


















The History of Dauntsey's

1895	<p>May 7th - The Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain opened the new buildings and officially inaugurated Dauntsey's Agricultural School. The Head Master was F.W. Long (pictured right).</p>	
1898	<p>There were 60 boys in the school.</p>	
1900	<p>The numbers were 37, of whom 12 were boarders. Mr. F.O. Solomon was appointed Head Master in place of Mr. F.W. Long.</p>	
1902	<p>The School magazine was started.</p>	
1912	<p>A new wing was added to the north end of the school. This provided a joint Museum and Library with Masters' accommodation above. The old museum was changed into a common room for indoor games. The tuck shop was instituted.</p>	
1913	<p>Six acres of land purchased.</p>	
1914	<p>Canadian troops were billeted in the school.</p>	
1919	<p>Mr. F.O. Solomon retired; Mr. G.W. Olive was appointed Head Master (pictured right). Proposal to raise Boarding fees from £45 to £60 / £75. There were 67 pupils in the School.</p>	
1921	<p>New farm buildings were constructed.</p>	
1923	<p>Name changed to Dauntsey's School and the first inter-house matches were organised.</p>	
1924	<p>The Head Master's present house was built. The Assistant Master's house, new Chemical Laboratory and West Dormitory were built. The Old Chemical Laboratory was converted into the changing room.</p>	
1925	<p>The dining room of the Head Master's old house was converted into a reading room. Fives courts were completed. A potting shed was erected by the boys.</p>	
1926	<p>113 pupils. Mr. S.W. Farmer O.B.E., a most notable benefactor of the School, died.</p>	
1928	<p>Woodwork shop built by boys. Electric Light installed. New Tennis Courts constructed.</p>	
1929	<p>Purchase of the Manor House Estate, Marke t Lavington. Biological Laboratory (Farmer Laboratory) opened. Benefaction of £13,000 by the Farmer Trustees.</p>	

1930	Dauntsey's made a Public School. Name officially altered from Dauntsey's Agricultural School to Dauntsey's School. Wing added to Sanatorium, changing rooms at Manor built, Cricket scoreboard built.	
1933	Farmer Hall opened. New School uniform introduced. The extra accommodation provided by the New Hall enabled the old Dining Hall to be divided into two rooms, devoted to English and History respectively. The New Rest Room becomes the Modern Language Room, the Common Room and the Physics Laboratory.	
1934	Manor developments: Swimming Pool, Games Room Craft Room, additional dormitory accommodation, accommodation for domestic staff (see below).	
1935	Advanced Science laboratories opened. Biological gardens formed.	
1936	Gymnasium built (now the Tedder Building). Exchange programme with boys from Oranienstein Gymnasium in Germany who visit Dauntsey's (pictured below).	 
1937	New Changing Rooms and Dormitory Block built. Enlargement of Farm Buildings. Scout Troop formed.	
1938	Miniature Stadium laid out. Purchase of the remainder of Warrington Field, and levelling begun by pupils. Scout Hut erected. Kitchens modernised and extended. Marsden-Jones collection of British Plants established in Biological Gardens.	
1941	Work on the land, food production and training of land girls. Domestic service rendered by staff and boys. Cycle Section of Home Guard and Air Training Corps formed. Purchase of two cottages (Prospect House). Mercers' Hall in London badly damaged by enemy action. Rhododendron and azalea avenue planted Manor Woods.	
1945	School opts to become a Direct Grant School. Completion of levelling of Warrington Field by pupils.	
1947	Domestic Staff buildings at main school completed.	
1948	Sanatorium at Manor House completed.	






1949	Building of Garden of Peace and Remembrance commenced on site of present Memorial Hall. Combined Cadet Force formed.	
1954	Opening of new school buildings to provide five classrooms and studies to house English, Modern Languages, Geography, History and Classics - now the Maths Department.	
1955	Retirement of Mr. G.W. Olive. New Head Master - Mr. D.J. Forbes.	
1957	365 pupils. Opening of New Science Building to house Physics and Chemistry, funded by the Industrial Fund for the Advancement of the Teaching of Science in Schools (£18,000 grant).	
1958	Workshop built by boys. New tennis courts constructed next to the Head Master's House.	
1959	The commencement of the new engineering block built by pupils, now the Lower School Centre.	
1962	Additional Biology Laboratory and Science Lecture Room opened.	
1963	Completion of the engineering block	
1967	Olive Block opened: now Fitzmaurice House.	
1969	Mr. D.J. Forbes retires. New Head Master - Mr. G.E. King-Reynolds. 410 pupils. Extra playing fields to the south of the farm buildings purchased by A.E. Hemens and given to the School. Cafeteria feeding introduced - new kitchen layout.	


1970	New squash court built. Dauntsey's School Sailing Club started, acquiring use of Griffin II.	
1971	First girl pupils at Dauntsey's - 6 girls were admitted to the Lower Sixth Form in September.	
1972	Farm closed. Buildings used for School purposes. Memorial Hall building commenced on site of Memorial Gardens.	
1973	Farmer Hall converted to Farmer Music School	
1974	Memorial Hall officially opened.	
1975	Main School drive made safer - 'sleeping policemen' signs erected.	
1976	Dauntsey's began to take girls at all levels. Conversion of part of Manor House to accommodate girl pupils - changing rooms, dormitories (including Manor Sanatorium) and fire escape. Staff flat also built. End of Direct Grant System. School becomes fully independent. Process towards complete co-education begins.	
1977	School laundry built in Manor outbuildings. Conversion and modernisation of the School Sanatorium at Senior Girls' Boarding House. Social Centre in School House main building becomes the Olive Library. C.C.F. Hut removed. Sailing Club acquires use of Jolie Brise, famous gaff cutter originally built in 1913.	
1978	New Classrooms developed from existing Engineering Shop. Jeanne House opened for senior girl boarders. Car park adjoining laid out. Open Air Swimming Pool in valley at Manor broken up and filled in.	
1979	Conversion of Lecture Theatre and laboratories into additional Physics Laboratory. Gymnasium converted, new storey added to provide classrooms and Lecture Theatre - opened by Lord Tedder in September. New Sports Hall building commenced.	
1980	March: the Awdry Sports Hall opened. Day and Boarding Houses given separate areas. Housemaster's House built on to the Olive building, which becomes Fitzmaurice House. Front of main building accommodates Dauntsey House (senior day girls), Farmer and Hemens (senior day boys).	
1983	Five Courts converted into shops. Second-hand clothes and Sports Shop opened.	
1984	July: New (indoor) Swimming Pool started.	

1985	13th July: Heated Indoor Swimming Pool officially opened. Mr. G.E. King-Reynolds retires. New Head Master - Mr. C.R. Evans. 533 pupils. 450th Anniversary of the introduction of Dauntsey's School in William Dauntsey's will.	
1986/1987	September 1986: new Lower School Day Houses Scott and Rendell formed. Craft Design and Technology Centre built and opened.	
1988	New Sanatorium built. Creation of Mathematics Block by infill on ground floor. Six Maths Rooms and Staff Room provided. Extension of Biology Labs - addition of Project Room, Staff Area and New Laboratory	
1989	Two-storey extension to Science Building to provide: two Physics laboratories, Project Room/Library and Technician's room. New wing to Jeanne House (further 35 beds).	
1990	606 pupils.	
1990/1991	New Boarding House for senior boys - Mercers' House - to provide 64 beds for pupils and accommodation for married staff. Occupied September 1991. Opened by Mr. J.J. Fenwick Master of The Mercers'Company.	
1991/1992	Refurbishment of the area vacated by Mercers' House to create 15 new classrooms for History, English, Economics, Classics and Religious Studies; five Art Studios and new accommodation for Hemens and Farmer houses.	
1992	All-weather playing surface constructed.	
1994	Extension to Fitzmaurice House built. 16 additional beds	
1995	625 pupils. Extension to Music School and Dining Hall. Celebration of the Centenary of the School's reopening on its present site.	
1996	Retirement of Mr Christopher Evans, Head Master. New Head Master - Mr Stewart B. Roberts. Dedication of Henderson Gardens (in memory of Harry Henderson). Building of new Staff Common Room and unveiling of statue of Euterpe (designed by David Backhouse).	
1998	New netball/tennis courts.	

<p>1999</p>	<p>New Art Department opened on old Primary School site. Opened by R.K. Westmacott Esq., Master of the Mercers' Company.</p> <p>The Dauntsey's Aided Primary School moves to a new purpose-built school in the village</p>	
<p>2000</p>	<p>Opening of the new Library and IT Centre. 677 pupils.</p>	
<p>2002</p>	<p>Construction on the new Biology Department begins.</p> <p>Dauntsey's School production of 'Les Miserables', is so successful that it is invited to perform for one night only at the Prince of Wales Theatre, in the West End of London. Pupils performed to a full house, an audience of over 1,000.</p>	
<p>2003</p>	<p>Biology Department opened by OD John Rendell ('47-51'), Trustee of the Samuel William Farmer Trust. New Science Department under construction.</p> <p>Brown uniform phased out and replaced by the new blue uniform.</p>	
<p>2004</p>	<p>Science Department opened by HRH the Duke of Kent.</p> <p>Construction on the new Evans House begins in the early new year. The new senior girls' boarding house (Evans) is completed ahead of schedule providing accommodation for 60 girls in single and double en-suite rooms.</p> <p>Opening of extension to the Design & Technology Department on 8th December.</p>	

<p>2005</p>	<p>Refurbishment of old Biology Department to house the senior boys' day houses, Farmer and Hemens (opened by Mr Wathen, Governor, pictured right).</p> <p>Evans House officially opened on Speech Day by Robert Bernays, departing Chairman of Governors.</p> <p>Summer: Richard Handover, CBE, elected new Chairman of Governors.</p> <p>Jolie Brise leads flotilla past Her Majesty The Queen and also leads the re-enactment of the Battle of Trafalgar on the 200th Anniversary of the death of Lord Horation Nelson.</p> <p>740 pupils in the school.</p>	 
<p>2006</p>	<p>Jolie Brise wins the 50th Anniversary Tall Ships' Race.</p> <p>Pupils take the production of 'Assassins' to the Edinburgh Fringe and receive four star reviews from the critics.</p>	
<p>2007</p>	<p>Drama Studio is renovated, reopened and renamed Annabel's, in memory of Annabel Maurice (OD '96-'03).</p> <p>Refurbishment and extension of Fitzmaurice House completed. The work undertaken provides 12 new bedrooms and the expansion of existing Fourth Form accommodation.</p> <p>Major re-vamp of The Manor includes new bedrooms, new bath and shower rooms and a new Sanatorium, as well as extensive redecoration of the interior.</p>	
<p>2008</p>	<p>Official opening of the new all weather AstroTurf pitch by Simon Mason and Richard Mantell on 8th October</p> <p>Work on the newly purchased land at the back of the School begins in the summer. The land will be transformed into three new rugby pitches, a new cricket square, new athletics facilities and car and coach park. Car and coach park opened in November 2008.</p> <p>786 pupils in the School.</p>	

2009	<p><i>Jolie Brise</i> takes part in the Tall Ships Transatlantic Challenge and wins the second leg from Tenerife to Bermuda, 1st in class and 1st overall.</p>	
2010	<p>Over 100 senior day girls from Lambert and King-Reynold were delighted to return to School in September to their new, modern, purpose-build day house accommodation.</p> <p>In the summer term a small ceremony marked the opening of the enlarged and modernised cricket pavilion. The ribbon was cut by Lt. Col. Tim Lerwill, a long serving MCC committee member and manager of numerous MCC tours.</p>	
2011	<p>The final phase of the Science Development Project is completed; including two new chemistry laboratories, chemical prep rooms, a chemical store, an additional teaching room and an internal courtyard garden.</p> <p><i>Jolie Brise</i> is declared the overall winner of the Tall Ships Race Series 2011.</p>	
2012	<p>Head Master Stewart Roberts retires after 15 years of inspirational leadership and Mark Lascelles takes over as Head Master.</p>	
2013	<p>The School celebrates <i>Jolie Brise's</i> 100th birthday and she competes in the Fastnet Race. Having won the Fastnet three times, including the inaugural race in 1925, the team of Sixth Formers were delighted to break <i>Jolie Brise's</i> previous record in the race, set over 75 years ago, by 24 hours. <i>Jolie Brise</i> also sailed up the Thames for a reception at St Katharine Docks with Tower Bridge opening twice to let her pass. The ASTO Hammond Innes Small Ships race followed, from Ipswich to Cowes. Pupils were delighted to win, both first in class and first overall taking home the very large Aurora Trophy.</p>	

2015	<p>Pupils perform Lord of the Flies – an all-boy cast of 30.</p> <p>Jolie Brise is overall winner of Tall Ships Races 2015. A race through the Outer Hebrides and Shetland Islands to Ålesund in Norway, 60 nautical miles south of the Arctic Circle.</p>
2016	<p>Extensive building and redevelopment programme, including the Sports Pavilion, Teaching Block and Dance Studio, is completed. With imaginative, attractive landscaping in the two central quads, the School site is transformed.</p>  <p>The top photograph shows a modern building with a large glass facade and a prominent staircase leading up to it, set against a clear blue sky. The bottom photograph shows a wide, green lawn area with a paved path, young trees, and a building in the background, illustrating the landscaped quads mentioned in the text.</p>