



KOSA NEWS



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

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EDITORIAL...

In producing each edition of *KOSA NEWS* over the past 25 years or so, we have aimed to cover a spectrum of years during which KGS and Kingsfield existed. This is, however, dependent on the correspondence, photographs and responses received from you, the members.

I am aware that in our issues there is always a good volume of contributions from the 40s, 50s and 60s and this current issue is no exception. Where are the correspondents from the later years? We would welcome letters, photographs, comments and criticisms from all years so that we can produce an interesting mix which may be enjoyed by all.

We still require a Deputy Editor who is able to learn the ropes from the current editor with a view to taking over. The Committee is willing to double the salary earned by the current Editor, with generous fringe benefits. Someone younger than the current incumbent (not difficult), with computer expertise and the ability to write good English would be fine. He/she should have the time available (retired?) and preferably live near Bristol. Is there anyone out there to keep the KOSA tradition going?

The Editor

DIARY DATES:

SPRING LUNCH & AGM:

We've booked for **SATURDAY, 21st APRIL 2018** 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 a short AGM. Please complete the enclosed form and send it to our Treasurer, MARTIN HARRYMAN. (address inside).

46ers REUNION:

For the date of the May lunch at KATHLEEN HARDWICK'S (now FILER) farm down in *Clapton-in-Gordano* for 1946 starters phone PRISCILLA POWELL (now MAGUIRE) on 01235 851966.

AUTUMN LUNCH:

Already booked for **SATURDAY, 6th OCTOBER 2018** at Lincombe Barn, Downend. Please book the date in your diary now.

OBITUARIES...

SUE HUDSON (62-66) (now Hawking) has sent us the obituary of KEITH DAVIS: 'KEITH DAVIS (59-66) passed away some time ago after a short illness.

Keith was born in Kingswood, attending the Park School and then KGS. He was an enthusiastic and talented sportsman, representing the School at fencing, swimming and rugby. He went to St Luke's College, Exeter to train as a schoolmaster. His talent on the rugby pitch earned him a prestigious place in the first XV.

On completing his training he went first to Churcher's College in Hampshire and then to Leamington College. In this large selective boys' school, as well as being director of sport, he made frequent visits to Snowdonia to introduce the boys to mountaineering.

'From early days family holidays were spent at Hope Cove in South Devon. When the vacancy at Kingsbridge School came up, Keith and his wife Jenny moved down to Devon. He remained there until his retirement.

'As director of sport, Keith put Kingsbridge on the map! The first XV excelled against the many independent schools in the south. Many of Keith's squad went on to play for Devon Schools and some for England too! He coached Devon under 18s and for a while also England under 18s. He also coached the Brixham team.

'Keith was also a keen and able yachtsman. He enjoyed his leisure teaching his children to swim and sail in the South Hams. He moved back to South Glos. for the last ten years of his life, where he lived with SUE HUDSON (62-66) (now Hawking).'

The funeral of STAMFORD GREEN (37-45) was held at Westerleigh Crematorium on 22 March 2017:

Stam was born in 1926. He went to Miss



Staden's, a nearby private school followed by a year at High Street Junior School.

Then off to KGS until he was 18, where his passion was maths, physics

and chemistry. He went on to Bristol University and gained a degree in chemistry. Although he was offered the opportunity to take a PhD he turned it down to stay and support his widowed mother, his father had died in his last year at school.

He took a job at National Smelting Company at Avonmouth in the research department, where he stayed for all his working life. The research department expanded, and Stam went to glass blowing evening classes and was able to make large apparatus for his work. He made good friends there, one also being his boss, who said he only had one criticism 'I wish he wouldn't cross every t, and dot every i

His other great love was music and he started learning the piano age 5, but he showed no great interest and none whatsoever to practise, but by the age of 10 his father bought him a small accordion then a larger one. He played a lot with a concert party even going to Horfield Prison and gaining his diploma at 16. He also played the church organ.

He said his voice wasn't good enough for being in the choir, but suddenly changed his mind when it meant he would be able to escort Joan, a young lady in the choir, home. The rest is history. He had many happy years singing with the Bristol Choral society, and also with the Cleeve Singers.

He was a great family man. Happily married for 64 years and surrounded by women, having 3 wonderful daughters. They had many memorable holidays camping. Things changed with the addition of 3 super, supportive sons-in-law and 5 grandchildren.

ROD FIDKIN (55-62) and others have informed us of the death of NORMAN GOLDING (55-62):

'I am writing to notify all readers of our

the back row.

'My information is that Norman was terminally ill and with the full blessing of all of his family he chose to end his own life. I was in the same form as Norman from the very outset in 1955 to 1962 and he was a friend to everyone, and was a very happy-go-lucky and well respected individual. He grew up in the Staple Hill and Downend area, and like his father, he was a brilliant trumpet player, becoming a Bristol City trumpeter. He also showed his prowess on the trumpet at a function organised by KOSA. Like myself, Norman chose not to attend university and we both left school, joining companies involved in insurance. I know that in the finance field he was really successful.

'In the early 1990s he became involved



excellent *KOSA NEWS* Magazine of the very sad news that NORMAN GOLDING (55-62) passed away on Friday 9 June 2017. In the photo of Form 4Gi of Summer 1959 (above) he is first on the left in

with Clifton Rugby Club and at the time of his death he was President of the Club. His contribution to the progress and success of the club was immense in many ways and he will be lovingly remem-

bered, by all. He was a family orientated man and, for sure, his wife Liz and all of the family will cherish very many happy memories of him but will miss him immensely.'

Your Editor can vouch that Norman's funeral at Westerleigh was a jolly affair. No prayers or hymns, but songs by Nat 'King' Cole, The Beach Boys, Chet Baker and many others. We all sang along with *Running Bear* by Jonny Preston and left to the strains of *Swing Low Sweet Chariot*.

Norman's sister JENNY GOLDING (61-68) (now Burgess) led many tributes by the comment that Norman really wanted to go to Chipping Sodbury Grammar School where they played Soccer not Rugby. However, Norman played Rugby at KGS and later became a leading light at Clifton Rugby Club. A very full life, indeed.

We have been informed by her daughter, Susan Selway, that WENDY STAITE previous Deputy Head at Kingsfield School died on Saturday, 1st July 2017. She was a long-serving member of staff at KGS and Kingsfield schools during the 60s, 70s and 80s until she retired in 1985. During her career she was Head of Domestic Science and then Deputy Head.

*Do not weep as you say 'goodbye'
I've not gone far, Just a trip on high,
To meet loved ones who've gone before,
I shall knock and ask them to open the door,
I'll tell them all you send your love,
And dwell with them in heaven above.*

The above poem was found in the purse of IRIS WILLMOTT (later Parsons) (31-36), found by her daughter, SHEILA PARSONS (now Williamson) (53-59) after her death in February 2017 at 96 years of age.

Latterly, she resided in Little Croft Care Home, where the excellent staff made her very happy. She was very healthy and active until she had a stroke which left her unable to talk and swallow.



Her funeral at Westerleigh was attended by a number of Old Scholars in addition to her daughter Sheila. These included JANE WILLIAMSON (now Ireland), JANICE MARTIN, SANDRA TOLLERFIELD (now Willmott) and STAN CRUSE, husband of DOREEN ROGERS, who was secretary to Headmaster RIDLEY in the 1950s. Cousin to Iris, EILEEN MATTHEWS (now Bendrey) was also there.

Iris was born in Cock Road and when she left KGS became a cashier at the Co-op in Kingswood, where she met her husband, Will. She was a very calm person and a brilliant cook; at one stage she was a cook at St Stephen's School. She also made wedding cakes. She was an active member of Kingswood Church and enjoyed the odd game of Bingo. She collected models of meerkats and used to knit squares to make into blankets for charity.

She and Will enjoyed foreign holidays,

and when her son Mike was teaching in Botswana she visited him on her own. Sadly, he died fourteen years ago at the early age of 56.

MARY MOSELEY (39-45) (now Rogers) has informed us of her brother Michael's death and together with her sister-in-law has written this memorial for *KOSA NEWS*:

'MICHAEL MOSELEY (39-44) died on January 15th 2017 aged 88 years.

'Subsequent to passing the School Certificate Mike was articled to a local surveyor for 3 years as a precursor to a career in municipal engineering. He studied for the exams part time and graduated as a Civil Engineer 1953. He was awarded Chartered Engineer status in 1962.



While on holiday he met Gertrud Utzinger who was studying the English Language in England. They were married by a Civil Service in England and then a church service was held in Schaffhausen her native city. After several moves they settled in Leicester. Mike is survived by Trudy and their two sons Christopher and Peter.'

The photo (above) shows Michael and his wife, Gertrude, on the left with ex-

KGS friends, JIM BURGESS and RON CLEMENTS on a day out.

EMILY THEODOSIA JACKSON (35-40) (later Lewis) died in January 2017. Emily, and her late husband, Bob, were solid supporters of KOSA, both regularly attending KOSA lunches until their later years. They always said that KOSA was responsible for their marriage, after losing contact after School and meeting again at a KOSA event after they had both lost their spouses. Your Editor was privileged to attend their wedding in Emily's childhood village of Pilning.

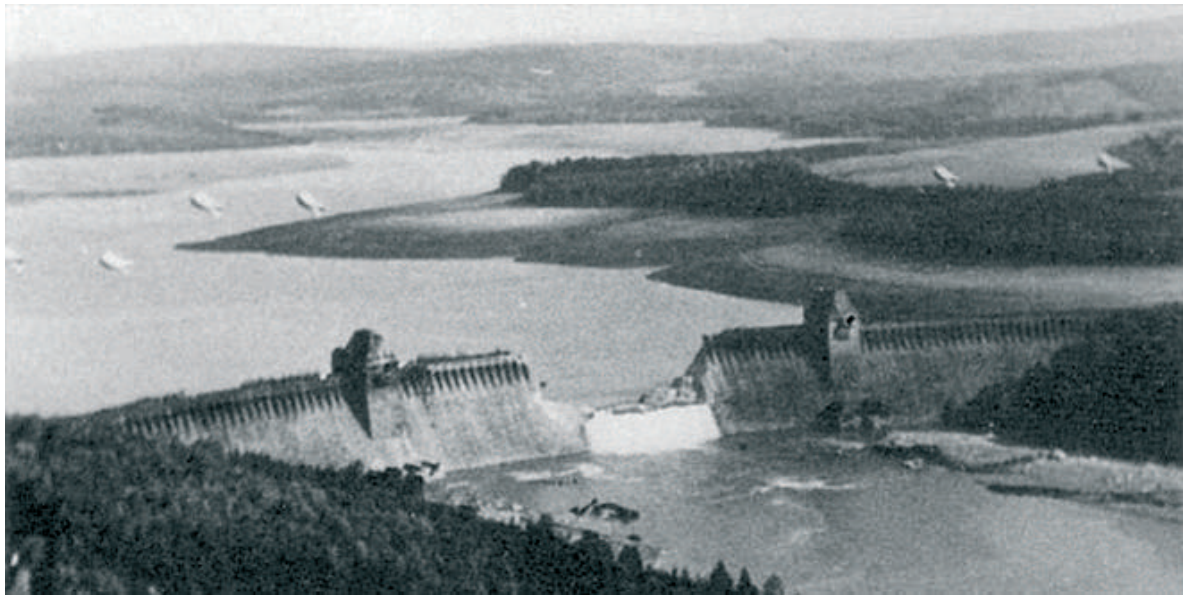


Both Bob and Emily were in WW2 separately when Bob was Japanese code-breaking and Emily was in the interpretation of photo reconnaissance material taken by flights over enemy territory.

In that capacity Emily surveyed and analysed the photos after the Dambusters' raid of 1943 when she would have been about 19. She was always interested in photography and at her funeral the coffin was draped with the Royal Air Force flag and mourners left the gathering to the *Dambusters' March*.

Over is a photograph that Emily may well have analysed to assess the impact of the raid. It's of the Moehne Dam, taken after the raid from a Spitfire PR IX.

At the end of her life Emily was in a residential home and had succeeded in recovering from a broken pelvis.



KOSA is indebted to Peter Tucker for the photo and for detail of Emily's WW2 experiences.

In the last edition we reported the passing of RUTH STOCK (39-45) (later Woodman) and we have since received the following from JEANNE HICKS (40-48) (now Jones):

'Ruth was born in Warmley to parents who were farmers and she entered KGS at the outbreak of WW2. She was particularly good at Maths, but at the time it was believed that women's brains were not suited to advanced mathematical studies, so she was not allowed to specialise. It was at School and at chapel that she met AUSTEN WOODMAN, whom she later married. Austen had been Chairman of the School's Photographic Society when he was at KGS in 1949.

'After teacher training college she happily taught in a primary school and she and Austen had two children and later grandchildren. They were both pillars of the Methodist Church at Staple Hill where they frequently had fifteen or more members to Sunday lunch and were so organised that they would attend morning

service before lunch.

'When Ruth realised that many members of the congregation had never been abroad and were not likely to do so she organised coach tours annually, which were very popular and greatly enjoyed. Although, Austen succumbed to a fast-growing cancer, Ruth continued her overseas tours. She was a brilliant organiser, a loving grandparent and a friend to all.'

Maureen Hemings, wife of DAVID HEMINGS (48-53), has sent the following obituary of David, who died this year:

'After leaving school Dave joined Kingswood Council as an apprentice carpenter and then moved to Warmley Council after completing his City & Guilds Examinations. He worked there until he joined South Gloucestershire Ambulance Service on 6th February 1967, after successfully completing his first aid exams. Throughout his career he was awarded several diplomas and two long service medals.

'After completing 35 years service he retired in September 2002. We then made several trips to Australia to visit family, but sadly Dave passed away



March 30th after suffering several strokes. His service was held at St Bartholomew's Church Wick , where he had lived for the past 34 years. We were fortunate to have been able to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary the previous October.'

NEIL SMART (46-51) passed away ear-



lier this year and in the well-worn photograph of 5 Remove of 1950 Neil is in the back row, third from the right.

In a more recent photo (above) Neil attended one of the 1946 reunions held at KATHLEEN HARDWICK's farm in Clapton-in-Gordano in deepest Somerset. Kath holds a reunion meal for the 46ers twice a year and Neil was a regular member.



VALERIE HANDY (42-49) (now Routley) has informed us of the death of her sister DORCAS HANDY (39-44) (later Hopton):



'Dorcas, the first of three sisters to attend KGS, died in May 2017 aged 89 following a short illness after a fall on the previous Christmas Eve.

'During her time at the school, being an avid reader, she had enjoyed English Literature lessons with MISS WATTERS and, always having a pencil in her hand, Art with POP SEARLE, frequently doing my art home work for me. Alas, on lending me her carefully traced maps, MISS WYCHERLEY often gave me the better mark.

'As an out of school activity she learned to play the piano, achieving grade 7. On leaving school Dorcas went to work as a shorthand typist for Mardon Son and Hall where she stayed until the birth of her first daughter Philippa.

'It had not been possible during the war to exchange visits with French pen pals so at the first opportunity Dorcas went to stay with her friend in the south of France and the friendship continued until Edmee died several years ago.

'In 1957 Dorcas married Charles Hopton. Unfortunately, Charles died in 1995 and after a very happy marriage she was left a widow. She found time to continue her hobbies of machine knitting, reading and art until shortly before she died. She succeeded by her two sisters, two daugh-

ters and four grandchildren, of whom she was very proud.

'As a faithful member of Christ Church Downend her funeral took place there on June 15th attended by her family and many friends. Dorcas, a very modest and popular lady, is greatly missed by us all. RUTH ACTON (80-82) (now Graham) wrote to tell us of her father's passing in March 2017. DAVID ACTON (50-52) joined KGS as a 6th former after moving to Downend from Cheltenham.

David had the most ingenious nickname whilst at KGS. It was 'F-E'. Someone had realised that the symbol for iron is 'Fe' and there is the village of Iron Acton. Hence 'Fe' Acton. Geddit?

JANET CREW (46-53) (later Bees) passed away earlier in 2017. She was very sporty at KGS, obtaining both her Hockey Junior Colours in 1950 and Hockey 2nd XI Colours in 1952. In 1952-53 Janet was a Prefect, having completed her O-Levels in 1951 and A-Level Religious Knowledge in 1953.

At KGS Janet was known for organising a pupil strike over school dinners which was reported in a national paper and got her into trouble with the headmaster. Does anyone know the details? After leaving KGS Janet spent some time as a Teaching Assistant at St. Anne's CE Primary School in Oldland Common where she lived.

We have also heard of the passing of the following KOSA members: NORMAN SAGE (41-46), DENNIS DUNN (37-44), REX CHURCH (39-45) and TESS DENNING (42-46) (later Weaver).

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

TWEEDY'S EXCUSE...

JOHN 'TWEEDY' HARRIS (53-60) tells us how to avoid detention:

'Congratulations on the *KOSA NEWS* 50th Edition – a wonderful achievement. This edition maintains the high standards – as good as any. May it last a long time yet.

'In GEOFF COLES' (55-60) update you asked a rhetorical question about the whereabouts of 'FELIX' FELTHAM who taught Maths. You set me on the path of another little story.

'There have been a few bits in recent editions about nicknames. I am sure that everyone reading the NEWS will know that Felix Felton was a famous actor and radio producer, apart from many other artistic gifts (according to Wikipedia he went to Oxford to study music). So the nickname based on a famous person is entirely appropriate, akin to BUNNY AUSTIN after the famous tennis player though as Gordon points out with a slightly different spelling to our physics teacher. Felix Felton lived from 1911–72. Was our Maths teacher Feltham or Felton? I always thought the latter. (See GORDON JACKSON'S letter following - Ed)

'We had Felix for Maths from 1955 till 1956. Previously there was MISS MITCHELL (then becoming MRS.DIPROSE with a very unkind nickname) and after Felix, BEN HODSON whose Longman and Green textbooks were still recognised when I was teaching and who wrote his books whilst teaching us.

'On October 10th 1955, Felix gave me and seven other boys from our class a detention, me for copying the answers to our homework and presumably all the

others too. It was the only detention I received in my time at KGS, one too many. Then comes the strange bit. On the day I was due to sit the detention the following Wednesday (12th), I woke up with severe stomach pains. My mother, knowing that I had a detention, thought I was feigning my illness to get out of it, but a visit to the Doctor Stewart (or was it Ferguson by then?) in Downend confirmed appendicitis and by the end of the day I was in BRI having an operation to remove my appendix. A long stay in hospital in those days and an even longer convalescence afterwards meant that when I got back to school on November 7th the detention had been forgotten about and I never served it.

'That is not the end of the story about Felix Felton though and this is one of those coincidences that have happened throughout life and probably more so when you move around the country as we have. I started teaching in Huddersfield in 1965 and lived as a paying guest in a road in the Almondbury district of the town. Coming out of the house one Sunday afternoon to go across the town by bus to see Audrey, my fiancée, I saw this man cleaning his car as I walked down the road. It was.....yes, you've guessed it, Felix Felton. I don't remember the details of our conversation (I don't think I mentioned the detention!) but it transpired that he was teaching at Penistone Grammar School out on the way towards Sheffield, and whose railway station, a junction, was widely thought of as one of the coldest in the system. I often took football teams out there (I ran the under 15 team for a while) and think that in line with the station, that its football field on a plateau with the Pennines in full view and nothing to protect it, was just about the coldest venue we had to play on. As we married in 1967 and went to live on

the side of the town where Audrey was already living, I never saw him again.

GORDON REMEMBERS...

GORDON JACKSON (55-62) also recalls the correct spelling of Felton:

'KOSA NEWS is always great fun to read. However, as the years roll by, memories can get a little hazy and I believe this has happened to GEOFF COLE (55-60). The form teacher was not Mr Feltham, but MR FELTON. He was nicknamed Felix after a now-forgotten actor named Felix Felton. He taught Maths when I was in the first form, and referred to my efforts in Geometry as 'the Jackson mud-tracks'!

'I also remember ROLAND FUDGE (58-65) (how can we get hold of his compositions?) I see that he played violin at the 80th birthday concert of Elisabeth Lutyens. (She spelled Elisabeth with an S, not a Z). Since she composed in an abstruse, serial 'modern' style, I wonder what KGS Head of Music ERIC HILTON thought? (Incidentally her father, the architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, designed the palace complex at New Delhi).

'Roland Fudge was a colleague and contemporary of JEFF PLENTY, another violinist. The last I heard of Jeff was that he was playing in the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra).

'Regarding the school timetable of the 50s. I remember the timetable described in 'A KGS DAY'. The School got too big to fit everyone into the Hall for Assembly, so the juniors – presumably the first forms – had their assembly elsewhere. There were also Class Prayers once a week and House Prayers once a week.

'On Wednesdays before lunch, there were five lessons of 35 minutes each

(175 minutes) instead of four lessons of 45 minutes each (180 minutes), but I don't know how the discrepancy of 5 minutes was accounted for. Unfortunately, Wednesday was also the day for House Prayers, and what with House notices and the presentation of House Colours, the service tended to overrun. At worst, the pupils came into the first lesson just 10 minutes before the end! As a result, House Prayers were moved to Thursdays.

'There were originally three Houses – Davies, Haskins and Fussell. Later a new house – Eaton – was established. There were four venues for House Prayers, used in rotation, They used the Hall (which had a good piano), the Music Room (which also had a good piano), the Canteen (which had an old superannuated piano, never tuned) and the Library (which had no piano at all).

'The milk break took place after the second lesson (except on Wednesdays, when it was after the third lesson). Presumably the Government set this up in the 1940s when food was scarce, but by the 1950s it was unnecessary for well-fed secondary school pupils to be swigging their 1/3rd pint bottle of milk. However, it was politically dangerous for any Minister of Education to abolish school milk in secondary schools, as Margaret Thatcher found out when she did it in the 1970s.'

KGS TYPICAL DAY...

PETER MALPASS (48-55) was reminded of the class programme at School in the 50s:

'Regarding the article in the "Golden Edition" entitled *A Typical KGS Day* and the additional lesson on Wednesday mornings.

'The latter was obtained, if my memory,

as the Senior Pupil (!) responsible for ringing the bell in 55-56, serves me correctly, by reducing the morning periods by 5 minutes and extending the session until 12:30pm. I recall on one Wednesday causing confusion when, no doubt being confused myself as to the day, when I rang the bell early for the lunch break. I apologised to Headmaster RIDLEY whose response was that he was sure most of the pupils appreciated my action and no doubt some of the staff as well.

'A tenuous link to first Headmaster MAJOR EATON: Recently at a meeting of the Shrewsbury Probus Club I discovered that a fellow member had been the proprietor of the Clock Tower Fish Shop in Kingswood during the 80s and 90s. On learning that I had attended KGS, he informed me that at that time he had lived in Wick in the property originally built for Major Eaton. I entered KGS in 1948 in Major Eaton's last year as head.

'I thoroughly enjoy reading *KOSA NEWS*, although it is sad to learn of the passing of contemporaries. I sincerely hope that you can find a deputy to eventually take over from you. An octogenarian living in Shropshire would, I fear, be of no use to you. It would be a great shame for *KOSA* to fold as has happened to my Students' Association.'

RE-ELECTED...

DAVID DREW (63-70) has been re-elected as Labour MP for Stroud in the election which took place on 8th June 2017 after a period spent in the political wilderness. David is reported to have said that he would never run for Parliament again after he lost last time. What is said about 'never say never'.

Congratulations, David.

BUNNY'S COUGH...

LIONEL HARRIS (52-57) remembers the occasion when, in a Physics lesson in the lab with Physics Master BUNNY AUSTEN, sitting on a lab stool, he was talking to TED YOUNG. Suddenly, Bunny hit Lionel so hard across the head that he ended up on the floor.

The rest of the day he felt groggy and developed a ringing in the ear which persisted. Eventually, his mother took him to the doctor's who diagnosed that a cupped hand had compressed air into the ear which had burst his eardrum. It eventually healed, but imagine the damages which could have been obtained had it taken place nowadays.

Usually a cough preceded Bunny's assaults. 'I just didn't hear the cough!' quipped Lionel.

1976 RUGBY...

JOHN BISHOP (52-57) has provided us with a programme of a Rugby match between the School and an Old Boys XV: 'Following a major fire disaster at the School in 1976, it was decided to try to raise some funds for the purchase of new library books. The idea was to play a rugby match - a School XV v Old Boy XV. The game took place on Sunday, 14 November 1976 at the School playing field. Programmes were sold for 10p and a collection was made on the day.

'It was the only time anybody ever paid to watch me play!

'I cannot recollect the score but it was a fiercely contested game. The fitness and no little finesse of the School against the considerable bulk and astute gamesmanship of the Old Boys.

'The post match tea and biscuits found

me talking man to man with HEADMASTER RIDLEY who, I recall, seemed to have mellowed over the years, reflecting sadly upon the virtual destruction of the main school buildings.

'We raised about £150-£175 which may not seem much nowadays but was, I think, well worth the effort. Extracts from the match programme are printed below. Some of you may recognise yourselves!

TIM BUSH (74-76), who played in the match and is now a teacher of Physics at King's Oak Academy, has confirmed that engagement, and others:

'You're correct, the match was in 1976 between the 6th form and Old Boys, I'm trying to locate the team photo. I've a bundle from the following year.

'Sadly after that match the games ended up as a Kingswood RFC President's XV against Old Boys/Teachers of the school, the last game being played in 1988. I have a team photo from the 1983 game as well.'

EXTRACT FROM THE PROGRAMME OLD BOYS XV:

ROGER CARROLL - 37 years - accountant – hopes his boots will fit now only a charity player

TED YOUNG - 35 years - school teacher - has a passion for music. Could compose something explosive today

MIKE REDGERS- 37 years - aero engineer - ex Bristol player. Will probably show Concorde speed on the break

DAVE PAGET- 37 years - rep – KRFC longest serving player and fixtures secretary. Ambition to score a try before he retires

GEOFF ANN- 39 years - education examiner - ex Chairman KRFC still active on Committee but not the field

JOHN BISHOP - 35 years - insurance inspector - Chairman KRFC and maestro

of the 4th team

VIC YEOMAN- 33 years - rep - still playing for KRFC, a difficult man to spot if the grass is long

TED HARRAWAY - 38 years - estate agent - ex Chairman KRFC still active on Committee believes his best position is wing three-quarter

DENNIS MORGAN - 37 years - design engineer – long career with KRFC now plays squash and is a menace on the court

DAVE PINE- 37 yrs - insurance manager - ex-secretary KRFC and long-serving player – a legend in his lifetime

RICHARD DAVIES - 39 yrs - sales rep - long time retired but hopes he can remember the laws

JOHN SALTER - 39 yrs - manager - has threatened comeback on several occasions but could not avoid this one.

DAVE WALL - 34 years – accountant – still plays for KRFC, has been known to play in every position

BOB EALES - 37 years - GPO engineer – retired in 1970 after a long career with KRFC, may want a half-time fag to revive him

ROGER WINDSOR - 33 years - engineer-ex-captain amateur psychologist, tends to practise his hobby on the opposition

REFEREE

KEITH BABER - 37 years - local government officer, 1st class referee (County panel). Practises at home by playing Bach recitals on his whistle

KINGSFIELD SCHOOL 1ST XV

CHRIS WILLIAMS – 18 years – English, History – Ambition to be Queen of England

JOHN HAYES – 17 years – Economics, Geography – Ambition to make people happy

STEPHEN MONKS – 16 years – Biology,

English – ambition to retire as soon as possible

NIGEL WILLIAMS – 17 years – Maths, Economics - ambition to be an accountant

PHILLIP HOWELLS – 16 years – Physics, Economics – ambition to be a TV engineer

NIGEL DAVIS – 17 years – A-level course – ambition to be a lawyer

MARK STEVENSON – 15 years – Maths, Chemistry – dreams of playing Rugby against Margaret Thatcher's XV (not a chance)

ROBERT LOVELOCK – 16 years A-level course - wants to play a mini, micro, poly mooes (must be some kind of nut)

JOHN GATEHOUSE - 16 years - Maths, Economics - ambition to be UK's first communist PM

CHRIS BAGGOTT – 17 years – Maths, Art – numerous ambitions, all of them impossible

STEPHEN CURTIS – 17 years – Maths, Economics – ambition to become a business manager before Paul Gazzard

ANDREW BISHOP - 16 years - Maths, Physics - ambition to become world champion yard of ale drinker

TIM GINGELL - 17 years - English, Geography - ambition is to avoid getting married in outer space whilst writing a novel

TIM THOMAS - 17 years - Biology, Geology - ambition to become exhausted (should be realised this afternoon)

SIMON MASSEY -17 years – A-level course – ambition to beat the Queen at croquet

PAUL GAZZARD – 17 years – English, Maths – ambition to become a business manager before Steve Curtis

MARTIN GRIVELL - 17 years - Maths, Physics – ambition to become an engineer

DEREK ALSOP - 16 years - English, History - ambition to get to university

TIM BUSH - 16 years - Maths, Physics –

ambition to play for a winning national rugby team (try being a Welshman!)

DERRICK WILLIAMS - 17 years – English, RK - has still to become ambitious

It seems unfair - the School has 20 to the Old Boys' 15. But maybe the referee was on the Old Boys' side...- Ed

50 YEARS ON...

CHRISTOPHER GREENFIELD (60-67) has organised a very successful reunion for his cohort:

'Almost 50 years to the day, the final KGS cohort reassembled in the old Canteen Building! Those who 'graduated' in 1967, were the last to leave before the school name was changed to 'Kingsfield'. They were welcomed back to the school by their former Classics Master, Mr STUART SYKES (60-74), who later became Headmaster of the Grange School at Warmley, and Mrs Sykes.

'About 22 members of the year group toured King's Oak Academy, led by current KOA teacher TIM BUSH (74-76). We were later joined by others, and partners, for a celebratory meal at a Bristol restaurant. The organisers were a group of three old students who had kept in close touch since 1967, who call themselves the Rat Pack. The three (CHRIS GREENFIELD, DAVID PANTON AND ROBERT LARKHAM) have recently been joined by an IT ace, NEIL MATTHEWS, who had left KGS during his O-levels when his parents moved to Cheltenham. Neil's IT input was central to the success of this 50th year reunion.

"It is amazing that we managed to track down so many of our year," said Chris Greenfield. "We had apologies from about 15, and we now have an up to date data base of more than 40 from our year. We may try to plan something in the next

year or two, to try to get even more of us together."

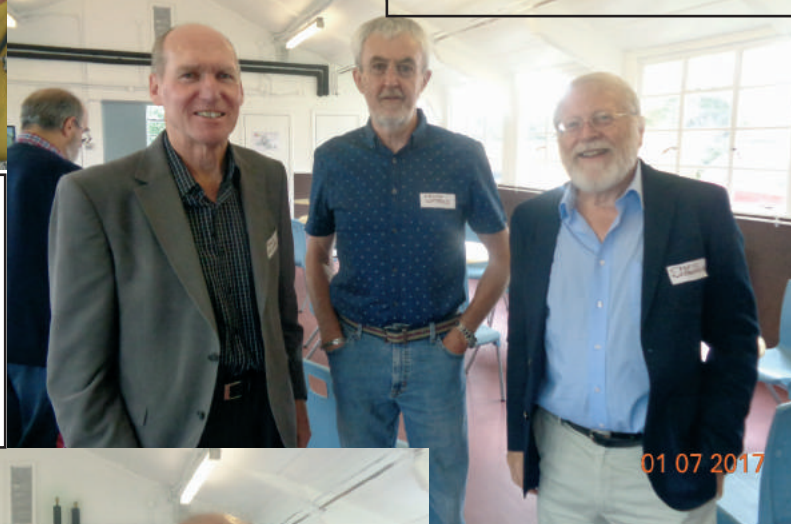
'During the meal glasses were raised to the six members of the year who have sadly died, but who live on in the respect and affection of those who survive them.'

On these two pages are pictures of some of those who attended.



Above:
Kevin Pinder chats to Jenny Nash

Above:
Chris Greenfield, Liz Kendall and Neil Matthews



Above:
Tony Hinder, Geoff Walters and Chris Greenfield

Left:
Dave Panton and Neil Matthews



Left:
Jennifer Hall, Sue Bush
and Chris Lovell

Below:
Robert Larkham and
John Guthrie



Below:
Sue Bush and Patrick Moules



Right:
Teresa Larkham,
Claire Smith and
Frances Rendle



AN AMERICAN VISITOR...

For some time now GEOFF COLE (1955-60) has been arranging regular get-togethers of his cohort for a lunch at Bitton Railway Station where Avon Valley Railway produces a good meal at a reasonable price. Reporting on the last reunion and extending an invitation, Geoff writes:

'It was a delight to welcome MARIAN TROTMAN (now Moody) to our latest lunch-time get together at Bitton Station. Marian and her husband Bill were in the UK for a month, spending some of that time in Wick and their stay there coincided with our lunch (by arrangement). As a result, her long-time-friend JANE HODDER (now Shewring) made the (somewhat shorter!) journey from Frome to meet up for the first time in many years. It's now Jane's intention to visit Marian and Bill in California next year.

'We also welcomed JUDITH HAYDEN (now McKeating) for the first time thus increasing the ladies in the group as MARILYN GREGORY (now Casford) had been our only previous one. It is hoped one or two more ladies will make it to the next lunch.

'In addition to the above, there were also eight 'old boys' present – BOB BANE, TONY COCKRAM, BOB DAVEY, TONY DOWN, ROB FIDKIN, BRIAN PLUMMER, ROGER WINDSOR and, of course, myself.

'Since my last message in *KOSA NEWS*, I have been contacted by DAVID ANN from Chard who intends coming along to the next lunch for the first time. I'm also hoping MARGARET REECE (now WILLS) will also be able to make it.

'So, if there are any others from the 1955 intake reading this, you are more than

welcome to join us. It's great fun and we're a friendly bunch so just drop me an email at geoffcole44@btinternet.com

THAT AUSTRIAN TRIP...

In the last edition we published a postcard of a list of attendees of the trip to Oetztal in Austria in August 1961.

Since then we have received a letter from ROBIN WELCH (56-64) and also received some photos from ROSEMARY LOVELL (56-61) (now Cross). The photos are on page 17.

Robin writes:

'Good to see that you are still going strong. Down here in Southern France just received above *KOSA NEWS* 50. A few bits of news. Sad to read that EDDIE WHITE (55-61) had passed away. Met him and his wife outside the East India Club in London towards the end of 2015. I recognised him and he was keen to meet up for lunch. Unfortunately we never managed it. But we had a quick chat on the pavement outside the club where we were both members. In fact Eddie had been on the board of the club for many years. He still had fond memories of KGS. Think he was friendly with DAN HARTFORD, from the eponymous garage in Kingswood. What has happened to him.?

'Looking at the postcard of the trip to Austria in August 1961, I can see my signature. Think I was one of those who stole the train tickets for the group from MR HUMPHREYS and hid them under a mattress. Much consternation. Still close friends with JIM KNIGHT who lives in West Wales these days. Similarly PC PHRED WILLIS, who lives near the Griffin Inn, Warmley, ROGER BYE who lives in Pennsylvania, USA, and LIZ PAIN, now living in Midsomer Norton.

'I Would love to get in contact with NIGEL CAREY , former Head Boy and SANDRA LUCAS with whom I used to go swimming at Speedwell Baths. Any details?

'French teacher , MISS ELEANOR SPILL (55-82), would be proud of me now as I currently live in Southern France and so *Je parle francais!* Also spend some of my year in South Africa as am still involved in my company providing programmes for sports television. Yes I have done deals for UK Premier League and have met RICHARD SCUDAMORE (70-77), big boss of UK Premier League. We talked about our days at KGS.

'Still going strong at 71 travelling between Europe, South Africa and USA. Unfortunately the April and October lunches still coincide with major TV markets so cannot come. Although have managed to do so



in the past.'

The photo (above) of the girls shows, from left to right, ELAINE ROGERS, LINDA PRESSEY, RITA HODGES, SANDRA LUCAS and PEGGY MURPHY and the photo top right (above) is of the Hotel Oetzal where the party stayed.

EARLIER TRIP...

Whilst we're on the subject of holidays the photograph below that of Rosemary's was sent in by MARY GIBBONS (52-58) (now Bishop). It was taken on a trip to



Schwyz in Switzerland in 1959 organised by Kingswood YMCA on which went many ex-KGS people.

The chap in the centre is Mary's now spouse, JOHN BISHOP (52-57). On the far left of the group is CAROLINE WHITE-SIDE (53-60) and on the far right is LINDA YEOMAN (53-59). The other girls are (left) Sandra Bond, who was married to the late GERRY BOND (46-51) and Jenny Hunt.

THE DUKE'S GIRLS...

IRENE LUFFMAN (52-58) (now Fewes) was instrumental in organising a D of E Girls' get together. Irene wrote:

'In 1959 a group of ten teenage girls came together at Kingswood YMCA, then run



by Secretary Frank Dyer, to become the first females to enter the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in the Bristol area. Someone had to be responsible for coordinating all the lectures, demonstrations, visits and activities involved with the Awards. That person who took on this task was the late PAM WEEKS (49-55) (later Morgan).

'On the 22nd April 2017 eight of us attended the KOSA lunch, the first time we had all gathered together since receiving our Intermediate Awards on 6th December 1960 (see photo above). We met at Lincombe Barn to remember Pam and her considerable assistance in helping us to achieve our Awards, four going on to receive Gold Awards from Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace.

'At the time we were disappointed that more of us were not able to complete all the elements before our 20th birthdays. Unfortunately two of the group were unable to be contacted but it would be wonderful if they happen to see this and contacted the editor.

'Many thanks Pam, we owe you. Linda Yeoman, Jill Brooks, Mary Gibbons,

Pam Lewis, Sandra Watts, Jenny Hunt, Pam Jones, Irene Luffman, Marilyn Simmons and Caroline Whiteside. All KGS, except for Sandra, Jenny and Marilyn.'

The original photo (above) shows the proud girls after receiving their awards at Kingswood YMCA in 1960. The photograph on page 19 is of the reunion at the KOSA lunch at Lincombe Barn in April 2017, in the same order. Unfortunately, Marilyn Simmons and Caroline Whiteside were unable to attend the reunion in April.

Later, four of the girls and PAM WEEKS herself went on to receive the Gold Award from the Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace. The other photo on page 19 shows LINDA YEOMAN, SANDRA WATTS, PAM WEEKS, JENNY HUNT and JILL BROOKS on the occasion, all dressed up to meet Prince Philip.

They look very smart, indeed!

PRESENTATION...

Also at the last KOSA lunch in April your Committee had decided to mark the fact that DEREK BAILEY (49-53) had been exemplary in supporting KOSA over the



years by attending regularly the reunion lunches which we have twice a year.

Not particularly special you may think, but when you consider that Derek's home is in Denver, Colorado it takes a special dedication to KOSA to fly the Atlantic twice a year to attend our gatherings. This he has done for many years.

When Derek was at KGS he resided in the home of Headmaster RIDLEY before emigrating to Canada in 1957 by ship - first class! He eventually settled in Denver and has since taken out US citizenship. The presentation (right) was made by KOSA Committee Secretary CILLA POWELL (46-51) (now Maguire).

We also have to thank Derek for many photos supplied to KOSA over the years.



POSTSCRIPT...

After the Spring lunch in April KOSA Chairman STAN BURRAGE (51-56) gave Secretary CILLA POWELL (46-51) (now Maguire) a lift to Stroud Station to catch her train back to her home in Oxfordshire.

Ever the gentleman, Stan helped Cilla onto the train with her case only to be trapped as the doors closed and it set off! Stan got off at Kemble, the next station, and had to wait an hour for a return train to Stroud where his car was parked.

Because Stan's wife RITA RAYNER (53-59) was in hospital, he decided to get a fish and chip supper. Before he could eat the meal he fell asleep on the sofa, only to be confronted with cold fish and chips when he awoke.

The end of a perfect day!

THOSE CARS...

In the last edition we featured Headmaster RIDLEY'S Jowett Javelin. In the 1950s the staff were beginning to buy cars but it was still a rarity for them to arrive at School in their own transport. This prompted a response from TONY VENN (48-54) who considered other staff cars of that era:

'I remember the Jowett Javelin. Mr RIDLEY had two in succession. The first was black and had my initials AJV897. The second car was light brown and the number plate almost bore the initials of my friend Jeff Ford, being JFU648. The Javelin's sweeping lines were very appealing and similar to those of the Bristol 403. The end came when Briggs Motors could no longer supply the bodies having been taken over by Ford.

'There was another impressive car which

belonged to 'SCRUFFY' MORRIS who taught Geography. This was, appropriately, a delicious little Morris 8 reputedly 'better than new' DKB425. It later became the property of Art Master HAROLD WATTS. By chance I encountered Mr Watts in Southampton, where I also was teaching, and he spoke glowingly about the little Morris.

'Then there was the Lanchester of 'CHUCKLES' HOWARD (Maths), the new Hillman Minx of MISS WATTERS, the new Vauxhall with which JIMMY WILDE (Sports) towed his Fairholme Golden Dawn and the new and regularly-dented Austin A40 of the Music Master MR HILTON.

All British cars - never an interloper.'

REMEMBERING WILSON...

DR JIM WITHEY (45-53) writes from Ontario, Canada:

'I was sorry to read, in a recent KOSA NEWS, of the passing of WILSON BARRETT (48-55) He and I lived closely together, he in Cock Road (named as a centre for cock fighting in the 17-18th century), and myself in Mount Hill Road. The former being an extension of the latter.

'Of course he lived in a much bigger house than our little cottage. His mother was very beautiful and his elder brother Bob was a big feller as well. We both attended Cock Road Sunday School, which was Methodist, and we both ended up doing that until we attended university.

'My sympathy goes to his wife and may God Rest his Soul.'

IN THE GYM...



In the last edition we published this photo of some girls in the gym and appealed for details. It was MAUREEN CLENCH (45-52) (now O'Neill) who phoned to tell us that it was her camera which was used for the shot. HAZEL KEMBREY (45-52) (now Woodman) is on the left.

Maureen tells the story of Headmaster RIDLEY driving her mother to Shire Hall in Gloucester in order to obtain a grant for Maureen to go to teacher training college. Without his act of kindness Maureen probably would not have been able to pursue a teaching career.

MORE THANKS...

JACK SANDOVER (45-53) was prompted by the photo of BUNNY AUSTEN (Physics) in the last edition:

'I don't know when the photo was taken but he looks much as I remember him. I owe a lot to him and the various Maths teachers of KGS for getting me on an engineering career. As I am sure is common, I went off to university and left the area without making a chance to thank them personally.

'The colour photos in No 50 brought back lots of memories. Strangely enough, the photo of the corridor and steps the most!! could almost walk into the boys' cloak-

room and find my peg!'

KOSA PHOTOS...

Some information and a request from TERRY CARTER (52-57):

'Just received and read the latest *KOSA NEWS*, lots of interest.

'I think that the 'British Schoolroom' you are asking about was George Whitfield's Tabernacle in Park Road, Kingswood. Unfortunately it is presently in a very derelict state. Not so long ago there was an appeal for funds to bring this important building back into use, but to no avail!

'Secondly may I enquire whether, amongst the archive of photos from the 50s, there may be 53-1c and 56-4c and, although I'm not too sure, 5c from 1957? If so, I would appreciate copies, with some sort of remuneration to follow.'

Your Ed. was able to provide some of the requested photos to Terry. As *KOSA* has a big collection of photos we may be able to search our database and supply by email any copies of photos you may have missed. When quoting a year, please bear in mind that form photos were normally taken in the summer, so 56-4c would be our reference for form 4c of 1955-56. A donation to *KOSA* would be appreciated.

We are planning in future to supply Kingswood Heritage Museum with copies of our photo collection so that our archive is freely available to the community on computer for research. An announcement will be made in *KOSA NEWS* when this arrangement is complete.

If you have supplied us with any photos in the past which you would not wish us to make available to the database, please let us know.

BETTY'S MEMORIES...

BETTY OWEN (52-55) (now Penfold) responds to the last edition:

'The story of the needle-work room reminds me of my time with a teacher, her name escapes me, who had a strong northern accent.(MRS WATSON?) I managed to misunderstand almost everything she said, producing for my first piece of work a blouse I had mis-cut so badly that one shoulder was higher than the other and one sleeve was so skinny it could not accommodate an arm.

'There was no trouble in understanding what she said to this as she was virtually speechless! In an effort to redeem myself, and because I was keen on tennis, the next piece chosen was a very simple tennis dress. This long suffering lady, talked the whole pattern through with me before starting and decided that something was missing from the listed requirements. She suggested buying an additional 9 inch length of book rum.

'The search exhausted the patience of Mrs Kirkwood(?) the drapers in Downend and the little wool shops in Staple Hill and Kingswood. Nobody knew what book rum could be, until finally, trying Brights in Queens Road, an assistant suggested buckram, for stiffening the belt! In the end, I failed needlework .

Does anyone else remember DAVID BRITTEN, sometimes called Tubby? He was, I believe, a keen member of the ATC. He was offered a flight by the RAF and his reactions were recorded by the BBC and broadcast on, I think, the Home Service.

'My step-father had a Grundig tape recorder, the size of a suitcase, with two open spools on top that looked like scooter wheels. He attempted to record

David's broadcast, but failed to plug the equipment in properly. Nevertheless, it was exciting to hear a classmate broadcasting nationwide.'

Through the joint miracles of the internet and KOSA we have been able to put Betty in touch with WENDY EDWARDS (51-57) (now Cookes) who lives happily in Victoria, Australia. Wendy, who was also a correspondent in the last edition, was a contemporary of your Ed, but such is the effect of time neither of us remembers each other!

WENDY'S LETTER...

WENDY EDWARDS (51-57) (now Cookes) has also written in March:

'Many thanks, Mike and co workers, for yet another interesting edition. Why is it, do you think as you get older you become more interested in your past?.'

We are enjoying a lovely warm sunny Autumn, and thankfully no bush fires this summer.....always a worry.

'I was very interested to see the letter from Betty Owen and remember her very well, she was a person of great speculation to us girls, older, very sophisticated, and coming from the Home Counties!, She obviously remembers me, and I would like to get in contact with her, could you send her my email address? (Done-Ed.

'I still have the scar from putting my arm through the door but had not remembered she was with me. My mother was very impressed. MISS MORRISON drove me home, collected my mother and then took us to Cossham Hospital. I also recall MR RIDLEY waiting until I got back to school and informing the Assembly that a very silly girl had rushed out to play tennis etc..... Always being

rather shy I could have died! Sorry ...never did like him!

You probably know that sculptor MARGARET LOVELL (50-55) has moved to NZ permanently? (see below) Also the intrepid travellers PAT BALL (51-58) and husband GUY FEATHERSTONE (50-58) are back in Australia travelling and camping in the Kimberly. Thank goodness they have chosen the Autumn this time. Their last trip was in summer in Queensland with temperatures of 48C. And they had the nerve to complain about Australian wine! It doesn't travel too well in those temps!

MARGARET IN NZ...

So this is how the KOSA grapevine works! We received the cutting below from DEREK BAILEY (49-53) in Colorado.

It's from the *Te Awamutu Courier* of 7 February 2017 reporting on MARGARET LOVELL'S (50-55) exhibition in Auckland of some of her 69 sculptures which she shipped to New Zealand.

FOUND...

HEATHER JONES (59-66) (now Nadir-Jones) has rejoined KOSA after an appeal we published:

'I was recently shown a *KOSA NEWS* by ANNETTE CLARK (59-66), which asked if 'Heather Jones' was out there somewhere. Well, if indeed the Heather you are looking for is me, I am still alive and enjoying my retirement. I've been helping out with twin grandchildren in Abu Dhabi, teaching ESOL on a voluntary basis for Refugee Women of Bristol and involved in a Multi Faith Support Group at the Family Court in Bristol. I taught at Kingsfield School (now King's Oak Academy) for 17 years, which is where I met EILEEN MATTHEWS (52-59) (now Bendrey), as well as our both of us teaching languages at UWE.

'I slipped under the KOSA net when I moved house to Pucklechurch and my organisation of post redirection was less than thorough. However if I can renew my subscription and come back into the fold, I will be more than happy.'
Welcome back, Heather!

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Te Awamutu Courier 5

Award-winning sculptor exhibits

BY BETHANY TIDDY

Three months ago the award-winning sculptor Margaret Lovell moved from England to Puketotara.

She brought her husband and 69 of her sculptures.

Since then she has attracted attention from a prestigious art gallery in Auckland.

In April the Jonathan Grant Gallery will showcase a range of her sculptures, which are largely in bronze and vary in size from miniature to monumental.

Ms Lovell's works range from lifelike portraits to sculptures that express natural forms and soaring movement.

"My sculptures are inspired by natural forms — undulating planes with polished edges that suggest or define a movement through space."

She has carried out numerous commissions and exhibited across the UK, Europe, the USA, Australia, and now for



the first time, New Zealand.

She also has work in the Queen's Royal Collec-

tion and was recently awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by the University of

Leicester

Throughout recent years Ms Lovell often visited her house south of

100700178102
PUKETOTARA resident Margaret Lovell with her piece Nova Head.

Pirongia for holidays but has now moved here permanently.

She is drawn to New Zealand's beauty, friendliness and peacefulness.

One of her adult sons also lives nearby with his wife and two daughters and Ms Lovell runs weekly art workshops for her eldest granddaughter.

Ms Lovell was a "war baby" brought up in Bristol in the 1940s.

"I was always interested in art but my parents didn't want me to go to college because I was a

girl," she says.

But in her teens she proved her dedication working part-time and then training full-time at the West of England College of Art.

She was soon offered a place Slade School of Fine Art — University College London, without even applying.

She then went on to train at the Academy of Fine Art in Florence and travel in Italy on a scholarship.

She was also awarded a Greek Government scholarship which enabled her to study in Athens for a year.

"I don't do it for the money. I just love making sculpture."

Margaret Lovell — A Sculptural Journey will run from March 31 to April 18.

The opening night is on Thursday, March 30 at 8.30pm at Jonathan Grant Galleries, 280 Parnell Rd, Auckland.

For more information visit www.jgg.co.nz/artists/margaret-lovell/ or www.margaretlovell.co.uk



The above form photo of 4G2 of 1960 (Form Master MR ARMSTRONG) was supplied by ROSEMARY LOVELL (56-61) (now Cross). Rosemary is seated on the left on the front row.

Other names we have are (back row): Hayes, Harris, Chard, Ford. (2nd row boys): Oaten, Eastman, Copp, Smith, Foote, Newman (3rd row girls): Maureen Hobbs, Susan Clark, Jenny Batt, Pat Moores, Marilyn Hillier, Peggy Murphy, (front row): Rosemary Lovell, Rita Mould, Carole Knappe, Bisley, Mr Armstrong, Christine Holloway, Sheila Young, Geraldine Couzens, Anne McInness.

THE BONEY PART...

DAVID ROSEVEAR (45-52) responds to the article about teachers' nicknames in 'NEWS 49:

GORDON JACKSON'S (55-62) suggestion that English Teacher MR BRITTON'S nickname was based on his craggy appearance may not be the whole story. He was fond of quoting from the sea shanty *Boney was a Warrior* and in the 1940s we were understandably xenophobic, as evidenced by FROGGY DAVIES' epithet, from whom we all

learned French with a Welsh lilt!

HELP NEEDED...

MARY MILES (42-49) (now Bentley) has written from Turramurra in New South Wales to request help in her researches: 'Great to have the latest edition – 50th! and in colour too.....Photos of the old school corridor and rooms, together with the daily routine and references to changing spaces between lessons brought back many memories; not all happy ones....eg. the day that one of the boys blew himself up with a 'dud' bomb during a Maths class with 'Little' MR JONES....and being told not to kick the walls while waiting in the queue for lunch.....MRS KEMPSTER'S concentrated orange juice jelly.....and MISS BIGGS' brick dust cleaner.....I had one of those box hats, too.

'But that is not what has made me write again. Recently searching the census records for my father's family and calling on memory, I realise that I could be related to Jessie White (nee Bolwell), ED-DIE WHITE'S (55-61) mother mentioned in his obituary in the last edition. I had been told that my father's (Arthur Henry

Miles) family came from South Wales (Thomas Miles son of William Miles) and that the Bolwells were cousins. Jessie and Jim had a draper's shop in Kingswood near the Odeon cinema, and Morgan Bolwell worked in the boot factory in Broad Street that had been owned by Thomas and came under the management of my father and associates at the time of Thomas' death at the age of 43. Father was then only 14 and still at school in Weston-super-Mare when this happened.

'I remember going to the shop with mother to buy material and patterns for my summer school uniforms, but was aware that the connection was fragile.... I would love to know more, if there is more to know – so could anyone help me make the connection with Jessie ?

'On another track, I tried to make a connection with Feltham regarding the history of Cossham Hospital; again something my father was involved in, but we may have had the wrong address.....Can anyone help, please?

'Your other correspondent, ESME RIDGE (41-47) (now Britton) was in the same class as my brother JOHN 'Oscar' MILES (41-48), whose death was reported in *KOSA NEWS 48*. Esme and I keep in touch, a valued link with the other girls who have remained together over the years.

'KGS has been a great influence for good to those of us who spent our formative years there, and given us the confidence to succeed wherever we might have ended up.'

KOA PRESENTATIONS...

On 23 June 2017, KOSA Chairman STAN BURRAGE (51-56) and your Edi-

tor made the KOSA Awards of a £25 cheque to four of the year 11 students at KOA who had made a significant contribution to the life of the school and the community generally. This year the awards were made to the following:

RYAN WHITTAKER

He is a real ambassador of King's Oak Academy, with his never ending kindness, who always aims to please. He is someone who is completely reliable, with such a positive attitude to his work and school commitments. He is considered a true role model for all King's Oak students, who is dedicated to achieving his best at all times. He has performed in so many assemblies and Christmas Colston Hall concerts, he has done himself proud. We all wish him well.

SHAUNA SMITH

This young lady has been such a resilient character throughout her time here at King's Oak. She has such a bubbly personality, she always lights up the room wherever she goes! She has represented the academy in many dances, music and sporting performances, she is a real credit to herself! We all wish her the very best for her exam results in August and future plans.

CALLUM LOVELL

This young man is one of the politest students in the academy; he is well mannered, calm and is always so positive in every challenge he sets himself. He has won many awards for both his sporting and academic achievements throughout his time here, and continues to strive for his best. We all wish him the very best for his exam results in August and future plans.

DIANA MOZIEKA

This young lady joined us at the start of

Yr 7, and settled in straight away. The importance of education has always been the heart of this student. She always sees the best in everyone, she always has a smile and can be relied on to be calm when things get tough! She has performed in many events over the years. She always strives to do her best whether it's in Music, English or Maths. We all wish her the very best for her exam results in August and future plans.

KOSA extends its congratulations to all those students who received our award this year.

GEORGE'S VIEWS...

We are always pleased to hear from ex-English Master GEORGE BUTCHER (52-58) with whom some of us are still in contact. George is now in his 90s, but as bright as ever. Here are some extracts from his letter:

'I must make a reference to *KOSA NEWS No 50* — but must first congratulate you once again on what is one of the best magazines of its kind in the country.

'It happens that I've had an interesting comparison recently. There has been an attempt to rejuvenate the Old Boys' Association of my own school, and I've been sent copies of its new magazine.

'They aren't helped by being typed in a variety of formats on A4 sheets of paper. And there are over-long obituaries. But two things struck me as particularly interesting. The first was how much is irretrievably lost by not being co-educational.

'The second was a calculation that was very revealing. In twenty pages of different large type and not very well-produced photographs the reader met a few old boys and two or three members of

staff. In *KOSA NEWS* I found the capital letters of 80 old boys and girls and staff before coming across all the names on p23.

We have special feelings for Bristol. We had just got married and our first home was in Downend, and Paul and Peter. were born there. I also have a special attachment to KGS that hasn't been equalled. There was a feeling of family about it that I haven't met since. And VMS of 55-56 has never been forgotten.

WORK OF ART...

DEREK BAILEY (49-53) writes from Colorado:

'I thought I would share a piece of unique art work for consideration by the Editor and members.

'Back in June, 2002 I received a letter from MAUREEN CLENCH (45-51) (now O'Neill). She had then kindly sent me a memoir written by her brother about his early days. I should explain that Maureen, her brother and myself all attended Warmley Church of England Primary School, hence the interest to me.

'Included was a copy of a pen and ink drawing from her autograph book by HAROLD WATTS, our art teacher, which he made in 1949. In doing some New Year file cleanup I came across her letter. I decided I would share the artwork with you - see opposite on page 27.'

Derek has proposed that if anyone who enjoyed Harold's classes and would like a copy of his work, he is willing to prepare good copies on art paper and send them from the US with all the proceeds going to KOSA funds. He suggests a contribution of 10 quid. Orders to the Ed who will forward them to Derek.



WELCOME...

To those joining KOSA since the last edition of *KOSA NEWS*, maiden names where appropriate:

Mary Bateman (49-54), Sandra Davey (63-70), Heather Jones (59-66) (rejoining), Sandra Bond (Widow of Gerry Bond 46-51), Tim Bush (74-76), Linda Stowe (?), Judith Hayden (55-60), Brian Dodd (62-69), Ruth Acton (80-82), Neil Matthews (60-64), Tony Hinder (60-67), David Lunn (60-67), Ken Gibbons (60-67)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW..?

Every time we mail an edition some are returned where our member has moved and not given us a forwarding address. We don't want to lose you, so don't forget to let us know when you move. We also have requests to find past friends:

Does anyone know the whereabouts of Mike Brain (63-70) of USA, Keith G Parry (56-63) ex-Marine, John Burcombe (49-

56) of Canada, Sandra Davey (63-70) (now Crew) and Mary Huckle (48-54) (now Thorn) of Australia, Jacqueline Burchill (57-63) (now Patchitt) and Nigel Carey. If you do, please let us know.

CONSTITUTION CHANGE...

A small change passed at the last AGM. An AGM must now be held within the year following the 31st December rather than within six months of the year end. This is to make us constitutional should we not be able to hold the AGM in Spring as is usual.

BACK PAGE...

The photo on the back page was taken in the old canteen at the 60-67 reunion on 1st July. Senior Master STUART SYKES (60-74) is in the centre. According to *Kingswood Chronicles*, the canteen was built in 1949, although it has been tastefully re-decorated since! The partition which once divided the canteen into two sections has now been removed.

