

Lion Pride




Chapter 21 The Tercentenary Celebrations



"I am convinced that these teachers gave me a first class traditional Grammar School education which has served me well throughout my life and for which I am grateful."



Lion Pride	Chapter 21	
	The Tercentenary Celebrations	

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Acknowledgements:

Most photographs are by Mike Bull Photography, with thanks.

This chapter compiled by David Goldring

The Society is grateful to the Management and Staff of the Solent Hotel, Whiteley,
for their advice, assistance and service to this function.

Service arrangements at the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, by Mark Knight
Organisation WP300 Lunch, by Derek Marlow

This Tercentenary celebration is the 4th in a series organised by the School, and latterly by the Society of Old Priceans. Details of the 1921, Bicentenary function, and the 1971, 250th Year Anniversary, along with the 2008 Centenary of the opening of the (then) new, School House and other buildings are reported in the Lion Pride Chapter : "The Old Boys". This 2021 (2022) event, having a much larger database warrants its inclusion in the "Lion Pride" publication as likely to be the last such occasion in the Society's life.

At the Tomb



A good gathering at the William Price Tomb.

The main service was preceded by the short service to lay a wreath at the tomb of William Price. It was a short service but it had added meaning this year especially as the service was attended by the two Bishops.

There is no doubt about it, the sun shone and blessed the arrival at last of the day set aside for celebrating the Tercentenary of William Price's bequest in favour of an education for the children of Fareham, or at least for 30 of the poor boys and girls.

Appropriately the Day got off to a good start with a gathering at the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, for a two-part act of homage there. A regular feature of the Old Pricean's time there, has been a brief service of Thanks, usually led by the local incumbent, Fr. Roger Jackson SSC. On this occasion, approximately 40 O.P.s were present for the Service led by the Society's two clergy: retired Bishop Peter Hancock, and the recently ennobled Lord Bishop Martin Seeley.

Prior to the event in the Churchyard, the SOP arranges for the William Price tomb to be cleaned and as a part of the homage.



Lord Bishop Martin Seeley and Bishop Peter Hancock



The wreath is laid.

*Principal guest – The Mayor of Fareham ,
Councillor Michael Ford, and his wife Anne lay
the Society’s wreath on William Price’s tomb*

*Good weather made it easy for O.P.s to mingle
and to enjoy renewing acquaintances from past
years, and there was plenty of that, as evident in
the photos that follow:*



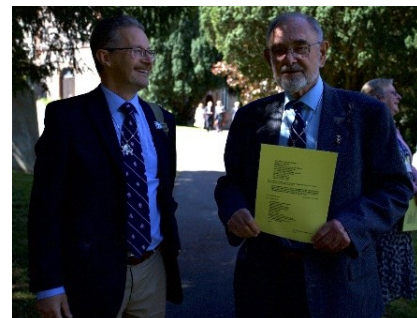
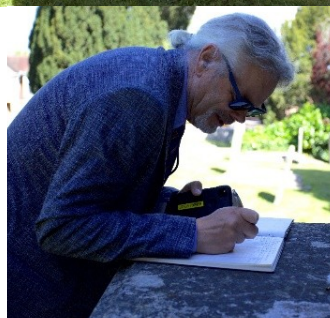
*SOP Chairman Phillip Reynolds, SOP President
Patrick Nobes with the two Civic Dignitaries*



*“Now then, my Sirs, What’s
going-on, ere, then?”*



“Well, Officer, it was like this...”



The Commemoration service was warm, uplifting and appropriate to the occasion of recognising William Price's legacy which was made with his Christian beliefs firmly in his mind.

In the Church of Sts Peter and Paul.



“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.”

(King James Bible Isaiah 60:1)





300 Year Commemoration Service

at

St Peter and St Paul, Fareham

on

Sunday 22nd May 2022

11.30 am

Price's School 300th Anniversary Service May 22 2022

Sts. Peter and Paul, Fareham

Eccles 44: 1-15; I Cor 13

I am immensely grateful for the honour and privilege of preaching on this extraordinary anniversary. The last time we, or some of us, were gathered to celebrate William Price and his legacy was when we commemorated in 2008 the centenary of the re-founding of Price's School on its new site on Uplands, moving from the School's original site on West Street. On that occasion I recall a walk organised from the West Street site.

So let me just dive in at the middle of the story, and then I'll return to the beginning. In 1870 the Education Act established the principle of universal elementary education; in 1880 it became compulsory. The 1891 Education Act abolished all fees for elementary education. So the necessity of private free education, which Price's School had been providing in a one room school building on West Street, was diminished, and Price's School, or Price's Charity School would not be able to survive in that form.

In 1893 agreement was reached to provide a school of "more advanced instruction for the benefit of boys who have passed through the standards of an elementary school", thus turning Price's from school for boys and girls into a boys' secondary school.

The first Price's closed in 1901. A new site was found on the Uplands Estate and the buildings for the new school completed in January 1908 at the cost of £8,385 which included £2500 for 10 acres of land. And to fund this the Local Authority had to be involved, which ended Price's School independence. Although William Price's intentions were preserved in the provision of 20 free places.

I start there because it brings us to the site and for some of us the actual buildings that we remember. When I arrived in 1965 the Old School House was still standing, and I have painful memories of trying to purchase apples from the tuck shop on the ground floor, dispensed, from this 11-year-old's point of view, with a peculiar level of aggression by the prefects, some of whom I suspect are sitting here today. I still shudder at the memory. And there was geography and John Chaffey on the top floors, and attempts at French with Tony Jay in the middle.

That building was torn down and replaced during my seven years at the school with a modern building, of which I only recall geography and John Chaffey on the top floor. The fact that I went on to university to read geography may explain the selectivity of what I recall.

Of course the school changed twice again after that. In 1974 it changed into a sixth-form college, and finally turned into Fareham College in 1984, at which point the name Price's School ceased to exist.

Which means by my sums that the youngest you could be to have benefitted from an education at Price's in its last manifestation is 54. That brings into sharp relief the significance of this event, recognising that not many of us will be around for the 350th, and

we will need to be creative in identifying intervening anniversaries to celebrate before then.

But the real significance of this event is that even after the school has been closed for nearly 40 years, the legacy of the education we received, the shaping of who we are as human beings, and the continuing work of the Charity, is something that is profoundly worth celebrating.

And it is profoundly worth celebrating because of one man. William Price had been left £10 by father to complete his apprenticeship – which must have had something to do with timber – and from that he went on to amass a substantial fortune as a timber merchant.

In 1721 he made his last will and testament, leaving £200 to erect a charity school which at its heart would be teaching children to read the English Bible and instruction in the doctrines and principles of the Church of England.

He left a considerable amount of his land and property to the minister and church wardens of this church – the parish church of Fareham – to support the work of the school from rent and profits. His own house was to be converted into the new school with accommodation for the master – the site on West Street.

Most importantly, the school was to be for 30 poor boys and girls of Fareham, providing them with a free elementary education.

Why did William Price do this? He had no children, and knew that he had received a great deal through the success of his timber business. And he lived at a time when for many with means, there was a deep sense of responsibility to provide for those without. That motivation came from faith, from his Christian faith, and we need not beat about the bush about that. Price's, a Christian school, was established by William Price's Christian conviction of the need to care for the poor. Christ did not come to be served but to serve, we read in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke – so fundamental a principle of both Christ's life and the life of his followers that it is there in each of those three Gospels. And that is what motivated William Price to act in the way he did.

Let us now praise famous men, we heard in our first reading from Ecclesiasticus, and so that indeed is what we are doing in celebrating the extraordinary legacy of William Price. But of course, his conviction, his faith, his actions, were then embodied by others who came after him, and we praise them too, because without them, we and innumerable others would not be the people we have become, or lived the lives we are living. As an undoubtedly Christian School, Price's throughout its history has been served by outstanding Christian heads – Stephen Bradley from 1908, George Ashton – whom a number of us had the privilege to know, as well as his daughter Anne, serving from 1934, Eric Poyner from 1959 to 1979 and then Peter Watkins until 1984, and we learned with sadness that Peter has recently died.

Each of these famous men instilled and maintained an ethos in the school, inhabited and developed by all the staff, that shaped us, a Christian ethos rooted in a call to serve. We were given an underlying sense that life was about more than what I did for myself – there was a greater, far greater dimension that was the reality in which all our lives are placed.

Whether we are Christian or not, that quality of faith is in some way part of us because of Price's. The nature of the community that was Price's, despite my experience of the tuck shop prefects, was fundamentally one of respect, of service, and, dare I say of love – of that practical love that looked out for one another, didn't demean others, and genuinely cared. I remember some quite remarkable acts of generosity and care with boys looking out for someone in need, and doing so without fanfare. As we heard in our second reading, love is patient, kind, not envious or boastful, or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way and is not irritable or resentful. That is the love we learned, were shaped in, at Price's.

And of course it was not perfect, by no means, but we somehow knew, we learned what good is, so when it went awry we recognised it wasn't quite as it should be. William Price's gift of a school at the centre of which was the teaching of Christian faith was the start of this.

As a community we learned about ourselves and other people. We learned about how to get along. How to handle differences between us. How to be respectful of those we didn't like. How, in Eric Poyner's words, we were to be like a family. It may be trite, but there is a depth of truth to this – that gives us common ground together, and a grounding for our lives.

William Price's creation of a school – a community of 20 or 30 pupils of different ages, learning together in one schoolroom, was the start of this.

And service was at the heart of this. We can attach "long" as a prefix and it would only tell half the story. The dedication of staff through very long and committed service to us pupils, to the standards we achieved and the life of the school is astounding. The tenures of the heads is one example.

And there are plenty of others, famous men to many of us. Tim Foster came to teach French in the early 1930s. Tom Hilton arrived in 1935. Howard Jones and Royds Jones just after the War. And we can think of many others – Eric Smith, John Chaffey, Cyril Briscoe, and of course John Cole, Price's boy and man! This length of dedicated service is one aspect of the sense of service we soaked up, wittingly or not.

But it was clearly service too – for others, lives lived for others, given for others, and that example of dedicated self-giving service has affected us all. I am sure if we look at our friends and we look at our own lives, that quality would be there. I imagine if we went round telling stories of the pandemic there would be stories of grief and anguish, and also stories of immense generosity and sacrifice for the sake of others, and we could trace those back too to William Price's legacy.

William Price's gift for provision of free education for the poor was the start of this. We are part of this Price's community, living on beyond the buildings, in the Charity as it continues its work for the young people of Fareham, and in us and all who have studied, taught and been part of Price's School. We have received through William Price's and so many who served his school, such great examples of service, and we are probably, even unknowingly, living our lives in that same fashion.

And we have come together in this church, William Price's church, to celebrate the faith that was and is the basis of it all.

I thank God for all Price's has given me and each one of us; I thank God for William Price.

The Rt. Revd. Lord Bishop Martin A. Seeley



The Solent Hotel, Whiteley

Saturday evening Reception

This was for folk unable to get to the Sunday Service & Lunch.



The Saturday informal drinks evening was a resounding success with over 70 people attending during the course of the evening. The slide show was a very important focal point which instigated much conversation and comment. Well done, once again, to yourself (D.G.) and Ken Raby. My only regret is that right at the end I realised we hadn't taken any photos of the event. At that point there were only half a dozen people present.



Not so photogenic, the Reception was, nonetheless, a successful part of the weekend's events. The image below shows a scrolling screen presentation of a selection of Lion Pride images, offered as an ice-breaker, courtesy of Ken Raby. That rolled-on until the event closed, at 11 pm.



The Lunch was an enjoyable occasion - good food, good company and plenty of space to circulate, with the room constantly criss-crossed with O.P.s finding links with others across the space. Eleven tables of 10 people gave for 3 or 4 discussion groups on any table.

The Honourable President's welcome to the 300th anniversary lunch

Lord Bishop, Very Reverend Bishop, Mr Mayor, Mayoress, all of you who are our guests honouring us with your presence, and Old Priceans.....

It is my delightful responsibility to welcome you very warmly here to celebrate the 300th anniversary of William Price's founding of his school. Great things have been done for this anniversary, witness for instance the articles you have found on your tables, and, indeed, the lunch itself. More of these matters later.

(The next part of my welcome was thought of before Covid struck once again to upset our plans. It seemed a good paragraph when first I thought of it, and very sorry as I am that our two main speakers have been stricken, they've been something of a nuisance spoiling my speech, so I decided to keep the next bit anyhow!)

Many of you will have travelled the length or breadth of the kingdom to hear me speak, and you will be bitterly disappointed to know that "I'm only here for four minutes" as Rob Wilton famously used to say. However, comfort ye, for you would have heard speakers of even greater eminence, the laces of whose trainers I am not worthy to unloose, and who would have travelled even further than you, having crossed the ocean to be here.

I have two minutes left. And in those minutes I want to thank two people.



The first, who will later be giving the Society's "Thank-you's" is our chairman, Phillip Reynolds, who obviously won't thank himself. I want you to note and remember all the work without interval our chairman does, and has done, especially in leading his committees, and holding everyone together as a team. Without him, great things might well have gone undone. Thank you Mr. Chairman.



I want you also to join me in expressing our gratitude to a second person because his name, unaccountably, was not mentioned at our last great anniversary gathering in 2008. Without that person, it is very likely the Old Priceans would not exist, and very likely therefore that we would not be here today. When the old Association had been declared moribund and its fund handed to the London Society of Old Priceans, this man, who was already strengthening the LSOP, came down to Fareham and started the Society of Old Priceans to replace the former association. That man to whom we owe so much was Patrick Ridett, former

Chairman and President, who is with us in spirit. Meanwhile in bodily form (of not inconsiderable beauty) his wife Janet, and their daughter, Kate, give us the pleasure of their company today.

And just within the allotted time I have broken the tape and my record. You are hungry, and I shall stop.

I ask you to stand if you are able, and invite Bishop Peter to say Grace.



Eleven of these tables seated 108 diners – a splendid sight, fitting for the occasion.



One of the earliest arrivals, with his two supporting sons, was nonagenarian Victor Hughes

The 11 tables, each with a seating capacity for 10 persons, provided an immediately attractive setting for the Lunch, with ample room for circulation, of which, there was much, as O.P.s rekindled old friendships. Service at the table was first class, an excellent venue for such an occasion.





Phillip Hedger, ??, Paul Gover, ?? // Graham Fuller, David Goldring, Heidi 'Callon', Barry Callon, Lou Stamp



Charles Tuck, ??, John Coombes, Barbara Coombes,

Sue Tuck, Rt. Revd. Lord Martin Seeley, Michael Bayliss

Here are a few shots of happy and engaging conversations underway:



And here is a shot of the “Famous Five” of our most senior, nonagenarian members, well-fêted and pleased to be back in contact after 70+ years.



↑L-R: Barry Callon, Brian Pearce. Victor Hughes (seated), Harold Langridge and Patrick Nobes.

It is regrettable to report that Nader Fekri was unable to travel and attend on account of a COVID-19 infection, but here is the transcript he sent in advance:

SOP Chairman’s Introduction to Nader Fekri (in absentia)

It gives me great pleasure to introduce Nader Fekri to you all. Nader was a contemporary of mine at the Grammar School in the 1970’s and I thought the best way to introduce Nader is to use his own words.....

“I was born in Iran and as a family we moved to the UK because of my dad’s work. We’d been living in Fareham for about 18 months when it was decided that I should start Big School. As we lived in the town centre (Crescent Road to be precise) Price’s seemed the natural choice, it was after all the closest.

So one fair September morn (very Laurie Lee), my father and I turned up (without an appointment!) at the school and met with Mr Hilton (then Deputy Head) who listened patiently and rather than telling us to sling our hook with no further ado, rather charmingly, had a semi-formal interview with me. It was more of a chat really. Then he sat me down and gave me a maths test, and called Tony Johnson over who talked further about my reading habits. Thankfully, I was (and still am) a voracious reader and blathered on. I must’ve done okay, because I was invited to join the school and the rest, as they say, is history.

One of my 10 ‘O’ Levels was in Persian, and to my shame, I only got a B, for which I was mercilessly teased by both my peers and staff. ‘A’ grades in other subjects in no way made up for my shameful performance in my mother tongue”.

Ladies and gentlemen..... The Visiting Professor of Politics, University of Buenos Aries, Argentina,
Dr Nader Fekri

Dr. Nader Fekri's Speech

"Looking back is good, but looking forward is even better"

Good afternoon Everyone, Friends, Romans, Old Priceonians, I'd like to start off by thanking the Organising Committee and especially Pip Reynolds for inviting me to address this glorious gathering this afternoon.

When Pip invited me to talk to you today, he mentioned that my biggest challenge would be to keep my blathering down to 10 minutes. I shall do my best to prove him wrong.

It was while at Price's that my passion for politics was primed: having had to write a detention essay as to why our then Tory MP was a "pranny", the double elections of 1974, contributing to the school newsletter, and later the debate club. This translated into a period as a local councillor and today is exactly 10 years since I stood down as Mayor of Calderdale, so exchanging one distinguished audience for another is a huge privilege and honour for me.



Following on from Alan's talk, "A Fortunate Generation", I'd like to encourage us to take a forward look.

My time at Price's was roughly book-ended by the 1970 General Election and the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

As a political historian, I spend much of my academic life looking back and trying to interpret or re-interpret past events. I therefore have a mixed view of nostalgia, or rather more accurately the sort of wistfulness that often accompanies nostalgia, you know the sort of thing... "When I were a bairn... It were all fields round here. The summers were longer. The winters were warmer. And Christmases were always white".

While that sort of thing may bring us a little bit of comfort, when we look back, we have a tendency only to remember the good things a bit like Barbra Streisand or Gladys Knight singing "The way we were".

But those feel-good effects don't last long, we can become depressed, demoralised, and, dare I say, deadened. We can go around saying, "Things ain't what they used to be", or "fings" if you're Max Bygraves, (though personally I prefer Duke Ellington or even Gerry Mulligan's version of the tune) and end up believing it.

We can fall prey to pessimism, concentrating on the crises that surround us. And sure enough, we are seemingly living in a time of crises. The refugee crisis, the political crisis, the healthcare crisis, the ongoing crises in Ukraine, in Syria, in Afghanistan, in Myanmar, in Tigray and, of course, the man-made climate crisis. All of this in the midst of the biggest worldwide pandemic for nigh on a century, with over six million dead worldwide, and of them more than 170,000 dead here in Britain, which when you think of it is not far off the whole population of Fareham and Gosport put together. Sadly one of that number was my own dear dad, who died last year of the disease, after spending three weeks in a coma, despite being cared for magnificently by our wonderful NHS.

A few years back, a YouGov survey showed that only 4% of Brits believed that the world was getting better, and that was before the pandemic.

But has society really got worse?

If we were to step back and look at the changes that have happened since Price's was founded (certainly in its final iteration in Park Lane in 1908) we shall see that there have been tremendous strides forward, even if we only look at what has happened since we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the school in 1971.

I'm a huge fan of the late Professor Hans Rosling, and if you've not already read his book *Factfulness*, I would strongly urge you so to do, or at the very least watch some of his programmes on the BBC, his TedTalks, his presentations on YouTube, or even his articles in the Guardian. They are a welcome antidote to the despair, despondency and gloom that we seem to be subjected to on the telly, the radio, and the papers, as well as the endless 24/7 doomscrolling we inflict on ourselves.

The tremendous improvements in standards of living, the dramatic decrease in child mortality, the vanquishing of many diseases and illnesses, the astonishing advances in science and technology, the unending quest for knowledge and education and their spread across the world, are not only amazing in themselves, but are likely to increase in the future. Providing of course, that we don't blow ourselves up first or plunder the planet to penury before we get to our better futures. Flying off to colonise Mars will not be a solution for everyone.

While some folk may hark back to a vanished or even non-existent glorious past, the truth is that until quite recently much of the world has lived under quite miserable conditions, and this has been true throughout most of human history.

Yet in the last handful of decades, almost every aspect of human existence has improved across the world. Extreme poverty has been radically reduced, life expectancy has increased immensely, there are fewer wars, more children are attending school, meaning there are fewer illiterates, and both child and maternal mortality rates have dramatically declined, polio has been all but eradicated, and fewer people than ever are dying in natural disasters. In short, everything we can measure objectively is steadily improving.

So I'd like to look at how life has improved world-wide for the vast majority, and then focus on life and Britain, and some of the challenges ahead.

Firstly, life expectancy continues to rise. When Price's moved to Park Lane, average life expectancy in Britain was around 40 years. This does not mean that most people died by the time they got to 40, it was high child mortality rates, women dying in childbirth, and common diseases like, smallpox, measles, and rubella that pulled down the average. In 1971, life expectancy at birth in the UK was 72 ± 3 years, less for males more for females. In 2020, it had gone up to 83 ± 1 years, again less for males more for females. And there are more of the super-old around now. Fewer than one-in-seven babies born in 1971 would live to reach 100, that figure is now more than one in three.

Secondly, fertility rates are falling. Even though many are concerned about the global population explosion, the fact is that fertility rates have fallen significantly across the world, and the UN predicts that the world's population will settle at about 11bn by the end of the century.

Thirdly, GDP growth has accelerated in developed countries. Western economies have been growing at an average of $\sim 2\%$ /year for the past century, meaning that real incomes double every 36 years. In

Britain, even allowing for the 2008 financial crisis and the damaging impact of COVID, the economy as a whole has more than doubled in size since 1971.

Lower-income countries, especially China and India, have been growing at a considerably faster pace, with their economies doubling roughly every decade. Just to put that in context, every week, every week mind, a population the size of Hampshire is lifted out of poverty, so that just in this century alone, hundreds of millions of people have risen above the global poverty line. Every day, a population greater three times that of Fareham gets access to electricity and clean water for the first time.

Fourthly, global income inequality has gone down. For the first time ever since the Industrial Revolution, about half of the world's population can be seen as global middle-class. True, inequality within countries has gone up because of globalisation, there are now nigh on 3,000 billionaires world-wide. This perverse proliferation has a dark side, namely, the working poor. So you get the obscene situation where a bizarro like Elon Musk can afford to splash out \$44bn on a whim to buy himself a shiny trinket like Twitter, just because he can. No championing democracy, like George Soros, or education like Jamsetji Tata, nor trying to eradicate malaria like Bill and Melinda Gates, nor even setting up libraries like Andrew Carnegie. But taken as a whole, inequality has actually gone down.

Fifthly, more people are living in democracies. Throughout most of human history people lived under oppressive non-democratic regimes. More than half of humanity is now living in a democracy, and of those still living in autocracies, 90% are in China. True there has been a recent rise in populism, or nostalgic nationalism, which has swept across many countries, bringing macho-authoritarians of the likes of Xi, Trump, Putin, Modi, Erdogan to power. Of course, we had our own version in Britain with Brexit, where the Leave campaign's frustration with the failure of our political class focussed its fury on foreigners and appealed to a regretful yearning for a time when Britain was seen as a dominant world power, not just a member of a club of 28 European countries.

Sixthly, and contrary to what you may believe, conflicts are on the decline. Pace Ukraine. For the first time ever, there has been no war or conflict in Western Europe in about four-score years.

This does not mean that all problems are solved, of course not. There are terrible problems in the world, and more are coming. But overall, in our lifetime, most things have gotten better for most people, especially in the developing countries.

That's why I'd like us to look ahead to the 2050s rather than back to the 1950s. There was a time, in the not too distant past when we in Britain were much more forward-looking, the Skylon of the Festival of Britain, Harold Wilson's "white heat of technology", the swinging sixties, the launch of Concorde, the equality and anti-discrimination legislations, even New Labour's anthem was, "Things can only get better".

We were ready to slough off the dead skin of our past and look hopefully to a shining future. We embraced modernity and progress, welcoming of new technology, new thinking, and newcomers alike.

That is why as a child of the Enlightenment, I describe myself as a data-driven dreamer, I have seen positive developments in the world, and I believe that we have greater opportunities than ever to solve our biggest problems thanks to science and open societies. I am an optimist, who has a positive view of people and am convinced that together we can and shall solve the problems we face, by focussing on opportunities and solutions.

Climate change, artificial intelligence, nuclear war, biochemical weapons, and, of course, pandemics are just some of the existential risks of our time.

But, none of these problems will be solved by themselves. We need to collaborate and co-operate across borders to work, imaginatively, inspirationally, and internationally.

We need to recapture the enthusiasm, optimism, and confidence of youth, not just for our community and our country, but dare I say, possibly pompously, for our world. The single greatest challenge facing our world is climate change, the degradation of our natural environment, the destruction of our tropical forests, and the despoliation of our seas and rivers. Yet, even here, in the battle against an over-heating planet and our reliance on fossil fuels, advances in renewable technologies have been truly remarkable. Their share in providing our electricity in the UK has risen a hundred-fold to more than 15% and still rising. Researchers have engineered a portable desalination unit that can remove particles and salts to generate drinking water that exceeds WHO quality standards with just the push of a button. I'm not a mere techno-utopian, but I genuinely believe that harnessing our innovative genius to the engine of political will help combat, nay conquer, this and other seemingly insurmountable obstacle.

And don't believe it when some folk tell you that we are selfish and out to only look after ourselves, and that there is no such thing as society, as a certain former PM of ours once said, or that the country is going to hell in a handcart. I can tell you from personal experience and for sheer facts, that it ain't so Joe!

When we were flooded in Hebden Bridge on Boxing Day 2015, not only did the whole town and surrounding villages pull together to help clean up the awful mess, repair the damage, and get the town going again, but so too did many many other folk from far and wide, including Sikh volunteers from Khalsa Aid from Slough (over 200 miles away), Muslim volunteers from across the border in Lancashire in the shape of the Rossendale Unity Welfare Society, as well as some lovely Syrian refugee lads from Manchester. Not to mention, dozens others from Halifax, Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, and Sheffield.

We were truly humbled by all those acts of kindness, compassion, and generosity can-do spirit. I can give you thousands of examples of our innate humanity in wanting to help our fellow. The "clap for carers" tribute, saluting NHS and care workers during the first stage of the COVID pandemic, the awe-inspiring volunteers staffing our food banks, the charity delivering beds and basics to children in poverty, the extraordinary response to the current Ukraine refugee crisis further shows the innate goodness of people. That we should condemn our fellow citizens to rely on food banks and charities for the basics of life in the sixth-richest country of the world is a source of shame and the topic of discussion for another time and place.

I am convinced that were Price's still around today, the students, staff, and indeed the whole school community would be at the forefront of making things better. For they would have the passion, the resilience, the ingenuity, the compassion, the enthusiasm, and the stamina to improve the life of the town, the country, and indeed the world beyond our shores.

So in conclusion, I should like to tell you that I heartily disagree with Philip Larkin when he wrote, "Man hands on misery to man", rather I am with Thomas Jefferson in liking "the dreams of the future better than the history of the past", and I know that my time at Price's helped me and thousands like me to become better versions of ourselves and to look forward not back. I believe that we have helped our country, our society, our communities here in Britain, to become a kinder, gentler, better place to live where we not only tolerate difference but actually celebrate and revel in it, whether that difference is of colour, creed, sex, or sexual orientation.

Were I to have a motto, it would be from the Mabinogion, "Bid ben, bid bont", which translates as, "If you want to lead, be a bridge". Well we are and must be that bridge from the past to the future.

Dr Nader Fekri,
Visiting Professor of Politics, Universidad de San Andrés, Buenos Aires. ARGENTINA



David Phelan



Mike Bayliss



Martin Seeley



Kim Taylor



Grahame Fuller



Brian Pearce



Harold Langridge



Roger Starkey



Chairman Phillip Reynolds – acclaimed leadership

Price's School 300th Anniversary

Sunday, May 22nd 2022

Remarks by Dr Alan E Smith CBE FRS

"A Fortunate Generation"

Thank you for organising this lovely event and for your kind invitation to speak. It is wonderful to see everyone here, especially Brian Turner, who is my exact contemporary. We were great friends at school - but haven't seen one another in almost 60 years. It's fun to be able to reflect on those times, that in our case were between 1957 and 1963. What was it about that time and especially about Price's that made that time so special?

First, it was a very fortunate time to be born; following enlightened legislation in the 1940s, universal health-care and secondary education were provided by central government. And in our case here in Fareham, we were also fortunate to have Price's School, enabled by William Price's legacy.

When I arrived at Price's in 1957 it was an extraordinary place; not because of facilities – they were just about adequate – but the community, especially the Teachers - dedicated, caring, selfless, long-serving – and extraordinarily well qualified. They very much looked out for the best interests of the boys.



I had a wonderful time at Price's. I loved the academics but also the Sports. I played on the school football team and a particular memory is of how good a mug of hot tea tastes, after an afternoon on a frozen soccer pitch. And CCF - playing soldiers on Friday afternoons. Those horrible scratchy khaki shirts; Blanco-ing our canvas belts and gaiters; spit polishing our boots and never quite managing the shine achieved by RSM Dowse. In my case I was particularly fortunate in that after O levels, Tom Hilton, my chemistry teacher said 'you should apply to Cambridge, would you like me to write a recommendation to my college?'

It was a time when education was highly valued, opportunities abounded, and scholarships were widely available. On my Dad's side, my family are farmers, going back 300 years around Meonstoke up the valley from here. I was the first to go to university and yet, in 1964, there I was off to Christ's College.

I quickly learned that it was also a very fortunate time to be in the Sciences. Amazingly, in the 1940s it was still widely held that there was a special *life force* that defied the normal Laws of Chemistry and Physics. It was only in the early 50s that such a notion was finally dispelled when Fred Sanger sequenced Insulin, and definitively showed that it was just another chemical structure, albeit a very complex one. Then, in 1953 the structure of DNA was elucidated by Watson and Crick, giving rise to molecular biology and all that followed.

Little did I know that only 3 years after leaving Fareham, I would be in Fred Sanger's office discussing doing a PhD and Francis Crick would be working daily on the floor below. It was extraordinary to be able to work for 3 years there in the Laboratory for Molecular Biology. It is a national treasure, and it should be more widely known that scientists within that single building have won more Nobel Prizes than France.

My time in Cambridge – made possible by Price's School - was transformative; it changed my life. As Chairman of Cambridge in America I have heard that from countless other alumni both in this country and in the USA. I don't have time to describe my professional work but simply say there have been huge advances in Life Sciences in the last 50 years, many made in Cambridge: cloning of DNA, the discovery of monoclonal antibodies, the whole new industry of biotechnology, and the sequencing of the human genome. I feel very fortunate to have played a small part in it. In my mind, this all culminated recently when, from the time we learned the sequence of COVID virus, to having a vaccine widely available was 10 months. Let me tell you, as one who has developed several similar products, that is utterly spectacular. I believe we are all very fortunate it was possible.

Before I close let me mention that, somewhat to my surprise I ended up with 5 children. They have all gone to school and university in the USA; in fact, only last Wednesday my youngest graduated from NYU at Yankee Stadium. I'll readily admit their schools and colleges were excellent - but they cost a fortune. I can also tell you based on their experience, that the education I was lucky enough to receive at Price's, and later in Cambridge, was second to none. And all of it was totally free. We truly were a fortunate generation.

I suspect that those same opportunities no longer exist here in UK. But then again, that period when the Government could afford to pay for everything was something of an anomaly. Education, especially higher education for most of history has always been supported at least in part by philanthropy. At one time Price's Foundation offered both school scholarships and exhibitions for high education. Perhaps we ourselves can best honour the memory of William Price by continuing to support education, especially teachers and scholarships, by whatever means we have available, be they volunteering or financial. And remember too, that Cambridge is still looking for bright young students, especially from the State sector. They don't get enough applications and amazingly enough that is often because teachers discourage students from applying. A reason given is often that such places are elite. They are indeed elite, but only in the sense that Boston Red Sox and Liverpool Football Club are elite sports teams – unashamedly seeking to be the best. Cambridge welcomes anyone likely to benefit, including, as of this year a foundation course for school-leavers who, for whatever reason, are not yet ready to begin at the undergraduate level. Incidentally, that foundation course is entirely paid for by a gift from Cambridge in America. If you know of aspiring students, please encourage them to apply. It could transform their lives.

To close, thank you, William Price and your legacy of 300 years ago and all that it has enabled; thank you for your support of his memory and thank you for the opportunity to spend this time together.

300 Luncheon Address on behalf of the William Price Charitable Trust

Honourable President, Mr Mayor, Madam Mayoress, very welcome guests and fellow Old Priceans.

As some have, on other occasions, heard me observe, “there is but one thing which binds together all those who are here present today and that is we have all been touched, in one way or another, by the benevolence of The Founder, William Price Jnr.”

I am pleased to report that his legacy lives on, both through the activities of this Society, in which I have the honour to serve as a Vice President and through the William Price Charitable Trust, of which I am honoured to serve as Chairman of Trustees and Director of the William Price Trust Company.

Since the closure of the school in Park Lane in 1989, and the subsequent sale of the site with the benefit of permission for development, the net proceeds of that sale have been held in investments made by the Trust in accordance with the current scheme agreed with the Charity Commission in 1993. By prudent management, the asset base has continued to grow. The trust has been able to offer modest annual financial support to those churches within the area of

benefit, namely SS Peter & Paul, Holy Trinity with St Columba and St John The Evangelist. Support is also annually given to the Fareham Welfare Trust in accordance with The Founder’s wishes expressed in his will.

In more recent years, the trust has taken on responsibility for funds made available by Hampshire CC from the sale of the old primary school in Wickham Road and most recently has received, for investment and administration, the balance of funds following the closure of Wykeham House School. Those funds held for Wykeham House School are ring-fenced and provide an income from which to be able to offer educational bursaries and hardship support.

The charity’s aggregated asset base now stands at approximately £8.25 million and this generates an annual income through investments managed by wealth advisors engaged by the trustees. The trust has only one paid employee, the clerk.

It is usual that financial support, available to schools within the area of benefit, is made through half-yearly applications to the trust. The aggregated annual amount of that support varies between £130,000 – 175,000.00 per year, depending on investment returns. Additionally, the trust is able to offer hardship grants to a modest number of qualifying students within the area of benefit, who struggle to financially support their further education costs.

In light of the recent Covid pandemic and with the expected consequential financial and sociological impacts arising, it is anticipated that greater hardship support than in previous years may well be required for more qualifying students.



During this, the 300th year since the founding of Prices School, and through an exceptional arrangement, £300,000.00 of grants were made by the trust in the year 2021-2022.

Over the last year the trust has commissioned a report from its wealth advisors and has begun a review and re-allocation of investments within its portfolio to better respond to Environmental, Social and Governance criteria. This work is being undertaken having due regard to the need to continue to deliver excellent overall investment returns.

The Trust believes, as did The Founder, that the education of our children is the very best investment for the future of our nation. Students should be taught how to think, not what to think; be able freely and, without adverse influence, to develop self-confidence and a wide range of skills, both technical and academic.

Presently, the trust offers support to Fareham college and 18 other primary, junior and special schools within the area of benefit. In the future, and subject to Fareham's planned development, it is likely that three or four new primary schools will come within the area of benefit, together with another secondary school.

It may surprise some to learn that within this borough of approximately 116,000 souls, there is a daily exodus of some 1400 pupils who go out of the borough for their "A" level academic studies. There is a very great shortage of academic "A" level provision within the borough. My personal view is that this is quite unacceptable, is unsustainable and must be addressed. As always seems to be the case here in Fareham, the provision of sustainable, local, easily accessible educational facilities fails to keep pace with other development and population growth.

In contrast, an extensive range of vocational studies are provided at Fareham college and at CEMAST, on the old Daedalus airfield site.

The Society, for its part, annually sponsors two awards for educational achievement at Fareham college, which awards are made at an annual ceremony to celebrate student achievements. Each award comprises the presentation of a trophy and the gifting to the student of a cash sum to assist their future education. The first award is for the student in any field of study who achieves the highest and best college results in the year. This is the Society of Old Priceans Award.

The second award is made to the student who excels in the studies of engineering science. This is an award made in the name of the late Michael Croad-Brangwyn, through whose generosity, such has been made possible.

In years past, the Trust and this Society have proceeded on parallel but somewhat separate paths. More recently, with a greater commonality of membership, there have been and are likely to be, opportunities for more working together to promote and broadcast the name of William Price and his continuing educational support in the town.

For the future, with continued prudent management, it is hoped, and indeed expected, that the Trust will continue to offer support where it can to schools and pupils in the town.

For the Society, now that the school has closed and there are no new younger past pupils coming forward. Working with the trust, it is hoped to effect a remedy there also. There

are aspirations for the Trust and Society members, through an ongoing dialogue, to help remedy this current unacceptable arrangement in years to come. All I can say at this time is “watch this space!!”.

And as a final mention, the Trust is always open to hear from those with a past connection to the school, with a genuine continuing interest in education and, being local, who may wish to volunteer and assist as a trustee.

Thank you for your attention.

Derek Marlow

Chairman’s Thanks and farewell

Despite a delay to the event caused by Covid, we have finally been able to celebrate the 300 years since 1971 when William Price left his education legacy to the people of Fareham.



I, and other people present here today, were at the Grammar School in 1971 to mark the 250th celebratory events held that year. It doesn’t seem possible that over 50 years have passed since then. The book ‘The History of Price’s School’ was written at this time by F.E.C. Gregory. The Society of Old Priceans is very fortunate that David Goldring, a member of the Society, has spent a huge amount of time over the last few years to write a more complete version of the history of Price’s School. This has been lovingly entitled ‘Lion Pride’. With the help of Ken Raby, an electronic version, with excerpts from the book, have been made available this weekend. I would like to thank David and Ken for their excellent work. As ‘Buzz Ellis’ a former teacher

at the school would have said, “The work was done with meticulous care!

Also, a Committee member, Paul Gover, has spent many hours in researching William Price and his family. Paul has produced a book on the subject which is available on Amazon. It is the Society’s intention to formally launch both books at a separate event in the future.

My thanks also to the other members of the committee who have contributed to the weekend’s events. A special thank you must be given to Vice President Derek Marlow who has played a major role in making sure that we were all fed and watered successfully today.

In a moment of quite reflection on the 40th anniversary of the Falklands conflict, I would like us to remember a former pupil of the school, Corporal Ian Spencer, of 45 Royal Marine Commando’s. Ian was killed on 12th June 1982 in the attack on Two Sisters during the final attack on Port Stanley. Ian was a very well liked pupil and an excellent cricketer who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Finally, may I thank you all for coming and wish you all a safe journey home. I look forward to seeing you all again soon, hopefully at one of the Societies events.

Phillip Reynolds

Reflections from past Old Priceans



*In full uniform, though it did change,
latterly*

The remarks below were selected from other contacts with the School received by the SOP over the years. They were not commissioned as such, and are verbatim excerpts. They were distributed to seating places at random generally, in pairs. (In the modern trend, it has to be acknowledged there were alternative views available – but actually, very few, in print, anyway.)

*The remarks mostly appear in the **Gazetteer, Part 2** section of the Anniversary publications, as part of longer accounts and were placed at seating points as potential conversation pieces.*

Agius, Les 1951 - 1957

I am convinced that these teachers gave me a first class traditional Grammar school education which has served me well throughout my life and for which I am grateful. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Allerton, Roger (1971 - ?)

I was fantastically lucky to only meet teachers who wanted to teach, who wanted their students to grow, who thought that we mattered. I could go on for pages praising the wonderful ladies and gentlemen who guided us. Messrs Poyner, Foster and Cole: Thank you for teaching us the true meaning of “*Pro Patria ...*”

*Let every master rejoice in the gifts they have given
May every student celebrate the gifts they have received
May we aim for better.*

Having been granted exceptional opportunities around the world with wonderful companies and remarkable work colleagues, yes, **Prices was the days of my life.** **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Arnot, Bob (1968-1969)

The teaching highlight for me at Prices was definitely JB Chaffey – probably the best teacher I ever came across (both in schools and university). He was a driven individual who really lived and breathed his subject.

It was an interesting time to be at Prices. The dominant ethos, which I would identify as conservative (with both a small and large C) and religious, was being challenged on every level. Superficially just look at the school photos in the early 60s and compare them with the late 60s – the earlier photos comprise embryonic members of the respectable middle class – the latter photos embryonic members of rock bands! However, I really enjoyed the environment that Prices created that allowed pretty open discussion and thinking but this was more within the informal life of the school rather than in the formal life of the institution. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Bundell, Ivor 1966 - 1973

So, *Price's did me proud* - in its own way!

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Cameron, Sandy (1970 – 1977)

I had *a successful time* at Price's, because despite the lows, I believe *I maintained motivation* in the sheer diurnal business of 'going to school'. *I endured, survived, enjoyed* the bulk of my seven years. *I made friends and learned how to make friends; I studied, learned and remembered much of use and interest, not least how to learn.* School is where so much of the rehearsal for adult life takes place, but it is also, of course life itself, the real thing. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Cawte, Anthony D. 1940 - 1945

(Father of Stephen, Martin and Christopher)

My years at school in Price's were enjoyable and all the teachers were very good and helpful to me. I thought that the destruction of Price's School was a terrible thing to do. I was very glad that my three sons, Stephen, Martin and Christopher had the benefit of its teaching before they went to Cambridge University to study. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Cawte, Chris 1973 - 1980

I've fond memories of the school and *lament its passing*. The teachers were excellent on the whole and in Eric Poyner a fine headmaster and someone who had great faith in the potential of teenagers.

As I come up to retirement in 2022 *I have no doubt that Prices Grammar School, and some very good teachers, gave me the confidence to think beyond the (probably imaginary and self-imposed) confines* that had restricted previous generations in my family **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Cawte, Martin (1968 - 1975)

(Brother of Chris. 1973 – 78, and Stephen 1965 – 72), sons of Martin 1939 – 45)

Price's inspired me and my brothers Stephen (1965-72) and Christopher (1973-78) to a love of learning, music, sports and friendship so many outstanding, caring staff. I was lucky to be there..... I realise now, the depth of learning I drew in from all the above-mentioned staff, was far greater than I could have guessed..... I remember the sheer friendliness and encouragement of the staff, the loyalty and encouragement of my friends and the tolerance of Eric Poyner, a great Headmaster. I was lucky enough to know George Ashton too. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Combes, John

Left in peace in the V1th Science Hut Rodney and I spent many a happy hour getting the old Motorbike stored there going, much to the annoyance of our "more seriously minded" colleagues deep in the mysteries of Bridge or Chess!! **See Gazetteer, Part 2**



Dean Cooper, H.E. 1915-1922

To the last Mr. R. O. Johnston I owe a debt of gratitude as it was largely due to him that I went on from Price's to Keble and I believe I was the first member of Price's to obtain an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge. I shall always be grateful to the Staff of Price's for their fairness, their devotion to their duty, their discipline, and the example they set. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Dennis, Roy (11951 – 1958)

I enjoyed my school years It encouraged my later avoidance of cricket and church. My Physics teacher knew my wildlife interest and gave me encouragement. Price's gave me a good education and we often had good fun. My diaries tell me playing chess at break or badminton. ... I know if I had worked as hard on school studies as on my ornithology I might have passed all my exams. But those early years were the bedrock of my life's work with wildlife and I look back fondly on Price's. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Doggett, Peter

During a first-year English class, the genuinely inspiring Mr Johnson chuckled genially he inspired loyalty and encouraged reading off-piste there was one way in which the school triggered my enduring love of literature, and provided foundations for a career as a writer. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Edney, Phillip aka "Spike"

.... it has occurred to me that although I may have considered my time at Price's to have been akin to wandering alone in a musical desert, what oases of talent and action that I did discover, really set me on the most curious of careers. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Edwards, Martin 1939 - ?

For me the CCF was the thing I liked best about Price's. I went on some great camps: July 1975 Loch Ewe, July 1976 Loch Ewe, July 1976 HMS Raleigh, July 1976 RMCTC Lymstone.

Gresham, Peter (1956 – 196)

... , we were in the presence of giants, the great men of the upper school, like Ivor Noot and Colin Tudge and, of course, Marcus Miller who was even then alleged to be quite the cleverest man who had ever lived. ... My own, rather subversive, military career was hampered by my inattention and insubordination: I would never make the 'cadre squad' and pass Cert A Part 2 and get to be an NCO. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Grimble, George

I enjoyed Price's enormously It gave me a great education and so many of the teachers were outstanding. One who inspired me was Dr Smith (he appears in one of the photos in the newsletter) who brought a breath of modernity and fresh air to chemistry. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Fakir, Nader (1967 - 1974)

Looking back is good, but looking forward is even better

I had a fantastic seven years at Price's, first at "The School" and then staying on at what had (in 1974) become "The College" to do my A' Levels before heading up North to university and life as an adult. As I said earlier, overall I was very happy. ... What Price's did encourage was to experiment, to try your hand at anything and everything, and sooner or later you'd find your own niche and *métier*, and if not something to excel at then certainly something to be comfortable in. It taught me was the value of trying everything, of throwing yourself in at the deep end ... One thing that I do carry with me from my time at Price's (corny though it may sound) is a notion of civic responsibility. ... I am with Thomas Jefferson in liking "*the dreams of the future better than the history of the past*", and I know that my time at Price's helped me and thousands like me to become better versions of ourselves and to look forward not back. I believe that we have helped our country, our society, our communities here in Britain, to become a kinder, gentler, better place to live where we not only tolerate difference but actually celebrate and revel in it, whether that difference is of colour, creed, sex, or sexual orientation.

Were I to have a motto, it would be from the Mabinogion, "Bid ben, bid bont", which translates as, "*If you want to lead, be a bridge*". Well we are and must be that bridge from the past to the future. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Hall, David

I often think fondly of the Price's era but spare no thoughts on what education had become in Fareham.

My time at Price's School and College were the happiest times of my teaching career.

See Gazetteer, Part 2



Harley, Trevor 1969 - 1974

In some ways A-levels covered the best years of my life because there was more freedom at school, with plenty of free time for games (chess, poker, and snooker) and the joy of doing subjects I loved. I particularly remember having Jock Daysh for A-level Maths; while he was perhaps not among the world's best mathematician, he was among the world's best Maths teachers. Putting ... things aside, I mostly really liked my time at Price's. I got a lot out of it; coming from a council estate and no father and very little money and ending up with a place at St. John's, Cambridge. I particularly remember Mr. Chaffey being encouraging about going to Cambridge. He was an absolutely ace teacher - and, I like to think, friend. I was glad to talk to Mr Chaffey shortly before he died. He was an absolutely ace teacher - and, I like to think, friend.

I don't think I would have ended up Emeritus Professor of Psychology, author, Fellow of the British Psychological Society, and a Psychology REF assessor unless it had been for Price's.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Harrison, Ken

Many local people believe that Price's School was "despatched" with undue haste and without proper acknowledgement of its place in Fareham History. For more than 250 years the Town and School were inextricably linked together and it is felt that more recognition should be given to the School's role in shaping the development of the Town and its inhabitants. Price's played a distinguished part in the growth of Fareham. It was a strong family School and often successive generations within one family would attend the School and then become stalwarts of the Town in sport, law, medicine, commerce, sailing, boat-building, the Forces, politics, farming, undertaking and other occupations.



A bygone era!



Head, Anthony

.... I soon found the somewhat more relaxed regime under Eric Poyner and a staff of amiable teachers more to my liking than that of my former Head (a Yorkshireman with bullying tendencies). History and Latin, which previously had bored or terrified me (the latter being drilled by the Head) became sources of great interest and enjoyment. Many of the staff I remember with affection, in particular Mick Low, but also others whose patience I must have tested at times: Bill Openshaw, Jack Jones, Tony Johnson, and Jock Daysh Among extracurricular activities, the CCF provided both adventure and entertainment, Noel Coward was once asked what he thought his greatest achievement in life had been, and said it had been keeping his old friends. I would endorse that sentiment, being grateful to have stayed in close contact with so many I knew at Price's – Joyce Smyth (Young), who after a distinguished career in law went on to become the manager of The Rolling Stones, Nicky and Paul Grace, Dave Kelly, Martin Cawte, Alan Goddard. an almost tangible nostalgia, a bittersweet amalgam of loss and gain, and a simple wish that so many of those I knew and grew up with, and will never see again, went on to live happy and fulfilling lives. For as the years pass, what always remains is what Hilaire Belloc identified and so greatly prized:

“From quiet homes and first beginning,
Out to the undiscovered ends,
There's nothing worth the wear of winning,
But laughter and the love of friends.”

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Hawkins, John (1969 – 1976)

I often reflect on my time at Prices. It was a really interesting period of time where I learned a lot about people and a reasonable amount about my selected subjects! ... CCF was a smashing diversion from scholastic work. ... in the RAF we had the fantastic opportunity of flying – what fun, amazing. Without a doubt Prices provided me with a smashing insight into all manner of aspects of life and people – and provided some learning as well. Prices, on reflection, was probably better than I could have ever hoped for and has helped me greatly in much of my life. Given the opportunity I would go again!

See Gazetteer, Part 2



Hedger, Phillip (? – 1969)

I also recall Eric Poyner being what I now know to be what a head teacher should embody. , I must say that the School did embed some element of stubbornness and determination in me, for which I am really thankful.

Hibdidge, Norman (1941 -

I was a very reluctant pupil at Price's. As a small boy from a poor but happy family, my main ambition was to leave school at 14 & work on a farm Despite my lack of enthusiasm, I have much to be thankful for my Price's education, having had a relatively successful career as a cartographer with the Ordnance Survey, spending the last 7 years in charge of the fifty strong small scale Drawing Dept.

Horne, Roy & Pat

I do know they were very proud to have gone to Prices.



Roy's daughter **Susan**

Johnston, Revd. R.O.

The School and its Scholars (You and I) were the objects of his greatest affection, and even when he had retired he could not stay away, but still continued to give all he had on the Playing Field.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Kebble, Paul

.... Price's, had a very positive impact on me, awe-inspiring and amazing role-models; sporty, attractive and intelligent, and maybe why I ended up a PE teacher myself (not for long, though). I also became an international rugby union player,

Kill, David (1963 - ?)

Overall, I found the staff to be very decent and well-intentioned. A few were inspiring teachers (John Chaffey springs to mind) the period I was at the school, which was a time of significant changes in society, I look back on with affection.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Leedham, Richard (1964 – 1969)

The Masters were almost universally kind and fair to me. I particularly liked the younger ones: Max Perrin (Chemistry) and 'Cyril' Lord (English and drama). Although not perhaps perfect, we have so much to thank Price's for, and I for one am very appreciative of all it did for me. I'm not at all sure I would have survived a modern comprehensive?

See Gazetteer,

Part 2

Lent, Steve (1966-1968) + (1971-73)

I particularly remember with affection two members of staff who passed away recently, Alan Glynne-Howell, who was my Form and Latin master in years 1 & 2, and Roy Daysh, my Maths master in the 2nd year. Although I only had Roy as my teacher for 1 year – before going to Wales – he made a particular impression on me.

Malone, Peter

.... *teaching of classroom subjects at Price's was very good in the way that all recipients were treated as equal. I owe much to Tony Hiles's encouragement throughout the seven years I was there.*

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Manley, Ray

Art was the only other subject I could think of doing, despite not having done it in the fifth form and despite nobody else in my year doing it at A level. Tony Hiles kindly came to my rescue though and sacrificed all his free periods and took me on, an act that completely changed my direction in life. I am forever grateful to Tony Hiles who's generous time and teachings were influential in leading me to a career that I couldn't have hand-picked better. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Newbury, Robert

I quite liked the old-fashioned stuffiness of the school, although The Black Lion was always something to look forward to and seemed very daring and subversive at the time. My first form master was the kindly Mr Nash I remember the 250th anniversary celebrations. It was such an event, that it seems inconceivable that fifteen years later the place would be torn to the ground. I think there was real pride in the school at the time. The 250 years meant a lot to many of the teachers, and even to some of the pupils. Oh well, I remember a great deal about Price's and still find it hard to believe it has gone forever. **See Gazetteer, Part 2**

Pechal, Katrina

"It was at Prices Sixth Form College, and with the encouragement and wonderful tea Mr. Issac was a talented artist and potter himself and gave his students the belief in themselves. His praise was so powerful and I am so grateful to him. Mr. Issac was a talented artist and potter himself and gave his students the belief in themselves. His praise was so powerful and I am so grateful to him.

I absolutely love what I do and hope that I am as inspiring to my students as he was to me"

See Gazetteer, Part 2



Look! No braiding!

Pigney, Grahame

The teaching staff, with one or two exceptions, was very fair and just seemed harsh to us because we didn't understand what they were trying to prepare us for. My time at Price's will not be viewed as any sort of academic achievement but it played an important part in my life and help to equip me for what came next. Price's, as an institution and by the efforts of its staff, sought to inspire academic excellence. there is much of what I am today that would not have been possible without the education that Price's and its staff provided me with.

For that I am very grateful. It was a criminal waste when Price's was closed and demolished.

Price's was, by far, one of the best equipped in the area, the result of a vigorous and hard-working PTA that raised considerable sums of money to equip laboratories, the gym, the library.... Much was left to be bulldozed and only saved by illicit actions of some ex-pupils. After that the connections are perhaps a bit tenuous. What Messrs Briscoe & Hunt taught me about woodwork and how to use tools, so that I could build boats and renovate houses? The French that Messrs Jay & Chapman had persevered with so I didn't have to start from scratch when I moved to France? Becoming a librarian and by doing so meeting Nigel Groves, Jim Lamont et al. and through them learning to sail? The opportunity to fly a glider, a magical experience, and to discover a lot about myself by passing the aptitude test and interview for a Flying Scholarship? The sailing and the flying taught me that there are other measures of achievement other than academic results. Understanding that builds confidence. The experience of camaraderie and competition, even when you are on the wrong end of the competition it helps teach you what your strengths and weaknesses are. Even being called "Piggers" and being snorted at adds to your character and experience. Above all, I have always had in the back of my head Eric Poyner saying "you'll never do anything unless you apply yourself". I hope I have honoured his efforts and commitment to teaching us by following that simple but seminal advice.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Pond, Roy

I look back with fond memories of Prices, of good classmates and teaching staff, with opportunities at sport. I did not experience any bullying. There was discipline, but not harsh.



Porter, Anthony (1957 – 1962)

In closing, I recall that Price's always had a good reputation, with us boys proud to be pupils there. It also taught us much about discipline and self-discipline, behaviours almost lost today. If you encountered a teacher in the street, you had to raise your cap and say "Good Morning, Sir". How times have changed!

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Poyner, Eric A.B.

The ripples went out from Price's into all walks of life at home and abroad and I often think that the Price's influence may still be having a great beneficial effect in many corners of this planet of ours. I know that every Price's boy in one measure or another gained something more than sporting or academic experiences – something was "caught" not "learned" – caught largely from the qualities and characters of the Staff and by rubbing shoulders with his fellow pupils, thereby forming his own attitude to life which was to stand him in good stead for the future.

Mr Poyner has impressed Staff with his sincerity and integrity of character and it is difficult to realise that this friendly personality will no longer be with us at the helm next term. **(RMJ.)**

Raby, Fiona

Prices was my first taste of independence. I wanted the same liberation as my brothers. Prices opened my eyes to a whole new world, even if I wasn't particularly academically accomplished. the years in Prices, but even in that short time, it gave me a trajectory out into the world and the confidence and determination to take those steps and particularly since I was not the studious kind in the traditional sense.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Richter, Terry (1960-1967 as a Pupil, and 1979 – 1983, as a Teacher)

But now, with 54 years of life since those days, I can look back with some affection. I treasure the Latin because it helps me understand how many words are made, I can value the beauty I see in mathematics, and in art. I may still not be very good at the other things, but I can respect the skills and achievements of those who are. I have been so fortunate to enjoy my life in so many ways because my time at Price's gave me such a variety of experience, it showed me horizons I would never have known existed, it helped me understand that I could really help myself to learn. So, yes, I do, after all, feel very lucky to have been educated at Price's. I'm sure we all will be happy to share a big Thank You to William Price!

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Shurlock, Barry 1953 - 1960

This, I am sure, is more than enough to show what I owe to William Price and the masters at the top of Park Lane who put up with a bunch of unlikely boys. Poyner Close and William Price Gardens are feeble relics of a school that should never have been destroyed.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Simpson, Michael (1950 – 1956)

I realised rather late in life how much I owed to the opportunity of being able to attend Prices school, and the education I received there. I wish I had been able to meet some of the masters who taught me, in particular Ralph Thacker, before they had passed on. I believe however that Prices equipped me with the necessary basic education and self-confidence to make the most of my life and can look back on an interesting and not unsuccessful career and have few regrets.

See Gazetteer, Part 2



Smith, Alan CBE, PhD, FRS (1957 – 1973)

I have very happy memories of Price's!

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Smyth, Joyce (nee Young) 1974 - 1976

I was very lucky to be in the first cohort of girls who transferred after O levels to Price's College We all found a new sense of freedom My time at Prices really was incredibly happy and I have many fond memories of both people and place. Sad to think the college did not survive for future generations to have the opportunity it gave me and many others.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Starkey, Roger

What attributes did Price's manage to instil in me? Well unsurprisingly most of it came from the sports field. It was the value of teamwork and effective leadership. It was certainly a humbling experience to get beaten 5 v 0 and then have to call for 3 cheers for the opposition. From the classroom I guess a little bit of everything but I do remember liking Thacker's "précis" lessons where we learnt to reduce a page and a half of blurb to two paragraphs without losing meaning. So I am both a product of, and champion of, the Grammar School education system; and that despite the fact that it did not entirely suit me. I saw many boys, from relatively modest backgrounds, go on to achieve great things. The closure of Price's Grammar School was a sad loss to Fareham and the surrounding area.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Taylor, Kim (1969-1971)

All my memories of Price's are fond ones. One thing that sticks in my mind about Price's is that, in strong contrast to the grammar school in Sussex I attended before it, the boys were open and welcoming. Consequently my stay at Price's was a very happy one. I do have a distinct memory however of Mr Vail. I arrived in his class doing different set books from the ones he was teaching; he taught me individually after school in order that I could continue with the (exceptionally tedious) Caesar's Gallic Wars for 'O' level Latin. I am sure that played an important part in my eventually getting to Oxford.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Thomas, Jeremy

I cannot write about Price's without mentioning the importance of Mr Thacker, our English master. He was the tops – no nickname - always Mr Thacker. He used to read Middlemarch every summer holiday – and he was the teacher every pupil most wanted to impress. When I look back on my time at Price's, it is with considerable fondness, and I wonder what difference it would have made to my subsequent career if I had put in more effort and got to a good university. I'm not sure it would have, and who knows – I may just have been lucky in life! But perhaps I worked more diligently post-Price's in order to make up for my lack of diligence when I was there – I think that must indeed have been the case! That being so, Price's served me well!

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Tomlinson, John (1972 – 1974)

Being a Londoner, I barely knew where Fareham was, but warmed to the sight of Price's School immediately. My first impression was that I had stepped straight into an episode of "To Serve Them All My Days", but this wasn't a displeasing feeling and any misgivings were soon allayed by the warm welcome I received from all of the staff. "would be interested in returning full-time to Price's?" Once again, Price's worked its magic on me. the staff, and the Maths staff in particular, made me feel at home. The boys were, on the whole, respectful and hard-working. At the College, once Incorporation was inflicted on us, we became more of a business than an educational institution.

We became entirely responsible for our own finances and hence recruitment became key to survival and the pressure to succeed was immense. those who were seeing-out the old Grammar School were guided admirably by the "Head", Cyril Briscoe and were only too happy to see the introduction of sixth form girls into their hitherto all - male environment.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Tuck, Charles (1968 – 1975)

The years 1968 to 1975 at Price's School, Fareham were without doubt the happiest years of my time in teaching .

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Vine, Geoffrey (1951 – 1958)

I owe to my masters at Price's a rich enjoyment of history and theology and, to one or two masters, I owe my determination never to bow to abusive authority.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Walker, Danny

I have a brick from the library building obtained by a friend of mine when the old place was pulled down, It is mounted & remains a treasured possession, nostalgia becomes more important, the older we get.

Williams, Glen

The best thing about school is I made friends for life. I have met very few people in life that are still good friends with their old school chums.

See Gazetteer, Part 2

Woolfrey, Celia 1977 – 1979)

Thank you for maintaining the site, it was interesting to come across these blasts from the past. My parents don't live in Fareham any more but when they did I remember walking up Park Lane and seeing that the old college had been demolished and wondering 'Did all those things even happen?'



S.O.P. Members were presented with the up-dated lapel Badge, for the occasion.

The (in)Famous Five

This is a story of some naughty boys who were caught doing something really bad – the sort of thing that only young teenage boys might do. Look, even now, they cannot take the smirks off their faces, after all these years, and knowing that the rule of law, and justice will eventually catch up with them – all the details in the detention book endure through time.



The not-so Famous Five!



This one is the main culprit – see how confident he is!



And he will surely say “it wasn’t wot I dun, Sir!”



But he wasn’t alone. Just look at the surly reaction of this one.



He was just as bad, look at his reaction at being caught.



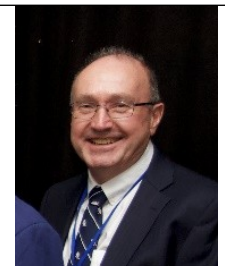
This one is just about getting the idea they are in trouble



See his dismissive attitude at being told off.



His mate had the same attitude, resentful!



Cheesy grin, thinking he would get away with it!



In the brown bag, things that no boy of his age should know about



I haven’t seen them like that. Do they cost more?



Oh! My brother showed me one of those!



Wow! Crikey! I wondered what they were like!



All the others, the poor innocents, can’t help but have a laugh!



Wot!? How come you’ve never seen these before?



It’s enough to bring a tear to your eyes!



Hm! I’m not so sure this is going down, well!



Oh! Perhaps I had better own up to it being my idea?





















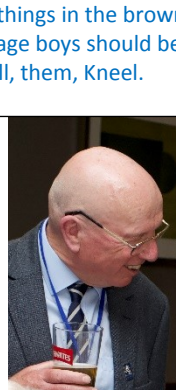
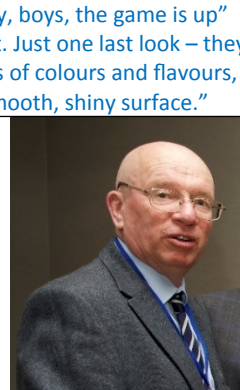
Sir, it was like this – I started, but it was just too funny to hide!



And, as the others looked at me, it just got worse



... and then someone farted

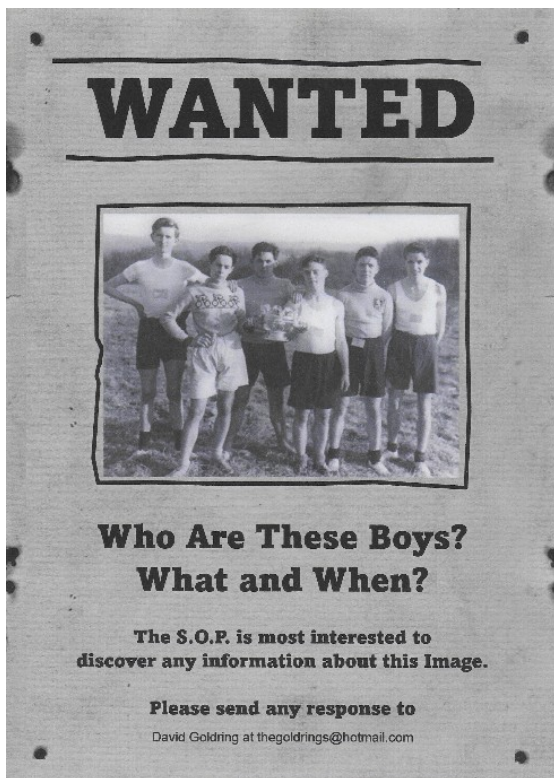
 <p>All semblance of self-control was lost</p>	 <p>He couldn't contain himself, nearly wet his pants!</p>	 <p>By name and by nature, one for the dark hours</p>	 <p>"What's going-on here boys, then"? Sir said smugly!</p>	 <p>This is going from bad to worse, not sure what next!</p>
				
<p>This was just about the best wheeze since someone turned off the heating for the swimming pool!</p>				<p>OH Lummy!, here's Mr. Thrillaminute to do his worst</p>
 <p>Now boys, this is it! I have been taking photos and recording these antics. (Oh, Sorry, wrong file - those were in the changing rooms.)</p>	 <p>Grit your teeth, boys, Sebastian is on its way!</p>	 <p>You don't understand "guilt by association" do you?</p>	 <p>"Watch out boys!" pay day is about here"</p>	
 <p>Now, boys, listen: there are some things in life not to be messed with</p>	 <p>OK., Sir, you man those things in the brown bags that no early-teenage boys should be concerned with? Tell, them, Kneel.</p>	 <p>"Hey, boys, the game is up" Oh, all right. Just one last look – they have got all sorts of colours and flavours, and a smooth, shiny surface."</p>		
				
<p>It's funny, really, how people get all worked-up about such things, after all they are only sherbet flying saucers!</p>		<p>"What are you looking at me like that for?!"</p>		

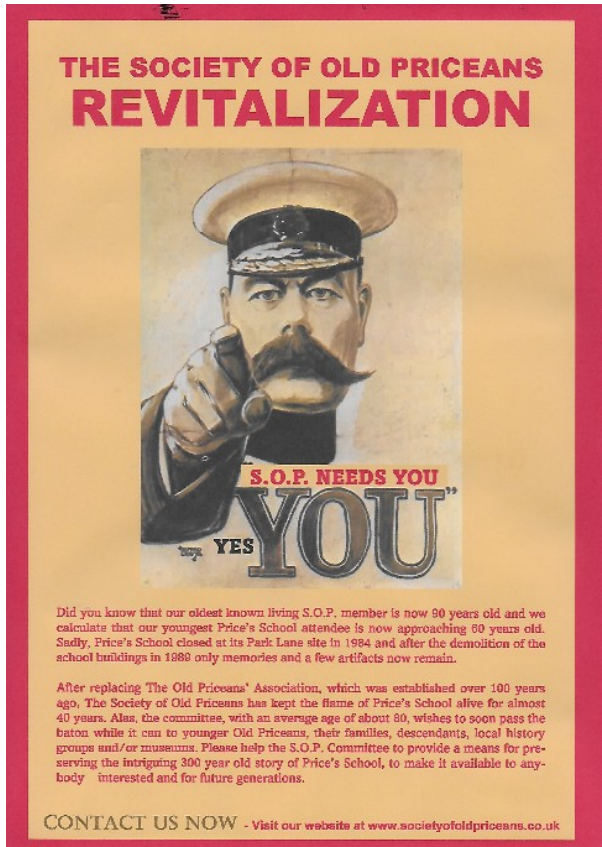
With acknowledgements to Matt Bull Photography.



Teachers: Tony Johnson (English), Charles Tuck (P.E. & Games) and Terry Richter (Maths)

To lighten the atmosphere, to encourage mingling folk to talk to each other and to stimulate the memories of past “things”, a select few posters such as these were prepared but sadly, there was no time to distribute them or to put them on display

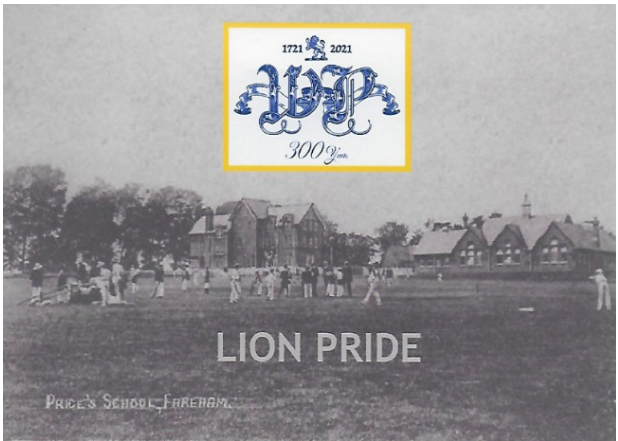




Ken Raby had prepared an envelope with enclosures as *aids memoirs* for O.P.s to take away and hopefully for them to be of use and value in stimulating an interest in becoming more involved




Ken himself had printed approx. 100 such envelopes, distributed to where O.P.s were seated



This A6 sized card insert delivered the following message on its reverse side:



The Inside of the card insert had the greeting, and attached was a memory card with excerpts of the Lion Pride Chapters



Welcome to LION PRIDE.

LION PRIDE is positive appreciation of everything that was Price's School from the time of the enactment of William Price's Will in 1725. It conveys a powerful sense of belonging owned by pupils who attended Price's School.

Attached inside this celebration card is a digital memory card containing a special copy of the LION PRIDE FOLDER containing numerous folders and files highlighting the essence of Price's School.

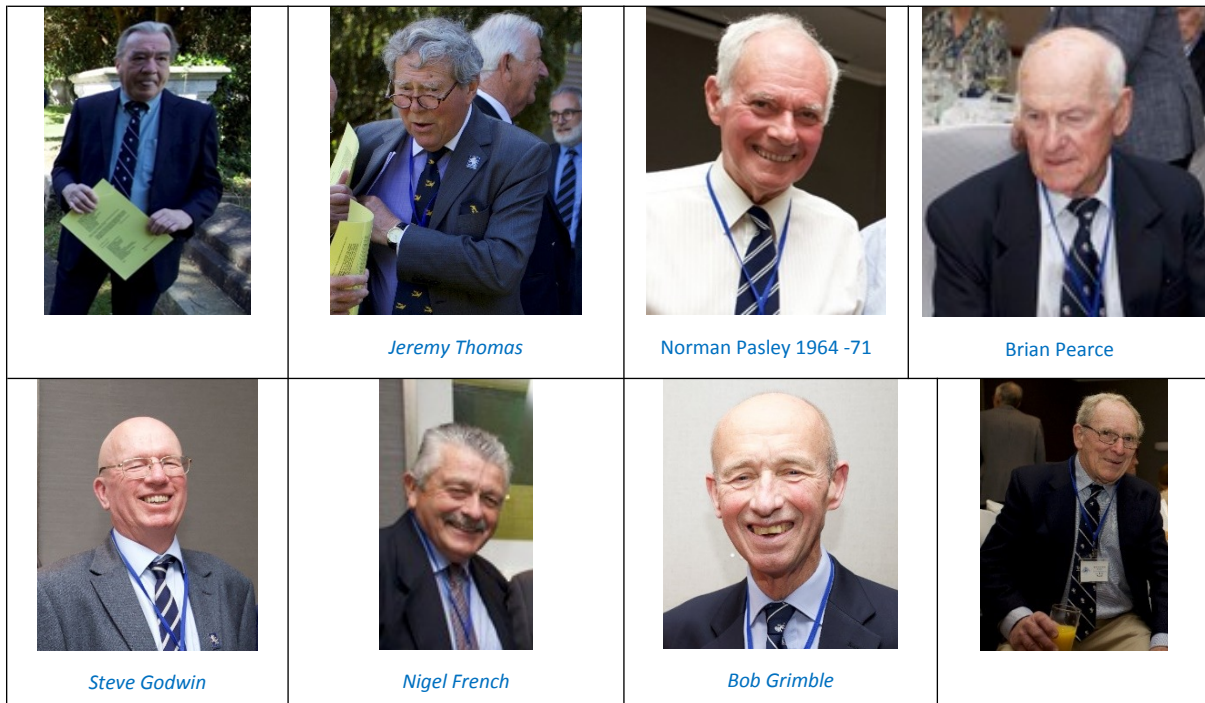
This LION PRIDE FOLDER is part of the continuing story about Price's School and the experiences of its pupils, their nostalgic school memories and their achievements afterwards. In collating the sources, we realised it would be unfinishable, that the story of Price's School is never ending with interesting snippets of information and memories popping up every day. It is on going and will never be complete.

We hope you enjoy exploring this LION PRIDE FOLDER recalling old memories, a catalyst, helping you to fill the many gaps that exist, perhaps by providing copies of old photographs, badges or filling in missing names.

Searching the mind, and stores of memorabilia hidden away, anything of interest, can easily find its way into future versions of the LION PRIDE FOLDER.

This LION PRIDE FOLDER is an initial attempt to display books, magazines and articles in a PDF eBook format, making them easy to access and read. The memory card can be inserted into most modern computers so an amazing wealth of Price's School information can be found. You will also notice that individual completed eBooks can be found. All of these can be produced as quality printed individual books relatively quickly, so if sufficient interest is made by members the SOP Committee will assess the various options and advise more details. The prime issue with printing books is that the price reduces significantly when the quantity increases. An indication of likely books potentially found within the LION PRIDE FOLDER to be printed and their cost will be provided by the SOP Committee soon when the amount of interest has been determined.

The Society of Old Priceans Committee





Phillip Hedger



Charles Tuck



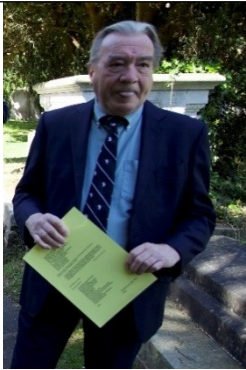
Barry Callon



John Mitchell



Ian Farley



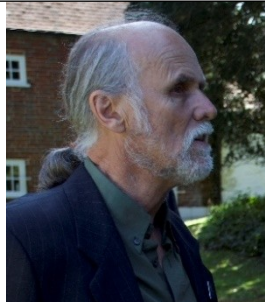
Tony Johnson



Antony Porter



Mike Bayliss



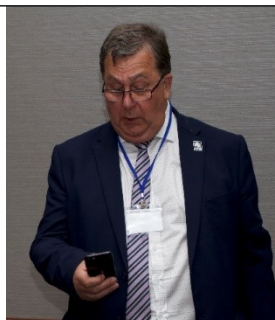
Kevan Bundell



Charles Evans



John Coombes





Chris Phillips 1964-67



Paul Thomas



Sue Tuck



Kate Swindell, daughter of Patrick & Janet Ridett



Kate Mitchell



Tina Ellis in the 1974 first mixed intake to the Price's College



Janet Ridett



Heidi Callon



Sue Marlow



Cllr. Pam Bryant
W.P.C.Trustee



Angela Peagram



Sculpture donated by Tappenden

(Held in Society archive)



Our Senior Citizens:

Victor Hughes, Callon, Patrick Nobes, Brian Pearce, Barry Callon, Harold Langridge

Society of Old Priceans Committee 2022/3



President Patrick Nobes



Chairman Phillip Reynolds



Derek Marlow



Secretary Brian Pearce



Charles Evans



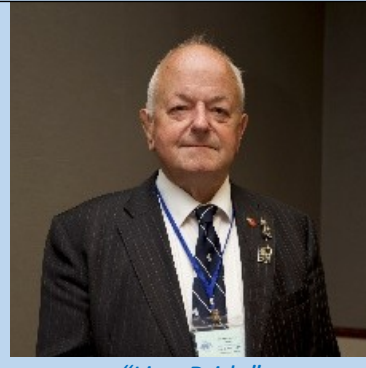
Webmaster Michael Peagram



Archivist Neale Fray



*"A Good Price for Fareham"
author Paul Gover*



*"Lion Pride"
Editor David Goldring*



Mark Knight



Lou Stamp



Ken Raby (co-opted)



Honourable President of the Society of Old Priceans, Patrick Nobes



Chairman of the Society of Old Priceans, Phillip Reynolds

Chapter sequence in the Lion Pride

Chapter No.	Title	Pages	File Size (KB)
1	The Cultural Life of the School	43	6630
2	Introduction	11	4030
3	Boarding and up to 1949	44	21,285
4	The Buildings	47	136,380
5	The 50s, 60s and 70s.	56	7,236
6	Extracurricular Life of the School	45	7,230
7	The Charity School and the Family Price	50	3,901
8	The Cadet Force	62	21,452
9	Price's Sixth Form College	82	55,700
10	The Major Sports: Football, Hockey and Cricket 1 st XIs	76	7,388
11	Price's Timeline	13	1,492
12	The Price's (9 th Fareham) Scout Troop	65	57,545
13	Minor Sports	112	43,857
14	The Library	21	14,578
15	Athletics and the Steeplechase	26	3,769
16	Spirit of Adventure	45	19,214
17	Academic Performance	66	12,925
18	The Lion Magazine and Other Publications	46	12,925
19	Price's Creators	142	30,009
20	The Old Priceans	76	17,703
21	The Tercentenary Celebrations	53	40,099
22	Religion in the Life of the School.	36	11,634
23	A Portrait of William Price	13	2,500
24	Closing Thoughts	11	23,214