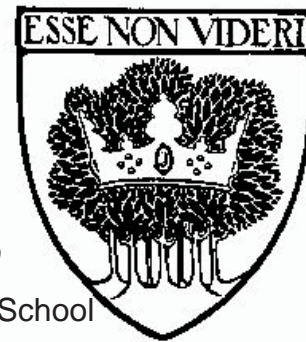




KOSA NEWS



NUMBER 35 - SUMMER 2009

The Magazine of the Old Scholars of Kingswood Grammar School

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The School in July 1973

ANNUAL AUTUMN LUNCH:

Booked for **SATURDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2009** at Lincombe Barn, Downend. We meet at 12 to 12.30 for a chat and a drink and sit down for lunch at about 1.00pm. Fill in the enclosed form now and send it to our Treasurer, MARTIN HARRYMAN, 5 Brecon View, Bleadon Hill, Weston Super Mare, BS24 9NF Tel: 01934 812315. All cheques payable to 'KOSA'.

49ers REUNION:

On **WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2009**, and will be organised by JOHN COLE and JOHN BREDDY at Kendleshire Golf Club, BS36 2TG from 12 noon to 3.00pm. All 49ers on the KOSA database have been notified by post, but please pass on the word. Any queries please contact JOHN BREDDY on 01249 652976 or on e-mail on j.breddy@sky.com.

46ers REUNION:

The next lunch is on **SATURDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2009** at KATHLEEN HARDWICK'S farm down in Clapton-in-Gordano. If you're a 46er and haven't attended yet, phone her on 01275 853180 or Mobile: 0783 7528427





OBITUARIES...

An original 21er, GLADYS ANSTEE (21-28) (later NELSON) passed away on 9 December 2008. Although born in Tewkesbury on 12 February 1910, her father was a railway signalman and his work brought his family to live in Siston. Gladys went to KGS from Warmley C of E School and she was the 71st pupil to be entered in the school register when she started on 16 September 1921.

She achieved her ambition when, after serving as a probationer at Hanham Road School, she became a teacher at St Mary's School, Yate where she worked for about 16 years. She later moved to the nearby Ridge School and she was the co-founder of the local play-group.

Gladys did much for Yate and as a consequence was very well-known locally. One of the things which she wanted to achieve was to have the bell at the old school building at St Mary's repaired again; she said that it always used to ring when she was a teacher there. It will be something which will preserve her memory.

She was one of the last of the founder pupils of the school, entering as a free-place student. In a letter by Headmaster MAJOR EATON to her first college he informed them that she had been a school prefect and had passed her first school certificate in English Latin, Botany and Chemistry (all credits) and Mathematics, History and French. As far as



She became a Yate councillor where her efforts helped secure a listed barn which eventually became Yate Heritage Centre, and she played a part in securing Poole Court, which became the home of Yate Town Council and the Register Office. She finally retired from the Council at 89 years of age.

KOSA was concerned, she was a long-standing member and attended many reunions.

She was also a member of the Hockey XI and the Tennis VI. The photograph (above) shows her in the school hockey team of 1926, back row, far right. The





members of the side are: Back row: R Dovey (vice-capt), J Whittern (a life-long friend of Gladys'), M Chell, G King, B Kelland, G Anstee. Front row: M Cowles, K Harries, V Hayes (capt), E Brain, I King.

Her daughter, Dorothy Acford, has sent the following obituary of MARGARET HAYMAN (1924 or 25) to KOSA:

'Margaret Mary Hamblin (nee Hayman, formerly Hill and Lloyd) died at Frenchay Hospital on 11 February 2009 at the age of 96. She was born in Oldland Common, Gloucestershire, and attended KGS. She did well at school, and enjoyed high jump and hockey. It is understood that she won a scholarship to the Slade School of Art but was unable to take that up for financial reasons. She liked to recall that when riding her bicycle to school from Oldland Common she was often in the company of a fellow cyclist, namely the boy who became known to all as SIR BERNARD LOVELL of Joddrell Bank fame.

'Margaret worked in an office in Bristol,

through the hardship and trauma of existing through the 1939-45 World War with its air raids, food rationing, etc. Just when life was improving somewhat, Margaret's husband died in 1949. She had to work, and bring up her children alone.

'Luckily she met and later married John Lloyd and spent many happy years with him until his death. Her daughter and son had each married and produced grandchildren and she was a very proud grandmother.

'After John's death Margaret again was fortunate in life, meeting and marrying Jeff Hamblin. They moved from Bristol to North Common, which was both close to her old home and that of her son.

'She had learned to drive a car and shared her enjoyment with her husbands and family. Their annual holidays were usually taken in Cornwall, and Margaret regularly drove there and back until her 83rd year.

'Margaret and Jeff made their final move to Coalpit Heath and Margaret's health remained good except for arthritis. After Jeff's death, Margaret's health started to deteriorate but she was always very bright and interested in the world around her. She liked to listen to the news, read books and papers, and enjoy conversations with friends and neighbours.

'She was quite a character, was very proud of her old school, and lived a busy and fulfilling life.'



travelling every day by train from Bitton. She met and married Henry George Hill, lived in Bristol, and gave birth to a daughter and son. The family went

In the photograph of the tennis team of the 20s (above left), taken in an unusual place amongst the buildings of KGS, Margaret is standing on the left.





HAZEL LONG (42-50) (now Frank) has written about her life with her sister, JUNE LONG (39-45), who died on 16 January 2009 aged 80.



June was a long-time member of the KOSA Committee and became well-known for helping to raise funds by running the raffle at each of our events. There was not a reunion in the past fifteen years which June did not attend, and she was a stalwart member at committee meetings.

'June attended Downend Junior Mixed School, introducing me 3 years later, apologizing to the Head that I could not read. We walked to school and dared to run through the air-raid shelters on the way home. Then June and I cycled to KGS together.

'After leaving KGS June went to Bath Teachers' Training College (and kept in touch with her 7 dormitory friends), taught for 9 years and then joined the Bristol Police Service. She enjoyed being in the CID and specialized in

cheque frauds, having been given a commendation for this work. She also received a long-service medal after 25 years and on retiring worked with the crime prevention unit for 10 years.

'June enjoyed company. I can still hear her infectious laugh and I am sure she would like me to mention her constant good health, which she put down to her use of homoeopathy. She was lively and enjoyed sports, was in the school hockey team, later skiing and gliding and throughout her life enjoyed dancing of all kinds.

'While teaching, June and her friend Barbara took a back-packing trip around Europe for 6 months, and in later years, when Barbara was living in Tuscany, June stayed with her when she would indulge in the swimming she loved. June was in the police swimming team and more recently during hot weather could be found at Portishead open-air swimming baths – even last year when there wasn't much hot weather.

'It could be said that June was working for the law even after her death. Her fingerprints were taken at the post-mortem for use as evidence against a man who, just before Christmas, put a knife to her throat and demanded money.





'The chapel at Westerleigh Crematorium was full for June's funeral service, which was a celebration of her life.'

The photograph at the bottom of page 4 shows June winning a race at the Police Sports Day at Ashley Down - in full WPC uniform!

The passing of MOLLIE GARLAND (52-59)(later Vines) has been reported to us by her contemporary ANN EDWARDS (now Trevanion)

'It is with great regret that I report the passing of one of my most long-standing friends. I met Mollie in the first year at KGS and we remained friends until her death in March this year.

'On leaving school she became a civil servant in Bristol. In her late teens she had two loves in her life – cigarettes and her beloved car in which we undertook many journeys. However she almost died when, braking sharply to avoid a child, she skidded into a bridge.



'This resulted in a stay of over a year in Winford Orthopaedic Hospital while surgeons rebuilt her legs. Sadly, shortly after her discharge she was diagnosed with diabetes, but undeterred she began working at Jacksons of Yate where she met Brian, her future husband. They were married in 1973 and enjoyed a happy relationship of 36 years. She con-

tinued to work at Jacksons (which later became Creda) rising to be Transport Controller. But her health deteriorated until she could no longer work.

'Not only was Mollie highly intelligent she was also a superb craftswoman and cook. She filled her time pursuing her hobbies of gardening, flower arranging, sugar flower production, painting and drawing. She enjoyed entertaining, and regular holidays in Cornwall. However, over the years her rebuilt legs disintegrated and this combined with the long term effects of diabetes meant that her mobility was severely affected and she used an electric wheelchair for the last 20 years of her life. Her diabetes caused her to progressively lose the use of her fingers, and one by one the hobbies became impossible. Finally, when she could no longer hold the paintbrushes or pens she took up pastels and below is one of her latest pastel seascapes.



'Throughout a long life of suffering she never complained. Her fortitude, impish humour and consideration for others made her an inspiration to all who met her. May she rest in peace.'

CHRIS TREVELLIAN (52-59) passed away at Frenchay hospital on 9 February 2009 after a long illness. He was 67 years old. We celebrated his life and said goodbye to Chris at a Humanist Service on 17 February at a Westerleigh





Crematorium packed with his friends.

Although Chris completed his 'A' levels at KGS and attended college to train as a teacher, he chose to make a career in the building trade. He was also a great fisherman, something he developed from the age of three, and when the weather was too bad for building work it never seemed to be too bad for angling! Below is a typical photo of Chris pursuing his hobby. He was also keen on playing soccer in his younger years, having played for Warmley Football Club.



Chris was well known in the local hostellers in the Warmley/Kingswood area, particularly in the Midland Spinner where his friends congregated after the cremation service. Ella Fitzgerald and other lively numbers were featured in the service, being typical of Chris; your Editor remembers meeting Chris in recent years at the traditional jazz venues in the area, usually pubs!

Chris leaves his mother, children George and Emma, and Pauline his partner, to whom he became engaged before he died. He had a very 'laid-back' attitude to life and was always willing to help people in difficulties. He will be remembered with much affection.

MARILYN PRITCHARD (60-66) (later Cowburn) died on 7 February 2009 at the early age of 60 after a battle with

ovarian cancer. She was the founder of Bristol Headstart, which was set up to give advice to cancer patients suffering from hair loss during treatment. The advice given was on the use of hats, scarves and jewellery to help them feel better about themselves during treatment. She was also instrumental in setting up Headstart groups in Cheltenham, Taunton, Weston-super-Mare and Barnet.

Marilyn was born in Hanham and during a spell in Australia after leaving KGS, she became an airline and a train hostess, and she met her future husband, Jeff, whom she married in 1973 after they returned to Bristol. She worked for the University of Bristol, initially as a secretary in the catering department, and later as Domestic Bursar of Goldney Hall, Clifton.



As the result of losing her hair when being treated for breast cancer in 1995 she conceived the idea of setting up Headstart. 'She touched so many people by her courage and selflessness.' said her husband. 'She was also a committed member of Hanham Baptist Church.'

The photograph (above) is of Marilyn on her 60th birthday





JANET CREW (46-53) now Bees has written to KOSA to inform us of her brother's passing:

'DAVID CREW (48-51) came to KGS in the 6th Form from Colston's Boys' School to take Economics. After leaving school he went into the Civil Service (Tax Office). He then worked for some time in Bristol Museum and moved to Leicester where he died on 9 March 2009, peacefully at home.



David was 78 and leaves a wife and two sons. He will be greatly missed by his sister Janet.

David is in the photograph above of members of the 6th form in 1948-49 on the left of the back row, next to his life-long friend PETER REDFORD. Peter was at David's funeral. On the right of the back row is DAVID ROWE.

On the front row are SHACKLETON, MAURICE BISHOP, EDWARD LEAR and JOHNNY LAW DEN.

ANN and JIM WITHEY in Canada have written with the sad news:

'It is my sad duty to inform you of the death of my cousin, KEITH WITHEY, on February 27th 2009 of a heart attack. He was 63.

'We have communicated with Barbara, his wife, recently and his passing was a

complete shock to all of us. It was strange that his photograph appeared in the last KOSA NEWS, number 34, page 14.

'I corresponded (by e-mail mostly) with him on the subject of genealogy, particularly with respect to his and my father's family which numbered 20 children. Trying to sort out the children of the children was most difficult. His mother was Queeny Varden before she was married and was closely related to Harry Varden, arguably the finest golfer who ever lived.

'Most of Keith's correspondence contained the word 'humble', whether it was in connection with a holiday or place they had visited or person they had met. I shall miss his cheerful letters.'

MARY JONES (43-50) (now Down) has written to KOSA to report the death of MISS DAVID, who taught at KGS in the 40s and early 50s:

'Although I realise that there may not now be many people who knew her, you may like to know that just before Christmas 2008, the news reached me that MISS DAVID died during the Spring of 2008. She taught Latin at KGS in the 1940s, leaving the school in 1952 to become Deputy Head at Chipping Campden.

'I think you know that I visited her each year for a number of years and as I am not a driver, NANETTE MILLINGTON supplied the transport and enjoyed our visits as much as I did. Our friendship with Miss David was a delight. She had such a wealth of experiences which she related so amusingly during our visits, until our last visit, when communicating had become tiring and difficult for her. This was in August 2007.

'Miss David died at the age of ninety five years and was able to remain in her own





lovely home in Chipping Campden, with the help of a full time carer, until she died. We shall always remember her and her almost lifelong companion, Kathleen, who died two years ago.'

KEN JEFFERIES (53-60) has informed KOSA that GEORGE PALMER (37-44) died of a stroke on 13 December 2008 after being seriously ill for about five months. He leaves a wife, Marilyn, and a son and daughter.

George was a Chartered Quantity Surveyor and a partner of the firm Faithfull & Gould, which is now part of the WS Atkins Group, a firm which provides a variety of management consulting services.

It was George who visited KGS in 1960 to enquire whether they could identify someone who might be interested in qualifying as a quantity surveyor. George was therefore instrumental in taking Ken into the firm when he left school.

KOSA has also been notified of the passing of PEGGY SALTER (29-34) (later Allan), THELMA BEDDOE (36-41) (later Gowers), JOAN WESTWOOD (38-42) (later Curtis), SUSAN CARROLL (61-65) (later Turner) and DIANE POWELL (later PEARCE).

We express our condolences to all those who have lost a loved one and many of us will always remember them in their youth, as schoolmates.

RESPONSES...

DOT HOLMAN (51-56) was encouraged to write after reading No: 34's obituaries:

'It was with great sadness that I learned that Harold Watts had passed away. He was a superb teacher, both liked and respected (quite an achievement - even in 'our' day!)

His dynamic enthusiasm for every aspect of his teaching - especially art - was infectious and inspired so many of his pupils to enjoy life at school.

I was fortunate to have him as form teacher in my last year at KGS and he gave me a life-long appreciation of art for which I shall always be grateful. I am sure that many of my peers from that time remember him with great affection. He was fun, very fair in his dealings with us and as a result, I cannot ever remember anyone 'playing him up', as so often happened to the poor unfortunates with whom we felt, perhaps, too comfortable!

Mr Watts - thanks for the memories!

WILSON BARRETT (48-55) writes from Strasbourg, France to comment that the passing of LUCILLE WOODBURY (48-55) (later ROBBINS) means that the 6th Form French group, of which he was a member, is thinning out. (A delicate way to put it, Wilson! - Ed)

ROYSTON BYWATER'S (38-43) book extract of his view of life at KGS continues to provoke responses. Would Royston like to respond to his critics through the pages of KOSA NEWS?

KATH MOUNTSTEPHEN (33-37) our own one-time Lord Mayor of Bristol, has dropped a line to KOSA:

'I was amazed by Mr Royston Bywater's description of life at KGS in the early years after the War. Sad that anyone as obviously able as he was should have wasted his and the staff's time!

'I had four wonderful years before the War when I learnt self discipline and humility! The staff were, without exception, able, kind and professional. What a bore Royston must have been! The years have been kind to me and my





memory is still good! Thank you as always.'

ROYSTON'S memories of KGS has also prompted JOHN FLOWER (38-45) to respond:

'I feel I must write re the extracts from ROYSTON BYWATER'S book; I was at school at the same time, although I cannot remember Royston. The extracts seem to describe a different school from the one I knew – only the teachers' names were familiar. As others have expressed, the comments made about the school seem to me to be inaccurate and offensive.

'I was initially very angry that such an opinion of a school that I enjoyed and appreciated should now be in book form. On reflection, however, if this truly reflects Bywater's memories perhaps we should be sorry for him as his memories are so different from his contemporaries.'

ALAN SCADDING (36-41) also dropped KOSA a line:

'I very much enjoyed edition no: 34 of KOSA NEWS. ROYSTON BYWATER'S book extract has certainly livened things up and got people going – takes all sorts, as they say. It sounds as though Old BONY BRITTON (English) shook him up a bit. Lucky he was not at KGS before the war when one of the Woodwork teachers was an expert at throwing bits of wood at unruly boys. Misbehaviour was quickly dealt with in the Woodwork Room in those days!

'I was a trifle amazed to read where Royston described one of the teachers as ugly. I think I remember the teacher referred to and I saw her in 1943 playing tennis with her boyfriend from the US Army at the KGS tennis courts one Saturday afternoon when I was in the ATC. She looked radiantly happy!'

MERVYN LOVELL was also prompted to write about Roy's views of KGS:

'I spent eight years at KGS from 1936-44, thus overlapping with the period described by ROYSTON BYWATER. I agree with your correspondents MURIEL JAMES and TREVOR JONES that Royston's account is somewhat inaccurate. I find it strange to read such a distorted view of teachers such as MR BRITTON and MR KEATES. I note that your South African correspondent, BOB BURFORD, described ARTHUR BRITTON as a 'lovely man', with which I concur. DR BLOOM, too, was a very humane man with a great love of Gilbert & Sullivan opera.

'I look back on my time at KGS with great affection and this would not have been possible without a staff totally dedicated to the education welfare of their pupils. Fortunately there are still a few of us left who can set the record straight.'

SELECTIVE MEMORY...

DAVID (DAGO) COLE (51-56) remembers his contemporary JOHN (DES) D'ALESSIO; He writes:

'I read with some amusement the short piece on page 23 of the last edition about John. My most vivid memory of him, and probably the only one, is that of him secreted at the back of the class, eviscerating a dead mouse, whose innards he deposited down a large knot-hole in the floor. His intention apparently was to rub alum into the skin, thus curing it, and having repeated the process, to make a mouse-skin purse. The enquiring girls present were mortified. Happy days!'

AWAY DAYS...

Our feature on page 19 of the last edition prompted DICK PALMER (51-58) and his wife MARGARET BRAIN (53-58) to fill in some details:

'The photograph you reproduced in the last 'NEWS, which included a slightly younger version of myself, has prompted





me at long last to respond to something in the Magazine. We have always looked forward to receiving the result of your efforts but have done little to contribute. No excuses but many apologies. I am about to break my duck.

'I was fairly sure the rugby match which took the five of us to Cardiff was between a Welsh XV and the British Lions who had returned from a tour of South Africa. Having googled it I found the match was played on the 22.10.55. I could even still buy a programme if I want one. I have a copy of the photograph. I do not remember if one of us had a camera or whether it was a photographer earning a crust. We do all look smart & happy. Not a sullen look or hoodie in sight. Neither do I remember why three 2nd year sixth formers allowed two 5th formers to come with them. Rugby obviously brought us together. I also have a photograph of the 1st XV for the same year. Most of us are still smiling.

'Although I obviously did not realise it at the time 1955 was not the end of my association with Cardiff. My work took me to the city in 1961 on transfer from Bristol and Margaret joined me after our marriage in March of 1962.

'Neither was 1955 the last time DEREK MOODY (48-56) and myself were together in the city. I played most of my adult rugby in South Wales for a Cardiff-based club Glamorgan Wanderers. The Wanderers had a social club in those days right in the middle of Cardiff only about 5 minutes walk from Arms Park (now the Millennium Stadium). Very convenient for socialising after internationals. I was in the club on one such occasion with JOHN BISHOP (52-57) when who should walk in but none other than Derek Moody. I have very little recollection of what was said. International evenings in Cardiff do not lend themselves to recollections. I cannot even give a very accurate date. It would have been

somewhere between 1962 and 1974. We moved away from Cardiff in 1974 and whilst I continued to return for internationals, extra tickets for friends were hard to come by.

'Sorry I am not e-mailing to volunteer to take over KOSA. 2 excuses. The first being remoteness from Kingswood. Secondly both Margaret and myself are quite heavily involved in a charitable organisation called National Coastwatch Institution. It is an organisation which has reopened (with volunteers) about 50 of the Coastguard Stations closed by the government in the early 1990s. The Station we are helping is at St. Albans Head on the Purbeck coast a few miles from Swanage. Interesting but quite time consuming. It is always open to coast path walkers particularly at bank holiday weekends when we are fund raising.'

PARIS MYSTERY...

Also on page 19 we published a photo of RITA RAYNER (53-59) in Paris. The identity of the other two girls has been solved. ANNE BROWN (54-59) (now Upton) writes:

'Well, it was a pretty strange feeling, looking at myself as I have no recollection of the taking of the photograph on page 19 of the last edition of KOSA. I was on the right of the photograph together with JILL PLUMMER on the left. I have searched my mind and can't remember RITA RAYNER at all despite the fact that I can still remember many of the names of the people who attended KGS when I was there.

'I remember the trip cost £17 10s and my parents had to scrape up enough to send me. No special holiday clothes could be afforded, so I had one maybe two outfits besides my school uniform. I remember packing my red chiffon scarf with some pride. I was never allowed to forget that this precious money had been spent on me and often had it brought up by my





father for years afterwards, after I had committed some misdemeanour.

'On the outward trip, the sea was really rough and nearly everyone was very sick but I wasn't and neither was KATHRYN JONES who I palled up with. We spent ages looking down at the water being pumped from the back of the ferry and when we went back with the group, all the teachers said that that was the last thing we should have done as it was sure to bring on sea sickness.

'Later, I remember buying the most delicious little sweets from a machine on the Metro, spending all my pocket money on little gifts for my family and summoning enough courage to ask for "une grande café crème" somewhere.

'Some things stand out clearly and I remember going to Le Louvre and queuing for ages to see the Da Vinci cartoon. When I got to the front the sun was shining on the covering glass and I couldn't see a thing!

'The trip was such a big thing then; I think my mother must have managed to squeeze 'Our Anne went to Paris' into every conversation she had with neighbours, they must have been sick of it!

'Think I must have been about 12 then, about 1956, but it could have been as late as 1957. How did we manage about passports? I don't remember getting a separate one.'

56-4B PHOTO...

BERYL HODGES (52-57) now Littlehales has written about the photo on page 2 of the last edition in which 4B of 1956 was featured:

'I was a bit disappointed that you hadn't included the names of everyone that I had also sent to you...Perhaps it would have been more interesting for others if the pupils' names had been included?

Perhaps you could put them into the next KOSA NEWS, please?'

We always aim to please, so here are the names which should have been attached to the photo:

Boys: (l to r, back row) J Britton, R Beese, M Gayton, C Harris, B Parker, P Overbury, Bruce Perry, (middle) T Box, H Burt, Hooper, Jefferies, ??, R Perkins, D Scudamore, J Ellis, John Willmot, J Dicks

Girls: (l to r) Valerie Gane, Ann Gardner, Ann Johnson, Jean Morgan, Anna Sallis, Joyce Adams, Rosie Cryer, Beryl Hodges.

(front) Marian Gane, Janet Sawyer, Chris Sims, Brace, Sandra Gaye, June Hopes, Pauline Brain, Ann Harris.

The form master is Ken Pople

GUIDES @ KGS...

ROS DALZIEL (57-59) (now Abbott) has responded to our request in 'NEWS 33 querying the existence of a Guide Company. We had published the 1957 photo of the Scout Troup on page 26:

'In 1957, aged 15, I started at KGS in the fourth form, my family having moved to Marshfield and I was in 1st Marshfield Guides. I remember a Guide Company starting at Kingswood during my time, probably in 1958 and, if you were already in a Guide Company, you were not allowed to change over. It was started by a new young female teacher; I don't remember her name. On Guide meeting days the girls wore their uniform to school. In those days the full, official name of the Guide Company would have been *1st Kingswood Grammar School Girl Guide Company*.

'I stayed on in 1st Marshfield Guides and became the leader whilst I was still at school, aged only 17. I was very naïve





then and had offered to run the Company for a month, until the leader who was ill, got better and came back! She never did, did she, and I just stayed on, and on, and am still involved today.

'Because of my leadership role I became aware that Kingswood Grammar School sponsored its Guide Company by purchasing brand new tents, and I was very envious of this. We only had access to ropey old ones that had to be borrowed for camp. I don't know how long the Company was open, perhaps other readers will be able to tell you about their activities and the years in which they were Guides.'

THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE...

GORDON JACKSON (55-62) writes with some more information about *The Devil's Disciple* featured on the back cover of the last edition:

'As a very minor member of the cast I can confirm that the production took place in 1959. *Kingswood Chronicles* of 1959 was printed late because of a national printers' strike in the Summer of that year.

'Producer MRS GRIFFITHS chain-smoked cigarettes throughout all her rehearsals – nobody complained in those days! MR TROTT drilled the soldiers. After seeing the production, MR ARMSTRONG told his 'A' level History class that the soldiers were even more of a rabble than they would have been in real life!

'Some of the last rehearsals were held in school time and it was up to the cast to ask teachers for time off. My co-actor, DAVID (JACKRABBIT) HARVEY asked to be excused from MR HOCKING'S Maths lesson. Said MR HOCKING: 'Do you mean to say that I've paid three shillings and six pence to see you when I can see you free five times a week?'

CONFIRMATION...

PAUL DAVIES (54-61) gives more information on some of the photos in the last edition:

'As usual the KOSA NEWS 34 is a good read and I have my photograph in there twice - the 54 reunion and also *The Devil's Disciple* - find me if you can! I'm the only one with a beard, crafted and stuck on by MR BONY BRITTON. I remember that production very well and it brings back more memories (for another day - but it was great fun for many weeks).

'Just on a point of interest and to answer a question posed - The pictures on page 19 - Firstly the one of RITA RAYNER and two other girls in Paris (I was there!). The other girls are JILL PLUMMER (54-61?) and ANNE BROWN (54-59). Anne also features on the 54 reunion photograph on page 25 sat on ROGER FOWLER'S knee!

'Looking at the picture of KEITH MILLETT and TONY POWELL on page 19, judging by Keith's short trousers it was probably the 1D summer trip in 1955 when I think we went to Salisbury and the Wilton Carpet factory, where they were in the process of weaving a new carpet for the Odeon, Leicester Square (my, don't we remember strange things!). If Keith was still in short trousers a year later then it could have been in London, but I doubt if even Keith was still in shorts by then. By the way Keith was definitely a 1954 starter - he was at our reunion so, like so many others, he is one of those who gets confused with starting dates.'

THE FIRST..?

HOWARD NOWELL (59-66) fills a void:

'A recent subscriber to KOSA NEWS, I have read with great interest the recollections of life in the 'cow sheds', mostly by those much wiser, some a little older, but all seemingly with much greater powers of recall. There is however a dearth of





contributions from my own era (59-66), so the little grey cells have been stirred, just a tad, into action.

'Form 1L MISS LESTER (59-60) – is there anyone out there?

'Who remembers MR TROTT who, with unerring accuracy, would launch a board rubber at anyone to whom for any or no reason he took a dislike? His alternative line of attack was a sharp clip around the



Although, and it's no exaggeration, just scraping 'O' level English, it was MISS LESTER who indelibly imprinted on my memory one of the basic rules of speaking proper (sic!). It was during the first few impressionable weeks of senior school that one day my classmate GILLIAN WALLBRIDGE broke into a panic when she mislaid her pen during English. Several of us joined in a search of the immediate area and much to Gillian's relief the pen was soon found. As we returned to our seats, this nosy fag asked Gillian quite loudly 'where was it to?' On hearing, MISS LESTER (later MRS NEWBOLD) delivered a crushing verbal which made me wish the ground could have swallowed me. 'Nowell' she hollered 'you NEVER end a sentence with a preposition!' The feeling of the moment and the pearl of grammatical wisdom has never ever dimmed.

ear as he stalked up and down the rows of flinching pupils. We boys did however respect him – although perhaps it was more admiration at the absolute stunner of a wife he had managed to acquire!

'Being average but very keen on sport I remember the great anticipation when MR DALZIEL joined the school around 1964. He was a 'blue', not sure whether Oxford or Cambridge – we had never seen one in the flesh before and to be taught by one, well that would be fantastic. He was of course just a posh teacher, but a very pleasant man who did his best to enhance our sporting prowess, losing interest when he discovered we erred on the side of being pigs' ears and he wanted silk purses.

'Well I hope these few snippets will encourage some other 59-66ers. As Delia would say "lets be 'avin you! No worries





if you can't use the above. I have also posted a couple of photos which you might consider using – the teachers are MISS LESTER(1L) and Mrs. ROSEVEAR(3L2). (MISS LESTER'S Form is printed on page 13 - Ed).

SCHOOL STRIKE..!

JANET CREW (46-53), now Bees, remembers when she led the school on strike:

'I have been asked to write about an unusual incident which happened at KGS in the winter of 1947. I will try to remember!

'It was when we had very heavy snowstorms. There were no buses running so the only way to get to school was to walk. I walked from Downend to Warmley in my hockey boots and when I got to school it was freezing cold – no heating and no electricity for cooking. At lunchtime we had cold food and water and by dinner time I had had enough and decided to go home. Sitting at the dinner table I thought I didn't really like to walk home alone so I wrote little notes and sent them around the dinner tables. The notes said 'I am going home – anyone like to join me?' The unexpected happened. When I stood up so did most of the other children in the dining hall!

'When I got home to Downend my next door neighbour was outside and wanted to know what I was doing at home. I told him what had happened and he was very interested. The neighbour had only just moved next door, so I didn't know him very well. Unfortunately for me, he was a *Daily Mirror* reporter and splashed across the next day's *Daily Mirror* was 'SCHOOLGIRL TAKES SCHOOL OUT ON STRIKE'. Of course everyone on the school bus next day was reading the paper, and I was bewildered.

'MAJOR EATON was very cross, and at the morning assembly he was very serious. My brother, DAVID CREW, was in the 6th Form at that time and after assembly he came with me to Major Eaton's office to try to explain the situation.

'I am still embarrassed about this true story. I went on to become a primary school teacher (where all the naughty girls go!). I taught for 35 years and enjoyed every minute!

Comment by contemporary PETER BRAKE: 'She was always a bit bolshie!' Response by Janet: 'He always did have too much to say for himself!'

ROBIN'S RAMBLINGS...

ROBIN FIDKIN (55-62) has recently joined KOSA and has written to share his memories:

'I offer no plausible excuses for not previously having become a member because I know that I enjoyed my stay at KGS and have fond memories of school trips, activities (especially of the sporting type) and particularly the professionalism of the staff.

'I have received from KEITH YOUNG (54-59) the last six issues of the 'NEWS and recently having retired after 47 years in insurance (38 years with Mark Richard (Insurance Brokers) Ltd of whom I was a director for 28 years), I am responding to an article in the last edition.

'The article was submitted by BOB BURFORD (57-61) and I remember Bob as a strapping well-built lad and someone who was lots of fun, always having a smile on his face. Many of the ex-pupils he mentioned I remember very well. MARTIN MANN, a fine all-round sportsman, was a very close pal of mine throughout our years at KGS and his tragic death on the soccer field was





difficult to come to terms with for his wife Corralea, his family and everyone who knew him.

'TONY COPP (not David, Buffy!) has now retired from the Police Force, although he still rides his bicycle around Downend, and PETE SMITH, who played football for Eden Grove Old Boys until he was well into his 50s, I presume has now retired because he was a schoolteacher. JIM MATTHEWS, I totally agree, was a brilliant footballer and cricketer who, unfortunately for the school, preferred to play for Carson's Cricket Club at the age of 13 onwards. Jim has had more than his fair share of sadness; he lost his wife several years ago and he has been battling against a serious illness, but he is showing typical JIM MATTHEWS fortitude.

"BONY' BRITTON, indeed a charming man, was my first form master, as the photo 56-1B shows. I am the little lad on the extreme right of the back row. Unfortunately I can only recall the names of only half of the class. Perhaps someone can provide some answers?

'There was also a photo in 'NEWS 34 of another good friend VIC YEOMAN and his sister LINDA YEOMAN who did mag-

nificently to raise a terrific sum of money for St Peter's Hospice when running in Bristol's half-Marathon. After finishing my football career (but continued with cricket until the age of 55) I decided at the age of 40 to return to my third most favourite sporting activity – Running.

'I have recently completed my final competitive run in the Bath half-Marathon after competing in 13 Marathons (including 3 London Marathons) and 88 half-Marathons, recording fastest times of 3 hours 8 minutes and 1 hour 24 minutes respectively. I, too, chose St Peter's as my charity for whom I raised a significant amount of money.

'At KGS I always enjoyed the cross-country races, School Sports Days and the Triangular Athletics meetings against Chipping Sodbury and Rodway Schools. (when did St. George Grammar drop out? – Ed) I was recently speaking to CHRIS JOBBINS who recalled the occasion when, in front of the school watched by all the pupils, I approached the winning post in the mile race with a lead of 50 yards when I ran inside one of the markers. A certain gentleman by the name of C N RIDLEY (Headmaster) disqualified me. Not a happy moment for me and neither was it appreciated by my





great friend MARTIN MANN who was Eaton House Captain. I expect that CHRIS JOBBINS was awarded the race and the gold medal!



'In the photograph (above) of the 1958 Junior Cricket Team, MARTIN MANN is the tall fellow standing on the left, VIC YEOMAN is standing third from the left and standing third from the right is JIM MATTHEWS. I am seated second from the left.'

ANOTHER FROM THE 60s...

The photo (below) is of 3rd year 6th in 1963. Of the three staff members, STUART SYKES is seated on the left, but who are the other staff members? Notice, too, that they're still wearing gowns. When did that practice cease?



REUNIONS...

MALCOLM HENRY (52-59) wrote to the 'NEWS in April about a reunion in New Zealand:

'This is just to say that we recently spent several weeks in New Zealand, and called in on BONITA CARR (52-57) (now Cron) in Kerikeri. Like many parts of NZ, it's a very attractive area, with (as we often joked during our trip) 'awe inspiring vistas' ! It's the first time we'd met for over 50 years, so there was no shortage of events to catch up on, quite apart from sharing memories of KGS. We are both keen gardeners, and had a very interesting time touring Bonita's garden and seeing the wonderful things she can grow - plants that wouldn't stand a chance here in the UK.

Julie and I have been in continual contact over the years with MARGARET CHELL (54-61)(now Gregory) who was in the same year as MARY CARR, Bonita's younger sister (also COLIN PILLINGER?). Margaret is visiting the UK in June for her mother's 100th - which we hope to attend.

Please pass on my regards to any of the





'old gang' you may bump into. Should anyone be interested, feel free to pass on my email address as [wmalcolmhenry@hotmail.com], or for those who have yet to venture into 'cyberspace', my phone number: 0151 645 2144.'

REUNIONS PLANNED...

PAT WALKER (56-62) (now Bryan) also knew about the 100th birthday. She writes:

'Thought I would send you an email rather than write as I have just been dragged screaming into the 21st century with the present of a laptop.

'We have just been clearing the loft and have come across 3 KGS Prize day programmes -1959, 1962 and 1963. Also a set of Kingswood Chronicles 1956 through to 1962. I wondered if these would be any help in compiling the lost History of KGS.

'Have just met up with JANET CHELL (now MATTHEWS) through contact with KOSA NEWS. Her Mum still lives in Mangotsfield and will be 100 this year. Sister Margaret lives in Canada and brother Richard cares for Mum. All went to KGS.

'Have not managed to meet up yet with SANDRA LUCAS and JUDY BURT but plans afoot to make it all happen this Summer. Still in contact with MISS SPILL who remembers the Chells very well. Sad to hear of the passing of HAROLD WATTS.'

It seems that the CHELLS were quite a KGS family going back to DOROTHY CHELL who went up to Oxford in 1929. The photo (above, right) is taken from a *Kingswood Chronicles* showing Dorothy (right) and ELISE BIRTILL, who both received scholarships to Oxford in that year. -Ed



THE CHRONICLES...

PAULETTE VINEY (53-60) has kindly donated to KOSA many copies of *Kingswood Chronicles* of her years at KGS. Thanks to her and other generous donations we have originals or photocopies from 1923 (the first) to 1969/70. Did the publication continue after 1970? If so, may we borrow copies so that copies can be made for the archives?

Indeed, we note that Paulette was a sub-editor (along with JO CRITCHLEY, ELIZABETH HILLING and HILARY BERROW) on the 1959/60 edition. Thanks, Paulette.

LINKS..?

In the last edition of KOSA NEWS we published part 2 of the memories of JEAN PULFORD (39-45), who had passed away after our having published part 1. Jean's father was a railway signalman on the LMS and she related that when she left school in 1945 she secured a job with Lloyds Bank with the help of the daughter of a Mr & Mrs Button of Wickwar.





PHIL DARKE (47-52) wondered whether Mr Button, the father, was the same Signalman Button who was on duty at Charfield when a terrible train crash took place, with 15 lives lost, on 13 October 1928. Three trains were involved, including a mail train, and a detailed account of the accident is published in *Red for Danger* by LTC Rolt.

The wreckage from the collision was piled up against a brick overbridge at Charfield and was set on fire by the ignition of escaping gas from the gas-lit wooden carriages of the mail train. The conflagration became an unapproachable furnace which, despite the efforts of the local fire brigades, blazed for twelve hours.

The accident could not have been caused by Signalman Button's operations and he was completely exonerated by the resultant enquiry. It is interesting to speculate, however, that our Jean Pulford probably knew Signalman Button's family...but we'll probably never know for sure!

ROCK CAKES & MORE...

BRENDA CHALK (54-61) (now Ewins) remembers those Domestic Science lessons:

'I have read the Spring 2009 edition of KOSA NEWS and noted your welcome to myself and my brother as new members. Although my older brother JEFF CHALK did leave KGS before the sixth form, I stayed on at the school until I was 18 (July 61).

'The somewhat basic Domestic Science lessons inspired me to go to Battersea College of Domestic Science in London and train for three years to become a Home Economics teacher. We girls always felt somewhat dissatisfied by our cookery lessons. The young female

teacher used to take groups of boys into the flat during our lessons, leaving us (unsupervised) cooking yet another batch of rock cakes and raspberry buns for the Governors' teas. From the smirky grins on the faces of the boys when they reappeared, we were sure that she was teaching them more than how to clean the flat, but nobody ever 'let on' what was actually going on. If you are one of the boys, you would probably know!

'These lessons convinced me that I needed to learn how to cook and look after a family and to pass that learning on to a new generation. In hind-sight, as a Home Economics teacher who was always landed with the PSE lessons, I suspect that she was ahead of her time in giving the boys basic sex education lessons!

POWELLS UNITED ...

KOSA Hon. Secretary, JOHN POWELL (43-48) had been totally unaware of any direct living relatives on the paternal side until he was pleasantly surprised at a recent KOSA reunion when PRISCILLA POWELL (now Maguire)(46-51) told him that she believed they had common ancestors. Her cousin IVOR POWELL (44-48), who is an accomplished family historian, had done extensive research into the family tree, going right back to the Powells of Marshfield in 1535.

Ivor had discovered that his, Priscilla's and John's great great grandfathers were brothers and their parents, George and Sarah Powell, were married in 1816.

The photo taken at the April 2009 AGM and Lunch (at the top of page 19) shows, from left to right, SUSAN POWELL (55-60) now living in Victoria, Province of British Columbia, Canada, JOHN (43-48), MARY POWELL (51-56)(now Janes) and PRISCILLA POWELL (46-





ANGELA'S FRIENDS...

ANGELA WILLIAMS (56-58) (now Béthencourt) only spent two years at KGS and then moved to Weston Grammar School when her parents moved from Kingswood. She says that she very much enjoyed KGS, but loathed WGS in comparison (all girls – ugh!). She has sent some personal photographs of a school trip in 1957 to St Fagan's Museum with her contemporary friends LYNN CULLEY and RUTH WHITE.

51), (now Maguire).

This interesting snippet demonstrates one of the several advantages of being active KOSA members, in the linking up of hitherto unknown relationships.

Angela's three photographs show below, from the top, clockwise, Lynne and Ruth, Lynne, and Angela herself. She has also sent in shots of 1H in 1957 and 2W in 1958, but they will be held over until next time.



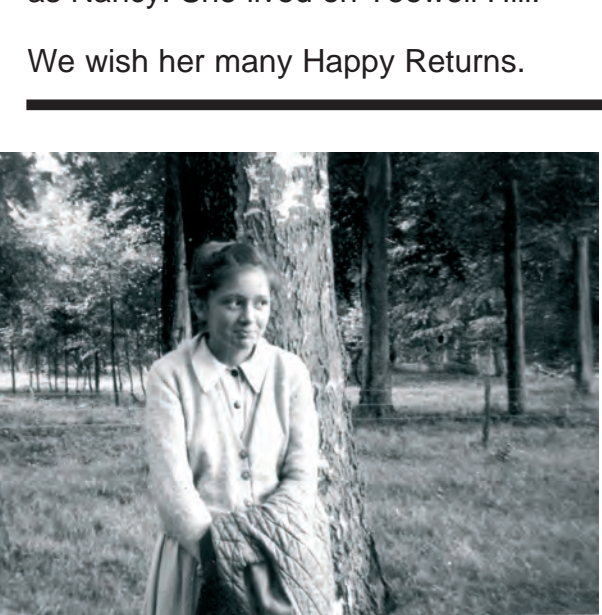
YEAR OF 46...

The next reunion lunch for the 46ers is on 28 November 2009 (see Diary Dates on the front page).

One of the 46ers, SHIRLEY SHORT (now STEER), has a mother who attended KGS and celebrated her 99th birthday on 26 June 2009.

Her name was ANNE FLORENCE CAMDEN and when at KGS she was known as Nancy. She lived on Teewell Hill.

We wish her many Happy Returns.





PHYLLIS HANKS (51-56) (now Messenger) has sent in these photographic studies of four members of staff, believed to have been taken in 1956. They are from below clockwise, MICHEL LAPADU, French Assistant, 'TOM' MOODY, who taught French and 'FROSTY' WINTOUR (French) with GEORGE BUTCHER (English).



PEN PORTRAITS...

MICHEL LAPADU spent two years at KGS as the French Assistant and during that time he was very popular. He played cricket (which made him OK in many people's eyes) and the 1955-56 *Kingswood Chronicles* records in the School Notes that 'M. Lapadu goes home after two very successful years here.' No wonder he was judged successful as he took home the very popular MISS JACOB (Music and French) as his bride. They're both members of KOSA and live in Bordeaux.

'TOM' MOODY was Senior Master at KGS in the 50s and left in 1956 to become Headmaster of Newton Abbot Grammar School. *Kingswood Chronicles* reported that 'Mr Moody will no doubt remember the applause in Hall upon the announcement of his appointment'. MISS BAGSHAW (History) followed him two years later as MRS INCE to become Senior Mistress of the same school.





COLIN (FROSTY) WINTOUR was Senior French Master at KGS and took part in many productions of G & S operas from 1951 onwards. He moved to the sixth form college when it was opened on the KGS site and eventually retired from there. He attended the first reformed KOSA Dinner in 1984.

GEORGE BUTCHER taught English at KGS from 1952 to 1958 after a spell at Cambridge and the forces. He was never given a nick-name – he was always 'George'. An excellent English teacher, he left to teach at Aylesbury Grammar School and after 15 years went into adult education. He retired as Head of the Adult Education Centre and became an Education Consultant for BT. He lives in Aylesbury with his wife Sheila, is a member of KOSA and regularly meets up with members of his KGS 1956 5MS form.

THE COLD WAR...

The Times on 22 May 2009 revealed a Soviet plot to kill SIR BERNARD LOVELL (24-31) with a radiation dose at the height of the Cold War.

According to *The Times* he was targeted after the USSR discovered that the Jodrell Bank radio telescope was being used as an 'early warning device' of a nuclear attack. Sir Bernard confirmed that this put him in the front line to the extent that the Russian military used radiation to try to kill him during a visit in 1963 to one of their own radio telescopes on the Black Sea.

He said that he suffered severe sickness after the visit and believed that the Russians had used the radio telescope to bombard him with lethal radiation. 'They tried to remove from my memory the fact that they had taken me to their own defence nucleus and they did not want news of their installation brought back to this country' said Sir Bernard 'A lot of my compatriots who went to the USSR nev-

er did return, or when they did they never survived.'

On returning to England Sir Bernard has said that he was racked with doubts about his research and even considered becoming a Church of England minister. If he had he would have added to quite a number of ex-KGS scholars who became ministers of various denominations.

PHIL SPACE...



Quite often in the production of KOSA NEWS your Ed has to find something to complete a page. This time he has chosen a photo from the archives of ROGER WINDSOR (55-60).

Roger must be congratulated in giving a lifetime of service to Kingswood Old Boys RFC, now Kingswood RFC. He is a typical example of the Kingswood Breed - individualistic, enthusiastic, demanding, reliable, straightforward, calls a spade, a spade, family-oriented, and a long-time friend. Even if he is sometimes inebriated and a little loud!





SPORTS DAY...

When MARIGOLD RIXEN (32-36) (later Webster) passed away (see report in last KOSA NEWS), her daughter kindly sent us photos of sports day which were in her possession. We believe that they were taken either in 1936 or 1938.

The first one is a general view of Sports Day and the second one is of an exhibition of country dancing. Note the small orchestra seated on the left.

...AND PRIZE DAY...

On page 23 Head Girl MARGARET SQUIRES welcomes Miss N E Bradshaw to the Prize Day in 1962. Chairman of the Governors, Rev. Downes, looks on.

The photo is taken in the reception area by the library where the honours boards seem to have been completed up to 1959, although the details are indistinct even if the photo is enlarged. Has anyone any photos of the detailed boards? They were of course lost in the fire.





A RARE RESIGNATION...

Very occasionally we get a request to resign from KOSA. MAURICE (MAC) KING (44-52) writes from NSW:

"The moving finger writes, and, having writ, moves on. Nor all thy piety nor wit shall lure it back to cancel half a line, nor all your tears wash out a word of it" (with apologies to Omar Khayam).

'Doesn't this describe all our lives? On looking back over the years, as our memory now enables us, we remember the highs and lows of our time on this earth. Some of us have had lives that have been blessed with peace and fulfilment, others, I am sure, have been burdened with many of life's cares and have some sad recollections in their lives. As for myself, I have had a full, blessed and enjoyable life, although not without some happenings that I wish had been different.

'Writing to you from the other side of the world, and receiving KOSA NEWS has

enabled me to relive and enjoy again those early childhood years when, despite the war, days were carefree and enjoyable. My memories of school and school friends from Warmley C of E School and KGS are surprisingly clear, and I remember them fondly. I moved from Warmley to KGS on a half scholarship in 1944, together with 7 or 8 of my classmates (all from working class families!) (I don't think this could have been the same school as your embittered correspondent wrote about in the last two issues of KOSA News as his memories were so alien to mine.) I was a rather shy and unconfident boy, and thus I was not always happy at school, but this was no fault of the school.

'On leaving KGS in 1952 I spent two years National Service in the RAF, being trained as an Air Wireless Fitter, spending my second year near Cologne in Germany. After leaving the RAF I was accepted at St Paul's Training College where I spent two years broadening my academic and social experiences. These were two very enjoyable years. I ob-





tained my first teaching post at Wroughton Sec. Mod. School near Swindon, where you were expected to teach any subject when called upon, and without any free periods. One of my extra jobs was to look after the library, and this was eventually to lead me to obtaining a Grad. Dip. Lib. in Australia, and finishing my teaching career as a High School Librarian.

'Not being self confident I set myself goals to try to overcome this. These goals were many and varied - I cycled around England; walked the Pennine Way; travelled around France in a 1937 Austin 7; obtained a Grad. Dip. Geog. from Goldsmiths College, London; spent 3 1/2 months travelling overland to Australia, where I taught for 18 months; I returned to UK via the Far East and the Pacific to USA; crossed Canada by bus; and in 1966 took a B.Sc. at Bristol University. I returned to Australia, taught Geography, before moving into the library field. I married my Australian wife, Gwen in 1969, and we celebrate our 40th anniversary this year.

'Along the way, starting at the age of 8 years, I joined the choir of St Barnabas' Church in Warmley, moving to St Anne's, Syston when my voice broke. The highlight of my choirboy days was singing in a Choristers' Festival in Westminster Abbey in 1947. Singing and music has been one of my greatest joys in life, and I became involved in many choral works e.g. The Messiah, The Creation, Dido and Aeneas, Carmen, Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe, and a number of years singing in the Cathedral Choir in Bathurst, NSW.

'I am now 75 years old, and have been retired for many years. In 1989 I became a Soldier in the Salvation Army, dedicating my life to living as a Christian, and have been greatly blessed by God's

guidance and provision. I still work two days a week as archivist in the Family Tracing Service of the Salvation Army in Sydney.

'As the years pass the contemporaries of my childhood years are passing away, and the content of the KOSA NEWS now keep alive the memories of later generations of students. I have really enjoyed receiving the KOSA NEWS and really appreciate all KOSA's efforts, in helping to keep alive those early memories. But I think the time has come for me to bow out and leave KOSA NEWS to my successors at Kingsfield. So I ask gratefully, and with my thanks, if you would remove me from your mailing list. May God bless you. 'Mac' King'

EASTER '56...

Nowadays school trips are usually organised to such faraway places as the USA or Outer Mongolia. In the 50s a regular trip to Paris seemed to be the norm and the cause of much excitement (see pages 10/11 for ANNE BROWN'S reaction).



Another of PHYLLIS HANKS' photos shows BOB PERKINS, 'TOM' TOMKINSON, BRUCE PERRY and M LAPADU on the steps of their Paris Hotel in 1956. Bob and company look suitably bored as Michel carries out a conversation with a French lady and her daughter.





The photograph above is of 1F in the Summer of 1965. These good folk would have seen KGS towards the transition into the new era of Kingsfield School as a part of the new comprehensive system which commenced, for them, in 1967/68.



The Under 15 Rugby XV would probably have been one of the last under the name of Kingswood Grammar School. 'JIMMY' WILDE, Sportsmaster since 1941, retired in 1968 and Soccer had already restarted after being replaced by Rugby in 1949.





THE PRODIGIOUS SNOB...

An extract from the *Kingswood Chronicles* of 1961-62 confirms that KGS productions continued to be of a high standard:

The 1961-62 KGS production was *The Prodigious Snob*, an adaptation by Miles Malleon of the Molière comedy *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*.

The play concerns the trials and tribula-

Covielle, his servant. Both HILARY BROWN and JUDITH BURT played Lucille, Jourdain's daughter, with charm, and PAMELA GREADY and CHRISTINE BROOKS gave convincing displays of Jourdain's nagging wife.

The two Nicoles, the maids, were vivacious and high-spirited (ELAINE BUSH and LINDA BROADBENT), and Dorimène (CHRISTINE TEMPLAR), a marchioness, and Dorante (JOHN WINCHESTER), her suitor, were played with



the stately dignity of the seventeenth century nobles. All other supporting parts were extremely well acted and well worth watching.

The costumes, scenery and lighting were all extremely well thought out, and we must

tions of Monsieur Jourdain, a middle-class tradesman who has recently acquired great wealth, and is also attempting to acquire the accomplishments of the upper classes. His daughter wishes to marry a middle-class young man of moderate means, and Monsieur Jourdain refuses, wishing her to marry into the nobility. The fun begins when the young man, Cléonte, disguises himself as a Turkish Pasha and commences to persuade Monsieur Jourdain to give his consent to the match.

The principal role of Monsieur Jourdain was acted with convincing bewilderment by J. WHITLOCK, and OWEN HANMER and STEPHEN WALLINGTON acted with zest and humour as Cléonte and

thank MRS. DAVIES for her work in the wardrobe department, especially in the design and execution of the costumes for the slave girls. The producer, MR. LARKINS, is to be congratulated on an enjoyable and successful production.

We were pleased to learn in May that our production had been awarded first prize in the Gloucestershire Schools Drama Competition, and the school holds a handsome cup for twelve months. We wish to congratulate all concerned on their achievement.

The scene (above) shows, from left to right, S. Wallington, Linda Broadbent, O. Hamner, J. Whitlock, Judith Burt and Pamela Gready.





KOSA MATTERS...

WELCOME TO...

New members since the last edition, using maiden names for the ladies:

Robin Welch (56-64), Robin Fidkin (55-62), Alf Herod (50-57), Jim Evans (65-67), Janice Willie (48-53), David Herod (46-50), Rosemary Hunt (60-62), Pam Tippet (47-53).

We welcome all those who have joined us and welcome, too, their contributions to keeping the memory of keeping KGS alive. If you know someone who might like to receive KOSA NEWS, just send us their details.

OCTOBER LUNCH...

Details of the next reunion on SATURDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2009 are shown under Diary Dates on the front page.

We hope to celebrate the 25 years since the re-birth of KOSA at a dinner which was held at Kingswood Community Centre in October 1984. As with all auspicious birthday parties, we shall have a birthday cake!

We have also invited the Member of Parliament for Stroud, DAVID DREW (63-70). We are pleased to report that David has been described in the local Stroud newspaper as 'one of the saints in the MPs' expenses row' as one of the MPs who did not 'milk the system'.

THE LAST AGM...

At the AGM held last April KOSA adopted some minor amendments to its Constitution.

1. It was made more explicit that the membership of KOSA should be open to ex-pupils, scholars and students from KGS and its successor schools such as Kingsfield School.

2. Committee Members will no longer be required to stand down after missing two consecutive Committee Meetings.

3. We now have the power to elect a Vice-President.

Copies of the revised constitution may be obtained from our Secretary, JOHN POWELL, whose address is on the insert to this magazine.

We are delighted that DAVID LEWIS, the retired Headteacher of Kingsfield and our Past-President, was elected as our first Vice-President. David has given much support to KOSA over many years and we hope that his relationship with KOSA will continue for many more.

We are also very pleased that the present Headteacher of Kingsfield School, STEVE LONGTON, was re-elected as President of KOSA for the current year.

The signed audited accounts which were adopted at the AGM are also included with the insert to this edition.

KOSA AWARD...

On the advice of STEVE LONGTON, STAN BURRAGE (51-56), our Chairman, attended Kingsfield earlier this year and presented the KOSA Award of £50 to each of two students adjudged worthy of the award. We congratulate EMILY BRASIER and BEN BAGGS on their awards.

...AND FINALLY...

GILLIAN GILBERT (50-57) (now Smith) has sent in the photo on page 28 of a scene from *The Bartered Bride*, a production which took place in February 1955. The photo is composed of all girl dancers and Gillian is the last person on the right - dressed as a boy!

She tells us that there were no boy volunteers for these parts, although boys did act in many of the other parts of the opera.



