

## **ARTHUR ROWLAND STANIFORTH (S31-39)**

He was born in 1921, attended Hitcham's Elementary School and then Framlingham, finishing up as Head Prefect. He played in the same hockey team as the late **Norman Borrett**. In his recent book "Farmers – From Producers to Park Keepers" he pays tribute to a wonderful staff at the College, including Major Collins (History), Mr Winstanley (History and English), Mr Parsons (French), Mr Brown (Geography) and Mr Lovegrove, who was in the TA and was tragically killed in the rearguard during the retreat to Dunkirk.

Born and bred on a Suffolk farm, he studied Agriculture at Wye College and Reading University and at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad.

After army service and work in Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (where he had dealings with the Governor General, Sir Robert Howe, and Sayed Abd il Rahman, the son of the Mahdi who had been held responsible for the death of General Gordon), he returned to work for MAFF. During this time he worked with FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations), OEEC and UNESCO, travelling extensively during this time.

He has written a number of books :-

- Straw and Straw Craftsmen (Shire Albums) - March 1999
- Imperial Echoes: the Sudan-People, History & Agriculture - March 2000
- Farmers – From Producers to Park Keepers - July 2006

In his latest book he describes how it all began on D'Urbans Farm, just a mile from Framlingham. It describes his upbringing during the years of depression and charts the vicissitudes of the farming industry, linked to governmental attitudes over many years. It also charts social changes in the countryside. Sir Richard Body, in a Foreword pays tribute to the unique mix of experiences, which led to this book, and urges that it should take its place on the bookshelf of every farmer, and such Colleges of Agriculture as have been allowed to survive. The book includes a chapter on education in the 30s, with a significant section devoted to the College, including a description of a match against a team of German schoolboys who gave a chorus of Heil Hitler whenever they scored a goal!

