

THE FOSTERIAN

The Magazine of the Old Fosterians' Association



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No. 23 Spring 2017

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of the
OLD FOSTERIANS' ASSOCIATION
2016/2017

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FOREWORD

COMMENTS FROM THE HON. SECRETARY (outgoing)

My sincere apologies to all OFA members regarding the delay and sparse contents of the last magazine, published in 2016. Due to both work and family commitments my time was very limited and difficult to find for the production of the magazine. My thanks go to Philip Dolbear and John House in particular, for helping out on the compiling of the contents and to Graham Bunter for final production, printing and dispatch. My pleas for assistance have been heard and I am very grateful to Kevin Parsons who has agreed to take over the production of the magazine in conjunction with Graham, who will continue to arrange printing and distribution. My thanks also to David Noble who has agreed to take on the task of general secretary. Continued gratitude goes to Simon Newell for maintaining the contact database, Jeff Jenkins for managing the website, Ian Maun and John House for managing the annual dinner.

T Ashmore

The President's Remarks

The question of the reorganisation of education in Sherborne (25 years ago) and last years 'Brexit' referendum had one thing in common; both created vast divisions within the community. Families, students, councils, teachers and, governors. All were convinced that either the successfully well-established system should be retained or that reorganisation was needed to introduce wider opportunities together with a much broader curriculum. I recall attending secret meetings, passionate public debates, campaign sessions and the judicial review. Should Brexit achieve an outcome such as the Gryphon School has done over the past 25 years this country should enjoy positive exciting times. Few would disagree that the 'Gryphon' has evolved and exceeded expectations. Congratulations to The Gryphon School its Staff and Governors, past and present, on your 'Silver Anniversary'.

Further thanks must go to all the Officers and Committees for guiding the 'virtual school' Association during this time. As for the future, although at present is relatively sound, by its very nature, the numbers and perhaps its purpose will diminish. Please forward your views and ideas as to how we should proceed to your committee for consideration during any negotiations.

I look forward meeting you at our three main events. Founders Day, (would welcome more support), 'Silver Anniversary' Dinner, (book your tickets early) and Remembrance Service.

M.J.Goode (President)

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

I am writing this enthused by the new life in the Association. We should be very grateful to Tim Ashmore after several years of loyal and hard service as Secretary having kept a number of the Association's 'plates spinning'. He now steps down as Secretary. We have the luxury of more volunteers to take on different roles and spread the workload.

We now have David Noble as Secretary and Kevin Parsons as Magazine Coordinator. Ian Maun continues to mastermind the Annual Dinner, Simon Newell the Membership List and Jeff Jenkins the Web and Facebook interfaces. A massive thank you as well to the other Committee Members for their unstinting work.

I would also like to pay tribute to Dennis Ball who has stood down from the Committee after I don't know how many year's. He can enjoy a well-earned rest!

I hope you enjoy the Magazine. As usual it is reliant on your contributions to keep it fresh. If you feel you cannot be bothered, please can I prick your conscience with the energy of a very sprightly 90+ years Harry Hughes DFC who travelled up from St Ives for the Dinner. He was returning home after for just a couple of days before setting off for London to attend a Service reunion.

Please do take note of the 2017 events and we look forward to seeing as many as possible at those.

Philip Dolbear

TREASURER'S REPORT

At 31st December 2016 -The balances of the OFA accounts are as stated below for the year end 2016.

Assets at 31st December 2016

NatWest Reserve A/c	£1714.24
NatWest Current A/c	<u>£1344.84</u>
Total	<u>£3059.08</u>

Subscriptions received from members in 2016 totalled £609.00 and are accounted for within the NatWest Current A/c.

Expenditure at 31st December 2016

Magazine printing / posting	£466.69
Founders Day Church Ex.	£137.50
BMV Dinner Adverts (3)	£108.30
Poppy wreaths	<u>£50.00</u>
Total	<u>£762.49</u>

I have not received any claims by members of the committee for any expenses incurred by them for calendar year 2016.

The War Stock investment of £180 was credited to the Associations Current A/c on 1st February 2106. Just to repeat for any new members, or for those who didn't read my scribblings in 2015.....

"It may be of interest to the membership that the Association started buying War Stock in 1937 and continued to do so up to 1941, to a total value of £180. This investment has earned interest in excess of £450"

At the AGM, the committee requested I break out the annual members subscriptions that the Association receives. This has now been included in my annual year end statement.

Just to remind the membership, that I do not itemise the income for either the Founders Day Lunches or the Annual Dinner (nor their expenditure) as both these events are fully self-funding. All income received by whatever means is accountable and traceable through the Nat West Current account statements. Expenditure likewise is all through the single cheque book operating on that account.

P R Holden 5/1/2017

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Minutes of the Old Fosterians' Association AGM 2016

Date: 15 October 2016

Venue: Sherborne Golf Club

Chair: Mr Philip Dolbear

Apologies

Mr M. Goode Mr D Ball Mr J Derham

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Unanimously agreed by those present as being a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Memorial Trust – questions asked regarding the recognition of the name of Richard Foster with regards to contributions made from the Trust. Action -P.D. to ask M.G. about the funding and under which name any money is made.

Advert in the Blackmore Vale magazine for the OFA annual dinner – J.H. raised the question as to whether any responses had been received for tickets to the dinner as a response to the advert and whether the funding should be made for next year. General view from the attendees was that the advert had not produced any new leads for the meal.

Chairman's Report

The Founders' day service in May was held in the afternoon, with tea afterwards at the Eastbury Hotel. Few OFA members had attended

and were greatly outnumbered by former members of Lord Digby's School.

The Remembrance Day service will be held on the 11th November at the Gryphon school and all Old Fosterians are invited. The guest speaker is a former Old Boy Justin Butcher, who is now in the RAF.

Thanks were expressed to the committee members over the past 12 months. Dennis Ball has submitted his resignation from the committee due to family commitments. P.D. thanked Dennis for his support on the committee over past years.

Funding of £200 was provided for the Douzelage project for one student for a musician trip to Slovakia.

Treasurer's Report

An interim report for the period up to September 2016 was provided by the honorary treasurer. The full report is provided at the end of each calendar year. The former Barclays account has been closed and funds transferred into the Nat West account. The War Stocks were bought back by HMG in February 2016.

A request was made for a summary of income received to be included in the annual report. Action -PH to include annual income in the end of year financial report.

The current funds within the Association average around £2,000. Options were discussed on what to do with this money as it is not making any interest. Discussions during the "Any Other Business" concluded that this money should be made available for part funding additional students in Sherborne on an "as - needed" basis for individual cases through the Douzelage scheme. This was agreed by all as being in line with the original aims of Richard Foster in furthering education for under-privileged children.

Election of Officers

All existing officers and committee were happy to continue in current roles with the exception of the Secretary (Tim Ashmore) and committee member Dennis Ball. Those standing were proposed by Gary Ireland and agreed unanimously.

The secretarial role was described by T A. as being divided into two

parts – one, general secretarial aspects and the other as co-ordinator of the magazine production. Subsequent to the meeting David Noble (85-92) has agreed to take over the general secretarial role. At the time of the issue of these minutes there is no one responsible for general co-ordination of the magazine.

Any Other Business

P.D. announced that next year's Founders' Day service will be held on 13th May followed by afternoon tea at the Eastbury Hotel. Next year's reunion dinner will be 14th October, at the Golf Club.

J.H raised the issue of enquiries for membership via the website. Action - PD to clarify with Jeff Jenkins who manages the website to discuss options.

Meeting closed at 18.40

P.D. Philip Dolbear

J.H. John House

P.H. Peter Holden

Old Fosterians' Dinner 2016

The OFA Annual Reunion Dinner took place on October 15th, 2016, at the Sherborne Golf Club. With wives and partners, we had a total of 38 guests, which made for a very sociable and enjoyable evening.

As President of the OFA, Mike Goode was due to attend, but unfortunately he was unwell on the evening. His daughter Jenny did some rapid thinking and brought a guest in his place. We look forward to seeing Mike this year.

It was particularly pleasing to welcome Harry Hughes, who was at Foster's between 1934 and 1940, thus spanning the period of the school's transfer from Hound Street to Tinney's Lane. Other guests joined the school from 1947 to 1985. Regular attendees, of course, were those who constituted the last entrants to Foster's and who left when the school closed in 1992.

We were very pleased to welcome a number of former LDS pupils, some now married to Old Fosterians. It is certainly good to see strong links between the two schools, and we hope that Old Digby's pupils will continue to attend the OFA Dinner in quantity.

The large attendance at the Dinner brought new faces to the Annual General Meeting, which preceded the festivities, and the OFA has been strengthened by our younger members taking on Committee duties. Welcome and thank you!

This year's Dinner takes place on October 14th at Sherborne Golf Club, 6.45 for 7.15, preceded by the AGM at 5.30. Applications for the Dinner by September 30th, please. Do come along if you can.
Ian Maun, Staff 1977-1986

FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE - 14th May 2016, Castleton Church.

A small number of Old Boys joined a rather larger number of Old Girls for this traditional annual service. Members present included Mike Goode, Philip Dolbear, John House, Pete Holden and Jim Dereham.

The Service was officiated by The Revd. Sister Isobel Keegan. Those present got a little surprise when she warned us she had prepared her address on sex having misread the reading reference! She took her passage from the Song of Songs book.

She talked about the similarities between God's love for us and love in marriage. The latter includes sex designed by God as part of togetherness. Togetherness has 3 facets - physical, emotional and spiritual. She reiterated that we are all different which sometimes causes friction though this can give scope for growth and improvement. Whatever, it takes hard work. We were shown how the Song of Songs gives us a picture of what the goal is.

She considered how those present had all developed and changed in lots of ways since their School days and how we were a prism of light in God's eyes. As in the reading taken from Philippians (Ch 4 vs 4-8), like Paul in jail still happy in God's love, we have a lot to be thankful for in God's love for us.

After the Service, everyone returned to The Eastbury Hotel for a delicious cream tea and a good natter to catch up on old times.

Philip Dolbear

The Richard Foster Travel Bursary

The Committee has made the decision to utilise some of the Association funds in memory of our Founder Richard Foster for a new Travel Bursary.

This is an award to a male or female Gryphon School student taking part in Sherborne Douzelage travel. The Bursary is funded by the Old Fosterians Association in memory of Richard Foster, the original Founder of Foster's School.

The Bursary will be made towards the cost of overseas travel of educational benefit to the recipient. It will be awarded to enable travel that might otherwise not have been possible or easy financially for the recipient.

The Bursary may be made annually to a maximum of £200 per annum, but may be split between 2 recipients. The minimum is £100. The Bursary is discretionary by the Sherborne Douzelage Committee who will administer the selection process and final selection(s). At the Committee's discretion, the Bursary may not be awarded in a particular year but the funds shall not be rolled over to a larger Bursary the following year.

The successful recipient(s) will be advised to the Secretary of the OFA by the Douzelage Committee. Post travel, the Recipient(s) will

provide an article (250+ words) for printing in the OFA Magazine outlining the visit , purpose and benefits. The article shall be titled the Richard Foster Travel Bursary YYYY.

Enquiries should be made to The Sherborne Douzelage Secretary and Applications should be made in writing using the attached application form to:

The Sherborne Douzelage Secretary
Mary Clothier, tel.01963 251255.
1 South Street, Milborne Port, Sherborne, DT9 5DH,
marydmc38@gmail.com

Douzelage Young Musician of the Year 2016

On July 6th this year, five students from local schools – Evie (Leweston School), Elizabeth (Leweston School), Joss (Sherborne School), Valerie (Sherborne Girls) and Christiana (Bruton School) – accompanied by Rachel Milestone and Tim Roberts from Leweston School, boarded a plane to Zvolen, Slovakia, to compete in the Douzelage Young Musician of the Year 2016 competition, alongside students from nine other Douzelage towns across Europe.



Valerie concentrating hard on her piece.

The project was originally conceived to give young musicians a range of experiences; to let them mix with their peers from other nationalities and to help them appreciate how music brings them together. This year's competition did just that. Our students worked hard musically, practising independently for their own competition recital and in

ensembles with the other musicians. However, there was also time allocated for sight-seeing around the town and social events such as the bowling and crazy golf evening. All five musicians performed admirably, all receiving praise from the judging panel. The standard of competitors was extremely high but ultimately it was Valerie on the piano that got through to the grand final in Zvolen Castle. In the end the title of Douzelage Young Musician of the Year 2016 went to a young trumpeter from France, but all the Sherborne musicians performed in the final concert and it was, without a doubt, an experience that will stay with them all for a long time to come.

Dr Rachel Milestone, Director of Music

... and on the same theme, a personal view from Christina.

“In the Summer holidays, I travelled to Heathrow with a small group of other musicians; Evie Davies (voice) and Elizabeth Hobbs (Bassoon) from Leweston, Joss Nelson (French horn) from Sherborne Boys’ School and Valerie Tsoi (piano) from Sherborne Girls’ School along with Dr Rachel Milestone and Mr Tim Roberts, two fantastic teachers from Leweston.

We flew to Vienna and then travelled on to stay in Zvolen in Slovakia for a week in order to compete in the international finals of the ‘Douzelage Young Musician of the Year’ competition. There were musicians competing from nine other Douzelage towns across Europe.

The hotel was really lovely. The music tuition was extremely strenuous but I certainly learnt a lot. We spent most days rehearsing and played music together well into the evening. We also had time to rehearse for our individual performances which was good and sometimes we managed to slip away to do some sightseeing and shopping. On Thursday we took a trip to the ruins of the old Zvolen Castle, Pusty Hrad which was very interesting and we took a lot of photographs.

The initial round of the international competition was held at Zvolen music school at the end of our stay. Everyone played and sang very well and Valerie made it to the final which was held in the wonderful new Zvolen castle. A young trumpeter from France won overall and

gained the title of International Young Musician of the Year. We all contributed to an exciting final concert in the castle and had a great time. The day before we came home, we went bowling and made new friends from Latvia and Hungary. It was a wonderful experience and I'm truly grateful to have been given such an opportunity.

Christina



L to R - Joss Nelson, Christiana Bingley, Timothy Roberts (co leader), Tsoi Wing Yin (Valerie), Elizabeth Hobbs, Rachel Milestone (Leader and Director of Music at Leweston School, Evelyn Davies

Sherborne Douzelage is very grateful to the Old Fosterians Association for sponsoring this student to take part in the project and go on the trip.

House Martin Survey, Foster's Field 2016

House Martins are summer visitors to our shores and due to the rate of decline of their population they are on the 'amber' list of internationally endangered bird species. The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) is an organisation that carries out many scientific

studies of bird populations and they have run a 2 year study of House Martins in 2015 and 2016. The 2015 study was to identify colonies of the birds and an overview of their nesting success. This was extended in 2016 to try to monitor



breeding numbers and the residents of Foster's Field housing area, built on the site of Foster's School and playing fields, agreed to conduct a survey for the BTO. Our thanks go to Barbara Elsmore for coordinating and recording this study.

"Before the house martins arrived here in the Spring of 2016 35 nests were logged for Foster's Field with the British Trust for Ornithology House Martin Survey. Many householders with house martins on their homes kindly took part in the survey and kept an eye on the comings and goings at the various nests. A considerable number of the original nests were in situ from the days when Foster's Field was a building site and following a heavy storm there was a lot of water lying about.



Two early residents witnessed the birds from their kitchen window as they flew down to collect mud and immediately began to nest build under the eaves of the new houses. The birds appear to be opportunists in the first place spotting this sort of potential for nest building which is why

there is another colony in the Granville Way area probably also begun when the development was a huge building site. This year it was wet at the beginning of the season and so there was mud lying about to repair nests and to build new ones.

Problem for the birds here is that the mud had to be collected from probably the nearest farm meaning it did not have the helpful addition of anything a builder might have left around and so some of these new nests failed. I found one on the ground made entirely of very wet farmyard manure which I could identify from the smell. Some did stick, however, and at the end of the season there were at least an extra nine nests. It was not possible, for various reasons, for all the original 35 nests that were logged in the Spring to be reported on but 29 of them were. All 29 nests were occupied and the vast majority of them produced two broods. It is probably safe to say that the remaining six unreported nests achieved a similar success rate, however, it was observed that the new nests, built this year, raised just one brood.

As co-ordinator of our neighbourhood study I can give a 'guesstimate', of our results based on the six nests I observed as follows: If the 35 original nests achieved two broods and the nine new nests achieved one brood each that would total 79 broods. If each fledged brood achieved, on average, three successfully flying young that would mean that the 88 adult birds who occupied the nests here in Foster's Field raised at least 474 young between them.

This photo which shows the nests I observed began the season with five nests in place. A sixth nest was built during the season. The five nests produced two broods each raising 3-4 young. The new nest produced one brood of four.



Barbara Elsmore

LOOKING BACK

This year, we have a positive plethora of history to digest. First, courtesy of John House, we look at extracts taken from the Fosterian magazine 50 years ago (1967) and from 25 years ago (1992) when the School finally closed.

Most O F A magazines can be viewed on the Old Fosterians' Association website administered by Hugh Jenkins. (1971 – 76). An almost complete number of magazines are kept in the Sherborne Museum along with many other School artefacts.

Next, Gordon Chubb takes us further back to the mid-1940's and finally, our President, Mike Goode reflect on his time as House Master at the Boarding House. But first...

FOSTER'S SCHOOL 1967.

STAFF

Mr C R W Francis B.Sc. M.A. (Oxon) Headmaster.

Mr P D F Miller B.SC. London Mathematics. Senior Master

Mr S G McKay M.A. (Oxon) History

Mr E L Maltby A.T.D. Art.

Mr E A Davis B.A. (Bristol) Latin

Mr A J Norfolk. B A (London) Geography

Mr K H House DIP.PE (Cardiff) Physical Training

Rev. D Meyer-Klugel B A (Manchester) B D German

Mr J F Crouch M.Coll.H Woodwork & Technical Drawing

Mr R L Lowcock M A (Cantab) French

Mr B Davis B.SC. (Exeter) Physics

Mr G Tomlinson B A (Hull) English

Mr D G Stansfield B A (Dunelm) A R C O. A R C M.

Captain of School – T G Hoddinott.

Deputy Head of School – D J Holden

Captain of Boarding House – D R J Bradbury & M J Rust.

Prefects – JW Abbott, M J Biss, J P R Foxwell, J N Goode,
G J Hartley, A P Lincoln, C P Lincoln.

House Captains – St Aldhelm's.- J P R Foxwell

St Bede's - M J Biss . St Dunstan's - T G Hoddinott

School House - D R J Bradbury & M J Rust.

Games Captains - Rugby – T G Hoddinott. Soccer – D J Holden. Cricket
– D J Holden. Athletics – J N Goode. Cross Country –
J N Goode. Tennis – M J Biss.. Swimming – M J Rust.

..and now that annual institution:

THE COMMONERS' CONCERT 1967

The Commoners' Concert, the forty-fourth in the series, was performed on the 3rd and 4th March, to quite good houses. Again it took the form of plays from the junior, middle and senior school, with musical items to provide a change of emphasis.

The junior play, 'Toad of Toad Hall' was well presented by Forms 1 & 11 with Neill, as Mole and Davey as Toad, showing particularly to advantage. This play moved well, and with very effective scenery, provided a good start to the programme.

A Lincoln, Nichols and Rust then sang some modern folk songs, which seem to tend more towards the lugubrious than did the old fashioned sort, but this was counterbalanced by the succeeding item of cross talk between Bruen and Rust.

The Junior Choir followed singing 'Old Mother Hubbard', 'Song of Summer' and 'Edelweiss'.

The second part of the programme began with the middle school play- 'Before the Flood' by A A Milne. This was a rather ambitious attempt by Forms III & IV to cope with a difficult play, incorporating as it does contrasting personalities and a good deal of philosophy. Irving, as Noah's second son and Evans in the part of Noah's wife, Hannah, coped very well and the cast as a whole deserve praise for their very valiant attempt.

After a brief session of nostalgia conducted by the Victorian Master Singers, Forms V & VI b presented L.du Garde Peach's 'Fable of Bagdad'. This extravaganza went with a swing, Bailly especially holding the eye as the mercurial Ali, and once again the very effective scenery contributed to the success of the performance.

(A J N.)

SWIMMING.

The School House again won the House Challenge Cup. They were well served by M Rust, G Hartley, A Lincoln, C Lincoln and S Mitchell. Other swimmers who performed well were J Hart, S Spedding, D Smith M Irving and S Ross.

In the County Finals M Rust and S Ross came 3rd in their events and the senior relay team came second.

THE FOSTERIAN. Dec, 1992.

The last magazine to contain news of the School and the first to be produced solely by the Old Fosterians' Association.

'As long as there are Old Fosterians there will always be a Foster's School.' S G M.

1992 OLD FOSTERIANS' ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

President.- S G McKay. Chairman – K H House.

Secretary –M Goode. Treasurer – J Pike.

Committee – R Brewer, G Bunter, R Gay, J House, J James, G Marks, K Millar, E Pile, G Pitman, N Saunders.

1992 GRAND FINAL SUMMER BALL

A group of Teachers and Parents decided to have a Grand Final Summer Ball on Friday 3rd July. A large marquee was erected in the field with a canvas covered way into the School, The main Hall was decorated in school colours, the Gym was converted into an extensive bar and tombola stand and classrooms were used for the buffet.

490 ex pupils, boy-friends, girl-friends, husbands and wives plus staff and teachers from both Foster's and Lord Digby's Schools attended. Music was provided by the 'Bin Liners' and the 'Hexagon' group plus two further disco groups. Dancing was non-stop from 9-30pm to 1.00 am. An unintentional profit of £600 was made on the evening which was donated to local charities.

A BBC radio programme which was produced by J D Knight (49 – 56) called Age to Age featured a programme about the closure of Foster's School in which S G McKay (AM 46 – 79) participated and the Yetties sang their rendering of the School Song.

May 22nd 1992 the final Old Boys v The School Cricket match was played and the Old Boys won by 12 runs. Teams were Old Boys v School Cricket (cont.)

Old Boys:- I Brooks, D Sandfford, A Cockerham, I Knobbs, C Petrie, M Day, M Robinson, M Gunn M Goode & J Crouch.

The School team:- B Ireland, R Burt, G Marks, G Hole, A Burrows, G Ireland, I Murray, R Wilson, S Mabey, N Saunders & A Palmer.

Umpires:- K House & W J Paulley.

SCHOOL PRIZE LIST – 1992.

George Elliott Art Prize – Mark Manning.

Senior Art Prize – David Ackroyd.

Green/Molloy English Prizes – Mark Manning & Joshua Evans.

Ernest Hulme Memorial Bursary – James Beverly & Andrew Stobart.

GCSE Subject Prizes.

Art – Gavin Morris. Business Studies – Oliver Hole. Design & Communication – James Edmonds. English – Mark Manning. French – Paul Eggleton. Geography – Gregory Battarbee. German – Mark

Manning. History – Guy Trust. Maths – Christopher Slarke & Jason Dowding. Science – Christopher Slarke & Mark Manning. Technology – James Beverley.

G C S E Special Prizes.

James Beverley, Oliver Hole, Mark Manning, Edward Parsons, John Pharoah, Christopher Slarke, Andrew Stobart, Guy Trust.

'A' Level Subject Prizes.

Art – Randolph Burt. Biology – Ian Murray. Business Studies – Ian Murray. Chemistry – Robert Haines. English – Dean Mitchell. French – Alexander Palmer. German – Joshua Evans. Mathematics..- Robert Haines & Alexander Palmer. Physics – William Nutt.

'Advanced Level' Upper Sixth Examinations passed by :-

D Ackoyd, P Brine, R Budgell, R Burt, R Crampton, B Divall, J Evans, R Haines, G Hole, G Ireland, D Kelly, D Mitchell, A Morey, I Murray, D Noble, W Nutt, A Palmer, O Rushworth, K Vickers, R Wilson, P Worboys.

Meanwhile, Gordon Chubb (1939-46) recalls an earlier time from the first year of peace after the 2nd World War.

I was prompted to write after reading the obituary to John Paulley in the last magazine. Like John I was at school from 1939-46. We were in the same class, the same house, St Dunstons, and both played in the 1st X1 football and cricket teams. Whereas he joined The Army Cadets, I joined the Air Training Corps. The War Years have been well documented. During our later years we did fire duties on a rota system at the school. One event I did not enjoy was the walk down to the Kings School outdoor swimming Pool at 10am on summer Wednesday mornings. So cold!!

The school play was “The Amazing Dr Clitterhouse”. Featured here from the left are Mrs Hulme (French teacher), Mr Wilshire (Science), Gordon Chubb and David Childs.



The First XI 1945-46

*Mr H Lush (Headmaster), N Devonshire, RF Fox, JA Fisher, FB Paulley
AS Kerr, WJ Carver, EL Guy, ET Patch, Mr PDF Miller,
PJ Tompkins, GH Chubb, WJ Paulley, WL Baggs, RD Gay
DR Baker, E Devonshire*

I look back with pride that I was in the first batch of scholars to occupy the Tinney's Lane School (House shoes obligatory!) Sadly there are few of us oldies left now. Living on the Isle of Wight I no longer drive on the mainland so Sherborne is a long way away. My brother Terry lives in Chichester. Aubrey Best in Florida. Arthur Waller in West Moors. John Inch in Thirsk. It's easy to reminisce as one gets older. School Days stand out in one's memory. Great Days! Good luck to the association.

Gordon Chubb

Gordon also sent in the programme for the 1946 Commoners Concert. It is good to see the usual mix of entertainment, including, unusually, two Old Fosterians. However, in this enlightened World, I doubt we would approve of "Junior Boxing"!

Foster's School, Sherborne
COMMONERS CONCERT
March 30th 1946.

1.	Piano Solo. D. J. Gay	
	Moonlight Sonata (Adagio sostenuto) (Beethoven)	
	Dance Characteristique (Paul Ambroise)	
2.	"Tom Pearce's Grey Mare" Members of Vb.	
3.	"The Miller's Daughter or "Foiled Again", an original Melodrama (?)	
	in two scenes with L. A. White, G. C. Henley, J. W. Stubbings and R. Coleman (JVa)	
4.	Piano Accordion and Cornet Duet W. L. Baggs and R. W. Taylor	
5.	Two Scenes from "Toad of Toad Hall" (A. A. Milne.)	
	Mole D. E. L. Tucker	
	Rat R. M. Glover	
	Badger C. Tapper	
	Toad R. G. Harris	
	Chorus of Wild Wooders Members of IVb.	
INTERVAL		
6.	"Stage Coach" a play by L. Du Garde Peach	
	Scene 1 Interior of an inn	
	Scene 2 The Stage Coach	
	Scene 3 The interior of another inn	
	The Players Members of Form III	
7.	Recitation "The Glory of the Garden" (Rudyard Kipling) R. M. Glover	
8.	Junior Boxing H. A. Morrison v H. R. Hedditch J. Walters v J. A. Morrison	
9.	Trumpet Solo L. A. White	
10.	Two Old Fosterians will entertain Messrs. G. Spiller and C. A. Lowman	
11.	Duet C. F. Spinner and J. H. F. Devoto	
	"He shall feed his flock like a shepherd" (Handel)	
	"Brother James' Air" (arr Gordon Jacob)	
12.	"Snobs" a play by E. Temple Thurston	
	Hepple, a manservant G. H. Chubb	
	Herbert Bradbury E. L. Guy	
	Mrs. Bradbury M. M. Bennett	
	Lord William Saville W. J. Paulley	
	Warder R. F. Fox	
	Scene: The dining room of Herbert Bradbury's Country house at Walkhampton, Dartmoor.	

THE SCHOOL SONG.

Now, the Goode family recalls their time as housemaster and housemistress with some diary extracts

THE BOARDING HOUSE, mid 1980's

(A view from the Housemaster)

As a self-governing school boarding house organized on behalf of the Education Authority, lengthy annual negotiations would conclude with a budget and quarterly money would be deposited into an account with a local Bank from which the Housemaster organized and financed the House. Rates and large scale maintenance being undertaken by the Authority.

Numerous pages of advice were available as to responsibilities. Below is a brief summary of the expectations.

DUTIES

The Housemaster/mistress or Houseparent in charge will:—

- (a) Supervise and control the Boarding House.
- (b) Have the task of homemaking and the parental oversight of boarders;
- (c) Be in “loco parentis” and will be expected to accept all the implications of this in terms of “child care” at any time including at least the medical care expected of a competent parent;
- (d) Provide the Head regularly with information about all matters concerning the boarders and the boarding house

The Housemaster/mistress has the same rights and responsibilities as parents in the way they treat children. It follows that he/she will be responsible to the Head for the matters listed below.

A. INDOORS

- (1) Household economics and housekeeping— involving employment and supervision of all household and domestic staff.
- (2) Maintaining an efficient accounting procedure to provide a close check on monies spent on provisions, wages and household expenses.
- (3) Maintaining effective liaison with the County Treasurer's

- Department to achieve accurate budgeting for future expenditure.
- (4) Supervision of dietary planning for catering and cooking.
 - (5) Ensuring that the house and its furnishings are kept clean, safe, secure and attractive.
 - (6) Maintaining a stock of essential medical supplies.
 - (7) Ensuring the cleanliness and good repair of all linen.

B. OUTDOORS

- (1) Maintenance of grounds — involving the employment and supervision of outdoor staff.

C. EMERGENCIES

- (1) Keeping procedures in case of fire, accident or other emergencies fully up to date and ensuring they are understood by all staff, boarders and other residents.
- (2) Being responsible for the overall security of the premises and for the safety of all staff, boarders and other residents.

D. GENERAL

- (1) Supervising caretaking, portering, handiwork and the maintenance of plant and equipment.
- (2) Arrangement for the repair or replacement of equipment where necessary.
- (3) Inspection of the fabric of the house and reporting defects.

E. BOARDERS

- (1) Moral and physical development of boarders, their social training and cultural standards.
- (2) Health and well-being of boarders.
- (3) Maintaining discipline and encouraging self-discipline.
- (4) Supervising the participation of boarders in household duties.
- (5) Fostering loyalty to the School and encouraging integration between the boarding and day sections.
- (6) Ensuring good relations with neighbouring schools.

The few extracts below are from the Housemistress's diary and the log book of the Housemaster, taken completely unaltered and at random. Only the actual names of the boarders have been substituted by coded initials. It is hoped that it truly reflects events

HOUSEMISTRESS

Boys returned by 9.00pm .

Order 12pt of milk.

Parents, trunks and boys. 3.00pm to 8.30pm

Sept 4: Sick notes for School. S.L on crutches, B.A off games etc 3 months. Doctors report.

Cash and carry, ruined cheque paid cash.

Repaired curtains with Mrs. Burns

Sept 8: 8.00 am. No milk! Arrived 8.25. M.B missing breakfast. Too much celebrating 18th birthday

3.00pm meat not arrived, telephoned. Made out Booker's order.

Sept 10: Find a Rugby shirt for P.B. Also needs a blazer, and anorak, from Parents Association. Purchased necessary medical stock.

Sept 12: Milk late again. Sign B.C.G. forms for school. Mr. Nutt plumbing repairs. Mrs. Hill telephoned to arrange holding music lessons at the House. S.L rash under arm pits

Sept 14: M.B. sick, in bed all day. 12.30 am. Fire practice.

Sept 15: Saturday cook ran out of chips. P.B. new pair of trousers. Mrs. Griffiths to check price. Sale at Digby Hall. Purchased some chairs for common room. Put up curtain rail, replaced outside light bulbs. Tutors first weekend duty, looks like he will need some help regarding carving meat. Two boys early to bed for a week.

Sept 19: K.E. cut knee fell through roof of coal shed recovering a ball. All boys on x-country as 'changed exercise'

Sept 24: Cash and carry, also Pubs and Hotel, purchased 3 teapots. New video recorder from Radio rentals.

Oct 20: No cook today. Did all meals. 7.30 am – 6.45pm.

Nov 8: Urinals blocked.

Nov 19: Staff meeting re Christmas dinner etc. Mixed 4 large Christmas puddings.

Jan 30: Decorators re estimate for kitchen etc. Boiler serviced and gas board look at hall heater.

Feb 1: Urinals blocked again. Two boys missing at fire-drill.

HOUSEMASTER

Full House meeting 9.00pm. All new routines published on board. A.J.B not back until tomorrow.

Sept 4: Short on food! Gave 2 boys money for fish and chips. Need to find another gardener.

Sept 6: Insisting on statutory notice regarding boarders and school detention. Notice for staffroom. N.S to library to clear debt. Meeting with senior dorm, re behaviour etc. keep eye out on H.P.

New routine for house inspection worked well. Excellent by boys. Very good Saturday cook and organized in kitchen. Sunday's meat delivered rather late.

Sept 8: Milk late again, just enough at breakfast after some rationing. I cut the boys lawn, punishment group weeded tarmac area. After 3 phone calls sausages for supper eventually arrived.

Collected 6th form boys following party at Clay Pidgeon. Fire drill and report in book. E.N. works on U.C.C.A. form with me

Sept 9: Junior boys excellent in church. Pleasing remarks from congregation

Sept 19: Inspector Dennett and Headmaster attend a formal police caution following on from last term's incident.

Oct 2: It appears that I may have extended the senior privilege regarding the garden a little too far. We seem to have attracted half the LDS 6th form.

Dec 16: Christmas dinner, invited guests to formal meal followed by 'skits', carols, seniors washing up, traditional 'dorm raid'. All square by 11pm.

Mar 1: A group ask for advice as to how to give up smoking. Still a battle.

Feb 25: Teacher's strike action, clearly extra supervision for us.

June 10: Senior boys join us to celebrate our silver wedding, enjoyed a drink together and lovely cake.

With 27 boarders hardly a day passed without nursing sickness, attending doctors, collecting prescriptions, hospital appointments etc. The daily medical clinic was always well attended.

Despite having to pay £95 per month rent for the privilege, this time at the Boarding House proved to be a most memorable period thanks to a loyal staff and the variety of characters in the Boarders.

M.J. and S.H. Goode

A huge thank you for these memoirs, and a plea to other Old Boys out there to search the memory banks for next year!

Fosterian to Gryphonian

September 1988 saw a merry band of 17 boys enter the gates at Tinneys Lane ready to face the new world of secondary education. Many of us had been friends since playschool and had stayed firm friends during our time at the Abbey School, we were now joined by others from Country Primary School and even further afield from far flung places like Thornford and Bradford Abbas. This band stayed together with the odd joiner or leaver until 1992 when the decision was made to amalgamate Foster's, Lord Digbys and St Aldhelms to form the Gryphon School.

I remember at the time a great deal of uncertainty and also it must be said, some anger, not only from parents but some pupils who felt that the schools should have remained as they were. Nevertheless the decision had been made and we would be joining once again many of our friends that we had had through our primary schools, which it must be said, actually made the process slightly less daunting.

The first year of the Gryphon was an interesting one, with lessons conducted on all 3 school sites which meant a considerable amount of time travelling between lessons, fine during the summer months, slightly more bracing during the winter ones! The teachers made the transition as smooth as they could, this was not an easy task as we

were in the middle of our GCSE years. I have to say a huge thank you to the teachers from all 3 schools and that without their commitment during this turbulent time the outcome of our exam results may have been very different for many of us. Thankfully, this nomadic existence was only for just over a year before the new site, the current Gryphon School, was complete.

There will always be those who question whether or not the decision to amalgamate the schools was the right one however, that decision is in the past and we must now look at what the 3 schools have become. I had the privilege of attending the Gryphon School Remembrance Service recently and afterwards I was shown around the Gryphon, it has, I believe continued the reputation built by the original 3 schools of providing first class education to the pupils of Sherborne and its surrounding areas and I think if Richard Foster were here today he too would have been proud that his legacy provided the foundations for this centre of education.

Justin Butcher

Celebrating 25 years of The Gryphon School

The Gryphon School was opened in September 1992 after the merger of Foster's and Lord Digby's grammar schools and St Aldhelm's School to deliver an 11-18 comprehensive school in Sherborne.

Mr Chris Shepperd was appointed Headteacher in October 1991, and architectural plans were drawn up to accommodate the expected 880 students. The Gryphon School was to be built on the St Aldhelm's site, with students being split by year groups over the three existing schools until the building of the new school could be completed. In January 1993 Dorset County Council agreed to expand the school for the Sixth Form and additional building work was approved. July 1993 saw the Foundation Stone laying ceremony, with the main building work completed by June 1994, and staff, students and equipment moved into the new school in July.

The new school was formally opened on the 15th November 1994 by HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO, and this year saw 915 students at the school and 85 staff.

In 2004 the School became a Specialist School for Business and Enterprise – the first in Dorset. As part of this development The Gryphon Conference Centre was added and opened by HRH The Earl of Wessex KCVO in 2006. Whilst the specialist school system has ended the School has maintained considerable links with the local community and businesses.

In January 2007 Mr Steve Hillier became Headteacher following Chris Shepperd's appointment as Director of Education for the Diocese of Salisbury.

In November 2010, The Gryphon was judged by OFSTED to be an outstanding school for the first time in its history. The Statutory Inspection as an Anglican School also judged the school to be outstanding in the same year.

The School took academy status on 1 August 2012 with a strong commitment for the core features of the school to be unchanged with the capability and capacity to continually develop and improve further.

The Gryphon School now serves Sherborne and a wide area of North West Dorset and South Somerset. Since 2007 the School has grown significantly from 1400 to 1645 students. The school has expanded and developed, and now boasts Apple Mac suites for Music and Photography, a professional catering kitchen and café, creative arts facilities, and 11 specialist Science labs. There is a Sixth Form Common Room, study areas, and Learning Resource Centre mirroring university style of learning. E-learning is a priority with WiFi access across the whole site, Interactive White Boards in all classrooms, and students are encouraged to bring their own devices such as iPads to work on.

The Sixth Form, which many feared would never get the numbers to be viable when The Gryphon was formed, has grown to nearly 450 students, approximately 60% are external and join us in Year 12.

The School hosts a range of extra-curricular activities and clubs for students – ranging from sport to Lego club, Duke of Edinburgh awards to musical productions. Students have seen recent success in Rock Challenge, winning the South West final in 2016. They put on an amazing production of Footloose in the Autumn Term, following previous outstanding productions ranging from “We Will Rock You” to “Dr Faustus”. We also organise numerous trips to enrich the students’ education with recent excursions including geography trips to Swanage, trips to art galleries and museums in London, and then further afield to Rwanda, Russia, Berlin and China.

Holly George

Teddy Roe’s Band and Pack Monday Fair

Once again in 2017 the OFA Dinner will fall on the weekend preceding Pack Monday, a Sherborne celebration of which many will have fond memories. Pack Monday is the first Monday after 10 October or Old Michaelmas Day. The festival can be traced back at least to medieval times but the origin of the name is uncertain. It is popularly held that it commemorates the day when the workmen engaged to restore Sherborne Abbey after the great fire of 1437 ‘packed’ their tools on completion of the task.

Another theory suggests that the name is a corruption of ‘pact’, as it was a time when local farmers would engage agricultural workers. The most probable explanation is that it refers to the many pack-men (or peddlers) who came to sell their wares alongside the cheap jacks in Cheap Street.

Pack Monday is heralded the night before by Teddy Roe’s Band when, at midnight, a crowd assembles to walk through the streets making as much noise as possible with pots, pans, horns and whistles. Again,

the origin of this custom may be related to work on the Abbey, with Teddy Roe held locally by many to have been the foreman of the stone masons. In reality it is probably partly derived from the tradition of rough music which allowed locals to 'serenade' the great and the good of the town.

The behaviour of the participants has sometimes been controversial. In 1831 the Vicar was stoned, his cellar drunk dry and his furniture carried off by the crowd! In the twentieth century the Vicar and magistrates regularly received a particularly raucous rendition and eventually Teddy Roe's band was suppressed for several years. Since re-emerging it seems to be much less controversial celebration.

If you are intending to spend time in Sherborne over the weekend of the OFA Dinner you might want to pack an old saucepan and join the fun. You may well see some people you know.

Alec Thorne

Old Boys' News

Brian Bowsher (1970-75)

I turned out not to be very good at retirement! I left the National Physical Laboratory as Director at the end of June 2015 and moved with my wife Sally back to Dorset expecting that my life would be dominated by concerns on the welfare of our chickens and the state of our compost heap. I'd even rejoined the Dorchester Fishing Club in anticipation of halcyon days catching trout on the river Frome. However, having previously been on its Council, I was persuaded to join the Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC) as its Chief Executive for eighteen months from October 2016 to April 2018. It's a fabulous job. STFC is responsible for all the UK's research into particle physics, astronomy and nuclear physics. We have about 2,000 scientists based mostly at Harwell, Daresbury, Edinburgh and Swindon and, as well as managing the UK's major science facilities such as Diamond Light, we also lead the UK's involvement in

international science projects such as the Large Hadron Collider at CERN and the Square Kilometre Array in South Africa and Australia. UK research is going through a period of change with a new body – UK Research & Innovation – being established from April 2018 – and I’m thoroughly enjoying helping position STFC for success within this new environment. Hopefully I’ll be better at retiring next time!

Kevin Waterfall 1959 –‘64

I am actively retired and keeping myself busy and with a range of physical and mental activities as well as lots of involvement with my family. I am still active with Sherborne Douzelage, such as taking secondary students on overseas cultural projects e.g. Granville Carnival and keeping the website and social media current. I am also on the LEADER Executive committee that is channeling European funds into the local and rural industry. I try to go along most weeks to the Dorset Mid-Week Volunteers who are doing stone walling, hedging and other activities on the Dorset Ridgeway and AONB. Much of my time is also spent on wildlife and birding activities with Dorset Wildlife Trust and the British Trust for Ornithology. I have also managed to meet up with some Old Fosterians during the year including Nigel Sale and Anthony West.

Neil Davidson (davidsonneilat@gmail.com) 1977-1984

I can’t remember when I last submitted news, so I’ll take it from the top. Married in 1999 to Natalia Babarovic, a Chilean artist. Two children, Isabel (2000) and Ian (2002).

I am by occupation a Writer. I have a regular column in Las Últimas Noticias, a Chilean newspaper (we live in Chile), in Spanish obviously. Last year I published a biography of the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins here in Chile, also in Spanish, with the title “El ceño radiante: Vida y poesía de Gerard Manley Hopkins”. I also had a book of collected columns out in 2011, with another due to come out early next year. Hopefully I’ll publish in English at some point! Though I have published a couple of literary translations. Am in regular touch with Mike Woods, who was in the same year as me, also Julian Long.

Kevin Waterfall brings news of **Nigel Sale**.

I met up with Nigel Sale and his wife Glenda on their current visit to Sherborne, they come back a few times a year to visit his mother who is in residential care in Sherborne. Nigel and Glenda live in Durban with their son and Glenda's mother, but he works in Dubai so that is quite a commute he has. As a working career in the Construction industry Nigel has had senior management roles for construction companies, like Costain International and Kier on projects in the Middle East, various African countries and Romania Nigel is now a Managing Partner of a company ACUO. This is an Operations and Strategy Management Consultant primarily serving the whole spectrum of the Construction Sector in the Middle East. It provides a comprehensive service that ranges across the implementation of measures for improvement in business operations, project financing, project management and the strategic positioning of companies to win new business. Next time Nigel is back we hope to join up with Paul Cosh (1959 – 66) also.

Robin Ackroyd (1989-1992)

After graduation from Aston University took Maths further and started as an Actuarial student working in Surrey. Lived with my brother (David Ackroyd 1985-1992) until his death in 2007. Became a qualified Actuary specialising in Health and Care insurance and have stayed in the same sector during my career to date. Am now involved in pricing and experience analysis of employer Health and Life insurance products for Legal and General. Work is still based in Surrey although moving down to Hove during 2017. Enjoy living in and exploring the Kent countryside with my wife (an English teacher) and identical twin boys now aged 3.

Simon Dunford

I left Foster's 42 years ago. Got a BSc (Hons) Eng. in UCL Worked in the UK for 2 years before emigrating to South Africa. Spent 6-7 years there building / commissioning a nuclear power station (2 PWRs) and finding a wife. Left South Africa for South Korea (for 18 months) to start another nuclear power station before returning to Europe.

Spent 11 years in France, firstly in Paris (selling nuclear stuff) and then Marseille establishing a nuclear engineering company for French PWRs.

Asked to join Rolls-Royce in Le Havre & then back in the UK (Bath) after nearly 20 years to manage one of their crane companies. New Rolls-Royce CEO then decided he didn't need crane companies so helped sell it and moved into jet engines (in Bristol) for military aircraft for 8 years.

Tony Blair's 2007 nuclear white paper kick started opportunities in nuclear in the UK so I joined EDF Energy, set up their offices near Hinkley Point and locally started the consultation process. Then asked by EDF to help set up a nuclear engineering office in Bristol to do some of the Engineering for the Hinkley PWR in the UK.

Left EDF Energy at the end of 2014 to return to a Mediterranean climate in the South of France. Currently building business for Amec in France on the ITER project (largest research project in the world, Nuclear Fusion, to create the Sun on Earth).

Latest news is I ran over a dog whilst cycling at speed and broke some ribs, a collar bone in many bits and severe concussion, the errant dog however is fine.

I have been asked if I am involved in some futuristic technology that would stretch our minds? The answer is definitely yes - ITER – Nuclear Fusion – making the sun on earth. It's mind blowingly complex and will take at least another 20 years to start. See <https://www.iter.org/>

My thoughts on Brexit? Seen from the prospective of an aging professional based outside the UK it doesn't make a lot of sense. However I imagine for many others living and working across the UK it might appear very differently.

Early life experiences? The best (student) job ever - Car park attendant during the summer in central London. Also a motorcycle trip as a student with little money. Ferry from Plymouth to Roscoff then drive across France & Spain, Ferry to Tangiers, drive during Ramadan across Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia to catch the ferry in Tunis to Sicily and then drive back up Italy etc to the UK.

And finally, my thoughts on Lessons learnt - at Foster's and beyond! Grammar Schools and Foster's in particular gave me a chance to get academic qualifications and a career I probably wouldn't have done otherwise. The Boarding however was not a good experience. Practically everything I said at one stage I would never want to do I've ended up doing and have nearly always enjoyed it

South Africa - The Change.

I first went to South Africa in 1974 at the age of 25. It was to be just a 2 year stint before returning to Sherborne to take over my father's building business. I am 68 and still here!

My wife and I lived under the apartheid regime and shared in the euphoria of the 1994 elections when Nelson Mandela, heading the African National Congress, took over as president of the new Rainbow Nation. That euphoria has dissolved thanks to poor governance and increasing corruption and nepotism at the highest level. The imbalances of the past had to be redressed. The playing fields levelled. Well that's been done. Now it is slopes the other way. Black economic empowerment is the overriding consideration both in business and sport. Merit takes a back seat.

Some politicians like to get mileage from prolonging the old race question but amongst ordinary South Africans of all hues there is a surprising amount of goodwill. Standards have declined in all spheres especially in education, health services and policing. Unemployment has increased along with crime.

But we remain. The change has been gradual. We have been able to adjust and it remains a vibrant and beautiful country with large

natural areas and abundant wildlife (especially when compared with the UK). It is just a little bit dangerous - there are 2 bullet holes through our mattress.

Over Christmas I met someone visiting from Malawi and was surprised at his opinion. "South Africa is the best country in Africa. Everything works. It's clean. You can buy whatever you want. Electricity isn't off half the day. The police do their job." I'm not sure I entirely agree with his assessment but he made me think: "Well maybe it's not so bad here".

My erstwhile classmate, Barry Barter, remains a good friend whom we meet on every UK visit and last year we visited Peter Burness (Foster's youthful music teacher of 1960) at his home near Selby.

John Abbott. 1960-67

Barry Barter, 1960-1965.

I have now retired from my career in radiography (I believe Foster's produced another radiographer just after me, Harold Clark).



Since leaving the NHS I have found a new role within Her Majesty's Prisons. I have become an OPV (official prison visitor) at HMP Wandsworth. This involves going to the prison to visit and chat to inmates who do not have any other visitors and also those who are

lonely, depressed or in danger of self-harm. I have been fortunate to meet some very interesting people during my time there. The prison is very old and run down, dangerous at times too, but I enjoy the challenge.

I am sending this picture of my classmates, hoping that others will like to see it. I am still in regular contact with John Abbott (60-67-top left) after all this time we meet every year when he comes over from South Africa. John met up with Peter Burness this past year who was our music teacher in the sixties. After a long career at Louth cathedral, Mr Burness is also retired but in good health.

Terry Ricketts now lives in Yorkshire after a career as Sound Engineer with Yorkshire Television working on Emmerdale and several series with Alan Whicker.

Life on Lefkada

2016 saw a huge change of lifestyle for me, after many years working in the licensed trade as an auditor and valuer (Ken House would never have bet on me working with numbers!) I decided to have a complete change. My wife Lucy and I resigned from our jobs, sold our cars, bought a van and drove to Greece to work in the yacht charter business.

I have been a keen sailor since I was a child and passed my Yachtmaster qualification in my 20's. All I needed to do was obtain my commercial endorsement to sail professionally. A few days at our local training centre on Portland and everything was in place. We were offered jobs with a well-established company based on Lefkada Island in the Ionian area about 50 miles south of Corfu. We knew the area already from taking holidays out there, it is a very beautiful place with deep blue water, green mountainous islands and lots of wildlife.

On arrival our first task was to assist in the delivery of some brand new yachts from Slovenia at the very top of the Adriatic to Greece. A trip of just over 600 miles. There were 8 boats and we were assigned to a Bavaria Vision 42' with her new owners as crew. We had some rough and windy weather and our crew found it challenging at times as they had not experienced anything like it before! They rose to the challenge however, enjoyed Lucy's cooking despite the high seas and we all became firm friends as a result of the trip. I then did the same trip a second time in April on a 46' yacht with a different crew.

Once back at base the job was rebuilding the fleet of 43 yachts from the winter layup and preparing them for the busy season ahead. The local airport at Preveza opens on May 1st and that is when the first eager holiday makers arrive. Most of the business is hiring yachts



to experienced sailors who can take their yacht where they wish in the week. Some however lack the experience or qualifications and need a skipper. I was one of the available skippers and would join the family for their week and try to help them achieve all their goals and hopefully teach them a bit along the way.

At this time Lucy was involved in the shop selling clothing and souvenirs and hiring out paddle boards and kayaks as extras to the yachts. Occasionally in high season we would get shore based holiday makers who would fancy a day out on the water. If a yacht was available it would be Lucy and me who would take them out for a day, find them a bay to swim in, prepare a top quality lunch and give them a taste of sailing in the afternoon breeze.

There are many small islands in the area, all of them have bays small and large where a yacht can anchor in clear deep water for swimming or paddle boarding, there are caves to swim into and vertical cliffs for the brave to jump from, a very popular pastime I discovered!

Most islands have one or two villages with a harbour where you can tie up for the night in front of all the tavernas and bars. There are no mooring charges and no red tape. The Greek people are very laid back, friendly and welcoming.

We have been living in a rented apartment in a Greek village where hardly any English is spoken (quite a challenge as our Greek is basic). We have been included in their lives and it has felt like a real privilege to have experienced this. At the end of the season we left Nidri driving north to Igoumenitsa to take a ferry to Venice where we stayed 2 nights as a mini holiday before spending 3 days driving the 1000 miles back to Weymouth through Italy and France.

We sleep in the van and explore as much of Europe as we can on the way. As I write at the end of January we have just arrived back in Greece after another road trip and we are settling in and preparing for another busy season, this time working freelance in the same area around Nidri on Lefkas Island.



If you are looking for a warm and relaxing holiday afloat or ashore I cannot recommend this place too highly. Come and give it a try. Have a look at our Facebook page 'Skipper Beatt' for lots of photos of our activities.

Paddy Beatt, School House, 1970 – 1977
Patrick.beatt@hotmail.co.uk

Obituary

William Smethurst

Born March 10th 1945, died July 22nd 2016, aged 71

He was born in Bolton, Lancashire but moved to Dorset when he was 8 and attended Foster's. He went on to Lancaster University where he read English and History. After graduation he worked for the Reading Evening Post, then, during a year spent travelling the world, worked for short periods at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and for an English Language newspaper in Tahiti. Returning to England, he was given a job at Pebble Mill on the BBC's regional television news magazine, Midlands Today. During his spare time he wrote many scripts for radio plays and was soon appointed script editor for English Regions Drama. His fame lies with The Archers whom he wrote his first episode in 1972 before becoming it's Editor in 1978 through to 1986. He is credited with being the man who turned The Archers into a cult, winning it a firm place in the affections of radio listeners. He went on to inject life into ITV's Crossroads and produced other programmes. In 1990 he co-founded his own production company to create and produce Jupiter moon, a £6m sci-fi soap. He was also the author of 6 novels and in 1996, published 'The Archers, the true story'

Valete

Harold Spicer 1938 - 1945 and **Rob Henley** 1939 - 1944/5

Report on Remembrance Service at the Gryphon School – 11th November 2016

Old Fosterians who attended were Mike Goode, Jennifer Goode, Roger Cowley, Kevin Waterfall & John House. Justin Butcher, Foster's School & Gryphon 1988 – 1994 now an officer in the R A F gave a talk about the young men, including boys who participated in the first world war especially one 16 year old who made out to be 19, was injured within one year of joining the army but was then passed fit to return to the trenches where he found it too much to bear and because he left the front he was charged with desertion and after a

Court martial, when He had nobody to defend him, was immediately shot. An official letter was sent to his parents afterwards.

The Roll of Honour from the two world wars was read by John House and wreaths were laid on the Foster's School Memorial boards. The Service was led by Mrs Edwards, Deputy Head, Mr Steve Hillier the School Headteacher and the Reverend Diana Tregale. Other staff members were also present, Mrs Robshaw carried the Royal British Legion Banner and a pupil played the bugle for the last post and reveille.



K Waterfall

“Richard Foster” – The School Song.

Interest was raised over the last year about the School Song. When I arrived at Tinney’s Lane, it had fallen out of use, but I recall in the mid 70’s, Derek Stansfield, the then music teacher, resurrecting it for an event, though time has eroded my memory of which particular one. I believe our rendition of it then was its penultimate airing, the last being for the Grand Final Summer Ball in 1992.

However, it has never been forgotten. Some years ago, Alec Thorne obtained a score of the words and music, printed by the Oxford University Press and the words are reproduced here. Words are by Littleton C Powys and music by J Barham Johnson. The stirring lyrics, albeit at times a challenge to fit into the music, must be sung in March Time.

Nestling in the hills of Dorset in the Vale of Yeo,
Lies the pleasant town of Sherborne founded long ago,
In this pleasant town of learning stands the school that we,
Think the best and hold the dearest of all schools that be.

Chorus;

Therefore raise we loud our voices and sung with all our powers,
Him whose memory we cherish in this school of ours.

Nigh three hundred years have vanished since our Founders day,
He who loved the boys of Sherborne, loved and helped for aye,
So all hail to Richard Foster to whose visions clear,
Owe we now the education offered to us here.

Chorus;

Thanks to Richard Foster’s goodness here we work and play,
Learning lessons that will help us this and every day,
Learning all the wondrous mysteries that our books contain,
How to live our lives most fully by use of hand and brain.

Chorus;

How to hit the winning sixer, how to kick the goal,
How to make the wickets scatter with that fast ball we bowl,
How to face the struggle bravely when things all go wrong,
Showing that our games have made us generous just and strong.

Chorus;

Soon the world will call our service, gladly let us give,
All the best that we have learnt here to those we with who we live,
We'll be straight in all our dealings loyal, clean and true,
And count the sins of cruelty the blackest we can do.

Chorus;

Dates for your Diary

LORD DIGBY'S and FOSTER'S SCHOOLS
FOUNDER'S DAY 2017 13th MAY 2017

Programme

2.30 pm Service at Castleton Church, Sherborne

Preacher; To be Confirmed

3.30 pm Afternoon Cream Tea at The Eastbury
Hotel, Sherborne

Tickets £13. Please send a cheque payable to Philip Dolbear12
Blackbirds, Thornford, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6QZ

Final date for tickets:- Friday 5th May 2017. No cheque , no tea!

Advanced notice for 2018. This will be the Centenary Year
for the Old Girls Association so something grander is planned and a
return to the Abbey.

**OLD FOSTERIANS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held on

**SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER 2017 at 5.30 pm
(Preceding the Reunion Dinner)
At the**

Sherborne Golf Club

Agenda

- Minutes of the AGM. 2016
- Matters arising from the Minutes
- Election of officers and committee Resolutions
- AOB

Members are reminded that should they wish to submit any resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, copy(s) must be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Association, 21 days prior to the meeting.

**Annual Dinner
At Sherborne Golf Club DT9 4RN.**

**The Annual Dinner is on October 14th, 2017, 6.45 for 7.15 p.m.
This will be preceded by the AGM at 5.30. p.m.**

Tickets £20

**Please see last page for applying for tickets which should include
your choices from the menu**

Please send ticket applications to:-

**Dr Ian Maun, 13 Higher Brimley Teignmouth Devon TQ14 8JS
or E-mail :- wordsmith@eclipse.co.uk**

**Cheques to be made payable to "The Old Fosterians' Association".
Early application is requested. Seating is limited. Reservations
will be First come first served.
Please keep a record of your choice.**

Accommodation is no longer available at the Sherborne Hotel. Please book directly with local Hotels and it is recommended that this is done early.

From enquiries before publication, many of the smaller hotels in Sherborne are already busy. An alternative is the Manor Hotel in Yeovil. If you are looking for accommodation it may be beneficial to contact the Hon. Secretary to see if there is sufficient interest in arranging group transport e.g. a minibus to and from hotels.

Menu Choice.

Starters : Homemade Soup (**A**)
 Creamy Garlic Mushroom Pots (**B**)

Main Course :
 Stuffed Chicken Thigh, Garlic Crumbed Chicken
 Supreme, Tomato & Herb Sauce (**G**)
 Pork Escalope, Tomato & Vegetable Risotto, Tomato
 Sauce (**H**)

Vegetarian choices:
 Roasted Cherry Tomato and Goat's Cheese Tartlet,
 Basil Oil and Salsa. (**P**)
 Vegetable Tagine, Herby Couscous Topping (**Q**)

All main course meals served with Roasted Vegetables and Potatoes
OR Mixed Vegetables and Citrus Roasted Potatoes.

Desserts : Profiteroles (**X**)
 Rum Treacle Tart (**Y**)

Please notify Kevin Brown, at S.G.C. bar@sherbornegolfclub.co.uk of
any allergies or special requirements.

Old Fosterian Name:

Address:

e-mail Address:

Years at School: From to

Please insert the code-letter indicating your menu choice below, and if you have a guest, please give their name and choices below that.

Starter:

Main Course:

Dessert:

Guest Name:

Menu Choice Starter:

Main Course:

Dessert:

Please send ticket applications to: Dr Ian Maun 13 Higher
Brimley Teignmouth Devon TQ14 8JS E-mail : [wordsmith@
eclipse.co.uk](mailto:wordsmith@eclipse.co.uk)

Cheques to be made payable to the Old Fosterians' Association.
Application by September 30th is requested. Seating is limited.
Reservations will be First come first served.

Please keep a record of your choice using the Menu opposite.

 Cut out form to send off – don't forget payment

NOTES