

**Chairman’s Report for the year 2018**

It gives me great pleasure to submit my report on the activities of The Old Cicestrians and the Committee for the past year. 2018 was my first year as Chairman and I must first thank an active and supportive committee who worked hard on members behalf throughout the year.

A momentous year – the decision was made to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the foundation of the school and the subsequent developments over the ninety years. A small sub-committee was formed, chaired by Alan Green and including John Child, Clive Sayer and Bill Allen (later joined by Jonathan Harry as Booking Clerk). After extensive consultation and planning meetings, a date was fixed for CHSB90 (October 20th) and the programme planned for the day. A Commemorative Booklet, Static display boards and Presentations of the school's history were created. Displays of CCF, Gymnastics and a Planetarium visit and lecture by John Mason MBE on Tim Peake were planned. Implementation and responsibilities were agreed and the resulting day, in beautiful weather, was a great success – well received and enjoyed by over 160 Old Boys, Staff and partners. Attendees tended to be of the older generations from the ‘40s, ‘50s, ‘60s and ‘70s. This despite strong efforts to encourage more recent ’leavers’. Perhaps their nostalgia interests will come later and the OCs Committee must identify, recognise and be ready to address their future needs. The publicity for the event was organised by Clive Sayer and local papers helpfully had articles before and after. I must thank all the full committee members for their hard work before, during and after the event.

Other activity during the year included regular reports from Colin Snook on his meticulously researched project on the World War II and the Old Boys and a Master who died fighting for Britain. “The Fallen” was presented at CHSB90, together with a draft Book available for purchase. Our congratulations to Colin - and to Ian Walters and Richard Wood-Kneller who supported the idea.

A summer event for members, spouses and friends was organised - this year a boat cruise on the waters of Chichester Harbour from Itchenor was held, once again in lovely weather followed by a pub lunch at the Ship Inn at Itchenor. Colin Snook is to be thanked for organising an excellent day. And following the AGM our annual Christmas Lunch will be addressed by Neil Odin, Chief Fire Officer for Hampshire and IOW. Joint organisers John Wood and Dennis Sheppard do sterling work in the arrangements.

Continuing liaison with Chichester High School was John Child’s bailiwick and the school was very helpful with CHSB90. Our thanks were made by the donation of the display boards used at CHSB90, that had been funded by generous donations by Old Boys and the OC committee. This close, harmonious relationship we hope to build on in the future.

CHSB90 also saw an increase in deposits of photos and memorabilia to the archive that Alan Green keeps so meticulously.

An upgrade and fresh approach to the Website was well received and provided a very useful tool to keep members and interested non-members up to date with activity. Richard Wood-Kneller (Webmaster) and Scot Bastion (Website Designer) are commended for their work on the site. And the Facebook site gives a forum for old boys to share ideas and memories.

Among other decisions of the committee were to produce a Lapel Badge based on the CHSB90 crest which John Child negotiated and obtained at an excellent price. They sold well at CHSB90 and will be available in the future, As will the Commemorative Booklet authored and co-ordinated in production by Alan Green.

The GDPR problem was addressed by the committee and the result is presented to the AGM. We were very helpfully advised by Nigel Smith in this advice. Our committee meetings moved venue from the Chichester Park Hotel to the Chichester Gymnastics Academy, The Tim Peake Sports & Conference Centre on the school campus and we are grateful to Darryl Wulff for his assistance and support.

Finally after a busy year 2019 will return to normal but we must look to support members, try to encourage new members and find initiatives that fulfil our aim to be an active Old Boys Association. And perhaps a subject that has been discussed in committee and at previous AGMs, we might encourage good relations with the girls from CHSG.

I am your Chairman

Dr Bill Allen OBE