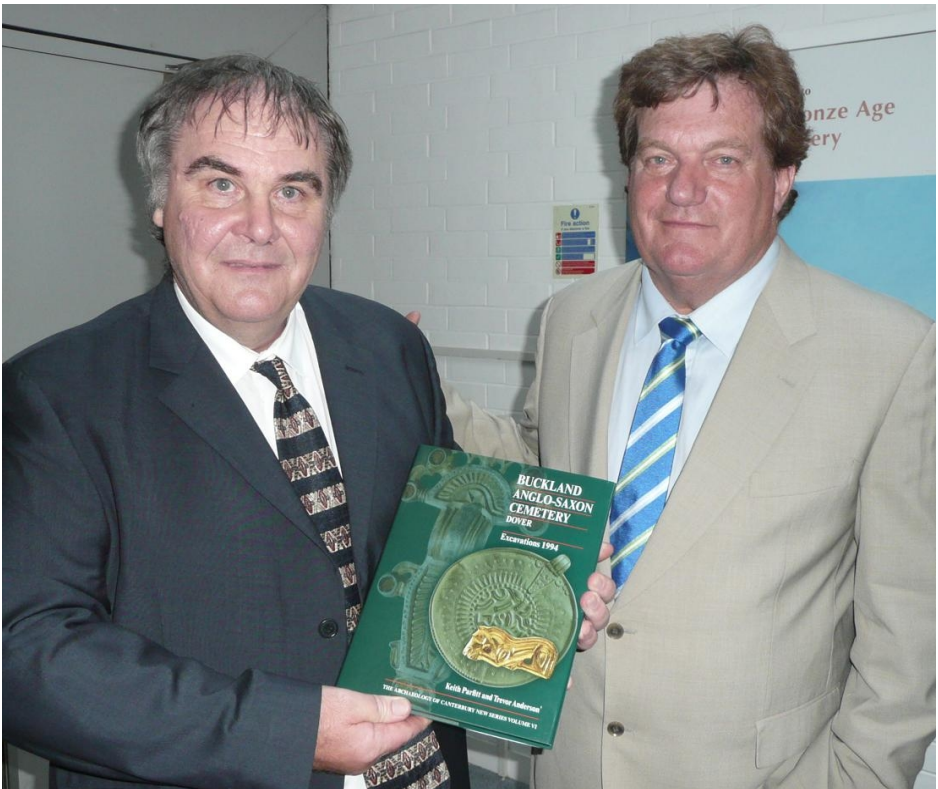


Dover Grammar School for Boys

New Series No. 102

July 2012

Old Pharosians' Association Newsletter



**Keith Parfitt and Paul Bennett with the book on the Anglo Saxon cemetery.
(See page 19)**

NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Officers and Committee Members
- Annual Meeting, Football Match and Dinner 2012
- Cricket Match
- Archivist's Corner
- Items for Sale
- Where Are They Now?

FROM THE COMMITTEE ROOM

NEWS OF THE SCHOOL

- Rugby, martial arts, charity fund-raising and bagpipes

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

- Obituaries
- Still Living and Learning
- And finally

NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2011-2012

- PRESIDENT:** Stephen Yarrow
39 Whitfield Hill, Dover CT16 3BH
01304 824485
stephen@forwoods.co.uk
- PAST PRESIDENT:** Antony Hook
27 Harold Road, Deal CT14 6QH
- CHAIRMAN:** Jack Kremer
37 Old Park Hill, Dover CT16 2AW
- SECRETARY:** Philip Harding
6 Chestnut Road,
Elms Vale, Dover CT17 9PY
phil@ksfa.freemove.co.uk
- ASSISTANT SECRETARY:** Alistair Gardiner
27 Millais Road, Dover CT16 2LW
- TREASURER:** John Sheather
7 The Ridgeway, River
Dover CT17 0NS
01304 824392
- MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Paul Skelton
Little Rock, 6 Park Road,
Temple Ewell, Dover CT16 3AJ
1905-2005@DoverGrammar.Co.Uk
- ARCHIVIST:** Peter Burville
Seagate, Goodwin Road,
St Margaret's Bay, Dover CT15 6ED
01304 853267
pj.burville@btinternet.com

NEWSLETTER
EDITORS:

Terry Sutton MBE
17 Bewsbury Cross Lane,
Whitfield, Dover CT16 3HB
01304 820122
terry.sutton@route56.co.uk

and

Graham Tutthill
21 Orchard Drive
River, Dover CT17 0ND
01304 822121
graham@tutthill.freemove.co.uk

WEBSITE MANAGER: Paul Skelton

COMMITTEE: Maurice Smith (to retire 2012)
Roger Gabriel (to retire 2012)
Barry Crush (to retire 2013)
Mike Palmer (to retire 2013)
Alistair Gardiner (to retire 2013)
Rev. John Philpott (to retire 2014)

AUDITOR: Neil Beverton

HEAD TEACHER: Dr Richard Moxham

STAFF
REPRESENTATIVES: Francoise Lloyd
Helen Simmonds
Vacancy

HEAD PREFECT: Sophie Grayson

INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://dovergrammar.co.uk>

E-MAIL ADDRESS: 1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk

ANNUAL MEETING, FOOTBALL MATCH AND DINNER 2012

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Old Pharosians' Association will be held on Saturday 29 September 2012, at the Dover Grammar School for Boys, commencing at 11 a.m.

Agenda

To read the notice convening the meeting

Apologies for absence

Minutes of the previous AGM

Matters arising

Treasurer's Report

Election of Officers and Committee

- President
- Chairman (J Kremer)
- Secretary (P J Harding)
- Assistant Secretary (A Gardiner)
- Treasurer (J Sheather)
- Membership Secretary (P Skelton)
- Newsletter Editors (T Sutton and G Tutthill)
- Archivist (P Burville)
- Auditor (N Beverton)
- Committee Members (retiring members Maurice Smith and Roger Gabriel)

Any Other Business

Philip Harding (Hon Secretary)

Old Pharosians' Day is Saturday 29 September 2012. The annual meeting is at 11 a.m. with coffee being served from 10.30 a.m. The Football Match is scheduled for 2.30 p.m. and will be organised, as usual, by Mick Palmer. He would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be willing to play. Call him on 01304 825472.

A booking form for the dinner is enclosed with this newsletter. The dinner will be at 6.45 for 7.30 p.m. To reserve your place(s), please complete the form and return it, together with your remittance for £22.50 (cheque made payable to "Old Pharosians") to Jack Kremer 37 Old Park Hill, Dover, CT16 2AW. E-mail: jackk-37oph@supanet.com as soon as possible and certainly by 20 September. (The future of these dinners is in doubt and depend on the attendance this year.)

CRICKET MATCH

The annual cricket match between the Old Pharosians and the School's 1st XI took place on Friday 29 June when the old boys maintained their unbeaten record by winning the 30-over a side contest. The old boys scored 207 for 5 and the school notched up 174 for 4, 121 of them scored by Kent Performance Squad player Zach Fagg. Does anyone recall a century being scored in one of these matches before? Organiser Mick Palmer would be interested to know!

The OP's team members were Ritchie Hulks, Tom Bird, Andy Arter, Ed Dadd, Toby Kember, John Stokes, Dan Taylor, Will Trafford, Matt Sadler, Jamie Sadler and Steve King. Our thanks to those who took part, and to Mick for organising it.

ARCHIVIST'S CORNER

Greetings, it is pleasing to report that archive material continues to pour in.

Past President Tony Bradley (1945-52) has offered copies of the Newsletter and Pharos Magazine, which have been gratefully accepted. Whilst some may be duplicates there is the prospect of them being used to the advantage of the School or Association in the future.

Our Secretary Phil Harding (1967-75) forwarded Speech Day programmes for 1947 and 1949 to me that had been donated by Joan Henry, the widow of Colin (1945-50). Clifford Ivan Seymour Burbridge (1945-47) featured prominently in the former programme being awarded the Parents' Association Mathematics Prize, The Edward Ryeland Memorial (Physics) Prize and a Higher School Certificate with distinction in physics (and exemption from Intermediate Science). Tragically, the brilliant 18 year-old died of poliomyelitis before November's Speech and Prize-giving Day. At that time polio was a significant threat.

Recently Eric Castle (1934-41), an old GPO/BT colleague, rang and reminisced about his school days particularly his time in Ebbw Vale with its Baptist Chapel. Teacher Mr (Bucket) Constable (1920-52) was mentioned in connection with religious matters. As a naïve young first-year I can remember addressing Mr Constable as Mr Bucket and am pleased to report that no caning or other punishment ensued. Eric, like so many pupils, recalls physics teacher W. E. Pearce (1915-52) with admiration and affection, and mentioned a ship-degaussing technique developed by WEP during the Second World War.

The idea seems to have been that magnet mines, not the sort that adhere to a metal ship but those that detect significant changes in the earth's magnetic field potentially caused by a passing ship, could be neutralised by placing a cable round the ship's hull and passing appropriate currents through it. Does anyone have any knowledge of this project that can be shared with us?

The last issue of the Newsletter (January 2012 page 20) featured the "Black Cat" cigarette card of the Town House colours cap of the 1930s. How strange that Carreras Ltd's marketing people should choose "School Emblems" for the series of cards. Perhaps there was a "behind the cycle shed" thought in their minds.

Anyway, it would be of interest to know what was printed on the other side of the card. Does anyone have any knowledge on the subject as there must be a society (or similar) of cigarette card collectors?

ITEMS FOR SALE

The latest item on offer is the DVD *Prize Giving One* at a cost of £10, plus £1.50 p&p (making £11.50), with the purchasing arrangements as described below. The DVD for sale is based on a DVD created by Mrs Dorothy Mannall and covers some School activities during the time her son David (1991-98) was at the School. These include a Carol Service of 1993, Junior Prize Giving in 1992 and 1993, Middle School Prize Giving in 1995 and 1996.

The excellent response to the goodies on offer continues and the purchasing arrangements for all items are the same: sending a cheque for the appropriate amount, payable to “DGSB”, to the Dover Grammar School for Boys, Astor Avenue, Dover CT17 0DQ.

As previously reported, Old Pharosians can no longer buy a 1905-2005 centenary tie from the School. However, an OP maroon tie can be obtained by sending a cheque for £6, payable to “DGSB”, to the School. This includes the cost of package & posting.

The hardback *Fifty Years on 1931-1981* history of the School have all been sold but a CD computer version can be bought. The cost is £10, plus £1.50 p&p (making £11.50), with the purchasing arrangements as described above.

There are still plenty of copies of the booklet *The Dover County School 1905 to 1931* at a cost of £3.50 including p&p.

There are still a few tape video versions of *The School on the Hill* film, made in 1965, available from the School at the cost of £10.50 including p&p. The same purchasing arrangements apply.

In an attempt to “move with the times” *The School on the Hill* is also offered on DVD at the same cost. My attempts to produce a “running sheet” of the film have made some small progress identifying the stars featured but there are still many people to be named and a few “double namings” that need to be resolved even if only by a majority vote. If anyone would like a copy of the running-sheet, a self-addressed

stamped A4 envelope, sent to me, will secure a copy (even better would be an email address to which it could be sent). Any help with the naming of people would be greatly appreciated.

The *Film Clips One* DVD, featuring films made by the School Cine Club during the 1960s, is still available at the cost is £10, plus £1.50 p&p (making £11.50), with the same purchasing arrangements as described above.

The *Film Clips Two* DVD features three monochrome 8mm silent films created by teacher Archibald Coulson (1928-71). These feature the Silver Jubilee of George V (06MAY1935), the School Cadet Corps camp at Sandwich in AUG1935 and another Sandwich camp, possibly in 1938. In addition there are two more School films from the 1960s. The cost is £10, plus £1.50 p&p (making £11.50), with the same purchasing arrangements as described above.

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

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Katie Eastwood has contacted the School regarding OP Geoffrey Thomas Heard (1959-63). The lady is researching the history of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club for whom Geoffrey played during the late 1960s. Any information about Geoffrey would be welcomed.

Mike Sharp (1950-55) wants to contact Derek Burns (1950-55), once again any information would be welcomed.

Brian (Bunger) Coatsworth (1948-53) would like to hear news of Ronald Obree (1948-55) of first team rugger and cricket fame, Roger Carless of the 1953 rugger 1st XV and Albert (Bert) Wall (1948-1953). Brian is already in contact with Dennis Ivory (1951-54) and Brian Stevens (1948-53).

Bert Wall is pleased to hear from people on 01304 822329.

Sidney Willcocks (1955-62) sent four Pharos Magazines, dating from the late 1950s, for the archives and asked if anyone had news of Michael Dodfield. They were contemporaries at Aylesham Junior School where Sidney's father was Head Teacher.

Closing with the hope that when you get this Newsletter the weather is suitable for BBQs, outdoor bowling, cricket and the like.

Regards.

Peter Burville (1946-51).

FROM THE COMMITTEE ROOM

At the March meeting, Phil Harding warned that the association was not sustainable with its current membership numbers, with just 170 annual members providing a guaranteed income from which annual costs have to be met.

Paul Skelton reported that of the 170 annual members, he had no known addresses for 14, while of the 472 life members there were 44 with no known addresses.

The Secretary and President agreed to put together an article and a letter to encourage new members and Paul Skelton would investigate the possibility of using Facebook and Twitter accounts to generate more interest. He had already signed up to a Bravenet account for bulk e-mailing and to date 108 people had requested to receive information via this service. There are currently around 2,800 hits on the website each month.

Ian Donald, chairman of the governors of the school, kindly attended the May meeting of the Old Pharosians' committee to tell of ambitious proposals for extending the school building. He did so in advance of a scheme awaiting the views of the local planning authority, at that stage not made public.

Mr Donald spoke of the construction of a larger sports hall, estimated to cost around £2 million, big enough for six badminton courts that

could also be used as an additional examination hall when the existing school hall was in use. He also put forward the idea of converting the damaged existing gym into a sixth form centre. He also revealed how it was proposed to raise some of the money to finance these ambitious plans, details of which were with Dover District Council awaiting the views of the planners.

Mr Donald has suggested former pupils who excelled in sport might wish to be associated with financial the proposed new sports hall.

The committee confirmed the date of the annual meeting on September 29 (10.30 for 11 a.m.) at the school, followed in the evening by the annual dinner.

Attending the committee meeting, chaired by Jack Kremer, was headmaster Dr Richard Moxham and the school's business manager Mrs Helen Simmonds.

NEWS OF THE SCHOOL

A team from the school took part in the Young Enterprise competition in March. The boys formed a company called Fired Up! And competed against teams from other schools in the district.

Six-mile runner Benjamin Forrister, 14, was first over the line at a Sport Relief charity event at Sandwich Leisure Centre. He also raised £100 in sponsorship.

Sixth former Alex Miller, who taught himself how to play the bagpipes, has been invited to perform for the Queen. Alex, 17, is a member of the band of the Dover Squadron of the Air Training Corps and the Kent Wing Band. Studying A-levels in psychology, art and English, he joined the Air Training Corps when he was 13 and has been promoted to Flight Sergeant. He has always been interested in music and drama and in 2003 took the lead role in Dover Operatic and Dramatic Society's production of Oliver! He originally played the snare drum with the ATC Band but two years ago took up the chanter and then the bagpipes. The band was without a piper at the time, so Alex had to

teach himself how to play. He watched people playing the bagpipes on You Tube. Last year he went on a course at Inverness but was not good enough to join the Kent Wing Band. So he set himself the target of improving to a standard where he would be accepted this year. He went on the course again and achieved his gold piping standard, the highest he can get. He played at Edinburgh Castle in May and will play at Balmoral in August in front of the Queen.

By running in the London Marathon, teacher Fiachra O'Donoghue has been helping parents who have lost babies through miscarriage. He was raising money for the Miscarriage Association. He and his wife Rachel have lost eight babies due to miscarriage. Fiachra teaches maths and PE while Rachel is an administrator for K College (formerly South Kent College) and suffers from Hughes Syndrome, also known as "sticky blood" disorder which can affect a baby's growth in the womb. It is likely to have contributed to the miscarriages. Fiachra is a keen footballer and played for the University of Limerick when the team reached the Ireland university cup final in 1998. More recently he has played for St Mary Bredin Church team in Canterbury.

In an extremely close and tense game with a fantastic performance by all involved Year 9 boys beat the Howard School 34-24 to win the Kent League Rugby Cup. Two days later the Year 10 XV made it a double for DGSB with their best performance of the year beating Borden Grammar 24-19 in another close and exciting game. Year 7 followed this making the double a triple with a convincing win over St George's in Broadstairs 22-0.

Martial arts enthusiast James Ramsden, 13, passed his 2nd Dan (Poome) grading at the Dover-based Elite Combat Taekwondo Association.

Pupils from throughout the school took part in a production of Alan Ayckbourn's fascinating musical comedy Whenever, which is about time travel. Two girls took the lead roles.

The school's music department staged a free concert in the Great Hall in March.

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

OBITUARIES

PHILIP W. BROCKMAN (1947-54)

Phil, who died on 10 March aged 75, was born in Dover and attended Barton Road School before coming to our school. He was an altar boy at St Andrew's Church, Buckland, where he sang in the choir and attended the youth club. His family was evacuated to Somerset for two years during the Second World War. On leaving school, he did his two years' National Service in the Royal Air Force and then went to the College of St Mark and St John, Chelsea.

In 1958 he obtained his teacher's certificate, and in 1959 his RA General (London) and also his F.R.G.S. That year he took up a post as a French master at Fairlop Boys' School in Ilford, leaving in 1961 to become an English master at Castlemount School in Dover where he worked for 28 years. He then worked part-time at Westmount College in Dover for seven years

He was a member of the London Road Methodist Church in Dover where he belonged to the Men's Choir and became treasurer of the Sunday School and then the Junior Church. Phil researched and wrote a booklet on the history of the Tower Hamlets Methodist Chapel in Dover, and especially the Sunday School.

He had an infectious sense of humour, a sense of fun and a lively imagination. And he enjoyed his whisky nightcap! When he and Sue were married at St Margaret's, Westminster – often called the Parish Church of the House of Commons – in 1960, they wanted Elvis Presley's Blue Suede Shoes to be played as part of the ceremony. But such things were frowned on in those days. So it was played at the end of his funeral service instead!

We extend our sympathy to Sue, daughters Kathleen, Margaret and the rest of the family. Donations in his memory were being made to the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

PHIL CONDON (1960-67)

Just as this edition of the newsletter was being completed came news that Phil had died aged 63. He had worked in the insurance industry for a number of years and was managing director of the Independent Insurance company, living at Sevenoaks. His funeral service was held on 4 July.

FRANK ERIC DAVIES (1935-42)

Brian Moore (1945-51) sent in the following information on Frank Davies FRCO.

Born in Aylesham in 1924, Frank joined the school in 1935. At the age of 10 he started playing the organ at St. Peter's Church, Aylesham, and was appointed organist of St. Mary's, Nonington, at the age of 12. Organ lessons followed with Mr S. F. Willis at the School and at St James's Church where Mr Willis was choirmaster and organist.

In 1940 he was evacuated with the school to Ebbw Vale, just before taking School Certificate exams, and went on to Nottingham University. June 1944 saw Frank joining the Royal Navy, and he was demobbed in 1947 with the rank of lieutenant. He returned to Kent and taught music at Aylesham Secondary School, also becoming organist first at Eastry Parish Church and then St. Mary's Church, Dover.

Moving to Suffolk, he became deputy headmaster of Farlingaye High School, but in a sense his life's work was at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, where he became Director of Music in 1958. He built up a very successful choir which sang at the Annual National Seafarer's Service at St. Paul's Cathedral, where he also gave two organ recitals, and at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

Tragically, in 1984 his wife Mary was killed in an horrific car accident, and Frank's injuries led to his early retirement, but he resumed playing and conducting local choirs. He was able to fulfill one of his wishes by joining in the singing of 'Forty Years On' to the accompaniment of the School organ at the Old Pharosians' Dinner in 1998.

In 1987, he wrote an article for this newsletter in which he said: "My biggest thrill was playing in the Maison Dieu Hall on Speech Days and accompanying the choir. "I so well remember singing at the top of my voice Forty Years On."

Frank's funeral took place at St. Andrew's Church, Rushmere, on 30 June 2011, and this was followed by a service of thanksgiving in the magnificent chapel of the Royal Hospital School on 6 November 2011. He leaves seven children from his first marriage, and Sylvia, his second wife, with whom he spent 25 happy years.

JOHN GRAEME (1958-63)

Our former President died on Saturday 30 June aged 65 after suffering from cancer for several months.

On leaving our school, he served in the army with the Royal Corps of Signals, returning to Dover to work for a communications company for a while before joining the family insurance business, going on to become chairman of Pharos Insurance. As well as providing insurance cover for many local people and businesses, he expanded the business to London serving international embassies and legates.

He joined Dover Rotary Club in 1990 and was chairman of several committees, being elected the club's President in 1994. He served as the club's secretary until two days before his death. Fellow Rotarian Terry Sutton described him as a "valued and generous" member who showed a special interest in making provision for young people. "He was a friend who will be greatly missed," said Terry. John was also a member of the Masonic Peace and Harmony Lodge in Dover.

Living at Elham John served as President of the Old Pharosians for two years, from 2007 to 2009, and spearheaded the move to install a clock at the school to mark the school's centenary, overcoming many planning hurdles that held the project up.

We express our sympathy to his widow Elaine and four children, two of whom were from his previous marriage.

COLIN HENRY (1945-1949)

Colin, a former secretary of the Old Pharosians' Association, died on 1 March. He was 81 and had been suffering from Alzheimer's.

Colin joined our school relatively late because he had been evacuated from Dover elsewhere. But he quickly became known for his progress in the field of science. Colin served his National Service in REME (the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) and reached the rank of warrant officer-something unusual for a National Service conscript.

Returning to Dover he held a senior post at the ITA mast that towers over Hougham, retiring from that job after 25 years. He worked hard for the Old Pharosians and was the secretary until handing over that post to our present secretary Phil Harding who, with a few other Old Pharosians, attended his cremation service at Barham. He leaves a widow, Brenda.

STILL LIVING AND LEARNING

TONY BRADLEY (1945-52) and PETER HEARN (1945-51)

Tony writes to say that one of the advantages he has in living in Abingdon is that he meets from time to time with Peter Hearn. After retiring from his career as a parachutist in the RAF, Peter turned his attention to writing, and thereafter became a professional story-teller. In this remarkable activity, he is much in demand from local schools, stately homes, and other places such as book-shops.

Tony still plays regularly in the orchestra of the Abingdon and District Musical Society, and he recently invited Peter to be the narrator in Prokofiev's musical fairy-tale, *Peter and the Wolf*. This was the central item in a hugely successful Christmas concert in December 2011, when the choir and orchestra raised over £1000 for the children's cancer charity, CLIC Sargent.

For Peter and Tony, it was exactly 65 years since December 1946 when they both took part in the school pantomime *Aladdin*, written and

produced by LC Hyde, that included popular choruses from Wagner and Weber conducted by S F (Weary) Willis, gymnastic events (directed by D R Butcher) and other delights. This was the first major dramatic event at the school after the war. Dressed in a toga, and presented as Nero fiddling while Rome burned, Peter Hearn played Dixieland music on his banjo.

A full-blooded performance as Widow Twankey came from Johnny Talbot (about whom we heard in the January Newsletter), and the much-loved Denis Weaver sported a big moustache as the Wicked Uncle.

DAVID CLOKE (1984-91)

David returned from a tour of duty as Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial Army) in Afghanistan, and ran in the London Marathon, crossing the finishing line in four hours 32 minutes. David, who is an orthopaedic surgeon in North Tyneside and Hexham hospitals, has raised more than £5,300 for ABF, The Soldiers' Charity which supports servicemen and their families in times of need.

DAVID LAWRENCE (1977-84)

David, with a brilliant international career as a conductor, returned to Dover in April to help young people to learn to sing properly. He led children of primary school age at the event, Dover Sings!, organised by Old Pharosians' Association President Stephen Yarrow on behalf of Dover Rotary Club which is following a policy of providing youth opportunities.

David studied at Warwick University and the Royal Academy of Music before embarking on his successful career as a conductor. He has worked with the BBC Songs of Praise, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Quay Voices at Gateshead. He also works in Australia. At the end of the Dover Sings! event Stephen said: "The children responded magnificently to David's inspiring leadership. Dover Town Hall was a wonderful venue for the event and discussions are now taking place to run a bigger and even better event next year."

JOHN LLOYD (1930s)

We have recently heard from the son of John Evan Lloyd who authored a short article about his father in the Times. The son, Dr John Lloyd of Stourbridge, recalls that his father (born 1926 and died 2003) was at our school in the late 1930s and whose photograph appeared in one of the long school photos.

"My father left the school for military service in 1943, to train as a radio operator, after gaining his school certificate. He played rugby for the school while evacuated to Ebbw Vale. At the age of 17 he had been awarded a radio telegraphy licence and, I believe, acted as the wireless operator for the Ebbw Vale Home Guard. After training at the Marconi Radio School he was recruited by MI6 into special forces to be in the Jedburgh team and eventually joined a Special Communications Unit, serving in Northern Europe after D-Day. He was later based at Bletchley Park as an officer in diplomatic wireless at the end of the war.

"He was badly burned in action after the Rhine crossing (flying behind enemy lines in a Horsa glider), was invalided for plastic surgery by the Archibald McIndoe team in Bedford where he met my mother. He eventually joined the Bedford police and served in Cyprus during the EOKA crisis. In the late 1990s he joined a small group at Bletchley rebuilding the Bombes and Colossus instruments and was made a Freeman of Bletchley Park for his service."

* The Jedburgh operation was engaged in 1944 in dropping teams behind enemy lines to sabotage, liaise with guerilla groups and to organise reception of arms drops.

WILLIAM D. NEWMAN (1973-1980)

William (MB,BS, FRCS Glasgow, FRCOphth, LL.M) studied at the London Hospital Medical College where he was elected President of the students' union. His time in office coincided with the bi-centenary of the Foundation of the London Hospital. At the celebration dinner at the London Guildhall in 1986, William proposed the toast to the guests who included Princess Anne, the Minister of Health, the President of

the British Medical Association and Vice-Chancellors representing medical schools through the country.

During his address, William spoke of his time at our school. By a strange coincidence the person who replied on behalf of the guests was another old boy of the school Sir James Menter.

William is the lead consultant in Ophthalmology at Alder Hey Children's Hospital and acts as an expert witness in legal cases of child abuse. His experience in dealing with legal cases has led him to a keen interest in medical law with the result he has gained a Masters in Law and is now studying for his Doctorate in Law. He has had published articles in medical journals in both the UK and the USA and addresses various organisations on behalf of charities for young children in India with severe visual problems.

Married with three sons, William has happy memories of his time at DGSB, especially travels with the choir, with the school's sailing club and performing at concerts in "that magnificent school hall." He well remembers Adrian Boynton, Ernie Large, Mr Styles, Maurice Smith, Neil Slater, Mr and Mrs Colman and others associated with the school.

William's father Bill, an old boy of the school, is a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Kent and a former member of Kent County Council.

KEITH PARFITT (1973-75) and PAUL BENNETT (1967-70)

Keith and Paul, who were both sixth formers at our school after attending other secondary schools, were very much involved in the publication and launch of a book on the excavation in 1994 of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Buckland, Dover.

Keith led the team from Canterbury Archaeological Trust who moved onto the site ahead of a housing development. They were expecting to find a dozen, possibly 50 graves, as an off-shoot of a cemetery which had been discovered on the other side of the Dover-Deal railway line in the 1950s when Hobart Crescent and Napier Road were built. But they uncovered more than 250.

Paul, the director of the trust, said it was an incredibly wealthy discovery of some of the great warriors of Dover and great ladies of status. The developers showed their appreciation of the work carried out by Keith and his team by naming one of the roads in the area Parfitt Way.

The book, Buckland Anglo-Saxon Cemetery, Dover; Excavations 1994, costs £35.

STEVE ROSS-TALBOT (1971-78)

Steve, who broke several athletic records while at our school, returned to the school this year to talk to several classes, and the sixth form, about possible careers in information technology. During the late 1980s and early 1990s Steve was very active in the fight for liberation in South Africa, working closely with and for the African National Congress using his IT skill to help formulate policy in the fight for freedom. His IT skill began when he studied computer science at our school, taking his A levels in the subject, before going on to Leeds University.

In industry Steve has enjoyed a successful career setting up a range of start-up companies including his latest enterprise Qualit-e of which he is the CEO. Steve has maintained an interest in academia since graduating from Leeds University, specialising in Database Technology and more recently Distributed Systems for which he received a Professorship in Computer Science from Kingston University.

AND FINALLY

Terry Clear writes: Can I suggest an interesting task for someone? How about listing all the different countries that Pharosians live in? It could be interesting for people to know. He says he would be happy to do it if no-one else volunteers!

If you would like to receive these newsletters electronically, rather than by post, please contact Paul Skelton at:

1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk