



KOSA NEWS



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The Magazine of the Old Scholars of Kingswood Grammar School

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

Tel/Fax: 0117 956 5689 NEW e-mail address: kosanews@tiscali.co.uk

EDITORIAL...



From time to time in KOSA we try to create some momentos of our time at KGS. KEN MEEK produced the book 'We Were There' and the paperweights of the School, both of which are still available for a nominal contribution. We also produced a video of some old KGS films, including sports days of 1954 and 1955, which we have now transferred to DVD which is also still available for the princely sum of £6 by post.

Our latest venture is the KOSA tie, which is very smart and EDDIE WHITE (55-61), who thought of the idea, thinks that the tie would not be out of place when attending your regimental dinner, golf club or old school reunion! They are £10 by post or £9 at the lunches and currently available from our treasurer. The ladies have not been forgotten, and we hope to have a KOSA scarf made in time for the next lunch.

My thanks to all those who have made contributions of articles to this and past editions. The last AGM again fixed a zero subscription charge, but our voluntary subscription policy seems to work, so thanks, too, to all those who make a financial contribution to our activities. You are never chased for money. How many organisations can boast that!

DIARY DATES...

ANNUAL AUTUMN LUNCH:

Our Autumn Lunch is booked for **SATURDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2007** at Lincombe Barn. We meet at between 12 and 12.30 for a quick chat, then we sit down to a hot lunch at about 1.00pm. As ever, we have arranged a cash bar so you can chat over old times with a beer or a glass of wine. We have been asked to set aside some tables for the Rugby types, so please mark your form 'Rugby' if you wish to sit with them. Fill in the enclosed form now and send it to our Treasurer, MARTIN HARRIS, 5 Brecon View, Bleadon Hill, Weston Super Mare, BS24 9NF Tel: 01934 812315. All cheques payable to 'KOSA'.

ANNUAL BUFFET LUNCH and AGM:

Already booked for **SATURDAY, 12 APRIL 2008** at Lincombe Barn, Downend- Please book the date in your diary now.

OBITUARIES...

EDNA STEPHENS nee POWELL (31-35) passed away on 6th January 2007.



A service of thanksgiving was given on the 12 January for the life of Edna, who died at the age of 87. Some moving recollections were given by her niece Victoria:

'Edna was married to past KOSA Vice-Chairman FRANK STEPHENS (30-35). Having been at KGS briefly together, they met again in 1938 and had been married for almost 64 years. When they celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary they were both thrilled to receive a card from the Queen.

'In her early working life Edna was a dispenser/receptionist at a local doctor's surgery. Later, she became District Organiser of the WRVS for Spellthorn and Mendip for 32 years, during which time she dedicated much of her free time to the elderly. Her interests included membership of Frome Valley Ladies' Probus Club, Wickwar Women's Institute, Chipping Sodbury Historical Society, KOSA and the University of the Third Age Music and History Groups. Edna, who with Frank was a founder member of the Southampton & District Gramophone Society, loved all sorts of music, mainly classical, but Elvis did creep in on occasions!

'Although initially she refused to fly, she and Frank travelled to many parts of the world including New Zealand, Canada, Europe, Russia, RAF reunions in Florida and even a cruise along the Amazon, including a call at Devil's Island. She also loved the West Country.'

Victoria completed her memories of Edna by reciting the poem read at the Queen Mother's funeral, recognizing that Edna was a staunch royalist:

*You can shed tears that she has gone
Or you can smile because she has
lived.*

*You can close your eyes and pray that
she'll come back*

*Or you can open your eyes and see all
she has left.*

*Your heart may be empty because you
can't see her*

*Or you can be full of the love you
shared.*

*You can turn your back on tomorrow
and live yesterday*

*Or you can be happy for tomorrow be-
cause of yesterday.*

*You can cry and close your mind, be
empty and turn your back*

*Or you can do what she'd want: smile,
open your eyes, love and go on.*

GORDON JONES (46-53) has informed us of the death of MORWENNA SHERRIF (50-52), later RATCLIFFE.

'It is with much sadness that I write to inform you that my long-term friend, MORWENNA SHERRIF, died on 11 April 2007. She will be much missed by her children, Peter, Richard and Helen, her brother, DEAN SHERRIF (48-54?) and all her relatives and friends.

'Her family moved to Kingswood from the Wolverhampton district and settled into a house which was next door to MR RIDLEY, Headmaster from 1949 to the 1970s. Her father was a Methodist superintendent minister, which entailed moving home to various districts every few years.

'After leaving KGS, Morwenna and I went out together for a couple of years. She was attending a teacher training

college at Wimbledon, after which her family moved to Rawtenshall in Lancashire. I visited them a few times, but obviously not often enough – it wasn't easy on National Service pay – so we parted to lead our own lives. Morwenna lost her husband Michael to a heart condition a few years ago.

'She contracted cancer early in 2006 and endured chemotherapy treatment for quite a long time, keeping her warm sense of humour throughout. During her most recent phone call she informed me cheerfully that she had lost weight, her dress size was now 8 whereas previously it was 14 and she had lost all her hair, but it was growing again.

'I am going to miss all those cheerful and uplifting telephone calls.'

It is with great regret that we report the passing of DAVID PINE (51-56). David, who shared the same classes as your



editor throughout KGS, died on 15 March 2007 after fighting cancer in the form of a brain tumour for about a year, during which he had two operations.

The hundreds who attended his funeral on 28th March at Memorial Woodlands, Alveston, near Bristol, provided evidence of Dave's popularity. Eulogies in Dave's memory were given by his sons, Steven and Gary, and Frank Harman,

past president of the Rotary Club of Kingswood.

They recalled Dave's passions. They included talking – he was a great conversationalist – and Rugby. Dave was a good Rugby player at school, played for Kingswood Old Boys RFC, later Kingswood RFC, and was a keen supporter of Bristol Rugby Club, in good times and bad. He combined his love of sport and travelling by trips to South Africa, Hong Kong, Italy and the Antipodes, not to mention Twickenham! He also loved food and dining out and was known by his grandchildren as 'The Hoover'.

David had a long career in the financial services industry, culminating in the setting up of his own company. He helped people plan their finances, and helping people was one of Dave's attributes. He even helped fellow patients to complete their tax returns during one of his stays in hospital. As one of his friends said, Dave was the only person he knew who could get money out of you and remain best friends!

He was a long-time member of Kingswood Rotary Club and of many charities. He had been a member of KOSA for many years and he was proud to have attended Kingswood Grammar School. We extend our condolences to Felicity, Dave's wife, and to Steven, Gary and their families. He will be missed by many.

As appropriate for one who attended KGS, Dave's service of committal ended with the singing of *Jerusalem*, a hymn that was sung at the end of every term during his time at KGS.

Another contemporary of your editor's, DAVID PAGET (51-55), has also passed away and JOHN BISHOP (52-57) provides us with an obituary of DAVE(51-55), who died on 9 May 2007:

'My earliest memories of David are from the 40s when we were both children growing up in Staple Hill. Although living about 1 mile apart, we were in contact, quite literally at times, playing in Page Park.

'By the time I got to KGS David was already well-established and had begun to form friendships which were to last a lifetime. A quartet comprising of David, BOB EALES, DENNIS MORGAN (Both 50-56) and DEREK MOODY (48-56) became well-known, even mildly notorious, during their teenage years. Best described as 'lads about town' they were always on the lookout for some 'action'. Which in those days meant something a lot more innocent and harmless than it does today. Envious glances were cast in their direction; they seemed to be having a very enjoyable time.

'Kingswood YMCA played a big part in Dave's social life. During Frank Dyer's tenure as secretary Bob tells me that they appeared in a number of the (in)famous pantos and were also set up as the subject matter for several mock trials – usually being found guilty.

'With Derek's departure to university and away from Bristol, the remaining trio began their various careers, married and settled down. David married Dawn in October 1963 and graduated to a career as a representative/salesman.

'David had a passion for sport and games. He was introduced to Rugby at KGS where he played for the school XVs, becoming a Kingswood Old Boys player in the 1954-55 season whilst still at school. He was able to cope with senior Rugby due to his pugnacious style and low centre of gravity. His centre three-quarter charges may not have been pleasing to the eye, but were mighty effective when he managed to latch onto a pass.

'David's playing years lasted through to the mid 70s, during which time he was club captain in 1962-63, was elected as chairman from 1987 to 1990 and was a club trustee from 1980. Dave remained a regular supporter, often seen on the touchline during the 2005-06 season.

'His long and happy marriage was blessed with 2 children, Neil and Julie, and 4 grandchildren. Through son Neil he became involved with Hanham Cricket Club, serving on the committee and elected as chairman a few years ago. A lifelong devotee of cards, he was a keen bridge player, sharing weekly sessions with Bob and Dennis. A few years ago he joined St George Bowls Club where he was mid-week captain last season.

'David, Bob and Dennis were as close as only the very best of friends can be, for well over 50 years. At the funeral, attended by over 250 mourners, both friends were pallbearers. It was a poignant occasion as many of us had attended DAVE PINE'S funeral only 8 weeks previously. The two Davids were old friends of long-standing and it seemed incredible that two such popular men, apparently in the best of health at the start of 2006, should be gone within 18 months. They both fought and endured their illnesses with courage, fortitude and dignity.

'David will be greatly missed not only by his family and his two sidekicks, but also by many more of us who shared some wonderful times with him over the years.'

On the top of the next page is a photograph of the two Daves when they were at school together in 3B in 1953/54. They were good friends throughout their lives and regularly played Rugby together for Kingswood Old Boys RFC, later Kingswood RFC.



DAVE PAGET is on the front row, to the right of Form Master and French Teacher 'TOM' MOODY, and DAVE PINE is in the back, fourth from the left.

'Dad was born 12th March 1935 to Cyril Samuel and Nellie Salter in Windsor Road Penarth. Shortly afterwards they moved to Downend, Bristol when Joan was born.

Sadly, the third of the 'Rugby Trio' to pass away this year was NORMAN JOHN SALTER (46-54), always known after school as John. Moving tributes were made to John by his son Mike and his daughter Marie at St Saviour's Church, Coalpit Heath on 24 July.

'Dad was always a keen sportsman, during his time at school he was scrum half, well trying to be when he could find his rugby kit that had been hidden by Joan. He was also in the cricket team and was always out and about on his bike. During his time at school he gained 'A' levels in Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics with 'O' levels in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, English Language and History.

'Norman John Salter, John Salter, Farmer John, John, Grandad snoozey bugs, Dad. What ever name you knew our dad by, they all referred to the same amazing person. He was a true gentleman, a fighter that never gave up. He was full of kindness, the loyalist person you could meet, his friendship meant everything. Nicest, Kindest, Most Generous, Gentlest, Lovely, Good Man, Old Fashioned Gentlemen, not a bad word about anyone. He was a rock, I will miss him forever.

'Then he did his national service during 1954-1956 in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers as an Electrical Control Equipment NCO, where he trained for 9 months. After training he was involved in the maintenance and modification of electrical control guidance equipment for heavy Ack-Ack guns and Centurion tanks at the REME workshops in the Middle East which included Cyprus, Egypt and Benghazi, Libya. While in Benghazi, at the age of 21 and only being in the services for 16 months, he founded a young men's club. The St.

'The last comment is not even mine or Marie's, that's how much he meant to his friends.

Andrew's club on the edge of the Libyan desert (as you do) which was based in the garrison gym and this was after he pioneered a music club as well.

'After leaving National service in 1956 he joined Bristol Corporation as an inspector involved with implementing legislation to conform to legal requirements, which I know he would have loved getting his teeth into.

'From 1962-83 he was with initial services as an area manager which I am sure there are a number of you here that know him from that time. One of my memories from this time was being taken to a dinner for all the major sponsors for the original Thrust land speed record car and getting to meet Richard Nobel and to sit in the car, every 8 year old's dream at the time.

'Between 83 and 87 he was a joint partner in a company selling pet products around Bristol and Wales and many a school holiday was spent with him driving around the Welsh valleys that he

loved so much. In 1987 he started his own business selling work and safety wear to local companies throughout Bristol and South Wales.

'In 1997 he had a ruptured aorta. This problem slowed him down but his zest for life never wavered. That went on until a couple of weeks ago when he was part of the "last of the summer wine group" With 3 friends he did so much and travelled around the country with them having jollies! He organised a day nearly every week to visit various cities and places and loved to travel by train as often as possible.

'Dad had many achievements over the years but his last one was his front garden that he turned into a vegetable garden. I and the neighbours thought he finally lost his marbles but as per usual he was right. He got to chat to everyone throughout the day when he was pottering around out there, it looked good and he also got to grow some wonderful radishes and potatoes, which I think he was planning to feed the street with. So



I think this year dad won the unofficial Oakleaze garden competition.

'Dad rest in peace at least you know you got your money's worth out of the NHS. We will miss you and love you always.'

At John's funeral his Welshness was evidenced by the singing to the tune of the Welsh National Anthem, something which was pointed out by JOHN GRAY (46-54), that the English Rugby players attending found difficult to do. It was suitable, however, that John's closing hymn was *Jerusalem*.

On page 6 is a photo of the 1st XI Cricket team in 1952. John is on the back row on the right.

An announcement was made in The Bristol Evening Post of 9 February 2007 of the death of MURIEL WELLS later GOLDING (40-46?) who died on 5th February aged 78. Muriel died in Caerphilly. After KGS she attended Fishponds Diocesan Training College and she will be affectionately remembered for her association with, and contribution to, Downend Church of England School.

We have also been notified of the passing of HAZEL HARRIS of Frenchay, who died on 1st February, JOHN GERRISH and committee member BILL COX (27-34) lost his wife, Muriel, on 24 December 2006.

To all those who have lost a loved one, we express our condolences.

CONGRATULATIONS...

Your Editor and his wife were delighted to receive an invitation in February 2007 to the first KOSA wedding for many years. BOB LEWIS (33-40) and EMILY JACKSON (later NIXON) (35-41) were married at St Peter's Church, Pilning, on 27th February 2007. It was a very jolly,

happy affair and the reception was at Emily's daughter's house near Wedmore.



Emily and Bob were sweethearts when at KGS, but went their own ways when the War started. They met again in 1995 when KOSA planted the oak tree in the school grounds in memory of those from KGS who lost their lives in the War. Thus they regarded KOSA as responsible for rekindling their relationship after over 50 years. Both Bob and Emily regularly attend our KOSA lunches.

Why Pilning Church? Apparently Emily was born there and a young Emily Jackson cycled to KGS from the village most days! After KGS, HM Forces and Bristol University, Bob taught languages at Bristol Cathedral School for many years and when he retired was Head of Modern Languages.



They both had interesting War experiences – more later? Of course, we wish them a long and happy life together.

CONGRATULATIONS...2

At the last KOSA lunch in April 2007 we celebrated the fact that Committee Member BILL COX (27-34) and RENÉ BOYELDIEU (27-32) both commenced KGS or KSS, (Kingswood Secondary School as it was known then) 80 years previously and they were both in their 91st year. We commemorated the occasion by presenting them both with the new KOSA tie.

BILL COX still makes a valuable contribution to KOSA. He had obtained his BSc at Bristol University by 1937 and stayed on to do research into nuclear physics. He had moved to Metropolitan Vickers by 1939, having obtained a grant to do research into x-ray crystallography, which he continued when he moved to Cambridge in 1943. Subsequently he joined Philips Electrical to help design new x-ray equipment during the War. Bill continued his x-ray work with GEC after the War and also worked in xero-radiography, medical ultrasonics, lung ventilators, fibre-optic components and night viewers. Bill retired in 1981.

Lt-Col RENÉ BOYELDIEU served in the forces both during and after the War. During the War he served in the Middle East, particularly Syria and Persia, and in India. In civilian life he moved into Industrial Relations and was IR Manager for National Smelting Co. Ltd. at Avonmouth and for Burton's in Leeds. He speaks French fluently, as the result of having a French mother and half-French father, which he uses as he's very active in the twinning between Pucklechurch, where he lives, and Pringy in France.

René gave a very amusing response of thanks in which he included some of the things he spoke of at his 90th birthday party. He is now 91:

1. I am pleased to be here; let's face it at my age I'm pleased to be anywhere.

2. Age is a question of mind over matter. If you don't mind, age doesn't matter.

3 Age is something that doesn't matter unless you are a cheese.

4 The best thing to do is to behave in a manner befitting one's age. If you are 16 or under try not to go bald.

5. The years between 60 and 70 were the hardest. I was forever being asked to do things and I was not decrepit enough to turn them down.

6. At the end of this year I shall be over 90 and about the same if I am dead.

7. I am 90, but if there were 15 months in a year I would be only 72.

8. I'll never make the mistake of turning 90 again.

9. Eighty was a landmark. People treat one differently than they do up to 79 when if you drop something it just lies there. At 80 plus people pick it up for you.

10. For all the advances in medicine there is no cure for the common birthday.

11. Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that those who have the most live longer.

12. Seven ages of man: Childhood-Adolescence-Adulthood-Middle Age-Elderly-Old and Wonderful.

13. You may think it is tough being old, but think of me with a son who is middle-aged and retired.

14. There are three signs of growing old. The first is loss of memory and I forget the other two.

15. I am at an age when if I drop a fiver in the collection plate at church, it is not a donation, it is an investment.

16. I don't feel old. In fact I don't feel anything until 2.30 pm when it is time for my nap.

17. Lastly, old age isn't bad if you consider the alternative.

In the left photo on Page 9 opposite, Bill is on the left and René on the right. They



are in conversation with KOSA Secretary JOHN POWELL (43-48). In the picture on the right, Bill has not lost any of his charms in talking to NANCY PEARCE (52-57) now Cleeveley.



at the ripe old age of eight as a fee-paying pupil from Mrs How's Preparatory School, on Kingswood Hill, a private school. I was put into Form I on arrival, which was later discontinued when the admission age was raised to eleven.

ANOTHER X-RAYER...

FRED HAMBLIN (22-32) writes about his early years at KSS. Fred started there at the age of eight, no less, and the Ed. owes him an apology for getting his years at KGS so wrong. I suspect that few of us were aware that pupils started there at such an early age:



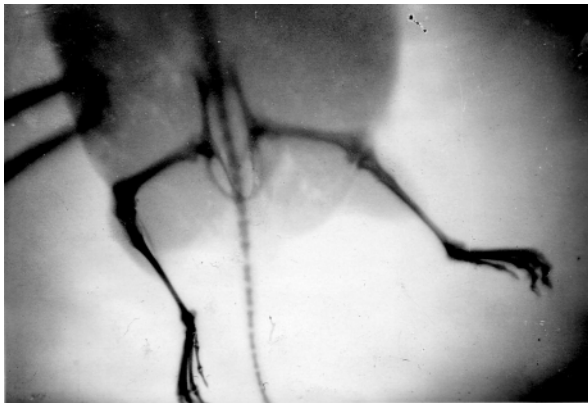
'Thank you for the photocopy of my admission to KSS, as the school was then called. It confirms that I joined the school

'I joined the school immediately after my birthday and not at the beginning of the next term, ie 14 October 1922. The school had opened a year earlier, in September. I don't remember much about Form I or the pupils in it except ESME PETERS, who I believe came from Oldland Common and was a 'lively lass'. She did not stay very long and I don't think that she went to the Senior School. At that time Form I was the Junior School and we were very much looked down on by the members of the Senior School. There were no special teachers for the Junior School, except that we did not receive tuition in some subjects such as Latin and French. We all attended a pre-school meeting each day at 9.00 for 15 minutes of 'Prayers and Notices'

'It seems that the play *Antigone* was produced in the summer of 1925. My confusion on dates arose from the fact that, although I was at the school, the Junior School was not involved, except in the cleaning up afterwards! I remember JOYCE REED – the Head Girl – who was rather snooty, or so it seemed to a young boy of my age. I remember Joyce

probably because I had a crush on her younger sister RUTH REED, who was later in Form IIA with me. The Reeds were daughters of a non-conformist minister in Kingswood.

'The Hamblin Family had a long association with Bristol University. My father was apprenticed to Llewellyn James in Bristol and attended the Engineering School of the Merchant Venturers' College part-time. This later became the Department of Engineering at the University. I was in the Chemistry department from 1932 to 1937, graduated in 1935 and obtained a PhD in 1937. My eldest son John qualified as a medical doctor after the War and is now living in Sheffield. My youngest daughter, Linda, obtained a First-Class Honours in Mathematics a few years ago and is now working for a Canadian firm in Luxembourg. My brother Cyril was at Western College and became a non-conformist minister. At the time of his death he was in charge of the Richard Baxter Church in Kidderminster.



'KGS was an incredible school when I was there. It was so full of enthusiasm, particularly amongst the teachers. Nothing was too much trouble for them and they encouraged us to 'have a go' at anything we became interested in. When I was in the sixth form I built an x-ray tube with the help of teacher 'CHARLIE' HOWARD, and photographed a 'dead' mouse with it. (see

photo). I cannot see this happening at today's secondary schools.

'Another project was to measure the speed of sound by letting off a massive firework, specially made by the local firework factory, at the top of Siston Hill Common by the Two Trees and measuring the time between the receipt of the bang and the flash from a number of sites in the neighbourhood. There was a splendid bang and we got readings up to four miles away. We did however forget to notify the police beforehand and subsequently received a letter from the local police superintendent for disturbing the populace and cattle, dogs and cats.

'One evening I and one of my chums, DICK BAILEY, who was subsequently killed in the War, and who were allowed to work in the Chemistry Laboratory after school hours, decided to see if we could nitrate phenol to make Lyddite, the explosive much used in the First World War. It seemed a simple process and in due course we obtained some yellow crystals. They would not however explode no matter how hard we hit them so we put them in a glass tube and placed them in a tripod with a Bunsen burner underneath. There was a satisfactory explosion which blew the end of the bench off. Fortunately, we were not injured – although somewhat shaken! We explained the damage by saying that we were fooling around and fell over! The privilege of working in the laboratory out of class was withdrawn for a considerable time.

'I must stop 'rabbiting' on, but memories do come flooding back. Do you know what happened to WRIGHT who lived at the bottom of Lansdown Hill and used to regale us with stories of horrific smashes when car brakes failed on the hill – as they often did in those days!

A DOCTOR'S VIEW...

DR ALAN OTLET (39-46) has been prompted to write to KOSA:

'Reading KOSA NEWS 30 has stimulated me to write briefly how much I enjoyed my time at KGS, with many happy memories and quite a contrast to the comments made by GORDON JACKSON (55-62) and PHIL DARKE (47-52). Of course they were there at a later time with many changes having by then occurred.

'To begin with it was not an 11+ exam but a scholarship exam that I took in 1939. Entrance to university was by scholarship with very few places, or after national service. This was before the 1948 Education Act opened the way for many more to follow the higher education pathway. I obtained a scholarship and went directly from KGS to Bristol University to study Medicine (I think a first for a KGS boy), whilst my brother, BOB OTLET (41-48), did his National Service in the RAF first.

'I am sure that I benefited from the streaming process and jumped a year before taking the school certificate a year early at 14. But I didn't feel in any way pressurised, with only set subjects accentuated. In the sixth form, where the main subjects were Physics, Chemistry and Biology, we also took Philosophy and Logic ('TAFFY' DAVIES) and Maths, in the fifth form Handicrafts (Woodwork, which I enjoyed) and Latin.

'There is no doubt that tradition, ethics, loyalty and such like honourable motives for life, and a belief in a Supreme Being, were impressed upon us. The War was being fought, many Old Scholars serving in that war and some losing their lives, all impressing our thinking, as well as being guided in school by such eminent teachers as MAJOR EATON, who taught English as well as being Head-

master, MISS QUINTON, who taught Divinity, MR HOWARD, who taught Physics, and also BRIAN SAMMONS (Chemistry). There was a daily morning assembly with prayer and a hymn, which we chose when we sometimes had a part in assembly.

'BRIAN SAMMONS was an interesting teacher. We felt as his pupils that we were teaching him, whereas on reflection he was applying quite modern teaching techniques, with research and discovering for ourselves, with him to monitor progress. And then he thanked us for what we were teaching him! 'TAFFY' DAVIES evidently hated teaching younger students, throwing chalk at the miscreants who were sitting on the lockers at the back of the room, then giving set work and teaching very little. In the sixth form he was a different man, treated us as adults, was highly intelligent himself and taught us to be very thoughtful, with excellent background references.

'In conclusion, in spite of starting as the smallest boy in the school (as one photograph demonstrates), my memories of KGS are very happy, with encouragement and help from all, an essence for later success in life. Also, in spite of my small stature and with five other Otlet children pupils in the school at various times, no bullying occurred. As I mentioned, attitudes and methods may have changed in later years.'

...AND MAC'S, TOO...

MAURICE 'MAC' KING (44-52) has sent an e-mail from Wahroonga, New South Wales:

'It's a while since I last communicated with you, but I am always in touch by way of KOSA News. This is a great newsletter and every issue brings back memories of fellow students and school events.

'I have been prompted to write just now as I read in No 30 issue of the passing of KEN MEEK (40-45). Although I had never met Ken I did have a long telephone conversation with him about KGS days when I was in the UK attending the funeral of my father in 1998. He was instrumental in bringing KOSA News to my attention and I was pleased to be persuaded to purchase a copy of his history of KGS.

'I was also saddened to learn of the death of DON BREDDY (44-52) who was a friend and contemporary of mine. Although we didn't get around together (he took up that peculiar game with an oval ball!) we were classmates in 'A' level subjects, particularly maths with MR HODSON. These deaths bring home to us that life is finite and we do need to prepare ourselves for eternity.

'I was interested in MIKE ROGERS' (52-56) comments on the era of steam trains, particularly his mention of the *Pines Express* that ran between Manchester and Bournemouth. I had a regular encounter with the *Pines Express* every day as I cycled home for lunch to 8 London Rd Warmley, next door to Warmley Allotments Ltd. The school stopped for lunch at 12.20 pm (?), and before the bell finished ringing I would race for the cycle shed to jump on my bike and pedal furiously along Brook Rd to Deanery Rd, down over the stream by Bill Osborn's hardware store and up the slope through Warmley to get across the level crossing before the *Pines* came through at 12.30pm. Most times I didn't make it as I swear that Mr Harvey, in the signal box at the level crossing, would shut the gates when the *Pines* was coming through Bitton! It really thundered through Warmley Station - and losing the race docked me precious minutes off my lunch hour.

'NORA BAKERS' news about MR TICKNER (No 30) recalled for me my short time as Geography Master at Bentley Grammar School in Calne in the Spring Term of 1975. I was undertaking a year's working holiday from the Antipodes, and while looking for a temporary teaching post, my sister-in-law, BARBARA ROGERS (ex KGS) whose children attended Bentley, told me that MR TICKNER was looking for someone to teach Geography for a term and encouraged me to apply. This I successfully did, spending 6 months living in Marlborough. MR TICKNER was paralleled in his headmastership by another headmaster who had been appointed to guide the changeover of the grammar school into a comprehensive school. I believe MR TICKNER taught for a while under the new headmaster before retiring.

'In talking of Grammar v Comprehensive education I would like to offer some thoughts on the matter having had teaching experience in both. We need to be careful not to judge the days of our youth by the circumstances existing today. KGS was the outcome of the vision of local men of standing after WW 1 who wanted to provide a fuller education to the children of a very working class area. In my time (1944-52) I did not like school (what school boy does?) I didn't get on very well with French, German or Latin but I don't put that down to the fault of the school, the fault lay with me and my lack of confidence. But despite my failure in languages, I now look back with gratitude for the smattering of other tongues that I received, as this knowledge, however rudimentary, has enhanced my life on many occasions when they have given me insight into the derivations of words of our own language.

'Vocational training was in its infancy in those days and the subjects taught were geared mostly to the opportunities available in the Arts and Sciences at that



time. How do we judge that one life and not another has reached its full potential? If one has done their best with the talents God has given them and this has led to a fulfilled and satisfying life, what does it matter if you finish up a renowned scientist, a bishop, a politician, a teacher or an adventurer, if you have contributed to the greater good of mankind, then you have fulfilled your purpose in this life. This can be achieved whether you attended a Grammar School, a Comprehensive School or a Secondary Modern School.

'Discipline in my days was not draconian; it was based on mutual respect. That respect emanated from family attitudes, and these attitudes themselves arose from the spiritual stand within the family. When a country turns away from God and turns pagan, the absolutes of right and wrong are rejected and people decide themselves what is right and wrong. This is the cause of the decline in behaviour and morals that we are faced with today. I don't think the students of my era could have been too unhappy with their time at KGS judging by the favour-

able contacts and comments that continue to flow in.'

QUERIES FROM CANADA...

JIM WITHEY (45-53) had sent a photo of the early rugby side (49-50) after the introduction of the sport into the school, gently chiding your Ed. for its non-publication. Now corrected above. Jim also recognises the gathering of the 46ers Reunion in the centre-spread of the last edition:

'It was good to read about JOHN SALTER'S (46-54) story of his reunion. I recognize most of the people mentioned, including REG AMOS. He looks as though he could play second row forward tomorrow in the rugby team. A man of few words. Reg showed up at school one morning late. His head was wrapped in a bandage and he had a concussed look. We asked him what the other chap looked like, but he said that it wasn't a fight but that he had run into a car. Further questions led to the story that he was riding his bike to school through Warmley and was passing a parked car when the driver opened the front door. 'What happened then?' we all

chorused. Reg answered with one word 'Oblivion' he stated. And that was that.

'How many traditions of my years still exist in the current Kingsfield School? For instance:

- Do they still have sports days when the winners are awarded silver cups (small ones), or were these destroyed when the school was burned? I know that the winners were allowed to take them home for a year.
- Are the school colours still Cambridge blue and brown?
- Do they use the old school badge, or do they have a new one?
- Do they have prize day when pupils and parents are invited?
- If they do, are the 'name' prizes still given out? (*Morgan, Berry, Roberts, Miles and Lewis* were the named prizes for 52-53)
- Do they still play Rugby, or do they now play Rugby and Soccer?
- Do they still have four 'Houses' of *Fussell, Davies, Haskins and Eaton*?
- Do they still have the 'Triangular Athletics' contest between KGS, Chipping Sodbury and St George Grammar Schools?
- How many are in the school now? It was about 450 in 1945 (and about 700 in 1955 – Ed).'

Your Ed. put Jim's questions to the retiring Headteacher at Kingsfield School, KOSA President, DAVID LEWIS:

Kingsfield still has school sports days when cups are awarded to winners of particular events, but the Houses no longer exist. As a consequence, the students tend to compete in years.

There is no longer a prize day, but this is replaced by 'end of year 11' awards and an open evening for 6th formers. The

colours are now blue and grey, but some brown may still be seen. The school badge is still used. The Triangular Athletics has been replaced by Avon Sports Days (although the County of Avon no longer exists! – Ed) where a number of schools compete. Both Rugby and Soccer are played at the school, which now has over 1200 students.

THAT MOTTO...

RICHARD STRANGE (54-59?) came across a cheap imitation, which prompted him to write to KOSA:

'Nothing is sacred. For my sins I rather like the ITV detective *Dangerous*. The episode on 30 May 2007 involved a 'Lodge' with the motto "esse quam videri", which latter, to my great disgust, was interpreted by the main character as meaning "to be, not to seem".

'Although both forms (non and quam) are open to interpretation, there is no doubt that ours is the true "to be not to seem", the other being "to be rather than to seem".

Upstarts!

(Oh, the benefits of a classical education! - Ed)

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES...

ALAN SCADDING (36-41) was reminded:

'Mention of Mangotsfield Railway Junction in the Summer 2006 Edition stirred me to remember other places of interest to KGS pupils and within range of a lunch time cycle ride from the school.

'During 37-38 with two others I roamed around a number of unusual areas, including the vicinity of Cranes Firework Factory near Made for Ever, built partly underground and located about a mile

away from KGS. The plant was destroyed in an explosion one night in 1937 and has never been re-built. The lakes near the railway line were also very sinister having been formed by water emerging from the shafts of disused mines.

'All these areas held an attraction for 13-14 year old boys. The Marshes, down the lane near the stream, were interesting, but that was official and visited during Botany classes with MISS EYRES, and occasionally MISS MORRISON. Rodway Hill was beyond our lunchtime range and certainly became out-of-bounds when a large anti-aircraft gun battery was built there in 1939-40.'

There is a story dating from the 50s, perhaps apocryphal, that some boys took some sodium from the Chem. Lab (in paraffin?) and dropped a fair chunk into the stream. The water spout could have been observed several miles away, resembling the Great Geyser in Yellowstone National Park. Some rather wet boys returned to the school. That section of the stream, however, is no more. The construction of the Bristol Ring Road has caused the stream to be enclosed in a culvert. – Ed.

JOHN'S JOTTINGS...

REV. JOHN 'TWEED' HARRIS (53-60) writes:

'MIKE ROGER's (52-56) piece *A Gric-er's Tale* in the Summer 2006 Edition of KOSA News has provoked me into print again:

'May I have my name added to the list of spotters - I still have a Combined *Ian Allan* and a *Shed List* to prove it. I spent many a happy hour in the bank overlooking the station on Rodway Hill. During the evenings, in between trains, I remember a favourite game was throwing stones at a tin on the wall. Why should I remember that? My time for returning

home was on seeing the 7.30 Mail out of Temple Meads. If it was late or we heard that something special was coming on the down line, we stopped on a little bit later. My mother would then set off from Blackhorse Road to collect me. I can still hear her voice from the top of the hill!

'We used to catch the train to Temple Meads and spot there, and one of my other spotting friends was ROGER HOLDER (53-60). There were regular trips to Cardiff and Barry Island and to Swindon on Wednesdays in the holidays as that was the day you could go round the works and 'cop' all the engines by looking for their chalked numbers on bits of them strewn round the workshops. The most memorable trip was to go with DAVID EWINS (53-59) and another forgotten friend round all the London stations in one day, all organised by David of course! When we got to Kings Cross, *Mallard* was just arriving with an express.

'On Saturdays there was an added bonus. I ran the scoreboard for Carsons Cricket Team. They had a strong side in those days - Les Mealing and Eddie Ewens opening the batting, with Councilor Adams as stumper. Bert Winter's sixes used to go over the road into Carson's Yard and Bill Stephens was the fastest bowler I had seen until I went to the County Ground. The opening partnership with 'Sid' Matthews was one of the best in Bristol Club Cricket. They were all regular friendly matches in those days and I remember Long Ashton and Stinchcombe Stragglers being among their opponents.

'From the ground you could see the trains on the main line, and on the Bath line, although you missed the 'specials' to Bournemouth on the 'Pines' line. At the end of the game there was always a small monetary gift (2 shillings comes to mind) and a glass of lemon barley water! Not only that the young ones had a game

of cricket with Carson's kit to play in and with. One of the young players was JIM MATTHEWS (55-60), son of Sid the opening bowler, and ex KGS. He used to be on the 97 bus to school and the day after the Munich Air Disaster - February 7th 1958, I suppose, he made all the pupils getting off the bus stop for a minute's silence in memory. Jim went on to open the bowling for Carsons I think, and that may be the reason why I never remember him playing for the school, or not the teams I was in.

'After the game, or during teatime, I often used to wander off to the corner of the ground to have a word with Lindsay Farmiloe, Headmaster of Mangotsfield C of E School, who had the cottage there.

'Just a few thoughts from a declining memory - I woke up last night trying to think of Bert Winters' surname - it is getting as bad as that. Wasn't Bert on Bristol Rovers' books as a full back?'

HAYDN REMEMBERS...

HAYDN GOULDING (37-42) remembers his trips to KGS from Filton:

'I was one of the last of the Filton contingent who arrived at school courtesy of Harding's Coaches, and as we were the final intake from Filton, we finished up being carried in a couple of Harding's cars. Thus was a glorious excuse for avoiding any after-school detentions - but not for missing any Saturday morning games with the football teams! I well recall one very snowy Saturday when the eight mile cycle ride to play became too much of a nightmare and two of us failed to turn up. Monday morning brought recriminations of a severe kind at morning assembly!

'Didn't happen often though! Talking of games, we were very much a soccer playing school and when KHYBER KEATS was called up he was replaced

by a new sports master who felt that we should play rugby from then on - much against our wishes. To cut the story short, we won the day and played soccer until I left the school. Several years later I passed the school field and was horrified to see rugby posts in position. Sorry to the ruggers types, but it is not a game that I can stomach! I don't know how long the practice remained after my time, but the soccer players and the hockey girls used to meet on Frenchay Common during the Christmas holidays to play hockey against each other. Great fun, and I still carry the scars on my shins. From these meetings I developed a love of hockey and played the game at Sandhurst whilst in the army.

'Teachers I well remember were the Head, MAJOR EATON, 'FLO' POWELL (who made history live for me) 'BONEY' BRITTON, 'CHUCKLES' HOWARD, 'KHYBER' KEATS, DR BLUM, MR TICKNER, MISS QUINTON amongst others whose names elude me.

'Shut up Goulding! Remembering the old days has prompted me to get out the old school cap, which was worn with pride during the first term, and did service as a football, amongst other things, for some happy times to follow. I don't suppose that the later intakes wore a hat, although I would like to think that they, somehow, managed to keep the old badge alive.

'Forgive the ramblings of an old duffer, Mike, but I was very pleased to hear from you, and look forward to receiving future numbers of KOSA NEWS. I am enclosing a first donation to the funds, and wish the Old Scholars every success.

THE WAY WE WERE...

DAVID SMALL'S (59-66) query as to whether his uncle LAWRIE SMALL attended KGS prompted TONY CURTIS (39-46) to send some photos of an Eato-

nian Society dinner in the early 1950s, about 1953. The venue is believed to be the *Grand Hotel* but perhaps someone can confirm the date and venue. LAWRIE SMALL is identified as the gentleman with the bow tie in the centre of the first photo. Others identified are MAJOR EATON, on the left of the same row

and BRIAN SAMMONS, to the right of Lawrie. In the lower photo, Headmaster NORMAN RIDLEY is next to the flowers and MAJOR EATON appears to be seated on the far side of the table next to MISS QUINTON. LAWRIE SMALL is also seated on what appears to be the top table. Can you identify any others?





ANOTHER
NONAGENERIAN WRITES...
FRANK POWELL (26-31), who's 92,
kindly wrote to answer DAVID SMALL'S
query on Page 9 of the last edition:
'FRANK SMALL'S elder brother was
LAWRIE SMALL, not LAURIE as it was
short for Lawrence. He most certainly

attended KGS at the same time as me.
We were also in the Parish Church Choir
together. I believe FRANK POWELL
also joined the choir later, but he was
much younger and I didn't know him
quite so well as Lawrie who appears on
the 1927 photo of the school in the back
row next to HUGH MELLOWES, RON

FRY and JOHN BULL. So you may tell the family that the answer is YES, he did go to KGS.'

RAY'S SEARCH...

RAY GUEST (51-56) also shed some light on the Small family, whilst at the same time asks for help in tracing his nephew:

'Sorry to hear of the death of FRANK SMALL. I worked under him at West Glos Water Co. and remember the beat up old car he used to drive, he had it for years. I can confirm that his brother Lawrie did in fact attend KGS not from any personal recollection but of what Frank told me on one of our survey trips. I am also pretty sure that it was Lawrie who interviewed me for my job at WGW Co.

'You also printed an obituary of JO WITTERN (21-26), her brother Walt also worked there as Chief Inspector. As you rightly say "The Family Firm". Still on the same subject the chief draughtsman was Tom Garland whose daughter MOLLY GARLAND (52-57) now Vines attended KGS but a year behind me. If she is on "the list" could you put her in touch with me.

'In another obituary detentions are mentioned. I always seemed to have one every Wednesday. In fact I can remember turning up one week only to be told that by some miracle I didn't have one, a rare occurrence!

'I have recently made contact with an old long lost friend from my WGW Co days who married an ex KGS pupil so if anyone is trying to contact MARJORIE FRANCOMBE please ask them to get in touch with me. She must have started there in '46 and is now riddled with arthritis but still has a great sense of hu-

mour. I only wish I could locate my nephew, as his mother, my sister, had all the family papers etc on the death of my parents, myself being abroad at the time. All my school photographs and reports are probably with him as they used to live in Cleeve Hill. Although perhaps locating my reports isn't such a good idea, but I do know my sister had my 78 of Bill Haley's *Rock around the Clock* along with my Tommy Steele and Lonnie Donegan records.'

NEWS FROM COLORADO...

KEITH CULLEY (51-59) informs us as to what he has been up to over the past 50 years or so:

'I worked for IBM for most of the time, first on the Space Shuttle then on the Space Station. The Division I worked in was then 'sold' to Lockheed, where I now work on the GPS program. In this job I regularly travel to Cape Canaveral in Florida, and Vandenburg in California.

'I have also travelled abroad for Lockheed to Hawaii and Kwajalein in the Pacific, Ascension in the Atlantic and Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. The latter is a particularly nice place to visit, because we go through the Far East, places such as Hong Kong and Singapore. I am married, of course all the boys have left home by now. Incidentally my sister, LYNN CULLEY is also an ex-KGS student and lives in Hampshire.'

HMS PINAFORE (1960)...

STEVE MORTIMORE (60-67) was interested in the photo of the cast of the show which appeared on the back page of the last edition of the 'NEWS. Steve has sent KOSA NEWS a page from *Kingswood Chronicles* 1960-61 edition (see over - page 20) which gives a cast list and report on the show.

'I shared the role of Tom Tucker (Midshipmite) with GEOFF CURTIS (2

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT 1960 - 1961

This year the School Council was pleased to welcome Mr. Sykes, the new chairman. At the first meeting the election of officers was as follows: Secretary—Beverley Durant; Sergeant-at-Arms—Thomas; Recorder—Puzey; Teller—Ellis; while Lynne and Jennifer Shire were elected to represent the School on the South Gloucestershire Youth Civic Council.

Once again the School Council has been able to solve many problems but, as usual, the main topic on the agenda has been charities and how to raise money. At Christmas the Council voted to collect for the Spastics for which the School raised £41 4s. 10d. For the main effort during the Lenten Term the Council voted to give the money collected to the Bristol and District Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, and to set aside a certain sum every year to provide a scholarship for an African boy. Although many schools have been contacted, no definite arrangements have been made yet. By various ingenious means the School raised £126 5s. 10½d.

During February six members of the School Council were invited to attend a meeting of the Mangotsfield Urban District Council, which everyone enjoyed.

Finally, I should like to thank all the councillors who have attended regularly, and also our chairman, Mr. Sykes, for all the work he has done throughout the year.

BEVERLEY DURANT.

H.M.S. PINAFORE

This year's opera, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, was the third Gilbert and Sullivan opera, the School Operatic Society has performed. The simple tale of "The Lass that loved a Sailor"—and in spite of the objections of her father, the Captain, and the attentions of her suitor, the First Lord of the Admiralty, succeeds in marrying her humble seaman—was sincerely sung. The principal male parts, Captain Corcoran and Ralph Rackstraw, Able Seaman, were competently dealt with by Mr. Trott and Brokenbrow respectively. Josephine, the Captain's daughter, was pleasantly presented by Ruth Oldfield and Jennifer Quinton whose clear voices were a delight to listen to.

The smaller parts were acted well. The sardonic humour of the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., was excellently captured by Ward and Thomas, whose dancing was, for some, the highlight of the evening. Both Dick Deadeys were wickedly successful and the Little Buttercups well worth watching. The large chorus enthusi-

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astically supported the main characters; the boisterous high spirits of the Sailors making a fine contrast to the delicate trippings of the Sisters and the Cousins and the Aunts. Both choruses were well controlled throughout, thanks to the meticulous precision of Miss Hanvey.

The costumes were colourful and bright, contributing with the scenery and lighting to the general gay atmosphere of this comic opera, which was thus a truly united effort. Success was, as always, the result of the good teamwork of about a hundred and twenty pupils and members of staff, all united under the great zeal of Mr. Hodson, who is indeed to be congratulated for producing and directing what has been said to be the best School opera yet.

HILARY BERROW.

CAST

The Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.
(First Lord of the Admiralty) M. A. Thomas, F. C. Ward
Captain Corcoran (Commanding 'H.M.S. Pinafore') Mr. A. J. Trott
Ralph Rackstraw (Able Seaman) J. W. Brokenbrow
Dick Deadeys (Able Seaman) ... G. Jackson, Mr. C. A. E. Wintour
Bill Bobstay (Boatswain's Mate) D. C. Wheatley
Bob Beckett (Carpenter's Mate) A. J. Radford
Tom Tricker (Midshipmite) G. Curtis, S. Mortimer
Josephine (The Captain's Daughter) Ruth Oldfield, Jennifer Quinton
Hebe (Sir Joseph's First Cousin) Margaret Reece
Little Buttercup (A Portsmouth Bumboat Woman)

Joan Broadbent, Margaret Squires

Chorus of First Lord's Sisters, Cousins and Aunts
 Susan Biggs Pat Boulton
 Margaret Chell Geraldine Couzens
 Linda Davies Carole Edwards
 Adele Evans Eileen Forrester
 Pamela Gready Susan Handoll
 Jennifer Hunt Celia Keen
 Jennifer Read Mary Shearn
 Elizabeth Tiley Ruth White
 Miss V. Richards Miss H. Williams

Chorus of Sailors

D. Buckingham R. P. Caines
 L. J. Clotworthy P. G. Clutterbuck
 A. Cromwell R. A. Hayes
 R. L. Holder P. Lyne
 A. J. Martin R. J. Holloway
 I. G. Smith A. R. Richards
 Mr. P. Hemmens P. Stevens J. E. Roberts
 Mr. J. B. Humphreys Mr. S. Sykes J. F. Whitlock
 Miss F. J. Cook

Costumes under the direction of Miss F. J. Cook.

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nights each), both being in our first year at KGS. It appears that I managed to get on the photo rather than Geoff (far right, the boy on the higher deck) - probably more photogenic!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW..?

Can anyone supply us with the addresses of the following lost members?
 Joyce Lovelace (42-?) - Sheila Shepstone (43-48) now Dorgan wishes to trace her.

Bob Harris (55-60)

Peter Damsberg (62-69) and

Kathleen Owen now Waplington (Staff)

HMS PINAFORE (1960)...

Chorus of his Sisters and his Cousins and his Aunts.....of the First Sea Lord.



IN SPITE OF -

OR BECAUSE OF..?

MERVYN POWELL (49-57) remembers the specific influences on his life made by KGS:

'Memories are very selective things but one thing is certain. KGS set me up for life's journey. But it could have been so very different!

'Thanks to 'JIMMY' WILDE and his dap and his sadistic pursuit of me down the wing, I never took up 'rugger', but sport, particularly badminton, has always been part of my life. In Year One, 'BONEY' BRITTON was appalled to hear that my only reading at the age of twelve consisted of the *Meccano Magazine*, but now I write articles, books and poetry.

'In the third year the choice had to be made between Arts or Science. Thanks to 'SCRUFFY' MORRIS, I took Geography which led to thirty-two enjoyable years of teaching the subject. When he was joined in the department by KEITH POPLE, my interest in photography developed into an enthusiasm which is still with me nearly every day. 'TOM' MOODY took the fear of French away and he would have been proud of me as I pleaded my way out of a traffic fine with a Moroccan policeman. I still love going to France and have the confidence to start a reasonable conversation.

'CYRIL NELSON conveyed a respect for history and the need for neat, precise presentation that has stood me in good stead. Apologies to dapper ELLIS PEET (Maths) whose dress sense I have never been able to or wanted to emulate. And MR WATTS, thanks for your encouragement in things creative. I still have that streak buried deep in me somewhere (not to be confused with taste, which my three daughters say I lack completely). MR WILLIAMS didn't put me off woodwork, another passion, despite cutting

himself on his first demonstration on how to use a saw safely. I now have a saw bench complete with guard. MISS BAILEY used to perk up her Latin lessons with Bristolian comments which made me proud to be a Bristolian, even if geographically I lived in south Gloucestershire.

'ERIC HILTON made his mark. We used to sing round the class in alphabetical order and he seemed to reserve his most caustic comment when he got to me well down the list. But I had the last laugh when he had to give me the choir prize for 'good attendance'. And headmaster CHARLES NORMAN RIDLEY, who put me off applying to London University because he thought it was beyond me, but I persisted, did an extra two terms in Upper Sixth and that delayed entry to higher education, determined the friends I would make and the woman I was eventually to marry.

'Of course there were many others to whom I am grateful but whose names now escape me.'

A 54 REUNION..?

Your Committee is always keen to encourage reunions aside from our 'official' twice-yearly lunches. PAUL DAVIES (54-61) has proposed the following:

'I am told that there is nothing as strong as the power of the press. I believe this to be true but not only in the National press but also in the small local publications. In this respect I am particularly referring to KOSA NEWS.

'About 18 months ago I wrote an article for the 'NEWS, including an explanation as to how over the years I had met several Old Scholars whilst on my travels. I also mentioned that there was very little input into the magazine from my era – I was in the 1954 intake and departed for the big outside world in 1961 after a

reasonable crop of "O" Levels but not doing so well at "A" Levels. I concluded the article with a mention of several well known characters and friends from my year. This resulted in some surprise contact from old friends by telephone and letter. I have been out for a couple of reminiscing drinks with KEITH YOUNG and CHRIS BRYANT and have received phone calls from ARTHUR (Archie) KENDALL and KEITH MILLETT. I have also had an email from TERRY BLEAKMAN and currently waiting for a further response from him after his major computer failure!

CHRIS BRYANT has been particularly good at keeping in touch since. Regretfully, I suffered a small heart attack (goodness knows what a major one is like!) back in March and Chris has kept in constant touch with my wife whilst I was in hospital and with me since I came out. During our several conversations we have talked about organising a reunion for the 1954 intake as we are both aware that there are plenty of us still living in the immediate area, and we have contact with several that live further afield. ROGER FOWLER has agreed to help us in making the appropriate arrangements.

Whilst still only vague thoughts at the moment, we are suggesting perhaps a Friday or Saturday evening in the spring or early summer of 2008, a significant year for the 54 intake as we will all be joining the ranks of OAP's during that year (sorry girls, but I do realise that you are already in that category!).

So that we can gauge the possible response and know if this is a starter please get in touch with either Chris Bryant (0117-9754656); Roger Fowler (0117-9602999) or myself, Paul Davies (0117-9562692). We look forward to hearing from you and eventually seeing you again.

AND HERE'S ONE...

TONY HART (54-58) writes from NSW, Australia:

'I'm still amazed by the lack of information, contacts etc from people in my time at KGS. I was there for 3 years until 1958 but my contemporaries would have been 1954 starters.

'I left at the end of the 4th year to go to Hitchen Grammar School, while the rest would have stayed on generally until 1960 or 61. I was in the first classes to do 'O' levels in 4 years. We were probably a fairly studious and boring lot - having to cram Latin and French plus everything else into 20% less time than everyone else'

A DREAM..?

RICHARD DAVIES (49-56) has passed KOSA the photo on page 24 of the Lower School production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* of about 1949 or 1950. Identified are:

Back row:

Brenda Woodman and John Cullen

The middle row:

Bill Knight, Mary Huckle?, Tony Lear, Unknown, Wendy Lansdown, Marlene Gay, Alan Baines, Leslie Gay, Mike Sage, David Angell, ? Gane

Seated:

Michael Rockey, Richard Davies, Lew Parry (rear), Gerald Kenwood (front), Bruce Carpenter, David Thompson

We've had several people attempt the identification of the players, with some discussion, so if you have any amendments or additions, please let us know.

A CORRECTION...

The pensioners' photo on page 17 of the last edition middle row Alan Wilmott and Colin Wilmott should read Jack Willmott and Robin Willmott. Thanks to Rob Willmott - and he should know! Back row Colin Weeks should read Colin Wells.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (1949-50):



YOUR COMMITTEE...

Your Committee was re-elected en-bloc at the last AGM on 14 April 2007 with the welcome addition of MAUREEN GRIF-

FIN (51-58) now Batten. Maureen is a KGS person through-and-through, virtually from birth. Above is a photo of form 3A taken in 1954, with Maureen circled

on the front row. Maureen's parents were LESLIE GRIFFIN and MILDRED BARKER, who are also circled in the photograph below of 5B taken 20 years earlier, in 1934. Maureen's first husband was JOHN SALTER (46-54).

as CLIVE ROBBINS with partner LUCILLE WOODBURY. 'Lucille is not best-pleased to find that she is my partner after nearly 50 years of marriage,' wrote Clive. Please accept my apologies, as they are, of course, not partners but



ED'S APOLOGIES...

We always try to be accurate in the 'NEWS, but errors do occasionally creep in for which we are sorry. However, in the traditions of great journalism we hide any apologies somewhere in the publication, and in this edition it's here!

Apologies to DESMOND JEFFERIS (35-38) and to his sister NESTA JEFFERIS (45-50) now Chalcroft for naming their brother in the last edition on page 7 as CHARLES when it should have been COLIN. Desmond tells us that COLIN JEFFERIS (41-48), who now lives in Leicester, played cricket and football for KGS on several occasions and retired as headmaster of a local school where his wife was also a teacher.

On page 14 of 'NEWS 30 I captioned a photograph taken at the 46ers reunion

husband and wife.

When welcoming new members in 'NEWS 29 I used GILLIAN POWELL'S (60-67) married name of DUVALL. Of course we always try to bring in the maiden name as virtually no-one would remember ladies by their married names. Again, apologies to Gillian.

WELCOME...

New members since last time, commencing year in brackets:

Bernice Collins and David Miles (59), Maureen Brimble (47), Haydn Goulding (37), Marcia Phipps (46), Eileen Dunn (65), Adrian Robbins (61), Jenny Evans (56), Dean Sherrif (49), David Ball (47), Beryl Hodges (52)

If you know of anyone who would like to receive KOSA NEWS on a regular basis just send the details to us and we'll do the rest.

SHEILA'S SHOTS...

Just some of SHEILA SHEPSTONE'S
(now Dorgan) (43-48) personal photos



- Clockwise from top:
1. Sheila Shepstone, Pat Driscoll, and Mary Jones.
 2. The Art Group.
 3. Jean Simpkins and Sheila.
 4. Miss Watters' Form.
 5. The Chemistry Group

PRIZE LIST 1960.

SPECIAL PRIZES

THE "BERRY" FOR HEAD OF SCHOOL:	D. J. Ewins
"PARENT-TEACHER" FOR HEAD GIRL:	Josephine Critchley
MISS QUINTON'S FOR READING IN HALL:	D. R. Ellis
JUNIOR ASSEMBLY READING:	N. A. H. Lacey
"EATON" FOR VERSE SPEAKING:	Carole Lovell
JUNIOR VERSE SPEAKING:	D. L. Small
MISS BURCHILL'S FOR ENGLISH:	Jane Christopher
"REDFORD" FOR MATHEMATICS:	J. L. Carter
"COTSWOLD" FOR PUBLIC SERVICE:	D. R. Gifford
"BUSH" PRACTICAL SCIENCE:	D. Dare, R. Thatcher (Junior)
"NEWMAN" FOR P.E.	P. Lyne and Marion Sage
"HILLING" FOR GEOGRAPHY:	O. Hanmer
JUNIOR GEOGRAPHY:	Mollie Aggett
HEADMASTER'S FOR ENTERPRISE:	B. J. Hodges and Angela Greenslade
"ORGAN" PRIZE FOR VITH FORM ESSAY:	F. Dobbins
PUBLIC SERVICE:	Elizabeth Hilling, G. Gifford, J. MacGregor

SUBJECT PRIZES.

FRENCH:	A. Wiltshire, Sandra Hiscox, Linda Winter
LATIN READING:	Josephine Critchley, Helen Organ, R. A. Willis
MATHEMATICS:	A. J. Smallwood, P. Round, I. R. Peacock
SCIENCE:	L. E. Claridge, P. Dowland, D. Harford
ART:	J. F. Whitlock, G. A. Hutchison, Sheila Collins
ORAL ENGLISH:	P. G. Dowland, Janet Herlihy, J. W. Griffin
HISTORY:	D. Willis, C. Burgess, Marie Poole
MUSIC:	Alison Harris, Ruth Oldfield, M. J. Hollands
CRAFTWORK: Boys.	A. Dulborough, P. C. Willis, W. M. Culling
" " Girls.	Rosemary Richards, Christine Nash
HANDWRITING:	(Form I) Annette Clark, P. Cox
CHOIR:	(S) Margaret Chell (A) Freda White (T) J. Brokenbrow (B) J. Harris
ORCHESTRA:	Strings: D. Wheatley Wind: Ruth White
DRAMA:	M. Thomas, Margaret Johnson. Stage: D. R. Ellis, G. Gifford, Catherine Beaver

Vith FORM PRIZES.

English: M. J. R. Mealing. French: Angela Charters.
Latin and History: Susan Birchley. Art: Ruth Daniels.
Music: F. Dobbins. Maths: D. J. Ewins. Physics: I. M. Hull.
Chemistry: R. W. Smith. Biology: Freda White.

FORM PRIZES.

1st year	(W) D.W.G. Thomas. (B) Linda White. (R) P. L. Williams. (L) Ruth Hanmer.
2nd year	(S) R.W. Land. (T) B. A. A. Hawkins. (H) M. J. Hollands. (B) I. Peacock.
3rd year	(L.1.) Deidre Payne. (L.2.) R.A. Jordan. (G.1.) P. Brown. (G.2.) O. Hanmer.
4th year	(L.1.) Sheila Bawler. (L.2.) Jennifer Shire (S.1.) Margaret Cousins. (S.2.) I. T. Williams. (G.1.) Myrtle Harding. (G.2.) N. Smith.
Lower VI	(Sc.) P. G. Stevens. (Arts) G. Jackson.
VI 1st year	(Sc.) C. T. Pillinger. (Arts) Hilary Berrow. (Comm.) Francine Cottle.

OLD SCHOLARS' SUCCESSES. Graduates 1960.

J. E. BURCOMBE	B.Sc.	Honours English (London)
R. M. BURGESS	B.A.	Honours French (Bristol)
E. B. CARPENTER	B.A.	Honours French Oxford
J. CRUSE	B.A.	Honours History (Leeds)
M. HARVEY	B.A.	General Honours (Keele)
N. D. KNEE	B.Sc.	Honours Chemistry (London)
C. MUSTY	B.Sc.	Engineering (Bristol)
H. POMPHREY	B.A.	Honours Music (Manchester)
M. G. POWELL	B.A.	Honours Geography (London)
M. J. ROCKEY	B.A.	Honours History (Cambridge)
T. SHORT	B.A.	Honours History (Birmingham)
R. B. WEEKS	B.Sc.	Engineering (Cardiff)
J. WITHEY	Ph.D.	Chemistry (London)
F. J. YOUNG	B.A.	Honours French (Bristol)



Above:
George Butcher's Form
4B 1953



Left:
George in retirement at 80,
with his wife Sheila

Below:
Colin Wintour's Form
3LI 1959

