

SUMMER 2008 OBITUARIES



Many thanks to Tim Cook and John Doggett for the following:

Edward Rouse Cook (1928 – 2007) Edward Rouse Cook was born and brought up at Stapleford near Cambridge, where he was baptised, confirmed, pumped the organ and learnt to ring at St Andrews Church.

His education began, unusually, under a governess shared with friends and then at The Perse School (1936-1946). After National Service, when he learnt to touch type, he went up to Lincoln College Oxford to read Modern History, to row for the College and sing at Pusey House Chapel.

Accepted for ordination while in the Army, he came to Lincoln Theological College in 1951. He was made Deacon at Trinity 1953 to serve at St James Louth and priested a year later. There he met Christine and they married at Louth in 1956. After a brief Curacy at Crosby, Scunthorpe, he became Lecturer (Senior Curate) at St Botolph's Boston, (The Stump - motto Let all things be done discreetly and in order). Both at Louth and Boston, he and Christine enjoyed the high standards of music and liturgy.

In 1960 they move to St Michaels, Little Coates, a large parish in Grimsby, and in 1967 to Saxilby where they stayed for 27 years. For 30 years he was involved in the training and chairmanship of Lincoln Diocesan Readers. In the 1980's he was an honorary Priest Vicar of the Cathedral, having been made Canon of Lincoln and Prebendary of Empingham in 1979 for his work with Readers. He was Rural Dean of Corringham for 8 years and received Maundy Money from the Queen in 2000.

He enjoyed singing tenor with the Lincoln Orpheus Male Voice Choir from 1972, Lincoln Choral Society from 1994 and with Christine in the Scothern Chorale.

Edward and Christine retired to Dunholme in 1994. In his retirement he ministered to 86 different Churches and the Cathedral and also continued his hobby of bell-ringing.

John Doggett writes: Edward Cook died in November 2007 and his memorial service took place in Lincoln Cathedral on the 14th. Edward was born in 1928 and brought up at Stapleford, Cambridge, where he was baptised and confirmed, pumped the organ and learned to ring at St. Andrew's Church. He entered the Preparatory School in Bateman Street in 1936 and left the Upper School from the Classical 6th Form. During his school life he was editor of The Pelican, President of the Economics Society and a Librarian. Outstandingly he shortened and played the title roll in Shakespeare's Richard II, the first post war production play to be staged in the School Hall on three evenings in Spring 1946; this was no less than a regeneration of the Perse Players after the war..

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Our sympathies are shared with Christine and their family. Edward was predeceased by this brother Alex earlier in 2007.

Grateful thanks to his wife Judith and brother Brian for the following:



Peter F Drake 1923-2006

Peter Drake, the elder of two brothers at the Perse, attended the school from 1934 until 1941. On leaving, he read Modern and Medieval Languages at Emmanuel College, Cambridge for one year followed by four years service in the Royal Signals. After the war he returned to Emmanuel to complete his course and take his degree. Being a talented musician, he also took the LRAM and ARCM.

In 1947 he was appointed assistant to the County Further Education Officer, which involved evening classes and youth clubs. At this time, Henry Morris

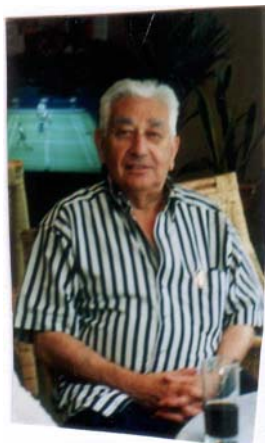
was setting up the Village Colleges.

After a spell in Berkshire, he was appointed the Principal of the College of Further Education in Harrogate – a post he held and developed for twenty seven years. He started with three full-time lecturers and numerous part-timers but eventually built the college up to employ a hundred full-time staff.

After retirement, he greatly enjoyed walking in Nidderdale and Lower Wensleydale, playing the organ and singing. He was the organist at Kikby Malzeard Church near Ripon. He was a lively and active member of the Rotary Club, painted with watercolours and enjoyed the company of his family.

Sadly at the age of sixty nine he had a severe stroke affecting his speech and the right side of his body from which he never recovered. Nevertheless, he managed to continue his singing and even some organ playing for a number of years. His greatest triumph was learning to sketch again with his left hand scenes of the beautiful Yorkshire countryside.

He is survived by his widow Judith, four children and six grandchildren.



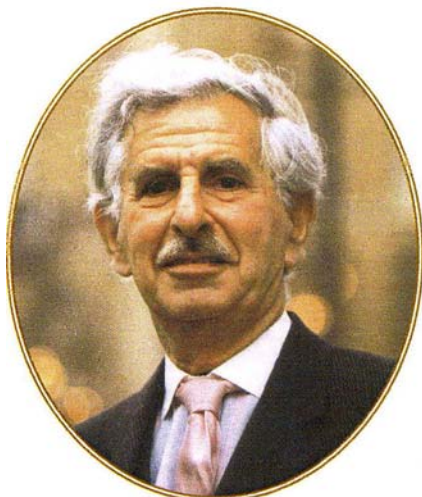
Albert A Feather 1930-2007

I am sorry to report the death of my brother, Albert, on 9th June 2007. He had suffered increasing pain over a period of 10 months during which he endured almost total immobility. While his death brought relief to him, it left his family totally bereft.

He had become a pupil of the School during the years that the late Mr Dagut had been the Housemaster of Hillel House where I joined him (as Feather II) in 1946. I know little about his years at the School before I arrived but Laurie Marsh with whom he shared a study for a period may remember his sporting interests. I would imagine from his later achievements that cricket would have been foremost.

He married Renee (nee Naggar) in 1954 and celebrated with her their golden wedding surrounded by four children and five grandchildren all of whom gave him the greatest of pleasures and gave him devoted support throughout his illness. He was able to attend the Hillel House re-union at the Garden House in the company of a number of his contemporaries and the first of the re-unions held at the home of Laurie Marsh but thereafter he found travelling to London from Lytham St Annes increasingly unattractive.

Grateful thanks to Mrs Harris and Neville Day for photos and the following:



Nigel Harris 1924 – 2007

Nigel came to the Perse Preparatory School in September 1935 leaving the school in July 1942. He was a great sportsman in every sense of the word. He was in the first XI cricket team in 1941 and then elected captain for the 1942 season. He was an “opening bat with plenty of shots who made many runs, he was an excellent wicket keeper and a conscientious and enthusiastic captain” as recorded in the Pelican of the time. He also got involved with some of the Old Persean events. I recall being in the second form in 1937, Nigel told me he was going to be a surgeon. I was impressed that he knew what he wanted to be at that age – an ambition which he fulfilled.

Neville Day (1943) writes:

After graduating from Cambridge University and qualifying as a doctor in 1947, he gained fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1958. Nigel was surgeon to St Charles and St Mary's Hospital in London for 26 years. He was conscious of his patients' well being in all aspects of his work, informing GPs when he had empty beds so that individuals could be seen to with greater speed.

In 1972 he established the very first NHS Sports Clinic and much of his work came from the Arsenal Football Club, known to the players as Nigel the Knife.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth and two sons.

Professor Lucjan Lewitter 1922- 2007



Born in Cracow, Lucjan moved to Warsaw twelve years later. But in 1938, in the face of the Nazi menace, he was sent to Cambridge to begin a new life as a boarder at the Perse School, in straitened circumstances, and for some time uncertain of the fate of his parents, who were able to join him only later. Among the friends Lucjan made in those early years in England was his French teacher, Tom Wyatt, who later became a Fellow of Sidney.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Lucjan's deep-seated patriotism is what it did *not* produce. It certainly did not produce a sentimentalised view of the Polish past. And it generated none of the hostility to Russia that seeps through the work of that other remarkable émigré Polish historian, Richard Pipes. Instead,

Lucjan's scholarship was marked from the very beginning by the same dispassionate awareness of the realities of power that characterised his wry assessments of university politics.

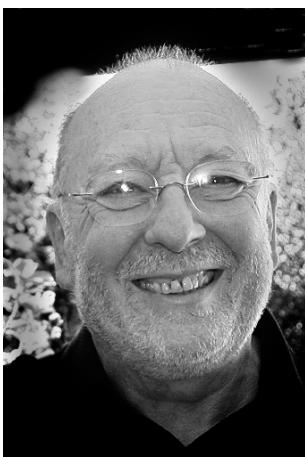
He devoted his life to the study of the hundred years before Poland was wiped from the map of Europe by three partitions towards the end of the eighteenth century – *Eclipsis Poloniae*, to quote the title of the book which he had virtually completed at the time of his death. Poland, in his words, was then ‘a primitive agrarian country ... untouched by the ferment of capitalism’ – a ‘static and backward society’ dominated by selfish nobles who ensured that ‘political disintegration’ went ‘hand in hand with intellectual stagnation’. Baroque culture in Poland was no more than an aesthetic facade ‘behind which time stood still’. ‘Learning was extinct’, Lucjan argued, reserving his severest judgements for Jesuit scholasticism. In his view, Poland’s eighteenth-century kings were little more than tributaries of the Russians, so that by the time Augustus III died in 1763, ‘the partial dismemberment of Poland by Russia was, short of miracle, a foregone conclusion’.

Lucjan’s principal interest therefore lay in explaining Russia’s ‘skilful exploitation of Polish weakness’. The pivotal period was the reign of Peter the Great (r. 1682-1725) – the ruler who tried to drag Muscovy into the modern world at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Like most historians, Lucjan recognised Peter’s gargantuan energy, his ruthless determination, and his intellectual curiosity.

Lucjan saw this by viewing Peter through the eyes of a lowly-born critic, Ivan Pososhkov. Believing that ‘a great part’ of Poland’s ‘material weakness’ derived from ‘the absence of a constructive fiscal ... policy’, Lucjan thought that its object ‘should have been’ to divert wealth from selfish private hands to the state. Pososhkov’s *Book on Poverty and Wealth*, which Lucjan edited and translated into English with Alexis Vlasto in 1987, outlined just such a policy for Russia. Apparently devoted exclusively to economics, the book turned out ‘on closer examination to be just as much concerned with ethics’, embodying ‘something like a prescription for the regulation of man’s whole conduct’. As Lucjan said, it was a prescription ‘calculated to satisfy the economic demands of the state without neglecting the needs of the community at large and of its individual members’. Although it is always hazardous to draw too close a connection between a scholar’s work and his life, this was perhaps a prescription whose balance he admired in a wider sense.

In the course of his career, he acquired a dazzling range of expertise that scarcely anyone would now attempt, let alone master. He knew about everything from the interest rates charged by money lenders in Kievan Rus to the conventions of Baroque drama; from Orthodox regulations on fasting to the exchange rate of the riks-dollar in the Baltic trade. And all these technicalities were not only filtered into confident generalisations through elegant, sinuous prose, but also couched in a wider theoretical framework reflecting a lifelong engagement with two of the great systematisers in European thought: Max Weber on the ‘spirit of capitalism’ and Halford Mackinder on the Eurasian heartland.

Many might have been tempted to trumpet such achievements. But that was never Lucjan’s way. Although he permitted himself some unobtrusive corrections to Christopher Hill’s footnotes, only a careful examination of his own reveals the true depth of his learning. For behind that self-effacing exterior lay an unrivalled command of sources in many languages; behind the old-world charm lay a mind convinced of the virtues of capitalist modernity; and behind that cool, reflective mind lay the kind and generous man whom it was our pleasure to know.



Grateful thanks to his brother, Keith for photo and the following:

Anthony Preston was a boarder at Hillel House from 1946, which has now been converted into the Pelican Nursery & Pre-Preparatory School, for children aged 3 to 7 years. Although his life was not recognised by academic or financial achievement, he had enormous success as a human being, which was confirmed by the four hundred people who attended his funeral, most of whom were individuals whose life he touched in some way.

He leaves a brother, Keith (1960)

Grateful thanks to Anthony Chaplin for the following tribute:

Barrie Reed 1933 – 2007



It was in September 1946 that a twelve year old Barrie Reed entered the Perse School, Cambridge and our friendship of sixty years began. Barrie was never academically inclined but he got by. It was in other school activities that he made his mark as he progressed through. He became a junior prefect and a school librarian. He was a member of the scout troop and was promoted to a Patrol Leader – he really did enjoy his scouting. He was also a member of the Royal Air Force Section of the Combined Cadet Force and went on camps to RAF Oakington, Halton and Chivenor.

At school he was a successful sportsman gaining school colours in Athletics, Cricket and Hockey. In athletics Barrie's speciality was the long jump and he held the middle school long jump record for many years. In his last year at the school he was appointed School Cricket Captain and the critique of his ability reads "A good fast left hand bowler whose performance is better since he changed to bowling over the wicket. A hard hitter though not a sound bat – a good field".

Barrie was also an enthusiastic Perse Player – a member of the group in the school that put on one or two plays a year. In 1951 he strutted the boards as Snout, a tinker in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Not only did he act but he helped backstage and built and painted scenery. In 1952 he was the Earl of Richmond in *Richard III* and the critics said "Barrie Reed was strong in heroic voice and presence". Once again not only did he act, but was the stage manager for this production.

Outside school Barrie and one of the signatories below were members of a church youth club which enabled them to socialise with young ladies. The club produced an annual pantomime and in about 1950 presented *Cinderella*. In the cast were the two ugly sisters – Barrie was Hortense the really ugly one! These pantos and school plays kindled in Barrie his life long interests in the theatre, particularly comedy pantomime.

Barrie left the Perse in 1952 to do his national service in the RAF. He was sent to Canada to learn to fly in T33s and when qualified returned to England to fly Vampires. After the RAF he entered Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge and gained a degree in Geography.

Barrie began his working life as a teacher in Cambridge but after a year he was attracted into the food industry and in 1958 was recruited as a graduate management trainee by the Joe Lyons organisation – one of the first such trainees. Thus began his distinguished career as a manager culminating in his appointment as Commercial Director and General Manager of Symbol Biscuits in Blackpool. He served 40 years with the company until it was incorporated into the Cadbury Group in 1998. During his career in Joe Lyons, he became an expert in the buying, manufacture and processing of chocolate. This involved him travelling often to France – a country he loved. He made many lifelong friends there and acquired at first had a love of good wine especially champagne. He led the team that incorporated Tetley Tea into Joe Lyons. For a while he was site manager of the tea blending and packaging factory in Greenford, Middlesex. Whilst he was there he had a hand in developing the humble tea bag. He also became involved in the buying and processing of potatoes. He invented the raspberry ripple and helped solve the problem of incorporating chocolate chips into biscuits without the chips melting. He was a member of the team that disposed of Joe Lyons overseas subsidiaries.

Whilst working in London, Barrie met and married Ann and their two children Philip and Claire soon followed. The family eventually settled in Wrea Green near Preston when Barrie took a job at Symbol Biscuits.

It was about 1998 when our paths crossed again. A secret party was arranged to celebrate Barrie's 65th birthday and his imminent retirement. Included in the guest list were five of his school friends. From that gathering, the NW chapter of the OP Society was formed of which Barrie and Ann were enthusiastic members. This meets regularly for good food, good wine and good conversation in a convivial atmosphere. Once a year we play a fiercely contested croquet match.

Barrie took up several other interests when he retired. He became much involved with the Conservative Party and local and national politics. He was elected Chairman of the Fylde District Conservative Association. He continued his keen involvement with the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School. He became involved with Ann in the twinning of Wrea Green with St. Brix in France and helped introduce the citizens of St. Brix to the delights of a full English Breakfast! He joined the Cheshire Onvestment Club and for many years travelled to mid-Cheshire for the monthly meetings. Ann and Barrie had many holidays in Madeira, the Isles of Scilly and France visiting friends and caravanning. As our friendship developed we all went together to Tunisia, Grand Canaria and Madeira.

Barrie lived life to the full. He enjoyed the best things in life and tried to ensure that his family and friends enjoyed them too. He was a family man – a devoted and loving husband giving Ann total support always. He was a loving father and grandfather and was intensely proud of his children and grandchildren and their achievements. But above all else, Barrie was blessed with a wonderful gift – his love for people! He was able to relate to and involve people of all walks of life and of all nationalities. He had the knack of making them his friend and to focus his attention on them within a very short time of meeting them. This gift enabled him to manage people so well.

He oozed charm, he was a witty man full of fun, he had total integrity and sincerity and he was kind and considerate but at the same time a competent and effective manager. He was a loyal friend and worked hard to maintain the ties of friendship. During his last months he exhibited great courage and refused to let the illness which eventually caused his death to prevent him from carrying out his duties. Barrie was a one-off, a very dear and unique man. **(Tony Chaplin and Keith James)**



Grateful thanks to his wife for the photo and following:

David Winkworth (1947)

David Winkworth of Isel Road died on 28th December 2007 (aged 78) leaving behind his wife Angela, daughters Gabrielle Foy and Catherine Hetherington and son Jeremy. The funeral service took place on Friday 4th January 2008 at All Saints Church, where he was remembered as a warm family man with a keen sense of humour, as well as one of Cockermonth's best known businessmen and most influential promoters of its history and heritage.

In 1979 Mr Winkworth set up one of Britain's only printing museums housing machines which are part of Britain's industrial heritage, he himself going on to become a world authority on the mechanical printing presses and one-man operated machines which revolutionised printing and newspapers production in the early 20th century, the Linotype. The Printing House on Cockermonth Main Street, still remains open to this day and incorporates an art materials shop, antiquarian bookshop and gallery. David was also a member of Cockermonth's Chamber of Trade, and Cockermonth and District Civil Trust,

being chairman of both, and the prime mover behind the new town guide as well as being a Rotarian for many years.

Five years of the Winkworth's married life was spent in Ecuador, where both their daughters were born and where David worked as a petroleum engineer for a company which became part of Burmah Oil; the remainder of the family's time being spent in Cockermouth when David's job as a contract chemical engineer with Bechtel brought him to the area. His work was as part of the team which built the Ectona Fibres plant – now Eastman Chemical, near Siddick. When the project came to an end, the Winkworth's decided to stay in the area, establishing the New Bookshop, the family business which today is run by daughter Catherine and her husband Stephen, with Mrs Winkworth still being closely involved.

Mr Winkworth's lifelong interest in books and literature helped him establish, along with David Crosby, the custodian of Wordsworth House, the Cockermouth Festival in 1981, which still continues of this day. Ian Dodsworth, an early secretary to the festival and close friend of Mr Winkworth said "David was an ideas man of enormous energy and was involved with so many things in Cockermouth".