

Adrian Payne (1957 - 1963)



Adrian at 2012 AGM

I left Harlow College 1963 in that year was vice captain of Nelson House with Head Boy of that year as Captain surname Warder I think ... I confess I have difficulty remembering many first names.

Went out and sold 3 wheel cars for a while, some may remember I had a little blue Reliant in '63 ... looked a bit like the invalid carriages of the time!

I then trained and repaired Bolex cine cameras for a while, and graduated to still cameras and other photographic equipment. This took me to a job on Jersey ... St Helier, where after repairing cameras for the largest chemist shop in the islands, I gained a job writing and directing local TV commercials for Channel Television. I returned to the mainland a couple of years later.

I remembered that in 1953, my cousin and his family had emigrated to



Adrian playing the Chapel Organ
(when should have been at soccer practice)

Australia, and my mother said to me as we waved them off at Southampton, 'saying wave bye bye and see you when I'm 21'. I somehow felt I would like to make it come true. So I embarked on the process of becoming a 'ten pound pom' applying to emigrate.

While paperwork was grinding around in Australia House, I stayed with some friends in Wembley and passed the time as a projectionist for the local cinema. Some Harlovians may remember I was the one who used to run the projector for the hired movie in the dining hall. I somehow inherited that projector, but it became lost in my many moves I'm afraid.

After a long series of hops in an old turbo-prop airliner ... I arrived in Melbourne. From there I got my first Aussie job in Hobart Tasmania as a technical operator for the local ABC TV studios. I lived in the same suburb as the now Crown Princess of Denmark ... but before she was born! I went on there to progress to floor manager studio supervisor and Producer/Director of local programmes.

I married an ABC girl and soon after buying a house, we both applied for jobs in the newly built ABC studios in Darwin. This was a wonderful experience. As Senior programme officer I had a lot of free rein and we did many 'pioneering' things and of course met everybody who was anybody who passed through ... as many did in those days.

Promoted to Sydney, I was beginning to rise in the Transmission area, being responsible for preparation of material and during my shift periods every three weeks. At this time my first marriage failed and my wife and small son went back to Tasmania

I left the ABC with a colleague and we began our own promotional business. We stumbled along for a while, but eventually went our separate ways. I was headhunted by the local TV Station in Tamworth (Country New South Wales) and produced a very successful Live country Music series.

Back at the ABC for a while in Canberra ... National Capital, producing the nightly political input to the 7.30 report, and a monthly block of 4 children's programmes, which rated very well. But inadvertently, I got the Sydney Children's Department offside, because my programme on a slim budget was rating better than some of their own extravaganzas!

A New Wife.... interestingly from that Sydney Children's department ... we were married in 1981, and now have an 18 year old boy of whom we are very proud, and who is studying for his masters ticket, while working as a lifeguard at leisure centres (public swimming pools) and on various vessels on beautiful Sydney Harbour.

Hoping to retire in 3 years *(probably now retired: webmaster)*

Thats me!

You can email me at [Adrian Payne](#)