



Old King's Club



**FUTURE WISDOM
THE NEW SCULPTURE FOR TAYLOR COURT**

Newsletter No. 105

October 2004



above: Scenes from the Boat Race between KCS Boat Club and the OKC, held on September 12th, 2004, taken from the launch following the rowers (see article inside this Newsletter).

front cover: The new Taylor Court now features a black springstone sculpture, entitled *Future Wisdom*, by the Zimbabwean artist Sylvester Mubayi, whose work impressed the Head Master on a visit to South Africa last year; the purchase of the statue was made possible by a generous donation from the Friends of KCS.

back cover: One of the wooden sculptures recently placed around the School. This one stands between the Junior School and the Reeve Building.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

OLD KING'S CLUB

12th November 2004

8.40 am School and OKC Act of Remembrance, and dedication of the memorial to David Williams - see page **XX**

26th November 2004

OKC Annual Dinner - see notice on this page

8th January 2005

OKC Annual General Meeting - see Agenda on page **XX**

5th May 2005

School Careers Advisors' evening - see page **XX**

SCHOOL

Autumn term 2004 The autumn half-term holiday extends for two weeks, Monday 18th to Friday 29th October. The term ends on Friday 17th December.

The School Play, *The Dreaming*, will be performed in the Collyer Hall Theatre at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25th, Friday 26th, Saturday 27th, and Sunday 28th November. from 10th to 13th December.

An Orchestral Concert will take place in the Collyer Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 17th November.

The Carol Service will be held at The Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill, Wimbledon on Friday, 17th December, at 11.45 am. **Spring term 2005** begins on Thursday 6th January and ends on Thursday 24th March. Half term is from Monday 14th to Friday 18th February.

THE FRIENDS (see also page **XX**)

The Friends' of KCS Firework Display - the usual outstanding event - is at 6.0 pm on Saturday, 6th November.

The Friends' Christmas Fair is on Saturday, 20th November at 12 noon until 4.00 pm.

The Friends' Christmas Tree Sale is at 10.00 am on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December, on the Hard Play Area.

OKC UNDERGRADUATES DINNER

30th Oct 2004 at Balliol College Oxford

The Head Master and several members of staff will attend

Time: 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm *Dress:* Jacket and Tie

Cost: £20 for Undergraduates

All KCS Alumni Undergraduates welcome

Swap university experiences with your contemporaries from school!

Contact: Mark Lowen, mark.lowen@balliol.ox.ac.uk

Richard Hardymont, rwlh2@cam.ac.uk

Micky King, kinghouse@blueyonder.co.uk

OKC ANNUAL DINNER

This year our Annual Dinner will be held in the

recently refurbished and enlarged

School Dining Hall

The Guest Speaker is: **Clive Aslet**

Editor, Country Life, and OK 1972

The date is: **Friday 26th November 2004**

Cash bar from 7.00 pm Dinner 7.30 pm

Tickets: £32.50 including wine Dress: Dinner jacket or dark suit

An application form, with full booking details, is included in this Newsletter.

There will be an opportunity for anyone attending the Dinner to be given a tour of the new Cavan Taylor wing, and the Reeve Building, before Dinner begins.

OLD KING'S CLUB: OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Sir Robert Andrew KCB

PAST PRESIDENT: R M Reeve

VICE PRESIDENTS:

R B Armitage (1991), L R Barkey (1985), M Barron (1996), D D C Belchamber (1986),
R E Dawson (1979), R F Diacon (1983), P K Gerhold (1984), J D E Hamilton (1983),
A D Hein (1986), J Keeling (1987), R G Mathews (1995), E A Stokes (1996), C Taylor (1973).
Year of election shown in brackets

CHAIRMAN: H M G King

HON SECRETARY: B J Stokes

HON TREASURER: P J Grant FCA

Elected members of committee: C L Day, R J Hudson, H M G King,
G C McGinn, D W Parry, S K Tester

Representatives of Accredited Activities:

Cricket: D A P Bowen

Cross Country: J P H Smith

Fencing: D G Tilles

Golf: G C Cox

Hockey: R T H Carter

Rifle Club: R J Hudson

Rugby Club: N M Crockford

Soccer: J Parrish

Squash: M T Williamson

Swimming: P J de C Newman

Tennis: C G Diacon

KCS Lodge: H M G King

Social Sub-Committee: R B Armitage, C L Day, H M G King

Trustees of the Old King's Club: M Barron, L E Glover, A D Hein

Trustees of the Invested Funds: M Barron, D W Parry, M A Smith

Hon Auditors: J H Hole, G P N Phillips ACA

Benevolent Fund:

Management Board: L R Barkey (Chairman and Trustee), A C V Evans (Head Master, KCS),

M Barron, J D E Hamilton (Trustee), A D Hein (co-opted), R Lowndes,

R J Morris (Treasurer and Trustee), L D Peters, D V Smedley, C Taylor (Trustee)

Careers for School Leavers:

Old King's Club Adviser: J G Robson, 27 Westminster Gardens, Marsham Street, Westminster,
London SW1P 4JD (020 7828 9576)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

CLUB OFFICE

The Old King's Club office is in the Lodge (next to the Sports Hall) and is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm; callers are welcome. Our telephone number is 020 8255 5390. In addition, messages can be left during School hours on any day with the School switchboard operator on 020 8255 5300; you can fax us at any time on 020 8255 5439, or send an e-mail to okc@kcs.org.uk.

SCHOOL SHOP

A wide range of OKC items, as well as Adidas and Nike leisureware, is available from the School Shop in the Lodge. A list of the OKC items, together with the opening hours and other information, is given at the end of this Newsletter.

THE NEWSLETTER

This issue of the Old King's Club Newsletter was edited by B J Stokes. Contributions for future issues are always welcome, and should be sent to The Editor, Old King's Club, King's College School, Wimbledon, London SW19 4TT; or they may be faxed to 020 8255 5439 or sent by e-mail to okc@kcs.org.uk. Material for inclusion in the next issue, to be published in April 2005, must reach the Editor by 1st March 2005.

The Old King's Club is not responsible for individual opinions expressed in the OKC Newsletter. Editorials and other contributions do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Club, the Club Committee, or the Editor, except where explicitly identified as such.

www.kcs.org.uk

Visit the new, improved KCS web site for all the latest information about activities in the School, news of the School and its Old Boys, and many photographs of School scenes. The Old King's Club pages contain information about Club activities, and *KCSonline* will bring you in contact with many other Club members.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8th January, 2005

All members are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Old King's Club, to be held in Collyer Hall on Saturday, 8th January 2005 at 11.30 am.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the AGM held on 10th January 2004 (circulated, see Newsletter No. 104, April 2004, pages 3 - 7) and matters arising therefrom.
2. To receive the Honorary Secretary's Report.
3. To receive and approve the Club's accounts to 31st August 2004 - copies will be distributed at the meeting.
4. To elect:
 - Officers
 - Trustees of the Invested Funds
 - Committee Members
 - Honorary Members
5. To elect the Honorary Auditors.
6. To receive the report of the Benevolent Fund, including Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2004 - copies will be distributed at the meeting.
7. To elect the Trustees of the Benevolent Fund, and approve the Officers and Members of the Management Board of the Fund.
8. To consider any other resolution submitted within the rules.
9. Subscription rates.
10. Any other business, notice of which shall have been submitted to the Chairman prior to the meeting.

Bryan Stokes
Honorary Secretary

Nominations for Officers and Committee Members should reach the Honorary Secretary by 31st December 2004, duly proposed and seconded in writing, together with the written consent of the nominee. Resolutions for submission under item 8 of the Agenda should also be given to the Honorary Secretary, in writing, by 31st December 2004.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Noel Crockford has just retired as President of the KCS Old Boys RFC. Noel has been in office in the Rugby Club for decades, starting as Captain in the 1950s. He has served the Club very well and his wise counsel on many matters, especially those relating to construction, buildings, and drains will be greatly missed by the Club.

For the first time for a few years I attended Commemoration Day. I intended to hear the Head Master's address, then after an hour or so leave. In the event I met so many people to chat to that I stayed all afternoon and attended Evensong at 5.15 pm, when the Bishop of Southwark licensed the School's new Chaplain. It was a most enjoyable afternoon.

I spent another enjoyable afternoon watching the Old Boys v School Boat Races. Congratulations are due to a very impressive 1st School crew who won, and received the first presentation of the Pat Reed-Boswell trophy. Congratulations to the 2nd Old Boys team who won. I have a feeling that had the course been a little longer the 2nd School crew could well have overtaken the Old Boys boat. I expect that many of us remember coming back to play the School and finding the easy living since leaving school had lessened our fitness levels. We are very grateful to Richard Wallace and Steve Clarke for organising the Old Boys crews, Sue Walker at the school, and the Boat Club supporters, especially Pat Reed-Boswell.

On the same day as the Boat Races the final of the D'Abernon Cup took place and many congratulations are due to the tennis team for reaching the final; in the event they were beaten by the narrowest of margins. We are very grateful to Chris Diacon who for many years has organised the entry to and our team in this prestigious Old Boys tennis tournament. Congratulations also to the OK Golf team who won the Grafton Morrish competition, news of which came as the Newsletter went to press.

I am looking forward to the Undergraduates Dinner at Balliol on the 30th October. The last dinner at St Catherine's Cambridge was much enjoyed by the Undergraduates and staff who attended. I hope that we shall have KCS Alumni Undergraduates from a number of Universities at the event. I always find it a pleasure and consider it a privilege to meet and work with the fine young men that the school helps to develop. Mark Lowen and Richard Hardyment are the contacts at Oxford and Cambridge respectively.

I am also looking forward to the OKC Annual Dinner on the 26th November at the School. We are targeting leavers of 1984, 1991, and 1994 for a reunion. Those of you who have not been to the School for a number of years will be amazed at the changes in buildings and curriculum that have taken place. Tony Evans the Head Master is always interesting to hear, especially on educational matters, and Clive Aslet OK 1972, the Editor of *Country Life*, is the guest speaker.

The memorial to David Williams will be a plaque added to the Second World War Memorial in the Great Hall, noting that David was killed in the Iraq campaign on March 23rd 2003. It is hoped to dedicate the plaque at the school Act of Remembrance which this year is on Friday 12th November. You are welcome to attend the Act of Remembrance which takes place at about 8.40 a.m. usually in front of the First World War memorial.

I hope that I shall meet you at the OKC dinner, or at one or other of the OKC or School events.

Best Wishes to you all.

Micky King

EXTRACTS FROM THE HEAD MASTER'S NEWSLETTER

Common Room

Amongst various staff changes are the following. **Ralph Cake**, Senior Master, retires this term after joining the KCS staff in 1969. His record and devotion to KCS over 35 years are second to none in the School's recent history, and his dedication to KCS pastoral care, English teaching, sport (not least tennis and hockey) and, as Senior Master (Public Relations), has been truly remarkable. In a very real sense, he cannot be replaced, as was clearly felt by those who attended the Leavers' Dinner in May and by all who have paid tribute to him as a remarkable and unfailingly generous schoolmaster.

Further departures from the Senior Common Room this summer are **Reverend Sarah Robbins-Cole** who joined in 1998 and leaves us to support her husband in his Ministry in New Hampshire, USA. Sarah has made a deep pastoral, as well as spiritual, impression on the Senior and Junior schools and her influence in many areas of KCS life has transformed and touched many pupils and adults in this community. Additionally,

James Millard has been appointed Director of Music at King's School, Chester. **Chris Lehane** leaves to become Director of Sport at Merchant Taylors' and **Matthew Shoults** (OK) will join North London Collegiate School as Head of Classics. **Matthew Searles** will leave the Modern Foreign Languages Department to work towards Ordination and **Helen Wisdom** and **Nicole Christian** leave the same Department for family reasons and maternity respectively. **James Vivian** left as School Organist at the end of the Spring term to pursue his career as a performer.

Amongst the new appointments are the following. The **Reverend Mrs Lindsay Collins** joined us as Chaplain in June and was licensed by Bishop Tom Butler, Bishop of Southwark, at Evensong on Commemoration Day. She attended Walthamstow Hall in Sevenoaks, followed by King's College, London, gained her MA at Oxford and was most recently Chaplain and Head of Religious Studies at St Paul's Girls' School. **Mr Daniel Phillips** joins us as Director of Music from the Music Department of The King's School, Worcester. He was also Assistant Organist at Worcester Cathedral. Daniel attended Charterhouse and Jesus College, Cambridge. **Mr Liam Kane** becomes Director of PE and Games having taught PE at City of London School. Liam attended English Martyrs Roman Catholic School and holds a BSc from Loughborough University.

Miss Jodi Walsh joins the English Department. Jodi attended Sutton and Nonsuch High Schools and King's College, London. She undertook teacher training at Ursuline Girls' School and Greenshaw High School, Sutton. **Miss Collette Cumings** becomes an Assistant in the Learning Support Department with additional English and Games teaching. Collette was educated in South Africa with a BA from the University of Natal. She also gained her OCR certificate in Special Learning Difficulties from Harrow College. Collette is currently teaching at the Ellen Wilkinson School in Acton. **Mr Matthew Bryan** will teach Classics. Matthew was educated at KCS and left in 1997. He has a BA from St John's, Cambridge and has taught Classics at Hampton School since 2001. **Mr Richard Bailey** will join in January 2005 to teach French. Currently he is Head of French and teacher of Spanish at Dulwich. Richard was at Lancing and has a BA from Durham. **Mr James Trapmore** will teach English. He attended Christ's Hospital and Downing College, Cambridge. James is currently teaching at The London Oratory School.

Governing Body

Dr Paul Fraser from King's College London has recently joined the Governing Body. He is the father of Daniel (OKC) and Joseph who is leaving our Upper Sixth this term.

IB Study Tour

From 23rd May until 13th June I undertook a most interesting, albeit much curtailed and intensive, tour of IB schools in Santiago (Chile), Vancouver, Toronto, and New York. In all I visited nine IB schools, six universities in the last three cities and also held three dinners for OKs living in Canada and New York. My observations and discussions strongly reinforced our view that, as A-levels undergo yet further reform over the next few years and are subject to constant change, IB represents the greatest academic certainty and offers academically motivated pupils the greatest stability, breadth and depth. Ivy League universities in USA offer remarkable exemptions to strong IB candidates and admissions tutors in UK universities have all expressed increasing and powerful approval of the IB examination and philosophy. It is our decision to move wholly to the IB in September 2007 and this would be modified only if the Tomlinson recommendations can guarantee equal rigour and breadth through the new system, however it is intended to evolve, and can confer equal intellectual benefits on pupils of the quality we have at KCS.

Captain, Vice Captain, and Senior Prefects

The Captain of the School is Harry Slater (Alverstone) and the Vice Captains are James Burnett (Alverstone), Robert Chapman (Kingsley), and Max Kirby (Layton). The Captains of House are William Midmer (Alverstone), Marcus Mumford (Glenesk), Alex Simmonds (Kingsley), Thomas Dewey (Layton), Christopher Sharpe (Maclear), and Hamish Haldane (Major).

Music

The Summer Term started off on a high note with the annual Jazz Club taking place on two evenings in the Collyer Hall. As usual there was a wonderful atmosphere, and the standard of music presented by a range of Jazz Ensembles was higher than ever. The Big Band, led by Richard Coles and Paul Thomas, entertained the audience splendidly with playing of the highest quality, but the highlight was the performance by the Senior Jazz Quintet, Détente, who have worked hard to achieve a level of subtlety and invention rarely seen at schoolboy level. The KCS Choral Society joined forces with the John Colet Singers from St Paul's School for two performances of Handel's magnificent Double Choir Oratorio, Israel in Egypt. This was directed by Jessica Cottis who perfectly captured the drama of the work, while Sebastian Roberts gave a splendid performance as bass soloist. Christopher Scotney, having been offered a place with the National Youth Orchestra, went on to pass his Dip.ABRSM Double Bass diploma.

Drama

The Fourth Form staged a very successful production of *Greece!* which was directed by Miss Rebecca Carnighan. The play contained a number of different myths of the classical period, including *Theseus and the Minotaur*, *Odysseus and the Cyclops* and *Artemis and Orion*. Written and acted by Fourth Form students, the play opened at a school in Greece, whose students are prominent Greek gods, goddesses and heroes. It was a parody of both Greek legends and notorious musicals, and included songs from the musical *Grease*. There were two guest appearances by members of the Classics department. Mr Chris Jackson was the voice for the god Zeus, and Miss Abbie Chapman was the voice of the narrator and the oracle. The play ended in a huge battle between the Spartans and Trojans (as might be expected), but the twist was that it took place on the football pitch.

Mr Jeremy James Taylor will join KCS in September as Director in Residence for two terms. He will direct and produce plays during his residency. Mr Taylor was the Artistic Director of the National Youth Music Theatre for many years and is currently directing at the North Shore Theatre, Boston and the North Devon Theatres' Trust.

Southcot Mock Trial

A team of Lower Sixth Formers took part once more in the Southcot Mock Trial, the independent schools' legal competition in which KCS were champions in 2002 and runners-up in 2003. With valued assistance from Mr Featherby, the team prepared the cases with customary diligence and performed extremely well in the London heat in January. KCS defeated St Paul's Girls', tied with Godolphin & Latymer, and lost overall to Godolphin and Latymer on a points score awarded by the presiding judge, who was also, incidentally, a Godolphin and Latymer parent. There were some strong individual performances, notably by Andrew Murray who was deemed the most able young lawyer from any school. We look forward to reasserting ourselves in the competition next year.

British Physics Olympiad and Physics Challenge

This year, nine boys in the Upper Sixth entered the British Physics Olympiad competition and all gained medals after sitting a quite demanding three hour written exam paper. Simon Picot was awarded a Silver Medal, placing him amongst the top 200 Physics candidates in the country, whilst Guido Dacie-Lombardo and Ajul Haria achieved Bronze I awards (in the top 400

candidates). Bronzes were also awarded to Philip de Grouchy, David Webster, Matthew Lawes, James Packer, Rahul Chandrasekaran and Christopher Hughes.

The Physics Challenge is a competition for GCSE candidates and a number of pupils entered this event. Although the papers are marked in school, they are then sent off to the adjudicators so there is some considerable delay between taking the exam and hearing the medal results. Jonathan Ross was amongst the twelve highest scoring students in the 2004 Physics Challenge competition, from the several thousand of the best physics students in the country who took part. In April he was invited to attend a reception at the Royal Society, where he was presented with an award in the form of a book. Forty one Gold medals were awarded nationally and Richard Hilton also achieved this very high standard, whilst John Walton reached Silver and Daniel Deighton, Christopher Eastwood and Joe Metcalfe were awarded Bronze medals. Fifteen other candidates did well enough to be awarded Commendation certificates for their performance. These were Nicholas Hopkins, Stephen Oldroyd, Luka Lukic, Matthew Horrocks, William Jackson, Michael Campbell, Alexander Higgs, Aleem Meghji, Nicholas Evans, Tom Hunter, Christopher Jeffreys, Rafi Allos, Matthew Walter, Nicholas Walker, Nick Anderson.

Chemistry Olympiad

In recognition of outstanding performance in the UK International Chemistry Olympiad, Bronze certificates were awarded to: Philip de Grouchy, Simon Picot, Guido Dacie-Lombardo, Alexander Gee and David Simonson.

British Biology Olympiad

Six boys were entered for the exam this year. David Simonson and Simon Spiro were both awarded Gold medals and the other candidates were commended.

Headstart Engineering Summer School

Alexander Ives, Guy Woodward and Joseph Pullen have been awarded places at Exeter University on this year's Headstart Scheme. This scheme is part of the Royal Academy of Engineering's programme which contributes to the engineering development of pupils at school. Places on the programme are limited and the standard of applicants is very high. The scheme involves spending up to a week in a university Engineering Department, and being involved with one of their ongoing projects.

Community Service

This year's new activities have included a library/ICT project for the general public at Wimbleton Library, the creation of a music-teaching station at St Mark's Primary School, and Art and Design projects with two local primary schools. A section of a new film, called KCS in the Community and made by a group of sixth-formers under the guidance of Martin Cullingford (OK), portrays many aspects of our work. Among existing stations that have continued to thrive are Friendship Hour for the elderly, conservation work on the Common, and learning support at Raynes Park High School. There will also be a Jazz in the Community project next year. As usual, many sixth-formers will participate in summer holiday activities, including the Greenhouse Schools Project, a sports playscheme for local children on the School's playing fields at West Barnes Lane.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION RESULTS

Once again it is a pleasure to record the excellent examination results achieved by King's students. Particularly pleasing have been the very considerable success of those sixth-formers, an increasing proportion, who have sat the International Baccalaureate examination (IB) instead of A-levels.

At A-level 81 candidates took a total of 260 subject examinations, of which 240, or 92.3%, resulted in A or B grades. This is the same high percentage as finally obtained last year, after some remarking.

67 candidates took the IB examination, up from 47 last year. As explained in Newsletter 103 last October, strict comparisons of standards reached with those obtained at A-level are not easily made. The IB curriculum is broader, and the grade boundaries cannot easily be compared. However, the maximum score for an IB candidate is 45 points; the KCS average was 39.0, up from 37.5 last year. This remarkable performance made King's one of the top IB schools in the World. Two boys actually achieved 45 points, the highest score possible, which is a very rare achievement.

Although Independent School League Tables must be interpreted with care, as we always point out in these annual reports, it was pleasing to note that in the *Daily Telegraph* table, KCS came seventh nationally, the highest position that the School has so far achieved.

At GCSE the School entered 141 candidates from the Upper fifth form, taking a total of 1333 subject examinations. Of these, 86.6% were A* or A grades; 100% of the candidates gained 5 or more passes at grades A* to C.

We congratulate the staff and students on these remarkable achievements.

B J S

RALPH CAKE

Ralph Cake retired from the KCS staff at the end of the last academic year, after 35 years of service to the School. The following tribute to him, by Andrew Lang, was first published in the School Magazine.



The retirement of Ralph Cake in the summer of 2004 has brought to an end thirty-five years of remarkable service to the school. A schoolmaster of utterly selfless dedication, he has provided just the sort of wide-ranging competence and calm continuity that has been needed through many years of constant and often rapid change. Head Masters, colleagues, pupils and parents have good cause indeed for their manifest gratitude and affection towards him.

Ralph came to KCS in 1969, after a brief spell on leaving Oxford in his first teaching post at Watford Grammar School. At Oxford he was an Exhibitioner of St John's College and among other things won Blues for tennis and badminton, captaining the university in the latter. Most important, though, was his meeting, through badminton, the fellow undergraduate, Judy, who was to

become his wife. Her wise and unwavering support has been a vital factor throughout Ralph's teaching career. The constant in Ralph's multiplicity of rôles at KCS has been his work in its distinguished English department. Here he has inspired boys not only through his own enthusiasm and energy, but especially through his patience and care, enabling them to think for themselves and develop their own ideas. The range of authors that he has been able to teach has been described by one of his colleagues as 'phenomenal', from Shakespeare and Hardy, say, to Larkin and Golding. His deep attachment to the West Country, where he was born and brought up, clearly infuses his own love of poetry, particularly of the Romantic period and its successors.

Thoughts of Ralph turn very quickly to his sporting prowess. As a boy he went from the local grammar school in Yeovil to Millfield School on a tennis scholarship. He played in the Millfield tennis team that won the Glanville Cup and went on to become Somerset Singles Champion and earn County Colours in both tennis and badminton. His success in these sports at Oxford was therefore no surprise. He was also a first-rate hockey player, for Hampstead and then for Wimbledon, and is a stalwart of the latter's veteran sides to this day. Over the years he has, too, been a key all-rounder in the staff cricket team and, as retirement arrives, is now turning his attention more seriously to golf, with predictable success. In all his sport he combines great and stylish natural ability with unflagging fitness (he will still outlast an opponent half his age) and, as one would expect of him, a never-say-die tenacity and determination.

His work for the school's sport, as coach and administrator, has been unequalled. He was master in charge of tennis and badminton from 1969 to 1992, guiding KCS teams in both sports to notably high standards. His own ability and his tact enabled him to win the respect and support for the school's cause of some immensely talented (and occasionally temperamental!) boys already clearly destined to become top-flight adult players; yet he never gave other than full attention to the less gifted. He has been a leading light, the veteran of countless committee meetings, in the Surrey Schools LTA and Badminton Association and in the Independent Schools LTA, with many years of service as chairman in all of them.

His endless energy and enthusiasm were the main driving force in the financing and planning of the artificial - grass surface, chiefly for hockey and tennis, at West Barnes Lane. For many years he ran the Under Fourteen hockey side, working tirelessly with them and in many cases introducing them to the game. All such things have, of course, taken up a huge amount of his time, often at unsociable hours, in the evenings, at weekends, or in

the holidays. An abiding memory will be of Ralph scurrying around on some bitterly cold winter's day to load a minibus with chattering small boys and all their gear, in a desperate attempt to get a full team to some distant hockey match on time.

His particular talents and personal qualities led Ralph naturally to posts of responsibility on the pastoral, disciplinary and administrative side of school life. After some ten years as Assistant Housemaster of Kingsley, he became Housemaster of Alverstone in 1985, a job which he was to relish over many years. During this period, in 1992, he duly moved on to the demanding and occasionally, it must have seemed, thankless, position of Senior Housemaster for a five-year stint. To share an office with him during that period was to observe and admire Ralph's infinite patience and conscientiousness, concern for the wellbeing of colleagues and boys and total commitment to what he saw as the best interests of the school.

In criminal investigator mode there was nothing that could stop him: cross-examinations were held, notes scribbled, statements taken, clues followed up, reports written - until one feared his total disappearance behind a desk seriously overloaded at the best of times. His voice was never raised, his standards of courtesy were never dropped, whether dealing with a recalcitrant pupil, a flustered colleague, or (dare one say it?) a difficult parent.

In 1998 Ralph was an obvious appointment to one of the newly created posts of Undermaster and then for his last three years has served as Senior Master. In these years he was particularly responsible for the organisation of public occasions such as, among many others, Open Days, the Carol Service, or Commemoration Day, tasks which, of course, he carried out with great efficiency and good humour. But just as much valued then, and indeed throughout his career, was his wise and experienced good counsel in meetings and committees, or with individuals, so often providing the quiet voice of calm and reason to counter over-reaction and impetuosity, or to stand up fearlessly for what he saw as the right cause. Ralph never shirks a challenge.

The instructions that Ralph issued for, say, a Carol Service, have been a source of great delight to his colleagues. Starting as a sheet of neatly typed instructions, they took on a life of their own, with handwritten additions, amendments, deletions, underlinings, circles and arrows giving them in the end the look of some heavily annotated palimpsest from the library at Alexandria. One especially fine example moved a colleague to frame and present it to him. Occasionally in the office a black bin bag would be produced, into

which Ralph would sweep the accretions of paper from his desk, declaring solemnly that from now on only the most rigorous standards of organisation and tidiness would apply in that area. And so they did, sometimes for at least a week.

Colleagues will sometimes, always with the fondest of smiles, tell stories that imply occasional lapses by Ralph in timekeeping and memory. Indeed, Ralph will cheerfully tell them himself. If there is any truth in these anecdotes - and there may be a mite - then who could be surprised in a man who has had so very much to do? His smile and charm have always immediately ensured that nobody has minded anyway.

A full list of Ralph's virtues would seem endless - and likely to induce depression in others only too aware of their own personal and professional shortcomings by comparison. Suffice it to say that he is palpably a good man, a fine schoolmaster and much-loved colleague. He is also a devoted family man, immensely and justifiably proud of his son, Russell, and daughter, Joanna, and his grandchildren. He goes into retirement with the best wishes and gratitude of the whole school community. The endlessly patient Judy should brace herself. Knowing Ralph, one can hardly imagine that his retirement will be one in which much time is allowed for just sitting around.

Andrew Lang

THE FRIENDS OF KCS

OKs will be most welcome to join The Friends' social and fundraising events this year. The ever-popular **Fireworks** (on Saturday 6th November from 6.00 pm) and **Christmas Fair** (on Saturday 20th November from 12 noon to 4.00 pm) will both be bigger and better than ever - and this year, for the first time, The Friends will be holding a **Christmas Tree Sale**, at the School, on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December. You can also order excellent quality, and good value, Christmas cakes and puddings, and wrapping paper, *via* The Friends, with all profits going to the benefit of the School.

The Friends, as many of you will know, is a charity which exists to advance the education of pupils at the School. As well as organizing a wide range of social activities for parents, The Friends raises significant funds to provide facilities and equipment, for education (including sport, drama, music and community activities) at the School, not normally provided by the Governing Body.

Do put these dates in your diary now! The Friends would be delighted to have your support at any or all of their upcoming events. If you would like more details for the Fireworks (for which tickets are on sale from the KCS Box Office), the Christmas Tree sale, the Fair or for pre-orders for Christmas cakes, puddings or wrapping paper, all raising funds for The School, please contact the OKC Office by e-mail (okc@kcs.org.uk) or telephone (020 8255 5390, Tuesday and Thursday mornings). Your support will be very much appreciated!

Sarah Wilton

FROM THE ARCHIVES

In this issue of the Newsletter, two recent enquiries directed to the Archive are described. In each case, as so often happens, the exchange of information has taken place in both directions. Although information is usually sought by the person making the enquiry, the Archive itself almost always benefits by an increase in our knowledge of our Old Boys.

Harry Dixon

June this year saw the 60th anniversary of D-day, the first day of the Allied invasion of German-occupied Europe. Ten years ago, following the 50th anniversary, this Newsletter recounted the memories of two men who took part in the landings, and later became members of the KCS teaching staff, David Fenton and Richard Hudson (Newsletter 85, October 1994). This issue recalls an Old Boy, Harry Dixon, who landed on the French coast early in the morning of D-day, and tragically lost his life before the day was over.

Harry began at King's in the Autumn of 1921. He spent two years in the Junior School, where he distinguished himself both academically, gaining a Junior Entrance Scholarship, and as a member of the J S 1st XV.

His career in the Senior School was also noteworthy. Academically he achieved good public examination results, and was awarded the Maclear Divinity prize, the Rothschild French Travel Scholarship, and the Inglis Scholarship. He rose to the rank of Sergeant in the OTC, was a House Prefect in Boarders House, and played rugby in the 2nd XV. He was a good athlete, winning both the 100 yd and 440 yd Under 16 races in the Athletic Sports of 1925.

He left King's in 1927 and went to work in the London County Council. In World War II he was commissioned Lieutenant in the KRRC.

On D-day, Harry was in charge of 9 Platoon of 'C' Company of the 2nd Battalion, the Middlesex Regiment. As part of the follow-up Brigade they landed about 4 hours into the operation, but it was some time, under shell fire, before they could get off the beach. Their objective was to support 185th Brigade in the follow-up to, and capture of, Caen. They came up against elements of 21st Panzer Division, who were holding Bieville and Beuville and barring the road to Caen.

What then happened is described in the following extract from a letter sent to Harry's father by Lt Col Weston, commanding the 2nd Battalion the Middlesex Regiment, and previously published in the School Magazine for December 1944.

".... His Platoon had the task of protecting the right flank of the advance and took up an isolated position right forward. From this position they successfully supported an attack by the K.S.L.I. on a 4-gun battery which was holding up the advance. Your son directed his Platoon fire in the most gallant manner. The Platoon was then very heavily shelled by the enemy, and your son was hit in the back of the head by a piece of shrapnel which penetrated his steel helmet. He was rendered unconscious at once and died on the way to the dressing station. He could have suffered no pain. May I say you should feel proud of the way in which your son died, and I should like to offer you once again my sincerest sympathy.

Harry is buried in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Hermanville. A photograph of his gravestone appears on the inside back cover of this Newsletter.

Michael Aries, son of the late Maurice Aries (1929), kindly supplied the military details given in this account, as well as the photograph of Harry's gravestone which he took on a recent visit to France. He was not aware of the letter from Harry's commanding officer which appeared in the School Magazine in 1944. Michael's mother was Harry Dixon's cousin.

Revd Thomas Cockayne

Interest in KCS Archives from overseas researchers continues unabated. Hot on the heels of the Australian request for information about George Heyer (KCS staff 1898-1906 and Hon Sec of the OKC 1899-1909), reported on in the last Newsletter, came a request from a researcher from the University of New Mexico. She was interested in Revd Thomas Cockayne, a member of the KCS staff from 1836 to 1869.

Cockayne was a most distinguished scholar, a Cambridge Wrangler, and the leading philologist of his

day. Amongst his pupils were Walter Skeat (1847) who became the first Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Cambridge, and was writer or editor of numerous works on early English and etymology, and Henry Sweet (1864) who became a leading philologist, and an Anglo-Saxon and Early Norse Scholar. Both of these pupils of Cockayne have been the subject of scholarly research, notably in the Linguistics Department of the University of Glasgow.

After 33 years of teaching at the School, Cockayne was dismissed in controversial circumstances, details of which are given in *KCS: The First 150 Years* by Frank Miles and Graeme Cranch.

The researcher making the enquiry was aware of the connections between Cockayne and the two pupils mentioned above. She had also noted that Cockayne was one of the masters at the School who received Boarders. Amongst other queries concerning Cockayne's role as a scholar, she wondered whether a list of his Boarders might reveal other pupils who could have been influenced towards philology. Sadly, no such lists exist as, presumably, boarding was a private arrangement between the master and the pupil's parents. However, Cockayne's home address is recorded, and it may be that a search of the UK Census returns for 1851 and 1861 will reveal some further information. The investigation continues!

BJS

CAREERS

The next School Careers evening will be held at the School on the evening of Thursday 5th May, 2005. It will, as always, consist of a dinner hosted by the Head Master, followed by the (usually) two careers interviews by each advisor.

The Old Boys part of the evening is organised by Gordon Robson and, as usual, he is anxious to get new careers volunteers, particularly in the 20 - 30 year age range. Always in demand are people in the media, diplomats, civil servants, marketers, and, in recent years, anyone practicing the sciences, particularly in biochemically-related areas. If you feel you can help (and would like a pleasant evening at the same time with a few old friends) please contact Gordon Robson on 020 7828 9576, or let the Old King's Club office know. Gordon will be approaching careers volunteers in March, for help on 6th May, once the boys's requests have been collected, so please let him know before then.

GAUDY

A Gaudy for those who left King's between 1970 and 1974 was held at the School on Saturday 18th September. Over sixty former pupils of the period attended, together with a number of the teaching staff of that time, as well as members of the current teaching staff.

As usual, those attending were taken in small groups on tours of the more recent School buildings; a group photograph was taken; and an excellent lunch was provided in the recently refurbished and extended Dining Hall. The Head Master gave an informative address after lunch, noting the many changes that had taken place over the last 30 years, but stressing the retention of the same educational aims and ideals with which the audience would be familiar.

Some photographs of those attending are posted on the School web site.

MEMORIAL TO DAVID WILLIAMS

The Old King's Club has commissioned a memorial to Flight Lieutenant David Williams, who was killed on 23rd March 2003, whilst taking part in the Iraq campaign. As reported in Newsletter 103, David was the navigator of a Royal Air Force Tornado aircraft which was returning from a successful mission in Iraq when it was shot down by a US Patriot missile.

The memorial will be incorporated into the School's present War Memorial in the Great Hall. It takes the form of a rectangular plaque in stone, chosen to match the present stonework, with lettering in the same style and size, and it will be fixed to the narrow shelf at the foot of the present list of names. A photograph will appear on the School website, and in the next issue of the OKC Newsletter.

The memorial will be formally dedicated at the School's Remembrance Day service, which will take place at 8.40 am on Friday, 12th November. Any Old Boy who wishes to take part will be welcome.

REPORTS FROM AFFILIATED ACTIVITIES

BOAT RACES BETWEEN OKC AND KCSBC

When the Old Boys arrived for the second Old Boys v KCSBC races at the Boat Club on Sunday 12th September they were prepared for a good race, as they were up against the crew which won gold in the School Eights at the National Schools Regatta – a first for the School. There were two races; the School 1st VIII, with James Williams substituting for Dave Anderson v the Old Boys 1st VIII who rowed from the Crow's nest at Hammersmith, and a shorter course as requested by the Old Boys 2nd VIII from Barn Elms. The finish line was the KCSBC flag pole, which gave a great view for the large numbers of friends and supporters who turned out to cheer them on.

The 1st Vllls race started off at a rapid 48 strokes per minute with both crews fighting to get advantage, but by St Paul's the School crew had started to pull away by a canvas and at Hammersmith Bridge were a full length ahead. They dropped the rate to a steady 34 as the wind created some bumpy conditions around the Harrods Repository and then settled into a comfortable rhythm. The Old Boys put in several bursts to try and get back on terms but the 1st VIII responded in turn. As they approached the milepost the Old Boys crossed behind the School to take advantage of the flatter water and stronger tide, but the School never let them get back and finished the race two lengths ahead.

The second Vllls race was a shorter sprint and, after some interesting manoeuvres to get the two boats level for the start, both boats fought a close race. The School set off at a high stroke rate but the added length of stroke and power in the Old Boys boat enabled them to row through the School VIII and they won by a canvas in an exciting finish in front of the boathouse.

The Pat Reed-Boswell Cup was presented to this year's School Captain of Boats by Mickey King, Chairman of the Old King's Club, who spoke on behalf of all present in thanking Sue Walker and her coaching team for organising the races and spectators launches, the KCSBCSA for providing afternoon tea and, of course, the OKC for subsidising the bar.

Shirley Chapman

Some photographs of the races appear on the inside front cover of this Newsletter.

OLD BOYS GOLF

The principal news to report is that the KCS Old Boys' scratch golf team won the prestigious Grafton Morrish trophy for the second time in four years on September 26th, beating Taunton, Edinburgh Academy, Winchester, and Epsom on the way to the final.

The final was played against a strong Birkenhead side (aggregate team handicap of 8 to KCS's 12) who had won all their previous matches fairly easily. KCS got off to a great start when our first pair of Ajay Patel and Michael Wale played brilliantly to win their match by 3&2 and then headed back to support the other two matches. With the third pair of Robin Clark and Peter Crowther going down to Birkenhead's strongest pair, the outcome rested on the second match and the pairing of Rupert Rea and Andrew Fordyce. Two up with three to play, Rupert played an exquisite 7 iron to 12 feet on the par three 16th which Andrew holed to win the match and the trophy.

Seven players competed for KCS during the tournament, with Guy Chesser helping to secure a vital point against Taunton on Friday. Robin Clark and Peter Crowther were as strong as ever, and Peter now has 49 Grafton Morrish wins to his name since first playing in the event in 1975!

The team were ably supported by James Olivier, Howard Souter and Chris Gems. Their advice, enthusiasm and caddying abilities were much appreciated by the playing members of the team. The team would also like to thank Tricia Wale, Amelia Fordyce, and Joyce Grime for their unstinting support during the tournament, and great organizational skills in the lead up to the event.

As holders, KCS automatically qualify for the 2005 event (September 30th to October 2nd at Hunstanton and Royal West Norfolk golf courses).

Andrew Fordyce

The rest of the Golf news is as follows. The Spring Meeting was held in May at Coombe Wood Golf Club, when a number of Old Boys played along with a couple of guests and four boys from the School, making a total of 20 players. Fortunately the course was in fine condition, because the Club's own spring meeting was the following weekend. A most enjoyable round of golf was followed by an excellent dinner and prizegiving when one of our stalwarts, John Oliver, won the Bill Cox Cup with a Stableford score of 36 points.

In June we played against the School at Royal Wimbledon and were soundly thrashed 7 matches to 1, although, to be fair, there were a number of very close games.

In July we played in the Surrey Schools Old Boys Golf Society Competition at Chobham GC. The format of the competition is teams of six players with the total of the best five Stableford scores being the team's score. We have entered a team in this event for several years without any great success but this year we came second equal, just one point behind the winners. Our score on 180 points was all the more creditworthy, since one of our team and our reserve were both unable to play due to last-minute business commitments.

Our Team was: Micky King, Tony Clark, Ian Hay, Barry Baldwin and Graham Cox.

To be beaten by just one point was very annoying but there is always next year.....

A noteworthy individual performance was that of Rupert Rea, who won the Surrey County Championship in June and set a new course record of 65 at Royal Wimbledon!

NB Next year's spring Meeting will be on Friday 13th May 2005, again at Coombe Wood Golf Club, teeing off from 2.00 pm, followed by dinner. The School match at Royal Wimbledon will be in the middle of June, and the SSOB will be on the second Thursday of July. Anyone wishing to play should contact me by phone on 0161 427 5930 or email gcox@clara.co.uk so that I can add you to my mailing list .

Graham Cox

OLD BOYS RIFLE CLUB

The Rifle Club is based at Bisley Camp, home of the UK National Rifle Association and base for the last Commonwealth games. The Club has evolved over the last few years from being a Target Rifle Club (prone fixed position shooting up to 1000x) to cover other disciplines which allow for shooting in standing and kneeling positions as well as turning targets on shorter rifle ranges (25m).

Membership of the Club is now not restricted to just Old Boys, and ladies now form 20% of the membership.

Astor Competition

In April the Club participated in the heats for the Astor which makes up part of the series of international competitions hosted by the NRA. The competition was

hard fought against the BBC in our regional heat, but whilst the Old Boys were able to maintain their score rate, the BBC team blinked first during a significant downpour of liquid sunshine and we went through to the Finals in July.

The team members were, from top left: Nick Forward, Alex Sienkiewicz, Geoff Atkinson, John Naylor, Chris Leighton, and Nick Forward.

In the finals we were drawn against a team which comprised a number of England Team shots, an experience that proved to be both instructive and demanding. Sadly, we were not victorious but acquitted ourselves well and look forward to a rematch next year.

Commemoration day

The tradition of competitive shooting against a School rifle team has, for the moment, been placed in limbo because of pressures on school resources and staff. However, we were again delighted to provide help to the School by running the range at the School on the day. Over 60 parents, schoolboys, and visitors were given an introduction to target shooting using the School's air rifles. We were pleased to award Club spoons to selected shooters for either outstanding performance or for perseverance in the face of adversity.

Whilst the day was hectic and the queues never once relented, everyone seemed to enjoy the experience. See you at Bisley?

Jack Hedditch MBE RVM

The Club was very sad to lose a long standing member Jack Hedditch this year. Jack was a shooting stalwart who ran the School rifle club before joining the Old Boys. He showed patience and tenacity in coaching and encouraging shooting sports that would place the majority in the shade. He will be missed.

A full obituary is included in this Newsletter.

Future activities

Our active year has its climax in late September when our two main competitions and dinner are held. After that we hold impromptu meetings, the dates of which may be obtained from the Hon Sec.

- I. Last planned date of 2004 - Xmas shoot and Lunch 4th December
- II. 15th January 2005 - Gallery Rifle in the afternoon.
- III. 19th March 2005 - *am* 100x action rifle Siberia, *pm* AGM

Please note; non members and first timers are most welcome.

Contact: The Hon Sec Richard Hudson, either via the OKC at School or by e-mail at richard.j.hudson@o2.co.uk

OLD BOYS RUGBY CLUB

Readers of this Newsletter wishing to see the latest information about the activities of the KCS Old Boys RFC, including match scores, league positions, and forthcoming fixtures, should visit the Club website at www.kings.org.uk.

OLD BOYSTENNIS

As in 2003, the OK's reached the Final of the d'Abernon Cup and came face to face with the same opponents, Old Paulines, who they beat quite conclusively on that occasion. The match this year once again took place on the grass courts of the All England Club in fine but very windy weather. The first round resulted in one win for each side with the third rubber halved at one set all. The second round went exactly the same way, so that at tea-time the score was two rubbers each and two halved.

The third round was a repeat of the first two, leaving the entire match equally divided. This meant that the unfinished matches had to take to the courts again and the first one to finish gave the victory to the Old Paulines.

The whole event was played in an excellent competitive spirit, with both teams so evenly balanced and the standard of tennis very high.

Congratulations and commiserations to the OK team of Stephen Morris and Blake Hutchins, Chris Clarke and Mark Peterzan, and Stephen Lloyd and James Mustoe.

Len Barkey

KCS LODGE No. 4257

At our meeting in May the outgoing Master, Subhash Patel, installed John Matthews as his successor who in turn appointed Peter Methley and Keith Sturgeon as Wardens. In June Christopher Rashbrook was appointed an Assistant Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, and in the Lodge Mark Lewis was initiated and welcomed as a member. The Lodge has over thirty members and plays an active role in the Masonic Province of Surrey.

The Lodge is very fortunate to be able to hold its regular meetings at the School where our Festive Boards are very much enjoyed by members and guests alike. The Lodge meets four times a year on the fourth Friday in January and April and the second Friday in June and December. We extend a warm welcome to those who are members of other Lodges to attend our meetings, and we encourage OKs and those closely connected with the School to join our fraternity. For further details or enquiries please contact the Secretary, Graham Bulkeley, St Mellyn, Portmellon, Mevagissey, Cornwall PL26 6PL, telephone 01726 842007, e-mail graham.bulkeley@which.net

OLD BOYS NEWS

NICHOLAS BUSTIN (2004) has spent the summer with the Theatre Company at the Edinburgh Festival, and is now at the University of Edinburgh, starting a degree in Electronic Engineering.

WILLIAM CHALLIS (1970) formerly Vicar of Bitterne Parish Church, has recently been appointed Diocesan Director of Ordinands for Guildford (see Changes of Address).

SIMON CLARK (1972) is currently Chairman of a small niche Lloyd's insurance broker, specialising in arranging the insurances for oil and gas assets of major developing countries into the London and international insurance markets.

MICHAEL COBBETT (1970) is a solicitor and notary with Ellis-Fermer & Negus at Long Eaton, Derbyshire. He has been a partner with this firm for over 20 years. He and his wife Anne have recently celebrated their silver wedding. They have three sons - all teenagers. He is Church Warden at St Nicholas Church, Nottingham.

TOM COWELL (1999) graduated from St Peter's College Oxford in 2002 with a first in English Language and Literature. He spent a year teaching English at a Japanese high school under the JET programme, and travelling in Asia, before winning a James Thoron award to study at the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He has just started a two-year Masters in Government Administration. He can be contacted at cowelltom@hotmail.com.

BOB CRANSTON (1972) who is a Chartered Civil Engineer and a Chartered Structural Engineer has for the past three years been working at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Harwell. He is involved in the

construction of 'diamond', the largest new research facility to have been built by the government for the past 30 years.

PAUL DRUCKMAN (1973) has been appointed President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales for the year 2004-2005. He will also be a Director of the government's Financial Review Council, Chairman of the combined UK accounting bodies, and a member of the Takeover Panel amongst other appointments.

ALASTAIR FORBES (1973) is a Consultant Physician and Gastroenterologist at St Mark's Hospital, Harrow. His responsibilities include a clinical role in intestinal gastroenterology and nutrition, and he is director of the supra-regional service for intestinal failure, based at St Mark's. He has numerous research interests in the field, and is currently spearheading a project to facilitate the broadcasting of his unit's educational materials to interested centres around Europe.

MARK HICHENS (Honorary member) has had another book published, this time entitled *Prime Ministers' Wives - and One Husband*. The result of ten years of intensive research, it was the first work of its kind for almost two decades, and has since been followed by a book on the same subject by Cherie Blair. In his book, Mark examines these women - and one husband, Denis Thatcher - in the light of their personalities and achievements, as well as the roles they have played in British history. Norma Major, in a review in the *Mail on Sunday*, wrote 'He has wisely avoided the fictions of press cuttings and made a genuine attempt to get behind the public facade. He paints a sympathetic and convincing picture of Prime Ministers' spouses from Catherine Walpole to Cherie Blair'. *Prime Ministers' Wives* is published by Peter Owen, 256 pp, £18.95.

GRAHAM HOWELL (1971), a solicitor with considerable experience in public companies in the television and advertising businesses, has recently been appointed Secretary to the Corporation at the Office of Communications, the new super-regulator for telecoms, broadcasting - TV, radio, and the spectrum.

KEVIN KNOTT (1973) has recently become the Master of the Prince of Wales's Household, having worked for the Prince since 1984 in various senior financial roles - first with the Duchy of Cornwall and, for the last two years, in his Household.

MARTIN LEWIS (1971) runs the Ecological Enterprise Company Ltd, a company which markets charcoal and coppice craft products throughout SE England.

DAVID PILCHER (1971) is currently based in Moscow working for TNK-BP, the joint venture oil and gas company established in 2003 by BP and its Russian partners. He can be contacted at DPilcher@tnk.ru or by post at his Claygate address.

IAN PRIDEAUX (1974) is now Product Development Director at HSBC Private Bank in London.

IHSAN RAHIM (1997) is working for Platts, one of the McGraw-Hill companies, where he is Editor, Petrochemicals.

RUPERT REA (1996) this summer won the Surrey Amateur Golf Championship, and set a new course record for the Royal Wimbledon Golf Club.

MARK SHELDON (1973) has been a studio photographer for many years. More recently he has moved into film-making. He has formed his own company, Satellite Films Ltd, based in Winchester, and has made a number of television advertising films. Currently he is mostly concerned with making corporate films (see www.satellite-films.co.uk).

CHRIS SHINGLES (1972) writes to say that he has had the "relapsing/remitting" version of multiple sclerosis for twenty years, causing him two years ago to retire from work. He is now actively involved with several charities, notably Oxfam and Action Aid, around the Salisbury area where he lives with his wife and two teenage boys.

MATTHEW SHOULTS (1993) has been teaching classics at King's for the last four years. He has now left King's to take up an appointment as Head of Classics at North London Collegiate School. His place has been taken by MATTHEW BRYAN (1997) who has been teaching classics at Hampton School since 2001.

ADRIAN SMITH (1972) has been writing music for television for a number of years, and has now established his own Production Music Library, 'Wonderweb Music'. The company publishes and produces music for TV, films, media, etc., and has a growing catalogues of cd's and stable of composers, including ROBIN BIBI (1973). He writes to suggest that if any other old boys are interested in using music, or composing, they should look at his web site www.wonderwebmusic.co.uk.

ANTHONY TUFFIN (1954) was elected back to the Council of the Electoral Reform Society in July 2003, after a break of one year, and then re-elected to the Council in July 2004. He subsequently was elected a member of the Society's Management Committee and its Campaigns Committee.

PETER WEST (197) has worked in the software industry all his working life. He moved to Silicon Valley in 1988, and currently has a consulting business focussed on helping early stage software companies. He lives with his wife and three children in Santa Ana, Southern California.

HOWARD WILLIAMS (1958) has recently retired, and moved from Wimbledon (see Changes of Address). He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1963 and was a partner in the Horwarth Clark Whitehill partnership for 36 years. He spent most of his time specialising in corporate finance based in his firm's City of London offices. Latterly he was chairman of the Horwarth Clark Whitehill partnership, which has over ten offices throughout the United Kingdom.

TIMOTHY YU (1994) graduated in 2000 with a first class honours degree in Architecture from Edinburgh University. He then worked in Hong Kong for two years, married Miss Kan Chow, and returned to the UK. He is now an Assistant Principal at Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates International, a firm of Architects and Planners in London, and he and his wife live in Surbiton (see changes of address).

DEATHS

- P L M BAIN (1944) 1996
- A D BANCROFT (1973) 1999
- B A CRUTCHFIELD (1936) January 2004
- R P FOSTER (1928) 2nd November 2003
- F A HEDDITCH MBE (Hon Life) 23rd May 2004
- J G LANSDALE (1936) 21st August 2002
- N G LONG (Hon Life) 5th May 2004
- R A MACASKILL (1965) 3rd July 2004
- G D MAPLE (1963) 27th July 2004
- J F SCOTT (1928) 27th November 2001
- Prof N J SEELEY (1960) 21st June 2004
- C V SINGH (2003) 15th August 2004
- A D STOYEL (1938) 2002
- C W SWEETNAM (1937) 6th September 2004

OBITUARIES

NOEL LONG



Noel Long, who died on 5th May 2004 at the age of 83, was one of the foremost music educators of his generation. As Director of Music at King's for 21 years (1958-1979), he built up virtually from scratch a large and thriving Department, with prodigious energy and commitment.

Noel was educated at Marlborough College and St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, where he read History, graduating early with a wartime degree. Disqualified from active service on a medical technicality, Noel spent the war years teaching History, principally at Pangbourne Nautical College.

When war ended, Noel's career took a different turn. He secured admission to the Royal Academy of Music, studying viola with Bernard Shore and composition with Alan Bush. After a distinguished period there, including winning the coveted Elsie Owen prize and founding various clubs, he taught music at Maidstone Grammar School. In 1954 he moved to the Leeds Institute of Education as Senior Research Fellow. His dissertation, entitled "Music in English Education" and published in 1959, followed visits to universities and numerous schools. Soon Noel was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, at that time a rare honour.

After a brief spell teaching at Gresham's School, in 1958 Noel was appointed Director of Music at King's, with responsibility for Senior and Junior Schools. He inherited no orchestra, no regular choir, just thirty boys learning instruments - and a school attitude not tuned to music! When he stepped down in 1979 (before retiring in 1981) there were three full-time music teachers, 19 visiting teachers, four orchestras, four choirs, two wind bands, 350 boys learning instruments, and a panoply of concerts.

Among early priorities, the principle of private rotating instrumental lessons (now commonplace) was established. Class music was introduced in the Junior School, and O- and A-Level groups in the Senior School. Both schools benefited from two acclaimed series of text books written by Noel, "Listening to Music in Secondary

Schools" and "Harmony and Style". His meticulously prepared lessons ensured a foundation of musical knowledge and enjoyment.

He took particular pride in the First Orchestra, reaching formidable standards with a wide repertoire. In this, and in numerous chamber groups, instrumentalists from Wimbledon High School were regularly invited to take part. His performances of the Squirrel Suite with the Junior Orchestra were equally unmissable. Noel was, in short, a marvellous and tireless communicator who brought out the best in his pupils, whatever their age. It is hard to think of a more rounded musician. He had studied viola, was self-taught on the piano, and was frequently to be spotted at school concerts behind a trombone, tuba, or French horn. He was also in demand as a tenor soloist with local choral societies. His flair for administration was fortunate: he had no regular secretary until 1977.

In 1958 there was but one music room, situated in the converted Priory stables. As the Department grew, facilities became hopelessly cramped, and teaching rooms were widely scattered. By the mid-1970s Noel's dream of a new Music School was finally being fulfilled, and in May 1978 the Department, with four main rehearsal rooms, 14 practice rooms and two offices, was finally under one roof. In that decade came two concerts for which Noel may be best remembered. In 1974 he conducted a performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion in Kingston Parish Church, and in 1979 the B Minor Mass in Southwark Cathedral. These were acknowledged as superb performances of difficult works.

At the Royal Academy Noel had met his future wife Jean, a piano student and daughter of Ernest Read. In 1958 they moved to New Malden, where they continued to live in retirement. Their three sons, Adrian, Martin and Stephen, were educated at King's, and their daughter Geraldine was a frequent visitor there, as a violinist from the High School. After retirement Noel became immersed in the activities of the Ernest Read Music Association (ERMA), promoting concerts for children. He conducted many of these concerts and bore with Jean the brunt of their administration.

An all-consuming passion is not a job, Noel would say. This is surely too modest a comment on his role in enriching the lives of so many generations of boys at King's, some of whom - like the composer Robin Holloway and the operatic bass Richard Angas - became professional musicians. To Jean and the family (including seven grandchildren) we extend our deep sympathy.

Richard Halsey

Major JACK HEDDITCH MBE RVM



Major Jack Hedditch MBE RVM, an Honorary Member of the Old King's Club, died on 23rd May 2004, at the age of 92. As a former Staff Instructor of the CCF, he will be remembered by many Old Boys.

Jack was born in Guildford and was the younger of two brothers.

As Jack's father was a soldier and his mother had been seriously injured in an accident, his early years were nurtured by his grandparents.

After his school years, Jack continued the family tradition of his grandfather and father-by following his brother into the Welsh Guards in 1931. After peacetime service, Jack decided in 1938 to return to civilian life and follow a career in the Post Office. In the same year, he married Helen who was to be his wife for 50 years.

In 1939 he was called once again to the colours of the Welsh Guards and had been posted to Gibraltar when war was declared. He was deployed with his Regiment to France and then Belgium to meet the German attack and was one of the heroes of Dunkirk, being evacuated from the beaches to England in 1940.

Between 1940 and 1944 Jack was stationed in England. He rose to the rank of Sergeant and was appointed senior NCO of the assault pioneer platoon, where he became an expert in bomb disposal. In June 1944 Jack was deployed in the Normandy invasion and was mentioned for bravery in dispatches during the breakout from the beachhead. He and his regiment helped to liberate Brussels, and in September 1944 was an integral part of operation Market Garden. Later that year he was involved in the Battle of the Bulge.

After the war Jack was posted to Palestine for two years. His beloved daughter Joyce was born in 1947 at the end of this posting.

In 1948 Jack was promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major and was attached to the Malayan Regiment. He was joined by his family in Malaya in 1949, where they stayed until Jack's final regular army posting as Regimental Sergeant Major to the Mauritius Garrison from 1952 to 1954.

After leaving the Army, Jack joined King's as a School

staff instructor. At this time he was commissioned. He eventually attained the rank of Major in the Territorial Army.

From his military training, Jack proved an excellent organizer of boys, and, apart from his CCF duties, set about quickly re-establishing Kings as a pre-eminent target rifle shooting school. Jack was a wonderfully understated shooting coach and taught by example and encouragement - from the summer regimes of strengthening exercises at lunchtime on the grass outside the Armoury, the deafening full bore shooting trials at Kingston Barracks, to showing budding marksmen how to black up the blade foresight of a No.4 SMLE Rifle at Bisley.

He was friendly, kind, never patronized, and was universally respected by the boys. As boys we knew he had seen real action in the War and had risked life and limb many times with his beloved Welsh Guards. Sometimes he told stories of his soldier's experiences, and grim as some were, he was never bitter or disrespectful of friend or foe.

In 1962 Jack joined the Queen's bodyguard of the Yeoman of the Guard, a body of men serving the Queen of whom he was so fiercely proud and whom he so loved. As part of that august body of men he assisted in the investiture of the Prince of Wales and subsequently the wedding of Charles and Diana in 1981.

In 1967 Jack was deservedly awarded the MBE for services to the Cadet forces. In 1977 Jack retired from King's, promptly joining the staff at the Royal Russell School to get their cadet force licked into shape. In 1985 he transferred his skills to Kingston Grammar and Wilson's Grammar School, continuing his dedication in ensuring the Cadet forces were the best possible.

Jack finally retired from Kingston Grammar School in 1996 at the age of 84, and then sadly due to ill health from Wilson's in 1998 having served his Country, Army, Cadet force and, most importantly for Jack, the Queen. Jack was delighted to have been previously awarded the RVM for services to the Royal family in 1982.

Jack was a keen supporter of shooting sports and was President, until the age of 90, of the King's College School Old Boys' Rifle Club. In his role as President, he did all he could to encourage the School to actively promote shooting sports, and in particular by cultivating links with the KCS Old Boys' Rifle Club.

Jack was intensely loyal to the School and the members of the Rifle Club in particular. For over forty years we (the rifle club) and numerous other OK's enjoyed a Christmas card from Jack and his family and up until quite recently Jack, as President, would attend the KCSOB Rifle Club dinners, Ashburton shoots at Bisley,

and go out of his way to maintain contact with not only old boys but their families and offspring.

Jack was great family man, proud of his family especially his grandchildren and great grandsons. He was particularly pleased to be able to live with his daughter, participating as a full member of the family until his death in 2004.

Jack has left a huge legacy derived from his generosity in sharing his experiences and knowledge, and motivating and encouraging young people to be the very best they could. He provided a role model for all that knew him; a proud man, a distinguished soldier, a family man; faithful to his family, Regiment, Queen and Country. He will be missed.

Richard Hudson

*With acknowledgements to:
Joyce Grant (Jack's Daughter)*

John Naylor

A photograph of Jack Hedditch appears on the inside back cover of this Newsletter.

ROBIN COCHRAN (1947) unfortunately died from head injuries caused when his car went off the road and overturned.

Robin commenced his education at KCS in 1940 in form 2 and the Junior school, and was also a choirboy at Christ Church, Wimbledon. He left school at 16 and joined the Merchant Navy, in the British Tanker Company. Some time later, after a serious illness, he left the shipping company and joined a Lloyd's Bank training scheme. Eventually he was appointed Manager of the Bedford Allhallows branch, where he achieved considerable success in developing the Bank's business within the local commercial community.

After retirement he embarked on a BA degree course with the Open University, joined a local choral society, and supported Bedford Rugby Club.

Our sympathy goes to his widow, Wendy, and to his son and daughter and their children.

RONALD ANGUS MACASKILL (1965) died on 3rd July 2004, aged 57, after a prolonged illness. Ronald came to King's in 1958 after winning a place through the old 11+ examination. He eventually entered the science sixth form and then in 1965 went to King's College London, where he gained an engineering degree in 1968, followed by a Masters Degree in Business Studies from City University in 1969. He then joined his father's engineering agency firm which specialised in ships, eventually succeeding him as Managing Director.

At school Ronald was a member of the Photographic Society, and he continued to be a keen photographer all his life. He was also a founder of the school Ship Society, and became a school prefect. In later life he was a very active Freemason, serving with distinction and achieving high office in his Lodge.

He is survived by his wife Irmgard, who he married in 1977, his two daughters Alex and Liz, and his son Roald. He was a true friend who showed great courage.

Peter Cook



Photo: NTPL/Mark Sebastian Bainbridge

Prof NIGEL JOHN SEELEY (1960) died on 21st June, 2004, aged 62. Nigel entered the Junior School in 1952, passed into the Senior School in 1955, and specialised in Science in the Sixth form.

His interest in Chemistry was reinforced by an extensive home laboratory, and his careful and meticulous approach led to his becoming an extremely skilled and resourceful practical worker. One of many possible examples of this was his interest in polarography, considered at the time to be a potentially valuable electrochemical analytical method. The School Laboratories had no suitable equipment for this extra-curricular technique, so he made a fully-working portable instrument at home from glassware, platinum electrodes, and electric meters, brought it to School and, in his quiet and unassuming way, demonstrated its use.

On leaving school, Nigel went briefly to Queen Mary College, then to Birkbeck College, where he took a joint B Sc in Physics and Chemistry in 1966, and a Ph D in Inorganic Chemistry in 1970.

His first appointment in what was to become a most distinguished and remarkable scientific career was as Senior Scientific Officer at the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory. Amongst many lines of investigation he became especially interested in detecting forgeries, and pioneered the use of u/v and i/r light to reveal erased writing.

In 1973 Nigel was appointed Head of the Department of Archaeological Conservation and Materials Science

at the Institute of Archaeology, University of London. Here he taught postgraduate students, and conducted research. He published a number of important papers, mostly concerning minerals in an archaeological context. He conducted a wide-ranging survey of the conservation needs of the new British Library, which led to the setting-up of a new conservation department, and served on the Mary Rose Trust conservation panel.

In 1989 Nigel became Surveyor of Conservation at the National Trust, a post later renamed Head of Conservation. Here he was responsible for all the conservation work carried out by the Trust. One notable example of his work was in supervising the restoration of Uppark after its almost total destruction by fire in 1991. In 2002 he became Visiting Professor at University College London Centre for Sustainable Heritage, at the Bartlett School of Graduate Studies, where he was planning a range of new projects.

Nigel married Mary-Ann Pulle in 1972, and they had three sons. A Memorial Service was held at Rochester Cathedral on 2nd October; Nigel was a member of the Cathedral's Fabric Advisory Committee.

B.J.S.

A more detailed Obituary to Nigel Seeley was published in The Independent on 26th June 2004; others appeared in The Times and The Daily Telegraph.

VIKRAM SINGH (2003) The whole School community was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Vikram Singh. He died in a road traffic accident on 15th August. Vikram entered the Junior School in Form 1 at the beginning of the Autumn term 1993 and left the Upper Sixth form in July 2003. He had completed the first year at Durham University, reading English.

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Gravestone marking the burial of Harry Dixon, who was killed on D-day (see article 'From the Archives' in this issue of the Newsletter).



Jack Hedditch, whose obituary appears in this Newsletter, seated at the Range.

