



KOSA NEWS



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The Magazine of the Old Scholars of Kingswood Grammar School and its successors

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EDITORIAL...

As you will see from the Diary Dates below, the AGM will take place on Saturday, 11 April 2015. Along with KOSA's membership your Committee is not getting any younger and it is keen to recruit some younger members to maintain our activities. Ideally, we would like to recruit some members who started school in the 60s or 70s. If you think you would like to make a contribution to the running of KOSA, please get in touch with our Secretary or the Editor so that we can arrange for your name to be put to the

AGM for election. Contact details are in the centre-spread.

The commitment would be for a maximum of three Committee meetings per annum, more usually two, in the Kingswood area, and assistance in distributing the 'NEWS' at two of those meetings. We also have a very pleasant Committee lunch at Christmas! We look forward to hearing from you.

The Editor

DIARY DATES:

SPRING LUNCH & AGM:

The AGM is booked for **SATURDAY, 11th APRIL 2015** at LINCOMBE BARN, Downend BS16 2RW. We meet at 12.00 to 12.30 for a chat and a drink from the bar and sit down for lunch at about 1.00pm after the AGM. It's your opportunity to have your say about KOSA. Please complete the form enclosed 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'.

46ers REUNION:

The date for the May lunch at KATHLEEN HARDWICK'S farm down in Clapton-in-Gordano has not yet been fixed. If you started at KGS in 1946 phone her on 01275 853180 or Mobile: 0783 7528427 or PRISCILLA POWELL (now MAGUIRE) on 01235 851966 to get the date. Always a very pleasant occasion.

AUTUMN LUNCH:

Already booked for **SATURDAY, 10th OCTOBER 2015** at Lincombe Barn, Downend. Please book the date in your diary now, especially if you started at KGS 60 years ago in 1955.

OBITUARIES...

JIM BURGESS (1928-2014)



Although JIM BURGESS (39-45) passed away in July and reported in the last edition, a memorial service was postponed until 13 September at Wick Parish Church to enable many from overseas to attend.

The church was packed and we learned much about Jim's very full life. One of his sons, Stephen, gave the Eulogy and Jim's talented grand children contributed greatly to memories of Jim. Tributes were given by Grace and Louise Burgess and Hana Jones read the lesson from St Matthew.

Jim was a very talented person. Poems which he had written were read by the grandchildren and his other son, Andrew, and examples of his work as an artist were exhibited on the walls of the church. He also wrote plays. Imogen

Burgess, another grand-daughter with a particularly fine voice, sang *Ave Maria* by Schubert. Slides were projected showing Jim over the years.

We learned that Jim was particularly keen on gardening and green activities (being known locally as 'Badger Man'). After leaving KGS he played for the Old Boys RFC, trained as a teacher, taught woodwork and art, eventually becoming a peripatetic teacher of the deaf. He spent time in the Royal Navy and did a Masters Degree at Manchester and later he joined the Y's Men's Club (he was a Past President), was a member of Probus and a WVS volunteer. On moving to Wick in 1966 he joined the local church and served on the PCC. A full life indeed.

KOSA NEWS has rather belatedly received the news that BILL KNIGHT (48-55) passed away in 2009. WILLIAM ARTHUR KNIGHT left KGS to read Medicine at the University of Bristol. According to various editions of *Kingswood Chronicles*, he's in the A-level list of 1954-55 with passes in Chemistry, Zoology and Botany and in the previous year he passed in Physics and Biology, which makes 5 A-levels in total - exceptional and almost unheard of in those days!

Bill also acted in the December 1953 production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in which he played Claudio, a Lord from Florence.

Bill's medical qualifications included MRCS (1961) Royal College of Surgeons of England, LRCP (1961) Royal College of Physicians of London and MB ChB (1961) University of Bristol. We know he practised in Plymouth during part of his career.

ROSALIND CAMERON (54-61) now Vernon has informed KOSA of the death of JEAN BRIDGES (54-60) later Reed: 'It is with great sadness that I report the death of Jean in August 2014. I have known her since we were eleven years of age in MISS HORSEMAN'S class at KGS.

'After leaving school, Jean worked in the Civil Service in Bristol and South Wales. There she met John and lived there until she married. They then moved back to John's hometown of Nottingham.

'As we lived in Leicester, our families started to see one another every six months. This continued when they moved to Lichfield, and our meetings have continued over 40 years, and will continue but, sadly, without Jean. She and John had two children, Ian and Susan.

'Jean did a lot to help others, working in a voluntary capacity for Arthritis Care, She was also an active member of Lichfield Methodist Church. One thing that Jean will be remembered for were her cakes. They were one of the highlights of visits to her home.

'Jean fought cancer bravely and positively before she succumbed. I shall miss her dreadfully.'

From her daughter Dorothy in Canada comes the news of the death of MONA BLANCHE OWEN (41-48) (later Timko) on December 18, 2014 at the age of 84:

'MONA OWEN was born in Swindon, Wiltshire and as a young child moved to Downend, Bristol. She attended Downend Primary School where she met her lifelong friend PAMELA NASH (d. September 2013). After finishing at KGS

she attended St. Mary's Training College in Cheltenham for two years. She began her teaching career at Begbrook Primary School and In 1954, she emigrated to Canada to take up teaching at Bassano School in the County of Newell in southern Alberta. There she met and married George Timko, also a teacher. They moved to Scandia and taught together at Jenny Lind School, where George was principal (headmaster). In 1972 they bought and moved to a farm just outside of Brooks, though both continued teaching. They had a very busy full life.

'Mona returned to England many times to visit her family and friends, sometimes accompanied by George and the family and sometimes on her own. The last occasion was in 2013 for the funeral of Pamela Nash, when she also attended the KOSA Autumn lunch.

'She had five children: Dorothy, David, Mona Faye, Michelle and Patrick. The three girls live in Alberta and between them have Mona's nine grandchildren. David and his wife live in Singapore and Patrick lives in North Wales. Over the years her family and friends from England also made visits to Canada.

'She especially enjoyed knitting, sewing, her plants and flower garden. After retiring from teaching in 1985, for some years she worked in a fabric shop where her sewing skills were often displayed in the windows. Her travelling to visit friends and family, which now included her children and grandchildren, continued: Newfoundland, Memphis, Tennessee, Australia, Trinidad and Tobago, Dubai, Holland, Mexico, Hong Kong and Singapore.

'Mona was widowed in 2007 after 52 years of marriage and for the past four

years she had been living in a retirement home in Okotoks, where her oldest daughter, Dorothy, lives. She had a rich, full life and will be missed by all who knew her.'

ANITA FOX (59-64) (now Manning) has informed KOSA of the passing of DELICE LOCK (47-51) (later Rawle):

'I have been asked by Del's husband to inform you of her death in May 2014. I didn't know her at school as she was before my time there but we have allotments in Downend and we discovered our mutual history when we were chatting one day. She was a very kind lady, willing to share surplus plants which she had grown in her greenhouse. In fact we spent the Summer eating her courgettes – abundant is an understatement.'

Your Ed met Del when we were both working for Bristol Business School at the University of the West of England. Del was a secretary in the School of Accounting & Finance. Very efficient, but someone who earned a reputation as one not to be crossed!

KATH HAWKINS (33-37) (now Mountstephen) has informed KOSA of MARGARET PEACOCK's death.

'Margaret Peacock (later Edwards) was at KGS with me from 1934 to 1938. We remained friends over all the years and she never grumbled either when she lost her husband Ronald or at school and afterwards.

'She was the youngest and the brightest in the class and we knew she would go far,

but Hitler had other ideas! She lived in Tower Road, Warmley all her life with her uncle Bert and was good at sport as well as academic classes. A lovely girl with beautiful red hair and so capable. Her four children had a wonderful mother. I do hope others have remembered her.'

News has also been received of the passing of KATHLEEN TOWNSEND (48-53), NORA HILL (33-38), and JIM COKAYNE (29-34). Your Ed had the pleasure of working with Jim at South Western Electricity Board's Accounting Department back in the 50s, which was where Jim spent most of his working career.

We pass on our condolences to all those who have lost a loved one.

BIO '48...

The photograph below is an informal one of the Biology Group of 1948 with their Biology Mistress. However, we do not have the names of its members. Could anyone oblige with a list of names, please? Perhaps it is an O-Level or A-Level class. Please let us know.



POSTHUMOUS AWARD...

The following is taken from the *Bristol Post* of 17 October 2014. We were pleased to read this to the 54 reunion on 18 October, which Colin would have attended had he lived:

Scientist COLIN PILLINGER (54-61) was given a posthumous lifetime achievement award at a ceremony to honour those who have accomplished exceptional feats in space technology.

Born in Kingswood in 1943, the planetary scientist was best known as the man behind the Beagle2 Mars lander, which crashed on landing on the red planet in 2003.

Despite Beagle2's failing, Professor Pillinger enjoyed a prolific career in the science of space exploration, and he has now been honoured with a prize at the 2014 Sir Arthur Clarke Awards.

The awards were established by the Arthur C Clarke Foundation in 2005, in recognition of notable or outstanding achievements in all space activities.

The award was presented by Dr David Parker, the chief executive of the UK Space Agency to Professor Pillinger's daughter Shusanah.

A statement released by the awards committee read: 'Space science is poorer, and quieter without Colin. This award is an appropriate accolade for his amazing career.'

Prof. Pillinger's early work was on the analysis of lunar rock returned by Apollo astronauts, for Bristol University and NASA.

He later established a leading research

group at Cambridge and then the Open University. The aim of Beagle2 was to search for life on Mars using instruments to test for substances including methane gas. Although the mission failed it caught the public imagination and gave new impetus to the British space industry.

Prof. Pillinger continued to put pressure on space agencies in the years to follow, to complete what he called 'unfinished business on Mars.' He was appointed a CBE for his services to higher education and science.

Prof. Pillinger became well-known for his Bristol accent and ability to enthuse the public about planetary science.

His other space instrument, Ptolemy, is part of the Rosetta mission which was due to touchdown on a comet nucleus last November. It will carry out subatomic measurements.

BEAGLE2...

As we go to press there is much media comment both in the newspapers and radio/TV that COLIN PILLINGER'S Mars explorer, Beagle2, has now been found by NASA on Mars just where Colin and his team said it would land. Colin's wife Judith said that Colin would have described this as 'hitting the cross-bar rather than the goal'. It's a great pity that Colin died before this discovery of Beagle2.

Apparently, only two of the four solar panels opened, the remaining closed panels obscuring the receipt and transmission of radio messages necessary for the discovery and control of the spacecraft. Just bad luck!

Much has been written about the reinstatement of Colin as a 'national hero'

and suggestions have been made that a statue in his honour should be erected in Millennium Square, to accompany that of Cary Grant, an old scholar of Fairfield Grammar School. Another suggestion is that the new school which will replace the Grange School in Warmley should be named after Colin.



If the second suggestion is adopted then two schools in the area would be named after Kingswood Old Scholars, the other school being named after Sir Bernard Lovell. What do you think?

The photograph above is of Colin signing his latest book when he attended the KOSA Autumn lunch in October 2004. Our thanks to DEREK BAILEY (49-53) of Colorado for this one.

KOSA LIVES...

It never fails to amaze your Ed. when he hears of the interesting and exciting lives many people from KGS have led. A letter from JEFF CHALK (53-59) gives a very good example:

'I was interested to see the poem written by ROY HUBBARD (53-59) in the recent *KOSA NEWS*, and have been prompted to write (and pay some of my dues!).

'When my sister, BRENDA CHALK (54-61) (now Ewins) signed me up to receive the bulletin, I had thought that most of

my contemporaries at KGS would be dead, or at least not featuring much. How wrong I was, and familiar names keep cropping up. DAVID EWINS, STUART HUGGET, and ROY HUBBARD were particular friends, and Roy and Stuart had an indirect influence on my peripatetic hippy lifestyle after leaving school. I was very envious when Roy was chosen to join John Hunt's expedition to Greenland, and Stuart set off to Ethiopia; both destinations way off the travel agenda in those days, and my ambition to travel was ignited.

'I also was one of the 'mediocre' (HEADMASTER RIDLEY would have said less than mediocre!) pupils, as school was not really to my taste, and there seemed to be many more far important things to be doing. I did spend a lot of my time staring out of the window at the girls playing tennis and wondering how I could escape to New Zealand – that seemed sufficiently far away! A well-aimed board rubber from Music Master ERIC HILTON or whoever had the misfortune to be trying to instil some knowledge into me that day, would shock me out of my reveries – but not for long.

'Breaks between lessons were liberally punctuated with 'escapades' which usually ended in yet another 'interview' in Ridley's office and gave him more opportunity to hone his skills with dap or cane. To my parents' horror, the word 'expulsion' was bandied about after one such event when I was caught smoking underneath one of the classrooms with, I think, 'SCRUFFY' (CLIVE) LOVELL! Somehow it was smoothed over and another punishment was handed out – well deserved of course, given the fire risk in those huts, and my smoking career was curtailed for some time!

'Naturally the upshot of this lack of attention to lessons resulted in me leaving school with only 3 O-levels. Well done MR SAMMONS (Chemistry), MISS WATTERS (English) ,and MISS JACOB (French and Music) – against all the odds!

'My main ambition after leaving school was to become a racing driver, an outlandish idea received with a distinct lack of enthusiasm by my parents, who were probably beginning to despair of me by then. With no job, no money, and no knowledge of cars or mechanics – what to do? After a brief hiatus, I got together with two friends who were very skilled mechanics at Downton Engineering, and we started a small engine tuning business in Bristol and we went racing. I got married to Deana, and importantly, thanks to the patience of my colleagues, and my wife, I acquired a skill as a mechanic which subsequently equipped me to work in Australia and California while on a 3 year overland circumnavigation with Deana and infant daughter Sonya. It also proved to be an essential skill to keep our vehicles rolling through distant lands!

'I left KGS with no qualifications, but my time there had given me a good all round basic education, and taught me how to learn, (if only to avoid yet another detention) and to be practical and adaptable, although of course, this legacy was only realised much later. The French instruction is still proving useful also, decades later, on a recent visit to the D-Day landing beaches. Six years ago I drove a Transit van to Mongolia. Lessons in Mongolian at KGS would have come in handy!

'Strangely, I ended my 'career' if you can call it that, back at school. I needed a job close to an old derelict farmhouse we had bought to renovate in Glastonbury. Near-

by is Millfield School, and I spent 20 years there working as a technician, with frequent interruptions to visit more foreign lands, before retiring in 2005. However, I still hear the call of the wild, and the Mercedes van has just been converted to a camper – who knows where the open road will take us next.....

'Still in possession of health, hair, and a great family, I count myself very lucky to have had such a varied and exciting life. All this seemed a pretty remote prospect the day I departed KGS. I'm sure that I and my contemporaries were born at the 'right' time, and we have mostly enjoyed a relatively peaceful world, untroubled by the problems which now confront our children and grandchildren. I hope their education equips them to handle the coming challenges confidently and successfully.

PS I still don't know what I want to do when I leave school – anyone else having that problem.....?'

ROGER DONE (55-62) has been discovered in darkest Spain and he has sent his thoughts of his time at KGS:

'I have recently discovered that the older I get the more my thoughts go back to my school days. Then gosh! Dropping through the letter box arrives a copy of *KOSA NEWS*, (well not literally because doorstep deliveries do not happen in rural Spain) thanks to contemporary MIKE CARTER, who joined me in the Physics lab at Imperial College.

'So I thought I would put a few of my memories in writing:

Coming up to Christmas when I write this my memories are of the procession down the long corridor to the hall, singing *Adeste Fideles*, and of MR HODSON getting redder and redder in the face as

he tried to get us back into sync with the singing in the hall (a practical demonstration of the speed of sound).

'My first class was 1W (MISS WATTERS) in the last hut at the bottom of the playground. Did we really wear short trousers? Then getting promoted to 3L1 and taking O levels at the end of the 4th year. My form teacher in 4L1 was MR HILTON, 'Hitler' to us non musicians, despite that his son PETER HILTON was in our class, together with MARGARET SQUIRES and LYNETTE DAVIES.

'An amusing event was when TONY CO-CHRAM had his bushy hair shorn, to reveal that he had protruding ears. A character who opted out of Uni and I later heard, somewhat to my surprise, that he finished up as a religious minister. And of ALAN QUARTLY buzzing our playing field in his tiger moth on a Wednesday afternoon. He later became a fighter pilot.

'The advantage of taking O levels and then As a year early was that we had a year to 'prepare' for University, while spending most of our time in the 6.3 playing table tennis! What a waste of time that was in retrospect.

"BUNNY' AUSTIN, had a boring way of teaching Physics, 1 to 10, improved to 1 to 20 when we started A levels! But he was an excellent shot with the chalk! JIMMY WILDE'S dap was famous as was his Welsh opinion of football "football is a game for gentlemen played by ruffians, rugby is a game for ruffians played by gentlemen". However my time in the second 15 did take me to such exotic places as Lydney and Midsomer Norton, although we almost always lost.

'Well, to complete my CV:
After KGS (55 to 62), I studied Physics

at Imperial College. Then 4 years at BAC and 2 years at Ferranti in Manchester. I then started teaching (Maths and Physics) until I took early retirement December 1993.

During that time I was also a County Councillor for Greater Manchester Council and Secretary of Manchester City Labour Party (which probably explains why I was burnt out at 50!).

'However, after a rest I am filling my retirement as a full time Deputy Mayor of my small town in southern Spain. My web address is: www.arboleaslive.com

MR DEPUTY MAYOR...

We asked Roger to recount the story of how a Brit became Deputy Mayor of a Spanish town. Here's Roger's response:

'The story is very long and when one day I retire I will try to put it in a book. So this is a short version.

'We retired to our holiday home on the beach in Peniscola (El Cid) in 1993, but after 4 years we got fed up with beach life, tourists in the summer and cold and wet Valencian winters. So we built a house in an olive grove in Almeria province (spaghetti western territory).

'For over 700 years this area was Muslim, first under the Caliphate of Al Andalus, then after the fall of Cordoba under the Moorish Kingdom of Granada, until it was conquered by the Christian armies in 1488. Many Muslims left, others converted back to Christianity and settlers came from northern Spain. The Moorish past is a sensitive subject even though there is the statue of a Sufi prince in the square and an annual Al Arbuli Fiesta.

'When we came to Arboleas there were

just 1500 people spread over 62 square kilometres and 32 hamlets, with just 4 British families. For 7 years we spent our time creating a garden and horse riding, and trying to ignore the invasion that started early 2000. In 7 years the town tripled in size, with many hamlets expanding with British owned bungalows.

'2007 saw the 4 yearly municipal elections, and this time there were 500 British registered to vote. So after the election (in which the PSOE were re elected despite a strong challenge from the former PSOE Mayor Cristobal Garcia) I offered my services to the Mayor Paco to act as liaison between the Town Hall and the new English speaking residents. A year later Paco died with a brain tumour and I asked the new Mayor, Angel Garcia, if I could set up a weekly Help Desk in the Town Hall. He agreed, probably the worst political decision anyone has ever made! I was immediately inundated with people with problems I did not know about:- illegal houses, no documents for houses, temporary or unsafe electric and water services, unmade roads, the list was endless. This is the practical result of corruption.

'By summer 2009 I decided that nothing would change unless I made it change, so I joined up with the former Mayor Cristobal. Cristobal had been Mayor since he left University in 1983 when he returned to Arboleas to overthrow the Francoists who were running the town. He retired in 2003 to do other things, but when he saw what was happening to the town he built he tried unsuccessfully to return in 2007 under the PSA banner.

'A significant event was the raid on the Town Hall by the National Police in November 2009, seizing computers and files. 3 months later I saw the confidential police report, listing huge issues of cor-

ruption and issuing illegal documents. 'The cases are still in the courts and will be for some years to come.

'Meanwhile together we built a team of Spanish and British to fight the 2011 election. It was a bitter campaign against a strong power base which had run the Regional Government from Seville since Franco. We won, taking 7 of the 11 Councillors on a proportional vote. The electorate is now around 50% Spanish and 50% non Spanish (mostly British) plus many holiday homes.

'It has been 4 years of exceptional hard work and stress. The political process in the whole of Spain is based on corruption, private interest and a total lack of concern for people's problems. We are trying to change that in our small corner.

'As for the language; my wife thinks I am fluent. I wish I was. I can read, write and speak OK, but when it comes to understanding the local dialect, no chance. So the Spanish usually understand me but I struggle understanding them. Interesting!

We inherited a 3 million debt, a rejected urban plan which left most houses in urban limbo, most houses and factories not registered for council tax, a tax collection rate for car tax and council tax of just 70%, a legal secretary who walked out after a month, essentially no administration, and the electric company arrived to turn off the electricity because the bill had not been paid for 6 months.

'We have turned things around financially, we have legalised almost all the houses, registered all property for council tax, set up an efficient in-house tax collection system, built 4 sewage treatment plants for the new houses (there were none), started a network of cycle and footpaths connecting the hamlets using teams of

unemployed workers, opened a municipal gym and fitness centre, connected everyone to legal water and electric, carried out major improvements to the road network and flood control (it rarely rains but when it does ...!!), set up a municipal wifi system serving all the hamlets, and have almost completed the new medical centre (despite the builder appointed by the previous administration walking off site because we would not let him make excessive profits, and despite the regional health authority reneging on their written agreement to fund it, leaving us with a bill of 500k).

'It has taken over my life, 7 days a week, morning, afternoon and evening; sorting out a huge mess, dealing with incompetent lawyers and builders, dealing with complex legal and financial issues. Being a Deputy Mayor in Spain is not like the UK. Here you are both a politician and an executive of a corporation with a multi million turnover.

'Next May we are up for re election for another 4 years. Will I stand again? When thousands of people depend on you there is no choice. We have 100% support from the British and over 50% support from the Spanish, so it looks like 4 more years, but hopefully the worst is behind us.

'Why do I do it? To make a difference; to return people their dream of a safe and peaceful retirement in the sun, where they have a Town Hall who will help them when they have a problem.'

THE HIGH LIFE..!

BRIAN ILES (45-50) drops KOSA a complimentary line on the last edition:

'I was 80 this year, and the picture on page 11 shows me (with my wife ANN COLES (49-54) at my side) doing one thing I had to do before 'popping me

clogs' – popping a cork at Glyndebourne.

'My next-best present has to be *KOSA NEWS* 45. I'll leave the extra-special reason why till last. Before that here are some others.

'Obituaries are sad, but sometimes they can make you happy too. Take sister DOREEN'S stirring tribute to COLIN PILLINGER. It brought home to me what a privilege it is for KGS to have as old boys not one but two world-important scientists.

'JIM BURGESS (see page 2) was also a talented chap. I'm happy to possess one of his pictures, and years ago I rather enjoyed helping convert his shed-cum-garage into a granny flat. What tickled me most was that it incorporated an artist's studio upstairs.

I never knew KEITH CULLEY (51-58), but I know now we had a common bond. Mention of his sense of humour made me grin. It's essential to all us Gasheads! (That's a Bristol Rovers supporter - Ed.) There's a tiny consolation at least: Keith avoided the end-of- season, end-of- an- era anguish.

I loved Colin's article, particularly the bit about his chat with SIR BERNARD LOVELL. (I've filed it under 'Giants of Science!'). I'm still pinching myself 16 years on that I actually interviewed the great man myself. On behalf of 1st Take Video I 'invited' him to contribute to the video *Kingswood Revisited* and to my astonishment he agreed, on the condition we went to Jodrell Bank. What a huge chore that was!

GORDON JACKSON (55-62) reminds me of my only recollection of MR HILTON (Music). It concerns the composer who had made my dream come true at



is even better. Especially for an atheist (for whom God is simply a metaphor) who can never understand how the same man can have both. Like so many other books, MISS QUINTON'S *Scientific and Religious Knowledge* was no help to me, and I don't expect REV. JOHN LOXTON(40-47) would - or could - explain things either. Science is open to test and discussion; Faith is not, full stop.

Glyndebourne. I don't think the topic of his 1940s talk was *Don Giovanni* though. All I remember is him saying, 'Now Mozart was a man,' then pausing - possibly for effect. Before he could go on there was a stage whisper from the back of the class: 'Well, we didn't think he was a woman, sir.' My diary does not record the effect!

'CHRIS BRYANT (54-59) speaks of the good old days when boys wore daps, and teachers were glad to wield them – and get away with it. These days 'JIMMY' WILDE (Sports) would have been hung out to dry. From my point of view his far worse sin was to cancel football at the slightest hint of rain, while making us play 'rugger', when it arrived, in all the mud God made.

'I preferred his colleague, 'WOODY WILLIAMS (Woodwork), who sometimes doubled up as games master. I was a dunce at woodwork, so I think it must have been his footwork that made him my favourite. He was once on the books of Rovers, you see.

'Nothing's better than a bit of balance in a mag. Religion as well as science for example. The two together in one article

'Now to the main reason I so love number 45. It has given me at last the opportunity to get something off my chest which has been itching like blazes for many years. My heartfelt thanks go to RICHARD STRANGE (54-59) for the chance. And I shall reward him with the gruesome, yet true story of 'BRIZZLE' – son of 'Bristle'.

'Once upon a time (around the 60s), a chap called Derek Robinson (aka 'Dirk Robson') had a hit with a comic book about how Bristolians spoke. It was funny, but disastrous, because of just one word foisted on the Bristol public. 'Bristle' was meant to be a comic representation of the local pronunciation of Bristol, but as a proper writer (a novelist), Robinson knew full well that it did not convey the sound that anybody in the world – let alone Bristol – had ever made in saying 'Bristol'. 'Bristle' sounds like hair and nothing more.

'The sad thing is that not only ignorant 'blow-ins' but also Bristolians in the local media trumpeted this silly, pointless word, and in time it escaped to the outside world. Worse came with 'Brizzle', its idiot son. The same media muppets put it about as the lingo spoken in 'Bristle'. Again it escaped, and it's chilling to get

confirmation that it has now reached at least as far as Reading and Nottingham.

'So there's the true 'Just So' story, Richard. Two of the ugliest and silliest words in modern English are the fault of 'Dirk Robson' and his local media muppets.

'That 'slang' from the 20s and 30s which you mention is almost certainly the Bristol L which is a different kettle of fish altogether - authentic working class usage, not made-up rubbish from middle class sources who ought to know better. You may be interested to know that the Bristol Centre for Linguistics accept that the L can now be dated as far back as 1857 (on information from KOSA member DOREEN PILLINGER (48-53) (now Lindegaard).'

AN APPEAL...

DOREEN PILLINGER is hoping to produce a book on the 60th anniversary of VE Day, which takes place this year (2015). This could well include the contribution of KGS Old Scholars to WWII. However, Doreen is collecting all relevant memorabilia and if KOSA members have anything suitable we can pass on Doreen's contact address.

Currently, she is working on *Brislington in the Great War* and hopes that a hard copy of her book *Killed in a Coalpit* will be available soon.

QUERIES...

PHIL DARKE (47-52) has written with some queries and comments:

'Whilst in conversation with an Australian friend and erstwhile neighbour of mine, who once attended Kingswood Secondary School for Girls (Hanham Road), she mentioned that KGS was known as Kingswood Glamour School because a female pupil had achieved notoriety by winning

a beauty contest. This would have taken place in the late 40s as my friend emigrated in 1950. Can anyone identify this enterprising beauty and the location of the contest?

'Regarding the vivid and outspoken correspondence from DOREEN PILLINGER (48-53) (now Lindegaard), I have a vague recollection of Doreen as one of the girls in the intake from the Kingswood area and an indistinct vision of her, wearing a white overall, in connection with a shop or bakery in Kingswood. Perhaps I have confused her with someone else. However, what I found most interesting was that she once lived in Victoria Park and researched the lives of her neighbours.

'Doreen would certainly have known my uncle, Sam Darke, and his wife, Eva; the Sealy brothers (Albert, Harold, Gilbert) and the 'Crackpot' (Werret?) who lived in the fortified house backing onto the end of the street. With the exception of the eccentric guardian of the Fortress, I was familiar with these characters.

'I knew the street well as I assisted one of Henry Attwell's roundsmen to deliver bread there on Saturday mornings. This was a sore point with Headmaster RIDLEY and I was once punished for daring to give my weekend priority over some KGS Saturday function which required my attendance. From Mr Ridley's viewpoint pupils were expected to regard school affairs as paramount. Incidentally, this humble job taught me much about the geography and social structure of Kingswood and its surrounding area. It was an early introduction to the problems I would encounter after I left KGS and commenced a life of full-time employment.'

Apologies for the poor reproduction, but according to the 'Find my Past' web site



KINGSWOOD'S FIRST BEAUTY QUEEN

Big Crowds See Keen Contest And Show

OUT OF 40 Beauty Queen competitors who paraded before over 3,000 spectators at Kingswood Park, Bristol, on Saturday afternoon, the youngest was Margaret Ann Brain, a smiling fair-haired Kingswood schoolgirl carrying the entrant number card 13.

But no ill luck befell Margaret. On the contrary a few minutes later she was being kissed on the cheek by film actor Bill Owen and receiving the acclamation of the crowd as the first Beauty Queen of Kingswood.

Yesterday Margaret, who attends Kingswood Grammar School and has aspirations to be a mannequin, celebrated her 15th birthday by placing the 'Bristol Observer' Kingswood Beauty Queen Perpetual Challenge Trophy on the mantelpiece at her home—15, Syston Way, Kingswood.

Second in the contest was 12-year-old Doreen Ruth Shellard, office worker of Pows Road Kingswood and June Margaret Evans (19), of 32 Hill Street, Kingswood, who came third, shared the honour of lady-in-waiting to the Queen.

Special Kingswood 'Observer'

The 'Bristol Observer' Kingswood edition on Saturday next, will be a special show and Carnival number, with pages of pictures of the Beauty Queen ceremonies, the fancy dress competitions and the horticultural exhibits.

is fourth from the left carrying the number 13! Lucky for some.

A NEW BOY...

TERRY ANSTEY (55-62) has discovered KOSA thanks to our new web site (details below) and a couple of emails from him have been combined. Terry now lives in Canada:

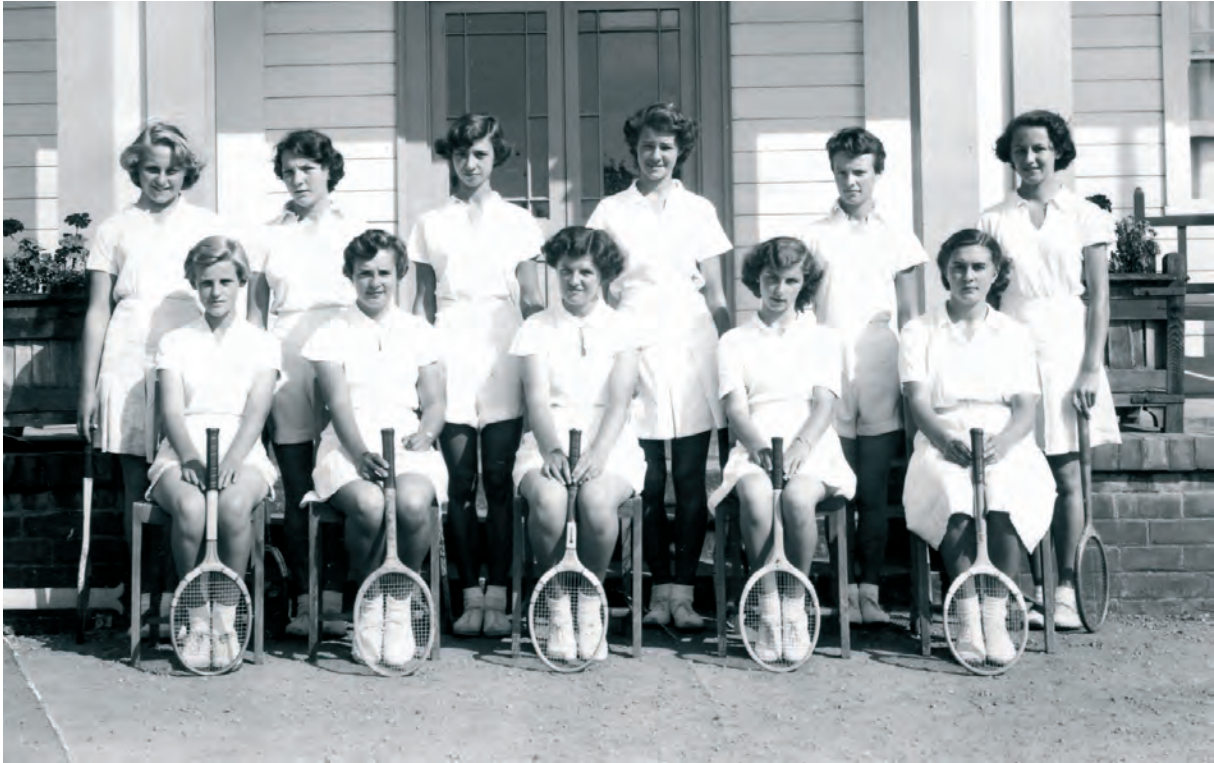
'A couple of years ago TONY RICHARDS (54-61) (the only KGS pal with whom I have maintained contact) advised me that KGS had an alumni association that sent out newsletters. Foolishly I didn't give more thought to the matter - until a few days ago, Googling (not a verb when I was at school) Kingswood Grammar School, I came across a website entitled 'Kingswood Old Scholars' Association/ King's Oak Academy' and, lo and behold, your email address and the last four half-yearly KOSA Newsletters. Now I knew that KGS had, after I left, become a soccer-playing elementary school and then burned down, but I had no knowledge of a succeeding King's Oak Academy.

'Downloading the Newsletters brought back pleasant memories of many of my contemporaries mentioned therein, and I was surprised to see three photographs and two mentions of myself! How could I not contact you? Especially since, thanks to TONY DOWN (55-61), one of the photos showed me in drag! I hasten to add that this was not a precedent to future inclinations.

the photo and story came from the *Western Daily Press* of 22 August 1949.

Kingswood's first Beauty Queen was KGS schoolgirl MARGARET ANN BRAIN, then aged 15. She was crowned in front of 3,000 spectators by Bill Owen, who was later famous for his performances in *Last of the Summer Wine*. Margaret

'I left Kingswood in 1962; first to university, earning (or should I say scraping) a BSc in Civil Engineering. My parents were staggered - I was the only person in my extended family to have attended school beyond the age of 14 years. Those were the days when university entrance was competitive, attendance a privilege, and



1953 - Tennis

Back row: Kath Townsend, Fay Chappel, Janet Crew, Rosemary Thorn, Pat Kingscott, Mary Wakefield.

Front row: Ann Suttle, Patricia Yeoman, Maureen Bracey, Sheila Benson, Jean Lovell



1967 - Junior Cricket



1962-63 - Soccer

On our centre pages this time we have (for us) reproduced some unusual photographs of sport at KGS.

There appear to be few photos of a tennis group of as many as eleven players. The shot is undated, but we believe it's taken in 1953.

Rugby ruled at KGS from 1949 through the 50s and we have published many shots of various Rugby sides. However, Soccer was reintroduced in the 60s.

The shot of Fencing, taken by the Old Oak is definitely unusual and we are appealing for more information.

If you are able to date the shot, the circumstances and name the girls, please contact KOSA. Also if you have any information concerning the introduction of Fencing into the school sports, please let us know.



a bachelor's degree really worth something. Today a Master's degree is an entry requirement to my profession, and a doctoral degree advisable to get ahead - times change. Eventually, after much globe-trotting, I settled in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

'Education is a continuing lifetime process, but I am grateful that I had a good foundation at KGS. If only I had better appreciated it at the time - I have a school report wherein Headmaster 'CHIPS' RIDLEY had written "I cannot abide laziness in boys" (I'll abide by that). Not entirely fair though - it was bloody hard work getting Latin O-level after less than two years in the Latin stream.

'Yes indeed, I did hang around the Kingswood YMCA in Frank Dyer's time. Table tennis and snooker upstairs. Rugby-netball and tennis outside. I did the Duke of Edinburgh's Award there. I didn't go on any Swiss or French trips, but I did go on a co-ed trip to Norway chaperoned by Frank Dyer - sometime about 1959-61 (?) I think.

'You were right about needing O-level in Latin to get into university; in fact, in one ancient language as well as one modern foreign language - even for engineering. That's why I *had* to get Latin. But the only way for me to achieve that was by learning the prescribed 500 lines of *Julius Caesar* (or was it *Virgil*?) so that, prompted by the Latin (but without understanding the actual words), I could recite a perfect English translation. Thus, in the translation question of the exam, all I had to do was recognize the start and end points, and just write away. I obtained the minimum pass mark. My theory is that I scored full marks on that question (rendering 40% of available marks) and very little from the the rest - but sufficient that the examiners had to let me through. Mission

accomplished.

KOSA ON THE WEB...

CHRIS SAWYER of King's Oak Academy very kindly contacted KOSA with the most generous offer to add KOSA to their website. We hope to develop this over time but initially the editions of *KOSA NEWS* Nos: 42 to 45 have been put there by Chris.

The URL is:

www.kingsoakacademy.org.uk

When you are on the site, click on 'The Academy' on the menu along the top and then scroll down to 'Kingswood Old Scholars' Association' where you will find the back copies of *KOSA NEWS*.

Yes, we're in the 21st Century at last!

AN OVERSEAS VIEW...

WILSON BARRETT (48-55) our man in Strasbourg looks at things from afar. His email was received in October 2014, before the Scottish referendum:

'I note that you have doubts about politicians' knowledge/interest concerning education. It is difficult, from this side of the Channel, to follow in detail educational policy (if one exists) in England. I am far from being convinced that academy status is an improvement. I have the impression that it is a first step towards an expansion of privatisation, that the government (of whichever party) is trying to shirk its duty to provide the best possible education for all. Excessive recourse to testing and league tables doesn't appeal to me either.

'Here in France, education fares no better. There have been three Education Ministers since the presidential election of 2012. The post has become a pawn in

government reshuffles. None of those appointed have/had any special competence as regards educational matters. Jobs for the boys, although actually it's a girl at the moment.

'If the Scots vote for independence, then the inhabitants of Corsica, Brittany, Savoy ... might also wish to have a referendum. Perhaps not in Alsace on account of the movement for autonomy in the 1930s which got tinged with national socialism, a tinge which is still in the political memory.'

THE EARLY YEARS...

Past Bristol Lord Mayor KATH HAWKINS (33-37) (now Mountstephens) tells us how it was in the 1930s:

'Kingswood was a happy, easygoing school in my time, at least for the girls - the boys got the cane for misdemeanours! Headmaster MAJOR EATON was quite autocratic but fair and if we worked we were left to get on with it. Of course, the exceptional subjects MR BROWN refused to teach me and sent me to MISS QUINTON for extra Latin, which I found so useful all of my days.

'BERNARD LOVELL was mentioned and indeed he was a great personality who came back quite frequently. The Lovells were a big clan and PERCY LOVELL of my years was a wonderful musician and person of great charm. I believe he became a teacher of considerable repute, well deserved, I'm sure.

'KGS was tatty and cold but the teaching was great; I shall always be grateful for my years there.

'As to fees, my father paid because I came late from the new Senior Speedwell School in order to get Matriculation.'

FEES...

In the last edition TONY FELTHAM (43-48) enquired about the fees which were charged to attend KGS. BERENICE DYER (44-50) (now Robinson) has responded:

'I do not remember the half scholarships, but the full fees were £9 per annum or £3 per term. Half fees were charged in some cases based on the father's income level and some fees were waived if the income level was particularly low. Scholarships were awarded under the Samuel White Trust arrangement and uniforms were paid for, but these were believed to be awarded only to pupils living in Hanham. The charging of fees ceased in 1946 when the 1944 Butler Education Act came into effect.'

Does the Samuel White Trust still exist? If so, what are the funds used for? - Ed.

ONE FROM DOWN UNDER...

MARY MILES (42-49) (now Bentley) has been prompted to write from New South Wales:

'I have not been back to the UK for many years, but have kept in touch with a few contemporaries, and been visited over the years by some of them. Sadly some of them have made the big journey, including TONY PERDUE who used to leave England during the winter months to enjoy our summer. JOHN PENNY has family in Sydney still.....and of course, my brother John now lives quite close to me.

'My memory could be faulty but I believe the 11+ did not come into being until about 1944; KGS did have some sort of selection process, but I seem to have avoided it! I remember a chat with MAJOR EATON - in his office shared with an Alsatian dog - it might have been one of the first positions I achieved through the recommen-

dition of a canine...it happened several times in my life.

'I started in 2A under the care of Miss Stevens – an Australian trapped by the war - and worked my way up to VI form with the help of Misses Watters, Biggs, Wycherley, Price, David, Tarrant, Morrison, Quinton and Powell, Messrs Adenell, Keyte, Austin, Britton, Salmon, Howard, Winterton, Jones, Bloom, Dempsey and Watts.....there were others, of course, but their names escape me for the moment. To Miss David I owe my lifelong interest in theatre, and Miss Watters is responsible for my love of Shakespeare and Chaucer. I wonder if the school still encourages visits to the Bristol Old Vic – we were all Club members.

'Somewhere in the archives there are photos of the classes that included me, even hockey teams and Prefects. I seem to remember sending some over after the fire, to replace those lost in that event. And I still have the School photo from September 1948, when it seems I was in VI i. – but it is a bit big to send! I'm between MARGARET VAGG and VALERIE HANDY.

'Following on from our 'conversation' about 'education'..... I have been co-opted to assist in the production of Alan Bennett's *The History Boys*. Although it is supposedly intended to be hilariously funny, I do not find it so! All the arguments about fashions in teaching are covered, and reasons for going to Oxbridge versus Redbrick are aired without any real conclusions being suggested other than the final line "Pass it on, Boy"..... I shall be interested to see how it turns out and how the audience – mostly folk of my own age – receive it.

'It was written in 2006 – a long way from the 1980s when it is supposed to be happening! Distance lends enchantment?'

ALL IN THE FAMILY...

SHEILA PARSONS (54-59) now Williamson shares a historical moment with KO-SA:

'2nd September 2014 and my granddaughter has started senior school, namely King's Oak Academy. When I saw her in her school uniform I was quite choked up. She looked so grown up all of a sudden, although I was thankful that she didn't have to contend with brown knickers. However, the school still has strict guidelines where uniform is concerned – even gum shields for PE.

'The reason I am writing is that she is the fourth female generation to get a place at the school, with all four of us still alive and almost kicking. My mother, IRIS WILLMOTT (now Parsons) started at KGS in 1931, then in 1954 I started there. I had a daughter, JANE WILLIAMSON (now Ireland) who started at Kingsfield in 1988, followed by her daughter CERYS IRELAND in 2014.

'My mother is now 94 and can still remember her days at the 'cowsheds' under MAJOR EATON. I wonder if any family can beat this, I would be very interested to know. To cap the coincidence, my granddaughter is in the same colour house as I was (red), although the names have changed.'

EXTRA-CURRICULAR...

DAVID ANN (55-63), who was Head of School in 1962-63, has sent us a couple of programmes of events during his tenure. He writes:

'The Carol service programme lists ROGER GARLAND, then a KGS pupil, as the Pianist. Roger's principal instrument was the violin and at that time he was leader of the National Youth Orchestra. Roger went on to Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, after which he has had a career

as a violinist and for several years was a Principal in "The Academy of St Martin-in-the-Field", a major British orchestra.

A cursory search on the Web reveals that Roger Garland studied the violin with Manoug Parikian. His early career as a member of the English Chamber orchestra and as a principal of the Academy of St Martin-in-the Fields took him all over the world, appearing as chamber musician and soloist in such prestigious venues as Conservatoire Hall, Budapest, Sydney Opera House and the Carnegie Hall, New York.

He has been a frequent broadcaster in his role as leader of the Park Lane Sextet, the Gagliano Trio and the Guarnerius String Quintet. Recent solo appearances include performances of Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' at Petersfield Festival and Mozart's Violin Concerto K 219 at Chichester Cathedral.

KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CAROL SERVICE

Thursday, December 19th, 1963
7.15 p.m.

in the KINGSWOOD PARISH CHURCH

by the Choirs of
KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Conductor and Organist:
Mr. D. Rendell, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., F.R.C.O.

Pianist:
Roger Garland, Esq.

A Collection will be taken in aid of the
"Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust"

Programme Price 1/-

Acknowledgment is made to the Vicar of Kingswood for his kind invitation to hold this Service in the Parish Church.

KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL
GARDEN FETE**

will be held at the School
SATURDAY, 25th MAY, 1963
at 2.30 p.m.

and will be opened jointly by
The Head of School — DAVID ANN
The Head Girl — PAMELA GREADY

MILK SHAKES, ICES & FRUIT DRINKS
WILL BE ON SALE

*TEAS will be served in the School Canteen at
very reasonable prices, from 3 p.m.*

The Kingswood Evangel Silver Band will play
selections throughout the afternoon

Admission by Programme — Price 6d.

'When you look at the Garden Fete programme, you'll see that no expense was spared to obtain persons to perform the opening who would draw in the masses from far and wide, thereby causing traffic gridlock in Brook Lane and Tenniscourt Road!

'Much to my surprise when undertaking the task, I saw my parents in the audience. Surprised because I thought they were at home serving customers in our shop in Regent Street, Kingswood at a time of year when we would have been very busy. It transpired that my brother GEOFFREY ANN (47-53) and his wife JUDY BEAVER (49-53) were very kindly minding the shop for a couple of hours or so to enable Mum and Dad to attend the event. Furthermore, the date was 25 May, which was Geoffrey's birthday!'

Although we have only shown the front page of the Garden Fete programme, the features advertised inside, apart from usual stalls, included a free film show in the Geography Room (remember those?), teas in the Canteen and the FA Cup Final on TV in the library. 'Gentlemen, you need not miss the Cup Final...' it advertises, in an endeavour to meet the objection that the Cup Final was an excuse to avoid the Fete. It assumes that no lady would be interested.....

TOP FLIGHTERS...?

MARGARET ILES (42-47) (now Venn) has resurrected her feelings on the early days at KGS prompted by the correspondence in the last few editions about 'mediocre majority' versus the 'top flighters'. It seems that many of those of the former come good later in life and there are often hidden reasons for poor performance at school:

'Top Flighters? I've been asking myself, what was the criterion. What marked out one student from another? I don't know the answer. I only know at the close of that September day in forty two I had a pretty good idea where in the hierarchy of students I'd be standing for the next five, possibly six years.

'I remember catching the eight thirty am bus from Blackhorse Road (first day, best leave the bike at home) and walking head held high through the school gate in my home-made blouse and gymslip. I felt I had reason to be proud. Eleven years of age and I'd made it, the transition between Junior School where I'd gently shone and here. I was actually here. Ready and willing and determined to succeed.

'Assembly. A favourite hymn. Made me feel at home. But then, who called my name? Who led myself and my form

mates into a large bright classroom. Who found me a desk, told me to sit, to put my things away and be quiet? Then again, with whom did I speak at break-time? Potential 'top flighters' maybe? Maybe. Was there laughter? I certainly wasn't laughing. Or telling anyone I had a problem. A visual problem. That I could see some forty per cent of what the others were seeing. Or that from every desk I'd sat in thus far I could not see the blackboard. Was I too proud to admit to having a disability? Or was it that in my naivety I imagined everyone saw that way, and no one else was complaining... Yet again, there was one blessing, the morning moved on at a furious pace. We were constantly on the move up and down an endless corridor, passing God-like creatures, older, experienced, who looked like they knew the ropes, although heaven help me, I never truly saw their faces. Mind you, my other senses, hearing, sense of smell (cheese and potato pie *again* for lunch - well it is wartime!) were acute.

'A month or two on I began to understand my role. My daytime world was bearable if I saw it as a stage. I was pleased as an adult to read that John Mortimore, judge and writer of plays, held that he could manage life providing he saw it as a drama, with characters acting out their parts. I believe that's how I survived. No sight in one eye and reduced sight in the other meant poor co-ordination. How unfortunate then I attended a school where sport was all. I'll refrain from offering the games mistress's comments about my fear of heights in the gym, my inability to use a tennis racquet or striking a ball with a stick or jumping over a stuffed horse.

'In my one eyed world, I saw my day time as difficult, something to be endured and my recourse was to become the class comedienne. In consequence I spent quite a few hours standing outside Head-

master MAJOR EATON'S door. In consequence I lived for the evenings and holidays, for the BBC Home Service, for the books I could read; for my piano practice, my singing lessons, reciting at the eisteddfod, acting in the local chapel's drama group. There were bike rides to take. Woods and fields to explore. There were friends to visit, fellow pupils who may or may not have turned out to be `top-notchers`. Then later, when I was free I could really start to learn. Workers' Education programmes, night school classes and as time passed A-levels to take and an Open University degree in Psychology and Criminology. The OU offered a democratic way of teaching, where one felt an individual who mattered, whose needs would be well attended to, where there was equality between student and tutors who gave praise where it was due and positive but encouraging criticism where necessary.

'Kingswood Grammar School? I guess simply saying `I was a student there` has opened a few doors. I am extremely proud to have been part of an institution that produced COLIN PILLINGER and SIR BERNARD LOVELL and I take great pleasure in reading the success stories in our school magazine. Maybe my interests and desire to continue learning at my great age have something to do with having `passed the scholarship`. Nevertheless I cannot say those were the happiest years of my life - although I have to admit that had I been a teacher there I would not have enjoyed tutoring someone like me.

POET'S PAGE...

ROY HUBBARD (53-59) who is one of the KGS poets has contributed the poem below, suitable for the six nations season.

'It is a pun on he who wrote exceedingly good stories, etc but a bit of fun from a local Welsh supporter to any ex pupil of

Northern descent.

SN'IF - THE BRISTOLIAN VERSION

If you can keep believing in your England,
Not winning, and blaming it on the team,
If you can trust in Twickenham officials,
But make allowance for their honest dream,
If you can wait for yet another era
Or even longer if you have to do,
Then you will know how we across the water
Love beating white, green, yellow, black and blue.

If you can keep the leisure that you savour,
If you can think that work is sometimes fun,
If you can meet with true success and failure
And treat those two opposites as if one.
If you can judge red leather on the willow,
Enjoy good sport whatever shape the ball,
Then as your head sinks heavy on the pillow,
You'll realise that results mean now't at all.

If you can leave behind your lovely Yorkshire,
Boycott pudding, shoddy with its Northern grit,
To spend your days in sleepy Kingswood,
Where life was full of G & S and schoolboy wit.
If you can grace the field of oak and laughter
Albeit for such a short span of time,
Then you will never lack the soul of friendship
Of schoolfriends that will be for ever thine.

If you can gird around yourself your family,
If you can last another five times ten,
Then yours will be for everyone to envy,
The unity that only some will ken.
If you can sit and over past times ponder,
Recalling good and bad, each with a laugh,
Then yours is the world with all its splendour,
And - which is more - you'll be a Man, Dai bach!

MORE GUIDANCE...

In KOSA NEWS 44 we published the Headmaster's 'Guidance for Parents' sent in 1954.

Below is the circular (expurgated) sent to parents of the girls at the same time by Headmistress MISS 'QUINNIE' QUINTON, mainly covering dress, hair and the wearing of jewellery. Another age!

1. Tunics These are worn by Forms I, II. They may have round or square neck; there should be a breast pocket and a belt of the same material.
2. Pinafore Frocks If preferred, these may be worn by Forms III upwards. It is suggested that they be made at home or by a dressmaker in a simple style.
3. Skirts Only Forms V and VI may wear skirts. These should be flared, not accordian pleated.
4. Long Out-of-door Coat It is suggested that a n brown gaberdine raincoat is most suitable for all school purposes. These are easily obtainable now.
5. Beret or Felt or Velour Hat, with School badge. Pixie hoods are not to be worn, except in bad weather. These should be of a neutral shade. Scarves are not to be worn on the head.
6. Cardigan, with blue, if preferred and/or Blazer with School monogram.
7. Knickers - N BROWN, please
8. Scarves - N brown and blue.

BLOUSES

9. These should be biscuit coloured or beige, not cream or white, with shirt collar and school tie.

SHOES AND STOCKINGS

10. Shoes should be Oxford or Brogue. N or DARK BROWN. Please avoid tan. Brown or white sandals may be worn in the summer. Please keep shoes and sandals clean. Footwear, obviously intended for out-of-doors, e.g., Wellington boots and fur-lined boots, must be changed. Girls should be provided with a shoe bag of a distinctive material, in which to keep out-of-door footwear. Girls may wear stockings or three quarter length socks or ankle socks, beige, tan or white, but not brightly coloured. Legs are not to be left bare.

HAIR

11. Hair should be tied back or worn off the face. Ribbon, if worn, should be n brown. Slides or grips should be brown, not coloured.
12. It is not permitted (a) to use make up or coloured nail varnish.
(b) To wear jewellery, except watches.

GYMNASIUM OUTFIT

13. One white Tee shirt.
Pair of rubber shoes.
Three quarter length socks for Hockey.
Hockey boots, if possible. Hockey stick, if possible.

IDENTIFICATION OF CLOTHING

14. For your own convenience, every article should be clearly marked with the owner's name.

SCHOOL OUTFITTERS

15. The Don, Park Street, Bristol.
For n brown serge - Messrs. J. Colmer, Ltd. Bath, or
Messrs. Jones, Ltd. Regent Street, Kingswood.

Material for summer frocks and the selected pattern for Junior and Senior Girls are obtainable at Messrs. Jones, Regent Street, Kingswood.

We thank you for your co-operation.

A. E. Quinton
SENIOR MISTRESS.



ENTRANCE HALL...

The rather poor quality photo (above) is of the entrance hall at Christmas in 1975. Over many years we have been asked if we have any information about the Honours Boards which were situated there. The photo shows the boards behind the Christmas crib and Christmas tree but unfortunately the list of awards is unclear. It appears that there were also notice boards in the entrance hall. Does anyone have clear photographs of the entrance hall, including the Honours Boards?

After the fire in August 1976 a survey was sent out to Old Scholars, for whom contact details were held, asking for details of their respective qualifications. These were entered into a large tome held at Kingsfield School. We presume that it's been taken over by King's Oak Academy.

IN THE MEDIA...

In recent editions of *KOSA NEWS* we have featured ROBERT WILLIS (58-65) who is now The Very Reverend Dr Robert Willis,

Dean of Canterbury Cathedral. The BBC have just completed a series of three programmes about life in the Cathedral in which Robert was featured very prominently throughout as the man in charge as the Cathedral's 39th Dean in 1,416 years.

Robert was shown announcing a new girls' choir – the first in 900 years - and discussing matters with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. He also stood in for the Archbishop at Christmas to deliver the Christmas Sermon when the Archbishop was diagnosed with pneumonia.

He was also shown chairing a meeting to consider an application for £12 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which was ultimately successful. He also welcomed the Lord Mayor of Canterbury to the Cathedral and operated food bins over Easter distributing food in Dover.

Dr Willis was also interviewed extensively by the *Radio Times* in a lengthy article in

the 13 December 2014 edition about the girls' choir at Canterbury.

A LITTLE LATE..!

DEREK BAILEY (49-53), from Colorado, has informed us that his contemporary DAVID FOICE (49-56) and his wife Jan celebrated their Golden Wedding in December 2010 with a dinner at the St. Pierre



Hotel, near Chepstow. David, (second from the left) , was in charge of the Second Severn Crossing, along with the old bridge, before he retired in 1999. The photo, taken from the *John Laing Employees' News* of the time, shows David and Jan with their sons and grandson on the happy occasion.

EXAMS...

CILLA POWELL (46-51) (now Maguire) was one of the first to take O-level exams when they were introduced in 1951. Prior to that pupils matriculated only if they obtained 5 passes in the School Certificate with Maths and English and a foreign language. From the date of the O-levels pupils were given a pass and certificate subject by subject.

On page 25 we reproduce the bulk of Maths I - there were three maths papers. Cilla has also given KOSA for copying French I and II, Latin I and II and the English Language papers.

The Maths paper is quite a high standard and there were no calculators in those days!

PREFECTS...

In the 1962 photograph of the Prefects (below), DAVID ANN (back row second from right) and TERRY ANSTEY (second row, also second from right) are both contributors to this edition of *KOSA NEWS*.



(ii) One cone has base-area 4 sq. in. and volume 8 cu. in., find its height.

If a second cone has the same volume as the first and if its height is 4 in., find the area of its base.

4. (i) In a triangle ABC, AB = 8 cm., BC = 7 cm. and the area is 21 sq. cm. Show that $\sin B = \frac{3}{4}$ and find the angle B.

(ii) The base of a triangle is 16 cm. and its area 16 sq. cm. If the other two sides are equal, calculate the largest angle.

SECTION B

5. (i) By what percentage is the volume of a rectangular box increased if its height is doubled, its length increased by 50 per cent., but its breadth reduced to three-quarters of its former value?

(ii) A rectangular block of wood has a base with sides a and b and the height of the box is c. It is sawn in two by a cut passing through a top edge of length b and the opposite bottom edge of length b. If the area exposed by the cut, on each half of the divided block, is double that of the base, prove that $c^2 = 3b^2$.

6. A triangle ABC has a right angle at B; prove that the triangle is divided into two isosceles triangles by the line joining B to the mid-point of AC.

If a triangle whose sides are 6 cm., 8 cm., 10 cm. is divided in this way, find the angles and the area of each of the two triangles formed.

7. If a chord of length a is drawn in a circle of radius r, show that the length of the minor arc cut off by the chord is $\frac{\pi r^2}{180}$ where x° is the angle given by $\sin \frac{1}{2}x^\circ = \frac{a}{2r}$. Draw a line PQ, 3 in. long and draw two circular arcs from P to Q, the radius for one being 3 in. and for the other 2 in.

Use tables to show that the lengths of these arcs differ by just over a quarter of an inch.

8. Prove that

$$x^2 + (x + 1)^2 + \{x(x + 1)\}^2 = (x^2 + x + 1)^2.$$

Verify this numerically for the case when $x = 7$. Also use the result to express $20^2 + 21^2$ as the difference of two squares and $931^2 - 930^2$ as the sum of two squares.

9. Solve the equation $x^2 = 2(10 - x)^2$, giving the roots to two decimal places.

Show how this equation gives the solution of the problem 'to divide a line 10 cm. long into two parts, so that the square on one part is twice the square on the other.'

Draw the 10 cm. line, mark the point of division, draw the smaller of the two squares and measure its diagonal.

What connection, if any, has the larger root of the equation with the same problem?

10. OAB is a quadrant of a circle, O being the centre and OA, OB radii at right angles to each other. Q is the mid-point of the arc AB and the tangent to the circle at Q cuts OA produced at P and OB produced at R.

(i) Show how to use the triangle OPR to draw a circle touching OA, OB and the arc AB.

(ii) Prove that the radius of this circle is equal to AP.
(iii) Draw accurately a circle of radius two inches, divided into four quadrants, with a circle inscribed as in (i) in one of the four quadrants.

11. Taking 1 inch as unit on each axis, draw the graphs of (i) $y = 3x - x^3$ and (ii) $y = 3x - \frac{1}{3}x^3$ from $x = -1$ to $x = 2$.

Draw also, through the origin O, the line $y = x$ cutting the first curve at P and the second at Q and find the co-ordinates of P and Q either by calculation or from the drawing.

Find also the gradient of curve (i) at P and that of curve (ii) at Q.

Handwritten calculations: $\frac{20^2}{4} = 100$, $\frac{21^2}{4} = 110.25$, $\frac{931^2}{4} = 216702.25$, $\frac{930^2}{4} = 216225$

Handwritten calculations: $\frac{420}{4} = 105$, $\frac{400}{4} = 100$, $\frac{15000}{8} = 1875$, $\frac{14000}{8} = 1750$

Handwritten calculations: $\frac{25}{4} = 6.25$, $\frac{15}{4} = 3.75$

Handwritten calculations: $\frac{20}{4} = 5$, $\frac{20}{4} = 5$

Handwritten calculations: $(10-x)(10+x) = 100 - x^2$, $\frac{930}{4} = 232.5$, $\frac{930}{4} = 232.5$, $2 \cdot 3434 = 6868$, $2(10-5.86)^2 = 14.14$

**THE
FIRE...**

Two sad photos taken shortly after the fire in August 1976. The only original buildings left after the fire being the gymnasium and the brick buildings at the girls' entrance.



MAIN HALL AREA KINGSFIELD (K.C.S) Aug 76.



KINGSFIELD SCHOOL FROM MAIN HALL (K.C.S) Aug 76.

KOSA MATTERS...

APOLOGIES...

Apologies to the family of ZENA RALPH for spelling their name as Foweracre in the obituaries in the last edition. It should have been FOWERAKER. Also SPRAT-MAN was wrongly spelled as Sprackman in the same piece. We try hard to get spellings correct, but sometimes fail.

WELCOME...

To those joining KOSA since last time, using maiden names where appropriate: Stewart Lear (53-59) (Bradford-on-Avon), Christine Sawyer, on the staff of King's Oak Academy and our friendly web-keeper, Michael Carter (55-62) (Nottingham), Roger Done (55-62) (Spain), Terry Anstey (55-62) (Canada). If you know of anyone who might like to receive the KOSA NEWS just let us know - with their permission, of course!

LOST/FOUND...

We have found two ex-members who dropped off our radar: John Britton (52-59) now in Cowbridge and Jill Alexander now Fuentes, who was on the staff of Kingswood and Kingsfield (62-77), still in Spain.

We have lost the whereabouts of Mary Fudge (now Theobald) (57-64), last address in Westbury-on-Trym. If anyone knows of her new address, please let us know.

If you are moving to pastures-new, please don't forget to let KOSA know of your change of address.

55 - REUNION...

We are making the Autumn Lunch at the Barn on **Saturday, 10 October 2015** a reunion for those who started at KGS in 1955. It's 60 years this coming September when they entered the gates of KGS

and we will be commemorating their anniversary at the lunch.

Individual letters will be sent out sometime later this year inviting 55ers to reply to one of their year who will be handling the event. Please put the date in your diaries now.

However, before that there's the Spring Lunch and AGM on **Saturday, 11 April 2015** and there's no reason why you should not also come to that.....! You would be made very welcome.

WEB ADDRESS...

Those members who are wired to the web may now look up *KOSA NEWS* on the King's Oak Academy web page.

The URL is:

www.kingsoakacademy.org.uk

When you are on the site, click on 'The Academy' on the menu along the top and then scroll down to 'Kingswood Old Scholars' Association' where you will find the back copies of *KOSA NEWS*.

Let us know what you think.

BACK PAGE...

The photo on the back page shows the buildings taken from the old oak. The oak at that time was in splendid isolation, but those who have been to the site more recently will be aware that nowadays it is surrounded by buildings.

The photo was taken in the Summer around 1973 and is a reminder to those who, on sunny days in Summer, carried out their exam revision around the old oak.

By August 1976 this view of tranquility was lost forever.

