

FOREWORD

by

Chairman of Governors

from 1978 to date of publication (2009) and ongoing

Dear Reader

It's a pretty safe bet that you are either a past or present pupil, member of staff, parent or governor of The Arnewood School and it is to you that this history book is dedicated.

Having been a Governor and Chairman of Governors for over thirty years, I found the recollections of so many people very interesting and was reminded of how much I had forgotten! I hope that you, too, will have many happy memories re-kindled as you read through these pages. Can you add any anecdotes? If so, please let us know.

History, as you know, is not a dead subject but very much alive and this collection of memories will have to be constantly up-dated to keep pace with this ever changing school.

My thanks go to all of you who have made this first edition possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Cook', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

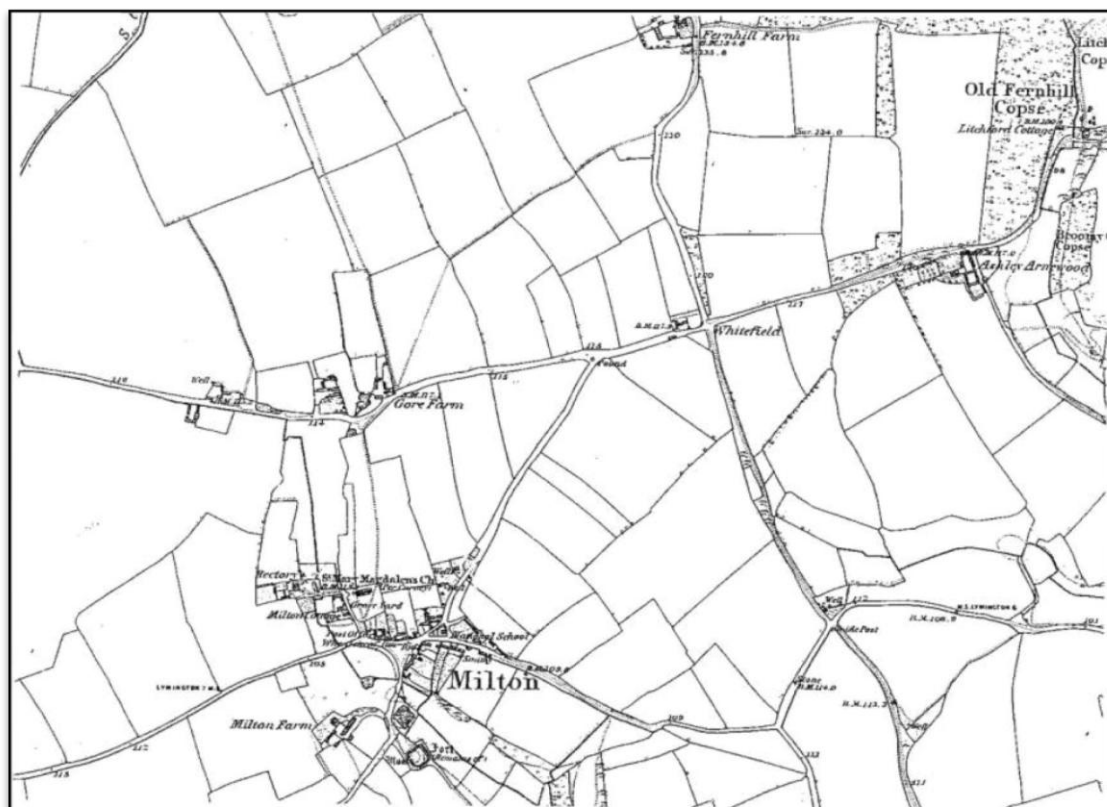
Elizabeth Cook

March, 2009

Back in Time

'Arnewood' is an Old English word meaning 'eagle-wood'

During the 19th century the area in Hampshire from the site of the present railway station at New Milton to the coast, was used for grazing cereal crops; a pleasant rural idyll, unspoiled by industrial development, although one rich in minerals.



Above is an extract from an Ordnance Survey map published in 1872. Note the complete absence of the railway system at this time and the prominence of the village of Milton. The farmland between Gore Farm and St Mary Magdalene Church is the present site of The Arnewood School.

By 1926 familiar landmarks were visible, with the expansion of the village of Milton. Parish records dating from 1654 show that the thirteenth century Church of St Mary Magdalene, which is adjacent to the school site, was largely replaced in the 1830s.

Those familiar with Captain Marryat's 'Children of the New Forest' (1848) will recognise the name 'Arnewood' as the home of his brave young Royalist family. Indeed, many readers believe the story to be a true one and that the current school was built on the site of the original dwelling. Alas, this is an intriguing story but mythical: the site of the school was farmland before becoming an educational establishment.

Back in the Middle Ages 'Milton', like Arnewood, was one of four manors squeezed by the surrounding estates of substantial landowners. The establishment of Forest Claims in 1670 proved to be an important source in order to identify local landlords and farmers. George Stanley was the owner of Ashley Arnewood, giving his name to the estate still called 'Stanley' in East Ashley.

In 1833 the Government first allocated money to schools and it is interesting to note that there were five Day Schools (presumably Dame Schools in cottages) in the area around our current secondary school. By 1835 National Schools (for infants and juniors) were built on an island of land east of The George Inn, the cob-built butchers' shop and the Parish Poor House of Milton. It remained here until just after the Great War, when it moved to huts off the east end of Gore Road.

The Arnewood School came into being in 1970, as an amalgamation of two previous schools in the area: Ashley Secondary School and Gore Secondary School.

Ashley Secondary School

The Log Book of this school still exists and gives us an interesting snapshot of the school which opened in September 1939 – a date perhaps of greater significance in our recent history! The Headteacher was Mr Roland Wakefield; there were four hundred and forty pupils, thirteen mixed classes and eight contributory Junior Schools. Only senior classes used the library as books were scarce and it is sad to note that the bottom two classes, 1R and 2R were, in the jargon of an H.M. Inspector, regarded as 'retarded'. Class sizes were as high as forty-six, swollen by the many evacuees in the area and also because suitable male teachers were called up for war service.

It is worthy of note that the new Caretaker was appointed on a salary of £52 per annum, although there is no record of the Headteacher's salary at the time!

Children were naturally involved in the war effort, yet in 1940 it is recorded that some parents refused to send their youngsters to school until adequate shelters were provided. Generally, however, the 'Dunkirk Spirit' prevailed; for example on Saturday, 21st September there was an 'Autumn Fayre' at the school in aid of the 'New Forest Spitfire Fund'. £210.00 was raised and members of the public were invited into the school for the first time, resulting in over fifteen hundred 'parents and friends' attending.

However, attendance at school dropped to sixteen percent and locals were anxious – this exacerbated by a very serious air-raid in New Milton main street on a summer Friday in 1940, which resulted in many casualties.

The Log Book records that on 1st September 1940 – at 2 am – a bomb dropped in the Recreation Ground only one hundred and twenty yards from the school. Peripheral damage was reported and problems for pupils getting home after air raid warnings added to the general tension.

By November 1940 the school was requisitioned for the 'feeding and shelter' of a hundred 'de-housed' people from Southampton. In fact five hundred and forty people were housed and fed over eighteen days. The school was open for twenty four hours a day and the teachers worked in shifts! What price the 'good old days' in schools ...

At one time the school was used as a rest centre for homeless refugees from Portsmouth, yet in the midst of all this suffering there was some light relief. For instance the school was awarded the 'Silver Challenge Spade' for the best school garden in the county. Also, on one occasion the building was closed for a 'potato planting holiday', which lasted two weeks.

There have been some curious reasons recorded for absences from school over the years and one such is a Log Book entry for September 1942 which states:

'Lady teacher absent for one week, with permission as her husband was home after three years on the high seas.'

Presumably pupils were allowed absences in such special circumstances. Yet no record of such instances exists.

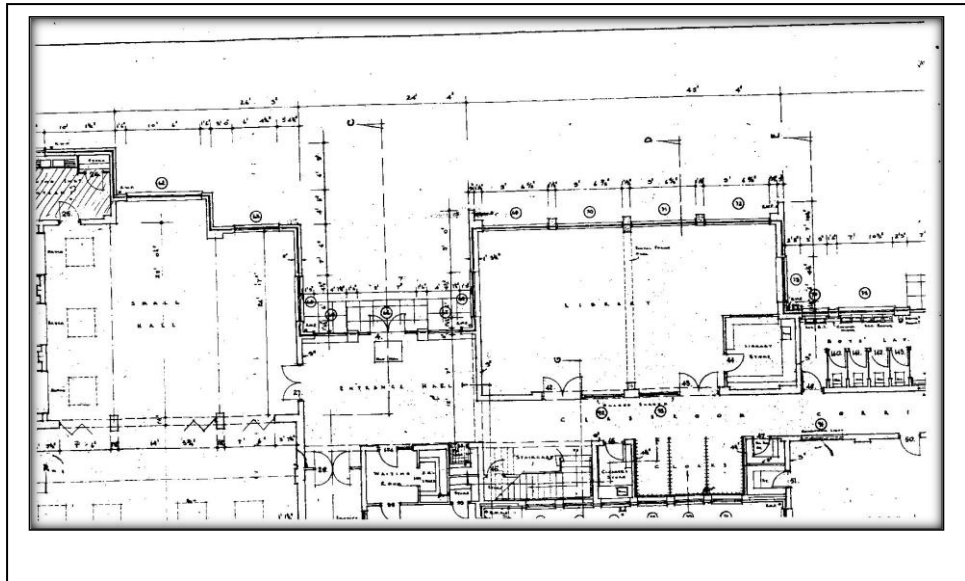
Despite all the detail on the war years written in the Log Book, there is no actual mention of the end of the conflict. However, moving on eight years the Log does record that the school closed on June 2nd and 3rd, 1953, for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Whether or not there were celebrations on site was not mentioned at all!

The usual round of school activities continued and external, national and international affairs encroached from time to time. In September 1956 one new staff member was, '...unable to take up duties as he was called to military service in Suez' – only returning to school in December.

By 1957 there were 923 pupils on roll and later that year the County Education Officer, Mr R. M. Marsh, visited in order to discuss with the Headteacher and Chairman of Governors the future organisation of the school and an additional school to be built on an adjacent site in the near future.

By September 1960 the first and second years were 'being accommodated' at the New Milton (Gore) Secondary School, which is the site of The Arnewood School today.

A plan dating from October 1956, shows the entrance hall and a 'small hall' on the left and a library on the right, which actually remained there for many years to come.



The 'slow stream annexe' continued at the Ashley Primary School but the class formerly housed in the Ashley Baptist schoolroom was recalled to the main building.

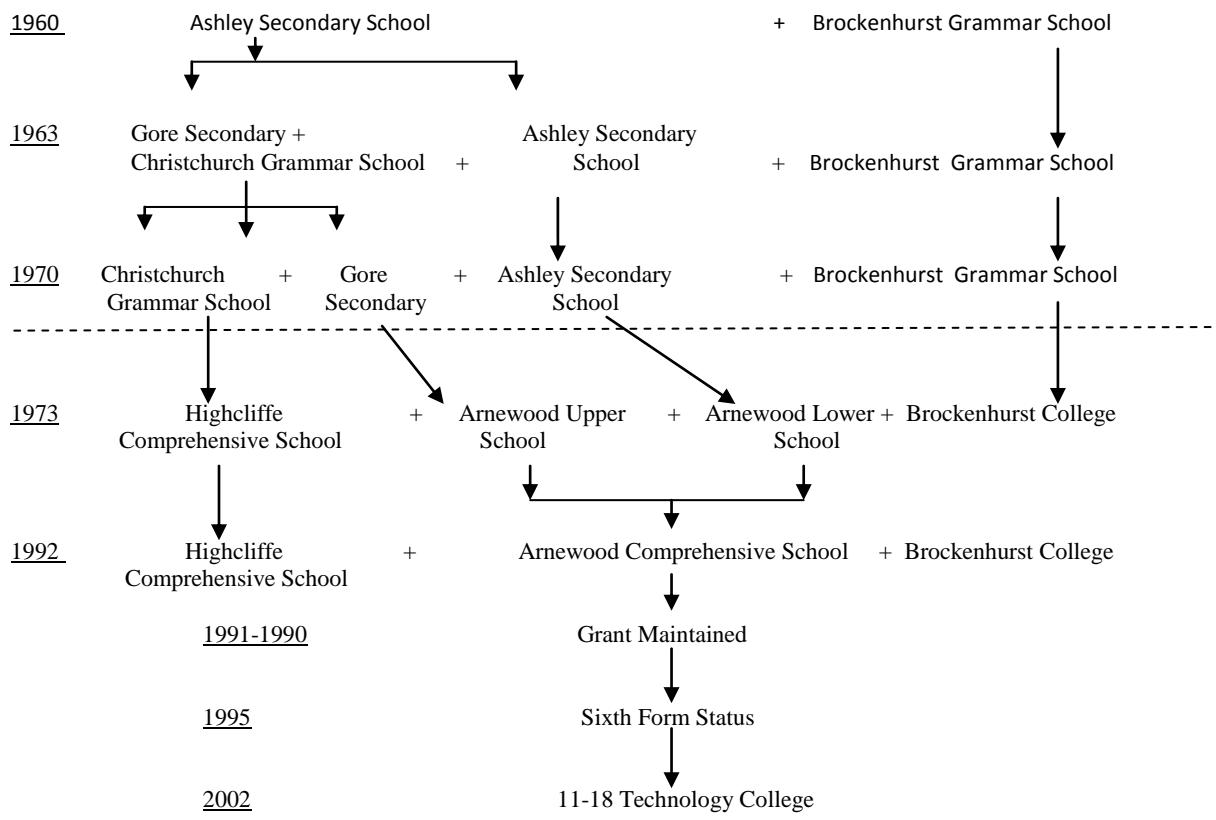


Above is the original badge of Gore School which still remains today.

In July 1962 Mr Wakefield retired; his successor was Mr David Gorvett, later to become the first Headteacher of Arnewood School.

Gore Secondary School

Gore Secondary School was opened in 1960 on the site of what is now The Arnewood School. The word 'gore' means triangular shaped land – not a reference to a gored skirt as some people imagine! The flow chart below shows the development of this school from its opening.



There was to be a new Grammar School in Highcliffe and for a time the two schools co-existed in the Gore School building. The pupils in the first year, according to a teacher at the time, were taught as one unit and the staff worked in harmony together, meeting in a small staffroom which is today off the stairs to the current corridor for English classrooms.

Pupils in the second year were gathered from the Gore catchment area and on completion of the school building at the end of the 1950's, work began on Highcliffe Grammar School.

The first Headteacher was Mr John Baker and his Deputy was the designate Head for the new Gore School.

There existed friendly rivalry between Ashley and Gore and sports activities organised were given the unlikely title of 'Scalping Matches'. Athletics matches occurred between Christchurch Grammar, Twynham and Gore schools for an annual 'Rose Bowl', all helping to forge links in the community.

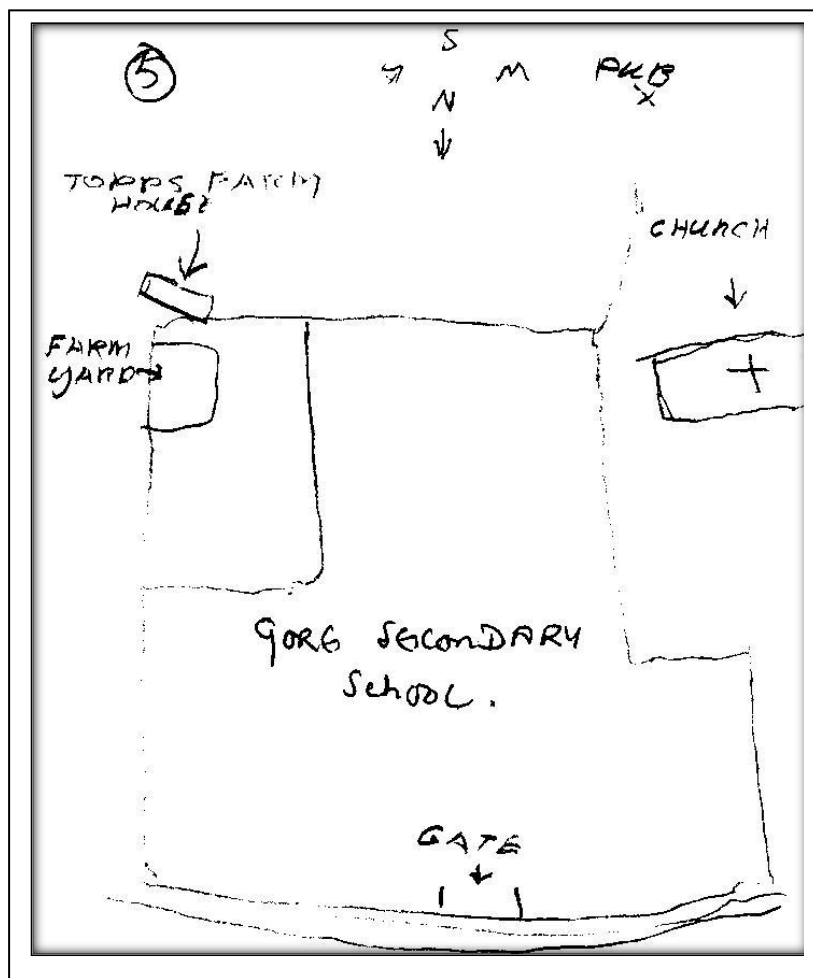
In July 1963 the Grammar School moved to new premises in Highcliffe and Gore School became a separate entity.

There was a first, second and third year, with three classes in each year group, plus one class as the fourth year and also a grand total of fifteen staff. The total number

of pupils was under three hundred (rather smaller than Ashley) and there were only four teachers over thirty years of age.

In addition there was a significant sea cadets group under the supervision of Headteacher Mr G. N. Day.

References to local maps at that time refer to Davis Field, now very much a built-up housing estate. An interview with Mr Richard Davis has revealed interesting information about the area before the 1960s. 'Little Gore Farm' – dating from 1765 – still stands opposite The Arnewood School. Mr Davis' father sold his land – Davis Field – in 1964: 'his six best fields compulsorily purchased' by the council. In fact the farmland stretched beyond Albert Road and Gore Grange. Mr Davis remarked that, before Gore School buildings were erected, the family were able to see clearly across the open fields right to the parish church. The farmland on which Gore Secondary School was built had previously belonged to Mr Ron Topp of Topp Farm and the farmhouse itself was situated in the bottom left-hand corner of the current school site (see diagram drawn by Mr Davis.) A branch of his family had been butchers at Old Milton, using cob buildings still in existence today.



Above is Mr Davis' map.

Mr Topp sold his land to the County Council in the mid 1950s and it must be noted that current cemetery land was originally part of his field before that time.

The Amalgamation of the Two Schools

On 13th February 1963 there was a Governors' meeting at Gore School where there was a discussion on staff transfers, as school pupil numbers were falling.

Meanwhile the Ashley Log Book recorded the annual lows and highs of the school year, but it is often the seemingly trivial which arouses interest...

It is mentioned that, in December 1963, 'Following a complaint by a parent concerning an unreported verruca, the Headteacher informed the County Education Office of the state of the floors in the gym changing rooms and therefore alerted the PE staff of the situation. Later on the school's medical officer visited the site and gave his report.' Favourable, we hope!

By 1st June 1966 Ashley swimming pool was completed and formally opened on 16th July.

Mr Bert Stainer was instrumental in the build and he proved significant later on in the naming process of the new Arnewood School.

By September 1966 there were four hundred and ninety pupils on roll at Ashley, with twenty-five and a half staff! The first year was not streamed and the arrangement seemed to suit.

One interesting entry in the Log Book was in 1967 when a county police sergeant was called to the School in order to inspect the 'Poisons Cupboard' and the types kept!

On 8th February 1967 the Governors met at Gore Secondary School at 2.15pm, and decided to form separate Governing Bodies for both schools. The future accommodation of pupils at Ashley School was also discussed.

It can be observed that the authorities, in 1968, were now referring to some 'less able children' – a move from the 'retarded' pupils of the 1940s!

On 4th March 1968, the school choir and orchestra visited Barton House Home for Refugees – are there such places now?

It must also be noted that the following September Mr Dai Howell was appointed to teach Boys PE. According to the then Deputy Head of Ashley, he was the youngest staff member at that time. Dai remained an important figure at Arnewood; he was promoted to Head of PE and after teaching the subject for more than 20 years he transferred to the Geography Department. After retiring from teaching he became

the school's Careers Officer for two years, eventually retiring some 40 years after joining the school.

A landmark event in 1968 was a visit by Mr Gorvett to Noadswood Secondary School in order to discuss comprehensive school organisation with the Headteacher there. Further discussions ensued at Brockenhurst Grammar School, relating to secondary reorganisation plans. There were also investigations concerning Brockenhurst becoming a Sixth Form College.

Matters concerning the amalgamation of the schools moved on apace and by November 1968 the Headteacher, Mr Gorvett, attended a meeting at the 'Castle' in Winchester in order to be appraised of appointment discussions for New Milton Comprehensive School. Indeed, by 6th December there appeared in the local press news of the reorganisation and a letter opposing the proposals from the staff of Gore School, who were worried about the effects on morale. 1969 saw continuing discussions on the structure of the 'new' 11-16 schools in Hampshire and between 24th and 26th February a provisional appointment had been made of the Headteacher of 'Milton Comprehensive'. By May, the Governors' Working Party met for the first time and later that month Mr Gorvett attended Gore Secondary School in order to discuss the placing of Gore/Ashley staff in a reorganised school.

Mr G. N. Day – '...was not able to offer any assistance with advice on the capacities of his staff but offered to allow the Headteacher (Mr Gorvett) to interview them individually...'

The New Milton Advertiser of 15th February, 1969 reported:

"The headmaster of the Gore Secondary School, New Milton, Mr E N Day, who is to lose his post when the school joins with Ashley Secondary School in September, 1970, to form a new comprehensive school, was offered "a specially created appointment" at the new Junior College at Brockenhurst, but turned the offer down, parents of Gore pupils were told at a public meeting on Wednesday in last week at the New Milton Warm Memorial Hall. Mrs E H Tizzard, of Highcliffe, a member of the parents' steering committee formed to protest against Mr Day's displacement, read out a letter she had received from County Councillor J W Richardson (also a Christchurch Borough councillor) in which it was stated that, to the best of his (Councillor Richardson's) knowledge, Mr Day had not accepted the offer as he preferred a headship on the grounds of status.

"It was understood that for personal reasons Mr Day was restricted to an area within reasonable travelling distance of Bournemouth where he resides, which "does not leave much room to manoeuvre." ...

"The parents, like their children and the staff at the school, had started their own petition, expressing the fullest confidence in Mr Day's ability, and requesting that he should remain in his present post.

“Mrs Tizzard was confident they would get 1,000 signatures. They had already collected over 200 in Highcliffe alone.

“At last week’s meeting, it was decided to send a deputation of parents to London to present this petition to the Permanent Under Secretary of Education & Science.

It was also agreed that a joint committee of parents representing all the local schools should be set up to act as a watch committee to keep an eye on future proposals effecting their children’s education.”

The Milton catchment area was to be New Milton, Ashley and Hordle Primary Schools. Interviews then commenced for appointments to the new school.

By June the combined Board of Governors had advanced plans for organising the opening in September 1970 and the staffing structure was proposed. There were to be Heads of Year for pastoral care, records and discipline – a trend continued to this day.

The new school was to use both Gore and Ashley buildings until approximately 1973, with first, second and third years at Ashley and fourth and fifth years at Gore.

The press was informed of new developments and in July 1969 Mr Gorvett attended a course in Winchester, to be appraised of the Swedish experience of comprehensive education.

The final academic year with both schools as ‘separate’ entities involved frequent discussions on future organisation and appointment of staff – and by October the combined teaching staffs of both schools met at Ashley in order to hear further information on the organisation of the new school.

Gore parents met on 21st October; Ashley Road parents met the next afternoon. Some parents expressed concerns about the structure of the new school, and in the midst of all this there was a national teachers’ strike which resulted in the morning closure of both schools and much reduced pupil attendance during the afternoon.

The New Milton Advertiser of Saturday 19th July, 1969, reported:

“Proposal to form Gore PTA fails. Meeting endorses letter of protest over Ashley-Gore merger

“At the public meeting held at the Gore School, New Milton, on Wednesday evening of last week, neither Mr D Gorvett, headmaster of Ashley Secondary School and headmaster elect of the New Milton comprehensive School, nor Mr Day, the present headmaster of the Gore School, was able to be present.

“Mr Ken Austin, a master at Gore, represented Mr Day, and stated that although there were certain matters upon which he could not enter into discussion or give information, he would do his best to answer parents’ inquiries....

“Mr J D Meek, who took the chair for the purpose of the meeting, recalled that about a year ago Mr Potter had come to a meeting held at the Gore School, and given an outline of the comprehensive education scheme, but it was not until the actual formal notices of the Secondary Schools Re-organisation in the New Forest and Christchurch areas had been posted up for everyone to read, that the full extent of the upheaval this scheme was causing was revealed....

“Accordingly a letter, setting out objections had been prepared ... of which copies were available for signature at the end of the meeting, after which they would be sent to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State. ...

“Several questions were raised concerning the travelling facilities ...

“The subject of school uniform also came in for discussion ...”

1970 proved to be a pivotal year which saw, in January, meetings of the combined staff of both schools and discussions on additional buildings for Gore School (later Arnewood site). Mr Baker, the Headteacher-Elect of Brockenhurst College, visited Ashley in order to discuss arrangements for the transfer of post-16 pupils.

Transport arrangements with the complications of a split site were to be ironed out.

The Naming of Arnewood

It was in January 1970 that the name ‘Arnewood’ was first mentioned; it was partly the result of a questionnaire to parents in 1969 asking for suggestions for the name of the new school (sadly, the results of this no longer survive...). The questionnaire appeared to be inconclusive and a committee of Year Heads met Mr Gorvett, whereby Mr Bert Stainer, Head of First Year designate at the new school, suggested the local name of ‘Arnewood’ as having a pleasant ring to it. It was almost fifteen years later that the school became The Arnewood School. The school was to be divided into ‘Houses’ and names were created for these, the population to be taught as two separate halves. The tradition of teaching students in years seven and eight in separate halves continues to this day.

Saturday 21st March 1970 (New Milton Advertiser) says:

“The Department of Science and Education have given the go ahead for building projects at Gore Secondary School, one of thirty in Hampshire, costing £3,329,000. Building is due to start in 1971.

“At the Gore School the project is for an extension for a six form entry which will provide four hundred and fifty places more.”

It was reported in the 'New Milton Advertiser' on Saturday 24th June 1970 that:

"Approval has been given to the siting plans for projects at the Gore School, New Milton by Hampshire Education Buildings Sub-Committee. The projects form part of the 'Raising of the School Leaving Age' programme for 1970/71."

A uniform committee met in order to 'hammer out' a new uniform and badge. The complicated arrangements of merging both schools continued even as school life carried on as usual, although both staff and pupils were unsettled.

Telephonic communications were discussed at Arnewood and on 7th May there was a meeting of Heads of Year designate in order to outline their responsibilities. Five days later, Mr Gorvett met with representatives of the County Council and Lymington Council with a view to discussing a possible sports centre on Gore site.

In the midst of this flurry of activity the mother of a fourth year boy was asked, '...to remove him from school due to his non-compliance with standards of normal behaviour over a long period and hostility to staff. This she agreed.' The details of this misdemeanour were, however, not revealed.

This was a local newspaper extract in 1969 and Mr Martin, Head of English, can recall, 'His humorous reaction to the news was to ask me for a transfer to an English group more suited to his standing as a literary figure...'

Both Mr Gorvett and Mr Martin, of course, were senior figures in the new Arnewood.

16th June 1970 saw the last meeting of Ashley Secondary School Governors held and transport arrangements were finalised for the September term.

Below is the last photograph of Gore Secondary staff at the end of the summer term in 1969. This was taken on the present site of Arnewood; several staff continued to teach at the new school.

Geoff Standring, Robin Marstrand and Philip Davies, together with Alan Martin and Doris Batten went on to teach at Arnewood in 1970.

A Musical Farewell was staged in July 1970 by The Core County Secondary School, before Arnewood was opened in September of that year.



The last entries in the Ashley Log Book, handwritten by Mr Gorvett, before the opening of Arnewood in September 1970 were:

- June 25th 1970 *Mr Bevis and Mr Woodcock visited school to finalise transport arrangements for next term*
- June 26th *Heads of Years for Arnewood School met at Ashley*
- 1st July *~All Science staff of new school at Ashley for morning*
- 2nd July *County HM to Gore Secondary School to see staff*
- 7th July *Heads of Years for Arnewood School meeting*
- 8th July *HM to Gore Secondary School to see staff*
- 9th July *Parents' Evening for new 1st and 2nd year pupils' parents*

15th July *Final School Assembly at 3.15pm. Presentation of House Cups and Shields, and to Miss N Chapman (Senior Mistress) on her retirement.*

16th July *Present 3rd and 4th year pupils attended Gore Secondary School for morning session as Upper School of Arnewood School. Present 1st and 2nd years remained at Ashley together with present 1st years from Gore to form Lower School. All children dismissed at noon and school closed.*

At the time of closure the staff were:

<i>Mr D Gorvett</i>	<i>Headmaster</i>
<i>Mr W A Brown</i>	<i>Deputy Head</i>
<i>Miss N Chapman</i>	<i>Senior Mistress</i>
<i>Mr W E Ball</i>	<i>Head of 4th year</i>
<i>Mr A H Stainer</i>	<i>Head of 3rd year and Tech Studies</i>
<i>Mrs S Goater</i>	<i>Head of 2nd year</i>
<i>Mr R B Little</i>	<i>Head of 1st year and Head Department of Maths</i>
<i>Mr J A Cartwright</i>	<i>Head of English</i>
<i>Mr B A Baker</i>	<i>Head of Science</i>
<i>Mr J J Kelly</i>	<i>Head of Modern Languages</i>
<i>Mrs M E Coates</i>	<i>Commercial</i>
<i>Mrs V E Copp</i>	<i>Domestic Science</i>
<i>Miss D Hamblin</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>
<i>Mrs B Palmer</i>	<i>Music</i>
<i>Mrs A Pinnell</i>	<i>Needlework</i>
<i>Miss A Pitt</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Miss P Riley</i>	<i>French</i>
<i>Mrs C Smith</i>	<i>Music</i>
<i>Miss B Williams</i>	<i>PE</i>
<i>Mr N E Bayley</i>	<i>Metalwork</i>
<i>Mr G W Bowsher</i>	<i>Art</i>
<i>Mr W Grubb</i>	<i>Remedial Education</i>
<i>Mr W Haworth</i>	<i>RE</i>
<i>Mr D Howell</i>	<i>PE</i>
<i>Mr R Joyce</i>	<i>Geography</i>
<i>Mr A T Lloyd</i>	<i>History</i>
<i>Mr E Morgan</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>
<i>Mr I Roberts</i>	<i>General Studies</i>
<i>Mr I young</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Miss M Giles</i>	<i>part-time Science</i>
<i>Mrs J Jenner</i>	<i>Commerce</i>

The Arnewood School - Snapshots of the 1970s

The new school finally opened on 2nd September – at last!

The Headteachers since 1970.



Mr David Gorvett sitting in his office, a map of the school on his desk. Formerly Headteacher of Ashley Secondary School and then of Arnewood until his retirement in July 1982. After retiring from Headship, Mr Gorvett worked very successfully in Rural Tourism, retiring again in 1992 and moving to France for 11 years before returning to Herefordshire, where he has resided since then.



Mr Gordon Skirton busy at his desk, Headteacher of Arnewood from September 1982 until February 1998 (passed away April 1998).



Mr Christopher Hummerstone, current Headteacher who arrived in January 1999.

There were nine hundred and forty-four students in total: four hundred and twenty-seven in the upper school, based at Arnewood and five hundred and seventeen in the lower school, largely based in Ashley.

It was envisaged that both buildings would be used by students and staff until 1973, when all secondary students would then be transferred to Arnewood.

Student numbers in:-

First Year	182
Second Year	219
Third Year	231
Fourth Year	193
<u>Fifth Year</u>	<u>119</u>
Total	944

Mr Geoff Standring was a teacher at both Gore and Arnewood and he kept a register of staff at school. Since his retirement the register has been maintained by the Senior Administrator.

During the working week nine teaching groups would move from one building to the other at some stage, in order that maximum use could be made of the practical facilities. Obviously there were telephone links between both schools, discussions on the installation of temporary classrooms and problems in staffing certain subject areas, especially practical subjects and Science. Concerning the latter there was a shortage of science laboratories on site at that time.

Please see below a full list of teaching staff and their positions in the school for the academic year 1970-1971:

Full-time:

Mr K A Austin	Senior Master at Upper School and Head of 5 th Year
Mr B M Baker	Head of Science Department
Mr W E Ball	Head of 3 rd Year
Miss R Barry-Briant	English and Drama Assistant
Mrs C Barton	Home Economics Assistant
Miss D M Batten	Senior Mistress in charge of Upper School
Mr N E Bayley	Technical Studies (Metalwork) Assistant
Mr G W Bowsher	Senior Art assistant
Mr W A Brown	Deputy Head and in charge at Lower School
Mr C Buckland	Head of PE Department
Miss O E Burns	Senior Science Assistant at Upper School
Mr J A Cartwright	Head of English Department
Mrs M E Coates	commercial Studies assistant
Mrs V E Copp	Health Education and General Studies
Mrs P Finlayson	Head of Social Studies Department
Mrs A Fishwick	Remedial Education
Mrs H J Giles	Examinations Secretary and Upper School History
Mrs S Goater	Lower School Girls Welfare and Science
Dr D Gorvett	Headmaster
Mr W J Grubb	Head of Remedial Education Department
Mrs N Guttridge	Home Economics Assistant

Mr W H Haworth	head of Religious Education Department
Mr R J Hood	Mathematics and Upper School A/V Aids
Mr D B Howell	Physical Education Assistant
Mr J B Johnson	technical Studies (Metalwork) Assistant
Mrs G M Joiner	Needlework Assistant
Mr R M Joyce	Social Studies Assistant
Mr J J Kelly	Head of Modern Languages Department
Mr R B Little	Head of Mathematics Department
Mr A T Lloyd	Senior History Assistant in Social Studies Department
Mrs C McCrea	Modern Languages Assistant
Mrs M Major	English Assistant
Mr A G Martin	head of 4 th Year
Mr R Marstrand	Art Assistant at Upper School
Mr J W Miller	Technical Studies (Woodwork) Assistant
Mr W Moore	Careers Master and Science Assistant
Mr A L Pinnell	Head of Needlework Department
Miss A Pitt	English and Lower School Library Assistant
Mr I C Roberts	Upper School Band III Integrated Studies
Miss A Rowland	Head of Home Economics Department
Mrs H M Rudge	Upper School Deputy to Head of 3 rd Year
Mrs C Smith	Senior Music Assistant
Mr A H Stainer	head of 1 st Year
Mr G D Standing	Head of 2 nd Year
Mr C B Thomas	Religious Education Assistant
Mr W Way	Head of Technical Studies Department
Mrs M Weatherhead	Mathematics Assistant
Mr R Whiteman	Remedial Education Assistant (2 nd year)
Miss B Williams	Physical Education Assistant
Miss G Wort	Music Assistant
Mr I R Young	Science Assistant

Part-time:

Mrs M Gregory	Physical Education Assistant
Mrs H Phillips	Modern Language Assistant
Mrs Chadwick	Needlework

One would assume that the birth of a new school would generate great excitement in the community – yet, local press coverage was hardly positive!

The very first headline concerning the new school was: ‘**Parents shocked at new school’s uniform demands**’ – New Milton Advertiser dated Saturday 12th September 1970.

However, the school blossomed regardless and on 27th September an ‘Arnewood Adventure Walk’ was organised. Both Ashley and Gore Schools were great rivals, according to the Deputy Head, Mr Bill Brown (formerly of Ashley and then Arnewood until he retired in 1985).

‘One way we sought to bring pupils and staff together was to organise this walk within about three weeks of the schools joining. A large number of students took part and it went a long way to help them realise that the others were not too bad after all.’

Four hundred students took part, raising £895 and this was to be used to fund the stocks of badges and ties for the new uniform.

ARNEWOOD ADVENTURE WALK

Make sure you dont miss your new school's

first big event

on

Sunday, 27th September

Join your friends - old and new - on this 'sponsored' walk with a difference. This Adventure Walk will have distances you can manage comfortably. Most of it will be across country with hardly any of the course along blister making roads. There will be lots of prizes, too. You'll find that fund raising can be fun on the **Arnewood Adventure Walk.**



Mr Gorvett rallying the troops!

The School Logo

How did the school acquire its distinctive badge? According to Mr Brown: 'The early 1970s was a time of 'reaching for the stars' and it was decided that this should be reflected both in the badge and House names for the students. It was my wife who came up with the idea of making the Arnewood 'A' look like a rocket and I enclose the original drawings I did to develop this idea. We were both very pleased to see that the badge has still survived on the school's headed notepaper. The points on the outside of the 'rocket' were to represent not only a star but are points for each of the eight houses which took their names from constellations and stars. Diagrams four and five were simple designs for lapel and tie badges.'

(extract is part of a letter sent to the author)



The first Arnewood school badge.



ARNEWOOD SCHOOL

SCHOOL WEAR

Children in the Lower School are expected to wear clothing selected from the lists below in which the School colours of black, grey and gold are prominent.

GIRLS

Grey skirt or pinafore
White or gold patterned blouse
Gold tie
Grey cardigan
White socks/natural stockings
Safe, comfortable footwear
For summer wear a dress in a gold based patterned material made up to own style

BOYS

Black pullover and/or black blazer
White shirt
Gold tie
Dark grey trousers
Safe, comfortable footwear

Whilst the younger children require firm guidance as to what are suitable garments for wearing at School we expect that pupils in the Upper School will, as they mature, develop their own dress sense. To begin with the clothes should be based on appropriate combinations of the school's colours - black, gold, white and grey and should be clean, tidy and presentable. This more flexible approach needs the active help of parents and the staff if an appropriate standard is to be achieved which allows for the development of a personal style and is suitable for the daily school routine. However, the school feels that it will be to the long-term benefit of the pupils and hopes that parents will understand the intention behind it and will give their full co-operation.

There are some school activities for which special clothing is necessary. These are Physical Education, Outdoor Pursuits, Car Mechanics, Home Economics, Metalwork, Pottery and Woodwork. The recommended P.E. clothing will include some or all of the following depending on the activities:-

GIRLS

Hockey Shirt/Socks in House colours
Athletics shirt
White shorts
White plimsolls
Hockey boots
Black swimsuit
Towel
Black Leotard

BOYS

Football shirt/socks in House colours
Athletics vest
White shorts
White plimsolls
Football boots
Black/gold swimming trunks
Towel

In Metalwork, and Woodwork a serviceable apron is required both for protection of clothing and for safety reasons, and strong footwear (not plimsolls or light shoes) which can resist sharp objects. For Home Economics and Pottery, aprons are loaned by the departments concerned, but individuals may bring their own. Pupils taking Car Mechanics in 4th and 5th Years must provide themselves with serviceable overalls. The requirements for Outdoor Pursuits are mainly for older, serviceable clothes suitable for roughing it in.

The need for safe footwear is specially emphasised in Workshops, Home Economics rooms and Science laboratories.

The names agreed for the Houses of the school were:

- * Aquila
- * Capricorn
- * Gemini
- * Leo
- * Orion
- * Pegasus
- * Scorpius
- * Taurus

This system remained in place, more or less until the mid 1980s, although a reminder can still be seen on the front of the school – a sculpture of a ‘flying’ horse. More of that later...



The annual school routine was swiftly in place and a sense of community was established, particularly in extra-curricular activities. An early example was a ‘triangular swimming gala’, on 3rd October 1970 at Stokewood Road baths in competition with Twynham and Highcliffe Secondary Schools. Result: Arnewood came second.

On 20th October 1970 at 2.30pm the very first meeting of the Arnewood Governors took place. Mrs I. L. Nedderman was the Chairman at the time.

There were, apparently, difficulties in timetabling, particularly over the split site third year. Indeed, matters were made worse when a lady member of staff was involved in a road accident coming to school which resulted in a fractured leg, keeping her away a for considerable time.

Extensions to the school were discussed, plus the situation of the new ROSLA block. There was already an Adult Education Centre on site, at the front overlooking Gore Road to the right. The latter had originally opened in 1964 and was, by all accounts, heavily used by adults in the area. However, there were serious concerns that the proposed new building might end up blocking light from the centre.

Transport remained an ongoing concern during the first years of the new school, both between Ashley and Arnewood and for those older students who elected to travel to Brockenhurst College post-16.

Press coverage had not improved with a headline in the local newspaper stating: **'Mothers Petition over School Bus – Former Ashley pupils get no free ride to Arnewood'**

In 1970 the school involved itself in many activities which, over the years, have become something of a tradition and a necessity. During that first term there were assessments and reports for years one and two as well as parents' evenings and 'education evenings' for maths, Science, Modern Languages and Religious Education. Social Studies and English were to follow later.

Charitable work was extended within the local community and year parties as well as dances were very successful. Another activity included by the end of the first term was the collation of material for the news magazine, 'Zodiac'. This topical magazine had cover stencils prepared by the nearby teachers centre (sadly no copies of this remain).

Combined studies visits were introduced to various southern locations which positively impacted on lessons in English, History and Geography.

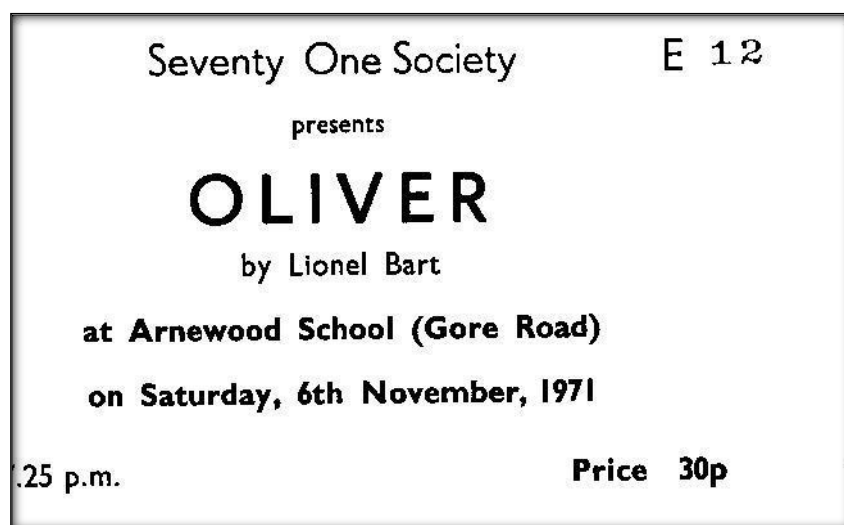
In this 11-16 school the external exams involved 'O' Level and 'CSE' Level. The first school Examinations Secretary was Mr H. Giles who also taught upper school History. With more than one hundred students taking groupings of up to ten subjects out of a possible twenty, the 'permutations were considerable' – entries not being made easier by a serious national postal strike in 1970.

There was increased activity in the field of careers advice, with twice weekly visits by the advisor and the establishment of a careers room and library by the careers master, Mr W. Moore who also taught Science.

The very first careers convention at Arnewood occurred on 12th March 1971. It was opened by the Chairman of the Governors, Mrs I.L. Nedderman and was judged to be a great success.

The new PE department proved very active and there was a gradual extension of competitive sports – both 'in house' and externally. Soccer, netball, hockey and basketball were all catered for and there was provision for extra playing field space to be made available when the former Ashley and Arnewood students were finally together on the site in 1973.

Ties with Brockenhurst College were strengthened as were those with the local primary schools. Indeed, in November 1971 there was a joint production with Hordle Church on the musical 'Oliver'.



Mentioning school productions, one source recalled a very enthusiastic Mr Gorvett careering across the stage on a bicycle with the Deputy Headmistress on the handlebars! This was during a production based on 'Butch Cassidy' and the musical accompaniment was, 'Raindrops keep falling on my head'.

During the early 1970s a new scheme was developed for the inclusion of ancillary staff in secondary schools. Their role, in particular, has developed over the years into being an essential part of school life.

By September 1971 the ROSLA block had been completed – light problems notwithstanding. The fourth year began using a curriculum based on five periods of English, Maths and Science; four lessons of PE, one of Religious Education, one of 'Careers' plus six elective subjects of four periods each.

Towards the end of that first term there was a flurry of charitable work involving parcels and cards for the elderly culminating in £20 towards the 'Mayor's Appeal Fund' and £10 towards children, in the jargon of today, with 'special educational needs'.

By February 1971 the number of students on roll was: lower school five hundred and twenty-three – an increase of six, while the upper school number remained as the term before.

There were year parties, dances and later in 1971 visits of pupils to Montreux, Switzerland, and Jersey.

In 1972 the County Education Office suggested that twelve acres of land, named Fawcetts Field, be delineated as additional school playing fields as part of the review of the Lymington town map. In addition it is intriguing to note that provision was made for the landowner to take off and land his private light aircraft on the site.

There were continued worries over access to the school site from Gore Road because of serious traffic congestion, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Has this situation really improved?

The school site was increasingly used after pupils had left at the end of the day and the Scout and Army Cadet groups were allowed to use the facilities in the evenings.

It was at this time that fears were first voiced over the "...probable effects on the school and the education of pupils if the present proposals for the changes in the county boundary involving this area becoming part of the new county of Dorset are implemented."

Secondary education had been reorganised recently along comprehensive lines and the possibility of reverting to the Grammar/ Secondary Modern type of education, with no access to Brockenhurst College, was worrying both teachers, parents and pupils. Letters were sent to the local MP, to Mrs Thatcher, then Secretary of State for Education and other interested parties. The County Council approved the proposals and even The Times newspaper reported on the boundary campaign.

The wife of the Arnewood Deputy Headteacher, Mrs J. Brown, was the Secretary of the 'Campaign to Keep Lymington Borough in Hampshire' and a group of campaigners travelled to the House of Commons where MPs passed the motion. However, the House of Lords stopped the move to Dorset and there were, apparently, celebrations in the Duke of Wellington's Office – helped no doubt by the delegation wearing little buttonholes of New Forest heather and carrying a basket of local Hampshire produce. Later there was a party in school, which was attended by members of the House of Lords and Mr Curry the owner of The New Milton Advertiser, who had run a supportive campaign in the press. Indeed, Mr Brown is adamant that Mr Curry said that he would only attend the party on the understanding that he would pay for his ticket.

Meanwhile school life continued as usual. In November 1972, after a complaint to a fifth year by a Head of Year, two students tried to organise a walk-out. The attempt proved unsuccessful and they were subsequently suspended. However, they later made false calls to the police and school about a bomb in the building and so caused the students and staff to be evacuated. At that time there was no resident caretaker and the school site remained unsecure and very open, often resulting in vandalism.

Connections with the local community had been strengthened obviously since the school opened and an early example was when the first year raised £100 after a jumble sale and social evening. There was a party for senior citizens and the students contributed towards a specialist book given to the libraries of their former primary schools.

New Milton Community Association recorded that: 'It was due to the interest taken by Arnewood School that there was now a very successful chess club and teams of

young people were working very hard helping with the salvaging of waste paper, even working in the holidays.’ This positive comment was recorded in the local press at the time.

In 1972 it is worth noting that thirty-eight students moved on to Brockenhurst College after the fifth year, while fifteen attended technical or art colleges.

By the end of the academic year the new caretaker’s house had been allocated and was due to be completed by June 1973. Extensive building work was carried out on the school site, providing in SCOLA much needed extra accommodation



The site was cleared for the building of SCOLA and this was completed in June 1973. The access road and the entrance gates to the school were widened and there was the provision of a footpath for students and staff.

Also at this time work had begun on a community sports centre on site – the largest of its size so far in Hampshire! Car parking was then restricted due to the building of the swimming pool.

The various kitchens at Arnewood (one was located at the top of ROSLA – now a drama area) served seven hundred meals per day. There was now a fully functioning library which remained in the same place for many years.

O Level (Synopsis of Results)

Subject	Entries	Passes	Grades
Art	27	18	1
Biology	28	10	
Chemistry	1	1	

Chemistry w. Biology	6	6	1
English Language	43	27	4
English Literature	28	18	3
French	9	5	
Geography	32	29	8
History	15	9	1
Home Economics	20	15	4
Human Biology	14	14	4
Maths	31	21	2
Metalwork	8	6	
Music	6	1	
Needlework	11	3	
Physics 16+	33	9	
Physics w. Chemistry	2	2	
Religious Studies	6	3	1
Spoken English	40	36	3
Technical Drawing	27	13	2
Woodwork	15	13	
Total	402	259	34

There was a significant improvement in 'O' Level passes from fifth year students who had failed the Eleven Plus examinations and over 50% moved on to further education, 60% of those in further education were girls.

17 boys into apprenticeships

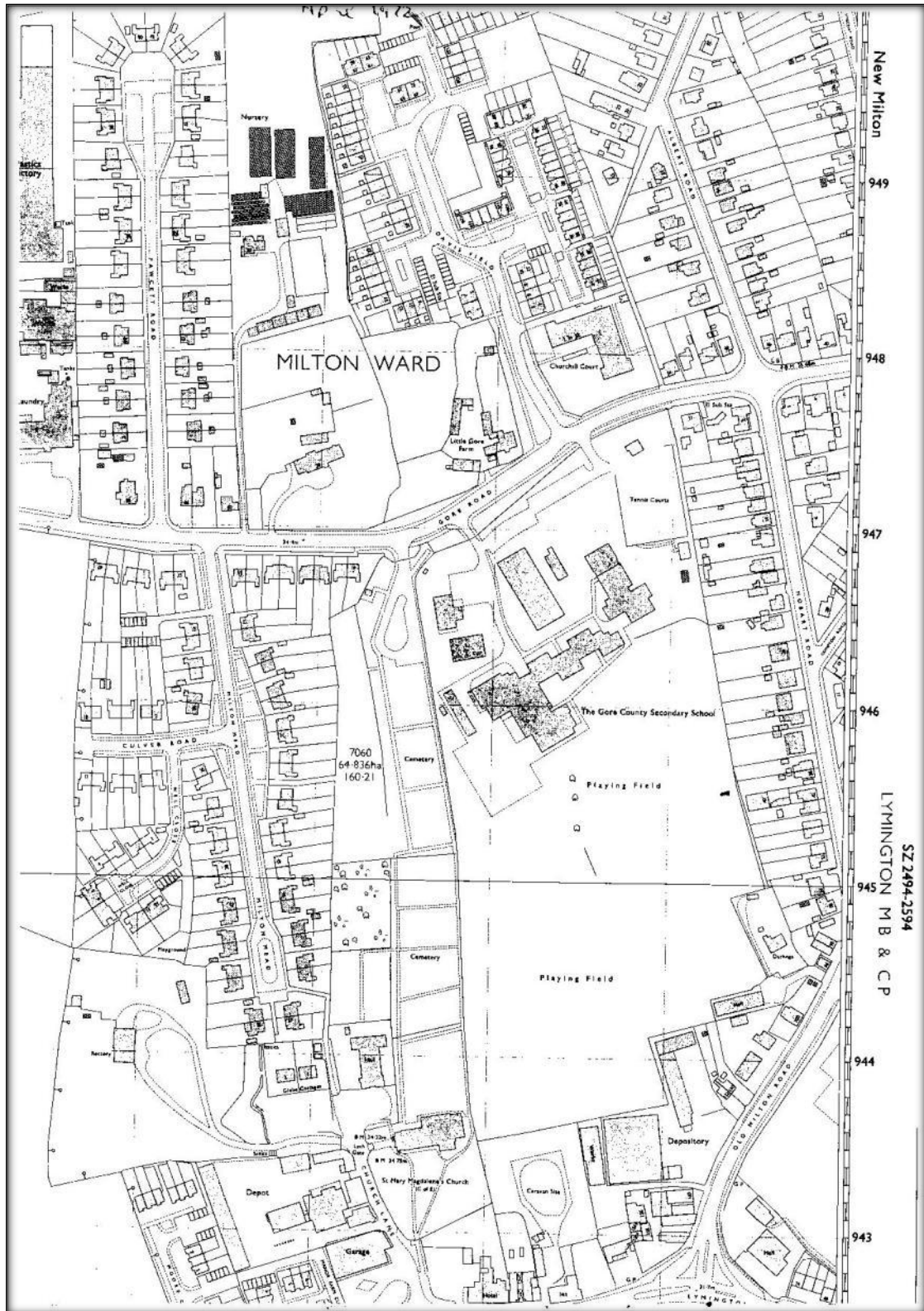
3 boys into the Army

3 boys into the Navy

3 boys into the Merchant Navy.

At this time in the ROSLA block there was a restriction on the number of 'bodies' allowed on the upper floor – if used for dancing – no more than eighty people were allowed there at any one time!

The map below is from April 1972, yet strangely the name Arnewood School does not appear on it!



In 1973 first year students were still based at Ashley but visited the main school for Maths and Science. The second, third, fourth and fifth years were based at

Arnewood although some visited the annexe for craft subjects and PE. The Deputy Head and Matron were now based at Arnewood so it begs the question, did they have to dash to the other site if needed ?

The buildings at Ashley were now referred to as the 'annexe'. Mr Stainer was based there with nine other staff who also moved to Arnewood for lessons when required.

A highlight at this time was when the school was represented at the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and in July 1973 there was an exhibition of work by young Bournemouth sculptors. The Governors sponsored it and it was executed by Mr Robert Wildash. A sculpture entitled 'The Flying Horse' was then transferred to the Head's study pending its erection on the north wall of the new SCOLA building in February 1974.



Typical extra-curricular activities in the early 1970s were:

Monday	woodwork, netball, football, art
Tuesday	metal work, netball, hockey, basketball, football
Wednesday	badminton, netball, hockey, metal work
Thursday	motor cycling, netball, hockey, rugby – plus – extra lessons in languages, maths and chemistry

The proposed amalgamation of schools on one site anticipated future problems, especially overcrowding at break times. There were discussions on a change in car parking arrangements, the possibility of staggered breaks (as in 2008) and improved communications by increased telephone extensions. A public address system was considered – but never progressed beyond the planning stage.

Stronger links with the local community were further investigated, charity work continued and a theatre production success in April 1974 was 'Bard and the Burlesque' when the school stage equipment was updated for the first time.

There were regular working lunches between the Headteacher and local services and an academic strengthening of the departmental structure within the school. There was also a review of curriculum study groups in discussion with Brockenhurst College.

Discussions were held with staff about Arnewood as a comprehensive (and community) school and even in the early 1970s there were serious concerns over the cost of local housing and therefore staffing implications. The Headteacher noted that two teachers were leaving because of this very problem and two 'first class applicants' turned down jobs...

The area of working with 'non-exam' students was widened and links were forged with local industry. Again, a trend continued to the present day.

The institution of regular departmental meetings at 3.30pm once a month began at this time and further groups met at regular intervals. It is disturbing to note that the first indications of students 'experimenting with drugs' was generally commented on in schools at this time.

More students than ever were going on to Further Education and there was a rapid expansion in educational visits, both at home and abroad – examples being a second year trip to a hobbies' exhibition and a visit to Holland during the Whitsun break.

Every year Hampshire would organise an educational cruise for pupils at schools throughout the county. This was with P&O aboard the Uganda. Originally there were three ships used for cruises, the Nevasa, the Dunera and the Uganda. By the mid 1970s there was only the Uganda in service. Arnewood always had a keen take up for these trips, such as Jerusalem and the Greek Islands looking at and learning about ancient civilization. There was a school on board and children were taught all about the places they would be visiting so that when they arrived in a port they knew a lot about it. In addition they enjoyed a large number of activities and sports whilst the ship was at sea. Parents and pupils had a long time to save up for the cruise and preparatory lessons were taught in school beforehand. The Lions Club of New Milton would also fund places for children in need or in care. Students here are now parents of pupils as well as successful professionals, including headteacher of a Southampton school, doctors and lawyers. The male teacher with Mrs Linda Hook is Mr John France who used to teach PE and has since married and moved to Australia.

Eventually the Uganda went down to the Falklands as a hospital ship before returning and being scrapped.



Staff and students onboard the Uganda.

Below is an extract from the Ashley Junior School Log of 1972. The Head of the school was Margaret Baker and her comments about Arnewood are as follows:

“Mr Osborne, Mr Grove and a parent took half the fourth year to the Science Museum as part of their work. They were complimented both on the train and in the Museum on their good behaviour - a source of pleasure to us all.

30th June

“Unofficial reports tell us that this school will be re-organised next year into Infants and Juniors – the Juniors to move to Arnewood Lower building (previously Ashley Secondary). Mr Gorvett visited staff who might be concerned in the move to look over the new building. This is typical of the sort of co-operation we have received from the Secondary School and if we have every needed anything – books, materials, time, they are most willing to help. A marked example is being offered their former film projector (sound movie) at £40 – the market value being £130.

7th July

School closed to enable staff to prepare for Open Evening – this year an exhibition of a year’s work.”

A landmark event occurred in 1974 when all school equipment and staff were transferred to the Arnewood site. In fact, by the end of the academic year the Ashley premises – used as a secondary school since 1939 – were vacated entirely

(and then became Ashley Junior School). There were special thanks, minuted in the Governors' report then, to Mr A. Stainer as Head of the First Year. (Readers will remember him as the person who suggested 'Arnewood' as the name of the school.)

Now all students and staff were under one roof where conditions were cramped. The canteen was a teaching area as were the hall (for PE and maths), the library, the ROSLA building canteen and common room.

Bad weather increased the huge problems of where to place students and coat storage was barely sufficient. Outdoor areas were again looked at very carefully.

The summer of 1974 revealed the comment from the Headteacher regarding 'O' Level and 'CSE' results: 'It was not a year group when school work was fashionable.'

School report slips were hand-written in triplicate by teachers and top copies were then stapled together to form a report booklet for each pupil.

ARNEWOOD SCHOOL February 1974

Mid-Year Assessment Sheet ... FIRST YEAR.

NAME _____ Tutor Group ORION

SUBJECT	Teaching Group	Grade	Effort	Teacher
English	U	A-	3	Mrs. Major
Geography	U	A	4	Mr. Jackson
History	U	B+	3	Mr. Lloyd
Religious Education	U	B+	3	Mrs. Shorter
French	U	A	3	Mr. Kelly
Mathematics		A-	4	Mr. Buryan
Science	U	A	4	Mr. Stephenson *
Health Education	U	B+	3	Mrs. Bugler *
Year Book Basic Science	4	B+	3	Mrs. de Moid
Art		B+	3	Mr. Bowsher
Music	U	B+	3	Mrs. Gray *
Light Craft	4	B-	1	Miss McDermott *
Physical Education		B	3	Mrs. Lane

Grades: A = Highest achievement
E = Lowest achievement

Effort: 0 = Not trying
1 = Less than expected from the pupil.
2 = Sufficient effort to maintain progress
3 = Good effort consistently made.
4 = Outstanding efforts which produce unusual progress.

Special remarks:

Elaine has a balanced attitude to school life.

She does good work and really enjoys herself.

V. E. Copp Group Tutor

An excellent report in that it shows a spread of ability in both the academic and practical subjects, coupled with an excellent attitude to work. Elaine displays a happy disposition and plays her full part in all the year activities.

A. Williams Head of Year.

On this early school report it is interesting to note that the * are still currently teaching at Arnewood. (Miss McDermott is now Mrs Hook).

There was a perceived 'anti-social' attitude in certain areas of the community, however the 'Integrated Studies Department' under Mr Markland, carried out local

projects in order to benefit the area. One such was an adventure playground on Chewton Common when £500 was raised towards the cost of a school bus. Teachers from Scandinavia and West Germany visited the school in order to see good practice first hand.

This report from 1974 recognises the good work carried out by Arnewood students that year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

During the past school year Arnewood pupils, particularly those who are sometimes regarded as less able, have undertaken a variety of services for the community. The main ones are listed below:

SPONSORED WALK - 17 pupils raised over £70 for Cancer Research. Most of the planning and organisation was done by the pupils.

PLAYGROUPS - Local groups have welcomed visits from pupils. Two fifth year boys and one fourth year boy have worked with playgroups continuously since last September.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS - A limited involvement but very worthwhile. Recently one fifth year girl helped deliver meals and enjoyed doing so. Afterwards she confided that she was upset at finding one old lady in tears when delivering a meal and she gradually realised that perhaps some of the old people had needs other than a meal. She is still trying to resolve the problems of this modern "Good Samaritan" situation. Should she continue to visit or not go again - passing by on the other side?

ST. DENYS - Four girls assisted the Chairman of Governors at the opening of St. Denys last month.

HAZEL GROVE - What started as a 'keeping the grass tidy and the weeds down' involvement has now blossomed into a larger involvement. The garden shows signs of bringing forth fruit and with the appointment of Mrs. Birch as warden it has been possible to involve pupils inside the house. Mrs. Birch visited Arnewood and chatted informally about her work and it looks as if there will be a continuing commitment to Hazel Grove.

SPONSORED PATH - One interesting development was the provision by two fourth year pupils of a concrete path at Arnewood School. This work was done on a sponsored basis, raising approximately £12. for Army Cadets. Preparation work was done during school time and the concrete laid during the half term holiday.

INDIVIDUAL SERVICE - There have been a number of services for individuals, mostly gardening for the elderly or blind, but in most cases involving a good deal of chatting to the benefit of both sides.

JUNIOR SCHOOL - Pupils from Arnewood have played a leading part in providing playground facilities at New Milton Junior School. They dug the foundations for a brick wall, made a chess board from tiles and a concrete marble ring. They are presently engaged organising a small group of junior children to dig out and then level for a patio and sitting area. Probably the most spectacular item is the bed of over 70 shrubs created from rough pasture and planted almost entirely by one pupil.

NEDDERMAN CENTRE - The third year organised a Tombola stall for the Fete held at the Nedderman Centre for the New Forest and District Mentally Handicapped Children on Saturday 18th May.

Many useful items were given by parents and children of the third year and members of staff and a Third Year Disco was held before Easter the profits from which also went to the stall.

Three third year girls ran the stall - the tombola being lent by the Young Farmers Club and the total handed over to date (May 20th) was £14.42 but there is some more money to come in.

We are still hoping to fit window guards to the front of the Centre but await the materials.

The winter of '74 saw real problems regarding heating. Oil supplies were scarce – a nationwide problem – and heating was restricted in the school. There was also a cutback in educational expenditure which affected all schools in the area.

Forward planning for September 1975 marked an increase in school numbers and a real deficiency in classroom spaces, the gym and playing field areas.

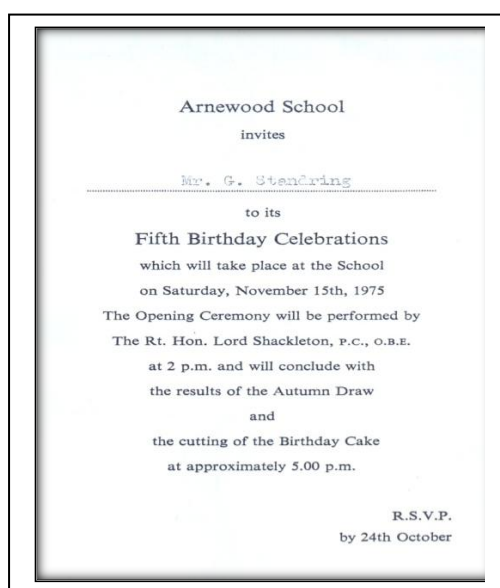
The Sports Hall was included in the New Forest District Council's design programme for 1975/6 yet frustration continued at the lack of new school buildings.

Long term members of the Governing Board had now retired – Mrs I.L. Nedderman stood down as Chairman of Governors and was replaced by Dr H.M. Tuddenham. In fact there have only been three Chairs of Governors since 1970, and also there have been just three Headteachers during that time. Mr A. Nichols had represented the County Education Office as Clerk to the Governors at Ashley, and the amalgamation of schools, for over twenty years, yet during that time he had never missed a meeting of the Governors!

1975 saw an expansion of the role of the library when, apparently, over three hundred books were issued per week. In 2007-08 approximately one hundred and seventy books are issued per week, although, of course, computers play a major part in the education of the average student now. The librarian states that one hundred laptops per week are booked out during library lessons and approximately seventy-nine PCs per week during lunch and break times.

On 12th September 1975 'The Arnewood Association' was formed and has continued ever since, in different ways raising valuable funds for the school; it is now known as the Parents and Friends of Arnewood. Another first was the election of Parent Governors in 1976 – although parents had been informed of this proposal, by letter in 1975.

Arnewood celebrated its 'Fifth Birthday' on Saturday, 15th November.



ARNEWOOD SCHOOL'S
5th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Why a birthday you may wonder? A time to celebrate, at least when we are young! A time to share our enjoyment with our friends at any age, and, dare one say so, a moment to show a pride in what we have made of ourselves. So – our first birthday takes place after 5 years, for the school lives a longer year than each one of us in it. The excited First Year child has to become the cool Fifth Year young man or woman before the school have lived its responsibility through once. Now this has happened for the first time at Arnewood and like all first occasions we felt it should be memorable. Our hope is that you will feel so, too, when you have seen what we have to show.

Form the Staff, teaching, ancillary, school meals and caretaking, welcome to the celebrations!

The programme of events included an opening ceremony in the school Hall at 2pm, with opening remarks by the Chairman of Governors, Dr M Tuddenham. The school's Headmaster, Mr D Gorvett and the Rt Hon Lord Shackleton of Burley, PC, OBE also addressed the gathering. GCE 'O' Level and CSE certificates were presented in the Library after the addresses.

By 1976 there were eleven hundred and twenty-six students on roll – one hundred more than in 1975 – and pressure on school buildings had not yet been alleviated. There were fifty-eight full time staff (teachers) and five part-time.

However, because of staff retirements there was a restructuring of the pastoral system:

- * Head of Lower School (Years 1 and 2) – Mr A.H. Stainer, assisted by the Head of First Year – Mrs A. Fishwick
- * Joint Heads of Middle School (Years 3 and 4) – Mrs W. Rudge and Mr G. Standing, assisted by Mrs J. Shepherd and Mr P. Phillips
- * Head of Fifth Year – Mrs W. Ball, assisted by Mrs M. Major

Early in the academic year the practical block was struck by lightning, the result being that the power circuits and cookers burned out electrically as did deep freeze cabinets and a fridge. There is, however, no record of the food lost after the event...

A new audio system was to be installed in the hall, at a cost of in excess of £600 – a tidy sum then.

Those people with long memories will recall the summer drought of 1976 and at Arnewood this caused the use of the playing fields to be cut by fifty percent for several weeks. (A situation no doubt experienced in most schools in the south of England during that year.)

The canteen was used as an extra teaching area for Music and the hall continued to be used for PE and Maths.

There were to be increased links with the junior schools, in order to lead to “...real coordination of our educational effort for all local children from 5-16 years.”

An amusing anecdote at the end of the summer term was recorded: ‘ One young lady came to the office in order to ask for a holiday form to cover the period after finishing her examinations. ‘Where are you going?,’ the secretary asked chattily. ‘On my honeymoon,’ was the unexpected and truthful reply.

In 1977 a major oil leak resulted in the partial closure of the school. The leak was traced back to the initial installation and, for a time, SCOLA was closed.

By Christmas of that year sixty two parcels had been distributed to the elderly in the local community, £100 to the Mayor's Appeal as well as £20 to the 'Magpie Blue Peter Appeal'. £950 of tickets were sold for the Autumn Draw – 'and that in a time of economic difficulty' – to quote a local source.

In 1978 a view of the area was recorded by the Headteacher while on a course for managers at Brockenhurst College. He referred to the catchment area as:

'...mainly residential area with a large proportion (over fifty percent) of the residents over sixty. In terms of social structure, different to the national norm. Most of the children live within three miles of the school – only about three percent further away.'

Numbers of staff and students:

60	teaching staff (some part-time)
9	ancillary staff
16	school meal staff
18	caretaking and cleaning staff

103 total

1120 students aged 11+ to 16+

The Internal Organisation of the School

The school was divided into two – Upper and Lower School, each with its own Head. The Upper School Head was assisted by Heads of House (eight in all), most of whom were also Heads of Department. The Lower School Head was assisted by four experienced staff working with the House Tutors in the first and second years.

The whole was coordinated for curriculum and pastoral care through a management group known as A.S.C. under the chairmanship of the Headteacher.

As far as curriculum organisation was concerned, decisions were taken by the management group and implemented through the timetabling of the Head of Upper School. This was a complex system allowing students to find their own levels of performance in individual subjects at three levels. During the fourth and fifth years students took compulsory English, Maths, PE and Social Education plus six options on a free choice basis.

The objectives of the school, as stated by the Headteacher, were: '...not that of competition and success for the few at the expense of the many, nor an unquestioning belief that all pupils are made equally able, but a genuine compassionate desire to develop every child's ability to the full. All children are of equal worth, equally deserving and needing whatever aids to personal growth can be given by the school. By developing self-awareness and positive responses to the

demands of society, the school aims to encourage all to play responsible parts in work and in school endeavour both locally and nationally.'

The extract below from information about The Personal Achievement Course still has a resonance almost 30 years later.

The Personal Achievement Course

Introduction – The Personal Achievement Course was introduced at The Arnewood School, New Milton in 1979 following several years of experimentation and considerable thought and staff discussion.

At present examinations dominate the State education system in a way which is becoming increasingly unacceptable. The Personal Achievement Course offers an alternative to examinations although it does not exclude pupils from the examination system.

In 1982 the Personal Achievement Course received recognition from the Royal Society of Arts and at a ceremony in London the school was presented with a certificate of recognition....

Selection – Selection for the Personal Achievement Course starts with a close look at the third year County Attainment Tests and the school's internal examination results. Discussions take place with Heads of Departments and staff who know the children well. After these consultations are complete, next year's Personal Achievement Course group is established. Perhaps it should be stressed that pupils are placed on the Personal Achievement Course on educational grounds (ie the examination system does not suit their requirements) and not because of behavioural difficulties.

The Headteacher expressed a debt of gratitude towards the Governors and The Arnewood Association: 'I can honestly say that without their aid it would have been much more difficult, if not impossible, to sustain some parts of the school's curricular and extra-curricular activities during the latter half of the 1970s.'

By 1979 there were 1151 students in the school and constraints on staffing meant that any group with less than twelve students opting for it would have to be dropped and as a result Music, Statistics, Human Biology and Embroidery were left out, temporarily, in the fourth year curriculum. It was thought (rightly) that the demands for Music would increase in subsequent years but further problems were anticipated, partly due to the constraint of smaller teaching staff numbers after 1981.

Apparently other schools suffered from greater reductions in staff and at Arnewood matters were further complicated by the marked imbalance between the numbers of boys and girls in the different year groups. In fact there were, in some groups, between 40 to 50 more boys than girls – inevitably making special demands in certain subject areas. PE and the crafts reflected the imbalance most severely, not only in teacher requirements but in the provision of games facilities and appropriate workshops (which were limited to no more than twenty students at a time).

This year proved to be a difficult one for the school, in the main due to staff illness, accident and union action. The school was closed for one day in the spring term and

hours were reduced, although the Headteacher observed: 'I must put on record my appreciation of the restrained and considered attitude of all staff involved which has made the difficulties more bearable.' This in spite of an earlier comment: 'It is akin to walking a high-wire with a lighted stick of dynamite in each hand – it is essential I reach the other side before they blow up!'

However, in the midst of any doom and gloom there were positive achievements: a very successful fashion show and musical evenings in Hordle and New Milton Parish Churches were new ventures which were to be continued. The school also made a musical contribution to The New Forest 900 Celebrations on 3rd July at Brockenhurst College. Twelve trees were planted by students, parents and governors in the Williams Copse Plantation to commemorate the 900th anniversary of the New Forest.

It was a most encouraging season for school sport, with wins for the under 14s boys in the Bournemouth Soccer Schools League and Under 15s as finalists, losing to Portchester.

The first year won the New Forest Boys Cross Country Championship and other years were very well placed.

Students were represented in the Hampshire team and both in netball and swimming students reached local finals.

1979 saw the institution of a 'Sports Girl of the Year' award – the 'Sports Boy' award having been set up earlier. A shield and personal cup was presented by Mrs D. Broadwell, Head of PE. That first year it was jointly awarded to Nicola Stevenson and Susan Miell for 'their dedication to sport and loyalty to the school'.

An Arnewood horse-riding team was also formed in order to take part in a competitive event at Mountbatten School, Romsey in July. Mr A. Thornton (Maths) organised a gymkhana with the promise of more to come.



For example: at the National Schools and Pony Clubs Jumping Championships in August 1997, at Hickstead, The Arnewood Team was ably represented by Hannah Crouch, Vicky Lee and Melanie George – with over fifty schools taking part.



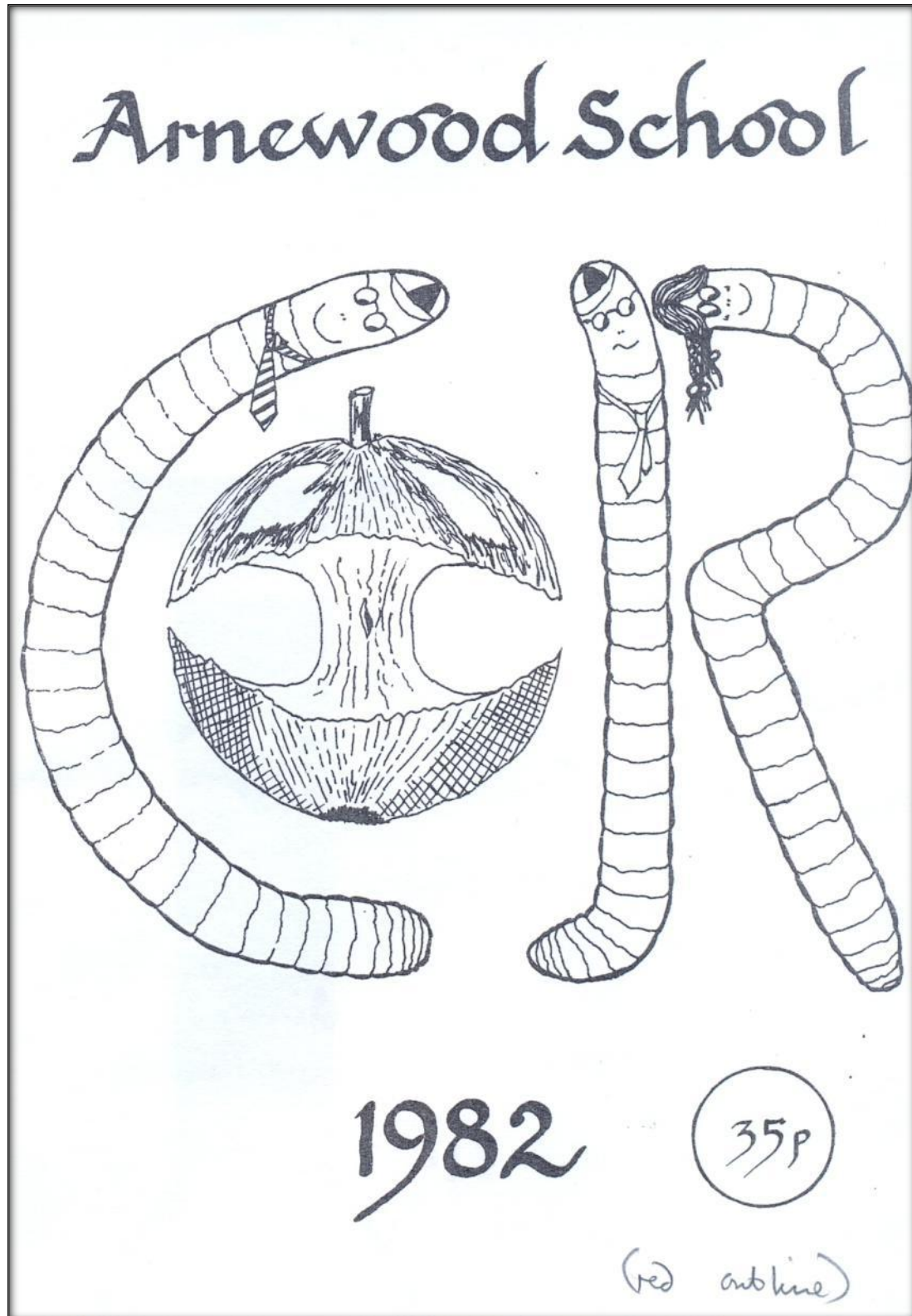
Hannah and her horse; note the Arnewood emblem.



Vicky Lee and horse...

A selection from the 1980s

1982 saw the first edition of the new school magazine – ‘bigger and better than ever before’. There was quite a lot of staff involvement in this first issue, but less so during the following year. Here are a few pages from the magazines which give a flavour of Arnewood at that time.



Presentation of Certificates

On Wednesday, 25th November, 1981, ex-pupils, parents, friends, Governors and staff gathered at Arnewood for the annual presentation of certificates. Rear-Admiral J.P.K. Harkness, C.B., previously Director of Naval Manpower, graciously accepted the School's invitation to present the certificates and to address the pupils. Mrs. E. Cook, Chairman of the Governors opened the proceedings as charmingly as she has done in the past.

Mr. Gorvett's speech came as an emphatic reminder to the Presentation audience of Arnewood's continued optimism and hardworking approach to life. In strong criticism of the media that "is at best pessimistic and alarmist and at worst trivial and sensational" he warned listeners of the dangers of under-estimating and under-valuing not only the achievements and progress in our nation and economy, but also in our State Schools.

The fruits of such optimism and hardwork were to be recognised by the Presentation of Certificates. Academic achievement was to be rewarded, but whether many examinations were to be taken or few, pupils had had to match themselves against the demands made of them and in so doing develop the personal qualities of perseverance, energy, honesty and loyalty.

These qualities, although outshining all others in the long run, were not shown on certificates and so for the first time a new certificate was to be awarded to recognise the school's Personal Achievement Course taken by 30 pupils from 1978-81. Arising from educationalist's uneasiness about exam-dominated curricula, the idea of the course was to look to the positive encouragement of good personal qualities and the accompanying self-assessment.

But the School, went on Mr. Gorvett, had not only been concerned with certificates. Education was often indirect and came through many other activities organised by teachers outside the classroom. He listed a whole host of out-of-school activities including the raising of £1,000 for the Lymington Hospital Appeal; the three-night near professional production of the Wizard of Oz; and the appearance of the Arnewood School Jazz Orchestra on T.V., amongst many others.

"The School would have been much poorer without them" said Mr. Gorvett. "Certainly they show that pessimism and alarm do not dominate us and that this School reflects an optimistic and hardworking approach to life that is worth remembering".

After the vote of thanks all present gathered for a social meeting, with coffee and refreshments and the prevailing mood was of warmth and relaxation. Ex-pupils who had returned for the evening had obviously done so in the spirit of enthusiasm for and pride in their old school. Although some regretted that there was no specific recognition of excellence in awards, regardless of area of achievement, the evening was an undoubted success. Co-operation, shared-understanding and pride in achievement were the key emotions - together with inspiration for a renewed and harder effort in the coming school year.

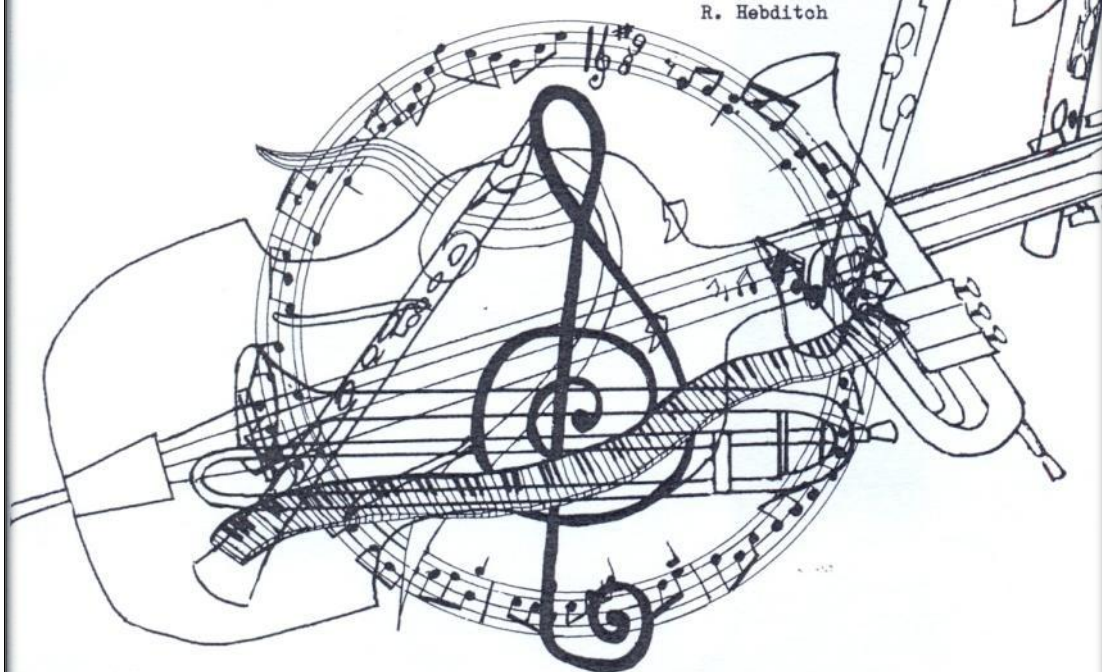
Music at Arnewood

Music at Arnewood continues to change and develop in accordance with the strengths of its pupils. Our present first year has produced a larger number of violinists that we have had for some time. This helps our school orchestra to have a good balance, since stringed instruments are fundamental. As we also have a large number of brass and woodwind players, we are exploring the idea of forming a Concert Band for wind instruments alone.

Both choir and orchestra have taken part in local events during last term. 2CR broadcast some of the Christmas music which had been recorded at New Milton's 'Carols for Everyone'.

If one pupil is to be mentioned for his outstanding progress it is Simon Oliver. He has gained a merit for his Grade VI in piano playing and is now a member of the County Youth Orchestra and String Training Orchestra on double bass.

R. Hebditch



Second-hand guitars are still wanted by the Music Department.

The following is a full list of Arnewood staff in 1982-83:

Headmaster	Mr D Gorvett
Deputy head & head of Upper School	Mr W Brown
Second Deputy Head	Mrs J Gilbody

Assisted by:

House Heads

Mr A Martin	Aquila
Mr R Joyce	Capricorn
Mr G Standring	Gemini
Mrs M Major	Leo
Mr R Little	Orion
Mr B Baker	Pegasus
Mrs P Finlayson	Scorpius
Mr R Markland	Taurus
Mrs A Fishwick	Head of Lower School
Mr K Stephenson	with special responsibility for 1 st Year
Mr P Phillips	with special responsibility for 2 nd Year

Plus staff as under:

Mr A Atkinson	Mrs M Gleave	Mr A Loe
Mr N Bayley	Mrs G Harbottle	Mrs C Marshallsay
Mr G Bowsher	Miss A Harding	Miss L McDermott
Mr R Briant	Mr R Hebditch	Mrs K Mitchell
Mr B Broadbent	Mr D Howell	Mr G Osborn
Mr P Broadbridge	Mrs J Jacobs	Mr B Phillips
Mrs D Broadwell	Mr M Jeffries	Mr R Rajski
Mrs S Cole	Miss S Jeynes	Mr B Rowland
Mr M Dawkins	Mrs T Johnson	Mrs L Salton
Mrs G De'Ath	Mr D Jones	Mrs V Shepherd
Mr A Dunning	Mrs C Jones	Mrs D Snook
Mr D Dupays	Mrs D Kewley	Mrs J Stacey
Mr P England	Mrs K King	Mr T Thickett
Mr I Felton	Mr P Kingswell	Mr C Thomas
Mrs L Gains	Mrs A Knox	Mr A Thornton
Mr E Galloway	Mrs J Lane	Mrs S Wastie
Miss A Gaskell	Mr J Levey	Mrs D Womersley

Administrative Staff

Secretaries	Mrs C Beck	
	Mrs V Elder	
Bursarial Assistant	Mrs F Allenby	
Library	Mrs J Harris	
Matron	Mrs M Hope	
Specialist Assistants	Mrs O Beason	Science
	Mr J Bewley	Science
	Mr G Bessant	Workshop
	Mrs J Barham	General

In July 1982 Mr David Gorvett retired as Headmaster of Arnewood. He had been the first Headmaster of the new school, Head of Ashley before that and the occasion was marked by a retirement party on Thursday 22nd July 1982, which was attended by Mr M Thompson, Deputy County Education Officer, with a presentation by Mrs E Cook, Chairman of Governors.

The new Headteacher was Mr Gordon Skirton who remained as Head until his untimely death in April 1998.

On 2nd September 1982 – Mr Skirton saw himself as a ‘new broom’. He had previously been Deputy Head in a Worthing comprehensive school.

By October a delegate of Japanese teachers and educationalists had visited the school for an exchange of ideas – although there is no evidence that a delegation from Arnewood visited that country!

The November ‘Occasional Day Holiday’ continued to please, but was abandoned in later years, much to the disappointment of both students and staff.

A notable achievement at this time came in the form of a top award for course success. Mr Keith Bloodworth reported that the school had won a top award for its Personal Achievement Course, introduced in the 1970s, which was an unusual course designed for teenagers who are thought unsuited for the full range of normal academic subjects. The course was recognised by the Royal Society of Arts in 1982 and a commemorative certificate was sent to the school.

It is noted that when the first 33 pupils to complete the course left the school in 1981 they all either got jobs or went on to realistic further education courses.

In February 1983 the mother of the late Sally Banwell (a former student) offered a plaque to be presented to students in memory of her daughter – to be ‘awarded for some contribution to the life of the school’.

The school’s French Exchange with the College Saint Exupéry in Vannes, South Brittany, is currently in its twenty-fifth year. It was set up in 1983 by Rene Marlarde in Vannes and teacher, Mrs Claire Jones, at Arnewood, who subsequently organised and led numerous successful exchange visits until she left in 2000.

Over the years, a large number of students have gained a wonderful insight into the French way of life as well as enjoying visits to Mont Saint Michel, Josselin Castle and more recently, Rennes, the ancient capital of Brittany.

The exchange continues to be a popular event on the school calendar, with the twenty-fifth anniversary taking place in 2009.

According to Mrs Christine Chaloner, the Headteacher’s secretary from 1987, the name of the school changed from Arnewood School to The Arnewood School

sometime during the academic year 1983-4. There appeared to be no mention of a proposed change of name in the Governors' minutes during 1982-3. The exam results' folder for 1984 includes a copy of the Presentation Evening programme showing The Arnewood School. The one for the previous year just shows Arnewood School.

Raising money for good causes continued as an Arnewood tradition – by such as a sponsored walk through the New Forest and a continuation of school discos and the annual carol concert. The former was declared 'an outstanding success, not simply in terms of the money raised for school funds, but in terms of the opportunity it gave for the whole school to take part in an activity at the same time.'

Arnewood was chosen, in November 1984, as a school to receive special provision for 'low attaining pupils' for a National Project called P.A.V.E. (Practical and Vocational Education) under the guidance of Mr Ray Markland. This generated welcome publicity for the school.

It was also in May of 1985 that the tradition began of having a day for fifth year leavers when staff recalled and related incidents concerning them during the previous five years. As the years passed the Fifth Year Prom (and later the Sixth Form Dance) became a highlight of the summer term, gradually becoming increasing elaborate and grand.

In 1985 one exciting event for those students sitting near a window in their classroom was the sight of the Duke of Gloucester, on Monday 21st October, landing in his helicopter on the school rugby pitch in anticipation of a visit to the New Milton Boys Club!

In 1986 The Arnewood was chosen as one of four schools in the county for a pilot scheme in the computerisation of administration. The grant was to be in the region of £10,000 and also allowed for much needed additional clerical assistance.

Monday 8th December 1986 was 'an outstanding day in the life of the school with second year pupils providing a three course meal for one hundred and forty senior citizens', followed by a theatrical production of 'Scrooge' still remarked upon by older members of staff and students with long memories. Unfortunately no programme of this could be found.

An event soon afterwards which excited the students was that on 14th January 1987 when the school was closed at 2 pm because of snow! In spite of snowfalls since, that is the last time such an event happened at Arnewood. The school is like The Windmill Theatre, it never closes!

1987 was the first occasion when the parents of Bransgore would have the opportunity to send their children to Arnewood as opposed to Twynham, though many years later this policy was reversed and their pupils now travel elsewhere.

In the light of so much criticism of teenagers today and years ago, it is pleasing to note that on 6th March 1987, police visited Arnewood in order to congratulate a young man called Patrick Fletcher-Jones on 'an outstanding act of community service in helping an old lady in discomfort.'

Meetings that spring were organised in order to develop the sports centre next to the school. This thriving complex was built on Arnewood School land and has proved an important asset for the P.E Department here.

By June the annual Arnewood Riding Club Show Jumping and Gymkhana took place at Valesmoor Farm and by all accounts the weather was set fair. There was another 'first' in July when all fourth year pupils embarked upon work experience during the same two weeks and again, this tradition has continued unchanged for year ten.

By July 1987 the induction of primary school pupils into the life of the school was introduced and this trend has also continued until the present day. Talks began in order to put in place facilities in school for physically disabled students and currently there is a lift in the main building, a walkway linking three school buildings and also two disabled lavatories.

It is interesting to record, perhaps, that during the summer holiday on Tuesday 18th August 1987 the Headteacher returned from holiday early to discover, '...utter chaos' because of the prolonged presence of heating engineers and builders working on various projects expanding the science laboratories. He commented further: 'In the light of observations made attempts were now implemented to clear up much of the mess.' Fortunately all was well by the beginning of the school year in September.

One wonders if the mess resembled this earlier photograph of a changing room in September 1981!



Friday, 18th September 1987 saw the formal opening of New Milton Youth Centre which was a welcome addition to local life.

In October representatives of the recently completed Bournemouth Hospital spoke to students about their expanding facilities. Such exchanges have proved invaluable and no doubt contributed towards the fact that several Arnewood students in recent years have entered the medical profession.

16th October 1987 was known as the 'Great Storm of '87' – although damage to the school was relatively light. However, there was a trail of destruction throughout the south of England and many homes of both staff and students were affected – the family of one unfortunate student experiencing their house toppling into the sea at Barton.

Over the years there have been many visits to the school by the local MP of the area and in November 1987 Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson came to talk to students about his work. In more recent years Mr Desmond Swayne has been a 'regular' visitor – often at Election time. He has been known to visit the school with a life-size cardboard cut out of Margaret Thatcher next to him in the passenger seat!

Before the abolition of corporal punishment in schools, Arnewood and Gore School before that was obliged, by law, to keep a punishment book. The last entry was on 19th June 1987 and the very first entry was on 5th December 1963. In between, many and various misdemeanours were recorded, obviously not for publication – but one entry in a later account is worth mentioning: 'A fourth year pupil was suspended for one week for using a magnifying glass to start a fire in the 'Social Studies Suite' (where the Library is now). Fortunately, the curtains were fireproofed and little damage ensued.'

The Punishment Book

A Punishment Book was required by the local authority. Corporal punishment petered out in 1987 but before that the rule was:

- a) 'Corporal Punishment may not be used unless it appears that there has been deliberate misbehaviour of the pupil's own volition.'
- b) 'When Corporal Punishment is deemed to be necessary, it must be applied with moderation and must be reasonable in all the circumstances.'

Gore Secondary School

5.12.63 (first entry)	by 3 strokes on each hand from the Head 'for persistent defiance, rudeness and insolence to staff'
Misdemeanours -	including throwing mud, matches on site,

	truanting, smoking, recording foul language on tape machine and inviting teacher to listen
1965	canned for 'disgraceful, filthy language in English book'; 'defacing maths exercise book'
1966	boy canned for throwing an egg at the Head Boy
1967	'interfering with boy's bicycle'; 'laughing in assembly'

- * several entries for bullying and bringing fireworks into school
- * 'swearing at groundsmen'
- * 'taking another's cycle without permission'
- * 'spitting in bus'
- * 'stealing Science equipment – test tubes and beakers
- * 'lying and failing to do homework'
- * 'failing to produce work after many opportunities to bring it to school'

Arnewood School

1975 a more 'interesting' week: 'disruption in class with live mouse' (two strokes of cane on seat)

- 'squirting water with a pipette'
- 'going through bags and stealing a dinner ticket'
- explosion in blasphemous vernacular unsuitable for an English lesson
- obscene language on a Christmas card
- 'boy said that he had a dinner ticket and money stolen; in fact he had no tickets in the first place!' (two on seat)
- 'forging signatures on lunch time report' (two on seat)
- 'throwing missiles through top floor window'
- 'flashing' in school in front of girls
- 'intercepting letter to parent'

The Punishment Book ended on 19th June 1987 with the following entry:

'One on seat with slipper for running with the mob – group of boys'.

The security of the school and safety of students was always paramount and by the end of August 1987 the barrier between the Recreation Centre car park and the school car park was erected on the instructions of the Headteacher. However since the barrier's erection four members of the public had driven their vehicles into it. Because of public complaints the barrier was removed for a time but a permanent one had been erected on the school site by 1989.

Also in 1987, a 'Healthy Eating' campaign had been introduced into school. 'About fifty percent of food offered by the school was health orientated', according to the Headteacher

The healthy eating was a change from the fare available in the 1970s, examples of which are shown below:

Cheese and egg salad	Sausage and cheese burger	Sugared onions
Sausage rolls	Cold meats	Peas
Egg and chips	Port or mat patty	Doughnut/bun
Egg and bacon	Vegeatble au gratin	Fruit
Soup with roll and cheese	Cheese whirl	Fruit cake
Cornish pasty	Fish cakes	Fruit flan
Salmon vol-au-vents	Rissoles	Cheese scone
Curry and rice	Chips/crisps	Fruit jelly
Kedgeriee	Baked potatoes	Trifle
Baked egg	Potato salad	Peach condé
Scotch egg	Beans in tomato sauce	Fruit gateau
Kromeskies	Salad	
Beef burger	Chutney/beetroot	

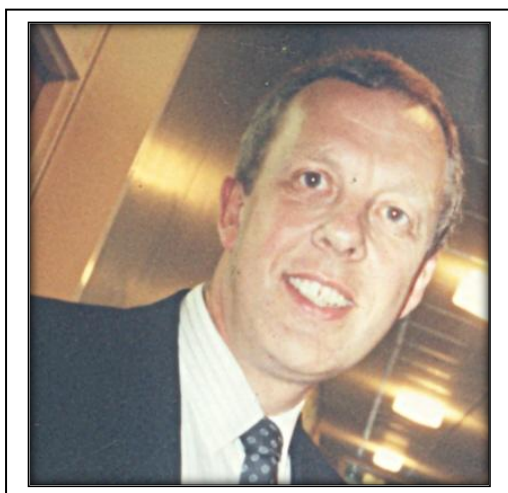
By the end of that year staff were considering the new GCSE courses to be adopted by schools throughout the country.

Mr Skirton recorded in December, 'It gives me considerable pleasure to report that the last two or three weeks of the Christmas term have been without doubt the most enjoyable end of term I have experienced at Arnewood over a period of six years. There has been a most pleasing community spirit with greatly increased sums of money being raised for charity.'

Parents' Evenings have always been an essential part of the school calendar and in March 1988 for the Fourth Year Parents' Evening, there was an experiment with the starting time, moving it from 6.30pm back to 4pm. Ever since then such meetings have occurred at the earlier time.

Another first was that of the school's 'Industrial Liaison Committee' – a successful venture which started one month later.

Arnewood had two Deputy Heads until 1988 – at that time Mr Colin Nye and Mrs Jennifer Gilbody. However, in April 1988 a third Deputy named Mr David Williams was appointed whose specialist subject was Maths.



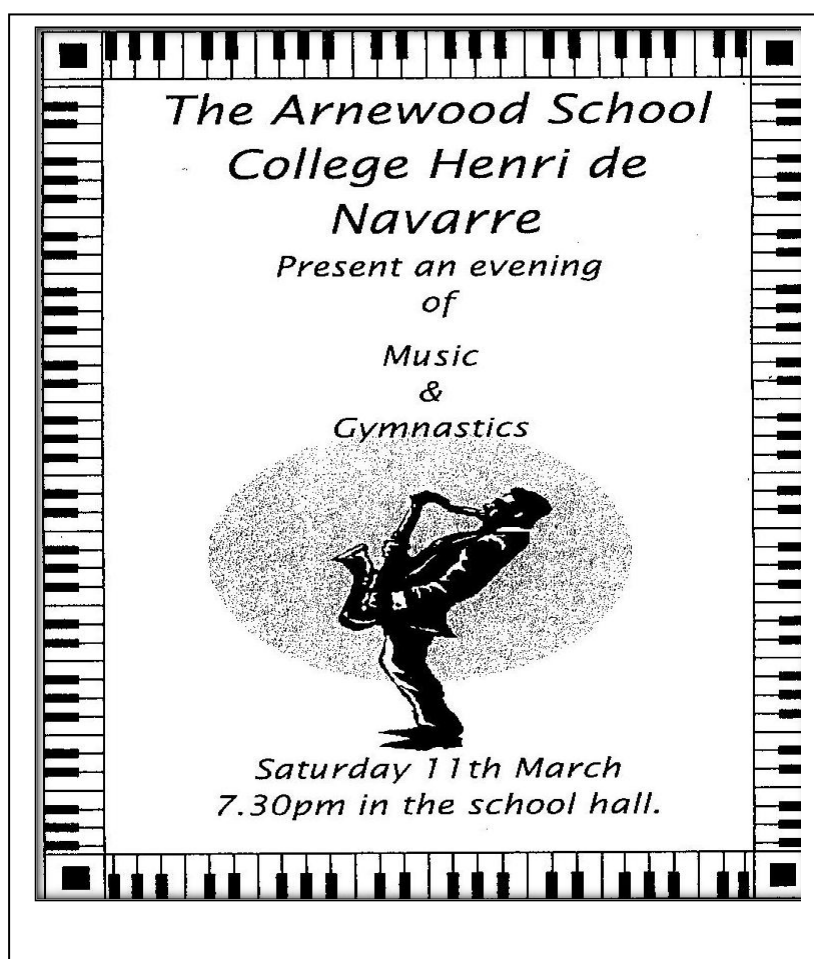
Pictured above are Mr Nye on the left and Mr Williams and Mrs Gilbody on the right.

There were many 'firsts' at this time and in June members of the school orchestra were chosen to play at the forthcoming opening of the New Forest Museum to be attended by HRH Prince Philip.

By July, after the pressure of examinations, there was the first of two days of work experience projects for third year students, involving a series of activities and visits around the New Milton Industrial Estate. Such activities to raise children's awareness of the world of work have been a feature of school life for many years. They were later curtailed by the requirements of the National Curriculum. However other events have been introduced and more about those later in this volume.

Sadly, during the summer holiday the Headteacher was advised of the sudden and tragic death of Mr Mike Jeffries while on holiday in France. He had been a popular member of the Maths Department since 1973 and his own children also attended the school.

Moving on to a new academic year, on Friday 16th September 1988 the first exchange with a school in Yerville, France, took place where the Arnewood Orchestra performed to great acclaim. Later in the following March there was a combined Yerville and Arnewood concert in the school hall, the conductor being Mr Ralph Hebditch who was Head of Music at the time.





An example of Anglo-Gallic hospitality!

By December 1988 there were sixty full-time equivalent members of staff and the Headteacher remarked: 'I consider this the strongest staff which has been available at Arnewood in my six years here.'

The New Year of 1989 began with a flourish when the pantomime 'Aladdin' was performed in the week beginning Monday 16th January. This was the final production by Mr Alan Martin, Head of English, before his retirement from teaching.

By February 1989 the Governors discussed the possibility of introducing a compulsory school blazer, instead of it being voluntary. The final agreement was for a black wool blazer with a burgundy trim, a school badge, two vents at the rear and three buttons. This remained as part of the school uniform until 2005 when a burgundy blazer was gradually phased in. Later, in September 2000, girls were allowed to wear trousers as part of their uniform.

A sad event took place in June 1989 when the funeral of a popular student, Claire Adcock, was attended by staff and friends. A road traffic accident involving two students had happened during the half-term holiday and on 30th June there was a special Thanksgiving Assembly held in her memory in school.

By the end of the academic year – along with others – three long serving members of staff retired after sixty-six combined years of service at Arnewood and Gore School! They were Mr Bob Little, Mrs Meg Major and Mr Alan Martin.

There were more 'firsts' in the new school year, when in October a separate Presentation Evening was held for the current students in Years Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten (new national numbering equivalent to 'old' years one, two, three, four). The speaker was a former champion runner – Mr Gordon Pirie – quite a scoop for the school! Also the New Parents' Evening was introduced to the calendar whereby all parents from feeder schools were invited to view the school.

The usual end of Christmas term activities were carried out with aplomb. In December the school production – 'The Murder of Maria Marten or The Red Barn' – proved most entertaining and there was the annual presentation of parcels to the elderly of Ashley. 'Carols for Everyone' was held in New Milton Memorial Hall and, on that occasion, senior citizens were replaced by children from the Junior Schools.

Throughout this period there were continuing accommodation problems at school exacerbated by the building programme of houses across the road from the site. At one point the Headteacher wondered if ongoing problems would ever be resolved satisfactorily!

March 1990 saw an 'Extraordinary Meeting' of the Governing Body in order to discuss these problems. There were to be alterations in the science area in order to create three laboratories out of an existing two, plus a feasibility study to discuss the need for further permanent accommodation. Apparently 'Arnewood was the most densely populated school in the county' it was suggested. Discussions were also instigated on the use of the Adult Education Centre on site.

Into the 1990's

The Arnewood School Year Book began at this time. The very first one was produced in 1993, celebrating the secondary pupils and staff from 1988 until 1993 itself. Every year since then Year Eleven and staff have produced a meaningful record of their five years at the school which has been much appreciated by all concerned. Below is the Headteacher's message for the first edition.



A Message from Mr. Skirton

It has been a pleasure to have been associated with the education of the year group leaving Arnewood during the Summer of 1993. My colleagues and I have enjoyed the company of the Year group and we collectively feel privileged that we have had the opportunity to participate in their education.

I could reflect on incidents which have occurred during the last five years which would cause pupils embarrassment now and considerable embarrassment as their families look through this book in years to come. I have, however, resisted the temptation to do so. I very much hope that this book will be a reminder of a very important period in your lives. I am sure that as the years go by and your Arnewood friends move away you will greatly appreciate the occasional nostalgic moment when you scan through its pages.

I invite you to take the spirit of Arnewood with you and I very much hope that what you have learnt will be of lasting value to you as the years go by. May you find in life the inner peace of which I have spoken so frequently during your Assemblies:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you . . . Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14 v 27

Sadly, in October of that year a former student of the school – a young man named Anthony Sutton, met his death in a rock climbing accident. He was remembered with affection by staff and former students.

There were intense discussions both on the development of sporting facilities on Fawcett Field and also the possibility of Arnewood 'opting out' of local government control and adopting Grant Maintained status. There was a special staff meeting in

order to discuss the above and a few months later occurred the first opportunity for parents to discuss this. The results of a parental ballot of sixteen hundred and fifty parents eligible was, eight hundred and fifteen voted in favour and two hundred and eleven against.

Also in 1991, the Governors assumed legal responsibility for the finances of the school and the Headteacher stated that he wished to visit schools that had recently become Grant Maintained; some Governors also asked to be included in such visits.

Timetable arrangements for the curriculum remain fluid in schools and there was a proposal to change the school timetable from 40 x 35 minute periods to 30 x 50 minute periods. This was in order to assist subject teaching in some subject areas and to help cope with the demands of the new National Curriculum. All in all this represented an increase of twenty minutes to the teaching day...

In 2006 the timetable was again reviewed and the five period day was introduced, with each lesson of one hour's duration.

Of course the implementation of the National Curriculum was a very important time in school life everywhere. The timetable at Arnewood was as follows:

TIMETABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

			KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4
Maths and Science	Autumn Term		1989	1990	1989	1992
English	Autumn Term		1989	1990	1990	1992
Technology	Autumn Term		1990	1990	1990	1993
History & Geography	Autumn Term	1991	1991	1991	1994	
Art, Music & PE	Autumn Term	1992	1992	1992	1995	
Modern Languages	Autumn Term				1992	1995

It was then that serious thought was given to the introduction of the feasibility of accepting a sixth form at Arnewood and from then on there were lively debates on the subject, until the first Sixth Form started in September 1995.

- Yr Seven - 12 Years of age Key Stage 3 - Years 7-9
- Yr Eight - 13 Years Key Stage 4 - Years 10&11
- Yr Nine - 14 Years
- Yr Ten - 15 Years
- Yr Eleven - 16 Years
- Yr Twelve and Thirteen - Sixth form.

Homework was an essential for students, who were setted in order to meet their needs, after an introductory period in the 'first year'. Coursework was an integral part of the examination system and also, of course, the school operated a policy of equal opportunity. The area of 'Special Needs' was expanded, the school recognising

that it should not be assumed that there is a correlation between special needs and academic ability.

A computerised Record of Achievement was sent home once a year.

A feature of Arnewood life has always been the varied and numerous of extra-curricular activities. There was even an Arnewood Association Fashion Show – remembered by the author because of winning the raffle of cross-channel ferry tickets for a car and two adults!

Further extra curricular activities were recorded at this time:

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school has continued to organise many extra-curricular activities. Our sports teams have been notably successful this year. The boys' under 13 and under 15 football teams are in the Bournemouth Schools Finals which will take place at Dene Court. Two squash players competed recently in the Bournemouth Open Squash Championships. Boys in the school are also members of county teams for Football, Swimming, Cross Country and Rugby. The girls' Netball teams have played with their usual enthusiasm. The under 14 and under 16 teams held joint first place at the end of season tournament. In Hockey the under 14 and under 16 teams won the end of season tournament and six girls were selected to play for the New Forest Area team. The school was also represented in the New Forest and County Cross Country championships. Two girls took part in a trampolining competition in Reading and gained 1st and 3rd places.

Another most successful concert was organised by Mr Hebditch at which £250 was raised for the OXFAM African Famine Relief Fund. Mr Goodall co-ordinated a number of activities on Comic Relief Day when £390 was raised. We have given some support to the New Forest Pride Week but have concentrated on the school campus and adjacent Graveyard.

The Arnewood Association Summer fair takes place in school on Saturday 11th May and during the latter part of the Summer term we will be host for a pyramid Information Technology day, drawing in pupils from all the schools within our catchment area. We are grateful to Mrs Ironside for joining the organising team from the pyramid.

On Saturday 15th June the leavers' dance takes place;

On Tuesday 18th June the Industrial Liaison committee visits Geeco

The week beginning 8th July sees the Year 9 Insights into Work programme;

On Friday 12th July the new intake pupils are in school all day;

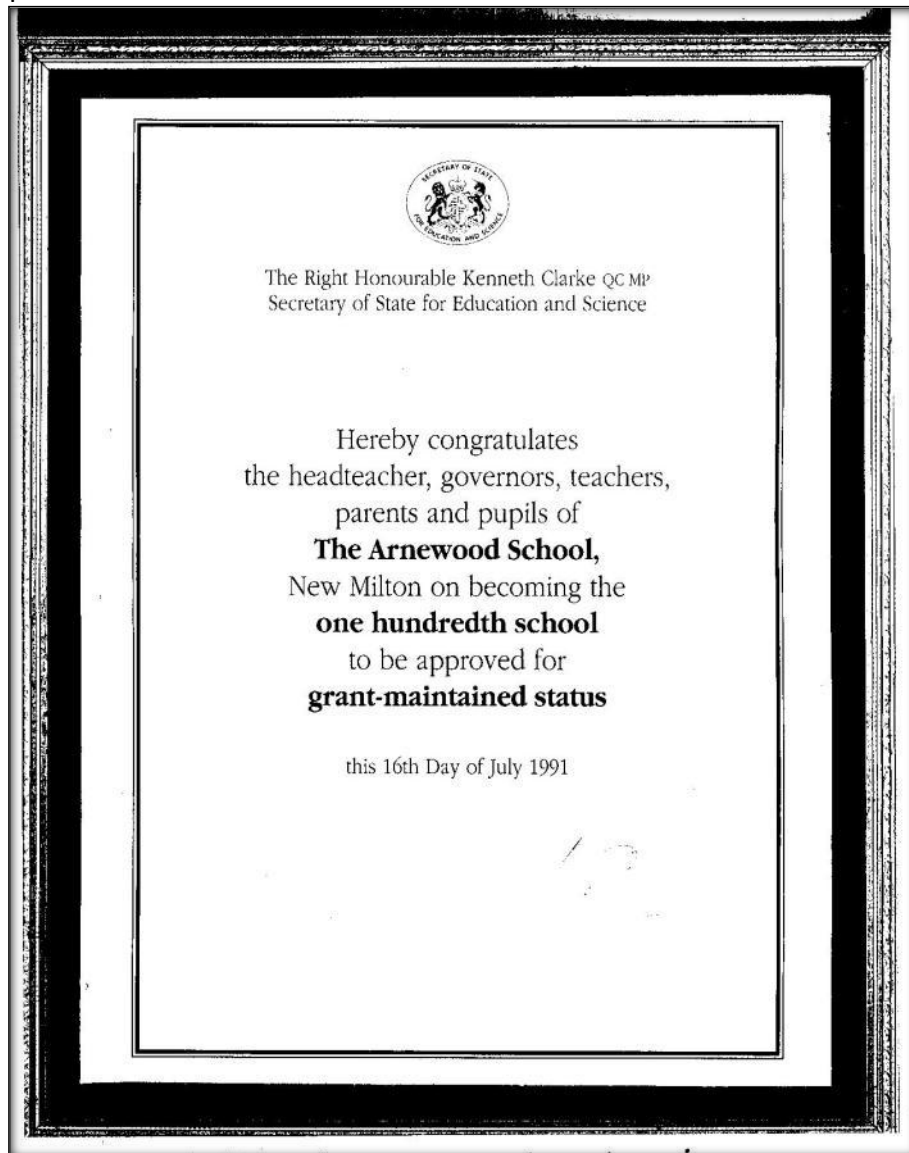
The Summer term ends on 23rd July.

Third World Poverty has always remained a problem and in April 1991 an International Concert in aid of OXFAM Africa Famine Relief Fund was held in the school hall and a further concert took place in Hordle Parish Church, with much needed funds raised.

Grant-Maintained Status

On 1st September 1991 The Arnewood School adopted Grant-Maintained Status. This was a significant event in the life of the school and was marked by the visit of the Secretary of State for Education and Science, the Right Honourable Kenneth Clark QC

MP. He came to the school on 16th July 1991, celebrating the fact that The Arnewood was the hundredth school to become Grant-Maintained in the country. The visit was reported on national television news bulletins and Mr Skirton was interviewed. Naturally the press also reported on this visit and many staff who were present at the time can remember trying to match each reporter to their respective newspaper!





The main event caught on camera.

By 1992 all previous academic records had been broken in school in producing excellent exam results. The Chair of Governors stated:

“The school continues its local and international links with the community. The County Police School Liaison Officer attends Arnewood regularly as part of the Core and tutorial programme. There is always a warm welcome to local Vicars, Priests and Ministers to school and their contribution to assemblies and debates is invaluable. The Work Experience Programme is a vital part of your child’s education. This insight into the world of work would not be possible without the co-operation of local businesses and industries and we are very grateful for such support from the community. The Industrial Liaison Committee continues to meet each term to foster this relationship.

- *The Governors are represented on:-*
- *The Management Committee of the Youth Centre*
- *The Arnewood Association Committee*
- *New Milton Recreation Centre Consultative Committee*
- *The Arnewood Industrial Liaison Committee*

The international links with Yerville and Vannes continue to flourish. In recognition of “1992” a successful European Awareness Week was held in school. The school has, in addition, initiated a week long Arts Festival with considerable success. These special

events, together with the other extensive extra-curricular activities, make Arnewood an invigorating community. Governors, whenever possible, attend on all such occasions, presentations and Arnewood Association events.

Ever hopeful, we still await the news that we are to receive a capital grant to enable us to build the accommodation necessary to house all the children who have a right to attend this school. In the meantime Grant-Maintained Status has enabled the Governors to sanction the quipping of three Science labs, two language stations, a new Drama Suite and Music Suite, with practice rooms."

In February there was a very successful Arts Festival at school, with a varied programme of a 'Fight workshop in Drama' and a production of 'Sweetie Pie'!

European Awareness Week occurred between 16th and 21st March, in which the school sought to make the students fully aware of their place in Europe. The school was appropriately decorated and events included European menus in the canteen, concerts with students from Arnewood and Yerville and inter-tutor quizzes. One tutor group even took over a local Italian restaurant for an evening as part of the celebrations. Peugeot UK sponsored the event and offered a donation in order to help with expenses.

By the summer of 1992 the school was informed of a basic need grant in order to build nine new classrooms. Meanwhile Grant-Maintained Status had enabled the Governors to sanction the equipping of three Science laboratories, two languages laboratories, a new drama suite and music suite with practice rooms.

The first site meeting for the school extension was 28th January 1993 – and in the spring of that year there were plans to extend the existing art rooms and the car park, both at the front and rear of the school.

Regarding the new teaching block, the keys were formally handed to the Governors on Monday, 23rd August 1993 – the contractor being Herbert H. Drew and Sons. A covered way was also completed in order to link the new building, the main building and practical block, allowing an acceptable degree of weather protection and wheelchair access.

There was also a complete refurbishment of the hall, the conversion of oil fired boilers to gas; the completion of further car parking, sound proofing in the music rooms, improved toilet facilities, laboratory and language rooms. Quite a momentous year!

In 1993 Arnewood was approached by a Mr Peter Stachorra from Herdecke, near Dortmund in Germany, who was looking for a partner school in England and he already had connections with New Milton through his friendship with the Chair of the Governors, Mrs Cook, whom he had known since his university days.

Contacts were established with the school; in 1994 the first exchange occurred and thereafter every two years since. In 2000, forty students and the Headteacher travelled to Germany and over the years about a dozen German students have been accommodated with English host families, attending the Arnewood Sixth Form. A number of our students completed work experience in Germany and there have been lively musical exchanges between both schools.

On 16th July 2004 a concert was held at Arnewood in order to celebrate the ten year partnership. The Headteacher of Herdecke school attended and even joined in the staff's end of summer term tennis tournament where he was on the winning team!

Earlier in 1993 as part of the 'Schools Echo' project students from the Arnewood English department, under the guidance of two members of staff compiled an edition of the Bournemouth newspaper. Mr Skirton was an enthusiastic contributor and it took time for some readers to realise that publication day was 1st April! They were surprised when the new buildings were said by him to include: 'a staff jacuzzi to be installed and to enable the staff to use this facility to its full extent, lunchtime will have to be extended by fifteen minutes... To pay for this facility Mr Skirton is asking the students to organise seasonal fundraising events.' There was a prize for the best school presentation and The Arnewood School proved to be the winner. Two years later, in March 1995, the effort was repeated on a slightly smaller scale.



The Arnewood School ECHO

Written, edited and designed by the pupils

Pupil fund raisers rally round to pay for teachers' comfort

BUILDING BONANZA



Dreaming of things to come - head teacher Gordon Skirton checks the plans for teacher-friendliness

AN AIR of mystery is surrounding Arnewood School at the moment.

A new building is being constructed, but there seems to be some doubt over details. What will it look like? What is it for? When will it be ready for use? And what difference will it actually make to the school?

Life at school is carrying on as normal, ignoring strange happenings behind the closed-off area. Louise Johnson and Caroline Dyer interviewed head teacher Gordon Skirton to find out the real facts.

"This building is needed to provide pupils with much needed new classrooms," he explains.

"It will enable them to circulate around the school corridors between lessons with much more ease."

The building will include three new technology rooms, three information technology rooms, and four humanities rooms. This will leave space for three new English rooms in the main building.

To fund this facility Mr Skirton is asking the pupils to organise seasonal fund-raising events. The pupils are already organising raffles and a fete in their own time.

Arnewood was planning to purchase a large amount of computer hardware for the use of the school in lesson time, but because of this expenditure this purchase will have to be delayed. Apart from this Mr Skirton can see no other disadvantages to the construction of the new building.

When asked about his plans for the future Mr Skirton said he would like to introduce a sixth form. Apart from this he wishes to improve on all aspects of the school.

Louise Johnson (14)

Out with the old, in with the new

DOES New Milton have more facilities for the older rather than the younger generation?

Statistics show that the area has become a 'retirement town', with more than half of the town's population at retirement age.

According to teacher Margaret Joyce (46), who has lived in the area for 25 years, the problem is better than it was ten years ago, when the council began building warden-assisted housing for the elderly.

In one instance a local cinema, The Waverley, which was situated in the High Street, was demolished to allow for the construction of Waverley House.

Mrs Joyce says that more recently the council has started to create more facilities for the young, and construction of

starter homes has improved the situation, although some elderly people are buying these.

The problem with a large elderly population base is that they do not bring in money and put a strain on medical services.

Mrs Joyce also believes that the number of elderly dictates entertainment and the style of clothing in shops. Although the elderly have a community centre and a dance hall the teenagers do not even have a disco.

New Milton agenda a new approach to housing. It could refuse planning permission for the construction of new housing specifically for the elderly or the conversion of hotels or guest houses to retirement homes.

Instead it should encourage development of homes for young

families and conversion of hotels into hostels to attract more young people to the town.

Several improvements could be made to the town to increase its appeal to younger people - for example extending the memorial hall to accommodate a cinema showing the latest films and starting up a disco.

Pedestrianising the town centre would make the town more attractive to shoppers, perhaps providing fast food and modern fashionable clothing.

Juvenile crime is often motivated by boredom - one's every day of the summer holiday the police are called out to move groups of teenagers from particular locations.

More entertainment for the younger generation would go some way to rectifying this.

Stuart Smith (14)

Schools ECHO

Supplements

Encourage young readers to read newspapers

Working with Education & Industry through the Newspapers in Education Project



Morse brings his own code of conduct

MORSE frequently visits Arnewood School to ensure the pupils are aware of the law.

Community-orientated Constable Barry Morse has witnessed many crimes - some serious, some amusing - in 15 years at New Milton police station. He admits his favourite television programme is Inspector Morse; he also enjoys The Bill but feels that although it is realistic it omits the tedious parts.

Burglaries are the most commonly committed in his area because of all the elderly well-off people.

His funniest crime was a kidnapped

guinea pig, which after disappearing for two days arrived alive and well, through the letter box.

He feels that young people use the excuse that there is not much to do in New Milton to turn to crime, the majority of which is petty crime and committed by boys. In the winter trouble caused by young people lessens but in summer the police are called at least once a day to break up young people's gatherings.

Story: Denise Clark (15) and Charlotte Easter (15)

Cartoon: Peter Luther (16)

Inside stories



Come on in, the water's great - sport on Pages 7 and 8

Plus...



Who is he? Pupil puzzle on Page 2

Page designed by Lauren Gange and Helen Saunders. Title designed by Daniel Parsons (15)

Wessex Water

YOUR EFFICIENT, CLEAN AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WATER SERVICE

WESSEX WATER P.L.C.
WESSEX HOUSE,
PASSAGE ST.,
BRISTOL
BS2 0JQ

Cartoon: Paul Silcox 15

ECHO

THIS SUPPLEMENT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE EVENING ECHO AND THE ADVERTISERS.

ECHO

FARE'S FAIR?
 FROM the age of 14, on buses, children have to pay adult fare. But because they are only 14, they do not earn wages. Is that fair?
 Local authorities still have to supply transport for pupils aged up to 16 to their designated school, providing they are more than three miles away. But now the Education Committee are discussing the possibility of abandoning travel grants for 8th Form pupils altogether.
 Louise Fulford (15)

HOPE JONES

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
 TAXATION ADVICE
 LIMITED COMPANY
 AUDITS
 FRIENDLY SERVICE

HOPE JONES
 HANTON HOUSE
 STATION ROAD
 NEW MILTON
 TEL (01425) 612694

Robert Bulcher, 12

A hard choice



Working mum Helen Mulford

FOR working mums, the pressures of motherhood alone can be overwhelming at times... how do they manage?
 Helen Mulford, a mother and full-time teacher at Arnewood, spoke of her "frustrations and joys of being a working mum."
 She said she became accustomed to the emotions after a while and learnt to "put maternal feelings on hold."
 Others agree that leaving your child for the first time can be traumatic, and that priorities change; both jobs need 100 per cent commitment, so organisation is essential.
 Many women have to take work home to be done when the child has gone to bed, so work is often completed late into the night or early in the morning, leaving them tired next day.
 Fitting housework into a busy schedule must be strenuous, and school holidays are a strain.
 Child minders are very expensive and it is well known that childcare provision in Britain is among the worst in Europe.
 But when feelings of satisfaction and love emerge amongst the frustrations and stress, somehow it all seems worth the struggle.
 Louise Fulford (15)



Setting out for Oz - Tim Man and Dorothy

Did the
 WE may have flown the rainbow for a week February, but long are the days of Judy and trotting down the yellow brick road, it sweet, blue gingham and pigtails. This Dorothy (Cathy Musseri) dommed her Doc Ma boots to take Oz by Sets for the most lavish wood production in ye came complete with bridge and magic plot. The orchestra played old favourites, while Sue Wrigley proved it was life in the old old

REJECTION
 I looked at the girls as they stood in a huddle. My emotions confused, my thoughts a muddle. They wear the right clothes with the fashionable label. I try hard to keep up, but am just not able. Financially, my pockets are not that deep. Teenage fashions are not terribly cheap. They reject me for reasons I don't think are fair - I can't change my clothes or colour of hair. All I wish is they'd give me a glance. Just talk to me once and give me a chance. They'd see I wasn't strange, peculiar or weird. And I'm not just an amusement at which to be jeered. Does it matter if you are fat or thin? Isn't it more important what comes from within?
 Louise Burn (14)

Hounded out of home

A DOG is for life... or is it? Two weeks ago a black Labrador found itself at our English teacher's house. After being calmed down, he was taken to the Ashley Heath Animal Home, but so far he has not been adopted.
 He was named George Raft because of his white back paws, and through this charity he now has a second chance.
 The home is affiliated to the RSPCA. Managers Mary Newman says that in some months up to 70 strays are brought in, mostly in summer when people go away.
 When a dog arrives, it is issued with an ID number, checked for problems and given vaccinations if necessary. Dogs are kept for two weeks and if they are not claimed, put up for adoption. A visit to any prospective new owner's house is made to ensure the house and garden are suitable.
 If you would like to adopt a dog, contact the Ashley Heath Animal Home on (01425) 473886.
 Dawn Bailey (16), Alice Ayrton-Robinson (12), Katie Huish (12)

Tabl
 THE nightmare bward his anti-seem Six million Jews, and 250,000 gypsies concentration camp with Hitler's plan for I spoke to Auschwitz what the Holocaust - 1938-45 was the horrific time over the existence of man But do we remem

LET OUR FUTURES BE YOUR FUTURE

Every year hundreds of young people find jobs through The College Futures programme. If you are leaving school this year, a Futures programme could be what you need.

The Bournemouth College

If you would like to work in any of the following, then our Futures programmes are for you:

Bakery & Confectionery	Beauty & Healthcare
Business Skills	Care (Elderly, Children, Handicapped)
Finance & Accounts	Catering (Food Preparation & Service)
Graphic Design & Print	Floristry
Hotel Reception	Hairstressing
Specialist Chefs	Information Technology

- * Learn practical skills in the workplace and at college
- * Get an NVQ 2 or 3 and a job
- * Get a weekly wage of at least £45
- * All the facilities and support you need

Telephone: (01202) 297872 and we'll send you an application form and invite you in for an interview.

James Kenchington, 16

WESSEX WATERMARK

Helping you to improve your environment
 Do your group require financial help with a project that involves water?

If Yes - then apply for a WESSEX WATERMARK GRANT

For more information contact
 Wessex Water
 Wessex House
 Passage Street
 Bristol, BS2 0JZ
 Wessex Watermark TEL 0117 9330611

Vicky Brown, 15

We're Here To Make You Smile
S.M.GIBBS AND ASSOCIATES
 SNARESBROOK, 29 FLAM AVENUE
 NEW MILTON
 HAMPSHIRE
 BH21 4AE
 Tel: (01425) 612111
 Fax: 01703 282762

BUPA Dental Cover

We offer a wide range of services, including:
 FRIENDLY INFORMAL SURROUNDING
 DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION
 HIGH CLASS DENTAL CARE
 BUPA DENTAL COVER

Simon Walker, 16; Matthew Fry,

Christchurch POWER TOOLS

The Power Equipment Specialists

FOR THE BEST IN LAWNMOWER AND OTHER GARDEN MACHINERY WERE A CUT ABOVE THE REST!

INCLUDING SALES AND REPAIRS

CHRISTCHURCH POWER TOOLS LTD
 54 Bridge Street, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 1EG.
 T: (01202) 483505/486210 Fax: (01202) 470543

Don Sinfield, 15

THE CENTURION
 Badger Inn Ltd
 Christchurch Road
 Barton-on-sea
 New Milton
 BH25 5QF

CONTACT ON - (01425) 616521

BADGER
 A great restaurant with good prices, set menu, comfortable surroundings and a large family garden.

Some old style bars in a family atmosphere.

Emma Ward, 16

Free Quotation
 Competitive Prices

H H WHITE
 FENCING CONTRACTORS

ALL TYPES OF FENCING AND GATES SUPPLIED AND ERECTED

Hawthorn Road, Winton, Bournemouth
 Phone (01202) 523983

Daniel Niggins, 16

HEAT!
 DON'T LOSE IT!
 USE IT! With our UP double glazed windows and doors.

- Supplied and fitted
- Broken glass replacements

ALL FROM
 New Milton Glass Company
 4-4 - 46 Old Milton Road
 New Milton
 Hants
 BH25 6DX
 Tell: (01425) 618384

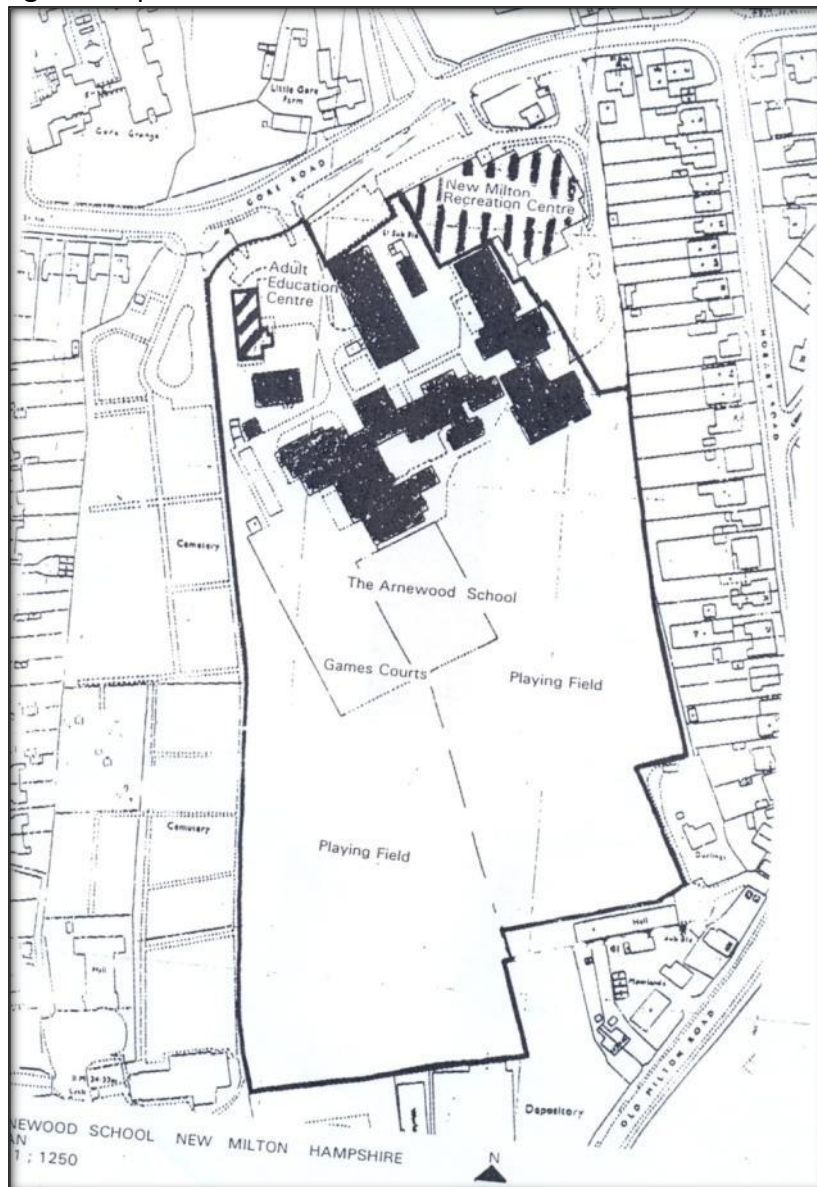
Louisa Belcher, 12

By November, the Governors first discussed a bid to become a Technology College but this idea was shelved for the time being.

Sixth Form Status - The 11-18 School

The school's change of status had been confirmed for implementation in September 1995 and this, therefore, necessitated further building work including a canteen extension, new entrance and an extension to the library.

The following is a map of school accommodation at the school in 1995-96.



The Headteacher commented: 'We have been absolutely delighted with all aspects of the early stages of our Sixth Form. Our numbers have reached expectation, the appearance of students is outstanding and I am delighted with their sensible interpretation of the limited freedom a uniform has given to them. Sixth formers clearly appreciate the facilities, including their excellent common room' (situated

where the Skirton Memorial Library is now). One hundred and twelve students had taken up Sixth Form places initially.

A thirty-five period week was to be adopted from September 1995 – in order to accommodate compulsory RE and PE.

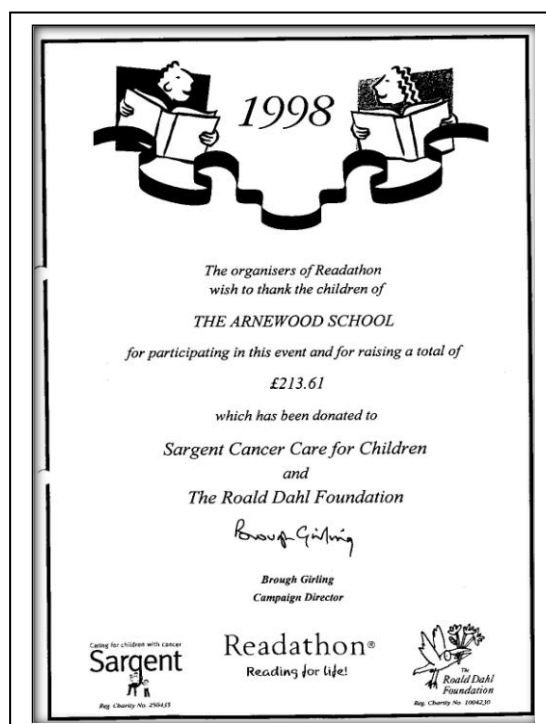
In addition a school inspection was to take place between 2nd and 6th October 1995 (OFSTED) – the very first time the school was involved. Fourteen inspectors in total would visit and there was, naturally, a flurry of activity onsite for several weeks.

Thirteen inspectors observed two hundred and sixty lessons, thirty three registration sessions and all assemblies, as well as attending meetings and extra-curricular activities. Sixty planned discussions had taken place and students' written work was seen. They were also spoken to, formally and informally, and questionnaires from parents were analysed.

The school was deemed: '...to be very good with many outstanding features' – and was able to build on its achievements in the future. Also, there was to be a determined effort, 'To develop the use of information technology in order to support learning across the curriculum.'

Later that term the annual Christmas festival would direct all its proceeds towards the "Adam Schofield Fund" as well as funds raised by students over that period. Adam was a Year Eleven student who had been very seriously injured in a car accident the previous summer and money was needed for equipment to enable him to be cared for at home. The total raised was in excess of £8000.

Fund raising has been maintained for many years, as this Readathon certificate illustrates.



By September 1996 the number of pupils on roll had risen to fourteen hundred and ninety, with two hundred and thirty in the Sixth Form.

January 1997 saw the total ban on the wearing of jewellery by students in Years 7-11, on the grounds of health and safety and this is a rule still enforced in 2008.

In such a large secondary school sad events are bound to occur and on 15th January 1997 a sixth form student, Jonathan England, died in a car accident near Bransgore. A plaque to remember him is just outside and above the door of the library. Then In September, just after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, a student named Daniel Whitcher died in a road accident and his funeral took place at Christchurch Priory, attended by both staff and pupils.

The Adult Education building was now in the ownership of the school and thought was given as to its future use. Thereafter, until 2005, it was known as the Reception Building, which, in September 2005 moved over to SCOLA, where it remains today.

Academically, the results were 'outstanding' at GCSE, GNVQ and Advanced Level. A-Level students were the first cohort to complete Sixth Form studies at Arnewood and these results enabled the school to be listed amongst the most successful sixth form providers in Hampshire!

An event which greatly saddened the school community was the death of the Headteacher, Mr Gordon Skirton on 25th April 1998.

The New Milton Advertiser reported:

"The Arnewood School at New Milton was in mourning this week following the death on Saturday of its dynamic and popular head Gordon Skirton who, with great vision, led the school to grant-maintained and sixth form status. Pupils were told of his passing at assembly on Monday, and throughout the week there was a steady flow of cards and letters of condolence arriving at the school. His untimely death at the age of 54, is not only a big loss to the town but to education in general."

"As a final mark of respect all 1,500 pupils at the school, along with teachers and ancillary staff, lined both sides of Gore Road as the cortege bearing their headmaster wound its way past the school towards the funeral service at Ashley Baptist Church. In their black and maroon uniforms, the children stood motionless along a quarter-mile stretch of the road – a few eeping, several holding back the tear, all perfectly silent – as a tribute to a headmaster whose visionary leadership led to Arnewood winning widespread acknowledgement for its academic successes."

A Memorial Service in Mr Skirton's memory took place in Christchurch Priory on 19th June at 7.30 pm. There were tributes from both staff and students and a retiring collection for the Gordon Skirton Memorial Library Fund which had been set up the previous month.

Mr David Tan, also a teacher at Arnewood, sadly died at this time.

The Head

Strict, but nice is how some will remember the Head,
He looked like batman a Year 7 student said.
We will all have our own memories,
and with us they will stay,
Some will make us laugh,
like when he was stripped on charity day.
I'd like to share some thoughts right now,
they are the students' point of view.
Of our feared, but respected, headmaster
that so many of us knew.

Musically, he was renowned for his deep singing voice.
He would have joined the chamber choir, had he had any choice.
His threats, sorry offers, of vocal support were repeated,
but the feared looks of the Arnewood singers
were the way his pleas were greeted.
Instead he sat, he watched, he listened,
at every concert over the years,
and at the end he would stand to thank all involved,
the pride practically bursting out of his ears.

A top man who did so much for our school.
He was involved in everything, everywhere,
and he gave life his all.
Especially, when playing in a lunchtime football game,
he may've been on duty, in a suit, but he'd join in all the same.
When tackled, his cheating streak would come to light,
and he would threaten detentions to all those in sight.

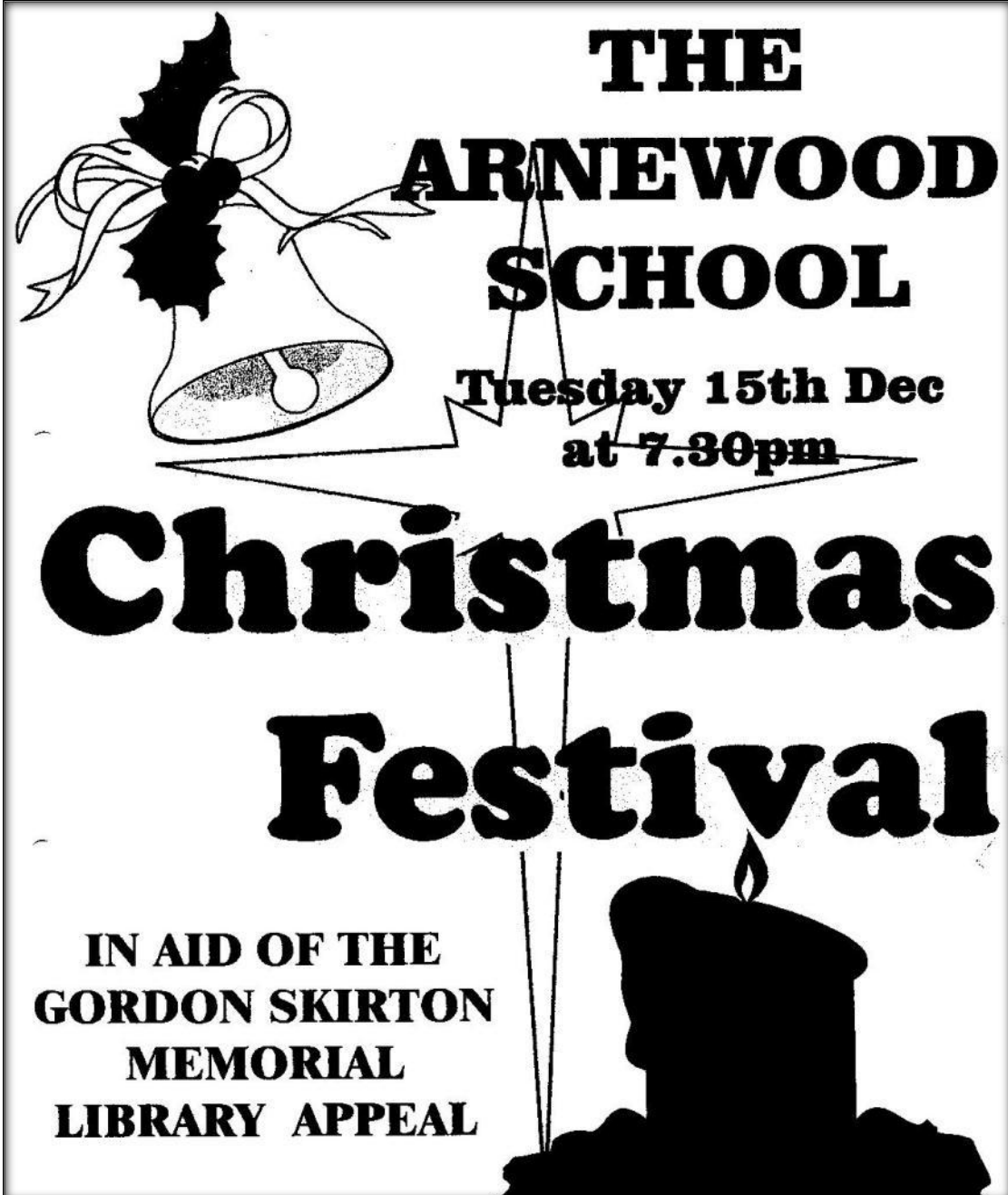
He had a bottomless pit of smiles,
and so many kind words to say.
He would crack a joke and make you laugh,
in his own little way.
Many a student has he inspired to fulfil their potential to the brim,
They'll travel far in life – and they'll do it because of him.
His ideas and enthusiasm have affected us all,
in work and in play, and constructing more buildings for the school.
He created The Arnewood Way of showing you should care,
but I'll most remember The Mr Skirton Way of simply being there.

Joanna Taylor
May 1998

A poem written by a pupil at the school.

Mrs Jennifer Gilbody was appointed as Acting Headteacher for eight months until the new Headteacher Mr Christopher Hummerstone was able to start in January 1999.

There were various fund raising activities and one of these was a Christmas Festival.



**THE
ARNEWOOD
SCHOOL**

**Tuesday 15th Dec
at 7.30pm**

**Christmas
Festival**

**IN AID OF THE
GORDON SKIRTON
MEMORIAL
LIBRARY APPEAL**

In fact, throughout the years many concerts were held in order to raise funds for good causes and one random example was a Summer Concert in aid of the children of Dunblane, which was staged at the school on Thursday 27th June 1996.

It was proposed in September that the school library should, in future, be known as The Gordon Skirton Memorial Library and that the naming ceremony take place on 17th December, 1998.

The school continued with its full programme of curricular and extra-curricular activities, one such example being the following in 1998:-

CURRICULAR AND EXTRA CURRICULAR EVENTS

Environmental aspects of education are now very much embedded in the schemes of work for each subject area. For example, the Science and Geography Rocks field trip to Purbeck has developed greatly and has become a very important and successful Year 8 curricular event. Similarly, the RS department devised a "Council of the Animals" topic which produces very high quality work. There are many other examples.

Outside of the classroom, pupils from Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 were involved in the "Rock Challenge 1988" and choreographed and prepared a dance sequence on environmental and anti-drug themes. This was performed in the Bournemouth Pavilion where they received third prize and rapturous applause.

Ten Year 9 pupils helped to take part in the New Forest Pride Week during April by clearing litter from the streets of Barton.

The school has signed up to "The bulb Man" project. The school will offer parents, and staff et al., spring flowering bulbs at a discount price this September. Potentially this could produce a respectable profit to help the Library Fund.

There are many other extra-curricular events with an environmental theme.

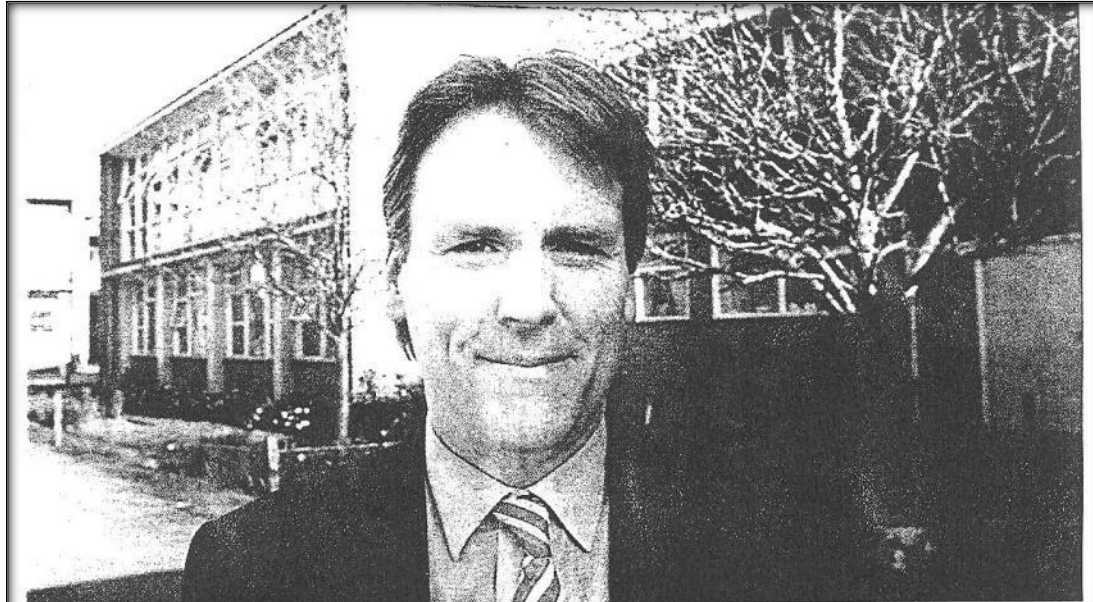
There have been several Arnewood School reunions over the years and Mr Brown, who had been Deputy Head of Arnewood until his retirement, remarked on such an event attended by his son Fenn in June 1998. It had been organised by a former student, Jenny Stratton and one or two others, and was attended by two thirds of the year group of thirty-five year olds! They had been the first group who had gone through the school after 1970.

- Richard Smith - an accountant living in Bristol and working in London, "twice married, once divorced" and a very keen supporter of Bristol City FC, follows them to all away matches as well so he must be keen.
- Nick Johns - Air Traffic controller in Aberdeen.
- Phil Meredith - Technical Director of a Data-Communications firm in Newbury.
- Neil Sherring - described by Fenn as "a fat, blonde, amiable Viking" with a droopy moustache and flowing locks.
- Malcolm Barrett and Susan Meill (married to each other) and both Headteachers
- Bill Dashley - Head of History at a sixth form college in Norwich.
- Neil Halliday - Accountant in Edinburgh.
- Elaine Fishwick - Managing sports centre in Christchurch.
- Jenny Stratton - Abbey National in New Milton.
- Clive Langdown - working in the building trade.

- Miles Glanville - engineering.

Many he met were accountants, quite a number returning to the area after having been away for some years.

In January 1999 the new Headteacher, Mr Christopher Hummerstone assumed his appointment at Arnewood. He is only the third Headteacher since 1970...



CHRISTOPHER Hummerstone has been headteacher of The Arnewood School at Brearley Road, New Milton, since January of this year. He says: "The Arnewood School is widely renowned as a very good school. Our academic results bear a favourable comparison with similar schools throughout the county and our range of extra-curricular activities is also very impressive. I am proud to be the leader of a dedicated staff who wish to maintain high standards for all children and parents and we continue to aim for excellence."

A particular feature of the Arnewood School is the number of visits abroad and European exchanges that take place each year. Pupils have opportunities at all levels of the school to study the culture of France and Germany, as well as visiting other countries.

This year we have hosted students from France, Germany and Japan, as well as visiting Poland and the Czech Republic as part of a humanities study of the Holocaust.

Last summer, academic results at the Arnewood sixth form placed us in the top 100 comprehensive schools in the whole country.

But life is about more than exams for post-16 students. Greater involvement with the local community is encouraged, working with younger children and adults. A party of sixth formers and staff, for example, is raising funds to take disadvantaged teenagers on an outward-bound course in Wales this summer. A particularly successful event was

PROUD TO BE LEADER

held in January this year when members of the Upper Sixth GNVQ Leisure and Tourism group organised a programme of mixed activities for junior school children at New Milton Recreation Centre.

The group was able to award prizes, certificates and sports equipment after gaining local sponsorship. All of their efforts contributed towards course-work units for their final qualification.

■ We have an excellent reputation for

raising money for both local and national charities.

As well as a recent Red Nose theme day, cheques for £3,000 were presented to the Marie Curie Cancer Fund and the National Asthma Campaign. At Christmas the whole school is involved in fund-raising.

This year, a talent show was held with wide participation. Even the teachers were persuaded to reveal hidden skills!



Titanic fashions

OLDER pupils had an opportunity to be Kate Winslet and Leonardo di Caprio (if only!) for a brief moment when costumes from the film Titanic were on display for the day.

A-Level Textiles students were able to examine the fabrics at close quarters, noting the detailed beadwork and extravagant styles.

The study of the Edwardian era is part of the textiles syllabus, which considers themes and styles that have inspired designers in the last two centuries.

An extract from the Bournemouth Echo.

By now the school was referred to as 'A flagship of excellence' and medium term development to improve teaching and learning was expressed in the acronym:

- R - recruitment, retention, reward of staff and pupils
- I - improvement of performance and ICT development
- S - standards of service for pupils, parents, staff and governors
- C - care and community

This was later complemented by the acronym PRIDE to express to students by the end of July 2002.

- P - people
- R - rewards
- I - improvement
- D - dedication
- E - excellence

In the wider educational arena, from 1st September 1999 it was agreed that all five categories of mainstream state schools would be replaced by four new categories – and the indicative category for Arnewood would be Foundation Status, which would still allow the Governors a high degree of autonomy.

Safety in the school was strengthened at this time, with a more secure reception area for visitors, a proposed dress code for easy identification of employees and a badge system for identification of visitors. In addition, a video and close circuit television system was installed around the school for the well-being of staff and pupils.

As ever the school continued to serve the students of New Milton, Ashley, Hordle, Tiptoe, Barton-on-Sea and Bransgore in the south west New Forest area. Links with the local community continued – with churches, police liaison, employers in industry, senior citizens and other external agencies.

A further change in the status of the school was under discussion in that Arnewood might seek new Technology College status and a bid was organised to be submitted in March 2000.

The Year 2000 and Afterwards



An aerial photograph of the school since the year 2000.

The New Year opened with a bang with the announcement of another OFSTED Inspection for St. Valentine's Day, 14th February until the 18th. This took place five years after the previous inspection and once again the outcome was positive; the inspectors commenting that Arnewood was, 'A very good school with many outstanding features.' It was named as one of the most successful secondary schools in 2007 by Her Majesty's OFSTED inspector of students.

The school continued with its full programme of curricular and extra- curricular activities. One example was the active part students played in the 'New Forest Pride Week/Keep Britain Tidy', when a group of Year Seven students cleared litter in the grave yard adjoining the school, around the church and in neighbouring streets – thus helping to promote responsible attitudes within the student body as well as encouraging a positive public view of the school.

The Science and Geography field trips to Purbeck were further developed and remain a key feature of the Year 8 curriculum. An amusing anecdote recalls that a certain Geography teacher was anxious to expand his rockery at home and therefore encouraged the students to put stones in their pockets from the beach and so transport them to the bus and back to school!

The Year Seven Fairthorne Manor Trips had been established in 1989 by Mr Huw Roberts (in due course to become an Assistant Headteacher). and have remained a feature of school life ever since. As well as lots of stimulating and energetic activities they included aspects of environmental education which were so useful in the classroom. In addition the RS Department's 'Carnival of the Animals' produced high quality and stimulating work. Extra-curricular activities continued to be many and varied, foreign exchanges proved as popular as ever and both sports, drama and musical activities performed to a high standard throughout the school.

In order to celebrate the Millennium, 'The Arnewood Medieval Millennium Festival' was organised during the 13th and 14th July 2000. It was based around the production by staff and students of a series of medieval mystery plays which told of Biblical stories and were performed, in the Middle Ages, at fairs and festivals by local towns people. They seemed an appropriate entertainment for the celebration of 2000 years of Christianity and, in addition, a street fair and attractions around the school campus were held. Stalls, displays, games and entertainments were organised and proved hugely popular. All helped by a £2000 Millennium festival lottery award towards the staging of the activities.

The photographs show the many and varied activities at the Millennium Fête on a beautiful summer's afternoon.





In 2001, a momentous year in recent world history, a Book of Condolence was set up after the attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York on September 11th. As a consequence of this a pleasant acknowledgement was received from the American Ambassador upon receipt of the book.

Book of Condolence

11th September 2001



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kind message of comfort and support following the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11th. The magnificent outpouring of sympathy in Britain has deeply moved all Americans.

Your message will strengthen our resolve to fight the forces of terrorism and hatred. Freedom-loving people everywhere must come together to resist the scourge of fanaticism and reassert our common humanity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. S. Farish".

William S. Farish
Ambassador

This postcard was received from the
US Ambassador to Britain
as a thank you for our Book of Condolence.

In 2002 the status of the school was altered to '11-18 Technology College' – and so it remains. The Technology College flag flies outside the school Reception. As ever, each student is deemed to be important and individual educational needs incorporate the most able, gifted and talented in any respect. Strategies have been developed through the years to cater for all students in each area of school life.

There are, as in many schools, an increasing number of students with English as an additional language. Arnewood now has an EAL coordinator and evening classes take place at the school in order to facilitate the development of English language, both for students and their parents.

**Languages Spoken by students at
the Arnewood School**

Bemba (Zambia)	Bengali	Cantonese	German
Gujarati	Hindi	Hungarian	Malayalam (India)
Mandarin	Nepali	Polish	Portuguese
Romanian	Russian	Shona (Zimbabwe)	Tagalog (The Philippines)

A clear anti-bullying policy has evolved through the years and there are strong measures in place in order to help students address any potential difficulties. The school has a counsellor and anti-bullying coordinator who works closely with students and other staff where necessary. There is also a student peer listening group.

Currently, the school is a member of the 'Healthy Schools Partnership' which maintains that all students have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment.

By January 2003, 'Investors in People' status had been achieved for the school and this important award has currently been renewed since 2006.

In May 2003 a significant event was the opening of the new library by Mrs Janet Skirton, widow of the late Headteacher.

Voices of Arnewood

(in alphabetical order)

Mr Bill Brown

He was the Deputy Headteacher when Arnewood opened in September 1970, having previously been appointed at Ashley – regarded as ‘...a good, solid school.’ He, like the Headteacher, was a student of Geography and was brought in to modernise the department which had few text books and those in existence were hopelessly out of date. One example was the comment, ‘A start has been made building Canberra (Australia)’ – an event which occurred before the Great War!

As previously recorded, Mr Brown remarked on the rivalry between Ashley and Gore School (site of Arnewood today) and he was a main instigator of the ‘walk’ in September 1970.

‘The students soon worked together but staff took a little longer...’

Agreed school policy was recorded in something called the ‘Yellow Pages’ in order to avoid dissent.

He proved invaluable in recalling the famous ‘Boundary Dispute’ in the early 1970s and it was his wife who came up with the design for the school badge still in use today. Mr Brown introduced ‘option groups’ to the school and was proud to note that 96% of the students were able to follow their chosen options.

Youth hostelling was a popular pastime in school, long before the days of copious amounts of paperwork and checks and he and his wife were fully involved in this activity.

Mr Brown retired from teaching in 1985 and went on to sell wood burning stoves on a part-time basis. He now lives in retirement in a pretty village near Salisbury.

Mr Mike Bugler

He was a pupil at Gore School from 1961 until 1966. He maintains that the original main building is little changed and he was able to point out the boundaries of the playgrounds and other areas near the gym and technical block.

Mr Bugler went on to be successful in business and has maintained his links with the school, both through his children who were former students of Arnewood and through his wife Susan, who is currently a Head of Year here. In fact, he and his wife met as pupils in adjoining classrooms on what is now the English corridor and apparently shared their first kiss there as teenagers...

Mrs Elizabeth Cook

Mrs Cook has been Chairman of the Governors of Arnewood since 1978, and a Governor since 1972. She has, of course, interviewed many, many teachers, and can recall that the previous Headteacher, Mr Skirton, used to signal that he wished an interview to end by discreetly moving the phone...

She remembers the building of the Recreation Centre when the local planning officer wanted such a facility built for the community. The Education Authority stepped in and paid most of the cost on condition that it would be a facility for local schools and that Arnewood would have priority during school hours, although an agreement was never officially signed. Mrs Cook feels that there are many 'high spots' that can be recalled over the years, such as Grant-Maintained, Sixth Form and Technology College status for Arnewood. The school has expanded greatly over the years and she remains proud of her association with it.

Sadly she recalls the death of the Headteacher in 1998 and says that she remembers with pride how the staff and pupils lined up as his funeral procession passed by the school.

As Chairman she led the appointment panel for both Mr Skirton and Mr Chris Hummerstone and has been interviewed herself as part of three OFSTED Inspections! Her two sons, Paul and John attended Arnewood as did two of her six grandchildren.

Mr Richard Davis

Mr Davis lives opposite the school in Little Gore Farm, which dates from 1765.

He recalled the history of the landscape and how he could see the church of St Mary Magdalene across the fields before Gore School was built on site. He was also able to comment on Mr Ron Topp, the original farmer who owned the land.

Mrs Eileen Hall

Mrs Hall worked as an assistant in the Arnewood kitchen from August 1973 until Christmas 2007. The Head Cook then was Mrs Dunman who did 'Meals on Wheels' for a time... There used to be a lift to the upper floor of ROSLA, when there was a little kitchen near the area where the Fifth Year ate separately. Her son Simon attended the school between 1973-78 and he is now an electronics engineer locally.

She recalled that food was all fresh in those days and very little frozen food was used in school meals. The behaviour of the students in the canteen was 'very good' during the 'reign' of Mr Skirton and the majority of them were always very polite.

Mrs Hall remembers that she fell over once in the kitchen, almost knocking herself out, and a bag of frozen peas on her head really did help!

Mrs Anne Fishwick

She was originally a teacher at Gore School and taught General Studies and Maths until retirement in 1989. As a Head of Year, Mrs Fishwick was very involved with extra-curricular activities, particularly recalling the Christmas teas and entertainment which were a tradition previously started at Ashley. Mrs Glynis Gay played the piano and she can remember one year when two dozen ashtrays borrowed from the Conservative Club were 'taken' by the Senior Citizens as well as the table decorations!

She remembers carol singing in the local community and an annual staff dance at Easter time which was always well supported.

The Arnewood Association catered for New Milton Marathons and made considerable sums of money for school funds.

The Talent Shows at Christmas were actually started by Mrs Fishwick and this was a tradition enjoyed by both staff and students for many years to come.

Mr David Gorvett

Headteacher both at Ashley and the first at Arnewood until 1982. He provided very interesting and useful documents on the early years of the school, particularly setting its history within the educational, social and political atmosphere of the 1960s and '70s. He now enjoys a well-earned retirement in Leominster, Herefordshire.

Mr 'Dai' Howell

He joined Ashley School as a young teacher in 1967 and finally retired from Arnewood in December 1997, having spent his final years as Careers Officer in the school.

He can recall the early 'bonding' walks of the two schools and remembers the Ashley staffroom having a table in the middle of the room with the chairs around the outside.

Mr Howell taught Geography and PE and in 1970, when the Gore Head of PE retired, he moved over to PE full time, with Mr Buckland as Head of Department.

He remembers how students were bussed for sport between the sites and how well organised they had to be regarding lessons and dress. The situation was made worse by the talk of petrol rationing in the early 1970s but, thankfully, that was averted.

Succeeding Mr Buckland in charge of Boys PE, he found the job hard work but rewarding, and he can still visualise the eight school houses, each having its PE kit in a separate colour!

Aquila	white
Capricorn	dark green
Gemini	blue
Leo	orange
Orion	green
Pegasus	pale blue
Scorpius	red
Taurus	maroon

When all out on the fields together, the students must have been a colourful sight!

Mrs Diane Light

Mrs Light was formerly a student at Gore Secondary School from 1966 until 1971 – after Arnewood opened.

She recalls that the actual fabric of the original building has not changed much, in spite of all the extensions later on. Returning to the school as a kitchen caterer in 1986 she remembers the teachers who were still there – Mr Little had been her tutor right through secondary school life. She remembers the red badge of her school house, large classes and how strict Mrs Batten, the Deputy Headmistress, was. On the other hand Mr Day, the Headteacher would always stop for a chat...The History teacher had a pipe and rapped the knuckles of unruly pupils with it; Home Economics was her favourite subject and she also enjoyed assemblies in the Hall, prayers and all the singing then.

Mrs Light's husband was in the year above her at school and they have been married over thirty years and counting! Her son, Kevin, attended Arnewood; he is now twenty-seven years old and works as a plasterer. Her elder daughter, Tanya, also enjoyed school but attended Highcliffe School nearby.

Mr Bob Little

He joined Ashley Secondary School at Easter in 1969 and was appointed as Head of Maths at Arnewood in 1970.

During the following Whitsun Holiday he took ninety students to St Helier, Jersey together with eight staff. In his own words he was, '...passionate about comprehensive education,' and remembers how the teaching of Maths was evolving during the 1970s and 80s. He followed the 'School Maths Programme', involved parents in meetings and saw the Maths rooms as flexible units, not wanting desks but hexagonal tables for teenagers. He promoted team teaching in the department and felt that this was beneficial for the experiences of new, young teachers. Results

in examinations were good and the school received lots of visitors from Hampshire Maths courses, until 1984 when new Deputies were appointed.

Mr Little played a strong role in school life and remembers with affection being involved in drama productions and even running the school cricket team.

He retired in 1989 and has lived locally ever since.

Mr Arthur Lloyd

Local historian and history teacher at Ashley Secondary School from 1946 until his retirement from teaching in 1977.

He proved invaluable on local history and the place of Arnewood in the community.

Mr Alan Martin

He arrived at Gore Secondary School in September 1963 from the Midlands and when Arnewood School opened he subsequently became Head of English, teaching in the areas where Learning Support moved, although part is now an English room. He recalled a happy department, '...with hard working and dedicated staff'.

Mr Martin had strong links with his local theatrical society and was heavily involved in school drama productions for many years. He wrote the script for 'Aladdin', produced 'Monte Carlo Rally', the 'White Horse Inn' (with amazing sets, designed by art teacher Robin Marstrand). The interestingly named 'Straw Puffs to Indians' was highly successful and the list goes on. In 1971 'Oliver' was performed in order to bond Ashley and Arnewood.

He recalled that in the original school on site the Hall was viewed like the quarterdeck of a ship and students were not allowed to freely cross the floor. One wonders why this rule applied...

He also remarked on the accidental burning of Year 11 English coursework by a school caretaker. Apparently the box of work was by the teacher's desk and was mistakenly seen as rubbish and taken away to be burned...

Mr Paul Phillips

He arrived as a Woodwork (crafts) teacher in January 1971. He also can recall the tensions between staffrooms on two sites and the problems for both staff and students travelling across town.

He remembers the development of the badge based on stellar constellations and the early school uniform of black and gold.

Later becoming a Head of Year, Mr Phillips also helped with boys PE lessons and was actively involved with charitable activities such as '24 hours sports and school theatrical productions of 'Oliver' and 'Butch Cassidy' in particular. His children attended the school and currently his daughter Laura has the rank of Naval Lieutenant – Navigating Officer on 'HMS Cumberland'.

Mrs Gill Rayment

Mrs Rayment first came to the school as a cleaner in 1972 and she remembers that the caretaker was called Mr Mills, who organised his team in a very structured and disciplined way. Mrs Chaloner's office was then the medical room.

She was the cleaner of the Senior Staff's and the Headteacher's offices for many years but in the 1980s the system changed and cleaners moved around the school more. For nearly twenty years she worked in the top of SCOLA. There was no equal system of pay in 1972 but later years saw many changes: 'Health and Safety' regulations were increasingly stringent and bigger student numbers added to the work load.

Mrs Rayment's children, Kevin and Debbie, both attended Arnewood, the former being taught to drive on site while still a student.

Mrs Rayment's husband had been a local Special Constable who maintained strong links with the school. When he sadly died she remembers with affection how kind the staff were.

Mrs Rayment is one of the longest serving members of the Arnewood community...

Miss Val Sparkes

She was a pupil at Arnewood from 1970 until 1975 – in fact, the very first secondary intake. For the first three years her lessons took place at Ashley and she was bussed to Arnewood when appropriate. She was placed in Miss Wart's tutor group, (later Mrs Gay – still a teacher at the school), being in Scorpius' House and her class was called 1H, each group in letters based on the word 'Humanity'. Studying a mixture of 'O'Levels and CSEs, Miss Sparkes enjoyed her years at Arnewood, although she does remember an incident when a 'gang' of girls commandeered the toilets; she was grabbed and her head pushed in the pan. However, the punishment was swift and severe when the whole of the Third Year girls were put into detention.

She remembers staff and pupils with affection; one friend's mother married a Mr Russell in Bournemouth, member of a prominent local family and a boy named Alan Tucker, a former student of Arnewood, was involved in a fund-raising event in Tuckton when he was pushed into a river where he broke his neck and later died.

Miss Sparkes remembers Mr Little as a very popular and effective teacher; Mr Joyce wearing odd socks to school, Mr Bowsher who played jazz at the piano in art lessons and Mr Standring who had a two-legged chair for pupils who swung on their chairs.

A talented artist, Miss Sparkes attended art college in Bristol and went on to train as a teacher. She taught art and ceramics at Brockenhurst College, later opening Daylesford Art Gallery near Sway where she has worked since 1993.

Mr Geoff Standring

He has been a mine of information, providing many records on the school. He joined Gore School in September 1963 as a Maths teacher, later becoming Head of Year and Examinations Secretary until his retirement in 1997.

He was able to recall how the school achieved its name, the origins of the Gore site and how the classes were organised. The staff was mainly under 30 years of age and later on there was a great community spirit. Fully involved in the life of the school, he instigated visits abroad and took part in many school productions, one notable one being a 'Beatles' talent show...

Mrs Ruth Taylor

She joined the staff as a cleaner in May 1976 and remembers the good behaviour and attitude of the students and the high standards of general cleanliness.

She can recall a strong community spirit within the school and felt that the site benefited from fewer students.

Apparently the Hall was a sandwich area in the 1970s and she can still visualise the black and gold uniform, with the girls in grey skirts and floral blouses.

Mrs Taylor has worked all over the school and has seen many changes throughout her years of service.

Mr Vic Wyatt

He started teaching at Ashley School in September 1956 and moved over to the Adult Education Centre where he remained from 1960 until 1985.

A purpose built centre had been previously recommended by seven of HM Inspectors and Mr Wyatt had formerly been Head of the local Institute in New Milton.

The Centre was heavily used by the local community and during the early 1970s a film was produced to record all the activities taking place there. The building is situated inside the school gates, to the right, and today houses the Arnewood Sixth

Form Block, the Family Support Centre, the Young Persons' Learning Zone and last but not least the Whistle Stop Day Nursery.

Mr Jason Young

A pupil at Arnewood from 1978 until 1983, his wife, Susan has been a Maths teacher at the school for many years.

He remembers Mr Gorvett, his retirement and when Mr Skirton became Headteacher in September 1982. Also the eight school houses and the fact that students were always placed in that of their older siblings. Students were unable to walk from one end of the corridor to the other on the top floor of SCOLA as there was a door there which staff could use, but not students.

Teachers present then and now in school were; Mr England who taught Technical Drawing, Mr Jones - History, Mrs Cole - R.E, Mrs Broadwell - Girls PE and Mr Howell, who was a PE teacher.

The Lower School was headed by Mr Brown who was a Geography teacher. Mr Young can recall that Mr Osbourne, a Woodwork teacher ran a skiing trip to either France, Italy or Austria every year. Skiing practise was every Friday night, at the Calshot Activity Centre using the schools two Comma minibuses.

He remembers that the uniform was: black trousers/skirt, white shirt/ blouse, black blazer or jumper and a gold tie.

Mathematics was taught in the Maths suite which was a large room on then top floor of SCOLA. There was one overhead projector at the far end of the room and Mr Jeffries used to address the whole room in a very loud voice and nobody talked ever in Maths lessons!

Mr Young now works in the IT industry, has been married for fifteen years and has three children - two boys and a girl.

A Taste of Arnewood in 2007-08.

The Art Department

September 2007 saw the beginning and set up of a new A level Art room in A81 and this room provides A level students with their own cubicle space in which to work for the year. The room has been equipped with some new iMac computers which the Art and Photography students can use.

In the autumn term there were a series of trips to different galleries. Year Seven visited the City Gallery and the Millais Gallery, Southampton. Year Eight visited Winchester Cathedral, Year Nine Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford and Years Ten to Thirteen the Tate Modern, London.

The Art department were involved in set design for the following school productions; Little Shop of Horror, Aladdin and The Book of Everything. Also a mural was painted by students in the school canteen.

The Art department were involved in a project with Friends of New Milton Railway Station in conjunction with the local junior school. Students designed posters for the railway that would entice people to come to New Milton.

Arts week involved working with the local junior and infant schools, where students were involved in pop up card making, paper making and computer graphic design.

In July of 2008 there was an exhibition of this year's A level Art and Photography work.

Drama through the Years

Productions have been many varied and fondly remembered by past students and staff.

As far back as 1967 the Gore Secondary School presented "Road to Monte"- a musical play in eight scenes, which involved staff such as Mr Standring - later a teacher at Arnewood. Drama and Music have always been an essential element in the history of the school. Productions and performances have been used to celebrate school life, forge links with the local and wider community and, on occasion to help raise funds for various good causes.

School productions over the years have been too many to mention, but here are some which have taken place during the last two decades:

1989-90 'The Murder of Maria Marten or The Red Barn'

1990 'Beowulf'

1992 'Oh What a Lovely War'

1994 'Hiawatha'

1995 'The Wizard of Oz'

1996 'Petticoat Rebellion'



The cast of 'Petticoat Rebellion'

1997 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

1998 'Work Ethic'

1998 'The Good Doctor'

1999 'Animal Farm'

2000 February - 'The Caucasian Chalk Circle'

2000 July - 'Medieval Mystery Plays'

2002 'The Canterbury Tales'

Mystery players in action.



2002 'Shakespeare's Shorts'
2003 'Midsummer Milton'
2004 'Under Milk Wood'
2005 'The Dracula Spectacular'
2007 'Aladdin'
2008 March - 'The Book of Everything' which is part of the National Theatre Connections.

November 2008 saw a second performance of The Wizard of Oz.

These all involved the hard work of both staff and students and have been long remembered after the events themselves.

The English Department

The English Department endeavours to give the students opportunity to partake in events that will help to further their understanding and success in the subject. This has included theatre trips to places as far afield as Stratford-Upon-Avon and London, visits to live poetry readings and to places which help the students contextualise their reading such as Chawton House, home of Jane Austen or Thomas Hardy's cottage in Dorchester.

Humanities

The Humanities Department continues with its lively and enthusiastic range of opportunities for students.

History has arranged visits as far afield as, Poland, Germany, the Czech Republic and the World War II Battlefields at Ypres. There have been trips to the Roman Palace at Fishbourne, the London Dungeons, The Imperial War Museum and Hampton Court in order to assist coursework and learning. To move bang up to date, a local history project based on the New Milton War Memorial has been displayed in the Town Hall as part of a 'taster' on the history of the town.

In Geography, new topics are a sign of the times - finding locations for sports stadia not steel works; examining regeneration and the 2012 London Olympics; tackling major issues such as migration, globalization and climate change. Old favourites remain, such as rainforests, earthquakes and volcanoes, plus visits to the Purbecks, New Forest, Hengistbury Head, Southampton and the Science Museum. Forward planning includes a trip to Iceland in the near future...

Religious Studies enjoys fostering links with feeder schools and reaching out into the community. One group of Year Eleven students had afternoon tea with a local Orthodox Jewish couple; all Kosher! Also each year a Holocaust Survivor (Mr Rudi Oppenheimer) shares (his) experiences of World War II with students in school. On a

lighter note the GSUS (Jesus) Bus has brought interactive experience on topical issues to students in Years Seven to Nine.

Maths

The Mathematics department at Arnewood is very successful, offering a variety of courses for all ages and abilities. Early entry is well established with students having taken KS3 exams in year 8 or year 7 and top sets take GCSE in year 10. This has led to a substantial uptake at sixth form level where we currently have five groups taking single maths or double Maths A Level with specialisms in Pure Maths, Statistics or Decision Maths. Many A Level mathematicians go on to study at university, including Oxbridge.

'Maths Challenge' is well established at junior, intermediate and senior level and we have medal winners each year with some students invited to take part in the international version.

P.E

P.E activities have been frequently referred to over the years and also the importance of the subject in life of the school community. In addition the following records should be noted.


School Records – Boys

Event	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
High Jump	D Taylor 1.41m (1994)	I Cawley 1.60m (1992)	D Perks 1.63m (1994)
Long Jump	A Hinds 4.56m (1992)	L Wiggins 4.80m (1999)	T Barrell 5.47m (1998)
Triple Jump	N Stopher 9.64m (1984)	P Chadwick 10.46m (1987)	S oliver 11.84m (1983)
Javelin	P Jerram 30.25m (1985)	S Johnston 32.52m (1905)	W Hoole 42.28m (1996)
Shot	R Iles 10.12m (1994)	T Oliver 12.38m (1981)	B Farr 12.07m (2005)
Discus	A Neal 25.88m (1990)	T Oliver 31.70m (1981)	A Barham 35.80m (1980)
100M	M Davies 12.90 (1997)	M Davies 11.97 (1998)	B Rule 11.50 (1987)
200M	B Rule 27.59 (1987)	P Brewer 24.00 (1982)	B rule 23.70 (1987)
400M	P Clegg 63.00 (1985)	P Clegg 59.50 (1986)	P Clegg 54.60 (1987)
800M	J Grace 2.24 (1994)	J Grace 2...16 (1995)	S Selby 2.06 (1992)
1500M	S Selby 4.47 (1990)	S Selby 4.35 (1991)	PO Clegg 4.25 (1987)
3000M	C Campbell 11.01 (2004)	S Selby 10.01 (1991)	J Burgess 10.14 (1985)

School Records – Girls

Event	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YR 10/11
100m	L Newell 1'3.98 (1981)	L Newell 12.89 (1982)	L Newell 13.00 (1983)	A Dudford 12.70 (1978)
200m	K Goddard 28.10 (1987)	L Newell 27.86 (1982)	R Holland 26.90 (1988)	C Edwards 25.00 (1981)
300m				E Hicks 46.3 (1999)
400m	S Brownson 71.00 (1977)	L Walton 70.31 ()	P fields 69.50 ()	K Goddard 62.53 (1990)
800m	K Goddard 2m 26.8 (1987)	K Goddard 2m 25.9 (1988)	K Goddard 2m 21.0 (1989)	K Goddard 2m 22.22 (1990)
1500m	J French 5m 15.0 (1988)	J French 5m 14.5 (1989)	K Goddard 5m 02.0 (1989)	J Frisby 5m 22.6 (1989)
RELAY	58.47	56.45	54.4	54.9
Hurdles	K Goddard 11.90 (1987)	L Dyson 12.57 ()	K Goddard 12.00 (1989)	K Bailey 14.41 (1984)
High Jump	C Hirsh 1m 32 (2007)	I Carter 1m 50 (1990)	I Carter 1m 49 (1991)	A Hewitt 1m 51 (1990)
Long Jump	K Goddard 4.89m (1987)	K Goddard 4.97m (1988)	C Edwards 5.39m (1980)	C Edwards 5.76m (1981)
Javelin	L Rolph 24.86 (1998)	J French 25.98m (1989)	J French 28.89m (1990)	J French 33.00m (1991)
Discus	C Waugh 29.77m (1997)	C Waugh 21.64m (1998)	R Everard 23.15m (1985)	S Robinson 32.70m (1983)
Shot	A Thwaites 8.45m (2001)	H Place 8.63m (1981)	T Amey 9.48m (1980)	K Witt 8.20m (1985)

Dance has been an integral part of the PE programme for several years now.

<p>With thanks to...</p> <p>Forest Arts PE Department The Dance Department</p> 	<p>The Arnewood School</p> <p>Dance</p> <p>Showcase</p> <p><i>9th March 2007</i></p> <p><i>The New Forest Arts Centre</i></p>
---	--

Recent County + National Representatives (2006/2007)

Year 8

Lucy Moody	Archery	Hampshire
------------	---------	-----------

Year 9

Michael Hopkins	Archery	Hampshire
Charlotte Taylor	Cricket	Hampshire
George Lee	Swimming	Dorset
Melissa Bennison	Swimming	Dorset

Year 10

James Bourne	Rugby, Swimming	Hampshire, Dorset
Josh Davies	Rugby	Hampshire
Seb Richards-Taylor	Martial Arts	South of England
Jason Sivyer	Sailing	National Development
Jade Lock	Hockey	Squad

Year 11

Rhys Roberts	Kayak	National
Luke Frewin	Boxing	Hampshire
Chris Campbell	Swimming	National
Jake Lilley	Cricket	Hampshire
Sam Cousins	Football	Dorset
Kieran Birch	Badminton	Dorset
Ellen Flanagan	Netball	Dorset

Year 12

Rachael Conacher	Hockey, Cricket	Hampshire
George Gunn	Football	Dorset
Stephanie Gill	Tennis	Hampshire
Zeke Dunford	Basketball	Hampshire
Richard Day	Rugby	Hampshire

Left in 2005

Beth Grace	Riding
Chris Carden	Sailing

Sporting achievements have been many and varied throughout the history of the school and Arnewood continues to be proud of the place of sport within the community.

National and International Sporting Recognition

Daniel Allin, Andrew George and Steven Wardropper

Competed at club and regional level in lifesaving, representing the south in the regional Lifesaving Championships.

Sarah Bamber and Nicola Sloan

They were both Arnewood girls who triumphed in the swimming pool winning Hampshire county tables in freestyle, butterfly and breaststroke between them.

Nathalie Booth

A talented golfer, was Hampshire Schools champion at 16 yrs, won many other awards and became a member of the England training squad

Chris Campbell

At 15 years he won a silver medal for England South in the boy's 4x100m medley relay and in 2007 won his first English Schools championships Swimming Title in the butterfly.

Bethan Carden

At the tender age of 14 years she was selected into the intermediate United Kingdom Training Squad in Sailing - one of only sixty four sailors in the whole of Great Britain.

Paula Carr

At 16 years she had an under-17 national ranking of second and an under-19 national mountain bike ranking. Her brother Jason was also highly ranked in the sport.

Jo Chastney

Now a New Milton tree surgeon, she won double gold at the British Snowboarding Championships in Switzerland.

Edward Cheek

As a 16 year old he collected medals in all nine of his events at The Disability Sports England National Championships. He moved on to be a member of Britain's world class start programmes for disabled athletes. He has two artificial legs and his aim is to be selected for the Paralympic Games in London in 2012.

Melanie George

She appeared in area Triathlon Championships as well as being an under-21 national finalist in a very tough event.

Lucy Gibbs

She was ranked third in Britain for fencing, representing the south on many occasions.

Ollie Hopkins

He put in a fine performance during the National Federation of Sea Anglers Junior Open Coaching Development Day, held near Eastbourne. Coached by the senior England internationals, he was selected as a member of the England Junior Team, with the prospect of travel all over the world.

John Lee

He excelled at archery and, as a member of the Hampshire Team, was both the under-16 outdoor and under-16 indoor champion.

Paulo Maranhão

He was an Arnewood sixth former who was selected to play volleyball for England under-19s.

Nicki Osborne

Captain of the Great Britain Volleyball Team, she is studying medicine at Sheffield University.

Janine Patterson

She was part of the England International Dressage Team.

Mark Shinn

He has been twice crowned World Champion Kiteboarder, spending much of his time in the Caribbean, Hawaii and New Caledonia.

Kane Tarrant

He was a karting champion, with more than ninety trophies to his name.

Robert Watson

He was half of the second best pairs sailing team in the UK. The other half being his brother Iain. They were runners-up in both the National Youth Championships and the Inland Championships, also representing their country internationally.

Jamie Wearn

He was an International junior swimmer who represented England against Germany in 1995. He attended New Milton Junior School, Arnewood and then went on to Millfield School representing the south-west at 100, 200 and 400 metres freestyle. He later travelled to the USA in order to qualify for the World Student Games.

Alison Williams

As well as receiving her Doctorate in Respiratory Pharmacology she is also a coxswain who was selected for the Commonwealth Championship Regatta Team.

Pippa Wilson

She and her two fellow sailors in the Woman's Yngling class won both the world championships and Olympic test event gold medals in 2007 in Portugal and have high hopes of Olympic gold in Beijing in August 2008 (which she won!).

Science

There have been some exciting developments in Science this year. Students are being challenged to solve problems in which they apply the key areas of science to new situations. Students continue to extend their experience of their lessons outside

the curriculum. The A level Physics students won the local heat and went onto become a close second in the National Paper Clip Physics Competition, giving a dynamic presentation on Nuclear Physics. Year 8 students have been braving the elements, learning about the geology of Purbeck while others students have looked around Marwell, studying animal behaviour. Students from year 8 won a Chemistry competition run by Southampton University recently.

Additional Studies and The Sixth Form

The Sixth Form offers a wide range of opportunities to students in school, some of which may be continued from GCSE. Government and Politics, Leisure Studies, Media Studies, Psychology; the list is endless...

International Status

The year 2006/7 saw the school successfully working towards gaining international status accreditation under the guidance of Mr Mike Gough, being awarded this in the summer of 2007. This recognises Arnewood as a school that has an international ethos across all curriculum areas, and continues this into the local community and further afield. Whilst the public face of this may be working with children and families who have English as an alternative language, alongside the continued running of exchange programmes with schools in Europe and elsewhere. Cultural visits have also been successful to a number of European destinations. In addition the international status continues in school, in subject areas, such as Geography considering global warming and the rainforest; in English lessons looking at ethnic poetry and in Religious Education looking at racism. Indeed the school has this award because of the hard work and ethical concerns of all the teaching staff.

Ongoing projects in this area include the school's successful International Days, which allow all students to focus on an international theme within school walls. This has been running for two years and will continue on into the future. The link with the school in Russia is still strong with a further trip being planned there in October, as well as a visit in the summer holidays in order to see the solar eclipse in Siberia.



The Learning Support Centre (LSC)

The LSC exists to look after the needs of children who have any kind of learning disability.

Staff with specialist qualifications and a wealth of experience work with these children, their parents and outside agencies, to build on the students' previous understanding, knowledge and skills so they may achieve their full potential in all aspects of the curriculum. Extra support could be 1:1, either in the classroom during normal lessons or within the LSC, in small groups for literacy and numeracy, or by enabling individual children to follow their own learning programmes on computer.

One recent example of positive achievement is a DVD produced by and featuring a number of disabled children giving their views on how well the school caters for their physical needs and highlighting improvements where necessary.

The School Library

The school library continues to promote reading for pleasure and developing student research skills.

Year Seven students in particular are involved in the library laptop scheme; Readathon, a sponsored charity read, raised over £500 and a 'buddy' reading group meets weekly in order to enjoy reading. There is participation in the prestigious Hampshire Book Award and a Russian club meets weekly, taking advantage of the fact that the assistant librarian hails from Moscow.

Support Staff

To mix metaphors, the support staff are "...the engine that keep the boat afloat" – the words of Mrs C. Chaloner, Senior Administrator. It is true that the school would be unable to function without the hard work of the Examinations Officer, Finance Officer and Assistant, Technician staff, Cover Supervisors, Reception/office staff, caretakers, photocopying, the canteen staff, Welfare Assistant, and all those others whose work is invaluable on site.

Reaching Out to the Community

The Arnewood now has a Community Manager and deputy who "...plan, implement and support projects in conjunction with the government's extended services brief" - and by 2010 all schools should cater for and provide services for the needs of the community. The various bodies include 'Kidzlink', 'Connexions', Children's Services, the School Nurse - as well as the Arnewood pyramid cluster which offers access to behaviour support, technology and further specialized assistance through such as the fire service, army, and drug and alcohol awareness sessions.

There is a partnership agreement with New Milton Town Council as well as courses affiliated with Southampton Football Club.

In addition there is a school reward system for attendance, effort, behaviour and outstanding commitment within the community. Also various groups meet with

those in the local area in order to enhance the lives of young people and those who are of more mature years!

The 'Outreach' programme of 2006/07 mainly focused on local primary schools and the year began with the 'Robo Challenge', where pupils designed, built and raced robo-cars from kits. Maths superclasses concentrated on stretching 'able' mathematicians in year six through a half year programme of activities, both PC and paper based.

Science Outreach involved Year Four students in two local schools and the classes were again held the following year. Technology staff are variously involved in feeder schools, often needing the use of large quantities of equipment and also sometimes based around the seasons, for example Food Technology producing hot cross buns at Easter.

Role of Honour - in the Hall
Head Boys/Girls
at The Arnewood School

<u>Year</u>	<u>Boy</u>	<u>Girl</u>
1997-98	Michael Hartnell	Joanna Taylor
1998-99	Byron Parr	Carolyn Rowe
1999-00	Sam Keynes	Alice Ayton- Robinson
2000-01	Michael Parker	Laura Gardiner
2001-02	Simon Bagshot	Helen Goodey
2002-03	Jack Upton	Rachel Ioannou
2003-04	Matthew Sedgley	Kate Cawley
2004-05	Jason Long	Rachel Phillips
2005-06	Gregory Brown	Joanne Glazier
2006-07	Archie Scotts	Jessica Hoare
2007-08	Samuel Perry	Larissa Hirst

Oxford and Cambridge

1997	Jacqueline Rowe	2002	Emily McLeod
1999	Sarah Hatch		Sarah Beal
	Naomi Moran		Daniel Maranhão
2000	Annabel Jenner		Nichola Osborne
	Aimee Hartnell	2003	Melanie Frost
	Claire Taylor		Rachel Ioannou
2001	Jessica Wrigley		Bethan Carden
	Charlotte Pickles	2004	Emily Argyle
	Adèle Lock	2005	Robert Piggott
	Caroline Senior	2006	Alexander Scott Thomas
	Matthew Smith	2007	Rebecca Brewer
	Anna Stephenson		

Sports Boy/Girl of the Year
at The Arnewood School

<u>Year</u>	<u>Boy</u>	<u>Girl</u>
1979		Susan Miell/ NicolaStevenson
1980	B. McKay	Ann Davey
1981	Dale Warren	Shelia Brownson
1982	P. Cummings	J. Smith
1983	A. Hart	C. Edwards
1984	A. Oliver	K. Bailey
1985	P. Brewer	V. Johns
1986		N. Westaway
1987	S. Drummond	N. Ford
1988	J. White	Kelly Mettrick
1989	M. Rule	N. England
1990	Shaun Hutchins	Y. Barker
1991	Hamish Burr	Tracy Wright
1992	James Gannon	Jamie French
1993	Bruce Clarkeson	Claire Stephenson
1994	Guy Lowndes	Caroline Dyer
1995	Oliver Stones	Janine Philips
1996	Philip Stevens	Karen Miller
1997	Kieran Laws	Joanna Osborne
1998	Jason Carr	Nikki Woodford
1999	John Bloomfield	Naomi Waygood
2000	Toby Gore	Nichola Osborne
2001	Drew Flanagan	Daniella Turner
2002	Richard Spencer	Elizabeth Lane
2003	Paul Conway	Lucy Edgson
2004	Jonathon Waller	Ayshia Black
2005	Thomas Digby	Daniella Plowman
2006	Daniel Long	Zoe Harvey
2007	Blake Vincent	Rachael Conacher

There are also boards dedicated to outstanding students - dating from 2006, as well as a board dedicated to 'The 21 Club'- outstanding performance in the KS3 SATs examinations.

Where Are They Now?

Some photographs of staff at the school, both past and present.



Mrs Nan Baldwin



Mrs Joan Barham



Mr Carl Benton &
Miss Jamie French



Mr Alastair Brien



Mrs Denny Broadwell



Mrs Sue Bugler



Mr Eddie Cash



Mrs Hazel Wilford & Mrs Sue Cole



Mrs Sarah Conacher



Mrs Pauline Courtice



Mr Alun Davies



Mr Chris Elward & Mrs Katy King



Miss Kathryn Jarman, Mr Dave Rees & Mr Jim Findlay



Mrs Louise Fry



Mrs Glynis Gay



Mr Tim Goodall



Mr Les Hart



Mrs Linda Hook



Mrs Karen Hooper



Mr Dai Howell



Mr Paul Phillips & Mr Toby Ireland



Mrs Carol Ironside



Mrs Claire Jones



Mr David Jones



Mr Bob Joyce



Mrs Elizabeth Lines



Mr Andy Maskell



Dr Noel Moran



Mrs Anne O' Donnell



Mrs Lynn Osborne



Mr Rob Overington



Mr Dick Pyart



Mr Steve Perry &
Student



Mrs Val Pittwood



Mr Martin Rasor



M Jacques Redon



Mr Huw Roberts



Mrs Marion Slade



Mr Geoff Standing



Mrs Helen Standing



Mr Keith Stephenson



Mrs Sabine Stroud



Mrs Celia Vendy



Mrs Chris Vernon



Mr Philip Vivian



Mr Rob Williamson



Mrs Susan Young

More Good Things at Arnewood During the Last Ten Years or So...

What the papers said ...

1999

Arnewood 'A' Level among best in country – A Level results of children at The Arnewood School, New Milton, were amongst the best, not just in Hampshire or in Dorset but in the whole country, Headteacher Chris Hummerstone, reported at the school's presentation evening last week. ...

Arnewood students' discos raise £1,000 for charities – During the last 18 months three sixth formers at Arnewood School have raised over £1,000 for charities. Adam Butcher, Christopher Swain and Lee Warltier have organised discos for Year 7, 8 and 9 and donations have been made to the School Library Appeal, "Kids for Kids" and Ashley Millennium Project. ...

Arnewood pupils' fashion show – Pupils from The Arnewood School, New Milton, displayed their creative talents in an exciting and fun fashion show last week and a raffle raised £115 for the Wessex Children's Hospice. ...

Arnewood coached by England U-18 Squad – Arnewood School, New Milton, recently hosted training for the Under-18 Junior England volleyball squad. Accompanied by coaches and their manager they arrived after winning the World Youth Games for volleyball in London ...

Engineers help technology students – A group of retired and practising engineers, known as the Neighbourhood Engineers, are regularly meeting with sixth form technology students at Arnewood School, New Milton, in order to give them links with industry. ...

Arnewood School New Milton, sixth form student, Alice Ayton-Robinson – is one of only five people in the country to have been offered a Charles de Gaulle bursary this year. The Alliance Française and the British Council will fund Alice's four week stay in France, where she will spend time on a regional newspaper, ...

Arnewood girls' work experience in Germany – Two Arnewood School students brushed up on their language skills recently whilst participating in a week's work experience in the German town of Herdecke. Jennifer Davison and Laura Gay, both 17, visited the town on a school exchange visit three years ago and this time returned to stay with local host families. ...

500 children at Ashley beacon unveiling – Five hundred schoolchildren gathered to celebrate the unveiling of a special new landmark in Ashley – the Millennium Beacon Brazier. At a ceremony outside Ashley Baptist Church on Friday in last week, the children sang, performed a 'Millennium Wave' and watched the official unveiling of the beacon, which will be lit for the first time at midnight on December 31st ...

Jennifer Bowers, a former pupil of Bransgore Primary School and Arnewood and Saint Peters Schools, has graduated from Bradford University with an honours degree in Pharmacy. She was also successful in her pre-registration e, enabling her to practise as a pharmacist...

***New Forest Players'** prodigy Matthew Steer (21) ... who has been performing professionally since he was 11 and is hoping for great things in the world of acting, has gained a first class BA Honours degree in acting at Middlesex University. Matthew, who went to Arnewood School and Taunton's Sixth Form College in Southampton, recently played Hamlet. He says he has auditions set up for future roles.*

***'A' Level excellence at Arnewood School** – The Arnewood School's reputation for academic excellence reached new heights this summer with A Level and GNVQ results. These placed it in "The Guardian's top 25" comprehensive schools in the whole country ...*

***Arnewood School "FUNdraising Day" made £4,000** – Pupils at New Milton's Arnewood School took time out from their studies at the end of last term for their annual "FUNdraising Day", which included paying not to wear school uniform. The total collected amounted to £4,000, with the majority being given, after a vote by the pupils, to Marie Curie Nursing Services in Hampshire. ...*

***Sixth Formers' boredom buster** - Sixth form actors from New Milton's Arnewood School tackled the subject of bored teenagers head on, by using their free time to devise and present a lively and innovative piece of theatre at Forest Arts last week. The group, called Spontaneous Combustion, used mime, movement, dialogue, lighting and music to create a visually exciting and colourful performance. ...*

***Pupils' harrowing visit to extermination camp** – During February half-term forty two students from new Milton's Arnewood School paid a harrowing educational visit to areas within central and Eastern Europe where the Holocaust took place. The eight day excursion to Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland, was organised by the school's Paul Roberts, Head of History and Alex Reece, Head of Religious Studies. They, as well as four other members of staff, accompanied the pupils from Years 11, 12 and 13. The itinerary for the trip was packed with visits to prominent destinations, which were made infamous by Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, who planned systematic extermination of the Jewish people between the years 1933 to 1945....*

***David passes out a winner** – Royal Navy operator mechanic David Evans (30), from Hordle, has completed his basic training at HMS Raleigh, and at the passing out parade he received the Owen Cup, awarded for achieving the highest individual marks in the final examination during eight weeks of Part I training. David, who attended Arnewood School, New Milton, ...*

Arnewood Students' maths success – Seven golds, six silvers and six bronzes added up to a triumph for students from New Milton's Arnewood School competing in the United Kingdom Junior Mathematics Challenge, involving more than 140,000 entrants...

Lynne Spreadbury – (22) of Vaggs Lane, Hordle, has received a Bachelor of Arts honours degree, with qualified teacher status, from King Alfred's University College in Winchester. Lynne is a former Arnewood school student.

Arnewood nears 100% A Level pass rate – Former sixth-formers at The Arnewood School, New Milton achieved a significant result which compared favourably, not just with local schools; but nationally, reported head, Chris Hummerstone, last week. Nearly all A level subjects saw a 100% pass rate, which was now the norm, and many students obtained high grades across three, or even more, subjects. ...

Now some snippets from more recent times ...

2000

Arnewood's electric cars' successes – With a re-vamped version of the car that came second in 2000, New Milton's Arnewood School once more took the runners up honours in the Autoliv Greenpower Hampshire Electric Car Marathon at the Goodwood race circuit at the weekend. The Arnewood Arrow 1 came in second after leading the most of the race.

Three month expedition to Fiji – Sarah Moores, a former Arnewood School pupils, ... has just returned from a three month expedition with Greenforce in Fiji. The National Trust for Fig ii currently initiating a scheme to establish five marine reserves in response to the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Greenforce organises teams of scientists, assisted by volunteers such as Sarah, to carry out much needed research for this long term marine assessment. ...

Teacher David's award is electric – Teacher David Cornford is the pride of Arnewood School in New Milton after scooping a national award. David was one of only 12 teachers across Britain to win an award from the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE). ... David ... was nominated for the award by IEE Fellow and school governor, Dr Trevor Hewson. Dr Hewson said: "David has been a teacher at Arnewood for just under three years. When I first met him I was struck by the honest enthusiasm with which he discussed the pupils' achievements." ...

Arnewood gets affiliation to Technology Trust – New Milton's Arnewood School has been approved as an affiliate of the Technology Colleges Trust, a scheme aimed at enabling maintained schools to develop the most up-to-date education. Arnewood's affiliation with the Trust will allow it support and curriculum development – especially in science, maths, technology languages, the arts and vocational education ...

2001

Barton student's South American experience – Andrew Jones (18) of Barton on Sea has just returned home after a four month expedition to South America. The former Arnewood school pupil ... travelled as part of a team of 16 students from various parts of the country. The expedition ... took Andrew through Ecuador, Peru, Chile and Bolivia and included four weeks undertaking conservation work for Rainforest Concern in the Ecuadorian rainforest ...

Girls' Disney dream comes true – Three imaginative young writers at The Arnewood School New Milton have beaten thousands of pupils in a national Disney competition which will see their original stories come to life in animation. ...

Arnewood pupils help raise money for charity – Two lucky pupils from The Arnewood School in New Milton beat all their classmates to meet Southampton FC's captain Jason Dodd at the Mourdant School .. after they took part in a competition during their annual Christmas charity day. ...

2002

Outdoor-bound Arnewood students – Hundreds of students from The Arnewood School, New Milton, have recently extended their learning beyond the classroom with a number of planned annual residential trips. Students in Years 7, 9 and 10 have been taking part in a range of outdoor activities, testing their skills, stamina and initiative. ...

Arnewood pupils introduce Henry VIII to Tiptoe School – Tiptoe School pupils went on line with the past recently to chat with none other than Henry VIII, thanks to Arnewood School students. As part of its technology college status, New Milton's Arnewood is expanding its work with the local community, making use of a range of technological resources...

Pupils' time mosaic at New Milton – The mosaic representing the flow of time in New Milton, designed by students of The Arnewood School and pupils of New Milton Junior School, was unveiled on Friday in last week amidst praise and admiration. ...

2003

Arnewood teacher wins South of England award for ICT - Mr Mark Colman of The Arnewood School has just won the Regional Award (South) for the most creative use of Information Communication Technology. The PLATO awards are organised by the Teaching Awards Trust, originally led by Lord David Putnam, film director/producer.

Mark Colman is part of a high successful PE team of Arnewood teachers who are using new technology in an imaginative way, including the use of laptop computers and powerful hand-held machines called Personal Digital Assistants ...

The Arnewood School new Technology block opening - *New Technology facilities at The Arnewood School were opened officially this week by the Chairman of INTECH, Mr John Craen, BSc, FIEE, CEng. The new workshops are part of the school's specialist designation as a technology college and offer exciting new opportunities, as well as some of the latest educational machinery, for all students and the local community. The school currently offers GCSEs in Engineering, Manufacturing and a vocational course in Construction, as well as more traditional technology subjects such as Textiles, Systems and Control, Product Design and Graphics...*

2004

Police help students with AS film inquiries – *For one group of sixth form students at new Milton's Arnewood School, success in the summer's examinations has come with help from an unusual source. For the seven AS Level media studies students, a key part of their course was to produce their own short films on the subject of crime. ... It was at this point that one of the teachers suggested contacting the local police. ... Once their novice actors had been put through rehearsals filming time between March and May editing the footage into two professional-looking films. ...*

Ed's on track for Beijing selection – *New Milton teenager Edward Cheek boosted his hopes of taking another step up Britain's ... swimming ladder with a string of medal-winning performances at Sheffield. ...*

Pupils inspired by Surrealist exhibition – *Earlier this year St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery hosted a major surrealist exhibition and pupils from The Arnewood School were given the opportunity to contribute some of their own pieces for the exhibition. One piece, "Tenerife Ice Tea" a mixed media 3D surreal object created by pupils Harry Shutler and Emily Murphy, was so admired that it was actually sold to a private buyer ...*

2005

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious! - *Young Jonny Weldon is jubilant after hearing he has landed a leading role in the West End musical stage production of Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins. The budding star won out after 350 boys auditioned for the part of Michael Banks....*

Students design mayor's card – *For those on the mayor of New Milton's Christmas card list this year the post will bring an example of the work of some of The Arnewood School's students. Earlier in the year, members of the technology college's XL Club – run under the auspices of The Prince's Trust – created their own greetings cards, using their photographic skills to create scenic designs that proved popular with customers in and beyond the school. ...*

2006

Arnewood wins Phase 2 Technology Status – New Milton Arnewood School has been rewarded for the quality of education it provides, by gaining Phase 2 of Technology college Status. The re-designation process reviews performance over the last four years and recognises the quality and capacity to improve still further in the medium term. ...

Arnewood star students win Oxford University places – Two star students of Arnewood's sixth form have been offered places at Oxford's prestigious St Anne's College. Charlotte Richards-Taylor, a senior prefect at Arnewood, has been offered a rare "unconditional" place to study chemistry. ... Alex Scott-John is the second student to gain a place at St Anne's, where he intends to study mathematics and computer science....

Arnewood School outstanding for Arts – The Arnewood School in New Milton has been recognised for its outstanding provision of the arts to pupils. It was presented with a Silver Artsmark award by the Arts Council England for its commitment to developing drama, music, design, literature, dance and sculpture. ...

2007

Arnewood School half-term in Moscow – A dozen students from The Arnewood School spent half term in Moscow, where it was warmer at times than New Milton, meeting many of those who came from 1208 school to English in April. The exchange programme consisted of visits to the Moscow ballet, the opera, art galleries, museums and even the Moscow State Circus....

Retirement of Arnewood's longest serving teacher – Staff and governors at Arnewood School have gathered to mark the retirement of the longest serving member of staff and former head of PE, Dai Howell. A teacher since the school was amalgamated with Ashley senior in 1970 Mr Howell will be remembered for his enthusiasm for sport, his keen sense of humour, and his care of the pupils. ...

25 years as governors' chairman recognised Over 30 years as a governor at The Arnewood School, New Milton, was recognised with a presentation last week to Elizabeth Cook, who has been chairman of the board for more than 25 years. ...

2008

Beijing games - ... Lymington Sailing star Pippa Wilson has ... had her nomination for "Team GB" officially ratified by the BOA and she will be joining Ainslie in China for the Olympic regatta in August.

International Award for Arnewood School – Arnewood School in New Milton has begun the new academic year with something to celebrate. The Gore Road

technology college has succeeded in its bid for an International School Award, which formally recognises schools that demonstrate an international ethos and prioritises this in its work.

Hard work pays off for student Caroline – One former Arnewood schoolgirl has proved that hard work does indeed pay-off. Caroline Hunt, from Lymington, left the New Milton school last year to study for a degree in nutrition and food science with professional training at the University of Reading. And thanks to her dedication to her workload of A level revision and essays, the university has awarded her and other fellow freshers, a £2000 scholarship towards the cost of her first-year studies. ...

In Memoriam

There is a Garden of Reflection situated behind the library, where staff and students can quietly reflect on those who have passed away.

Here are some recent names:

Dr M. Tuddenham, Governor of the school	2001
Mr P Hill, cleaner	2002
Linzi Wright, student	2003
Mrs C Mitchell, finance assistant	2004
Aaron O'Sullivan, former student	2004
Yasmin Curtis, student	2004
Mr M Crouch, caretaker	2004
Sarah Dartnall, student	2004
Mrs H Wilford, former teacher	2005
Mrs L Tollworthy, receptionist	2006
Levi Stubbs, student	2008

An Interview with the Current Headteacher - Mr Hummerstone (1999-....)

After working in five previous schools, ranging from comprehensive, grammar and independent, Mr Hummerstone joined The Arnewood in January 1999. He states that this is "...easily the friendliest staff I have encountered," and that a big challenge initially was the move from Grant-Maintained to Foundation Status.

The education of his own children proved very successful here and he believes a strength of the school is the way that staff aim to bring out the best in all students in their care. It is important that the Senior Leadership Team have complementary skills, that new staff bring particular assets to the school and everybody is able to think laterally where necessary.

The Headteacher's role is ever changing and evolving, having to balance maintaining professional credibility as a leading practitioner and being more accountable in the wider world of public services and enterprise. A school today is more like a business and there is constant pressure on teachers for results and league tables. Headteachers now have a more executive role, establishing local, national and international networks. There is an increasing number of bids for extra funding and a greater emphasis on sponsorship and business partnerships. Budgets will remain tight in the near future with current economic trends.

Although in competition, schools now work more with each other for the good of the community. The admissions policy of the school changed before the current Headteacher arrived and the past ten years have seen the school become more market driven yet still maintaining its core purpose of high quality teaching and learning.

The school is mindful of its international links. There have been visits to countries such as France, Germany, Finland, Sweden and even further afield to Russia and Australia. These contacts are proving to be extremely beneficial and have added an extra dimension to the Arnewood community.

There has been a significant increase in EAL students in the school which has become much more multi-cultural in recent years and, indeed, there are now sixteen different languages spoken. Currently over fifty students speak English as an additional language and there are approximately one hundred children from ethnic minority backgrounds who have arrived from fifteen different countries.

2008 heralded the school's best ever GCSE results at 74%, again breaking the seventy per cent barrier for A*- C from the previous year. Ongoing improvements provide a diversity of courses with far more vocational courses and a more inclusive sixth form. Our 2008 OFSTED Inspection judged the curriculum to be '**outstanding**'. There is an increasing focus on skills rather than knowledge with the aim of encouraging independent, responsible citizens with a social conscience. The school could be termed a "museum of morality", yet colleagues are aware that change is required in order to keep pace with the demands of contemporary education for young people.

We recognise a debt of gratitude to the many staff who have given so much to the life of the school. The same is true for the Governors and especially Mrs Cook, who as the Chairman of the Governors for many years is able to encourage change for the benefit of the school.

There have been very many highlights since 1999; to mention a few:

- Representing the school, one of these a visit to Highgrove, the country home of HRH Prince Charles, in recognition of HM Chief Inspector's glowing report of 2000 following the OFSTED report.
- The Millennium celebrations in school stand out in his memory as well as the high quality expressive arts productions in recent years.
- The 2002 Technology College designation was a landmark, as was its renewal in 2006.
- The extensions to the library and H90 have proved very beneficial to both students and staff.
- The preparation for the laptops scheme in 2006 and its implementation in 2007 is significant, as are the developments in e-Learning, bringing new technology and innovation.
- The 2008 OFSTED was 'good' across the board with some outstanding features

There have been Advanced Skills teachers promoted within the school and our 'Investors in People' status continues. Currently there are one hundred and sixty people working on site proving that the school is a significant employer in the local area.

The Headteacher's role now is "...to see where all the pieces of the jigsaw fit in order to make an organised whole. Being a Headteacher is a great job - having the ability to change things for the better."

In this community all students, staff, parents and governors can make a significant contribution towards the future of Arnewood. "Working together, shaping tomorrow."

Author's Note

Throughout the collation of this material every attempt has been made to include complete and accurate information. Grateful thanks to everyone who has contributed in any way and many apologies for mistakes made.

To Be
Continued...