



Chadacre Old Students
Association

Newsletter
Spring 2022

A Celebration of 100 Years

Committee and Contacts

President : Earl of Iveagh

Vice Presidents : Elspeth Dennis Jones
Vic Simmons
Dr. Helen Smith
Edward Hewitt

Officers

Chairperson: Robert Bendall
Vice Chair : Bob Waller
Hon Treasurer : Michael Mumford
Hon Secretary: Sally Bendall
Magazine Editor Sally Bendall

Committee

David Bradshaw, Will Duchesne, Martin Jackson, Roger Kelk,
Roger Lintott, Stuart Pulford, Steve Tompkins, Clem Warner,

Contacts

Please send any change of member details , address and email address updates to:

Email: admin@cosa.org.uk

Or

Sally Bendall
COsa - Secretary
Hollow Trees Farm
Semer Ipswich IP7 6HX
Ph: 01449 741 247

www.cosa.org.uk



100 years

A message from Lord Iveagh

CHADACRE AT 100 YEARS

The hundred years of Chadacre has been marked by striking continuity, as much as by remarkable change.

As the needs of agriculture have changed, so the way in which Chadacre is able to support people has changed. One thing that has remained constant has been the strong Chadacre spirit – created and maintained by a remarkable *esprit de corps*, whether from the furrow, the rugby pitch science lab or trustee group. That spirit incentivised the Baxter family from Canada to show their appreciation for the training their father, Donald, received as a Chadacre student, by donating a considerable sum to the Chadacre Agricultural Trust in his memory. (see page 26)

It is the spirit which inspired a recent beneficiary to write to Trustees: “Without this Chadacre scholarship, studying for an MSc in plant genetics would have been unaffordable” – a position many other students share. It is exceptional that the Institution, which ended in one sense 30 years ago, remains strong as the Trust, and continues to deliver the vision of our Founder and Benefactor.

Here’s to you all, wherever you are and whatever you do. May we continue strong together. Let us keep that Chadacre flag flying high on the mast, and take it beyond the next horizon. I wish you all well may the accomplishments of the last century continue to flourish into the future.

Edward



100
years

A word from The Chairman



Its time to celebrate the fact that the Chadacre spirit has been with us for 100 years . Its been a roller coaster ride over the decades seeing a major transformation of farming and a world that's gone through war , recession, and now a pandemic. Memories of good times and good people who lived, worked, taught and learnt at Chadacre Agricultural Institute will stay with us all and, as our newsletter shows, there is much to be thankful for.

Everyone's experience of the Covid pandemic over the past two years has been different. Personally, for me it has been a time to put into practice some of the life skills learnt in my days at Chadacre. The basic training of how to cope in adverse conditions and get out of a pickle has stood me in good stead throughout my farming life.

In fact, I have become something of an expert at getting out of tricky situations, be it runaway cattle or a shed load of bales deposited on a busy road, you all know the sort of things we all have to cope with. Adapting our ways of living and making the most of a bad job is now the new normal.

Life without the usual punctuations like our wonderful County Shows, Farm walks and COSA Winter Reunion can be mediocre. The good news is we are set to have a bit of a do at Stoke by Nayland in November however ,the decision has been made by the committee that this will be the last Dinner Dance.

We asked for your memories of Chadacre to include in this magazine and they have come in thick and fast . Forgive us if we have not been able to include all your words, keeping within the COSA budget with rising postage prices can be the difference of a page or two in the newsletter !

Sadly, our magazine also contains tales of some great and entertaining Chadacre characters who have passed away in the last year or so. But we must take the positive from their stories, we have all learnt so much from them. In particular I must mention Mervyn Chisnall. A great Chadacre servant and a great personal influence on me.

We are delighted to be having a farm walk in Norfolk this year by kind invitation of the Larwood family. It will be a fantastic opportunity to not only see a top class enterprise but to meet up again and renew friendships too.

God willing, we can also start saying goodbye to this pesky virus that has caused life to change so much. I wish you all the best and hope to see you sometime this year.

Robert 'Judge' Bendall

A Vote of Thanks from the Vice President

Like many Chad Old Students, I look back over the years, 69 in my case, and know what an important part attending Chadacre has played in my life and career, and having such a long association through COSA.

It was in October 1953 when a kind neighbour drove my father, mother and myself, with trunk, to Chadacre. We did not have a car. It soon became very evident that I would be learning some of the very basic things in life as well as the good grounding that Chadacre gave to farming. Both practical and theory. Lifelong friendships, discipline, fair play, understanding and respect for others, work hard and play hard. These were just a few of the benefits gained. Rugby must not be forgotten as the character builder, especially for those of us who had not played it before.



The first year was an important introduction to what lay ahead under Principal Mr Seward, George Thompson, Vice Principal, Robin Dennis-Jones, John Lawson, Farm Manager and not forgetting Stafford the porter who knew about everything that went on in the Institute. The Second Years must be mentioned for their help!! I thank them all for their input.

Having attended Chad made National Service in the Army much easier. After National Service I became Third Master in 1958 under the new Principal John Paton-Philip. I then moved and started my first management job. This did not turn out well and I came back to Chad to look after the poultry. (Bird Man!!). It was then that I understood the meaning of "being in the right place at the right time" as an enquiry had been received regarding a position with Troston Farms Ltd. With the support of Chad I attended an interview and was offered the job and had the privilege of occupying for 39 years, the later years as a Director of the Company.

I am grateful that I had the opportunity of maintaining a close connection with Chad over the years and was able to serve on the COSA Committee for 20 years of which 12 were as COSA Secretary. Recently I was invited to be Vice President of COSA which I have considered a great honour.

Although it is over 30 years since Chad closed COSA is still going strong and we must all thank and congratulate the Committee for maintaining the enthusiasm and contact with us all and give them support where we can.

The 1953-56 years still meet on a regular basis – 1st and 2nd year students socialising together!! – and we keep taking “the pills”!!

How forward thinking of Lord Iveagh in realising the need for agricultural education in East Anglia and we are grateful for the Iveagh families’ interest both past and present in keeping the Chadacre name in the forefront of many aspects of the agricultural industry with financial support through grants from the Chadacre Trust.

Thank you Chadacre for all that you have meant and done for us over the years. - Vic Simmonds



Time to Meet Again ! Dates for your diaries

Tuesday 31st May 2022 at 10 am
SUFFOLK SHOW at Trinity Park Ipswich
DEDICATION OF BENCH
in memory of John Paton Phillips
See opposite for details

Friday June 10th 2022
The 2022 COSA FARM WALK
Oak House Farm, Larling, Norwich
See page 8 for details



18th November 2022
THE FINAL COSA WINTER REUNION
Stoke by Nayland Hotel
See page 9 for details



June 2023 - Farm Walk at Chadacre Estate
Date to be arranged



Tuesday 31st May 2022 SUFFOLK SHOW

10am in the Courtyard
at Trinity Park Ipswich

DEDICATION OF BENCH In memory of John Paton Philip

This year the Suffolk Show will be held on Tuesday 31st May and Wednesday 1st June

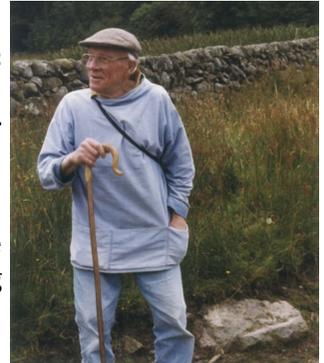
We are delighted that, after a two year delay, on Tuesday 31st May COSA have an opportunity to pass the John Paton Philip Memorial bench over to the Suffolk Agricultural Association and Trinity Park for visitors to the showground to use.

The bench was purchased by COSA (along with the Rising Star Award salver) with funds donated at the service of memorial for John, so creating two lasting legacies associated with agriculture and education.

The dedication of the bench will last approximately fifteen minutes on the show ground at **10am on Tuesday 31st May**.

The event will take place in the Courtyard in-between the Trinity Park offices and the Event Centre, opposite the Members tent.

At the dedication, Michael Mumford will represent COSA and say a few words. Several members of John's family will be attending too. John's wife Margaret lives in Scotland now and is unable to join, us, however, she has chosen the words inscribed on the bench. We would love as many COSA members as possible to join us for this very special occasion. Just come along on the day.



“We have much for
which to be grateful”

The 2022 COSA FARM WALK

6.30pm on Friday June 10th 2022

By kind permission of Mark, Peter and Brendan Larwood

Oak House Farm

Larling, Norwich, NR16 2QS

Brendan (69/71) Peter (77/79) and Mark, invite Chadacre Old Students for a farm walk at Oak House Farm in Larling, Norfolk .

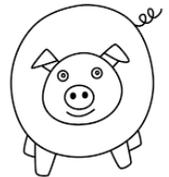
Oak House Farm is a mixed farm of 225 hectares growing winter wheat, winter barley, maize, lucerne and grass. They milk 250 Holstein cows yielding 10,500 litres annually. They milk twice a day and rear their own replacements to calve at 24 months. Beef calves are sold at 3 weeks old.



COSA are delighted to be visiting a dairy farm at the top of their game. In 2021 Mark was crowned Farmers Weekly Dairy Farmer of the Year . Judges commented that “ with a positive attitude and appetite to continually drive improvements he (Mark) is a great advocate for the industry”

..... and a Hog Roast to follow !

Pete, Brendan and Mark have kindly offered to provide refreshments after the farm walk. including roasting a pig , supplied by fellow COSA member Paddy Reid.



To cover COSA administration costs there will be a charge of £5 per person attending the farm walk. This will be collected on your arrival.

Please note: We will not be sending out the usual postcard invitations to the Farm Walk this year so please make sure you **put the date** in your diary now !



The Final COSA Dinner Dance

Friday 18th November 2022

At Stoke by Nayland Hotel

Join COSA friends for the final fling to celebrate 100 fantastic years of Chadacre Agricultural Institute. COSA will continue as an active organisation but it is the COSA committees decision to make this the last Dinner Dance. So, make the most of it, let your hair down and party the night away!

Bar opens at 6pm- Meal served at 7.45pm- Carriages at 12.30am
Three course carvery meal - Dancing to:



The Beavers

Tickets **£50** per person

on sale **NOW**

from Hollow Trees Farm

How to buy your tickets:

- ⇒ **For card payment phone 01449 741 247 Mon to Fri 9am – 4pm**
The Hollow Trees Office Team will take your payment using our secure payment system.
- ⇒ **Purchase in person at:** Hollow Trees Farm Shop ,Hadleigh Road , Semer, Ipswich IP76HX Open: Mon to Sat 8.30am -5.45pm, Sundays 9am -5pm
- ⇒ **Hotel Rooms : www.stokebynayland.com Phone: 01206 262 836**
COSA have some rooms allocated at a special rate of £102 per room, based on two people sharing, breakfast included. Be sure to book early as the offer is limited and on a first come first served basis.
When booking mention COSA and reference number 130518

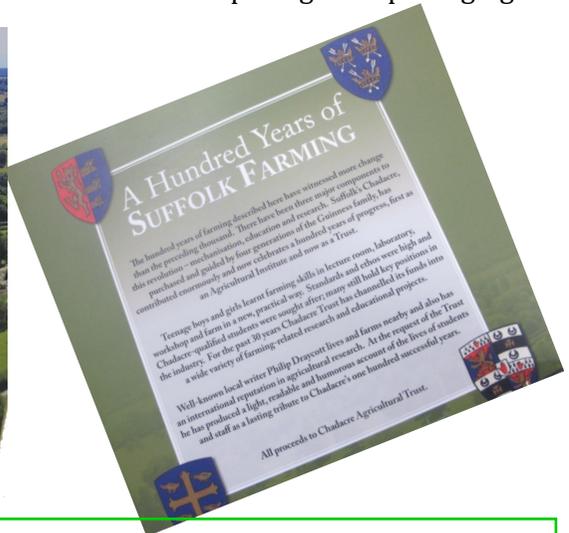
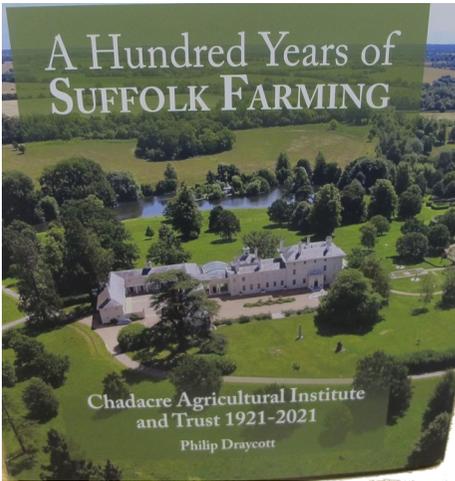
Don't delay - deadline to purchase tickets
is Monday 17th October 2022

100 *years of Suffolk Farming*

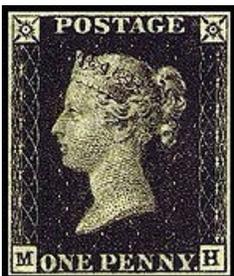
Commissioned by the Chadacre Trust and produced by Dr Phillip Draycott we still have stocks of this excellent history of Chadacre and farming in the region

Copies are £20 and available to buy from Hollow Trees Farm Shop, Elveden Food Hall or Waterstones bookshop in Bury St Edmunds .

If you would like a copy posted to you please telephone the Hollow Trees Farm office Monday to Friday between 9am until 4pm to place your order and pay over the phone. Please allow an additional a £3.75 for postage and packaging.



Gone are the days when all COSA communications came through the post! Rest assured though that we will continue to post some items out so long as funds allow.



However, COSA does contact members via the email too and as postage costs rise we will be using this means of contact more in the future.

If you have not already given COSA your email address or you have changed it recently do let us know on:

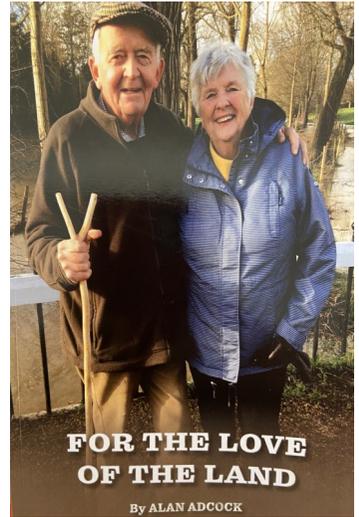
admin@cosa.org.uk



Another Recommended Read !

COSA member Alan Adcock (53/55) has produced a great read! Alan's story started in the tough times in the Second World War, it takes us through his farming years and concludes in the current Coronavirus pandemic. He recalls all the ups and downs of village life in Suffolk. 'For the Love of the Land' has sold over 300 copies already. All proceeds from the sales of the book go to two charities that have significance in Alan and his wife Enid's life, RABI and Mencap.

Priced at £9.50 it is available at Oranges & Lemons shop in East Bergholt, The Stores in Great Waltham and Hollow Trees Farm Shop. Semer near Hadleigh



Alan presents a cheque to Robert Stacey, representing RABI and to Chelmsford MENCAP



Alans recollections of Chadacre include the Bonfire night 'game', being presented to the Queen Mother, early morning shifts and much more—here are two short excerpts from The Love of the Land:

"My two years at Chadacre were quite an experience lots of hard work with some moments of madness ,it was quiet scary arriving at this place"

"Looking back I am grateful to Chadacre for two particular skills

The Principal ,WR Steward was brilliant for me personally because every Friday night he would bring in a speaker to address us—we all had to take part in these sessions, the Principal insisted we learn the art of public speaking and this is how I got my education in an activity I've enjoyed all my life.

The other skill that came in very useful was hedge laying which is an art and you need to be able to do it properly"

Remembering Merv

Written by Derek Cresswell

Born in Eastbourne Mervyn didn't put his feet on the ground until he was 5 years old and as an adult never fully straightened his legs. This was no handicap to becoming a very capable sportsman. His father was a chef and Mervyn loved to cook for a dinner party. Sadly, his father died when Mervyn was twelve and his sister seven, this left his mother to bring up two children alone.

Mervyn was a bright child passing to grammar school where he came to enjoy rugby football initially as a winger. At Shuttleworth College, he passed the National Certificate Course (diploma) with excellent results. There followed several jobs in farming in Market Harborough and also in his home county of Sussex. An opportunity then arose to join the staff at Chadacre in 1966 as Crop Husbandry lecturer.

Staff from Chadacre were occasionally invited to attend dances arranged for the West Suffolk Hospital trainee nurses and this is where he met his wife to be, Cornelia Kors. Around this time he unfortunately broke his leg playing rugby. As Mervyn's duties at Chadacre involved warden responsibility for the resident students when he married, he had to leave this role and move away.

He successfully applied for a job at Brinsbury school of agriculture in West Sussex. Brinsbury enabled him to gain a teaching certificate. His first son was born there in 1971, and he joined the local rugby team at Pulborough where he was a popular member as a blind side flanker. Mervyn took a keen interest in their weather station. This was an interest he maintained in later life. He also cultivated a modest garden which again was a lifelong interest.

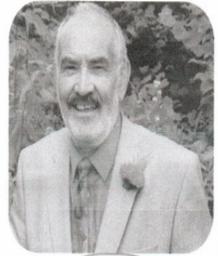
Mervyn was invited back to Chadacre 1972 to take over as Vice Principal from the departing Tuffy Williams. He remained at Chadacre until conclusion in 1988. Being VP was not an easy job. The student expectations were becoming different from the lads of the fifties and sixties. They wanted cars and more free time like university students. He had responsibility of forcing a system on students that was, in some ways, archaic. However, it still brought results, particularly for students who would never have achieved much in a more relaxed system.

In his middle years at Chadacre Mervyn endured an extremely painful growth on his spine, this was a difficult time as by now Cornelia and Mervyn

In Loving Memory of

Mervyn Chisnall
19/01/1943-11/04/2021

Funeral Service Held on:
Thursday 29/04/2021
Abbey Chapel, West Suffolk
Crematorium



Online Streaming for those unable to attend
01263260

Please find below the details to log into the website - these can be used straight away for people to view the last screen. If anyone cannot make the live stream, they can watch again 2-3 days after the service where the service will be re-uploaded for 28 days.

Link: www.alpha.com
Username: ash@9887
Password: 933101



Order of Service

Entry Music: Sweet low Chariot;
Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Welcome: Rob Head

Memories: Derek Cresswell

Tribute: Rhys Chisnall

Reflection music: The Lamb;
Choir of St John's College,
Cambridge

Committal & Closing Words: Rob
Head

Exit music: Non Ti Scordar Di
Me; Andre Rieu





had three children . The family were living at Belchamps .

He spent nine weeks in Addenbrookes where vertebra were fused, effectively putting an end to his rugby career and then in 1988 the doors of the old institute closed. Fortunately, Mervyn and Lia had purchased a property in Lawshall so could stay local. He did some excellent work with special needs students in Bury St Edmunds, he also continued for several years as COSA committee member. Mervyn took a job at Otley College and eventually joined their team working on the developments of special needs education a role that saw him travelling extensively in Europe.

His final house move was to Barons Road in Bury St Edmunds handily close to the hospital where he sadly spent much of his time. Mervyn underwent a knee replacement operation and unfortunately, cancer was never far away.

Surgeons took more cancerous growth from his back and after unsuccessful chemotherapy removed his bladder too. He managed the problem well but was eventually told that was as much as could be done.

Twenty years of his working life was devoted to Chadacre, a very good servant of the cause.

Vic Simmonds adds :

Merv, as Mervyn was affectionately known was initially appointed to the Chadacre staff as a husbandry lecturer and Institute warden in 1966, returning in 1972 as Vice Principal. He was a very keen sportsman, especially where rugby was involved and therefore had a big input at Chadacre on the field. Merv was very active in helping to look after the interests of COSA including being a committee member for which past secretary and members were extremely grateful. When Chadacre closed he was offered a position at the then Otley College where he was able to realise his ability and experience in working on special needs and education of special needs youngsters. This was very close to his heart and entailed extensive travel to Europe.



Vic & Merv at a COSA Reunion

Merv played an important part in life at Chadacre as well as his commitment to COSA for which we are all so thankful. Over 500 students had the benefit of his experience.

Mervyn Chisnall - Chadacre 1966 -69 & 1972-1988



Robert (Bob) Bain
&
Richard (Dick)
Garnham

Chadacre
68 -70

Friendship Born in a Stable

Although born and raised only 4 miles apart, before going to Chad we had never set eyes on each other. Our respective Chad numbers were 1 and 12 which resulted in us being opposite each other at the entrance to the dorm, Big Stable. The positioning of our beds meant that we were prime targets for the often occurring 2nd year raids!!!

Both being of a practical nature we undertook most of the farm tasks with relish (pig fattening house duty being an exception). Our love of rugby forged our relationship (Bob being hooker and Dick somewhere in the backs).

The highlight being members of the team who beat Writtle for the first time which cost PP a supper for all of us at the pub at Hawstead.

Upon leaving, we went our separate ways to be reunited in 1974 when Dick had completed his Robert Black Bursarship and was to embark on his study trip to Holland, Denmark and Germany and who better to go with than Bob. A book yet to be published will portray the adventures of said trip!!

By this time both Dick and Bob were in serious relationships, with marriages resulting in 1975 and 1976 respectively. Followed on by children and being god parents.

For many years New Year was alternately celebrated in each other's houses. Today having both moved several times but as you've probably guessed, we now live only 4 miles apart which means we can enjoy leisurely walks in the country which are lengthened in time considerably by the need to stop and discuss the events of the past 50 years!

Written by Richard 'Dick Garnham'

Photo Dick Garnham , Bob Bain & Mick Mumford (68-70)

And now for BOBs bits !

Bloomers

This incident took place on the field known as Middle Park. A fair number of 'fust years' were gathered, as we were taking turns on Hibby's David Brown 880 and a muck spreader. When my turn came all went well till it was empty, I thought I will show these boys how to drive a tractor and proceeded to do a quick gear change into a higher gear. Catastrophe!!! the daisy did not do quick and the tractor lurched forward causing the spreader to jump off the pickup hitch. The next thing I saw was the spreader making it's wild way down the hill towards (guess what?) THE LAKE!!!. Luckily for me it caught in the fence in front of the lake, I calmly hitched up and returned to the muck hill. I had hoped not too many people had seen this, but as I came around the other side of the muck hill there was a large group of blokes rolling about in hysterics.

Occasion

Soon after returning for my second year Mr Ford (our machinery lecturer) wanted to see me after lunch (now what have I done wrong ?) It transpired that he wanted me to take the New Centres MF 135, which by the way had multi power and was quite nippy on the road. I was to go to Linton in Cambridgeshire and pick up a trailed combine harvester, I think it had been donated by the Kiddy family but not sure. The idea was to cut it in half and present the workings for all to see. I remember very little of the journey as it passed in a blur, apart from a tight squeeze in the street at Clare.

Brilliant

Having my rugby colours presented by the Boss man together with my mate Dick Garnham, for which, in addition to our colours we received the biggest helping of treacle pudding ever!

Robert 'Bob' Bain



FIRST FIFTEEN 1968-69

Standing: W. A. Bailey, M. J. F. Watson, R. J. Steward, Mr. R. C. Cousins, J. Rodwell, J. Lyne, Mr. M. C. Chisnall, D. E. Rose, R. F. Bain, Mr. H. A. Pead

Seated: R. Grant, R. Garnham, Mr. J. Adams, D. N. Hockley (Capt.), I. A. Melrose, P. Cook, Mr. M. Williams

100
years

Ramblings from Jim Hadingham (63-65)

According to a DEFRA booklet on my desk 'Farming is Changing'. Well it always has changed. What does not change are the friendships we made at Chadacre 57 years ago, and the strengths of character hammered into us as impressionable 16-17 year-olds.

My family probably had as much involvement in Chadacre as any: my father was there soon after it opened, 23-25; my mother did a summer course in the late 20's; brother Cecil 54-56 and staff and a nephew, Norman Northmore, 81-83.

Memories of my time there are many: half-days farm work, various duties, visits, rugger of course. I was lucky enough to find lectures and written work easy but practical classes and competitions not always so. Faggot and fencing stake making with Charlie Farthing in the woods (I still remember that stakes must have a five-sided point. Why?) being bored in the workshop listening to George Cooper moaning about all and sundry; and worst, the sugar beet competition – pulling, knocking and topping what seemed like acres of beet. Particular incidents stand out, such as 2nd years carrying a struggling 'Dozy' Elwood into the hall one Sunday morning and laying him on the breakfast table. Dorm raids, being hit in the face by Cleave (head student, no less) when I stopped him pulling my bed down.

Do I imagine it, or did we really come home from the Winter Reunion at the Atheneum to find all the beds in a huge pile, outside?

Also, more vivid was a Friday night with guest speaker in the Iveagh Room when PP came in and halted proceedings to tell us that J F Kennedy had been assassinated.

Rifle shooting in the garden range, hat nights, Christmas Concerts all kept us busy and gave us different opportunities, as did the grave responsibility of being head student.





Motorbikes are another topic that must have given poor PP many grey hairs! I don't know why there wasn't a serious accident.

We weren't allowed cars, although Dave Beckett did manage to keep an Austin A40 pick-up in the top woods for several weeks before he was found out!



How did those without a motor bike get to Bury livestock Market, Hartest butchers or Richard Seabrokes? And those Le Mans style starts after a roll-call to get time for a half pint in Lawshall Swan on the way to Stanningfield Ag Club. After I left I spent 18 months in the USA. PP had asked Bob Smith, 59-61, who had been to a North Dakota farm on an International Farm Youth Exchange, to come and see me at Chad. (he later married a North Dakota girl and made his home in Fargo) He arranged a place for me on the same farm, and the family remained life-long friends and we visited back and forth several times.

I never grew out of my involvement with motor cycles, except I now have a 1050cc Triumph Tiger rather than the 200cc Tiger Cub I had then. In 2016 I managed to combine my interest in motorcycles and North America. Together with my son, Matt, we flew with our bikes to Toronto and did a 'Grand Tour', 50 years after my first big road trip in an old car. He went home from Vancouver and I rode back to Toronto alone, visiting friends and relations on the way; this included the before-mentioned nephew, Norman Northmore, now living in Ontario. The 10,000 mile trip took 8 weeks. If you are interested and have nothing better to do, go to Youtube and search 'Across America on 4 wheels'!

Chadacre seems to me to engender more regard and nostalgia among some of us than others have for their colleges. Perhaps because it was the 2-winter system, or the dormitory accommodation, or the quite tough, army-like regime, that we were 'all in it together'; and in fact we all had, and have, a common interest – Farming.

Jim Hadingham



With the closure of Chadacre in 1988 agricultural education provision moved to Otley College . So began a roller coaster journey of mergers (with Easton College in Norfolk) and recently de mergers. When opening Chadacre Lord Iveagh saw a need to train the farmers workers of the future and that that still exists today albeit in a much changed modern world . The creation of Suffolk Rural is the latest step on the journey as Principal Viv Gillespie explains:

Viv Gillespie, Principal of Suffolk New College, including Suffolk Rural

I am pleased to be able to contribute to your newsletter and inform you about what has happened at Suffolk Rural and a flavour of planned developments.

In January 2020, Suffolk New College took over the Suffolk campus previously known as Otley College, which was in turn part of Easton and Otley College. The merger took place following extensive consultation and intervention from the Further Education Commissioner in order to ensure that there would be sustainable land-based provision in both Suffolk and Norfolk.

We were delighted to be chosen as the 'new owner'. I have extensive experience in 'mixed economy' further education colleges with land-based provision and am fully committed to making this merger successful.

It has not been without challenges as eight weeks in, we went into national lockdown and our focus has had to be on making sure that students and apprentices had as good an experience as possible via on-line learning. Despite this, we have inherited great staff, introduced new ones and roles, and made considerable investment in the campus and facilities.



Viv Gillespie
Principal



Construction, Horticulture, Environment and Countryside. Our launch was postponed twice due to Covid but, finally, we were able to celebrate in June 2021. Food was prepared and served by our students and we worked with two local companies – James White to brand a range of fruit juices as Rural Refresh and local brewery Calvors for beers, as Rural Reborn.

We are pleased to say that the land-based provision has grown over two years. We have introduced areas that had been stopped previously.

Some examples:-
Full-time provision in
Land-Based Services
Engineering,
Landscaping and



One of our main changes was the rebranding as Suffolk Rural. The decision was made following feedback from some of our main Stakeholders as ‘time for change’. We hope it reflects our plans for a college that caters for all aspects of rural skills development including food development, in the future.

To date, circa £1.5m has been invested in enclosing the barn fully, fencing, refurbishment of the greenhouses, equine area improvements and maintenance to the buildings. We have increased the range of livestock and our new Farm Manager, Patrick Wrenn is working on a business plan for the farm. The Felix Cobbald Trust have also supported us via several pieces of equipment, upskilling for lecturers to HE level, and the recent purchase of a drone.



We are keen to move the curriculum forward to encompass technology. Our Lead Coordinator is Dan Webb. His role is to engage in partnerships, source funds and equipment in Agri-Food Tech for the benefit of students. Suffolk Rural is a partner in the bid for an Eastern Institute of Technology (IoT) (which is currently in a competitive bidding process at Stage 2). If successful, the IoT would bring Higher Education provision back to Suffolk Rural in Agri-Hort Smart Technologies and Food Development.

We have recently added Jimmy Doherty (Jimmy’s Farm) to our Patrons of Suffolk Rural, in addition to Lord Iveagh, our long-standing Patron. Over the last two years we have recruited two Governors who bring their experience to our Corporation – Robert England from Boxford Group, and Stevie Sheppard from Jimmy’s Farm. We are also establishing Stakeholder groups for Horticulture, and Agriculture. These groups will meet up to twice per year, to discuss industrial views and the development of the offer at Rural. We appreciate the rural community who have advised, sourced and donated equipment, lent land for grazing, offered projects and work experience for our students, and helped in many other ways. Our staff have been incredible, embracing the merger and the opportunities that it presents, contributing enthusiastically to the development plans of the future.

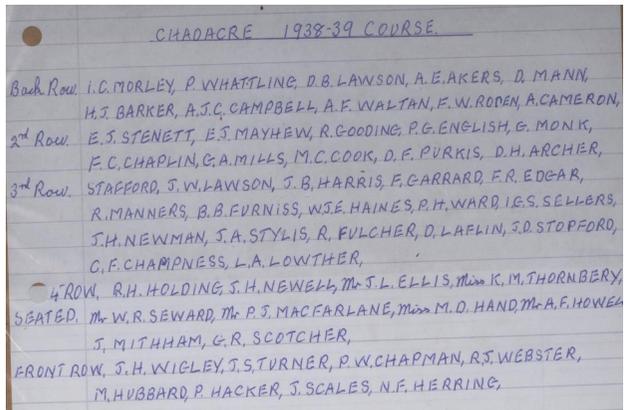
We are extremely grateful to our stakeholders and supporters and in particular the Chadacre Trust who are supporting the development of learners’ employability skills on top of their main vocational course, for example:- tractor driving, crop spraying, manual handling or other short courses as appropriate to the learners’ career aims.

J.W.L



Vic Simmonds writes

We are sad to report that John Lawson died on the 4th December 2020 He was aged 96. John was the Chadacre Farm Manager from 1947 to 1964 and was known as J.W.L



Over five hundred students and staff owe him a debt of gratitude as he played such an important part in their agricultural education and had an influence on their careers. He had our respect because of his sincerity straight forward approach and leading by example.

We old students have our own memories to look back on and know that he called “a spade a spade”. He stopped playing rugby in 1953 but will be remembered for being on the touch line astride his black horse named “Surprise”, giving out instructions. In 1964 he moved to Elveden as one of Lord Iveagh’s farm managers. John was a major contributor to the Chadacre 100 year history book – 1921 to 2021.

As a sportsman he was very competitive, giving up golf at the age of 86 because “I can’t play as well as I used to”. He then took up competitive bowling. John had high principles, understanding and fair play, under which there was “dry humour”. He was a major influence in the running of Chadacre while he was there.



The Mysterious Bouncing Snooker Balls !

written by Cecil Hadingham

For sometime I had been thinking of responding to Robert Bendalls' email appeal for some input for the COSA Newsletter to mark the 100 year anniversary of the foundation of Chadacre. Then I had a phone call from Rex Draper to inform me that John Lawson had died at the ripe old age of 98. That was the spur needed to write down some of my memories of Chadacre.

John Lawson was Farm Manager at the time when I started at Chad in October 1954. He definitely was in control of the farm and quite intimidating to us 16 year old 1st Year students but we needed it!



Mr. J. Lawson

I remember his lightning farm walks with a small group of us and his quick put-down if we made any cheeky remarks or messed about and did not pay attention to the subject in hand. We went onto a field where they were ploughing after sugar beet and it was very rough and sticky. One of us had the courage to suggest the plough was not set correctly. Johnny immediately snapped back that it was much more important to get the land turned over and wheat drilled as soon as possible than to do competition ploughing. I have thought of this

several times during these last two very wet autumns when trying to get winter wheat planted.

A few years later I went back as Third Master and got to know Johnny (Humph) Lawson much better as the job entailed liaising with him nearly every day. I have a great admiration for his down to earth views and ability to sum up people and deal with problems. He had a wry sense of humour. I re-call a pre Friday Night Speaker occasion : The staff and guests (incl. Johnny) were going down the stairs from the staff room. There was a snooker table on the landing and mysteriously two red balls fell on to the floor and bounced down the stairs amongst the Principal and guests. Johnny turned round and viewed Peter Coyne (Poultry man) and I and with a completely deadpan face and enquired "everybody alright?"

Continued overleaf

They used to have broiler chickens in the loft over the stable at Home Farm. These chickens were due to be picked up very early one morning before the farm staff started. Johnny, myself and Peter Coyne met there in the dark at about 4.00 am to load them into crates. But the lorry was late and by about 4.15 Johnny's patience ran out and he snapped "I am not waiting here any longer ---- I am going to do a bit in the office". To which Peter immediately enquired "Have you got one for me too Sir "

How things have changed. Now we have unbelievably huge machinery and tractors with G P S etc and soon it will be drones and driverless tractors or, will it be birds, bees ,butterflies and fields left to weeds — all of which have brilliant flowers all the year round ?

When I started Chadacre in 1954 my first early morning duty was with 2nd year John Brown on Horse Duty . We had to get 4 or 5 Suffolk horses off a paddock somewhere near Chad Brook and run them in to the stable at Home Farm .We then had to halter them and have them groomed by the time Hibby Sparkes arrived at 7.00am All that seems so antiquated now.

My experiences in farming have made me aware that the ideals of best practices as taught in lectures is often not attainable in the real world and has to be adapted to the various situations. This reminds me of our last day at Chadacre when the Principal Mr Seaward addressed all the leaving 2nd Years in the Lecture room and said much the same thing. He emphasised that to be successful you had to get the £ .s .d right. I am sure J.W.L. would have agreed with that sentiment.

My over riding memories of Chadacre are not what we learnt in the lecture room but of living with other people, playing rugby twice a week, making lasting friendships with like minded people, some of whom I am still in contact with. But sadly some are no longer with us , but the memories are. Thank you Chadacre

Written by Cecil Hadingham (54 –56)





The Power of Cake !

By John Parson (51-53)

My introduction to Mr Seward, alias The Boss, was a rather strange one. I had applied for a place on the 1951 intake and was duly granted an interview at County Hall, Ipswich. On that very day I was sitting a GCE exam, in which incidentally I failed miserably, so my father turned up at the interview to explain the circumstances.

Needless to say, the appearance of a fifty year old man caused a few weird looks from the other interviewees, all of whom would have been under twenty. However, The Boss, being the man he was, fully understood and actually visited our house in the summer holidays to conduct the interview, which really turned out to be nothing more than a friendly chat over a cup of tea and a slice of mother's cake. It was probably mother's delicious cake that swung the interview and I was accepted there and then.

I think the fee was £65 but whether this was for one term, the first year or the complete course is unclear. Whatever it was, the East Suffolk County Council footed the bill and not only that, they also granted me £5 towards the cost of clothing for which my parents were extremely grateful.

Having spent the previous six years at boarding school completely out of my depth and absolutely hating it, Chadacre came as a wonderful place with its relaxed atmosphere and I thoroughly enjoyed it, although Robin Dennis Jones' early morning runs didn't sit too well with me.

I've still got my proudly earned "A" Certificate and although no longer living in the farmhouse that The Boss visited all those years ago we still own the adjacent land.

Best wishes and long live Chad.



Lord and Lady Iveagh and Mr. Seward



SUMMER REUNION, 1952

The Rising Star Scholarship Award & the Paton Philip Salver

COSA continues to work with the Suffolk Agricultural Association to find the Rising Stars of the future. COSA has donated an engraved salver for the recipient of the award using money from the Paton Philip memorial fund. Last Year David Barker (President of the SAA) presented Tim Gilbert with the PP COSA salver.

Tim writes:

In the depths of lockdown, as I was holed up in the spare bedroom, my employers Fram Farmers mentioned to me that I ought to apply for SAAs Rising Star Award. Five months later, in what seemed like a different world, I was delighted to be presented with The John Paton Phillip Salver . I am currently a Business Analyst at Fram Farmers, where I am responsible for turning the data that is collected within our systems into digestible information for our Product Experts. I started at Fram 4 years ago as an Assistant in the Accounts Department where I built up a detailed understanding of our various business systems and product areas. This knowledge enabled me to take the step up to Business Analyst in the Summer of 2020 as demand for up to the minute information grew throughout the company. When I started at Fram in 2017 I was looking for a job that combined my degree in Business Management and Economics with my practical agricultural experience.

My current role sometimes feels a world away from my first involvements in agriculture when my brother and I would tag along to help Dad (Howard) with his Stewarding duties at the Suffolk Show. I also have a very different set of daily tasks now to those which I had when I worked on an Intensive Pig Unit during my summer holidays as a student.

Throughout my involvement in agriculture, there has always been a strong sense of community and appreciation for hard work that means I have always felt valued. The Rising Star award only furthers this and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved for selecting me.



Congratulations from COSA to Tim Gilbert

Winner of the 2021 Rising Star Scholarship



Making Butter - Chadacre and New Zealand

At some time during my time at Chadacre we were given a demonstration on butter making. England was still under the rules of rationing at this time and I guess the demonstration would have been subject to some regulations regarding how much butter could be made and how much Chadacre could retain.

My 32-year career in the New Zealand dairy industry started in October 1963 where I trained to assist the head butter maker and relieved him on his day off. Day off? Yes in those far off days the industry worked to seven days on, one day off rota. When one's day off was a Saturday you had a Sunday off as well One weekend off in seven!

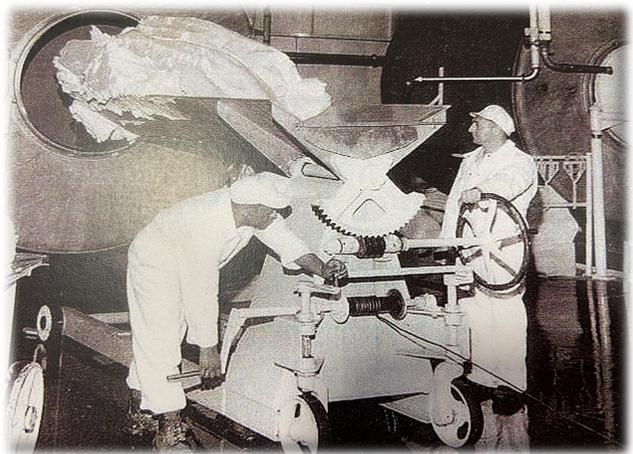
Before nationalisation took hold in New Zealand in the 1980 -90s the dairy industry consisted mainly of two functions; product manufacture and town milk supply. Product manufacture had a defined season. Peak daily production would occur mid-November to December lasting for two to three weeks.

From a base of about 440 odd suppliers' dairy farmers at peak we produced around 26 tonnes of butter per day. The factory was then shut down for maintenance and staff holidays being two weeks then. At the end of my time, it was four weeks with one of these taken in the summer.

Town milk supplies formed the other part of the dairy industry. The farmer in this operation was contracted to supply a certain quantity of milk to the treatment station daily with I believe a penalty of some sort for under supply. Management had a good idea of how much milk their district required daily. Town supply farmers worked to strict hygiene rules A certain number of cows would have to calf at various times during the year to maintain even production with pasture and cropping management to follow suit.

The photograph depicts the change from batch butter production to continuous. Yours truly operating. Judging by the set up I am having an easy time!

Written by
Murray Gray (57-59)
Te Puke ,New Zealand



Connecting Chadacre, Canada, Suffolk Punches and the Queens Coronation



Donald Lionel Baxter of Ontario, Canada passed away on May 11th, 2020, at the age of 86.

Don attended Chadacre in 48/50.

Below, Dons sons Andy tells COSA about his fathers life and contribution to continuing Suffolk heritage from afar

The Baxter family didn't own a farm, however agriculture was in the family heritage of men who worked estate farms around Rickinghall near Diss. When WWII started, many of the estates closed down and Don's father Ernest had to come into Ipswich to find work. Isaac Lord, grain merchant in Ipswich employed Ernest hauling and delivering grain using Suffolk Punch horses and wagons. At 5 years of age Don often accompanied his father on the weekend on those delivery rounds and from that experience started acquiring his knowledge of horse care and handling. Stories from that time included the Suffolk Punch horses who stood their ground while bombs dropped all around them during those deliveries.

Even before going to Chadacre Don expressed his interest in working in agriculture, milking cows at a neighbours farm at 5am before he went to school. At Westbourne School in Ipswich, the headmaster Mr. Saunders found out Don was interested in agriculture and suggested Chadacre.

Don thoroughly enjoyed Chadacre and won many prizes while he was there. He also enjoyed playing rugby every Wednesday and Saturday. Don was hired to stay on during the summer to work on the Chadacre farm.



In 1952 Don was called to do his national service, where he joined the Royal Army Veterinary Corps for three years instead of two. An extra year of service was the arrangement if you wanted to choose what unit you were deployed into. Don chose the RAVC so he could gain more knowledge and experience in agriculture. Don trained with the Warwickshire regiment and was awarded Best All-round recruit.



He was a proud member of the Royal Army Veterinarian Corps from 1952 until 1955. In 1953 Don and his Unit trained horses for various riders participating in Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Parade.

Don was then honoured to learn that he was chosen with eight other members of his unit to represent the RAVC and march in the Coronation parade.



Three Suffolk Punches brought from England to Canada

While serving at the RAVC, Don met his future wife Catherine and after being demobilized they married in 1955. They settled in Culford where Don worked as head herdsman for Mr. Charles Flack who owned a herd of Shorthorn cattle.



In 1958 Don & Catherine immigrated to the south-western part of Ontario, Canada.

Eventually they bought their own farm in Canada where Don could pursue his love of the Suffolk Punch horse. Don and Catherine returned to England and bought and imported Suffolk Punch horses. One Suffolk Punch filly named Easton Judy was imported from Easton Farm Park near Wickham Market.

A filly Camellia and colt Commodore were imported from Hollesley Bay. Don enjoyed working with all horses. He often assisted a neighbouring owner of Clydesdale horses to show them at the annual Royal Winter Fair but Don's first love in the equine world remained to raise, breed, show and drive his Suffolk Punch horses.

Don's family was pleased to make a donation to the Chadacre Trust in memory of Don and the significant part that Chadacre played in his life.

If any readers knew Don and would like to share that knowledge with his family you can reach Don's son Andy by emailing andyandmarion.baxter@sympatico.ca or by land mail to 310 Margaret Ave, Peterborough, Ontario Toronto Canada, K9J 5H2

John Cousins Student 59 to 61 and Third master 1963

Fred Payne: " If you water your lawn with whiskey it comes up half cut."

Frankie Spark: Dagging shears in hand "Mind the tippet"

Staff: "Hollow your backs"

JWL: Having ripped off some quivering student for not oiling his spade to his satisfaction, "That will give me an appetite for breakfast"

JSPP: Consulting his ever to hand list

Matron Mrs O'Brien:

If more than two students attended her surgery "Help we have an epidemic"

Commanderrrr O'Brien: " to cut a long story short"

Eric Noy (53-55)

On the day we had to report to Chad my father took our four suitcases over in his car and we four boys cycled over as we had to have our bikes there. One of us got a puncture in our bike and in the course of mending it we managed to lose the valve in the grass verge. We had to find it as we didn't have a spare so tore the grass up until we found it.

I think most of us didn't mind working with the Suffolk Punches, we had six when I was there and we thought them old fashioned and so they were, but the Principal decided we had to use them.

At home father had four Fordson E27N and a new Fordson Major diesel and only one horse left called Depper. She was kept mainly



because Albert couldn't drive a tractor and never did. We much preferred the mechanization that was sweeping in on the farms and our interests lay in that direction. Chadacre didn't have a combine whilst I was there Everything was cut with a binder and stacked in the yards. One job that nobody like was threshing the stacks during the winter. It was hard, dirty and noisy work ,we resented having to do it as most farms in the area were using combine harvesters

Peter Schwier (69-71)

On leaving Chad I spent a year on the family farm in Metfield before going to Congo for 2 years as a missionary to teach agriculture and run a very small agricultural project.

In 1974 I returned to the farm and married Dawn who I had met at Chad. She was one of the Miss Titlows girls and had tried to teach us to dance ready for the Christmas ball at the Atheneum.

We farm over 35 acres and mill everything we grow to feed our 250 sows and progeny on the farm, we take everything through to slaughter and take about 120 to the abattoir each week.

In 1991 I was ordained as a priest in the church of England and am involved in weddings, funerals and Sunday services.

Farming can be quite lonely but as a minister I get to meet lots of good people so I've got the best of both worlds.

Derek Cresswell - Staff

Some forty-five years ago I well remember taking the second fifteen across to Southwold. The pitch sited up on the rise was subject to the east wind that could chill you to the bone in minutes.

We were grossly over matched by a much stronger team than we expected. They came at us in waves. There was no let up we tackled and tackled but still they came at us. I particularly remember a young man GAUGHT who had hurt his neck in a tackle early on but continued to throw his body in the next tackle. We lost heavily but I was very proud to stand alongside those young men who never let their heads drop for whole eighty minutes.



Rugger is compulsory on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.



Chadacre

Agricultural Trust

Chadacre Trustee &
COSA member
Richard Garnham
reports:

The activities of the Trust have been somewhat curtailed by the pandemic, however the Trustees were able to continue to meet virtually on a regular three month basis.

In March 2020 the capital in the Chadacre fund was close to £7million but overnight the financial market collapsed as a reaction to the pandemic . This resulted in the fund being reduced to £5.5million. Whilst this was a concern the other factor which affected the financial stability greatly was the projected fall in income from dividends which is required to meet the funding which the Trust had committed to. The Trust had budgeted to receive £180K from dividends and had been advised that the actual figure would be more like £80-£100k. Fortunately, the fact that dividends were better than projected and with several projects being delayed the Trust did not have to release capital.

In 2020 OLIM the company who managed our portfolio announced that from January 2021 they would no longer be in a position to offer their services to the Trust. The trustees then undertook a thorough search of investment companies to ensure that the Trust continued to develop its financial assets responsibly. CCLA were chosen.

CCLA investment company have a strong presence within Agricultural Charities which the trustees are confident will be replicated with the Chadacre Trust,



We continue to support individual students in a number of sectors.

Otley College has been rebranded as Suffolk Rural and it is encouraging that the number of agricultural students has increased. The Trust provides annual funding to support the training that the students require to enable them to be employable. Chadacre Trust is working hard to ensure that this is achieved.



The farm manager at Chadacre, Colin Walters has joined the Trust. Colin is well known in Suffolk having held responsible positions within British Sugar.

As we emerge from 2 years of restraint the trustees are pleased to report that recently numerous requests for funding have been received. Thankfully our fund has recovered back to the value of pre March 2020 and we are enjoying good dividends which will allow the Trust confidence with future funding opportunities.



After an enforced 18-month COVID break, YANA, You Are Not Alone, the leading East Anglian Rural Mental Health Charity, got back on track with its programme of Mental Health First Aid courses for those in farming and rural businesses.

The first of four courses in our region, generously sponsored by **The Chadacre Agricultural Trust**, was held at Trinity Park, Suffolk, in June 2021.

These two-day fully funded courses provide delegates with the skills and confidence to support and signpost colleagues, friends and family.

In just two months, the number of qualified mental health first aiders in the YANA Army – and into rural businesses around the region – has risen to an impressive total of 140. Three further courses were held in Norfolk in July at the home of **ex-Chadacre student, John Raker**.

Attendees came from a wide range of businesses, local grass roots groups and community organisations across our region. These included Diana Patrick and Rebecca Whitefield from Suffolk's Rural Coffee Caravan, H L Hutchinsons, NFU Mutual, Norfolk and Suffolk Police, RABI East, Ashtons Legal, Euston Estate, Young Farmers and The Morley Agricultural Foundation.

Further courses will be held in 2022. If you, your company or someone you know, is interested in this all important training, mail admin@yanahelp.org with your name and contact details to be informed when the next courses take place.

YANA also fully funds counselling which can be put in place within days, runs a confidential helpline, promotes suicide prevention and the website provides useful information on the signs and symptoms of poor mental health and how to access support for yourself or others.

Confidential helpline 0300 323 0400 www.yanahelp.org



Chadacre
Agricultural Trust

29

years of farming
education grants in the
East of England

600

students supported in
their training and
research

4,000,000

£'s of grant-aid awarded
to applicants since 1992

4,000

attend the SAA Schools
Food and Farming Day
each year

Daphne Seabrook

wife of the late Richard Seabrook (47-49)

Some COSA members may remember my mother Daphne Seabrook. Sadly, in May 2020 she has passed away peacefully at her home in Horringer. During the 1960's Chadacre students cycled down to Coopwell Farm, on the Boxted Hall Estate for work experience with Richard. They may well have encountered Mum behind the scenes raising five children, running a rambling old farmhouse and supporting Dad in his sheep farming endeavors.

They met early in the 1950's when Dad was a stockman at Chadacre. Mum enjoyed trips to sheepdog trials in the Midlands with Dad, a rather gentle introduction to the farming life that was to follow. However, she embraced it and with her commitment, following Dad's death in 1987, the sheep farming enterprise continued.



Sheep Dog Trial Yoxford 1953 Daphne with the winner Moss & Elspeth Seward with Tina

In 2020 the Seabrook family celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Tenancy in Ickworth Park with the National Trust maintaining a flock of 1000 breeding ewes grazing extensively in conjunction with Countryside Stewardship.

Mum was also one of Michael Hosken's students at the FTC where she learned how to keep farm records and accounts, a role that she enjoyed. She was a life long learner and in her late 50's she gained a degree from the Open University.



*City & Guilds Phase 3 awards
1974 Robert Long, Daphne
Seabrook and Michael Hosken*

Photos courtesy of and words by Jenny Pine
Daughter and former Chadacre resident
with husband Ted (Staff)
and three sons (1980-1989)



A Two Foot Loaf!

I arrived with my parents and was given a bed in a dormitory of ten.

For breakfast the Porter went from dorm to dorm waking the students. His name was Stafford (a short stubby ex-military man). After breakfast of porridge, toast and butter you were expected to take the dirty plates to a table at the end of the dining hall. Anyone with livestock duties had to have their animals fed before breakfast. For those early morning duties the Porter had left a cup of tea and a round of toast.

Supper was bread, butter and cheese and you helped yourself. The bread was square and two foot long! When it snowed the horse work group had to take a horse and cart to fetch it from the bakers. Matron looked after the welfare of the students and was also in charge of the kitchen.

There was a late evening roll call after supper to make sure all were present. On half-days off curfew was at 10pm. Some names I remember are – Rose, Rawlinson, Chapman, Border, Pedley, Prike, Cant, Buckmaster, Macauley.

First year students had pushbikes but by the second year most had returned with motorbikes. That year Murray Gray from Felixstowe had a 1939 650cc Triumph which he had difficulty starting so I used to start it before he could ride it. All us students swapped bikes right left and centre. We never bothered about insurance!

The Home Farm stable door was not very wide. The college needed extra funds for the students so the Farm Manager and anyone not playing rugby engaged in fund raising by collecting scrap metal. One day going past the Principal's house one group's horse took fright whilst pulling a load of scrap and bolted trying to get in the stable door still with the cart attached.

Church was a major influence. Students either attended Hartest Parish Church or the Congregational Chapel with the Minister, Rev Chilvers.

He presided over a proper service even with as few as four members present. Richard Seabrooks attended the Parish Church and sang in the Church Choir. Richard had an 8 horse power car and would see how many students he could get inside to return home!



STAFFORD

Stafford (Staff—since 1926) won over £100 in a football pool last winter. (Irish papers, slate clubs and Mrs. Stafford please note.) This proves without shadow of doubt, what has been suspected for a long time, he leads a *double life!* He will *not* travel steerage to Ireland this summer, but will see if he can smuggle more successfully 1st class. Pat Stafford is a Staff Captain (Technical) in the R.E.M.E. in Malaya—tremendous credit to himself and his family.

A Regretful Letter Put Right !

Written by 'Yank' David Simpkin (54/57)

This is the second letter I have written to the Chadacre Magazine. I hope this will be written with much more consideration and hindsight than the first.

On the first occasion I was writing during my national service beginning at Catterick in Yorkshire armed with a pick axe handle during an IRA scene. I then moved to Loughborough to do my trade training with the Royal Signals and it was here to my bitter regret I wrote my first letter.

In it I denounced the good farmers of Leicestershire for not knowing how to farm as well as we did in Suffolk ! All grass and hedges and not much else, I said , little did I know this would haunt me forever.

Having been brought up on the blowing sands of the Berklands and having finished National Service in Germany I managed to obtain a position as Under Manager at Slough Farm near Sudbury owned by Donald Byford. There we ran a multi suckler unit rearing bought in Herefords x Friesen calves rearing 10 to 12 calved per lactation. These were sold in the local market, weighing then to 12cwt. Now this is where the irony comes in.

Donald Byford was the only one of four sons who had nothing to do with the corn merchanting. Rather than farm like his brothers he went into the hosiery and knit wear business and he lived and traded in Leicester.

Long before I became the Manager at Slough Farm , each year, about a hundred and twenty cattle were sent to be grazed on the good Leicestershire grass, this was considered a chance to save the farm money. Being a young 'know all it' I decided to started weighing cattle by the lorry load from and to the farm, find out the live weight gain that was put against the cost of renting which was I considered pretty steep. It came as a shock to find that perhaps I wasn't as clever as I thought and the good grassland farmers of Leicestershire knew a dam sight more than I did as the live weight gain more than I paid for the transport.

Having been cut down to size and having seen my first letter repeated in a at least one Chadacre magazine I own up to it being part of my pompous youth and hope that now as time has elapsed, I have realised that it pays to be careful what you say and put down in writing. No doubt some of the students of the 54/56 vintage will smile at this letter but think I learnt a valuable lesson. I enjoyed my 43 years working for the Byford family and believe I have farmed through an era of unsurpassed rate of change in the industry.

Wishing everybody connected with Chadacre my very best wishes and the many friends I have made and fortunately still in touch with, even those bloody second years!! 34



And finally ... COSA Magazine, not quite 100 years !

The Chadacre Magazine.

OCTOBER, 1932.

No. 1.

Editorial.

For some time it has been felt that some means of keeping Old Students in touch with Chadacre and with one another is most desirable. Not only does it help Chadacre to have an interest taken in her by past Students, but Old Students themselves may benefit very greatly, not only in the social sense by keeping up old friendships and interests, but commercially by being put into touch with posts which from time to time become vacant.

For this reason the Old Students' Association was formed in 1930, and undoubtedly has proved a very great success. At the time of going to press there are 156 members, and it will be of considerable assistance if members will do all they can to bring the Association to the notice of all Old Students and to try and get as many new members as possible.

This first copy of the Magazine is the outcome of several suggestions received during the past year, and it is being sent to all members of the Association free for the first year; in future years it is anticipated that some small charge will have to be made.

We shall at all times be very grateful to receive news of Old Students and any matters of interest for insertion in the Magazine, and Students who from time to time send us such news will be doing a very real service to the Chadacre Old Students' Association.

We take the opportunity of wishing the Association every success in the future.

100
years



Chadacre Old Student Association