



# THE BROADHURST ERA NEWS

Issue 3

June 2015

Welcome back to the Newsletter. This is our third issue and looks like we will continue with these on a regular basis. There has been a great response and thank you all for the material you are providing to help make it a success.

The Broadhurst Era Reunion on 7-9th April was a great event with those able to attend and we will cover it in some depth in this issue. There was strong support following Jack Yates's talk to create a fund in the school Foundation "The Arthur Broadhurst Commemorative Fund" and already before launching I have received several donations to it. The Fund is covered in an article inside.

But we are always in the need of interesting material for future publications so please keep the information and profiles coming (particularly for those unable to attend the reunion and those that have not been in contact with the school and classmates over the years) as it would be great to have a backlog to publish (an editor's dream).

I am receiving such great graphic detail and discussion I feel as if I am getting to know you all personally (and am now able to put many faces to the names) and am getting a great insight into what the school was like in the time of Arthur Broadhurst. Your enthusiasm for the man, the school and your memories of it are so strong.

As editor I wish to express special thanks to Kath MacLeod, the Graphic Designer at the school who takes what I prepare and puts it into the form that you receive and understand.

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**ST PETER'S  
CAMBRIDGE  
NEW ZEALAND**

## PUPILS LINED UP TO HEAD FOR THE SWIMMING SPORTS IN THE MID 1950'S



**This picture must surely bring back memories to all past pupils irrespective of the year?**

# LONDON REUNION 2015

We can now provide firm details of the proposed London Reunion.

This is aimed at any alumni from any era that can make it to the venue. It will give all a chance to reunite with their friends from whatever era and rekindle friendships.

The Principal, Steve Robb and his wife will host it and I intend to attend to meet up with the Broadhurst Era Alumni. So pencil the date in and advise Shae of your registration.



All past students and staff of St Peter's in the UK are invited to join us for a reunion in London this September with Mr and Mrs Robb

**Thursday 24th September 2015**

**6.00pm Start**

**Drink on arrival, followed by a light meal**

The White Horse, Fulham  
1-3 Parson's Green, London SW6 4UL

**Dress Code: Smart/Casual**

RSVP: Please register via email to  
Shaelagh Brophy  
Email: [events@stpeters.school.nz](mailto:events@stpeters.school.nz)  
Venue Website: <http://www.whitehorsesw6.com/>

## PAT GALLAGHER (1953-1957)

### St Peter's Reflections

In his 1957 Headmaster's Speech Mr Broadhurst said:  
*"Never was there so great a need of dedicated lives as in the materialistic world of today where standards everywhere are being lowered: standards of industry, standards of honesty, standards of decency and standards of learning. I hope that St Peter's Old Boys will always be in evidence combating these tendencies by the example of their lives and the influence they can exert on public opinion."*

Were these words (spoken nearly 60 years ago) wise and prescient? I think so. AFB was a wise man.

He was also, of course, an eccentric. My Aunt Rhoda, whom some will remember as Sister Gallagher, spent two separate periods, a total of seven years, as matron at St Peter's. She came to know AFB very well and was, as were all the staff, very fond of him. His eccentricities were accepted, enjoyed and worked around.

Here is just one story that Aunt Rhoda told me.

*A regular event, discontinued before I started in 1953, was fire evacuation practice. On the occasion in question, Mr Ball was responsible for clearing the Blue dormitory (the little boys) when the alarm sounded. No sooner did Mr Ball have everybody standing by their beds when he turned round to find Lackey snuggled back in bed fast asleep. He was roused again but, before the dormitory was cleared, Lackey was fast asleep in bed again. With time pressing Mr Ball herded his remaining vertical charges to the courtyard where he reported to AFB: "Sir, we cannot rouse Lackey." AFB's reply: "Let him burn!"*

## THOUGHTS ON THE REUNION

### Peter Truscott (1955-1958)

I would like to thank you most sincerely for contacting me some time ago. Recently I've had a busy time of it one way or another and so nearly didn't make it to the reunion but for your persistence.

It was to be a day trip for me at most but I was so pleased to squeeze the complete program in. What a wonderful occasion it turned out to be. It's over 60 years since I stood in that wee chapel with the organ playing, and along with many of my fellow attendees, was so pleased to see it remain as it was after all those years.

The school is certainly impressive and has been guided by a wise positive and passionate group of dedicated people who have created the best possible environment for young people to succeed. On my return home I took the time to look at the school web site and particularly the 1936 footage of the school under construction and one wonders at the marvel of one man's achievement which flew under the radar - as he would have been familiar with. We would hope he's looking down on the school with a smile on his face.

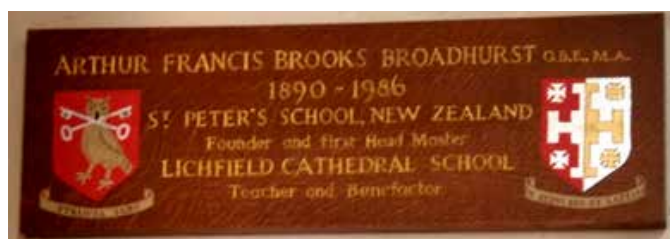
My thanks to principal Steve Robb and all those who turned out to make the Broadhurst years reunion such a successful and memorable occasion for us all.

## RICHARD NEWMAN (1948-1952)

### A Memory of AFB

I visited AFB about a year before his death. I happened to be passing near Lichfield and called on him at short notice. He was living in a small flat in the cathedral close in conditions that seemed neither very comfortable nor very modernised.

He was a little thinner but otherwise remarkably unchanged: the same booming voice and the same enthusiasm for life in general and music in particular. He had had to give up his viola, but was learning the recorder and played for me a piece by Handel which he had recently mastered. He then took me into the bathroom to inspect a contraption he had designed for lowering himself into the bath. His parting words were "Next time you come, let me know in good time and we'll have a feast!".



## TONY IVANSON (1953-1957)

### A Profile

Anthony Moore Andrew Ivanson LLB,  
Notary Public, FANZCN. Born 1-11-1943

My surname at school was Ivanyshyn.

After St Peters I attended Auckland Grammar School and Auckland University. Was a part time Lecturer at the Law School. Admitted to the bar December 1969. Partner McElroy Duncan and Preddle in 1973 and its successors.

1990 Founded Gellert Ivanson and I am now a Consultant to that Firm based in St Heliers Bay Auckland.

Past President of St Peter's School Old Boys Association and Past Member of St Peter's School Trust Board.

On my sabbatical my wife, Pamela and I visited Arthur Broadhurst in Litchfield in July 1985. I explained to Mr Broadhurst the need for the St Peter's School Private Act of Parliament to which he gave his blessing. I was probably one of the last Old Boys to see Arthur.

Married to Pamela and have two daughters, Rochelle and Amanda.

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## JIM DAWSON (1946-1947)

### A Profile

From my time at school I have many happy memories but seventy years is a long time to recall detail.

Unfortunately, ill health was the reason for my leaving St Peters. I was there only 1946/1947 but remember it with fondness.

Our family lived in Wellington at the time but in 1952 we followed my Dad and moved to Auckland. I was enrolled in the inaugural, and only course of Architecture at the Technical College in the city. There were seven of us pupils and after we matriculated the course was dropped for lack of interest.

Rowing was my sport of choice and I was a member of Waitemata Rowing Club. Our crew had an unbeaten record. Sadly, university studies eventually interrupted this.

After graduating in architecture I worked for two or three firms ending up at KRTA; where I was seconded to The University of Auckland as resident architect for a short time.

From there I was invited to join JASMaD Architects. Some years later it was to become JASMAX Architects.

Professionally, I was appointed to various working committees of both the Building Research Association of NZ and Standards Association of New Zealand. In 1972 I was appointed a board member of SANZ, a position I held for eleven years. Around this time I was made inaugural convenor of the NZIA Technical Committee.

In 1965 Jane and I got married and we had four children who are now busy with families of their own. I remained a principal of JASMAX for twenty seven years and it was during this time we opened an office in Saudi Arabia where I worked on behalf of the firm, taking advantage of work opportunities. I was JASMAX director responsible for technical matters as well as partner-in charge of several projects until taking retirement in 1997. By this time I had become the most senior partner.

Next came a change of lifestyle. Jane and I bought a small rural block of steep farm land near Matakana. It was not much good for anything else so we followed our dream and planted an olive grove, established an olive plant nursery and built an olive pressing facility as well as a house for ourselves. We were foundation members of the Matakana Olive Cooperative.

While we loved those years, they finally caught up and in 2008 we sold the farm to down-size to nearby Point Wells. We have recently down-sized further to Warkworth where we now live close to the centre of town and to the bowling club.



## RICK TOMKIES (1947-1949)

I have St Peter's School tutelage (under the guidance of Arthur Francis Brookes Broadhurst, whom we students reverently referred to as 'A.F.B.,' ) from 1947 to 1949, to thank for my later career as a journalist.



The Second World War had not long ended when I was enrolled as a boarder in the, at that time, an all-boys' school, a period when rationing was still the order of the day, but with the attached school farm we boys enjoyed a plentiful supply of the school's fresh food. Although food was plentiful, I still remember vividly the meagre helpings served up by school masters sitting at the end of our dining tables who, fresh from war-torn England, were evidently unable to adjust quickly to our relatively bountiful rations!

Although I joined the School Choir, I admit to not really being an avid music pupil and I feel I must have been a disappointment much to the chagrin of my piano teacher – my musical talents barely progressing from "Chopsticks" on the piano in the ... was it called the Day Room? However, scholastically, I am indebted to the teachers who heroically imbued me with a good grounding in reading and writing and even teaching me my "Times Tables" – something remembered even to this day!

We learnt to swim – without bathers, or swimming togs – in the cold water of the School's swimming pool under the strict observance of AFB and I can even remember learning to play hockey – something I don't seem to remember ever doing again. Dimly remembered are the recollections of School Bike rides – even out to the site of the then new Karapiro Dam – and of playing in and around retired war-time aircraft at Rukahia Airfield which I understand is now the Hamilton Airport. I wonder how many alumni remember the day AFB lined all we boys up on the road outside the School gates in a welcome to Field Marshall Montgomery, whose car stopped briefly to enable the famous British Army Officer to chat at some length with us?



**Tomkies**

There were recurrent crazes for making model aeroplanes, most of which seemed to fly extremely well.

## DAVID J CHAPMAN (1948-1952)

### A Profile

Department Ecology, Evolution, Marine Biology

Ph: +1 805 893 7545 Mob: +1 805 705 7139

Interdepartmental Program in Marine Science

University of California Santa Barbara CA 93106-9610

chapman@lifesci.ucsb.edu

Born: December 12, 1939

Status: New Zealand, United Kingdom and Jamaican Citizen.

Permanent Resident of U.S.A.

### Education:

1960 B.Sc. (Botany) University of New Zealand,  
1965 Ph.D. (Marine Biology) Scripps Institution Oceanography

### Present Positions:

1994–2009 Professor of Ecology Evolution and Marine Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara

1996-2009 Interdepartmental graduate Program in Marine Science

Retired. Now Professor Emeritus, but mentoring undergraduates in various aspects of algal biotechnology, algal collecting and herbarium usage. Member of Scientific Advisory Boards of Solazyme Inc., and Coastal Marine Biolabs

### Previous Positions:

1994-2000 Dean of Mathematical, Life and Physical Sciences

Division, College of Letters and Science and Professor of Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara

1978-1994 Professor of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles

1973-1978 Associate Professor of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles

1968-1973 Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Chicago

1966-1967 Research Associate, Brookhaven National Laboratory

## SCHOOL ACADEMIC SUCCESS YEAR 2014

You will all be pleased to note that the school is still attaining excellent results in external exams. While the school maintains the focus of educating the 'body, mind and spirit' it is pleasing to see that the mind is being well catered for.

### Senior Academic Results Mirror Ethic Instilled in Students

Spirits are high among students and staff alike as the outstanding 2014 academic results average 96.6%, indicating a growing trend of year-upon-year excellence within the St Peter's School community.

The school's head, Principal Steve Robb is more than impressed. "The results are a direct reflection of our prime goal of excellence in quality teaching and learning. Our strong push for endorsements with excellence or merit has been rewarded by outstanding student achievements at all levels of NCEA. It is certainly impressive to have a 90% to 99% pass rate across all of our national and international qualifications."

Deputy Principal (Curriculum/Teaching and Learning) Julie Earl remarks; "Students are excelling in body mind and spirit, outstanding levels of Endorsement in NCEA gives our students leverage in a competitive tertiary environment and labour market. All types of students at St Peter's achieve at levels exceeding expectations on a daily basis. They can compete on every level with excellent yet sustainable performance in multiple areas of their lives. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma results show our students also perform to a high standard on the international stage."

St Peter's School is the only Waikato based school to offer the IB Diploma Programme. 2014 Dux student Jessica Sutton achieved 42 out of a possible 45 points in the programme earning her an appointment at Government House to be nationally recognised by Sir Gerry Mateparae; the Governor General of New Zealand.

The top NCEA L3 student is Anna Hardy with total of her Grade Point Average scores totalling 493.4 out of possible 500. Sarah Fairweather's results put her in the subsequent spot with a Grade Point Average of 482.3.

### Academic Success 2014

NCEA L1	98%	Endorsement merit or excellence 70%
NCEA L2	99%	Endorsement merit or excellence 60%
NCEA L3	90%	Endorsement merit or excellence 45.3%
IB Diploma	97%	
IGCSE	99%	



## THE ARTHUR BROADHURST COMMEMORATIVE FUND

The St Peter's School Foundation will operate a fund known as "**The Arthur Broadhurst Commemorative Fund**"

It will be a fund that receives donations or bequests, the capital of which is to be retained and only the income used to achieve the objects of the Fund.

Any grants from the fund must fall within the rules of the Foundation.

Grants are to be made to projects or activities that would be in keeping with the wishes of Arthur Broadhurst.

The grants will be aimed in particular at maintaining and enhancing the historical aspects of the school (like the organ, chapel and other historical objects).

The grants will be used to expand on Arthur Broadhurst's philosophies by providing funding for scholarships (as he did) to assist those that may not have the financial means to either attend or remain at the school and to ensure that the school is able to attract a diversified role that will enable it to provide an all-round education of body, mind & spirit".

Grants can also be made to improve the skills and development of the teaching staff at St Peter's School (who intend to remain at the school for at least two years) to ensure St Peter's is able to deliver the latest in teaching development by teaching staff skilled to deliver it.

Grants can also be made to any teaching aids or equipment that is deemed in keeping with the ideal of maintaining education at the best level available.

Any grants made are to be in the name of "The Arthur Broadhurst Commemorative Fund" in recognition of the generosity of the Founder in paying for and gifting of the school and land to the School Trust Board as well as in recognition of the large number of "Old Boys" that he assisted to attend St Peter's by personally providing scholarships for their attendance.



## BROADHURST ERA REUNION – WHAT A TIME

April 7th - 9th 2015 will be long remembered by those from the Broadhurst Era that attended some or all of the reunion. The turnout was great and from the feedback an emotional time was had by many. There were 101 "Old Boys" from the Broadhurst Era that were in attendance for some part of the three days of the gathering. With them were 43 partners making a total of 144 from the era. But added to that were many other supporters like Heather Dawson whose had some years at the school as daughter of the Farm manager in the late 1940's. Guyon Wells (Director of Music 1961 - 1967), Peter Parr (Headmaster 1979 - 1987) and Steve Robb (Headmaster 1996 to present) as well as a large number of past and present staff, some current students and alumni who helped out at the event.

Total in attendance at some stage was around 170. Needless to say it was two who probably came the furthest that arrived first, David & William Childs (1944 to 1946) who travelled from the USA arriving in the country the day before and presenting themselves just after 10.00am on the opening day – it was great to see them.

### THE CHAPEL

The Chapel featured largely in the event with a chapel service to start the reunion on Tuesday evening then we returned to the chapel on Wednesday afternoon for a music recital by current students, a talk on music at St Peter's and what it offers as well as a talk on the organ, its history and state of repair. We again went to the chapel on Thursday morning for an Organ Recital by a past pupil, Tim Carpenter (2004-2008) and then a final chapel service.

And as Pat Gallagher (1953-1957) wrote *"My personal highlight (out of many highlights) was the singing of the final hymn (Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer) at Thursday's Morning Prayer. It could never be said that St Pater's boys of that era didn't know how to sing (opportunity twice a day and three times on Sunday saw to that) and I think that on the occasion to which I refer not another ounce of sound could have been coaxed from the organ, and the volume of the singing made, for me, an extraordinary and very moving moment"*.



### THE BOARDING HOUSES

An accommodation option was to sleep in the school boarding houses while at the reunion. We housed 84 of the participants in the school boarding houses and it was very well received (some even had no hot water due to a fault – but as explained that was for old times!).

The old boys and their partners aged from around 65 to 92 that stayed on site were delighted to have the opportunity and other than a few who got lost looking for their bed (after a few wines!) it went well.



### REUNION PHOTOS ONLINE

Thanks to Tineke Montgomery (the school photographer) we have been able to make available online some of the candid photos taken at the reunion. To access them go to this link

<http://photogallery.stpeters.school.nz/f443592692>

Once there select one of the galleries to view and when a password is requested it is: **broadhurstreunion**







ST PETER'S  
CAMBRIDGE

## BROADHURST REUNION 2015 1950 - 1954



*One of the Group Photos for those starting 1950-1954*

L to R

Row 3 Ian McDougall, Bruce Holden, Stuart Smith, Peter Cradwick, John Wanhill, George Connor, Nigel Yockney, Michael Shaw, Richard Wrightson, John Shortt, Simon Robertson

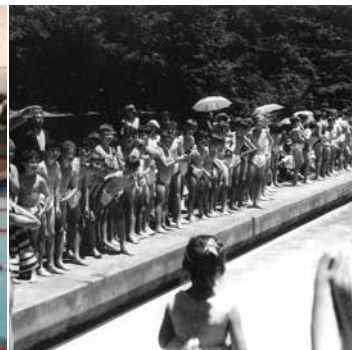
Row 2 Jeffery Roberts, Ian Graham, Geoffrey Clark, Anthony Ivanson, Howard Wain, John Clist, Rod Ellis-Pegler, Ronald Russell, Peter Jones, Tony Devitt

Row 1 David Lackey, Paul Harris, Pat Gallagher, Michael Chapman, John Alexander, Peter Smith, Graham Malaghan, Bill Johnston, Jim Otway, Simon Stammers-Smith

### THE SWIM

No return to St Peter's would be the same without the traditional early morning swim. On two mornings (the numbers were a little less on the 2nd morning!) for those keen enough to venture in at 7.00am.

Togs were required and the water was a little warmer than most remembered. (The school now has two heated 25 metre pools – one indoor one outdoor).



### THE VALLENTINE ROOM

**(In the new Junior Block)**

This became reunion headquarters. You registered there and we returned there for morning and afternoon teas. It had the displays of the archive material that was extensive and well received. It was a place you could sit out any parts of the days with a cup of tea and a chat with old friends.





## THE DINING ROOM

We had our breakfasts, lunch and dinners in the school dining room. It is still the original dining room but doubled in size with a mirror image of the original one added. The comment was "that if this is boarding school food bring it on".

## THE OLD PREP SCHOOL

We toured the old prep school, visited the dorms and "Crows Nest", explored in all the old rooms and explained to the younger guides what they were used for in "AFB's time"

The current Principal, Steve Robb made his office available and entertained the old boys as they passed through.

The original prep classroom block was included in the tour. But I do distinctly remember hearing one guide, Bex McGuire (1991-1995) enlightening one group that did not know about the tunnel starting in the chapel.



Steve Robb entertaining in his office



Student guide on tour



Discussing Prep boarding



Two friends chatting Alan Land & John O'Halloran



Roger & Ann Dewhurst

## THE HELPERS

No event like this can succeed without a lot of help both in sight and behind the scenes. The list is extensive and suffice to say I have already issued over 35 thank you letters to the helpers (with a few more to come). But special thanks to the organising committee Ross Duder, Nigel Browning, John Coles and Philip Coles for their help and suggestions in the planning.

To Shae Brophy for her assistance in leading up to and throughout the reunion. Jenny Lala from the school Foundation (also past parent and parent of a current prep school teacher) who took all of the pressure on the registration desk. The teaching staff, alumni and students who did the work on the day. Not to forget the kitchen staff, housekeeping and ground staff, but especially to the Principal, Steve Robb, without his level of support and encouragement the event would not have been possible.



## THE SPORTING FACILITIES

For many the guided tour of the new cycling velodrome that is the home to Cycling NZ was special. Built on the school grounds and with school reps on the trust that manages it and time allocated for use by students it is the latest jewel at the school.

It goes along with the Equestrian Centre, Golf Academy, two heated swimming pools (one indoor) all weather hockey field, tennis academy and so much more. As was already said "the school has come so far and has exceeded what Arthur Broadhurst would have thought possible".



## THE FARM AND FARM TOUR

The old boys were treated to a visit to the school farm with School Trust Board Member Cam Holmes. With the use of the school mini vans and a few other vehicles we transported all to the farm and the photos below were taken during the farm tour. After viewing and hearing about the farm we returned to the Vallentine Room for a talk and slide presentation from Cam on the farm and the plans for it. Discussed was the exciting joint venture with Lincoln to make the farm into a model farm and be at the forefront in research into dairying and the disseminating of that to other farmers by way of open days and discussions.



## THE FEATURE DINNER

We took a risk and decided to do away with formal speeches and run an "open mike" to allow stories to flow from the floor. It started with a brief report from Peter Parr on his visit to AFB in Litchfield (in 1985) to get his opinion and blessing on the option of St Peter's going co-ed (see last page of newsletter). Well any worry about a lack of response was quickly extinguished as the "brief" stories just flowed. The stories were interesting and mainly well thought out and well presented. We did video many parts of the reunion and we hopefully captured these speeches and will make them available on the Alumni website (details will be made available).

*On the farm with Cam Holmes (School Trust Board Member) explaining finer details*



*The short (?) talks given at the feature dinner were fun, entertaining and a trip down memory lane*

## THE UK OLD BOYS VIDEO

One of the few times that there was no interruptions and silence ruled was during the showing of a 22 minute video put together by several UK old boys who were unable to attend.

Special thanks go to Jon Staton (1954-1957) and the Paul twins Anthony Paul & Michael Paul (both 1954-1958) for organising it and the huge effort that Jon put into editing it.

It was an amazing video with a good cross section of UK old boys contributing, before those there in person went to lunch in the village pub and toasted AFB with a fine NZ wine.

We hope to be able to reciprocate the contribution by making our NZ video available to them as soon as it is released.

The UK one is now available at the following link <http://www.stpeters.school.nz/school/broadhurst-reunion-2015.aspx>



Contributions were made by the three above plus Rex Galbraith (1950-1954), Bryan Schofield (1957-1959), Roger Cowell (1959-1961), Richard Parker (1954-1957), Gareth Clemson (1942-1947), Nigel Kendall (1958-1959), Anthony Scott-Russell (1953-1956), Hugh Barnes 1941-1942) and Anthony Hewlett (1948-1951).

## ARTHUR BROADHURST RECOGNITION

### And the Arthur Broadhurst Commemorative Fund

A number of old boys led by Jack Yates (1938-1943) and assisted by Ross Duder (1949-1953) & Tony Ivanson (1953-1957) are working on a plaque to further recognise the contribution of Arthur Broadhurst to the school. Jack spoke to it and it was received with overwhelming support and funding for it was promised by several at the dinner. The Foundation has picked up on this wish to commemorate Arthur Broadhurst and has set up "The Arthur Broadhurst Commemorative Fund". This is to be a capital fund that only the income is used to provide for projects that would have been dear to Arthur's heart like the organ, chapel, historical buildings and scholarships.

It has been approved by the school trust board and the rules for it are covered on page 5 of this newsletter. I would encourage anyone who can contribute, no matter how small, to complete the enclosed donation form and return it as instructed on the enclosed flyer. We will track the progress of this fund in upcoming issues of the Broadhurst Era News, (not only donations and bequests but also any grants made from it).

### Enquires can be directed to Neil McLaughlin:

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Ph: 021 619 171, PO Box 33 1520

Takapuna 0740, New Zealand



*Jack Yates addressing the dinner about the Arthur Broadhurst Plaque proposal.*





BROADHURST ERA REUNION – WHAT A TIME



# A VISIT TO ARTHUR BROADHURST 1985 TO DISCUSS CO-EDUCATION

From a talk at Old Boys Dinner April 2015 by Peter Parr

I was fortunate to be able to spend a good part of a Saturday with AFB about 1 year before his death.

As you know, he retired to Lichfield where he continued to tutor in music to the primary-age boys in the Grammar School. He lived in a "staff cottage" as he called it - actually the ground floor of a three-storey row of staff houses along one side of the courtyard which also held the frontage of the Grammar School. The Headmaster of Lichfield had kindly organised my visit.

So, on the Saturday morning, I rang AFB's front door bell at exactly 10.30 and he opened it immediately, clearly waiting for me to appear. He was in a light weight grey suit, used two walking sticks, but stood quite erect. His first words to me were, "Good morning, Parr" as he extended his hand.

Throughout the visit we remained "Mr Broadhurst" and "Parr".

After the usual kinds of greetings and "Why are you here?" He told me he had arranged lunch at the pub on the corner of the Square and that he "will ride there" and I will walk with him. He then turned back into the doorway and brought out his "carriage" - what we would call a scooter - a very up-market scooter. A photo is at the base of this story.

He rode it along the footpath, with pedestrians keeping clear and I had to walk quickly to keep up. On arrival at the front of the pub where there were about 5 steps leading up to the front door. He got out and handed the scooter over to a porter who took it away and eventually delivered it back to him as we left.

Up the steps we went when he refused my offer of a hand up. Into the Dining Room we went and over to the bay

window where there was one table but with only one place set. A very clear instruction followed and then we could both sit "at my table".

Of course our conversation was all about St Peter's - buildings, roll, age-range of the boys and so on. I had a pocket full of photos to give him and explain their location and so on. It was clear that he had kept in touch with some staff and some of "his Old Boys" and Governors and he was quite up to date.

However, I had already opened up the whole issue of the School going co-ed with the Board and on my return to Cambridge I was going to start a series of regional meetings of parents when I would float the co-educational proposal, with three fundamental conditions: (1) that eventually it would be 50/50 at all levels; (2) that the proportion of girl boarders will be the same as that of boys and (3) that the age range will start at 11 years (form 1).

We talked a great deal about the implications of doubling the size of the school

- the costs, the space required, the style of building, staffing and so on. It was a fascinating discussion and, over afternoon tea he told me that "I wholeheartedly support the proposal".

We can all see the outcome of that, 30 years after that conversation.

It was, for me, a wonderful experience and a real privilege to have such a conversation with a great gentleman.

*Peter Parr Headmaster 1979-1987*



*Peter Parr at reunion dinner*



*The Chariot mentioned above*

Comments and Feedback Welcome

Also anyone who is prepared to post a profile to us for the next issue or provide any material to publish.

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