



KOSA NEWS



NUMBER 14 - SPRING 1999

The Magazine of the Old Scholars of Kingswood Grammar School

EDITORIAL:



We hope that you enjoy what is our biggest edition yet - 28 pages. Our first edition back in Spring, 1992 was of 8 pages and went to about 300 Old Scholars, whereas our print run this time is for 900 copies, of which 820 will be sent to members already on the list. If there is anyone you would like to add to that list, please let the Editor know. Address below.

You will see that our AGM will take place before the reunion of Friday, 26th March 1999 at 7.30pm at Kingsfield School. We would encourage new (younger!) members to come forward to join the Committee, and if you wish to put candidates forward for Committee membership to be considered at the AGM, please complete the form and send to our Secretary, John Powell, whose address is enclosed.

Mike Bendrey, 26 Overndale Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 2RT

Tel/Fax: 0117 956 5689

Internet: Michael.Bendrey@uwe.ac.uk

DIARY DATES...

SPRING REUNION & AGM...

The form is enclosed for the reunion on FRIDAY, 26th MARCH 1999 at Kingsfield School, preceded by a short AGM at 7.30pm. Come along to meet old friends. There will be a bar and a buffet and we have reduced the price this year! Send enclosed form to our Treasurer, RON CLEMENTS, 5 Rangers Walk, Hanham, Bristol BS15 3PW Tel: 967 2328

FAGS OF '49...

JOHN COLE is planning a Reunion of the class of '49 at Tracey Park, Wick on either the evening of 18th or 25th September 1999. Details in next KOSA NEWS or from John on Tel: 0121 354 7680 or Fax: 0121 354 5767.

RUGBY REUNION...

JOHN BISHOP will be organising a lunch and a match at the ground of Kingswood RFC behind the Tenniscourt Inn to co-incide with John Cole's event. Details from John on 0117 9676083

AUTUMN LUNCH...

Lincombe Barn has already been booked for SATURDAY, 2nd OCTOBER 1999 for the regular Autumn Lunch.

'67 LEAVERS...

Reunion at the Griffin on 9th OCTOBER 1999. For contacts see page 10.

OUR NEW TREASURER...

RON CLEMENTS (1939-46)

Apart from RAF National Service Ron has always lived in what used to be Gloucestershire. From Kingswood High Street School he attended Kingswood Grammar School through the war years, and remembers especially the dedication of the staff who were willing to teach HSC subjects to classes of two. His sister AUDREY (1947-52) was also a pupil at the school.



Prior to National Service Ron obtained a degree in Economics at Bristol University, and afterwards studied in his spare time to qualify as a Certified Accountant. He worked in various departments at Bristol Aeroplane Company and its subsidiaries (later Rolls Royce), eventually marrying Jane and they had two daughters. During the second half of his career Ron was employed at Corsham,

Bath and Chipping Sodbury with not too many dull moments.

In his earlier years he was keen on tennis, and chess, but now exercises his brain cells at an Italian conversation group. He was formerly treasurer of Downend and Fishponds Tennis Club, but there can be no competition with FRANK RAWLINGS' record as KOSA Treasurer.

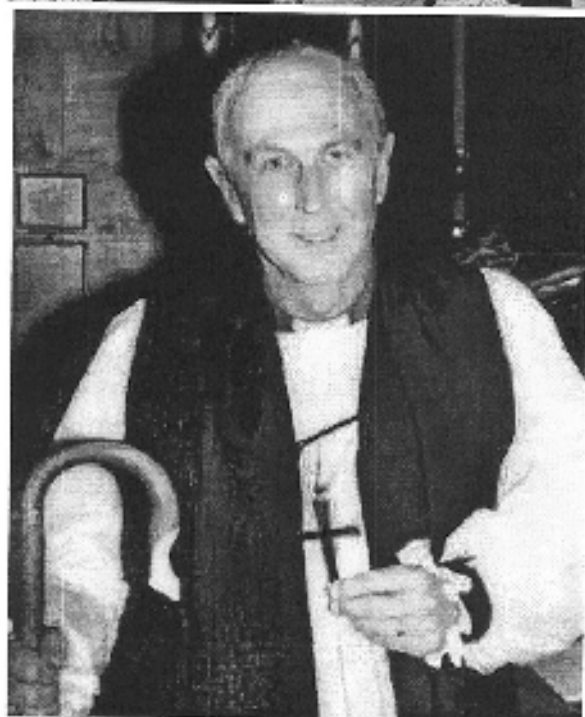
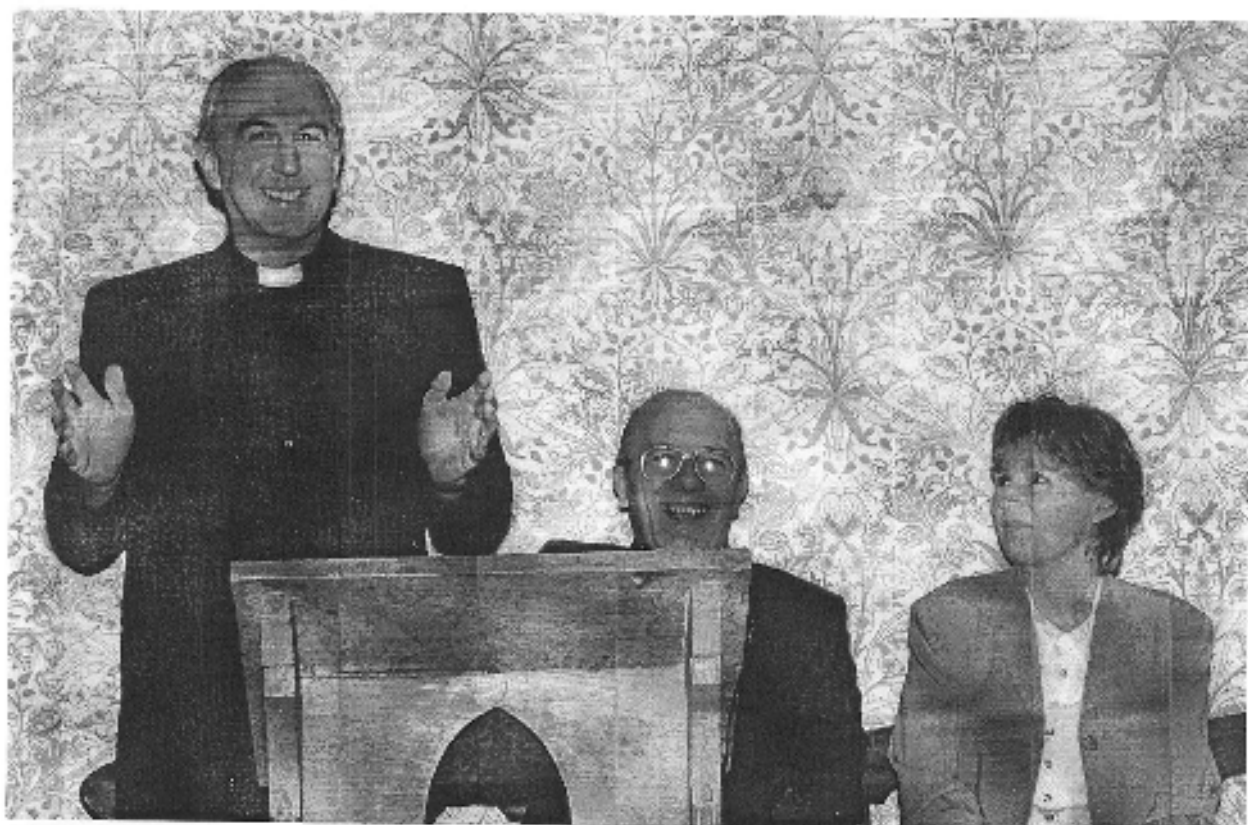
Nostalgia set in by 1989 when Ron attended his first KOSA lunch, at which MISS MORRISON was present. Since then he has met many contemporary old scholars and friends including this year some he had not seen or heard of for more than 40 years. In June he visited Norwich to stay with MARY ROGERS (nee MOSELEY) then to Leicester for lunch with Mary's twin brother MICHAEL MOSELEY, and in September to Shrivenham meeting MERVYN LOVELL (thanks indirectly to his cousin SIR BERNARD LOVELL).

The photograph on the left shows RON and his sister AUDREY enjoying the clear, blue waters of Weston-super-Mare in the Summer of 1939. Shortly afterwards Ron's carefree world came to an end - he entered Kingswood Grammar School.

KGS COMES GOOD...

OUR FIRST BISHOP....?

Last December 3rd ANDY RADFORD (1955-61), who was already a Canon of the Church of England, was consecrated (or whatever is done to a Bishop) to the post of Bishop of Taunton by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Unless he can be proved wrong (and this has happened



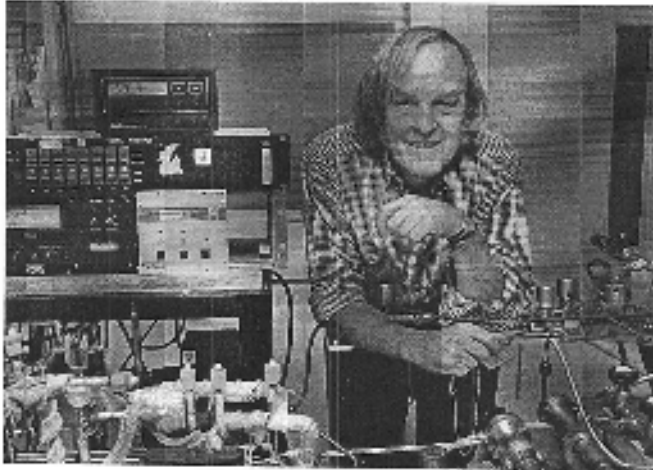
many times before!), the Editor believes that Andy is the first Bishop to have come from the ranks of KGS. Andy, who is the son of Canon John Radford who in the 50s and 60s was Vicar of Kingswood, is well known for his radio work on Radio Gloucestershire, and more recently acted as advisor to the Archbishop. KOSA

would like to add its congratulations to all those that Andy will have received.

The photograph (above) shows CANON ANDY RADFORD (left) with his new boss BISHOP JIM THOMPSON, BISHOP OF BATH & WELLS and MRS RADFORD, and left, taken from the Internet, shows Andy in his new role at his consecration.

PROFESSORIALY SPEAKING...

We are all familiar with the fact that PROFESSOR SIR BERNARD LOVELL (1924-31?) was (probably!) the first professor to come from the members of KGS as Professor of Radio Astronomy at the University of Manchester. We can boast at least two more. COLIN PILLINGER (1954-61) is Gresham Professor of Astronomy at the Planetary Sciences Research Institute, The Open University, and is famous for his interest in, and analysis of, space rocks. He has recently appealed on Radio 4 and BBC News for £25 million from donors to finance his



has been a great asset to the team' (1931). I think we should be told!

FROM THE NEW WORLD...

Your Ed. was pleased to receive a visit from GLEN BUTLER (1953-55) who came to the UK all the way from Colorado, USA to visit his aunt and uncle in Salisbury

work. Any offers?

Incidentally, Colin's sister, DOREEN (now LINDEGARD)(1948-53) informs KOSA NEWS that both our Fellows of the Royal Society, Professors Lovell and Pillinger appeared on TV on the evening of 26th November 1998. Colin was on the BBC 1 9 o'clock news showing off his Martian Lander, and Sir Bernard on BBC 2 at 9.30 pm in 'Science at War'. Not bad for a little school in the sticks!

More down to earth is DAVID EWINS (1953-59), who is Professor of Vibration Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College, London. An extract from David's web page on the Internet is shown (on page 5). Does anyone know of any other professorial appointments?

Incidentally, we hear that SIR BERNARD is connected in some way with Lancashire County Cricket Club. Surely this cannot possibly be the same ACB LOVELL who is described in various 'Kingswood Chronicles' as 'A batsman with a variety of strokes. Must get the ball between the fielders and not put it back to the bowler. Safe catch, but rather slow in the field' (1929) and 'Has made an enthusiastic and energetic captain. His leg strokes leave something to be desired, but his consistent bowling

Road, Downend. Apart from visiting his folks, Glen was keen to look up old KGS friends who were contemporaries of his. Amongst those he succeeded in contacting were CHRISTOPHER LUGET (who was himself from Sydney, New South Wales), BARRY MARTIN, CLIVE HAYNES, MARLENE HAYWARD and JIM BRITTON, and he spent a very pleasant time with SIMON BANKS and his wife MARGARET (FORSEY) down on their farm in deepest Somerset.

When Glen was in the land of the free (UK, of course!) he lived in Morley Road, Staple Hill where his uncle kept a butcher's shop on the corner of Seymore Road. He attended Staple Hill School before going to KGS, where he was in Davies House. From there he emigrated with his parents at the age of 13. When he got back to the States on this trip he made sure that he phoned DEREK BAILEY (1949-53) who also lives in Colorado, who reported the call and e-mailed the Editor the photograph of Haskins House (on page 5). Judging by the shield, Haskins House probably won the Sports Day in 1953. Out of the many hundreds of photographs your Editor has seen of KGS, this is believed to be the only House photo. Any more out there?

Professor D.J. Ewins

PhD, DSc(Eng), ACGI, FEng, FIMechE



David Ewins is the Professor of Vibration Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He is the head of the Dynamics Section of the department and Director of the Centre of Vibration Engineering.

Above:
An extract from DAVE
EWINS' page from his
Web Site on the Internet

Below:
Haskins House 1953. DEREK
BAILEY is on left of the front row.



BELLES WITH BLUEBELLS...

This photograph has been received from PAT COLEMAN (now BUDDEN) (1930-36) who writes:

'I found this photograph of a trip in probably 1931. I think we had gone to Blagdon Lake and obviously stopped to pick bluebells! I have noted on the back that the photo that it was taken by a MISS PEACOCK - was she a teacher at KGS then? I cannot recall, but my teacher at my last year at High Street School, Kingswood was a Miss Peacock and I wonder if she had arranged a the trip for her ex-pupils. I love the horse and cart on the left on what I described on the



back of the photo as 'the main road out of Bath'!

'It was great fun to see my piece in KOSA NEWS 13, but can I make a small correction? The evening I went to at the School when I was at Southmead Hospital was a careers evening, not a concert evening. (Apologies - Ed.). We used to try to persuade likely pupils to take up nursing, along with a lot of much more exciting avenues!

'The names of the pupils on the photo-

graph from left to right are, back row, PAT COLEMAN, IRIS BARRETT, ELSIE ?, DOREEN ?, JOYCE ?, front row, KATHLEEN ?, MILDRED BARKER, DOROTHY SHORT, and OLIVE BARRETT (Iris' sister).'

ENTENTE CORDIALE...

In the last edition of KOSA NEWS we indicated that we were close to tracking down MISS MARION JACOB, who taught Music and French in the 1950s and married French Assistant MICHEL LAPADU. We have now received a long letter from her, plus some photographs. MARION WRITES:

'I was at KGS from 1953 till 1957 and MICHEL for the two middle years 1954-55. Actually, I was engaged as an assistant music teacher, but since I had just spent a year in Brittany as an English assistant (putting off the final plunge into full-time teaching!), I was given almost as much French as Music.

'I haven't much recollection of class teaching in Music. I probably didn't enjoy it much, having to comply with MR HILTON'S pretty stiff syllabus, but I certainly enjoyed looking after a very junior orchestra (visiting instrument teachers had just started, I think) and accompanying the rehearsals and performances of at least two productions 'The Bartered Bride' and 'The Gondoliers' under MR

HILTON'S musical direction.

'There was a photo of the circus scene from BB in No. 8 and I'm sending you another with MR BUTCHER as the tenor hero and MR WINTOUR as the baritone heavy father (not sure about that!). HEATHER POMPHREY? was a sweet soprano heroine.

'I remember FRANK DOBBINS (cello) and PETER SAUNDERS (violin) from the junior orchestra. Peter came to see us in Normandy when he was an English assistant at Douai in northern France. Two other musical pupils come to my mind - BRUCE CARPENTER (cellist) and HEATHER POMPHREY (cellist and singer). They were pretty inseparable at school, but perhaps university drew them apart?

'I have an imperishable memory of MR HILTON. On All Saints Day, he always played the hymn. There would be a silence, broken by a sort of hissing noise as he drew in his breath, followed by the crash of a bass octave which made the grand piano rock on its legs, before we all joined in with 'For all the saints'!

'Did you pupils ever realise what a nerve-racking experience it was for a young teacher to be on duty at Assembly? Having to be all alone on the stage and choose just the right moment to quell the WHOLE school into silence just before MR RIDLEY and his acolytes arrived on stage - a night-mare!

'I was sorry to hear that MR WILLIAMS had left us. I remember he offered to let the staff use his workshop after school hours and to give them help if needed. KATHLEEN OWEN decided to make a coffee table (and she did, too!), and as I travelled to school on her Vespa I bravely said I would do a breadboard. I did pay for

the wood, but was so terrified by the machines that MR WILLIAMS made it for me. We are still using it today.

'I went on several school trips abroad. In the evenings the staff usually did shifts. I remember a certain evening in Paris when MICHEL, ELEANOR SPILL and I were given until 10.30 to go out on the town. MICHEL phoned a pal who met us at a cafe where we indulged in a rôteuse (Paris slang for a bottle of champagne - possible translation, a burp-maker). We got back at about 11 pm in high spirits and ELEANOR SPILL distinguished herself by throwing the champagne cork across the table at MR MOODY (who had a twinkle in his eye), but MR RIDLEY and MISS MORRISON were not amused!

'After a holiday at home, MICHEL brought back a tin of snails - his 6th formers were game to try anything. KATHLEEN OWEN prepared the garlic butter and heated them in the Domestic Science room. The French staff were invited for a tasting session. Everyone had one snail and we noticed that MR MOODY didn't rush at his. However, he did put one in his mouth, but immediately remembered an urgent phone call he had to make from his office - I'm sure he never swallowed that snail! Even a confirmed fancophile, as he was, can have some restrictions.

'Reading the extracts from the student-teacher's book (NICK OTTY in NEWS No: 12 - Ed) gave us a good laugh. I had one devastating experience of MR RIDLEY'S inability to finish what he should have said. Walking down the corridor after break, I saw him talking to a man. He stopped me, introduced us and simply said 'Miss Jacob will show you the way to the prefabs'. I assumed he was an architect coming to make a report on them and chatted brightly all the way there. It was only at the door of my classroom that

PHOTOS FROM FRANCE...



I realised he was coming to inspect my French lesson!

'A word about MICHEL'S glorious photo in NEWS No: 13, walking out to bat. He was caught out on his first ball and I still remember the look of dismay on the fielder's face and his 'I'm so sorry, sir'. And of course, MICHEL swaggered back as though he had scored a century under loud applause!

'The Christmas parties were perhaps a bit old-fashioned, but I liked them. Strangely enough, I don't remember jiving with MICHEL (he was good at it, I wasn't), as reported by MIKE COKAYNE, but I do remember an energetic Gay Gordons with DAVID HILLING, then Head Boy, and another peculiar dance or game with a boy called REECE. (COLIN REECE? - Ed). When the music stopped we were told to do various things, one of which was REECE carrying me on his back from one end of the hall to the other. The 'died in the wool' members of staff (quotation MIKE COKAYNE) must have been really horrified. I fancy I was a bit dismayed myself and quietly left the party after this exploit in case things got even more out of hand!

'We lived near Le Havre for 14 years during which MICHEL taught English and I brought up our two daughters. Then we moved to the South West, near Bordeaux where MICHEL was deputy-head and I took up full time music teaching again. We bought and renovated an old farm in the Jurançon wine district. Its barns are fine for housing MICHEL'S vintage Ford cars in various stages of repair, and I fight a losing battle with the garden....We retired in 1990, but I keep my hand in accompanying, conducting or singing in choirs

'The photos I enclose are: The Bartered

Bride (not shown - Ed) 1. MR HODSON cracking a joke 2. PETER SAUNDERS turning over the pages for me at the piano 3. MICHEL and his beloved 6th formers, of whom he says that he has never had such a pleasant class in all the rest of his teaching career 4. A Paris trip with MR MOODY, we recognise the faces but can only name BRUCE CARPENTER, HEATHER POMPHREY and TERRY SHORT, and 5. KATHLEEN OWEN and myself on Sports Day'.

OBITUARY...

BOB LEWIS (1933-40) writes:

'KOSA members who entered the school in 1938 will be sorry to hear of the death on 11th November 1998 of my cousin ALAN JAMES TAYLOR (1938-45). After taking his Higher School Certificate in 1945, Alan left KGS to go to Bristol University to read English. Obtaining his BA in 1948, he entered the RAF as an Education Officer for his period of National Service, at the end of which he embarked on a teaching career. He taught in London, locally in the West Country and as an exchange teacher in Australia. His final appointment was at the St. Lawrence School, Bradford on Avon, where he became Deputy Head, and eventually Acting Head. He retired in 1985 and devoted much of his retirement to supporting charities connected with the local parish church of St Mary at Saltford. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, Dora'

CONTACT MADE...

In the Summer of 1993 BOB LEWIS (1933-40) wrote to KOSA NEWS:

'I would welcome news of two contemporaries at KGS: ROY GILL, who lived in Downend, and ALAN STEVENS from Kingswood. All three of us were in the Army during the War, we all read French

at University, and all three entered teaching after graduating at the end of the War. Maybe a hoped-for reunion will materialise!

KOSA NEWS is pleased to report that all three are in contact again. Moral? Never give up!

CLASS OF '67...

The second reunion Kingswood Grammar School pupils who left in 1967 was held last October at the Griffin Inn, Bridgegate. New faces this year included JENNIFER HALL, SUE BUSH, JOHN MASTERS, STEVE MORTIMER, KEVIN MOULDER, JUNE COLES, DAPHNE CURE, JENNIFER NASH and GRAHAM GOODALL, making it two dozen in all.

It didn't take long for initial uncertainties about who was who to be sorted out, stories to be swapped and old relationships to be rekindled. Although the thirty-one years had just slipped by, it was surprising how those few years together at KGS had been so strongly ingrained.

In addition, a lot of names and addresses of others who couldn't attend this year were collected with the intention of making next year's reunion even larger and more successful. The event was organised by CHRIS GREENFIELD and ROB LARKHAM for the away team, but anyone interested in next year's reunion, planned for 9th October 1999, should contact LINDSEY ISLES (Bath (01225) 87 4279) or PETER TAYLOR (Bristol (0117) 937 2920).

Just in case you come along next year and you are worried about not recognising anyone, a set of up-to-date mug shots are shown on page 11. Aren't you glad you grew old gracefully!

THE MEN'S STAFF ROOM...

ALAN TANNER (1944-48) writes:

'Many thanks for another interesting News No: 13. I believe the missing teacher between Messrs KEATE and SPEAR on page 21 was Mr. HOLFORD as he was at school in my time 1944-1948. His main subjects were the sciences and being ambidextrous one of his classroom tricks was to take pieces of chalk in each hand and draw, for example, the outline of a flask right hand, left hand simultaneously down the neck, round the bowl and both hands meeting at the bottom.

'His visual experiment to demonstrate conduction properties was to allow a pupil to retain his (Holford's) half-a-crown if they could hold it longer than him holding a piece of log wood or similar material in the same Bunsen flame. He nearly lost on one occasion against a girl who had very long finger nails!

'He was absent for periods with illness, but I shall always remember him taking English Literature classes and reading plays with each character using a different voice, wonderful stuff, and it encouraged my interest in the theatre and acting and I have been acting ever since. Above all I remember his reading of the cricket match from 'England, Their England' by A.G. Macdonell, just about the funniest and most marvellous description of a village cricket match ever written, and Mr. Holford brought it alive.'

MORE FOR THE ARCHIVES...?

KEN CULLIN (1939-44) has suggested that we collect personal exercise books for the archives. Copies can be made and the originals returned. What do you think? Been in your loft recently?



Jennifer Hall



Sue Bush



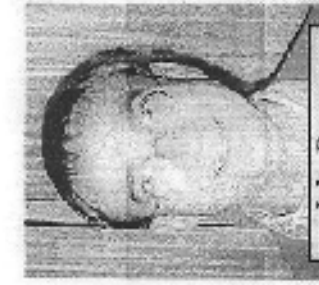
Jennifer Nash



Steve Mortimer



Peggy Wilkins



John Bracey



Colin Fry



Brian Allaz



Rob Larkham



Chris Greenfield



Graham Goodall



John Wrigley



Pete Taylor



Kevin Moulder



Liz Chandler



Linsey Iles



John Masters



Patrick Moules



June Coles



Dave Pantion



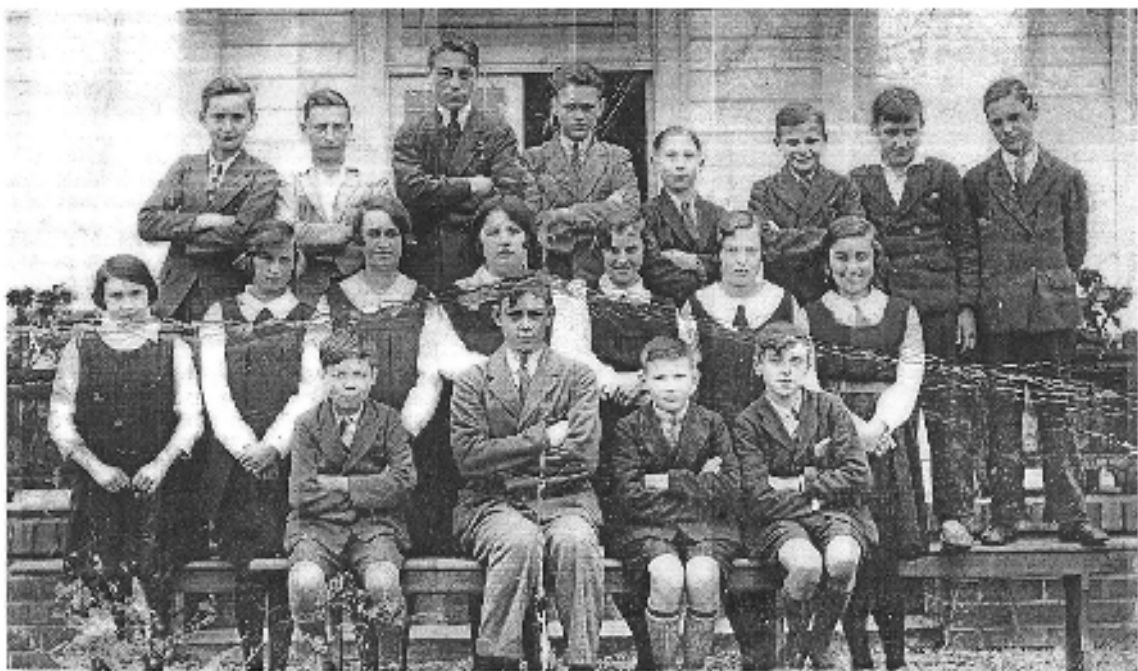
Mary Porreous



Teresa Larkham



Daphne Cure



above:
4 Arts 1931-32, sent in
by Jim Cokayne who is
on the left of the
back row.

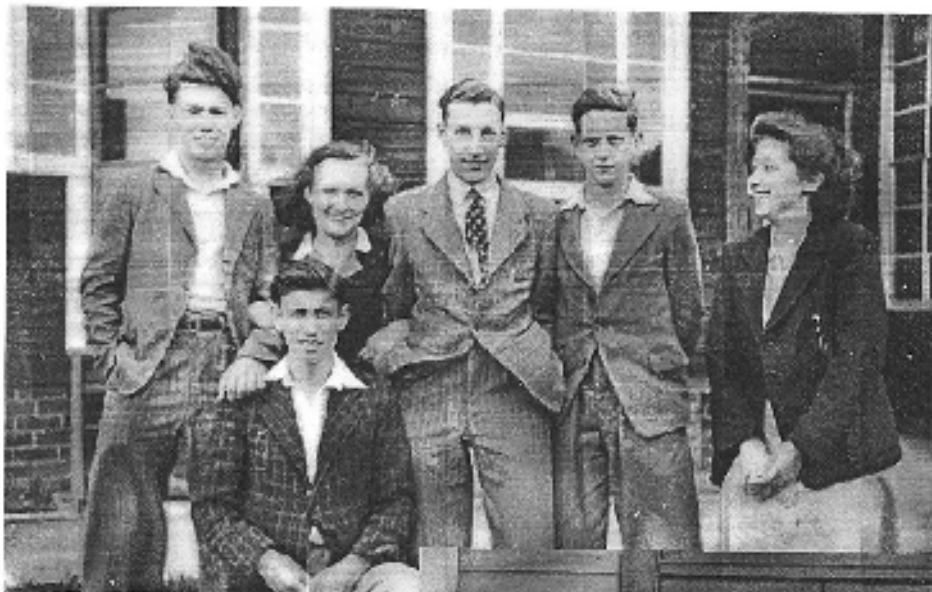


left:
Soccer team of 1941
-42 sent in by Bill
Brown. Played 19
Won 12 Lost 3. Goals
for 80 against 32. From
the back: Bowden,
Brown, Palmer, Evans
Hillier, Billy?, Stokes,
Monks, Hale, Harris?

right:
Part of the 8th Form 1948-49, sent in
by David Rowe. David writes that it's
a cheerful picture, showing the at-
mosphere enjoyed at KGS.

back row:
David Crew, Peter Redford and
David Rowe.
front row:
Shackleton. Can anyone name the
others for David?





left:
Another from David Row, part of the 5th Form around 1945:
back row:
David, Audrey Curtis, Jack Withey, nk, Mona Owen?

front:
Don Brookes

right:
Sent from Oz by Mary Miles (now Bentley) via Tony Perdue. Girl Prefects 1949-49:
back row:
Hazel Long, Margaret Vagg, Barbara Higginbotham, Cynthia Page, Mary Miles.
front row:
Irene Ashurst, Pam Nash, Margaret Edwards (Head), Pam Ball



Above:
Does anyone know the above occasion? Photo sent in by Jack Dalziel who was Senior Master at KGS. Jack is unable to supply the details of the occasion. Presentation to Fishy Sammons?

THE OLD BOYS...

JOHN BISHOP (1952-57) writes:
'On Sunday, 14th November 1976 Kingswood Rugby Club played a game against the School's 1st XV in order to raise funds following the devastation by fire of the 'cowsheds'. As can be seen from the photograph, and as was revealed in the special programme, the Old Boys ages ranged from 27 to 39 years.



'We were blessed with dry weather, so a sizeable crowd, including the Headmaster, C N RIDLEY, were able to enjoy a hard-fought close encounter which eventually went in favour of bulk and experience. We raised just over £100, which was put aside to purchase books for the new library.

'Where are they now, those Old Boys, 22 years on? Well, believe it or not I could easily make contact with 17 of the 18 in the photograph. The odd one out is MAX LOVELL. Does anyone know of his present whereabouts?

'As for the School side, they had several outstanding players, some of whom later

played for Kingswood RFC. TIM BUSH, who is a science master at Kingsfield, still plays the occasional game for Old Colstonians, but I somehow doubt that any of the others are now active on the rugby field. It's a young man's game and they will now be approaching their 40 years. How time flies!

Back row: Terry Short, John Shiels, Ted Young, Tom Harraway, Geoff Ann, Max

Lovell, Bob Eales, Andy Warren, Dave Pine, Keith Baber

Front Row: Bob Hallet, Vic Yeoman, Roger Carroll, Roger Windsor, John Bishop, Dave Paget, Dave Wall, Dave McCarthy

...AND THE OLD GIRLS!

TESS DENNING (1942-46) and her contemporaries regularly meet and on the top of page 15 is a photograph of a recent (seaside?) meeting. They are EILEEN POWELL, ANNE SEYMORE, IRIS JARRETT, DIANE THOMPSON, TESS herself, and JOYCE NEW, seated in the deckchair.



ENEMIES BECOME FRIENDS...

Back in 1950 the school became involved in the Kingswood-Siegerland Friendship Exchange when the Borough of Kingswood was twinned with the town of Siegen in Germany. Many enduring friendships have been forged from those days, so that, although the formal exchanges are no more, contacts are still maintained. EILEEN MATTHEWS (now BENDREY), IRENE LUFFMAN (now FEWS) and BRENDA SEALY (now HOLLOWAY) (all 1952-59) maintain their links with German friends, and there must be many others. Please let us know.

The report below was written in 'Kingswood Chronicles' of 1950-51 and may well have been the first post-war

visit to Germany by the School. It was written by 'BW'. Who was this? BRIAN WILLIE or B WHISKER or WHO? Time to own up! Was German taught at the school at that time? If not, when did it start. We believe that the first teacher of German was 'TONKY' TURNER.

The photograph on the next page was taken at a social at Kingswood YMCA in, we think, 1953 or 1954, on a later occasion when the Germans from Siegerland came to Kingswood on a return visit. Quite a number from KGS are present.

A VISIT TO GERMANY

On the morning of August 15th, 1950, we boarded the London train at Temple Meads, and, after all the goodbyes ("Auf Wiedersehen") to our parents, the train started and we were on the first part of

our journey. At London the party of Germans, who had been with us until then, left, for they were going via Harwich and the Hook of Holland - they were going to rejoin us at Cologne.

had not been cleared and saw the River Rhine. At last the Germans arrived and "took over command." We boarded the train for Siegen at 6.30 pm. and on arrival we were welcomed by the Mayor. We



We caught the 2.30 pm train for Dover, which arrived at the destination at 4.00 pm. having passed through the Customs, we boarded the Belgian ship "Prince Philippe" The crossing was extremely calm and uneventful but interesting. After three hours we sighted the sights of Belgium, and by 9.00 pm. we had arrived at Ostend. During the night we passed through Belgium and finally arrived at Cologne at 3.30 a.m. By this time our tiredness had passed and, after parking our luggage in a railway cafe, several of us went to see the sights of the city, accompanied by a lady interpreter. Having returned for breakfast, we learnt that the Germans would not be joining us until 2.30 pm., which meant we had almost seven hours to spend. During this time we went over Cologne Cathedral, one of the finest specimens of Gothic Architecture in the world. We then toured the bombed streets from which the rubble

entered a coach which took us to our temporary home (the Eisern Hardt), a youth hostel at the top of a mountain. From the hostel could be had a wonderful view - the tops of the high mountains were showing. It seemed as if we were floating in air.

Saturday afternoon most of us went to Siegen to see the shops, but some of us wandered in the vast forests where we played games, and climbed to the seats erected in the trees in order to spy out deer. Sunday passed quickly, in the afternoon many Germans who would be staying at the Eisern Hardt for the next few days arrived. Some could speak English, and we made many new friends, and, in the afternoon, we all went to the open air swimming pool. The next day, we visited Bonn, the capital of Western Germany. The scenery on our journey was beyond our wildest dreams, and the

deciduous forests made a change from the pine one of Siegen. We stopped at several villages to view great castles, mainly ruined. On reaching Bonn we were shown over the Western German Houses of Parliament. Here every member has his own seat and desk, and speaks from a desk on a raised platform. There is a large dividing lobby, and an extensive reporters' gallery; we also made a trip down the Rhine that day. On Tuesday afternoon, we went around a typewriter factory, and in the evening we played games and did some German dances, which, by this time we knew well. On the following day we made a tour of the surrounding district of Siegerland, and visited the small villages in which we had to stay the next week. On Thursday, the last day at the hostel we held a grand party. In the evening we sat outside and sang German and English songs until nearly midnight.

The next day we split up and went to stay with separate families in different villages. I stayed at the house of Frau Müller in the village of Niederschelden, where I was received with overwhelming kindness and hospitality, as indeed we all experienced. Others of our party were at the village, and we went out together, and eventually became acquainted with most of the villagers. One day I went to school, and was present at an English lesson.

An interesting and unusual thing about German schools is that they start at 7.30 am. and end at 12.00 noon. Another day we visited a large cinema, and unlike the cinema programmes in this country, there is one film and a newsreel. There were wooden seats and a special partition erected for people who wanted to smoke.

One day, we went with a party of Germans from Niederschelden for a picnic in the forests, where we found the biggest

blackberries I have ever seen. At the top of the hills were erected tall look-out towers made of steel, for people to climb up and view the surrounding country. It was during this day that we found a huge ant-hill about five feet high, and nine yards in circumference, which we were told are common in Germany.

German food is very different from our own. Before we started a meal everyone joined hands and sang a German song. We had plenty of thick rich cream, and found that sweets and chocolates were unrationed. We also ate a little of the German black bread.

We enjoyed ourselves so much that we could not realise the time was nearly over, and in a couple of days we should be home. All the English party met it the Town Hall, and goodbyes were said to the Councillors of Siegen. And so on the 2nd of September, with many regrets, we left the place that had been our home for nearly three weeks. B.W.

Those KGS folk recognised in the photograph are:

John Gray, Elva Forward, Roger Cromwell, Charlie Painter, Ian Davies, Clive Robbins, Bruce ?, David Foice, Geoff Ann, Peter Hemmings, Jack Sandover, Iris Mountstephen, Marion Long. Any more?

THE SCHOOL CREST...

Have you ever wondered where the School Crest originated? It has been used by Kingswood Secondary School, Kingswood Grammar School and Kingsfield School. Related organisations such as Kingswood Old Boys RFC, now Kingswood RFC, and KOSA have all thought it worthy of use, probably because it sums up the word 'Kingswood' in a very apt visual style which would be

hard to better. The following article by Old Scholar FRANCIS WHITE (1921-27) has been taken from 'Kingswood Chronicles' of 1954-55:

'My father, the late Harry White, printer and stationer of 9 Regent Street, Kingswood first entertained the idea of having a coat of arms for Kingswood at the beginning of the First World- War. My mother had a cousin, the late Ted Attwell, of Marple Bridge, near Stockport, who was a stained glass artist, with a business in Stratford Road, Manchester. This uncle of mine with other Manchester artists, made a habit of stopping at Lacock and Bath, painting local beauty spots.

'It was an one of these visits that my father told my uncle of his idea. He designed the Crown & Trees, which was registered as a family crest. This crest my father had printed on dainty pieces of china , in colour, which were sold as souvenirs in our shop.

'One of these pieces was purchased by an Australian soldier who was sent to Cossham Memorial Hospital during the First World. He must have taken this souvenir to his home country because during the late twenties my father received a letter from Kingswood, Australia, asking permission to adopt the badge.

'I can remember MAJOR EATON coming to our shop before the school opened in 1921, to ask my father's permission to adopt the design. He substituted the quotation now used by the school in place of the "Industria Floremus" which was used by my father.'

Does anyone have any of those pieces of china from the White family shop hiding away in a cupboard somewhere? Does Kingswood, Australia still use the KGS crest as its emblem? Please let us know.

BLAST FROM THE PAST...LITERALLY

KOSA NEWS has reported in earlier editions of the sad case of the pupil, ROBERT HAYNES, who lost his life after playing with some explosives in a classroom. DOUG EDWARDS (1945-50) has carried out some research and tracked down the contemporary report in the Daily Mirror of 16th October 1946, a copy of which is reproduced on page 19.

WOODWORK...

We reported in the 'NEWS No: 12 of the sad passing of WIN 'WOODY' WILLIAMS (1946-81), who was teacher of Woodwork and, latterly, Senior Master. We are indebted to his son, MIKE WILLIAMS (1971-74), who has supplied us with some interesting 8mm film taken by Win of various activities of the school. Plans are in hand (see elsewhere in this edition) to produce a video about KGS and we hope to use some of Win's film in that venture.

Also supplied to us is a photograph (see page 19) of Win's Woodwork Room showing an assortment of tables, stools, bookcases, magazine racks, candle sticks and lights made by the pupils. Do you recognise anything of yours accidentally left behind?

1930s REVISITED...

The photo of the trip to Bath Botanical Gardens on page 13 of the last edition has been identified as 1930/31 and not 1932/33 as shown. Identified in the front row, fifth from the left is REBE FUDGE (now AVERY), whose sons DAVID and ROGER PINE also went to KGS in the 50s. Sixth from the left is LILLY PILLINGER

(CHILDREN IN HELL: Page 5)

above the present number of
retailers, tells them they have won and
to the "Daily Mirror." Mr. L.

Boy played with grenade—blown up in class

A SCHOOLBOY lay terribly wounded across his broken desk after an explosion during history lesson at Kingswood Grammar School Bristol, yesterday.

The headmaster and other pupils rushing to the classroom

found the teacher, Miss Olive Powell, giving first aid to the boy in a classroom which looked as though a bomb had hit it.

The twenty other pupils in the class escaped injury, splinters from what is be-

lieved to have been a hand-grenade the boy was playing with missed them by inches.

Later the boy, Robert Haynes, aged thirteen, died in hospital. His right hand had been blown off and there were severe injuries to his face and body.

Headmaster M. J. Eaton told

the *Daily Mirror*: "I have now learned that he had the habit of cycling to a dump and filling his pockets with ammunition."

Apparently Haynes played with ammunition during lessons."

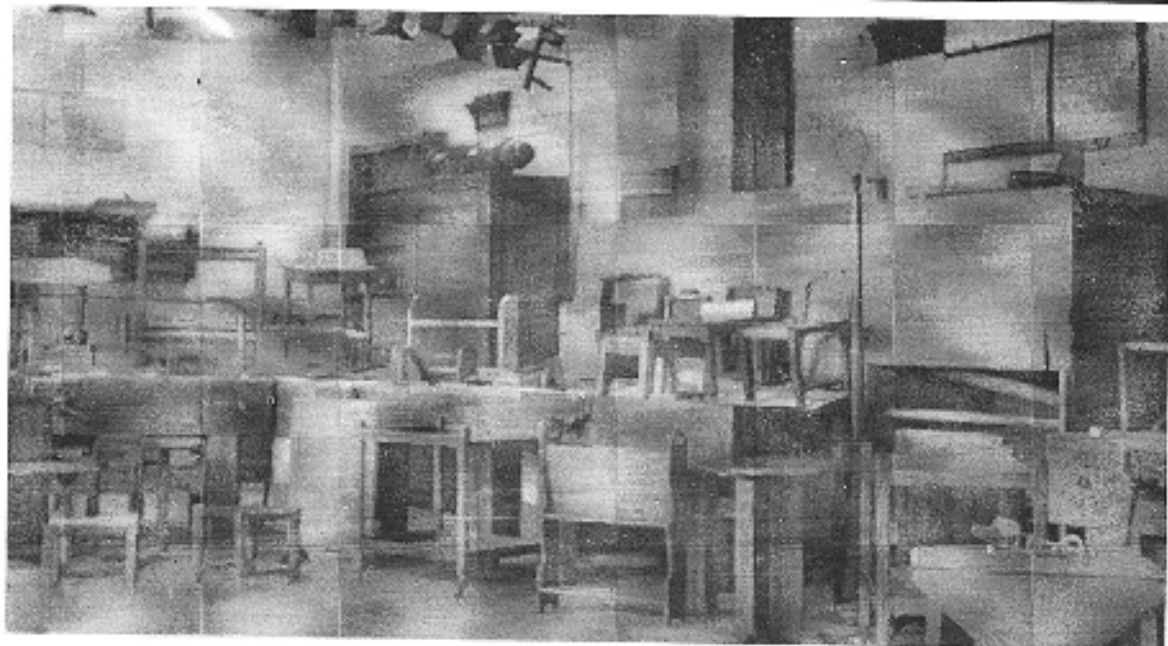
Haynes's home was in Moravian-road, Kingswood.

No. 13,357

ONE PENNY

Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

other Ministers, as his first major to the Minister designate of Defence.



BITS & PIECES...

THE GENERATION GAME

Sadly, nobody identified the child on the 1988 photograph whose grandmother and mother were shown on their respective KGS photographs. Grandmother in the 1934 photo was IRIS WILLMOTT (now PARSONS) and the mother was SHEILA PARSONS (now WILLIAMSON) in 1957. The grand-daughter/daughter was JANE

WILLIAMSON, who is on the right hand side of the second row from the back.

CORRECTION...

ERICA IVORY (now WICKENS) (1939-46) wrote to correct the identification of one of the marchers to the 1942 Commemoration Service as JUNE CONNOCK not CURNOCK. Many apologies. We now know that the service took place on 4th October 1942, and now have a programme to prove it!

PRIZE DAY...

A most welcome letter from JOYCE STEVENS (1927-34) enclosed a newspaper cutting of a prize list of KGS (see page 21). In spite of it being marked '1935', it is believed to refer to the Prize Day which took place on 17th June 1936 at Zion Methodist Hall. Notice that the Headmaster is referred to as 'Major M J Easton', so reporters were no better in those days! Joyce writes:

'...ALAN and I have done our best, but we can only recall some friends and events. I see that men's memories focus especially on sport; I don't think women are focussed on football, cricket, hockey or tennis.

'...I think we were very fortunate in my day to go to a 'young' school which managed to establish itself so well. We did not have all the specialist staff, but those who were there diversified so keenly - e.g. MISS PERRY and MISS POWELL (Music), MISS QUINTON (Tennis) and MISS WATTERS (Swimming). Has anyone described Warmley Baths as they were then? Icy cold water from a spring, which got greener and greener as the sun got to it. I must have swallowed quite a bit, but survived and learnt to swim!

'I attach some information about the WEBB family:

MARJORIE EDITH WEBB (PAGE) (1927-34) was my close friend and in the same form except that she left after completing her HSC. She trained as a teacher at the Froebel Institute (a method of teaching young children), and died about 10 years ago. ALICE WEBB started at KGS in 1930, but I am not sure when she left. JOHN WEBB (1932-?) did not stay in the 6th form as

he went into farming with his father, but died in his fifties. I believe ALICE is still alive but I do not know her address.' (Can anyone help? - Ed.)

MORE POWER FROM WATTS...

Another very pleasant letter has been received from Art Master HAROLD WATTS (1948-59). Harold writes:

'...It is quite remarkable that KGS is the only school of the many in which I taught with which I keep up an association. Moreover, it is the only one which I left with a heavy heart, but now count some of the Old Scholars as my real friends. I correspond with GUY and PAT FEATHERSTONE....JUDITH WINCHESTER and also WENDY EDWARDS.

'We also keep in touch with MARGARET LOVELL - in fact we have recently received a 'private view' invitation to a London Exhibition of Sculpture. Margaret had some difficult times when living in Kingswood. A shame! Margaret is a sculptor with an international reputation, and Kingswood should be immensely proud of her. I cannot have done badly as an Art teacher. PAUL ROGERS became a lecturer in a college in the North of England.

'My German grandson is studying in an American School called Cranbrook Kingswood in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The school has the last word in facilities - unbelievable. It made my heart bleed when I think of KGS, yet from KGS really brilliant people have emerged. KGS could not possibly compete with such luxury, but the pupils succeeded in spite of everything! I'm proud to have served in Kingswood'

Kingswood Grammar School Prize Distribution

A fine record of academic successes during the past year was reported at the annual speech day and prize distribution of the Kingswood Grammar School, at Zion Hall, Kingswood, last night.

The prizes were distributed by Lieut. Colonel A. B. L. Lloyd-Baker, chairman of the Gloucestershire Education Committee, and Mr. W. S. Rudge, vice-chairman of the Governors, who presided, was supported by other governors, the headmaster, Major M. J. Eaton, and members of the staff.

Mr. Rudge, in his address, said the school had made excellent progress, and had added to its laurels and achievements.

"We are looking forward to the additions to the school premises which will add to the facilities of the school, and, no doubt, before next speech day, they will be in use," he said.

The headmaster, Major M. J. Eaton, in his annual report, said the academic record had been well maintained, there being this year an unusually long list of awards.

He also referred to the proposed additions to the school, which included a well-equipped gymnasium.

"Physical training is assuming more importance in the eyes of the country, and it is a good thing that something is being done for the systematic training of the body," he said.

Major Eaton paid a tribute to the work of the elementary schools. The school, he said, was building upon excellent preparation, and the children came to the school in that happy state of mind for their task and taskmasters which was characteristic of the children of the district.

Major Eaton mentioned the value of scholars staying at school as long as possible, and asked parents to support the governors and the staff in helping to remove the limitations on the school's work, which arose from scholars leaving before completing the course.

Lieut.-Colonel Lloyd-Baker also spoke on this subject and said that there was the money side to be considered. The ratepayers, he said, expected a reasonable return for their money.

PRIZE LIST

The following was the prize list:

Highest school certificate result: W. Lack. English: Senior, E. Kirk; junior, M.

Carter. History: Senior, E. Hale; junior, N. Hill. Geography: Senior, P. Coleman; junior, A. Naish. French: Senior, F. Harding; middle, D. Evans; junior, M. Oakhill. Latin: Senior, W. Lack; junior, W. Morgan. Mathematics: Senior, J. Berry; middle, W. Morgan; junior, A. Wiltshire. Science, Morgan prize, S. Perry. Chemistry: Senior, B. Martin; junior, A. Williams. Physics: Senior, D. Brown; junior, A. Naish. Biology: Senior, J. Berry; junior, D. Brierley. General science: Mulberry. Art: Senior, M. Williams; junior, M. Robbins. Crafts: Senior, R. Skidmore; junior, W. Bates. Domestic science: Senior, M. Robbins; junior, B. Oakhill. Hard work: Senior, C. Pullen. General progress: M. Britton, I. Eyles, M. Luxton. General reading: L. Blundell, K. Barnfield, M. Rixen, K. Woodman.

UNIVERSITY SUCCESSES

Bristol University.—P. T. Hamblin, 1st class honours in chemistry; R. R. Pearce, 1st class honours in physics; A. E. Jelfs, 2nd class honours in physics; M. Mawson, 2nd class honours in biology; D. L. Collins, pass degree in biology.

Oxford University.—A. J. Edwards, 2nd class honours in chemistry.

Cambridge University.—D. W. Wright, 1st class honours in biology (part 1).

SCHOOL EXAMINATION

Open scholarship in modern subjects, New College, Oxford: F. J. W. Harding. State scholarship, Oxford Higher School certificate exam.: F. J. W. Harding. Reserve State scholarship, Oxford High School certificate exam.: J. B. Edwards. Gloucestershire County Major scholarship: S. A. Perry.

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATES

Bristol University.—D. K. Peacock, S. A. Perry (with distinction in chemistry), T. C. Trapter (with distinction in chemistry), V. M. E. Wixey.

Oxford University.—S. Brewer (with distinction in history), J. B. Edwards (with distinction in English), F. J. W. Harding (with distinction in English and French).

FIRST SCHOOL CERTIFICATES

W. A. Ashley, M. J. Atkins, J. B. Berry, F. Bevan, S. Bransom, D. H. Brown, W. Cole, P. M. Coleman, E. R. Davey, R. J. Dyke, R. Gill, J. D. Harrison, E. M. Hale, G. Hodges, E. S. Kirk, V. E. Lacey, W. H. G. Lack, C. J. Lewis, B. W. Martin, D. G. Nash, V. A. M. Organ, W. E. Osborn, D. I. Perdue, S. W. Pollinger, M. Z. Ralph, D. C. Skidmore, F. P. Stanton, F. E. Stephens, Q. A. Stone, C. Stow, M. W. Tyler, A. M. Webb, F. J. Woodley.

GARDEN PARTY

The Kingswood Y.M.C.A. held a successful garden party in their own grounds yesterday. It was opened by Mrs. C. C. Atchison and Mr. H. T. Hendy, chairman of the management committee, presided, supported by Mr. C. C. Atchison, Captain R. A. Norman, general secretary Bristol Central Y.M.C.A.; Mr. C. King-Smith, Mr. S. Fry and B. T. Phelps, secretary.

The soloists were Madame Isabel Tyler, soprano, and Miss Monica Gait, elocutionist.

The programme also included a dancing display by the Maddocks School of Dancing and many other interesting attractions.

SAUCE FOR THE GANDER...

This 1957 photograph originally came from Domestic Science Mistress KATHLEEN OWEN (now WAPLINGTON) who now lives in retirement in Spain. The boys, in a rather attractive selection of aprons and pinafores, who tried their hand at cookery are (from left



to right): John Tidball, Roy Hilton, Ted Young, Sam Williams, Roger Cromwell, Mike Preen, Peter Harding, Jon Francis, Barry Brown, Richard Palmer, Barrie Fillingham and Keith Jay.

THAT COMMERCIAL QUESTION...

In the last edition, MARION LONG (now COOK) (1951-56) mentioned her experience in 'Commercial Vltth', which has prompted GRETA AMOS (now COOPER) (1949-55), one of the original guinea-pigs, to write:

'I hail from darkest Wick and started at KGS the same year as MR RIDLEY was

appointed Headmaster. I can always remember him saying to all of us new pupils on the first day that he would always keep a special eye on us as we were all new boys and girls together. I'm not sure whether this was welcome news or not!

'My first form teacher was ROSEMARY WILLETTS (an old girl herself) (Anyone

know of her whereabouts? - Ed.), and she also taught French.

'It's amazing to think back to 1949 - just a few years after the war, when most commodities were still rationed, and how smart we looked in our very expensive uniform purchased from 'The Don' at the top of Park Street - a real credit to our parents who must have made many sacrifices for us.

'I remember well one year when MR RIDLEY thought it a good idea for each form to take part in assembly, with perhaps a boy reading the lesson and a girl saying the prayers. To MISS QUINTON'S amazement I was chosen along with TONY VOWLES, who had a big,

booming voice, and we decided to reverse the roles and I read from the Book of Deuteronomy. I had a black spot on the pronunciation which added to my acute nervousness and my knees were knocking so loudly I was sure everyone in the hall could hear, but fortunately all went well. Nowadays, I often read the lesson at my church in Rowberrow, but never fail to think back on that day facing all my grinning classmates - especially when I read from Deuteronomy!

'I played hockey and tennis at school and MISS MORRISON was, of course, my favourite teacher. It was lovely to meet up with her back in the 70s when it was the 50th anniversary of KGS. She was then a keen golfer despite, I believe, one if not both total hip replacements. MR RIDLEY was unable to attend on that occasion due to ill health and many of us sent him recorded messages.

'I remember MR RIDLEY driving through Wick and seeing me playing tennis in the road (!) he stopped and tried to persuade my parents to keep me on at School to go to Teachers' Training College. This did not appeal to me at all, but when he said that a good alternative could be to be one of 6 or 8 guinea-pigs, I was quite keen. Apparently he had taken on a teacher of shorthand and typewriting by the name of MRS HIRST, bought new Olivetti typewriters, and wanted to see how successful this could be.

'I was determined to give it a go, and I believe that we all did well. MRS HIRST was a really good teacher and I have always been able to hold down a good job and have only recently retired. The other aspiring secretaries included JUNE WOOD, JUNE DEMMERY, ANN SELMAN, NORMA GIBBONS and MAUREEN OLIVE.

'At the end of the school year in 1955 I remember a trip to the Lake District when we stayed a few days in Keswick and then finished off in Ambleside. During that time we climbed Cat Bells, Great Gable, Helvellyn and Scafel Pike. What a wonderful trip that was and whetted my appetite for long-distance trekking. Since then I have, with my husband, backpacked across the Pyrenees - 500+ miles from the Atlantic to the Med, and last year walked a 500 mile pilgrimage across N. Spain from St Jean Pied de Port to Santrago de Compostella raising nearly £10,000 in the process for a new hydrotherapy pool in my eldest grandson's school in Chesham, Bucks. Unfortunately, Sam, who is ten, has cerebral palsy and is severely disabled. We give illustrated talks on the Pilgrimage to clubs, etc for a donation towards the school, so if you are short of a speaker....

'Two years ago I was proud to receive my BSc. (Open University) at St David's Hall, Cardiff after six years of hard slog. How grateful I was for the wonderful education I had received at KGS all those years before. I think I have now done justice (at last!) to my selection back in 1949!

YET AN EARLIER ONE...?

MARY HARDWICK (now LOVELL) (1937-41) writes:

'I don't know when it started, but I spent the last term of 1941 in Commercial VIth, leaving to become a clerk in the Clare Street Office of General Accident, Time & Life Insurance Co Ltd. After 18 months I left to join the Royal Observer Corps, serving until the end of the War, with MARGARET MORRIS (1934-40)'

(So maybe Headmaster RIDLEY'S 'experiment' in the 1950s was not so new after all. Sounds typical of education to me! - Ed.)

AND EVEN EARLIER...!

STELLA EVERY (now GRANDISON) (1929-34?) claims an even earlier Commercial VIth. Stella writes:

'I believe I was one of the first students to enrol on this course in September 1933. At the time it was decided that, although pupils were leaving with a School Certificate, this was no help in finding employment if one was not continuing in further education, so the Commercial VIth was started. (I had already taken Pitman's Shorthand Certificate when in 5L, but this was a voluntary class which ran after school.)

'We took Shorthand, Book-keeping, French, Geography and Typing, which was a good preparation for work in Commerce. I remember BRENDA ANSTEY, but I don't think there were any boys.

'I believe the intention was to prepare us for the Civil Service exams but I decided to leave after two terms as life was difficult for my family and I felt that I should be earning some money. This proved to be a wrong decision as it was during the slump and I was unable to find employment until the following November.'

MORE COMMERCIALS- FROM WICK...

One of the JENKINS TWINS, MARGARET (now MRS JONES) (1952-58), also responded to MARION'S 'Commercial Question'. MARGARET writes:

'As girls MAUREEN and I lived in a cottage on the Tracy Park estate at Wick (when it was a private house), but it is now a Golf Course/Restaurant. It was a wonderful place to grow up.

We agreed I should put pen (or rather word processor) to paper and respond to "A COMMERCIAL QUESTION" (page 6) from Marion Long (1951-56). I don't have the answer to how long the commercial VIth was in existence, but MAUREEN and I were in that class and learned shorthand and typing under MRS. HURST. We remember her talking about her cat (Sam), and that she used to do "tattooing" (a form of lace). She used to serve in the School Tuck Shop and bring back free broken biscuits which we suspected she "accidentally" broke for use

'There were 8 of us in the Class, the others being: HAZEL ALVIS, JANICE PACKER, JANETTE NIXON (all from Wick as we were) and PAT FLEW, JEAN HURST and YVONNE RANDALL. Back in 1988 (30 years after we had left) one of the class - Hazel and husband Chris were celebrating their Silver Wedding anniversary whilst visiting Hazel's Mum in Wick from their home in Canada. Hazel's brother and family organised a "Surprise VI Commercial Reunion," as part of their celebrations. Most of us were still living in the Bristol area, although Jean travelled from Barry and Maureen from Cardiff.

'We had a lot of fun in the Commercial Year, although we always felt that MR RIDLEY didn't consider us to be 'real' six formers as we were only staying on for one year in the sixth form. However, it has stood me in good stead all my working life and I am still earning a part-time living with my typing fingers, but now on a word processor.

'We remember climbing out of the classroom window (we were in the nearest block to the Gym) to "bag" the best hard courts for tennis. We always

dreamed of getting to Wimbledon, but alas my twin and I only managed the House (Fussell) second team. However, we did get to Wimbledon in July this year - a centre court seat on men's finals day - courtesy of the public ballot. A wonderful day!



'Incidentally I see that MARION LONG was intending to contact EDITH ASHLEY (now HAMBLIN). She has lived in Australia for many years, but was back on holiday in Spring/Summer of 1998 and came to a family christening at Wick Chapel. She was Wick girl.

'It was good to see a photo of MISS JONES on page 13 (with class VA 1958). I had always enjoyed English, but her lessons really brought books and characters alive. We used to take it in turns to read aloud from books round the class. My favourite story was (and still is) Dickens' "Great Expectations" and I still dream of visiting Rochester and walking on the marshes where Pip first met with Magwitch his benefactor!

'Re. KEVIN NOBLE'S comments on page 14, regarding teachers' "quotations", I well remember MISS WYCHERLEY'S "Come on all you people". She encouraged my love of poetry and of writing it. I remember a competition (in the 1st Form when she was my form teacher) when I was in the final with HOPTON. I think he won. I seem to remember our subject was "Horatio on the Bridge" and she referred to us as "Sugar Ray Jenkins" and "Randolph Hopton"! (I still write a bit of poetry in my spare time and had a short one published a year or two ago).

'I remember DOC TREVELYAN who indeed gave me a lot of "sporting chances" as I trailed rather dismally behind my twin sister Maureen in Maths - I remember she once got 98% in a GCE mock paper. I also recall ERIC HILTON (of eyebrow fame!) the Music teacher, who I will never forgive for making me sing out loud in class as I had no tune (still haven't) in my voice.

'In a particularly noisy dinner hall one day, Headmaster, MR RIDLEY, banged his spoon loudly on the table to gain our attention. When we were all silent he said "Just be quiet and listen to the noise you are making". Difficult, but we knew what he meant! I also recall a wise remark from dear MISS QUINTON in an Assembly, when she spoke of people grumbling "That's not fair". "But", she said "Life's not meant to be fair".

'I remember MAUREEN and I appearing in a House Play. A Russian type play in which twin girls were called for and I think DAVID COLE (1951 - ?) (also incidentally

a twin) was in it and the only lines I recall from the play are: 'My master no longer needs the boots'. We also remember buying 1d worth of apples or pears from a house in Brook Road. Does anyone else remember?

'My 'NEWS is always passed to my twin sister Maureen who has lived in Cardiff for 28 years. She has three children who have produced 7 grandchildren. I then pass it on to Mrs "DOLLY" AMOS (nee BEST) (1930-34). I still live happily in Wick, now with second husband Len. have two sons, one a "mature,, student half way through a 4 year BA(Hons) Business Education course at UWE. and one a Plumber/Heating Engineer.'

A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION...

Debate is always healthy, and DAVID PETERS (1946-51) has taken issue with the contents of an earlier letter:

'I'm sure GORDON JACKSON (1955-62) didn't mean to write, in KOSA News No. 13, 'The one definite music skill...' of Music Teacher ERIC HILTON. It was he who made a versatile choral group out of the School Choir. It was he who astounded everybody, staff included, by announcing his intention of staging an opera, and by carrying it through to highly successful production. (The 'pirates' by the way were 'sailors' in Dido & Aeneas'.) It was ERIC HILTON who decided that in the absence of a school orchestra, he would have to provide the instrumental backing for the opera by means of a harpsichord. Unfortunately, he had not played the harpsichord, so he taught himself in the short time available.

'It was ERIC HILTON who, by rigorous

attention to detail and with a clarity of exposition seldom equalled, instilled in his pupils the concepts of structure, orchestration and style in music, and introduced them to a carefully chosen succession of composers who would begin to reveal the depth and splendour of the musical world. It was a sound foundation for later development. His own interests ranged from classical to atonal, from Winterreise to Wozzek and beyond. He insisted that to approach the soul of music one had to study chamber music.

'One definite music skill? I think not!'

ALL ON ONE 'O' LEVEL...!

KEN ALDRED OBE (1948-53), who is currently Director of the Council for Arms Control, has been discovered by ROGER BEESE (1952-57), writes:

'From the time I went to the 1960 Open Day I had little or no contact with Kingswood Grammar School until May of this year. The visit to the Open Day was my third date with Judy who was to become my wife a few months later and remain so for 37 years until she died in February. In May, during a discussion with ROGER BEESE, my ever-helpful insurance agent, we discovered that we had both been pupils at KGS; unlike me, however, Roger had remained in touch and told me about KOSA. Some two weeks later, during the unlikely process of trying to find the home of some errant lop-eared rabbits near the river at Hanham, I met another former student who is also a member.

'Reflecting on one's schooldays can be a pleasure for some, a sadness for others,

and provoke a range of emotions for those in between. For me it brings about a variety of feelings, from appreciation for things learnt to incredulity at my failure to take advantage of the opportunities that were on offer. I provided a sterling service to my fellow pupils. No-one had to worry about being bottom of the class in any subject, I could guarantee taking that position. After a brief and very unhappy move to Bristol Cathedral School and back I determined not to work, and stuck to that foolish resolve, leaving school with just one 'O' level, that being in History.

'Yet, during my working life I have found myself drawing regularly on knowledge I gained at school. The first part of my career was in industry and I realised then that I had learned far more maths, physics and chemistry than my record showed.

'Since 1970 it has been the remaining subjects which have been important. At school my interest in history was zero until we reached 1815 and the Congresses set up to re-structure Europe after the Napoleonic wars. In 1970 I was offered the opportunity to help restructure Europe by working for British entry into the European Community, and I did not need to be asked twice. In late 1972 and early 1973 I co-ordinated the Heath government's programme to mark our accession to the Treaty of Rome and remain to this day passionate about European integration. However, much of my time later in the 1970s was also spent on transatlantic and Commonwealth affairs until I entered the defence and security arena in 1981.

'The Cold War tensions which had brought about a massive build up of nuclear and conventional weaponry suddenly became more tense with the advent

of hard-line Conservative governments in the United States (Ronald Reagan) and in the UK (Margaret Thatcher) and the proposed deployment of US owned land-based intermediate range nuclear weapons on European soil. I was asked by a Foreign Office minister (Hurd) and a Defence minister (Baker) to set up a public information programme throughout the UK which I did and formed the Peace Through NATO organisation.

'Nothing tests one's history and geography like being on a live radio or television programme and needing to put the subject under discussion into its correct perspective! English is, in a way, more important when being interviewed or lecturing in a non-English speaking country because someone has to interpret your words as you go along. As an editor I use all three constantly, many papers and articles which I want to use in my publications land on my desk full of inaccuracies and tortuous phrases. I need to make these readable whilst understanding the sensibilities of their authors who are often the leading experts in their own field. As an author one has to face the editorial scrutiny of others, and my jointly written and recently concluded book on power and superpower in the post-Cold War era is due to issue from Macmillans early next year .

'As a researcher on international security (and thereby insecurity) I am now working on the global prospects for peace and conflict in the 21st century, especially relating to the likely spread of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. I consider myself to be extremely fortunate to be in the academic environment of the Centre for Defence Studies within the War Studies Department at King's College London with all the facilities that

provides.

'Every day brings new subjects to study and new areas to learn about (why are there economic, ethnic and religious problems etc. etc.) and, not least, the ever-developing computer technology and software we all have to keep up with, and I conclude that, in spite of my own failings whilst there, Kingswood Grammar School provided me with the solid basis of learning necessary to enable me to meet those challenges some 45 years later. So, thanks to any teachers of that period who might read this small offering to KOSA News.'

FAME INDEED...!

mouth, Dorset.	mandant An director, WB
BIRTHDAYS	
Today: the actors Bob Peck, 53, and Christopher Blake, 49; Geoff Capes, shot putter, 49; Roger Greenaway, popular song composer, 60; Willy Russell, author and playwright, 51; the MPs Jim Murphy, 31, Julia Drown, 36, Dale Campbell-Savours, 55, Peter Lilley,	
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters to: Pennington St or via e-mail times.co.uk. Letters should include a day, telephone number, section and may be edited.	

Cutting taken from 'The Sunday Times' of 23rd August 1998. 'Nobby' Greenaway was at KGS from 1950 to 1955.

POINTS FROM THE POST...

Very many thanks for your letters to KOSA NEWS, and apologies to those who have written letters but we have been unable to include them this time.

Ex-KGS staff member GILL EVANS informed us that JILL FUENTES, whom we failed to contact by E-mail in Spain, was fellow staff member JILL ALEXANDER. GILL, who comes from Slimbridge, also discovered in a conversation with MISS

WYCHERLEY that the latter used to take potato picking parties from KGS to Slimbridge during the War. Anyone remember these occasions?

MARLENE HAYWARD (1953-60) understands that the School Badge is still available as Sports Colours. Does anyone know where these may be obtained? Marlene was denied her Netball Sports Colours at KGS because it was discovered that she played for Clifton Ladies at weekends. Regarding the famous poem by Minnie Louse Haskins, she believes that it is written on the gates to George VI's grave at Frogmore.

KATH. HAWKINS (now MOUNT-STEPHEN) (1932-37), our ex-Lord Mayor of Bristol, was pleased to read EILEEN BEACHAM'S (now CASTERA) (1934-39) letter from France. They have been friends all through the years. Eileen helped Kath's son to master French and her daughter, when seven, stayed with the Mountstephens. Apparently, Eileen's daughter never got over it as she eventually married an Englishman...Quel dommage!

In a letter from Oz, MARY MILES (now BENTLEY) (1942-49) has reminded us to make sure that we get all the KGS archive material we can from county and university sources. Thanks, Mary. We're onto that one. She remembers MISS STEVENS, who taught General Science in Mary's early years at KGS. MISS STEVENS moved to Perth WA to become headmistress of a Ladies' College. Mary was saddened to hear of the passing of Old Vic and Little theatre stalwarts Rudi Shelly and Peggy Wood. Mary writes "To have been introduced to such world figures during my formative years has been an incalculable influence in my life, thanks to MISS DAVID and MISS WALTERS" How very KGS!

THE NEXT REUNION

This will take place at KINGSFIELD SCHOOL, which is on the site of KGS, on FRIDAY, 26th MARCH 1999. The AGM will take place at 7.30pm, followed by the Reunion at 8.00pm. If you know any Old Scholars please photocopy this page and pass on. All Old Scholars welcome!

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Kingswood Old Scholars' Association will take place at Kingsfield School at 7.30pm on Friday 26th March 1999, followed by a Reunion at 8.00pm

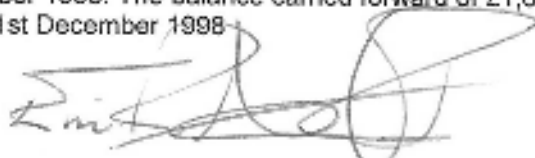
AGENDA

1. Minutes of Last AGM
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Election of President
5. Election of Chairman
6. Election of Officers
7. Election of Committee Members
8. To fix the Subscriptions for the ensuing year

KINGSWOOD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1998

BALANCE AT BANK 1st JANUARY 1998		1,657.75
RECEIPTS:		
KOSA NEWS Subscriptions	979.59	
Costs	<u>948.31</u>	
Surplus		31.28
Annual Lunch	1,342.55	
Expenditure	<u>1,254.18</u>	
Surplus		88.37
AGM & Reunion	566.50	
Expenditure	<u>469.00</u>	
Surplus		97.50
Interest Received		41.41
		<u>1,916.31</u>
PAYMENTS:		
Postage and Telephone	46.10	
Archive Costs	90.82	
Donation - Kingsfield School	100.00	
BALANCES AT BANK 31st DECEMBER 1998		1,679.39
		<u>1,916.31</u>

I have examined the books and vouchers made available to me and in my opinion the accounts set out above form a true and fair view of the affairs of the Kingswood Old Scholars' Association as at 31st December 1998. The balance carried forward of £1,679.39 is represented by funds held at Lloyds Bank Plc as at 31st December 1998.



signed: Eric R Arnold, FCCA

21 January 1999

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Here are your Committee Members after the April 1998 AGM who will be pleased to answer any queries or will be happy to hear your suggestions for the future of KOSA:

Peggy Bolt (Olet 1938-43) Chairman, 293 Badminton Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6NU Tel: 956 4020
John Powell (1943-48) Secretary, Park End, Deacon's Hill, Watford Herts, WD1 4HN Tel: 01923 232472
Ron Clements (1939-46) Treasurer, 5 Rangers Walk, Hanham, Bristol, BS15 3PW Tel: 967 2328
Bill Cox (1927-34), 45 Downend Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 5UF Tel: 956 7019
Eame Rawlings (Roberts 1941-45) 74 Oakdale Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6EA Tel: 956 1050
June Long (1939-45) 5 Clevedale Court, Downend, Bristol, BS16 2SG Tel: 956 7910
Frank Stephens (1930-35) 44 Amberley Way, Wickwar, Glos. GL12 8LP Tel: 01454 299221
Mike Bendrey (1951-56), Editor, 26 Overdale Road, Downend, Bristol BS16 2RT Tel/Fax: 956 5689
Mike Cokayne (1952-58), Archivist, 'Hendafarn', Samau, Llanymynech, Powys, SY22 6QJ
Elaine Shirfield (Bush 1956-63) 'Newtons' Shrubbery Ave. Weston Super Mare, BS23 2JY Tel: 01934 416929

KOSA AGM & REUNION BUFFET

To: Ron Clements, Hon. Treasurer, KOSA,
5 Rangers Walk, Hanham, Bristol, BS15 3PW Tel: 967 2328

I enclose £ _____ for _____ places @ £7.50 each for the KOSA
Reunion and Buffet to be held at 7.30pm on Friday, 26th March 1999 at Kingsfield School.

Name _____ Guests' Names (Non KGS): _____

Maiden Name _____

Address _____

If you have any special dietary
requirements please inform us

Years at KGS _____ to _____

Please make cheques payable to 'Kingswood Old Scholars' Association'

CONTRIBUTION TO KOSA NEWS*

To: Ron Clements, Hon. Treasurer, KOSA,
5 Rangers Walk, Hanham, Bristol, BS15 3PW Tel: 967 2328

I enclose £ _____ as my contribution to KOSA NEWS

Name _____ *We do not chase for an annual subscription

Maiden Name _____ but your Committee invites you to contribute

Address _____ £3 per annum towards the cost of KOSA NEWS.

You will NOT be struck off the circulation list
for non-payment.

Years at KGS _____ to _____

Please make cheques payable to 'Kingswood Old Scholars' Association'

of The Heart Of Kingswood, our 1997
the area. There was simply too much of
ideo, so you now have the opportunity to
Kingswood's enthralling history.

1st Take Video presents

KINGSWOOD REVISITED



DAVE ROGERS
JILL WILLMOTT
BRIAN ILES
ANDY WARREN,
MATTHEW CLEMENTS, MATT REES

Duration approx. 70mins.
with Glas. HS37 8RZ.

Unauthorized copying, hiring,
or exploitation of this
product from classification.



1ST TAKE

WITH PAUL AND JILL WILLMOTT, AUTHORS OF
'KINGSWOOD THROUGH THE YEARS'

KINGSWOOD REVISITED

The above video came out just before Christmas 1998. Part of the video is devoted to Kingswood Grammar School and KOSA have an arrangement with the publishers that they will contribute to KOSA funds for each copy sold. Copies are available from KOSA for £11.95 plus £1.25 P & P.

Please send your name and address to the Editor (for address see KOSA News) and enclose a cheque for £13.20 made payable to First Take Video.