

# ALVERSTOKE SCHOOL DIGITAL ARCHIVE

## **1. SCH- REGISTER & CLASS IDENTITIES**

This file has transcribed the School Register 1914-1968 which is held at the **Hampshire Archives and Local Studies, Sussex Street, Winchester SO23 8TH.(Ref 168M85)**. This provided the names of pupils, their parents' names and addresses on registration, when they entered the school, and left, and often which school they went on to. It is not a complete transcription of the register for that period, as my research was to cover the period of the classmates of me and my siblings, Robert (b.1943), Sheila (b.1945), Julia (b.1947) and George (b.1951). Bob and Sheila both joined the school in September 1950, Bob going straight into Class 4 as he was 7yrs 8 months old, having been a pupil at Gosport High School previously, and so to capture his classmate cohort, I went back to the 1946/7 intake but excluded older pupils who were already at the school. Similarly, although I have 2 younger siblings who were also pupils of the school, Edward (b.1955) & Valerie (b.1957), I did not include their cohorts or the intervening ones between George and Edward, simply because it would have added probably over 240-odd names that did not relate to my family as childhood friends. If anyone is minded to fill the gaps, be warned, it takes over your free time, for along time!!! This is therefore a Grimblecentric body of work, but with an impact on over 1,000 former pupils. The file has also assigned pupils to their classes during their education at the school. This has been done through identifying the pupils in the class photos, each of which are marked by Mr David Lawrence (the photographer, and Miss Rosemary Lawrence's brother) with class number and year and which were usually taken around April in each academic year. The names assigned to the people are pretty reliable, as they have been given either by the pupil who appears on the photo once I had traced them, or by those pupils who have the gift of a good memory and could roll off most of the names of their classmates almost without hesitation!

As a result of extensive contacts, often starting with the parents who were still living in Alverstoke when I started this project in 1993. I managed to track down 593 pupils out of a total of 1,071 who I focussed on in this project. Sadly, 83 of those 1,071 pupils have died since leaving the school, some tragically young. I have not included the contact lists because I do not have the permission of those I have traced to publish them, and GDPR considerations now reinforce this decision. However, I am willing on an individual basis, to be contacted by anyone seeking to trace a schoolmate where contact has been lost.

A reason for the large turnover of pupils is the effect of many parents being involved with the Royal Navy, where short overseas postings meant a break in or a curtailment of the child's education at the school.

Alan & Judy Scard started the Reunion process by arranging a 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at the Thorngate Halls in 1992, and on the back of this event, six reunions were organised on the basis of my research between 1993-2015 which were highly successful and attended by former staff as well as pupils, and old playground and classroom friendships were re-kindled as a result.

Charlie Grimble -pupil 1954-1960  
3 April 2019.