

## Former Music Master awarded Hon OF

Deryck Cox, music master at the College 1959-1972, had a surprise visit in June 2019 from OF Douglas Thomson (K53-61) who presented him honorary membership of the OF Society.

Deryck left the College before the awarding of honorary OF membership to staff came into being. In Deryck's case a travesty of justice as during his time at the College he considerably raised the profile of music. Such was his forward thinking that he even invited girls from other schools to sing with the boys! Following Fram, Deryck took the music master post at Sedbergh School before retiring just outside the town. Douglas retired to Sedbergh in 2009 and soon realised that Deryck was the new music master at Fram who had embarrassed him immensely by testing him for the choir. He failed the test and naturally there was no further involvement with Deryck's at the College.

The embarrassment forgiven Douglas enquired of the OF Council if Deryck could now be considered for honorary OK membership. One citation and two meetings later the Council was more than delighted to offer the award.

Rather than post the award to him Douglas and his daughter Gemma arranged for a surprise presentation during a Cox family gathering. Douglas appeared a tad like 'This is your life' but in this case only a very small part of his life. Whilst still slightly stunned he was delighted to accept to become an honorary OF.

