

...meanwhile over the Boys' Side.

Amongst the staff I remember Doctors Quibell and Strode, Matron Blackmore, Nurses Bagley and Robbins, Warden Hudson (left to run a Borstal!), teachers Marchant and Noble ("Tinny" Noble yarned so much that (the joke ran) "he fought the Japs in. the jungles of Middlesborough!"). Fellow scholars Harrison, Domm, Flake, William, (Alan) Smith, Danny King, Goble, Biggerstaff.

On returning from holidays we met the Royal Blue Line coaches at London Victoria and were bussed down to St. George's where we reported to the linen room to collect a kit-bag full of clothes, changed filled the kit-bag with our own clothes and returned them for storage.

Dormitories were Spartan, holding 20 or so students, no privacy, with only a box-locker standing on a concrete ledge running the whole length of the room. Top windows had to remain open at all times! We ate in the hall at refectory tables with benches. Each table holding about 12 boys. At harvest time we feasted on rabbit and plates were spotted with the buckshot we discovered in the eating!

We were allowed to go on planned unaccompanied walks of about 5 miles. Senior students could visit the village shop and keep animals, mostly rabbits and poultry. We were not allowed to smoke (but did!); nor could we visit the Girls School or wander down to Chailey village via the Common paths.

I recently popped into St. George's when passing and was shocked to find the place closed up and on the market for sale. Fortunately an accommodating Security Guard allowed me to wander around inside the building and memories came flooding back!

Although Chailey taught me the independence necessary to survived - being away from my family for such a long period of time made it difficult for me to be as emotionally expressive as my 'civilian' peers -. I think I have mellowed with marriage and child-rearing but, without Chailey I do not believe I would have achieved the goals I have reached. I owe Chailey a debt of gratitude.

Peter Sedgwick. 49'/58'