

Congratulations to the Class of 2012



This has been an excellent year for our sixth form students, and we wish the Class of 2012 every success as they leave us and venture out into the wider world. University destinations this year include Birmingham, Bristol, BUWE, Cambridge, Cardiff, Imperial College London, LSE, Loughborough, Manchester Met, Newcastle, Northumbria, Oxford, Plymouth, Royal Agricultural College, UCL, Warwick and York. Other ventures for our leavers include: GAP years to Fiji, Thailand, America, Australia, New Zealand; doing the Orchard's Cookery course and undertaking a chalet season in France.

Four King's College pupils have been offered places by colleges at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Ella Watts has been offered a place to read Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, while local pupils Connie Holmes and Greg Albery have won places at Oxford to read Biological Sciences at Pembroke College and Keble College respectively. Charles Marshall has been offered a place at Oxford to read Computer Science.

Connie, Greg and Charles all began their education at King's Hall School before moving on to King's College.



from left: Greg Albery, Charles Marshall, Connie Holmes and Ella Watts

Are you in touch?

Do we have your correct address? Email? Phone number?

Do you know an OA who has lost touch with King's but would like to get back in touch?

Contact the King's OA Secretary Patrick Scanlan via the OA Club Office: 01823 328238 / oa@kings-taunton.co.uk

From the Chairman and OA Club Office



Edward Hutchings

An action-packed 6 months for the OA Club since our last newsletter is reflected in this bumper edition, with pictures and details of events, ten pages of OA news and several pages of OA sports club reports. It is great to have so many of you responding to our requests for news to include in the newsletter - please do keep sending news and photos to Leisa Lavender in the OA Club Office.

To mark the 60th anniversary of the opening of Pyrland Hall (King's Hall to the younger generations out there!) it has been decided that the annual November reunion dinner will be held at King's Hall this year - see the back page for more details. I hope to see you there!

The OA Club Office is losing Rebecca Hickie who is moving to Surrey over the summer: we are grateful to her for all that she has done for the Club. We are pleased to welcome Brenda Hayman and you will have an opportunity to meet her at the many events coming up.

Please do let us know what you think about the new longer format for the newsletter with more contributions from OAs.

The office has been particularly busy preparing for the launch of the 2020 Vision Strategy and I look forward to discussing these exciting projects with OAs.



Leisa Lavender

In this edition...



OA Open Day 2012

A photo extravaganza from this year's OA Day, including the opening of the new Archive facility.



OAs Overseas



In the Spotlight

Kings Schools Taunton launch their new

20:20 Vision Strategy



News and Sport Round-up



Future Events

including the November OA Dinner at Pyrland Hall

The Headmaster writes...



This year has been a busy one for the school and OA Club alike. Just a few weeks ago, our new Philip Richards Building won an award: the RIBA award for excellence for a new building in the south west, and we have also been designated an MCC Foundation Hub for cricket.

I have had the pleasure of joining a number of OA events and reunions, including an uproarious reunion of pupils who had left the school in the 40s and 50s, held in the RAF Club in London. I never quite know how to respond when an old boy of the school, twice my age, comes up and confesses, with great relish, to some heinous misdemeanour he committed in the trunk room of Bishop Fox House 70 years ago!

The opening of the new Archive Centre has been a highlight of the summer term for both the school and OA Club, and the archivist Alison Mason worked very hard to get things ready for the opening ceremony on OA day. But more of that on page 9!

It has been a delight to meet so many of you at our different OA events this year, and I look forward to meeting more of you over the coming year.

Richard Biggs

Turner Twins' Transatlantic Triumph

On 5th December 2011, OAs Ross and Hugo Turner, along with Loughborough University friends Adam Wolley and Greg Symondson, began their row across the Atlantic Ocean in 'the world's toughest rowing race' in aid of Spinal Research. Reaching the finish line on 16 January 2012, the boys set two world records - youngest four man crew to have rowed the Atlantic and the first twins to have rowed any of the world's oceans. They were also the first 4-man crew to reach the finish line, finishing third overall in a time of 41 days, 23 hours and 34 minutes.

The Woodvale Atlantic Rowing Race was established in 1997, and since that date just over 200 people have completed the punishing crossing; far fewer than those who have reached the summit of Everest or experienced the weightlessness of space. The crew attempted this epic feat to raise funds for Spinal Research, a charity which finances research into spinal cord injury, following Hugo's recovery from a broken neck whilst studying at King's.



Starting in the Spanish Canary Islands and finishing in the Caribbean Island of Barbados, the race is 2,552 nautical miles (2,935 regular miles). When bad weather and adverse conditions are factored in, most teams will row well over 3,000 miles during their Atlantic crossing, taking between two and three months. The crew rowed in a 29 ft open hull, transatlantic rowing boat specifically designed for making the Atlantic crossing. Conditions on board were extremely cramped and uncomfortable with little protection from the extreme weather conditions and 70 foot swells of the mid Atlantic. The boys had no home comforts, no ablutions and limited cooking facilities during their time on-board. They drank desalinated seawater and slept in a space no bigger than a single bed. The boat was kitted out with the very latest electronic systems so that they were tracked 24 hours a day, and could communicate with land and other vessels while out at sea.

The costs for such an event are considerable, which meant getting to the start line was a sizeable challenge in itself. The team had to manage the logistics of fund-raising, training, liaising with sponsors and studying at university before getting to the start line in December 2011. It was a busy and testing year, but having reached their fundraising target to finance the crossing itself, donations can still be made which will go straight into the funds raised for Spinal Research. Visit www.justgiving.com/theatlantic4.



James Miller named Agricultural Student of the Year

James Miller (Bishop Fox 2009) has been named Farmers Guardian's Agricultural Student of the Year 2011-2012. He has been awarded a 12-month international work placement, which will see him travelling to New Zealand to pursue his career in agriculture. James is currently in his second year at the Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester studying agriculture, and will be spending the summer on a four-month work placement at Kenniford Farm, Exeter, before heading to New Zealand in September.

Photo courtesy of Farmers Guardian

'Comeback Corner'



We are always delighted to welcome OAs back to King's, and the last few weeks have seen a number of visitors dropping in to see us. Simon Wilson, Woodard 1976, and his family (*below right*) visited King's in May all the way from Houston, Texas. Desmond Broadbridge, King Alfred 1966 (*bottom left, with wife Lucy*) visited both King's Hall and King's College in June, with Desmond having attended both schools. Eric Chase, King Alfred 1944, and his daughter Hilary (*centre*) visited King's College almost 60 years after Eric left the school. Charlie Chadwick, King Alfred 2005 (*far left*) and Anton Gavin, Meynell 1964 (*left*) also dropped in to see us in June.

OAs are always welcome to visit the school. If you are able to give us advance notice then it is usually possible for us to arrange to give you a guided tour.



London Gatherings



Above left rear-Leo Charles, Michael Scott, David Stott, Brenda Hann, John Tapner, Judith Charles, Daline Stott, John Hann and Cherry Tapner

Leisa Lavender has enjoyed meeting OAs of all ages in London for drinks and lunch. London pub nights will be regular events and the next one will be held in the Charing Cross area on 13 September from 6pm in the The Theodore Bullfrog pub. If anyone would like to suggest another location please email Leisa.



Theodore Bullfrog pub night - 16 May 2012

London Reunion



We were grateful to Commodore Jamie Miller for arranging the unusual setting of HMS President – not a ship but a land base next to Tower Bridge – for our London reception. This impressive venue, occasionally used by very senior admirals for prestigious events and recently used by the Queen to disembark at the conclusion of the Royal Jubilee River Pageant, has a sensational view of the River and of Tower Bridge. We were very well looked after by our hosts and were also given a professional view of the contemporary roles of the modern navy by the Royal Navy presentation team. An excellent evening enjoyed by everyone.



Hong Kong Reception



Hong Kong was a blast. As it usually is. We were royally looked after and managed to see and do a huge amount in just five days. Just a taste: an overnight visit to Macau, a visit to a nightclub (not my usual sort of habitat, but interesting nonetheless), a wonderful trip on a junk to an island beach restaurant (bizarrely, a Philippino-run South African restaurant, serving excellent boerewors...on a Lantau island), some fantastic meals and a morning's hike in the south-east of the main island. The reception for OAs, present pupils and parents, in the offices of Victor Chu, one of our most distinguished OAs, was a huge success. This was the tenth anniversary of my first visit to Hong Kong. I have been going more or less each year since then, in one guise or another, and have never grown tired of it. The friendliness and generosity of parents and alumni is always overwhelming and I thank them all warmly for their welcome and support.

Richard Biggs, Headmaster



40s and 50s Lunch

Having spent 25 years or more as King's Secretary of the OA Club during my 36 years on the teaching staff at King's, I was both delighted and honoured to be Guest of Honour at the recent Forties & Fifties Lunch, held at the RAF Club in Piccadilly.



John Cole and organiser Colin Bulloch

The lunch, chaired by Sir Roger Birch and organised by Colin Bulloch (F56) was a very pleasant occasion during which old friends swapped stories of days gone by, some having met for the first time since leaving school well over 50 years ago. Many others, of course, were regular attenders at similar lunches and knew each other very well, but the stories

and reminiscences flowed nevertheless.

The headmaster, Richard Biggs, gave a brief résumé of the excellent state in which the School found itself and this was echoed, in a less official manner by the Director of Development Leisa Lavender, who had also provided a number of photographic archives beautifully presented by the School Archivist Alison Mason. Comments like "Look at you with hair!" or "Did Popsy Townsend really swim between North and South Island?" abounded, and the whole exhibition was a welcome addition to the excellent meal.

More stories were exchanged later in the afternoon over tea in the Lounge overlooking Piccadilly, when one or two wives joined in, having had a profitable few hours of retail therapy. John Coombs (W51) produced a collection of old photos, a couple of which, interestingly, depicted the parade of cadets and scouts on Taunton's Castle Green in celebration of the Opening of the Festival of Britain in 1951. Looking particularly smart on parade was Sgt Major Walter Gooderham (Sarge), about whom, at the lunch, I read out a verse that I had written for the OA Dinner in 1981, the year 'Sarge' retired.

This was an occasion not to be missed and I look forward to next year's gathering, not as Chief Guest, but as an Honorary Member of the OA Club.



Ben Sykes, Staff (1963-1999)



John Coombs and Michael Hirst



James Platt-Higgins, Richard Osborn and Peter Champion

Barry Brown, Tom Chippendale and guest of honour Ben Sykes



40s and 50s Leavers Memory Project

Many thanks to all those 1940s and 1950s leavers who have responded to the Headmaster's letter requesting memories of your time at King's and details of your life after you left the school. We are still gratefully receiving responses to this project, but are also now looking for a volunteer who would be interested in assisting us with collating all of these memories into a booklet which can be kept in the Archive and also made available to participants in the project.

For further information on what this project would entail, please contact Leisa Lavender in the OA Club Office:

lmavender@kings-taunton.co.uk or 01823 328238.

Pyrland Pelican Open Day

I must have been one of the youngest to attend the Pyrland Pelican Open Day but it was still 30 years, give or take a month, since I last made my way up that sweeping drive to the school - although this time there was no trunk in tow.

During refreshments we all enjoyed a look at an exhibition of archive material on display in the old Chapel (the sports hall of my day is now used for school services). On display were the old honours boards which once hung proudly in the dining room (now the school library, and meals are now served directly from the kitchens in the old back passage, and eaten in what was Mr Walters and Mr Thomsen's maths room). On the boards were many familiar names - Forknall, McDermott (didn't remember him being Head Boy), Dumpleton, Whiting and many more. We were then entertained to an enjoyable concert in the old sports hall (now the arts and music hall) and featuring pupils of all ages and comprising a number of acts including a soloist and a rock band! I couldn't help but notice as we passed, that the old swimming pool Ben Goldman had lovingly built had had something of a make-over. Those pre-breakfast swims with the swimming team still happen apparently.



After a fine lunch, and a speech from the current head - Justin Chippendale - a Woodard old boy of my era - we were shown around the old place. My chaperone was one Francis Barnsley, who joined Pyrland in my second term in 1981. He even remembered my cricketing exploits and an essay I'd written about Oliver Twist!

So much had changed - Dunster gone, many dorms turned into smaller bedrooms; the quad bell has been replaced by an electric bell; the grass tennis courts have gone; the outside cricket nets have gone to be replaced by the pre-prep school. But so little had changed as well - Ben Goldman's old room, the school houses, the back passage, the laundry room, the old sports hall, the arts room, the cricket pitch, the livestock living out on the front, the basement where we cleaned our shoes, and so I could go on.



Afterwards, there was tea in the inner quad and a chance to catch up with others from my time at

Pyrland - Roger Trafford, Mark Irons, John Reeves, and a fleeting visit from Patrick Scanlan who had ventured over from Kings. It was an excellent trip down memory lane. What was clear was that the ethos and experience that Pyrland gave to me and many others 30 years ago is still very much in existence today, and that was so refreshing to see when so much else around us is changing.

Alastair Milburn, Pyrland Hall, 1980-1982



OA Day



The 2012 OA Day was held on 30 June, when 75 guests arrived at King's to dodge the showers and enjoy the opportunity to revisit their old haunts. After an initial opportunity to catch up with fellow OAs over coffee, the new Archive Centre was opened by Garth Pedler (Carpenter 1964). This was followed by tours of the school, led by current 6th form pupils and staff, encompassing the Philip Richards Building and the latest machinery to be delivered to the Design Technology workshop.

A drinks reception preceded lunch, which was held in the dining room amid the sports shields dating back 100 years and more - more than one OA spent a happy few minutes looking for their name on a team shield! The OAs and their guests were very impressed with the range and quality of dishes on offer in the cafeteria, with lunch rounded off by a traditional bread-and-butter pudding!

After lunch many OAs took the opportunity to visit exhibitions of pupil Art and DT work, to watch the 1st XI cricket team in action, and to pay a more leisurely visit to the Archive Centre to look at photographs and other memorabilia relating to their time at King's. Alison Mason the archivist and her two archive volunteers were on hand to answer questions and to locate particular items of interest.

The day ended with afternoon tea, where a glass or two of Pimms was enjoyed by all!



From top:

David Kent and William Bray

Delcia Fussell

Stuart Hockey and Richard Biggs

Barry Brown

Rev Tony and Joyce Marks.

Above:

Visitors studying the timeline display in the Archive Centre.

Right:

Alan and Richard Osborn.



2012

Garth Pedler cuts the ribbon to officially open the new Archive centre, watched by the Headmaster Richard Biggs, and the archivist Alison Mason along with her volunteers Chris Warren OA and Johanna Kastner.

Pictured below right: the Archive team - Chris Warren, Alison Mason and Johanna Kastner.



The opening of the new Archive Centre was a highlight of the 2012 OA Day. The creation of an Archive Centre at King's College was only made possible by the relocation of the Business Studies teaching spaces into the Philip Richards Building when it opened in May 2011, and the school is very grateful to Philip (Carpenter 1977) for the ongoing transformation of school facilities his generous gift has enabled.



After much work by the school's Estates department, two classrooms were transformed into a temperature-controlled storage room, and an office and visitor centre with cabinet and wall displays. There is a comfortable sofa where OAs might sit to leaf through a photograph album, whilst a large table provides work space for the serious researcher.

The storage room contains a wide variety of objects and records from throughout the school's history, dating back as far as the founding of the school and earlier. There is a large photo collection, including official school, house and team photographs, and the collection of uniform and sports kit is also growing.

King's Schools Taunton 2020 Vision



Proposed Sports Centre at King's College

King's College

The Development Office has been busy compiling a new document outlining our vision for the next eight years in advance of the start of a major fund-raising campaign next year.

At King's College we have identified three main projects which will need support. Firstly, a new sports centre, to go between the existing sports hall and swimming pool, which will pull those two facilities together and provide changing rooms, office space, a dance studio, fitness suite and a social area overlooking the hockey pitches.

Secondly, we want to build a new girls' boarding house to replace the existing Taylor House accommodation. We would

then have three equally sized girls' houses. This would reflect our growing popularity as a destination for girl boarders and the space freed up would be put to good use as well.

Thirdly, we wish to extend our existing theatre and music school facilities to provide a state-of-the-art performing arts centre.

The three projects each have their own focus and reflect areas of real strength at King's: sport, boarding and performing arts. They will have a transformative effect on the school and its pupils and they follow on naturally from the phenomenally successful new Philip Richards Building, which has made such a positive difference to the academic life of the school.

King's has benefited greatly from the generosity of alumni and parents in the past. Many of our important developments, such as the library, have been made possible by donations and we need that support to continue if we are to keep ourselves in the forefront of educational provision in the coming years.

King's Hall School

We have selected three projects that will have a transformative effect on the school. The first is to construct a building that will house new Science, Art and Technology facilities as well as new classrooms.

This will release space to be refurbished as music facilities.

The third project is to create a new entrance to the Pre-Prep and resurface the hard area.

King's Hall has a wonderful feel to it - it is the strength of the relationships, the qualities and the values of the people who are here that make it a special place for children to grow but this 2020 Vision demonstrates our clear intent to provide first-class facilities for the future.



Proposed Teaching Centre at King's Hall

From the Archives

Alison Mason Archivist, a day in the life...

My first job of the day is to check the archive store to make sure there are no problems and that the environmental controls are correct. The temperature and humidity are constantly monitored to provide the best conditions we can for the collections. The King's historical collections are quite a mixture - paper, photographs, textiles, electronic media and it is something of a balancing act to cater for all their needs.

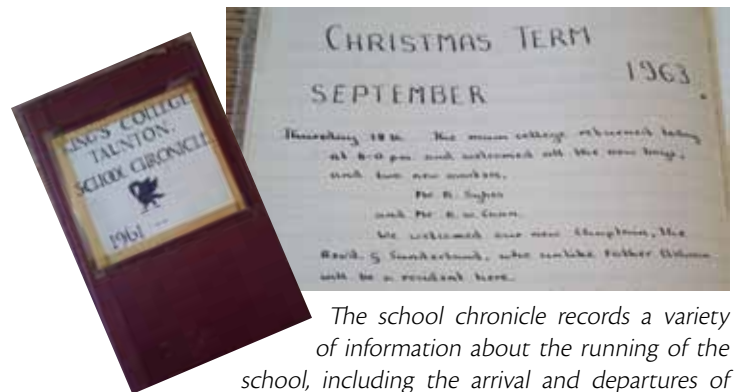
I then move on to looking at the post and e-mail. I work for just 2 days of the week so there is usually quite a pile of correspondence and parcels in my in-tray. It is very rare for there not to be something new for the collection waiting for me. This might be memorabilia from an OA or something with a King's connection found by a member of the public. The porters are excellent at finding interesting items in dark corners of the school and I collect more recent material from teaching and support departments.



This board is one of the oldest school artefacts in the archive, and is carved with the names of pupils who attended the school 1880 - 1896

Most of the morning is taken up with answering enquiries. These are often internal requests for information about a person or building but I am regularly contacted by family historians with an OA ancestor as well as a great range of researchers interested in everything from military history, to cricket and the history of Taunton. Since the collections were moved to the Archive Centre it has been possible for OAs and researchers to visit and look at material for themselves which provides a far better service.

In order to know what material we have I need to sort and catalogue the collection. With new material appearing most days this is a large and ongoing job.



The school chronicle records a variety of information about the running of the school, including the arrival and departures of members of staff.

I am very excited at the prospect of gaining some new documentation software for the collection in the near future which will help to record what information we have, where it comes from and how to find it. This will certainly keep me busy for the next 12 months!

Although I have been an archivist for twenty years, I still love the variety of the job from working with historical items to meeting people with tales to tell and helping those with questions. Best of all I enjoy being the Archivist at King's because every day is like being on a treasure hunt.



Collections of school magazines and cricket scorebooks help to illustrate school life as it used to be

Photographs of school productions date back to the early 1900s



OAs and the Olympics

ALEC COLLYER, Carpenter 1976 - Olympic Torch Bearer



Alec Collyer works for the BBC in the South West out of the Plymouth TV studios. He has served for 36

years as a member of Dartmoor Rescue Group, and helped establish the Ashburton team in 1976. His love of the moors and the great outdoors comes to a great extent from CCF expeditions at King's under Ken Kerslake's tutelage. Many fond memories of Ten Tors training and Lake district weeks.



Alec was at RNAS Culdrose filming when the Olympic flame arrived from Athens, he was also on the Royal Navy search and rescue helicopter that flew the flame to Lands End, as he is often filming with the crews there.



The BBC was given two torchbearer places by Lloyds TS. An email went to all staff asking for nominations or self-nominations for a place. You had to be involved in community projects out of normal work time. Alec applied and was notified he had won a place.

The actual bit that Alec ran was very meaningful as it was in Shaldon, his home village, and started next to his family home. All his friends from the village turned out. and a few beers were drunk.

DAVID HUNTER, Neates 1982 - Performance Manager, GB Paralympic Dressage

David Hunter is currently Chief Executive & Clerk of the Course at Fakenham Racecourse and the Performance Manager for GB Paralympic Dressage. David splits his time between the two roles which works very well as the busy racing season is in the winter and the dressage season is in the summer. Having just finished the current National Hunt season at Fakenham, David is now pretty much full on in dressage mode in advance of The London Paralympic Games.



His role is to manage and co-ordinate horses, kit, logistics, training, support staff and anything else that is needed to ensure the GB Paralympic Equestrian team arrives at all major international competitions best prepared to be as successful as possible. It is a role David has combined with his racecourse duties for 9 years and he has taken the GB team to the Athens and Beijing Games, as well as numerous European and World Championships.



David is not a trainer or coach to the riders or team, but he works very closely with them and the riders to ensure horses and riders are best prepared. 'All of us are thoroughly looking forward to London. The atmosphere of a home games will be huge and we are determined to use this in a positive way to enhance the performance of our riders. We go into the Games as current European, World and Paralympic Team Gold medallists - so no pressure!!'. The London Paralympic Games runs from 29 August to 9 September and equestrianism will take place in the temporary venue that has been built in Greenwich Park.



TENNIS



Nick Grime, Martin Chubb, Giles Cooper, Toby Catton, Pete Belfield, Sammy Li.

victorious again, 5 matches to 4. A great afternoon had by all, thanks to all the OAs who travelled many miles to take part in this event.

On Saturday 23 June an OA Women's tennis match was played, with four OA players joined by two parents of current pupils to play the current first team. 1st pair Milla Bell and Hatti Mason; 2nd pair Hollie Bell and Kate Taylor; 3rd pair Mrs McIntosh and Mrs Clark. The parents came out with a competitive mind set and thoroughly enjoyed playing against their daughters. They won 2 of their matches losing to Tory and Charlotte 3-6. Hollie and Kate had great fun with their matches and kept themselves thoroughly entertained throughout. Hatti and Milla had a close match with Tory and Charlotte, unfortunately losing the match in a sudden death final game 5-6.



Milla Bell

FOOTBALL

The annual OA Football match took place on Saturday 3 March 2012. With a good number of OAs returning to play we were able to field two teams, one made up of recent leavers (including a good number of the 2011 team), and one made up of slightly more mature players. The OA Recent team was pitted against the current 1st XI and with a powerful drive from Ryan May followed by two goals from Omar Hamaoui the King's 1st XI secured a resounding victory in an extremely competitive game. The OA Past team fared better in their match versus the current King's 2nd XI, with experience triumphing over youth in a 3 - 1 win for the OAs. OAs can never get enough football and after the scheduled matches against the current King's teams the OAs faced each other in a well-spirited final challenge. Once again experience surpassed youth as the OA Past netted three times to take the fixture 3 - 0.



GOLF

The School was represented in the Annual Public Schools Putting Competition held at Royal Wimbledon Golf Club on Wednesday 13 June. Roger Vincent (the Society captain) was the co-ordinator and the School was represented by Roger together with Paul Griffiths, Mark Evans and Rob Excell.

Last year we resurrected the annual triangular match against Clifton and Blundell's, losing to Clifton but managing a win against Blundell's. This year the match will take place at Bristol & Clifton Golf Club on 9 August. Each school enters 6 players and each player plays in a game against a player from each of the other two schools. We will meet at about 1.00 p.m. and play one round in the afternoon. A light snack will be available after the golf. Any OA who would like to play in this event should contact Martin Evans by email at martin.evans@lemon-co.co.uk or by phone on 07768 743190.

The Autumn meeting for the Pelican Golf Society will be at the Berkshire Golf Club, Swinley Road, Ascot on the 6 November. We will meet 7.30 - 8.00 for breakfast and the first tee time on the Club's Red Course will be 8.30 a.m. We will have a full lunch which is 'de rigueur' at The Berkshire! If any OA would like to play, please contact Martin Evans as above.



Players at Taunton and Pickering Golf Club for the Masters, Boys and OAs annual match.

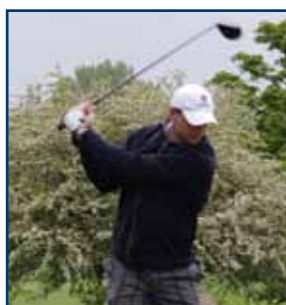
The annual golf match between the Masters, KCT Boys and OAs took place at Taunton and Pickering Golf Club on Sunday 20 May, with the closely fought encounter being narrowly won by the Boys' team. A major contributory factor to the Boys' team victory was an outstanding round of 75 scored by young Taylor Stote of King's Hall, who, apart from an effortless golf swing, impressed everybody with his steady temperament and calmness under the pressure of being drawn to play with his Headmaster (Justin Chippendale OA) and Deputy Headmaster (Bob Coupland, playing for the KCT Masters team).

Neil Brand was also on top form for the boys, scoring well, and winning the longest drive competition. For the Masters, Phil Lewis and Francis Barnsley were the pick of a team that all scored steadily and included Jos Buttler, who demonstrated off the tee some of the power he uses to regularly clear the boundary ropes at the County Ground. For the OA team Rob Berry and Justin Chippendale put in very respectable scores, but Tim Rainey won the 'closest to the pin' competition, that hole proved a rare highlight of his round.

Many thanks to all who came and played in the keenly fought and most enjoyable match – especially to Sammy Li OA who flew in from Hong Kong 48 hours earlier to play in the OA tennis match, and gallantly stood in and impressed everybody with his long hitting and great touch round the greens.



Jonathan Denton, Dennis Breakwell, Phil Lewis and Neil Brand



Jos Buttler in action



Nick Grime, Sammy Li and Francis Barnsley

RUGBY



Back row - L to R: Gethin Whittall, Paddy Boyle (BF'06), Charlie Lenygon (W'06), Ali Taylor (KA'07), Luke Osborne (KA'06), Mark Langford (T'06), Chris Boyle (BF'03)

Front row - L to R: Scott Lowden, Tim Smith, Tom Thorn (BF'06), John Williams (W'06)

Richmond Rugby Rocks 7s

The 11 man squad 'The King's' was made up of 8 old boys including 3 separate 1st XV captains. Brothers Chris and Paddy Boyle got to play as team mates for the first time.

We won all 3 of our group games playing some excellent possession rugby. A big part of our game was dominating the contact area.

Unfortunately we lost in the Quarter Finals to the eventual winners.

It was a great opportunity to meet up with some old friends and play the sport that we all have such fond memories of from school.

CRICKET

2012 season

OA fixtures were arranged against Taunton School, Millfield and the Somerset Stragglers on top of the annual 1st XI fixture with a great cross section of leavers from different years making up the teams. Due to the inclement weather the only match played was against Millfield, with only 10 overs played of a 20/20 and they got to 90-1 off 9 overs. C Kieswetter 64* and Pete Smith got a run out for our wicket, before the rain came down again and the match was called off! However we stayed for the afternoon and enjoyed the hospitality and an unofficial OA OM golf fixture was also played!

Will McKegey, Tuckwell 2008



(Left to right) John Sherwin, Pete Smith (12), Morgan Smith (pupil), Pete Hale (08), Charlie Mckegney (04), Ed Khodabandehloo, Calvin Smith (07). (l to r) Jack Conway, Will Mckegney (08), Tom Lewis (09), Ian Jeanes (05).

Somerset County Cricket Club OA players

Congratulations to the 4 King's boys who played against South Africa 9/10 July at Somerset. Jos Buttler has played for England Lions and England this season; Craig Meschede has played for Somerset in Championship and One Day fixtures. Alex Barrow has played in Championship and One Day fixtures and also played as wicket keeper on occasion. James Regan (2012 leaver) has made his debut for Somerset this year as wicket keeper.



Photo courtesy Alain Lockye

Alex Barrow, Craig Meschede, Jos Buttler, James Regan after the match against South Africa

MICHAEL MARWOOD - Meynell 1936

Michael Marwood, now 93, has retired after 19 years arranging international artists and chamber music for Lewes's Nicholas Yonge Society.



JOHN ANNESLEY SMITH - King Alfred 1945

2011 brought me two special occasions. First, my 25th Wedding Anniversary to my second wife Maria Augusta and second, my great granddaughter's second birthday. She is my eldest son's granddaughter.

I still have many happy memories of my days at King's from the day I started in the Junior School (1941) until the day I left King Alfred House in 1945. The days in the Junior School were the happiest, taking part in school activities. I sang in the Choir, served at mass and played Football for the 1st X1. I remember the team: Bent, Smith, Burt, Calverley, Bellers, Gilbert, Tozer, Downs, Hunter-Watts, Berry and Walker. We played ten games in 1944 - winning 7, drawing 2 and losing only 1.

After I left King's I did my National Service in the 6th Royal Tank Regiment, then came to Brazil with a three year contract, working on a big cattle farm (48,000 acres and 25,000 head of cattle). After my contract I married and worked for General Motors for some years and finally giving English lessons of which I do until today.

I have married twice. With my first wife I have three sons and a daughter and no children with my second wife. My eldest son is called Nigel, the name taken after two good friends from Taunton: Nigel Thorn (King's) and Nigel Daniell (Taunton Rugby Football Club).

DAVID LUKE - Meynell 1955

My wife and I have been on our eighth sea cruise, this time sailing from Southampton through the Med. to the Black Sea and back. We have lived in Jersey since 1979, also our two married daughters both with twins - a pair of boys and a pair of girls. They keep us young and active.

I have briefly visited King's and find it more like a university campus, a far cry from the spartan days of 1951-1955. Then National Service as a 2nd Lieut with 4RHA and seven years as a Captain in the TA gunners.

JOHN TYZACK MBE - Carpenter 1958

I left King's in 1958 and following two most enjoyable years at Sandhurst I joined an Infantry Regiment then based in Munster, Germany. Not the most exciting place to be posted but within a matter of months I found myself en-route to the Far East, six months in Hong Kong and a year in Borneo during the Indonesian uprising.

This posting had a definitive impact on my life and career. Plodding through the swamps and jungle but observing the helicopters and aircraft flying so easily overhead gave me a determination to apply to join the Army Air Corps on my return to the UK. This I did and spent many years flying with the AAC in many interesting parts of the world including Germany, Aden, Cyprus, Libya, Brunei and various parts of mainland Britain and Northern Ireland.

Although I still have much to do with the AAC - I chair the Association and also Chair the local Air Crew Association, my main activities these days encompass education. About fifteen years ago I became involved with one of the Cambridge Colleges as their Development Director, after five years in post I moved to Reading University and took on a similar role for the whole University.

This education business certainly grasped my interest and imagination and I am still much involved. Apart from chairing the governing body of one of West Berkshire's largest Primary Schools, I chair the Schools' Forum which dispenses Government Funding to all eighty Schools in the County.

Apart from education, I organise an annual air show which attracts many historic aircraft and I am pleased to say a very welcome group from the Taunton Stand Club.

DAVID EDWARDS - Carpenter 1959

D K (Ted) Edwards (pictured here with his eldest grandson) is busy in retirement selling antiquarian and secondhand books in the Bideford Pannier Market. Bideford is a glorious little town on the banks of the River Torridge and the Market is open Tues/Sat throughout the year. We settled here in 1995 after



working both in England and Southern Africa in various Government Offices and Departments. Travelling to Cape Town in 1975 I met M Burton also Carpenter about 1957-1961, he was an officer on the SA Val. We drank several toasts to old masters!!! Do come and visit and have a browse, I'm usually open between 9.30-2.30. There is a good cafe in the Market and a large car park close by.

PHILIP MORGAN - King Alfred 1960

I have not been back since sometime in the early 60s so you can imagine how much I felt it had changed. What wonderful facilities are now available for pupils and I was very interested to see how the lovely modern library blended into the old building. The most dramatic changes were the facilities in what was the King Alfred dormitory. I shall never forget the faces of the two pupils who showed us around when I told them there were at least 30 beds in the dormitories on either side of the Housemasters room and the bed making was inspected daily to check our hospital corners!

SIMON JONES - King Alfred 1968

Simon is married to Nancy Lewis, and they have one son, Timothy (22), currently working in London. Simon is an actor who divides his time between New York and London. In spite of many Broadway, TV and film appearances, he is still best known for two key portrayals done in England – ‘Arthur Dent’ in the cult radio and TV series, Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy and ‘Bridey’ in the TV mini-series, Brideshead Revisited. This summer, from 8 June – 21 July, he is touring the UK, starring in a stage version of the legendary BBC radio series, Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy, which began back in 1978.



Photo by James Bullimore, courtesy of Target Live

“The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy became an instant classic on its launch as a radio series. Now Douglas Adams’s immortal creation explodes back into life in this ground-breaking new stage production - a radio show like you never saw before - in surround sound, packed with laughter, really wild sound effects and drinks with extremely silly names.

Led by Simon Jones as Arthur Dent, Hitchhiker’s favourites from the legendary Radio and TV casts are re-united for these live performances, bringing to life the characters written for them in highlights from the entire Hitchhiker’s Saga. They are joined on stage by a VIP Guest Voice Of The Book and supporting actors from Hitchhiker’s in all its phases.”

All of the dates, and more information, can be found at:
www.hitchhikerslive.com / www.simonjonesinfo.com

CHRIS NEWMAN - Meynell 1973



After many years working in the Film Business in the UK on productions as Assistant Director, I have now moved onto Producing. In the last three years I have been working on HBO’s ‘Game of Thrones’, shooting in Northern Ireland, Croatia and Iceland.

Last year saw my eldest daughter married and this year my younger daughter taking A levels for University. Older son involved in the digital world of feature film cameras, and youngest son is 14 which explains his life. Grandchildren in Iceland keep my wife and I commuting back and forth to Reykjavik, in between my commitments to work.

RUTH MAXWELL - Carpenter 1976

I am still living in Sussex with my GP husband Tom, working as a freelance copyeditor for medical and veterinary publishers, and our daughter Tessa finishes her degree from Manchester this summer.

As it is 7 years since I climbed Kilimanjaro in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, I decided it was time for another charity challenge, and successfully completed the London Moonwalk in May in aid of breast cancer charities, raising nearly £4000. Walking a full marathon through London, starting at midnight (dressed in a nautical themed decorated bra) with 17,000 people was an amazing experience, cheered all the way by family, cabbies, firemen, and bewildered tourists! As we crossed the Finish line at 8.30am, a cup of tea never tasted so good! (I am 2nd from the right in the photo!)



MICHAEL PHILLIPS - Meynell 1979

I joined South Western Ambulance Service, based at Taunton Ambulance Station, 18 months ago - a career change. This sprang from two years work with Christian mission agency Youth With A Mission, which took me to Africa in 2004 and 2006 supporting medical teams in Egypt, the Sudan and Uganda. I am also now a Street Pastor in Taunton. Many OAs will also know I worked for 18 years as a journalist with local newspapers - Western Daily Press, Somerset County Gazette, Devon and Cornwall Media Agency. Currently live just outside Bridgwater.

EDWARD COLE - King Alfred 1981

I was not bitten by the bug that encouraged leavers to explore the world, be the first to cross Africa on a crocodile, or survive with no food and drink in a desert somewhere. But hats off to those that do!

Instead I toured Canada with the Leeds University RFC and have since toured over 15 times with Wimbledon Hockey Club; this I have found a great antidote to the trials and tribulations, fear and angst, in settling the school fees of Eastbourne (George 18) and JAGS (Sophie 16) such that the next generation can face more challenges with such a wonderful advantage, confidence.

I am now Manager of Wimbledon Hockey Club 1st XI - Olympians Ben Marsden and Ben Hawes lead a very talented squad. I would be delighted to show prospective OAs around the Club - for contacts and more information visit: www.wimbledonhockey.com

WHC on tour to Breda in Holland - Ben Marsden back row 2nd from left, Ed Cole front row 2nd from left



EMMA LACK (née FITCH) - Bishop Fox 1988

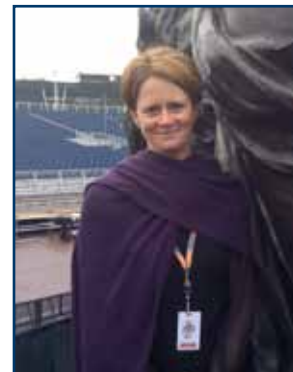
Now a Mother of three (Harry (7), Fenella (4) and Olly (2)) living on Wandsworth Common and celebrated 10 years of marriage to William in 2012! I work part time for William, from home and round the children, so it's great to have an understanding boss! We see Emma Lyttle (Lind) as she is a super Godmother to Nella, but I have been terrible at keeping in touch with other friends...

LUCY RAFFETY - Woodard 1992

In a nutshell - I'm a TV producer, currently producing Casualty for the BBC, am married, have 2 children - Ravi and Lyra - and am very happily living in Bristol!

CAROLINE RAWLINS - Tuckwell 1992

Caroline Rawlins (née Dyer) T92 is married with two girls aged 4 and 6 and currently lives in Oxfordshire. She has recently taken part in the recording of the chart-topping Jubilee single 'Sing' written by Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Gary Barlow and also performed for the Queen at the Jubilee Concert as part of the Military Wives' Choir. Having not sung since King's, it shows that some of Chris Holmes' tuition must have been retained! It has been a rather exciting few weeks and is a real change from running her picture-framing business and flying the children!



ANDREW DART - Neates 1994



Working at Chelsea Football Club and living in Wandsworth I found a new challenge this year when I pulled on the lycra to cycle with Lawrence Dallaglio and Freddie Flintoff on a stage of their Cycle Slam 2012 from Olympia in Greece to Olympic Park in London. Joining them from

Luca in Italy and pedalling to the ski resort of Aprica in the Orobien Alps I arrived 5 days and 653km later having climbed over 28,000 meters, raising over £4000 for charity in the process. Now looking for my next challenge...

ELLY RENSHAW - Carpenter 2004

I got married to Dickon Green in April 2011 and gave birth to a baby boy Arthur Dickon Green on 30 November 2011. We're all living in the Outer Hebrides running a mail order smoked salmon company and fishing holiday lets at Uig Lodge on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis. www.uiglodge.co.uk

HEATHER SCOTT - Meynell 2001

I got married on 19 May 2012 to James Bladon. I met James at Oxford Brookes where we both studied for an MSc in Real Estate in 2005/6. We then moved to London and both qualified as Chartered Surveyors. We got married at St Andrew's Church, Clayhidon, Devon.



James and Heather Bladon



From left: Luke Fothergill, Robyn Kimber, Douglas Scott, Heather Bladon, Fiona Turner, Emma Nuttall, Sophia Excell, Rob Excell, Andy Lewis, Angharad Irvine

KRISTEN MERCER - Taylor 2004

Kristen has just completed a BA Hons degree at Somerset College. Her paintings are entirely intuitive and combine play, planning, spontaneity, accident and gesture. Her aim is to create a balance of order and chaos, harmony and discord that ultimately resonates a sense of self.



Her work will be on display at King's in September as part of Somerset Contemporary Artists' Network *Outside the Box* exhibition, during which she and other members of SCAN will work with students to creatively transform boxes donated by Ark Removals, Taunton.

JESS MASON - Taylor 2007



After graduating from the University of Leicester (Medical Genetics) Jess completed her Yachtmaster exams and has

been working as a Media Intern with the Clipper Round the World Race. She left Southampton on the De Lage Landen sponsored boat at the end of July 2011 en route to Rio via Madeira and over to Cape Town. She left Cape Town on Edinburgh – Inspiring Capital boat, and has tackled the southern oceans on the way to Geraldton (Western Aust) - then on to New Zealand, the Gold Coast, Singapore, and Qingdao. San Francisco, Panama, New York, Nova Scotia, Ireland, Holland, arriving back in the UK in July 2012. The boats are full racing yachts – no comforts and crewed by non-professional sailors.

ALEXANDRA WYNN - Taylor 2008

Alexandra Wynn is a member of the opera trio 'The Sirens' who reached the final of the National competition 'Britain Does Variety' 2012. The trio met whilst studying at the Royal Northern College of Music where Alexandra is an ABRSM scholar and are currently recording an album together which should be available later this year. You can keep up to date with the trio on their website: www.the-sirens.co.uk



ALEXANDRA THORNE - Taylor 2009

Is thoroughly enjoying life at Brasenose College, Oxford, where she has been secretary of the University Polo society and also of the Clay Pigeon society and will be on Internship at Royal Bank of Canada for 9 weeks through the summer.

OAs Overseas

GEOFFREY LANGLANDS - Bishop Fox 1936

After leaving King's College Geoffrey Langlands went straight into teaching at a school in Croydon. 76 years later, he is only just about to retire! Posted to India towards the end of the Second World War, when the partitioning of India and Pakistan occurred he volunteered to stay on to help train the new Pakistani army. After seven years, the commander-in-chief of the army suggested that Langlands' educational expertise might be useful to the civilian populace. In 1954 he began teaching at Aitchison College where he stayed for 25 years, counting a number of princes, governors and many of today's ruling generals amongst his pupils, and including the cricketer Imran Khan.

From Aitchison, he moved to help found Raznak Cadet College, in the lawless tribal area of North Waziristan which these days is a haven for Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. From here he was kidnapped by local tribesmen disputing the result of a local election in 1988, a situation which was resolved peacefully after the intervention of local elders. It was shortly after this that Langlands moved to his present post as Headmaster of Langlands School and College in Chitral in the Hindu Kush mountains. It is Chitral's finest school, with 900 pupils aged between four and eighteen (over a third of them girls) and many of its brightest pupils are enabled to continue on in education with scholarships and exchange programmes.

After 73 years in teaching, Major Langlands (who was awarded the Companion of Saint Michael and George in the birthday honours list in 2010 for his long service to education) will finally retire this year to a set of rooms in Aitchison College in Lahore.

PATRICK BUCKLER - Meynell 1950

I have just returned from Tasmania, after a five week stay looking after a working farm while the farmers were away on a well deserved holiday. I spend a deal of time doing volunteer work in the Cancer area; ever since Phyl, my wife, died some years ago of the illness, I realised how many people need assistance in this area so I help out when I can. However I still have time for golf, bushwalking, theatre etc and now and then I will look after farms while they holiday. Doubt I will ever come to the UK again but often fondly remember King's, the school opened so many doors which led to a successful business life and a manageable retirement.

BRIAN MCKEEVER PHILLIPS - Meynell 1960

I have retired to Phuket, Thailand - living the dream - playing golf, surfing or snorkelling every day.



NIGEL THOMAS - Woodard 1971

I was one of the first boys to read Spanish at King's in the early 1970s.

I am currently head of Religious Studies at King's College in Madrid, as well as being the assistant chaplain at St George's Anglican Church, Madrid, where I was ordained priest on 30 June 2012.

SIMON PILLAR - Tuckwell 1978

Simon Pillar and his wife had a baby boy, Jonathan, in May 2012 who joins his siblings Amelia (7), William (5), Lucy (3) and Freddy (who died in 2011). They are enjoying their life in Sydney where Simon is a principal in a private equity firm which he founded with his partners in 1998. If any OAs are passing through Sydney, please do get in touch!

SIMON WALKER - Meynell 1987



Emigrated to the USA in 1999, married to Julie and currently the Dean of Students at Fountain Valley School of Colorado.

ANDREW EDMONSTON-LOW - Neates 2001



Hej hej from Stockholm

In 2009 I decided it was high time I got a degree – I left King’s in 2001 – but I wanted something different from being a run-of-the-mill English student in an English university paying crazy money for a mediocre education.

I have done both my university bachelor and masters studies in Scandinavia. I studied International Business at the Copenhagen Business School (CBS) and am now doing a masters in management at the Stockholm School of Economics (SSE), Scandinavia’s best business school, with a strong interest in the outdoor industry - in particular Fenix Outdoor, the holding

company of outdoor brands such Fjällräven, Primus, Tierra and HanWag. The opportunities for young graduates in Scandinavia are as endless as the forests, and higher education is free and of top quality. University and the business environment are intricately linked together with wide-ranging opportunities to get real-world business experience even during one’s education.

I love the outdoors, modern living and above all, Europe. The Scandinavian way embraces the essence of all this and its education system focuses on you, the individual. Even better, it’s free! Sweden, even more so than Denmark, is the perfect home from home. Nature is right there and it’s endless, just inviting you to go and explore.

I currently work as a student ambassador for SSE to promote our international master programs abroad. CBS even have great bachelor programs all in English and I would encourage any graduate from King’s Taunton to study there and here.

The photos show two trips. First, in June and July 2009, just before starting my Bachelor at CBS, I cycled 3500km around Sweden and Norway to explore the Scandinavian nature, its people and their cultures. The photo with my fully packed bike was taken up on Juntenheimen in Norway. Second, this Easter I went to the mountains in Sweden’s Jämtland region (only halfway up the country, yet still an 8-hour drive from Stockholm) to do a 3-day ski tour, including camping out in the snow, with SSE’s GetOut adventure club. We even sang traditional Swedish snaps songs with a full Swedish Easter Smörgåsbord up in one of the mountain huts to celebrate the occasion. This summer I shall be cycling 1500km from Stockholm to Lapland to then hike 110km along Kungleden around Kibnekaise, Sweden’s highest mountain.



The Stockholm School of Economics



TOM FARROW - Bishop Fox 2011

The first of my two trips was to the Himalayas in the Kingdom of Nepal. The aims of the trip were threefold: to trek in the Himalayas, to complete some charity work of some description and to immerse myself in the quite unique culture of that part of the Indian subcontinent. As well as these I aimed to look at the possibility of getting a commission in the Royal Gurkha Rifles in the future. I trekked around the Everest Region in unexpectedly snowy conditions. I reached both Everest Base Camp (5360m) and Kala Patthar (5550m) in the snow. The Khumbu glacier and Ice Falls were spectacular and have certainly left me full of ambition for greater things. The trek was great fun and the Sherpa people are a fantastic tribe.



The Khumbu glacier

After the trek I descended to Kathmandu where I explored this bizarre and wonderful city further. I then met with the Nepali Children's Trust, a charity who were opening a residential home in Kathmandu. I worked at the New Life Centre for a month and enjoyed my time with such incredibly resilient young people all of whom had physical disabilities. I helped tutor English, homework and played sports with the children.

I visited both camps in Nepal for the Royal Gurkha Rifles and was interviewed several times. I spent a good deal of time with regular Gurkha soldiers and was questioned quite vigorously by some of them. I was even allowed to play in the veterans versus brigade football match in Pokhara.

After working for several months I then began to plan a trip to South America with similar aims to that of Nepal. I began my trip in Ecuador by exploring the country for two weeks or so which gave me the opportunity of brushing up on GCSE level Spanish. Then I went to a volunteer station in the jungle where I helped with a rainforest conservation project. Our work was based on keeping endangered plant species alive. I spent many hours working with machetes, building a bamboo bridge, collecting seeds, harvesting cocoa and building various structures in the jungle.



In the jungles of Ecuador

After almost a month in the jungle I left for Peru where I began to see Andean culture and spent time on the famous Altiplano and Lake Titicaca - the world's highest navigable lake. The Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu were other momentous experiences. The western parts of Bolivia were not wholly dissimilar to Peru. La Paz, the highest capital in the world was good fun and was the gateway to the rest of my trip into Brazil and the Pantanal - the vast wetlands famed for their incredible wildlife.

The next phase of the journey was through southern Brazil along the beautiful coastline. I have never been overly interested in beaches but Brazil's Lopes Mendez beach was easily the most beautiful beach I have ever set foot on. I ended my trip in Rio de Janeiro after exploring the sights and wonders of the city



At Kala Patthar - Everest in the background!



In Peru

WILL WEBSTER - Tuckwell 2008

Will Webster recently gave a presentation to King's pupils on Moving Mountains - a community development programme he is involved with in Kenya. Moving Mountains seeks to relieve poverty by identifying development needs and supporting projects and initiatives within a handful of communities across Kenya with the aim of assisting them in becoming self-sufficient and sustainable. Such projects include the supporting of an orphanage; a number of schools; medical clinics specialising in maternal welfare and the care of women; a rescue centre for street kids and the development of community centres. Following Will's most recent visit and the introduction of a community sports programme aimed at offering



Some of the children on the sport programme



Will (far left) on a visit to a conservation farming project

some of the most impoverished and marginalised young people an opportunity to take part in organised sport, King's has kindly pledged its support to the project. In collecting old and unused rugby boots, it will become possible for children from some of Kenya's poorest slums to take part in competitive sport - an opportunity to escape the hardships many of them endure on a daily basis. As well as the sports programme, Will is involved with up-and-coming projects including the development of conservation farming within rural communities and the renovation of several school buildings - all of which are making great progress.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we remember OAs who passed away recently. Please do let us know if our list is not complete so we can remember deceased OAs in College prayers and publish their obituaries on the OA website.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Robin Appleford | Meynell 1938 | Henry Vyvyan-Robinson | Meynell 1945 |
| Gerald Boyce | King Alfred 1948 | Chris Everard | Bishop Fox 1951 |
| Ian White | Meynell 1964 | Charles Thom | King Alfred 1969 |

We are saddened to bring news to the OA Club of the death of Robin Langley Appleford, Meynell 1938. He was born on 16 September 1921 in India, where his father was stationed with the Royal Air Force, and in August 1939 he joined the RAF at the age of 17. After 8 months training, he was transferred to active duty with 66 squadron at Duxford in May 1940, becoming the youngest pilot in the Battle of Britain. Sixty-six was a Spitfire fighter squadron.

Two weeks before his 19th birthday, Mr Appleford was shot down in combat over the Thames Estuary. The successful parachute jump he made on baling out made him a member of the fabled Caterpillar Club. Recalling the incident for the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, Mr Appleford said: "Some Messerschmitts came out of the sun above us. I was tail -end Charlie at the back of our patrol and the first thing I knew was that the wing had disappeared. I opened the canopy and was blown out and landed in a field. My shoes were a mess, which made me annoyed because I had bought them only the day before."

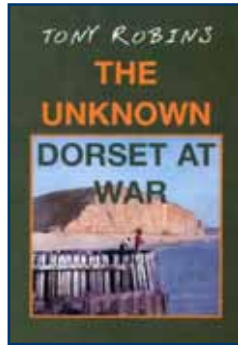
In December 1940, when he was 19, Robin was transferred to carry out a flying instructor's course, following which he went to Southern Rhodesia as an instructor. In mid 1942 he transferred to the aircraft delivery unit in Cairo and operated there for six months before joining 274 squadron in Benghazi (Libya), carrying out coastal patrols in Hurricanes. Following this, in November 1943, he was moved to South Africa where he was a flying instructor at various air schools around the country. He returned to England in July 1945 and joined squadron 587 at Westonzoyland. He left the RAF in August 1946 as a flight lieutenant.

Robin then spent time in Rhodesia and South Africa before living in Kenya for 14 years, and then moving to the UK in 1974 where he lived in Henley until his death. He was a member of the British Legion, the Caterpillar Club and Aces High.

OA Books

TONY ROBINS - King Alfred 1949

Humorous stories based on events and facts of the Second World War in South Dorset. (Similar to Dad's Army.) The book is about West Bay fishermen whose boat was sunk by a Stuka dive-bomber in 1940. For revenge they made a torpedo and launched it into Roscoff harbour, injuring two German soldiers & a French man. The same characters made some brandy from very rough cider. The old codgers then made a tank from spare parts for the defence of Bridport & nearly killed a British officer. Evacuees on a farm near Burton Bradstock built a pilot-less aeroplane to bomb the enemy. A story about the American forces stationed there in 1944. The same fishermen salvaged some American equipment after D-Day. They then tried smuggling. The time they became lost in the fog & captured some German soldiers. Then one is shot. A bad penny turns up. A macabre story of a burial at sea. The secret Wellington bomber of 1942. Finally my own memories as a schoolboy 1939-1945.

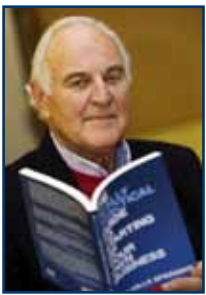


FRANCIS JAMES - Woodard 1958

I have spent the greater part of my life in historic building restoration, coupled with antiquarian book selling, and subsistence farming. I have written a number of books, but am best known for 'The EMG Story', being the history of the firm which made the finest gramophones in the world. At 72, am contemplating retirement, but am still looking for one more project.



KIM HILLS-SPEDDING - Woodard 1955



Kim Hills-Spedding (Woodard '55) worked for Shell Mex - BP, BP Oil UK Ltd for 27 years and was seconded to the Oxfordshire Enterprise Agency in 1986. As Chief Executive he ran the Agency for 10 years, and together with his small team helped over 3500 businesses to start up and develop by providing business advice and training. He gave up running the Agency due to ill health in 1996.

He has been a freelance Business Adviser, Mentor and Business Trainer for the last fifteen years, working locally for the Chambers of Commerce at Milton Keynes, Luton and Bedfordshire, and the Enterprise Agencies in Berkshire and Hertfordshire, helping a further 1,000 business to start up and develop

He has recently published his book 'The Really Practical Guide to Starting Up Your Own Business' (ISBN 978-14520-6156-6), based on his 25 years of practical 'coal face' experience in this field.

It is the most practical guide on the market - most other books telling people what to do but NOT how to do it.

PETER MURRAY - Bishop Fox 1962

I have written a timely novel about an Olympic-style event.

A Passion to Build follows the meteoric careers and tangled love lives of two leading architects and their iconic designs for a major international athletics event - the EuroGames, which is to take place in the fading northern city of Frampton-on-Tees. Frampton's energetic and scheming Mayor believes the investment and legacy of the Games will restore some vitality to the once-booming economy of the area.

The design teams struggle to create great buildings and have to fend off critics like the conservationist Duke of Frampton who would prefer to see the stadia designed in the traditional style.

The lives of the architects unravel as they compete to design the best building and to win the much-vaunted Frazer Prize. Their struggle reaches a dramatic climax at the spectacular opening ceremony of the EuroGames watched by millions around the world.

The book is available from Amazon and other sites for information see www.clip-kit.com



MAXWELL CRAVEN - Woodard 1964



Since being made redundant as Keeper of Antiquities at Derby Museum (1998), I have written for a living, chiefly books to order, and have brought out three since Christmas. One was a nostalgia-schrift (my fourth I think) called 'Derby Then and Now.' In February came my history of the firm that made the recently-installed King's tower clock, called 'The Smiths of Derby: A Journey Through Time'. Last month we launched a privately published 600 page epic in micro-history called 'Stanton and the Thornhills' about the estate of Stanton-on-Peak in Derbyshire and those associated with it over more than 1,000 years.

LEIGH HATTS - Meynell 1964

Leigh Hatts is working on a new edition of the Lea Valley Walk guide for the London Olympics. The River Lea runs from the Olympic welcome city of Luton to Waltham Abbey, where the white water course has been built, and on to the Olympic Park in the south. His last book was London's 100 Best Churches. When not working on a book he contributes to the London SE1 website run by his son James.



JONATHAN MEADES - Meynell 1964

My most recent series "Meades On France" was broadcast on BBC4 in January.

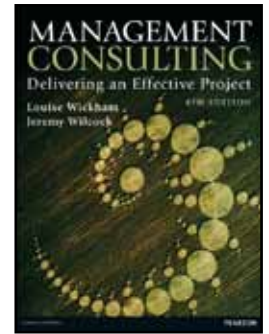
'Museum Without Walls', a collection of essays and lectures on topography, landscape, architecture and urbanism will be published by Unbound in September.



And though I haven't had a baby one of my daughters has. Being a grandparent makes one feel ridiculously proud and hideously old.

JEREMY WILCOCK - Meynell 1967

I have recently co-authored a book. It is called 'Management Consulting - Delivering an Effective Project', 4th edition, by Louise Wickham and Jeremy Wilcock. Publisher is FT/Prentice Hall.

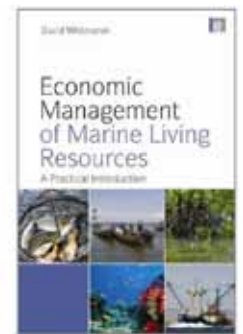


After 27 years in industry and 10 years in academia I thought it was about time to put my experiences into a book before I forgot them!

DAVID WHITMARSH - Tuckwell 1968 (deceased)

Knowing what was in store for him, David devoted his last months to completing his book on the economic management of marine resources and it was published posthumously in February 2011:

'Economic Management of Marine Living Resources' David Whitmarsh. Pub: Earthscan (isbn 9781849712583).



GRISELDA HEPPEL - Meynell 1974



I have a book coming out in July with Troubadour Publishing. Ante's Inferno by Griselda Heppel is an adventure story for 9 - 12 year-olds, in which three children are sent on a dark journey through the Classical Underworld to solve a 100 year-old murder mystery. More details on my website:

www.antesinferno.com

Corporate Sponsorship

There are various corporate sponsorship opportunities available to OAs, including sponsoring items of sports kit, either for playing matches at home or for a specific team tour or competition.

Currently, we are seeking sponsors for four trophies for the King's College show jumping competition. This will be taking place at Comeytrove at the end of September. Individuals may choose to sponsor one or more trophies at a range of price levels, and there is a naming opportunity attached to sponsorship of a trophy.

For more information on corporate sponsorship, please contact Leisa Lavender in the Development Office: lmavender@kings-taunton.co.uk / 01823 328238.



LAURENCE UNDERHILL - Carpenter 1970

Underhill Associates have very kindly sponsored team shirts for the annual OA Club football match. Pictured here are the 2012 team in their shirts, with Laurence Underhill (left).



JAMES DAVIS - King Alfred 1993

Aspire Planning in Taunton have very kindly sponsored the King's College 1st XV Rugby shirts for 2012 - 2014. Pictured wearing their new shirts are members of the team, with Aspire director James Davis (centre right).



Legacies

Legacies are a wonderful way to support the school and we are very grateful to the OAs who have let us know about their legacy gift. We have formed an Old Pelicans Society that recognises those who have left a gift to King's College in their Wills. It provides the opportunity to thank donors properly and to keep them informed of the school's plans and achievements. David Stott, Woodard 1945, has agreed to be the Chairman of the Society and we welcome his support.

Membership is open to anyone who lets us know they have made a gift to the school and all members are invited to a lunch at the school each year. This year we hope to have a Christmas Lunch in the House of Commons during the first week of December and all OAs and their partners are welcome to attend - you do not need to be a legacy donor to attend! Further details will be sent in September with the 40s and 50s Luncheon mailing.

"As the years advance one appreciates more and more the way one was affected by early experience in life. Whilst detailed memories of being at King's fade, my sense of gratitude to the school grows ever stronger. Supporting the Old Pelican Society is a fine way to give that gratitude concrete expression and to enable more people to enjoy the King's experience" John C Q Roberts, Woodard 1950

Please contact Leisa Lavender if you wish to discuss a legacy gift - 01823 328238

Monday 27 August

Cronk Cunis Rugby tournament

Wednesday 12 September

OA Hockey/Rugby

There will be a girls' hockey match at 2pm, with rugby at 3pm

Thursday 13 September

London Pub Night

Theodore Bullfrog, Charing Cross 6pm

Thursday 20 September

Cardiff Reunion, 33 Windsor Place

Wednesday 26 September

OA Club meeting

Conference Room, King's College 6pm

11-14 October

Nigeria visit

The Headmaster and Leisa Lavender will be visiting Lagos

Sunday 11 November

Remembrance Service

All OAs are welcome to join the annual service in the Chapel

Saturday 15 December

Festive Tea and Carol Service

Mulled wine and mince pies precede the annual Carol service

February 2013

OA Club Committee AGM

March/April 2013

Hong Kong

The annual Hong Kong Reception for OAs, parents and pupils

19 April 2013

40s/50s Luncheon

21 May 2013 (tbc)

OA Reception at Lord's Cricket Ground

May/June 2013

OA Tennis

The annual opportunity for OAs to return to King's

Thursday 4 October 2012 - 6.30pm

Networking event

offices of Michael Page, Victoria Row, London

The inaugural King's networking event was a great success in Sept 2011, and we are pleased to be able to repeat this opportunity for all members of the King's community to come together and share business skills and development opportunities.



Saturday 10 November 2012 - 7pm

OA Dinner

King's Hall, Taunton

The annual OA Reunion dinner will this year be held at King's Hall, as part of the 60th anniversary celebrations of Pyrland/King's Hall. An opportunity for OAs to catch up with one another and both current and former members of staff. Former Headmaster Roger Trafford will be speaking after dinner.



15 Mar 2013 - 9am - 12.45pm

King's Careers Convention

OAs are invited to advise and inform pupils about future careers.

King's College's Careers Convention will be hosting around 500-600 pupils from King's College and other local schools.

OAs offering advice on business sectors will be provided with lunch, followed by a drinks reception in the Common Room.

Please contact John Lee (jalee@kings-taunton.co.uk) for further information.



Old Aluredian Club

