

# Dover Grammar School for Boys

New Series No. 103

January 2013

## *Old Pharosians' Association Newsletter*



**Bill Blackman, one of the longest-serving members of the  
Old Pharosians Association, who has died.**

## **NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- Officers and Committee Members
- Annual Meeting, Football Match and Dinner 2013
- Annual Meeting, Football Match and Dinner 2012
- Cricket Match 2013
- Archivist's Corner
- Items for Sale
- Where Are They Now?

## **FROM THE COMMITTEE ROOM**

### **NEWS OF THE SCHOOL**

### **REMEMBRANCE**

### **NEWS OF OLD BOYS**

- Obituaries
- Still Living and Learning
- And finally – Twitter!

## **NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2013-2014**

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Yarrow  
39 Whitfield Hill, Dover CT16 3BH  
01304 824485  
[stephen@forwoods.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:1905-2005@DoverGrammar.Co.Uk)

**ARCHIVIST:** Peter Burville  
Seagate, Goodwin Road,  
St Margaret's Bay, Dover CT15 6ED  
01304 853267  
[pj.burville@btinternet.com](mailto: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: Barry Crush (to retire 2013)  
Mike Palmer (to retire 2013)  
Rev. John Philpott (to retire 2014)  
Maurice Smith (to retire 2015)  
Roger Gabriel (to retire 2015)

AUDITOR: Neil Beverton

HEAD TEACHER: Dr Richard Moxham

STAFF  
REPRESENTATIVES: Francoise Lloyd  
Helen Simmonds  
Vacancy

HEAD PREFECT: Jack Smith

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

E-MAIL ADDRESS: [1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk](mailto:1905-2005@DoverGrammar.co.uk)

## **ANNUAL MEETING, FOOTBALL MATCH AND DINNER 2013**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Old Pharosians' Association will be held on Saturday 28 September 2013, 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 Barry Crush and Mike Palmer)

Any Other Business

**Philip Harding (Hon Secretary)**

## **ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER**

At the annual meeting of our association, on Saturday, 29 September, it was decided to ask the head teacher to agree that all pupils at the school be referred to as Pharosians. Then, when they left, if they wished they could become Old Pharosians.

Much of the meeting, held in the library, was taken up with suggestions how membership of the association could be increased and about the association's finances. One suggestion put forward was that life members could help the finances by additionally paying an annual membership.

In a submitted report membership secretary Paul Skelton stated there are now 650 members' addresses on his computer with a further 13 annual members of whom he has no record. In addition there were 46 life members of whom he had no contact address.

Of the 650 known members, 477 are life members and 173 pay their subs annually. Of the 650 members only 63 have expressed the wish of receiving their newsletters via the Internet. To that date, he reported, there had been 191,539 "hits" (enquiries) on the OPs' website with numbers increasing all the time.

Treasurer John Sheather reported a slight surplus on the year's activities, compared with a loss the previous year. The biggest cost was printing and sending out the newsletters.

Jack Kremer was unanimously re-elected chairman as were the other officers and committee.

In the evening 48 gathered in the Great Hall for the Old Pharosians' annual dinner, slightly fewer than the previous year, with Stephen Yarrow, our President, presiding. Our chairman proposed the toast of The Queen and Stephen, in an amusing talks, proposed The School. He told of tricks he and other students played on music teachers at the school.

Headteacher Dr Richard Moxham replied with a thought-provoking speech in which he challenged the Association to find renewed purpose, in order to attract the younger generation of former students.

As usual the old boys rose as one to heartily sing Forty Years On, played on the organ by our President Stephen Yarrow.

**President's Note:** I would like to thank the Headmaster and Chairman of the Governors for their positive efforts since September to help us re-invigorate the Association, and also Helen Simmonds at School who is a vital link between our organisations. Please have your say in our future by emailing me at [Stephen@forwoods.co.uk](mailto:Stephen@forwoods.co.uk) with your thoughts.

### **FOOTBALL MATCH**

The renewal of the annual football match will be remembered as one of the most dramatic in the history of the fixture.

Having taken the lead in the first half, the School added two more early in the second and appeared on the way to a comfortable victory. However, the Old Boys staged a spirited comeback in the last 20 minutes and scored three times to equalise and force a "penalty shoot-out" to decide the holders of the Andrew Kremer Memorial Cup. This was won by the Old Boys to complete a remarkable recovery, thus regaining the trophy won by the School in 2011.

The Old Boys were presented by Alan Tingey, Paul Castle, John Castle, Andy Bateman, Simon Gretton, Greg Woolhouse, Paul Henwood, Callum Vue, James Durrant, Jason Oliver, Gary Beeden, Steve Betts, Callum Messiter and Joe Bryant.

### **CRICKET MATCH 2013**

The 2013 cricket match has been provisionally arranged for Friday 28 July with a 3.30 p.m. start. Any cricketers wishing to play should contact Mick Palmer on 01304 825472.

## **ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER 2013**

Old Pharosians' Day is Saturday 28 September 2013. 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 will be included with the July edition of this newsletter.

## **ARCHIVIST'S CORNER**

Greetings. In the middle of the Jubilee Year, one of Her Majesty's Chaplains sought information regarding OP Canon Jesse Alec Maynard Clayson (1917-20). The reason for the enquiry was that the Rev. Hugh Bearn was compiling a photographic archive of every member of the Royal College of Chaplains from 1912 to 2011. This one-off bound book was presented to The Queen later in the Jubilee year. Being distantly related to the Claysons I was able to obtain suitable photographs which were sent to the Reverend.

Through the years the Canon maintained his connection with the School. For example, in 1957 he dedicated the World War II Memorial Book that was so lovingly and beautifully created by Art Teacher Mr Charles Rowland (1932-65). The book still resides in the glass-fronted case, made by Craft Teacher Mr Ernest C. Large (1946-77), below the Great War Memorial Window. The leaves of the book have been released from their leather binding so that the pages can be turned by people, such as members of your Archive team, with minimal damage being done to them. Scans of the pages can be found at Paul Skelton's (1972-79-2005), brilliant website [dovergrammar.co.uk](http://dovergrammar.co.uk).

Later in the year an enquiry came in about Norman Phillips Walter (1905-06) from a relative living in Canada. The enquirer was not sure that her relative came to the then County School, but he did as a "founding pupil", probably fee-paying.



Born in 1890, during 1913 Norman arrived in Quebec from Le Havre. In 1914 he enlisted and joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force to become a lieutenant and was awarded the Military Medal (later renamed Military Cross), for "bravery in the field" while attached to the Canadian Field Artillery. Well after the war Norman married Elizabeth Elliot, an English girl, in Vancouver during 1929 but they had no children. He died during 1985 aged 94 in Surrey, British Columbia. My correspondent believes Norman was a land surveyor for the state of British Columbia.

The last Annual Reunion Dinner was fruitful for me in terms of collecting more material for the archives. Dr K Lott (1945-53) donated photographs of the 1953 Speech Day in Dover Town Hall, the Good Fellowship Prize being presented to Head Prefect K. A. K. Lott (1952), the 1951 2<sup>nd</sup> XI cricket team (with names), and the 1953 Athletics team (with names).

Teacher Mr Maurice H. Smith (1959-89) donated seven newspaper cuttings relating to the Duke of Kent's visit on 09DEC1981, 50 years on from his father opening the School new buildings at Astor Avenue. Tony Bradley (1945-52) donated copies of the OPA Newsletter from the 1968-2012 period.

At the preceding annual reunion dinner Alfred Murray Harrison (1945-51) donated a copy of the 1948 panoramic School Photograph.

In the archives we have a copy of the Picture Post Special which records the sinking of the German "pocket" battleship Graf Spee (Sea-Raider). Does anyone know of any connections between this significant event and OPs?

On a personal note, James Atkins (1945-50), while making a visit to London to see his first grandchild, came to St Margaret's Bay to spend a few days with me. We were school-boy friends before he emigrated to NZ with his parents in 1950. Another OP with memories of the Bay is Michael Grover (1946-50) who remembers living at the Bay Hotel ("Lanzarote") at the beginning of the Second World War. When the hotel warden blew his whistle, to alert people to the threat of shelling,

he was “pulled from the hotel pool, starkers, and taken shivering to a cave in the cliff wrapped in a towel”. Michael was disappointed when visiting the Bay some years after the war to find all the houses and the hotel were gone with only the Green Man still there – which has since been renamed.

## 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. A digital version of *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?**

As previously reported, a Katie Eastwood 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. When I recently offered information on how to contact GTH the lady denied all knowledge of such a request. However, a little later I was contacted to be told the lady's mother, of the same name, had used her daughter's email in contacting me but had not mentioned it to her daughter. One can imagine this coming to light when the daughter told her mother about the silly old duffer, from Dover Grammar School, who .....

Mike Sharp (1950-55) wants to contact Derek Burns (1950-55), 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, and Roger Carless of the 1953 rugger 1st XV team.

Albert (Bert) Wall (1948-1953), is pleased to hear from people on 01304-822329.

Sidney Willcocks (1955-62) seeks news about Michael Dodfield. They were contemporaries at Aylesham Junior School where Sidney's father was Head Teacher.

Alistair Shaw Eekhout (1954-60), who is now known as Alistair Shaw, wants to contact Keith Hopper (1958-63). I suggested he tried Queen Mary College London where Keith studied for an engineering degree. Can anyone help Alistair with information?

Closing with the hope that when you get this Newsletter the weather will have proven the forecasts of cold challenging weather very wrong.

Regards.

**Peter Burville (1946-51)**

### **FROM THE COMMITTEE ROOM**

At the November meeting, it was reported that there had been no further progress on the possible sale of Leney's fields, other than a meeting with Kent County Council cabinet member for education Mike Whiting who had expressed his support for the school replacing the gym.

Paul Skelton sent a report that all newsletters were successfully delivered both by post and electronic means through the Bravenet emailing system, with digital copies of the newsletter being added to the archive website for people to download. Members receiving their newsletters electronically led to a postage saving of at least £33.

On membership, Paul reported there were 13 annual members whose addresses were unknown, Can anyone help with J L Coates, P Dunn, T Ellender, RAS Gough, RJB Hood, P Jones, J Laird, DA Richardson, D Tonks, JL Waller, L Wooldridge or P Harrison.

For the website, Paul is making arrangements with the Rev. Dr. Hinton to get images from his photographs of the school plays that took place in the school during his time as head master.

Phil Harding expressed concern at the state of the pavilion on the lower field – which is a memorial to Old Pharosians who lost their lives in the Second World War.

Helen Simmonds reported that Andy McNab (ex-SASO had recently visited the school.

A special lunch time meeting of your committee was held on 18 December with the aim of increasing and improving links with the school. This special meeting, at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club, followed talks by a small delegation with the head teacher, Dr Richard Moxham, and the chairman of the governors, Ian Donald, who happens to be an old boy of the school.

Your committee welcomed the positive attitude of the school towards the Old Pharosians' Association and appreciated some of the ideas suggested by the school.

Ian Donald and Steve King (Assistant Head of Sixth form and Old Pharosian) were being invited to join the committee.

Further discussions are to continue including the suggestion that the association's annual subs should be increased from £5 to £10 in order to increase income so that the association can better financially help school projects, as it had in the past. It was also suggested by your committee that those with Life Membership should be invited to also pay a £10 annual contribution to help pay for the printing and distribution of the association's newsletters now that postal charges have been increased.

One idea being actively considered is a joint school-association newsletter that could be distributed electronically.

Thanks were extended to Roger Gabriel for arranging for the RCPYC to be available for the meeting

## **NEWS OF THE SCHOOL**

A group of sixth formers began their new school year with a week on the remote Hebridean island of Rum. The year 12 students, the school's fourth International Baccalaureate cohort – will be studying a common programme of six subjects for the next two years, and the trip to Scotland provided both a test of teamwork and an introduction to the range of demands which they can expect from the IB. Headteacher Richard Moxham said: "This programme calls for a big step forward in personal and academic maturity, and sometimes immersion in a totally unfamiliar environment is a good way to kick-start that process."

The challenges faced by the students in this case included an epic 24-hour journey in each direction, daily cooking duties and a trek across the island with an overnight stay in a bothy, or mountain hut, as well as English, history and maths classes in between. On the way back south they were able to put new wildlife knowledge to early use by rescuing five Manx Shearwaters which, having been blown off course by heavy winds, had crashed into buildings in the port of Mallaig. Kieron Hoyle, the school's IB co-ordinator, described the trip as "a very big success", and Tyler Smith, one of the participating students, spoke of his best moment – "standing atop Bloodstone Hill, marvelling at the beauty of the landscape".

Groups of students from a school in Roosendaal, Holland, and College Louis Germain in St Jean de Vedas, Montpellier, France visited the school during the autumn term.

Nearly 30 Year 10 and 11 students attended the annual Science Live conference designed for GCSE students where the speakers included computer scientist Professor Dave Cliff, Dr Kate Lancaster, Professor Lord Robert Winston and Professor Andrea Sella.

Some 200 people attended the annual Carol Service at St Peter and St Paul, Charlton, on Wednesday 12 December. 75 musicians from across the school provided the musical feast with three choirs and brass leading the music as diverse as Mendelssohn, medieval carols and Latin responses. Readers from the whole school community, boys, governors and staff told the Christmas story in biblical and poetic words.

A team of senior students from the school won a public speaking competition in Dover in January. Arthur Davis, Peter Dunford-King and Piers Thomas argued the case for learning French. They now go on to the county final with the possibility of reaching the national final. The competition was organised by Dover Rotary Club. Another team from the school, Tristan Savage, Philip O'Flaherty and Patricia Abbott also took part. Other subjects ranged from "Should teachers be paid on their performance" to "What to look for in a female role model".

The school has been advertising for a network, system and marketing manager who, they say, can take an innovative approach to the school marketing and management of the ICT network.

## **REMEMBRANCE**

A very impressive Service of Remembrance was held in a packed Great Hall at the school on November 9th when Old Pharosians who died in two world wars were remembered. There was a special poignancy at the service because it was combined with the dedication of a plaque in memory of Squadron Leader Anthony Downing (1988-95) who died following an explosion in Afghanistan in December 2011.

Anthony is believed to be the first member of the Old Pharosians' Association to die on active service since the end of the Second World War.

Headmaster Dr Richard Moxham, introducing the service, said it was the one day of the school year when all the boys could meet together in the Great Hall.

With superb military precision members of the school's CCF and air cadets, headed by pipes and drums, marched into the hall for the drumhead service conducted by school governor the Reverend Andrew Bawtree of River. Boys and a member of the staff read war poems before a plaque in memory of Anthony Downing was dedicated to be added to the school's war memorial. Anthony's parents and other members of the family were present. Squadron Leader Mark Tillyard, who was at school with Anthony, gave an emotional address in which he told of his friend's dedication to the service of others.

A school bugler, Harry Yarnell, sounded Last Post before the Two Minutes' Silence and Reveille.

Your association was represented at the service.

## **NEWS OF OLD BOYS**

### **OBITUARIES**

#### **BILL BLACKMAN**

One of the association's longest-serving members, Bill died in a Folkestone nursing home in November, aged 89.

Born Arthur Walter William Blackman in Dover in 1923, he was educated at St Ursula's convent and then at our school and was here when it moved to the new building at Astor Avenue. He was a sergeant in the school's cadet force. Then came the war in 1939 and Bill joined the AFS, manning telephones at the Ladywell fire station before taking on the job of despatch rider – on his own 250cc Royal Enfield.

In 1939 he joined the family firm of AT Blackman and Son, established by his father Arthur in 1919, before volunteering for the RAF, which he joined in 1942. He won his pilot's "wings" after training in Canada and was selected to be a flying instructor until being demobbed in 1945, when he returned to Dover to help to run the family business. On the death of his father, Bill became managing director of the company, a position he held until his death.



He was chief officer of Dover's Civil Defence Corps until it was disbanded in 1968, a council member of Dover Chamber of Commerce, an active member of the League of Friends of Dover Hospitals, a member of the social service's appeals tribunal and a director of the Dover and Folkestone Building Society until it was taken over by Bradford & Bingley.

Bill was a founder member of Dover Round Table and joined Dover Rotary Club in 1966, spending 33 years in the movement and serving in a number of offices, including being the treasurer. When he retired from Rotary in 1999 he joined Dover Past Rotarians. He was also a member of Dover Bowls Club.

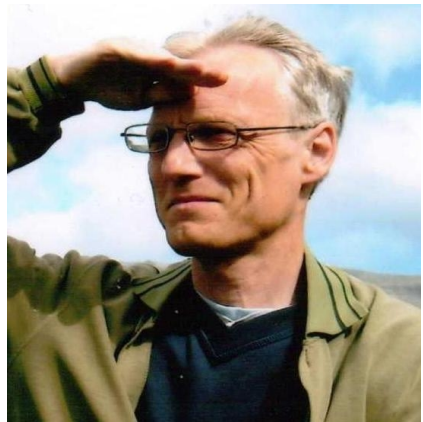
Bill, who lived at The Gateway, was twice a widower. He leaves sons David and Richard, daughter Valerie and sister June.

The association was represented at the funeral at St Paul's RC Church.

### **PETER HENLEY (1973-80)**

Peter died in Tenerife just before Christmas, aged 50.

He had last been seen on 13 December, but was only reported missing when he failed to return to work at Saga, where he was a communications executive and prepared the staff magazine, often delivering copies by hand to colleagues at the company's headquarters in Folkestone.



His body was discovered on New Year's Eve by a Spanish search team in the Tenerife national park where he had been out walking. It is thought that Peter, who was diabetic, may have fallen.

## **JOHN LORD**

John, a retired Dover customs officer, died after suffering an injury during a veterans' rugby game. He was 64.

He had turned out for the Folkestone Fossils in a match against Dover Vets on Saturday 15 September when he was involved in an on-pitch accident which caused a head injury. A paramedic who was playing on a nearby field, and one of his team mates rushed to his aid and administered CPR until an ambulance arrived. He was later airlifted to Whitechapel Hospital, where he died of his injuries. Sadly, the game John had been playing in was a memorial match for another player who was killed playing rugby nine years previously.

He was described as a very popular, witty, intelligent and well-respected man who had loved sport since he was young man. He and his wife Linda were married for more than 40 years. They had a son, Gary, two daughters, Sophie and Sarah, and six grandchildren.

## **ANDREW TOLPUTT (1960-67)**

Andrew died at his Hawkinge home in November after a long battle against cancer. The association was represented by his old friend Martyn Webster at the funeral at Folkestone Baptist Church on December 13th.

Andrew, who joined our school from River primary school, was the son of Vernon who was a chief steward on the Dover ferries. Andrew graduated from Cardiff University, going on to teacher training at Christchurch College, Canterbury before joining Norton Knatchbull School, Ashford as chemistry teacher. In 1990 he took up a science teaching post at Folkestone Girls' School where he remained until his retirement in 2007. He attended the Old Pharosians' dinner at the school in the year 2000.

By a curious irony, during Andrew's time at our school, he and his family lived next door at River to Bill Blackman, also a DGSB old boy, who died in October.

Martyn Webster writes: "At Andrew's funeral mention was made several times about the all too early passing of a very fine and loved teacher, a gentlemen in every sense."

He adds: "Andrew's friendship with me was based on our joint fascination with railways and steam engines."

## **STILL LIVING AND LEARNING**

### **NEIL BEVERTON**

Neil, a chartered accountant working in Dover, took the Presidential chair at Dover Town Hall when Dover Rotary Club celebrated the ninetieth anniversary of receiving its charter.

The 40-member strong club has a number of Old Pharosians among its ranks. At the celebration lunch the Reverend John Philpott offered The Grace and our association's President Stephen Yarrow gave the vote of thanks.

### **KENAN DENIZ (1988-1995)**

Kenan, who now lives in Harrogate, is making rapid progress in his medical profession. After completing six years of specialist training in neurosurgery, including Senior Registrar posts at The National Neurosurgical Centre and The Royal London Hospital, Kenan carried out a year of specialist training at The John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford in skull base and pituitary surgery. He then moved to King's in London for Fellowship training in high risk vascular surgery.

In August last year he was appointed as a Consultant Neurosurgeon at Leeds General Infirmary which is part of St James' (Jimmy's) University where he is specialising in vascular and skull based surgery. He has moved to Harrogate with his wife Rachel and children Charlotte, Tom and new baby Jack.

## **SAM FIELDS**

Sam is on course for an underwater career after completing the first phase of his Royal Navy training at HMS Raleigh in Cornwall.

Trainee submariner Sam, who is 24, started his training in May. During a ten-week intensive course Sam and his fellow recruits have been taught the basic skills they will rely upon throughout their Service careers. The training finishes with a passing-out-parade attended by families and friends. Before joining up, Sam worked for an upholstery firm but his dream was to be in the Navy.

He said: "Joining the Navy is an opportunity to become part of the best team and fulfil my dreams of seeing and soaking up all the world has to offer. Training has been a tremendous test. I've discovered so many new levels that I've been pushed to that I never thought possible."

Sam will continue his training at HMS Raleigh Defence Maritime Logistics School with a further 12-week course to learn about stores accountancy. After qualifying he will be responsible for ensuring that his submarine has everything it needs to operate at sea, ordering and storing millions of pounds worth of equipment, from engineering parts to stationery. He will then transfer to the Royal Navy Submarine School for his submarine qualification training.

## **SIMON GARLINGE (2001-8)**

Simon sent a Tweet to DGSB Pharosians to say he was now working full time at the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury, while waiting to get his own name in lights. "Slowly getting closer," he said.

## **DAVID GLEDHILL**

David has been presented an honorary award by university lecturers for his high-profile business achievements. The chief executive of Hutchison Ports UK, David received an Honorary Doctorate at the University Campus of Suffolk (UCS) in October.

He heads up the company in charge of the Port of Felixstowe, Harwich and London Thamesport – a firm with more than 3,000 employees.

Upon hearing the news, Mr Gledhill said: "Both UCS and the Port of Felixstowe are firmly rooted in the communities they serve and it is a great honour for me personally to be recognised in this way. Preparing the next generation for their future careers is one of the greatest responsibilities we have and essential to the economic future of both Suffolk and the wider community."

### **Rev BRYAN OWEN (1959-64) and (1975-87)**

Former pupil and teacher of English and Drama Bryan Owen writes from Bangladesh where he is currently using his retirement to help at the Grameen Caledonian College of Nursing in Dhaka. The college is a joint project between Glasgow Caledonian University and Professor Mahammed Yunus, the economist and Nobel Peace Laureate.

All the girls training to become nurse-midwives are from the poorest families in Bangladesh but with international support for both staff and students the aim is to help them achieve an internationally recognised qualification and for the college to become an exemplar of good practice in south Asia.

Professor Yunus has championed a social business model based on micro-finance and it is his intention to provide every district in Bangladesh with affordable health, dental and eye care. All the students are guaranteed jobs and with their income they can help their families out of poverty. Bryan has been to the college three times in the past year and has written many of the college's documents as well as delivering seminars on coping with workplace stress and developing health & safety policies for the staff in a country where workers generally have very little protection.

While in Dhaka he has also delivered lessons on poetry at two local high schools, and on Fridays (the day of rest in this pre-dominantly Muslim country) he ministers to the English-language congregation at St Thomas's Church in Moghbazar.

Bryan has had two collections of poetry published (Blue Daffodils in 2007 and Kokopelli's Dance in 2010) and his poetry is now finding its way into several anthologies. He performs his work at several Scottish poetry clubs and at the Edinburgh Festival and he continues to write prose as well – a novel has been recently completed as well as a book on theology. In his retirement Bryan continues to minister as an assistant priest in Glasgow,

Bryan is in touch with several former pupils around the world via Facebook and would love to hear from others and to learn how life has treated them since leaving DGSB. His postal address is 10 Waverley Park, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow G66 2BP and his e-mail address is [bryan.owen@talktalk.net](mailto:bryan.owen@talktalk.net)

## **ELLIS VINE**

Always a pleasure to report progress, in various spheres of activity, of the school's "Old Boys".

Ellis Vine, aged 17 of River, has won a world title for his age – in body building. Ellis was judged the world's best in his age group at the World Bodybuilding Championships in Miami in November 2012 after claiming the best in Britain earlier in the year. He told reporters he eats 2 kg of turkey each day, at a cost of £80 a week, to keep his body in trim.

## **DAVID WINTER (1983-88)**

Leaving DGSB in 1988, David went to South Kent College before heading to the University of Essex. Three years of studying Economics and Politics led him to work for Kent Police at Canterbury, before transferring to Hampshire Police to be with his wife Claire. Peter Thomas (also DGSB at the same time as him) was his best man.

Numerous station moves and two promotions have now resulted in David working as a Safer Neighbourhood Team Inspector at Basingstoke, responsible for the daily operational management of the Basingstoke and Deane District.

He says travelling abroad with Claire, cycling and golf are his main interests as well as watching (the body will no longer take playing) rugby as a season ticket holder at London Irish.

He would be pleased to make contact with any Old Pharosians in Hampshire and the bordering counties of Berkshire and Surrey. His e-mail address is david-winter@sky.com

## **CHRIS WOOD**

The newspapers in November reported that Chris Wood, one of our old boys, is serving in the army as a Second Lieutenant and took part in the Lord Mayor's Show in London. Chris, 20, is a War Studies student at King's College, London and serves with the University of London Officer Training Corps at weekends as a Territorial. As a platoon commander he came top of his TA officer training course at Sandhurst earlier in 2012. For this he was awarded the Duke of Westminster Sword at his passing out parade which he carried at the Lord Mayor's Show.

## **AND FINALLY**

A new Twitter account has just been launched. @DGSBPharosians has been set up and already has more than 50 followers. Another good way to keep in contact!