

CAOKS NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 150 years of camaraderie and friendship



November 2018

Issue 75

From the President



In all seriousness Ravi brings a keen mind and a refreshing perspective to the role, and I am truly grateful to him for accepting the post.

The London Dinner was an intimate affair with a change of location to the Saatchi Gallery Mess and attended by a range of former alumni all based around London. The conversation was lively as is always the case around OKS and we look forward to holding a similar informal get together next spring.

We have spent the latter part of this year working with new Head, George Hartley, to build on the closer cooperation and collaboration instigated by David Wilkes and Alan Vallance when Presidents, developing a sensible path forwards to an all inclusive Alumni Association. A position both parties and the School Governors are committed to reach. We want an enhanced and vibrant Association with CAOKS at its core and with Old King's Scholars still controlling its direction and governance. We intend to outline the proposed structure of the new Association to members in the New Year. Following this, we will be happy to receive feedback on those proposals from our members for the General Committee to consider prior to ratifying any changes

For now I wish you all the best for the festive season and all its joys.

Olivia Whitlam,
President of CAOKS

Another year, another Annual Dinner, another Vice President. Hang on, we might not have mentioned that yet...It is my pleasure to announce Dr Ravi Jayaram is taking on the mantle of Vice President, and a welcome addition to the team he is too. You may be familiar with Ravi as Consultant Paediatrician at the Countess of Chester Hospital, or from co-presenting the Channel 4 series Born Naughty where he helped parents with their children's behaviour issues. Although you may not be aware he is also recently completed an ultra-marathon and is a keen quiz show competitor, so keep an eye out for a CAOKS pub quiz in the future!

In this Issue



From the Editor

Anthony Russell



Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter under my editorship. I hope that you find the contents interesting.

Taking over this role from Paul Consterdine has been something of a daunting task. Paul edited the newsletter from 2005 until this year with considerable success and his is a hard act to follow. Paul joined the staff of the King's School when I was a pupil and he has been one of the greatest assets of the school and CAOKS for half a century. I know he will continue to support the association and school in every way he can and I personally value greatly his advice and assistance.

One of the interesting aspects of my role has been to learn of the careers of Old King's Scholars after they have left the school. Sadly, this information frequently only comes to light when the former pupil has died, as is apparent from some of the obituaries in this edition. In the handover file Paul supplied me with many old issues of the newsletter, the earliest being Number 2 from 1964. A common theme running through the years is a regular plea from the editor to members to supply articles and information about their post-school activities, so in accordance with tradition I repeat the request – and expect to do so many times more!

Most of us are modest and do not greatly like to blow our own trumpets - but the information is of interest to others and I very much hope that members of CAOKS will keep me informed about what they are up to and provide articles which they think will be of interest to the readership. For example, as well as reporting the sad news of the deaths of members, it would be nice to report marriages, births, the acceptance of members' children into the school, distinctions, changes of job,

location etc. So please keep us informed - and if you have an article or the notes for an article do send them in – I can always edit and fine tune these if required. Similarly, photographs are always welcome. Sending material by email is much the easiest way to submit material but we can cope with other methods. My contact details will be found in the list of officers on the last page.

In this issue, following the lead of the school at this year's Founders Dinner, we have devoted a significant amount of space to drama and music. This was of particular personal interest to me. In future issues I hope to develop other aspects of the school's life, past and present, with sometimes a glimpse into the future.

Meanwhile, may I wish you all the compliments of the season and a happy, healthy and successful 2019.

We greatly appreciate all articles and items of news for publication. Photographs and paper documents will be returned if requested, or they can be donated to the School's archives for conservation. When using email please forward contributions as MSWord files. Pictures are best sent separately from the text in JPEG format.

Any contributions should be sent to the Editor, Anthony Russell, whose contact details are on the back page.

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From the Secretary

Adrian Ackroyd



Over the last few months there has been good progress in building on a closer relationship between CAOKS and the School. The CAOKS steering group has an agreed strategy to move forward but there are still a few details of the operational protocols to be resolved. It is hoped that the steering group will publish their proposals for members to comment on in the New Year.

It is very pleasing that Ravi Jayaram has accepted the post of Senior Vice President. He is a Consultant Paediatrician at the Countess of Chester Hospital and is frequently on TV and radio. Liz Gwyther has been recently and very deservedly promoted to Head of Development and I look forward to continuing to work closely with her in the future.

As I reported in the last Newsletter the new Headmaster, George Hartley, had outlined his vision for the School at the CAOKS Annual Dinner, in this edition he explains his ideas in more detail.

The recent Founder's Dinner at the School was very enjoyable with an interesting speech by Ainsley Harriott about his family influences and his route to fame. It was good to see on the night a significant turnout of CAOKS members to support the School and the new Headmaster. One lucky young OKS managed to bag a significant stash of prizes in the after-dinner games of red-'n-black, depriving the Head's wife of that evening's celebrity status! The meal itself, under the guidance of the new catering manager, was excellent and would certainly have made a lot of Cheshire's gastro-pubs and many restaurants in Chester to hang their heads in shame.

The CAOKS Annual Dinner at long last will be back at the School - its rightful place. So, a date for your diary – and maybe an email to the Dinner Sec to reserve your place could be prudent! – Saturday 7 Sept 2019. Full details will be in the Spring Newsletter.

From the Dinner Secretary

Robin Hardi



A quick update from me on the planning for the 2019 dinner. We are making a few changes to keep things fresh. First, as to the date, we want to move the dinner to align with the academic calendar and catch some of the younger alumni before they go off to University so we have picked Saturday the 7th September for next years dinner. Secondly after a few years at the Town Hall, which is an excellent venue but getting a little pricey, a change is in order. There has been strong interest in returning to the School and the Headmaster has kindly agreed, so we will return to what most of you will remember as the old Assembly Hall, now the Vanbrugh Theatre, for the evening. The format remains the same, black tie, 6.30 start, tickets hopefully a little cheaper than last year. The school are considering offering tours beforehand if there is a demand, which I am sure there will be given the chance to see the upgrades to many of the buildings. The fine details remain a 'work in progress' but I am sure it will be an excellent event so please put the date in your diary and bring your partners and alumni friends as well.

Alumni Events

Programme for 2019

Reunions – Spring 2019

All reunions include a tour around the school and a buffet lunch or evening meal. They are most enjoyable events and provide a good opportunity for students to reconnect with old friends.

- 1959 60 Year Reunion**
2nd March – 11am – 2.30pm
- 1969 50 Year Reunion**
2nd March - 6pm – 10pm
- 1979 40 Year Reunion**
16th March - 11am – 2.30pm
- 1989 30 Year Reunion**
16th March - 6pm – 10pm
- 1999 20 Year Reunion**
18th May - 11am – 2.30pm
- 2009 10 Year Reunion**
18th May - 6pm – 10pm

For information about any of these reunions please contact Nadine Isaacs – email: nai@kingschester.co.uk or call 01244 689494

Alumni Tea Party at the Henley Regatta – 5th July 2019

Join us for a right royal time at the Henley Royal Regatta - one of the English social calendar's key events.

For any enquiries about events please contact:
The Development Office, The King's School, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 7QL
Tel: 01244 689494



Celebrating 20 Years of Girls at King's – Saturday 13th July 2019

From September 2018 the school will be marking 20 Years of Girls at King's with a series of articles, profiles and speakers, culminating in a special event held at the school on Saturday 13th July.

Female students first joined King's in the Sixth Form in 1998, and quickly became a vital part of life at the school. By 2003 King's had become fully co-educational, welcoming girls from 7 to 18 years of age. Then in 2015 our infants' school, Willow Lodge, opened its doors.

To celebrate this milestone, and inspire our current pupils, we want to hear your story. Our students gain a great deal from hearing about the personal and professional experiences of recent alumni. And in this special year of celebrations, we want to highlight the achievements of the thousands of girls who have now attended King's.

Please send your news and stories to the Alumni Team at the Development Office (01244 689494) or email Liz Gwyther, Head of Development eeg@kingschester.co.uk

CAOKS Dinner **Saturday 7th September 2019** **Back to School!**

For the first time for many years we're delighted to announce that the 153rd Annual Dinner will be held at King's.

See the Dinner Secretary's message - Further details and booking information will be provided in the New Year.

Head of Development: Liz Gwyther - Email: eeg@kingschester.co.uk

From the Headmaster

In last May's newsletter I mentioned that I was in the process of formulating my vision and strategy for King's in the years ahead. I am now delighted to share this with you in summary form below with the full document available on the school website (see Vision).



Two strands of the strategy which I imagine will be of particular interest to alumni are 'At the Heart of the Community' and 'Widening Access'. The former strand partly relates to our intention of ensuring that King's is fully integrated with the Chester community and plays an active part in its success. This strand also relates to our firm intention to work closely with all key stakeholders, including CAOKS, for our mutual benefit. In line with this, I am delighted with the excellent recent progress that has been made in bringing the school and CAOKS closer together and am optimistic that a bright future of collaboration lies ahead. This will manifest itself in various ways going forward, including the first CAOKS dinner in many years to be held at the school next September. I hope that members are looking forward as much as I am to what should be an excellent event.

I am sure that the strategic strand of 'Widening Access' will also appeal to CAOKS members. This relates to our intention to do all that we can going forward to ensure we attract the very best and brightest children to King's from the surrounding area. In particular, we are keen to attract pupils of potential from all financial backgrounds, something that has always been a tradition at King's going back to the days of City and County Free Places. Making sure we keep our fees at a reasonable level and continued fund-raising for our King's 100 bursary campaign will both be critical in achieving this important fundamental strategic aim.

You will also see another strand in the strategy entitled 'Revitalising the Site'. This refers to our plans to improve radically the physical facilities and buildings of the school over the next ten years; something that has already started with the near-completion of our fantastic new Sports Centre which many of you will have noticed being constructed during the last year. This superb new facility, which will transform sports provision for all boys and girls across the school, is due to open by the end of this term. In addition to the standard programme of alumni events, we will provide further opportunities in due course for CAOKS members to come and see the new Sports Centre in full operation.

One other important milestone to mention here, which may come as a surprise to many, is that we are celebrating this academic year the 20th anniversary of girls first attending King's in September 1998. It may seem remarkable to some that the school has been co-educational for so long (especially to those who left before 1998!), though the anniversary is something we are clearly very proud of and will be celebrating in various ways.

I will leave members to peruse the other strands of the strategy, all of which I am passionate about, but don't have the space here to elaborate on. Naturally if any members want to contact me to tell me what they think, or discuss any aspect of the vision, they are warmly encouraged to do so. My email address is hm@kingschester.co.uk

In the meantime, I hope you will all agree that these are exciting times for King's and therefore also exciting times for CAOKS. I am very optimistic about the future with our new spirit of collaboration, which can only be a really positive force for both CAOKS and the school.

George Hartley, Headmaster

Bangor Race Meeting

The CAOKS Annual Race Day took place on Saturday, 21st April at the lovely rural setting of Bangor-on-Dee. Having endured several months of wet weather, it was an astonishing that there was warm bright sunshine that greeted us on beautiful Spring day. Due to the increased numbers, we occupied two tables of twelve in the spacious glass-fronted Paddock Restaurant, which overlooked the Parade Ring and the course itself. Horseradish were the caterers and they provided us with a splendid lunch and excellent service.

One of the enjoyable aspects of organising a CAOKS event is that you have the chance to talk to a number of Old King's Scholars. During the planning for the CAOKS Race Day, I must have spoken to about forty former pupils who had expressed an interest or had previously attended the event. In the end there was a party of 24 guests, who had had the opportunity to enjoy a good chat and reminisce about their time at the King's School. Certainly there was a great mix of people with the most senior person being Graham Roberts from Oswestry, closely followed by Charles Pritchard and several former pupils from my own age group including local farmer Bert Lister and 'Masher' MacKenzie together with his wife, Sarah, who is very keen on horseracing. In addition, Ian Beech was accompanied by his lovely French wife, who commented that the sunshine was 'just like the south of France.' John Crook and his wife Barbara travelled over from Shrewsbury, while our Treasurer Mark Thorp and his wife Louise attended for the first time.



Enjoying the Races – Graham Roberts, Charles Pritchard, CAOKS Treasurer Mark Thorp and President, Olivia Whitlam

However, the special guest was our President, Olivia Whitlam, who had the chance to talk to a number of the CAOKS members and took a keen interest in the racing.

The racing started with a Novice Steeple Chase won by Kapcorse ridden by Bryony Frost, a top female jockey. The second race proved very lucrative for Annette, Bob Butcher's partner, as Merry Milan came home at 28-1. There were a number of exciting races on the card with some close finishes but the winners were spread fairly evenly amongst the group.

Looking forward to the next race meeting, which is planned for Saturday, 20th April 2019?

Will Lamb



CAOKS Bowls 2018

The CAOKS Annual Bowls event took place on a pleasant midsummer evening on 15th June 2018 at The Goshawk Inn at Mouldsworth.

Thanks to the continued support of “old faithfuls” John and Sheila Douglas, Gwyn and Janet Evans, Mike and Wendy Cornes, Stewart Turner and Adrian Ackroyd, together with Jenny and myself, we played a knockout Tournament. Sadly, the President, Olivia Whitlam was unable to attend due to business commitments.



Wendy’s hidden skills and Mike’s not so hidden red braces proved too great a match for Stewart and Adrian in the first round (pictured) and they went on to beat Gwyn and Janet in the final to take the Trophy.



An enjoyable supper was taken in the pub. We discussed a possible change of venue and perhaps a Saturday date in order to encourage and facilitate more support for this very enjoyable fun event where no previous experience is necessary. So please do try and join us at The Red Lion, Little Budworth (excellent pub grub) in the summer of 2019.

Jeremy Lloyd

Golf

The 2018 CAOKS golf competition for the prestigious NP trophy was held on the sun-drenched links at Chester Golf Club on 7 July.

Fifteen seasoned golfers took part with Mike Younger emerging as the winner of the trophy and bottle of champagne. Golf was followed by dinner and a restorative glass or two.

After the presentation of the prizes, Dave Sandiford graciously volunteered to host next year’s event at Runcorn Golf Club during his year as Captain.

Mark Thorp

Old Boys & Girls vs. School Rowing Races

We used to call this the “Old Boys’ Race”, essentially CAOKS versus the School 1st VIII. It ran from the 1950s until the 1990s when it ceased due to diminished interest. As one of the initiatives to mark the 150th anniversary of the Association we suggested to David Blackham, Director of Rowing at the School, that it might be a good idea to re-introduce the event as a post Henley fun regatta; he was enthusiastic. So we did it! This year was the third of the new series and took place on Wednesday 27th June after school. The vagaries of the timings of Henley Royal Regatta and of the School terms meant that it was not possible to hold the regatta after Henley, so we compromised and held it in the week before.

The elite events in the mini-Regatta programme comprised two serious crews of recent leavers, an VIII of OKS girls and an VIII of OKS boys pitted against the respective school 1st VIIIs. The OKS Boys fielded an impressive crew of active university oarsmen who were too strong for the School 1st VIII, beating them by a length. The course is really a sprint of about 500m starting from the bend just downstream from St Paul’s Church and finishing at a point in front of the boathouse. There is a big advantage to be had by getting away first - not, of course, that anyone jumps the start!



Winners of the Boys' Race - Left to right: Charles Smith, Captain & OKS'17, Inigo Atkins, Junior Worlds & OKS'10, Patrick Hanratty OKS'13, George Middlehurst OKS'13, John Marsden, Captain & OKS'12, Jack Webber OKS'14, Harry Higginbottom, Coupe, Captain & OKS'16, Alex Slater, Coupe & OKS'15

Most of the OKS girls crew are not currently active in the sport, but they still managed, on residual fitness and technical skill, to beat the Girls 1st VIII by about half a length.



Winning OKS Girls Crew - Natalie Tomlinson OKS'16, Rebekah Hagan OKS'16, Anna Willis OKS'16, Lottie Fraser-Cox OKS'13, Niamh Massey OKS'16, Charlotte Seddon OKS'11, Victoria Seddon OKS'14

The other events were more vigorously competed. There was a staff crew stroked by the Director of Rowing, backed up by a powerful man from Princeton (Harry Higginbottom, who may not actually have been on the staff!) and a variety of coaching and teaching staff, not all of whom were prepared for the technical challenge of a blast over 500m in a fast moving VIII. The staff were up against a Captain's Select crew (made up of 15-18 year olds) who demonstrated a noticeable uniformity of technique and were a little too good for them!

The final event was a race between a mixed J15 crew of precocious talent and a very mixed OKS crew comprising leavers from 2013, 2002, 1967, 1961 and 1959; the crew was completed by a coach Val Edwards and two J15 bowsiders, Max Warner & Dan Roberts. It was not a pretty sight! The OKS crew went off a little early and held a small lead for a few strokes; the School rowed past thanks to their superior cohesion and youth, whilst OKS continued to row half strokes at a rating which was close to the rev-limit of some crew members. Approaching Royal Chester Rowing Club OKS managed, almost unbelievably, to sprint and, with the inside of the bend, drew level. It was difficult for the more senior members to discern what happened next, but a dead heat was declared and swiftly changed to a win for the School; deservedly in my opinion!



Photograph of the race between the mixed J15 crew and the mixed OKS crew - OKS crew: Bow, Stewart Turner OKS 1961, 2 Tommy Reeves, Captain & OKS'13, 3 Dan Roberts OKS'21, 4 Bonner Davies OKS 1959, 5, Max Warner OKS'21, 6 Val Edwards, 7 David Wilkes, Captain & OKS 1967, Stroke, Stephen Levitt, Captain & OKS'02, Cox, Ellie Robson, OKS'15.

David Wilkes

Kings at Henley - 2018



On a blisteringly hot July day it was wonderful to welcome over 70 King's alumni and friends, spanning the generations, to our gazebo on Henley Cricket Field, to enjoy the world-renowned Regatta.



In addition to the current King's first VIII, who rowed well against tough opposition from a seeded Australian crew, St Joseph's Nudgee College, it was the inaugural Henley outing for the King's Alumni coxless IV racing under Rex BC colours in the Wyfolds. Rex Boat Club, established in the 1970s and based out of the King's School Boat House comprises alumni, former parents and staff and enables King's alumni from different universities to row together at events, including Henley.

There was drama at the start of the day when alumnus Jack Webber was forced to withdraw due to illness and last-minute replacement Harry Higginbottom, himself returning from injury, volunteered to step in. With a delayed start Pat Hanratty stroked the crew to a slight



lead but Upper Thames moved ahead at the ¾ mile signal, eventually winning by just over a length. The Rex crew was: Str, Pat Hanratty; 3, George Middlehurst; 2, Alex Slater; Bow (steers), Harry Higginbottom. The week prior to Henley Royal Regatta two OKS girls were successful at The Henley Women's Regatta. Olivia Rogerson and Maud Moir formed half of the University of London crew that won the Academic Coxless Fours event. The KS Henley event provided an opportunity for the Girls J15 VIII that won at the National Schools' Regatta in 2013 to meet again. They are pictured below – missing were Natasha Tudor and Charlotte Knight.



From left: Niamh Massey, Ellie Robson, Frances Alcock, Anna Willis, Kris Williams (former girls' coach at KSRC), Katie Lawrence-Smith, Natalie Tomlinson and Rebekah Hagan

Iced Pimms, Prosecco, soft drinks and tea-party fayre were served throughout the day and a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all! Put 5th July 2019 in your diaries **NOW** and support the KS Rowing Club and enjoy the festivities at the next Henley Royal Regatta.

CAOKS Snooker

Despite an inspirational pre-match pep talk from the Headmaster, fine wins by Brian Crowe, Jeremy Lloyd, Mickey Moore and Nick Phillipson, and motivational support throughout the evening from the trophy donor, on 2 November 2018 the Grammar School made amends for last year and won back the John Douglas Trophy in a tight 6-4 victory played out in the atmospheric historical surroundings of the City Club.



We will recover from this set-back. We are already planning for next year and we encourage you to lend us your support and ideally your talent to add to our squad and help us reclaim the honours next time.

Peter Bernie

Alumni News

Harry Brightmore OKS (2012)



Harry Brightmore was selected to cox the Great Britain Men's Eight for the World University Championships in Shanghai in August 2018. His team won gold.

Matt Hancock OKS (1996)



Following the resignation of Boris Johnson from the Cabinet, on 8th July 2018 The Right Hon. Matt Hancock MP for West Suffolk was appointed as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care succeeding Jeremy Hunt, the new Foreign Secretary.

Douglas Larmour OKS (1994)



Douglas Larmour has won a Television Academy Emmy in the category of 'Outstanding Special Visual Effects in a Supporting Role – 2018' for his work on 'The Alienist'

Richard Lysons OKS (1976)



In addition to writing articles for the CAOKS newsletter (for which the Editor is extremely grateful!) Richard Lysons has been conducting extensive research in order to produce a publication entitled '*Discover Amazing Women by Rail*'. The publication was launched in Manchester at the former residence of the distinguished Victorian novelist, Elizabeth Gaskell, on the 27th of March 2018. The aim is to encourage people to embark

on days out by rail, exploring the extensive networks of Cheshire and Lancashire, in particular the Mid Cheshire Line from Chester to Manchester via Northwich (travelled by many King's Scholars daily to attend school) and the Calder Valley Line which links the cities of Manchester, Leeds and Blackburn.

Many of the stopping points on these routes have links to the 32 inspirational women featured in the booklet. Of particular note is the well-known political activist and leader of the British Suffragette movement, Emmeline Pankhurst who lived in Manchester's Victoria Park and observed the terrible conditions in the Manchester workhouses.

Check the website www.amazingwomenbyrail.org.uk for further information and where the publication can be read and downloaded.

Richard has also published privately a limited edition of his father's war letters to his mother: "My Dear Mother...Love Keith". Keith Lysons served with the Indian Army from 1940 to 1946.

Jonathan Samuels OKS (1991)



Jonathan Samuels, whose early ambition was to read the News, has worked as a broadcaster for the BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5 and Sky News. For two years to September 2018 he co-anchored the Sky News Sunrise programme. He now anchors the Friday edition of Sky News Tonight and also presents Sky News at weekend periods.

Jon Simpson OKS (1978)

Jon Simpson has been appointed Serjeant of the Vestry, an officer of the Royal Household, in the Chapel Royal. The Chapel Royal refers to the body of priests and singers who serve the spiritual needs of the Sovereign. The Chapel Royal at St James's Palace is the principal chapel of the Chapel Royal where regular services (which are open to the public) take place.

Luke Tilley OKS (2001)



Dr Luke Tilley has recently been appointed Chief Executive of The Royal Entomological Society.

Alan Vallance OKS (1983)

Alan Vallance, former President of CAOKS, Chief Executive of The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has been appointed to sit on the new Creative Industries Trade and Investment Board recently set up by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. Representing the profession on the board he will take a leading role in supporting the expansion of the UK's architectural services overseas. Accepting the post Alan Vallance said: "UK Architecture is a global success story which contributes £4.8 billion to our economy. To grow the influence and reputation of the sector it is vital that we expand internationally and I am delighted to join the new Creative Industries Trade and Investment Board to support this. 1 in 5 architects want to work internationally but they need more financial support and market information in order to so."

The Hutton Family – connected with The King’s School for 50 years

Graham Hutton, who will be remembered by many alumni, joined King’s as a Geography and Economics master in 1968. He became the school’s first Head of Sixth Form with responsibility for careers advice in 1985.



He retired from full time employment in 2008 but remained as part-time Careers Advisor until 2009. The picture below is of the young Mr Hutton, together with Mr T P (Peter) Williams, Head of Geography, on a 6th form geography field trip to the Isle of Wight in 1969 (from the Editor’s collection).



Graham’s granddaughter, Imogen, has joined Willow Lodge (infants), five decades after he started teaching at King’s. Her mother Sarah is a badminton coach at the school. Sarah has followed in the footsteps of her own mother, Anne Hutton, who also coached badminton at King’s from 1989, handing over to Sarah in 2015. Together, Anne and Graham voluntarily helped with the badminton coaching until 2017, and they also ran a Saturday morning badminton club through the 1990’s.

Ann Marie McMahon

Dr Ann Marie McMahon, who taught at the King’s School from 2000 to 2018, retired in July after a distinguished career teaching English. She directed or produced many of the school’s recent drama productions. We are pleased to publish this tribute by her colleague Seb Neal.



The most apt way to begin an appreciation of Ann Marie McMahon would be to sing a top C. If you have been taught by Ann Marie, or indeed worked with her, this won’t be difficult to imagine. It was just one of her many talents. Such bountiful character and ability combined to make her a force of nature as both person and teacher; small wonder that generations of students hold her in such high regard. When former pupils returned to the school, they always seemed to make a bee-line for Ann Marie.

Her fierce intellect and firmness of mind could perhaps daunt those new to her acquaintance but such qualities were complemented by a deeply compassionate and considerate nature. Her kindness as a colleague and a teacher stands out, whether baking cakes for the English department, ministering to some pastoral need of a student or sending a personal note of thanks for something. As one colleague writes, “You really get the feeling with Ann Marie that she is listening to you and is genuinely interested in what you have to say. This, I think, is the reason why our students love her so much. She makes you feel valued.”

Above all, perhaps, Ann Marie will be remembered for her cheerful, indomitable spirit. With Ann Marie on board, it was guaranteed that one was going to have fun. Along with many hours’ hard work, this lay at the root of the many hugely successful and enjoyable school productions she was involved with, whether as director, producer or behind-the-scenes. We wish her a long and happy fulfilment. One thing’s for sure, there will never be a dull moment.

Seb Neal

History Battlefields Trip 2017

For the first time on a battlefields tour, we visited Mons in Belgium. We saw where the first and last shots of the war were fired by British soldiers, where the first VCs were won and viewed the graves of the first and last soldiers killed, which now lie opposite one another. No OKS were killed at Mons but undoubtedly some served there and the town has a strong link with the Cheshire Regiment.



From Mons we headed to Messines, where OKS also served in 1917 during the 'mines battle'. Messines served as the prelude to Passchendaele in 1917 and so it was for us, as we moved north-east of Ypres to go underground at the Zonnebeke Church dug-out and then explore the Passchendaele Museum with its reconstructed trench system.



At Tyne Cot, the largest CWGC cemetery in the world, we paid our respects to two former pupils, and that evening we took part in the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, laying wreaths for another three former

pupils. We are grateful to CAOKS for providing some of those wreaths, which bear the inscription: "To the Glory of God and in Grateful and Abiding Memory of the 114 Old King's Scholars who laid down their lives in the cause of freedom".

A wreath was laid at the Menin Gate in memory of 2nd Lt. G E Martin, Capt. P F Stanley-Creek and 2nd Lt. G W Watson. The manuscript inscription reads: "Old King's Scholars whose sacrifice is remembered on the battlefields tour by current pupils and teachers. Qui sui memores alios fecere merendo"

Seb Neal

OKS Battlefields Trip – July 2019

Seb Neal, Head of the Faculty of Languages and Humanities at King's, would like to organise a similar battlefields trip for alumni and their partners, it is hoped in July 2019 (to be confirmed – please contact the Development Office), if there is sufficient interest.

The visit would focus on the stories of the Old King's Scholars who fought in the First World War, visiting battlefields and cemeteries of Arras, the Somme and Ypres and some museums. There would be opportunities for free time in towns such as Arras, Amiens and Ypres.

The trip would last 5 days and 4 nights, travel by coach from and to Chester and ferry/shuttle with pick-up points.

Accommodation would be at least 4* and there would be opportunities to sample Belgian beer and French wine, and, of course, good food!

To be viable about 40 participants (including partners) are necessary.

Any OKS who would be interested in participating in such a trip is invited to express an interest by contacting Nadine Isaacs, at the Development Office (Tel: 01244 689494) or email: nai@kingschester.co.uk

Expressions of interest should be made no later than Friday 18th January 2019

Music and Drama at the King's School

Richard Lysons, the son of Keith Lysons who is remembered with great affection by many generations of Old King's Scholars, has collated a list of the major productions at the King's School from 1951 to 1976 from school magazines in his possession and the school's archives. This year the theme of the King's School Founders Dinner was celebrating the Performing Arts at King's and it seems appropriate for the CAOKS newsletter to do the same.

Summary of King's School Productions 1951 to 1976 prepared by Richard Lysons

Dates

Title

December 10th, 11th, 12th & 14th 1951 Trial by Jury - Gilbert & Sullivan; Rory Aforesaid - J.Brandane; Marmaduke - A.J. Talbot



The 1951 production of
"Trial by Jury"

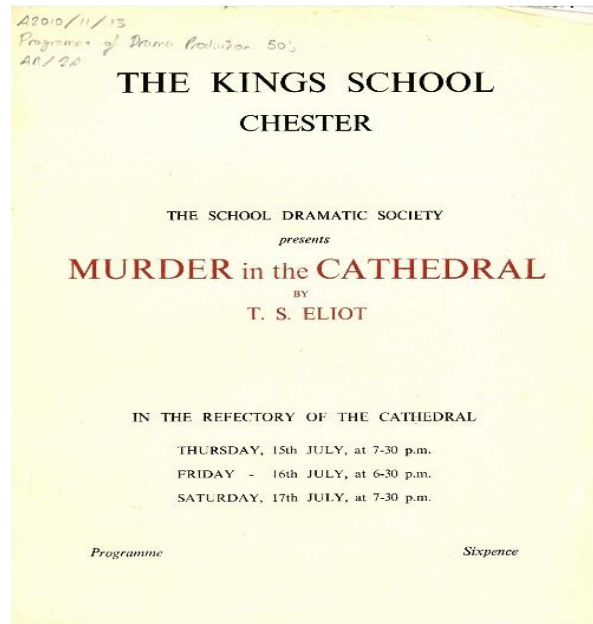
February 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th 13th & 14th 1953 H.M.S. Pinafore - Gilbert & Sullivan (with Queen's School)



"HMS Pinafore" - 1953

July 15th, 16th & 17th
1954

Murder in the Cathedral - T.S.Eliot - (Ronald Pickup in the cast)



Programme for "Murder in
the Cathedral" 1954

November 4th - 10th 1954 The Pirates of Penzance- Gilbert & Sullivan (with Queen's School)

February 9th, 10th & 11th
1956 A Midsummer Night's Dream - William Shakespeare - (Ronald Pickup - Oberon)

November 21st, 22nd &
23rd 1956 Richard of Bordeaux - Gordon Daviot
(The cast included Ronald Pickup)



"Richard of Bordeaux"
1956 – with Ronald Pickup
in the cast

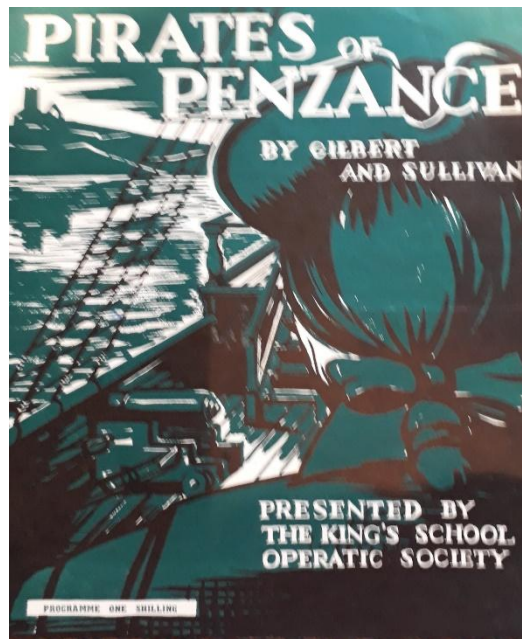
February 20th, 21st, 22nd
& 23rd 1957 The Yeomen of The Guard- Gilbert & Sullivan

November 27th, 28th,
29th & 30th 1957 Hamlet - William Shakespeare (with City High School)
(Ronald Pickup as Hamlet)

May 7th, 8th & 9th 1959 Dioclesian - Henry Purcell (with City High School) performed at Overleigh School.

March 9th - 11th 1961 The Gondoliers - Gilbert & Sullivan. First production in the new school building.

Lent Term 1962 Richard II - William Shakespeare (Middle School/ U15 Drama Team)
February 28th, March 1st & 2nd 1963 The Pirates of Penzance - Gilbert & Sullivan



Programme for the 1963 production of "The Pirates of Penzance"

December 12th, 13th & 14th 1963 Julius Caesar - William Shakespeare
March 1964 Caesar and Cleopatra – George Bernard Shaw (Middle School play)
July 1964 See How They Run - Philip King (with Queen's School)
November 26th & 27th 1964 The Polygon - A Festival of One Act Plays :
 The Death Trap; The Man Who Thought For Himself; The Proposal; Death Watch ; The Crimson Coconut
March 9th, 10th, 12th & 13th 1965 Iolanthe - Gilbert & Sullivan (with City High School)
July 13th 1965 Caught Napping - Geoffrey Lumsden (with Queen's School)
March 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th 1966 Twelfth Night - William Shakespeare (with City High School)
Summer 1966 - two performances As long as they're happy - Vernon Sylvaine (with Queen's School)

February 22nd, 23rd, 24th & 25th 1967 The Yeomen of The Guard - Gilbert & Sullivan (with City High School)



"The Yeomen of the Guard" 1967

March 14th-16th 1968 The Winter's Tale - William Shakespeare

October 31st 1968 Waiting for Godot - Samuel Beckett (Sixth Form production)

February 12th, 14th & 15th 1969 The Bartered Bride - Smetana (with Queen's School)

March 1969

Julius and the Bront; The Thingummybob; The Days's Beginning - Willis Hall

February 12th, 13th & 14th 1970

Hamlet - William Shakespeare



The 1970 production of "Hamlet"

November 27th 1970 The Physicists – Durrenmatt

March 18th- 20th 1971 The Highwayman; Trial by Jury - Gilbert & Sullivan (with Queen's School)

July 8th 1971 Gaslight - Patrick Hamilton (Sixth Form production; with Queen's School)

March 9th, 10th & 11th 1972 Julius Caesar - William Shakespeare

February 2nd 1973 Beowulf; The Miser's Hoard (Remove Plays)

<i>January 18th-19th 1974</i>	Richard II -William Shakespeare (with Queen's School)
<i>February 28th, March 1st & 2nd 1974</i>	The Pirates of Penzance- Gilbert & Sullivan (with Queen's School)
<i>December 6th & 7th 1974</i>	Julius and the Bront; Ernie's Incredible Illucinations; The Highwaymen; (Middle School)
<i>February 27th, 28th & March 1st 1975</i>	Becket - Jean Anouilh (with Queen's School)
<i>Spring Term 1976</i>	The Mikado - Gilbert & Sullivan (with Queen's School)

I would like to place on record my thanks for being able to access the school's archives for the research for this article.

Richard Lysons OKS (1976)

Reminiscences of the Music and Drama at King's in the 1960s by Anthony Russell

The quarter of a century researched by Richard Lysons was the first 25 years of my own life, eleven of which (1959-1970) were spent as a pupil at the King's School. When I read the list of the productions in the 1960s memories came flooding back to me. I took part in several of the productions listed, particularly the operas, of which I have very fond recollections, and I was in the audience of almost every performance in which I did not participate. There was very much more music and drama performed in the school in addition to the major productions listed above.

One of the major changes in the school since that era has been the increasing emphasis on music. For the whole of the time I was at the school there was only one music teacher, Mr R A Sutton, whose skills were keyboard playing (organ and piano) and choir training, particularly religious music but not exclusively so. There were few visiting music teachers. Today the music staff of the senior school comprises 6 full time staff and 13 peripatetic staff. So, music education was in the hands of one man, although as will be seen Mr J D M Lyons and Mr K S Lyons in particular did much to encourage musical performance through the Operatic Society and the Recorder and Brass Groups.

There was no school orchestra. If musical performances required an orchestra, as the operas did, an orchestra comprising local players recruited by Mr Lyons, who had many connections in the musical world of Cheshire and Merseyside, was formed - sometimes the orchestra included members of the school staff and pupils who were proficient players. Usually the choral concerts, several of which took place in the Cathedral rather than the school, were accompanied by organ or piano. The school was fortunate to have two talented keyboard accompanists amongst its pupils in the 1960s, Peter Ward Jones at the beginning of the decade and Peter Cooke later, both of whom also returned to the school afterwards to accompany concerts.

Similarly, there was no drama department in the 1960s. Plays were produced under the auspices of the Dramatic Society, the major productions usually directed by one of the English teachers, Mr. E A Evetts, Mr J C P Cole and Mr F Nelson being those I particularly remember in this role – sometimes plays were directed and produced entirely by the membership of the Dramatic Society with a minimum of guidance from the staff. There is today, with 2 full time staff, a dedicated drama team at the school, augmented by other staff, particularly from the English department.

One of the most noticeable changes in the school since my time as a pupil is the far greater use of technical and IT aids generally. These were pretty basic in the 1960s and the use of IT unheard of. I hope to draw attention to these changes in a later article, but today there is a technical team at the school including theatre technicians – in the period under review all these aspects were looked after by various members of the teaching staff, assisted where appropriate by senior boys.

With the exception of one or two notable individuals most music was performed by distinct groups – the Choir, the Brass Band, the Recorder Group and the Operatic Society. Sometimes the first three of these or a combination of some of them would come together for a performance, but the Operatic Society usually acted on its own at school, although on many occasions its members took part in events outside the school, sometimes alone and sometimes with other choirs or groups.

The Choir was responsible for leading the music in morning assembly and the Cathedral services at the beginning and end of term, the Commemoration Service in October and the Carol Service which was held jointly with the Queen's School. The co-operation between the two schools for the Carol Service was not always as harmonious as it should have been! In alternate years one school would take the lead and choose the choir and congregational carols which sometimes led to friction if it was felt that the lead school was not giving the other school a fair input to the service. However, the service always commenced with "Once in Royal David's city" with the first verse sung by a King's treble and a procession of the King's choir in their surplices and later scarlet cassocks, which gave us the edge. The final hymn was "Adeste fideles" and we always considered that we were better at pronouncing Latin than the girls!

In most years there was a choral concert, often in the Cathedral. The programmes were ambitious. I recall singing in Mozart's Requiem, Bruckner's Te Deum and Vivaldi's Gloria all with organ accompaniment. Sometimes there would be other contributions to these concerts from the Brass Ensemble and/or Recorder Group. The Bruckner concert included some motets for choir and brass. The concert which included the Vivaldi Gloria had as guest soloists Peter Cooke (organ) and Peter Bithell (piano) both of whom were former pupils. The choir pieces were by no means always religious works – for example Stanford's "Songs of the Fleet" and Walford Davies's "The Three Jovial Huntsmen" were the main choir performances in concerts held at the school in 1967 and 1968. For these two concerts the musical talents of several individuals were deployed together with the school choirs and instrumental groups. The performances also included piano solos and duets, various woodwind solos and vocal solos. In the 1967 concert the boys of the junior school performed a composition of Robert Sutton - "Three songs for treble voices, piano, clarinet, Chinese blocks and glockenspiel" - possibly this unusual work's only performance.

An indication of the effort put into school music is that the choir rehearsed on Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes every week, with a select small choir (the Byrde Choir) who rehearsed after school on Thursdays; there were two band practices every week after school on Mondays and Wednesdays, and two recorder group practices on Fridays – at lunchtime for the juniors and after school for the seniors. The Operatic Society met after school on Tuesdays and at Friday lunchtime. The dedication of the three teachers I have mentioned, Robert Sutton, David Lyons and Keith Lyons who between them ran all these rehearsals was quite outstanding, particularly when it is noted that David Lyons and Keith Lyons were also stalwarts of the school choir, which greatly added to the confidence of the tenor and bass lines as newly broken voices were finding their feet.

One of the happy features of all of the school's music groups was the involvement of other teaching staff. Over the years several sang as members of the choir – I particularly remember Mr Evans who was at nearly every rehearsal singing bass with gusto. This was nowhere more apparent than in the Operatic Society.

The Operatic Society was a true society. Formed by David Lyons its year commenced with the annual general meeting in the school hall on the first Tuesday of Michaelmas Term, with proper notice given in the school calendar. Minutes were kept and there was a genuine input from its membership. Although a strong lead was given by Mr Lyons as to what the programme for the year would be, there were discussions and if, for example there was a groundswell of opinion that we would like to put on Ruddigore, he would gently remind us that the male chorus did not appear until the second act and it might be better to do something where the men had more to do.

Every two years the Operatic Society put on a full operatic performance. These were usually Gilbert and Sullivan operas but the list above reveals two notable exceptions, Purcell's "Diocletian" in 1959 and Smetana's "The Bartered Bride" in 1969. I took part in the latter as a member of the chorus. Unlike the "G and S" works there were dances and the orchestral parts were more demanding. Some pupils who had never been involved in the operas came in as dancers and acrobats and it was an outstanding success. "Diocletian" was a most unusual and adventurous choice for anyone, let alone a school, to produce. It is more of a masque than an opera, without much of a storyline, and is rarely performed except as a concert version. I wish I had been at the school and taken part – I have in fact sung the work but that is another story.

In almost every production of the Operatic Society several teachers participated. Mr Howgego was the tenor lead, Frederick, in the 1963 performance of "The Pirates of Penzance" with Mr Tolliday as the Pirate King and Mr Wrigley as the Sergeant of Police. Mr Tolliday was a memorable Private Willis in the 1965 production "Iolanthe" in which the leading male roles were taken by pupils - Christopher Roberts (Lord Chancellor), Fergus Jamieson (Lord Tolloller, also the Major General 2 years earlier in the Pirates) and Tim Ardern (Lord Mountararat) who were the leading lights of the Operatic Society in the mid-1960s. Mr Marsh took on the role of Jack Point in the 1967 performances of "The Yeomen of the Guard". Other teachers were regular chorus members.

Many solo parts were taken by pupils but for the most demanding female roles David Lyons would bring in singers from outside - unless the relevant girl's school could provide a singer of sufficient quality. Some of the performances were put on together with the Queen's School or the City High School, as can be seen from the list, but others were not. This meant that in some productions the younger boys were the female chorus, and occasionally soloists. In the 1963 performance of "The Pirates of Penzance" I and 26 other boys were dressed as young ladies. Each of us was required to bring a bra (usually one of our mothers') stuffed with cotton wool to add authenticity to the costumes which comprised long dresses, wigs and bonnets!

The productions were a team effort. The spectacular sets were designed and created by Mr Orry and Mr Siddall assisted by art and woodwork pupils. The lighting was under the supervision of a teacher, usually Mr Marsh, who also sang and did the make-up. Mr Lyons and his wife were also involved in the make-up. Mr Owen was often the stage manager. Mr Garnett also sometimes performed this role and that of house manager. How on earth did they find the time to teach?

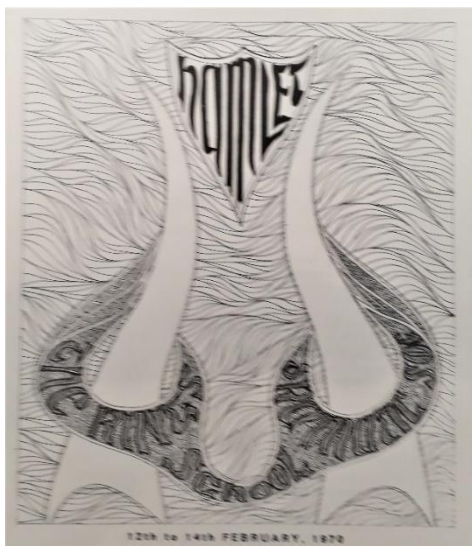
The Operatic Society did not confine its efforts to a production every 2 years. In addition members of the society were encouraged to take part in other musical events in Chester, most notably the summer music festival. David Lyons conducted the Chester Orchestral Society and sometimes these concerts included a choral work in which case the Operatic Society was usually involved. I can recall taking part in Britten's "St Nicholas", "Noye's Fludde" and "Gloriana", various Handel Oratorios, Haydn Masses etc as a result of these connections. In each "fallow" year the Operatic Society would put on a concert version of an opera, usually "G and S", including during the 1960s "HMS Pinafore", "Patience" and "The Mikado", but also another Purcell semi-opera "King Arthur", and excerpts from Bizet's "Carmen".

Another vocal musical group in which some of us were involved was a madrigal group comprising pupils and some staff of the King's and Queen's School which met at the home of a former head of music at the Queen's School, Miss Whitham, in Abbey Street. For a while we called ourselves "The King's and Queen's Singers". This was mainly for pleasure but the group usually entered the madrigal competition in the Chester Musical Festival and won first prize on several occasions. As Leader of the Choir I was called upon by Mr Munday to present the victors' rose bowl at a morning assembly to somewhat ironic cheers - a cricket or rowing trophy would have been much more appreciated.

So, although we had no school orchestra, music was very much alive at King's in the 1960s, as was drama. For plays, as with the operas, it was the Dramatic Society which put on the productions. In the alternate years when there was no opera the major school production was a Shakespeare play. Like the operas these were a team effort with much input from many of the same individuals for scenery, lighting, stage management etc.

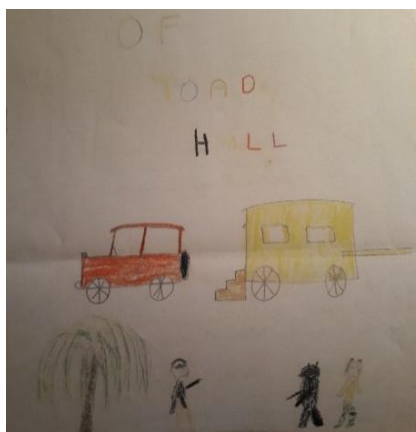
Two notable actors studied at the school in the 1950s and 60s. The first was Ronald Pickup who took part in several major productions, as noted above, in the mid-1950s. Nickolas Grace left the school at an early age because his family moved to Essex, but in his last year (1962) he performed the part of Bolinbroke in Richard II. There were many memorable performances by others who have not gone on to acting careers. The role of Richard II was performed by Fergus Jamieson who acted in many productions as well as performing major roles in the operas - he was also Cassius in Julius Caesar. Nicholas Crook's interpretation of the role of Hamlet in 1970 was a highlight of my time at the school. I was Claudius in this production, and Mr Owen's daughter, Nicola, was highly praised for her performance as Ophelia.

But in addition to the major productions, as the list shows many other were plays put on. Some of these were directed and produced by pupils rather than staff with the minimum of guidance from the teachers when sought.



Programme for "Hamlet" 1970

A great institution was the Junior School Play. Almost every pupil in the Junior School was involved. Sometimes each class would put on its own short piece, on other occasions there was one play with different forms providing the cast for each scene. This meant that in the production of Toad of Toad Hall in 1962 I was one of 6 different Moles, and there were 7 Toads, 6 badgers and 6 Rats, and numerous ferrets, stoats, weasels etc and of course a judge, policeman and usher for the court scene as well. One problem was that we were all different sizes which made for difficulties, particularly as there was only one costume for each part, and we had to be experts in quick costume changes. The musical accompaniment was provided by the Junior School Choir accompanied by Mr Sutton who entered into the spirit of the occasion by wearing white tie and tails! The programmes were homemade (see below) with the result that each one is unique. 65 boys are listed as actors in this production.



Homemade programme for "Toad of Toad Hall" 1962

The previous year's production was "Treasure Island". Mr Hudson, the Junior School Headmaster was the producer of the plays.

So ends my personal reminiscence. These various activities were as important to us as sports were to others. The school can be proud of what was achieved in those days, without some of the resources now available, but the enthusiasm then was as considerable as it is today. In the next section is a short list, with illustrations, of some recent productions at the King's School in the Vanbrugh Theatre as what former pupils will remember as the School Hall is now known.

Cabaret – March 2019

Next year the school is putting on a production of the musical “Cabaret”. The dates of performances in the Vanbrugh Theatre are Tuesday 5th March to Friday 8th March 2019 at 7 pm. Enquiries should be made to the Box Office. Box Office Opening Hours are 3 to 5pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays. For any enquiries you can call the automated Box Office (Tel: 01244 689527), which will be dealt with at the next available Box Office opening time. Alternatively you can email: boxoffice@kingschester.co.uk

Some recent drama productions at King’s

Music and Drama play a very important part in the life of the King’s School today. Those of us who have attended recent productions can testify to the high standards of performance and the obvious enthusiasm of the participants. Details of some recent plays and musicals follow, and those alumni who wish to discover more information and news of future productions should consult the school website.

July 2018 - The Junior School - Singin’ in the Rain



June 2018 - Senior School - A Festival of Shakespeare



March 2018 - Senior School - Nicholas Nickleby by Charles Dickens



June 2017 - Senior School - Our Day Out by Willy Russell



March 2017 - Senior School - Little Shop of Horrors

March 2016 - Senior School - A Midsummer Night’s Dream

November 2015 - Senior School - Hamlet

The Founders Dinner 2018



On Saturday 29th September the School hosted the Founders Dinner which this year was a celebration of music and drama. The Vanbrugh Theatre was turned into an attractively lit and decorated dining hall and photographs of various productions and programmes dating back for over 100 years were displayed on television screens. Ronald Pickup was amongst the alumni present.



Ronald Pickup and Kit Eatock

During the evening there was a variety of entertainment. Barbershop Choir, a group of 2011 leavers who formed their group whilst studying at King's, performed several pieces ranging from traditional barbershop songs to modern versions. Despite busy schedules they have kept the group together since leaving school and perform at various events. Megan Lamour also left the school in 2011 and is currently studying at the American Musical Theatre Academy in London – she sang several songs from musicals. The guest speaker was the well-known celebrity chef Ainsley Harriott.

Archive Material

Readers of this newsletter may have in their possession archive material in the form of photographs, programmes, newspaper cuttings or simply personal reminiscences of school productions or other events. Although the school's archives are extensive there are many gaps and all such material is gratefully received. With modern techniques most material can be digitally copied and the originals returned if desired.

If you have archive material **of any kind** which may be of interest to the school please contact the Development Office (01244 689494) or email Liz Gwyther, Head of Development eeg@kingschester.co.uk

Obituaries

Finn Abberton OKS (2014)



Finn Abberton died by his own hand on 15th December 2017, his 22nd birthday. Whilst at the school he was an enthusiastic member of the King's School Rowing Club and he continued with his rowing whilst an undergraduate at Durham University. The words of his friends at university cannot be improved upon to pay a fitting tribute to this fine young man.

"Finn Abberton was someone who lit the candle at both ends, enjoying the training as much as the social side of being in the boat club, for a while at least. Soon he realised that the social aspects of university didn't just have to involve fortnightly socials with his rowing friends, and soon he was out most nights a week, still somehow able to turn up at 7am every morning ready to train. And were it not for his honest admissions, we would have been none the wiser, were there bags under his eyes? No, did he reek of Guinness and Jaeger Bombs? No, were his performances worse off for it? Not a chance, he was going to have it both ways, somewhat frustratingly for those of us who were in bed at 9:30 most nights. And this desire to have the best of both worlds was something that quite nicely describes, there was a determination and a resoluteness that wouldn't dampen his spirits. Irrespective of how hard a day he was having, how much he was working, he was always able to smile laugh, and somehow out a way to make a joke at your expense."

P. Kinch

"Finn's quick sense of humour and sarcasm could lighten even the darkest morning training. He listened to no one, took fashion cues from troubling sources, and only ever stood on his tip toes for photos. He lived for every moment, sky diving, bungee jumping, and completing the three peaks, and everyone respected him for it. He was and is wildly loved by his friends, family and everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him. Missed but not forgotten."

G. Hatfield

On Sunday 22nd April 2018 past and present members of Durham University Boat Club did a sponsored walk along the River Wear from Durham to Roker, 24 miles, in memory of Finn in aid of Mind - The Mental Health Charity. A large number of people took part and £3,500 was raised smashing the target of £750. The Club described the day as a very special one for all involved.

Peter Adams PC OOnt OKS (1955)

Dr (William) Peter Adams, who died on 28th September 2018 at the age of 82, was born in Ellesmere Port. He attended the King's School with a County free place. At school he was an outstanding athlete, becoming a Prefect, Captain of Falles House and Captain of Athletics gaining the CAOKS Silver Medal for outstanding athlete of the year in 1955.

Whilst he was an undergraduate at Sheffield University he ran for the Northern Universities Cross Country Team. Whilst studying at Sheffield he met Jill who he married in 1960. Meanwhile with a Carnegie Arctic Scholarship Peter had moved to Canada in 1959 to complete a Ph.D. in Geology and Glaciology at McGill University in Montreal.

In 1960 he took part in the Axel Heiberg Expedition and this experience of working in the Canadian High Arctic inspired a lifelong passion for Northern research on snow and ice. He spent 3 years at the McGill Subarctic Research Station in Labrador after which he and his wife settled in Peterborough, Ontario, where Peter became the Founding Chair of Trent University Geography Department and involved many of his students in his Arctic research projects. He was the author of numerous publications about his researches into ice and snow, in particular his glaciological research on Axel Heiberg Island (Nunavut) which continues today and represents the world's longest continuous study of its kind in the High Arctic. Colleagues have described this work as being of incomparable value in understanding climate and climate change in the Polar region. He also continued running, competing in many marathons including the Boston Marathon and the Midnight Sun Marathon in Nunavut.

Peter Adams became increasingly involved in politics. Serving first as a Trustee of the Board of Education he was elected a Member of the Provincial Parliament of Ontario from 1987 to 1990. In 1993 he was elected a Member of the Canadian Parliament serving until 2006. He became a member of the Privy Council of Canada and

served in the Provincial Government of Ontario and in the Federal Governments of Prime Ministers Jean Chretien and Paul Martin. He was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development and Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal. In 2012 he was made a Member of the Order of Ontario. During his political career he had a leading role in promoting post-secondary education in particular the creation of the Millennial Scholarships Foundation and the Canada Research Chairs.

He involved himself in numerous charitable works throughout his life, and after his retirement from politics Peter joined his wife Jill in international volunteer work. Together they worked with Sleeping Children Around the World (SCAW) in Bangladesh, Uganda, Honduras and India.

Despite being diagnosed with cancer in 2014 his passion and hard work for education, athletics and charitable work did not cease and he continued to write, walk and meet people. He is survived by Jill, his wife of 52 years, their four children and nine grandchildren.

Malcolm Reidford OKS (1960)

Malcolm Chalmers Reidford died on 11th September 2018, at the age of 76. He attended the King's School, between 1950 and 1960 and was a member of Lindan's House. He enjoyed sports, particularly cricket and soccer, playing for the football 1st XI when in the Sixth Form. He became a bank manager and latterly lived in Berkshire. He attended CAOKS events in London and was an enthusiastic supporter of the school at the Henley tea party at which he wore his school blazer with pride.



The Arnold House Cricket Team 1953, Malcolm Reidford is on the left of the front row

He is remembered with affection by his classmates some of whose comments appear below.

Bryan Stevens: "Although I never met him in adult life, I remember him as being a really friendly guy at school with a great sense of humour and always ready to join some of us trying to get out of football on the cold winter days!"

John Faulkner: "Malcolm Reidford was an exceptionally likeable and lively classmate. Although it was over sixty years ago, I clearly remember his enthusiasm and exuberance. Never afraid to put up his hand and ask questions, on one occasion in a Physics lesson he observed that although the speed of light was considerably faster than the speed of sound, the television managed to put the two together perfectly. This was observational comedy well ahead of its time. On another occasion, in his quest for knowledge, he got to the front of the queue to be weighed as we were periodically. He then joined the end of the queue to be weighed again to see how effective his intervening trip to the toilet had been. Rather chubby in his early days, his subsequent determination and enthusiasm transformed him to a strong and accomplished First XI footballer, another example of his indomitable spirit. Our paths never crossed again after our schooldays. RIP Malcolm, your strong character and amiable personality added significantly to happily remembered schooldays."

Keith Oates: "I do recall that Malcolm was a late developer as regards soccer and became a forceful midfielder playing with distinction and leadership for Kings in his 6th form."

Philip Robinson: "He sat next desk to me at Arnold House prior to moving to upper school. I remember that he was relatively plump at that time but was always so enthusiastic and positive particularly about his soccer ability. Met up again 5 years ago at Kings reunion we had a really good evening!"

Peter Robinson OKS (1939)

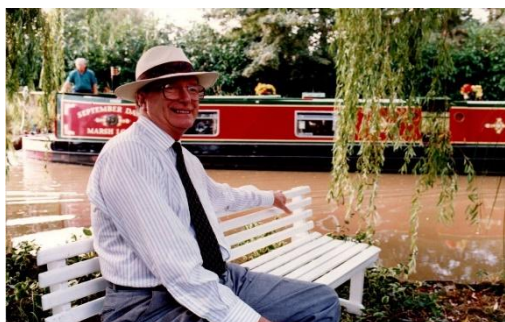
Peter Robinson who attended the school between 1933 and 1939 died on 2nd March 2018, aged 96. He practised as a vet in Cheshire, living in Malpas, and leaves four daughters and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. His son, Mark, predeceased him.

Can Ulger OKS (2012)

Can Ulger, who was born on 21st March 1994 and who attended at King's from 2004 to 2012, died after a short illness in 2014 whilst in his second year studying for a B.Sc. degree in Accounting and Finance at Warwick University.

His personal tutor, Ellertone Ndalame, commented: "I was saddened and shocked to hear of the passing on of Can Ulger. Can was my personal tutee for the past two years. It was an honour to know him personally for those years. The university, students, staff members and myself will greatly miss him."

David Wain OBE OKS (1944)



David Brownfield Wain OBE, a former President of CAOKS and Governor of the King's School died peacefully on 17th September 2018 at the age of 90.

David Wain was born on 24th October 1927, the son of Geoffrey and Margaret. The family lived at Christleton by the canal – this no doubt fostered his lifelong interest in boats and boating. He attended the Queen's School Kindergarten from the age of 4, then the King's School Junior and Senior Schools leaving in 1944. Throughout his life he was an active and keen member of CAOKS, serving on its committee and was President in 1972-3.

In 1935 David's father with some other canal enthusiasts set up the first hire fleet on the canals of Britain. The young David often helped out in his spare time and by the age of 12 was able to strip down and re-assemble a Stuart Turner petrol engine. He enjoyed sports, particularly cross-country running, and took up show-jumping. From 1945 to 1949 he served in the RAF and at a dance at RAF Hawarden he met Nora who he later married. David's death brought to an end a marriage of 68 years.

Initially he had a career in landscaping contracting, gardening always being a passion, but when in 1956 his father died David took over the canal hire boat business. Over the years he and Nora set about building it into a substantial and successful business, including designing and building new boats. In 1972 the hire fleet business was sold off and David and three other enthusiasts created a canal museum on the wharf at Llangollen, telling the story of the inland waterways, their significance in the Industrial Revolution, their subsequent decline and their re-emergence in the holiday sector. This was the first museum of its kind and in 1974 Prince Charles presented it with the British Tourist Authority's top award for the year's most outstanding new Tourist Development.

In 1958 David was appointed to the committee of the Association of Pleasure Craft Operators eventually becoming Chairman. In 1968 he was appointed to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council, serving as chairman from 1976 to 1972. This post gave him a voice within government circles which he used to promote and protect the national waterways system. Undoubtedly his enthusiasm and influence were a major factor in the preservation and development of the country's inland waterways and in 1983 David Wain was awarded the OBE for his services in the development of tourism and recreation on Britain's inland waterways.

David Wain served on numerous committees connected with the canals and inland waterways including The National Waterways Museum, The Ellesmere Port Boat Museum, The Inland Waterways Trust, The Shropshire Union Canal Society, The Anderton Boat Lift Trust and many others. He was also on the committees of the Rainbow Boats Trust for the Disabled and the Prince of Wales Montgomery Waterway restoration Group which in conjunction with Cammell Laird's Ship Building Yard in Birkenhead and the Royal Variety Club of Great Britain designed, built and operated a number of canal boats for the physically impaired on the Montgomery Canal. He was a trustee of the Anfield Trust set up by Liverpool Football Club to help the young people of Liverpool and President of the British Canoe Association for 15 years.

From 1988 to 2002 David Wain was a Governor of the King's School. In this role he was particularly interested in the psychological support of the students. He was also a leading voice in the proposals to expand the intake of the school by admitting girls, recognising that in addition to the improved diversity this would result in increased income to develop and expand the school's facilities.

David Wain left his wife Nora, a son Nick, a daughter Sarah and five grandchildren and a great grandson.

The Revd Guy Martin Yould OKS (1956)

The Revd Martin Yould died on 19th June 2018 at the age of 80. He was born on 30th December 1937 and lived in Frodsham, one of three boys who travelled in from there by train who were known by the collective nickname of the "Three Frodsham Fishers".

He joined the school in September 1948, aged 10 with a county free place. At school he did not aspire to sporting prowess but served in many aspects of student voluntary activities. He was Library Secretary 1954-55, Secretary to the Prefect-run Tuck Shop and Clerk to the Tudors in 1955-56. He was appointed a Prefect in June 1955. He performed in a number of school plays and one of his hobbies in the sixth form was composing operas. The School magazine for the Spring term of 1956 contains a piece of dramatic classic prose entitled "POCAS PALABRAS or NE QUID NIMIS" of which the first line reads: "Awake O Muses! Rise O sisters mine!" composed by C M Yould. He was involved in the Debating Society and enjoyed the annual school camp near Abersoch.

It was his outstanding academic progress which marked him out at school. He won the Dobson Prize for Divinity in 1955 and 1956 and the Sixth Form Prize for Geography in 1956. It was no surprise when he was awarded a place at Keble College Oxford to read theology. However, he did not take this up immediately but obtained a National Service Commission in the Army, an unusual achievement, becoming adjutant of his unit. Major John Hincks, a contemporary of his at school, recalls coming across him in a brief encounter whilst serving overseas and remembers his small gingerish moustache and thin face.

After military service Martin Yould went up to Keble and completed his degree and theological training. He was ordained deacon in 1963 and priest the following year. He held ministries in Oxford, London, Wallasey, Doncaster, Staffordshire and Cornwall. For a time he was the sub-warden at St. Barnabas's College, Belair, Australia, a theological training college. His last church was St. Andrew's Bishopstone, a Saxon church at the foot of the South Downs near Seaford. He retired in 2013, aged 75, and lived in Seaford until his death. In 1979 the University of Hull awarded him a Ph.D., his thesis being entitled: "The Origins and Transformation of the Nonjuror Schism".

A number of his contemporaries have contacted the school with their memories of him. All speak highly of

him and their remarks can be encapsulated in the words of David Cotgreave OKS (1956): "I regret Martin's passing, it was a privilege for us all to have shared his formative years at King's".

Martin Yould is survived by his sister Mrs Carolyn Hunt.

Ian R W Solloway OKS (1942)

Members of the Association will be saddened to learn of the death of Ian Solloway on 28th October 2018, at the age of 93, shortly before publication of this issue. Ian was a highly respected President of CAOKS in 1978-1979 and a regular at the annual dinner. An obituary will be published in the Spring issue of the Newsletter.

and finally.....

Vale et vota!

Over the last few years countless OKS have hugely welcomed the new opportunities to re-engage with their old alma mater and to attend alumni reunions and School events.

The first fledgling Marketing and Alumni Office was set up almost eleven years ago and has been going from success to success. This invaluable resource was nurtured and guided by Vicky Titmuss. She was to many of those outside of our estate the 'voice' of the School.

As Director of External Relations, Vicky was instrumental in King's growth, in particular, the establishment of Willow Lodge, the Infant school, and in the promotion of many new alumni events, such as our annual Tea-Party at Henley Royal Regatta and the recent RIBA reception.

Vicky is leaving King's for pastures new in January 2019 and is much looking forward to setting up her own business in Cumbria.

We know all will wish her well in her new endeavour.

[Liz Gwyther and Adrian Ackroyd](#)



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JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENTS

Ben Paxton (2015)

Megan Pode (2015)

Emily Moss (2013)

Arthur Jebb (2012)

Luke Howarth (2012)

Joe Benson (2011)

Oscar Hayward (2010)

Will Orchard (2007)

Ben Crooks (2005)

Laurence Ankers (2015)

Kartik Upadhyay (2013)

Will Marshall (2013)

Miranda Harle (2012)

Siobhan Barnard (2011)

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