



FRIENDS' SCHOOL SAFFRON WALDEN
OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

MAGAZINE



with
Annual Report and Accounts

141st Year 2010

April 2011



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the Magazine and Annual Report 2011, As before, there are a number of items that we have to publish under the Rules of the Association, including the Minutes of the AGM, the financial pages, and a list of Officers and Committee members.

The other “regulars” include Memories of Old Scholars, Family News, News of Old Scholars, Feedback, Cricket, the School Staff List, OS Past Presidents, OS reunions, and so on.

Where batting and bowling are concerned, BATS has now pulled up stumps, but Malcolm Pim explains what its members are doing in the twilight of their cricketing careers.

There is an account of the 2010 Reunion at the School, and a preview of the 2011 Reunion.

The full text of the President’s address to the AGM is given.

Last year’s Magazine included a look back at *The Avenue* from fifty years earlier, and the Editor has now moved on another year, selecting highlights from the 1961 edition. He also looks back a hundred years by flicking through the pages of a copy of the Association’s *Annual Report* for 1911.

Martha Holmes takes readers into her world of wildlife broadcasting, and the Editor visits an exhibition by Chris Levine.

The Association has embarked upon a period of change, and the Magazine cannot be unaffected. One innovation is that it will now be available on the website shortly after coming out in print. The 2010 issue is already there, and earlier ones will follow.

I’ve said it before, but if you have a contribution of your own to make, please contact me by phone, by email or by letter. Don’t keep it to yourself, share it. This is **your** Magazine!

Richard Gilpin, February 2011

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THE PRESIDENT FOR 2010/11



At the Annual General Meeting in November, the Presidency is passed to Julie Foster (left) by the outgoing President, Lesley Jacob.

Born into a local farming family, Julie attended a tiny primary school in Elmdon, Essex. She passed the 11+ examination at the age of ten, and was awarded a County Scholarship to Friends' School in 1971.

Julie had settled on a career in medicine at an early age, and went through Friends' knowing exactly which subjects she needed to study. Her only regret was that she was unable to study music at O level as the timetable clashed with one of the sciences. However, she persevered with clarinet and piano lessons, though did not have time to put in the necessary hours of practice. Singing in the choir under the direction of Richard Sturge, along with his "Music Appreciation"

lessons, instilled a love of music in Julie. She remembers the first time she went to full choir practice, when the four-part harmonies of Handel's *Messiah* sent shivers down her spine. To this day they still do.

Initially quiet and reserved, she grew in self confidence and remembers her School days with fondness. Perhaps the most fun times were in the sixth form when she became a weekly boarder, mainly out of necessity as her 6th form Biology project involved thirty-two chicks which regularly escaped their pens, causing much chaos.

Unfortunately Julie's A level grades were not good enough for medical school. Cyril Mummery said she could do almost anything else, but Julie was determined. She traipsed round London, knocking on the doors of the colleges and asking for a place, but to no avail. At Westminster Hospital however she was told to re-sit Physics and Chemistry and to inform them as soon as she had received her results. Cyril Mummery recommended a good crammer college in London, and after a term Julie had improved by two grades in each subject. An offer from the Westminster was quickly accepted.

The rest of that academic year was spent working at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge, initially as a porter,

but after a chance encounter with the Head of Nursing Studies at the bus stop, Julie became an auxiliary nurse. She spent much of her free time asking to look around the various hospital departments, and particularly enjoyed the trips to the mortuary where she was allowed to watch the post mortems.

Julie spent the next five years studying in London, qualifying in 1984. House jobs were spent in London and at the James Paget Hospital in Gorleston, Norfolk, where she then spent three years on a General Practice Vocational Training Scheme. She spent two years in practice in Norfolk, before securing a full time partnership in Melbourn (Cambs not Oz). During this time she married and had two children.

She moved to her current part-time job in Puckeridge twelve years ago.

Life for Julie is very busy, but in her spare time she enjoys all sorts of handicrafts: the current favourite is knitting socks. She returned to live at the family farm with her children, her old black

Labrador Phoebe and two Lucas Terriers, named Dougal and Florence.

For the past eleven years Julie has been a parent of Friends' School children. Both Jessie and Toby started their education in the Nursery, and are now in years 9 and 8 respectively. She is delighted by the wonderful education that Friends' provides and is extremely proud of her children, who are both musical – and somewhat better at sports than she was.

Julie was asked to track down her year group for last years' reunion. She feels she became somewhat of a cyberstalker, but is happy to have found so many of her peers. Reuniting old friends was a true delight.

Julie feels very honoured to be asked to become the President of the Old Scholars for 2010/11. Her theme for the year is to recognise and document the achievements of some of Friends' most extraordinary Old Scholars.

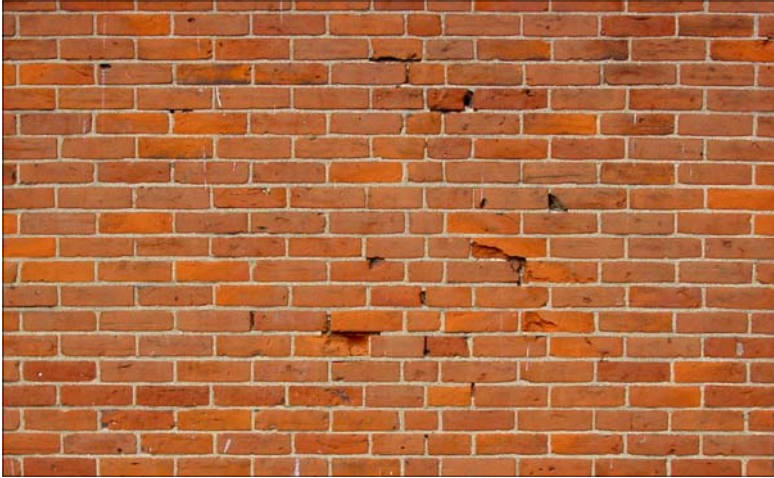
If you have any nominations you would like to pass on to Julie, please contact her without delay.



A rather younger Julie Foster busily dissecting an unsuspecting and somewhat dead pig. This is a clip from the 1977 film of the School which Martin Hugall has recently uploaded to YouTube, and which is accessible via the OS website.

FSSW Old Scholars

Are you "just another brick in the wall"?



Or is there **mortar** you than meets the eye?
Please **render** me a service and help me to
build a really good OS Magazine next year.

**Send me news and photographs of you and your
friends, news of you and your family
(hatch, match and despatch),
memories of your time at the School,
and tell your friends what you are doing now:**

by post

to 67 Coleraine Road, London SE3 7PF
(check current postal regulations please),
or by email to richard67gilpin@hotmail.co.uk.
Contributions by the end of November please

Richard Gilpin (1952-60), *Editor*



MEMORIES OF OLD SCHOLARS

Alan Thompson (1920-2010) *FSSW 1930-1937*

OSA President 1968-1969

Honorary Life Vice President of the Association

Alan was born in Wanstead in 1920, eighteen months after his brother Terry. His dad sadly died in 1929, when the boys were still young and in September 1930 he joined Terry at FSSW. The School had a great impact on him and was in fact something of a family tradition – his Mum, Aunt, brother Terry and sister Stella all went there as, subsequently, did both his kids (each finding their spouse there), and nephew Malcolm Pim. Eileen also taught at the School for some years.

In 1937 on leaving school he became articled to Robert H Marsh and Co, Chartered Accountants, in London and stayed till 1940, when, as a conscientious objector he was assigned to the Quaker Relief Service, and after 3 months training in Devon, started working in London during the blitz. While in London he met the love of his life, Eileen Pim, and in 1941 both were fortuitously posted to the next assignment in Portsmouth. They married in April 1943 and were then in charge of hostels for elderly people, but soon moved on - Alan to work at Scott Bader's market gardening business and

Eileen to work as a caterer at a local school.

By 1945 Alan had passed his final exams, qualified as a Chartered Accountant and started work in Wellingborough. Four years later they moved to Bournemouth where Eileen's Mum lived and needed some support. He started with a firm of accountants and then moved to Tice's, a motor business. In 1956 they moved to Saffron Walden so we children could go to Friends' School and he started a long career with SWBMS (Saffron Walden Building Materials Supply Company), which shortly after was taken over by Ridgeons.

He was appointed a Director in due course and also the Group Finance Director, although he concentrated most of his efforts on the Saffron Walden branch of the business; this worked well because he lived there, enjoyed the working environment and the walk to work each day. They were turning over around £100,000 pa when he joined and around £14 million when he left, and he was very happy there with a great team working under David Ridgeon and Alan himself.

Alongside work, he was the

Treasurer of the Old Scholars' Association for around ten years from the late 50s and then, in 1968/69 was appointed President for the Centenary year. He and Eileen worked their socks off to make it a huge success and record numbers came to the centenary events. His hard work was rewarded by him being made an Honorary Life Vice President. My wife Heather was one of the several schoolgirls (slave labour I think it was) who helped them stuff thousands of envelopes with information about the events to encourage people to come.

Mum and Dad continued their happy lives in Saffron Walden until Alan retired in 1985 when they moved down to Liss Forest, which was to be home for the next twenty five years.

The first jobs were rebuilding the garden, installing a greenhouse and doing the planting, and it wasn't long before it was looking fantastically colourful. It gave them both great satisfaction and pleasure. Dad loved flowers, wild flowers and cultivated flowers and one of his best memories of school days was of the pressed flower albums he made there. In the garden he was a flowers more than a foliage man and cared for his flowers in a very loving and sensitive way. He knew their greatest needs, warmed their watering water, trimmed off their dead heads, saved everything for compost, nurtured his cuttings in a perfect environment and gloried in

their blossoming.

Iona was also an important part of their lives – they holidayed there very regularly from 1964 onwards, making lots of friends. Eileen would sit in the lounge doing some craft work while Al was out walking and photographing masses of flowers. He was a real lover of the United Kingdom (England really) and couldn't understand why anyone would want to go abroad. When Heather and I and the kids lived in Puerto Rico and then Singapore they would come to visit and stay for several weeks, and it was really nice to spend so much time with them. They particularly loved Singapore – it's such a garden city – and felt so safe there that they were quite adventurous in their trips out. But Dad, although enjoying having his horizons broadened, was usually itching to get back home to his greenhouse. They lived happily in retirement until Eileen's death in 2004. After Mum died, he managed to adjust reasonably well to his new life and became an even more committed gardener. He had a conservatory built – not to sit in and enjoy the sunshine (and warmth in winter), but a place to display still more plants. You could just squeeze in for a cup of coffee next to the plants. In winter he'd be in the greenhouse, planting his regal pelargoniums and streptocarpus and happy as the day is long. Most of the plants would eventually find their way onto

charity stalls – the charities loved his top quality plants and they always generated good prices. Gardenwise, things always looked up after 21st December as the days got longer and come the Spring he'd be turning the garden from winter to spring/summer, creating a hugely colourful vista. Throughout the summer he'd be out for long hours, weeding, watering, dead heading, grass cutting, composting etc etc. Eventually, in the autumn, he'd convert the garden back to winter with plenty of winter flowering plants and masses of bulbs that would come up in Spring. His garden was a great source of joy – he used to say "It's what keeps me alive".

He was a very regular walker too – and went out every day, rain or shine. After Mum died, we'd go down and visit every two or three weeks and enjoyed some great walks with him and our two dogs. He was never a dog man, calling them red tag and blue tag or "the baskets" when he couldn't identify which was which – but he always had the water bowl ready for them before we arrived, always welcomed them in and confessed that he prayed that God would help him love them more! In the last couple of years we discovered Butser Hill on the A3 near Petersfield and it became a special place for all of us and one of our favourite walks.

We had a lot of laughs with him – there were always some good

running jokes going on. He was so game – until the last year or so when things were harder to manage. He'd come with us to memorable events, like Graduations and the odd concert and was very forward looking and always flexible about arrangements. We always had fun together.

In the last few years, he became, in his own words, something of a hermit – but a happy hermit. His loss of hearing made anything other than one to one conversations difficult, but he was very content in his own company and always loved it when family visited – especially when they brought cake! He was hard to shift from home and garden – in the last five years apart from at Christmas, I think we only got him away on holiday with us once when we had hoped to do it much more. At Christmas he was great – joining in the traditional quizzes and silly games, party hats and crackers.

On 20th May 2010 he had a big fall in the garden and hurt his back very badly. He spent most of the next six weeks on his back as he recovered, and by the end of it, the years were starting to tell. He was "severed" from his garden and no longer wanted the responsibility of the bigger house. Perhaps he was realising it was getting towards his "time" but he badly wanted to move to Chorleywood to a smaller place and without many responsibilities, such as the garden. We managed to do that in

double quick time, and, through Jendy and Peter's efforts, sell his Liss Forest house too, and he moved up at the beginning of September. Sadly it was only to be a short sojourn here, but a happy one and he quickly felt very much at home. He planned to get to know all the walks around the area and we'll miss doing that with him. After years of saying he didn't want or need a computer, he suddenly started to make enquiries about getting someone to teach him how to operate them and how much one would cost. He wanted to place his food orders to Waitrose on line! I was very impressed!

When I asked him how he would describe himself he replied "Cheerful, happy and whistling" and I suspect those of us who knew him would agree with that description. He loved the many

communities of which he was a part. He was also a very spiritual guy and in latter years wanting very much to get closer to God in all he did. He also once said he'd never employ anyone with a beard – but I hope we may have changed his mind on that one. He was a true gentleman and a gentle and loving person, without a bad word for anyone (except perhaps occasionally the Labour Party!). He was always positive, forever England, eternally Tory (although he did confess to voting Labour in 1945!), unendingly interested in what you and your family were doing, and always open to new experiences. We got even closer in the years after Eileen had died and visits were always a pleasure. We will miss him greatly but our happy memories will live on.

Geoff Thompson (1959-66)

Alan came to Walden in the wake of his elder brother Terry, and was nicknamed "Litt'l'un", which stuck throughout his school years.

He was ahead of me and I came to know him when he repeated his School Certificate year, either to retake subjects or to add new ones. He was a conscientious worker, often at his desk out of school hours; but always a cheerful companion when at leisure.

In 1938-9 I had a job in London.

Alan lived in Ilford and was, like me, a pacifist. One Saturday afternoon he and I took pitches in Ilford High Street, offering *Peace News* to passing shoppers. Pass they did, with averted gaze, though I did sell a few to the already converted.

Early in 1940, Quakers opened a training camp for potential relief workers at a derelict mansion in East Devon, called Spiceland after a local meeting house.

In June, as nations collapsed, Alan and I arranged to spend a

week's holiday at Spiceland, working alongside the trainees (the following year we each took the full course). My home then was in a village south of Bristol, where I worked in a bookshop. Alan and his bike came by train from London and we cycled the fifty miles to Spiceland.

On the way we called at Sidcot School and took Mary Barnett (later Vedy) to tea at a roadside café. Alan and I had admired

Mary at Walden, but her parents had moved her from there when the War came.

All this was during the glorious weather of that summer.

Contacts between me and Alan sadly became less frequent, but no less friendly, over many years. I was sorry not to be able to come to Walden during his Old Scholars' Presidency.

Tim Evens (1932-37, Staff 1953-55)

When I joined the Old Scholars Committee in 1965, Alan had already been on the Committee for some time.

I had known him as a member of the Finance Department of the Saffron Walden Material Building Society, and in due course he became Finance Director. They had a material supply yard opposite the goods yard of the Railway in Station Road. Although we met for business reasons, my firm acted for the Company and the Joseph Custerson family who owned the business, and we became good friends through our connection on the OSA Committee.

The firm eventually became the present firm of Ridgeons now based in Ashdon Road and with branches all over East Anglia.

Alan was very active in raising money to create a Bursary fund for the children of Old Scholars,

especially during his term as President in 1968-69. Despite the fact that I was a lawyer rather than an accountant, he persuaded me to take on the role of Treasurer for the Bursary Trust. This fund provided bursaries for a number of Old Scholars' children, but after ten years it no longer had sufficient capital and had to be wound up.

In the 60s and 70s Saffron Walden was a small community and you met friends at numerous places and events. Some of these were connected with business but others involved charities, and there were many social events.

Alan was a part of my history in Walden at this time and I look back with many fond memories of our association.

Tony Watson (1944-55)

Farrand Radley *FSSW 1927-1933*
OSA President 1966-1967



The Old Scholars' Report for 1945 (or possibly 1946) had a piece by Major Radley which left me with the impression that he had liberated Vienna almost on his own.

Decades later, in 1989, I was in touch with Farrand about Quakers and war. In a letter to me, he wrote that when he joined the army – and I quote: “My mother

wept and my cousin wouldn't speak to me for years.” His older cousin, Philip Radley, had been imprisoned as a Conscientious Objector in World War One.

At Whit weekend in 1967, when he was President of the Old Scholars' Association, Farrand was to speak in Sunday evening meeting. He wanted to liven this up with background effects. To help with these he had brought along two technician friends from the BBC, where he then worked.

The first of the effects was to be a burst of trumpet music from backstage, immediately after my bible reading. This was from Job chapter 39 and contained verse 25: “He saith Ha Ha among the trumpets and he smelleth the battle from a far off.” I gave this dramatic rendering, which was followed by a dead silence. The meeting then went on as usual.

Tim Evens (1932-37, Staff 1953-55)

From his own days at the School in the Fifties, the Editor remembers Farrand Radley as one of the “Big Beasts” of the Old Scholars' Association: a man with considerable presence, and furthermore one who never lost his enthusiasm for the School and

all that it stood for.

In more recent years, Farrand contributed a page (imaginatively entitled *Farrand Radley's Column*) to the 1999, 2000 and 2001 editions of the OS Magazine. In this way his presence was indelibly impressed on the transition from one millennium to another, and

nothing could have been more symbolic of his enduring commitment to all things FSSW.

He introduced his 1999 column by mentioning that he had just sent out his 21st Newsletter to Old Scholars living abroad. The idea, which had come over eighty years earlier as a supplement to the Annual Report, was to keep in touch with expats on a regular basis. The clear understanding was that in return for news of Walden, they would in reply cough up their own local news. Farrand's assessment was this somewhat informal arrangement had paid off, if only to "a modest extent".

In 2000 he picked out some highlights in his FSSW pedigree. His grandfather John Charles Radley had been Senior Scholar for two years in succession; his father Alexander had been one of the founders of the Old Scholars' Association in 1869; and there had been Radleys and Farrands at the School during its Islington and Croydon years.

He recalled the occasion when he had to operate the School's "magic lantern". This was a slide projector in which electricity was fed through carbon rods, with the

necessary illumination created by the controlled electrical storm that ensued. He was operating it on behalf of "an old boy", who had a collection of glass slides of seals to illustrate his wildlife talk, when the whole box crashed down and the very best one got cracked. Farrand was roundly berated by a furious speaker.

In 2001 his third and final column looked ahead to the School's Tercentenary in 2002, which would commemorate "300 years of the oldest continuously surviving community in the British Isles providing a Quaker education".

The Tercentenary was marked by the publication of *The School on the Hill – Memories of Three Hundred Years of Friends' School, Saffron Walden*, a book that should be a treasured possession of every Old Scholar. The keynote article took readers from the founding of the School in 1702 in Clerkenwell through to its present home in Saffron Walden, stopping in Islington and Croydon on the way.

It was wittily entitled *A Four-Site Saga*, and was written by...a gentleman named Farrand Radley.

Richard Gilpin

In 1965, Kenneth Alexander proposed Farrand Radley as President Elect of the Old Scholars' Association with the following words:

"This fellow I am proposing is a

very brainy chap. His progress at School from form 4b to the top was rapid and he has the distinction of being one of the first to study for the Higher School Certificate at Walden. From School, he entered

St Edmunds Hall, Oxford, where he took honours degrees in French and German. This probably accounts for his present day globe-trotting.

He was abroad in the Forces during the war, ending up with rank of Major and in the Military Government in Austria engaged on rehabilitation.

He is one of those very rare birds (in fact, he may be a unique bird) viz, he is the progeny of two Walden teachers. One of them even came back for a second teaching spell. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Helen Howell.

Hence the advice given in bygone days to anyone who was searching for a lost article to "go to hell and howl for it."

This character inherited a great love for music and used to play the 'cello in the School Orchestra.

After the war, he became

Assistant Director of Personnel in the British Council. In 1950, he left and joined the BBC. In 1958 he became Secretary of the London Branch of Office Management and, four years later, Chairman.

In the BBC, he came back to his original interest of music. He is rather a modest type and when I asked him at Television Centre, some four years ago, what his job was, he mumbled something and I was little the wiser. Officially, he was BBC Television Music Organiser. (At the time of this article, he had become Travel and Features Organiser, BBC Television)."

Farrand maintained his love of FSSW and served as a much loved and valued member of the Old Scholars' Committee for many years.

Reprinted from *The School on the Hill*, 2002

Jack Turnbull (1920-2010), FSSW 1933-1935 OSA President 1981-1982



The following is reproduced from the *Saffron Walden Reporter* 24.

A founding member of the Saffron Walden Carnival Committee has died just weeks before his 90th birthday.

John Charles Turnbull, or 'Jack' to his friends, was a popular

character in Saffron Walden and, along with his wife Joy, was well known for his tireless work for local charities and organisations.

Born in Hackney in 1920, Jack's family moved to Saffron Walden in 1931 when his father, Edwin, took over Harts Stationers and Printers. Jack attended Friends' School and later became a lifelong member of the Old Scholars' Association.

He trained as a printer and was managing Harts by the time the Second World War started. He continued working there throughout his working life, as Manager, Managing Director and Chairman.

He was an ambulance driver during the Blitz, and met Joy at the West Ham Central Mission, where they married in 1944.

The couple moved to Saffron Walden after the war and Jack set up a voluntary ambulance service prior to the formation of the NHS.

He also continued working for the Civil Defence Authority, helping to train people in preparation for nuclear attack. When it disbanded he joined Joy at the St John Ambulance Brigade

and became Divisional Superintendent.

As a Committee member of Age Concern he helped set up the Day Centre and was an active member of the Saffron Walden Hospital League of Friends.

His favourite hobby was building model railways: he was a founding member, and for many years the chairman, of the local model railway club.

Jack attended the Baptist Church in the High Street and continued active involvement throughout his life.

He played a central role in fundraising for the upkeep and modernisation of the church.

After retirement he joined Probus and helped run the Charitable Welfare Association, lending out wheelchairs and other equipment.

The eldest of three children, he outlived his sister Mary and brother Angus.

Jack died peacefully on 6th May 2010, leaving his wife, son Mike and granddaughter Anna.

A service of thanksgiving was held at the Baptist Church on Monday 24th May.

JULIA WEAVER (*MacClymont*)

(1943-2009), FSSW 1955-60

Julia ("Lou") MacClymont was part of the 1961 year group, but was never completely integrated into it. She came to

Saffron Walden later than the rest of her year, and left after her first year in the sixth form. In subsequent years she had little

contact with the Old Scholars' Association, although the Editor does recall meeting her at an OS May reunion a few years ago.

He also remembers her cheerful presence on the 1959 School Tramp, which was based at the Youth Hostel in Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster.

The photo on the right was taken by the late Sally Jacob, whom many will remember as the mother of last year's OS President, Lesley. She took it during a short break from tramping the length of the Malvern Hills on a very warm summer's day. (*Apologies from the Editor for the relatively poor quality of the image. Despite using the technology of today, which has advanced a great deal since those days fifty years ago, no more can be done to enhance the original photograph.*)

While at the School Julia became a couple with Oliver Weaver, and they left at the same time in 1960. Their relationship continued while he was at Cambridge reading Law, and they were married in 1964 in the chapel of Trinity College.

Oliver and Julia were a closely-knit unit and felt no need to keep in touch with their year groups, deciding to make their own way through life together.

After Julia had had their three children she, in the words of the February 2010 issue of the



Puckeridge Hunt Supporter "rediscovered the joys of hunting", and this "provided a *raison d'être* when times were bleak".

In later life, Oliver's mobility became seriously compromised by a progressive neurological condition, which led to his early death in 2008.

During this period Julia's health also deteriorated, and she died just over a year later, in June 2009.

The two of them had been together for the greater part of their lives and, although Oliver's death did separate them, Julia was not to be on her own for long.

Richard Gilpin

NEWS OF OLD SCHOLARS

As usual, this section of the Magazine depends upon you to contact the Editor, either directly or through the School, sending information about you and your friends.

William Addison-Atkinson (2002 Year Group) has written about his 2009 trip to Chidobe.

As he started to write, looking out from his seat into the African bush, he could see buffalo, zebra and so many impala that it was impossible to count them. After the earlier breathtaking experience of viewing Victoria Falls for the first time had drained all the energy out of him – not to mention the six kilometre walk in the 40°C heat – this was the moment he had been waiting for all day.

The Falls are the full width of the Zambezi's watercourse, and the water plummets vertically for 108 metres.

The translation into English from the local language is "the mist that thunders". This was a perfect description, since he could see and hear the spray from eight kilometres away, as it rose out of the canyon like smoke from a bush fire.

Later, leaning back into his chair at the Stanley and Livingstone Hotel rubbing his sunburn, with his mosquito repellent and a bottle of local lager while watching African wildlife, he took time to look back over his Zimbabwean experience with a smile.

When he arrived at Harare airport he had been filled with anticipation. His plan had been to spend the next three months in Zimbabwe, a country one only tended to hear about in the news for the troubled times it had been going through. Disease and starvation had killed thousands in the previous few years, and with an unsupportive government it amazed him how people were able to live with smiles on their faces.

William found that the country was changing rapidly, and when he got there in 2009 things were very different to what he would have experienced a few years earlier. Life in Zimbabwe was improving and people were happier, but the stories of bad times were still on people's





lips. Images of bare supermarket shelves were still in people's minds. The slight change in his belt size soon made him realise that sometimes the local food could be quite interesting, as the staple diet was boiled maize meal with goat meat or ox head.

Much of the improvements were to do with the change of currency from the worthless Zimbabwean dollar to the American dollar, which had soon stabilised the unbelievable inflation problem.

As he sat in his world class hotel he couldn't help but feel guilty as suffering was still evident, but the African sense of humour was still strong and very catching. The people of Zimbabwe were so hospitable and friendly – especially the people of Chidobe village, which is situated by the Zambian border twelve kilometres south of Victoria Falls township.

One of the main reasons for William visiting Zimbabwe was to observe the charity work that had gone on in Chidobe primary school which, following the sad and sudden death of Alex Ruffell in 1998 at the age of sixteen, was founded by Alex's mother Sue Ford and stepfather Graham Ford.

William, who was two years younger than Alex, didn't know him all that well while they were at Friends' School, but he knew that Alex had been much loved by his friends and family. The amazing results of this charity – the Alex Ruffell Memorial Fund – are not only helping hundreds of the Chidobe people but are also keeping Alex's name alive for ever.

Everyone in this rural community speaks of Alex almost every day; there is a classroom built in his memory and an outdoor sports centre. The charity has provided drinking water, toilets, school uniforms, books and also electricity, which is used by the rest of the community as well as by the school. Those are just a few things: the list seems to go on and on.

Alfred Mpfu the village head was diagnosed with HIV over four years ago and certainly would have died if the charity hadn't supplied the drugs he needed. Rural communities in Africa have very complicated

politics and rely on influential figures such as Alfred.

Graham and Sue Ford organise the charity back in the UK, and this involves the time-consuming role of collecting all the kindly donated money, clothes, shoes and other items and getting them back to their family home in Ashdon.

Once everything has been collected, their container makes the long sea voyage to Durban in South Africa, and then the slow journey by rail to the city of Bulawayo in Zimbabwe. It then goes on to Victoria Falls before being loaded onto a truck and then delivered to the school. This can sometimes take months, as the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) can be very difficult: it has to be proved that everything in the shipment has come from a donated charity, or duty has to be paid on every item.

Graham and Sue visit the country themselves twice a year, to make sure that the shipment has reached its final destination and has been distributed correctly.

When William visited the school he witnessed the shipment being delivered and was amazed at the number of people who turned up. There were about five hundred in total, of which three hundred and fifty were school children; the rest were teachers, village heads, friends and family. It was a huge party with lots of singing and dancing, and the charity supplied food and drink for every person.

After everyone had eaten and the entertainment had finished, a game of football started on the school pitch. Brand new kit and boots had been supplied to the local Chidobe football team, which is called Ford United. Named after Sue and Graham, this is another reminder of the respect that they receive here.

Rather unwisely William had mentioned earlier that he'd played football for his school team at Friends', and was immediately placed at left midfield. He thinks that this was more out of politeness to him as a visitor rather than because of any playing ability. The opposition ran rings around him in bare feet and, and William felt so unfit after the first ten minutes that he really felt that he had to sit down in some shade. His only defence was that he had been used to a smaller pitch, had played on grass rather than sand, and had certainly never played in 35°C.



After the longest ninety minutes he'd ever experienced, the whistle blew, and it was time for the clothes to be distributed to the village. As William limped over to the queue of people, he noticed young children

wearing a very familiar school blazer with huge smiles on their faces. He couldn't help but put one on and have his photo taken with them.

The whole day was a complete success and everyone seemed very happy.

The people of Chidobe had really shown him this amazing will to survive, as every day can be a struggle – especially over the last four years. It didn't take long for him to be accepted by them and they were keen to show him their way of life. Smiling faces were everywhere he looked, and this African hospitality was evident all over the country.

Zimbabwe is truly a wonderful place with amazingly diverse landscapes, shockingly beautiful wildlife, and ancient fortified ruins that keep you thinking for hours about the kings who used to rule from them.

William wants to thank the people he met and the people who looked after him, especially the people of Chidobe whom he'll remember forever.



William in the "familiar school blazer"

Toby Allen (1952-58) has written again from Honolulu, where he is still working long hours ("to pay the mortgage off") but is in good health. In April 2010 he lived out a dream he has had for many years, when he came back to the UK and went to see his beloved Arsenal play at their new Emirates stadium.

He says it was a terrible game in which Arsenal were awful. They managed to scrape through 1-0 however, as on so many other occasions. In the past, the fans would sing (to the tune of The Village People's hit *Go West*) "one nil to the Arsenal, one nil to the Arsenal", and so on. Not the most inspired lyrics it must be said, but undeniably appropriate.

Anne Brown (Hirst, 1954-61) changed her address last year. Instead of Wadsworth House, Oxenhope, BD22 9ND, they are now at The Mill House, 6 Dunkirk Mill, Hawksbridge Lane, Oxenhope BD22 9AG, but retain the original telephone number. They moved in order to pass on the upkeep of an old house to someone younger and fitter ("fitter" in the good old meaning of the word). Now they find themselves in an even older, but newly refurbished house. Mercifully it is in better condition, which is more than can be said for them following what was a traumatic move. They hope that this will be their last one!

Fulvio Cassuto (1941-48)

wrote because this year (2011) will be the seventieth anniversary of his arrival at FSSW.

He was born in Trieste (Italy) in 1930, and came to England in August 1939 just one month before the outbreak of World War II. His father was Jewish and anti-fascist, and was offered a job with the Italian Service of the BBC in London. When Mussolini entered the war many Italians living in the UK were sent to concentration camps in the Isle of Man and elsewhere, but Fulvio's family were not interned; this was because his father was making an important contribution to the Allied War effort by broadcasting propaganda to the Italian people under the name of "Colonel Stevens".



Fulvio had been brought up in the Catholic faith and was not a Quaker, and the reason he went to FSSW was because Tony Marus (the son of a colleague of his father at the BBC) was already a boarder there. At the peak of the Battle of Britain, Saffron Walden was also much safer than London from the threat of German bombs. At the same time John Plank, the son of another colleague of his father also joined him as a boarder; John's father was a British Diplomat in Rome before the war and his mother was Italian.

Fulvio's Italian nationality meant that it was not easy for him to be accepted straight away by the majority of the scholars at FSSW, and he and John became homesick. On one occasion they tried to run away and go back home, but they did not get very far.

At one stage he was chased into a coal cellar by some unfriendly boys and locked in there for more than an hour, an experience he describes as "dramatic".

It did not take long however before he made lots of friends, mainly because he was participating in all of the sporting activities – particularly soccer and cricket. He still has many pleasant memories of some of the staff and scholars of FSSW with whom he shared seven of the best years of his life.

He left the School in 1948 at the age of eighteen and, as he had no intention of furthering his studies or entering a university, he found a job in the Foreign Department of Lloyds Bank in the City of London. A banking career however was certainly not for him, although he did enjoy

playing some of his best soccer with the Lloyds Bank first team, during the three years he was working there.

In 1952 Fulvio's father, who was a freelance journalist, introduced him to the publishing business, and he started a freelance job as an advertising salesman with *The Statist*, a weekly financial magazine which was almost a hundred years old.

At that time another Old Scholar, Donn Webb (1942-49), was lodging with an Italian family very near his home in Wembley and they used to see each other on an almost daily basis. This continued until Donn got engaged to Pat Chuter (1946-53). Fulvio was the Best Man at their wedding, and Donn was Fulvio's Best Man when he got married to an Italian lady in 1958.

In 1965 he went to South Africa on a special project for his company and was offered a job as Advertising Manager for the *Financial Mail*: 50% owned by the *Financial Times* group in London, this was the only weekly financial publication in South Africa.

A year later, Fulvio emigrated to South Africa with his wife and two daughters, and worked for the *Financial Mail* until his retirement in 1995. Since then, he has been Advertising Consultant for the magazine, and finds this keeps his mind active and his life more interesting, especially as it has given him greater opportunities to travel the world.

In the forty five years he has been in South Africa he has not only kept in regular touch with Donn Webb, but in 1995 he also attended the Old Scholars' 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, and in 2002 he came to the 300th anniversary of the founding of the School.

At the age of 81 he has fond memories of FSSW and of many Old Scholars, with some of whom he remains in touch, and he does hope that he will have an opportunity to attend another Old Scholars' gathering of his generation before too long – even though there are now rather fewer of them around.

In Australia it has been an extraordinary year in many respects for **Robert Dunstan (1945-54)** and Gill. They had found a buyer for their house in May, and had then bought a block of land to build on. After months of construction work, he hopes their new house will be ready for occupation around May 2011, albeit with furnishing and basic landscaping still to be attended to. Friends often ask why they are doing it, and they explain that it has been because they needed to find something smaller, on a flat block of land, and with no more than one or two steps into the house.

During the building process they have been renting a large townhouse on the main road in central Moss Vale and, although it is well appointed, the absence of central heating made moving in at the coldest time of year somewhat uncomfortable.

Before reaching that stage and as their sale got under way, Robert and Gill went off on a previously booked trip to Bali.

They had never visited Lombok before and found the island and the people somewhat different from Bali and the Balinese - there is a mixture of races including Sasaks, Balinese, Indo/Chinese, and a few Javanese and Sumatrans. While most of the Balinese are Hindus the main religion on Lombok is Islam, and they concluded that a sort of simmering tolerance seemed to exist between the two peoples.

Tourism infrastructure is far less developed than in Bali, and the people, particularly those living in the inland villages, are not as obviously friendly and welcoming as the Balinese. Having said this, Robert and Gill loved the quieter pace, and made quick friendships amongst the hotel staff, and with the hawkers who hovered along the beach, to whom they became "Mama" and "Papa". These were said to be expressions of respect and friendship (or possibly, according to Robert, acknowledgement of advancing years).

They have now had three successive holidays in the area, and despite occasional irritations the images, places and people have always left them with fond memories.

Earlier this year, many Australians had been initially absorbed, then irritated, and finally disenchanted, disinterested and depressed by one of the most uninspiring election campaigns in recent memory, ending of course in a hung parliament. Robert drew a clear parallel, and suspected that few of us in England found much joy or encouragement in the results of our election either.

Their musical interests continue, and as Robert wrote, they were putting the final touches to an upcoming Christmas concert series which contained a rather beautiful but challenging mixture of ancient and modern seasonal pieces. The Concert Band has been going from strength to strength, and celebrated its twenty fifth anniversary with a sell-out concert. Robert admitted that although his musical tastes these days tended to favour the classical repertoire, he had always loved jazz, particularly traditional jazz, and big-band jazz of the 20s, 30s and 40s, and the Band was rather good at the latter. At the concert he had been unable to delegate his role as Master of Ceremonies to anyone else for the concert, so instead of playing his *Eb* tuba he



was forced to listen to *Moonlight Serenade*, *Two O'Clock Jump*, *St Louis Blues March*, *Jumpin' at the Woodside* and other pieces.

Meanwhile their children were all well and busy with their own working and leisure-time lives.

Robert felt a little sad that his FSSW/OS "circle of friends" seemed to have been quieter during the last year, and he repeated that he would always reply promptly and at length to anyone who could find time to communicate in his direction. He and Gill remained reasonably well and hoped that OS could perhaps find time to visit – friends would always receive a warm welcome.

Judith Foster (1947-53) enclosed an excerpt from an Annie Proulx book referring to a book by Reginald Reynolds (*see elsewhere in the Magazine*). This was not quite the way she remembered Reg (who was fifty when she was a mere seventeen), but she did recall his Whit weekend performances of *The Golden Road to Samarkand*. Perhaps other OS have similar memories? She also passed on some family information.

Having missed her painting holiday last year, this year she managed to go to Greece, to the same very small island that her failed holiday of the previous year would have taken her to: Agistri, off Aegina, off Piraeus.

She went in September, after the main season, and having picked the hotel almost out of a hat, found that it was ideal. When on her own on holiday she has always been apprehensive of long, lonely evenings, but in fact this little hotel turned out to be very friendly. There were in particular some Dutch people there who were companionable, even to the extent of ferrying her around the island a couple of times. There were also some British (some nice, some less so) who were at least happy to chat and share a jug of *retsina*.

She painted every day, moderately successfully, but rather by way of studies to work from than good finished works. It wasn't as inspiring as courses she had been on at Perrot in France, but certainly good enough.

Judith decided however that she would not go back to Agistri, feeling that at only 5km x 4km it really wasn't big enough, and it could have been walked end to end in a couple of hours. She walked less than she would have liked, not because she was afraid of being accosted, but because if she had turned her ankle on the rough ground, no-one would have come past for days to find her. As it was, the footpaths were hardly marked, unlike the precision of the waymarking in Germany or Switzerland.

She also had two relatively short touring holidays in France, one of which took her to Metz, a handsome town with a fine cathedral, in an area she hardly knew at all. While there, she found herself in the middle of one of those French demonstrations, this time against the changes in the pension provisions: full of large orange banners, but quite peaceful.

Music found its way back into her life this year. It started with an invitation to return to Saffron Walden, which she still visits from time to time, to sing again in a choir some of the works she used to perform with the choir master Richard Sturge. With hindsight, Judith thinks he was the teacher who gave her the most to remember from her school days, and with that an abiding interest in old music and vocal music of all types.

It was an invitation she did not want to refuse, but she was aware that her voice was very rusty and, she thought, possibly irrecoverable. She found a singing teacher however, put the case to her, and was given both exercises and songs. She got through so successfully that she has continued the lessons, and is acquiring a repertoire that includes Piaf songs, Schumann, Schubert, Handel, Antonio Caldara, Adolfe Adam and Michael Head.

She does enjoy the great composers best though, and could easily sing us a very impassioned song of love and loss, and get a lot of encouragement to be dramatic (no problem, she says – she has always loved telling a story).

Judith has also taken the plunge back into regular visits to the opera, only ENO now rather than Covent Garden. When she retired, and her income went down, what she missed most was the opera, the totality of the experience. Now, she has been able to take members of her family from time to time, and that is good for all of them. She has already booked next spring and summer seasons.

To her great pleasure, the family got together and gave Judith a bicycle for Christmas last year, and she used it regularly for trips to St Albans, Welwyn and all around locally until the clocks went back. At that point the cycle paths became too dark and the roads too dangerous for cycling when not absolutely necessary. Roll on March. She had quite forgotten how very fast the bicycle was, and how very exciting to whizz along.

Among the exhibitions she has seen this year, she went recently to the Royal Academy to see a great continental collection, and found when she came out that she was disappointed – not with the quality of the works, but with what she calls the “disconnectedness” of it. Too many periods, too many subjects, too many names, too many styles.

She will probably be less inclined to visit general shows in future, and will concentrate rather on specialised ones: those that are (wait for the pomposity of this) more educational. That is still what she looks for.

Imogen Heap (1990-93) has had an extremely busy year. May saw the start of her tour of the USA showcasing her Grammy-winning album *Ellipse*. A hit with fans and critics alike, it reached number five in the US Billboard charts.

She spent some time touring across the UK and, after visiting the Oxford

Union – in her pyjamas – she moved on to the Royal Albert Hall. This is where, on 5th November, Imogen gave the first performance of her *Love The Earth* nature score featuring a full orchestra and a choir. Before it took place she blogged “I’m so excited...I can hardly type! When I was a kid I dreamed of premiering my first orchestral score there and this year I am going to make it happen”.

The piece itself has been described as “a project that intertwines music with nature photography and film”, and is one that Imogen wanted to be accessible. She wanted schools to be able to perform it, and hoped that she might inspire children into orchestral music.

The underlying idea of *Love The Earth* was inspired by a trip she had made to Tanzania some years earlier, when she stopped “to watch and listen to nature at work, rest and play”. Using all of the latest information technology, she invited the world to participate in *Love The Earth* by helping her interactively to create its images.

She asked for images and video clips illustrating the “colours, lights, shades, rhythms and patterns of nature” as experienced by individuals – a sunrise...mist over mountains...a flower in a pavement crack...the northern lights – “moments that fill us with wonder”.

The echoes in the Royal Albert Hall had hardly died away before the final preparations were being made for her January/February South Africa tour.

As the Magazine goes to press, Imogen is due back in the UK again for her next project, which will be the creation of the first song and video from her next album. “Crowd-sourced”, this is an extension of the interactive concept, and is due to begin in the middle of March. Imogen will be going online, gathering sounds from all over the world via her website from “anyone who fancies joining in”. She will then collect words and visual elements followed by selected musical contributions, and by the end of March the song will have been written, videoed and released.

In Imogen’s own words, “There’s so much going on in my life with touring, talks and tech that the choice to do this was both a necessity coupled with my passion for collaborative, spontaneous and creative projects. I also love the idea that the seeds of the song begin with the fans making a full circle when it’s experienced as a finished piece. The unknown nature of what it will sound like is so exciting to me. I often thrive on a deadline and creative limitations. I want to really put myself to the test and I’m going to have fun doing it!”



After that, it's off to Singapore and New Zealand in April. The show must go on.

To keep in touch with what Imogen is doing, readers can view video clips on YouTube and can also visit her websites, which are www.imogenheap.co.uk and www.imogenheap.com.

Despite everything that has been going on in her life, she somehow managed to find time to come back to the School in August for a bout of nostalgia. She enjoyed seeing around her old haunts and revisited her favourite piano in the Music School. Old Scholars can see photos of the day on the OS website (www.friends.org.uk/fsswosa just in case readers have forgotten). Click once on the "news" icon and scroll down the page...



Imogen with Martin Hugall

Chris Levine (1978 year group), whose exhibition *Stillness at the Speed of Light* is described elsewhere in the Magazine, is also participating in a major touring exhibition recently announced by the National Portrait Gallery.

It will be called *The Queen: Art and Image*, and will bring together sixty of the most remarkable and resonant images of Queen Elizabeth II, spanning the sixty years of her reign.

Along with highlights that will include portraits by Annigoni and Lucian Freud, and photographs by Cecil Beaton, Annie Leibovitz, Lord Lichfield and Lord Snowdon, the exhibition will feature Chris's 2004 larger-than-life hologram of the Queen with her eyes closed (right), an image that has been described as "highly unusual".



The tour will start in Edinburgh in June this year, and will stop off in Belfast and Cardiff before being put on display in London from May to October 2012.

Howard Newman (1969-74) was installed in February 2010 as Master of The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers for one year.

At the same time his wife Inge (*Westerhuis*, 1984-86) received the Lady's Badge.

The year has involved presiding at meetings, attending services and functions, and arranging outings for Liverymen and Freemen – one of which was to Audley End House on a perfect spring day.

Despite snow, the Livery Dinner at the Mansion House on 3rd December was attended by some 275 people, the principal guests being the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of the City of London. Family members included Howard and Inge's three sons, Joshua (14), Benjamin (11) and Oliver (just 10).

On leaving the School, Howard had trained at the London College of Horology, and in due course had become a Director of the family business of A James Ltd, situated in one of the ancient buildings in Church Street, Saffron Walden.

In 2008 he was responsible for researching, setting up and maintaining an exhibition featuring a special display of Scientific and Technological Examples of Horology, and in 2010 he "clocked up" thirty four years with the family firm.

As well as holding high office in the Clockmakers' Company he is a member of the Antiquarian Horological Society and of local historical, museum and library societies.

He is also a trustee of a local charity, the Gibson Walden Fund, and in 1998 found the time to be co-author of *Saffron Walden, A Pictorial History*.

His interests include the countryside, walking, swimming, skiing, travelling, antiques, local history, silverware/goldware, jewellery, barometers – and, of course, all things horological.



*Master of the Clockmakers:
Howard is the young one in the centre*



*Howard winding the clock of Saffron
Walden parish church*

Marion Shynn (Battley, 1952-57) wrote from "Down Under" to tell readers and Old Scholars about her recent trip to the UK from Australia.

She was staying with her cousin Sue (who lives in Epping), and as they were passing through the Saffron Walden area she was persuaded to call in, say "hello", and see the old School. They were greeted by the "lovely Sonia", who was very welcoming and for whom nothing was too much trouble.

They were shown around some of the School and grounds, and it was with great delight that Marion saw the old buildings she had remembered along with those that were new to her. She was curious to know where the gong had gone (previously it had been in the corridor outside the Library) and discovered it in its new home in the Dining Room.

On leaving School, Marion trained as a General and Orthopaedic nurse, specialising in Accident and Emergency. She wanted to travel, so she joined Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, serving in London, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Germany. All in all she found it a wonderful experience. She even had three Old Scholars as her patients.

The School had been a haven for her away from her thoroughly unloved foster mother, but this meant that she hated going home for the holidays, and constantly looked forward to seeing her friends again back at School.

In 1986 she emigrated to Australia with her husband and children, and since then has made several trips back to see her UK family and attend family reunions.

Over the years she has met a lot of people who really knew nothing about the Society of Friends and Quakers: she has had great delight in reassuring them, and saying what wonderful, gentle and caring people Quakers are.

This view was reinforced on her recent visit back to the School – the reception and hospitality were just as "Friends" had always been. Her cousin Sue was impressed, and was going to recommend the School to her daughter, for her grandson.

Marion will always treasure the five years that she spent at Saffron Walden.



FEEDBACK

This section features responses to items in the 2010 Magazine.

From Godric Bader (1935-41)

Godric, having written to the Editor after reading the 2009 Magazine, felt compelled to comment on the 2010 edition. Readers will be entertained by his freeform, almost "stream of consciousness", approach, which the Editor has preserved in its original state.

"Another very excellent production... many serious congratulations... need someone like you to do the "old workers of Scottbader" publication... but tragically we do not do one now... but there is a yearly dinner a "27 year award celebration"... TRAGICALLY this eve... which, amongst TWO other fixtures for me on Saturday, rules out the OSA which I was so keen to get to this year... especially to show my grandson... in swimming galas tomorrow... what a good school is like.

We had teachers to entertain us, a grand choice of well brought up girls to relate with... (& in summer to lie with in the field grass), regular dances in the old gym & of course a swimming pool... a real luxury in the 1930s.

I certainly missed it all in the 1940s, being evacuated to a London university... itself evacuated to Cambridge... eating pigeon pie made from the pigeons swept off Kings College

Chapel roof!

So if you are going, hope it will be a great day... afraid I will qualify for the "obit. list" next year, to pick up Tim Evens's words... but I am trying not to!... (too many of my close friends at Walden in this one...!) ... but MUCH appreciation for the words about me... (& PHOTO in Colour this time!)... Most truly, Godric.

NB Please note... there were **MANET** better things to do in the bumbledinkies than simply having a picnic, if you did but know!"

From Jeremy Edwards (1952-1959)

Each year there is a feature in the Magazine with a message encouraging Old Scholars to come back in May.

Not everyone seems to read it of course, but is clear from his letter that Jeremy at least must have read it.

He wrote to say that he had been planning to come to the 2010 Reunion, but had found that it clashed with a talk at his American Civil War Round Table.

This was one that he particularly wanted to go to as it was a subject that interested him greatly – the impact of the Crimean War on the American Civil War – and the speaker was to be an outstanding military historian who had been an officer in the Marines during the

Vietnam War.

He was sorry but it really was going to be an unavoidable clash.

He would instead be continuing with his customary programme of battlefield walks with his colleagues; in 2010 they were due to take a trip to Dunkirk as it would be the 70th anniversary of that amazing evacuation.

The main centre of interest of Jeremy's ACW group is, naturally enough, the American Civil War, and this means that they are a bit limited for battlefield sites to visit in Europe.

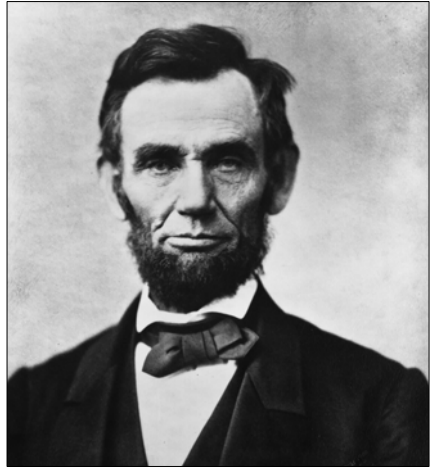
There is apparently only one such site (*not sure if the group has visited Northampton, where three quarters of a million boots and shoes were manufactured and exported to the Confederacy. Maybe that doesn't count as a battlefield site, Ed*), and once they had covered that one they worked their way through the Somme, Ypres, Mons & Loos and Verdun over the next few years.

Finally they moved on to the Battle of the Bulge, with a German tour guide and an afternoon with one of their veterans (interesting!), Waterloo, Agincourt and the Normandy Beaches.

They had concluded that Europe was close at hand and it was a bit difficult to do weekend trips to Gettysburg...

On that subject, Jeremy mentioned that has been giving talks on Abraham Lincoln, since last year was the 200th anniversary of the birth of the man he calls "the old rascal".

This year's question from the Editor concerns a small matter of identification:



which one is "the old rascal"?



From Trevor Hurrell (1942-47)
On Friends and Families Day, Trevor took the opportunity to buttonhole the Editor about his article on the apostrophe in the 2010 Magazine.

As a fluent French speaker Trevor had initially been baffled and had then been intrigued by the photograph of a sign in French seen in Megève.

It appeared to be displaying the word *Meuble's* followed by a telephone number, but he realised that what seemed to be a misplaced apostrophe was in all probability a slightly misplaced acute accent.

The word in the sign could now be interpreted as *Meublés*, and the sign itself as an advertisement for the availability of furnished apartments, or *appartements meublés*.

The Editor is grateful to Trevor for his help.

From David Jones (1942-47)

David offered his congratulations on yet another excellent "OS News". He said that he always enjoyed reading it, though added that nowadays even the "old" scholars seemed to be growing ever younger.

Although Ronald Mallone never taught him in class, David was sorry to read of his passing. He offered two memories of him. One was that Ronald was the only teacher he ever saw at FSSW who wore an academic gown, probably more to protect his other clothing from the ravages of chalk dust than to impress pupils with his prestige.

The second was that Ronald must have been standing in for someone else when he spent a whole period reading parts of

Hiawatha to the class: the rhythm and power of the verse have stayed with David ever since.

David's chief point in writing to the Editor, however, was to answer Michael Snellgrove's query on page 27 about learning of the Divine, pointing out to the Editor in passing that this had appeared incorrectly in the Magazine as "Devine" – still room for typo improvement (*Sorry...Ed*).

He felt that no RE lesson was ever going to be a spiritual experience, but he was able to think of three teachers whose work had enriched his own knowledge.

In the Lower 3rd Mary Fulford took the class through most of Exodus, and left them with little more to learn about the life of Moses. Then later Jeff Follett introduced them to the Book of Acts and dealt with the importance of the Council of Jerusalem (though David didn't think that Jeff called it that), where it was agreed that Gentiles were eligible to become Christians.

Lastly and most unforgettably, Arnold Brereton introduced them to the history of Israel under the Kings and how the Kingdom was divided into two after the death of Solomon. David can still recall Arnold's slow, solemn voice intoning the threat of Rehoboam, "My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions". (King James version in those days of course).

David concluded that "Religious Instruction ain't what it used to be".

From David Fairbanks (1945-49)

David wrote to thank the Editor for including his beautiful notelet on page 24 of last year's Magazine. He added that he had found the Magazine interesting, especially the article from Barry Barber, who had been at the School around the same time.

He asked whether anyone had responded to his Magazine question in 2009, when he wondered not only why the School Tramp had been discontinued, but also who had made the decision.

(Sorry David, if there are any Old Scholars or members of Staff out there who know the answer, they're keeping very quiet about it, Ed).

Feedback from Adrian Smith (1952-59)

Adrian wrote to say he had been meaning to write to the Editor for a long time, in appreciation of last year's OS magazine, kindly describing it as representing a *tour de force* which included many items of interest.

He was gratified that his contribution was included as he had thought that it might be censored. He felt that there seemed to be a convention of regarding one's schooldays as idyllic, which in many cases was far from the truth. He recalled that Lord Evans of Temple Guiting had certainly not been happy while at the School, and since then had never again darkened the doors of the place (*the Editor suspects that Matthew did perhaps come back to the*

School in order to give a Sixth Form talk). Adrian's footnote is: "Fancy the son of a Communist ending up a Lord! How are the mighty fallen".

He was sorry to read of the deaths of Teddy Dunstan and Ian Meyler-Warlow, who had both been kind to him when he was a new boy at Walden. He was sure that nowadays new boys would never be debagged, on the field or anywhere else, and suggested that modern clothing would also make this difficult.

He felt that there would be a riot if the old seating arrangements still applied, with boys moving round one day and girls in the opposite direction the next.

He had happy memories of Nuala Bradbury, whom he described as a lovely young woman in the Sixth (one of many) when they first began, and asked Old Scholars if any among them remembered Vendela Revans and Olga Sheeran. Adrian says that both of them were amazed when he told them how much they meant to him.

Where Geoffrey Thomas was concerned though he was a little bit wary, until one afternoon he plucked up the courage to knock on the door, and ask him what piece he was playing on the piano in Richard Sturge's room. It was a Prelude by Bach, and this has remained a favourite piece of his ever since. He hoped that maybe it would be used to introduce the programme when his

autobiography was serialised on Radio Four...

Adrian was glad that Foale and Tuffin had been featured, as Sally had been on his dinner table during his first term at Walden, and even then she had wanted to be a fashion designer. He said that he rejoices at people who have been successful at things he would not want to do at all.

He was interested to learn that the father of John Dudderidge had been an Olympic runner, and that Alice Kendon (sister of his contemporary Andrew Kendon) had been the first FSSW pupil to win a State Scholarship. In earlier times, the School had not been exactly noted as a temple of academe. He wondered if he had ever mentioned to the Editor the story of an elderly lady he met around 1970: she had told him about her two brothers, who on Mafeking Night had climbed down a drainpipe and gone into the Town to join in the celebrations.

He was glad that Martin Hugall had paid tribute to Tom Robinson (who he first knew as an attentive small boy with a piercing soprano voice, singing in the choir at the local "steeplehouse" – in Adrian's view this was how almost all English musicians had started their careers, England having been noted for singing boys since Saxon times). He was glad that the Editor had revisited *Our Other Town* – in his opinion one of the funniest shows he had seen in his life; in this respect he honoured the

Editor's "sense of the ridiculous".

He followed by observing that he would think of the bumbledinkies every time he saw *Dejeuner Sur l'Herbe* in future. Allegedly Rosie Scott had been caught by Jennie Ellinor climbing out of a pracky room window, eager to meet her boy friend in the bumbledinkies, but she bore the School no resentment, and Adrian believes she later sent one or more of her children to Walden. Rosie's husband's parents once worshipped alongside a great aunt of Adrian's at Upminster Baptist Church.

He shared the Editor's rage over misuse of the apostrophe. When teaching English to twelve year olds, Adrian would "give them an exercise on apostrophe's to do as home work, and they would get it all right, only to go back to their old way's once they were writing composition's".

He offered a final thank you to the Editor for his sense of humour, adding that it had "brightened life's load for many".

UNRELIABLE MEMORIES

Throughout my time at Walden the Trophy Board remained stuck at 1939. Originally, I believe, there were six houses, named after worthy Quaker families. The demise in 1939 was due to a "concern" that a Quaker school

should not seek to set pupil against pupil. PC gone mad? We got in first.

However, by '45 - '46 the School was divided into three colours: red, green and yellow. By '46 - '47 Tuke, Lister, and Mennell were re-instated. *Instanta* it had two results: team spirit and the re-introduction of Athletics.

Richard Wright planned and executed a quarter mile circuit, with precisely and mathematically calculated 100/200 yards segments with lanes. Horribly hard sand pits were resurrected; staff and wives acted as starters, judges, timekeepers, recorders and stewards; discus and javelins came by courtesy of the departing USAAF. The sun shone and the wind blew, which affected the javelin in particular.

Rules then stated that the point had to implant firmly. Going for accuracy rather than distance, Jimmy Dutton (Mennell) won with a distance of about ten feet. It was a splendid, nay superb day all round.

In retrospect, from a "Listerite" point of view, we seem to have dominated the immediate post-war scene. A further tribute, if any were needed, to Cyril Mummery, our Housemaster.

The War was behind us and time had moved on, but not where the Trophy Board was concerned: in my time it still remained stuck at 1939. (*if Michael looks back at page 38 in last year's Magazine, he will see the Trophy Board with all his years included, Ed*).

Michael How (1942-50)

A *WRINKLY* REUNION - AT THE SCHOOL

Following last year's reunion in Finchley of some OS whose Walden life spanned the War (the Second one, that is), the year 2010 brought them back to the School.

Michael How takes up the tale...

There was a time when any visit to Walden was guaranteed to be unalloyed pleasure. So with our latest mini-reunion.

Following a joyous reception, Graham Wigley and his cohorts put on a delicious lunch. Entertainment followed in the shape (literally) of David Wood,

Bursar of this parish, directed by Graham. Behind closed doors David mounted the catwalk for a twirl to show off the new School blazer.

A postprandial stroll up The Avenue – kicking the stone on the way – finished at the site of "Ma Spark's Puddle". For the uninitiated this had once been the

location of a delightful water garden. Now it resembled a bomb site. But then, in its time, no-one would ever dare to mine Ma Spark's Puddle. Would they "Diffy" Butler, "Zimmer" Soar, "Sheep" Powell ?

All good things come to an end however. Elsewhere Graham has

noted that more sticky buns were consumed on this occasion than ever before in archive memory.

Nevertheless we are deeply indebted to the School for this wonderful reunion.

Mike How (1942-50)

Maurice Allward (1923-2010) FSSW 1937-1940

The following information came in too late for inclusion in the main Memories of Old Scholars section, and comes from the Welwyn Hatfield Times, which described Maurice as "Author and expert on aircraft and rockets".



Born in Barnet, Maurice left Saffron Walden without being moved to commit himself to the pacifism which inspired many of his contemporaries.

He worked initially as a junior draughtsman for Hawkers, where his responsibilities included work on the Hurricane fighter plane.

Maurice spent much of his life in Hatfield where, with an extensive knowledge of aircraft design and technology, he worked for de Havilland on technical publications. He wrote over seventy books, not only on aviation but also on rocket and space travel, and between 1960 and 1989 helped to

compile *Jane's All the World Aircraft*.

He was a member of the Royal Observer Corps, and also served on the Air Safety Committee, which was responsible for providing technical advice to the Government.

As well as his principal involvement in the avionics world, Maurice had a keen interest in the story of Captain Bligh and the Mutiny on the Bounty, and was a committee member of the Pitcairn Islands Study Group (UK).

FAMILY NEWS

RUBY WEDDING

26th December 1970

CHETSINGH – GREENWOLD: Dilawar K Chetsingh (1953-57) to Shehlata Greenwold at Dehra Dun, India.

SAPPHIRE WEDDING

15th August 1964

MARTIN – HOLLINGBERRY: Trevor Martin to Diane Hollingberry (1949-55), at Chelmsford Cathedral.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

20th February 1960

TRACY – DAVIS: Michael Tracy to Pamela Davis (1948-54), at St John's Church, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

4th June 1960

WEDD – SHELDON: Graham Wedd (1943-52) to Marie Ann Sheldon at Clavering Parish Church.

DIAMOND WEDDING

30th September 1950

WADGE – BURMAN: Ralph Wadge to Jean Burman (1939-44) at Friends Meeting House, New Barnet.

DEATHS

November 2009

PAMELA HOLTUM (*Dunstan*, 1936-42)

13th February 2010

DOROTHY FALKNER (1918-24)

23rd February 2010

CHRISTOPHER WOOD (1947-54)

6th May 2010

JOYCE WOODHOUSE (*Francis*, 1932-39)

27th May 2010

JACK TURNBULL (1933-35, President 1981-82)

8th October 2010

ARNOLD GILLET (1927-34)

9th October 2010

MICHAEL LITTLEBOY (1938-45)

16th October 2010

ALAN THOMPSON (1930-37, President 1968-69 and Honorary Life Vice President)

30th December 2010

FARRAND RADLEY (1927-33, President 1966-67)

MAURICE ALLWARD (1937-40)

CRICKET

The centrepiece of the 2010 May Reunion afternoon was once again the cricket match between the School and the Old Scholars. As in recent years the fixture was played in excellent weather, and the match was one of the most competitive ever.



The latest in a long series of annual cricket matches between Friends' School and the Old Scholars produced one of the closest matches in recent years, with the Old Scholars winning in the final over, with just one ball to spare.

Following the retirement of some of the older 'BATS', the Old Scholars' team had a much younger look to it than in previous years, and the predominant sound heard by spectators was that of bat on ball rather than the usual complaints from OS players about their aching joints and muscles.

Old Scholars' captain Tom Dickinson won the toss and courageously put the School in to bat on a perfectly prepared wicket.

Fortunately his decision was quickly justified when demon pace bowler Ed Addison-Atkinson struck in just the second over.

Tom Taylor (16) and Ray Mordini (30) played well as the School set about compiling an imposing total, before Mordini was expertly caught at mid on by Matt Pack (currently a Friends' School teacher, whom the Old Scholars had borrowed in order to make up numbers).

Some fine batting by Clayton Bull (22) and elderly captain Nick Batcheler (26 not out) enabled the School to finish with a challenging 126 for 5 from their 20 overs. The Old Scholars' run chase began well with Joe 'the giant' Bloomfield hitting some lusty

blows in his quick-fire 18. Chester Hawkins (19) looked set for a big score before he was trapped lbw amidst a cascade of tumbling wickets.

The innings was saved however by James Morris who hit some enormous sixes in his 50 not out, leading to a tense final over.

With three runs needed from two balls, it fell to the traitorous Matt Pack to smash the winning runs, giving the Old Scholars a five wicket win with just one ball to spare.

Many thanks to the groundsman for an excellent pitch and the catering staff for a superb match tea. Battle resumes next year...

Scores were:

School 126 for 5 off 20 overs
Old Scholars 128 for 5 off 19.5 overs

Old Scholars won by 5 wickets

Members of the teams were:

School

Harlow; Taylor; Mordini; Bull; Rolls; Greenwood; Batcheler; Fleming; Coulson; Wood.

Old Scholars

Bloomfield; Dickinson; Hawkins;



A cracking off drive in the School's last over

Jackson; Morris; Richardson; Pack; Eve; Ed Addison-Atkinson; Walsh.

Tom Dickinson

The Editor would like to draw the attention of Old Scholars once again to the fact that the annual match between BATS and the School will only survive if new cricketers join in. Without Matt Pack helping out, the 2010 match might not have taken place.

If you would like to play in the 2011 match, to be held at the School on Saturday 14th May, please contact Nick Batcheler on 01799 513289, or email him at nickbatcheler@hotmail.com.



Going for glory in the last over of the OS innings

BATS CRICKET CLUB

*Just when you thought that BATS had crossed over the boundary,
never more to be seen in their whites,
here they are again (or some of them anyway).*

As readers will know from the 2009 and 2010 issues of the Magazine, the ageing members of BATS realised that they had become too decrepit to play anymore, and decided to give their rheumatic and arthritic bodies a break, and call it a day.

They may have gone from the cricket field however, but they have not gone forever.

Instead of quietly disbanding and crumbling gently into their dotage, BATS have exchanged their batting pads for seating pads (*and incontinence pads? Ed*) and have opted for what they call a "Boundary Tour".

This enables them to continue enjoying the game they love, but they now do it by sitting and watching First Class Cricket.

In 2009 – their first non-playing year – they went to Cheltenham, and in 2010 they opted for Chesterfield. Malcolm Pim insists that it doesn't have anything to do with working through the First Class grounds in alphabetical order.

A couple of BATS had been to Queen's Park, Chesterfield the year before for a one-off visit on Jonny Hartstone's recommendation, and had been very impressed: it is a really lovely ground. In August this year they stayed in a local hotel, watched a One Day game (Derbyshire v Yorkshire) on the Sunday and the first two or three days (some people stayed an extra day) of the County Championship game between Derbyshire and Northants.

As the 2011 First Class fixture list hasn't yet been published, they haven't decided where to go next year but it won't necessarily be Chester-le-Street...

Malcolm Pim has kindly sent the Editor a photo (upper right) to prove that BATS are just as good at sitting down as they used to be at tickling a googly through the slips. It was taken at their spectator reunion at Chesterfield.





BATS on seats are, left to right: Andrew (Will) Moss, David (Danny) Hills, Malcolm Pim, Jonny Hartstone, Martin Lamborn and Graeme (Tom) Johnston.



The BATS tour cricketers in their heyday

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CO-OPTEEES

Under the terms of the Association's Constitution, the General Committee can (and would like to) co-opt up to four Members to serve as required.

This will enable the wider membership of the Association to be represented on the Committee, will give it a more varied range of views and opinions, and will make it more relevant to the needs of Old Scholars.

So, members of the FSSWOSA...
This is **your** Association.
This is **your** opportunity to help!

If you would like to volunteer to become a co-opted member of the Committee, please contact one of the Association's Officers:

Chair: Nigel McTear, The Coach House, 90 Newmarket Road, Norwich, NR2 2LB phone: 01603 503442
email: mail@mctear.com

Treasurer: Andrew McTear, Midsummer Lodge, 217 Newmarket Road, Norwich NR4 7LA phone: 01603 507555
email: andrewmctear@hotmail.com

Editor OS Magazine: Richard Gilpin, 67 Coleraine Road, London SE3 7PF phone: 020 8858 3980
email: richard67gilpin@hotmail.co.uk

Minutes Secretary: Mark Bertram, Old Orchard, Little London, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0BA phone: 01435 864820
email: mark@bertram.demon.co.uk

OS REUNION MAY 2010

Once again, the Association turned the School's Friends and Families Day into an Old Scholars' reunion day, with OS from the 1968 and 1978 Year Groups having been particularly welcomed...

The weather in May has sometimes in the past been rather unreliable, but the 2010 OS Reunion on the School's Friends and Families Day on the 15th May continued a recent sequence of sun and blue skies.

The School's programme for the day started with Meeting for Worship in the Assembly Hall, followed by refreshments in the marquee on the front lawn. The centrepiece of course was Assembly in the Sports Hall for music, speeches and the presentation of awards (including the awards made by the Old Scholars' Association to members of the previous year's Quartet). Meanwhile, the Library had been made available by the School as a meeting area for Old Scholars throughout the day.

After Assembly, and against a backdrop of a green but sunny playing field, the School provided an excellent barbecue



lunch; this involved bread rolls, sausages, burgers and onions, borne on a tidal wave of tomato ketchup.

As the smoke from the barbecue became ever thicker and thicker, the cooks temporarily disappeared



from sight, only to reappear as if by magic, handing out yet more food.

Groups of students, parents and Old Scholars munched contentedly, sitting on the sunny benches alongside the swimming pool or on rugs on the grass. Many from the 1978 year group had come, thanks to the tireless efforts of Julie Foster, but that's another story – see below.

Eventually the crowds were persuaded to leave the field so that the cricket match could get under way, and the cooks retired smelling strongly of smoke and barbecued food.

For those not involved in the cricket the day continued with various entertainments, trips round the boarders' bedrooms

(accompanied by remarks such as “do you remember when we climbed through there to get onto the roof”), and tea with cakes in the marquee.

As parents took their children off home for the remainder of the weekend, the School quietened down (apart from the Choir, whose members were practising in the Assembly Hall), and knots of Old Scholars could be found chatting on the front lawn or walking around the field in time-honoured fashion.

Dinner would shortly be served and for the first time it would be preceded by singing, but that's another story too – to be told by Lesley Jacob and Lenon Beeson (also below).

You could say it was a long journey from May 2009 to May 2010 along which there were mountains of mailing and torrents of telephoning, with an oasis at the end which was the day itself.

There was also good companionship with the School, the Committee, the Choir and all those Old Scholars whom I phoned about the day.

There were also a few good lunches. In fact it started with a lunch in May 2009 when a few of my year group met for a meal in Saffron Walden during which a softly spoken and persuasive Mark Bertram, ably backed up by

Richard Gilpin, suggested I be proposed as President. Both told me that, since everything was always organised by the Committee and the School, there was nothing to worry about. Actually it was daunting at the beginning, but then when I started emailing and phoning OS – especially the Choir members – the anxiety began to disperse, settled by the warmth and encouragement from all those to whom I spoke. The second major lunch was with Mary Mileson and Rosemary Lovegrove in planning the musical event. Mary, her family and Rosemary were the linchpins in getting the Choir and music



Choir rehearsal in the Assembly Hall

together. Mary's knowledge of pupils and staff and music was invaluable. Rosemary, quietly and carefully, gave me advice at exactly the right time about choice of music, setting out the Choir in the Dining Hall, and placing the piano and so on; this again was invaluable.

Graham Wigley and Debbie Peck were the essential link between the OS and the School. Always on the spot when needed, flexible in meeting requests, and balancing OS needs with the requirements of the School made it an easy relationship. Graham's careful guidance throughout the planning stage and Debbie's quiet efficiency, warmth and tactful presence made them both a joy to work with.

The main anxiety was in finding tenors and sopranos – and I must say that did give me a few sleepless nights. In the event, most of the Mileson family and David White made up the majority of the tenor section. Soprano reinforcements were organised by

Carey Dickinson from local choral societies and my grateful thanks go to her.

The Choir thoroughly enjoyed the rehearsal, followed by the performance itself at the start of the Dinner. We hope the diners enjoyed it too!

My aim for the day was that it should be relaxed and friendly. Meeting Old Scholars and ex Staff – especially Lenon and Doris Beeson – was a great pleasure. Some of us had not met for fifty years.

I think and hope that this aim was achieved for everybody.

Together with all the support along the way, we did arrive at the oasis. Thanks to everyone who came along on the day itself and to those who wrote letters, who emailed and who phoned before it and afterwards.

I look forward to meeting Old Scholars again for the next May reunion.

*Lesley A Jacob (1953-61,
OSA President 2009 -10)*

Before the supper, which was provided by the School's caterers, the evening started with singing by a Choir that had been organised by the President, Lesley Jacob.

somewhat ironic:

"May the King live forever.

Amen, Allelujah."

As you all know, he didn't.

On the other hand, his successor George the Third did reign for sixty years, and the American



Choral overture in the Dining Room

I would not say that it was the most elderly choir I have ever heard, but the members that I did see were all around or over seventy years old. Indeed more than one was over eighty.

The first item on their programme was one of Handel's Coronation Anthems – *Zadok the Priest*.

This was written for the Coronation of George the Second in 1727, and has been sung at every coronation since. One phrase from the words seemed

Colonists must have felt very worried that Handel's prayer might actually be working.

However, as Cyril Mummery will have told you, the Colonists declared Independence on 4th July 1776, and all ended well (for them).

The second item was Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus*.

I believe it was then that the Dining Room clock started to chime. The Conductor immediately halted the Choir, as if he knew that at any moment a

terrible discord was about to be assailed the ears of the assembled diners.

His skill ensured that we could move on to the third and lighter item, which was Bob Dylan's *Blowing in the Wind*.

My own favourites among the famous couplets are:

*And how many times must the
cannon balls fly
Before they're forever banned?
and
How many years must a mountain
exist
Before it is washed to the sea?*

We finished with the hymn *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* – sung to the older tune which the choir had sung at School, and this was followed by a short silence.

The silence ended, and the room was filled with animated conversations. These had to pause occasionally to allow Old Scholars to enjoy an outstanding meal, for which the kitchen staff were given much praise.

It was then time to head for home at the end of another excellent Friends and Families Day.

Lenon Beeson (Staff, 1950-56)

2010 Reunion: the 1978 Year Group



Alan Catterall, Alison Whitfield (Haigh), Alex Garden (Grounds) William Moen, John Bennett, Adrian Stainton, Tina Chambers, Paul Abrey, John Mills, Ian Hodgson, Julie Foster, Jonathan Smith

When asked to organise my 1978 year group for a reunion, I was given a contact list by the School.

Within minutes of me sending my first batch of emails, most had been returned undelivered, and so began the search. A few details however were correct and soon my list was growing.

The Internet also became a hunting ground and I began to be referred to as a cyber stalker!

In total fifty five were found, and although only a relative few were able to attend on the 15th May, it was a thoroughly enjoyable task. The most rewarding aspect was reuniting old friends who'd previously lost contact.

I formed a reunion group on Facebook, and this has twenty members. We've uploaded photos old and new, as well as the School videos from 1963 and 1977. The atmosphere on the day was lovely and I shall long remember the laughter and reminiscing.

We've all agreed to meet again next year when hopefully even more of the group will be able to attend.

1978 Year Group Old Scholars present included those in the photo on the previous page.

Jane Hood also attended the dinner but didn't make it into the photo.

Julie Foster (1971-78)

The following is a list of Old Scholars and others who were present at the Reunion on the 15th May 2010, painstakingly assembled from a variety of sources, many of them handwritten.

Once again with apologies from the Editor for any errors or omissions.

Abrey, Paul (1971-1978)

Baily, Roger (1950-1955)

Barnard, John (1953-1960)

Barnard, Christina

Beeson, Lenon (Staff 1950-1956)

Beeson, Doris

Bennett, John (YG78)

Bentley, Ursula (*Rowntree*
1953-1959)

Berny, Tom (YG68)

Bertram, Mark (1955-60)

Bertram, Vanessa

Bertram, William (1960-67)

Binks, Rachel (*King* YG95)

Bloomfield, Robin (1965-72)

Bryan, Simon (1978-1980)

Cadman, David (1953-1960)

Catterall, Alan (YG78)

Chambers, Tina (YG78)

Chubb, Rosemary (*McClelland*
1960-1967)

Claxton, Martin (1975-1982)

Claxton, Janis

Claxton, Janet (*Hunn* 1948-1955,
Staff 1971-1988)

Clymo, Andrew (1944-1954)

Cockell, Harriet (*Conway*
 1960-1966)
 Collison, Margaret (1949-1955)
 Cutler, Peter (Staff 1966-1972)
 Delfini, Danilo (YG82)
 Dickinson, Martin
 Dickinson, Carey (*Hingston*
 1972-79)
 Drummond, Martin (1960-67)
 Drummond, Ian (1953-1961)
 Harkness, Elizabeth (*Pearson*
 1960-1964)
 Fernald, Karin (1953-1958)
 Flatt, Debbie (1952-1959)
 Flook, Clare (*White* 1953-1959)
 Foster, Julie (1971-1978)
 Foster, Judith (1947-1953)
 Fozzard, Torkill (YG61)
 Fozzard, Gwenda
 Fraenkel, Anne
 Fraenkel, Peter (1953-60)
 Frost, Harry (1952-1959)
 Garden, Alex (*Grounds* 1971-1978)
 Garrad, Brenda (*Carn* 1961-1966)
 Gilpin, Richard (1952-60)
 Good, Adrian (1961-69)
 Grigg, Geoff (1961-1967)
 Grover, Mary (*Hurrell* 1952-1959)
 Haigh, Pauline (*Goddard* 1938-46,
 Staff 1950-54)
 Hall, Martin (YG68)
 Hall, Cecilia
 Hayler, Wilf (1940-1948)
 Hillyer, Ann (1942-1947)
 Hoar, Vivien (*Sharpe* 1953-1960)
 Hoar, Barry
 Hodgson, Ian (1971-1978)
 Holmes, Martin (1945-55)
 Holt, Judith (*Kemp* 1961-1968)
 Hourizi, Sue (*Haselgrove* 1948-1955)
 Housden, Mike (1961-1968)
 How, Michael (1942-1950)
 Hurrell, Trevor (1953-61)
 Jacob, Lesley (1953-1961)
 Jennings, Alan (1935-1939)
 Jossaume, John (1973-78)
 Joysey, Anita (1970-1975)
 Kemp, John (1937-1940)
 Kemp, Joanna
 Lovegrove, Rosemary (1952-1959)
 McKenzie, Katherine (YG79)
 McKenzie, William (YG82)
 McTear, Nigel (1973-80)
 Mercer, Peter (1950-55)
 Meyer, Michael (1961-68)
 Mileson, Tim (YG76)
 Mileson, Mary (*Noyce* Staff
 1952-55, 1963-2003)
 Mills, John (1971-1978)
 Mills, Stuart (1975-1982)
 Moen, Will (1971-1976)
 Mushin, Fazal (YG82)
 Neale, Anna (*Caulkett* 1978-1982)
 Nicholson, Andy (1961-1963)
 Pearce, Jane (*Golding* YG82)
 Pensom, Barbara (*Cutts* 1953-1960)
 Phillips, John (1974-1979)
 Phillips, Judy (1959-1965)
 Price-Smith, Paul (YG65)
 Robinson, Tom (1961-1967)
 Robinson, George (1972-1977)
 Smith, Marilyn (YG68)
 Smith, Jonathan (1979-1983)
 Smith, Adrian (1952-59)

Snellgrove, Michael (1948-1954)
Snellgrove, Wann
Spencer, Chris (1962-69)
Stainton, Adrian (1973-1976)
Stone, Valerie
Stone, Geoffrey (1953-1958)
Sturge, Theodore (1963-1970)
Sturge, Rosemary
Thomas, Jan (*Willson* 1961-1967)
Timpson, Steve (1958-1965)
Turnbull, Mike (1961-69)
Vidler, Ben (1976-1981)
Watson, Margaret (*Pilgrim*
1943-54)

Watson, Tony (1944-55)
Weatherhead, Antony (1956-1961)
West, John (1953-1960)
West, Miriam
Westerhuis, Sarah (*Watson*
1975-1982, Staff 1990-)
White, David (1942-47)
Whitfield, Alison (*Haigh*
1971-1978)
Williamson, Caroline (*Timpson*
YG67)
Willmott, Jo (*Beechey* 1986-1993)

141st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Lesley Jacob (Presiding)

The Chair welcomed 22 members present and a short silence was observed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from: William Bertram, Richard Comber, Wilfrid Hayler, Trevor Hurrell, John Jossaume, Jane Laing, Anthony Mallett, Andrew McTear, Alan Sarfas, and Chris Spencer.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th November 2009 had been recorded in the Yearly Magazine sent to members. They contained an error: Jane Plowes (nee Morgan) was reported as having died whereas

she remains, as her sister pointed out to the Editor, very much alive: the Editor had apologised to both sisters for the mistake. The meeting agreed that, in all other respects, the minutes were a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

OBITUARIES: The Chair read the names of those whose deaths have been reported during the last year, and a short silence was observed: Jean Chaplin (née Osborn), Dorothy Falkner, Joyce Francis, Arnold Gillett, Pamela Holttum, Lois Kaye, Michael Littleboy, H A Farrand Radley (Past President),

Cicely Rawlings-Purves, Roger Stanger, Alan Thompson (Honorary Life Vice President), Jack Turnbull (Past President), Christopher Wood, and Joyce Woodhouse (née Francis).

REPORTS:

(a) Chair (Nigel McTear):

Nigel reported that the Committee had met three times, with the main emphasis of discussion on the future shape of the Association in the light of changes suggested, and generally endorsed, at last year's AGM. These discussions had included the changes that would be desirable to the Rules of the Association (the Constitution would not be affected): these were covered by a later AGM agenda item. The Whitsun dinner, held this year in the Hall after drinks in the Library, had been a great success, for which the President's initiatives had been instrumental. The choir that she had assembled to sing to diners before their supper excelled themselves and generated a fine atmosphere for the occasion. Nigel was sure that the Association was on its way to securing for itself and for the School a body that was fully attuned to modern times and circumstances.

b) Secretary

The Chair announced that Chris Spencer had resigned from the Secretaryship, and he would therefore cover the membership numbers by way of a Secretary report. The Association started the

year with 1,169 members. 13 had died and one resigned, but there were 49 School leavers who had become members. The current membership was therefore 1,204.

(c) Treasurer (Andrew McTear – read in his absence by Nigel McTear):

This is my 22nd report as Treasurer. Copies of the accounts have been circulated. On the income and expenditure side, the Association remains in good financial health, making a surplus of £859 over the year. All sources of income are down, particularly investment income, which is down from just under £2,000 to just under £500 but expenditure is also down mainly because we did not have the cost of an outreach directory this year. On the balance sheet, and as has been the case for several years, we continue to hold surplus cash of c£10,000. Our investments recovered almost £12,000 of value from their 31 March 2009 level to £32,129 but this is still 18% below the market values at 31 March 2008 and 35% below the peak at 31 March 2007 before the credit crunch. I regret that I have not been able to arrange for the accounts to be audited prior to this AGM but will ensure that this is done before the AGM next year.

The AGM requested that the accounts be audited before, and the results recorded in, next year's Magazine. *[Post-meeting note: the Treasurer has since advised that this would not be possible and that the 2009-10 accounts will now be audited*

concurrently with those for 2010-11 and the results of both audits reported to the AGM in November 2011.]

(d) Old Scholar on the Board of Governors (Douglas Kent):

Douglas said that it was good to be back amongst Old Scholars. He was presenting his first report against a background that was financially challenging but the School was holding its own and could take comfort from recent developments that bode well for the future.

The Board takes great heart from another set of strong academic results this year. Students gained excellent grades at A-level, building on the successes of recent years, and the GCSE achievements matched those of last year. Even greater importance, of course, attaches to exam results in times such as the present when competition for university places is tough. Graham, Andrew and their staff continue to carry out excellent work to maintain and raise standards across the School, whilst, very importantly, retaining its special Quaker ethos. We are grateful for all their efforts.

A new business plan is currently being prepared for presentation at the November Board meeting, spearheaded by the Treasurer Ray Wells. Bursaries represent a significant cost to us. However, without them many young people would be denied the benefit of the Quaker education that we offer. The Board greatly welcomes,

therefore, the discussions we have underway with the Old Scholars' Association with the view to jointly developing a bursaries fund to sustain the assistance we can provide to those otherwise unable to send their child to the School.

Martin Dickinson succeeded Tony Watson as Clerk (Chairman) of the Board in January and no fewer than six Governors retire shortly. We have been served extremely well by all of them, who we are sad to lose, but I'm pleased to report that we have a broad range of well-qualified new members poised to join the Board. This, together with our ongoing review into ways in which we can improve the functioning of the governing body, not least how we respond to the demands from both the Government and Independent Schools Inspectorate, will help to ensure the continued effective working of the Board.

(e) Editor (Richard Gilpin):

The 2010 Magazine and Report had a near-record 100 pages, with colour on 30 of them, and reached members in good time before the Whitsun Reunion. Apart from the embarrassing Jane Plowes error, referred to earlier in the meeting, Richard said that the Report was "without too many errors" (and efforts to find those that he thinks there were have proved unproductive). Richard expected to use Catford Print Centre again for the 2011 Magazine and his scheduling was well in hand. As

ever, he urged members to suggest or, better, submit material. Looking beyond 2011, Richard wondered what the impact of tripling the Association's membership and of working more closely with the School would be on the Magazine. He would be happy to help those considerations forward.

The Chair was far from alone in thanking Richard for his splendid editorial efforts and successes.

Head (Graham Wigley):

Perhaps the most exciting news to pass on to you is that we heard only four weeks ago, after much discussion, many meetings and a deferment, that our planning application to develop our site had been accepted by Uttlesford District Council.

The School has entered into a partnership with Hill Construction Ltd who will develop some of the underused parts of the site for housing, but more importantly, will also construct some much needed and long awaited school buildings; these will include new Nursery and Reception classrooms, new infant classrooms, a library, a computer room, an art room and senior management offices all for the Junior School. Most importantly, for the first time the Junior School will have its own purpose-built school hall to replace the Scout Hut.

We will say goodbye to Gibson House – the old school Sanatorium – and to the wooden 'Orchard Classrooms'. In fact, these rooms

have already been vacated over the summer. This is because we have completely refurbished both the Leicester building, which has now become the 'Junior' department (Years 3-6) and the Crosfield building, which houses senior school English and Modern Foreign Languages.

Other physical developments include smartly fitted Common Rooms and the Library.

You will see that we have eight new computers, all cabled in to a fixed table to enable pupils to undertake their own research. These have proven to be especially beneficial to the sixth form and to boarders.

We are getting very tight for room at the senior end of the school.

This year we begin with 257 pupils, our largest school roll for many years. This is partly due to increased numbers in the sixth form; the thirty members of 6i are finding their accommodation in the sixth form centre more crowded than before.

We are all but full in Years 8 – 11 and only have about half a dozen places in Year 7.

The picture in the Junior School isn't quite as healthy, however, and we are working hard to boost numbers in Nursery and Reception.

A level results last summer were outstanding. For the sixth successive year we achieved a 100% pass rate, with no grade below a 'D' (just to remind you, an

E at 'A' level is a pass). A very impressive 68% of grades were at A* to B; 39% were at A* or A and a hugely impressive 19% were the new A* grade (the national average for the new A* was about 9%).

Friends' School compares extremely favourably with all but the most selective schools.

GCSE results were actually better than we anticipated for last year's cohort, with 84% achieving 5 or more A* to C, although the percentage of A*/As was a little down. Nonetheless, we still managed to ensure that our GCSE pupils achieved on average half a grade per GCSE above their predicted grade, according to analysis done by the University of Durham.

Friends' continues to be a very busy and vibrant school community. Already this term we have welcomed our German exchange partners from Bremerhaven and a party of seventeen Friends' pupils visited their French counterparts in Nîmes on the 'away' leg of their own exchange.

The sixth form have been on a teambuilding weekend to Kent and our new Year 7 intake thoroughly enjoyed their Quaker induction programme at Woodbrooke in Birmingham.

A party of Year 11s has visited the House of Commons, there have been numerous theatre trips and we have successfully defended the

United Nations trophy that we won last year, hosting this year's inter schools quiz. All this and much more besides, has taken place since September, on top of the usual programme of activities, clubs and sports fixtures that are the bread and butter of our extra-curricular programme.

I hope that you have noticed that I have been redoubling my efforts to keep in touch with members of the Old Scholars' Association.

You should have received three newsletters from me since the last AGM, letters that are an important means for me through which I can keep you up to date with life at school and which I include with the latest editions of *The Avenue* and this is something that I hope to develop further, perhaps exploring the internet as a quicker (and cheaper) way of keeping in touch.

In addition to this, as you know, I enjoyed being able to say a few words to Old Scholars at the splendid dinner after Friends and Families Day.

I was also delighted to welcome over thirty Old Scholars from the 1940s era for a most enjoyable lunch, tour of the School and tea (I have never seen so much tea drunk by any group anywhere!). I welcomed OSA member Ruth Barnet who spoke movingly to senior students about the *kindertransport* – she herself joining Friends' as a young girl under that scheme.

Again, a group of about 30 Old Scholars toured school earlier this term after their re-union lunch in Saffron Walden and were looked after by David Wood for several hours as they wandered and reminisced.

I would like to extend an invitation to all of you and your friends to get in touch if you want to use the School as a venue for your meetings.

In the same way, I would love to join you, if invited, at get-togethers that are further afield.

The next few years will be crucial ones for the School. Although we are now certain of our site development regarding the Junior School, there remains much to do to ensure that the School continues to attract pupils so they can benefit from the Quaker education that you all enjoyed; further land sales are not an option.

There remains the question of the old School buildings which are still something of an albatross around our necks in terms of running costs and it would be wonderful to be 'greener' in our energy use.

Our classrooms and laboratories will soon need refurbishing and you may notice that the pathways and play areas are increasingly in need of attention.

Added to this, the burden of bursary provision diverts fee income away from capital projects. Governors have asked me to report to them on the School's

need for facilities over the next 20 years. The support and encouragement that the School enjoys from the Old Scholars' Association is very important and, I suspect, will be even more so in the future; I am extremely grateful for the interest that the OSA continues to show.

I hope that this partnership strengthens and deepens over the coming years.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Chair and Tony Watson introduced a discussion about the history and objectives of the proposed changes, and the advantages foreseen for both the Association and the School from having a non-subscription Association three times as large as at present working in tandem with the School towards the objectives of both.

The consequential changes to the Rules of the Association had been sent to all Association members in early October and had been on the website since the same date.

The Committee had not received any feedback from the membership, either positive or negative.

The ensuing discussion clarified a number of issues to the general satisfaction of the AGM. The Chair considered that the proposals were the best way of future-proofing the Association.

The Chair asked whether the AGM, which had the necessary quorum, was content to accept the General Committee's proposals. Tony Watson proposed and Jeremy Edwards seconded acceptance. There were no dissenters.

The General Committee was thus authorised, in close liaison with the School, to take the practical next steps towards re-shaping the Association accordingly.

[Editor's post-meeting note: the new Rules have been posted in full on the website under OSA Committee, and can be read there; they can be downloaded if required]

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mark Bertram confirmed Chris Spencer's resignation as Secretary. All of the other officers were content to serve for another year. It was thought prudent to delay filling the Secretary role until the General Committee had had a chance to review how the job description (and title) might be affected by the new arrangements. With the death of Alan Thompson, the Association had been robbed of its Honorary Life Vice President.

The AGM considered that this was an honour to be held in reserve rather than a role that needed to be filled at the moment.

The General Committee now needed to appoint a President-

elect to take over from Julie Foster in November 2011.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None of moment.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next AGM would be held at the School at 10.15 on Saturday 12 November 2011.

The business of the meeting being thus concluded, Lesley Jacob handed over the Presidency to Julie Foster, who looked forward to her involvement and was considering as a possible theme for her year the celebration of significant alumni.

Lesley Jacob then delivered a deeply thoughtful Presidential address about the Quaker Peace Witness [reported elsewhere in this Magazine].

The Chair, on behalf of the whole AGM, thanked her for such meaningful and personal insights, as well as for having been, such an excellent and tireless President.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting have noted that, in accordance with tradition, an Address was given by the outgoing President, Lesley Jacob. The full text of her speech is given below.



Friends, Being President for this year of course had its anxious moments but the benefits in terms of my contact with the school, renewing old friendships, and revisiting the Quaker principles have more than made up for those moments. I am grateful to the Committee for having nominated me and given me this opportunity.

Coming back into contact with the School has been particularly thought-provoking, both in seeing what has changed and what is the same. The quality of open friendliness from staff and students is as it ever was.

The change from a prefect system to the Quartet I found particularly interesting in its firm emphasis on equality. The speeches given by the Quartet and other students on

Friends and Families Day were spectacular. The openness, wit and confidence were an impressive demonstration of what the School can produce.

Many Quaker values and views which were considered extreme as I was growing up in the 1950s are now accepted as sensible and rational. Equality of different races and of the sexes are basic to the Quaker belief that there is that of God – Inner Light – in everyone. It is this Inner Light which must be found and nurtured in our relationships with other people.

From that flow all the other beliefs. Quakers have always accepted the validity of same sex relationships. There is equality between the sexes, and we should avoid the dominance of one group over another. These are now widely accepted beliefs in many parts of the world even if they are not always acted upon. The reason for that acceptance, though, is often an ethical rational and practical one. Humans work best when they cooperate and work together towards a mutually beneficial goal.

Like many people, Quakers included, I am an agnostic with a strongly spiritual side. By

spiritual I mean of the soul and spirit as separate from the mind and body.

Why then do we need Quaker schools if the ideals of our faith are already imbedded in mainstream thinking? We have, after all, moved a long way in the UK towards making our schools friendlier places which value difference, discourage bullying, and promote cooperative ways of working and relating to one another.

It is in my view the Quaker Peace Witness – unique within the education system as far as I understand it – which makes it all the more important that we preserve and promote our Quaker schools.

So what is the Quaker Peace Testimony? I quote from the Declaration of Friends to Charles II dated 1660. "We utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end, or under any circumstance whatsoever; and this is our Testimony to the whole world. The spirit of Christ, by which we are guided, is not changeable, so as once to command as from a thing as evil and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know and so testify to the world that the spirit of Christ which leads us into all Truth will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the Kingdom of Christ nor for the Kingdom of this World."

The Quaker Peace Testimony now in these days differs little in essentials from that written in 1660, but with an awareness of our changing circumstances. It is neither a code of behaviour nor a set of rules, but Friends' long history of Peace Witness can be found in their refusal to fight in civil or international conflict, and in the pursuance of quiet reconciling diplomacy. This conviction springs from a living spirit.

Quakers believe that more can be accomplished by appealing for our capacity for love and for goodness in ourselves and in others than by threat and punishment and retaliation. The Peace Witness is not taken off the shelf, but has to do with the choices we have to make in everyday life in our work, in our relationships and in our politics.

It means fostering relationships and structures, both in a personal and international level, which are sufficiently strong to contain conflict when it arises and allow its creative resolution.

It is easy, with the daily reports in our media of violence and degradation, to feel hopeless and helpless in the face of such a barrage. But – as with other tenets of our belief – there is an emergence of another approach which is restorative. It looks for ways to see commonly achievable goals. It emphasises the importance of listening and understanding an opponent's

point of view. All the more important therefore that we keep our peace agenda alive – and I might have said kicking – in our Quaker schools.

The results of my own Quaker upbringing in education have been varied in terms of my behaviour. In the 1960s together with my mother, we marched in a CND demonstration to Trafalgar Square. We were arrested and taken to a police cell for the night before our Court appearance. My mother, very calm in this situation settled into our cell, made friends with the police officers looking after us, who then poked cigarettes through the bars to smoke during a restless night! I on the other hand, found the situation somewhat more horrific, especially in not being able freely to leave the room. As a result, I joined Amnesty International.

These days, as an educational psychologist in east London I have been working with many people of different religions, races, origins and languages. The legislation on diversity and equality has had a much stronger effect on the way in which children are welcomed and their needs catered for than when I began in my job thirty years ago. Not all is perfect but we are getting there. Our work is very much to do with consultation, negotiation and resolution. I would say that the Quaker principles of my upbringing in school are used in every aspect of my work.

Not everyone who holds true to the Quaker principles can afford to send their children to a Quaker school. I understand the view held by some that our schools are elitist and if they cannot be available to all then they should not exist. This is a valid view and an uncomfortable one for me, as at present I cannot reconcile the two views. All I can say is that that we should work to promote peace and reconciliation in all ways that we can. The Quaker school is one major way in which we can educate people to do just that in whatever life and career they choose.

I don't feel quite ready yet to relinquish the very stimulating, thought provoking and enjoyable contact I have made with Friends' School during the year. I would now like to help in some capacity to increase the opportunity for parents who hold the principles of Quakerism, but who are not able to afford the costs of sending their children to the school. This would perhaps be in promoting more bursaries for those aforementioned parents to come to the school in one way or another – as yet to be discussed.

I thank the committee for proposing and accepting me as President, and I look forward to further contact in the future.

*Lesley A. Jacob
Old Scholars' President 2009-10*

THE SCHOOL'S PROPERTY STEERING GROUP

Tony Watson has contributed the following record of the Planning Application Process from 2003 to 2010

The School, after reviewing the successful Tercentenary Celebrations of September 2002, considered its objectives for the 21st Century. An afternoon was set aside for the in-depth consideration of strategic development, led by Naomi Sargent and Amanda Carpenter (both Old Scholars). As a result it was agreed to form a Strategic Development Committee, to be clerked by Naomi Sargent. The Committee determined the areas of School development and the need for up-dated buildings to provide the accommodation needed to provide for a school for 3-18 year old students.

The Board agreed to commission a Feasibility Study and appointed a Project Steering Group (PSG) led by Amanda Carpenter with Alison Whitfield (Governor), Mark Bertram (Co-opted Old Scholar), Sarah Westerhuis SMT member (Development & Liaison Officer) and Jane Corwen (Bursar). Following presentations by a number of firms Tim Ronalds Architects were appointed to produce a Feasibility Study to provide for new Junior School buildings, boarding improvements, refurbishment of

the "1879" building and an Arts and Drama Centre, all to be funded by the sale of development land for housing. This was delivered to the Board in 2005 and following detailed discussion a Development Plan was agreed.

A Planning Application prepared by Tim Ronalds Architects, with help from Consultants Chris Knight, Savills, and Surveyors Cheffins, was submitted in 2006. There was considerable opposition to these plans from neighbours following extensive presentation of the plans to the District and Town Councils and the public. Although the plans were amended to meet these objections the Development Control Committee refused the application in November 2007.

In early 2008 the Board gave fresh directions to the PSG to find a development partner with a reduced area of land available for sale. The PSG appointed Davis Langdon to act for the School as Project Managers and Bidwells as Surveyors. Following a selection process Hill Residential Ltd were selected to join with the School in partnership.

Various alternatives were considered by the PSG Team working with the Consultants and with Hill. Heads of Terms were

agreed and signed in August 2009. A conditional Contract, prepared by the School solicitors, Mills & Reeve, was exchanged in November 2009.

A fresh planning application was delivered in early February 2010 and eventually heard at two meetings of the Development Control Committee in September and October 2010.

The Committee approved the application subject to conditions

and the signing of a Section 106 Agreement.

After a period of eight years the School at last has a detailed permission in sight!

It is now hoped that building work will commence by the time this Magazine is published, and the new School buildings should be available during the summer of next year.

Tony Watson (1944-55)

SUBSCRIPTIONS: NEWS FOR MEMBERS

The revisions to the Constitution and the Rules of the Association agreed at the Annual General Meeting in November 2010, together with the Agreement to be completed between the Association and the School, will alter the provisions for the payment of a subscription.

Subscriptions will become voluntary from the 1st April 2012 when the School will take over responsibility for the funding of the Association. The options available to those members currently paying a subscription by standing order will be described at the Annual General Meeting in November 2011 and also in writing.

No action is required at this stage.

In 2003, US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was awarded a *Foot in Mouth* award by the Plain English Campaign for a bizarre briefing that he gave a year earlier.

What he said to a news conference in February 2002 was:

"Reports that say that something hasn't happened are always interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns -- the ones we don't know we don't know."

A spokesman for the Plain English Campaign, which tries to ensure public information is delivered in a clear manner, said Mr Rumsfeld's remarks were typical of the kind of comments they were trying to prevent. "We think we know what he means," he told Reuters news agency. "But we don't know if we really know."

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

as at 31st March 2010

	2010	2009
	£	£
Income		
Members subscriptions	6,003	6,584
Investment income		
Life fund	351	1,487
Accumulated	114	441
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	465	1,928
Donation received	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,468	8,512
Expenditure		
Annual Report	5,000	5,634
Outreach Directory	-	3,645
Notices -		
Annual General Meeting	-	-
Spring reunion	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
Annual gatherings -		
Annual General Meeting	-	-
Spring reunion	367	540
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	367	540
Committee members expenses	42	28
Gift to School	200	-
Bank and credit card charges	-	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure	5,609	9,855
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	859	(1,343)
Accumulated fund brought forward	10,539	11,882
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Accumulated fund carried forward	11,398	10,539
	<hr/>	<hr/>

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st March 2010

	2010		2009	
	£	£	£	£
Funds				
Life Fund		10,393		10,393
Accumulated Fund		11,398		10,539
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		21,791		20,932
Represented by				
Life Fund				
Investment at cost		5,297		5,297
Cash at bank		5,096		5,096
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		10,393		10,393
Accumulated fund and five year appeal				
Cash at bank	13,043		16,034	
Investment at cost	6,595		6,595	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	19,638		22,629	
Less: Annual Report creditor	(5,000)		(5,670)	
Subscriptions in advance	(3,240)		(2,775)	
Outreach Directory creditor	-		(3,645)	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
		11,398		10,539
Total net assets		<hr/>		<hr/>
		21,791		20,932

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

as at 31st March 2010

	Cost £	Market Value	
		2010 £	2009 £
Accumulated Fund			
Newton Income Fund (1,400.23 units)	3,301	8,675	6,949
Legal & General Group plc 608 Ord 2.5p	294	539	279
City Financial Multi Manager Income (3,872 units)	3,000	6,022	4,445
	<u>6,595</u>	<u>15,236</u>	<u>11,673</u>
Life Fund			
Barclays Bank plc 2,648 Ordinary shares	69	9,598	4,602
Legal & General Group plc 9,000 Ord 2.5p (5 for 2)	228	7,987	4,140
Newton Income Fund (2,347.53 units)	5,000	14,544	11,651
	<u>5,297</u>	<u>32,129</u>	<u>20,393</u>

Notes on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010:

- 1 The accumulated fund includes a legacy from Dorothea Waring given in 1951 of £1,431 for the general purposes of the Association.

Owing to difficulties in arranging a meeting of the Association's auditors the above Accounts had not been signed off before the Magazine had to close for press.

The Treasurer advises that the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2010 and those for the year ending 31st March 2011 will be audited together ahead of the November 2011 Annual General Meeting.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2010/11

President 2010/11

JULIE FOSTER

Officers

Chair	NIGEL McTEAR	mail@mctear.com	01603 503442
	The Coach House, 90 Newmarket Road, Norwich, NR2 2LB		
Treasurer	ANDREW McTEAR	andrewmctear@hotmail.com	01603 507555
	Midsummer Lodge, 217 Newmarket Road, Norwich, NR4 7LA		
Temporary Secretary	MARK BERTRAM	mark@bertram.demon.co.uk	01435 864820
	Old Orchard, Little London, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0BA		
Editor OS Magazine	RICHARD GILPIN	richard67gilpin@hotmail.co.uk	020 8858 3980
	67 Coleraine Road, London SE3 7PF		
Minutes Secretary	MARK BERTRAM	mark@bertram.demon.co.uk	01435 864820
	Old Orchard, Little London, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0BA		

Ex-Officio Members

The current President, two School Correspondents,
and an Old Scholar on the Board of Governors

Auditors

GRAEME JOHNSTON, CHARLES MILLS

FSSWOSA Trustees

MARK BERTRAM, ANDREW McTEAR, TONY WATSON

OS Games Coordinator

NICK BATCHELER nickbatcheler@hotmail.com

School Games Secretaries

Girls	JENNY ALLWOOD	Friends' School	
Boys	NICK BATCHELER	Friends' School	nickbatcheler@hotmail.com

Website

MARTIN HUGALL mjh@friends.org.uk

Membership Secretary

DEBBIE PECK oldschemars@friends.org.uk

Friends' School, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3EB
Telephone: 01799 525351 Fax: 01799 523808 email: admin@friends.org.uk

JOHN DICKINSON (Staff 1977-97)

John came from Burton Latimer, near Kettering, a small town whose name linked it with the Latimer ancestors of past owners of Audley End. He attended not one but two Quaker schools, the same ones as those earlier School contemporaries Richard Sturge and Richard Wright. He liked Bootham, and we occasionally spoke of a couple of his masters with relatives at Walden. Also of course, he knew how “the Richards” had come by their values and practices! It was never surprising that John was to spend the bulk of his teaching career in a Friends’ school.

Leaving school, John was all set to read Sociology at the University of Nottingham. In the event however, he crossed the Atlantic, and studied at Dalhousie in Nova Scotia. After this he taught briefly in the Lake District, and then in the Scottish Highlands. The latter was an Outward Bound type of school, started by émigrés from Gordonstoun, with a spirit of competition and cooperation that could readily get out of hand.

John ran a boarding house from 1971 to 1975 in competition with another housemaster. When I needed to move on from Walden in 1988, John rang the latter to check out the school in which I was later to meet the said latter! Schools differ. Not everyone would be drawn to running every morning, or scaling Schiehallion or

hiking or running from the eastern end of Loch Rannoch to the Pass of Glencoe. Nor would every school publish an account by a former pupil of discovering that his contemporaries were cycling to see his mother and another relative diving naked into the loch!

John was to leave such excitement for an MA in Education at Ottawa: he wanted to consider what was worthwhile in education. That was to inform his practice and relationships thereafter, and also his evaluation of changes in schooling during the 80s and 90s.

At Christmas 1976, John Gillett, Housemaster and Head of English, left. Within a year there was a complete change of staffing in English, and Chris Smith, the new Housemaster, was to live outside the House. John’s arrival enabled the quota of resident adults to be maintained, help to be provided with boys’ games and teams, and the School to acquire someone with a lived experience of Quaker schooling.

Unsurprisingly for an English teacher, he also fairly quickly became involved in dramatic productions. Other changes were to take place in John’s life.

It is not for me to know when John and Carey started to feel for each other, but I remember that when she was a student in Oxford, I heard the crunching of gravel at the front of the School in the early

hours of the morning, opened my window to see who was out of their boarding house, to discover that it was John!

In due course, around 1981, John and Carey married in Thaxted church. Their first married home was in Newport, but later they moved into Walden. The late Eighties saw all sorts of changes, in the School and for schools more generally.

One of the former was the conversion of the gymnasium into a drama studio and the introduction of Theatre Studies as a formal course, and John became the founding Head of Department. His account of Theatre at the school from 1977 to 2002 is given in *The School on the Hill*. It is an impressive account, but it also makes amusing and sensitive reading. I recommend it, and it is at www.oldscholars.com.

John's regard for pupils was early shown to me by the visit to his flat of two fairly junior girls one Saturday evening. They then asked for my company as well, so I was asked to join them. In today's structurally much less trusting society, such contact would be formally discouraged and regarded by those outside such a community as morally dubious. Even then, John was following a Quaker injunction he always enjoyed quoting "live adventurously".

However, it was also a proper response to human need for company and relationship with

friendly adults. It was part of the School's ethos. It had not been for nothing that the school history of 1952 had been titled *Unbroken Community*. The Friend and moral philosopher John Macmurray characterised society as being organised for a purpose, but went on to observe that in a community that purpose is friendship. John knew as a philosopher the importance of the intrinsic value of everyone, and he both felt it and showed it.

When John left the School in 1997, he continued to be active in many spheres. He continued to teach classes, he tutored, he wrote for publication and performance, and even started a charitable association, *League of Gentlemen*, and a performing group, *Shake a Leg*. John was actually creative and thoughtful by nature, and such people often experience depressions that may or may not nurture the seeds of their creativity, and that was also a feature of John's later years.

However, when over a hundred people come to a memorial meeting and speak not only of the person's positive influence on their own lives, but also upon loved ones who have passed on, then one knows that the person being remembered has used their gifts well.

John was such a person, and for many of us it is a privilege to have had our lives enriched by him.

Peter Arter (Staff 1974-88)

REG REYNOLDS FOUND IN WYOMING

Judith Foster found to her surprise, when reading Bad Dirt – Wyoming Stories 2, by Annie Proulx, that it included a reference to an earlier work by Reginald Reynolds, who came to the School in 1917.

The relevant extract is below...

"Come on in," she said. "I think I found you a good one. But it's hard reading. A lot of foreign language and then sideways leaning words."

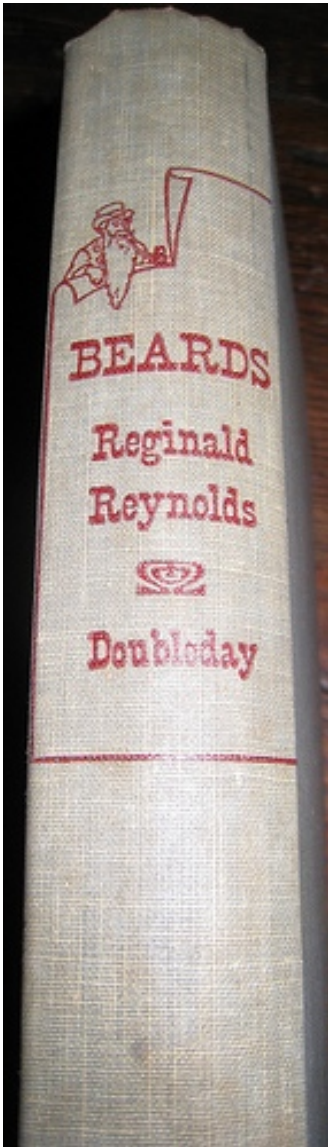
"Italics?"

"Yeah. Here it is. Too bad it doesn't have pictures." She handed Amanda an orange book titled simply *Beards*. It was an old book, dated 1950, but she saw, opening to a page entitled "Culinary Instructions for Christian Cannibals," that it was rich in beard history. Richard the Lion-Hearted, she read, once entertained his warriors with a toast in which the piece de resistance featured the roasted heads of captive Saracens who had been shaved before going into the oven. Farther along she spotted a passage on beards and vegetarians.

Amanda [*who ran the local bar*] placed the book in a prominent position on the bar and it was soon well-thumbed and stained with various alcohols. No one could quite understand what the author, one Reginald Reynolds, was saying as it was written in an abstruse and sarcastic style freckled with irony and untranslated Latin and French.

The author also favored maze-like circumlocutions and assumed his readers possessed profound knowledge of history, literature, seafaring, religion, military strategy, dialectic, nursery rhymes, and philosophy. He was given to mossy jokes such as one about the Egyptologist who discovered a bit of wire in an excavation and declared the Egyptians had invented telegraphy, only to be aced by a rival who said that since no such piece of wire had been found in Assyrian site excavations, the Assyrians must have enjoyed wireless telegraphy. Still, the Pee Wee regulars sifted enough wheat from the chaff to make perusal of *Beards* worthwhile.

Amanda brought in a dictionary to aid Mr. Reynolds. Gradually the vocabularies of the Pee Wee's patrons swelled with such splendid words as "pogonophile", "finookery", "gnostic", "countenance", "postiche", "obelisk", "serendipity", and the stirring phrase *Floreat Barba!* Enlightenment did not emerge but curiosity flowered as they read of ancient bearded horse eaters, of a certain abbot who believed that eating too much was the cause of beards and thus explained why the



American Indians, who lived on frugal diets, did not have beards. Adam, they discovered, had no beard in the Garden of Eden, the hairy growth punitively linked to the expulsion.

Wiregrass Cokendall was thrilled to find a footnote referencing a Muslim story that the devil had only one hair on his chin, though of exceeding length, and used this nugget to taunt his son, Kevin. Kevin thumbed through until he found a passage describing a civilization that killed the red-bearded men among them.

There were many examples of beards as fashion statements – metal threads worked in, dyes and gold dust, the pointed beards of Arabs, the rectilinear faux beards of the Egyptians, the curly extravagances of the Assyrians, the Hittites' square-laced beards, plaited beards, immensely long beards that could be parted and looped around the ears, but tempting as these arrangements sounded, no contestant dared sacrifice length to style. Vic Vase took up the book often and read passages aloud, mangling his way through medieval French, church Latin, and antique English.

"Jesus," said Erwin Hungate, the reader, "lay off, will you? Sound like Umberto Eco." "Who?" said Vic.

"I know him," said Old Man DeBock. "Bert Eckle, used a work for Bob Utley. He's out in Nevada now in a home. Home for old cowboys."

Erwin Hungate lifted his hand slightly and let it drop to show it was hopeless to explain.

The book referred to in the text was:

Beards: Their Social Standing, Religious Involvements, Decorative Possibilities, and Value in Offence and Defence Through The Ages, written by Reginald Reynolds, and published in 1949.

For the benefit of those Old Scholars whose reaction to the name Reg Reynolds is “who?”, a brief biography may be in order.

He was born into a Quaker family of five children, and followed his sister into the School when he was eleven, staying for five years. While he enjoyed the academic aspects of the School, he was also responsible for introducing a measure of wit and humour. This gave great pleasure to his school friends, but was not always appreciated by the Staff.

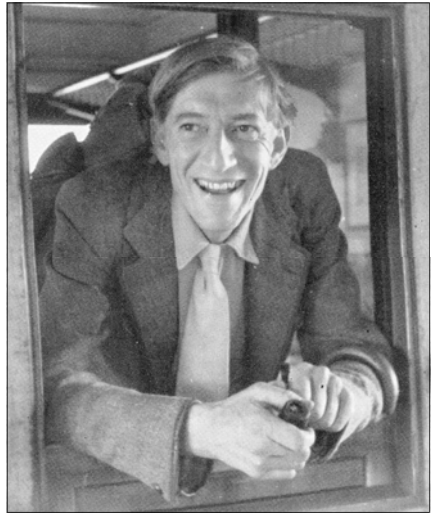
After leaving, Reg spent two years at the Quaker Study Centre at Woodbrooke and later went into business. After four years or so he resigned and went off to India, where he lived and worked with Mahatma Gandhi.

During the Spanish Civil War, Reg foresaw the evils of Fascism and supported the anti-Fascists.

When World War II began, he registered as a conscientious objector and became a volunteer ambulance driver. During this time he found time to immerse himself in reading and research, and this led to the publication of several witty yet learned books.

He was a funny yet serious man, known for his colourful clothes, his sense of drama and the often unusual presentation of his ideas.

He was neither sanctimonious nor pompous, and this made young people feel they could discuss their problems and beliefs with him – and he was never shocked by what he heard. His



interest, affection and belief in what they could do in the world, made them feel they had a significant part to play in the future.

Reg had a great affection for Saffron Walden and frequently came back to the School. These visits gave him a great sense of renewal and refreshment, and those Old Scholar friends who also came back found that they could instantly pick up with him where they had left off many years earlier.

After reading deeply into what John Woolman had written two hundred years earlier, he wrote *The Wisdom of John Woolman*. This was published in 1948, and demonstrated the relevance of Woolman’s writings to modern day lives.

Beards... followed in 1949.

Richard Gilpin

OLD SCHOLARS' REUNION WEEKEND 2011

The Old Scholars' Association is continuing the pattern it has established over the past five years, and will be encouraging specific year groups to come back on the School's Friends and Families Day in May 2011

The Association is always pleased to see as many Old Scholars as possible coming back for the annual Reunion in May, and readers can see from the report on last year's Reunion (pages 43 to 50) that it continues to be a resounding success.

The Committee is once again suggesting that those in the Presidential Year Group (Julie Foster's vintage of 1978) should make a particular effort to put in an appearance.

It is also encouraging members who will be turning 60 and 50 (those in the 1969 and 1979 Year Groups respectively) to come back.

Stewart Pearce (email address stewart.pearce@gmx.com) is hunting down members of the 1969 group, and Carey Dickinson (careydickinson00@gmail.com) is rounding up the 1979 group. Some of the 1979ers can be seen in 1975 photos from the OS website:



Meanwhile, Tony Watson is in the process of searching for any members who think that they will be turning 75 this year (Year Groups around 1954), and he will be pleased to hear from anyone who can't remember whether or not he has already contacted them.

The programme for the day will be similar to previous occasions, with School speeches and presentations in the Sports Hall; picnic and BBQ lunches on the Field; cricket between the School and Old Scholars; tours of departments, and many other activities. Old Scholars who have fully digested their lunches will then be able to stoke up again at the Association-subsidised Dinner later in the day. Details will be published on the OS website, which, as any fule kno (*sic*), is <http://friends.org.uk/fsswosa>.

FROM SAFFRON WALDEN TO THE ARCTIC

As many Old Scholars will be aware, having of course read last year's Magazine, Martha Holmes (1971-76) works as a producer for the BBC Natural History Unit...

A few years ago an old FSSW friend of Martha's commented that, even when she was ten years old, it was obvious what she was going to end up doing. Her friend cited the fact that Martha had glossy pictures of animals pinned up above her cast-iron dormitory bed, rather than the usual pop stars (Marc Bolan and Donny Osmond as she remembers).

It may have been obvious to others, but to her it wasn't quite so clear, and when it was time for her to choose what 'O' Levels she was going to do, she was marched off to London to do what is now termed a psychometric test.

The kindly gentleman who analysed her efforts was slightly perplexed with the results and told her that she should think about being a pig farmer. In retrospect, she feels that at last the link is perhaps more obvious: working outside with

animals.

The indecision about 'O' Levels options did not apply to Biology however. Biology was the one subject that came naturally all the way through her education, and she ended up reading Zoology and then specialising in Marine

Biology. Martha decided that she wasn't clever enough to be an academic, and the only other occupation that really interested her was filming – rather than studying – animals. The BBC Natural History Unit was clearly the place to be.

However, getting in was as difficult then as it remains today. She would have accepted a cleaning job just to step

inside those doors, but as luck and timing would have it, just as Martha was finishing her doctorate on butterflyfish behaviour, the NHU was looking for an underwater presenter who could talk about fish.



Martha with friendly otter

She was auditioned at the bottom of a swimming pool while wearing a sort of inverted goldfish bowl on her head – the “bubble helmet” as it was called – and got the job.

So, not knowing the first thing about television, Martha found herself fronting a live broadcast from underwater. Presenting was exciting, but she felt that she wasn't a natural, and anyway she very soon became more interested in making the programmes. So started the long climb up the career ladder in production, on which every rung was exciting.

As a novice she researched the programmes that she was lucky enough to present, then she began to make her own short programmes, and finally she graduated to primetime BBC1 programmes with budgets she could really do something with.

After working on *Life in the Freezer* and producing a film about polar bears, her polar experience was substantial and when *Blue Planet* was commissioned she was given the frozen oceans programme. Life was not always icy, and after long and difficult shoots in the poles she could warm up in the tropics: she also had the enviable job of producing the programme on coral reefs. More recently she has done less travelling, partly through choice as she has two young children, but also because she has been running a large team whilst making the series *Life*, broadcast in Autumn 2009.

Martha would rather like Old

Scholars to be aware that it hasn't all been as easy as it may sound. Not all shoots are successful, and after months of planning, you can find yourself not even seeing the animal you have been there to film!

Wild places can also be hazardous places. She remembers her first trip to the Arctic to film polar bears. They – a cameraman, an Inuit guide and Martha – were living in a tent on the sea ice and for two weeks they searched the ice edge for polar bears, but saw nothing. They were then tent-bound for two days while a ferocious storm threatened to take their tent away with it.

As the storm began to abate, Martha and the cameraman went out to film the dramatic light over the pack ice. Unfortunately the wind had been so strong that it had dislodged some huge pieces of sea ice – including the piece they were camping on. They didn't appreciate this until their guide raced up on his skidoo shouting at the top of his voice.

They struck camp in minutes, loaded everything onto sledges, and desperately looked for a way off the drifting sheet of ice they were on. Unfortunately (again) the watery gap between them and the fast ice – the ice still attached to land – was already too wide, and they realised that they were heading off into the open sea.

Their prospects were not good.

Not only was the wind still strong, but having radioed for help they were told that the rescue



Shooyook, Martha's Inuit guide, looking for polar bears

plane was grounded by freezing rain. It was a long twenty hours, facing the quite likely chance of not being rescued, before they were told that the plane was on its way. Luckily their ice floe was still big enough for the plane, a Twin Otter, to land on. As they lifted off, the ice floe on which they had been marooned broke in two. And they never even saw a polar bear.

Martha has had spectacular days filming in many parts of the world, and she has also had a few tricky moments. When she was on a deserted island in Australia's Bass Strait, filming with just one cameraman for company, she nearly stepped on a deadly giant black tiger snake. She has been charged by a hippo, bitten by a blue shark and nearly wiped out by the tail of a humpback whale.

Although filming in the world's wild places can be hard and unpredictable, Martha has generally loved being out on shoots. There is the fun of travel, working with local people around

the world, the exhilaration of filming something, even better filming it for the first time. Also, for her, just living in the wilderness is a treat. The job however involves great variety even when back in the office in the UK. A typical week for Martha might include talking to leading research scientists, budgeting, learning how to cope with being kidnapped or breaking a leg when you are three days from a hospital, and dreaming up and researching new ideas.

Finally, when all the filming has been completed, they have to bring the film to life in a cutting room, where they edit the footage and then spend weeks dubbing (laying the sound tracks) – a long and sometimes exhausting creative process.

Looking back, Martha feels that she has been very lucky and, still convinced that biology was the only subject she was any good at, she is very glad she stuck with it.

CHRIS LEVINE AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT

The 2010 OS Magazine carried an article by the Editor on the Foale and Tuffin retrospective. This year he has visited an exhibition by Chris Levine, described as “the renowned 3D artist”...

In May 2010, and purely in order to carry out research for the OS Magazine, the Editor travelled into the depths of Soho. He went in search of *Stillness at the Speed of Light*, an exhibition by Chris Levine (1978 Year Group).

In Poland Street he eventually found it in a gallery called the Vinyl Factory, hidden from the light of day in a basement space beneath a specialist record shop.

Down there in the bowels of Soho the lights were low. As the Editor's eyes became accustomed to the relative darkness, the reason why day had become night became evident.

The somewhat industrial space, bordered by air conditioning ducts, was home to an exhibition in which the majority of Chris's photographic works were in lit from within against a darkened background. Low lighting was essential for the exhibits to achieve their maximum impact.

Many of them appeared at first sight to be holograms, in that it was possible to view the subjects in three dimensions.

They were not however. Although Chris's 2004 portrait of the Queen was a hologram, he

became frustrated by that medium and has moved on.

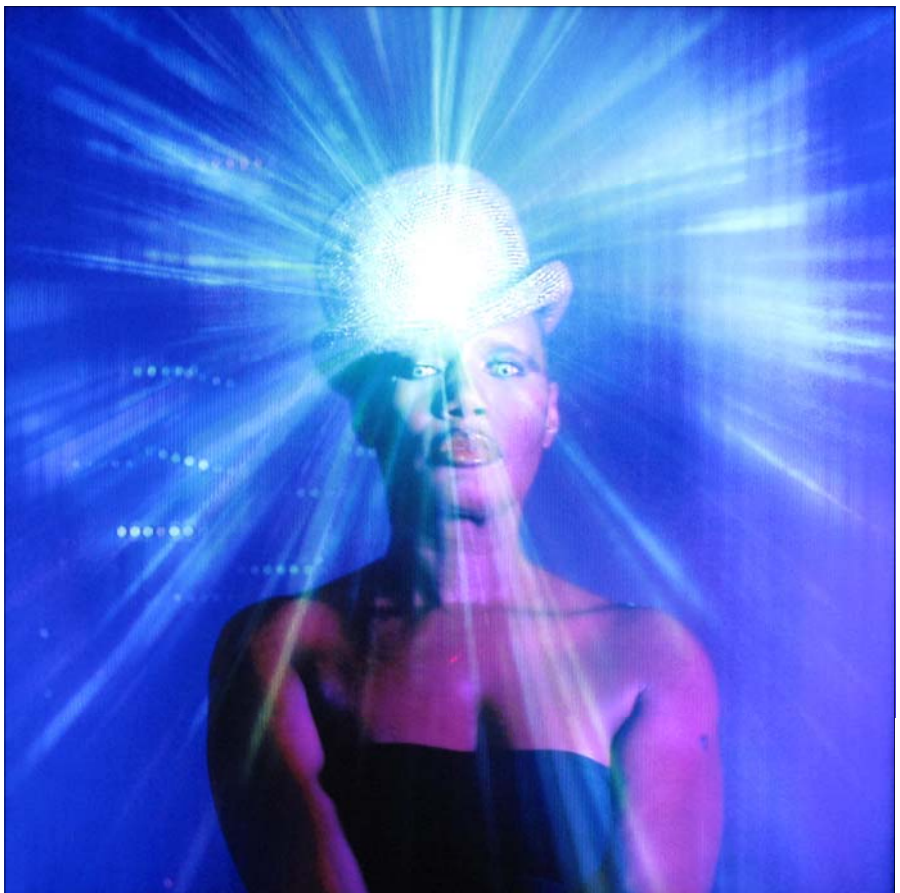
The images on display had been created by Chris using a different technology that he has developed. This involved shooting with a camera that moved along a track, creating a mini film as it went from left to right.

A special lens separated the images so that the left and right eyes of the viewer would see them slightly differently, and a stereoscopic result was created. The results were not holograms, but were instead what Chris refers to as lenticular images.

His subject was Grace Jones: actress, singer, performance artist, model, icon, man-eater, diva and legend.

Walking around the room, the Editor first encountered a flat panel of twenty four square images, lit from the front in a conventional manner. After that, everything changed. Three of Chris's large lenticular images were followed by three large conventional prints, then a 3D lightbox with nine images which seemed to evolve as the Editor watched them.

At the end of the gallery, the space was dominated by a large



and quite stunning lenticular image of Grace Jones wearing a crystal bowler hat with laser light reflecting in all directions. Further on, an unusual experience awaited.

This appeared to be no more than a vertical shaft of pulsating light.

However, when the Editor moved his eyes slightly from left to right, an image of Grace Jones flickered into his peripheral vision – and went as quickly as it had come.

It was impossible to focus on it and capture it.

It only existed in its own time and space.

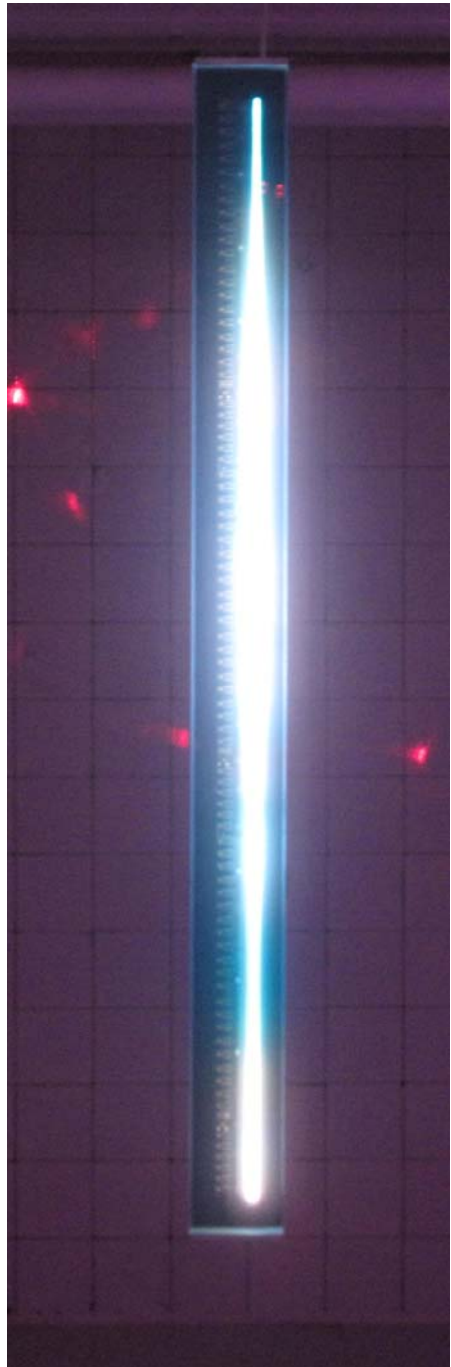
Continuing around the gallery, there were five more lenticular images and another small 3D lightbox with evolving images.

The exhibition was so exceptional that the Editor has found it difficult to report on it objectively. Subjectively however, he found the images technically extraordinary and artistically stunning.

Photographic exhibitions tend to have a static quality, but what was so unexpected and unique in *Stillness at the Speed of Light* was the impression of light, space and movement.

With the images clearly showing an amazing chemistry between Chris Levine and Grace Jones, the exhibition was a kaleidoscope of visual experiences.

Richard Gilpin



FIFTY YEARS AGO

A selection of highlights from the July 1960 issue of The Avenue was published in the 2010 OS Magazine.

For this year's 2011 Magazine, the Editor has chosen the following items from The Avenue of July 1961...

The issue of *The Avenue* published fifty years ago started by explaining that publication in July meant that many important events taking place at the end of the Summer Term were tending to be omitted, and from the following year it would be published in February.

It noted that the New Wing had at last been completed and the School had moved in. There was a photograph showing the new building in its context, and there were also four photographs by Matthew Robinson, including one showing the Girls' End before demolition and rebuilding had got under way:



A number of comments about the New Wing were published, including the observation from 2nd Formers that it was too far

from the Boys' End and the gong could not be heard. The perhaps more sophisticated 3rd Formers assessed the available priorities and suggested that "the view from Rooms 12 and 9 could be better", while an anonymous Member of Staff offered a poem that now reappears in a box on the following page [JFC = John Cadman; he and his wife Valerie were living in the flat at the top of the master's block].

Several pages were devoted to *Hobbies and Jobs, Courses and Causes*, including features such as April Pumfleet's report on a visit to the Hockley family factory by the A level Needlework group; Terence Pollard's account of the Wethersfield March (an experience shared by the Editor and covered in the 2007 OS Magazine); and Robert Albarin's description of the joys of the *Joûtes de Sète* – modern jousting on gondolas in the south of France. The latter certainly introduced readers to an activity that they may never have come across before. A scoop indeed for *The Avenue*.

The next section was a *Literary Supplement*, which opened with Virginia Sowdon's perceptive *Impressions of the Friends' School*.

Thoughts on the New Staff-Room

Of course we're quite delighted, 'twere ungrateful not to be,
We can now relax in comfort as we drink our cups of tea.
And although it takes a longer time to get there than before,
At least we're spared the everlasting knocking on the door.

It makes a useful vantage-point from which to view the scene
– Be it couples on the Avenue, or tennis on the green –
But to J.F.C. our sympathetic tribute we must pay,
For in flat-to-staffroom treks he now does several miles a day.

Messrs Gelsthorpe, Sturge and Whitflow never had it quite so good,
They can now get here in half the time – and others of us would,
If only Ratt & Kettee, or someone, could contrive,
To organise a nice new car-park in the Bursar's drive.

It makes for complications and it's very hard on shoes,
Having one shelf by the staff room plus the two we used to use,
And a 'phone-call in recess, no trouble in the days of old,
Now means a minor marathon – and a cup of tea gone cold.

But we know we're very fortunate and ought not to complain,
We'd take it pretty hard if told we must move back again;
For now, when work is over, if there's one thing we adore,
It's just sitting there and knowing there'll be no knocks upon the door.

Virginia had come to FSSW following five years in a "Technical and Secondary Modern" school, and although she felt that the standard of education at FSSW was similar, she did note some key differences. One was what she described as a different standard of thought: this was shown in "self-education", coupled with a self-confidence derived from the boarding school environment.

She also saw strength in the

School's traditions and in its strong and supportive body of old scholars all over the world. She concluded that "if the character of the Friends' School were ever changed the whole district would feel a sense of loss". She wondered if "we are all aware of the value of this longstanding school".

Also in the *Literary Supplement* was a lengthy fantasy by Roger West entitled *The Story of the Meringues*, which involved Giants,

Trolls, Scorpions and Blunt-Bodied Bully Beetles. The Editor admits to wondering “what *was* he on?”. If Roger should read this, please let us all know.

Memoirs of a Village Organist gave readers an interesting insight into Matthew Robinson’s early musical development, and David Lewis’s inventive *A Tragikall Tale of Rural Life in Mediaeval England* succeeded in neatly featuring within its narrative the names of many School pupils. The question “And when was this LAMBORN?” followed a few lines later by “the WEINMAN served him a drink” gives a flavour of the piece.

Clubs and Societies included a report on School Music, in which the authors commented on a “marked growth of interest in all varieties of music throughout the school”. The School production of *Tobias and the Angel* was

sympathetically reviewed, with Mark Bertram’s character described as “always a gentleman...delightfully well cast”. By contrast, Trevor Hurrell’s character was “a seedy and laconic bandit”.

Sport covered many different disciplines, and in football the performance of individual members of the School’s 1st XI once again came under scrutiny. In each case a compliment was followed by a rather waspish sting in the tail. One example will suffice. “Graham Errington. He controlled the back line with the coolness of an experienced centre-half. His great weakness was his inability to deal with the long ball down the middle.” This year the character assassinations were contributed anonymously, perhaps wisely so!

Richard Gilpin



*Fifty years on: the “New Wing” in 2011.
(is this the same tree that can be seen in Matthew Robinson’s photo?)*

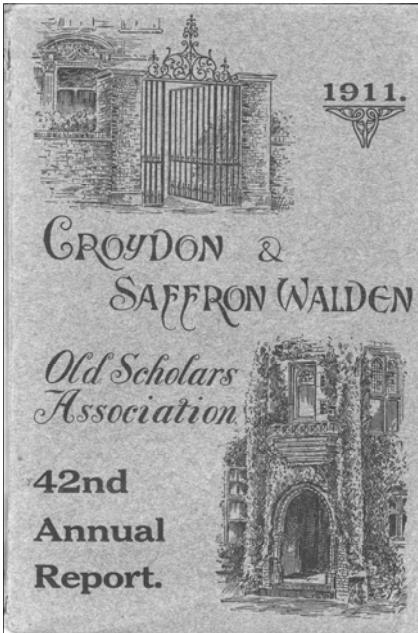
THE SCHOOL'S GOVERNING BODY JANUARY 2011

- Richard Bloomfield *Richard is a professional electrical engineer, and has played many different roles from front line to board level strategy. He is an Old Scholar whose children have also attended the School.*
- Ann Brereton *A member of Saffron Walden Friends' Meeting. Ann trained as a teacher and has subsequently worked with parents whose children had special educational needs.*
- Richard Clunes *Currently "Quaker in Residence" at Hampstead Meeting, Richard is an Old Scholar who ran a successful training business for many years. He comes to the School with a strong interest in marketing.*
- Sue Collins *Has been involved with FSSW for more than 35 years as staff wife, parent and part time piano teacher. A trained primary school teacher, Sue is now Deputy Clerk to the Board.*
- Andrew Deller *With a background in financial services, Andrew now specialises in leadership development and executive coaching across a variety of industry sectors. He currently has three children in the Junior School.*
- Martin Dickinson *A Quaker and teacher who retired in 2004 as Head of Ackworth. In January 2010 Martin became Clerk to the Board.*
- Sue Fellows *A Quaker who has been on the Board since 2006, Sue is a librarian at North London's Middlesex University.*
- Susan Garratt *A Quaker, Susan has been involved in many Young Friends' activities. She is currently Deputy Head (frequently Acting Head) of a large and challenging urban primary school, where she is also a Governor.*
- Tim Holding *A Quaker, he was Senior Lecturer at Colchester School of Art from 1964 to 1993. He is a professional painter and sculptor, and restorer of vintage vehicles and musical instruments.*
- Celia James *From an Arts background, Celia studied painting at Camberwell School of Art, and was a Reception Class teacher before working with young offenders, people on probation, and adults with severe learning disability.*
- Douglas Kent *A chartered surveyor specialising in the conservation of old buildings, Douglas is particularly interested in helping the School in matters to do with its buildings.*
- Jenny Marks *Governors' Secretary for 3 years, Jenny joined the Board in 2007. She brings her experience of marketing, public relations, and an ongoing commitment as Company Secretary of her family business to the service of the Board.*
- Ray Wells *A Chartered Accountant, Ray has two children in the Senior School, and has experience in the fields of finance and property. Treasurer from April 2010.*
- Malcolm Whalan *Currently serving as an Elder of Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting, Malcolm has been a Trustee Governor of Bootham and a Governor of the Retreat. He has a special interest in long term disabilities.*
- Barry Wilsher *A Quaker since 1970, his three youngest children are former pupils. Barry's working life was spent as a professional actor.*

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

A year or two ago, the Editor was sent a copy of the 1911 Croydon and Saffron Walden Old Scholars' Association 42nd Annual Report.

Since then he has been waiting patiently for 2011 to come round, so that he could share some of its highlights with present-day readers...



Members from the General and Editorial Secretaries, in which they express sympathy with the School regarding an outbreak of German measles that caused it to close before the end of the winter term.

Letters sent from abroad to the Secretaries give today's reader an insight into the views and experiences of some Victorian Old Scholars. Writing from the Jos tin mining area of Nigeria, Stanley Williams referred to "great doings on Coronation Day" including "sports for our Hausa labourers", to which "the local pagans" were invited. William H Trimmer, in Florida since 1857, had fought with the Confederate Army and "was in a Yankee prison here fifteen months". Ernest G Dutch wrote from Davos that he was pleased that his German was improving: he had thought people very rude when they replied "Yah" to him, but had at last found out that the word was "Ja".

The first thing about the 1911 Report that strikes one is the front cover. Made up from a gallimaufry of typefaces, with drawings as illustrations, it is printed in black on a rough grey card. Neither better nor worse perhaps than today's glossy cover with colour photographs, it is certainly very different.

The main body of the Report opens with a letter to Fellow

The Secretary reported that the 1910 Annual General Meeting had been attended by "about 150 persons", and thought that "the small number was due to the weather more than any lack of interest". He explained that the New Year Social had not been held, owing to an epidemic of scarlet fever at the School, and the Treasurer apologised for the accounts, which had not yet been completed and audited in time for the AGM.

Old Scholars were encouraged to "dip their hands into their pockets" to support the funding of the new Isolation Hospital, and a notice was on display to remind them.

Don't go home
to-night - - -
without giving
Your DONATION for
The HOSPITAL
FUND.

References to outbreaks of infectious diseases at the School suggest that the establishment of such a facility was addressing a real need.

Much was made of the Old Scholars' reunion at Whitsuntide (now held on the School's *Friends and Families Day*), but a hundred years ago it was very different occasion. Gwen M Canfield reported that in the evening after tea they had a torchlight procession round the garden and field, accompanying their journey

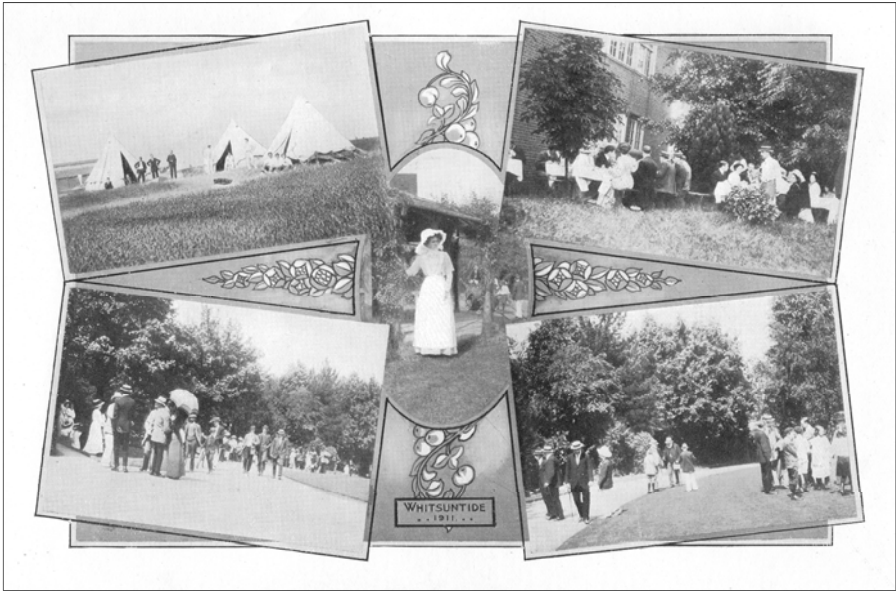
with "bursts of melody". Furthermore "the camp fire on the boys' playground had been lighted", round which "we regaled ourselves with cake and cocoa".

Even today sport is still an important feature of OS reunions, but the growing role of co-education in 1911 is brought home to the reader by Gwen's words "we old girls did not quite beat the present scholars at cricket".

John H Quinn gave a report on the School Tramp, which was still in its infancy (the first had been in 1907). In 1910 it had taken Old Scholars to Yorkshire, where they spent many happy hours on the Moors, getting soaked to the skin.



Photograph of Bedford Lemere



Montage of photographs of Whitsuntide 1911

He drily observed that C Brightwen Rowntree's short cuts were noted for their length.

In his President's Address, James T Harrod pleaded for a wider study of the Theory and Practice of Education. He recalled that although there had been many changes in education since Clerkenwell, his five years at Saffron Walden had still left much to be desired. He had never received a proper drawing lesson, had "almost been debarred from a knowledge of English literature", and had been given no training in scientific thought. His vision of the future included "an abundance of trained thinkers", and the School would need to play its part in turning this into reality.

A list of Memorial Notices was

given, and this included Bedford Lemere (photo on previous page), who from 1896-7 had been only the third Old Scholar to be President of the Association.

A talented professional photographer, he took a large number of photographs of the School – buildings and scholars – when it was still in Croydon, and created a further portfolio when the School moved to Saffron Walden in 1879. The report featured a fine portrait, which one suspects he must have taken himself.

A report on the School year 1911 noted that "co-education, after a year's working, had successfully established itself" and, when dwelling briefly on Whitsuntide, mentioned that "after tea had been

taken on the Avenue the day closed with a strenuous and amusing game of Terza”.

Intrigued, the Editor did a bit of research but what he found was the following dictionary definition of *Terza rima*: “an arrangement of triplets, especially in iambic pentameter, that rhyme *aba bcb cdc* etc, as in Dante's *Divine Comedy*”.

Whether this could accurately be described as “a strenuous and amusing game” is open to conjecture.

In conclusion, he remains somewhat baffled, and asks for guidance from any older Old Scholars who may know what *Terza* was.

After reports on football, cricket, athletics and aquatics there is a passing reference to “Boys’ Bedroom Sports”. The Editor, having led something of a

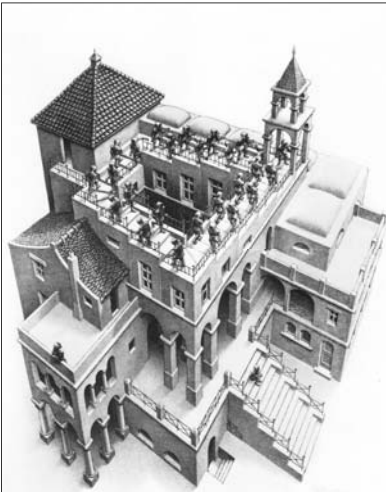
sheltered life, is unfamiliar with this activity and, once again, he must ask older OS to help out with an explanation.

Finally, there is a list of “Officers” (effectively the Staff List) which starts with the Head Master, John Edward Walker, and he is followed by his wife, Anna Phyllis Walker, who is quaintly styled “Mistress of the Family”.

In 1911 there were only twenty “Officers” for one hundred and seventy three pupils.

Readers may compare this to today’s Staff List and head count, and conclude that this is a significant example of the many ways in which the School has changed during the past hundred years.

Richard Gilpin



The School's new building programme seemed to be taking considerably longer than expected, and no-one could quite work out why it was that the hod carriers never seemed to come back for more bricks.

The project managers and the architects put their heads together to work out this tricky problem, and finally told the School that it was probably a case of **Escher** said than done...

STAFF LIST JANUARY 2011

Senior School

<i>Head</i>	Graham Wigley, BA (Nottingham), MA (Open Univ), NPQH, PGCE
<i>Bursar and Governors' Clerk</i>	David Wood, ACIB
<i>Deputy Head</i>	Anna Chaudhri, MA (Cantab), PGCE
<i>Assistant Head (Curriculum)</i>	Eleanor Mackenzie-Lambert, Med (Cantab), BSc (London), PGCE
<i>Assistant Head (Pastoral and Marketing)</i>	Sarah Westerhuis, BEd (Brighton Polytechnic), MEd (Cantab)
<i>Head of Sixth Form</i>	John Searle-Barnes, BA (London), MA (Lancaster), PGCE
<i>Assistant Heads of Sixth Form</i>	Gillian Kinnear, BA (Loughborough), PGCE Sarah Joseph, BA (Hull), PGCE
<i>Year Head Year 7</i>	Peter Fasching, BA (London), PGCE
<i>Year Head Years 8 & 9</i>	Jennifer Allwood, BEd (Bedford)
<i>Year Head Years 10 & 11</i>	Raymond Mordini, BPHE (Western Australia)
<i>Art</i>	Serena O'Connor, BA (London), PGCE Phillip Richardson, Dip AD (Chelsea), ATC (Sussex), PGCE + Matthew Miller, BA (Buckinghamshire), BTEC, PGCE
<i>Artist in Residence</i>	Amber Mackenzie, BA (Edinburgh College of Art)
<i>Business Studies</i>	Carolyn White, BEd (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), MEd (Chelmsford)
<i>Critical Thinking</i>	Brigid Vousden, BA (Univ of Wales, Lampeter), MPhil, PGCE +
<i>Design Technology</i>	Jessica Armitage, BA (Central St Martin's College of Art), PGCE Richard Twinn, BA (Middlesex), PGCE Catherine Whyte, BEd (Bath College of Higher Education) +
<i>Drama</i>	Richard Smith, BA (Trinity College, Carmarthen), PGCE Shelley Dowsett, BSc (University of London, Barking), GTP
<i>Drama Assistant</i>	Sarah Bartley, BA (Cantab)
<i>English</i>	Gillian Kinnear, BA (Loughborough), PGCE Sue Lock, Cert Ed (St Osyth's College) + Joanna Matthews, BEd (South Glamorgan) + Graham Wigley, BA (Nottingham), MA (Open Univ), NPQH, PGCE
<i>ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)</i>	Sarah Joseph, BA (Hull) PGCE Jane Henfrey, BA (Hatfield Polytechnic) PGCE +
<i>Film Studies</i>	John Searle-Barnes, BA (London), MA (Lancaster), PGCE
<i>Geography</i>	Hannah Sargent, BSc (Sussex), MSc (Bristol), PGCE Jonathan Slinger, BA (Natal SA), BEd (Natal SA), MEd (London)
<i>History</i>	John Searle-Barnes, BA (London), MA (Lancaster), PGCE Charlotte O'Neill, BA (Anglia), PGCE Jennifer Allwood, BEd (Bedford)
<i>ICT</i>	Carolyn White, BEd (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), MEd (Chelmsford) Jessica Armitage, BA (Central St Martin's College of Art), PGCE Teresa Shepherd+

<i>Library</i>	Judith Brown, BA (Middlesex), MA (Open Univ), PG Dip ILS
<i>Mathematics</i>	David Noland, BSc (UMIST), MA (Leeds) Paul Allan BSc (Aberdeen), MSc (Glasgow), PGCE Geoffrey Curtis, BSc (Bristol), PGCE + Carolyn White, BEd (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), MEd (Chelmsford) Hannah Sargent, BSc (Sussex), MSc (Bristol), PGCE
<i>Modern Languages</i>	Gisèle Searle-Barnes, Licence, MA (Lyon), PGCE Peter Fasching, BA (London), PGCE Jane Pearce, BA (Aberystwyth), PGCE + Anna Chaudhri, MA (Cantab), PGCE
<i>Music</i>	Gavin Greenaway, BA (Anglia Polytechnic University), PGCE Martin Wilson, BMus (RNCM Manchester), ARCM, ALCM Mary Richardson, BA(Leeds), Dip ABRSM, PGCE, +
<i>Peripatetic Music Teachers</i>	Jason Meyrick, FTCL, LRAM, LTCL, Professional Certificate + Alison Townend, BA (Anglia Polytechnic University), LLCM, LGSM, LTCL + Nicky Ogden, BA (Lancaster), LRAM, PGCE + Edward Dodge, MA (Cantab), GRSM (Manchester), ARMC, PGCE + Steven Hynes, BTEC National Diploma + Louis Thorne, BSc (Leeds) + Mark Townend, GRSM, LRAM, Dip RAM + Sarah Clark, BTEC National Diploma (Guildford) + Angela Lesslie, BMus (Royal College of Music), PGCE + Amy Klohr, BA (Yale University), LRAM + Carla Robinson, LTCL +
<i>Physical Education</i>	Nicholas Batcheler, BEd (Otago NZ), Dip Teaching (Dunedin College of Ed NZ) Jennifer Allwood, BEd (Bedford) Raymond Mordini, BPHE (Western Australia) Shelley Dowsett, BSc (University of London, Barking), GTP
<i>Psychology</i>	Jonathan Slinger, BA (Natal SA), BEd (Natal SA), MEd (London)
<i>Religious Studies & PSHE</i>	Helen Golden, BA (University of Kent), PGCE +
<i>Science</i>	Christine Sleight, BEd (Nottingham), CPhys, MInstP Julie Anderson, BEd (Herts College of Ed) Philip Dant, BSc (Southampton), PGCE Spencer Cusick-Smith, MA Phys (York) Eleanor Mackenzie-Lambert, MEd (Cantab), BSc (London), PGCE Raymond Mordini, BPHE (Western Australia) Paul Allan BSc (Aberdeen), MSc (Glasgow), PGCE
<i>Speech and Drama</i>	Sonia Lindsey-Scripps, BA (Middlesex) +
<i>Gap Student</i>	Jack Kenning (PE)
<i>Careers</i>	Julie Anderson, BEd (Herts College of Ed)

Study Centre Heather Carter, BA (Portsmouth), MA (Open), PGCE
 Heather Douglas, BSc (Sussex), MSc (Edinburgh), DipSpLD (Dyslexia)
 Caryn Pepper, CLANSA
 Brigid Vousden, BA, M.Phil (Univ of Wales, Lampeter), PGCE
 Jane Bull, BSc, TaCert III +, Stacey Chaplin, BA (Greenwich),
 Fiona Glickman, BA, MA (Sussex), Max Ford, BA (London), PGCE +,
 Katherine Wiseman, BA (Chichester), Dip Teaching,
 Jacqueline Parnham, Jennifer Kirby, BA (Leicester), Louise Plant,
 Joy Wheeler, Marcia Hewes, MA (Plymouth),
 Philippa Venner, LLB (Southampton), April Gooderham

Junior School

Head of Junior School Andrew Holmes, BEd (Kent), Cert Ed (Bristol)
Deputy Head Sally Meyrick, BA (Warwick), PGCE
Head of Early Years & Infants Sally Manser, Cert Ed (Saffron Walden College)
 Claire Milner, BSc (Manchester), RN (Child)
 Lucy Nicholson, MA (Edinburgh), PGCE
Junior Department Kate Richardson, BSc London, PGCE
 Jacqueline Branch, Cert Ed (Portsmouth College)
 Jane Manley, BA (Lancaster), PGCE
 Deborah Ballingall, BEd (College of St Mark & St John, Plymouth)
 Jessica Armitage, BA (Central St Martin's College of Art), PGCE
 Richard Twinn, BA (Middlesex), PGCE
 Peter Fasching, BA (London), PGCE
 Gisele Searle-Barnes, Licence, MA (Lyon), PGCE
 Jane Pearce, BA (Aberystwyth), PGCE +
 Jennifer Allwood, BEd (Bedford)
 Anna Chaudhri, MA (Cantab), PGCE
 Shelley Dowsett, BSc (University of London, Barking), GTP
Learning Support Clare Gill, MA (Manchester), Cert TESOL, PGCert Dyslexia & Literacy +
Teaching Assistants Lucy Barnes, Ta Cert III, Cindy Monk, Cert Ed (Cambridge Inst),
 Zoe Copping, BTEC Nat Dip Social Care, Lorraine Harlow,
 Sue Loudon, Maeve Wigley, NNEB (Derby),
 Andrea Owen, Amanda Cameron, Sarah Goodwin,
 Nicola Dellow, Carolyn Kambitsi, Virginia Elam
Nursery Coordinator Tiffany Johnson, NNEB (Bristol)
Nursery Assistant Catherine Armstrong, NNEB (Harlow)
PE/Swimming Raymond Mordini, BPHE (Western Australia)
Music Martin Wilson, BMus (RNCM Manchester), ARCM, ALCM
 Angela Lesslie, BMus (Royal College of Music), PGCE +
Peripatetic Music Teachers See above list
Junior School Secretaries Adrian Forte, Maureen Graham

<i>House Staff – Boys</i>	Stephen Staerck, Cert Ed (Sussex Univ), Adv Dip Counselling & Welfare (London)
<i>House Staff – Sixth Form + Girls</i>	Barbara Askew
<i>Assistant Bursar (Finance)</i>	Stephen Welch, FCA
<i>Accountant</i>	Ann Boatman
<i>Head’s PA</i>	Sonia Hood, BSc (APU)
<i>Admissions Registrar</i>	Alison Stanbury
<i>Bursar’s PA & Governors’ Clerk’s Secretary</i>	Kathrin O’Sullivan
<i>Senior Management’s PA</i>	Debbie Peck
<i>Marketing Manager</i>	Kirsten Batcheler, BA (Otago NZ)
<i>Pupil Database/Parent Mail</i>	Lynn Robinson
<i>Receptionist and Lettings</i>	Anne Fear
<i>Accounts/Exams Assistant</i>	Marion Grainge +
<i>Staff Secretary</i>	Karon Chappell
<i>Learning Support Secretary</i>	Louise Plant
<i>IT and Communications Manager</i>	Oliver Hoar
<i>Technicians</i>	Barbara Nicholson, (Science) +, Lynn Cargill, (Science) + Juliet Clark, (Science) +, Lucy Mordini (Art) + Michele Thomas BSc (Bath College Higher Ed) (Food) + Leanne Dawson, BA (Cambridge School of Art), (Art) + Teresa Shepherd (ICT)+
<i>Medical</i>	Louise Burgess, BA (Manchester), RGN + Sarah Penman, RGN, RSCN +
<i>Matron</i>	Judy Camp +
<i>Resident Tutors</i>	Sonia Hood, BSc (APU) + Jane Manley, BA (Lancaster), PGCE, Patrick Manley
<i>Catering Manager</i>	Dionne McCreery
<i>Cleaning Supervisor</i>	Barry Melhuish
<i>Maintenance</i>	Ashley Daley, Andrew Sully, Dean Camp
<i>Gardens & Grounds</i>	Matthew Wright, Simon Keyte, David Allison
<i>Medical Officers</i>	Clive Paul, BSc, MBBS, DRCOG, MRCPGP (London) Cathy Cowley, BMedSci, BM, BS, DCH (Nottingham)
	+ Part-time



FRIENDS' SCHOOL SAFFRON WALDEN OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Past Presidents

2010-11	Julie Foster	1964-65 *	Kenneth L Whitlow
2009-10	Lesley Jacob	1963-64 *	Muriel J Rigby
2008-09	Caroline Longstreet	1962-63 *	Donald Peverett ARPS
2007-08	Richard Gilpin MA Lond	1961-62 *	Jennie Ellinor MA Dunelm
2005-07	John Weinman	1960-61 *	Richard Eric Holttum MA, DSc Cantab, Hon ScD Singapore, FLS, VMH
2004-05	Mary Mileson GRSM, LRAM	1959-60 *	Walter W Baldwin MA Oxon, BA Lond
2003-04	David Hills BEd Sussex	1958-59 *	Hilda Shippey MBE
2002-03	Hilary Halter BA	1957-58 *	Basil G Burton
2001-02	Tony Newton (Lord Newton of Braintree)	1956-57 *	Bernard B Jacob MA Cantab
2000-01	Simon Clapperton	1955-56 *	Eric Peverett
1999-00	Wilfrid Hayler MCLIP	1954-55 *	Kathleen E Skelton
1998-99	Mark Bertram CBE, MA Cantab, RIBA	1953-54 *	Reginald W Montford
1997-98	Sarah Westerhuis BEd Brighton, MEd Cantab	1952-53 *	Gerald Littleboy MA Cantab
1996-97	Nigel McTear ASFA, ALFP, CFP	1951-52 *	Henry B Rowntree BScEng Manc, CEng, FICE, FIWE
1995-96	Tom Robinson	1950-51 *	Reginald A Reynolds
1994-95	Judith Foster	1949-50 *	Leonard Copeland Watts ACGI, CEng, FIMechE, PPIHVE
1993-94	Malcom Pim Dip Soc Admin (Lond), CQSW	1948-49 *	William R Bennett
1992-93	David C R Hadley BSc Lond, AIA	1947-48 *	Margaret G Yapp BA Brist
1991-92	Roger C R Bertram MA Cantab, MB, BChir	1946-47 *	Frank A Cadman FRICS, FAI
1990-91	Jean R Plant BA Lond	1945-46 *	G Stanley Pumphrey BScEng Manc
1989-90	Patrick C B Coleman BSc Manc	1943-45 *	Anthony Skelton
1988-89	Katia Herbst MA Newcastle, PhD Lond	1942-43 *	Harold B Holttum
1987-88	E Anthony Watson	1941-42 *	Arnold Brereton BA Lond
1986-87	Martin Holmes	1940-41 *	Annie Murray
1985-86	Derek C Barbanell BSc Lond	1939-40 *	Paul V E Mauger RIBA, FRTPI, DipTP Lond
1984-85 *	Iorwerth John BSc Wales	1938-39 *	Norman S Eames FIMT
1983-84	John F Cadman DLC	1937-38 *	Charles Danels
1982-83	Graham Errington FCA	1936-37 *	Amy Montford BA Lond
1981-82 *	Jack Turnbull OstJ	1935-36 *	Charles M Ball
1980-81 *	Margaret R Ball FSBT, FIPS, AISW	1934-35 *	Stanley G King Beer BA Cantab
1979-80 *	Eric Brown ACIS	1933-34 *	J Owen Clover
1978-79	John C Woods BA Manc	1932-33 *	Thomas Francis
1977-78	Michael Connolly FCA	1931-32 *	Gertrude Rowntree
1976-77	Brenda Burns DipPE Dunfermline	1930-31 *	John H Quinn
1975-76	Joy Dupont GRSM Lond, ARCM	1929-30 *	J Penrose Whitlow BA Vict
1974-75 *	Richard A Wright BA Cantab	1928-29 *	Alfred T Carr
1973-74	Alan G Risdon	1927-28 *	Howard Diamond FCA
1972-73 *	R Raymond Dobbin	1926-27 *	Florence D Priestman BA Lond
1971-72 *	Richard L Sturge BMus Oxon, ARCM	1925-26 *	James Watts
1970-71	Mary Probert JP	1924-25 *	Leslie R Hart BSc, PhD Lond, CChem, MRIC
1969-70	James E Dutton BA, DipAgric Cantab	1923-24 *	Violet M Tozer
1968-69 *	Alan W Thompson FCA	1922-23 *	W Arnold Green MA, BSc St And, AMICE
1967-68 *	Cyril A Mummery MA Oxon	1921-22 *	James S Lidbetter BA Leeds, MA Cantab
1966-67 *	H A Farrand Radley MBE, MA Oxon, FInstAM	1920-21 *	Lucy Fairbrother
1965-66	Alan P Carlton Smith MA, LLB Cantab		



FRIENDS' SCHOOL SAFFRON WALDEN OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Past Presidents (continued)

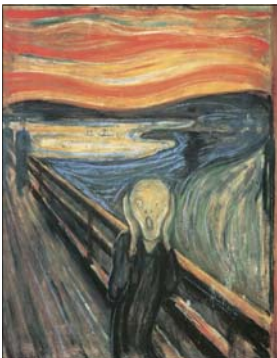
1919-20 *	Gurnell C Green	1904-05 *	Mary A Townson
1917-19 *	C Brightwen Rowntree BA Lond	1903-04 *	William Robinson
1915-17 *	M Ethel Crawshaw Morland	1902-03 *	Bedford Pierce MD, FRCP Lond, MRCS Eng
1914-15 *	Henry Bedford Lemere Hon FRPS	1901-02 *	Samuel Bland JP
1913-14 *	Leonard A Farrington	1900-01 *	Bedford Marsh JP
1912-13 *	James Backhouse Crosfield	1899-00 *	John Butler
1911-12 *	Frank Rivers Arundel	1898-99 *	Alfred Sawyer
1910-11 *	James Tyler Harrod BA Lond	1897-98 *	Isaac Sharp BA Lond
1909-10 *	James T Fairbanks	1896-97 *	Bedford Lemere
1908-09 *	Charles Milnes Willmott	1895-96 *	John Farley Rutter JP
1907-08 *	John Edward Walker	1894-95 *	John G Armfield
1906-07 *	E Arthur Williams BA Lond		
1905-06 *	Joseph W Martin		

* Deceased

DATES FOR YOUR 2011 DIARY

Saturday 14th May *Friends and Families Day
and Old Scholars' Reunion*

Saturday 12th November *Annual General
Meeting*



This is the Old Scholar who failed to book in advance for the Friends and Families Day reunion dinner — and had to go away hungry and screaming.

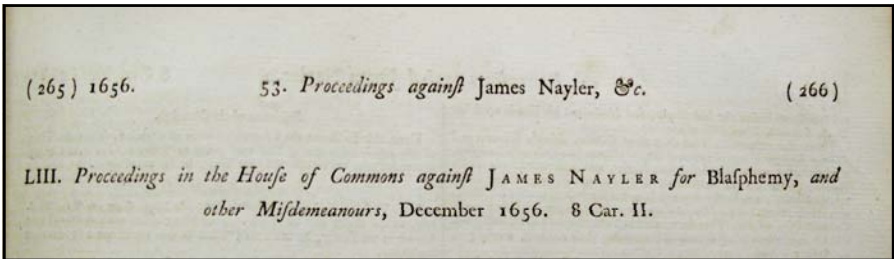
Contacting the School and booking your May reunion dinner in advance will not only give you peace of mind, but will also guarantee that you'll have plenty of food to **Munch**...

“THERE IS A SPIRIT”

In 1952 the School celebrated its 250th anniversary, and the composer Edmund Rubbra contributed three motets. One of them, “There is a spirit which I feel”, quoted the dying words of James Nayler, one of the founders of the Society of Friends.

While working last year as a volunteer in the Archives of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers (one of the City of London’s Livery Companies), the Editor came upon a set of volumes entitled *State Trials*, published in 1776, which contained a verbatim account of James Nayler’s 1656 trial.

Although familiar in general with Nayler’s life story (thanks of course to his FSSW education in the 50s), he felt that with the 21st century well under way it might be a good time for Old Scholars to revisit the details.



James Nayler had been born into a comfortably-off farming family in Yorkshire in 1618. He enlisted in the parliamentary army of Oliver Cromwell in 1643 and served for nine years.

It was during this time that he started preaching, and a former officer later recalled that “I was struck with more terror before the preaching of James Nayler than I was before the battle of Dunbar”.

On leaving the army he initially joined an Independent congregation in Woodstock and, having been expelled from this community, he became a leading

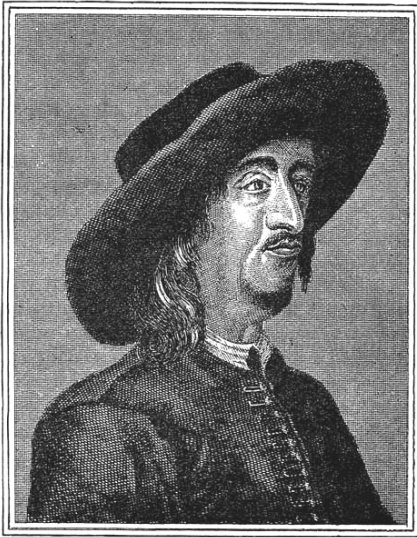
itinerant preacher in a new movement that first called itself the Children of the Light.

This afterwards became the Society of Friends or, as Nayler observed, “the Quakers as thou scornfully calls us”.

From 1652 he was increasingly prominent and charismatic in a movement that was widely regarded as unorthodox.

In 1653 he attracted much hostility when preaching with George Fox in the north of England, and this led to a period of imprisonment.

Once released, he continued



Contemporary wood cut
of James Nayler

travelling and preaching.

His assertion – that Christ was fully and immediately present in all true believers, so that they were without sin or were at least well-established on the road to perfection – was seen by Puritan ministers as blasphemous.

In 1655 as Quakerism spread, Nayler went to London – in his eyes “a great and wicked place”. As a speaker he became well-known in the south of England during this period, and with Fox largely remaining in the north, Nayler was regarded by many outsiders as the Society’s leader.

Within the Quaker movement at this time women enjoyed an unusual measure of freedom, and a group of them gathered around him, disrupting meetings and

promoting him as *de facto* leader. Some of his colleagues were unhappy with this and in 1656 took him back west, where in Launceston jail he visited Fox, who had been in prison there for six months.

This was not a great success, and on his release, Fox wrote to Nayler saying “James, thou separates thyself from Friends and draws a company after thee, and separated from the power of the Lord God”.

On 24th October 1656, Nayler and a small band of companions entered Bristol in imitation of Christ’s entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Nayler himself was mounted on a horse, and his supporters cast garments before him while singing “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth” and “Hosanna!”.

This could not be ignored, and a group of Bristol ministers took it upon themselves to interrogate him.

When pressed to declare whether or not he considered himself the actual Son of God, Nayler consistently evaded the questioners. One of his followers however, Martha Simmonds, insisted that he was “the Son of Righteousness” and another, Dorcas Erbury, identified him as “the only begotten Son of God”. This provided ammunition for those in authority who were looking for an opportunity to repress the increasingly subversive Quakers and, instead of being tried locally in Bristol, Nayler and

his companions were sent to London, where he was put on trial by a committee of the House of Commons on charges of "Blasphemy, and other Misdemeanours".

"Matters of Fact" were presented to the Committee, and after due consideration its members resolved that he had been found "guilty of horrid blasphemy...a grand impostor and seducer of the people", and on 17th December his punishment was decided.

He was sentenced to be set in the pillory in the Palace Yard Westminster for two hours the very next day, wearing a paper containing an "Inscription of his Crimes", and then whipped by the hangman through the streets from Westminster to the Old Exchange.

Two days later he was again to be set in the pillory for two hours, then at the Old Exchange his tongue was to be bored through with a hot iron and he was to be stigmatized in the forehead with the letter B (*for Blasphemer*).

After these torments he was to be sent to Bristol, where he was to be taken through the city on horseback, "bare-ridged with his face backward", before being returned to prison in Bridewell.

His sentence was "executed upon him in every detail", and it was only in September 1659, when the Rump Parliament declared an amnesty for Quaker prisoners, that he was set free.

Having spent nearly three years in the Bridewell prison, he started



Nayler on the pillory, enduring having his tongue "bored through"

to return north in 1660, when he was robbed and beaten near Huntingdon. He was taken to the nearby home of a fellow Quaker where, before dying, he spoke the words that, nearly three hundred years later, were included by Edmund Rubbra in his motet for the School's 250th anniversary:

"There is a spirit which I feel that delights to do no evil, nor to avenge any wrong, but delights to endure all things, in hope to enjoy its own in the end."

Despite the fevered imaginations of some of his followers, James Nayler was clearly not the Messiah. Members of the Society of Friends today may feel however that his treatment was not only manifestly harsh, but also unfair.

Richard Gilpin

WEBSITE UPDATE: www.oldscholars.com

The Old Scholars' website has been available for some years now, but the launch of the School's new website has created an added impetus for it to change and move on. Although it shares the same server as the School, it is still independent.

Martin Hugall draws the attention of Old Scholars to a number of improvements that have already been made to widen the content of the website.

There are now pages for communication from your President and also from the School. The latter contains online copies of the School's newsletter *The Avenue*, which is also posted to members.

Martin has uploaded last year's OS magazine, plans to put future issues online, and will also be adding issues from previous years.

The page of past Whole School Photos remains popular and he is starting to develop a page of Form Photos concentrating on those year groups having reunions, such as this year's YGs 78 and 79.

There are however considerable gaps in the earlier form photo records (hence none for the 60s) and he is always willing to receive scanned photos for such year groups.

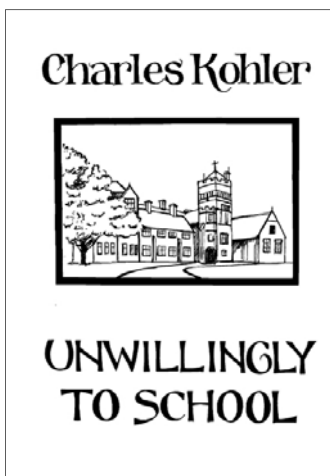
In addition to Mathew Robinson's classic 1963 film of the School, Martin has been able to include two other School videos now on YouTube – one filmed in

1989, and the other a news shot made by the BBC in 1977 covering the School Day. Many will remember this as the day each year when the Sixth Form ran the School in the absence of teachers, until the project was finally considered to be too dangerous on Health and Safety grounds!

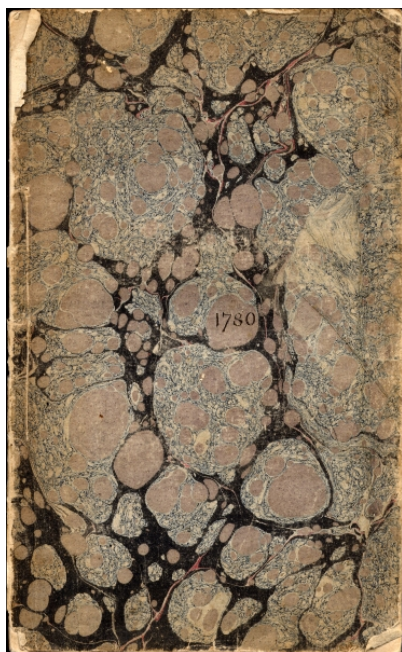
Martin is also trying to keep the Class Lists as up to date as possible and very much appreciates being informed of changes of email addresses in particular. Debbie Peck, who manages the OS database, would also like to be kept informed of any changes in contact details.

He is aware that the Message Board is not a great success and has had its technical problems, and will be looking for something more suitable; he will also be exploring other more contemporary social networking platforms, such as Facebook.

One page that readers will find much changed is the School History page. In addition to the tercentenary book *The School on the Hill*, Martin has recently scanned and uploaded to this page a number of books on the School's history.



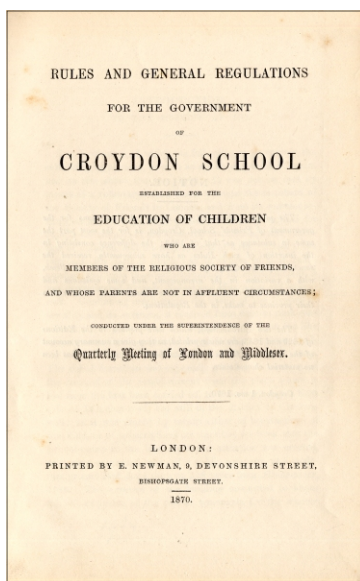
These include David Bolam's *Unbroken Community*, covering the School's first 250 years, and *100 Years at Saffron Walden* by John Woods.



The Clerkenwell Rules of 1780

It is also worth hunting down Charles Kohler's delightful book *Unwillingly to School*, about his time at FSSW in the 1920s, while the *Clerkenwell Rules* of 1780 give a unique insight into life in the School when it was still part of the workhouse.

The *Croydon Rules* of 1870 are also worth dipping into.



The Croydon Rules of 1870

There are other interesting documents on this page and others will be uploaded in the future.

Those scanning the website will also find a section of Archive Photos, and he plans to expand this section as time allows.

Finally, Martin asks all of the Magazine's readers please to have a look at www.oldscholars.com .

