



KOSA NEWS



NUMBER 19 - SUMMER 2001

The Magazine of the Old Scholars of Kingswood Grammar School

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DIARY DATES...

THE 3 JOHNS' REUNION BUFFET LUNCH...

JOHN BISHOP (52-57) President of Kingswood RFC, formerly Kingswood Old Boys RFC, is organising a reunion buffet lunch on SATURDAY 6th OCTOBER 2001 from 11.30am when we can all get together and watch a match in the afternoon and have a natter about old times. JOHNS COLE and BREDDY (49-56) want to encourage the 49ers to attend as a kind of informal repeat of the Tracy Park Reunion of 1999. If you would like to come along please phone JOHN BISHOP on 0117 967 6083 or JOHN BREDDY on 01249 652976, so that they can cater for numbers. The girls are also welcome! Oh yes, there is a bar! The clubhouse is immediately behind the Tenniscourt Inn, entrance Grimsbury Road.

AUTUMN LUNCH...

Lincombe Barn, Overndale Road, Downend has also been booked for our very popular Autumn Lunch on SATURDAY, 13th OCTOBER 2001. We meet at about 12.30pm and sit down for lunch at 1pm. Please put it in your diaries now as a very pleasant occasion when you can come along to meet old friends. There will also be a bar.

Send the enclosed form to our Treasurer, RON CLEMENTS, 5 Rangers Walk, Hanham, Bristol BS15 3PW Tel: 0117 967 2328

EDITORIAL...



KOSA seems to be succeeding in its aim of getting more and more ex-KGS folk together both formally and informally. Please let KOSA NEWS know of any events which you are planning so that we can help promote them by publicising them in the 'NEWS, and also to avoid any clashes which might arise.

We still need help from willing members. Our plan to set up a website means that we are looking for a Webmaster who can organise the material which we have into an attractive website, which can be accessed the world over. Our treasurer has expressed a wish to retire from that role at the next AGM, so we're looking for a replacement, and we are still looking for an archivist, a job which perhaps could be combined with the webmaster for someone with the right skills.

Thanks to all those who gave us an opinion on the proposed KOSA badge. Your committee have decided that it would not be a sound use of KOSA funds, given the level of commitment required. Finally, please keep those letters and photographs coming. Always pleased to hear from you.

OBITUARIES...

TED YOUNG (1952-59) writes:

'Sorry to record that my eldest brother FRANK (FRANCIS JOHN YOUNG (1947-54) passed away suddenly in June 2001. I was hoping to be able to tell you the cause, but, as yet, do not have an official answer. Frank was born in 1935, and was in the 1947 entry.'

DEREK BAILEY (1949-53), now living in Colorado, made a very quick visit to the UK last March to see KATHLEEN RIDLEY, HEADMASTER RIDLEY'S second wife whom he married in 1970 after the death of DORIS RIDLEY in March 1966. She was in failing health when Derek visited her, and she died on 13 March 2001 in Portscatho, Cornwall where she had lived for the past 5 years. 'Obviously she had no direct relationship to KGS', writes Derek, 'but of course through her tie to NORMAN RIDLEY she was to me in a sense family.' Derek lived with the Ridleys in the 1950s.

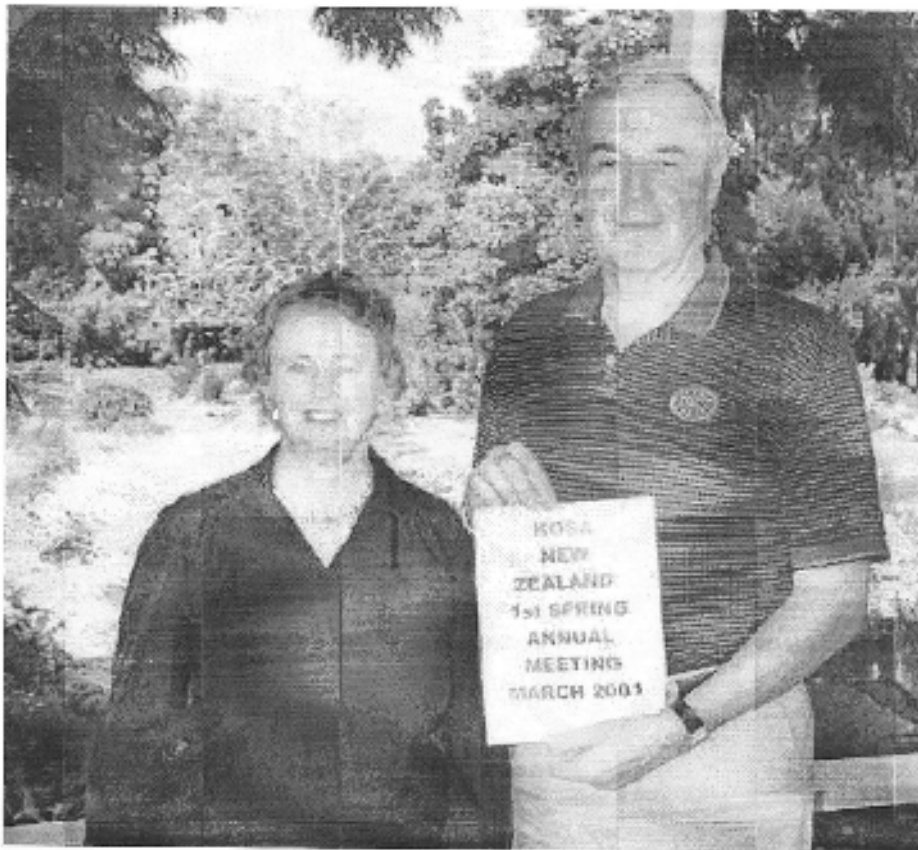
Incidentally, NORMAN RIDLEY succeeded MAJOR EATON in 1949 at the ripe old age of 37 and he retired in August 1973 at the age of 61. It was also in 1973 on Derek's first return visit to the UK with his wife Nancy that he took the photograph of the school hall, looking as though set out for those dreaded examinations. 'We got NORMAN RIDLEY to open up the place for Nancy' writes Derek, 'so I was lucky enough to get a few pictures of the old place before the funeral pyre'.

The death is also reported of GEOFF HOPKINS (1951-1957) after a period of illness. Geoff, who has worked in the Middle East, and had a house in France with his French wife Odile, leaves a daughter Sarah. We are sorry to record Geoff's passing, but his step-mother KATHLEEN HOPKINS, also ex-KGS, reports that Geoff did enjoy his life which he lived to the full. Your Editor was a contemporary of Geoff's, and he is remembered with affection.



KOSA INTERNATIONAL...

To illustrate that KOSA meetings are not all UK-based, below is a photo of our New Zealand branch which this year had its Spring Annual Meeting in Kerikeri, New Zealand on 23 March 2001. A successful lunch attended by BONITA CARR (now CRON) (1951-58) and DEREK BAILEY (1949-53) and their respective spouses. You may remember that Derek is head of our Colorado, USA branch.



gether way back and the burning question was would we recognise each other after 47 years or so! We agreed to meet in Puzzle Centre in town and I would bring them back to lunch. My first effort was a failure, nearly got into trouble! But then went inside - how could I mistake him! So he and his wife HELEN came home to lunch with us and we had a wonderful hour or two on 'catch up' and 'what happened to so-and-so?'

'I see it is the 80th birthday this year and I hope you had an enjoyable evening at 28th April dinner and please give my best wishes to any old friends from 1948-52'

From Canada came a letter from SUSAN POWELL (55-60):

'KOSA NEWS certainly jogs my memories of 'the cowsheds'. I started in 1955 in 'BONEY' BRITTON'S 1B in the annexes, and left

Also from New Zealand MARY HUCKLE (now THORNE) (1948-52) writes:

'Following the visit last year from MAUREEN GRIFFIN (now FORD) (1951-58), I was again blessed earlier this year with a phone call from DAVID KERSHAW (49-56) who with his wife was on a tiki tour around New Zealand and visiting relatives. They were down in Fiordland and were coming through Wanaka on their way up the West Coast.

'David and I were in the same class to-

after 'O' Levels. I remember MISS SPILL very well, and although she was strict I certainly got a good grounding in the French language which held me in good stead when I moved to Quebec in 1968. In Canada I attended university and have an undergraduate and a Masters degree in Social Work. I have worked in various hospitals for the past 25 years as a social worker.

The person who influenced me most was the Art teacher that I had for the first 3

years. I still take my sketch book around with me and remember her lessons in shading and perspective. I think her name was MISS LEES - can anyone remember? I was interested in hearing the news about JAMES WHITLOCK (see elsewhere in this NEWS - Ed.) as he was in some of my classes. Others in my classes included ROSEMARY DAVIES, CHRISTINE SWANGER, and DIANE NELSON. Will be back in Bristol again next year.'

Also from Canada MEGAN DAVIES (now CLIVE) (41-48) writes:

'You mentioned IRIS POPE (nee PURNELL) (41-46) and I would be grateful if you would convey my kind regards to her, although I'm afraid I have lost contact with her. I did meet TONY CURTIS (39-46) a very few years ago, since when he has kindly sent me Christmas cards featuring his delightful drawings. I have remained in contact with many former pupils and until the last five years I often went past the school on my yearly visits to my aunt. I have many happy memories of it and I could also tell some amusing stories which perhaps no-one else has dared to relate...' (We are waiting, Megan - Ed)

ALAN BAINES (1949-56) from our South African branch e-mails:

'It occurs to me that Old Scholars might be planning a visit to South Africa and would like some local information they can contact me at 11 Elphinstone Ave, Table View, Cape Town 7441, Tel: (021) 5561200, Fax: (021) 5523699 or e-mail: [dawnj@iafrica.com]'. Thanks, Alan.

THE GOWER...

JOHN BELSTON (48-54) wrote about those 'A' Level Biology trips to the Gower Coast:

'These took place in 1952, 53 and 54. I went on the first two expeditions and these were described in 'Kingswood Chronicles' of the time. I enclose group

photos of those trips (see page 5), although KEN LANGDON, TONY LAWRENCE and PAT BEESE do not appear on these photos. The one in front of the guest house was actually taken in 1952. I greatly admire the dedication of MISS RICKETTS (Biology) and MR ASHWELL (Geography) in giving up part of their holidays for us. A similar comment applies to BRIAN SAMMONS (Chemistry) who ran practicals during the holidays and also evenings during the term. I hope I was suitably grateful at the time, but I doubt it.

'The picture of 3B on page 14 of No 18 was my old class, and on the back page, the top sports photo, the girl nearest the camera may be PAM TIPPETT, with PHIL DENT standing behind her.

'I was fascinated by the notes in KOSA NEWS 16 from ERIC HILTON, Head of Music, regarding the relations between HEADMASTER RIDLEY and his staff. As pupils we had no inkling of the situation, however I did realise that things at KGS were going to be different when on the first day as headmaster the staff wore gowns. A big surprise!

'Two other items occurred to me: there was a large concrete slab outside of the hall with what could have been lifeboat davits projecting from the top, and in the playing field was part of a fuselage of an aircraft. Perhaps their backgrounds have already been recorded? (Yes, in earlier editions of KOSA NEWS - Ed)

'Continuing the aviation context, I wholly concur with PHILIP DARKE'S (48-52) (whom I remember well) comments on page 17 on the noise generated by pulse jet engines. I recall that a pulse jet powered model aircraft was occasionally flown on Hanham Common. Once the engine started the spectators retired rap-

idly behind stone walls. The engine noise caused panic among the cows on Stonehill



A 1921er...

It's always good to hear from those who were at KGS from the early years, and a letter has been received from HILDA LEWIS (now CHART) (1921-26):

'It's always a great joy to receive KOSA NEWS - old memories come flooding back. I was one of the first pupils and distinctly remember the first day when we

him I learned the rudiments of leather-work, canework and metal work and spent many happy dinner hours stenciling the robes for the play 'Antigone'.'

Below is a photograph of the production of 'Antigone' in which Hilda's handiwork was exhibited. The production took place in 1925 by the English Society.



gathered in the hall (later the library - Ed) and the staff stood on the platform - MAJOR EATON in the middle with MISS QUINTON and MISS POWELL on one side and CHARLIE HOWARD and BEN JONES on the other. I remember hoping that I wouldn't be in MR JONES' class - he looked so fierce - and was pleased to be in MR HOWARD'S class.

'Actually BEN JONES was an excellent teacher, if somewhat unorthodox. If a pupil was inattentive he or she would probably find a duster or a piece of chalk come hurtling towards them with great accuracy! I have always been grateful to the Art teacher, MR SEARLE, who joined the staff in the second or third year. From

According to the 'Kingswood Chronicles' of 1925, RUTH REED played Antigone, M BREWER played Ismene and the chief male protagonist, Creon, was played by BARNES. Others mentioned in the report were CHIVERS as Teiresias, EDWARDS as Haemon and the chorus leader was M DAVIS. Although she didn't say so, HILDA was one of the violinists- Ed

'In spite of the dreadful things that have happened to the school, I hope that its spirit will continue to inspire pupils for many years to come. If anyone remembers me I would love to hear from them.'

RECORDS...?

We featured the YEOMANS in the last edition and claimed for them a record of five pupils at KGS from the same generation. Your Editor realised his mistake when the following letter was received from SHIRLEY KENDALL (now JAMIESON) (47-52). Shirley writes:

'With reference to the article 'Is this a Record?' in No 18, I feel bound to reply in rhyme:

The Yeomans' record is impressive to hear,
But shall not unchallenged remain,
For no less than six Kendall siblings I fear
Passed through these same halls of fame.
Pat, Audrey, Shirley, John, Arthur, and Liz.
Did I hear seven? - Who'll lay claim to this?

'PAT (now SMITH) started in 1942, AUDREY (wife of RON PARSONS) 1945, SHIRLEY (now JAMIESON) 1947, JOHN



1949, ARTHUR 1954 and ELIZABETH (wife of GEOFF CURTIS) 1960. As Liz left in 1967 that makes 25 years that KGS held sway over the Kendall household.'

The photograph below shows the Kendall Klan about 1955. Back row: John, Audrey, Arthur, Christine, Pat, Shirley. Front row: Elizabeth and David between Mr Frank and Mrs Annie Kendall.

PHIL DARKE (47-52) also claimed an example equal to that of the YEOMANS. Phil writes:

'This record must surely be equalled by the BURT family comprising HUGH, IAN, RICHARD and JOANNE. Unlike his sister JUDITH, who achieved the position of Head Girl at KGS, HUGH'S schooldays were turbulent and he still harbours strong views about certain teachers and their methods! JOANNE may have attended KGS around the time of the change to Kingsfield.

'Hugh, Richard and Joanne all live in the Bristol area, but Ian lives in Fareham, Hampshire and Judith has recently moved to Stithians in Cornwall. Bill and Flo, their parents, who were active members of the KGS PTA, still talk of HEADMASTER RIDLEY with great respect. They now live in Timsbury, near Bath.'

In attempting to extend the record across a number of generations, JOHN BAILEY (1938-43) sent in details of his family's association with KGS:

RICHARD (1921-27), ROY (1926-32), EDGAR (1928-34), VICTOR

(1931-37) and JOHN himself (1938-43). The second generation of PHILIP (1963-70) and JILL (1968-74), children of VICTOR, PETER (1959-66), son of JOHN, GERALD (1962-65) and CAROL (1962-65), children of ROY, and EDITH, who was JOHN'S German wife who was a school secretary between 1951 and 1977. Eleven over two generations!

PERSISTENT PASSIONS - a new column?

JOHN COLE (49-56) offers the suggestion and the first contribution:

'In September 1999 at the very successful reunion of the '49ers' (who entered KGS in 1949) it was fascinating to catch up on the lives of School peers, some of whom I had not seen for over 40 years! An area of interest was activities pursued outside of work and family. Amongst enduring passions I learnt, for example, of JUNE DEMERY'S (now HOOPER) involvement in opera, JOYCE MIZEN'S (now JAY) in musical theatre, JEFF FORD'S barber-shop singing, GRETA AMOS' walking the ancient European pilgrimage ways, PETE WALTERS' trade in fine Burgundy wines and BRIAN BUTLER'S body-contact sport -still playing rugby at the age of 60!

'These peers and readers generally may wish to describe and explain their compelling interests that have lasted or developed since school days. My own particular passion is mountaineering, first aroused by a School field trip to the Lake district at Easter 1955. The party was behind time when transferring from the youth hostel at Keswick to the one at Ambleside. We were on the lengthy walking traverse from Borrowdale to Langdale. DAVE FOICE (48-56) and I were sent on ahead by MISS BAILEY and MR POPLE to delay the bus at the Old Dungeon Ghyll Hotel. In good conditions we

just sort of diverted over England's highest hill (Scafell Pike) en route, but still reached the bus in time. So I was hooked on this mountaineering lark, extending my horizons in this and other ways as a KGS scholar.

'As a Fresher at the University of Birmingham I immediately joined the mountaineering club ('The Stoats' - don't ask why) and was introduced to formal rock climbing in North Wales. Both this aspect of the sport and that area have remained my favourites and I continue to climb there, especially on the cliffs of Llanberis and Tremadoc and on the buttresses of Tryfan. I enjoy memberships of two mountaineering clubs, including use of a well-located club cottage and reduced hut fees in the Alps, and partnering experienced climbers who live near me. However, the 'buzz' itself comes from controlling natural fear in potentially dangerous situations and in using technical skills and agility to overcome problems of the vertical kind. This is also the case when I practise on indoor walls which are somewhat akin to giant chess-boards where I have to find a solution (too frequently a gymnastic rather than an elegant one and where falling off on a top rope is an embarrassment rather than an accident!). Incidentally, I don't think I was ever a masochist and always I hope for sun-warmed rock and good conditions. My snow and ice technical climbing has been very limited but I enjoy long distance and high level mountain walking. The hardest single day trip was getting to the top of Half-Dome and returning to The Valley in The USA's Yosemite National Park; the 'highest' was the cumulative 37,000 feet height gain and loss on the walkers' 'Haute Route' from Chamonix to Zermatt; the most enjoyable was the Routeburn Track in New Zealand's Fjordland with my two youngest children (both young adults).

'As you've persevered this far I trust that I have not bored you silly. Anyway, now the challenge and opportunity are yours to explain your own 'persistent passion'.'

FERO-EQUINOLOGY...

No, not another science subject taught by 'BUNNY' AUSTEN, but many of the boys at KGS in the 40s, 50s, and 60s were trainspotters. Those were the days of steam when locomotives of the GWR, LMS and occasionally SR could be seen in the Bristol and Bath areas.

Some have retained their interests to this day, a Persistent Passion? MIKE STANTON (?) is chairman of Mangotsfield Railway Circle, RICHARD STRANGE (54-59) is Historical Advisor to the successful monthly glossy magazine 'Steam World', MIKE COKAYNE (52-58) and ALAN HIRESO (62-69) either have been or are still are involved in the steam preservation scene, and even the Editor has been known to underline the odd number in his 'Ian Allan ABC'! Others, like DAVID CHURCH (49-56) go in for railway modelling to bring back the feelings of a golden era.



The photo below left, sent in by BOB SLAVIN (48-54), is one he took of DEREK MOODY (48-56) and friend on a trip to a London Locomotive Power Depot, otherwise known as a Loco Shed, during that golden pre-Railtrack era. For the initiated, the locomotive is a 'Jubilee' Class 4-6-0 45664 'Nelson'.

FLYING MEMBER...

RICHARD HALL (1961-68) e-mails:

'I was in Perth, W. Australia this week and caught up with an old girlfriend of mine, LORNA OLLSON (63-70). She showed me the KOSA magazine which was of great interest! I had known about it from a school contemporary of mine, PETE KENDALL, but had not seen a copy. Our vintage, 1961-1968, keep in touch regularly and in fact you carried a small piece about our most recent reunion in September last year. Our 50th year!

'I went to Liverpool University reading Geography and English Lit., then to Sussex for a Cert Ed. I did not go into teaching however and got a flying scholarship with British Airways who trained me as a pilot; a somewhat drastic change of direction you may think! I have been in aviation since 1975 and have been flying for Cathay Pacific based in Hong Kong since 1989 on the Airbus 340 and 330. My wife and I (married 1986) have two daughters aged 11 and 7 who are at school here in Hong Kong.

'My parents still live in Oldland Common (in the house in which I was born!) so I get back to the area as often as I can, usually in the summer, and of course catch up with my mates from school; PETE KENDALL, STEVE PHIPPS, RICHARD MARSDEN, MICK BROWN to name a few. I was also a trainspotter with ALAN HIRESO (62-69) when we were kids in Oldland Common.'

GENERATIONS...

SHEILA PARSONS (now WILLIAMSON) (1954-59) writes:

'Thanks for reporting my parents' diamond wedding anniversary last time. My mother, IRIS WILMOTT (now PARSONS) was at KGS in the 1930s. We did have a splendid party and we catered for about 70 friends and family, including my brother Mike (not a product of KGS) who came from Namibia for a short holiday. I had already arranged a card from the Queen which was delivered by hand the day before as their anniversary fell on a Sunday. This made the occasion special.

'Also attending the party was MR RIDLEY'S secretary DOREEN ROGERS (now CRUSE) (1948-55), Mum's cousin, whose husband STAN CRUSE (41-46) is a magician belonging to the 'Magic Circle'. They gave us a first class show with humour and audience participation, including our four year old grandson who couldn't get his magic wand to behave. Mum and Dad had specified no presents but the contributions to St Peter's Hospice, a charity I have worked for 16 years, were welcomed. We collected £180.

'Looking through an old album I came across this old photograph, taken in 1957, of a classroom at the 'cowsheds'(see below, left). From left to right are BETTY



WHITTLE, SANDRA ACKERMAN, JILL PLUMMER, YVONNE DRAPER and myself. What a bevy of beauties!

A WEB SITE...?

BOB MEAKER (62-68?), now resident in sunny Majorca, asks if we have any ideas for a KOSA/KGS Website, perhaps with a guestbook so that ex-scholars can write comments etc. It would attract a lot of interest from Old Scholars all over the world. Yes, we would like to do that, but time is a problem for the Ed at the moment! Namely its dearth! However, if anyone would like to take on the job, please let me know as we have a lot of digitalised material which could go on it.

Bob's e-mail address is [accounts@malhigh.com] and he would love to hear from any of his contemporaries/classmates, especially JIMMY BURGESS, CLIVE PERRY, BOB HALLETT, CAROL ARNOLD, LIZ EWELL, RICHARD SHEEN (SHEAN?), GRAHAM STEVENSON and ALAN MORGAN.

In the meantime MIKE WHITLOCK (1949-56) has put some 1955 photos on a page which can be accessed on [www.homepages.tesco.net/~WHITLOCK/kgs/kgs1955photos.html].

Mike says that if you have difficulty, try it without the www - it's there! It really shows what can be done. Any offers?

Perhaps there is someone out there who also has a collection of KGS photos which they would like to put on a website. If so, please let us know the address and we'll publish it in the next KOSA NEWS.

HOLLYWOOD LINKS...

MARIE HARRIS (1926-30) spotted an article in the Evening Post on 21 June 2001 about CARY GRANT, who as ARCHIE LEACH went to Fairfield Grammar School. We already knew that he had been taught by our MISS QUINTON when she was teaching there before joining the staff of KGS, but imagine Marie's surprise when the accompanying photograph of Cary at school showed QUINNIE immediately behind him! Marie got straight in touch with the Evening Post, and the extract from the photo is reproduced by their permission.

The young Cary Grant is seated bottom right. Furthermore, Marie believes that the lady to the left of QUINNIE is MISS



M.A. PERRY, for obvious reasons known as 'MA' PERRY, who taught French at KGS. They were known to be friends, both joining KGS straight from Fairfield Grammar, and this is evidenced by QUINNIE'S arm resting on MISS PERRY'S shoulder. Some excellent detective work here!

Alexander Archibald Leach was born in 1904, and as he is reported to have been expelled from Fairfield when he was about 14, we estimate the photo to have been taken about 1917 or 1918.

SCHOOL FUNDS...

DAVID PETERS (46-52) writes: 'Seeing the name 'CHUCKLES' HOWARD reminded me that we had to produce at the commencement of each school year a subscription to the 'School Fund'. (I believe that it was 6s 6d in the 1950s - Ed.) CHUCKLES, presumably because of his ability to count in his capacity as Senior Maths Master, took charge of this money.

'He always appeared in a new suit at the beginning of the year and the entirely unfounded joke circulating was that this was funded from the income. After several years the joke became too much for us and laughter broke out on his arrival at the first assembly, when the subscription was due. He naturally took exception to this laughter and demanded to know the reason for it, keeping us standing for some time before grudgingly letting us go to classes. Nobody had the nerve to explain, perhaps recalling CHUCKLES' dexterity with the large wooden blackboard compass!

'I think I remember that 'MOGGY' MORGAN taught Maths and/or Geography, and re. the photo on page 11, top right: if it was a joint bio/geog trip then the sec-

ond from the left could be DAVID HILLING, but, then, he will probably recognise himself!

'I was sorry to hear of the death of DAVE EDWARDS, a stalwart of Kingswood Old Boys RFC in the early days, and always a gentleman.'

David's story of 'CHUCKLES' HOWARD in assembly reminds your Editor of another occasion of note. On Monday mornings it was usual to announce in assembly the results of the various matches which had taken place the previous weekend. The headmaster had constantly berated the school for its failure to applaud successful results when they were announced, and on this particular Monday morning, in about 1953, 'CHARLIE' HOWARD was conducting the Assembly in his capacity as Senior Master.

After the prayers and scripture reading came the announcements:

'The First Rugby XV won last weekend
15 - 3'

Applause!

'The Girls' Hockey Team won 3 - 0'

Applause!

'The Headmaster will not be in school this week'

Applause!

Pandemonium broke out as the staff and prefects tried to stop the general applause for the last announcement. I believe the 4th and 5th years were kept in every evening for a week, required to stand in the School Hall in complete silence as a punishment for their rash demonstration of their approbation!

More a lesson in the juxtaposition of announcements, I'd say!

ELEVATIONS...

JOHN BRYANT (44-52) wrote to tell us that congratulations are extended to THE VERY REV. ROBERT WILLIS (1958-65) who was installed by the Archbishop as Dean of Canterbury Cathedral in 1st July 2001. A good number of ex-KGS pupils were present to support Robert, including his sister PAULINE (1950-55).

Robert was awarded a BA at the University of Warwick in 1968 and went on to study Theology at Oxford. His subsequent appointments included Vicar Choral at Salisbury Cathedral, Tisbury, Sherborne and Dean of Hereford Cathedral.

Staying with the church, REV CANON JIM WHITLOCK (56-62) was elevated to the retired list when he left as the vicar of St Mary with St Paul and St John, Penzance last October 2000. According to the newspaper story which accompanied his retirement, Jim started thinking about going into the church at the age of six! First, however, he became an artist (influenced at KGS by our own HAROLD WATTS?) after attending the Royal West of England College of Art and Brighton College of Art, and later at the age of 28 he entered the ministry and studied theology at Cambridge. Jim, however, still exhibits his paintings. Here's Jim in Art mode.



MOORE'S MUSINGS...

A reunion of the 1952 starters (see photos on pages 14 & 15) prompted ROGER MOORE (52-57), who is now the REV MOORE, to put some of his ramblings down on paper. Here's a sample:

'My Infants School was Samuel Whites in Hanham and from there I transferred to Hanham Abbots where the head was Mr. A. N. Gibbons. Having successfully scaled the hurdle of the 11+ and the personal interview with MISS QUINTON, I remember boarding the school bus for KGS in September 1952. Although I can't remember the form, I'm pretty certain the form mistress was MISS WATTERS. The names I remember in those early days include TED YOUNG, STEVE CULLING, VIC JORDAN, CHARLIE PAINTER, MALCOLM HENRY, MICHAEL HOLLOWAY, 'GUS' EDWARDS, DICKY BARLOW, (Joined in year 4 or thereabouts), DAVE HUMPHRIES, MARY GIBBONS, EILEEN MATTHEWS, JO CRITCHLEY, BONITA CARR, MARGARET FORSEY, YVONNE RANDALL, PAM JONES, CHRISTINE TAYLOR (who joined in the second or third year I believe), BRENDA SEALEY, MARGARET & MAUREEN (the twins), MARY HAYES and JEAN HURST.

'Members of staff I remember include MR. PEET, DOC. TREVELYAN, 'CHUCKLES' HOWARD and MR. HODSON who all taught Maths, MR WILLIAMS (Woodwork), the delightful MISS JACOB and Mr. ERIC HILTON who taught music, MR. 'CYRIL' NELSON (History and RE), GEORGE BUTCHER (English), HAROLD WATTS (Art and sometimes Games), RUTH 'FLUFF' WOOLLENS (French), and many others!

'I have a number of memories of my years at KGS, not least taking part in "The Gondoliers" - it was a lot of fun and I still re-

member many of the words of the songs, I also remember MARION JACOB'S brilliant piano playing. I think I was also in "The Bartered Bride", but I have very few memories of that production.

'I have very fond memories of GEORGE BUTCHER - there were two lads who maintained that they were communists and came into the classroom giving the left-handed stiff armed salute, and asserting that the Russian miners were far better looked after than our own people... he dealt with them with patience and with humour. I remember having a number of arguments with him - I think it was in the run-up to "A" Levels, we were supposed to have English and I, very arrogantly I now realise, insisted of doing Chemistry revision during his lesson. He got, justifiably, quite cross and insisted that I took part in his lesson. I lost my rag and called him a "barrack-room lawyer". It was when he, very quietly asked me to define "barrack-room lawyer" that I realised just how rude I had been. He gave me a Saturday morning detention, which had to be confirmed by the Headmaster RIDLEY. To his everlasting credit, he stated to Mr. Ridley that he thought the punishment was too severe for the crime and I was given an essay to write and hand in to the head instead. On reflection, I think I probably did deserve the detention, but George, bless him was a real gentleman. Nothing more was said until I received my end of term report when I saw that, under English, George had written, "Uses words well!"

'Sixth Form Chemistry was not without incident. I was doing some sort of experiment and had collected a jar of phosphorous pentachloride from the store cupboard and was walking with it through the balance room towards the lab. when the jar exploded in my hands. The compound was not very stable and had been around

**THE 52 REUNION
A PICTURE MONTAGE**





for some time. There was presumably a build up of hydrochloric acid gas in the jar and the movement was enough to cause the jar to explode. In no time the room was filled with acid fumes - RALPH HYETT rushed in with a Winchester of .880 Ammonia which he opened so that the ammonia fumes would neutralise the acid. As the chemicals reacted the room was filled with a dense white fog from which Ralph and I emerged coughing and spluttering. I still have a legacy of a scar on my nose caused by flying glass, and I remember Ralph complaining that he was unable to enjoy a cigarette for weeks!

'Chemistry was always fun, whether with RALPH HYETT or 'FISHY' SAMMONS. I remember an incident during one of Fishy's lessons. He was in the habit of pacing up and down as he taught and on this occasion, as he paced, there were a series of small explosions like little fireworks going off under his feet. He ignored them for a while, then grinned and asked, "OK, who's been sprinkling the nitrogen triiodide?". No-one owned up, but I think the culprit was CHARLIE PAINTER, and I apologise to him if I'm maligning him!. Apparently, if you pour .880m ammonia onto iodine crystals and then filter off and carefully dry the resulting crystals, you finished up with these very unstable nitrogen triiodide crystals. When sprinkled on the floor, just walking on them is enough to set them off!

'Physics was not without incident either. 'BUNNY' AUSTEN was determined to illustrate the heating effect of an electric current. He connected up a piece of thin wire covered in a cotton winding to the electrical supply and stationed TED YOUNG by the switch with the instruction to 'turn it on and off as soon as I say'. Holding the wire in his had so that we could all see, Bunny instructed Ted to switch on. Very soon wisps of smoke be-

gan to rise from the cotton winding as the wire heated up. 'Right Young, turn it off' came the command. Ted dived for the switch and missed it completely! By the time he tried again and turned off the current, the wire was a blackened mass, and Bunny's hand was covered in soot. His only comment was, 'Humph! I thought that might happen!'

'In the sixth form, there was an experiment where the girls were to undertake woodwork and the boys domestic science. We boys were taught how to cook simple meals and prepare an attractive looking table. At the end of the course we had to cook a meal for two and invite a member of staff to share it with us. I remember that I cooked "Quiche Lorraine" (posh name for bacon and egg flan!) but what I remember most all was successfully inviting MARION JACOB as my guest. I suspect I was the envy of all the male sixth formers at the time!

'LARRY WATKINS was a character I shall never forget. Seldom without his devil-may-care grin, he got into all sorts of scrapes. He had the distinction of being the only pupil to try to ride his bike up the sloping back of MR. RIDLEY'S Jowett Javelin car. I'm sure it was accidental, but I don't think Mr. Ridley thought so at the time. Later, in a Rugby lesson, I recall HAROLD WATTS standing in a group of us holding the ball aloft and saying, 'come on now, TACKLE!' No one really wanted to take on a master until Larry dived between our legs, caught Harold around the legs and floored him with great force. I don't recall him ever asking to be tackled again!

CORRECTIONS..?

PAM PAINTER now FURBER'S (35-42) article on pages 17/18 of the last edition prompted JOHN BERRY (32-38) to write: 'I believe the article contained at least one

error (which you are at liberty to check with her). The 'Berry Prize' was given by my father as a thank you to KGS for the education I had received there, and I took it over after the Second World War (during which I was a Prisoner of War). Whether or not the BERRY twins were killed during this war I know not, but as far as I can see the 1941/42, the 1942-45 and the 1945-49 'Kingswood Chronicles' (all of which I hold) do not mention them. The 1941/42 issue, incidentally, confirms that P THURBER was a prefect, and hockey goalkeeper.

'I am also not sure about the reference to MR BROWN'S twin sons. I only recall one son, named DONALD, who was a contemporary of mine and went on to work at Pye - I have failed to trace whether he survived the war or what happened to him. When I was in the 6th form (1936-38), MR BROWN'S first marriage was on the rocks and he was going out with an Old Scholar whom I believe he subsequently married. He left KGS, I don't know when, and went to Douglas, the motorbike firm in Kingswood. Later he kept a pub at Burbage, south of Marlborough in Wiltshire.'

ANOTHER YEOMAN...

PAT YEOMAN (now MURPHY) (44-49) writes:

'I was older than JEANNE YEOMAN and her sister PADDY, although no relation. My primary school was Kingswood High Street, and I started at KGS in Form 2A. I believe in my year (44) were JEAN WATTS, PAT TREVELLYAN, CLIVE WHITTOCK, JUNE FRY, NANCY LEONARD, DEBBY FISHER, BRIAN GIBS, BARRY WHISKER, DUCKY CANNARD, DOUG SHELLARD, NOBBY BRYANT, OLIVE TAYLOR, PAT JONES, NORMAN 'FIDO' BRACEY, and IVOR POWELL. 'In the 43 entry were MELVILLE BISHOP,

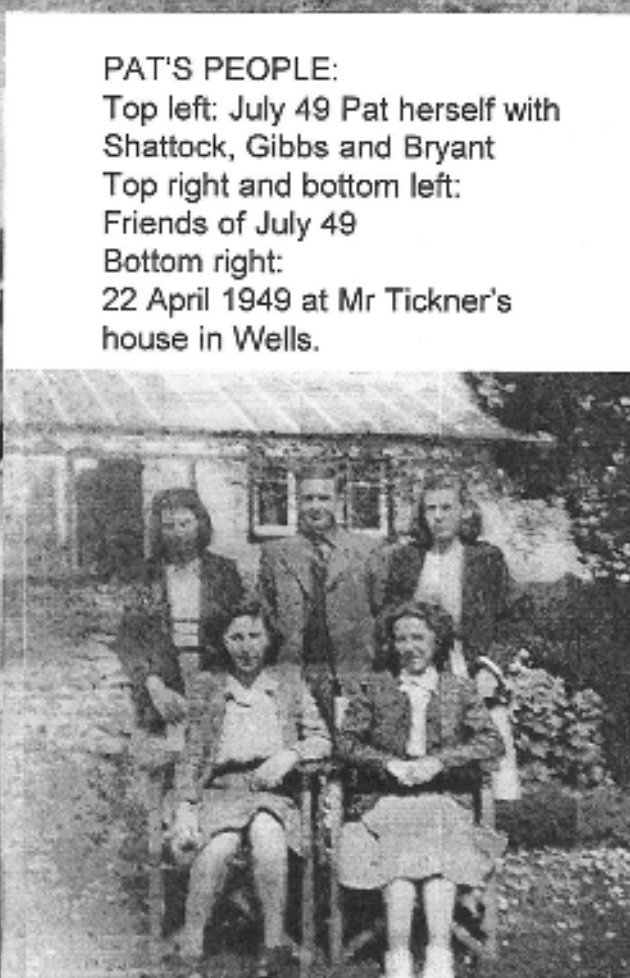
DESMOND CHURCH, JOHN COX, BERNICE DYER, DAVID EDWARDS, MARGARET FORD, MARGARET LENTHALL, NANETTE MILLINGTON AND HAZEL MOSELEY. The 45 entry included NOBBY HARDING and JEANNE YEOMAN.

'KGS was a family school and I think that I had 6 relations there. I can only guess at the entry year of 5 cousins: LEONARD POWELL (29?), JIM HAYES (38), MADGE DAVIES (31), FREDA MERCHANT (28), ARNOLD MERCHANT (32) and a second cousin MARGARET FORD (43).

'In KOSA NEWS No 9 Page 22 I knew all the staff mentioned and most of the boys. I was very disappointed not to have been mentioned with the attractive girls - my friends NANCY LEONARD, JUNE FRY, and JEAN WATTS! CLIVE WHITTOCK was mentioned. Does anyone remember the concert party at the end of the War run by Clive's father? Clive, his brother, and JEAN WATTS were in it, and when I met him about nine years ago he was still playing the drums.

'After the War we were the first set to learn Spanish with Mr Tickner. St Brendans was the only school around doing that language. I was secretary of the Old Girls Hockey team from 49 to 52, I think. After that I took up golf and met with Old Scholars who played in different local clubs - BRYMORE FRANCIS, DAVID BENNETT, DAVID EDWARDS, REX SMITH, MISS MORRISON, TERRY SULLIVAN and GWYN POWELL. I enclose some old photos which I hope are of interest.'

The personal photographs sent by PAT are on page 18.



PAT'S PEOPLE:
Top left: July 49 Pat herself with
Shattock, Gibbs and Bryant
Top right and bottom left:
Friends of July 49
Bottom right:
22 April 1949 at Mr Tickner's
house in Wells.

WESTMINSTER CALLS...

Congratulations to DAVID DREW (63-70) MP for Stroud who was re-elected to Parliament in the 2001 election. On searching the web your editor came across another ex-KGS pupil who inhabits the hallowed halls of Westminster. She is JANET ANDERSON, Labour MP for Blackburn with Darwen. Does anyone remember her maiden name and years at KGS, and her present address? JANET was born in December 1949, so would have gone to KGS probably in 1961. We would like to send her a copy of KOSA NEWS.

Commiserations to CHRISTOPHER GREENFIELD (1960-68), the Liberal Candidate for Kingswood, who didn't make it. In his election literature Chris reminded us that he was also the Liberal candidate in the KGS mock elections in 1964 and 1966. Perhaps better luck next time, Chris, when perhaps you can make it a hat trick for KGS!

FRIENDS OF THE 50s...



MARGARET JENKINS (now JONES) (52-58) sent in another informal photo of herself, twin sister MAUREEN, and friends taken in the grounds of KGS on a hazy, lazy day in June 1957. They are MAUREEN, PENNY SHORT, CHRISTINE SIMS, MARGARET, JANET JONES, ANN MORRIS and PAULINE YORK.

THE ROBINSONS...

A letter received from LEN ROBINSON (1936-39) who has been marooned on a very large island for some time.

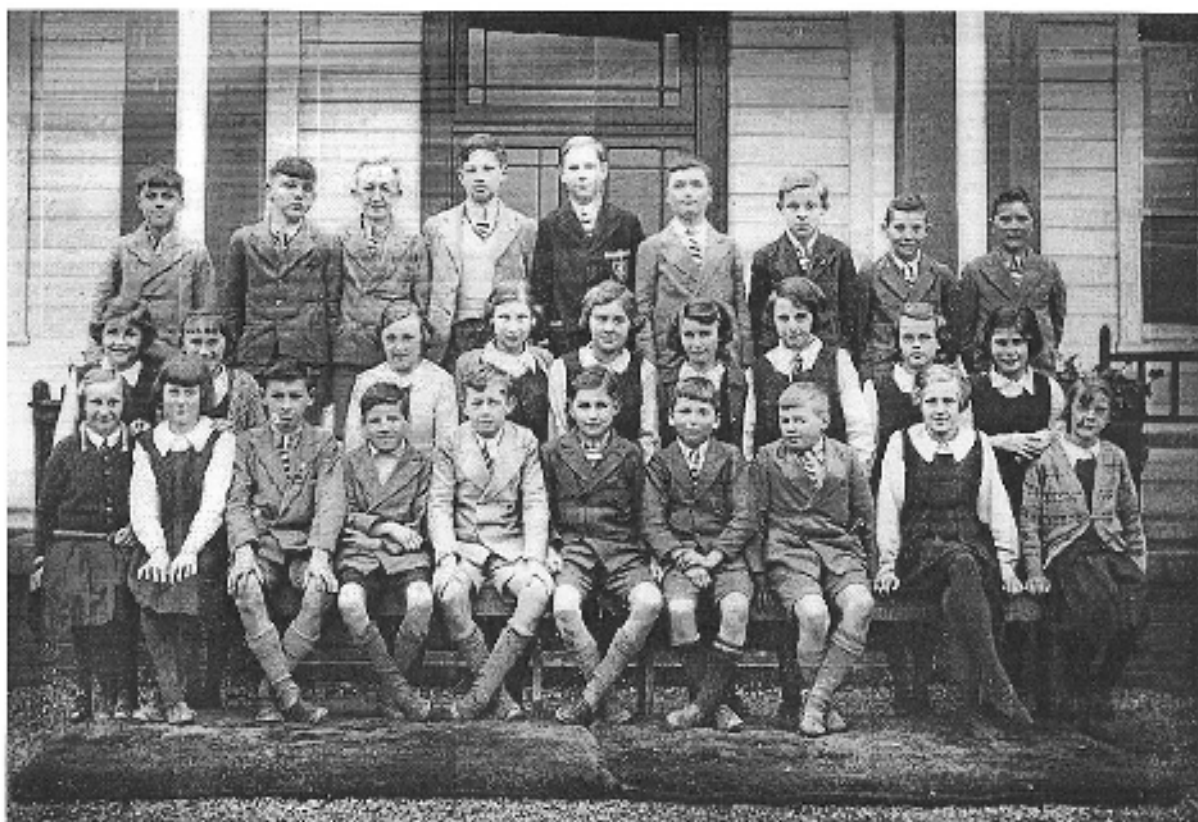
'I was delighted to read of people that I remember well and frequently BRIAN WHITE. MEGAN COOK and BOB LEONARD referred to on page 10 of NEWS No 18 were contemporaries of mine and of my wife MARY JONES (1936-38) whom I met at KGS.

'Mary left to attend St George Secondary, and I left later to become a pupil apprentice at Douglas where I stayed until coming to Australia in 1948 eventually entering the TAFE system and retiring from the Principalship of Argyle College of TAFE, Goulburn by 1984. It's now called the Goulburn Campus of the Illawarra Institute of Technology.

'Mary and I are both fit and well and she and my younger daughter toured the UK in 1988, staying with her sister in Hanham. My sister JEAN ROBINSON, now living in Burnham on Sea also attended KGS in the early 1940s. I would also be interested in getting hold of a copy of BILL BROWN'S book, which seems to cover my period at KGS.'

ONE FROM THE 30s/40s...

On the photograph are:



BARBARA WILLIAMS (now SANDOVER) (36-42) writes:

'Here's a photograph of Form 2A of 1936 and I find after all this time I can remember all the names, even though my memory isn't as good these days. I went into VI Commercial Group in 1941, which was a new course run by MR WINTERTON, who came to KGS in that year. He also taught Games and was in charge of 1860 ATC Squadron based at the School. Although he taught all the Commercial subjects, we also had English with MAJOR EATON, which was a joy, and Commercial French with 'FROGGY' DAVIES – when we read French newspapers – but old ones because it was wartime'

'I also enclose a newspaper cutting of the University of Bristol School Certificate results for July, 1941 and several of those on the photograph also appear on the list.'

Top row: Alan Cowles, Davies, Royston Gale, Long, Barrington, Harroway, Max Wilmott, Bastable, Mike Withers

Middle row: Margaret Hopes, Joy Burt, Betty Tydeman, Doreen Isaacs, Doreen Boyle, Emily Jackson, Stella May, Joyce Flowers, Barbara Williams

Bottom row: Eileen Monks, Loan Lyne, Alan Scadding, Bedoes, Wild, Matthews, Kibby, Howells, Jean Hudd, Grace Brewer

WHERE IS HE..?

A very short letter from ANDREW SMITH (??). He asks 'Does anyone know what happened to COLIN REES (49-54)? He was a good friend of mine, such a character!'

Can anyone respond to Andy's request?

The Pass List of the Bristol University First School Leaving Certificate Examination, July 1941, is as follows:

KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Kenneth Roy Baber, Nora Mary Baker, Jean Barrell, Kenneth John Bastable, Alan Gordon Brain, William Wreford Brown, Morwyn Richard Burgess, Megan Patricia Roma Cook, Eileen Jessie Cove, Sheila England, Joyce Mary Flower, Richard Charles Gerrish, Dereck Joseph Gillingham, Mary Irene Hardwick, Philip John Harrold, Marion Pattie Hendy, Peter Noel Hiles, John Edna Lapham, Norma Lewis, Mervyn Charles Lovell, James Robert Macfarlane, Malcolm John Macfarlane, Anne Doreen Merrett, Philip Henry Miles, Constance Pearson, Esther Pomroy, Mary Edith Radford, William Sandover, Alan John Scadding, Joan Eva Lesne Southorne, Harold Arthur Frank Tippet, Jean Lucy Trip, Joyce Tysoe, Barbara Maud Williams, Marjorie Lilian Winwood, Iris Winstanley.

Notice that both Barbara and husband William feature in the list!

DAM'S CONCLUSION...

Last time we included the first part of the letter from PAM FURBER (35-42) (now PAINTER). Here's the concluding part:

'When the war broke out we were recalled to school. As it was really holiday time, many of us rehearsed for '1066 And All That'. To quote an old mag, 'and ran to the shelters wearing draughty, ill-fitting colanders for Roman helmets.' Later we had another fortnight's holiday, in compensation. Mercifully, we never had a serious day raid in our area, that was kept for nights.

'I used to spend my weekends at Grandma's, Bishopston. I was there for the first terrible raid on Bristol. The next morning I tried to get to Old Market to catch the

Kingswood tram, but was turned back, as I scrambled over rubble, past wardens and around fires, by the police. I caught a tram to Filton, then ran and jumped aboard the moving coach for KGS. At lunchtime 'FLOSS' POWELL hauled me into her study and sought my co-operation in calming the excitement. No doubt I was whipping it up before!

'Recently I found some letters from MAJOR EATON. I never found him a snob, and he was always charming to me - the wildest of reprobates - except when I had been stupid. His letters, which he wrote till his death, were full of memories of Kingswood and the staff. I never pass his old house without happy thoughts.

'MISS MARGARET WATTERS and her sister were very kind to me even after I had left KGS. It was in one of her library lessons that I finally decided that my hand was too shaky to become a nurse, so I decided to teach, initially as an assistant HM in a small country school and finally as a county supply permanent peripatetic HM.

'I idolised MISS PERRY. I loved her smile and the way her eyes puckered. She thought my 'malady, like measles, would fade', but we kept in touch whilst she remained in Bristol, and after her move to a residential home in Midsomer Norton we went to see her. She ended her days in Clare Hall Nursing Home in Ston Easton. It was a home with beautiful gardens, and she used to make more fuss of my husband Jack than of me!

GENESIS EXPO...

The Creation Science Movement, run by DAVID ROSEVEAR (45-52), has set up an exhibition in Portsmouth. It includes computer displays, dinosaur eggs, models, books, tapes etc. More info. on [www.csm.org.uk].



WHITSUN PARADE...

Remember those Whitmonday parades by the local churches and other organisations which had people crowding to Kingswood High Street to witness the spectacle? DAVE HUMPHRIES (52-59) sent this photograph of a group led by KOSA Committee Member IRENE LUFFMAN (now FEWS) (1952-58) outside the old Kingswood Hotel. Anyone recognise others in the band?

REMEMBER THEM...

DAVE HUMPHRIES (52-59) is a member of Hanham Local History Society which has recently published a book 'Not Just a Name on a Stone'. The book covers stories of those Hanham servicemen who gave their lives in the Second world War and are remembered on the Hanham War Memorial. The War Memorial was relocated in 1957 from near the Blue Bowl Inn to the gardens of Hanham Folk Centre.

Amongst the names included in the book are our own GEORGE WYNDHAM PAR-

NELL and FREDERICK 'FERDIE' ILES whose stories we have featured in past editions of KOSA NEWS. They both won scholarships to Bristol University from KGS before the War. Copies of the book may be obtained from David, Tel: 0117 976 1657, for the princely sum of £5 plus £1 post and packing. A must for anyone interested in local history.

LINKS...

The death was announced in April 2001 of ROSIE SAMMONS, who as Rosie Douglas was a member of the Douglas motorcycle clan, and in fact used to test the bikes and was renowned for her dare-devil stunts. No, she didn't attend KGS, but married GWYNNE SAMMONS in 1933, who did. GWYNNE lost his life in 1940, and we were able to reveal the circumstances of his death in the NEWS, when he was shot down by a German aircraft off the coast of Holland. GWYNNE was also the brother of BRIAN 'FISHY' SAMMONS, ex Headboy and Chemistry Master at KGS for so many years.

ANOTHER LINK...

PHIL DARKE (47-52) relates a touching story about GWYNNE SAMMONS:

'I was once very keen on shooting and my mentor and companion was an elderly man who worked for Kingswood Council. He was an interesting character, and an excellent shot with rifle or gun. Born and bred in Kingswood, he had once been a chauffeur and, as a result, taught the local gentry and their children how to drive a motor car, there being no driving schools to speak of in those days. When sport was slow, or we were travelling, he would talk about 'old' Kingswood and its inhabitants, and he often mentioned Dr Sammons, the father of GWYNNE, BRIAN and BARBARA SAMMONS, all of whom attended KGS.

'When I called to take my friend on a shooting expedition, when all the gear was ready, he would place a Longines wrist watch (complete with leather strap) in his shirt pocket and attach it to a button hole with a length of string. He maintained the jarring of the gun being fired would upset the mechanism of the watch if it was worn on the wrist. This watch was obviously a highly prized possession and, sensing there was a story to it, I once asked how he had acquired it.

'Oh', he replied, 'I got it from an RAF Officer.'

'Was he a Kingswood man?', I asked.

'Yes', he replied, 'he was Dr Sammons' son, though not the one that taught you at the Grammar school, but his brother. When he was on active service, he thought it would be handy to have a pistol in case he got shot down. I got a revolver and some ammo. for him and he gave me the watch in exchange. Shortly afterwards he went missing, and I often wonder whether he ever used the revolver.'

'My gunman friend, bless his stout old heart, is now long gone, and the fate of the watch is unknown to me'

MORE REV'S DAMELINGS...

Some time ago, REV JOHN (TWEEDY) HARRIS (53-60) sent me a very long letter. Here's some more:

'If it had not been music as my main subject, it would have been History, This would be entirely due to MR NELSON (PIGGY) who was very good at playing the Devil's advocate in 6th Form discussions, and drew out of us an ability to discuss, even argue our point of view, which we maybe would not have gained if he had been merely a provider of information. Did he not go to be a Headmaster in Newton Abbot? MR JARVIS, who taught us French, also went to be a Headmaster, at Leominster, I can't say I enjoyed his lessons, half as much, partly because he had a very dubious sense of humour, but I did enjoy MISS SPILL'S lessons, She carried along the 'A' Level classes very well, with her sharp wit. Did she run the trips to Churchdown (between Gloucester and Cheltenham) to see the touring company perform Moliere? I remember going at least twice.

'At the end of the 3rd year, a majority of 3A were chosen to be the 'express' class which took 'O' Level at the end of the 4th year, thus doing the work of two years in one, Thinking back I can no longer see the educational logic of this, particularly as it did not lead to us doing anything special later. It certainly did not work for me, partly because, with my birthday at the end of August, I was always one of the youngest in the year anyway, let alone one of the youngest to take GCE. I found the year very hard, not least because it coincided with when we got our first TV set, making it very difficult for me to work. Many were the arguments at home, and

at one point my parents, very undemonstrative folk, were considering coming to school to try and get me off the course. Fortunately I survived. The other result was that we did three years in the 6th Form. As I was not chosen to be a prefect, much to ERIC HILTON'S (Music) consternation. I remember VI3 as a wasted year. I had already got a County Major Scholarship and so all I had to do was try for a State Scholarship (in the event I was on the reserve list). We took up residence in the Green Room next to the Hall, and all I remember doing was playing table tennis of a sort for hours on end, having a reduced timetable and little motivation. The only advantage was getting to the Tuck Shop first as it was at the top of the stairs, where dear NELLIE WYCHERLEY was there to greet us!

'On balance I enjoyed KGS, but you will understand some of the hurt I felt/still feel writing this. When I went to my first teaching post in Huddersfield I came across a school that really 'worked', with a brilliant Head, and that was a 11-18 Comprehensive School with 1,800 pupils! 'There are some odd/funny events to describe. JOHN TOBIN (47-54) was God to me, a bit like 'Tom Brown's Schooldays', the Head Boy of my first year. One day, he was conducting an auction of lost property (was it the Head Boy's privilege?). We were bidding for a pen, and the price came to 11d. You can guess who the fool was who said 12d instead of a shilling, to general laughter,

'M.LAPADU, was the French assistant who married MISS JACOB. In a French lesson, we came across the word 'diviner', and after a while of trying unsuccessfully to translate this word, he said 'guess', We tried every word under the sun, and probably a few that weren't, and he became more and more worked up in a French sort of way, shouting "Guess!"

with more and more vehemence, until the penny dropped - 'diviner' means 'to guess'. Whilst mentioning French, was our class the only one to steal 'FROSTY' WINTOUR'S glasses and pass them round the class without him knowing, waiting for the time when he would clap his hands together and exclaim "alors!" as they magically reappeared, Did he ever know?

'Does anyone remember House Plays? One of the funniest things I can remember at KGS was to see the play where GORDON JACKSON (55-62) had to make an entry on stage, and on opening the door, pushed instead of pulled (or the other way around) and brought the staging crashing to the ground.

'Whilst I could not empathise with MR. RIDLEY'S style of headship, I testify to his generosity outside school. I was due to go to Manchester for my university interview. The day before I went, I stayed behind after school for reasons forgotten, and waited for a bus at the bottom of Kingswood Hill. CNR. came along and gave me a lift. On the way, having been prompted by my parents, I was bold enough to ask if there was a grant to pay for travel to university interviews, quite an expense for parents then and now, at least £3 in those days! Whilst he didn't think there was, as I got out of the car, he rummaged in his pocket and produced a very generous contribution to my fare, presumably a personal gift.'

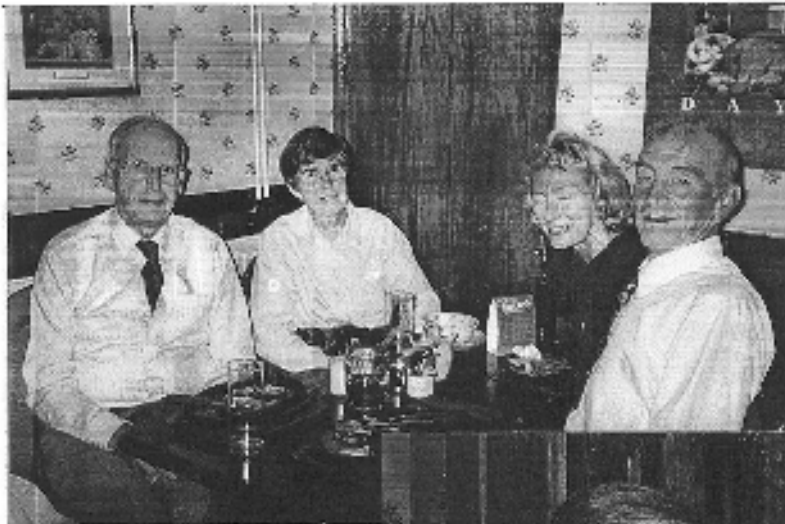
It appears that a number of ex-KGS folk have been called to the church over the years. We have a number of examples in this edition of KOSA NEWS. Was there anyone who influenced them in this direction - MISS QUINTON, perhaps, or 'PAUNCH' HAXTON or 'PIGGY' NELSON, all of whom had a hand at teaching Divinity? - Ed.

THOSE PERSONAL SHOTS
OF YEARS AGO



Clockwise from the top:
Serpentine, London Trip (1955?):
John Cullin, 'Fishy' Sammons, David Kendall,
'Buster' Burrage
London (1948?): Soldier unknown, Janet Bell
KGS terrace: Maureen Wallington (now Mrs J Cullin)
KGS steps: Joyce Clements, Pam ?
Physics Lab: John Cullin (is he thinking of Maureen?)





THE 1951ers GET TOGETHER

Left:
English Master and 5MS
Form Teacher in 1956
George Butcher and Mrs
Sheila Butcher and Martin
Harryman and his wife Angie

Right:
Dave 'Pinzo' Pine,
Mark Adams and
George Butcher



Left:
Rita Rayner (now Burrage),
Mark Adams and Dave Pine

Right:
Stanley 'Buster' Burrage,
Maureen Griffin (now Ford)
Alan Batten, John 'Des'
D'Alessio, Roger Cromwell
and Jon Francis.



**CHARLES NORMAN RIDLEY
HEADMASTER OF KGS
1949-73
THE RETIREMENT**

Right: and below right:
Presentation by Stuart Sykes
Below:
Senior Mistress Miss Morrison
in conversation



A THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT BATH ABBEY

November 17th 1978

For the life and work of Charles Norman Ridley

Born July 23rd 1912 - Died November 9th 1978

Officiating clergy

The Venerable John Burgess, Archdeacon of Bath.
Prebendary Geoffrey Lester.
Reverend Michael Barrow

Voluntaries

Nimrod	Enigma Variations	Elgar
Fantasia in G		Bech

Readings

Ecclesiastes	Chapter 3, verses 1 - 13
Phillipians	Chapter 4, verses 4 - 8

Hymns

Praise my soul the King of Heaven
Who would true valour see
For all the saints who from their labours rest

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer
The General Thanksgiving
The Collect for Trinity Sunday
Thanksgiving for Norman's life and work
The Blessing



CONGRATULATIONS...

This year, 2001, we celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the founding of Kingswood Grammar School, as Kingswood Secondary School, in 1921. We have already had a dinner last May, complete with a birthday cake, of course, and although the actual school is no more we are sure that the spirit of Kingswood Grammar School lives in so many ways.

A congratulatory note has been received from MARIE HARRIS (1926-30) who writes:

'Congratulations on the 80th anniversary of the original Kingswood Grammar School, and in memory of its Founders. 'Having been a pupil in the 1920s, happy memories remain for me of the staff of that time and the many friends which I met there - particularly my special friend of a lifetime, EDNA BRAIN (later BLANN) who passed away in 1994. At her entry to the school the paint was not dry on the walls, nor the plumbing complete! She would have joined me in sending you best wishes on this occasion'

The following was penned by BRIAN SAMMONS, erstwhile pupil and teacher, and appeared in the very first 'Kingswood Chronicles' of 1925:

A SCHOOL AUTOBIOGRAPHY...

I was born at Warmley, in the early months of 1921 AD, and started life as a school in the September of that year. Although I had five teachers, I took almost a term to settle down, for I had to get all my books and writing materials together. I had to start football and hockey teams, pick Prefects, and start Houses, in that first full term.

Each term since then I have gone ahead. I had grown in body as well as knowledge at the end of my first year. Of my three Houses - 'Haskins' House won the Sports cup which Alderman Page presented to me.

The second year I grew beyond all recognition. I was given more teachers again as a consequence. 'Davies' House won my sports cup. My third year has been the best year of my life. My hopes for future generations rise high within me. May I have a long and happy career.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Here are your Committee Members after the April 2001 AGM who will be pleased to answer any queries or will be happy to hear your suggestions for the future of KOSA:

Peter Walters (1947-54) Chairman 9 Selworthy, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 2RJ Tel: 967 8177
Gordon Bolt, 293 Badminton Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6NU Tel: 956 4020
Peggy Bolt (Oillet 1938-43) 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
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Irene Fewes (Luffman) (1952-57) 94 Middle Road, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 4XL Tel: 956 6603

KOSA ANNUAL LUNCH

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

I enclose £ _____ for _____ places @ £12.00 each for the KOSA Reunion Lunch to be held at 12.30pm on Saturday 13th October 2001 at Lincombe Barn, Overdale Road, Downend, Bristol

Name _____ Guests' Names:

Maiden Name _____

Address _____

Years at KGS _____ to _____

If you have any special dietary requirements please inform us

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 _____

Maiden Name _____

Address _____

Years at KGS _____ to _____

*We do not chase for an annual subscription but your Committee invites you to contribute £3 per annum towards the cost of KOSA NEWS. You will NOT be struck off the circulation list for non-payment.

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

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