

## THOMAS "TOM" GEORGE SAUL (R19-24)

He was born on 30 May 1907. During WW2 he served in Sri Lanka and Singapore with the RAF in Radar and HQ Air Command.

The following is taken from the Spring 2001 OF Magazine :-

### A Memorial Gathering for Tom Saul

*(see Obituary Autumn 2000, page16)*

It was Tom's wish that his funeral in Harrold should be complemented by a commemorative event in Bishop's Stortford, the town which meant so much to him and Ethel; and his family



decided that the most appropriate format for this would be an open gathering at Bishop's Stortford Cricket Club, where he had been a member for 73 years and for which

*Some of Tom's Memorabilia*



*Closing view of Cricket Match*



*Jon Ford gives his address from the Pavilion*



*Four OFs present: James Ruddock, Jon Ford, John Saul and Chris Bellamy*



2000 was its 175th Anniversary year.

The proceedings on 11 August 2000 started with a match in which the Club scored 240 and Bishop's Stortford College Past and Present 171. Unlike much of the summer of 2000 it was a beautiful peaceful sunny day. After stumps were drawn, about 100 people gathered around the Pavilion and from the steps, the Club's President, Rodney Stock, recalled that during Tom's long membership of the club he had filled every office except Treasurer, rather amazing for a Banker but revealing Tom's love of the game of cricket rather than its finances. JOHN SAUL (R49-56) then spoke about his Father and said that at the age of 92 he had sent out 110 Christmas cards, showing the extent of his friendships right up to the time of his death. John had prepared two large boards displaying selected items of memorabilia collected during Tom's long life, including several Framlingham items dating from the early 1920s which John has offered to the Society's Archivist.

SOF President Jon Ford then spoke of Tom's very great contribution to Framlingham College and to Old Framlinghamians everywhere, particularly through his 21 years as Editor of the Overseas Bag. This was followed by appreciations and amusing stories from speakers representing Stortford Cricket, Hockey and Bowls clubs and the Operatic Society.

John later let us have sight of his transcript of a diary which Tom had kept during the term of January to April 1923, possibly as an English class exercise. Although fascinating reading, we regret that space does not permit us to reproduce it, but we are sure John would supply a copy to anyone interested. Reading the entries during a wet autumn, one item which caught our eye was February 26: "Another rotten day, Big floods in meres and streams." (*Nothing new, then, Ed.*) Book keeping was a taught subject in 1923. Wireless was demonstrated (the Mag for that term says that "we hope to have a first class wireless installation in use at the School"). Tom played Fives regularly and acted as Second in the interset boxing - both sports were abandoned during the 1950s.