



KOSA NEWS



NUMBER 47 - AUTUMN 2015

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

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EDITORIAL...

Many thanks to those who responded to my appeal for younger Committee members. You will see from Page 26 that three new members have volunteered and we welcome them to the Committee.

As I've reached the milestone of 75 this year, I also renew my appeal for a Deputy Editor to understudy my activities with a view to taking over. Ideally, he/she should live in the Bristol area and

be computer literate with some knowledge of desk-top publishing, although I would be happy to give tuition in that area. Oh, and the candidate should be a lot younger than me! The Committee has decided to pay the successful candidate double the salary it pays me, so if you've always wanted a villa in the south of France, now's your chance!

KOSA NEWS is essential to the future of KOSA and it would be nice to see that future assured.

The Editor

DIARY DATES:

AUTUMN LUNCH:

This popular event is booked for **SATURDAY, 10th OCTOBER 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. This year we hope to celebrate those who started at KGS in September 1955, 60 years ago. 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 December 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.

SPRING LUNCH & AGM:

Already booked for **SATURDAY, 9th APRIL 2016** at Lincombe Barn, Downend. Please book the date in your diary now. Your chance to question the Committee.

OBITUARIES...

We regret to announce the death of BILL COX (27-34) at the age of 99 years.

BILL COX made a valuable contribution to KOSA by serving on the KOSA Committee until well into his 90s, although we kept Bill on the Committee until he died.



After leaving KGS in 1934, Bill obtained his BSc at Bristol University by 1937 and stayed on to do research into nuclear physics. He moved to Metropolitan Vickers by 1939, having obtained a grant to do research into x-ray crystallography, which he continued when he moved to Cambridge in 1943. Subsequently he joined Philips Electrical to help design new x-ray equipment during the War. Bill continued his x-ray work with GEC after the War and also worked in xero-radiography, medical ultrasonics, lung ventilators, fibre-optic components and night viewers.

Bill retired in 1981 and having lost his wife Muriel in December 2006, he eventually moved to Dorset to be near his daughter. Before his move to Dorset, however, Bill was often seen rushing around Downend on his electric scooter with apparent scant regard for his safety! The photograph (above) is of Bill cutting the cake at a KOSA anniversary.

Your Ed has written a short obituary of MIKE COKAYNE who was a Committee Member and KOSA Archivist for many years:



'Your Ed knew MIKE COKAYNE (52-58) from our early days at primary school, then at KGS. We lost contact when we both married and Mike moved to Brighton, but we renewed our friendship when Mike became a member of the KOSA Committee.

'In our young train-spotting days we both (with others) went on cycling trips together, pursuing our interest in steam. Several trips to Gloucester and Templecombe ensued and in one marathon of a trip we cycled to Hereford via Gloucester and returned the same day.

'He was a very talented artist, being awarded the Headmaster's Junior Painting Prize in 1957. He collected motor vehicles which he housed on his property in Sarnau in North Wales where he lived alone after his aunt died. He once told me that he never sold a vehicle, evidenced by the fact that three Rolls Royces and many other vehicles were still stored there when he died. Mike was big in the steam renovation scene in Brighton when he lived there.



'I believe Mike led quite a lonely life in Sarnau and he was found on 13 May. His working life was spent as an architect and he became very proficient on the computer and put some excellent DVDs together of his (and our) days of steam. He was also an excellent photographer. His father, JIM COKAYNE (29-34), died recently in his 90s, but with Mike such a long life was not to be. I believe he was 73 when he died.'

The photo (above) shows Mike (right) at his wedding at which RICHARD STRANGE (54-59) (left) was best man.

The death was announced earlier this year of ALAN J SCADDING (36-41). Alan was a regular correspondent to KOSA and some of his earlier letters revealed how in 1936 he was the first to enrol in the ATC 1860 Squadron, which was based at KGS, and how he carried out his fire-watching duties at the School during the War.

Alan covered much of his early life in the Services in a self-published book *Only a*

Dog Watch. On leaving KGS he started his engineering apprentice training at Fry's, Somerdale which at one time was the second largest factory in the Cadbury Schweppes' empire. He was told to become either a doctor or a woodwork teacher and when he told Headmaster MAJOR EATON that he was thinking of engineering, he received no help whatsoever.



The technical classes were held at the Merchant Venturers' Technical College and Alan attended on a one day per week basis for mechanical items and on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings for electrical items. There were no evening classes during the war years. He was sent to Manchester College of Technology to take a 2 year's part-time HNC course in 6 months full time.

In 1945 Alan volunteered for the Navy in Spring 1945 and was posted to the Far East just as the war was ending. He had

an interesting time in Singapore and Hong Kong and eventually came back to work at Fry's afterwards, moving onto a number of senior engineering jobs in other companies later.

In 1947 Alan purchased a Norton 500cc motorcycle with his demob pay. He, and two other friends, travelled from Lands End to John o'Groats and he eventually got rid of the Norton in 1960.

Later in life, Alan became Plant Services Engineer for Fry's and after he retired in his 60s he attended a course on horology, specialising in church clocks.

We are indebted to CAROLE LOVELL (54-61) (now Pitson) who has informed us that FRANK DOBBINS (54-61) passed away in December 2012. MARGARET CHELL (54-61) (now Gregory), from Montreal, has also been able to fill in with details of Frank's glittering academic career in Medieval and Renaissance Music. We offer no apologies for the length of the details of Frank's career largely taken from Goldsmith's College website:

Frank Dobbins obtained a doctorate from the University of Oxford (1971). He was lecturer and reader at the University of London, King's College and Goldsmiths' (1969-2003), visiting professor at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (Paris, 1995-1999), professor at the Université François Rabelais and director of the musicology section at Renaissance Studies Graduate Centre (Tours, 1997-1999). He taught history and music theory, harmony and counterpoint, harmonization, improvisation, reading score and figured bass keyboard. From an early age, he played the piano, trumpet and cello.

Musician, musicologist and journalist,

worldwide expert in French music and poetry of the Renaissance, he devoted his research to the study and publishing of music and literature in France, the Netherlands and Italy from the sixteenth to the seventeenth century. He gathered and catalogued detailed manuscript sources and printed archives of public and private libraries that serve as the basis for a modern edition of early music, as well as writing articles and chapters, and organising concerts and recordings in France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States.

He is the author of *Music in Renaissance Lyons* (Oxford 1992) and of numerous book chapters, articles in scientific journals and papers published or presented in Europe and America. He published ten critical editions of early music practice composed by musicians such as Boni, Costeley, Jacotin, Janequin, Monteverdi, Tessier, and Villiers. His anthology *Oxford Book of French Songs* (Oxford & New York, 1987), the best-selling of old music publications, received the award *Malin Memorial* (best edition of Ancient Music) and the *American Choral Association Prize* (1990).

He devoted over 500 articles or references to poets, composers, musical and literary works, cities, institutions, printers, French sources and genres, Belgian and Italian (New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 1980 & 2001; *die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart*; Borda editions Laaber, Fayard, etc.).

Frank Dobbins was also a music critic and journalist for various newspapers (*The Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Musical Times*, *Music and Musicians*, *International Opera*, etc.), artistic director and arranger of the King's Singers, Purcell Consort and other ensembles, consult-

ant, editor and translator for Minkoff Publications (Geneva), Astraea (Tours), Auvidis (Paris), Arcana (Chambray-les-Tours).

In 2008, Frank Dobbins received a SSHRC grant for his research on song and the aria in the Renaissance. He was currently working on books on *Music and Poetry in France 1480-1530*, *Clement Janequin: Life and Works* (Boydell, 2012), *Music and Poetry for Francoise de Foix* (Gamier, 2012), a selection of articles published and unpublished for Gamier 2013, as well as editions of the complete works of Janequin, Mornable and Costeley. As a team member of the Old Music Laboratory, History and Society (LMHS) of OICRM he published on the websites *Songs & Motetz* and *Songs in New France*.

Frank completed his career with Associate Professorships at the University of Montreal and Goldsmith's College.

PHIL DARKE (47-52) has informed KOSA of the death of GORDON MAY (48-52):

'Gordon was my life-long friend. From infancy we shared many boyish adventures until we left KGS in 1952 to commence full time employment.

'Gordon entered an engineering apprenticeship at the aero engine factory in Patchway. After completing National Service with the RAF, as a meticulous and skilled craftsman he spent his working life within the engineering industry. He eventually became a production engineer at British Aerospace where he designed and co-ordinated tooling for the Airbus project.

'Gordon was passionately interested in aircraft and we were both keen on aero-

modelling, so we frequently met each other. Unfortunately, Gordon was stricken with a deadly form of cancer for several years before his death on Whitsunday, 24th May 2015. He died a childless widower but kept in touch with his brothers and aero-modelling friends until the end. He fought his illness with great tenacity and fortitude and I shall miss a true and valued friend.'

ROGER EVANS (51-58) has informed KOSA of the death of JUDY PEARCE (50-55) (later Davis)

'Judy went to Mangotsfield Primary School, passed the 11+ exam, and chose to go to KGS. At school she excelled in sport although smaller than many of the girls, she was in both the school tennis and hockey teams. After leaving KGS, she trained and qualified as a nanny - a role that became a great part of her later life.

'She later worked as a dental receptionist in Fishponds and she was married to Robert in August 1962. Judy and Robert shared their love of music and dancing especially at Christ Church Hall with very many friends from the Downend youth of the day.

'They were early pioneers of the growth of Yate where they lived for over 50 years and enjoyed 2 children and 6 grandchildren. Judy also helped with the secretarial side of the fruit and veg. business.

'Around 1967, Thornes Farm Playgroup was started, and she worked as an assistant for several years. Mrs Eaton ran a group at St Mary's, and when she retired, she left it to Judy to take over as playgroup leader. This became a major undertaking for about 40 years, so that it is not surprising that she was recognised by so many people when out shopping.



'Also, Judy took an active part in the Stanshaws Court Ladies Group, and she was elected as leader for a spell. Sadly Judy suffered a stroke in early retirement and also had eyesight problems, with macular vision, although this did not stop her from carrying on as normal. In later years she took to fishing with Robert and they had fishing holidays together. Here's her short poem about fishing:

*Something went, rod bent
Got a bite, line tight
Rod limp, it's gone I think
Swam away, come back I pray
Got it again, it's worth the pain
The agony of the wait, he'll change the
bait
Oh yes they like the bread
Now its gone to my head
The buzzers gone
Another fish on.*

'There are so many qualities that Judy had—and these are reflected in the many tributes in the cards and messages of condolence. Her sense of fun—dressing up—making a home, dressmaking, cook-

ing, and writing—plus of course her love of flowers, music and dancing. A caring and gentle lady who will be missed by everyone who knew her.'

In the photograph (above) of the 54-55 Hockey team, Judith is second from the left in the back row.

ROSEMARY EDGLEY (41-47) (later CRATES) has written to KOSA to report the death of her husband:
My husband CECIL RALPH CRATES (39-45) died on 9 March 2015 after a short illness.

He went to KGS in 1939 until 1945 when he went to Loughborough College to train as a woodwork and crafts teacher. He worked at this initially in Kingswood and Wellington, Somerset until he was employed by the (then) Colonial Office as an Education Officer, being posted to Northern Nigeria and serving in General Teacher Training Colleges before being posted to the Ministry of Education there until he retired. He taught calligraphy in Bridgwater College for many years, ultimately teaching it locally as a hobby.



Above is Nora's sketch of the 3A Hockey team, thought to be about 1940. Some of the names are indistinct, but we are able to name most of them.

Nora Hill's hockey team (from left to right): ? Carter (wing), A Hendy (half back), B Coleman (wing), M Willmott (inner), B Smith (goal), , B ? (captain), M Rixen (back), P Fudge (centre half), Nora Hill (right inner), M Ashley (back), E ? (half back).

NANCY LEONARD (44-49) (now Powell) has given us some information on NORA HILL (38-43) (later Brierley) who passed away earlier this year.

Nancy's parents and Nora's parents were neighbours in Kingswood and when Nancy was 4 years old, Nora (who was 10 years older) took her to a Sports Day at KGS and Nancy decided that was the school she would attend when she grew up!

Nora was very good at Art and always drawing all sorts of things for Nancy. Although Nancy had never seen the hockey sketch before, she imagines that Nora got home from school one day and decided to sketch the hockey team (see above). She obviously didn't finish it because some of girls are not wearing ties! She must have put it in a drawer and there it stayed.

Nora married a very good artist (Roy Brierley) and became a prolific painter herself (oils and watercolours). She also was a good poet and storyteller and published many books. She was a very talented lady. Latterly, she moved to Wales where she ran a village post office.

KOSA has also been notified of the passing of the following members:

Jacqueline Yewdall (44-49) (later Howe), Herbert Hunt, Maurice Bishop (44-49), David Nicholas (49-54), Harry King (46-51), Irene Shellard (40-44) (later Gibbs).

THE LEGACY (1)...

COLIN PILLINGER'S daughter completes the RAAM:

This report is extracted from a web page supplied by EDDIE WHITE (55-61):

Ultra-cyclist Shusanah Pillinger says she "saw goblins" as she made history by completing the 3,004-mile Race Across America (RAAM) last month.

The 39-year-old Briton completed the race from California to Maryland in 12 days, nine hours and 14 minutes. She said hallucinations during her "witching hour" were common.

"It's weird, but once you've seen it, you're not quite as shocked. None of them look particularly friendly. A lot of them are ugly looking," she said.

Pillinger became the first British woman to complete the RAAM. Only seven British men have achieved the feat, with Chris Hopkinson the first in 2005. She made it 2,150 miles into her RAAM attempt last year before breaking her collarbone. Pillinger said cycling in "extreme weather" was one of her biggest challenges, particularly through the Californian desert.

"It was about seven degrees higher than last year and I was overheated at one point and had to be taken off the road to be cooled down by my team," she told BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. "My body temperature went up to about 39.5C.

"When we got to the Appalachians we were in big storms, really threatening black skies which I have never seen before. There were rain drops like the size of golf balls. "I was so distraught that I thought my race would be ruined by rain." When asked whether she would have any interest in completing the race again, Pill-

inger said: "I think it's done.

"No one can take away the fact I was the first British woman to do it. I've set a time that I think is reasonable for other women to have something to aim for."

THE LEGACY (2)...

Professor Monica Grady featured on Radio 4's Desert Island Discs on 25th July. She reported that she had answered an advertisement by COLIN PILLINGER (54-61) after completing her first degree at the University of Durham. She became the successful candidate to study for a PhD under Colin at Cambridge. Colin also featured on Desert Island Discs before he died.

Monica was the lady on the TV news who threw her arms around the BBC reporter on receiving the news that her space probe had restarted communications with earth when it returned to the sunlight.

Colin's legacy lives on!

AN ANSWER...

JOHN TIPPETT (53-59) has been prompted to put pen to paper in response to a piece in the previous edition of *KOSA NEWS* No. 46 Spring 2015 regarding fees which were charged to attend KGS: 'BERENICE DYER (44-50) (now Robinson) asks if the Samuel White Trust still exists and if so, what are the funds used for. I can confirm that the Trust, or Samuel White Educational Foundation to give it its full title, is still very much in existence. Samuel White, a Methodist, gave the money for the building of the school named after him which was situated on Hanham High Street, now the site of Hanham Library. Samuel White School relocated over 20 years ago and is now within the grounds of Hanham Abbots School, the two schools now being run as a federation.

'As a former pupil who has always lived near the school, as well as being a member of Hanham Methodist Church, I was invited to become a Trustee some 15 years ago. The area covered by the charity is that of the former Kingswood Borough Council and the Parish of Hanham Abbots.

'In the early days of the Trust it was mainly used for the provision of school clothes and even boots and shoes for those who could not afford them.

'The financial climate of the last few years has brought increasing demand on the charity at the same time as decreasing returns on investments. At the present time a large proportion of the grants are to assist towards the cost of school camps which can cost up to £300 to £400 per pupil, a far cry from the £1 train trip to London at the end of my first year at KGS. Each case is assessed individually and grants distributed through the schools.

'It was also interesting to read about a contemporary of mine, JEFF CHALK (53-59) recalling familiar names from the past. I cannot claim to have led such an exciting and varied life as Jeff, having spent 30 years in the Laboratory of the Public Analyst in Bristol along with another ex-Hanham Abbots and KGS Old Scholar, BOB FUDGE(53-60).

'During all those years, FISHY SAMMONS (Chemistry) banging on about Avogadro's Hypothesis was about as useful as studying Caesar's *Gallic Wars* with MISS BAILEY(Latin). I have always kept in touch with ROY ELLIS (53-60) now living at Keswick in the Lake District. Roy's parents kept the Blue Bowl in Hanham which, as I recall, was the venue for some extra-curricular sixth form skittle evenings, and I think it is safe to reveal

now, possibly a half of shandy!

'As others have written before, there is little doubt we were fortunate to attend KGS when we did and enjoy the best of times. Like Jeff it is about time I paid some of my dues, the cheque is in the post as they say - and not from the Samuel White Trust I am pleased to add.'

CHAIRMAN'S CHIMERS...

The picture on page 10 was taken during a 4-day outing of 20 ringers on Guernsey, Channel Islands, in April 2015, arranged by SUE ELLIOTT (68-74) for the Gloucester and Bristol Association of Church Bellringers, Bristol Rural and Stroud Branches.

These Ringers are old school friends, originally from Warmley, Syston, Bitton, and Abson Towers. All the major bell towers on Guernsey were rung ending in a Sunday service ring at the principal Guernsey 'Town Church' of St Peter Port.

The members of the team are (from left to right):

Stan Burrage, (51-56) KOSA Chairman ex KGS

Rita Rayner (53-59) (now Burrage) ex KGS

Sue Elliott (68-74) (now Jay) 1968-74 ex Kingsfield

Linda Stowe (70-72) (now Gittings) ex Kingsfield

Ian Smith (52-58) ex KGS

JOHN'S MISSIVES...

JOHN 'TWEEDY' HARRIS (53-60) has been prompted to write to us – and *The Guardian*:

'Once again a wonderful edition of *KOSA NEWS* which I enjoyed reading from beginning to end. I thought the contributions from ROGER DONE and BRIAN ILES were outstanding.



'I am sending a copy of a letter I sent to *The Guardian* (see below). Previous to that there had been an article about Cotham School, where the Head bemoaned the fact that the school was not able to do well in the league tables because the tables do not take into account the resits. Cotham's particular present intake seem to need to take a lot of resits and so one could understand his angst, though most of us believe that the league tables are entirely unrepresentative of the positives and negatives of our system - great teaching in schools in areas with significant social needs never receive the praise due because of their apparent failure to do themselves justice in tables heavily weighted to exam results.

'Part of the journalist's introduction was that school's glorious past was to have Higgs and Dirac as past pupils. You can understand the enclosed copy of the letter better for knowing the background. It was written on a Sunday afternoon when I was in a drowsy state and I want-

ed to say more about quality of education and possibly about Grammar Schools, one of the Ed's 'things', but somehow the words didn't come so I sent it off, not expecting the phone call I got on the evening previous to publication to say that my letter would be in the paper the next day.

'The sequel to the letter is not that there was any 'comeback' from any reader to my knowledge, but that one of our sons has a large biography of Dirac and Cotham is not mentioned as his secondary school, as it seems he went to Merchant Venturers' School instead! So KGS. is the winner'

Letter to the editor of *The Guardian*:
What is it about the water in Bristol? Just as "extraordinary" as the scientists Peter Higgs and Paul Dirac being pupils at Cotham school is that both Sir Bernard Lovell and Colin Pillinger went to Kingswood Grammar School. Perhaps it's not the water, just good schools providing first-class education. Your report (30

January) shows that the present-day Cotham school is doing just that.

Rev John Harris

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire

PIRATES...

An Interesting letter has been received from DAVID FORWARD (61–64) who transferred to KGS in 1961 from Cheltenham Grammar to join 4L. David lived in Tower Road, Kingswood and mentions STEVE FOSTER, IAN PEACOCK and OWEN HANMER as his contemporaries at KGS.

was summoned to the great man's presence and auditioned and given the role.

'As a result MR RENDLE co-opted me into the school choir despite the fact I didn't read music; having never had a music theory lesson in my life. I had changed schools on several occasions and always arrived after my contemporaries had done a year of recorder or orchestral instruments so being in the choir singing bass next to people like ROGER GARLAND (Leader of the National Youth Orchestra) and ROBERT



'The sight of the *Pirates of Penzance* programme and the reference to ROBERT WILLIS reminded me of my musical experiences at the school.

'I had intended to help with the stage lighting for *Pirates* and had no aspirations to sing although I did appreciate the Savoy Operas. However BEN HODSON (Maths), who was directing, was unable to cast the Major General. Someone told him 'David Forward knows the Major General's song' which I had learnt through listening to tapes of the opera. I

WILLIS (Cellist & pianist) was daunting to say the least.

'I had delighted in singing in a baritone register at Junior school, just to be awkward, and at the age of 16 could still sing a descant, or any note on the base clef if I knew what I was aiming for. At the end of one practice of 'Sing Alleluia Forth' for a school service, Roger turned to me and said 'You sang a b instead of a b flat here', pointing to the music in verse 2. I thanked him and wondered what to do. Robert on the other hand didn't say an-

anything but started to growl my note for me slightly in advance whenever there was a difficult note to pitch. As a result I could sing any music with confidence; and in 1964 was awarded the choir prize for his efforts.

'I left school to study chemistry and become a Forensic Scientist. However I left University at the age of 18 with a BSc part 1 failed, and helped tune cathedral organs for three months (applied physics). I joined the Police and retired from Portishead HQ as a member of the Communications Planning and Technical support group where my Physics A-level stood me in good stead.

'Since school I have sung the bass baritone roles in many G&S operas including the Pirate King. I returned in the early 1970s to sing in a Kingsfield School production of *Ruddigore*, just before the place burned down (I still know the words of the Major General's song). I have now retired to a small village south of Wellington in Somerset; where I stage manage the village pantomime.'

The 1963 production of *Pirates* was the second time it was done by the School under BEN HODSON; the previous production was in December, 1951. Regrettably, we have no photos of the later production, so we have shown the police in the earlier one. Anyone any shots of the 1963 version we could borrow? Ed.

BLUE STARS ET AL...

DAVID ANN (55-63) writes about his contemporaries:

'As a consequence of investigating the career of ROGER GARLAND, I've also recalled information relating to a couple of other ex- KGS pupils which may be of interest.

I was made a Prefect in my penultimate

year at KGS and at that time, HEADMASTER RIDLEY introduced a system of 'assistant' Prefects titled 'Blue Stars'. I had 2 of them assigned to me, one of whom was Roger Garland and the other was JOHN TAYLOR.

'John went on to study at Bath University where I believe he also obtained his PhD as well as his first degree. He then went to work at the then National Vegetable Research Station (known as NVRS) at Wellesbourne near Warwick, where he spent his entire career working on bacterial diseases of field grown vegetables and in particular on a very damaging disease of *Phaseolus* beans e.g runner and French, about which he became an international authority.

'I know this because I too had a career working with crop plant diseases and from time to time had contact with and visited colleagues at NVRS, including John. John was married to ANGELA VOWLES, another KGS pupil. In later years, John's Head of Department was Roy Burchill. I was talking with Roy one day when he mentioned that he too came from Bristol and it transpired that he lived in Chiphouse Road, Staple Hill. He didn't go to KGS but his father owned and ran Burchill's coaches at Staple Hill and in my time, the company had the contract to provide transport for KGS school outings and for the school's sports teams – it's a small world!

'Another former KGS pupil who had a career working on crop plant diseases and with whom I had contact and met from time to time, was VIC JORDAN. I can't remember from which University or Universities but possibly Bristol, Vic obtained his first degree and PhD but he spent most or all of his career at Long Ashton Research Station, initially working on diseases affecting fruit crops and

later, when the remit for the Station was extended, on those affecting arable crops. From memory, Vic was Head Boy at KGS around 1960.'

In the photograph of the Prefects in 1963 (below), David Ann is second from the left on the front row.

A SCOOP...

TONY CURTIS (39-46) offers *KOSA NEWS* a World Scoop:

'My sister AUDREY CURTIS, also ex KGS, joined the Royal Navy in 1946. She retired after about 12/14 year's service as a Chief Petty Officer. In 1952 she was serving in the Fleet Air Arm with a squadron of *Firefly* aircraft, a second line unit stationed at Culrose.

'The usual drill at Coronation time is a Fleet Review at Spithead and her squadron was ordered to fly past over the fleet along with another squadron. As a pilot's mate she had full responsibility for one of the aircraft, flown by an Australian pilot. A pilot's mate is one who has passed exams to maintain engines, air-

frame, etc on aircraft. Aussies are notoriously individualistic, so she flew frequently to air-shows etc, thus when the squadron went to the first rehearsal she was on board.

'She told me that the whole crossing was 'like flying in a blanket'. The pilots flew Red Arrows fashion on the lead aircraft, so when their squadron commander dipped in flight so did they all. On this trip that happened, and the other squadron passed close above them, narrowly avoiding disaster. The second practice flight was an improvement, no one had to dip in that blanket! 'On the day of the flypast itself they flew again in a blanket, but at one point an opening in the cloud allowed bright sunlight through, right on the fleet!

'If another flypast occurs over the tugs, dredgers and rowing boats left of our fleet, the press can't scream 'First woman in Coronation flypast' – pilot of course, but not the first lady. That first belongs to a lady from the old KGS! Sadly, Audrey died about 10 years ago.'

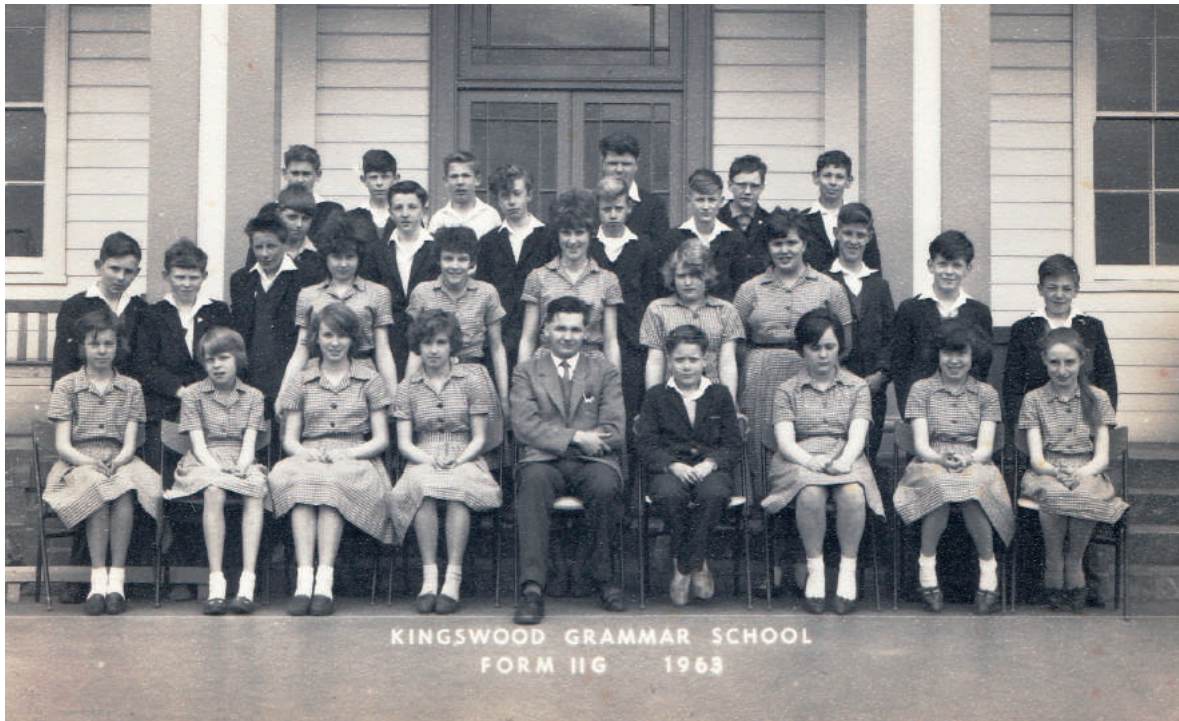


TWO FROM 1963...

RICHARD LUCAS (61-68) has supplied us with the photo of Form 2G, under Mr Griffiths, in 1963, together with the names: Back row: Nigel Cowley?, n/k, Harry (Fred) Watkins, Colin Bond, Richard Lucas, Brian (Fluff) Feltham. Second row: Michael Mealing, n/k, Dave Tilling, Chris Murch, Geoffrey Hayes, Paul Har-

ris. Third row: Robert Axford, Peacock?, (Tiffy Cousins, n/k, n/k, n/k, Rose Lewis?, Janet Elliott, Mike Adcock, Peter Wren. Front row: n/k, Susan Standing?, n/k, n/k, Mr Griffin, Philip Oppery, n/k, Christine Roberts, Alwyn Price.

The second photo from DAVID ANN (55-63) is of the 1962-63 Rugby 1st XI.



TWO FROM 1965...

The two photographs below have been supplied by MARILYN DRAPER (58-65) (now Clark). The top one is of RALPH HYATT'S 6(2) Form. Ralph taught Chemistry and when your Ed last met Ralph at the School on the occasion of a

visit by COLIN PILLINGER, the latter expressed his great appreciation of Ralph's Chemistry teaching. Praise indeed!

The second photo is of the 64-65 Hockey 1st XI



A KIWI..?

From down-under, LYNDA WILLIAMS (58-66) (now Dowsett) from Dunedin, New Zealand has contacted KOSA:

I am an ex-Kingswood Grammar School pupil, though it is in the dim and distant past. I now live and work in New Zealand but I will be in the locality in October/November this year and wondered if your second meeting of the year occurred around that time. My sister who lives in Fishponds sent me the article from *Fishpondsvoice*. It made me wonder how many of the grey/balding men in the photo were about the same age as me and perhaps I had been at school with them!

I have been working as a Senior Teaching Fellow (the grade of which morphed into being a Professional Practice Fellow) in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Otago for the past 35 years. My ex-husband and I came here with two of our children (another was born here) for a couple of years in 1978 and stayed.

During that time I have also helped to found The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust and was the first president of the Trust. I have been deeply involved in the community here, being president of the local Plunket Association, Chair of the Home and School Association at Macandrew Bay School on the Otago Peninsula (where I live still), Chair of the City Choir Dunedin, President of the Coeliac Society of NZ, Chair of New Horizons for Women Trust, President of National Council of Women, Co-President (academic) of Staff Women's Caucus at the University and, at present, am President of the local association of Justices of the Peace.

I have three wonderful children, (a law-

yer, a banker and a zoologist), two of whom are living in UK at the moment. After a hip operation I have now decided to retire, but since retiring I have no time at home at all!

DOREEN REMEMBERS...

DOREEN PILLINGER (48-53) (now Lindegaard) remembers when boys and girls kept themselves to themselves:

'The belated obituary of WILLIE KNIGHT (48-53) (who later called himself Bill) which appeared in the last issue brought back memories. I have a very tatty press cutting from the *Bristol Observer*, undated, but it was just before Christmas 1950. It reads:

"Greetings from the Arctic Circle"

Boys and girls of Tromso an Icebound Norwegian town in the Arctic Circle this week achieved a link-up with two boys and a girl from Kingswood Grammar School.

Kingswood's Colin Beacham (18), Doreen Pillinger (13) and William Knight (13) have been chosen by the Tromso Grammar School pupils as winners of an essay contest arranged between the two schools by the BBC. This week the BBC Norwegian department broadcast selections from the Kingswood essays. Next week the Tromso essays will go on the air with greetings from Kingswood Grammar School.

Beacham won a prize of £5 as I recall, I received £2. 10 shillings and Knight £1.10 shillings. This was my only success during the whole of my five years at KGS. The boys and I were obliged to go to the BBC in Queen's Road and send Christmas greetings over the airwaves to Norway. We were much too shy to travel together and all arrived separately, Beacham on his bike and Knight and I by bus. We were ushered in to a darkened studio and sat before an old fash-

ioned mic and tried several takes which they played back to us. I had never heard my own voice before and was appalled.

When it came to the actual live broadcast – it was merely sending a simple message of “Merry Christmas”, I was in a lather of fear and trembling. And that was it. In that austere age of rationing we were offered no hospitality – tea, biscuits, lemonade or anything of the sort, but after the ordeal were unceremoniously escorted from the premises and outside into the cold. Beacham donned his school cap, (with the tassel which denoted his status as a sixth form grandee) jumped on his bike, no need for a lock and chain then, and disappeared into the fog. Knight and I stared into space at the bus stop, too terrified to utter a word to each other. When the bus arrived he made sure I got on first, not through any show of gallantry, but anxious in case I sat down next to him, and scooted upstairs as if shot from a gun.

When I see crowds of school kids on a bus these days, all chattering and joshing, boys and girls together, not paralysed by shyness as we were, I can't help but think that in most ways times have changed for the better.

There was one favourable outcome from the competition. The Tromso school visited KGS the next year, and we were each partnered with a Norwegian student for the day. My girl, Inger Lindrup, became a friend for life. She taught me to hitch-hike and to smoke, but those are other stories.

As to Beacham and Knight, neither ever acknowledged me in school. They both went on to join the good and the great: Knight, a medic with a string of achievements and I seem to remember from

KOSA NEWS that Beacham was a headmaster somewhere. Both dead now of course. A pity. I wish I could ask them about that dreadful day.

That ghastly ‘beauty queen’ picture in the last edition. I bet all the girls look younger now than they did then. Anybody else remember ruched bathing costumes? At least they were an improvement on the ones our mothers knitted which let in water and sagged to our knees under the weight!

NEWS FROM KRFC...

JOHN BISHOP (52-59) writes:

‘The club recently celebrated its 60th anniversary with a dinner at Grimsbury Road, the ground where it all began. After promotion to Gloucestershire League Division 1 a few years ago, and having been reasonably successful, the 60th season was a disappointment, ending in relegation. There appears to have been a slow decline in the numbers keen to participate in organised team games. It affects every sport – including football and cricket - and there are many reasons why the so called ‘Olympic Legacy’ never materialized.

‘During the club's 60 years we have had a number of seasons during which we have fielded 4 teams on a regular basis. Until the last few years we always managed a regular 3rd team. However, the 60th season saw the virtual demise of the 3rds. We are not alone and I would guess that at least 30% of Bristol Combination clubs only field 2 sides.

‘On a much brighter note KRFC now has a thriving Junior Section. Around 250 boys and girls between the ages 7 to 12/13 turn up on a Sunday morning to enjoy some Rugby. Over 300 went on

tour toward the end of the season, including coaching staff and parents. The organisation of this section is extraordinary and has led to it receiving a number of awards. We all hope that a large percentage of these youngsters will move into our senior ranks in the years to come.

'As for the dinner the 3 surviving ex-presidents - myself, ROGER WINDSOR (55-60) and Chris Cooper - were in attendance but these days there are very few old Grammar or Kingsfield connections.

'However the principal speaker was an old boy of Kingsfield. RICHARD SCUDAMORE (71-77) was a pupil at the school in the 70s, being appointed head boy before he departed for University in 1977. About 15 years ago he became the CEO of the Premier Football League, one of the most powerful positions in the game in this country. I think it is safe to say that our Premier League is the most famous and the richest in the world of football and it is watched by many millions of football fans every week.

'So our club was honoured to have Richard in attendance, as without his Kingsfield connections I doubt that we would have been able to persuade him to take on the role of the main speaker. It was rather strange to have a football man to speak, but he did a grand job and completed the formal part of the evening by being both informative and entertaining. His speech marked the culmination of 60 years of Rugby, during which time the club has played more than 3,500 matches and provided a game for at least 1000 players.'

REV'S RESPONSE...

REV. JOHN LOXTON (40-47), who possesses degrees in both science and the-

ology, has responded to a comment by the Ed in an earlier edition:

'In the Spring Issue this year the Editor suggested that I would not or could not explain how one can hold scientific and religious views together. He also asserted that faith is not open to test and discussion. This strikes me as an incredibly naïve comment as many books have been written demonstrating that this statement is untrue. This comment is pure Richard Dawkins, who has since been completely debunked by many authors, notably Alister McGrath and Keith Ward, the latter having been both a Professor of Philosophy and Theology. Incidentally Richard Dawkins told Keith Ward that as there was no such thing as God, he was a Professor of Nothing!

Headmistress MISS QUINTON'S book, *Scientific and Religious Knowledge* (1950), may have been of no help to the Editor but I am sure that many people found it useful. It is of course hopelessly out-of-date now. Alister McGrath was an atheist as a sixth former in Ulster, but on going up to Oxford found himself confronted by Christian academics, notably C. S. Lewis, a fellow Ulsterman, and he has become an outstanding defender of the Christian faith. One of his books is entitled *The Decline of Atheism*, a historical study of atheism. Recent books on the relationship between the two disciplines have been Tom McLeish's *Faith and Wisdom in Science* and Andrew Steane's *Faithful to Science*. Both authors are professors of Physics at Durham and Oxford, respectively.

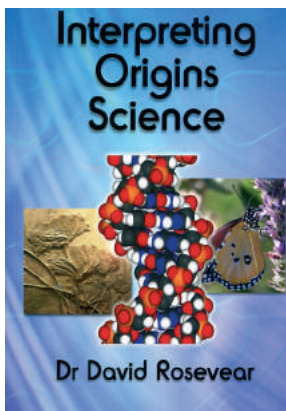
Both science and religion proceed by asking questions doing research and then formulating hypotheses. These are subject to further experiments or tests in practice leading to new theories or new insights into reality. They both cover the

whole range of human enquiry and activity. They both use the same methodology, the same desire to unlock the secrets of the universe. Tom McLeish concludes, "Science and Theology are not complementary, they are not in conflict, they are not just consistent – they are of each other."

DR'S RESPONSE...

Dr DAVID ROSEVEAR (45-53), who is Chairman of the Creation Science Movement also has a contribution:

'As always, I enjoyed the *KOSA NEWS* no.46, and in particular the piece by my contemporary, BRIAN ILES (45-50). From the photo, he is wearing very well for an oxygenarian (sic).



'Being Brian, he can't resist promoting his atheism – "Science is open to test and discussion; Faith is not, full stop." This is true for the sort of science we learned from 'FISHY' SAM-

MONS (Chemistry) and 'BUNNY' AUSTIN (Physics); it is observable and repeatable. However, the origin of the universe (or multiverse), of life, of species, of man, is forensic conjecture. If one is an atheist, one has to say that things made themselves without an input of intelligence. Once upon a time, o my best beloved, there was nothing, that became unstable and exploded into everything! Sub-atomic particles clumped together with the aid of cold dark matter (that cannot be seen or detected) to form stars, etc.

'After billions of years of assumed deep time, inanimate atoms built up together

to become more complex molecules (despite the second law of thermodynamics) and the first living, reproducing protozoan developed, complete with DNA, RNA, proteins (necessary to make DNA and RNA), ATP synthase or some other source of energy, and all the other basic needs of the first cell. Perhaps the biggest stumbling block here is the need for genetic information with its code and means of translating it. According to Shannon and Weaver, information comes from an intelligent mind.

'Faith also has its uncertainties, of course. But consider this: twelve excerpts from the New Testament were found sealed in jars in Cave 7 on the Dead Sea site that was overrun by the Roman Army in AD 68. This puts the NT writings within the eyewitness period, when tens of thousands of hostile people could have gainsaid any fraud. Full stop.'

David's latest publication (2015) is *Interpreting Origins Science*, yet another publication by ex-KGS scholars. - Ed.

FLOWERS OF EVIL...

JOHN TIDBALL (56-59) has edited, translated and adapted a new publication (2014) of Baudelaire's *Les Fleurs du Mal* published by Bishopston Translations, Bristol. It's in dual language form, with



facing page translations of the 1861 edition, including the six poems which were banned in 1857.

Francophiles may obtain the book from Amazon for \$27 or around £20.

DEREK RECALLS...

DEREK BAILEY (49-53) recalls the School Exhibition of June 1952 as recorded in the *Kingswood Chronicles* No. 23; July, 1953; page 28:

The main expedition last year was a visit of 300 boys and girls from the First Forms upwards. At Paddington the party was met by a fleet of buses and made a tour of London via Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey to the Tower. Here everyone had lunch facing the Thames and sitting on or round the old cannons.

After lunch some of the party paid a hurried visit to the Tower before taking the coach again past St. Paul's Cathedral to the Regent Park Zoo. Tea was provided here and there was time for a good view of the Chimpanzee's Tea Party and other sights.



From the Zoo the party returned to Paddington. Though there was a scramble at the end everyone was got safely aboard to return home feeling the day had been a full one.

And just to prove he was there he has provided this photo of himself (left) and Chris Buckley.

JACKSON'S JOTTINGS...

GORDON JACKSON (55-62), one of our regular correspondents, has again put pen to paper:

'May I add my two pennyworth to some of the articles in the last *KOSA NEWS*.

'KATH HAWKINS (33-37) (now Mountstephens) mentions her contemporary, PERCY LOVELL. I wrote about him and his side of the family for *KOSA NEWS* about 10 years ago. Percy went to King's College, Cambridge in 1937 to study Music, as did I in 1962 and his eldest son, BILL LOVELL in 1965. Bill also had a distinguished teaching career, but unfortunately died on 30 March 2014, aged only 67.

'As for TERRY ANSTEY (55-62) and his Latin O-level; I remember that we were tested on the first 500-odd lines of Virgil's *Aeneid Book I*, and on Caesar's *Gallic Wars Book I*. The latter consisted of short military despatches and was (relatively) straightforward, while the Virgil, being poetry, was rather more difficult.

'Fancy such a quiet person as ROGER DONE (55-62) having successful political careers in Manchester and in Spain. Incidentally, his surname rhymes with 'bone', though 'BONEY' BRITTON (English) always called him 'Dunn'. At school Roger was called 'Arfur' or 'Arf' and it wasn't until years later that the mother of RICHARD CORDY (55-62) told me why. Roger's classmates knew him as 'R Done' and he wouldn't tell them what the 'R' stood for. Some wit said 'It must be R for Done, so 'Arfur Done' it was!

'Richard himself was known as 'Alfie' or 'Alf', his first, unused, forename being Alfred and MICHAEL CARTER (55-62) was known as 'Kate', presumably short for Carter.

'The late BILL KNIGHT (48-55), who qualified as a doctor in 1961, won a scholarship to Cambridge for a second degree in 1962. In *Kingswood Chronicles* of 1962 he heads the prize-day list of

scholars winning university awards and a place at Magdalene College. Everyone else was going to university straight from school. Although he and I were at Cambridge at the same time, I never met him.'

AUSSIE..?

WENDY EDWARDS (51-57) (now Cookes) is a member who has recently joined us via the new web page. We are pleased she has been in touch:

'I recently received an email from GUY FEATHERSTONE (50-58) which gave me access to the KOSA magazines and spent a very happy hour or two trawling through magazines and old memories.

'I was delighted to see the tribute to JIM BURGESS (39-45), an old family friend and a lovely man, I was very sad to get an email from his son Steve telling me of his death. On one of my trips back to the UK, he took me on a guided tour round a very unfamiliar Bristol

'When we left for Australia in the early sixties, part of the brain drain, Bristol was full of bomb sites, I think the only two buildings standing in Castle Street were the British Home Stores and the Co-Op! I used to walk past them every day from Old Market to Park Street to The West Of England College of Art.

'Which brings me to another lovely man HAROLD WATTS (Art). I was certainly not one of his most successful students, but he encouraged my very modest talent, and I did get a scholarship to the West of England College of Art, in retrospect not a good decision, I found marriage much more attractive, and ended up eventually working in a library. After I left England for Australia, every Christmas I received a card and quite long letter from Harold, until the year before he died.

'We, my husband Tony and two year old son arrived in Sidney in 1963, rented a flat on a surf beach where our second son was born, in Manly Hospital not on the surf beach, and never looked back! Best decision of our lives. After a few years Tony was offered a senior position in Hewlett Packard in Melbourne and we moved to the lovely Yarra Valley.

'We retired to the equally lovely Apollo Bay, sadly after a few years Tony died of cancer. But, I have my wonderful black Labrador, snoring at my feet as I write to keep me company. Family, six grandchildren visit often, also many friends.

'I attended Art School with JUDITH WINCHURCH (50-57) (now Grant), JENNY LACEY, AVRIL MIDDLETON (51-57), BARRY BROWN (51-57) and MARGARET LOVELL (50-55). I have kept in quite close contact with Judith, who I have visited in Cambridge, spent a lovely holiday with her in France staying with her brother Christopher, she also had a six week visit to us in Melbourne.

'Margaret I have known since our pre-school days, we were neighbours and friends, and still see her sometimes on her way to New Zealand. I have followed her career with great pride and interest. Margaret and I are shown together on page 22 in our tennis gear. I also keep in contact with Guy Featherstone, and PAT BALL (51-58) (now Featherstone) was my best friend at school. Guy was one of my first boyfriends, and they came to stay with us in Apollo Bay, just before Tony died.

'I seem to have rambled on, blame Guy for sending me your website. I just want to finish by saying I don't think I ever appreciated the quality of education I had



until a good few years after I had left. I was very quiet and probably not very noticeable. I will never forget the blank stare HEADMASTER RIDLEY gave as he shook my hand when I left school - he had no idea who I was.

'It amazes me that I developed a love of classical music in spite of the terror ERIC HILTON (Music) instilled in me. I remember going to a talk on Esperanto, taking part in Benjamin Britten's *Lets Make an Opera* at the Bath Theatre Royal and going to a conference of the junior United Nations at the University. I received my only prize at school, for Art, from SIR BERNARD LOVELL! I can also remember sewing lace on the bottom of COLIN REECE'S rugby shorts, with rather dire consequences. I will look forward to reading future news from KOSA.'

EARLY MEMBER...

Kingswood Old Scholar's Association

Membership Card 1948-9

Member's Name Mr S. W. Cruise

Subscriptions paid until Sept 30th 1949.

N.B. According to Rule 166 members whose subscriptions are more than one year in arrears cease to be entitled to the privileges of membership.

The membership card at the bottom of the page belonged to STAN CRUSE (41-47) and is for the year 1948-49. It appears from the position of the apostrophe that he was the only member! Oh dear!

46ers SPRING LUNCH...

Another sunny day in Somerset at KATH HARDWICK'S (46-54) (now Filer) farm in Clapton-in-Gordano greeted the group of twenty one 46ers at their Spring Reunion on 16th May 2015. Kath invites guests to donate for their meal which she then gives to charity.

Thanks to everyone's generosity a total of £145 was donated to the LINAC appeal from the last reunion. Over the years from 2006 to 2015 since the 46ers reunions have taken place on the farm Kath calculates that approximately £1,500 has been raised for Prostate Cancer Research and donated to Bristol's LINAC Radio Therapy Machine. LINAC is a linear accelerator used in the treatment of cancer.

Thanks to all who have donated over the years.

NEWS FROM KING'S OAK...

Chairman STAN BURRAGE (51-56) reports on a recent visit to the Academy: 'At the invitation of King's Oak Principal, IAN FROST and his assistant AMANDA SUART, I, as KOSA Chairman, visited King's Oak Academy on the 11th June to make the Annual KOSA presentation of £25 vouchers to Danielle Doyle, Georgia Watkins-Smith, Inder Manku and Michael Duncan, year 11's top 4 students, at their leavers' celebration. I was accompanied by fellow KOSA Committee Member MARY POWELL (51-56) (now Janes) who was a classmate at KGS. (The photo of the presentation is on page 23). I was born in Tennis Court Road on one side of the School and Mary in Deanery Close



on the other - a pair of bookends!

'My talk included a history of the Kingswood Schools over the last 94 years, the KOSA connection since 1924, recollections of my time at KGS and national and world events during the 1950s. The purpose was to make leavers aware of their place within a long tradition of Secondary Schools in Kingswood and the part KOSA plays in maintaining contact and fellowship with fellow Schoolmates.

'As usual a most enjoyable and well-received occasion.'

Stan Burrage reports that King's Oak Academy are losing their Principal of the last 5 years this September. IAN FROST has brought the School round from a failing situation, with low student numbers, to a strong recovery as reflected in the latest Ofsted Report. Also, AMANDA SUART has been made Head of the 6th Form.

Kings Oak is part of a South West group of Academies under the Chairmanship of Nailsworth resident David Carter. He has persuaded Ian to take on the considerable challenge of getting the recently-joined Gloucester City Academy out of decline. Ian announced his leaving at this year's Awards Celebration, to the general dismay of both staff and students.

On a personal note there is no doubt Ian has put King's Oak back on track and the mainly new staff are well equipped to carry the Academy into the future. The opening in September of the newly-built Primary School at the Academy will strengthen the overall plan and provide continuity on the site. KOSA will miss Ian for his enthusiasm, encouragement to maintain KOSA links and for our personal friendships built up since his arrival.

I am sure you will all wish IAN and AMANDA well in their new ventures.



CNR'S WEDDING...

We are indebted to DEREK BAILEY (49-53) for supplying us with the photo and press cutting of HEADMASTER RIDLEY'S wedding in Lincolnshire on 13 August 1938. A very swish affair!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW..?

From time to time we get requests to trace ex-KGS people. VERNON STOKES (38-43) asks if anyone has any information about MARGARET BRAIN, who was a dancer in the 40s. She had a sister, BARBARA BRAIN, who became Barbara Tucker.

MARY FUDGE (57-69) now THEO-BALD, last known in Westbury-on-Trym and DR TONY LAWRENCE (48-56), of Glasgow have dropped off the radar. Please let us know if you know where they are now.

If you are moving, please don't forget to notify us your new address. We don't want to lose you!

If you know anyone from KGS who might like to receive *KOSA NEWS*, just let us know. We can send a number of back copies as a 'taster'. No obligation, and we never chase for money!

FIVE ATTENDANTS FOR KELSEY BRIDE

Miss Doris Hardy and Mr. Norman Ridley

At the Trinity Methodist Chapel, South Kelsey, yesterday, Miss Doris M. Hardy, B.A., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hardy, of Melrose, South Kelsey, was married to Mr. G. Norman Ridley, B.A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Ridley, of Sheffield. The bride's father is a leading local farmer and public man, and both the bride and bridegroom are well-known in the district.

The ceremony, which was choral, was performed by the Rev. Eric W. Baker, of Edinburgh, and the Rev. J. H. Robinson, of Liverpool, uncle of the bride. Miss Gladys Kirkby was the organist. The interior of the chapel had been decorated with red carnations, white sweet peas and lilies.

For her bridal gown Miss Hardy had chosen white crepe lame in which stripes of silver thread were faintly discernible. The gown was fashioned with a cowl neckline and bishop sleeves gathered into a tiny cuff and fell to form a short train. She carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley.

Five bridesmaids, in delphinium blue, were Miss Joyce Ridley, sister of the bridegroom, Miss N. C. Robinson, cousin of the bride, Miss A. H. Raby, cousin of the bride, Miss K. A. Riggall and Miss E. D. Jernyn.

Mr. J. A. Hardy gave his daughter away, and Mr. Frank Hardy, bride's brother, was best man. The groomsmen were Mr. L. R. J. Conway, of Harrow, Mr. John M. Wilkin, of Grimsby, Mr. Tom Siddall, of Sheffield, and Mr. Alan R. Abraham, of Mansfield.

After a reception at Melrose, the couple left for the honeymoon, their destination not being disclosed.



Vic Yeoman with his blood donation book

My 100th blood donation

IN the same week he turned 71, Vic Yeoman is celebrating reaching his 100th blood donation. Mr Yeoman, from Hanham, reached the milestone last week, after donating every year since he was just 20 years old.

Despite being unsure if he would be able to give blood on Wednesday due to feeling a bit under the weather, Mr Yeoman was delighted to be able to reach the milestone when he arrived at Hanham Methodist Church Hall.

And as he prepared to have blood drawn for the 100th time, Mr Yeoman was quite surprised by the reaction to his achievement.

He said: "When I arrived I told them my name like you usually do, and then the young man said 'Oh you're Mr Yeoman', before handing me a card to celebrate my 100th time.

"Then, when I sat down, someone else brought over another card. I was

quite surprised as I didn't know if anyone would know about it.

"It was really nice to receive the cards and for people to congratulate me. It's not what you do it for but the cards were lovely.

"I'm just glad I was able to donate. I thought I might have to put it off for a couple of months as I had a bit of a cold, but luckily they said it was ok."

Mr Yeoman first donated blood in 1964, when he was 20 years old.

He said: "I'm not really sure what made me do it if I'm honest. I just thought it seemed like a good thing to do at the time.

"I think if you are healthy and you are able, then everyone should give blood. There is never enough and it doesn't take very long."

"My blood type is very common but that doesn't matter: there are still lots of people out there who need it.

"I try to tell my friends and family to donate."

100 NOT OUT..!

VIC YEOMAN (55-60) featured in a *New Observer* report in January this year that he had completed his 100th donation of blood, completed over a period of 50+ years. It always conjures memories of Tony Hancock in *The Blood Donor*. Quite a few arms-full! Congratulations, Vic.

ing or scrapping with each other in class. PHIL DOSWALL was the fastest runner in the year, I seem to remember HUTTON, MILLETT and BARNARD were good footballers with LES BARNARD being the local star but he was tragically killed in a traffic accident fairly soon after this photo was taken. WALLIS and BLOWER were medium pace bowlers, I recall. I think PETE MILLETT married JANICE MAYNARD who was a fellow pupil in this year group. She was a talented hockey player.

NAMES...

CHRIS DARCH (64-69) has written to name those cricketers in the photo on page 14 of the 67-Junior Cricket XI in last edition. The pupils in the photo are: Back row L-R Clive Wilton, Peter Hopes, Phil Doswall, Rob Sherrington, Rich? Hutton, Dave Wallis. Front row L-R Mark Wilton, Alan Blower, Chris Darch, Pete Millett and Les Barnard.

ROB SHERRINGTON was the wicket keeper. PETE HOPES was the tearaway fast bowler. The Wilton brothers were twins and seemed to be constantly argu

Another note from LINDSAY LE METAIS on behalf of his mother GERALDINE ASHLEY (43-48) (now Barrell) gives us some further names:

'My mother (former pupil and KOSA subscriber) was looking at the photo on P.4 of 48-Biology in the last issue. Although she has difficulty remembering names, she identified the small girl with plaits standing on the right as HEATHER TAYLOR. The girl standing behind her is JILL STINTON (?). The first name of the girl sitting 2nd from left could be Patricia. I think if anyone has a list of names, my Mum might be able to match up the names with the faces in your photos.'

Another correspondent confirms that it's a School Certificate class, not A-level, with names from the back and I. to r. as: n/k, John Gillett, Austin Woodman, Maurice Bishop, n/k, Joy Allen, Margaret Harris, Jill Stinton, Jean ?, Marlene King, June Simpkins, n/k, Heather Tayler, ? Jones (from Doynton), n/k.

THE OLD GITS...

We like to think we've been instrumental in getting people together for their own small, personal reunions.



Here is the photograph of four Old Gits (as described by John Britton) at *The Folly*, Westerleigh Road on 22 July last. Left to right - John Britton 52-57, Roger Beese 52-57, Robin Fidkin 54-59 and Dave Britton 54-59. All immediately recognisable! They haven't changed a bit have they? asks John. (Oh, yea. Just look at those waist-lines - and hair lines - Ed).

CHANGES...

We welcome some changes to the KOSA Committee. We've already announced CILLA POWELL (46-51) (now Maguire) as the successor to JOHN POWELL (43-48) as Secretary, although John continues to attend meetings when he is able.



After she married, Cilla remained at home to raise her daughter and to assist her husband in running his printing business. Although she has recently moved to Didcot, Oxfordshire, Cilla is proving an excellent Secretary and attends all our local Committee meetings.

New Committee Member, SUE WELLS (59-64) (now Pullen), has given us a pen-portrait of her life and experiences:



'I entered KGS in 1959. I was never an outstanding scholar but I tried my best. When I left in 1964 I felt that I had under achieved by only attaining 4 'O' levels. (Maths,

Eng Lit, French, Music) Luckily Lloyds Bank employed me on my mock results which were considerably better. I worked for Lloyds Bank at Westbury-on-Trym, Kingswood and Stoke Bishop branches and left when I was pregnant with my first daughter. I had progressed to supervisor and No 1 cashier but never felt the urge to return to that career.

'We started married life in Sea Mills where Samantha was born 1970 and Joanne 1971. Whilst my 2 girls were young I took on evening jobs, firstly in the kitchens of the students' accommodation at Hyatt Baker Hall and then as a 'key to disc' operator for the Hospital Board.

'My husband was working for Courage Brewery and was very unhappy in his job, so we decided to sell up and buy a newsagent's business in St George which we ran for 21 years. By choosing a newsagents, as had some of my siblings, we were able to form a group calling ourselves 'Avon News' and negotiate best terms with our suppliers.

'My husband then took a job with BT and for a while I remained at home, helping out my two daughters with their young families. I was offered a seasonal job with Bristol City Council in Electoral Services which I did for 10 years. I then retired!'

HELEN LEWIS (74-79) (now Lippiatt) has also sent a pen-portrait of her career:



'I started at Kings field School in September 1974. Whilst at the school I obtained my Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award, which at the time was quite a

feat. I was involved with the Hockey and Netball teams and really enjoyed the Athletics. Leaving Kings field in June 1979 I went to work for Parentally's in Fishponds where I started in the post room and progressed to the Commercial Department dealing with queries.

'From there I went to Welbeck Finance where again I was in the Customer Service department and then Litigation and Agency. While there I married and after leaving Welbeck I went over the road to Interlink Express again into Customer Service and then as a Trainer for new employees. Whilst there I had my son.

'In 1996 we left Bristol and moved to Corby for my husband's job and it was there we had our daughter. We stayed in Corby for 2 years and then returned to Bristol.

'On returning to Bristol I joined my brother who had just taken over the family business of stationery and packaging and have been there for 18 years.'

ROSEMARY DOGGETT (64-71) has also joined the Committee. Rosemary's schooldays spanned both KGS and Kingsfield periods and it would be interesting to hear her memories of that period.

When Rosemary left School she worked for PO Telephones and completed secretarial training and then Social Services, Frenchay School of Nursing and Local Government. In Social Services she handled some of the files of those who were in the St. Paul's riots!. Her interests are U3A, Theatre-going, Friends of Bristol Museum, Reading and History.

WELCOME...

To those joining KOSA since the last 'NEWS, maiden names where appropriate: Muriel Williams (47-53) (Hanham), Judith Pillinger (Colin's widow) (Croydon), Wendy Edwards (51-67) (Australia), Geraldine Couzens (56-61) and Philip Drury (55-61), Ruth Paterson (54-61), Lyn Williams (55-61) (New Zealand. If you know of anyone who might like to receive *KOSA NEWS* just let us know - with their permission, of course.

BACK PAGE...

Features those who were in 6(1) and 6(2) in 1958, most of whom will have reached around their 75th birthday this year, that is, if they haven't passed to the great Grammar School in the sky!



KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
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