



KOSA NEWS



NUMBER 55 - AUTUMN 2019

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

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<http://kingsoakacademy.org.uk/our-academy/kingswood-old-scholars-association/>



The above photo was taken by DEREK BAILEY (49-53) on a visit from his home in Colorado, USA in June 1973. This was three years before its destruction.

DIARY DATES:

AUTUMN LUNCH:

Please book **SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER 2019** at Lincombe Barn, Downend BS16 2RW. We meet at 12.00 to 12.30pm for a chat and a drink from the bar, and sit down for lunch at about 1.00pm. Please complete the enclosed form and send it to our **Secretary, Margaret Wills, 28 Cleeve Wood Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 2SS.** Please note the change of booking address.

SPRING LUNCH & AGM:

Will be booked in April at Lincombe Barn, Downend. Details in the next edition.

63-70 REUNION:

As it will be 50 years since many left KGS, ELAINE SKIDMORE (Packer) has suggested that 2020 will be a good year for another reunion on **7th NOVEMBER 2020** at Tracy Park. If you're interested, please phone STEVE GARNON on 07821 553909 or TONY PATTEMORE on 07720 599223.

OBITUARIES...

The death of ANN MORRIS (46-53) (later Soutter) was reported in *The Times* in an article on Saturday, 16th February 2019. The headline was 'Cat-loving teacher who was a world authority on George Borrow.'

Ann had quite an academic career at KGS: She was awarded form prizes for 2A in 1948, 3A in 1949 and 4A in 1950. In 1951 she was awarded the O-level prize for Latin, and with an obvious leaning to languages obtained A-levels in French, Spanish and Latin. She was awarded a State Scholarship in Modern Languages and the Senior Prize for French in 1953 at the age of 17 and she went up to St Hugh's College Oxford a year later after working in a bookshop. Her scholarship could only be taken up at 18. She obtained her BA in 1957.

Ann became a world authority on George Borrow, the writer, who in 1843 published *The Bible in Spain*, an account of his five years there as a Protestant missionary who translated the *Gospel of St Luke* into the gypsy language. Later she and two others founded the Lavengro Press to publish Borrow's work further.

Ann co-authored the *St Hugh's College Register*, a record of every student to attend the college between 1886 and 1959. In 1959 she married Will Ridler, also a novelist, who encouraged her to write the novel *The Teacher*, based on Ann's experiences teaching in grammar schools in Cornwall and Berkshire. Later, whilst chief inspector for the British Council for Independent Further and Higher Education she completed her PhD on George Borrow. Her second marriage was to John Soutter in 1999, after her first husband had died.

Ann was a Quaker who played the spinet and who took up sculpting in bronze in her 70s. She also ran an antiquarian book business from her home. A full life indeed.

We have been informed of the passing of VAL FOX (51-58) (later Pretlove) by her husband, Tony. Val died in September 2018 and a memorial service was held at All Saints' Church, Reading on 10th November 2018 when many gave their memories of Val over the years in celebration of her life.



Val was born in Aylesbury in 1940 and the family moved to Bristol in time for her primary educa-

tion, which meant that she went to KGS after passing her 11 plus. She loved her time at KGS and became a prefect at the same time as EILEEN MATTHEWS (52-59) (later Bendrey) who remembers her as bringing much laughter to the Prefects' room where she was always known affectionately as 'Foxie'.

On leaving KGS Val was determined to enter a nursing career and she applied to St Thomas' Hospital on a four-and-a-half-year joint course with the University of Southampton. Whilst there, she and friends cycled everywhere, including the New Forest and Milford-on-Sea and it was at Southampton that she met husband Tony on a sailing course. They married in 1964 and had three boys, John, Stephen and James.



In a memory of Val by Minister Jo Williams she recalled that Val regularly supported Tony at church and did much community work. Val 'came clean' when she confessed to Jo that she was really an agnostic.

Many tributes by sons, work colleagues and friends all mentioned Val's pleasant and friendly personality and zest for life. A work colleague said 'Val was a great nurse whose smile endeared her to patients and nurses alike', and the humour surfaced by Val having a 'whacky side'. With Val, 'What you saw is what you got'. Later Val qualified as a City of London Guide and in 2002 she was appointed a Freeman of the City of London, an appointment of which she was very proud.

In the photo above of the combined VI2 and VI3, Valerie is in the second row from the front, the third girl from the right.

His daughter has informed us of the death of DAVID GIFFORD (53-60) in January 2019. David was obviously a

pillar of society in Kings Lynn, where he lived. David was born in Bristol in 1942 and grew up and lived there until 18.

He had just celebrated his 53rd wedding anniversary to Jo Gifford from Derby, having met in Birmingham when he was at university there, and Jo was doing her nursing training. Their children being Kath and John.

David was a Food Technologist and moved to Kings Lynn to work for Campbells then moved to Dornay Foods, part of the Mars Group. He eventually had his own consultancy company, and also volunteered in Romania.

David has been President of Kings Lynn Lions and Probus clubs and worked on *Kings Lynn Talking Newspaper* in many roles, and has been a Trustee for ALTA (Addenbrookes Liver Transplant Association). David received a liver transplant himself in 2007.

He was very active in London Road Methodist Church and Chairman of 21st King's Lynn Scouts for which he received the Scout Association Award of Merit. He was also awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in 2015 for his work with the Talking Newspaper. David loved travel and steam trains, and especially the two combined.

If you wish to read more of David, go to: <https://www.lynnnews.co.uk/news/tribute-to-kings-lynn-community-man-who-had-huge-will-to-help-9060744/>

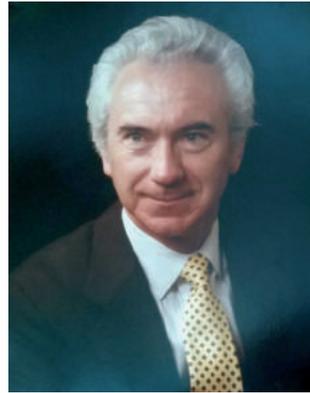


The obituary is on the following URL: <https://www.tfs.co.uk/obituary/2019/01/27/david-roy-gifford/>

The photo (above) shows David, the Mayor of Kings Lynn and the Lord Lieutenant of the county on receipt of his BEM.

From the US, DEREK BAILEY (49-53) has informed us of the death of COLIN PENNY (42-47). Colin was born in 1931 in Bristol, the son of Olive Agnes Penny and Samuel William Graham Charles Penny;

After KGS, Colin began in the paint industry in 1947, working as a laboratory assistant in Willis' Paint Ltd in Bristol while also attending college. He graduated from college with a Bachelor's De-



gree in Chemistry then did his national service where he specialised as a munitions expert. During his time in the army he married his wife June on December 24, 1956.

Colin and his wife moved to Canada for two years and then to the US, initially to Rhode Island, then to Maryland and then to Newport News, Virginia in 1973. He became a Coatings Consultant for Hampton Paint Manufacturing Co. Ltd. in Hampton, Virginia; and after only a few months he and the Sales Manager purchased the business. Within a year he owned the complete business. He excelled at this business and in 1984 invented *Siding In A Can*. This was an exterior coating and the predecessor to many of the high quality paint products for which he received both US and Canadian patents.

In the 1970s, Colin and his wife became Resident Volunteers in the Kings Mill Community Services Association – Public Works Committee for several years. Colin served as the Project Officer for the programme and installed LED streetlights throughout the community, a major achievement for both Colin and the Kings Mill community. Colin also volunteered as a consultant to advise on the coatings products that were used on the wooden town homes.

He won numerous awards over the years, but he was most proud when he was awarded the U.S. Small Business Administration – Administrator's Award for Excellence in May 8, 1984. This

award also provided him with the opportunity to meet President Ronald Reagan in August 1984. This award was in recognition of outstanding contribution and service to the nation by small business in satisfying the needs of the Federal procurement system.

In late 1990s, Colin closed Hampton Paint Manufacturing and opened Coatings Technology Inc. in Williamsburg, Virginia. Colin consulted with many organizations including the US Navy, and The College of William & Mary where he taught not only the students, but other professors. He focussed on problem-solving and also lectured at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

He was the 2001 recipient of the George Baugh Heckel award given by the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology. He served on the Federation's Board of Directors and served in the ranks as Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President until he achieved the Presidency for the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology in 1992 and then served as the Past President.

Colin lectured in other countries to give them insight on the Coatings Industry. He took Spanish classes in his seventies when was the oldest in his class so that he could give lectures in Spanish to his colleagues in Brazil and Mexico. Colin spoke fluent English, French and Spanish.

As his wife's health declined in 2017 he unwillingly retired from his consulting business and he enjoyed his two-man sculling boat, where June played First Mate. They also enjoyed ballroom dancing and foreign travel until his and June's health started to decline.

In the last edition we announced the death of ex-KGS teacher ENID EVANS (63-82). KATHY FRY (63-70) has sent in these memories of Enid:

'Enid Evans passed away in November 2018. It seems fitting that it was only in the Spring 2018 edition of *KOSA NEWS* that Enid had shared her many memories. She never taught me but I can remember her from my school days at Hanham Abbots Junior School, then at KGS, and much later from us both walking our dogs in the Hanham area and involvement with my job at a local pharmacy.

'Her funeral on December 8th was very well attended, with standing room only at Westerleigh, as you would expect. From Enid's love of music we heard a recording from the Morriston Orpheus choir and we exited to *Finlandia*. A piece was also sung by the Yate Choral Society, of which Enid was a member. *The Lord is my Shepherd* was also spoken in Welsh. As Enid was vice-President of the Llangollen Eisteddfod, a tribute was also read from Terry Waite, the President.

'Afterwards, I was able to speak to MISS GILL EVANS, an ex-teacher at KGS. I shall miss Enid, yet have fond memories of this remarkable lady. As I said to her son, I was hoping to have sent her a 100th birthday card, but it was not to be.'

ANN OSBORNE (46-51) (now Parchot) has sent a short obituary of her sister JOYCE OSBORNE (later Clare) (48-53), who passed away in July 2018 aged 81. After school she trained as a teacher at St Matthias in Fishponds, then she entered Accountancy. She began her own business some 30 years ago, mostly for the television and media where Joyce made firm friends amongst her clients.

She farmed in Hereford during the 1980s.

'At KGS Joyce took part in various musicals, amongst them *The Pirates of Penzance*, as she had a fine soprano voice. Always taking up the cudgels for the underdog, or fighting for her community where Joyce could see injustice or need, she led a life of service. My sister always attributed the firm base of her life to the education received from KGS!'

MALVERN COGGINS (55-60), known as Malve, died on 12th February 2019, and the celebration of his life was held at Westerleigh Crematorium on 19th March.

Malve was born on the 5th of June 1944 in Kingswood, to parents when his father was away in the war. Growing up he



developed an interest in birds eggs, and caterpillars, and collected them. He went on several biking holidays with his mates, travelling quite long distances.

He started courting future wife MARGARET SPARKS (55-60) in 1959, and used to buy her a record every week from his wages.

When he left school, he started work at Robinson's Waxed Paper, in the offices. However, the wages were very low, and when Malve and Margaret decided to get

married, he moved to the Westminster Bank, in Corn Street. Margaret worked nearby, at London Assurance. By the time they were married in 1963, Malve had moved on to the bank's Kingswood branch.

A son, Philip, developed type 1 diabetes at 13 months old, and there followed a tough time. Malve took up fishing, and Philip eventually joined his father in the hobby. He became captain of the south-west fishing team, winning many trophies in the process.

Two years after moving to Downend child, Neil was born. Malve also loved gardening and he altered the back garden at Heath Walk so they could have a greenhouse, and also lots of fruit trees. Gardening became a bigger part of their lives and they went on to rent three allotments, giving away a good majority of their produce.

The couple also bought a chalet at Seaton, which they owned for a number of years. There was also a caravan at Weymouth Bay, both of which they let out, and of course used for themselves. They kept the caravan until 2002.

Sadly, in 2010, the family were devastated to lose their beloved Phil. and in 2015, Malve suffered a stroke. Although he made a good recovery, he had a bad fall at the allotment and severely damaged his back, breaking it in one place. In 2018, he had to have some stents put into his kidneys, as they were failing. This appeared to be successful but he became quite poorly, and deteriorated over the next months.

HAZEL LONG (42-50) (later Frank), was born and raised in Downend and often used to tag along with her big sister JUNE LONG (who was a KOSA committee member for many years) and June's friends, much to June's annoyance.

Hazel declared she was never in trouble at school but was late for school nearly every day. She made the most of her time at KGS, playing tennis, swimming and joining the school hockey team. Hazel spent Swallows and Amazons style holidays on the Essex estuary with her cousins.

Hazel sadly lost her mother Marie when she was 15 years old. After that she took over the running of the household, cooking meals for her family, doing the laundry and other household tasks.

She studied sciences at A-level and approached the Head to ask if she could apply to study medicine. Not surprising for that time, he told her that medicine wouldn't be a suitable choice for a girl. Instead she got a place to read Zoology at Bristol University. Not being one to give up easily, on the very first day she approached the Head of Department and asked if she could switch to Medicine but was told she didn't have the required A-levels.

Determined to forge her own path, she swapped her Botany module for Psychology and eventually graduated with a 2:1 BSc in Zoology and Psychology – the first person in the UK to study Psychology as a Science rather than an Art. While at university, Hazel continued to live at home but after graduating, she moved to London to take up a post with the Medical Research Council, earning the grand salary of £400 per year. She worked with Peter Cahoon conducting

research into how alcohol affects driving performance. Eventually the study was written up and published in a Government White Paper which became an Act of Parliament.

While still in her 20's, Hazel took a series of flying lessons in a Tiger Moth plane. This was in spite of the male flying instructor telling her that women shouldn't fly planes!

In her mid-30's Hazel met a suave gentleman named John Hayden Demetrius Frank, 11 years her senior. They met in the romantic setting of Victoria Station and went for a drink at the Stag Pub opposite the station. Soon she was meeting John's two children from his previous marriage.

The happy couple became engaged within six months and married in 1966. The couple honeymooned in Paris and within a few years Jonathan and Elizabeth came along, younger siblings for Bryn and Deborah.

Hazel became a full time mother, homemaker, gardener and hostess. She also did voluntary work - Meals On Wheels, helping disabled people at art classes and sitting on the National Homeopathy Committee. After the kids had all left home she attended art classes, and later Yoga and Pilates sessions until just a few years ago.

Hazel was a determined woman. Despite being very ill, she managed to attend the funeral of her step-son Bryn just the day before she died. Hazel was all about family gatherings surrounded by loved ones. She was the silver thread who ran through the lives of family and friends. She was a wise and gentle woman who will be greatly missed.

A tribute has been received from IRENE LUFFMAN (52-57) (now Fewes) to CATHERINE MARY FEWS (65-?) (formerly Maynard and latterly Berry) aged 64 on Christmas Day 2018:

'From an early age Cath lived with her father David at her grandparents' home in Kingswood. She attended Kingswood Junior School and then KGS from the age of 11 years with the ambition of becoming a doctor, although this was not to be. Being proficient in the German language, she found her way to Germany and taught there for a period.

'Cath first worked for the Ministry of Transport, in charge of the office, she was a Financial Consultant - great at maths/figures, ran financial teams, regional, national and international, and travelled with her work.

'Later as a single parent, to her two boys, she was known to work three jobs at a go, turning her hand to a pressure washing business, sand blasting buildings and private accounts. Never afraid to try a new field baking birthday and wedding cakes.

'Her private life took a turn for the better when a doorstep romance led to 17 years of blissful marriage to Ritch. With the boys now grown and the addition of five lovely grandchildren her family was complete.

'Working always to make the best of every opportunity at Orange, latterly EE, and as a financial consultant at BT, she excelled yet again. Through hard work and being responsible for projects in India she was given another chance to travel, one of her most-loved activities. Holidays to Moscow and Bangkok being two of the many other places visited.

'Unfortunately we said an unexpected farewell to Cath early on Christmas morning 2018 after a courageous battle with cancer. We salute your hard work, tenacity and, most of all, your smile through it all.'

It is with deep regret that PETE WOFFENDEN (Woofy) (61-66) has to announce that his wife ANNE MANNERS (63-68) passed away peacefully in her sleep on June 10th 2019 at St Peter's Hospice in Brentry, Bristol after been diagnosed with Cancer in March 2019.

Our thanks as a family go out to her old school friends MARILYN CONNOR (now Bell); KATHY FRY (now Sweet); TONY PATTEMORE and SUZANNE PHILPOTT (now Martin) who helped support me through this brief but awful encounter with such a dreaded disease. We must also mention the incredible support and understanding that we were given as a family from all the staff and doctors at St Peter's Hospice - we will always remember the care that was given to Anne in her final days.

Jane Clements, who is the widow of past KOSA Treasurer, RON CLEMENTS (41-47), has informed us of the passing of MERVYN LOVELL (36-44):

'I heard today that Mervyn Lovell who was at KGS died on 30th June 2019. He would have been 92 this year, in August. He had been unwell for a number of years but did come to Ron's funeral with his second wife Sue. Ron got back in touch with Mervyn thanks to KOSA and we saw each other frequently.

'A coincidence really but I went to Sir Bernard Lovell school for a talk about Sir Bernard. It was hosted by Bitton History Society and was extremely interesting, I did not know how much he was involved



An abiding memory is of her emphatic announcement of 'Jetzt!' to indicate to an unruly class that we were supposed to do some studying. Though I was not the most conscientious of the class – all that stuff about 'cases' was way tougher than French, which I took to easily - her proficient teaching of German enabled me to have a decent command of the language when I visited Germany many times later on either business or pleasure.

with the development of radar in WW2. (See later article on Sir Bernard's books)

'Bernard and Mervyn were first cousins, both only ones I am almost sure. Above is a nice snap taken on Mervyn's 80th birthday lunch at his house in Shrivenham.'

DAVE MASSEY (66-71) has informed us of the death of his German teacher:

'BERYL JONES (Frau Jones) May 4, 1923 - July 23, 2019.

'I was saddened to hear of the death of my old German teacher, who was always known to us as Frau Jones (pronounced with some modern resonance as Frau Yo-ness!).

'Beryl Jones was born in Dolgellau, where she attended Dr William's School for Girls followed by studying German and Welsh at Aberystwyth University during the War.

'Her teaching career was all in the 'B's, and a gradual move south – Barrow-in-Furness, Buxton, Banbury and finally Bristol. I was one of her less engaged kids during her time at KGS/Kingsfield School during the late 1960s, where she continued to teach for some years. After Kingsfield she taught at St Ursula's until retirement.

In the 1980's, without knowing she was his mother, I got to know one of her sons, Richard, through my work in the music business. Richard's brother, DAFFYD, had attended Kingsfield, though after my time. Once I found out about the link, I always passed on my regards to her via Richard and also asked him to apologise on my behalf for my lack as a student!

He told me of her death in July and, in one of those things you find out in late life, informed me his mother was a pacifist and internationalist. A member of CND, Beryl visited Moscow in the 1980s with Bruce Kent and others on a peace mission. It's amazing how that can add to your respect and appreciation for someone who you only knew as a schoolboy. Danke schön Frau Jones!

We have also been informed of the passing of DAVID GILSON (40-54), who lived in Gibraltar, in January 2019, BRIAN BAISH (48-56) in February 2019 at Mangotsfield, JULIA PAINE (59-66) (later Cooke) in September 2018 and JOHN 'Dinger' BELL (63-70), who died in September 2018.

To all those who have lost a loved one we send our condolences. We receive many stories of the full lives led by ex-KGS folk.

THE REPROBATE..?

BERNARD CLARK (58-66) has been spurred into contacting KOSA by the last issue of *KOSA NEWS*:

'It was the photo of the production of *Dido & Aeneas* on the back page that led to this. I married Dido (aka LIZ WEBB) many, many, many years afterwards but I had the misfortune to attend KGS at the same time. My time there was not exactly covered in glory but I have a long list of memories of the activities of, how shall I put it, the lower orders.

'My involvement in *Dido & Aeneas* was that I was doing A-level Art at the time and was one of the 'artists' responsible for the magnificent scenery designed by ROGER PARFITT. Unfortunately the art critics of KGS did not quite see it in the same light. Remarkably, the scenery painting absolved a number of the inhabitants of the A-level art studio from the weekly attention of 'JIMMY' WILDE and his fluid interpretation of physical activity known as games and PE. The secret world of the 6th form art studio is a story still waiting to be told.

'If you would like more memories of the reprobates of KGS please let me know. I have several pages of hand written notes so it could become a regular feature. 'Reprobate's Corner' perhaps.

'Bernard Clark. (58 - 66).....and there is a story about that time scale!'

On Bernard's suggestion, perhaps we could start a regular column for reprobates (page 19). There were certainly many at KGS who kicked over the traces.

THE GUILTY..?

In the last edition we included an excerpt from NICK OTTY's (67-72) book in which

Nick expressed his exasperation with some of the bad behaviour in his English classes at KGS. CHRIS DARCH (64-70) has now owned up as the author of one of those poems:

'I found my copy of NICK OTTY'S book and I can confirm that I am the author of the poem at the bottom of page 135 and top of page 136 about the dinginess of the teaching profession. I can confirm that I wrote it for homework in my bedroom as I listened to *Round the Horne* on the radio, hence the reference to 'moolies'! The irony, of course, is that I became a teacher after leaving KGS.

'Also I was sad to hear of the passing of CATHERINE FEWS (66-71), whom I knew all too briefly while at school. My thoughts are with her family.'

DOWN PINES...

MATTHEW THOMAS (64-71) has written to KOSA whilst sending a copy of a brilliant painting by his brother EMLYN THOMAS (56-64):

'I was sorry to read that ALAN BATEMAN, one of nature's gentlemen and a sportsman, had left us; his textbook return from the deep field in an inter-house cricket match is an enduring memory. I believe I would have held on to STEPHEN GAPPER's powerful pull shot outside the pavilion had JIMMY WILDE, our Games Master not shouted 'Catch it!' Later, up here at Ashley Down (I was on leave from the orchestra in Las Palmas), my brother DAVID (1959-66) and I would see the county championship slip away from Gloucestershire in almost identical circumstances.

'Some readers may remember our late brother EMLYN (56-64), whose friends and contemporaries included NORMAN GIFFORD and BURGESS. Emlyn and David were both expert cameramen, and



their photographs, principally of steam trains, featured in many of the railway journals.

'Emlyn was also a talented artist; my thanks go to the Editor for finding space for one of his best paintings, which depicts our local station (above). The year is 1959; steam still reigns supreme in the West Country and the line's crack train, the *Pines Express*, is hurrying through Warmley on its way to the Bournemouth via the legendary Somerset and Dorset line. I hope the picture may evoke some pleasant memories. Best wishes to all.'

ANOTHER ARTIST/POET...

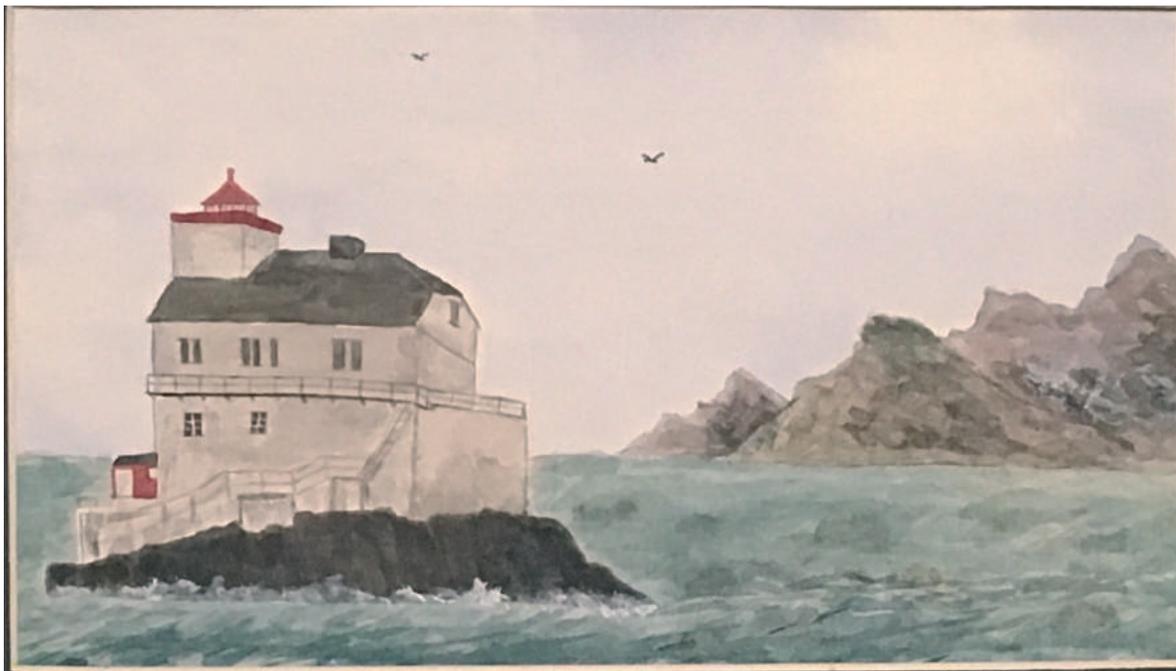
ROGER CROMWELL (51-58) has written to KOSA, demonstrating his writing, poetic and artistic talent:

'I'm Roger Cromwell (né Cromwell) (51-58), just trying to get into the magazine before I become an obituary. A note in

the Editorial of *KOSA NEWS* No: 16 – Spring 2000 caused me to think twice, or even thrice, before putting fingers to keyboard as I have no great achievements to report in respect of career success, so *pace* Denver DEREK BAILEY, look away now!

'One of my main pleasures has been holiday planning and having travelled quite extensively, many places hold special memories for me and my wife, Diane. Particularly special have been our voyages on 'Hurtigruten', the Norwegian Coastal Voyage. As my only school prize at KGS was for Verse Speaking (shared), I trust that the following poem, inspired by one of these trips, lives up to that minor achievement.

The accompanying painting, which I copied from one of my photographs, is Stabbenfyr - one of the many lighthouses



seen during the coastal voyage'

Aurora

Oh that I would catch that wondrous
moment
When the Northern Sky comes out to
play:

That ethereal, multi-coloured light-show
Which comes and goes, but when? No-
one can say!

Sometimes it's beautiful, rainbow cur-
tains
That arch across the chilly night-time
sky,
Dancing their flickering vivid magic
Then, with no warning, wave their swift
goodbye.

You never know which hue will flood
the sky,
Perchance it's blue or maybe crimson
red
And then again it could be brilliant gold
That fills your dreams when you go off
to bed.

To see this mystic light is one's good

fortune,

As many seek and often seek in vain:
Just keep on searching and who knows
what happens?

Your sheer persistence may end up in
gain.

© Roger Cromwell

NEWS FROM SPAIN...

JILL ALEXANDER (Staff 62-77) (later Fuentes) has kindly dropped KOSA a line from Spain:

'I was reading the *KOSA NEWS* 53 on-line and came across a photograph of myself with my tutor group on Page 15. The group was IH (The letter H standing for Haskins House). I remember them all very well!

'My name was Miss Alexander at the time but I became Mrs Fuentes in 1974. I started at KGS in September 1962 as a biology teacher and I left Kingsfield School in 1977 to be Deputy Head of the, then new, Hanham High School.

'I retired to Spain, together with my husband Mateo, in 1990. Sadly Mateo died in February 2017 but we had many very

happy years of retirement together. I have integrated so much into Spanish life that I have no plans to return to live in the UK. Thank you for all the work that you do as editor of the *KOSA NEWS*.'

In a later message Jill expressed a wish to hear from her former pupils. Her address is:

jill_fuentes@futurnet.es

'Re-Brexit - we ex-pats (3.5 million of us) were denied the vote. On top of that I have no choice, as an ex-civil servant, to pay all income tax to HMRC on my only income, Avon and State pensions.'

PUBLICATIONS...

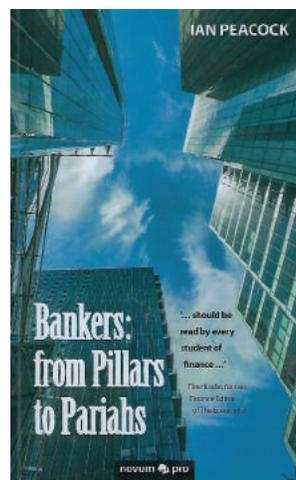
We are always interested in books written by ex-KGS personnel, and we are constantly surprised by the variety of available subjects.

A recent publication by a KOSA member is *Bankers: From Pillars to Pariahs* by IAN PEACOCK (58-65). After leaving KGS, Ian went to Cambridge, where he is currently Quondam Fellow of Hughes Hall. He has had a long and varied career in banking, commerce and charities, having worked as a banker in London, New York and Hong Kong. He was also a special adviser to the Bank of England from 1998 to 2000. He has been chairman of Mothercare, Howden Joinery and the Westminster Abbey Finance Advisory Committee.

Bankers: From Pillars to Pariahs is Ian's first book which traces the way that the public's view of UK bankers has changed from regarding them as pillars of society to members of a profession which acts for their own betterment in an irresponsible manner. He tells of how banking was transformed from an orderly and uncompetitive world of the 50s and 60s via the Big Bang to the current century.

The book is published by and is available from Novum Pro or on the Web. Not one to be missed by any student of economics, finance or banking.

At KGS, Ian had a sparkling academic career. A cursory examination of *Kingswood Chronicles* towards the end of his time at KGS records that in 1964-65 he obtained a County Major Scholarship, when he achieved A-levels in Geography, Physics and Pure & Applied Maths. In that year



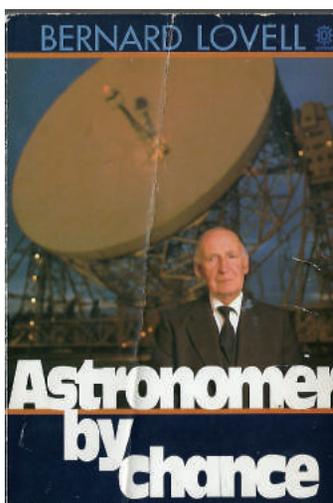
he addressed the *Mathematics Society* on *The Use and Abuse of Statistics*. Incidentally, the society was also addressed by DAVID ROSEVEARE (45-52) who spoke on *Mathematics on Television*.

In 1965 Ian was joint Head of School, together with HILARY EVANS, and in the Prize day list Ian was awarded both the Berry Prize based on the A-level results and the Radford Prize for Mathematics.

BOOKS BY SIR BERNARD...

Co-incident with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the moon landings, which took place in 1969, your editor has read two books by SIR BERNARD LOVELL (24-31). They are both very well-written with a clarity which also comes across when you hear recordings by Sir Bernard on TV and radio. His Reith Lecture, which he gave in 1958 on *The Origin of the Universe*, may still be heard on the Web. The books were bought second-hand from Amazon.

Astronomer by Chance is virtually an autobiography of his life up to the 1990s, when it was published. Very readable, it covers his early years in which he pays credit to his school, although not actually naming it, and his time at the University of Bristol.

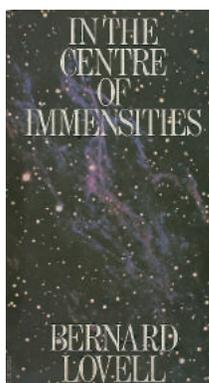


During the war years he was involved in the development of Radar and other technology and he traces the way in which this led him by chance to a career in Radio Astronomy, becoming the first professor in

that technique at the University of Manchester.

He covers the story of Jodrell Bank in great detail, the highs and the lows, leading to eventual success largely brought about by the space race, started by the Russian Sputnik. Thanks to his tenacity and resourcefulness in the face of technical and bureaucratic difficulties, in the Lovell Radio Telescope he has left a legacy to the nation of which it should be justly proud. Indeed, this year Jodrell Bank has been added to the UN world heritage list, granting it the same cultural importance as the Great Wall of China.

In the Centre of Immensities was written earlier, in 1978. A smaller book, it is the history of Sir Bernard's quest to understand the cosmos through astronomy. He traces the theories of the origins of the Universe



and life on earth, and studies the use and abuse of our knowledge from the earliest times. He also examines the roles of religion and philosophy in a rigorous and knowledgeable way. A thoroughly readable and interesting book.

REMEMBERING COLIN...

JUDITH PILLINGER has kindly kept us informed of the Annual Colin Pillinger Memorial Event planned for September this year.

Family entertainment in memory of Bristol born and educated Professor Colin Pillinger (54-61), leader of the Beagle 2 spacecraft that landed on Mars in 2003, and who started his research career studying the Apollo lunar samples at the University of Bristol 50 years ago.

AN AFTERNOON ON THE MOON

Date: Saturday 7 September 2019 – afternoon, time between 4pm and 6pm tbc
 Conversations in The Space Shed
<http://www.unlimited.org.uk/space-shed/>
 Location: outside *We the Curious*, Bristol – in Millennium Square

Presentation 1

The Moon in Bristol and Beyond
 Jon Spooner (Artistic Director of Unlimited Theatre) in conversation with Tim Gregory, Bristol researcher and presenter of BBC Radio Bristol documentary following the work on the Apollo returned samples 50 years ago at Bristol University. Followed by a conversation with space scientist Simeon Barber who will tell us about the UK's role in the forthcoming Luna 27 mission to the south pole of the Moon.

Presentation 2

Moon: Art, Science, Culture
 Jon Spooner (Artistic Director of Unlimited Theatre) in conversation with astronomer Robert Massey (Royal

Astronomical Society) whose recent book with art historian Alexandra Loske presents a rich and curious history of the Moon. From its violent birth through to the exhilarating story of the space race and current efforts, the authors will discuss the many faces of the Moon and how they have shaped humanity's existence.

Unfortunately, this will have taken place before you received this edition, but this is evidence of keeping Colin's memory alive in his home city.

CONGRATULATIONS...

to KOSA Committee Member BOB GRAY (49-56) and his wife Sherry for receiving two very prestigious awards from the Scouting Movement as part of the St George's day awards. Bob received the Silver Wolf for his services to Scouting of a most exceptional nature. This is an unrestricted gift from the Chief Scout, Bear Grylls.



Bob has worked for the 151st Fishponds Baptist Scout Group for the past 60 years. He has held most positions in the group including Scout Leader, Group Scout Leader and now the

Group President. Other work he has done includes being part of the district team and the district executive.

Bob has travelled the country helping at events in Norfolk, Devon and Kent and in 2007 he attended the World Jamboree, which celebrated 100 years of Scouting, where he worked as staff in the shop meeting young people from all over the

world. Indeed, over the years Bob has had a positive involvement in thousands of young people's lives.

At the same time, Sherry was awarded the Silver Acorn for especially distinguished service to the Scout Association. Sherry's involvement in Scouting was when she met Bob when she was a cub leader. Sherry also ran a Ranger Guide Section, part of the Guide Movement, and has helped with fund-raising, cooking, camping and at as many events as Bob and will have influenced as many young people. A real family occasion.

Bob has also received an award from the Blood Transfusion Service in commemoration of having donated 100 units of blood over many years. Bob is on the right.



KITTING OUT...

LINDA MORRISON (64-71) is a retired Science teacher who taught for 37 years at St George Secondary School (later St George Community College and now The City Academy, Bristol). She previously attended Hanham Abbots Junior School and her brother, who was 3 yrs 10 months older, was three years ahead in attending KGS.

Linda remembers her mother's skill and initiative when having to be kitted out to start at KGS. Probably many parents and starters were in a similar situation in those days:

'I remember the excitement of going to The Don on Park Street to buy most of my new uniform. We were not at all well off and my Gran and Aunt sent money to

help out but even then we struggled.

'However, my brilliant mother had been an apprenticed bespoke gentleman's tailor and could make anything. So my brother got a new wool blazer and I inherited his old one ... which buttoned on the wrong side so Mum stitched up the button holes and made new ones.

'The felt hat, tie and gabardine raincoat (which soaked up rainwater like a sponge) had to be new but The Don sold the navy and dark blue gingham on a roll along with the dress pattern, so Mum made me two school dresses, which had to touch the floor when I knelt in them, and knitted me a dark brown cardigan. These were worn with beige ankle socks in Summer. However in Winter we wore "cafe au lait" blouses, the dark brown gymslip, tie and blazer with knee length brown socks, with blue bands at the top.

'Mum made my blouses and gymslip which were almost, but not quite, the same colour as everyone else's. I remember my brown lace up shoes, bought a size bigger... with an insole so they would last me....we had them repaired a couple of times .

'As if all that wasn't enough I had to have PE kit. Someone had the brilliant idea of reversible kilts Mediterranean blue on one side and dark brown on the reverse so when we played team sports you could reverse kilts for one team. Needless to say Mum made mine... and it was very good! That was my favourite garment because..... it was a miniskirt!

'I also had to have: a wooden pencil box, (only for a year then they allowed new-fangled plastic zipped pencil cases), white plimsolls, a tennis racquet in a racquet press (mine was a Dunlop), brown canvas hockey boots (we couldn't afford

those so Mum went to Woolworths and bought me a pair of black baseball boots and I got singled out by MISS LEAVER, Head of girls PE, and ridiculed in front of the whole first year girls' group for not having the correct footwear (as if the girls hadn't already noticed most of my clothes were different from theirs), a hockey stick (I had my aunt's old one and Mum bought a new roll-on, blue rubber grip). The stupid thing was..... there was a cupboard full of hockey sticks and a rack full of tennis racquets in the games cupboard at school.

'MR PHILLIP PHILLIPS, was a very short and portly gentleman, taught Physics and he also initiated the Gilbert & Sullivan productions. I was Katisha in *The Mikado*, which was his first endeavour in 1970. I remember it coincided with the miners' strikes and the ensuing black-outs. A blackout hit one of our performances and we stood on the stage in the dark singing, even though the audience could not see us, whilst the orchestra played by torchlight. About an hour into the performance the lights came on to a rousing cheer!

(We published a photo of some of *The Mikado* cast in #52- Spring 2018).

PROFESSOR I...

MICHAEL WATTS (62?-69) has written to KOSA with a potted version of what he's been doing since leaving KGS.

'Greetings from the west coast of the US; I graduated from the school in 1969 (was an avid member of the Rugby First XV), lived on the edge of the Warmley Common (Norman Road), and went up to University College, London in 1969 and (a long story) ended up working in west Africa, getting a PhD (via Cambridge, and finally in the US) and have spent the last 40 years teaching Earth Sciences as a

Professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

'I live in San Francisco with my wife, two children (one a professional ballet dancer - a son, the other a daughter in college). I was close friends of NIGER HAWORTH, DAVE BATT AND RICH SHEEN who appear in your Spring 2018 Newsletter (sent to me by my brother). I'd like to be placed on your mailing list, and of course will send in some materials after I unearth them in my basement.'

PROFESSOR 2...

ROBERT OWEN (61-66) sends us his potted history from down under:
'My memory is patchy, so the following might be taken with a little salt!

'I attended KGS until 1966 when my Dad was posted away just before mock O-Levels. I left KGS at a time when I had started to recover from a really bad start – I was threatened with expulsion at the end of the first year in the Latin stream. Around 12 or 13, I suddenly found that I could do mental arithmetic much faster than anyone and started to gain confidence, even revelling in the Art Master bellowing at the rest of the class, "Why can't you all be like Owen; a true introvert!". Ah well, I didn't know what one was but was just glad to be noticed.

'Physics suddenly became a delight with the arrival of 'Fungus Face' – I went from bottom to top in one term! What with the move to a totally different Exam Board and syllabus my confidence was wrecked. However, a spell in the Police Cadets, as a Police Constable and, at 21 joining the RAF as an Electronics Fitter developed my physical and intellectual potential.

'I was commissioned as a Pilot(Fast Jet)

after three years before moving into intelligence and finally finding my place – solving complex technological problems which were so easy for me but seemed impossible to others. I was later head-hunted into the defence industry before a spell getting diagnosed and treated for cancer.

At 53 I finally went to University, blagging my way onto an MSc (Information Systems) and coming top with a Distinction from Sheffield. Several PhD offers followed and I started one before being rapidly told to stop and appointed Senior Research Fellow. I was later approached to become a Distinguished Professor but turned it down for personal reasons. Retirement beckoned before I was approached at a week-long conference in Washington DC (around my work) and I eventually ended up retiring as a Prof here in Brisbane a couple of years ago.

'Who knows where I would have ended up if my Dad had not had to move? I didn't enjoy my childhood that much as I was uncoordinated, under-confident and a natural target for bullies. However, KGS did start me along a road which led to leadership and advisory roles around the world and in widely disparate areas, including many classified projects, as well as project management, computing and complex systems and even construction, robotics and 3D printing!

'I served on the International Standards Organisation, Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) before it was called that, the Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development, and a bunch of other things, including a five year stint heading the key research area for 14,000 researchers globally, with a Stanford Emeritus Professor and a Head of Computer Science as my two assistants!

Some of the things I worked on are now in the Air and Space Museum in Washington but if I told you, I would have to ...!

It would be great if there was a way to access the old class photos, My best mates were KEITH JOHNSTON, who I think later read American Political History, CHRIS JOHNSON (Science?) and PETER MORRISON (Metallurgy). They all went on to sixth form and Uni from KGS and I lost track.

MORE FROM GORDON...

Regular contributor GORDON JACKSON (55-62) takes *KOSA NEWS* to task for inaccuracies, and provides some other mnemonics:

'*KOSA NEWS*, as entertaining as ever, is not perfect (what is?) (A disgraceful calamny! – Ed). Sometime between making a fair copy of an article for *KOSA NEWS* 53 and its publication, the gremlins got into my last sentence, describing ERIC HILTON's orchestra in the mid 60s. Hopefully, readers were able to decipher what it meant.

'In No: 54 there are two errors. CHRIS DARCH's article on NICK OTTY's book *Learner Teacher* (a slightly disguised description of the School in the 60s and 70s) mentioned MISS QUINTON as Senior Mistress. She had long gone by then. I remember being interviewed by her as part of the 11-plus of 1955. When I had arrived at the School later that year she had retired and been replaced by MISS MORRISON. While Senior Masters came and went, she stayed as Senior Mistress for years. I believe she was acting head when MR RIDLEY was ill in the 70s.

'As for MR NELSON's mnemonic recalled by 'TWEEDY' HARRIS; the Duke of Marlborough's telephone number was actually (really? - Ed) BROM4689 (he won

the battles of Blenheim in 1704, Ramillies in 1706, Oudenaarde in 1708 and Malplaquet in 1709, all in the War of the Spanish Succession. This mnemonic would be meaningless today when the telephone numbers are all figures.

'I remember a more convoluted mnemonic given by MR BUTCHER (when he was teaching Divinity, not his main subject English). King Solomon ruled the ancient Hebrews with its 12 tribes. On his death he was succeeded by his son, Rehoboam, who proved unpopular. Jeroboam, with 10 of the tribes, broke away to found a separate kingdom., leaving Rehoboam, king of only two tribes. Since they had similar names, how do you remember who was who? Simple. Solomon begins with an 'S', and Rehoboam with an 'R' which is next to 'S' in the alphabet, so Rehoboam was Solomon's son and Jeroboam was the other one. It works, as I remember it 60 years later.

'A better-known and snappier mnemonic was given to the class by a history teacher, I forget who, for the six wives of Henry VIII – divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived. Is this mnemonic still used?'

I like the one given to us by 'FISHY' SAMMONS in Chemistry for the colours of the spectrum - that American millionaire Roy G Biv – red, orange, yellow, green, blue indigo and violet - Ed.

RUGBY NEWS...

JOHN BISHOP (52-57) thought some of you might like to hear how Kingswood Rugby Club, the direct descendant of Kingswood Old Boys RFC, is getting on, so John brings us up to date:

'The club is about to start its 66th season and although the senior section is having a hard time of it, the Junior section is

thriving. Between 250 and 300 boys and girls between ages 7 to 17 are active most weeks at the Grimsbury Road playing fields, ably coached and supervised by at least 3 adults, most with coaching qualifications.

The club has an excellent reputation with several members receiving awards from the RFU. Recently ROGER WINDSOR (55-60) was presented with an award for services rendered to local rugby - richly deserved.

From small beginnings, the Club is now one of the best supported in the Bristol area. Well done to those who set things up back in 1954 - JOHN GRAY (46-53) in particular.

100 NOT OUT..!

A lady who was at KGS in the early years and who lived in Wick for more than 98 years of her life celebrated her 100th birthday last August 2018.

MARGARET 'DOLLY' BEST (later Amos)



was born on 20th August 1918 - six weeks after her father Private Alfred Best died in the Great War. He is buried in Le Havre and Dolly went out to France to visit his grave in 1998. She was the youngest of four children, having had two brothers and a sister. She attended the village school in Wick and then went to KGS. As a child she played hockey and was in the Girl Guides.

In 1942 Dolly married Wilf Amos at St Bartholomew's Church in Wick. Four years her senior, he also lived in Wick and they met around her 18th birthday when he was playing at Wick Cricket Club. He was serving in the army with the Somerset Light Infantry when they married and Dolly worked as a secretary at Carsons chocolate factory in Mangotsfield, but after her only child Kay was born in 1946 she became a seamstress: "I never had a sewing lesson in my life!" she says. Nonetheless she had a natural talent and she began by making dresses for her daughter and other children and was well-known for her smocking - an embroidery technique used to gather fabric.

Dolly went on to make 31 wedding dresses - the first bride was her niece Brenda - as well as dozens of bridesmaid dresses. "And I took up thousands of pairs of trousers," she recalls. Affectionately known as 'Aunty Dolly', she has a grandson, Mark, and two great-grandchildren.

Dolly lived independently in her home in Naishcombe Hill in Wick for more than 20 years after Wilf's death in 1996 but since March 2017 Dolly has been living in a nursing home. In July 2014, as the oldest surviving former pupil of the village school, she was asked to open their new extension. A special service to honour her life took place in her chapel in Wick in August 2018. Still with a remarkable memory, she has been very involved with her chapel over the years.

REPROBATES' CORNER....

At the earlier suggestion of BERNARD CLARK (58-66) we have decided to record what some would call the darker side of KGS, others call it the more humorous, human side. This is Bernard's contribution, but the pedants in our readership will have noticed that we have

changed the title to the plural - there must be many more contributions to 'Reprobates' Corner'!

'My wife has subscribed to KOSA magazine for a number of years. As a former pupil of the seat of learning formerly known as Kingswood Grammar School, I have therefore taken an interest in the contents. It has slowly occurred to me that a group of former 'scholars' is under-represented in its pages, namely the 'lower orders'.

'These people did not generally receive the honours and plaudits bestowed upon others by the institution but instead they slowly swam against the academic current in places with romantic titles such as 4G1 and 4G2. Our claim to fame came not through academic achievement but via 'mentions in dispatches' at assembly or in the privacy of two little offices I recall being located opposite the library.

'I cannot claim to have reached the giddy heights of achievement in these places conferred upon others, but we all felt part of a fraternity that required us to seek an alternative route through the maze of secondary education.

'I am certain that ultimately all of these people have generally achieved a satisfactory level of academic and personal attainment. However, whilst at KGS our best achievements related more to creating minor disruption and mayhem to the established order. It was the sixties after all!

'As an opening insight into these activities I recall the incidents relating to ROGER PARFITT's (Art) bubble car.

'It occurred to one of the lower orders

that his car was driven by two closely spaced rear wheels. It was also possible for two or three people to lift the car and that traction could be denied by inserting bricks beneath the car. The rear wheels needed to be only an inch or two off the ground. What a jolly jape that would be we thought.

'The deed was duly done and as I recall despite pleas and threats being made at assembly, no culprit(s) was ever found. This deed was later repeated with the addition of turning the car through 180 degrees thereby causing increased confusion to the owner. Again no perpetrators were discovered.

'I hope that is a tale sufficient to re-activate some memories of the 'lower orders' that would be interesting to hear. By way of further incentive, does any reader recall the underground secret of the 6th form art studio?'

THE HANMERS...

The combined piece written by the Hanmers in the last edition created a lot of interest; SUE EVANS (61-68) had her memories of KGS rekindled:

'I received the *'NEWS* yesterday and was pleased to read the article about the Hanmer family.

'I was at KGS at the same time as Francis and can remember looking up to her, both literally and metaphorically, as a role model.

'I distinctly remember walking into school one morning after the holidays and she was too. She was wearing a superb coat that I commented on, which she said she had bought when the family was on holiday. I think she said she had been to either Afghanistan or Iran, I can't remember but it was great on her.

'It was then I decided that I would travel to foreign parts one day, and happily I have been able to do so, just returned from an amazing trip to India. If possible please pass on my regards to her.'

A request to renew contact with RUTH HANMER (59-66) was received from JILLIAN BARNES (59-66) (now Harker). A trio of Ruth Hanmer's contemporaries have requested Ruth's whereabouts. We are happy to help:

'The contributions of the Hanmer family to the last edition of *KOSA NEWS* brought back many memories for three of your readers. We were classmates of Ruth and, outside of school, spent many happy hours variously at parties or sleepovers in the large chalet in their back garden.

'Two of us shared a post-exam holiday with her in Paignton. We remember the family as very forward-thinking for the time. None of us had ever come across yoghurt, for example, before Ruth turned up with it, together with other novel and healthy foods, in her lunch box. We also remember her brothers and her sister, Frankie.

'We all three currently live in Bristol, two of us having returned here post student days and one having returned after a number of years in the North-East. LIN WINTER (now Webb) and HAZEL LISMORE (now Wilson) have remained in constant touch since school. Jill rediscovered them at a reunion and we all now meet up regularly.

'We would very much like to make contact with Ruth again if she would be happy to do so.'

And the sequel from Jill:

'Thanks for sending on my message to Ruth. We have arranged for all four of us

to meet in August to catch up on the last 53 years!'

ROB'S VERSION...

ROB SHERRINGTON (64-71) recalls a rugby match:

'The photo on page 14 of the last edition of the lower 6th form of 1970 provided hours of study and magnification! Good job CHRIS DARCH (64-69) (same form as me) could provide so many names, which jogged the memory and brought back a few more!

'With regard to the TONY PATTEMORE and GEOFF LORD (both 63-70) saga: although Tony was a year above me, we were second row partners in the school rugby 1st XV. The only time I was ever sent off in rugby was because the referee mistook me for him and due to his previous misdemeanours, I got the marching orders! (That's my version, anyway!)

'A cheque to the treasurer in Weston Super Mud (as we used to call it) is on the way.'

...A SAGA'S END...

Thankfully, KOSA's funds are no longer in jeopardy. We have received the following note from TONY PATTEMORE:

'Further to GEOFF LORD'S admission, I can confirm that I have called off my lawyers and KOSA's funds remain safe.

'It now all falls into place because, just as with his fast bowling, accuracy was never a priority for Geoff.' Ouch!

KGS ON RADIO...

Over the weekend of 20/21 July the BBC celebrated the 50th Anniversary of mankind's first visit to the Moon in 1969. As part of the celebrations Radio Bristol

broadcast a programme to illustrate Bristol's connection with the collection of moon rocks.

COLIN PILLINGER (54-61), who was with the University of Bristol at that time, was sent to London to collect the moon rocks which were allocated to them by NASA for analysis. Colin told the story of his trip back to Bristol by train with the rocks, where the media were waiting for him at Temple Meads Station. Somehow the story of their allocation to Bristol had been obtained by the media. Typical Colin, he decided to get out of the train at Bath, so foiling the media story!

Colin was instrumental in exhibiting the rocks to the general public where the citizens from Bristol and afar queued outside the University to see the rocks exhibited in the Great Hall.

A valuable contribution to the programme by Colin's sister DOREEN PILLINGER (48-53) (now Lindegaard) covered Colin's early years at KGS and at home with the Pillinger family. Colin himself recounts some of his experiences with French and English teachers at KGS. He also remembered the early Chemistry experiments with iron filings and sulphur, something we have probably all experienced.

Colin's later activities were also covered with the development of the Beagle 2 lander to Mars. At the time regarded as a failure because of its inability to transmit signals to earth, it has now been found. There has also been a significant scientific spin-off from the Beagle 2 project in other directions.

Without linking the two together via KGS, the programme also covered the work carried out by SIR BERNARD LOVELL

(24-31) in tracking the Soviet rockets and satellites when they successfully led the space race before the American Moon Mission. In fact the space race proved to be the saving of the Jodrell Bank project.

The telescope construction and operation was running substantially above the original budget, and Sir Bernard himself was in serious trouble with the authorities because of what they regarded as dereliction of duty in his handling of public funds. In fact, goal was a serious possibility.

Suddenly, the ability of the radio telescope to track Soviet and American space material changed the official view. It was also seen as equipment which would be able to give an early warning of an attack on the UK from space. Outstanding debts were paid (about £150,000), and Sir Bernard became a personality and the toast of the nation!

Back in May 2019, BBC Bristol also produced a programme devoted to Colin's life. At the time of writing, this programme is still available on iPlayer.

SCOUTS' EXHIBITION...

Kingswood Heritage Museum, in Tower Lane, Warmley currently has an exhibition of Scouting in Kingswood. It may be seen until the closure of the museum for the Winter period at the end of November. Entrance to the museum is a bargain at £3.

There are many KOSA members who were in the Scouting Movement in Kingswood, particularly in the 111th Holy Trinity Troop, and amongst the many who helped gather the information for the exhibition were ESME RIDGE (41-47) (now Britton) and DAVID ANN (55-63).

LINKS WITH KOA..

We actively try to maintain our links with the present occupier of the site on Brook Road. Here are a few of the recent initiatives:

MUSICAL VISIT

KOSA Chairman STAN BURRAGE (51-56) attended, as an invited KOSA guest, the King's Oak Academy's latest Musical *The Rocky Monster Show* on 1st May 2019 performed by a cast of 25 to a very high standard. The performance was virtually flawless and showed the wealth of musical, acting and performing talent currently available at the Academy. Whilst a mile away from the old grammar school concerts of our time in the 50s and 60s both in content and style, the whole event was first class and thoroughly enjoyable.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of teacher GARY KENNEDY who was an integral part of all School concerts over the previous 12 years until his recent loss. He was ably replaced by MR WARREN - Musical Director, MISS CARTER - Director and MISS PEACH - Assistant Director.

KOSA AWARDS

KOSA Chairman STAN BURRAGE (51-56) and Editor MIKE BENDREY (51-56) attended the year 11 awards presentation meeting to present the KOSA Awards to the two girls and two boys who have made an outstanding contribution to the Academy generally, not necessarily for academic excellence. The recipients each received a £25 voucher and they were awarded to:

Razvir Khan

For commitment to achieving his very best both within each and every lesson and through extensive independent learning at home.

Emily Beardwell

For commitment to achieving her very best both within each and every lesson and through extensive independent learning at home.

Treasure Bayona

For not only achieving academically through dedication and commitment to her studies, but also contributing fully to extra-curricular activities, such as music, dance and drama, throughout her time at KOA.



The photo (above) shows Treasure receiving her award from Mike (left) and Chairman Stan (right)

Jamie Owen

For not only achieving academically through dedication and commitment to his studies, but also contributing fully to extra-curricular activities, such as music, dance and drama, throughout his time at KOA.

We were told that they were all very pleased with their vouchers.

Your Committee also approved £10 voucher awards to those students who had made particular progress in their reading skills, aided by KOSA Committee Member MARK ADAMS (51-56).

Seven awards were presented to students in an after-school awards meeting on 18th July 2019.

AGREEMENT...

It isn't often that we receive a letter agreeing with the Ed's ramblings in the Editorial. However, BRIAN ILES (45-50) has written in agreement with the sentiments expressed in the last one:

'You bewailed the closure of our 6th form college in Kingswood and, nationally, the withdrawal of art subjects etc from the curriculum.

'Then you raised an interesting question. And I quote, 'Surely, if these subjects were made available to us in the 1950s, when we had real austerity after the war,' ... then why no funding for our children now? And I am entitled to infer the implication: ...when there is now no 'real' austerity. I couldn't agree more with your comments!'

IDENTIFIED (MOSTLY)...

It's always nice to get photos where the names are identified. Below we have VI₃ in 1962, just before they are about to enter the wide world of college and work!

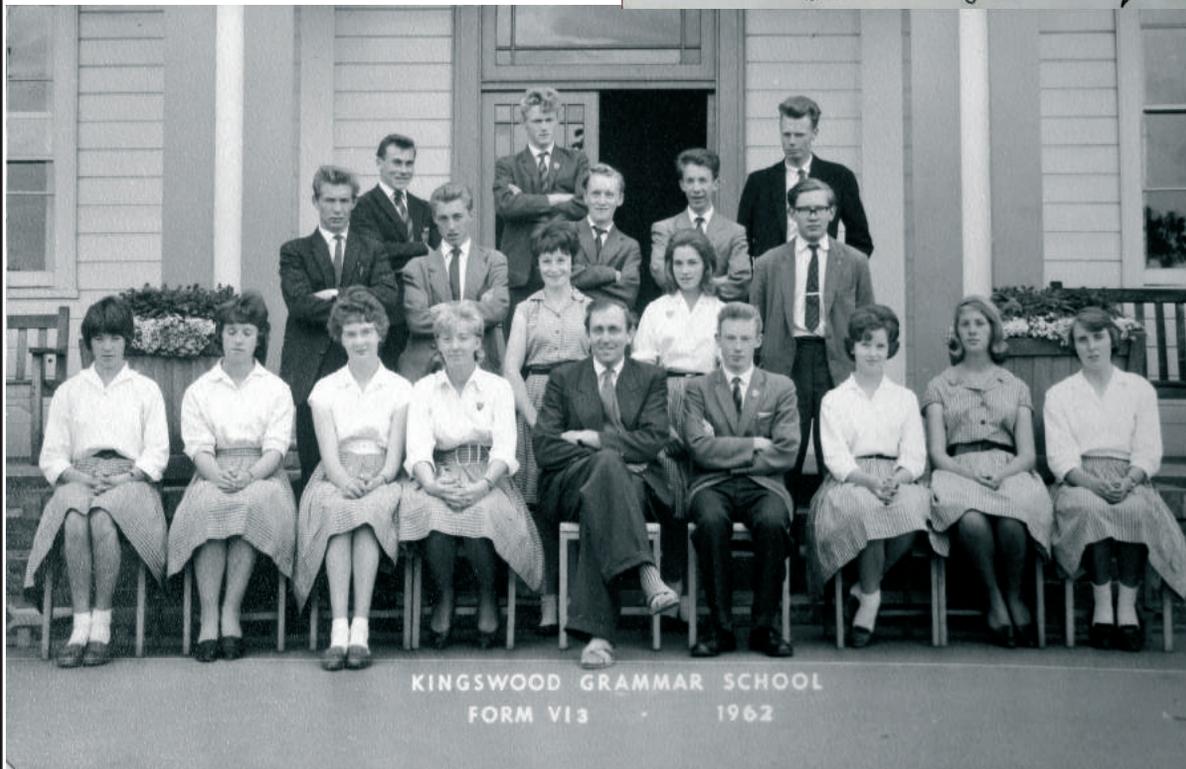
On page 25 we have MISS JILL ALEXANDER'S (now Fuentes) class of 1972 - 1H sent to us by WENDY DAFFERN (71-76) (now Dodd) with as many names as she is able to remember (below). Wendy now lives and works in Spain where she has been teaching Food Science at an international School for many years.

Back: Jeremy Nash, Steven Monks, ?, Robert Lansdown, John Aspinwall, Malcolm Brown, ?.

Middle: ?, Julia Hulbert, Nigel Catlow, Carol Stride, Jonathon Potts, Alison Ford, Martin Solars, Wendy Daffern, ?, ?, ?, Elizabeth Yule

Front: Marion Ford, Tessa Wilmott, Carol Faulkner, Shane Elison, Ann Burgess, Miss Alexander, Guy French, Roberta Elson, Esther Wilmott, Julie Clement,

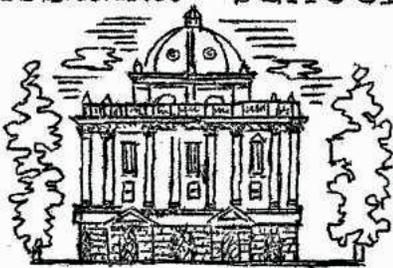
TELEPHONE 07-5478
 Pete Young (Berb.) Alan Quartly
 Hilton Arthur Done Ealas
 Tony Ian Mary Lynette Alt. Mary Diana
 Down Smith Plaster Davies Cordy Brigg. Smith.
 Noreen Elizabeth Margaret Jennifer Mr. S. Peter Margaret
 Crookford. Becker. Reece. Hunt. Sykes. Brown Squires.





CAMBRIDGE ★★

VISIT BY KINGSWOOD
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



1952

OXFORD ★

HVV

OXBRIDGE CALLS...

The passing of ANN MORRIS (48-53) (see page 2) reminded us that there was a visit to Oxford and Cambridge for the 6th Form in 1952 on which Ann went, before going up to Oxford. BARBARA TUGWELL (45-52) (now Forrister) in 'Spring Cleaning' at home has found the

booklet which was given to those who went on the trip on 16-18 July 1952. Three days by coach, incl board, for £2!

As well as a detailed, timed programme (lights out at 10:30!), it gives a list of things to bring, maps of Oxford and Cambridge, and a potted history of both universities.



The covers look as though they are line drawings on a Roneo stencil, something not easy to accomplish. The initials of HVV suggest that they were prepared by HAROLD V WATTS, the very popular Art Master. The photo (above) is of some of the girls who went on the trip.

SPORT AT KGS...



Left:
1957 Cricket - 1st XI sent in by ROGER EVANS (51-57), who is in the middle of the back row.

The scorer is ROSEMARY GIBSON (52-57) (later Church).

Right:
65-66 Soccer U15, sent in by BRIAN DODD (62-69), who is 2nd from left on front the row.

Below:
57-58 Junior Rugby XV.



KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
SOCCER UNDER 15 • 1965-66



KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
RUGBY JUNIOR XV 1957-58

KOSA MATTERS...

Since the last *KOSA NEWS* the following have joined or rejoined the Association. School names rather than married names have been used:

Fiona Gazzard (88-95) in France, Linda Morrison (64-71), Ann Lambden (65-72), Michael Watts (64?-69 in California, USA, Rob Sherrington, Robert Owen (61-66) in Queensland, Australia, Bob Bane (55-63), Athene Bates (?-?), Matthew Thomas (64-71), Jill Alexander (ex staff) in Spain and Phil Beese (63-70).

If you are aware of any ex-Kingswood friends who are not in KOSA, then just forward their details and we will do the rest. Married names and names at school, addresses and years at school will suffice.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW..?

If you're changing address, please let us know. We have lost contact with David Britton (55-60) last seen in Pretoria, South Africa, Janice Thomas (64-71) (previously Maynard), Brian Gibson (59-64) of Tamworth and Owen Celeu (63-70).

If you know the whereabouts of these lost members, please let us know.

LUNCH & AGM...

We are indebted to DAVID EWINS (53-59) for giving us an interesting, illustrated talk at the last lunch. Entitled *Mangotsfield to Mars via Temple Meads*, David traced his life from deciding whether to do Music or Maths at A-level at KGS, through trainspotting at Mangotsfield Station to Imperial College, where he eventually became Professor of Vibration Engineering. More recently he has been acting as a consultant to NASA, hence the Mars connection, but had connections with Rolls Royce advising on



aspects of jet engine construction.

David has provided us with a digest of his talk which emphasised the aspects of becoming an engineer. Clearly,

its length precludes us from publishing it in full in *KOSA NEWS*, but if you would like a copy of his talk, just drop a line to the Ed who will be pleased to supply.

The photo of David in full flow was taken by DEREK BAILEY (49-53) who, as usual, was at the lunch all the way from Colorado.

We hope to feature occasional speakers at our future lunches.

BACK PAGE...

KOSA has had some professional photos come to light of the state of the site after the fire of August, 1976. We hope to feature some 'before and after' photos in future editions.

The back page shows a panorama of the site from the school hall end, with Brook Road on the right. The photo clearly shows the division between the 'old' part of the school and the 'new' part, which was added in the 1930s, the connection being the outside steps towards the top left of the picture. The steps in the corridor can also be seen.

The photo was obviously taken some time after the blaze as Brook Road is clear of fire-fighting equipment, although the shot may have been taken from a fire-fighters' ladder.

