

## **SIR FREDERICK MINTER GCVO JP (1901-1904)**

He was a Civil Engineer born on 11 July 1887. He published a book in 1925 entitled "The King's beasts : St Georges Chapel, Windsor Castle", which you will read more about later.

I can find little about him on the internet, but according to the 1970 edition of Burke's Peerage Baronetage and Knightage it says that he was on the Governing Body of Framlingham College. I'm therefore indebted to **John Maulden (G45-50)** for the following additional information :-

### College

- Sub prefect, in the Football XI (1902 – 03) and Shooting Captain.

### Appointments

- Served in World War 1, Royal Marines 1916-19 Captain.
- Appointed Justice of the Peace in Surrey in 1935.
- He was awarded C.V.O. in 1931, K.C.V.O. in 1935 and G.C.V.O. in 1959.

### Business

- Civil Engineer and building contractor.
- Chairman of F G Minter Ltd. (engineers and contractors) and Chairman of Berkeley Electrical Engineering Co. Ltd.
- Director of Droitwich Medical Trust (Past Chairman) and Ancient Buildings Trust Ltd.
- Engineer involved in building Otira Gorge Tunnel in New Zealand in 1908.
- Restored the King's Beasts, St. Georges Chapel, Windsor Castle.

### Memberships/Committees

- Member of General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.
- Past Chairman of Chelsea Hospital for Women and Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospitals.
- Vice President London Police Court Mission.
- Hon Treas. British Drama League and member of the Committee of Sadler's Wells Society.
- Vice President Theatre Royal Windsor Trust.
- Past Member of the Central Board Allied Schools.
- Chairman of the Royal Alexandra and Albert Schools.
- Committee for Public Relations, Building Industries National Council.
- Fellow of Institute of Builders.
- Member of London Master Builders Association.
- Member of Institute of Structural Engineers.
- Past President Provident Institute of Builders' Foremen and Clerks of Works.
- Builder's Benevolent Institution and Builders' Clerks' Benevolent Institution.
- Delegate to the British Commonwealth Relations Conference (Sydney 1938).
- Vice President for Association of Land and Property Owners.
- Liveryman in Worshipful Company of Glaziers.
- Clubs : Carlton, Fly-Fishers, Royal Automobile.

### SOF/College

- Vice President of the Corporation of Framlingham College.
- Governor of Framlingham College 1937 - 1967.
- 1950 President SOF, unveiled Dining Hall tablet commemorating SOF gift of Brandeston Hall to College, spoke of, 'Greatness of virtue, hardihood of courage and love of duty, which are the foundation of character.'

- Past President of SOF (1950).
- 1934 provided 2 hard tennis courts for College.
- 1930 gave a squash court to the College.
- 1947 provided rifles for Rupert Kneese's College Rifle Club.
- 1957 accepts on behalf of College new pavilion from Ventura Bromage on behalf of the SOF.
- 1964 was vice chairman of centenary appeal committee for the building of the Athlone Hall.
- 1970 pays for replica of new Coat of Arms to be fixed to wall of Athlone Hall.

His generosity towards the College is perhaps only matched by Emile Moreau (1871-72).

Gerald Garnett (R50-54) remembers working with Jimmy Soar (R24-32) at a professional association of architects and surveyors and recollects him telling him that Minter was a great OF supporter and that he was in the engineering and building world. Jimmy knew him and commented that :-

- if any OF needed a helping hand the presentation to Minter's secretary of a calling card (now a business card I suppose) with the handwritten addition of the letters "OF" after your name ensured almost immediate entry to the great man, and
- he was knighted by the King for restoring the King's Beasts at St George's Chapel, Windsor. This ties in with the book he published.

Also while Gerald was at Framlingham, he remembers that there was a Minter there who someone told him he was Sir Frederick's nephew.

He died in 1976 at the age of 89.

The following is a picture of the plaque on the squash court building that he provided.

