Westbrook House Preparatory School for Boys



Working paper on the history of the school by the



Old Westbrookians' Society

Omnia mutantur, nihil interit

Westbrook House Preparatory School for Boys: 1947 - 1968

00.01.1947: KNGF established Westbrook House Preparatory School for Boys at 54 – 56 Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone. Miss 'Phil' Philpott arrived as School Maid and stayed until 1973 (died 2006).

GW: "The original school building was a pair of semi-detached late Victorian buildings which had been joined into one. The ground floor on the right hand side contained Fozzie's study, his lounge, the school office and behind that part of the dining room and all of the kitchen. The other side was given up to classrooms and part of the dormitory complex which extended across the upper two storeys of both sides of the building".

DLG: "At its foundation, Westbrook House Preparatory School for Boys was situated at 54 (Curzon Lodge) & 56 (Tudor Lodge) Shorncliffe Road and was headed by K N G Foster, FRGS and could be reached on telephone number 4541".

AF: "Ted then went to Folkestone, Kent, where his step mother's family lived, his father being based at nearby Hawkinge, and where his Uncle Ken Foster had just established a boys prep school. In Folkestone he met Christine (Chris) Elliot Bell".

AW: "After I left the Wrens (Bletchley Park), I found part-time work at WH acting as secretary to KNGF for three hours a week on a Wednesday. He was such a gentleman, but he had no head for accounting and would ask all the time whether there was enough money in the kitty to pay the staff or suppliers".

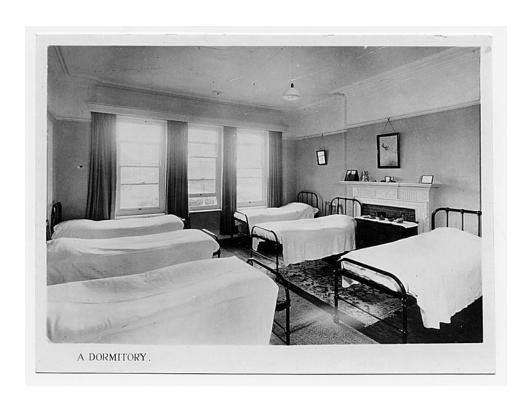


00.04.1947: The school opened with seven day boys and seven boarders. AF: "As far as I know he (Ken) had no teaching qualification".

00.00.1948: KNGF rented Athelstan Junior School's gymnasium from Claude Counsell, formerly head of Feltonfleet School. That same year he purchased a temporary building for £60 from the owners of Beachborough School and had it moved at enormous expense to the rear of 54 Shorncliffe Road where it became the 'the Hut', 'the Hall' or 'the Playroom'.

GG: "It was in this chapel that my father held all the Sunday services". AF: "My father, Ted Foster, married my mother, Christine (Chris). At some point (maybe at the start or maybe a year or so later) he asked my father, Ted Foster, to join him and he was technically joint headmaster. My father did train as a teacher (of French) at Bristol University". Records from St Edmund's Junior School, Canterbury's magazine show that WH fielded both cricket and football teams.

22.06.1948: The Times: "Mr DE Foster & Miss C Elliot Bell – The engagement is announced between Douglas Edwin, elder son of Group Captain ADH Foster, RAF., and stepson of Mrs Margaret Foster, of Folkestone, and Christine, only daughter of Mr John Elliot Bell (late HM Consul-General, Strasbourg) & Mrs Elliot Bell, of 'Wenvoe', St Mary's Bay, near Ashford, Kent".



00.00.1949: KNGF opened part of 50 Shorncliffe Road 'Old Fosters' and installed Sgt Major Norris and family as tenants. He acted as temporary Games Master and Boilerman.

Graham Walmsley (1949 – 1953) arrived: "My recollection is that at some time shortly after I first attended the school Fossie bought another building facing onto Shorncliffe Road that also backed onto the sports field and turned it into classrooms. There was a block of flats between that new building and the main school".

AF: "Ted Foster undertook teachers training at St Paul's College, part of Bristol University, and then spent 2 years in France at Grenoble University. French was Ted's subject and he taught it throughout his career as a schoolmaster".

00.09.1949: Humphrey Household (brother of Geoffrey Household) arrived as Senior Master to teach English. Francis James 'Jim' Metcalf joined the staff and remained until 1978 (Buried at Saltwood Church).

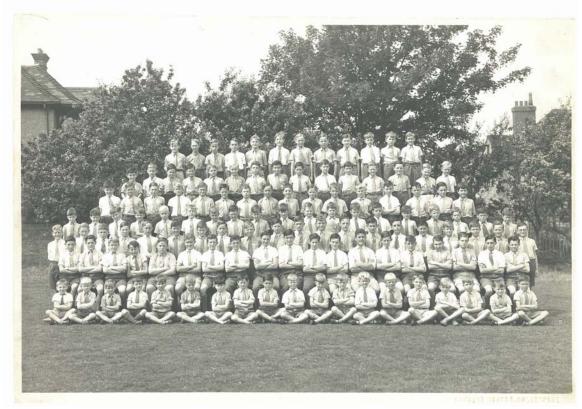
PM: "Taught English, and was an expert on canals. He also read us Sherlock Holmes stories – "The Speckled Band" comes to mind. This had us all enthralled".

CW: "The school had 55 boarders and 60 dayboys".

00.05.1950: Vivian Mary West (later Metcalf) joined the staff. Michael (later head of Salisbury Cathedral School) and Sheila Blee (PM: "Dark-haired S was a smasher and all us older boarders competed for her company on bath nights I recall!!"). Richard Campbell, MA arrived.

RS: "He (Campbell) matriculated at Magdalene College, Cambridge in

RS: "He (Campbell) matriculated at Magdalene College, Cambridge in 1944".



19.10.1950: Football: 1st XI lost and 2nd XI won against St Edmund's. 09.12.1950: Football: 1st XI lost and 2nd XI drew against St Edmund's.

00.00.1951: AF: "On his return from France Ted Foster joined his Uncle at Westbrook House".

02.06.1951: Cricket: 1st XI won and 2nd XI drew against St Edmund's.

00.09.1951: Peter Mellor arrived "aged nearly 7 and was put into Miss Hinch's class. She was a tall thin kindly soul who I believe died young of some illness. There was milk at break time in one third pint bottles with cardboard tops. The top was pierced by a drinking straw. Breaks were taken out on the grass at the back. I recall two small loos on the ground floor with changing rooms in the basement, where also the PTI had his office – being near the gym".



06.02.1952: KNGF gathered everyone in the Playroom to announce the death of King George VI.

PM: "We were then allowed to go home for the rest of the day. I can recall my father collecting me in our green 1939 Morris 10". That same year the cowsheds and outhouses at 56 Shorncliffe Road were demolished.

CW: "A Mr Judd, local estate agent, who owned the house next to the bottom entrance to the sports field, generously gave away what amounted to half his garden including some fruit trees. They boys now had their own 'jungle' to explore and it became known as 'Sherwood Forest'".

30.06.1953: Assistant Matrons Felicity and Anne Gladstone, attended a memorial service for the Viscountess Gladstone at the Queen's Chapel, Marlborough Gate.

00.00.1954: KNGF purchased a 60-year lease on 50 Shorncliffe Road.

15.07.1954: Cricket: 1st XI won against St Edmund's. 30.10.1954: Football: 1st XI lost and 2nd XI won against St Edmund's.

00.00.1955: KNGF's nephew Ted became partner and Assistant Head.

JS (1955 – 1960): "I lived at Elvington Lane, Hawkinge then and because the bus left the Central Station at 5.40 I was allowed to leave class at 5.20 instead of 5.30 pm which upset my class mates!!) Owing to the late finish, school always seemed to finish in the dark. The fare home was 5d (and a packet of fruit polo's was 2d.)"

17.02.1956: Lord Bicester died.

00.00.1957: KNGF purchased 52 Shorncliffe Road (Leigh House) and converted it to a library, changing rooms and rooms for his lady teachers. Richard Rottenbury, MA (St Catharine's College, Cambridge & London University Institute of Education) became Master of Juniors at Dover College Junior School Riverdale. His wife, Rosemary, was House Mistress and caterer and looked after the domestic requirements of the pupils.

RE: "It so happens that I first came to teach at Junior Kings School I remember quite well our trips to Westbrook House in the following years. Ken Foster was the headmaster at the time and I found him a charming man. I was told by our senior sports master, Tom Partington, that he very much enjoyed a day at the races. He was certainly one of the old school headmasters".

00.00.1958: The "covered way" was built and remained until c.1978.

24.05.1958: Cricket: 2nd XI at home against Tormore.

28.05.1958: Cricket: 1st XI won at home against Castle Hill.

31.05.1958: Cricket: 1st XI won away against Friars and 2nd XI won at home against Friars.

04.06.1958: Cricket: 1st XI won at home against Milner Court and 2nd XI won away against Milner Court.

07.06.1958: Cricket: 1st XI away and 2nd XI away against Betteshanger cancelled.

11.06.1958: Cricket: 1st XI won at home against Riverdale.

21.06.1958: Half Term & Sports Day (2.30pm).

25.06.1958: Cricket: 1st XI away against Castle Hill.

28.06.1958: Cricket: 1st XI at home and 2nd XI away against St Edmund's Junior School.

02.07.1958: Cricket: 1st XI at home and 2nd XI away against Betteshanger.

05.07.1958: Cricket: 1st XI at home and 2nd XI away against Friars.

09.07.1958: Cricket: 1st XI away and 2nd XI at home against Milner Court.

11.07.1958: Cricket: Age XI away against Pine Hill.

16.07.1958: Cricket: 1st XI away against Riverdale and Age XI at home against Pine Hill.

30.07.1958: Summer Term ended (for Dayboys and Boarders finished the following day).

18.09.1958-

19.12.1958: Christmas Term.

28.04.1959: Assistant Matron Felicity Gladstone became Godmother to David Vernon John Paget.

00.00.1960: Ted Foster left WH to take up a teaching post in Sweden. Professor Mallard was a British Academy of Fencing Committee Member and later served as Treasurer.

DLG: "WH occupied 52 Shorncliffe Road, while 54 & 56 was now called Westbrook Junior House and continued so until 1968 when R H S Rottenbury, MA, took over. The telephone number gained an extra digit and became 54541".

23.12.1960: The lease for 54 Shorncliffe Road was extended for a further 28 years until 25th December 1988.

00.00.1962: The swimming pool was "given" by the parents and largely constructed by the pupils.

GW: "The swimming pool must have been built much later on. It was certainly not there when I left. We used to attend the public baths at Folkestone where we were given lessons by an ex cross channel swimmer called Sam Rocket. On Sunday mornings we attended Church although we always left before the Sermon! And on Sunday afternoons one of the Masters would take us for a walk in crocodile file. I remember roaming around on Caesar's Camp and trudging across the shingled beaches".

RP: "I was sorry to hear of the demise of the swimming pool, I vividly recall assisting in its construction. The pool I am guessing would have been installed in 1964. The first year it was in I remember the filtration system wasn't installed and we had to stir in large quantities of chlorine from big glass bottles. This however didn't prevent the water stagnating during the following winter and the pool had to be drained and the boys had to manually scrub all the green algae stains off the sides and floor, that would be you and I David. It was then refilled from a garden hose which took about a week. I recall that your swimming trunks were emblazoned with the 3 colours signifying swimming achievements, let me think now. yellow was for swimming one width of the pool, blue for a length, red for ???, but it did include an underwater episode. All presided over by the immortal Professor Mallard and his clipboard".



28.06.1962: Cricket: 1st XI drew against St Edmund's.

00.00.1963: Matthew Rosenz (1963 – 1970) arrived. Ted Foster moved to Ardvreck in Perthshire as Senior Master.

03.07.1963: Cricket: 1st XI drew and 2nd XI won against St Edmunds.

00.07.1963: KNGF wrote to parents: "We have always kept our fees as low as possible....however, the increase in the general cost of living and in the salaries of a qualified staff renders an increase of fees absolutely essential - £95 for boarders, £38 for dayboys and £25 for dayboys under the age of seven. Where brothers are concerned, there will be a reduction of £3 per term for each brother".

00.10.1963: KNGF: "Boarders travelling to London will be escorted by one of the staff on the 2 o'clock train which is due to arrive at Charing Cross at 3.20pm".

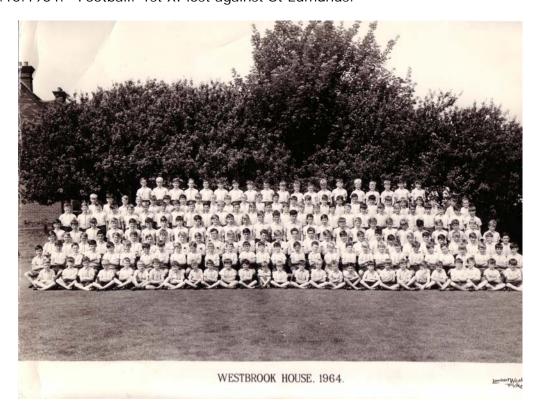
16.11.1963: Football: 2nd XI drew against St Edmund's.

00.00.1964: AF: "My mother was Scots and there was a strong Scottish pull on her part and my father was a keen countryman so a country school in Scotland suited them. That year he became headmaster of Ardvreck School in Crieff".

Stilwell & Harby: KNGF purchased a fairly large piece of land known as Westbrook House Playing Fields".

00.03.1964: "The following charges are being made as from the beginning of the Summer Term: Piano lessons 3½ guineas per term, lunch 2/9d per meal and high tea 1/6d per meal".

28.04.1964: Summer Term begins for boarders, dayboys start the following day. 31.10.1964: Football: 1st XI lost against St Edmunds.



00.00.1965: PW: "Ted Foster was Headmaster at Ardvreck School for thirteen years".

AF: "When Ted took over the school was in the doldrums and in a somewhat precarious position. There were only 55 boys and the dormitories, class rooms and other facilities had changed little since the 1930s. Other Scottish Prep Schools had started to move with the times and were attracting more pupils. Ardvreck was being left behind and the school's future seemed at real risk. Ted, with the stalwart support and assistance of his wife Chris, set about energetically to putting this to rights and ironically, most of those competing Scottish Prep schools are now sadly no more whereas Ardvreck thrives as the result of the work of Ted's successors building on the foundations which he laid".

27.02.1965: Rugby: 2nd XV lost against St Edmunds.

28.05.1965: KNGF purchased the freehold of 52 Shorncliffe Road.

16.06.1965: Cricket: 1st XI and 2nd XI drew against St Edmund's.

30.07.1965: KNGF wrote to parents: "I am very reluctantly having to raise the fees in January. Boarders £105 per term, reduced by £7.10.0d for each brother in school".

00.12.1965: KNGF resigned his Fellowship of the Royal Geographical Society.

00.02.1966: RHSR issues a Confidential Circular on the state of Westbrook House.

00.05.1966: Circular to parents from KNGF: "Staff and friends have recently brought to my ears certain rumours concerning the future of Westbrook House, and I feel parents may like to know that I have NO immediate plans for retiring and there is NO question of the school closing or leaving the district. Nobody knows at the moment what the future holds for private schools and clearly I must make plans for the continuation of the school at a later date when I eventually retire. But parents may rest assured that I intend to guarantee that there is a good preparatory school in Folkestone for as long as the Ministry of Education permits".



08.06.1966: Cricket: 1st XI won against St Edmund's. 20.11.1966: Football: 2nd XI won against St Edmund's.

18.02.1967: Rugby: Under 13 XV won against St Edmund's.

29.04.1967: RHSR to TC: "Our term started well with a record 38 boarders and day boys. We had a bit of a rush towards the end of the holiday and our numbers jumped up from the expected 115. The net result is that we are much overfull and Rosemary is at her wits end as to how to feed 134 for lunch every day in a kitchen measuring 12' x 18'".

07.06.1967: Cricket: 1st XI lost and 2nd XI won against St Edmund's.

27.06.1967: KNGF to Tim Cobb (Dover College): "I think you know that I have a "ticker" which occasionally decides to play me up. Sports and the Common Entrance have been a bit of a strain and my Doctor insists that I go to bed early for the next week or two and don't go out to any functions. I'm afraid this means I shan't be going to London on Wednesday or, sadly, coming over to you. Please don't think this is in any way serious, I have had it for 40 years and carry on perfectly normally during the day, but when the Doctor says "early bed" then I do as I am told, as I have to take a certain amount of drugs. So very sorry!"



The founder and headmaster of Westbrook House preparatory school, Folkestone, Mr. Kenneth Foster, retired on Saturday. At a reception, attended by 255 guests, at the Grand Hotel, Folkestone, a farewell gift of £800 was presented to Mr. Foster by former head boy of the school, 29-year-old Mr. Richard Thomson, on behalf of pupils, old boys, parents and staff. Mr. Foster is pictured ABOVE with Mr. Thomson.

00.09.1967: KNGF wrote to parents informing them of his decision to retire and that WH was to be taken over by Dover College. JR: "He approached Dover College to see if they would be interested in purchasing the premises on Shorncliffe Road".

10.10.1967: KNGF to TC: "All the staff <u>did</u> enjoy the party at Dover and are most grateful to have had the opportunity of meeting their future colleagues".

20.11.1967: RHSR to TC: "Thank you for your note about Westbrook French. I don't feel we can do much about it until we are there. The main trouble is that the Head of French is only part-time and the rest of French is taken by Tom, Dick and Harry who are all language amateurs. The Head of French has written to Gerry saying she realises we may not want her as she is part-time and would we please tell her by Christmas if she is not wanted next September. I think that in view of the sad state of WH French it would be as well in any case to say we don't want her. Another thing of course is the antiquity of their French texts and a lack of oral work. I will however arrange for Akester to contact KNGF to talk about what steps could be taken pro tem".



14.12.1967: KNGF to TC: "You will remember I had a chat with you about Dover College increasing the fees whilst I am still here. I know there is a lot of talk about it and when the bills go out I think I am going to be in trouble! Wouldn't it be possible to get a short note out, either from myself or the College, explaining that this is the Council's decision, and not mine? I am sorry to be a curse at this stage of term, but the accounts will be going out before long, and if something along these lines could be done, I'd be grateful".

22.12.1967: Arthur Derrick Huthersall Foster died (aged 71) and buried 28th December 1967 at Hawkinge (KKA307).

28.12.1967: RHSR to TC: "Did you know that KNGF's brother died on 22nd Dec? This will probably mean that Ken will return to Princes Hotel (Bouverie Road West) and not to a cottage".

Dover College Junior School (Westbrook House): 1968 - 1994

- 00.00.1968: Folkestone Herald: "The founder and headmaster of Westbrook House Preparatory School, Folkestone, Mr. Kenneth Foster, retired on Saturday. At a reception, attended by 255 guests, at the Grand Hotel, Folkestone, a farewell gift of £800 was presented to Mr. Foster by former Head Boy of School, 29-year old Mr. Richard Thompson, on behalf of pupils, old boys, parents and staff". JR: "Dover College Junior School Riverdale and Westbrook House amalgamated under the Richard Rottenbury and retained the name Dover College Junior School". MR: "I remember how resentful we were of the change, even as children I think we had appreciated the traditional values of the school".
- 11.01.1968: HGW Household (1 Marten Road, Folkestone) to Sir Gerald (?): "I feel unable to remain when Westbrook House is amalgamated with Riverdale.....By awarding the seniority to his own present senior master, he gave to the merger the appearance of a take-over. I have therefore sought, and obtained, an appointment as senior master elsewhere".
- 15.01.1968: HGW Household to Sir Gerald (?): "I am going as senior master to Ted Foster, Ken Foster's nephew. Ted and I are old friends and colleagues from the earlier Westbrook days. As Ken puts it, I shall still be in the family!"



01.05.1968: RHSR to TC: "1. I have written to, 1a. KNGF apologising for the rough water and explaining what I was doing about it, 1b. Metcalf, Stokes, Mallard, Marsh, McCall, Campbell, Hughdie and Eveleigh apologising for silence, explaining why and promising details next week. Miss Byrom – explaining kindly that she is not wanted – but saying I shall be delighted to have her until Christmas if she can't get fixed up in the term minus one week notice, 2. I have fixed with the Bursar to talk about and resolve Westbrook salaries today, 3. I have fixed to meet all Westbrook domestics on Friday, 4. I have fixed to meet all staff in 1b at the end of next week, 5. I should be glad if you could get over to Council what their muddle has indirectly caused in loss of quality in atmosphere and equability at Westbrook".

02.05.1968: Jim Metcalf to TC: "Please do not expect a very high standard in the cricket. At the moment we seem to be in the 'Doldrums', but I hope that by next week we shall have licked them into shape! At the moment we seem to lack boys with the cricket ability of the Russell-Wrights and Bart-Smiths".

06.05.1968: KNGF sold the Westbrook House Playing Fields, a small piece of land at the rear of 8 Broadmead Road adjoining Westbrook House Playing Fields, the freehold of 52 Shorncliffe Road and 54 Shorncliffe Road (no pre-ownership details) to Dover College.

30.05.1968: RHSR to RC: "Gabbitas Thring (www.gabbitas.co.uk) has insisted on a form being filled-in, in connection with the re-registration of Westbrook House".

08.06.1968: Cricket: 1st XI drew and 2nd XI lost against St Edmund's.

10.09.1968: The Times: "DCJS shortly moves to its new premises at Westbrook House, Folkestone".

14.09.1968: KNGF to TC: Writing from the Princes Hotel (Tel: 55391) "I'm just returned from Doncaster. What a delightfully kind letter you do write. I must say I felt very honoured to see so many friends on Saturday and letters like yours make life worth living. As you know I have the greatest faith in you and Richard and have no worries about the future of the school. What a wonderful job they are making of the school – I don't know my way about now! The very best of luck for this coming term and again many thanks. PS: I move into the Radnor Club at the end of this month".



- 16.10.1968: RHSR to TC: "Westbrook Swimming Pool Like so many things when we took over, this item was malfunctioning. The filters which KNGF bought at a discount were obsolete when he bought them. They are now not able to cope with the filtering of the water. I have had an estimate for a new filter process and this amounts to £590, and includes a heating unit. There are no funds available. Would you ask Council if they would allow me to put it to parents that if they agreed to a contribution of 40/- instead of 10/- for the Improvements Fund just for the next term then we could have the pool ready for use at the beginning of the Summer Term. Some may object but there is enough in the Westbrook Improvement Fund kitty to make up the difference. If we cannot have it done then the local authority will not allow us to use the water. Folkestone is fussy about the sterility of swimming pools".
- 11.11.1968: Feast Day of St Martin, the school's Patron Saint, was celebrated a Eucharist at Folkestone Parish Church.
- 18.11.1968: Football: 1st XI won against St Edmund's.
- 00.00.1969: KNGF took over as Hon Sec of the 'Radnor Club', later the 'Executive Club', Sandgate Road, Folkestone, but continued living at 50 Shorncliffe Road. He remained in this post until c.1974.

 AF: "He (Ken) was living at that time in rooms in a large house in Folkestone and spent a lot of time going to the races and playing snooker (at which he was pretty good) at his club but I think he must have been pretty lonely".
- 04.02.1969: RHSR to TC (extracts) "You had a Black Monday, and I have a gloomy Tuesday 2. complaints from next door flats about a full ink bottle being thrown out of Fosters on to them, 3. Boyce has gone off his head and arranged 18 soccer matches on top of all the rugger and hockey matches, 4. Rosemary says she can't cope with five team teas on one day!, 5. We have German measles, 6.Kit borrowing and petty pilfering has reached new heights, 8. The penny-sharing has reached a closer cut in the building of the house. White bath and bowls have pushed out the pink because they are marginally cheaper. We have no floor downstairs. The carpets will have to be laid on concrete!".
- 23.04.1969: RHSR to TC: "We have our new changing rooms but not all the keys to get in. The architect has done nothing about pegs and lockers of course but a least I have some gorgeous to show parents. Dr Burchell has given us a splendid new mouth-to-mouth respirator which is automatic. V. useful to have near the pool or to revive sagging staff with a whiff of oxygen. Richard Wood's new Spaniel puppy called Humphrey (shades of Household) has peed all over the House, and will clearly be spoiled to death by the boys".
- 00.00.1970: Number 50 Shorncliffe Road was renamed 'Westbrook Junior School' and finally became 'Old Fosters'. DO'C: "Fozzie had a small flat in Grimston Gardens after he retired". Numbers 52A & 52B were named 'The Annexe'. Kelly's: "KNG Foster, Hon. Sec. Radnor Club 1970-1972".
- 00.00.1972: Number 52 Shorncliffe Road was renamed 'Westbrook House Junior School & Dover College Junior School'. Richard Campbell retired.
- 00.00.1973: Richard Rottenbury took over as Head of Dover College Junior School, although funds were still controlled from Dover.

00.00.1976: BW: "Between 1976 and 1978 I shared a flat with a friend in Grimston Avenue. Mr. Foster had the ground-floor flat adjoining ours. I remember him as a kindly person and a real gentleman. It was like having a favourite uncle or a granddad next door. He was not always in very good health, and if we did some shopping for him he would invite us in for coffee and biscuits, and we had some interesting conversations. He was very modest".

17.11.1976: KNGF attended a memorial service for Mr Keith Shipton at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall representing the Radnor Club, Folkestone".

20.11.1976: BDR Wood, Compton House, DCJS, wrote to The Times about the ant-German feelings in Britain.

10.09.1977: JR: "The Westbrook Hall, which had been completed after a four year fundraising project, was finally opened by Peter Johnson, Chairman of the Governors. Since the very early days in Dover Priory, St Martin had been the patron saint of the institution of Dover College. So, to memorialise this and at the same time to commemorate R. G. Bruce-Johnston, a former housemaster of Dover College. a stained glass window featuring St Martin's encounter with Christ was made for DCJS by the girls of the Folkestone Technical High School. It was inserted into the eastern window of the Assembly Hall (or Westbrook Hall as it was then called). The window, along with the new Copeman-Hart 3-manual organ, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Dover in the new Hall. Later, stage lighting was installed, with its controls in the state-of-the-art projection room which was built at the back of the Hall".



00.00.1978: JR: "The large bell that hangs outside the Assembly Hall is called 'Great Martin' and was presented to Richard Rottenbury by the parents for his 21st Anniversary. A complete set of chapel furniture including two emblazoned wooden chairs for the Head and Second Master were purchased. The Christmas tradition of 'Carols by Candlelight', when boarders came down to the hall in their pyjamas and wrapped in red blankets was established at this time".

AF: "After he retired from Ardvreck School he (Ted Foster) and my mother (who died about 10 years ago) were divorced and he then remarried and taught for several years at a prep school called Holmewood near Morecombe in Lancashire before retiring with my stepmother to live in a cottage on my elder sister's and brother-in law's farm near St Andrews. He died last year (2005)".

24.01.1979: The Times: "Mr Peter Hannigan, director of studies at DCJS Folkestone has been appointed Head Master at Hill House Prep School Doncaster, a post he will take up in September".

00.00.1980: SS: "Tormore and Betteshanger Schools combined to form Northbourne School".

00.03.1981: JR: "Christine Price put on 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'".



00.09.1981: JR: "Ken Foster continued to visit the school long after he retired and was instantly recognisable by his striped jacket, straw boater and cane. My memory of him is of a charming elderly gent with a laughing face. My memories of Richard Rottenbury are of a dynamic, reliable rock of a man and a gentle giant: a force to be reckoned with, whilst at the same time conveying all the sympathetic qualities of a good headmaster. He listened to staff opinions without being judgmental, he gave advice to those who sought it and he gave total support to his loyal staff. I remember the friendly warmth that pervaded the school, with everyone pulling together to maintain first class care for the children, who in turn were happy, lively and respectful, well most of the time anyway. In those days, senior management was comprised as follows:

Headmaster - Richard Rottenbury Second Master - Richard Wood Director of Study - Brian (Digger) Stanley Assistant Director of Study - Brian Cooper.

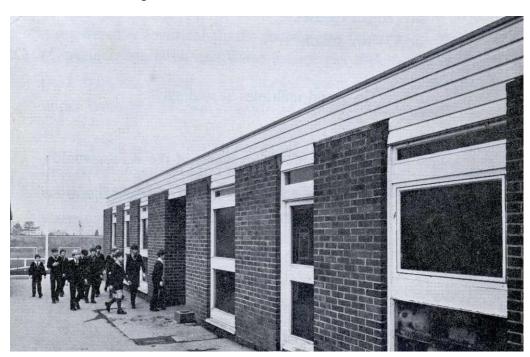
The Bursary of both the junior and senior schools was located on the Dover College site, in Dover itself. There were three boarding houses. Compton (Boys), Dukes (Boys) and Lawford (Girls), ably run by housemasters/mistress Gordon Reynolds, Charles Whitney and Mary Loveday respectively. Compton was the building that housed the dining rooms, with dormitories situated on the upper two floors. Dukes was the house on the far side of the main drive, which now belongs to St Mary's Westbrook, and Lawford comprised the present Reception, Year 1, Year 2 classrooms. Phil Hawken and I took the ski group to the National Ski Championships at Aviemore and, after Common Entrance, Barbara Mountjoy and I went outward bound with the Year 8 group to Skern Lodge Activities Centre in Bideford, N Devon. No sooner had George Sharman, the new Director of Music, arrived at school in September, than he was at home with the Copeman-Hart, playing it with great aplomb, and had whipped up everyone's enthusiasm for music. Before long he had expanded the orchestra and group ensembles and enthused the choir. The fencing team won the Kent U.14 Team Championship and the Judo Club won all its matches, gaining nine medals. Paul Fakley won every swimming championship he entered".

00.12.1981: JR: "George Sharman held a Music Festival for Christmas and the new DCJS 4-part Choir, along with its staff members, sang the Epiphany at lckham Church".

RR Newsletter: "The Carol Service on the last Saturday was quite breathtaking with over 100 voices in the choirs alone - and all singing the familiar tunes together with some sparkling new ones".

O0.00.1982: JR: "During the summer Richard Rottenbury held his 25th Anniversary celebrations - a grand ball was held in a series of marquees within the school grounds. Entertainment was provided by the Kenny Ball Jazzmen in the great marquee and themed discos and bars were located in the smaller tents. It was a truly superb affair. It was around this time that the 'Link Block' was being built between Lawford House and Old Fosters, which housed Pre-Prep run by Eileen Addenbrook. Pre-Prep began with Delta (Reception). Gamma (Year I). Beta (Year 2) and Alpha (Year 1). There was no Nursery".

OO.03.1982: JR: "Richard Wood put on 'Toad of Toad Hall', with Ji Mundell as Toad, who thereafter became Toad for the rest of the summer term. George Sharman added a magical note to the performance with his superb musical accompaniment. It was the best season of football yet. with eleven wins and only two defeats. Six DCJS children represented Great Britain in the European Judo Championships in Belgium and won two gold medals. In the Fencing Championship a combined DCJSIDC team won the team trophy and, again, in judo two golds, two silvers and a bronze were won in the Prep Schools National Judo Championship. The athletics team won the Inter-Prep School Championship and the DCJS team came 3rd in the Kent Cross-Country. Rob Inglis came to the school to give his one-man show based on Tolkein's 'The Hobbit'".



02.07.1982: JR: "Launched at Prize Day by Lord & Lady Astor, Charles Whitney's book 'Dover College Junior School' came out on sale to parents for £6 per copy".

The Times: "To mark the Silver Jubilee of the present headmaster, the governing body of DCJS has commissioned a History of the Junior School (including Westbrook House). Copies are available from the school at £6.60".

O0.03.1983: JR: "Christine Price helped to produce The Boyfriend and George Sharman held a Christmas Orchestral Concert. Michael Howard QC, presided over Speech Day and Mrs Howard awarded the prizes. Kate Lewis' pet show raised £247 towards the target of £1000 required to buy a guide dog for the blind. The distinguished author, Leon Garfield. paid a visit to the school to give the children some tips on writing". RR Newsletter: "The rugby tour to Wales, which was an outstanding and victorious success. The judo team defeated all the teams on their German tour, winning two golds. one silver and four bronze awards in the Prep Schools National Championships. The DCJS team won the Shepway Schools Swimming Gala and Paul Fakley was the fastest swimmer in the UK at the championship held in Bedford. Beverly Tarr, aged ten, came 2nd in the U 16 Area Debating Competition".

00.09.1983: JR: "The daffodils around the school grounds were planted in memory of Brian 'Digger' Stanley".

00.00.1984: JR: "During the latter part of the Lent term 1984 and led by George Sharman. the School Choir famously journeyed to Rome to sing for Pope John-Paul II in the Vatican. Their performance was the first ever time that a British choir had been fortunate enough to have an audience with the Pope. It was the experience of a lifetime for the children and staff who went on the tour".

29.06.1984: Annual Prize Giving with Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy as Guest of Honour. The schedule was – 0930 Sung Eucharist at Folkestone Parish Church, 1130 Marquee Ceremony, 1230 Sherry in the Hall, 1900 Choral & Orchestral Concert in the Hall.

30.06.1984: Senior House Athletics 0930 and Cricket matches from 1415.



13.07.1984: KNGF died at St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill. His address was Flat 1, 13 Grimston Avenue, Folkestone and his death was reported by Beverley Susan Bridget Fowle, described as "occupier". SF: "The Folkestone Herald: Peacefully in hospital Kenneth Noel Goring Foster, founder and former headmaster of Westbrook House School, Folkestone and dearly loved uncle of Tish, Ted, Nan and Hugh. Private funeral – no flowers or letters please at his request". JR: "Prior to this time, History had been taught in a 'terrapin' mobile classroom between Lawford House and Old Fosters and the gap between the two buildings was closed by a fence and a lockable gate. The gap between Compton and Lawford had been linked by an archway some time earlier. The annual production this year was 'Androcles and the Lion', produced by new Drama teacher. Paul McMahon. Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy gave the address at Speech Day. Computer lessons began in the annexe to the Hall. The Secondhand uniform shop opened for the first time, to help less opulent parents clothe their children for school. It was located on the top floor of Lawford House next to the Sanatorium. Twelve-year-old John Hitchcock won the National Essay Competition held by the Hamlyn Publishing Company. The girls' hockey team beat St Edmund's. In the Kent Prep School 7's (The Foster Cup) the DCJS team came equal first with Friars School, Ashford. In the Stroud Cup Kent Athletics, the A-team came first and the B-team came second".

- 23.07.1984: Cremated at Hawkinge Crematorium (01303 892215) and his ashes scattered on his brother's grave (KKA307). No addition was made to his brother's headstone, nor was a plaque put in the Memorial Garden.
- 05.10.1984: Folkestone Herald "Fozzie's final farewell: Former headmaster of Westbrook House Mr. Ken 'Fozzie' Foster has died. Founded of the school in Folkestone's Shorncliffe Road in 1947, Mr. Foster was headmaster until 1968. Mr. Foster of Grimston Gardens, Folkestone, was a keen hockey player. The school's second master Mr. Richard Wood said that Mr. Foster kept close links with the school even after his retirement. He was a very interesting and much beloved man".
- 11.10.1984: Memorial service at Holy Trinity Church, Folkestone, for Kenneth Noel Goring Foster. A reading was given by R L Bristow, OBE.

 JR: "A memorial service was held for him during the Michaelmas Term.

 The choir sang and Richard Bristow OBE gave the address".
- 00.00.1985: JR: "In the Autumn term, sadly Richard Rottenbury fell ill, was later diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and Richard Wood stood in as Head for what was to be two terms until Richard recovered sufficiently to be able to take up the reins once more".
- O0.12.1985: JR: "The governors, reluctantly fronted by John Turnpenny, called an emergency meeting in the Assembly Hall with the auditors, who had decided that Dover College operating on two sites was no longer a viable option. They informed us all that the school would be relocating to the Dover site and that there would be several redundancies as a consequence. Up until that moment however most people had been blissfully unaware that the school had been undergoing financial difficulties. George Eccleshall said the move was taking place because of a reduction in the number of pupils at the junior school. In the previous three years the roll had dropped from 295 to 255".

20.12.1985: Folkestone Herald: "The Shorncliffe Road premises are prime development land and the governors feel the locked up capital could be better used for the development of both schools at Dover. . . The overheads involved in running the Folkestone operation have risen steeply in the last three years and it makes sense to make a fuller use of the Dover premises by consolidating both schools there. Shocked by the news about the imminent demise of the junior school, many parents united to save the school by loaning/donating as much money as they could afford into a central rescue fund. A Parents' Association was consequently formed, with Roger De Haan as Chairman, and the salvaged school continued on its present site for another decade. Richard Rottenbury, however, never did return to the helm.

The Choir began the new annual tradition of singing at the Advent Service at Kingsdown Church. It was on one such occasion that Barbara Mountjoy fell off the ferrying coach and broke her ankle - just in time for Christmas! A Chamber Orchestra was formed as an offshoot from the main orchestra around this time. Paul McMahon put on 'Oh What a Lovely War' for the older children with scenery superbly executed, as we had come to expect, by Art master Gordon Reynolds. Pre-Prep cutely performed 'Hansel & Gretel' in their colourful costumes. The target of £1,000 for the guide dog was reached and a beautiful golden retriever, Honey, was bought to help the blind and partially sighted. A pet corner was made from the old Tuck Shop, in the corner of the playground nearest the Lodge, and boarders were encouraged to bring their pets to school and care for them themselves. Rachel De Haan was Head Girl and, following the school tradition, she gave an impressive speech at Speech Day.

00.00.1986: JR: "Nicholas J Brodrick was appointed the new Head. The production this time was 'Captain Stirrick', produced by Paul McMahon. The Rugby First XV played and won their seven matches of the season.

Guest of Honour at Prize Day was Rear Admiral J. R. S. Gerard Pearse CB.

27.03.1987: Westbrook House 40th Anniversary party held in the DCJS hall.

00.00.1988: Geoffrey Household died.

00.03.1989: JR: "Richard Wood produced the brilliantly nostalgic 'Salad Days'".

ALF: "I was the lead in 'Alice in Wonderland'".

00.00.1990: JR: "The school's name changed from Dover College Junior School to Dover College Preparatory School. The junior school had always held preparatory school status, but now it had the name to prove it". ALF: "I was the lead in 'HMS Pinafore'. On our trip to Rome, I believe they were biannual events, we stayed in a convent with lots of nuns, for whom we also sang in chapel on our last night there. We also went to the Catacombs and did an impromptu concert outside, and of course, sang in Vatican City for the Pope. I also remember it being the same time as Italia 90 World Cup. Mr Sharman (music teacher) took all the pupils up a big hill to see the stadium on a match night, and we also regularly heard opera singing outside our windows - which, it later emerged, we believe to have been the Three Tenors practising for their concert!! The other notable events were a dreadful ferry crossing over (we were significantly delayed for bad weather and when we got on, it was so rough that everything on board was closed because plates were sliding off shelves onto the floor etc) and an incident in our room (sharing with 3 other girls) when one of the bunk beds collapsed! The nuns were extremely annoyed and Mr Sharman and Mrs Mountjoy had to build another one for them".

27.06.1990: ALF: "We sang at the Queen Mother's 90th Birthday Parade at Horseguards, as one of the only school choirs involved".



- 00.00.1991: JR: "The house adjacent to Dover College Preparatory School (DCPS) in Marten Road was purchased to convert into what became known as the Music House. The Music Department drew in a large number of budding musicians to the school and the number of peripatetic music teachers employed by the school was quite extensive. Tallis, the attractive building just off the playground. was used for individual music instruction and practice, but by now there were so many extra music lessons that more space was needed. The DCPS orchestra continued to flourish as it had done in Richard Rottenbury's time, drawing crowds of parents to its concerts and musicals. Carolyn Sloan, the well-known author and friend of Sarah Craig who wrote 'Danny, the Champion of the Word' amongst other children's books, came to give the children some pointers for their creative writing".
- O0.00.1992: JR: "Nick Brodrick left the school to take up a post as Headmaster of a day school in the Home Counties and Stephen Abbott was appointed his successor. It was the fifth season that the Basketball team had remained undefeated and, for the second year running, DCPS swept the board in the East Kent prep Schools' badminton Tournament at St Edmund's School, Canterbury. In addition, DCPS heat the Duke of Yorks team in rugby. At Speech Day, the presentation and speech were given by Countess Mountbatten of Burma CBE and the end of term pupils' summary was given by Heads of School, Matthew Downing and Jannine Helliwell.
- 00.03.1992: JR: "'The Hobbit' was the drama production this time, with Andrew Thurman cast as a very convincing Gollum and the matinee was attended, as was the custom, by the elderly from one of the local residential homes".
- 00.00.1993: JR: "During 1993 we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Dover College's early days at Westmount, Dover. All the children of the school, dressed in white PE kit, bodily formed the number 100 on the school field whilst the staff made the full stop at the end! An aerial photograph was taken and went on sale to interested parents. The Centenary Ball was held in a marquee in the DCPS grounds that summer. 'Drake' was the Sharman/Reader production performed in March. Sir Peter Imbert QPM gave the presentation and speech at Speech Day. Daniel Saarott and Niainh Sullivan were Heads of School. Old boy of DCJS, Simon Howkins, joined as PE master and House tutor.

Westbrook House Preparatory School: 1994 - 1995

- 00.00.1994: JR: "it was decided that the school should break away completely from the jurisdiction of Dover College to create a completely autonomous school. Thereafter, the school reclaimed its original name, Westbrook House Preparatory School. However, little did we know that it would only be a matter of years before the school changed its identity yet again. 'The Wizard of Oz' was performed in March. Tony Hart, the celebrated TV artist, came to show us how produced his magnificent pieces of art".
- O0.00.1995: JR: "As pupil numbers declined, the school began to suffer a return of its financial difficulties and there were two staff redundancies. Stephen Abbott left the school to take up a new post at Eastbourne. Roger Lewis then became Acting Head for a tern until the new Head arrived.

Christopher Fitzgerald became the Headmaster and Roger Lewis continued as Deputy Head. 'My Fair Lady' was the production for the summer term this year. The new refurbishment included altering the old downstairs Library and Lawford into an Art, Design and Technology block. Upstairs, in what used to be Lawford House, were the new Library, the ICT suite and the Skills Development Unit, whilst downstairs were two brand new Art rooms".

20.04.1995: Westbrook House School (Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover) was registered as Company No 0304992 (non-trading).

29.06.1995: Westbrook House Preparatory School (54-56 Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone) registered as Company No 03075902 for "primary education".

01.07.1995: JR: "The Technology Centre was officially opened by the Home Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Michael Howard. To celebrate the occasion, at the end of the month we received a visit from the children's author, John Ryan, who wrote about and illustrated the adventures of Captain Pugwash. He dedicated some samples of his work and donated them to DCPS. His illustrations were framed and hung on the walls of the Technology Centre. Furthermore, the children were able to buy signed copies of his Captain Pugwash books inscribed: 'To Everybody at Dover College Preparatory School (Folkestone) on the day the Captain opened the new LIBRARY 31st July 1995."

St Mary's Westbrook: 1996 - 2006



00.00.1996: JR: "At the age of 69, ten years after relinquishing control of his beloved school. Richard Rottenbury died. His funeral service, in the Chapel of our Lady Undercroft in Canterbury Cathedral, took place on Friday 5th July 1996 and was attended by a great many friends and colleagues from the old DCJS. He was greatly missed. Around this time, it was felt that it would he to the advantage of both schools if Westbrook House merged with St Mary's College, only a block away, to become St Mary's Westbrook. St Mary's Convent had originally been a girls' school, tutored in the main by Sister Milligan and the nuns, but had quite recently opened its doors to boys. At the time of the merger, the name had already been changed from Convent into College some time before. Christopher Fitzgerald was to continue into the newly merged school and appointed Malcolm Harris as Director of Studies. Bobbie Reader and George Sharman put on 'The Sound of Music', which was professionally filmed and put on video It starred Naomi Morris as a stunning Maria".

12.01.1996: Humphrey Household died (90) in Oxfordshire.

18.04.1996: Folkestone Herald — "All in the script for headteacher: A headteacher is holding the final of a hand-writing competition at his new school. Chris Fitzgerald, who this month took over the running of Westbrook House School, Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone, has organized Parker Pen's handwriting competition for more than seven years. As he gets to grips with his new role at the school, he must also prepare for the competition's finals on April 30th, in which judges from Parker plus independent handwriting experts will visit the school to choose a winner from the finalists......."

00.06.1996: JR: "One hot evening, the older children of DCPS performed 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' under the guiding hand of Bobbie Reader, in the open air on the Lodge lawn. Furthermore, continuing the Shakespeare theme for Book Week, every single prep child made an artistic contribution to 'The Shakespeare Mural', which was placed with pride in the Westbrook Hall and which, at the time of writing, hangs on the wall of the lower front 'Link Block' classroom".

00.00.1997: JR: "In the summer, our Japanese assistant, Emi Toyoshima, conducted an International Peace Day - a whole school celebratory ceremony during which was 'planted' the International Obelisk, which can be found by the Lodge fence on the Westbrook field. The children dressed up in international costumes for the very successful and colourful summer fête and everyone was in festive mood".

16.06.1997: St Mary's Westbrook (54-56 Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone) was registered as Company No 03389502 trading as "adult and other education".

16.07.1997: St Mary's Westbrook (54-56 Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone) also registered as St Mary's-Westbrook at Companies House.

26.08.1997: Westbrook House School's (Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover) incorporation as Company No 0304992 was dissolved.

00.09.1997: JR: "St Mary's Westbrook came together with Roger De Haan as Chairman of the Governors. There were two separate nurseries, Westbrook Montessori and St Mary's Nursery, working simultaneously and parents could choose where to send their child. Reception to Year 3 remained on the original Westbrook site, whilst Years 4-1 1 were housed on the St Mary's site. 'South Pacific' was the musical performance in the summer term and cheeky sailor Jonathan Parish stole the show. Presentation of prizes and address at Speech Day were made by Prof Colin Harrison. Pro-Vice Chancellor of Anglia Polytechnic University. Ex-WHPS pupil, Louise Drake was Head of School.

00.00.1998: JR: "The 'Inaugural Ball' was held by the PTA in the school grounds in the summer. That year the school became the only school in the UK to become a member of COBISEC (Council of British Independent Schools in the European Community)".

00.00.1999: JR: "After taking the school successfully through the merger and the first year of operation as SMW, Chris Fitzgerald left to take up a headship in Rome and Lesley Watson was appointed new Headmistress. Malcolm Harris now became Deputy Head along with Carola Timney".



00.00.2000: JR: "Pre-Prep performed their enchanting 'Baboushka' nativity story and the seniors put on 'The Merchant of Venice' in 2000 during the summer term, the last one to be put on by George Sharman and Bobbie Reader. It was watched and admired by the actress Jan Francis, mother of one of the pupils of the school, who likened it to a West End musical. The netball U13s beat The Folkestone School for Girls, the U14s beat St Lawrence College and the senior basketball team beat Dover College 17/16. Richard Harris won the Ken Smith trophy for race walking, aged 13".

> Independent Schools Inspectorate Report: "The school was formed three years ago as a result of the amalgamation of an Anglican preparatory school and a Roman Catholic convent school. Both schools had suffered from falling rolls at the time of the merger. Combined numbers were 180 pupils with 17 boarders. The new school has substantially increased in size and now has just under 300 pupils aged 2+ to 16, including 50 boarders aged 9 to 16. Entry into the school takes place into the Nursery classes, into the pre-preparatory, preparatory and senior sections. Currently, 126 pupils attend the prepreparatory department, aged 2 to 7, 78 pupils are in the preparatory department aged 8 to 11, and 92 pupils attend the senior school aged 12 to 16. Pupils across the full ability spectrum attend St Mary's Westbrook, from those with learning difficulties to very high attainers who gain places at local grammar schools and senior independent schools, or who achieve good GCSE grades".

00.00.2001:

JR: "Richard Rottenbury's teaching block, or 'New Block', was pulled down and the area laid to grass. It consisted of eight subject and form rooms, five of which had been used effectively for years as 'backstage' for productions in the Assembly Hall through a linking door from Room 5, and three well-equipped Science Laboratories. Furthermore, the outdoor heated swimming pool was filled in and the patio extended. Richard Rottenbury's croquet Hall lawn has now long been buried under the KG Corral. 'Smike' was the first production to be put on by new drama teacher. Sharon Hickey, and new music director, Anne Johnson".

- 14.10.2001: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Sussex Grade 5 Trampoline Competition in which Eve De Haan competed".
- SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Rebecca Ashman and Katie Fagg arranged a 09.11.2001: Tag Day to raise money for the many victims involved in the attacks on America. They raised a total of £175".
- 27.11.2001: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "EAL London Trip".
- 02.12.2001: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Gillingham Grade 6 Trampoline Competition in which Sam and Jacob De Haan came 5th and 4th respectively".
- 08.12.2001: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Kent School Trampoline Competition".
- 00.00.2002: JR: "The Bursar, Clive Gutteridge, left and the position was filled by his assistant, Marc Seymour. This years production was 'The King and 1', with Ibrahim Shelleng as the king of the title.
- SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Open Day". 05.03.2002:
- 07.03.2002-
- 08.03.2002: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Junior Musical 'The Emerald Crown'".
- 24.04.2002: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Open Day".
- 20.06.2002: SMW Newsletter (No 8): "Open Day".

O0.12.2002: JR: "For their Christmas play, Pre-prep performed 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. The junior cricket team won against Spring Grove, Vernon Holme and St Lawrence College. whilst the cross-country team won the Kent Schools Boys Cross Country League.

00.12.2003: JR: "Pre-Prep performed 'The Bossy King', with Joseph Doherty' as the bossy, but very charming, king. The junior production was Roald Dahl's 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The U13 and U16 cricket teams won against Wellesley House and Sir Roger Manwood School respectively. This year's presentation of prizes was made by Canon Alan Duke, Chaplain to the Bishop of Dover. Charles Simons was Head of school this year".

00.00.2004: JR: "The junior production this year was 'Romeo and Juliet' put on by Kay Palmer and Anne Johnson. Alf Tetley celebrated his 85th birthday and was still to be found working around the school long before anyone else arrived. The trampoline team came 1st 2nd and 3rd in a trampoline competition at Gillingham. Prudence Wong was Head of School".

23.06.2005: Ted Foster died.

30.06.2005: St Mary's Westbrook (54-56 Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone) was registered as Company No 03389502, but failed to present its accounts to Companies House.

Westbrook House Preparatory: School September 2005 -



00.09.2005: JR: "The school was renamed Westbrook House Preparatory School for the third time! The two old terrapin mobile rooms have gone from the playground and the new dining room leads outside on to a decking veranda. Refurbishment in old Lawford House included four new classrooms, a new headmaster's study and a general office on the ground floor. An ICT suite and three science laboratories were located in the old 'Link Block'. Years 1-3 are now referred to as Juniors, Years 4-6 are Seniors and Kindergarten has become 'Foundation'".

01.09.2005: Roger De Haan appoints Niall Washington-Jones Head Master of WH.
 18.07.2006: Goddard & Allen made Advertisement Application Y06/0993/SH on behalf of WH to position nine banner signs on the school buildings.

21.07.2006: Advertisement Application Y06/0993/SH was approved.

22.09.2006: Official Opening of Westbrook House Senior Department by Michael Howard.

28.09.2006: Folkestone Herald: "MP opens new department for seniors at prep school. Rachel Watts, Head of Foundation said: The area converted into the senior department was used as dormitories, but has been empty for a long time, so it is fantastic to be able to use it again. The children really love their new surroundings".

