



The Beachley Old Boys' Association Newsletter

Edition No. 2 - April 1996

BOBA Marches On

In 1994 when the College closed its gates for the last time the future of BOBA was uncertain.

But things have turned out well. From the start it was clear we had to strike out on our own: fifty years of military assistance had gone and so the nettle had to be grasped.

We owe a great deal to Ron Overd who was on hand to get the 'new' BOBA going. Ron had the knowhow, the drive, the contacts and a feel for the Association. Few could have done what he did for us. He was the right man in the right place at the right time!

So where are we now?

- The highlight of the BOBA year is of course the Annual Reunion. In 94 and 95 we've had two cracking weekends at the Old Course Hotel in Chepstow: both were enthusiastically supported.
- We now have our own HQ situated in the Old School House, Beachley. This is a useful base and means we keep a foothold on the Beachley Peninsula.
- Membership of 'new' BOBA is by subscription and only paid-up members can attend the Reunion. Our numbers continue to grow; over 560 have signed up to date!
- Financially, we inherited a strong fund. Now that every member pays an annual sub the underlying financial strength is very secure.

The future's bright - but it depends on you.

95 REUNION

Another Winner At The Old Course Hotel

The annual BOBA Reunion was held for the second year running at The Old Course Hotel in Chepstow. About 300 members and their guests attended the weekend and there was general agreement that it was a great success.

Things got away well on the Friday night, the hotel thronged with members seeking out old chums and the bars stayed open late. The dancing to live music upstairs livened up considerably as the night wore on: good exercise for the chronologically challenged! But the young lady singer installed as gentle background music downstairs got a bit enthusiastic with the amplifier (or was it her agent?) and I'm told it was 'too d***** loud!'. If you were at Reunion 94 you'll know the Friday buffet was a bit of a disappointment - this year was much better. I don't think there were any grumbles.

Saturday was a fine day for strolling about Chepstow or for taking part in the 'Ken Standen' BOBA Golf Open won by the Chairman, Syd Thomas. The BOBA shop opened for sales at the HQ and many members spent time going through the records on display.

The well attended Saturday afternoon AGM was again held in the church inside Beachley Barracks by arrangement with Ivor Anthony, the Camp Commandant. The Exec. Committee reported that BOBA looked in good shape. Alan Ball got everybody thinking about whether enthusiastic folk who rustle up lots of new members for 50th Reunions etc. should be funded in some way by the Association. This one has a little way to run yet.

The Saturday evening was again a great success. 188 members sat down to the BOBA Dinner and 81 ladies dined downstairs. The food quality for the remarkably low price was excellent. However, with so many eating and 'silver service' in operation, the last to be served may not have got the hottest meals. A case here for a review of how the dinner is served.

Unfortunately, our new President Brigadier Mike Addison couldn't make the Reunion so Col Alan Holman stood in and gave yet another of his apparently off the cuff but fascinating speeches. The £3 corkage fee levied this year didn't seem to stop many members seeing off the odd few bottles! Music and dancing followed the dinner to the early hours.

Sunday morning saw a full congregation at Beachley for the church service followed by dispersal and promises (or threats) to meet again next year.

It was a great weekend. Peter BurrIDGE you did your stuff.

VB

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - BOBA IS 50 YEARS OLD IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR!

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President :	Brig (Retd) W M R Addison	
Elected Vice Presidents	Lt Col (Retd) A W Hall	
	Lt Col (Retd) R J Overd	
	Mr G H Gasser	
	Mr M Murtagh	
	Mr D Fowle	
Life President	Mr A Jeffs	
		<u>Telephone</u>
Chairman :	Lt Col (Retd) S Thomas	01656 661180
Treasurer :	Maj (Retd) D C Chapman	<u>01633 243869</u>
Secretary :	Capt (Retd) B Henderson	01291 620140
Membership Secretary :	Mr F Pickering	01291 624384
Chepstow Liaison :	Capt (Retd) D Knight	01291 623370
96 Reunion :	Mr P B H Burridge	01747 825270
Newsletter and BOBA Shop	Maj (Retd) D C Chapman	01633 243869

ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION

If you have anything you want to say via the BOBA Newsletter then please send your copy to Dave Chapman at 21 Brynhyfryd Road, Newport, NP9 4FX. We are always looking for stories, news, views and letters for publication. You might also use the newsletter to trawl for information on friends with whom you have lost touch. You can also place an advert free of charge.

Your copy for publication can be handwritten or typed. However, if you are able to send it on floppy disc to be read into Microsoft Word, so much the better.

BOBA BENEVOLENT FUND

The Benevolent Fund currently stands at £991. It is available to provide help to ex-Beachley apprentices or their families who have fallen on hard times or need a little help over a temporary problem. Please direct any enquiries to the Chairman in the first instance.

BOBA HQ

BOBA's Headquarters are now permanently located in The Old School House, adjacent to Beachley Church. Many of the wall-mounted rolls/lists from the College have been fitted in the main room of the building. All the records including nominal rolls and copies of Robot are also available. Access to the HQ is arranged through Derek Knight, (phone number above).

PAYMENT OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION BY STANDING ORDER

Well over 200 members have now registered to pay their annual £10 subscription by standing order direct from their bank account. This proved very successful for those who used this payment method in 1995/96 and is very easily administered. So if you haven't filled in the form yet, please do it this year.

Memories From The Twenties

I was attested at Devizes aged fourteen and a half. Soon afterwards on 6th Jan 1926, on a cold dreary snow-covered night, our intake arrived at Beachley and were dispersed to our huts and a strange new life.

Next day we were issued with our kit, rough shirts, thick woollen long johns and leather boots to be blacked, degreased and made to shine. Chores to break the heart of a lad from a comfortable home. Those first few months were purgatory but eventually things became bearable, if not enjoyable.

My hut was near the cookhouse overlooking the Wye. We scrubbed the bare wooden floors and blacked and polished the iron stove. Kit inspections were a weekly feature and punishments consisted of 'company fatigues'. Turfing the lawn was one such chore using turfs from the foreshore of the Wye.

We eventually settled down to a routine of workshops, PT, drill parades etc. and had a platoon Sgt called 'Monty' Banks of the East Lancs Regt, of whom the least said the better. A very strict and dour man! Following his departure came Sgt Jack Greaves of the Gordons who was actually human and used to march through the hut playing bagpipes.

I was an apprentice carpenter and joiner; the workshop was close to the slipways. Nearby we extracted many of the pitch pine piles originally used for boat building in WW1. They were about 30 ft. long by 2 ft. square and very heavy. The intention was to use them in our workshops, but unfortunately they couldn't be cut successfully. We made tent board bottoms, easels and blackboards and a host of other items for general use in the workshops.

Overlooking the slipways were large cranes which were later demolished, but only after some daredevils had climbed up and hung socks, pants etc. on them.

Scarlet fever, chickenpox and measles were fairly rife in those years and our hut was once 'isolated' for six weeks. That meant going to the cookhouse to fetch all meals, tea, cocoa etc. to take back to the hut. We couldn't attend school or workshops so time was spent on PT, drill and fatigues.

Capt Daniels VC was our OC and sport was his life; he once swam across the Severn to Aust and back! I can see him now in his highly polished Sam Browne and riding boots.

We helped lay the playing fields, levelling and raking them fine by dragging thornbush over the surface! I was amongst those who converted the old water tower into a sports pavilion with showers.

In my second year I had my tonsils removed in the camp 'operating theatre' - some mattresses piled up and sheeted over! Then fourteen days bliss in hospital to recuperate.

It always seemed to be inclement weather at Beachley. Days on end parading for workshops in groundsheets. I think it was the frosty Xmas of 1928 when to get down to Chepstow Bridge we sat on our suitcases and slid down the shortcut at Tutshill.

Pay was two bob a week, sometimes less sixpence for haircuts etc. Money was always short and the occasional parcel from home was a godsend. The balance of our pay was saved for us and proved essential when going on leave, especially as we paid our own fares!

Eventually 1929 came along and I was posted to Chatham. Life was very different; square bashing for weeks and then months of fieldworks. Being an ex-boy had its advantages. I never did a main guard at Brompton Barracks because I always 'got the stick' as best turned out sapper!

My first posting was to 16th Fortress Coy RE, Tynemouth on searchlight maintenance etc. When war broke out I was at Aldershot in 26th Field Coy RE. In a short while we were in the BEF in France as part of the 1st Div and eventually came out via St. Valery and Dunkirk.

Recently I've been back to Chepstow and visited Beachley. Its all so different from seventy years ago but I reckon the castle will outlive us all.

R W Jeffery

Boy No.525 - 14 Group D Coy.

A Snippet From the Robot June 1955

"In a recent issue of a Corps Journal a claim was made by Captain C E Booth, now serving in the Middle East, that he was the oldest of the Old Boys. We passed this news on to Captain Jack Alcock, now serving at Burscough (Regt.No. B1 of No.1 Group), who quickly replied in defence of his unique status, and sends his regards to No. B5."

A JOURNEY TO REMEMBER

Ray Smith of 43B A Coy

Traveling to the annual BOBA meeting this year my journey took me through Gloucester and on the A48 to Chepstow. Suddenly I remembered when I had traveled this route before, in the opposite direction, and on foot!

On the eve of VE Day there was much excitement at Beachley. The war in Europe was over, and the next day had been declared a public holiday. Not wishing to miss out on the festivities, many of the apprentices decided to do something about it. I was one of a small gathering from 43B A Coy who decided that London and then home was for us, and from where after a day or so on unofficial leave, we would return.

Making our plans carefully about seven of us decided, (rather bravely), that we would march through the night to Gloucester, where rightly we presumed, we could hitch lifts to London. I believe that many others made similar plans and in fact followed the same route at varying times after us.

Breaking camp at about 2230 hours after 'lights out' with packs on our backs, but no food or drink, we set out to Tutshill (3 miles) in fine form. From Tutshill to Lydney (9 miles) we settled into a cracking pace resting within each hour for ten minutes, with the climb up many a hill being offset by the easier walk down the other side. At Lydney we were disappointed to find no evidence of any late night pub celebrations, or indeed any signs of life at all, so we ended up by taking a slightly longer break sitting on a wall near the war memorial, and puffing on three fags shared among seven.

From then on the journey began to get tiring (the cause of much muttering in the ranks) and by the time we got to Blakeney (four miles from Lydney) we were beginning to feel seriously nackered! Between Blakeney and Gloucester (a potential further 16 miles) the brisk march degenerated into a rather dejected crawl.

Somewhere between Blakeney and our destination a rain cloud burst over our heads and we sat under a large tree at the road side, fighting hard the temptation to nod off.

Fortune, however, was just around the corner. An hour or so before daybreak, some miles outside Gloucester, a kindly lorry driver took pity on us and transported us to a welcome transport cafe near to Gloucester town centre. A scalding hot mug of tea, a hasty conflag, and a few enquiries, saw us sitting in the back of an open truck en route to London where we disgorged at Uxbridge railway station. From there we made our way to Central London and our respective homes. I reckon we covered twenty four miles on foot that night, so not surprisingly the memory has long been with me.

Needless to say the short break became extended and, seven days later, I was one of three apprentices who surrendered to the Military Police on Paddington Station where we were promptly handcuffed awaiting disposal.

A telephone call was made to the Commandant's Office at Beachley where, so I was told, the response was "Stick them on a train to Chepstow, there are dozens of them adrift". On boarding the train the handcuffs thankfully came off, and so it was we returned unescorted to Beachley to take our punishment. Fourteen days jankers was, I recall, the order of the day. For me five of those days were spent digging and weeding RSM Spence's back garden, so I suppose it wasn't so bad after all.

Sadly in my dotage I can only remember one name from the valiant seven. He was Cyril Ray also 43B A coy. It would be interesting to know if any other old boy who was with us on that night can be found. If so please tell Maurice Murtagh - who knows at some future reunion, we may be able to retrace that journey and dig up some more memories of that rather long night.

The Wrong Foot

I joined the Army straight from the orphanage where I was known as Epstein.

On the day of arrival at Chepstow Station there were a lot of lads my age getting off the the train. A sergeant with a list was waiting for us. He said "When I call your name say yes sarn't and get fell in over there".

He started "Boden, Brown, Buddry, Drongin, Godliman, Hapstein, Palmer, Parkins....." When he had finished there was one name not ticked off, and there was one lad 'not over there'.

He came to me with that air of kindly compassionate helpfulness we would come to know and dread. "What's your name sonny?" he crooned. "Epstein" says I. He looked at his lists. "Ain't no Epstein here" he says (sergeants do go in for multiple negatives - one was reputed to have said "Ain't never not got none not nohow").

"Wouldn't be Hapstein by any chance, would it?" I wondered if he knew what he was saying. He was asking a member of the family of Epsteins to give up his title just to keep the books in order! I waited for retribution to strike him down.

Nothing happened except that I replied to his question "No sarn't" and he said "Well it is NOW, get fell in!". Only he said it fortissimo and not politely.

The Army had startedON THE WRONG FOOT

Harry Hapston 39D Group

BEACHLEY BOY ON BOARD

As I sit here on a Sunday evening spit and polishing a pair of parade boots I think to myself why am I doing this at 58 years of age? The answer is because I'm involved with the Sea Cadet Corps. A vast contrast to my time in the REME you might think, or is it? I still teach mechanical and electrical engineering, repair boat engines and gearboxes, overhaul starters and alternators and I'm still involved with drill. Seamanship is not much different from recovery: same ropework, same principles.

So how did I get involved? My son joined the local Sea Cadet unit and I was roped in by my wife to help raise funds. Then there was the odd job in the unit needed doing. A talk with the CO raised the question could I help train the boys for the pulling competition? (Rowing in layman's terms). Well, I had done some in Gibraltar. (It got you off morning parades).

Then the Admin Officer left. They reckoned I was good at paperwork and that was that. Being there every parade night with little to do and the unit short of instructors you try to help out and learn as you go along. Then its "the youngsters like you and we do need uniformed staff". So despite my resolution never to volunteer again, I'm back wearing the Queen's uniform.

Now after many years here I am a Chief Petty Officer (WO2 in Army speak) and holding the post of 1st Lieutenant (2i/c) of T S Keppel, Bridport's Sea Cadet Unit.

Why do I do it? Well, when I was their age people at Beachley took the time to teach me and help me to face life; I learnt discipline and the value of comradeship. So now I'm trying to pass that on to the youngsters of today and if that keeps a few of them off the streets and helps get them on in life, then that's helped to pay back my debt to all who helped me,

So all you ex-boys out there. You've a lot to offer. Get along to your local youth group, be it Sea Cadets, Air Cadets or whatever and see how you'll be welcomed. What will you get out of it? Comradeship, and a satisfaction of seeing youngsters growing up as responsible citizens. Do it this week!

John Boshier 52A A&C Coys.

How Times Change!

Its amazing how creeping political correctness has taken over. Could a teacher or instructor get away with these direct (and truthful) comments today?

Maths: Has improved this term but still tends to be lazy and impertinent.
Idle, could do better.
English: Idle, will not be driven to work.
Insolent, lazy, needs a good thrashing.
Map Reading: Lazy, and at all times very thick.
Science: Lazy and unproductive.
An idle lad, makes no great effort in any of his work.

And one more beauty for Maths: "Works hard - which makes him outstanding in his class!"

Source: 1955 AAS Education records. Names and numbers withheld to protect the innocent.
Could it be you?

Some Feedback

The first edition of Beachley Echoes included an account of the inaugural meeting of BOBA in September 1946. It sparked this recollection from Bob Hewitt of 37C Group.

"I was a member of the committee for this event together with Alf Jeffs, 'Inky Reeves', 'Trotsky Taylor' (RSM and later Capt RE). I was a SSgt Instructor (REME) in the machine shop department at that time and continued until April 1951 on being posted to Singapore".

Unfortunately for the first time in many years Bill couldn't make the 95 Reunion but passes on his regards to all.

Beat That!

Geoff Winter (66C) never misses a BOBA Reunion. If you don't know Geoff personally, he's the tall fellow, 40 something, could be out of a spaghetti western, not a lot of hair.

He claims to have attended twenty three reunions in succession from '1973 to 1995.

Can anybody beat that!

Claim To Fame

On page 9 you'll see the piece about Lt Col Harry Harris who was responsible for making sure Big Ben never stopped.

There must be legions of Beachley Boys who have had a connection with famous people or places. So let's hear about it, send Dave Chapman the details even if its only a sentence or two or is a very minor claim to fame.

How about this little story? Noel Drew (60A), after leaving the REs followed his trade, working as the resident painter at Twickenham Rugby Football Club. Still wedded to the comfort of married quarters Noel & Eileen lived in a tied house within the ground. The idyll lasted but a short time before the attraction of uniformed life saw Noel joining the 'Old Bill'.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

In 1995 the Daily Telegraph carried a short series of letters about who were the first twin RSMs in the Army at the same time.

Peterborough, in his column, had suggested some brothers called Humphrey were the first such pair. However, a decisive letter came from Major Ron James of Middle Wallop. He suggested the earliest pair were our own members Ron and Cherry Overd, who were RE RSMs in the 1970s.

Later Ron James and his brother Jimmie both served as RSMs in the Royal Dragoon Guards in 1982. However, Ron didn't go on to say that all four of them were **Beachley Boys**. The James Boys were in 59C Group but aren't yet new BOBA members.



Ron and Jimmie James (59C)

HOW DID SYD REMEMBER MY NAME?

"They say you should never volunteer!!" Obviously I forgot the old adage and in due course found myself taking the minutes of the BOBA AGM on Saturday 16th September 1995. Many months earlier I had offered Syd Thomas my assistance in the running of the new BOBA and being of sound mind he took me up on the offer. The resignation of our Chairman, Ron Overd, meant a quick 'cabinet reshuffle' of the Executive Committee was needed, which resulted in my appointment as the Honorary Secretary of the Association.

The 95 Weekend was up and running by the time I joined the Committee. Therefore, my sole task was to record the proceedings of the AGM in the chilly surrounds of St George's Chapel. The weekend passed extremely well and it was a pleasure to see a number of old faces again but I was rather sad at the absence of the younger generation of old boys.

Our return to the Chapel for the Sunday Service saw all in fine voice and a collection was raised to the sum of £210 which I had great pleasure in forwarding to the Army Benevolent Fund. Acknowledgements have been received from both Brig. Alexander and Brig. Hooper, the Gwent County Chairman of the ABF.

Work has now begun for the 96 Reunion and I look forward to meeting old and new members alike.

Brian Henderson - Hon Secretary

"Don't worry I've got Your Number" - or Membership Secretary's Notes

As the end of the financial year approaches, along with the Treasurer I've been doing my sums. On going over the membership figures I find that there are still 193 members who elected to pay the annual subs by cheque who have yet to do so for 1995/96! This is 34.5% of the total 560 memberships issued to date. So may I make this plea to you - *"Please check your bank account to see if you have paid your subscription"*.

While on the subject of subs, the speedy payment of this year's will be much appreciated. I have spoken to the postman who assures me that he will not mind staggering up my drive with large bags of mail.

I send the used stamps from my mail to one of our members. He in turn sends them on to "Guide Dogs For The Blind" on behalf of the British Korean War Veterans' Association. So if you have any unusual ones why not pass them on to me when you send in your next year's subs.

We have drawn in a fair number of new members by word of mouth, and I don't mind if you pass on my name and address to prospective new members or those who simply want to put their names on my growing list of contacts who haven't yet joined. So please keep up the good work and put more members my way.

We have had a large influx of the 46A & 46B groups this year as its 50 years since they first arrived at Beachley, and they intend to celebrate. Good luck to you all, and well done Alan Ball for all his organising.

Next year sees the 50th anniversary of the 47 groups and as a member of 47B I would like to see my contemporaries return in large numbers in 1997. So come on you 47A and 47B types - encourage others to join us!

On Sunday 17th March, Pam Ayres on her Radio 2 Sunday Soapbox programme, broadcast an appeal by an ex-boy named Grimes asking for information about BOBA. I have sent a letter to the BBC, but as yet have had no reply. So if you know Mr Grimes please give him my details. See you soon - **Frank Pickering**

Write to : Mr F Pickering, 24 Park View, Sedbury, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP6 7BE.

"The Last Weekend" - Video Offer

On the weekend of 25th, 26th and 27th February 1994 there took place the last grand reunion of the Beachley Old Boys' Association before the Army Apprentices College closed that summer. The last College Passing Out Parade took place on June 11th.

Partly on behalf of the Tidenham Historical Group and Annie Rainsbury, the Curator of Chepstow Museum, but rather more for deep-seated personal reasons, I covered much of that 'last weekend' with my camcorder. Unfortunately, it has taken me until now to complete a final edition of that material but I can now offer you a copy.

It comprises the March Past through the dripping streets of Chepstow, Beating the Retreat, the Band display and the magnificent firework display in the Castle. It also includes BOBA members reminiscing in the College Museum, the Workshops and the miniature range, and the final church parade and service in the College Chapel, with the whole of the uncompromising address. Unbelievably, it is now all in the past, irretrievable history, but at least all those who have in any way been a part of the College can be proud of its considerable achievements and of its lasting influence. Its lamentable closure is yet another testament to the folly of our times and of their deteriorating values.

If you would like a signed and numbered copy in its presentation case, please complete the pro forma and return it to me with your cheque.

Keith Underwood

To: Keith Underwood, 1 Madocke Road, Sedbury, Nr. Chepstow, Mon. NP6 7AY

Please send me copies of the videotape "The Last Weekend" at a cost of £16.50 each inclusive of postage and packing. I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to K Underwood.

I undertake not to copy the tape or allow it to be copied and understand that it will be registered under my name and edition number. It will be signed and dated and housed in a presentation case.

Signature : Date :

Name :

Address :

.....

.....

Telephone :

Connection with Army Apprentices College Chepstow :

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Lt Col Harry Harris

It is with deep regret that since the last Reunion we have learned of the death of the following.

Harry Harris	3 Gp
Peter Piller	41Gp
Arnold Hodder	43A
Martin Power	43A
Wally Linham	43A
Jim Spratley	43A
William Bate	44A
Daryl Evans	47B

Mr R A Vernon of 23 Broomfield Ave. Leigh -On-Sea, Essex, SS9 4BL is trying to locate an old friend. Details are : 14469614 J R Breewood who enlisted at Southend and joined AAS Chepstow in Group 46B. He later went into the Sappers. Can anybody help Mr Vernon?

In Oct 1995, the Daily Telegraph reported the death of Lt Col Harry Harris MBE at the age of 86 who began his career as a Beachley boy in 1924.

Born in India in 1909, he was educated in Madras and at Bedford Modern. His family had little money so he joined the Army as an apprentice. He served all over the world including RSME, Scapa Flow, War Office, Egypt and Christmas Island.

He retired in 1961 and worked as an engineer in Malta and Germany. In 1967 he moved to Westminster and designed the lighting on the Victoria Tower and also installed a new amplification system in the Commons. **From 1967 until 1974 he was responsible for ensuring that Big Ben never stopped.**

BOBA SHOP

The following may be obtained from the Treasurer

Ties	£5.00 B	Scarves	£5.00 B
Golf Hats	£1.00 B	Car Stickers	£0.50 A
Lapel Badges	£3.00 A	Sweatshirts (V neck)	£9.80 C
		Sweatshirts (Crew neck)	£8.50 C

Postage and packing : A = 25p B = 50p C = £2.00

Please make cheques payable to BOBA and send to D Chapman, 21 Brynhyfryd Road, Newport, NP9 4FX

British Services Ex-Boys Association

BOBA has received a letter from Denys Goldfinch (Group 43B) who lives in New Zealand and from where he runs the BSEA. He enclosed for interest a copy of his latest newsletter which goes out to the members who mostly live in NZ. They have around 40 members and membership is available to all ex-boys from all three services.

The newsletter will be available at our Reunion in September if you would like to read it. Please contact the reception desk.

A Timely Thought

In order to get tickets for the BOBA Reunion in September 1996 you must have paid the membership subscription for 1996/1997!



The Chairman's speech



Vice President Arthur Hall
Secretary Brian Henderson



Life President Alf Jeffs and friends

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

I have a very well appointed holiday home in a quiet Suffolk village which is for rent for periods as short as a single weekend.

I am offering BOBA members a 25% reduction on the normal fees!

For more details / brochure please give me a ring on 01633 243869. There are still some good weeks available for this summer. Dave Chapman (60A B Coy)

A Snippet From The Robot Dec 1953

The following news in connection with Old Boys will be of interest to all. During the past six months six ex-Beachley Boys have left the Military Staff of this School, five proceeding overseas and one on release. The five for overseas were: W.O.I W. J. Alexander (21), S/Sjt. G. H. Gasser (39), W.O.II D. W. Old (32), S/Sjt. E. Slater (39), Sjt. S. Hinsley (42A); and the one for discharge was Sjt. S. C. Aldrich (42B).

Twelve ex-Beachley boys (two commissioned) are at present serving on the military staff of the School, together with a further three employed as civilian instructors. They are: Military—Capt. R. A. G. Rickard, REME (36), Capt. H. W. G. Way, REME (2), W.O.I W. Noakes, RE (17), W.O.I J. W. Miles, REME (5), W.O.II P. T. Couch, REME (23), W.O.II F. R. J. Harding, REME (13), Sjt. F. Farnell, REME (46B), Sjt. C. Goodman, RE (44), Sjt. P. H. Game, REME (45), W.O.II A. Jeffs, RE (16), S/Sjt. A. Mulholland, RE (45), S/Sjt. G. Pratt, REME (45). Civilian—Mr. J. Bevan (45), Mr. W. E. Gardner (8), Mr. D. J. Stead (8).

ITEMS for publication in Beachley Echoes

Please send all your copy for publication to :

Dave Chapman, 21 Brynhyfryd Road,
NEWPORT, NP9 4FX.

Stories, jokes, fame claims, news, comments.