prowess at the sport. Indeed he liked to tell the tale of a couple of young autograph hunters who he heard saying, "Who is he?" "I don't know, but ask him anyway". Another time a spectator asked him at a Malawi game whether he used to play for Uganda. Allan was quite flattered until, when he confirmed this, he was told, "I thought so. You were bad then and you are just as bad now."

His latter years in Dover allowed him to wander the area and swim regularly in the sea. He attended a few reunions of school friends and met up with Bob Eade 1955-1962 for the occasional beer. Bob attended the funeral at Temple Ewell on 8 October.

Dr Peter Ernest David Morgan – 1948 – 55

By Ian Jarvie



If you keep a list of those deceased pls add to it: Dr. Peter Ernest David Morgan, (1948-1955) died in Southern California, August 30th 2021.

Peter went from the School to Imperial College, London, and thence to Cornell University, The Franklin Institute, Pittsburgh University and, finally, Rockwell International Science Center.

He was a chemist and a materials scientist who did important work on nuclear waste disposal, on ceramic tiles for the space shuttle, and on the properties of monazites. He had many publications in the science literature.

Kitson Keen – 1953 – 60

Many firm friendships are formed during school days and many of these last a lifetime with cherished shared memories never to be forgotten.

Some fade away with the passing of time and the inconveniences of circumstance and distance so it is nice to hear of a recent event.

Kitson---always just Kit--- Keen attended the School from 1953 and formed many friends through his personality and fervent love of music, especially Rock and Roll which was fast becoming every teenager's "must have" at that time and the dawn of a new era.

On 11th. September, Kit's son, also Kit, and his wife, Elaine, invited old friends to a social evening at the Louis Armstrong Pub to celebrate the life of Bob Diggins and to remember Kit Snr. Bob and Kit had enjoyed a good friendship at School and had formed a scaffolding company together later on. Following Kitson's tragic early death, Bob stepped into the gap and, with Kit's widow, had a strong influence in bringing up the children, fulfilling many of a father's cares----a lifelong friendship which ended only recently with Bob's death from the Corona Virus.

Peter Piddock was one of Kit's School friends, and a like-minded devotee of the new music, and often played with Kit's group at local gigs in those heady days when the guitar came into its own, when knowing three chords was enough, and many people didn't really know what a guitar was let alone know where to find one---holidays in Spain hadn't yet been "invented" and a trip to Margate was a special event.

The following piece is Peter's tribute to his old friend.

KITSON

Kit and I became good friends early in the first weeks of our start at the Grammar School. He introduced me to the world of traditional New Orleans jazz, of which I knew nothing. He had a 78rpm record of Johnny Dankworth playing Wagon Wheel Blues. It had a wonderful lyrical clarinet solo which he could copy on a plastic penny-whistle. Wogga lent me a bugle mouthpiece, with which I could get tunes out of a paraffin funnel, and that is how our music collaboration began. We both had access to a mandolin and by stringing them with single strings instead of the usual double courses, tuning them E-B-G-D coming down, we could learn the very crudest approximation to guitar chords: G, C, D7. Kit managed to get a battered old guitar from somewhere. With Wogga on a washboard and me reduced to playing tea-chest bass we were able to start playing skiffle with some of our friends, one or two of whom had guitar or banjo but little skill.

We played in the annexe of the Chance Inn at Guston one afternoon, in a kind of contest with Oscar Theobald and his group, who had a great singer called Jimmy Newell (whose dad had been in the TA Res with mine). It was pretty much all folky skiffly stuff, but Kit was already wanting rock. We did another open skiffle party on Dover beach, which I always thought of as the birth of the rock group. That same summer (1957) my dad made me an acoustic guitar, following the pattern that one of his mates had used to make one for his son. We started doing one or two gigs for parties etc. and I'm not sure how long it took me to get a pickup, but by start of 1958 we had done various Christmas gigs and the group had taken on its familiar shape with Ronnie Hambrook playing a home-made one-string bass, Bob Hopkins also on acoustic guitar and Brian Scotcher on drums. Early in January I acquired an amplifier for £12 which I paid for at 5/ a week (25p!) and became the lead guitarist with my guitar modified by Dad to take the pickup in a scratch plate.

Kit was also passionate about a few other things. Boys Brigade was one, another was an early form of bike BMX, and the third was of course women. Of the girlfriends, the one I liked best and who probably lasted longest at that stage was a stunning little brunette called Trudy Griffiths who lived in the flats in Dour Street. The bike interest focussed on a home-made track out at Farthingloe, with appropriate jumps and so on. I remember that my mate Derrick, who like me worked Saturday mornings as a meat deliverer for Chas Dunnnett of Worthington Street, took the butcher's bike on the track and went over a jump that broke the frame... (Imagine him, with the fortunately empty wicker basket on the front of this ancient crate...) I don't know how Derrick explained it away to Dunnnett but he didn't get sacked so it must have been a good tale. Kit and I were out there one afternoon when he got a puncture. It was feasible to walk back to Hardwicke Road from there but we were wanting to ride, not walk. Kit and I packed the flat tyre as tightly as we could with grass and hit the road. About two thirds of the way home we were overtaken and stopped by the Blessed PC Crush on his Velocette. He was the enemy of anything teen (new phenomenon in those days) and was a plague to the motorcyclists who loved to make as much exhaust row as possible, usually by drilling holes in their silencers, but also the butt of their scorn because his Velocette compared to their mighty and noisy machines. He said Kit couldn't ride the bike as it was unroadworthy, so we walked until he was safely gone and then resumed the ride home, leaving a trail of green sauce...

Kit also fitted his bike with high wide handlebars (he called them cowbars) made from half-inch mild steel gas-barrel. Everyone wore duffel coats. Some of us had flat caps (God only knows why, but it was the fashion). One afternoon of a holiday (half-term I expect) he persuaded me to go up to the grassy banks where Langdon Prison used to be, well beyond East Cliff. Needless to say my skill at rough riding left a lot to be worked on so I went over the handlebars and buckled my front wheel. I remember it being a long walk home to Oswald Road with a very uncooperative bike.

As to the music, one of our delights together was the Friday night Bod Bowles Jazz Club (long, long before The Grapes- he was still working at the Engineering Works in Bridge St). This was upstairs in a small Co-op Hall round the back of what was then the Post Office. It was good raucous trad jazz, and when they wanted beer in the middle of the evening, they would get Kit and me to do the interval spot. We also together got work with Ray Doble and the Bluenotes, who prized Kit's singing (a lot better than Ray's) and my electric guitar work. As well as one or two party gigs (at one wedding I got thoroughly Brahms and Liszt on rum, which at 15 I'd never had before...) we also did a regular so-called "Jazz Club" spot at Dover Working Men's Club every Thursday, for which we got a share of the gate. At the same time we'd entered and won the skiffle contest with five or six other groups held at the Granada cinema (became ABC, then a nightclub, now gone). We lost the regional finals at Hastings to a local group. We were better than them but they had local support and we only had one coach load. If we'd played rock we'd have walked it.

A bit later that Easter term we played at a Jazz Band Ball at the larger Co-op Hall in Maison Dieu Road. There were four bands: Bod Bowles, a Modern Jazz Quartet type group called the Eric Greengrass Quartet, Ray Doble and the Stones. The gate money was shared so Kit and I cleaned up with a double share each.

Among our other adventures about this time I remember going to the pictures with Kit and Wogga to see some awful "horror" film (Creature from the Black Lagoon?) and we took with us a bottle of wine and a small loaf, on which we supped and dined during the performance.

Following our success at the Granada, and motivated by the management's vision of attracting extra customers, we were given a quarter-hour spot for several evenings in the autumn of 1958. It may have been every night for a week, not sure. We played about four numbers, one of which was "Send me some loving", from the first album by Buddy Holly and the Crickets. We all joined in harmony backing, and though I say it myself, it was really good. I think we also did "Whole lotta shakin'" too. We certainly did that when we played at a weekly talent competition at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone. On our first foray we lost to a local group which contained as lead guitarist Peter Scopes, who made the big guitar that Kit played and also sold me my amp. We went back the next week and played "Whole lotta shakin'". I remember we all knelt down when I got the guitar solo, and the lighting guy gave me a blue spotlight. We won, but I can't remember how much. The only comment in my Dad's diary for the evening is that I won a competition during the evening for conducting the band. I got ten shillings (50p, but it was quite a lot in those days – probably five pints of beer or 50 fags...). We had a regular gig at Capel playing for the Youth Club dance most Saturdays (probably when we couldn't get anything better). It paid ten shillings between us (!) and we were having to run up the lane to the main road to catch the last Dover bus.

Brian Scotcher's parents bought him a Morris Traveller, which transformed our lives, as it could take all the kit. I can visualise it still and I remember the reg. – PLP100. On several occasions we ran our own dances for profit, a couple of times at Temple Ewell (why, I don't know) and

once at the Curzon Hall in Tower Hamlets. The latter occasion is a good example of one of the problems we kept having. A group of Teds (“Teddy Boys”) from the St Radigunds – Union Road (now renamed Coombe Valley) area would cause trouble, usually through drink provoking fights, and they turned up to this one. My Dad and my then girlfriend’s Dad were on the door taking tickets or collecting the money. One of these guys got hold of Wendy’s Dad by the shirt and tie and lifted him off the ground (he was only about 5ft 7in and probably 9 to 10 stone). Between them he and my Dad talked the situation down and persuaded one of them to help as a bouncer.

We were plagued by trouble like this at one of our best and well-liked venues, the Strand Palais in Walmer, which was a converted former cinema, become a dance hall. In one corner there was a stage, diagonally across the corner, and about four feet above the floor. This kept us up out of the trouble when the Dover teds were fighting the Royal Marines from the local barracks, but in the end the crowd behaviour killed the gigs.

I once made a list of all the places that I could remember we played at. Sadly I never kept it, but we played every hall in and around Dover, various pubs, several gigs at the posh restaurant The Crypt which was tragically later burned down, we even played for a party for the nuns at the convent that was then in Dieu Stone Lane.

Some time in 1959 I left the Stones and played with another group, occasionally subbing when they were missing someone. I don’t know the circumstances of Kit’s eventual departure from the local music scene, but probably Mick Morris can fill you in. I hope all this is helpful and of some interest to the family.

I lost touch with Kit when I went away to Leeds University in 1960, and only caught sight of him from a distance a couple of times when I went back to teach maths at the grammar school. When he died it was as if someone had taken away a big chunk of my early life. I’ve been back a few times when visiting Dover to the spot where he is buried. I wrote to the family offering to pay for a stone, but was told that he hadn’t wanted that. The Keats thing again; as his own epitaph the poet wrote, “Here lies one whose name was writ in water”. That may have been Kit’s own view of himself, but history and friendship offers a very different view.

Peter Piddock

22 September 2021

Misty Croft

19 Tarskavaig

Isle of Skye

IV46 8SA

01471 855245

Old Pharosians - AGM – 25 September 2021 - Photos



The main entrance to the school



OPs meet for the AGM



President, Sir William Fittall, explains the new constitution



Headteacher, Phillip Hortrup, gives an update on the new buildings



Stephen Pinnock plays the school organ with assistance from John Newman



OPs sing the school hymn 'Let there be light'



Some pictures of the 'old school' - One of the science labs



Quad and main buildings



Tower, lower and upper corridors, and the hall



New school seen from the quad



OPs view the new buildings from the quad



View of the school and art block

Old Pharosians' Association Committee

The Old Pharosians' Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Pharosians' Association held on Saturday 25th September 2021 in The Great Hall at the School.

President's welcome and introduction

The President, Sir William Fittall, welcomed everyone to the meeting, whether they be attending in person or via Zoom.

He spoke of the privilege of being back in the School Hall which had such overwhelming memories for many, whether it be the recollection of assemblies, exams, concerts or plays. He recalled that it was on the stage that he had been a major general's daughter in the Pirates of Penzance, an old woman of Argos in John Paul Sartre's *The Flies* and Private Evans in Lewis Hall's 'The Long and the Short and the Tall'.

He gave special thanks to Phil Horstrup, the Headmaster, who had been a steadfast supporter of the links between the School and the Association, and who had personally unlocked the school today. He also gave thanks to his fellow committee members who had helped with the practicalities of the event following the resignation of the school caterer, especially Phil Harding and Jon Fullarton, as well as his wife, Barbara, who had made the cakes.

His main thanks were to everyone for making the time to be present, in several cases for the first time in 20, 30, perhaps 50 years or more, especially those who had travelled long distances.

He then outlined that the meeting would be in four parts:

1. The transaction of official business because the OPA was a registered charity and required by law to do things properly.
2. An update from the Headteacher about the state of the school and the huge challenges it had been facing with Covid and the building programme. He would then add some personal reflections and conclude with a slightly more solemn moment to ceremonially mark the end of an era.
3. Lunch and conversation in the hall
4. Congregate in the quad to hear more about the building project from an old boy who was part of the construction team, followed by an opportunity to wander the corridors and take photos

He then invited those present to indicate when they had joined the school. There was a good spread from the Booth, Hinton, Colman and Slater eras, as well as some who had started at the school since then.

Members present

A list of attendees is appended.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Beecham, Peter Burville and Richard Gretton.

Minutes of the previous AGM

The Minutes of the 2020 AGM were approved.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Jonathan Fullarton, reported that it had been a quiet year, unusually with no expenditure. The Association's reserves were currently nearly £9500. He thanked the Honorary Auditor, Neil Beverton, for his continued support. The meeting gave a Vote of Thanks to the Treasurer for his work with the Association's finances.

Election of Officers & Committee

The following Officers and Committee Members were elected:

- President: Sir William Fittall. Proposed P J Harding, seconded M H Smith
- Secretary: P J Harding. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Assistant Secretary: T Sutton. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Treasurer: J Fullarton. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Membership Secretary: P Skelton. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Newsletter Editor: J Robertson. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Auditor: M Beverton. Proposed Sir William Fittall, seconded J Catt
- Committee Members: Maurice Smith & Roger Gabriel. Proposed J Chidgey, seconded R Mitchell-King

Newsletter

John Robertson outlined the work undertaken in expanding the Newsletter during the past year and expressed his thanks to everyone who had contributed. Material would always be welcome.

The meeting gave a Vote of Thanks to the Newsletter Editor for his work in producing such excellent publications.

Constitution

The rationale, current constitution and proposed new constitution are appended to these minutes.

In introducing this item, the President made reference to John Catt, who at the 2020 AGM had posed the question: "*why do we link membership to a small subscription when these days what you need is to get as many possible as you can connected with each other online so that they can exchange news and can donate voluntarily to help the Association provide tangible support to the school?*"

Subsequently, the Committee had met and agreed with the suggestion. This had resulted in a new constitution being drafted and sent electronically to the membership. Everyone had been supportive and, except for a couple of drafting queries which had prompted a clarificatory drafting change, the new constitution being presented today was what had been sent in April.

The President explained that the key change in the new constitution was that in future all former pupils and staff members could become members of the Association the school on provision of their contact details. Hopefully, members would make a standing order and/or respond to special appeals.

Sir William Fittall proposed, seconded by John Catt, that the new constitution be adopted. This was carried unanimously by the meeting.

Report from the Headmaster

Phil Horstrup stated how proud he was to be Headmaster of DGSB. When offered the job three years ago, he would still have accepted it even if he had been told he would have to contend with the impact of a pandemic for a prolonged period of time, an Ofsted inspection under a new and rigorous framework, and a building programme. He was committed to staying at the school.

He provided an update on the building programme. The school was due to move into the new buildings on 14th February 2022, and thereafter would have access to the old buildings for just two further weeks. After that, work would commence on removing asbestos from the old buildings, which would then be demolished. The site would be landscaped, with the existing access road being extended and additional parking provided. The memorial window had been removed and was being restored before being hung in a frame – it would be situated in the atrium of the new building with light shining on it – “Fiat Lux”. The organ was to be dismantled, worn parts replaced, and the instrument then rebuilt in the hall of the new building. Other important school memorabilia such as honours boards would also be moved to the new building. An auction was to be held to sell other items from the old buildings; further details to follow.

Covid had presented many challenges and continued to do so. External examinations had been assessed and graded differently in 2020 and 2021. The 2021-22 year had commenced with several members of staff having to self-isolate.

Finally, he spoke of the appeal that would be launched shortly to replace the pianos in the school. He had hoped that the Director of Music would have been able to address the meeting, but she was unable to attend because of illness. The President responded by saying that the OPA would give its full support to the appeal, and that the committee would communicate with members in due course once it had discussed options at its next meeting– contributions via the OPA could be gift-aided and would all go to the appeal. Giving via the JustGiving page that the school intended to create would also be an option, though the site charged a small fee.

Any Other Business

There was no other business

President’s reflections and concluding remarks

Given that this would be the last occasion when the Association would gather in the hall, the President indicated that he felt a weight of responsibility to say something wider ranging than would normally be the case:

“When I first walked up the school hill wearing my school cap and carrying my briefcase in September 1964, it was with an enormous sense of pride that I had an opportunity that neither of my parents had enjoyed. Like most working-class Dover kids they had left school- St Martin’s in my Dad’s case, Barton Road in my Mum’s - at the age of 14 in the 1930s. They were proud that their little boy had made it to the big school on the hill, though they didn’t have much idea what they could do to help beyond buying the uniform.”

“The advice given in a leaflet to parents from the Kent Education Committee, all-powerful in those days, sought to reassure them: *‘Question: Should I try to ‘prepare my own boy? Answer: More harm is done by home ‘instruction’ and special ‘tutors’ than many parents realise...The best foundation for secondary education lies in good reading, wide interests, regular hours and a secure home background.’*”

“I was fortunate because home, though modest, was secure and within a year or two Dr Hinton was saying to my mother, by then working as a dinner lady in the kitchens here, that a bright boy like me should certainly aim to go on from school to university. My parents had little notion of what a university was. After all, only about 7% of school pupils went on to higher education then. But if the headmaster said that it was what I should do, they were all for it.”

“Being at DGSB shaped us all. It was partly the buildings: as Churchill said: *‘we shape our buildings and afterwards our buildings shape us.’*”

“But of course, what shaped all of us at DGSB was not just the buildings but the people, both our fellow pupils and the staff. The school is an institution with its collective memory and its underlying values. When you look at the honours boards behind me you see the names of boys like Clifford Jarrett, Sir Clifford as he became as Permanent Secretary to the Admiralty, who never studied at this building because he was at the school in the 1920s when it was at Frith Road.”

“What matters is that the underlying values endure and the determination remains to provide children from this ordinary and unpretentious town with the best opportunities they can have. This hall is unusually good for a secondary school. But much of the rest of the school is cramped and no longer up to scratch for the needs of today.”

“What then are the underlying values that matter? For me the essence of DGSB was that it sought to provide maximum opportunity for personal development for ordinary lads within a framework that constantly reminded us that we were part of something greater than ourselves. The dozens of us who took part in *The Pirates of Penzance* or in the school choir needed no reminding that it was a collective effort. Ditto for those who were in the many sports teams.”

“Today’s world is more hard-nosed and individualistic than the 1960s. But as we say goodbye to this wonderful hall and as we celebrate all the new opportunities that the present generation will have in the brand new buildings, may we as an Association continue to nurture that confidence in the school as a community, as an institution which nurtures interdependence and mutual support, not simply the survival of the fittest. And may we too, through becoming a more vibrant network enhance the practical support we give to the school - starting with those pianos!”

The members present then stood to sing the first verse of the School Hymn, accompanied by Stephen Pinnock on the organ, followed by the descant verse and a period of quiet reflection about what the school, its staff, and fellow pupils meant.

The proceedings concluded with the following responses:

“We call to mind all those staff who taught us in our generation, who shared with us their knowledge, skill and humanity.”

‘We remember and give thanks.’

“We turn our minds to those who were our friends and fellow pupils at the school, some perhaps here today, others not seen for many years or perhaps no longer with us but in their day our companions and mentors.”

‘We remember and give thanks.’

“We celebrate the vision of those who designed and created these great buildings, and we allow all the memories we have from our days here, the joys and the sorrows, to settle in our minds in an orderly and nourishing way.”

‘We remember and give thanks.’

Philip Harding (Hon Secretary)

Appendix 1 - Attendance list

Name	Years at school
Richard Andrews	1964-71
Tony Baker	1964-71
Jacob Ball	2001-07
Keith Barraclough	1959-64
Ken Bean	1974-81
Steve Blake	1988-95
Dick Bolton	1948-55
John Booth	1948-56
Dick Booth	1951-59
Ian Bottle	1971-78
Simon Carter	1972-80
John Catt	1962-69
James Chidgey	1965-72
Kye Clark	2008-15
Gary Cloke	1986-93
Chris Cook	1960-67
Sam Cook	2008-13

Nick Cooper	1972-79	
Barry Crush	1948-56	(Committee Member)
Michael Deal	1974-81	
David Donald	1974-81	
Ian Donald	1977-82	
Gary Duggan	1976-83	
Peter Eyles	1986-93	
John Fagg	1953-59	
William Fittall	1964-72	(President)
Paul Flint	1970-77	
Jonathan Fullarton	1997-2004	(Treasurer)
Alistair Gardiner	1951-57	
Roger Gabriel	1966-99	Boy and staff (Committee Member)
Paul Gibbs	1961-68	
Andy Grey	1983-88	
Rod Haddrell	1972-79	
Phil Harding	1967-75	(Secretary)
David Haslam	1963-70	
David Hollow	1973-80	
Anthony Hook	1991-98	
Steve Howard	1975-82	
Phil Horstrup	2018-	(Headteacher)
Michael Johns	1988-95	
Rory Keyhoe	1971-77	
Alan Lamoon	1960-65	
Gary Little	1987-93	
Roger Lister	1958-64	
Ken Lott	1945-53	
Steve Martin	1981-88	
Iain Mckenzie	1966-73	
Paul Mold	1971-78	
Wally Nadin	1955-63	
John Newman	1957-64	
Gerald Oates	1972-77	
Matt Odell	1997-2002	

Michael Odell	1994-2001	
Freddie Padfield	2014-21	
Mark Padfield	1986-93	
Sydney Padfield	1953-60	
Mick Palmer	1959-66	(Committee Member)
Stephen Pinnock	1963-65	
John Philpott	1955-63	(Committee Member)
Dave Pudney	1972-79	
Kevin Raine	1975-2000	Staff
John Robertson	1976-83	(Newsletter Editor)
Paul Skelton	1972-2005	Boy & staff (Membership Secretary & Website)
David Slater	1962-69	
Andrew Slade	1986-93	
Maurice Smith	1959-89	Staff (Committee Member)
Adam Stirna	1997-2004	
Roger Summers	1959-63	
Terry Sutton	1940-47	(Assistant Secretary)
Michael Thomas	?-?	Staff
Graham Tuthill	1960-65	
James Watson	1985-92	
Marty Webster	1966-67	
Darren Wilmshurst	1976-83	
David Winter	1975-82	
Keith Worsdell	1961-66	

By Zoom

Mark Ashton	1968-75
Tony Bradley	1945-52
Alan Dalley	1969-76
Louis Martin	1982-87
Bob Mitchell King	1960-67
Brian Moore	1956-64

Tour only

Paul Batchelor	1974-81
Charles (Chuck) Cartmel	
Alan Carver	1978-80
Michael Donovan	1973-80
Adrian Hogg	1974-81
Barry Vaughn	1974-81

