



KOSA NEWS



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

Editor: Mike Bendrey, 26 Overndale Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 2RT

Tel: 0117 956 5689 E-mail address: kosanews@tiscali.co.uk

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



PENULTIMATE EDITORIAL...

We have made several attempts to fill vacancies on the committee with very little success. In addition, I have made several requests for someone younger to come forward to act as a backup to learn the ropes of the production of the 'NEWS. Again, we have no one who is willing to make the not inconsiderable commitment to take *KOSA NEWS* into the future.

It is with great regret, therefore, that your committee has agreed to the winding up of KOSA. As a consequence, the next edition of *KOSA NEWS* will be the last one and the last KOSA lunch will be held in October, unless further volunteers come forward, particularly for the posts of Treasurer and Editor.

Over the past 32 years that we have produced *KOSA NEWS*, we are proud to have brought together many, perhaps hundreds, of school friends to meet again and to roll back to those years when we originally met at school. For me it's been a labour of love. I would also like to thank all those committee members and others who have kept KOSA going for so long.

Please don't send any further contributions to KOSA and if you have set up a direct debit please cancel it with your bank. The members' contributions over the years have been very much appreciated, and we sincerely thank you. You have been unstinting in the level of financial contributions and in your editorial contributions to *KOSA NEWS*. Please send in your editorial contributions for the final edition by the end of July and we also hope you will support our lunch and AGM in October when we will finally wind up KOSA.

Under our constitution any funds left in the Association's account will be donated to the successor school to KGS, which will be King's Oak Academy.

DIARY DATE:

AUTUMN LUNCH & AGM:

Please set aside **SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER 2024** 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 after a short AGM. The lunch booking form will be enclosed with the next edition.

THE TRUE COLIN...

LIONEL MATTHEWS (alias "Mugsy") (54-61) knew Mars-Man COLIN PILLINGER (54-61) very well and he has written to inform us what Colin was really like at KGS. Lionel writes:

'There has been much written about the achievements of Colin Pillinger, justifiably so. But the only thing I've managed to read of his early life was that he liked football and his best friend was contemporary ED WHITE, a pretty shallow description considering his future achievements. So I aim to add a bit more detail to his early school life.

'I was in Colin's class right up through the school. Colin was a decent, likeable and kindly lad. When we started at KGS we were in form 1W, MISS WATTERS' (English) class. I remember Mss Watters as a large, firm but fair lady. My memory of her was that she always pronounced iron as i-ron. On our first day our desks were lined up in single file, one behind the other. The register was read out for the very first time, the name next to mine was Pillinger (we never used first names for the boys). I tapped the lad in front of me on the shoulder and said "Who's Pillinger" he said "I am". And so Colin was the first person I spoke to.

'I also experienced his kindness first hand. My family had moved from Bath to Kingswood just before I started at KGS. So, whereas a lot of the other boys and girls had friends in the school from their primary schools, I knew nobody, all my friends were left in Bath. This made me a bit down in the dumps and sad. Colin noticed this and cheered me up with a few kind words. After a few weeks I got into the run of things and made friends in the class, but Colin helped me in that.

'So, we went up the school doing everything that schoolboys do. Colin was not pushy, arrogant or aloof in any way. He was just a normal decent lad who joined in with everything. I don't think he realised how clever he was in relation to the rest of us. He had a paper round. I know that, because one Saturday he asked me to do his round for him as he was going out somewhere. I was quite happy to do it, but what he didn't tell me was that Saturdays was the day when the paper money had to be collected, so I had to knock on all the doors rather than just push the papers through the letterbox. I was a bit peeved at first, but then, I was doing a mate favour so I didn't mind really.

'When we got to the fifth and sixth forms we were at the stage where our parents allowed us to stay out late. The local Kingswood YMCA, although open to all was, by default, the KGS youth club. It had a couple of very good, well maintained billiard/snooker tables and table tennis tables plus the usual coffee bar. When we met at the YMCA we tended to coalesce into groups largely based on the form that we were in at school. The little group that I tended to hang around with had as the core those shown in issue #56 of the *KOSA NEWS* showing photos of those taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award hike. That is Colin Pillinger, KEN CARE, RICHARD HAYES, TERRY BLEAKMAN and myself. We were not a clique, there were no closed doors, anyone could muck in. For example ALAN PEELING was one I remember who knocked around with us. There were other groups of self-styled 'sporty types' who were more of a clique.

'Colin joined in with the rest of us in doing the usual things, playing table

tennis, chatting, drinking coffee etc. Colin, Ken and I spent a lot of time at the billiard tables. If we couldn't get a fourth, we played each other taking it in turns. We often came up in the day in free periods in the sixth form, the three of us to play billiards or snooker.

'When we had turned 17 and were in the upper sixth, a favourite meeting place was the Kings Arms pub in the High Street. Anything between four and six of us congregated at the pub (Colin was always one of us). We were quiet, drinking our half pints, we sat in the snug, never got drunk and never made a noise so the landlord either turned a blind eye or didn't know that we were underage, the former I suspect.

'One event which I particularly remember was an all-night hike. This was organised by the YMCA. The rules were simple; there were teams of three who were taken either blindfolded or in a closed van to some destination near Kingswood. They would then be let out, with the idea that they didn't know where they were to start with and had to find a way back to the YMCA. This was all in darkness of course and as the name implied took most of the night. Again, by default only KGS pupils took part. Colin, Ken and I decided to enter as a team. I don't know why, we weren't into this sort of athletic stuff, I think it was to show the 'sporty types' that we could do it. Our aim was just to say that we had finished.

'So, the three of us were taken off in a closed van. I can't remember where we were dropped, it's too long ago, it was somewhere near Bath. Now, as I said before, I lived in Bath and even at 11 years old I had cycled around the

area. So, after a few minutes of being dropped off, I began to recognize things and then I realised that I knew exactly where we were and the exact route to get back to Kingswood. I suppose that we had been supplied with maps of the area around Kingswood, but we didn't need ours.

'We set off at a brisk walk. Sometimes we trotted. The only bit of the journey that I remember was walking along the road at Kelston where it runs close to the river. There must have been cloud cover, because it was pitch black, you could hardly see your hand in front of your face. It was at this point that I recounted a story my Dad had told me that several people had seen the ghost of a ferryman at this spot. A tale that didn't go down too well with the other two. Eventually we got back to the YMCA and to our astonishment, we were first back, we had won! They did not like it one bit, the sporty types, they were incensed! So much so, that's one of them accused us to our faces of cheating. They just could not bear the thought that the three of us, who they thought spent all our time at the billiard table could actually beat them. The warden had a chat with us, where we explained our quick start and told him places we had passed through so he believed us. What the sporty types didn't realise that being able to dash a hundred yards is not quite the same as having the stamina to keep going over a long distance. It required stamina, grit and determination, qualities which Colin had later in life to exhibit again as mastermind of the Beagle 2 project.

'So, we all left school and went to universities. Ken Care and I went to Bath University, so we lived at home. When

Colin came home from Swansea we all met up again and carried on as we left off. One time when Colin came home he had bought a Renault Dauphine car. And drove us all around in style. One of his trips home, Colin, who knew I liked sailing, mentioned that he had crewed in a Flying Dutchman sailing dinghy. Now, at that time this was an Olympic standard dinghy, it was big and a brute to sail. I was impressed. But on future visits home, there was no more mention of it, so I suppose Colin thought that wasn't for him.

'Ken and I eventually lost contact with Colin when he went on to do his post-graduate studies. I don't know why, we just drifted apart as tends to happen. I read in back numbers of *KOSA NEWS* that Colin came back to Kingswood from time to time after he was famous. I would have liked to have had a chat to him, because at the time I was running a large project in the nuclear industry and it would have been interesting to compare notes and also to have a chat about old times. But to be perfectly honest, I lived in Cheshire at that time and it's a long way from Northwich to Kingswood and it's not a nice journey down the M6, so I doubt if I would have ventured down.

'Trotting along on that all-night hike and playing billiards, we would never have thought that one of us would become a Fellow of the Royal Society and, more sadly, die young of MS. I'm glad that I can't see into the future.'

FINALLY TRACKED..!

DOUG COATES (54-61) has written to KOSA from Sydney, NSW:

'Regarding an article in *KOSA NEWS* #58 (Spring 2021) - Robin's Ramblings on page 27 referred to a KGS Class

photograph of Form IVL1 1958 on page 10 in #56. I did not know of KOSA, nor the Newsletter, until my brother, George, emailed me a copy of the article by ROBIN SMITH (54-61) and the Form IV photo in which Robin identified many of his former classmates but thought that I might be STEVE YORK.

'In the copy of the photo (on page 5) I have annotated with the names of all those I can remember – including me at the left end of the back row. I recognise them all and wonder how many are still with us. Robin might have forgotten me as, after KGS, I soon disappeared from sight, as follows:

'I studied Architecture in Bristol at the RWA School of Architecture and, after B.Arch graduation and RIBA membership, worked for a couple of years as an architect in Bristol before leaving for a four-year teaching role in HS1 University in Addis Abeba (I've not mis-spelled the word Abeba and can explain to anyone interested). Following that, I taught in the University Department of Architecture in Singapore for 3 years, where I gained my Masters Degree and met my present wife. We later married in Wellington, New Zealand in 1978, where she completed her Masters Degree.

'We both worked in New Zealand as architects for 7 years before moving to Sydney where I enrolled in a post-grad Expert-Systems computer course for a year before 10 more years as a practising architect. I then changed to an IT career until I retired.

'After 7 years in academia, designing about a hundred buildings, writing several books (one of which I hope to get

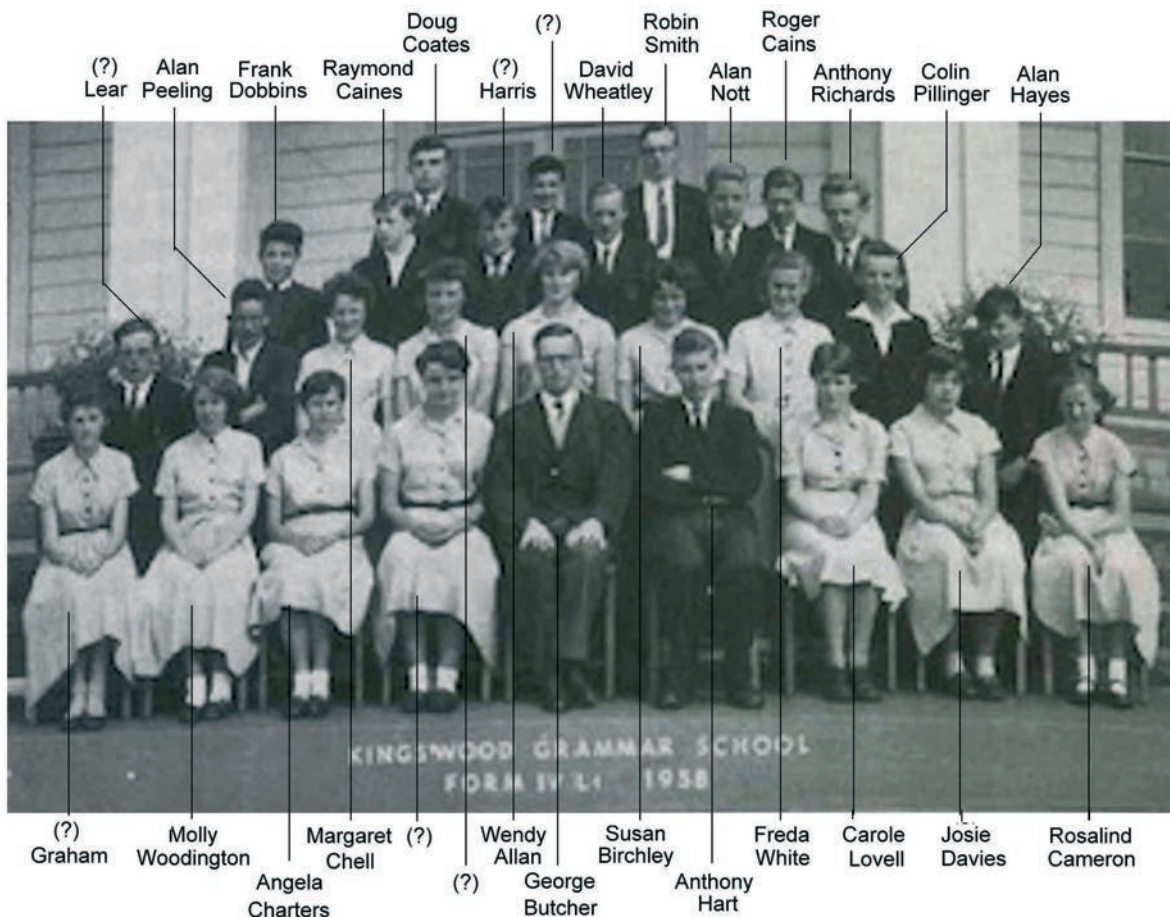
published!), winning the GP14 Class Round-the-Island sailing race in Singapore, winning 2 architecture competitions and one poetry competition, we both are now retired (but still busily occupied) in Sydney. We have 2 sons – one here and one in New York – and, while both are accomplished musicians, they both now have very successful IT careers. I've been very fortunate to have the great experience of living and working in 5 countries and have visited and travelled in more than 30 countries.

'Regarding my time at KGS: I have had a life-long interest in music, predominantly in jazz (guitar and trombone) but this was very much frowned upon (to put it politely) by Music master ERIC HILTON, with the result that I abandoned music after Year 4 but, against his strong objections, kept a small jazz

band going in the school for a couple of years.

'In the early years I was one of the few to fail woodwork – although I doubt that many of my classmates would have subsequently done more woodwork (including furniture and boat-building) than I have.

'The staff members whose teaching I most enjoyed include ROLAND PORCHMOUTH (Art), MR AUSTEN (Physics and Craft – we made so many polyhedral forms in those lessons), and the lady teacher (whose name I have forgotten) who managed to inspire me in her Latin classes – not an easy accomplishment!. (Probably MISS MARY BAILEY, who was awarded the Verdienstkreuz by W Germany-Ed).



'So, Robin, that's me not Steve York in the photo – but it's no wonder you lost track of me.'

The photo of GEORGE BUTCHER'S class also includes some of those mentioned in Lionel Matthews' missive from page 2.

ROBIN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY...

ROBIN WELCH (56-64) has added his name to the growing list of Kingswood authors by the publication of his autobiography *Bristol (Bristle) Boy and the Taylor of Gloucester*.

Born in Bristol as World War Two came to an end, Robin, allegedly the grandson of the inspiration for Beatrix Potter's *Tailor of Gloucester*, John Prichard, has had an exciting life, travelling to many parts of the world and living and working in Europe and Africa during a time of great social and technological change.

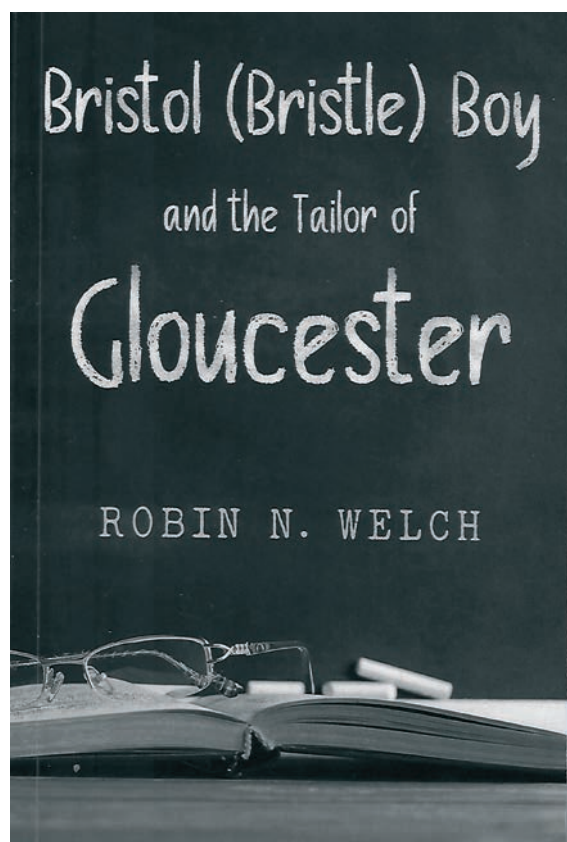
In the sixties, Robin took advantage of the free educational opportunities in the UK and went to KGS, St Paul's College, Cheltenham and Bristol University, graduating in 1969 and beginning his career by teaching at Bristol primary schools, lecturing in French to adults and selling life insurance.

Keen to see more of the world, with ambitions to work overseas, he worked in Botswana and South Africa and moved from influential positions in education to senior positions in Africa and worldwide in the fast-developing TV businesses, particularly in the field of acquiring coverage of sporting events.

Your Ed can vouch for an interesting and exciting book illustrating an active life and many careers, from his time at

KGS, which he relates in some detail, through to his time in France, move to South Africa and his involvement with international TV in many countries. The book has no chapters - just one long enjoyable read. The book is dedicated to his wife and to the surviving KGS boys – Jim, Steve, Pete and Rog. They know who they are. In the 1964 Honours page (see page 14) we list some of Robin's contemporaries who went on to further and higher education.

At KGS Robin played in the 62-63 1st XV rugby team (see photo on page 7 – Robin is 3rd from the left, back row), obtained a County Major Scholarship as a result of his A-level results and was joint head of Eaton House. Copies of his book can be obtained from the publishers at £8.99 or \$10.99. Just go to the following URL: https://pegasuspublishers.com/books/robin-welch/bristol-_bristle_-boy-and-the-tailor-of-gloucester





FIRST OF MANY..?

(BERNARD) PAUL WILLMOTT (63-70) has seen his name in a page of the Honours Book in #62:

‘Many thanks for the latest *KOSA NEWS* (#62). I’ve not written to you before (although I’ve meant to on many occasions!), but I noticed my name in the Honours Book extract – Willmott B. North Staffs Polytechnic (Computer Science).

‘I think I was one of the first students from our school to study Computer Science and it has provided me with a very good career in IT. I remember the careers adviser having no idea what computers were and he suggested I should study mathematics instead! I have since changed to a different arena (albeit now with a lot of IT) and am chair and technical director of our local community-based cinema, Saffron Screen, based in Saffron Walden, Essex. Still going strong – I just can’t seem to retire!

‘I should have updated you on the

passing of my mother (2016) and brother (2022) both being at our school (Edna May Willmott nee. Pollard, approx. 39-44 and David Mark Willmott 68-75) – apologies for that.

If anyone would like to contact me, my email address is paul@dclholly.co.uk.

WE’RE EVERYWHERE..!

DAVE WALL (54-59) had an unexpected meeting on holiday:

‘When meeting new clients in business it was always useful if you found something in common. The same usually applies now meeting people on holiday.

‘On a cruise along the coast of Croatia last September Jenny and I were sat at a table for eight for the evening meal (only 36 passengers). During the course of discussion one chap told us how much he disliked school and couldn’t wait to leave. In particular he couldn’t stand the headmaster - you guessed it. The school was KGS and the headmaster one C. N. RIDLEY. The ex pupil was one BOB POWELL (56-61) aged about 77 or 78 and he

still gets *KOSA NEWS* from time to time. His wife Anne went to Rodway School in its early days and thought it was great.'

LINKS...

JOHN MARCHANT (47-52) remembers some links with members mentioned in the last edition of *KOSA NEWS*:

'I write again to thank you for including my submission on BRIAN ILES' (45-50) poem *The Lost World* and to mention some particular items included in edition #62.

'The obituary for VALERIE HILES (51-59) whom I knew well as she was married to my cousin MIKE REDGERS (50-57). Valerie played the organ during my marriage ceremony in December 1958 and Mike, Valerie my wife Yvonne (Vonnie) sometimes went out dancing. I am still in touch with Mike albeit at distance. I should have mentioned that Mike was a Hanham Road boy as in his early years we lived in the same house in Hanham Road whilst his father was engaged in World War 2. This was relatively short lived as Mike and his mother moved to his grandmother's house in Hanham to be away from the bombing of the Douglas works. Mike's dad returned safely, I am glad to say. and we lived together again until Mike moved on to his present address.

'Secondly it was sad to see the passing of PHIL DARKE (47-52) as we were friends for a few years during which he introduced me to model aircraft making and train spotting. We also shared an interest in bird-watching (feathered). I also recall his outrage at the public beating of his friend GORDON MAY. 'The reference to Gordon May had

been mentioned by Phil in one of his previous posts concerning HEADMASTER RIDLEY. However I witnessed the event which took place after morning assembly when Gordon was called up to the stage at the front of the whole hall and given six of the best to his bottom with considerable force. I understood, but cannot verify it, that the public beating in front of us all was merited because he had taken a day off school following the death of his father. There was no mention of the reason for the caning by Ridley before laying on. At the time I felt sickened by the event.

'When I was caned there was no explanation as to why I deserved it but like Gordon I took it on the chin as one did in those days. My caning came as a consequence of fourth formers creating noise outside of Ridley's study whilst joining the queue for the dining hall. I happened to arrive at the end of the queue with friends as he burst from his study to deal with the culprits. I was, not surprisingly, his first choice. I sometimes wonder if any of the fourth formers are still out there and recall the incident. Again it is part of a lost world and one can only imagine how these incidents would be viewed today.

'Thirdly, I was not acquainted with MARGARET LOVELL (50-55) but what I do recall are the wonderful smell of cooked meals emanating from the shop on the corner of Douglas Road and often wished I could sample them. I love that she has the settle with her in New Zealand and her remarks concerning the need to get on with it.

'I am not sure how much of this is worthy of publication but it's war time, aspects and interests of those days

might stir others' memories.'

MEMORIAL PLAQUES...



We recently posted the death of PROFESSOR DAVID EWINS FRS (53-59) and MONICA JONES' (53-59) partner, Ted, was walking around the Wellington Monument recently, taking some photographs, when he came across this memory board in a secluded corner with the Ewins' brass plates. Monica writes:

'As you can see they are badly stained from bird droppings which couldn't be erased with just water and a tissue! Next time we visit we'll take Brasso and hopefully improve their appearance '.

POETRY CORNER...

DOUG COATES (54-61) (see earlier in FINALLY TRACKED page 4) is an award-winning poet. He writes:

'The Local Government area on the North Shore where we live (about 6 km north of Sydney Harbour) is called Lane Cove and the LC Council runs an annual Literary Award programme that invites entries from all of Australia for short stories and poetry.

'I submitted entries in both categories in two of the years of the awards programme. My short stories were never even short-listed but my first poem won

the 2nd prize (in the first year) and won first prize in the second year (of about 500 entries). I thought my first short story (one of 40 Ethiopian short stories that I have written) was better than my poem - but who am I to judge!

'My first poem entry was 'Spoilt for Choice' Sentiments which should ring a bell

for all of us - Ed

Spoilt for Choice

I'm asked what I might like to have on this year's Father's Day

There isn't really much I need from Amazon or eBay

I do need much more Patience now that that mine is running low and a new Brain would be really good – the old one's getting slow.

More Foresight is a great gift but I'd forget to use it all the time.

My Humour's lasting well, but others think it's past its prime.

I'd like more Time, if it's for sale and the price is not too high

but it doesn't seem to last for long, so not a worthwhile buy.

I've Peace-and-quiet a-plenty in my garage and back yard

so I really don't need any more; and gift-wrapping it is hard.

My likes and needs are hard to please - not retail merchandise

but if all else fails, black socks in size eleven would be nice.

Doug's other entry to the competition was entitled 'Distant Thunder' which recalls the dreadful fires recently experienced in Australia and elsewhere.

Distant Thunder
*Distant thunder, orange sky
Sullen clouds, the landscape dry
Lightning flickers, trees alight
Embers scatter, birds take flight*

*Creatures climb or run or burrow try to
escape the roaring fires
Sheep and cattle in their paddocks
trapped by fences, rails and wires
Fires toil against the flames that flare
above the height of trees
Incinerating with their heat and change
direction with the breeze*

*Blackened land, thick smoke and ash
Homes and trees ignite and crash
Land re-coloured in a day
from green and brown - to black and
grey
Acrid smoke from smouldering trees
The fire passes, noise recedes.
Landscapes that we knew so well
transformed from paradise to hell.*

KELSTON...

ALAN JONES-WILLIAMS (73-80) has sent the photo of the weekend for the Upper 6th at Kelston Park in 1979 or 1980. Alan writes:

‘The ‘Kelston’ thing definitely happened during the 70s and early 80s, as my elder brother went 5 years before me. I think it was held over a weekend and teachers attended as well. It was just commonly known as ‘Kelston’. Each year most of the upper sixth (6.2), were taken to Kelston Park Country House near Bath. A committee would be formed to invite guests to come and speak and take questions.

‘I don’t know where these memories came from today or why, but here goes: The event was held over two days and two nights. Three guest speakers were invited to put their side of what they believed in to us. Then we had the chance to ‘question’ them about it. They were Lord Longford (remember him?), a guy from Friends of the Earth, but I can’t remember where the third guy was from, but I’m



working on it.

'We had a great time 'attacking' rather than questioning. Especially Longford. Looking back, he was quite a decent bloke, just had what we all thought were weird beliefs. I was lucky enough to share the lunch table with him to get to know him on a more non-political level. In fact, he invited the then current head girl and head boy to the Houses of Parliament for a tour.

'We gave the Friends of the Earth guy similar treatment. I remember putting him right on a point about what colour radiators should be (that sounds a bit weird too!). Luckily my Physics tutor, STEVE BAXTER, later to become Head, was there and backed me up.

'Unfortunately, I really don't have many stories to tell. All I really remember is locking guys in the girls dorm', managing to sneak in alcohol and major bed disruption every night i.e. you and your bed were never in the same place by the morning!'

68-75 REUNION...

JULIE JOHNS (68-75) organised a get-together for her years on 24 November 2023. She reports:

'On a dark, frosty November evening around seventy former pupils who entered Kingsfield in September 1967 and September 1968 (or joined those years later) gathered at Bitton AFC, Cherry Gardens to celebrate knowing each other for over 50 years (and also finally being entitled to their state pensions!).

'This was the fourth reunion organised by Julie Johns. With many people no longer having family connections in the area, the fact that people were pre-

pared to travel long distances and pay for accommodation demonstrated the regard and affection they shared for the time they spent at the school and for their fellow students. For many, four and half hours were not enough time to become reacquainted with everyone, but these specific year groups do have their own dedicated Facebook group called: Kingsfield Leavers 1972-1975 (2011 group) for keeping in touch :<https://www.facebook.com/groups/221350727919977>.

'The event had a relaxed, sociable atmosphere and everyone was so busy chatting that the specially selected 1970s music for the evening never got played and a few people had already left by the time photos were taken. As they say 'Time flies when you're enjoying yourself!'

'As the cost of hiring the venue and catering was met by one of the attendees, all contributions to the cost of organising the evening were donated to the charity PAWS-GIST: <https://www.pawsgistclinic.org.uk/> in memory of Eve Bressington, daughter of JAYNE DOWALL (73-75) and niece of TERESA BRESSINGTON (68-73). £275 was raised on the night, with further online donations expected.

'There is also a general Kingsfield and Kingswood Grammar School Facebook page which is open to former pupils from any year group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2221007770>'

Julie has provided us with photos of the very successful event and some of these are published elsewhere in this edition. A photo of the whole group is on the back page.

JOHN'S BOOKS...

John Guthrie (64-67) writes speculative fiction for all ages, from children to adults. His books are often set in troubled worlds, whether here on earth or in far-flung planets in other solar systems. At the heart of his books are characters happy with their quiet lives who are ensnared in situations they're desperate to escape from. They don't know whom to trust because trusting the wrong person often leads to the worst possible outcome. You'll find yourself cheering for each of the main characters in John's books as they match wits with the most ruthless of adversaries.

John resides in the UK and, when he's not on the lookout for a stray dog to show up on his doorstep, is continually dreaming up new stories and characters.

A couple of years ago, we put in an entry into *KOSA NEWS* about a book which John was then having published. Since then, he's been busy writing and publishing more books. John's website, where the details of his books are shown, is:

www.john-guthrie-author.com.

Why not go and have a look and perhaps try one or two, maybe as presents for your grandchildren? Most of his books are available through Amazon.

John's writing isn't intentionally in a particular genre as his books are for a variety of ages. His adult books include *One More World to Visit*, *State* and *Spirits*. The teen/young adult publications include *Oddbot* and *Barney and Son*, and the children's books include *Mole and Frog*, *Laika* and *Slumpton Rats*, which we promoted earlier.

MY MATHS AT KGS...

JOHN 'Tweedy' HARRIS (53-60) records his memories of his Maths career at KGS: 'When the Editor suggested that pupils who were taught by MRS DIPROSE/MISS MITCHELL might like to share memories, it sent me into a familiar mode these days – thinking of the past. A tiny bit of what follows has appeared in these pages before, but hopefully it will appear new in a different context.

'Excellence at a junior school does not ensure that is the case when you get to the 'big school.' So the marks on the only report I received from Mangotsfield Junior School of 17/20 in Mental Arithmetic and 44/50 in Mechanical Arithmetic (whatever they meant) would suggest that would be followed by similar results at KGS. Not so! In my first year, with 36/37 in the class, mediocre results were obtained and I was finding out that Maths wasn't Arithmetic, only part of it. The teacher's initials on the reports were BM and comments included 'must concentrate' and 'easily distracted', a coded 'reportese' teachers have used for as long as reports have existed for pupils who messed about. I know, because I used them regularly! It all pointed to the fact I didn't understand the subject and took one of the avoiding mechanisms.

'It was in the second year – 2J ('J' because the class teacher was MISS JACOB) that we became pupils of Mrs Diprose. Initially, the reports showed a similar pattern to those of year 1. 31st and 26th out of 36 in the class don't represent much improvement, but in that year two things happened, one (Continued on page 16)

SEARCHING...

RUTH ACTON (80-82) (now Graham) wrote to KOSA asking for information about her father DAVID ACTON (47-53?). David is not in the Awards Book, although Ruth is (see below). We were able to find a reference to David's A-levels in *Kingswood Chronicles* which we sent to Ruth. She writes:

'Thank you for sending the extract from the *Kingswood Chronicles*. I really appreciate having this link to my father's early life especially as there is no longer anyone in our family who has memories of that time.

'As far as I know my father went on to do National Service after leaving the school. I understand that he was in uniform at the time of the Coronation in 1953 but unfortunately I can no longer find the photos that we once had. I know that he went to St Luke's College in Exeter to train as a teacher and that he was there in 1955. We still have a copy of a programme from a show that he took part in at St. Luke's College in December of that year!'

Can you help? If you have any memories of David at KGS we will pass them on to Ruth.

1982	Acton Ruth	East Anglia (French/Linguistics)
1982	Ball Tanya	Brighton Polytechnic (Librarianship)
1982	Barton Vincent	Brunel (Materials Technology)
1982	Bishop Timothy	Portsmouth Polytechnic Urban Land Administration
1982	Bowden Paul	Bath (Mechanical Engineering Sponsorship)
1982	Britton Helen	Plymouth Polytechnic Combined Studies
1982	Bryant Timothy	York (Economics/Politics)
1982	Bush David	Brighton Polytechnic (1983) Pharmacy
1982	Coggins Philip	Lanchester Polytechnic Applied Physics
1982	Crewe Paul	Shuttleworth College (Agriculture)
1982	Davis Adrienne	Bristol (Chemistry)
1982	Drinkwater Anne	Aston (Environmental Health)
1982	Evers Victoria	Edge Hill College (Education)

1963/4 Hewson Barbara	Bretton Hall, Leeds (Education)
1963/4 Hes D. C.	County Major, Imperial College London (Chemistry)
1963/4 Knight Hilary	Shenstone College, Bromsgrove Education
1963/4 Ladbury Judith	Stockwell College (Education)
1963/4 Lengfield R. W.	City of Birmingham College Education
1963/4 Lewis D. J.	Camborne School of Mines
1963/4 Lovell M. J.	West of England College of Art Art
1963/4 Marshall G. E.	County Major, Portsmouth Mathematics
1963/4 Meredith Jane	West Midlands College (Art)
1963/4 Norman Rosina	Southampton Modern Languages
1963/4 Organ Helen	Balls Park College (Education)
1963/4 Owens A. R.	Southampton (Science)
1963/4 Parsons D.	County Major, Battersea College London (Mathematics)
1963/4 Payne Deirdre	County Major, Queen Mary College London (English)
1963/4 Peckett N. J.	County Major, Leeds (Chemistry)
1963/4 Ploncy J. R.	County Major, Royal Academy of Music (Music)
1963/4 Robbins K. E.	County Major, Southampton Bio-Science
1963/4 Sturt Jennifer	County Major, Manchester Combined Nursing Course
1963/4 Skuse Judith	Newton Park College, Bath Education

10634	Southgate R. A.	Leeds (Chemistry)
10634	Summerhall R. A.	Liverpool (Chemistry)
10634	Wallington S. J.	St. Paul's College, Cheltenham Education
10634	Welch R. N.	St. Paul's College, Cheltenham Education
10634	Williams Jacqueline	Hereford College. (Education)
10634	Wright B. R.	County Major, Cardiff Agriculture
10634	Young Sheila	County Major, Padgate College Education
10645	Allen Susan	J. M. Marsh College, Liverpool Physical Education
10645	Bailey Valerie	West Midlands College (Education)
10645	Condy Margaret	Rolle College, Exmouth (Education)
10645	Cottle Barbara	Southlands College (Education)
10645	Court Jennifer	Brighton College (Education)
10645	Davis Sonia	Cardiff College (Education)
10645	Deavin Nicolette	Stockwell College, Kent (Education)
10645	Draper Marilyn	Notttingham College (Education)
10645	Draper Yvonne	Rexford College (Education)
10645	Emery Jacqueline	Leicester College (Education)
10645	Evans Hilary	Bedford College, London (Sociology)
10645	Foster S. J.	Bristol (Electrical Engineering)
10645	Fudge R. T.	Birmingham (Music)
10645	Gliddon Susan	Dartington Hall (Drama)
10645	Goodchild Rosalind	Balls Park College (Education)
10645	Hunt Wendy	Liverpool (Classics)
10645	Hyde Diane	Wall Hall College, Watford Education
10645	James M.	Loughborough College (Education)

negative and one positive. I was in her lesson one day when I was asked to read something from the blackboard. Having taken a position near the back of the classroom, I was unable to read it and, such was the painful situation I found myself in, I was near to tears. Only I knew that my eyesight was declining and it was that single incident that led me to getting spectacles (do you remember the NHS glasses that were a bit of wire and real glass that broke on impact?). Positively however, and due entirely to Miss D's excellent teaching, there was nearly the only bright light in my study of Maths for four years. The exam results gave everyone a position in the year as well as the class. So the day came when they were announced. Having heard her reel off the expected excellence of the best Maths scholars in the form and with little expectation, I can still hear Mrs Diprose announcing. "Now the big surprise of the year, Harris 8th." It was a pick yourself off the floor moment. I had come 6th in the class and 8th in the year. The 'B' grade in the report did not matter at all; I went home to unbelieving parents to tell them the good news. 'Well done, he has worked hard and made a good deal of progress' said the report. It meant a lot to me.

'All that was to change. In the third year, we were taught by MR FELTON. Unfortunately I reverted to type, and my maths foundered. It was compounded by the sort of occurrence that can happen to anyone. It began when, unable to do some homework one evening, I walked the mile to Staple Hill to DAVID GIFFORD's home and more or less copied his work. Mr Felton found out by comparing my work with David's and I was given a detention.

'On the morning of the detention I woke with terrific pain. It resulted in me going by bus to the BRI to have my appendix removed, although my mother thought I was trying to avoid my punishment. In those days, that sort of operation meant a long time in hospital, 10 days is what I remember, and then a fair time recuperating at home. When I got back to school the detention had been forgotten, but more important, I had lost time in a subject I could ill afford to lose. I languished from then on until by the end of the spring term, I was bottom of a class of 36/35 with 37 per cent. Though there was some improvement in the summer term, Maths was never going to be my best subject!

'Strangely enough, this was not going to be my last encounter with Mr. Felton. Fast forward 15 years or so and I was a young teacher in Huddersfield. One Sunday afternoon I came out my digs in the Almondbury area to visit Audrey, my fiancée, on the other side of town. Across the road was none other than Mr. Felton washing his car. We exchanged a few words, including surprise that we had landed up living so close to each other, but not mentioning the detention! He had taken a post at Penistone Grammar School, a good distance out of town, a school where I regularly took cricket and football teams. As far as I remember, we never saw each other again.

'For our fourth year, an 'express' year that meant we would take O-Levels after one year of study, we were taught by MR HODSON. I say 'taught', but frankly the teaching was minimal. After a few minutes of explanation and giving us work, Mr Hodson. retreated to his desk and continued compiling the maths text books for which he was well

known nationally. Meanwhile we laboured at the exercises we had been given. For someone who was struggling, I needed a bit more help than he gave. The reports he wrote, more or less the same for two terms, suggested that I would have to work hard to succeed. This reflected his doubt and my lack of confidence. By the last term, he suggested that I should be able to pass. As the dates for the approaching exams drew nearer, I somehow believed I was not entered for Maths at all and had been entered for Latin. So revision was done for the latter and not for the former subjects. Come the day of the first exam, I was in an assembly when a voice came from the back "Is Tweedy Harris in the room?" So I was escorted to the exam room, either the library or the hall, and took the exam with no preparation. Then there was the next exam (I think there two, possibly three) when I was able to do a little revision, but not much.

'The end result of not being entered for Latin and entered for Maths was that I achieved the mark 45 per cent. It happened to be the pass mark and I took Latin and passed it the following term. Reflecting on the whole episode I have to be satisfied – the pass mark was as much as I deserved.

'So ends a rather strange tale of my struggles with a subject and my failure to try harder at it, some variable teaching, but also a couple of incidents that made an impression not forgotten to this day. In *KOSA NEWS*, we have, more often than not, reported on those fields of study in which we have excelled and have often given us a career. It is good, sometimes, perhaps not too often, to remember we didn't excel at everything, some pupils ex-

cepted. They all add up to the rounded education we received at KGS, for which we are thankful.'

BOYS' HARVEST CAMP...

In the last edition we published a report of the girls' camp in 1943. At the same time the boys held a similar camp in Stone, near Berkeley, where they were obliged to make their contribution to the war effort by working on farms during the Summer break. The following comes from *Kingswood Chronicles* 1942-45, written by J D Sibley:

The ardour of our campers was rather damped at the outset. A terrific thunder storm occurred about 4.30 p.m. on the Saturday just after the majority arrived, but not for long, Messrs. Alpass' Pork Pies saw to that. After putting the camp site in order (the tents had been erected by Italians (POWs - Ed), and needed considerable adjustment) most of the party possessing bicycles journeyed into Berkeley on various missions, certain persons apparently being unable to exist without a fish and chip saloon. Shades of civilisation!

On Sunday envoys were sent to the surrounding farms, and on Monday work started in earnest. The working parties were numerous and small, varying between three and eight, and usually worked within two miles of camp, although an energetic party cycled many leagues per day so that they might bathe in the Severn during the lunch period.

Kitchen facilities were greatly improved this year, by the installation of a large double ovened camp range in a shed near the mess tent. MRS FOX, the Assistant Cook for School, provided meals for the first week with the aid of

orderlies. The tents were numbered and the inmates of each took turns at orderly duties and other fatigues, with the result that the breakfast porridge only once attained perfection, when the orderlies overslept and Mrs Fox did all the work. Mrs. KEMPSTER arrived the second week, and between them the two cooks did us proud.

The camp had no water supply laid on, so that fatigue parties had to fill three ten gallon milk churns twice daily from the farmhouse about two hundred yards away. While perambulating from the pump with the filled churns, certain intellectuals formulated the following law: the weight of water varies directly as the square of the distance it has been carried.

Washing was a problem since it entailed a trek of a quarter mile to a pool formed by the widening of the Castle Trout Stream. Most campers washed or swam after their day's toil, although few seemed keen to indulge in an icy dip at 7.0 in the morning (and believe me, that water could be cold in the morning). Being lazy we used to fetch a bucket of water last thing at night for use in the morning. This was left outside the tent. Unfortunately one night, a member of the Society for the Eradication of Neckwashing discovered it, and from then onwards we were forced to keep it inside the tent. Many humorous incidents occurred at the pool. Everyone endured tadpoles making circuits and bumps around their big toes, and the reminiscence of one certain stout fellow's hurried evacuation after some onlooker had said there was a snake in the pool can still raise a chortle,

While at camp we learned the real value of Ministry of (mis) Information

Films. The girls were attached to a large camp at Slimbridge for the potato harvest, and the Ministry of Information were filming these hard working Amazons at work and at play. Two M of I cars fetched eleven of us from our labours to be filmed in an inter-camp cricket match. The producer decided he would film a mixed working party picking up potatoes. Unfortunately the crop was not particularly good so that three or four sacks of potatoes were strewn along a distance of about forty yards. We had to pick them up and throw them down again three times before the producer was satisfied. Who said the camera does not lie?

Last, in this review of our Harvest Camp, 1943, but by no means least, comes an appreciation of those gallant members of the staff who braved the wilds of Berkeley for so great a cause. First MR. MORGAN, who has worked so very hard in organising all our camps, DR BLOOM, MR. BRITTON and lastly MR WILDE (last because he has the objectionable habit at camp of opening all the tent flaps and letting in the cold, cruel morning air about 7.0 ; then he jerks all those still sleeping out of their blankets). Dr. Bloom, while acting as Quarter-Master, rapidly formulated a theory to the effect that forty, normal healthy young individuals cannot be transformed into vegetarians in the course of a day. Mr. Britton is an expert on that prototype of all jet propelled aircraft - the primus stove. He was the only person at camp who could safely operate this perfect example of potential energy, without this same projectile attempting to execute any of Newton's three Laws of Motion. Mr Morgan must of course receive great praise, since at the beginning of the next term he paid us for our labours

with liberal amounts of shekels.

1963...

was a good year at KGS, as was probably every year! Below is a record of the Prefects of that year, together with the boys' 1st XV Rugby team.

On page 23 is a reminder of the man who was behind Rugby and most boys' sports at KGS - 'JIMMY' WILDE.



THOSE REMEMBERED...

ROGER COLE (51-56) has sent KOSA a few pointers on the life of his twin brother DAVID COLE (51-56), who has passed away:

'David was born on September 14th 1939 (15 minutes after me!) and apparently was quite small - our mother said, as I recall, that he was only the size of a bag of sugar. How big bags of sugar were in 1939 is anyone's guess, but because he was so small he was placed in an incubator, I'm not sure for how long. He was never as big as me but otherwise ok.

'We had a good childhood playing together and with the local boys anything from marbles, cowboys and indians in the fields, climbing trees and making mayhem as boys do! So it was just normal growing up. We both had evening paper rounds for our pocket money, and with that we both bought bicycles.

'When we were about 15 we joined the Youth Hostels Association (YHA) and went to the Isle of Wight staying in various hostels on the way there and back. I remember starting out from Staple Hill when cycling to our first hostel my bike was making a squeaking noise and on inspection there was a bulge in the sidewall of my front tyre. So what did David do? He pressed it and burst the tyre! He cycled back to Bath for a new tyre and inner tube. But that didn't deter us, we had a great time and met some interesting people. Would you let 15 year olds do this today?

'When we joined KGS, David developed a love of classical music and took up the viola under the direction of MR. HILTON (Music). When David left KGS, he worked as a clerk at CEGB

(Central Electricity Generating Board in Bristol. He married ANN HARRIS (ex-KGS?) and settled in Yate. They had two children Mark and Debora.

'Later he took exams to join the Customs and Excise department in Bristol where he stayed until he was transferred to London as a Customs Officer at Heathrow Airport. This meant that he was travelling to London every weekend leaving his family in Bristol. Unfortunately, his marriage faltered and ended in a divorce. He met his second wife who came from Nottingham and moved there giving up his job in London. They had two daughters.

'What David did for a job from then on is unclear, but I do know that he was a lecturer teaching Business Management. David was an intelligent person who liked music and could play almost any stringed instrument. He was also a member of the Nottingham Male Voice Choir right up to his death.'

Rev ROGER MOORE (52-59) passed away on 26 October 2023 after a period of illness. At his funeral on 01 November the eulogy was given by his son, Craig. Roger went to KGS from Hanham Abbots Junior School in 1952.

At KGS Roger completed his O-levels and gained an A-level in Chemistry. Whilst there he performed in the chorus of *Gondoliers*, *Courtiers* and *Men at Arms* in the production of *The Gondoliers* in 1956, became secretary of the Science Society (Chemistry) and won the High Jump on Sports Day in 1957. He also played Rugby. At the same time he was an active member of the MAYC Youth Club at Hanham Methodist Church.



On leaving KGS he initially worked in the chemical industry and then for the Port of Bristol Authority, but also became a local preacher. Roger met his wife, Liz, at the Methodist Guild Guest House in Swanage and they were married in Derbyshire in 1972. Two children followed and Roger was ordained in 1974.

Roger's movements as a Methodist minister read like a geography book of the UK. In 1976 Nottingham, 1979 Birmingham, 1992 Bishop's Castle, Shropshire, 1985 Worcester and in Powis in 1999. Roger initially retired in Willenhall. He also spent some time at a Methodist college in Argentina and also in Uruguay. Whilst he was in Worcester Roger explored the use of computers in Christian Education.

Roger became interested in family history and he and Liz made visits to their children's families in Munich and Perth (Australia). Sadly, he developed Alzheimer's in 2020, but enjoyed an active life, lived to the full.

ANNE POLLARD (-63) passed away on 1st December 2023. Anne, who joined KGS part way through her grammar school career, obtained her A-levels in English and French and went on to Kirkby College in Liverpool on a County Major Scholarship for her

teacher training. She later did a Masters degree which included counselling, something she used later in her career. Anne was always proud of her Welsh ancestry.

After college Anne joined Stockwell Hill School, later Downend School, to teach French and whilst there she led many trips of students to France where she made sure they were occupied with tasks which would develop their French language skills. She was a dedicated teacher who spent long hours preparing proposals and reports. With her love of Music she conducted the Junior Choir.

Anne enjoyed travelling and her difficult physical condition didn't prohibit her from visiting such destinations as Egypt, India, China, Nepal and many other countries. Indeed, on one occasion your Ed and his wife met Anne and her travelling companion, Marilyn, in Cyprus. Even whilst travelling with a wheelchair she visited relatives in New Zealand.

At her remembrance service at Hanham Baptist Church in January, where she was a member, the story of her visit to Buckingham Palace and her parking of the car in the grounds was told. Many other stories of Anne's activities were related by a packed church in a celebration of a life well-lived. Above all, she was described a lady of integrity.

MARY WRIGHT (55-60) (later Dury) passed away on 23rd December 2023 after a short illness. She was one of four children (1 boy and 3 girls) and met her husband-to-be, PETER DURY (55-60) whilst they were both at KGS and were married in 1963. Having lived

initially in Memorial Road, Hanham, they subsequently made their home in the Westbury, Wiltshire, area. The family-run funeral at the Semington Crematorium on 19th January 2024 involved all her three children, numerous grand-children and great grand-children.

We have been informed by Bob Harris of his wife's passing:

'Sadly I have to advise you of the death of my wife PAT FLEW (52-59) (later Harris). Unlike many ex-KGS scholars she did not achieve greatness but to her family she was everything a good human being should be. It's lovely to hear your wife was in the same class as Pat who was the sort of girl who would have studied hard and got on



with it and not made a fuss. Your wife might also remember JEAN HURST, a contemporary of Pat's, who was Pats close friend. She now lives in Barry, South Wales.

'Pat worked for Marks and Spencer's for 28 years and retired in 2000. She

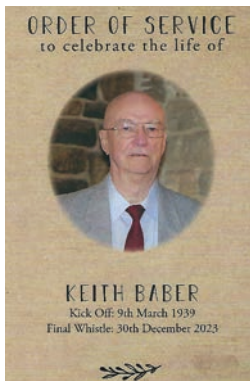
loved working there and made many friends and she was a very loyal friend herself.

'We were married for 63 years and had 2 children. She was a wonderful wife and mother and an even better grandmother to her four granddaughters. Everyone said what a lovely lady she was and that about sums her up. She had Parkinson's Disease for 14 years and eventually succumbed to it. A very loyal and a true friend, as her school friend JEAN HURST would say as testament to her loyalty. At her funeral the church she attended, St George's, Hanham Abbots, was full'.

KEITH BABER (51-56) passed away on 30th December 2023. Whilst at KGS he missed a year's schooling because of suffering from TB, but still enjoyed rugby at school. On leaving, he played for Kingswood Old Boys RFC until he decided to become a rugby referee, a decision which had a great influence on his future life. He did a lot for KRFC over the years, even helping out with pitch marking, especially when setting up pitches at the start of the season

After KGS he became a Quantity Surveyor with Bristol City Council and met his wife, Rosemary, at Kingswood YMCA where he was an excellent table tennis and snooker player and represented YMCA at league level. He was also surprisingly adept at basketball when played outside on the lawn. He and Rosemary had two daughters and a son and they eventually became grandparents to four grandchildren.

After Keith gave up playing rugby, he joined the Bristol Referees Society and was soon spotted by the Rugby Foot-



ball Union and he qualified to referee first class matches. He also refereed Bristol Combination matches. He was highly respected as a strict but fair referee and he progressed as a Training Officer to

run courses on the laws of rugby, training other referees. He was awarded the highest honour of Life Membership. Tributes were received from International referee, Ed Morrison, and from Kingswood and Whitehall Rugby Football Clubs. Keith also enjoyed playing chess.

At Keith's Celebration Service, *Swing Low Sweet Chariot* and *World in Union* were played, as well as his favourite Boogie Woogie music and a tribute was shown from his sister, Sandy, in Australia. In the order of service his birth and death were described as 'Kick Off' and 'Final Whistle' respectively, fitting terms applied to a great servant of rugby.

We have also been informed of the passing of NORMAN BRACEY (44-40), EDNA MAY POLLARD (39-44) (later Willmott), DAVID WILLMOTT (68-75), MARY HENDY (48-53) (later Ellis), MAUREEN DYMOCK (47-54) (later Townsend), ANNETTE CLARK (59-66), MARY MOSELEY (39-45) (later Rogers), DAVE McCARTHY (53-60), RON WILLIAMS (50-58), ROGER NEWMAN (57-61), DAVID HOPKINS (49-53).and TONY DOWN (55-61).

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



Mr. H. E. Wilde, 1941-1968

[Photo: A. G. Hancock]

It's appropriate to feature a photo of 'JIMMY' WILDE opposite KEITH BABER'S obituary, as they were both keen followers of the game with the oval ball.

Jimmy was a fiery Welshman who served KGS for 27 years during which time he 'dapped' many pupils who delayed entry into the cold showers! We challenged him to do a difficult bar exercise he wanted us to do - and he did it, even though he was probably in his 50s!

He must have joined when football was the KGS sport for boys and he would have introduced Rugby in the school year 1948-49, the last year of MAJOR EATON's reign as Headmaster.

DID YOU KNOW..?

TONY PATTEMORE (63-70) has sent us an interesting agreement between

the parents and the school which parents were required to sign on entry of their offspring to KGS. It was at a time when the normal school-leaving age

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Agreement to be Signed on the Admission of a Pupil to
KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL School

Leave date blank. AN AGREEMENT made the 28th day of June 19 63
BETWEEN THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER
(hereinafter called "the Council") by EDWARD DONALD HOSKEN Clerk to
the Governors of KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL School of the one part and

Parent's name IN FULL. Glyndwr Arthur Pattemore
of
Parent's address. 12 Cecil Road, Kingswood, Bristol
(hereinafter called "the Parent/Guardian") of the other part.

WHEREAS
(a) The Council has delegated to its Education Committee (hereinafter called "the Education Committee") its powers under Section 227 of the Gloucestershire County Council Act 1956.
(b) The Parent/Guardian is the Father/Mother/Guardian of
Child's name IN FULL. Anthony Pattemore
Child's date of birth. (hereinafter called "the pupil") who was born on the 9th day of January 1952
(c) The pupil has been selected for admission to a Secondary School known as
KINGSWOOD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
aforesaid (hereinafter called "the School" which expression shall for the purposes of clause 2 (a) (b) and (c) and clause 3 (a) below be deemed to include any Secondary School to which the pupil shall at any time be transferred) and is thereby an intended pupil at the School.

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows :-
1. The Council will subject to the signing of this Agreement by the Parent/Guardian admit the pupil to the School at the commencement of the Autumn Term 19 63
2. In consideration of the agreement of the Council to admit the pupil to the School as aforesaid the Parent/Guardian undertakes and agrees :-
(a) to observe the rules of the School ;
(b) to keep the pupil in regular and punctual attendance at the School until the date approved by the Education Committee for the expiration of the Summer Term 1968 ;
(c) to pay to the Council ten pounds in the event of the pupil ceasing without the consent of the Education Committee to attend the School before the said date.
3. It is hereby agreed and understood between the parties hereto as follows :-
(a) the Education Committee are not hereby bound to retain the pupil at the School but may at any time transfer the pupil from the School to any other School.
(b) the Education Committee may at any time in their discretion in writing release the Parent/Guardian from any obligation under this Agreement.
(c) Any consent under Clause 2 (c) hereof must be in writing.

AS WITNESS the hands of the parties hereto the day and year first before written.

Signature of parent across 6d. stamp. Signed by the Said Parent/Guardian 6d. Stamp
in the presence of.....
Address
Occupation

Signature of Witness, not related to parent or guardian. Signed by the said Clerk
in the presence of *Charles M. Church*
Address ... 297 Two Mile Hill Road,
Kingswood, Bristol.....
Occupation ... Local Government Officer

Signature of Clerk to Governors.

Notes : (a) This Agreement should be signed wherever possible, by the father, otherwise by the mother or other legal guardian of the child.
(b) The signature of the parent/guardian must be written across a 6d. stamp.
(c) Enter names of Clerk to the Governors, parent/guardian, and pupil in full.
(d) The completed Agreement must be retained by the Clerk to the Governors.

was 15 and parents were obliged to agree that their charges would stay on at KGS for that extra year to complete their O-levels.

I recall several who left before the completion of five years' education at KGS. Under the agreement, clause 2c, a fine of £10 was payable, probably considered quite a sum in those days.

I wonder how many paid the fine?

COMPULSORY...

John Cleese of Kingswood RFC, formerly Kingswood Old Boys RFC, is writing a history of the club. He has come across the fixture list for 59-60 which contains the following:

Annual subs £1.2.6d (£1.12.5p) inc. (2/6d to Kingswood Old Scholars' Association if appropriate.)

Weekly subs – 2/- (10p) for home games & 1/6d for away games

Subscriptions for part-time players, students etc. shall be one-third of one pound plus 2/6d to KOSA

All members of the club shall be members of Kingswood Old Scholars' Association.

How much do they owe us?

PAUL REMEMBERS...

PAUL LEAR (54-61) writes in response to the last edition of the 'NEWS, #62: 'I was interested to read the piece on p.7 from Robin (Wynclyffe-) Smith, who was in my class from 2B - 3L1 - 4L1 - Sixth Form. He was right about the trio in the register, "Mealing-Nott-Peeling", but there was an earlier appendage "Caines with an e, Cains without an e" to distinguish Raymond from Roger (RP) Cains.

'Regarding the Form 4L1 photo on p.8,

I can help you with a few more names. The query for Row 2, no.3 is obviously Margaret Chell, as explained bottom left of p.8.

'Back row are Richard (D) Coates - not Yorke, who I've never heard of - then Michael Atkins (ex-Aberdare), then Robin Smith. Third row are Dobbins and Caines as you stated, then Tim Harris, who was an excellent footballer, probably one of the best in the year and yet another one who was denied the opportunity of playing sport with the right-shaped ball!

TONY'S LEAVING...

TONY PATTEMORE (63-70) (see pp 24/25) reveals that there was a leaving service for the 6th Form on Wednesday, 1st July 1970.

It comprised a Prelude, Words of Entry, the Hymn 'Now thank we all our God' (Songs of Praise 350), the Lesson from 1 Corinthians XIII, V1-13. Address (presumably by the Head), Prayers, Hymn 'Jerusalem' (what else?), (Songs of Praise 446), the Apostolic Blessing and the Postlude.

Did this service take place every year?

TONY'S QUERY...

In #61 we welcomed SHEILA DUFFELL (61-68) but TONY VENN (48-54) remembers her at KGS.

'I believe Sheila might have been a year in advance of me and left KGS to study in Cheltenham, St Mary's, I remember that she lent me her *Child Study* as a guide. It was introduced with this quotation:

*'Child's eyes to see, child's ears to hear
God grant to me that vision clear.'*

It was enormously helpful to me.'
Sorry we got Sheila's years wrong -Ed

THAT STAFF PHOTO...

We have had several attempts to name the un-named members of staff on the photo which we first published in #61: JILL ALEXANDER (later Fuentes), also ex-staff, has written from Mallorca where she now lives:

‘Since receiving my copy of the last *KOSA NEWS* (#62) some time ago I have been meaning to write to you about a couple of the missing staff names. In the photograph on the back page I believe number 29 to be MISS RAYNOR who was a Domestic Science teacher.

‘When I was appointed to KGS in the summer of 1962, I was moving to Bristol, from London, and from living at home with my parents. Miss Raynor (whose first name I cannot now recall) found me a bedsit in a house next-door to where she also had one. It was in Elgin Park, Redland.

‘Number 19 is MR (PETER?) SCOTT

who taught Geography. I am not sure of the first name though!’

DAVID WHEATLEY (54-61) also helped out in the naming:

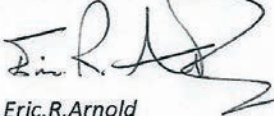
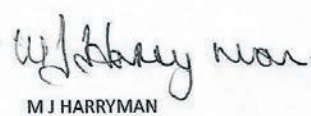
‘Regarding the latest edition of *KOSA* mag and the pic on the back page of the staff: Firstly MR JAMES, number 14, had the nickname ‘Jimmy’ (I believe after the comedian of the same name of that era). Secondly I am making guesses at 2 missing names: Firstly I seem to recall that number 11 may possibly have been a MR PEAT? Possibly Science or Maths or even Humanities? Secondly, was number 21 a MISS BEAKEN? (or similar spelling), a Music teacher.’

PAUL JOBBINS (59-64) wrote:

‘Having checked my Summer term report from 3G2 in 1962, number 19 in the photo was P D SCOTT. This confirms Jill Alexander’s name. A pleasant teacher who also organised the Duke of Edinburgh’s award scheme.’



KOSA MATTERS...

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023			
BALANCE AT BANK 1 JANUARY 2023			£ 7,293.18
RECEIPTS:			
KOSA News Subscriptions		£ 2,187.00	
Expenditure		<u>-£ 3,000.99</u>	
	Deficit		-£ 813.99
AGM			
Expenditure		£ 1,034.00	
		<u>-£ 1,191.50</u>	
	Surplus		-£ 157.50
Sales and Donations		£ 133.00	£ 133.00
PAYMENTS:			
Audit			-£ 15.00
Expenses			-£ 174.45
Balance with Receipts and Payments			<u>£ 6,265.24</u>
BALANCE AT BANK 31 DECEMBER 2023			£ 6,265.24
AUDIT REPORT:			
I have examined the books and vouchers made available to me during my audit and received full and adequate explanation of any questions raised. It is my opinion the accounts set out above form a true and fair view of the affairs of Kingswood Old Scholars' Association as at 31 December 2023. The balance carried forward of £6265.24 is represented by funds held at Lloyds Bank plc as at 31 December 2023.			
 Eric.R.Arnold Eric.R.Arnold. FCCA 26/Jan/2024 (original signature held on file)		 M J HARRYMAN Hon Treasurer, KOSA Jan 2024	

Above are the audited accounts for last year, for adoption at the AGM in October.

IMPORTANT...

Please read the Editor's ramblings on page 1 (which I am sure most people skip!), as it involves the future of KOSA. Regrettably, under the current arrangements, we are unable to carry on producing *KOSA NEWS* after the next edition.

If anyone would like to continue with the publication I am happy to supply the equipment, software and training free of charge to enable them to do so.

WELCOME...

Since the last edition we welcome PETER O'REGAN (73-78), ALAN JONES-WILLIAMS (73-80), CAROL LAMBERT (65-73) (now Wiltshire), RICHARD CAINES (62-69), DOUG COATES (54-63), CHRISTINE TURNELL (65-72) (now Murphy). All Welcome!

BACK PAGE...

The reunion of those from 1968-75 organised by JULIE JOHNS (68-75). Go to Julie's Facebook page 'Kingsfield School and Kingswood Grammar School' and join for more.

