

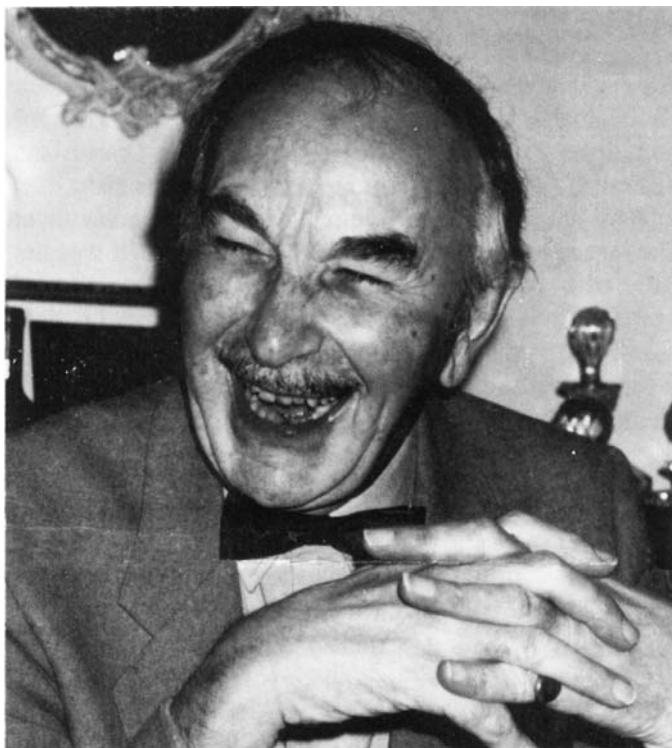
OLD VARNDEANIAN

Newsletter

Archive re-issue

OCTOBER 1995

ERIC VALENTINE REEVES
(1936/1942)



14 February 1925 – 16 May 1995

It is always sad to write a friend's obituary, and Eric was indeed a friend to many OVs. He succeeded Tony Allt as our Newsletter Editor circa 1990 and was invited to join the Council about the same time. It soon became obvious he was someone who was a "doer" and would not be content to just sit on the sidelines.

As a very young man he saw active service during the war as a tank commander with the Royal Armoured Corps in the 49th Division.

On demobilisation he resumed his education at Glasgow University where he obtained degrees in Maths and Physics. For the next 30 years he worked as a research physicist for Courtaulds in Coventry, becoming Company Secretary. The author of a considerable number of technical papers, his works on the characteristics of tyre yarns and viscose were highly regarded. Our versatile editor was also a talented freelance journalist and wrote technical papers for specialist magazines under his nom-de-plume John Meredith.

From 1967 to 1970 he served as a popular and distinguished Coventry City Councillor. He was Chairman of the Finance Committee and a member of the all

powerful Policy Advisory Committee. Whilst a member of the Watch Committee (which had the power to censor films not given a certificate by the old British Board of Film Censors) he banned the public showing of the film "Ulysses", based on a book by James Joyce, describing it as "boring, disjointed and above all, obscene." His wife, Iris, found this 'most amusing', an episode she had quite forgotten until she saw the obituary in the Coventry Evening Echo under the headline "Censor Councillor".

In 1978 Eric and Iris returned to Sussex, taking on the delicatessen in Hassocks. The following year they acquired the Broadway Post Office in Haywards Heath. While Iris managed the Post Office, Eric turned his attention to teaching mathematics and physics at Lewes Old Grammar School. His students were not only enthused by the maths, but also by the bridge (cards not structures!) he introduced.

Eric had an abiding interest in bridge and he was introduced to the West Sussex Bridge Club where he became Treasurer, then Secretary and in 1994, Chairman. His teaching skills were redirected latterly, when he took on a number of bridge Adult Education Classes in mid-Sussex.

Several OVA members attended the service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church Slaugham, which was filled to capacity. Many friends attended, some travelling from the Midlands, and a strong representation from the West Sussex Bridge Club, as well as his family and relations. Addresses were given by Councillor Stan Hodson, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Coventry (Best Man at Eric and Iris' wedding) and Tom Bradley, President of the WSBC. His granddaughter Kate Beynon recited Henry Holland's "Death is nothing at all", a truly moving and wonderful send-off.

Eric loved and lived life to the full. He told Iris that when he went the way of all flesh he would like a 'wake'. So we were all invited to the "Wheatsheaf" in Cuckfield to eat, drink and be merry in happy remembrance - he wanted no mourning and preferred us to rejoice over his happy life.

The author acknowledges the plagiarising of the obituary, written by Eric's old friend Tom Bradley, for the WSBC newsletter. It is a sobering thought that we (the OVA Council) knew so little of Eric's career, but that through his stewardship as Newsletter editor he constantly updated our knowledge of you, our members.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Old Vardean Newsletter Editor

As you now know, we have an urgent requirement for a new Newsletter Editor. Having inherited Eric's folders (temporarily!) I can well appreciate just what a difficult job it will be to follow, but we said that when Eric replaced Tony Allt, and we have enjoyed his achievements. I can vouch for the interest of the job, reading the correspondence and replies, has been fascinating, highly educational and, like a good book, difficult to put away until each piece has been read. This edition has been compiled by a small committee of volunteers. Perhaps future editions will bear your personal style. Please contact Derek Ashcroft - see later.

OVA Council Members (2)

The sad deaths of two stalwarts, Eric Reeves and Cyril Shelley have depleted your Council. Whilst the Newsletter editor is customarily also a Council member it is not a requirement - if only because of where he/she may live and the possible difficulty of attending meetings. Your opportunity to volunteer will be at the AGM (details following) and we would welcome the opportunity to hold a ballot! There are only four Council meetings a year, held at Vardean College. Sadly, the attendance at the AGM is usually poor, but I trust that those living locally, whether they intend to stand or not, will take the opportunity to meet those entrusted with the affairs of the OVA - it is very friendly!

Keith Elliott, President

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 93rd Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Vardean College on Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm. Nominations for new members should be received by the Honorary Secretary by 19th October.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Honorary Treasurer, Dennis Leggett, 54 Highbank, Brighton BN1 5GB regrets having to report that several members have still not amended their Bankers' Orders to £5 per annum following the increase in April 1994. It would be appreciated therefore, if these members would be good enough to settle the £6 arrears due by cheque payable to the OVA and ensure that instructions to their bank are given in time for 1st April next year. In addition, subscriptions from a few of the members who pay annually by cash are overdue. If you are one of these, Dennis would be pleased to hear from you too. There is a personal reminder enclosed with this Newsletter. Failure to comply will mean that this is the last issue to reach you. You have been warned!

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS ON! - THE 1971 ENTRY

Clive Henly (1971/78), is organising a reunion of those pupils who left Balfour Junior School in July 1971. Anyone of that vintage, boys or girls, who would like to make contact should write to Clive. The date is 30th March 1996.

He would also like to trace the following: Paul Brownjohn, Michael Hines, John Amell and Alex Sengupta.

1995 ANNUAL DINNER

This year, arrangements for the Association's Annual Dinner were under new management with a new venue and a different style. Altogether, 145 members, partners and guests sat at table - significantly more people than in recent years. Nice, too, to see a goodly gathering of younger members.

Congratulations to Paul Rawlinson and die Dinner Committee. Anyone with experience of arranging such events knows they don't just happen; a great deal of work is involved.

The evening was presided over by Tony (Nuts) Newman in his inimitable breezy way. He read a letter of greetings from John Trotman (1938/44) now living in Queensland, Australia. ('Twas he who, if memory serves one right, flew an RAF aircraft under a bridge whilst on a training flight. The manoeuvre was executed without error but it was not, sadly, part of the exercise. His move to Australia was much later and was not connected with his aviation). John donated a cheque for raffle prizes. He pointed out that, living where he does, he has had more than his money's worth for his Life Membership Subscription.

This year we had a guest speaker. Clearly there is scope for wit and erudition on such occasions. Which leads one to ponder that there must, surely, be within our membership an oratress or orator who would take pleasure in delighting the warm and responsive audience which will attend the 1996 Dinner. A title for the subject might be "Vardean - a School for Scandal?" Other suggestions would be welcomed.

All in all a most enjoyable evening, in the writer's view, but it would be useful to have comments and suggestions from members for the 1996 Dinner. Should we, for example, have an opportunity to sing "Onward and Upward" provided song sheets were to hand? It is our evening.

For your diaries, the date of the next Dinner is Friday 26th April 1996. Booking forms in the March Newsletter but you can book your place now. If you can make up a table of ten, there will be one free place. Meanwhile, ideas, comments, nominations and volunteers to Derek Ashcroft please.

Jim Franks

NEWS OF OLD VARDEANIANS

Further Obituaries

F. W. Benford (1915/20) died after a serious illness in Hove.

Ken Stenning died 31st March 1995 [*incorrect entry*]

Terry J. Walker (1950/54) died in March 1995 and will be sadly missed by all, particularly his friends and colleagues in the accountancy profession locally.

Brian Stone (ex staff 1954-1959) was a brilliant teacher who inspired students wherever he taught. He was an enthusiast in every sense of the word, whether it was in authorship, playing cricket, teaching English or producing plays. He was also an exceptionally brave man winning the Military Cross in the desert of North Africa. It was there that he lost his leg, and who can forget his skill at the crease with a runner at hand during Staff matches. He replaced his namesake, Joe Stone, as head of English in 1954 and left us to go to Loughborough Training College in 1959. In 1969 he became a founder member of the Open University and it was in this milieu that he spent the rest of his professional life. If anyone can be said to have had a true vocation it was he.

John Perkins (ex staff 1948/56). John Perkins (in later years he preferred 'Jack') died last February at his home in Lewes, aged 79. He taught at Lewes Grammar School before moving to Varndean where he taught French and Latin. Everyone who knew him comments on his dry sense of humour. He was Bill Dorkings' (1947/52) form master and also taught him Latin, a subject at which Bill did not excel. Reporting on his grasp of the classical language, John recorded that Dorkings 'did very well in the School play'.

He lived for 40 years in Lewes where he served on the Borough Council and played a prominent part in Lewes life. An appreciation of his contribution recorded that 'few people served the town so well and so long and he will be remembered with great affection'.

Noel Kitchen (1931/37) died after a long illness on 22nd February 1995.

Eric Lawler (1927/32). On leaving Varndean he joined the Brighton Gas Company. He was awarded Chartered Engineer status by the Council of Engineering Institutions in 1968. A variety of senior management positions followed until he took early retirement in 1980 and moved to Hassocks. Eric died on 9th July after a long battle with Parkinson's disease and heart disease, illnesses which he bore with fortitude and courage.

Brian W. Ball (1935/41) died on 28th August 1995.

NEW MEMBERS

Peter Clark (1954/58) spent eight years in the Royal Australian Air Force, and is now an Engineering Sales Manager, living in Queensland.

Alan Bray (1951/56) is a Civil Servant with the Inland Revenue.

Stephen Drake (1965/72) is also a Civil Servant having worked at the MoD and currently with the Inland Revenue.

John Wills (1953/61) writes that he should have been in the 1961 prefects photograph but must have 'skived off with Paul Bristoll and Malcolm Howells - also missing. (Ed: maybe Paul and Malcolm should join the OVA - no action will be taken for past misdemeanours!) On graduation from Birmingham University he joined BP, then ICL before joining Data General Inc. for two years as Systems and Technical Support Manager. He became

a recruitment consultant for IPMC before setting up his own IT consultancy in 1985.

Ron McLaren (1954/61). Information Systems Marketing.

Kenneth Jones (1936/41) was an insurance consultant. He is two years into retirement and is still as busy as ever.

OTHER NEWS

The mystery concerning the unknown address of **S. W. Johnson (1970/77)** is resolved. Apparently he was known (amongst other things) as plain Johnson at School, and as there was a Simon D. Johnston in the same class he used his middle initial 'W', to clarify things. The Yorker was dropped for purely lazy reasons. He is currently Deputy Head teacher at Albourne Church of England Primary School. Thus our membership is further depleted by one unless someone can persuade Simon D to join.

Alfred D. Roake (1936/43) has provided two most interesting true life experiences; one relating to a submarine - he commanded submarines during his 29 years with the RN, the other his experiences on finding a new career on retirement from the RN. The latter being pertinent to today's climate of 'voluntary redundancies'. We hope to use excerpts from these in a future issue. He celebrated VE Day in Copenhagen, and a description of those times appears later in this issue.

FORM REGISTERS

David Kennard (1962/69) whilst remembering the names of at least 58 pupils from the 62/69 class, still does not know what the 'K' in R. W. K. Taylor stands for'

Vic Edwards (1942/49) states 'that with all due modesty' he can better Chris Strick by giving the register of form IV-19 for 1943/44. As National Savings collector (he believes 2d/week/head was the target) he was given a list of names, including initials, which were converted to memory. He provides the list if anyone is interested.

Peter Murrell (1943/51) opines that it is not necessarily a peculiarity of IV.28 but of the 1943/51 vintage of which he is another. He can recite, at speed, the names of all those in form 111.5 (Form Mistress - Miss Arnold) including their Christian names and, he thinks, the Schools from which they originally came. Going further he remembers which Form Masters occupied which rooms, e.g. 'Ted' Potter - Room 23, 'Pom-Pom' Whiting - 41 and 'Coddy' Lye - 18. Additionally, (is he staking his claim to the title of 'Form Register Buff of All Time'?) he adds that amusingly, his three children can also recite III.5 - albeit not at speed - by dint of his performing this as a party piece when they were young!

He concludes by asking "Are we all mad?" Answers on the usual postcard please...

Well, was the 1943/51 vintage peculiar, or do other vintages have different peculiarities?

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Has anyone copies of photographs or the programme of the School play production of 'Much Ado About Nothing' in 1949? Barrie Jerram would like to have copies made. Please let the Secretary know.

The Secretary also has negatives of the School Photos of 1956 and 1960. Individual prints at a cost of £22 each can be ordered.

OVA CRICKET CLUB

Varndean College v Old Varndeanians

Having lost this fixture to the weather and other commitments for the last three years, it was a relief to get the traditional match played again.

The College made a good start, taking three CV wickets for 37 before a partnership of 53 between John Newman and Adrian Heft steadied the innings. In very windy conditions the OVs reached 144-8 against some good spin bowling from Gowers.

Apart from a superb catch by guest Simon Stainsbury to dismiss opener Williams, the College got away to a good start once again reaching 43-1. Eventually Mike Brown and Colin Watts made the breakthrough and wickets fell steadily so the result was never seriously in doubt.

Result: OVs 144-8 College 82 all out

Our thanks go to Geoff Humphries and Alan Grey for organising the game and umpiring.

OVA FOOTBALL CLUB

The new season is just beginning and anyone interested in playing is asked to contact Norman Wright.

IN DEO FIDEMUS LODGE

The Lodge was founded in 1919, with membership originally restricted to past pupils and Staff. With the advent of the co-educational College, this rule was relaxed, but Old Varndeanians are still well represented in the current membership.

The present Master, H. F (Bob) Cooke is due to be succeeded in November by Ian Smith (an Old Grammarian!). A Ladies' Night is scheduled for 21st October and will be held at Harewood Court, Hove.

Sadly one of our most distinguished members, George Turner, died in May having recently celebrated 60 years in the Lodge. He was a well-known Sussex Freemason and was for many years the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He will be greatly missed.

Enquiries regarding the Lodge should be addressed to the Secretary, Don Osborne, 103 Camden Hill Road, London W8 7TL.

Chris Strick

COLLEGE NEWS

Good news from the College front which has put those of us who work at the College in good heart and, I am sure, will delight all Old Varndeanians.

As you may remember from earlier Newsletters the College was, during 1994 - 95, subject to a full inspection by a team of inspectors from the Further Education Funding Council. The inspections take place on a four year cycle and the first full report, published on 31st August, was fulsome in its praise of the work the College is doing. The particular strengths identified by the inspection team were:

- ◆ Good standards of teaching
- ◆ Good student support
- ◆ A stimulating and wide-ranging enrichment programme
- ◆ our expanding provision for adults
- ◆ Good accessibility for students with restricted mobility
- ◆ Good teamwork involving all members of staff
- ◆ The combination of strong leadership and open management
- ◆ Co-operation with others in education

The inspectors were particularly complimentary about the high quality of the staff, the responsiveness of the College to the needs of our students as reflected in the range of courses available, the level of guidance provided for students, and the way in which the College is governed and managed. A few morsels from the report might help you appreciate the flavour.

"The College is successful not only in providing good support to young people at a time of important decisions but also in helping and encouraging adults who may lack confidence in their ability to re-enter education."

"Most students are strongly motivated to succeed, express themselves with confidence and work hard to acquire skills and understanding [aided by] high expectations of students by teachers leading to good standards of achievement."

"[There is] a strong sense of team spirit among the staff and a real sense of community within and beyond the College."

"Staff in the College are enthusiastic about their jobs and demonstrate an impressive degree of care for their students."

There are, of course, a number of 'areas to be addressed' on all of which significant movement has already taken place extension of student social space, extension of our computer network, staff restructuring, and the evolution of our quality monitoring systems. We are delighted that the report confirms what we already know and has done so after a thorough and objective review of how we operate.

The inspection report commented on our effective teaching and further evidence in support of those statements appeared once again this summer with a record year at Advanced Level. Our students achieved a pass rate of 89%, with 57% of all entries being in the grade A to C range. 22 subjects achieved pass rates in excess of 90% and in twelve all students passed. 50 students achieved BBB or better with twelve gaining at least three A grades. As importantly, 70% of students on both Advanced and Intermediate GNVQ courses passed at merit or distinction level. And of course all this may be explained away by 'falling standards'! I would contest this view - although such opposition is discounted as coming

from one who has a vested interest. Since I took A Levels in 1968 A Levels have become more challenging, more rigorous, and more pressurised and yet have become more accessible. Their function has changed and what they are assessing has properly broadened, partly in response to the changing needs of higher education. They will need to change further as we move towards a system at 18+ where there is greater parity of esteem between the 'academic' and the 'vocational'. I hope for the moment though you will join with me in celebrating the genuine achievements of so many committed, enthusiastic, and capable young people not solely at Vardean but across the country.

Finally, more good news with a decision by the Education Assets Board that the freehold of the 'Big Field' should be vested in the College. Don't however break open the bottles of champagne just yet. The County Council has appealed against this decision and it will be some months yet before there is a final resolution to this long-running saga!

Alan Jenkins

COLLEGE LIFT FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Dennis Leggett represented the Association at the official opening ceremony of the new lift at the College recently. The OVA was among the organisations that gave financial assistance towards the project.

VARDEAN VETERANS VE /VJ DAY MEMORIES

1995 has unquestionably been a year for Anniversaries, notably those of VE and VJ Days. It was exactly 60 years ago that I first passed through those gates in Surrenden Road which led me to form 111.41, presided over by one G H Whitcomb... During the ensuing years I met many boys and made many friends, some of whom I was to encounter during the war on the other side of the world. I remember Skinner, whom I met on the troopship 'Maloja' on our way to India; J Robinson, with whom I collided heavily under water in a swimming pool in Calcutta; John Hewitt, who nearly ran over me on his motorcycle on a track in Comilla a meeting celebrated convivially that same evening! There were, of course, many more - some of whose names are, sadly, commemorated on the Memorial Board in the Stainer Hall. And now we have celebrated the 50th VE and VJ Days, and those of us who were in the Far East have had the 49th, and final, Burma Reunion at the Royal Albert Hall. It was a momentous occasion with some 4,500 present. A Service of Remembrance was followed by addresses by the Duke of Edinburgh, Countess Mountbatten and Viscount Slim, President of the Burma Star Association and son of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim who commanded the 14th Army. There followed a programme of entertainment, culminating with a nostalgic performance by Dame Vera Lynn, who, finally, led us all with a roof-raising rendition of 'Land of Hope and Glory'.

The Reunion was held on 22nd April, since when there have been many Services, Parades and Thanksgivings; of all of these, the highlight for me was on Saturday 19th August, when a Service of Remembrance and Commitment, no doubt seen by most of you on television, was held at

Buckingham Palace in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip and most of the Royal Family. I cannot begin to describe the scene before the Palace - surely no need in view of the tremendous Press and TV coverage - but no description could convey the feelings of all of us present. After the Service, the Parade of the Veterans of the Second World War, led by Holders of the Victoria Cross and the George Cross, marched down the Mall past the dais where Her Majesty took the salute - and we were proud and honoured that His Royal Highness Prince Phillip elected to don a beret, become Lt. Phillip Mountbatten, RN, and join us on the March Past. 'The whole length of the Mall was packed with waving, cheering, clapping people of all ages, on both sides, and between whom we marched.

It is appropriate, I think, to conclude with the epitaph inscribed on the memorial which stands high in the hills at Kohima, where the Imperial Japanese Army's 'March on Delhi' was halted and the tide turned - words repeated by Viscount Slim at the Service "When you go home, tell them of us and say: For your tomorrow, we gave our today---. Ken Brown

Following the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy and the Normandy beaches, our armies were pressing up through Europe and had crossed the Rhine into the heartland of Germany itself.

It was against this background that a small force consisting of HMS Birmingham and HMS Dido escorted by four 'Z' class destroyers, with minesweepers to clear the way, sailed from the UK. When at sea, we were informed that our destination was Copenhagen, where it was known that the German ships 'Prinz Eugen' and 'Nuremberg' were holed up, and it was our task to winkle them out. The North Sea was calm and the summer weather was gorgeous. We were at Action Stations and as we approached the coast, a newfangled German jet plane came over to investigate us. We had already experienced the V1 and V2 rockets, and thought this was perhaps another of Hitler's much boasted 'secret weapons'.

In wartime, it was always necessary to stream our paravanes, in order to cut the wires of any moored mines. As we entered the Skagerrak and the Kattegat, which had been heavily mined by both sides, mines started to pop up all over the place, to be sunk or exploded by rifle fire. The occasional one came in to the ship's side, due so I understand to the fact that the Germans had moored some with chains rather than wire, which couldn't, of course, be cut. As we went into Sweden's neutral waters we embarked a Swedish pilot and were escorted by one of their warships. We remained at Action Stations expecting to have to do battle with the two German warships, but fortunately from our point of view, German resistance collapsed, and the surrender was signed. As we came in, members of the Danish Resistance came out in force, sporting a motley collection of equipment and weapons. Occasional gunfire signified a certain amount of 'mopping up'.

The Danish citizens came out 'en masse' to welcome us, absolutely overjoyed that their long nightmare was at last over. They asked us for cigarettes, which had been in very short supply during the Occupation. Our sailors,

being spontaneously generous, gave of their own 'Duty free', but this could not last forever. So people desperate for cigarettes started to take off watches and jewellery to bargain for them. To me it was a humiliating sight to see 'old men and maidens' scrabbling in the dust for the 'weed'. I felt demeaned, but then I had never suffered under the Occupation, and at the same time had not started to smoke. We went ashore to sample the delights of Copenhagen, including the famous Tivoli Gardens, and to see what the shops had to offer; but six years of war, with its associated austerity did not leave much to purchase. Fuel was virtually non-existent, so the bicycle was the main means of transport for the population. Meanwhile, there was a large number of merchant vessels in the bay which had to be boarded and checked. On Saturday 12th May at 11.30, General Montgomery came to Copenhagen, having fought his way up from the deserts of North Africa, and took the salute from an open staff car on the Langelinie jetty. That morning he had called on the King and Queen of Denmark, and with some justification must have felt very proud. There was still a war to be fought in the Far East, but for Europe, peace had at last 'broken out'.

We returned to the UK and shortly after sailed for Bergen 'in Norway, to receive the surrender of the city, which was then formally handed to the Norwegians. It had been an important U-boat base, with submarine pens built by slave labour. These prisoners, of course, had just been released. There were something like 28 U-boats there, including the new Type XXI, which none of us had seen before. They were quite an eye opener, far in advance of anything we had, but which fortunately had come too late to make their mark.

It was an unforgettable sight as we steamed up the fjord to see all the prettily painted Norwegian houses perched on the mountainside, all of which had a Norwegian flag which they broke out in salute as we steamed by. The welcome when we arrived alongside was overwhelming. The sun shone, and it was just as if a great heavy cloud had at last been lifted. People were able to talk and laugh again after years of oppression.

That year too, we had escorted President Truman up the Channel to attend the Potsdam conference. On 29th September, we were inspected by Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth at Rosyth. Finally to round off, we visited Llandudno, our first 'home' visit; and sailed in company with the destroyers Orwell and Offa for our first 'foreign' visit since the war - to Stockholm, Malmo and Gothenburg.

A very eventful year!

A. D. Roake

OLD VARNDEANIANS (WHO'S WHO)

Recent Newsletters have referred to proposals for a 'Who's Who' of Old Varndeanians.

Jim Franks reports that volunteers to form the project team are coming in but further people will be welcome. He anticipates making a start in October.

FAMILY HISTORY AND THE OVA

On Derek's retirement in 1986 the Ashcroft family decided to spend more time with the fascinating hobby of family history. For one member of Derek's family - a great-grandfather by the name of John Clark - it was proving very difficult to find a birth date. We knew from census returns giving his age and place of birth that he was born around 1831 in Poplar, Middlesex.

I had joined the East of London Family History Society and they send to members lists of people researching the same names. In September 1984, I received a letter from Queensland, Australia from Peter Clark also trying to find a John or Joseph Clark in Middlesex. Nearly all the letter was about the Clarks - but the last few lines mentioned that Peter had been born in Brighton - what a coincidence!

I wrote back (there was no Clark family connection) explaining where we lived in Brighton and that Derek had been teaching at "Varndean 1950 - 75. By return comes a letter saying "I was at "Varndean 1954/58, when we came to Australia". Indeed Peter said he had the 1956 School Photo hanging on the living room wall, copied for him by his friend Paul Bristoll.

Letters have been going back and forth from Shoreham to Eight Mile Plains, and this April Derek was able to put Peter in contact with Roy Daughtree and John Trotman, both living near Brisbane.

Since the Queensland chapter of the OVA has been formed see photo - dare we call it the 'XXXX' branch!

One other extraordinary coincidence - before "Varndean Peter and Paul Bristoll had been at Balfour CP School - guess what! - I was teaching there 1952 - 56 when Derek and I were married.

So Peter had been in Schools where both Derek and I were teaching. The world gets smaller and smaller!

Brenda Ashcroft



John and Emma Trotman Ray and Sheila Daughtree, Robyn and Peter Clark.