

SUDBURY OFs - or - SUDBURIANS

Mini Supper in Sudbury 16 July 2019

Three OFs all of four score years and more gathered at the Angel Inn at Sudbury on 16 July 2019 for a most convivial evening, probably the first of its kind in the Suffolk town of Gainsborough fame.

James Ruddock-Broyd (G46-52) reports on this rare get-together of Sudburians which had a special significance for him. As part of depositing artefacts with the Museum and Ephemera Archive he arranged a mini Supper conveniently next door to his B & B. The first invitee was John Ineson (G43-50) of Assington whom he had seen regularly since James' mother approached him amongst 100 boys on Ipswich station on the first day of term in September 1946 asking John to "Look after little James on his first day." The second was Peter Minter (S45-50) of Bulmer whose father Laurie (S1916-18) went into Westminster Bank and told James' Father they had sent Peter to Framlingham which seemed a good school so the rest is history as they say. Alison Minter was also present. James' home was at Sudbury from 1935 to 1956.

Peter is Managing Director of Bulmer Brick and Tile Company ("BBT") and one moment of note occurred for James when sitting in a Governors Meeting and the Bursar reported on a slight delay in supplying the BBT part of the building contract for the Rowley Hall at Brandeston in the 1990s which was rather embarrassing in the circumstances. What is most pertinent to James visit to Sudbury was that Peter is Chairman of Sudbury Museum Trust and James longest Sudbury friend Andrew Phillips (one time a Lord) is Chairman of the Sudbury Ephemera Archive so both friends are in charge of the town's historic records. That July day James had visited Christopher Martin (K48-56) who sadly was too unwell to join the supper gathering. Andrew Moore (K53-59) gave his apologies.

The business of Peter's Bulmer Brick and Tile Company is worth a comment as it has hardly been mentioned in The Framlinghamian over the years in that they specialise in the old style bricks and are now about the only brick company that does in the country. Hence many well-known buildings have benefited from the Minter expertise including the College Squash Courts, Framlingham Castle, Hampton Court, St Pancras Station and Chambers, Highgrove and Brisbane Museum. Peter published "The Brickmaker's Tale" in 2014 as a tribute to the whole workforce which made the success story possible.

The supper photograph shows L to R: James Ruddock-Broyd, Peter Minter, Alison Minter and John Ineson.

