

King's Speech

NAMIBIA EXPEDITION

32 King's students explore Africa's vast frontier country
and work with one of the oldest civilisations on earth

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KING'S GIRLS!

We celebrate the first 20 years of the Girls' Division at Fence Avenue

CARRIE GREEN MEANS BUSINESS

Former pupil Carrie is an inspiration to
a new generation of female entrepreneurs

WORLD CUP DREAM

Former King's student Stuart White describes his exciting work with
West Bromwich Albion and in the lead up to the FIFA World Cup in Brazil

ALAN COOPER RIP

Editor's welcome



The magazine of King's former pupils has undergone several transformations since the first edition in 1982, both in appearance and in content, and 2014 marks another significant change. The aim has been to bring it more in line with the current membership's age profile as well as to give it a more contemporary feel; we hope you like it!

Given the constraints of

space, regular readers of the old Gazette will observe that some features of previous magazines no longer appear in this first edition of 'King's Speech'. Thus, records of the names of School Governors and of FPA committee members, and FPA's AGM minutes and annual accounts are on the school's website, so it seemed redundant to incorporate them here too. Some other items - obituaries, former pupil news and staff leavers - are available, in extended form, on the website. More significantly, there is a greater emphasis on feature articles, which we hope you will enjoy. As ever, we rely on your updates to fill these pages, so please keep sending them through and we will endeavour to include them in future issues.

The main event of the past

year as far as many former pupils are concerned, was the sad death, at the age of 85, of Alan Cooper. He had been in poor health for some time, battling bravely against cancer for much longer than the medics had forecast being possible; this will probably come as no surprise whatsoever to those of us who knew him, in whatever capacity. There is an appreciation on page 20. Margaret Schofield, too, has recently died, aged 92; she will have been familiar to many of our older readers as the sole female member of staff for many years, and a very highly-respected one too; she was the last of the generation of staff who began at King's not long after the Second World War, and whose impact on the school as it has evolved over the past 60 or so years has

been so important.

On the topic of world wars, 2014 is of course the anniversary of the start of WW1, and the school and the Association intend to commemorate the occasion in several ways; not least with a relevant feature in next year's King's Speech.

As always, the activities the Association organises for and on behalf of its membership rely on a small number of committed individuals, and many of them are thanked explicitly elsewhere. Perhaps, though, this is the place to echo a request that was made from the Chairman at the 2014 AGM, for involvement of more female and more 'less mature' [in age!] former pupils in guiding its activities in the future. Anyone who would like to become so involved, would be welcomed.

From the helm



Schools' Cheerleading Championships; Year 11 pupil Rowena Moores and our U13 Elite boys' team were crowned national trampolining champions and many of our girls were selected to represent the county in netball. For once, our cricketers were blessed with sunshine, chalking up ten victories against some worthy opponents including MGS, Stockport, King's Chester and Bolton.

This year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of our Girls' Division and will be joined on Founders' Day by former Principal Liz Spence whom many of you will remember fondly. Sadly, the past 12 months were marked by the deaths of Ron Birkett, formidable head of the Junior School from 1968 - 1986, and Alan Cooper. Alan was my Headmaster and typically he was amongst the first to write to me when I was appointed two-and-a-half years ago. He knew the challenges of headship, but he also reminded me of its opportunities and the absolute need to look to the future whilst working in the present. I am sure Alan would have been delighted with the progress the school is making towards our '2020 Vision' for King's on a single site. At the same time, I know he would be pleased to see continued investment in our current facilities. Work is nearing completion on the Westminster Road sports development, which will deliver a new County-standard astro and a half-size astro, tennis and netball courts and cricket nets. We have also seen whole-scale upgrades in our ICT systems, delivering tangible benefits to our pupils and staff. Our new single network and enterprise

standard WiFi system have revolutionised daily school life. Crucially, they are stable!

September 2014 will see the introduction of a new curriculum for the senior divisions, which will introduce Critical Thinking and P4C [Philosophy for Children] to pupils in Years 7-9 and also enable the majority of students to take up to 10 GCSEs. A new school day will consist of six periods rather than the current five and this will provide increased curriculum time and a more balanced day for pupils.

I hope that you enjoy this new magazine and gain from it a sense of the vibrancy of our community, our ambitious plans for the future, but also how proud we are of our past and of our former pupils. I'd like to thank a number of people in particular who have supported us recently: Rob Thorneycroft who is a constant fixture at school matches and has generously sponsored our rugby players and the forthcoming Girls' Tour to Barbados; Rob Unterhalter who organised last year's Annual London Dinner for former pupils; Bill Beatson who organised the Drinks In The City event last October; Guy Mason for the annual Old Boys' Rugby Festival; Steve Moores for the Old Boys' Cricket match; Alan McInnes, for his sterling golf work; and the Kobbler for the now annual Hockey match. I hope that many of you will use the new Facebook group for former pupils to keep in touch with old friends and staff.

Working hard at work worth doing is always a source of satisfaction and, for me personally, it is both a privilege and a pleasure to serve as the Headmaster of King's.

Simon Hyde

In a year that has seen the laying of groundwork for many changes, I am delighted to say that many aspects of the school are unchanged - we have achieved record academic results at A and AS level and maintained success in many other areas including the visual and performing arts and sport. Our pupils continue to compete regionally, nationally and sometimes internationally in many different disciplines as we maintain our 'work hard, play hard' reputation. The musical highlight of last year was the wonderful *Maria Theresa Mass* performed to a packed church in the Puginesque splendour of St Albans. Our Girls' Division young actors had the audience rolling in their seats during their production of *Wind in the Willows*. Year 6 thrilled audiences with *Honk!* their musical re-telling of Hans Christian Anderson's *Ugly*

Duckling with more routines and costume changes than a West End show. The Junior Choir swept the board at the Alderley Edge Musical Festival and the Sixth Form staged an intensely dramatic telling of Timberlake Wertenbaker's *Our Country's Good*.

At the same time our sportsmen and women enjoyed another impressive year. The First XV's unbeaten season and national second place in the Daily Mail's rugby ranking was the product of the same dedication, teamwork and leadership that we have just noted in music and drama. Last year's boys' hockey season was amongst the most successful on record with the First XI reaching the NW finals and the U16 and U13 teams reaching the North of England Finals. Our cheerleaders grabbed four out of five national titles at the National

Former pupil news in this issue



King's Olympian Jenni Pinches takes up a place at University of California Los Angeles [UCLA] on a full athletics scholarship. Page 4.

Director-General of the International Labour Organisation, Guy Ryder [1974] is quoted on page 6 from the 2013 Davros World Economic Forum. He also featured at the 2014 Davros summit.



With solo shows in London, New York and inclusion in the 55th Venice Biennale, former pupil Helen Marten is, "One of the most compelling artists to emerge in the past few years". Page 5.

Rob Unterhalter reports on the London Dinner 2013, enjoyed by 55 former pupils in the magnificent surroundings of the RAF club in Piccadilly. More on page 22.



We very much hope that you like the new format magazine for former pupils which has been put together by King's Director of External Relations Caroline Johnson, designer and photographer Michael Patey-Ford, and editor and former Sixth Form Principal Ian Wilson. We'd love to hear your feedback on this issue as well as any suggestions or contributions for the next issue. Please contact: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk

FROM THE CHAIR



interesting and relevant.

Quite a lot has happened this last year, the two most notable being the loss of our great former headmaster, Alan Cooper, and the agreement in principle, by the school and the Governors, to seek and review options for a new single site on which to house the school in the not too distant future.

Regarding Alan Cooper – personally speaking I cannot praise enough the positive effect this man had upon the lives of my peers and myself. He commanded respect in a way that made one feel nothing but admiration for him. I distinctly remember being reprimanded by him in his office and I can safely say that I did not plan on returning there again! I feel very fortunate to have been at King's during his reign and I know a lot of members feel the same way.

The matter of relocating to a potential new site will, I know, be contentious for some former pupils. The main building on Cumberland Street is an iconic feature of Macclesfield and it is easy to think that it has always been there since the school first opened in 1502. That is, of course, not actually the case as the main building was built in 1912, following the merger of the Grammar and Modern Schools in 1910. The school had already relocated twice, when it moved for a third time to Cumberland Street in 1854. I applaud the drive and ambition shown by the current Headmaster, Dr Simon Hyde, and his management team, in their quest to move the school forward to its next phase. At the heart of their vision for the school is the education of our current and future pupils and I hope that you will agree that should remain central to the school's plans. As always, if you have views on this, or any other matter, I would be delighted to hear from you.

We have had some very successful events over the last year, all of which have been very well attended, in particular the golf days organised by Alan McInnes, the London Dinner, Drinks in the City and, of course, the Annual Dinner which was graced this year by the presence of Steve Smith.

All in all, a good year for the Association and long may it continue and prosper.

Lastly, I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their support and enthusiasm and also Caroline Johnson and Jill Major for their unfaltering assistance and Michael Patey-Ford and Ian Wilson for their help in putting together this wonderful first production.

David Barratt, Chairman

Olympic gymnast heads to LA

After achieving two As in her A levels last summer, Olympic gymnast Jenni Pinches [2013] has taken up a place at University of California Los Angeles [UCLA] on a full athletics scholarship. Jenni competed as part of Team GB in the 2012 London Olympics and then returned to King's Sixth Form to complete her A level studies, achieving A grades in Psychology and English Language. Jenni has also recently launched a new app for use on iPhone and iPad called Laser Chambers, which she developed with her boyfriend and former pupil James McIlveen [2012].

Ruth Roberts Principal of the King's School Sixth Form said: "We are immensely proud of both Jenni and James and their entrepreneurial spirit typifies their love of a challenge."



Cricketer returns

Last summer, King's was contacted by former pupil Philip Dale [1940], who attended King's from 1933 to 1940 and played both 1st XI cricket and 1st XV Rugby. Philip asked if he could visit the school to watch some 1st XI cricket and, in July, he and his wife watched the Old Boys' cricket match. Philip is pictured with Steve Moores and one of the old team photos in which Philip can be seen on the back row, far right.



Send your updates to
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YOUR NEWS



Happy 100th birthday

Last year, King's was contacted by old boy Andrew Scott [1968] to inform us that his father, Frank Scott, would be celebrating his 100th birthday in September 2013. Frank was born on 4 September 1913 and undertook all his secondary schooling at King's [1922–1932]. He was a keen rugby player and played for the 1st XV. Frank's daughter, Christine Savill, still has his fixture cards for 1930/31 and 1931/32 in which he is listed as Vice – Captain. Frank retired to rural Lancaster many years ago and looked after himself, house and garden by himself until very recently. A lack of mobility has meant recent entry into nursing care. Frank is pictured on his 100th birthday with his daughter, Christine.

Solo show in London and USA wows critics

Helen Marten [2004] is increasingly making a name for herself in the world of art. For example, her 'Plank Salad' exhibition that



appeared at the Chisenhale Gallery in London en route between Zurich and the USA, was described by Guardian art critic Adrian Searle in glowing terms. 'Rarely have I been so struck', commented Searle. 'Marten makes you want to look very closely at the things she makes and the traces she leaves. Her way of thinking, with its word salads and trap-door metaphors, is dangerously infectious.'

Sporting MBE for John Arnold

John Arnold [1960] was recognized in the 2013 New Year Honours List, receiving an MBE for services to School Sport. John is the President of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association [ESTTA], and has been involved in the promotion of competitive school sport since he started teaching in 1963. John's interest in school sport resulted in his acceptance in 2001 of the Chair of the National Council for School Sport [NCSS], a post he still holds.



Jimmy Lomas

Congratulations to Jimmy Lomas [2009] who took part in the International Universities 20/20 Cricket World Finals in Sri Lanka in 2013 and was awarded 'Bowler of the Tournament'.



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News snippets

Guy Ryder [1974] was almost certainly the only former pupil in official attendance at last year's Davros World Economic Forum. Director-General of the International Labour Organisation, Guy is quoted as arguing strongly for immediate action to tackle crisis unemployment levels in southern Europe in particular; 'You don't have to wait for a revolution to do something about it', he said, in response to Angela Merkel's insistence that unemployment was a price Europe had to pay to become more competitive.

Philip Felton [2003], after gaining a PhD in Maths from Warwick Univ., has been employed by the Mercedes F1 team, and has been involved, for example, on ground-breaking work on third generation simulators.

It is by no means unknown for former pupils to have books published, and this year has seen at least four.

David Hargreaves [1987], after successful spells as an actuary among other things, has published a hard-hitting and challenging critique, available on Kindle, titled *Capitalism without Banking*.

Guy Farrish [19??], who took a law degree after King's and then spent over 20 years as a 'spy' at GCHQ, has now retired to write fiction, and has recently had published *Wolf*, described as a 'satirical fairy tale', a twist on *Three Little Pigs*!

Finally, two books both published by Troubador:

David Hutt [1958] has written a memoir that deals in part with the pre-WWI Austro-Hungarian empire, '*The Boy Who Wore White Stockings*'; and

Tim Topps [1947?] a novel based on an army depot immediately post-war, '*The Paper Caper*'.

Record producer nominated for top award

Former King's pupil and record producer Steve Plews [1978] has outclassed many of the world's major record labels to be nominated by the Sunday Times for the best contemporary music CD of the Year.

Steve, who continues links with King's as Head of Music Technology, recorded Royal Northern College of Music pianist Richard Casey performing the complete works of the Master of Queen's Music Peter Maxwell Davies.

Steve is the first to admit that contemporary classical music may not be to everyone's taste, but added: "The style is contemporary classical, which many will label as avant garde, appealing only to music specialists. However, there are also several more melodic pieces on the CD which have been played repeatedly on Classic FM. Indeed it was CD of the Weekend on Classic FM."

Steve is an accomplished pianist himself but his great passion is promoting and preserving British Classical music. He is regularly funded to record music that might otherwise remain unknown and has just recorded some rare harpsichord music by Delius. His recordings can be purchased from primafacie.ascrecords.com.

Steve Plews is pictured with pianist Richard Casey.



Former School Captain in South America



Katie Reid [School Captain 2011] is currently in her third year of studying German & Spanish at Robinson College, Cambridge, and is presently on her year abroad in Santiago, Chile. She is working as an English language assistant at the British-Chilean University, as well as learning modern Chilean history.

Katie has been in touch from Chile and says: "I owe a huge amount to the time I spent at King's. Besides the extremely fond memories and friends I will have for life, the Girls' Division gave me the confidence to take on new challenges and to never pass up on an opportunity for fear of something being too difficult. That's what pushed me to apply to Cambridge, to have the courage to aim for the grades I wanted at A level, to persevere when the work at Cambridge seemed insurmountable and ultimately to plan my year abroad on a continent I'd never visited and speaking a language I'd only been learning for 2 years."



YOUR NEWS

Doctor in Nepal

Ben Arnold [2008] has recently graduated with a medical degree from Keele University, but last summer as part of his final year of studies, Ben undertook a two-month Elective in a hospital in Nepal, funded in part by the Former Pupils' Association.

Ben says: "Studying medicine has given me some of the best experiences of my life, including working in Kathmandu. Healthcare in Nepal is extremely restricted by the cost of treatment, which has to be funded by the patient, and by the geography and location of many of the villages, often a day's travel from the nearest hospital.

"People there present for healthcare in a much more critical state than they would in the UK and I learnt skills that I am now using back in Britain. It is my ambition to become an Emergency Physician specialising in 'pre-hospital medicine', providing immediate care in life-threatening situations. It requires an ability to cope under extreme pressure on your own, utilising the small amount of resources carried in an emergency doctor's car. This is second nature to doctors in Nepal and I will always remember my time there and how we managed with so little equipment."



Ben focuses on career as wildlife cameraman

Ben Tutton [2004] is now a wildlife cameraman and recently worked on the BBC's *Harvest 2013* and *The Burrowers* both of which aired on BB2 in Autumn 2013. Since then, Ben has worked on both *Hidden Kingdoms* and *WinterWatch* for the BBC, which aired earlier this year. Ben is pictured filming Barbary Macaques in Morocco for *Primary Planet*, which earned him a place as a finalist in the Newcomer Award category of the Wildscreen Awards 2012. Next on Ben's agenda, is a trip to Sri Lanka in February to assist on a month-long wildlife shoot.



Congratulations

Tom Baston [2011] who is in his third year at Durham University has been awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship for Academic Excellence. Only 60 Scholarships are awarded each year across the university.

James Duffy [2001] and **Khalid Sawas** [2006] who both played for the Cheshire cricket team which won the Minor Counties Cricket Championship in 2013. In 2012, Khalid was Cheshire's leading runscorer and James captained the Cheshire side.

Lt Col **Leigh Drummond** [1993], of The Royal Regiment of Scotland, who was awarded an MBE by Her Majesty The Queen in the New Year Honours List for 2013 for services to the Military.

Emily Gilmour [2010] who graduated last summer from the University of Leeds with a BA in Linguistics and Phonetics with First Class Honours, and also received the departmental Lee Davidson Prize, awarded each year to the student who achieves the highest degree result.

Elliot Malkin [2009], awarded a First in Mathematics from Pembroke College, Oxford.

Jonny Marsden [2011], who has gained a cricket Blue for representing Oxford in the 2013 Varsity match at Lords.

Andrew Unterhalter [1999] who has recently taken up a new role as a Director at Battersea Power Station Development Company.

Kingsleigh Spencer Violet [2007] who was called to the Bar of England and Wales on 28 November 2013.

Alex Waddingham [2007] is another recent 'blue'; he played for Oxford in the 2012 RU varsity match.

SCHOOL NEWS

Working with one of the oldest civilisations on earth

After two years of planning and fundraising, 32 students and three staff spent a month in Namibia, working with one of the last nomadic tribes on the planet. The trip included a tour of the Skeleton Coast, a safari, whale-watching, teaching in a school, and a working week with the San people, huntergatherers who live in the bush and are one of the oldest civilisations on earth.

The students worked for a week to complete a major capital installation, building a 1km-long water main from the source to the village. It was built deep enough to stop elephants digging down to eat through the pipe and drink the water.

The group flew into Windhoek, then spent three days travelling to reach the San people: first on tarmac roads, then on dirt tracks and, finally, in specialist off-road vehicles across the last 30 km.

Not only were the San people welcoming, they were also pleased that the students had come to work, not just to look. The students rose at

6am each day, taking it in shifts to complete the digging by the deadline, whilst also working in the local school and teaching lessons.

The aim in the classroom was to bring some of King's teaching style to the African bush, so the students took over the running of the school for two days. This involved teaching lessons from 8am until noon, containing topics that allowed the group to cover everything from food chains to English grammar and types of weather. The students taught interactive lessons to 27 students who took part in role-playing, games, quizzes and much more. Games lessons involved cricket, rounders and football, as well as party games. The teaching was enthusiastically received and staff at the school took notes on different teaching styles. The pupils were very keen to be involved in every activity on offer; the cricket match proved to be a high point, and every hit was cheered as though it was an Ashes test.

It isn't easy being green

"It isn't easy being green" for young actress Maddy Phillips who starred as Toad in the children's classic *Wind in the Willows*.

The King's Girls' Division production was staged in November and was directed by drama teacher Catherine Thompson, who chose the Alan Bennett version of the Kenneth Grahame Victorian fantasy for its ability to span the generations. Catherine said: "I wanted something that our young actors could both explore and enjoy and there are some very taxing parts requiring immense ingenuity and humour, especially the renowned Toad, Rat, Badger and Mole."

Pictured from left to right are Kat Humphrey as Mole, Maddy Phillips as Toad, Olivia Watkins as Rat and Emma Maxwell as Badger.



YOUR REVIEWS

Gap year kids – a new form of colonialism?

Is there any stereotype more maligned than that of the "gap-year kid"? Attacked from all angles, in newspaper articles and YouTube videos, they are "spoilt", "entitled" and "naïve". But "the new colonialists"? The charge is a popular headline-grabber on the journalistic side of things, most recently after a report by the think-tank Demos. The report itself uses the word "neo-colonialism" only once, and in quotation from a journalist.

The words were not repeated for good reason and play little part in the substance of the report. Our teenage travellers heading to India to "find themselves" are not reincarnations of the viceroys of the Imperial Raj. Even the most hedonistic, alcohol-fuelled travel plans rarely involve the aspiration of taking control of a country, let alone the economic exploitation of its population. The accusation of colonialism is an unhelpful exaggeration.

The report, which surveyed more than 2,000 gap-year alumni, does however raise important issues with the state of gap-year tourism. A number of those interviewed reported doubting whether the local community really benefitted from their volunteer work. I know the feeling. In my time teaching English

the achievement of international development goals". The project's aim is rather the "nurturing of a new generation of development workers" who can go on to spread awareness of development issues back home.

The benefits of such projects should be assessed not by the immediate effects on individuals but in the long-term changes of public attitudes. While talk of "broadening horizons" may sound glib, the cost of an internationally disengaged public should not be taken so lightly. After all, the injustices perpetuated abroad in the age of colonialism could not have gone unchecked without an element of ignorance, apathy and complacent superiority at home. What better cure for such ethnocentrism than travelling to another country, meeting its people and adapting yourself to their cultural norms for a change?

The effect of gap-year tourism is more powerful than just informing travellers about issues in international development. There is a fundamental difference between watching a Panorama programme on sweatshop labour in a distant country and travelling there to meet the very people who work in such conditions.

The philosopher Peter Singer exposed the inconsistency in the ease with which we tolerate distant injustices. To use his example, I hope none of us would hesitate before ruining an expensive suit in the course of saving a child drowning in front of us. Why then, when asked to donate the cost of such a suit to save hundreds starving in Africa, do we find it so easy to turn away?

It certainly becomes a lot harder to swallow the ignominious origins of your fancy Nike trainers, when you spent your summer teaching English to the child whose parents were paid so little to produce them.

If colonialism is the exploitation of people and resources in one territory by those in another, then neo-colonialism is to be found in sweatshops and corporate land grabs. It is the Ivorian child labour behind brand name chocolate products and the resistance to paying a fair price to cocoa farmers, not the sending of idealistic young people to build schools in South Africa.

The most compelling argument for gap-year travel is in the remarks of those returnees who said that seeing the impact of multinational domination on small-scale farmers made them decide against working for such companies, unless they could be sure their actions were not having such a negative effect. Just as globalisation of industry makes this exploitation possible, globalisation of awareness makes it unsustainable. Gap-year tourism is not neo-colonialism, but perhaps our best defence against it.



Kathryn Nave, currently a final year philosophy student at King's College London, is the winner of The London Library/The Times Student Prize 2013. Entrants were asked to consider the theme: Gap years – a new form of colonialism? Here is the winning article by Kathryn which appeared in The Times in 2013.



Prince William spent 10 weeks in Chile on a Raleigh International expedition as part of his gap year.

in a Cambodian school, the only mark I can claim to have left behind is in a classroom full of children with impeccable pronunciation of the word "orange". Contrasted with the benefits that the travellers claimed personally – more than 80 per

cent citing increased self-confidence with improved leadership skills – such anecdotes may indeed suggest gap-year tourism is the exploitation of local communities in service of the employment prospects of British teenagers. Yet anecdotal evidence hardly justifies tarring the whole gap-year industry with the same brush. More than 70 per cent of respondents felt that the project they participated in not only made a material difference to people's lives, but that the community was still benefitting up to 18 months on.

Besides, the focus on such limited benefits misses the real contribution of gap-year travel to international development. As Miriam Schwartz, of Germany's Weltwärts programme notes, with participants sharing an average age of 20 and often joining straight out of secondary school, "they cannot directly contribute to

PROFILE

STUART WHITE CHIEF SCOUT



One of King's strengths has always been the quality of its extra-curricular provision, and in particular in the field of sport, so it's perhaps not surprising that quite a number of former pupils have gone on to make their living in one way or another in the sport-related arena. A number of alumni write on sport in the national media – Oliver Holt, Chris Wheeler, Andy Wilson, Oliver Pickup, for example. Others are involved in coaching and/or management at sporting clubs – Peter Moores, currently at Lancs. CCC, is the most famous of these, of course, but Jos Baxendell at Sale Sharks, and Simon Cohen at Leicester Tigers, are two other notable examples. But perhaps the most surprising is Stuart White; surprising not at all in terms of his ability, I hasten to add – but in his sport. Because Stuart is a football scout!

Actually, it is perhaps not all that surprising, because Stuart's father had a long and distinguished link with Stockport County, and Stuart did some part-time scouting for Stockport as he was making his way in the world after he left King's in 1988. He had gone to Sheffield Hallam and emerged with a Combined Studies degree, then moved into full-time work in Public Relations, first as an employee and then with his own successful company. But he had moved

on to part-time scouting with West Bromwich Albion in 2000, and when the offer came somewhat out of the blue to take on a full-time role as the club's Head of UK Recruitment in 2009, Stuart, in spite of it implying a large drop in salary, initially at least, took the plunge to turn what had always been an all-consuming hobby into a career, albeit potentially a rather insecure one. Quite a gamble! However, the fact that he is now 'Head of Scouting', or Chief Scout in more traditional parlance, at WBA, and also doing some work for Roy Hodgson, the current manager of England, in the run-up to the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, suggests that it is a gamble that might well pay off in spades! I recently got together with Stuart, and put some questions to him:

Have you any particular memories from your time at King's that stand out?

I was a fairly quiet, insignificant lad coming up through the school, and to be truthful didn't particularly enjoy life at King's in the first few years. I think it was a bit of a shock to me,

having been a big fish in a small primary school. I wasn't particularly academic, either, and it was only the teachers who made lessons fun to be in that I really appreciated; Ron Wilson and John Barrass stand out now, looking back – and I enjoyed Simon Skeens' German exchange trip to Gemunden as well. But it wasn't really until the sixth form, when I had some success in cricket, that I really began to enjoy life at school.

What sort of things does the

job involve?

There is no such thing as a typical day – though, for example, during the calendar year 2013, I attended 187 football matches and watched around another 40 on the laptop! Of course, I now watch a game in a completely different way as a scout than you might as a spectator – but it is marvellous getting paid for something I love doing! Ultimately, I make recommendations to the manager and play a part in deciding who we might target in any given transfer window.

In working towards that end, the job also involves managing and co-ordinating the work of all the club's full-time and part-time scouts, which is sometimes challenging but always enjoyable. In addition, having initially worked for Roy Hodgson at West Brom, I have already covered games for him in Portugal, Bulgaria and Holland, which is quite a privilege, really. That role currently sees me travel to watch and compile reports on national sides that England either will, or fingers crossed might, ultimately play in Brazil this summer.

Any thoughts as to things you got from your time at King's that have been helpful to you in your career so far?

Not the football, obviously! And my academic achievements, such as they were, haven't been of much relevance either in PR or in scouting, though I suppose the ability to analyse things and to communicate effectively is beneficial. It has been much more the social skills that the time at King's, and particularly through the cricket and in the sixth form, helped me to develop. I have also kept in

touch with quite a few of my school contemporaries over the years, and that has been quite important to me. For example, I was in a Stoke-based band called *Honeycrash* with Nick Hawkes and worked in PR with Ed Beattie for a number of years.

Finally, any thoughts you would like to pass on to the current generation of King's pupils?

Much as I had a slow start, perhaps the biggest things I eventually took from King's

were self-confidence and an appreciation of how to treat people. It's a privilege to go to a school like King's and while that might be something you only really appreciate once you've left, if you can make the most of the many opportunities the school affords you, whether they be curricular or extra-curricular, whilst always staying grounded and respectful of others, you will come away all the more rounded an individual for it.



Stuart had a marvellous late-flowering career as a leg spin bowler in the 1st XI, having been just a fairly useful seam bowler prior to his last two years at school. He finished with 145 1st XI wickets, the third highest ever recorded, with his total of 62 wickets in 1987 the second best ever. His 8-45 against the Old Boys in 1987, followed the next day by 9-54 v Abbot Beyne, will not be forgotten by those privileged to watch the performances. He also earned an HMC Schools trial in 1988, as well as a short trial with Worcestershire.

Any offers to name the other 13 from this 1988 1st XI photo? Email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk



CARRIE GREEN

THE FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR



Former King's pupil Carrie Green is rubbing shoulders with royalty and global business leaders since making a name for herself as one of the UK's leading lights in helping entrepreneurs to set-up their own businesses.

As the founder of The Female Entrepreneur, Carrie is regularly invited to offer advice to people wanting to start out in business and she has most recently been appointed an ambassador for the Government's initiative on Start Up Loans, working with James Caan from Dragon's Den.

Carrie left King's in 2004 with A Levels in Business Studies, English and Psychology. She went on to study law – at the suggestion

of her tutor Mr Wilson - and, whilst in her first year, set-up her own online business. After graduating, Carrie worked in-house for Warner Brothers' legal team, but soon decided to concentrate on her own business: "I decided to expand the company that I'd set up whilst at university, Easy Mobile & Lock, and to develop it globally. It was really successful, but I found running the business on my own quite a lonely experience. I decided to go travelling, but took a laptop with me and continued to run the business from wherever I was in the world. The sales process was fully automated, so I really just concentrated on business development and securing new collaborations."

On returning to the UK in 2011, Carrie used her own experience as inspiration to set up a new venture, The Female Entrepreneur Association - an online platform for like-minded business women around the world to link up and share their expertise. Carrie recalls: "I wanted to help women like me to be able to connect with each other to share their stories and advice. I wanted to help inspire and empower women from diverse backgrounds by bringing them together in a supportive, online community where they could share experiences."

In July 2012, Carrie took the online platform a stage further and launched a monthly magazine called



This Girl Means Business, aimed at women in their twenties wanting to turn their business ideas into reality. "The magazine is full of interviews with successful business leaders, top tips and 'how-to' articles. So now I get to interview my idols such as

Michelle Mone, founder of the Ultimo lingerie company, Jacqueline Gold, CEO of Anne Summers and I will shortly be interviewing Jo Malone, founder of the luxury fragrance empire."

After launching the magazine, Carrie was nominated for a Changemakers Award, a national scheme sponsored by Coutts and designed to recognize individuals with leadership potential. In September 2012, Carrie was announced as the winner of the Changemakers Award which, as she explains, was a life-changing experience: "I was presented with the award by HRH Prince Andrew and, since then, I have met some amazing people. I

Above: Carrie flies in with Lord Billamoria and below: receiving the Changemakers award from Prince Andrew.



have now set-up the Female Entrepreneur Advisory Board with some incredible people on it including Lord Billamoria, founder of Cobra Beer, and

Lara Morgan who is an entrepreneur and former CEO of Pacific Direct. The magazine now reaches around 60,000 women and the website hosts masterclasses and videos by some really successful entrepreneurs."

"Winning the Changemakers Award has led on to so many amazing things and my life has just been a massive whirlwind since then. In February, I was invited to Buckingham Palace to discuss entrepreneurship and I've become a Mentor for the Princes Trust to help get people aged 18 – 30 into business.

"It is such a privilege to be able to help young people turn their ideas into reality. The last few years have been an

adventure for me and I'm doing something that I absolutely love, at the same time as helping others."

Asked what advice she would give to current King's pupils, Carrie says: "The most important thing is to truly believe in yourself. Without self-belief it's hard to make things happen. When I was at school, I didn't really think that I was very clever until Mrs Ball, my chemistry teacher, made me realize that I could do well and achieve great things as long as I worked hard and I believed in myself. Because of her belief in me, I worked harder, I got better grades and that was a real turning point for me. I think mindset is everything; success is a mindset."

BOYS' SPORT

Rugby

King's rugby continued to be very strong, not only at the top end, but also in depth through the age groups. Thus, the sides at U15, U14 and U13 all had very successful seasons, and the U12s, having lost in the final of their first ever sevens tournament, then proceeded to win their other, so that the future looks assured for several years to come.

Guy Mason, master i/c, wrote as follows about the 1st XV: "The efforts and achievements of the squad were unrivalled, and its character and spirit will live long in the memory. The 2012 summer tour to Canada undoubtedly played a huge part in the season's success, with team spirit consolidated and captain Jack Sadler, who remarkably went on to play in every game of the record-breaking season, emerging as having the full respect of all."

Early victories over QEGS Wakefield, MGS and RGS Lancaster suggested that a formidable season might be in the offing, and this was soon confirmed by a 26-19 win over



a strong Sedbergh side in a match that was probably the highlight of the season. There was high-class entertainment, with both sides playing attacking rugby, but it was the composure and precision of the King's side that enabled them to emerge victorious. An excellent autumn was recognised by the award as Rugby World's October team of the month, and more good victories in both ordinary and Daily Mail cup fixtures brought the first term to a climax in the frozen wastes of Barnard Castle just before the Christmas break. Huge credit is due to the efforts of the ground staff in enabling the last-32 cup fixture to go ahead, and King's just managed to snatch victory from

the jaws of defeat, to establish an amazing pre-break record of 20 wins out of 20 games.

The squad then put in some serious training, determined as they were to make further headway in the prestigious national knock-out competition, and a superb 31-0 win away at Wirral GS put us into the quarter-finals for the first time ever. An 'ordinary fixture' 26-26 draw with the powerful Kirkham GS, another magnificent exhibition of the game at its best, and a marvellous advert for northern schools rugby, then provided some preparation among the cancellations for the quarter-final tie, again away, at Northampton GS. Unfortunately, this was to be the end of the road. After just 90 seconds, we lost top try-scorer and speed machine Tom Fairclough to a broken leg suffered in a collision with his opposite number, and after a disturbing 20-minute delay, the King's lads went down 0-3 in a nail-biter. The season's final record reads: P24 W22 D1 L1, with a points difference of 763-227."

Hockey

The boys' hockey season was also regarded as a successful one at 1st XI, certainly if success is measured by the improvements made by a group of players. Results were good in regular matches, King's qualified for the North West schools' finals day and performed very creditably at the annual Taunton festival, where King's competed against the best school sides in the country. The Taunton Festival team is pictured right.

With a very good U16 side – they only lost two games all season – moving into senior hockey next year, and a very committed U15 squad behind them, prospects for the future are certainly promising.



Cricket

King's cricket also enjoyed a good year, even if not quite at the same level as previous 1st XI sides; the U14 and U12 sides had very successful records, too, so again the future looks encouraging, at least a few years down the line. The 1st XI at the outset had not been expected to have a particularly successful season, with few players left from the previous year so their eventual record of 10 wins

and only 3 losses from 16 full fixtures represented a very meritorious one. There were some notable scalps, too, with MGS, Stockport GS, Bolton, Birkenhead and King's Chester all falling to King's combination of accurate bowling and gritty batting all down the order. Captain Ben Marsden very much led from the front, and his 773 runs at an average of over 55 were very important in the side's successes – though his contribution to generating

what was a marvellous team spirit was perhaps even more important. [Over his school career, Ben in fact accumulated an aggregate of 2701 runs; this compares with what is thought to be the record total, 3043, by Kym Graham, during the period 1989-91.] The annual cricket festival took place at Barnard Castle, and saw King's win all three games for only the fifth time in the festival's 40-year history*. After two convincing

victories over Edinburgh and Rossall, the scene was set for a genuine winner-takes-all showdown against the hosts on the final day. When King's struggled to 122 all out, the prospects did not seem good; but a superb bowling and fielding performance saw the opposition dismissed for just 90, and victory was secured. The final game of the season, as is now traditional, was against an Old Boys XI, on the hottest day of the season. Captain Tom Foreman top scored for the Old Boys with 54, but useful contributions by most batsmen enabled them to declare at 224-7. King's then made a brave effort, especially against top County League spinner James Lomas, and it was only a burst of 6-24 from surprise package Guy Mason that reduced the school to an eventual 201-8 – and an honourable draw!

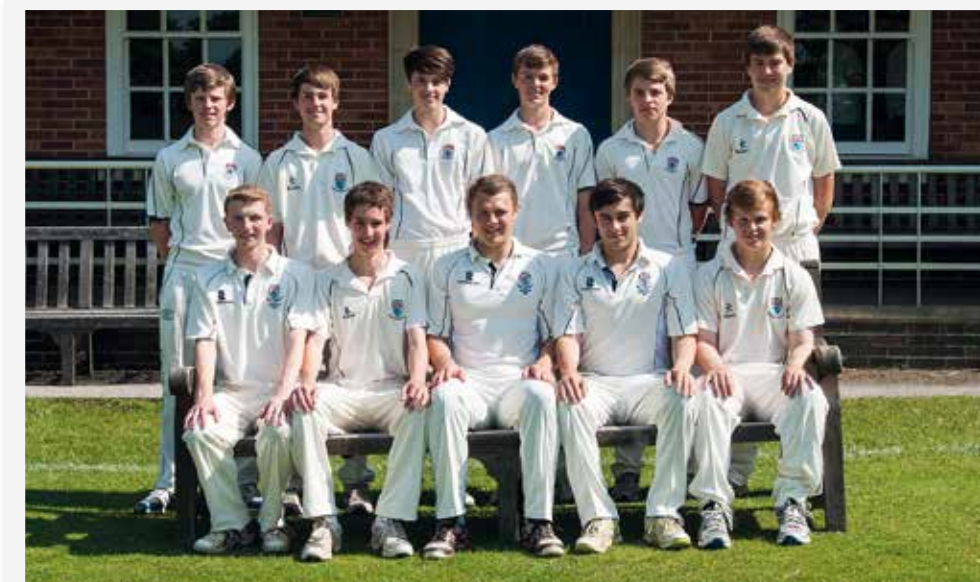
*Readers might be interested in details of the previous four occasions when King's won all three cricket festival games.

1978 – Arnold; Solihull, by 100 runs; Brighton, by 1 wkt. [capt. Jamie Goodfellow]

1991 – Arnold, by 113 runs; Edinburgh, by 206 runs; Ipswich, by 8wks. [capt. Simon James]

1996 – Ipswich, by 4 wks; Edinburgh, by 65 runs; Brighton, by 87 runs. [capt. Andrew Bones]

2011 – Edinburgh, by 199 runs; Barnard Castle, by 249 runs; Magdalen College School, by 261 runs [capt. Johnny Marsden]



GIRLS' SPORT

Sport at King's continues to be one of the school's great strengths, and this was reflected in 2012-13 in both the range and the quality of the experience available to the many pupils who participated. Whilst the rugby 1st XV achieved great success, former pupils should also be aware that it is by no means the only such success story. Indeed, it can be argued that the range of sporting activities available to the current generation is at least as impressive as it ever has been, and at a time when concerns about childhood obesity and lack of physical exercise abound, it is good to know that the current school leadership is extremely aware of the need to continue to support this aspect

of the school's offering, as well, of course, as its academic and other extra-curricular elements.

A look through the King's Annual Review, not to mention the website, illustrates very clearly this range of sporting involvement. There are, of course, what might be regarded as the four main 'traditional' sports, rugby, cricket, hockey and netball, in each of which all the age groups continue to play competitive fixtures – and with success too. Just to take the girls to illustrate, the U14 hockey side went through the season unbeaten and only missed out on the Cheshire County Finals by a goal difference; three members of the U15 hockey team were selected for East Cheshire representation - Helen

Lyons, Abigail Johnston and Sarah Laughton; the U15 netball side had a spectacular season crammed with multiple medals and trophies, succeeding at being the first King's side for many years to win the District Netball League. Elli Bird was selected for the U17 regional netball squad, whilst Imi McCance, Sophie Bird and Antonia Bianchi [pictured] were all selected to



attend North West regional screening for netball.

There were triumphs in other junior and senior sports too, including athletics, cross-country running, swimming, biathlon, rounders, trampolining and cheerleading. King's was the most frequently-represented school on the podium in the

National Schools Trampoline Championships, with Rowena Moores crowned U15 National Champion as well as our U13 Elite Boys' team also coming first, plus King's was the most successful school in the National Cheerleading Championships, winning four of the five main titles.

Last summer was the most successful girls' athletics season ever, with both teams and individuals achieving outstanding performances. The Year 8 / 9 team and Year 10 / 11 teams both won the Macclesfield and District Athletics Championships and the Year 7 team was 4th. 16 individuals were selected to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire County Championships. Athletes from

Years 7 & 8 [Junior Girls], and 9 & 10 [Inter Girls] represented King's in the ESAA Schools' Cup Athletics Competition. The Inter Girls' team won the competition with 285 points and consequently qualified for the North West Regional Finals.

Later in the season, Sophie Quinn [Triple jump and Long Jump, pictured below left], Katie Hughes [800m] and Sophie Decker [High Jump] went on to represent Cheshire in the Mason Trophy Inter-Counties Competition. Sophie and Katie gained entry to

the English Schools' National Athletics Championships, where Sophie achieved a Bronze medal for Cheshire and Katie was 9th in the semi-final of the Junior Girls' 800m. To have two girls from King's competing at this event was a rare honour. Sophie went on to be selected to represent England in the Triple Jump in the UK Schools' Games in September, where she finished in 4th position.

In addition, both Rebecca and Katie Hughes [below] received world placings in the World School Biathlon Championships.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY GIRLS' DIVISION

Twenty years ago, King's implemented one of the most momentous decisions its Governors had ever made. In September 1993, after almost 500 years of boys' education, King's opened its new Girls' Division. Brenda Despontin was the first Principal at Fence Avenue, so how better to mark this significant anniversary in King's history than by asking Brenda to offer a few thoughts as she looks back at this historic photograph, taken at the very first Welcome Evening in April 1993. This event sealed the special bond between parents, pupils and staff and, in many ways marked the moment this ground breaking project became real.



"Photographs are unique in capturing for ever one precise moment of history, and seeing again those familiar faces peering at the camera resurrected so many memories for me. Twenty years dissolved in the blink of an eye.

My first visit to Fence Avenue was unforgettable. What was once known lovingly as "Macc High" had been empty for some time, and it looked sadly abandoned rather than closed for business. Scattered piles of exercise books, dusty test tubes, dead flies, and battered old desks bearing carved names of past occupants gave it all the air of a set from an apocalyptic film. But the potential to create something special was obvious from the start.

I know I was privileged to be appointed as first Principal of the new Girls' Division. The vision of Adrian Silcock and the Board to create at King's a "diamond" school was inspirational, and today's numbers vindicate that decision. It was an exciting and slightly terrifying responsibility to launch a sibling for the much-loved and hugely successful King's boys' school across town. It would be a challenge in an area blessed with many excellent independent schools, but the King's brand was strong, and I enjoyed that first year in post teaching at the boys' school, familiarising myself with its ethos and values, planning the girls' school launch with a team of outstanding, equally excited staff, and visiting many Primary and Prep schools in the region.

But the success of the Girls' Division also required a leap of faith by new parents buying into a dream. They were wonderful, those early families, and I

was amazed how many signed up even before the refurbishments were completed, when I was still wearing a hard hat to visit the site. I shall never forget their confidence in what we were aiming to create, nor their support during my years at King's.

Their daughters were a very special group indeed. From the start they rose to every challenge and were proud of their part in the history of King's. No one who was there will forget the first meeting of that pioneer cohort. Over 100 girls worked all day to prepare a performance of "Island in the Sun" for their parents in the evening. It was a wonderful day, matched by the official opening in September 1993 and the many "firsts" which followed. Year 7 Joint Activities afternoons, *Daisy pulls it off*, *Dracula Spectacular*, the Division newspaper produced in the cutting-edge Resource Centre, sports fixtures where we got progressively better and better, and the first GCSE candidates. I remember too those discos where "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" was played again and again.

We never wanted the Girls' Division to be a clone of Cumberland Street. "Siblings not twins" was the mantra, and though we adopted the recognisable blue blazers and followed the same calendar and curriculum, we did things our way too. We had a House System and a School Council from the start, and appointed Year 11 Monitors and our own Head Girl.

Life has no doubt carried all those captured in the photograph onto diverse destinies, worldwide. Yet we will always be linked by our shared memories of that time. In my own case, I learned so much at King's, about teamwork, a common vision, student leadership - and the importance of fun in any school. I remembered those lessons always, as Head at Haberdasher's Monmouth School for Girls, and then Principal at the British School of Brussels. Former students have heard me quote often from Tennyson's "Ulysses", so it is fitting to remind them of his words once more as we celebrate what the early days of the Girls' Division gave to us all:

"I am a part of all that I have met," he wrote, "Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough Gleams that untravelled world whose margin fades Forever and forever when I move."

1993



September 1993
Opening Ceremony with Headmaster Adrian Silcock and Brenda Despontin, the first Girls' Division Principal



1997

Dr Despontin moves on to Monmouth School for Girls and Catherine Buckley becomes 2nd Girls' Division Principal



1999

Esmé Patey-Ford is the first pupil from the Girls Division to be appointed King's School Captain



2001

Liz Spence takes over the reins as Catherine is appointed Head of Queen's Chester



2011

Jo Anderson takes up her post as the fourth Principal of King's Girls' on Liz's retirement



FAREWELL



Alan Cooper was Head at King's for 21 years, but his impact on the school has been very much greater than the time period alone implies. There is the concrete legacy, of course, that all Heads like to leave – in his case the Rock Block, the Percyvale Block, the Derby Fields and the Library that bears his name. There are also two revolutionary decisions; to move into full independence in the late 1970s, in the face of the changes being imposed on education by the politicians of the time, and to take girls into the sixth form in the late 1980s, a change that was the

forerunner of the expansion into a full co-educational foundation just a few years later. Others were also involved in these momentous changes, and Alan would have been the first to acknowledge the support he was given, in particular by the mainstays of the Governing bodies of the time. No one can doubt, though, that he was the driving force – nor that his effect on both staff who worked at the school and pupils who attended it during his time, was at least as profound as his influence on the development of King's as a whole.



When he was appointed in 1966, at the age of only 39, he had already enjoyed a successful career as a scholar of Bradford GS and Oxford University, a sportsman, and a forward-thinking teacher and Head of Maths. When he departed, too, in 1987, he 'retired' to an active and again successful life in Somerset, until illness eventually caught up with him. There is, though, much that says that King's became profoundly stronger as an institution during the 21 years in between, and the responses to news of his death from both former pupils and former colleagues at the school

suggest strongly that this view is very widely shared. He had a clear vision of how the school should develop, and his decisions, whether they had long-term implications or were merely dealing with day-to-day issues, always seemed to come out of a coherent philosophy in such a way that, even if one might disagree with some aspect in detail, nevertheless it was impossible to argue that they lacked justification.

What of other qualities? Humour was perhaps not immediately obvious from the viewpoint of pupils or staff, though homilies in a school assembly that the boys should 'desist from redistribution of nature's benevolence' – snow had fallen overnight – or in a late summer-term missive to staff that they should 'beware of being seen to be mere paid entertainers' or of 'conniving in a state of mutual disregard' with the boys, are perhaps sufficient evidence to illustrate that such was by no means lacking. More, though, he was a natural authority figure, and had the respect that is often attached to such figures. In the case of staff who worked under him, he also possessed the hugely-respected attribute that, whilst justified private taking-to-task might well occur on occasion, defence in public could also be relied upon. In the modern era of sometimes excessive adulation given to often very limited achievement, it is also perhaps quite healthy to look back to a regime where one could take it that one was doing quite a good job if one was left to get on with it without criticism!

AHC [1927-2013], RIP.

The past year has also seen the deaths of a number of others connected with the school. There is mention elsewhere of **Margaret Schofield**, who has died aged 92. She was a member of staff from 1950 to 1981, teaching first in the juniors and then mainly maths in the senior school; she was highly respected by several generations of schoolboys, many of whom are still happy to acknowledge the debt they owe her for establishing the fundamentals of mathematics in their not always entirely receptive minds.

Another former junior school stalwart, **Ron Birkett**, also died this year, aged 87. He had been a highly respected and effective Principal of the Junior School from 1968 to 1986. A historian by training, Ron will be fondly remembered by many boys, including for his slightly eccentric appearances when taking games on the bottom field! He retired to Gloucestershire, where he retained in particular an active interest in local history.

Among former pupils whose death has been reported to us this year are the following:

Gavin Abrahart [1964], in Leeds; his main hobby can be guessed from the fact that his coffin was decorated in the livery of the Great Western Railway!

Gavin visited King's shortly before he died last year. He and a small group of former pupils had a tour of the school, visiting their old classrooms and taking a trip down memory lane. Pictured (from left) are: David Yorke, John Armitt, Alan Bowers, Simon Hyde (Headmaster), John Renshaw, Chris Beard, Dave McGowan, Phil Oldham, Ron McCahill, Phil Weir, Colin Brecknell, and on the front row, Gavin Abrahart.



Don Ainsworth [1946], aged 82; he worked in insurance, and was very well known in the town through his lifelong support, including a period on the board, of Macc. Town.

Sam Beswick [1945], in Derby; he enjoyed a very successful career as an architect for local authorities, first in Macclesfield, then Grimsby and finally Derby – where he was also heavily involved as an active volunteer at the cathedral.

Adam Broadbent [1986], at the tragically young age of 46, after a long illness.

John G. Dixon, of Alderley Edge.

Chris Edwards [1969]; another early death, Chris was hugely liked and respected particularly among his Kobbler friends;

Francis Golding [1962], aged 69, as a result of injuries sustained in a bicycle accident; he was very well-known as an architectural, planning and conservation consultant.

Andy Gowans [1985], also at a tragically early age; an ex-school and 1st XV captain, he enjoyed a very successful career in the law, and continued to live an extremely full life even after being first diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2001.

Phil McGuinness [1945], aged 86; he was a hugely respected teacher of Modern Languages, not to mention rugby, for many years at St Paul's School, as well as an extremely loyal and committed supporter of his old school, for example at Rosslyn Park Sevens tournaments and at London Dinners.

Tim McKinlay [1979], aged 50; after reading Maths at Jesus College, Cambridge, he enjoyed a very successful career spent mainly with Heinz and then Navis, until he died tragically early.

Mark Orchison [1990], in South Africa; he only spent a couple of years at King's, but made a significant impression on his

contemporaries, particular in the field of school cricket.

Howard Simpson [1971]; he was very well-known and well-liked by many in the town.

John Watkins [1946], aged 82; after a period as a military policeman, he spent the bulk of his career in the police in Gloucester, before starting his own security-focused company, all the time remaining a very loyal supporter of the Association, and particularly through his attendance at many annual dinners.

Staff Leavers

The following members of staff, in date order of their arrival, left the school in 2013: Geoff Shaw, Mark Harbord, Jill Illingworth, Chris Hollis, Michael Patey-Ford, Clare Bingham, Alison Powell, Val Kendal, Val White, John Pattison, Gillian Banner, Kate Easby, Rachel Maddocks, Christine Morton, Anne Alderson, Christophe Fico, Janet Handley, Christine Warr, Anne-Marie Whalley, Rachel Bateman, Patrick Livingstone, Mark Hornby. The 2012-13 Annual Review, which can be accessed on the school's website, gives relevant details.

Ypres Plaque

King's Former Pupil Association has commissioned a memorial plaque for St George's Church in Ypres in memory of the 85 former pupils and staff who lost their lives in WW1. A formal dedication of the plaque will take place later this year.



SUPPORTING KING'S

Last year, we asked former pupils to complete an 'update form' to tell us more about your current employment, university days, your interests and whether you'd be interested in supporting the school either by coming in to talk to pupils or offering work experience places.

Many of you also indicated that you'd like to support the school financially, especially by donating to our Bursary Scheme that has helped hundreds of pupils over the years to access a King's education. Our Quincentenary Bursary Fund, which was established in 2002 on our 500th anniversary, has now raised £537,480 and has helped 53 Sixth Form students. However, demand for support always far outstrips supply, so we remain committed to finding new ways in which the school can support more pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay fees or who have fallen on hard times. King's was founded – and has continued to grow – through legacies and gifts from people who remember us in their will. One such former pupil is Philip, who explains his motivations:

"I am an old boy of the King's School, leaving in 1953 to go to university to study Medicine. It is my hope to provide a small bequest to the King's School. I understand that King's now has a specific bursary fund designed to assist deserving pupils from the locality who are of limited financial means and/or whose families would otherwise be unable to pay for a King's School education. This was indeed my own situation when I was awarded a County Scholarship for King's in 1944. Those of us who benefitted from the situation in 1944 were generally not aware of the enormous gift of a King's School education. I feel I should try to return the favour in some small way to the present community of bright, but needy students."

Philip

Legacies are of enormous importance to the school and, should you consider leaving a legacy to us, will help to support the school for many years to come. Donating in this way could also reduce the taxable value of your assets, hence lowering the inheritance tax on your estate. Your legal advisor will help you with this but if you have not made a will yet, King's can help.

Please ring the Director of Finance on 01625 260000 for further details or email formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk and we will send you a Legacy Giving leaflet which contains more information.

EVENTS ROUNDUP

Former Pupils' London Dinner

In May 2013, around 55 former pupils gathered in the opulent surroundings of the RAF Club in Mayfair. With the year of leaving ranging from 1951 - 2005, the evening was a wonderful reflection of the unique bond that all King's pupils share. Diners enjoyed a delicious three course meal and a talk by Headmaster Simon Hyde, who spoke movingly about the late Alan Cooper who had been Headmaster for many of those present.

It was a superb evening during which old friendships were rekindled, contacts made and stories told. In an era of texting and social networking, this event really does show that there is no substitute for a delicious meal, fine wine and engaging conversation. These are indeed the times that one remembers. We hope to see all those who attended returning on 2 May this year along with some new (and old) faces.

Rob Unterhalter



Kobblers' hockey match

The now annual Kobblers' Christmas Hockey matches were held at Alderley Edge Hockey Club on 27 December. It was a great day of hockey, fun and comradeship as the current King's 1st XI lost 6-4 to an experienced and skilled King's recent leavers XI. This was followed by the original 'Kobblers' XI coming second to a more current Alderley Edge Club XI. Nobody can remember the precise score or the number of players the cunning Kobblers cleverly fielded in the second half!

Esteemed pitch side supporters included Annette Badger, birthday girl Jenny Edwards and original Kobbler, Sarah Hardman. Glasses were raised to absent friends and everyone looked forward to next year's gathering, with some already planning fitness campaigns and threatening to learn new, modern hockey playing techniques.

To join next year's Kobblers' event, please email Kelvin Briggs: kelvinbriggs@btconnect.com

Annual Dinner 2013

Rugby Union Lion and England great Steve Smith [1969] was the guest speaker at this year's Former Pupils' Annual Dinner.

Steve, who attended King's from 1962 - 1969 and played for the Lions in 1980, captaining England in 1982 to 1983, then went on to have a successful career both in business and behind the microphone, as co-founder of Cotton Traders and commentator on two Rugby World Cup Finals.

Around 150 guests attended the Annual Dinner and were entertained by the school's Big Band. Chairman of the FPA David Barratt said: "Former pupils retain a tremendous amount of good feeling for their old school. The evening saw a tremendous turn-out from former pupils who span the last 50 years, as well as more recent leavers, current pupils and staff."



King's DRINKS IN THE CITY 2013

On October 3, around 50 former pupils and staff enjoyed the fabulous surroundings of the Oxford & Cambridge Club on Pall Mall, London for the annual 'Drinks in the City' gathering. Former King's pupils spanning the decades from the 1950s to the recent Year 13 leavers joined with the Headmaster, Bursar, Chairman of the FPA and former members of staff – Robin Craig, Ann Craig, Keith Aikin, Tim Andrew and Bill Beatson – for an evening reception including canapés and drinks. The Headmaster Simon Hyde updated the group about current developments at the school and the future plans as set out in the '2020 Vision.'



EVENTS ROUNDUP

The Old Lags

It was Keith Perriss who first suggested to me that an informal walking group for recent staff retirees might be a good idea. It didn't take us long to think of the right name - The Old Lags. Now, 7 years later and counting, the group meets once a month and usually does about 10 miles. The world is well and truly put to rights every time. We are very target driven [you can tell straight away we used to be teachers at King's] and our achievements so far include completing the Peak District Inn Way, the Sandstone Trail, and GPW's Macc - Edale, with the Limestone Way nearly done. Food and drink feature strongly in proceedings. DTB and occasionally RGD, produce various cakes and biscuits they have baked themselves [!] for elevenses, and a thoughtfully located pub nearly always seems to appear precisely on the route as lunchtime approaches. Membership flourishes. The monthly email is currently sent to 17 people, and 10 or more on a walk has been recorded on more than one occasion. Other staff are more than welcome to join us, but [and it is important to be very clear about this] you do need to have retired first.

Mike Hart



Howard Worth Shield

King's Old Boys retained the bragging rights for yet another year after beating Stockport Grammar School in the annual challenge at Knutsford Golf Club.

The Maxonians retained the trophy by 238 to 209 points with the best six scores counting. Tim Moore led the way with a stunning two over par gross that yielded 44pts.

David McGowan [1962] was not far behind with 43. Matt Palmer and Andy Henshall both had excellent scores of 40, John Wilson produced 36 and Simon Hinchliffe had 35. The shield was presented by former Howard Worth accountancy firm boss Alan Hoe [1958], who attended SGS as a junior and King's as a senior. President of King's

FPA Alan McInnes [pictured right], said: "It is surprising how strong the competitive edge remains between the two schools. Some of us played rugby and cricket against each other over 50 years ago and love nothing more than to retain these traditional rivalries and friendships."

Top turnout for Sevens Festival

On 1 September, King's hosted its 3rd annual Old Boys' Sevens Competition, which featured over 80 former pupils in 7 teams, spanning 23 years of leavers. The winning team, the Cobras [pictured], was captained by Frankie Barker [2006] and

narrowly beat the Leavers of 2011 in a keenly contested final that also featured King's legend Jos Baxendell [England and Sale Sharks]. It was a

super day, watched by many supporters, with the best turnout of players to date and a great atmosphere.





KEEP IN CONTACT

Stay in touch!

Hundreds of our former pupils are now using our Facebook page to stay connected with the school and former classmates. Our own website and social media are playing an increasingly important role in our communications, and we've recently introduced the following link:



This dedicated Former Pupils' area contains dates of forthcoming events, profiles on notable former pupils, news stories, plus details of how to get involved and support the school. Please see: www.kingsmac.co.uk

Facebook group



This open group has around 400 'likes'. It contains updates and news from the school, details of forthcoming events for former pupils, old school photos and videos, plus posts and updates from individual former pupils. Please see: www.facebook.com/kingsinmaccfp and click 'like' to receive our updates.

Do you know someone who has lost touch?

In the last 18 months, King's has undertaken a lot of work on its former pupils' database. We have significantly increased the number of former pupils for whom we hold records, but we would like to be in touch with many more. If you're in touch with a former pupil who is not receiving King's Colours or King's Speech, then please send us their details so that they can start to receive newsletters and information. Please email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk

Rounders Tournament

We are holding a rounders tournament on Friday 25 April to celebrate 20 years at Fence Avenue. All former pupils and staff are invited and you can enter the tournament as an individual or as a whole team, playing against teams of a similar ability in this fun tournament. There will also be many fundraising stalls, food and drinks available

and all proceeds will go towards the Girls' Division Hockey and Netball Tour 2014. To register your interest in playing, please email: jennifer.dunn@kingsmac.co.uk. The tournament event will begin at 5pm and run until 9pm (light dependent). Please bring chairs, picnic rugs, etc. for you to enjoy the tournament.



Dates for your Diary

2 May	London Dinner at the RAF Club, Piccadilly Please contact Rob Unternalter robunterhalter@hotmail.co.uk
30 May	Frank Moore Trophy at Macclesfield Golf Club 1pm tee (£30)
4 July	Bursary Fund Golf Day at Macclesfield Golf Club (teams of 4 £180)
4 July	Old Boys' Cricket at King's School
9 July	Inter-Schools Golf at Bramhall Golf Club (£38)
Sun 31 August	Old Boys' Rugby Sevens Festival at Derby Fields, Macclesfield contact guy.mason@kingsmac.co.uk
4 September	Howard Worth Shield at Knutsford Golf Club (£38)
October (date TBC)	Drinks in the City, The Oxford & Cambridge Club, London
14 November	Annual Dinner, Adlington Hunting Lodge
For more information please email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk	