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**The King's**  
WORCESTER

# Connect



The magazine for the Old Vigornians of The King's School, Worcester



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## A Letter from the Headmaster



These past few months have been both extremely busy and encouragingly successful here at King's, with very strong public examination results in the summer at both GCSE and A level. These ensured a very strong league table showing for the school at both local and national level, but league tables do not by any means tell the whole story. What is most important is the number of impressive individual success stories, and the way in which, in traditional King's fashion, academic excellence has been combined with full commitment to the enormously wide range of activity which goes on beyond the classroom here. The autumn term was characterised by an excellent school production of *The 39 Steps*, a succession of outstanding concerts and impressive results across all the sports which we play. Here too individual successes have been noteworthy, with junior and even senior international honours achieved by a number of pupils.

It has also been a busy period for OV activity, with a tremendously enjoyable London

drinks party held at the Bankside Gallery in October and a reunion for ten year leavers at school just before Christmas. OVs have also been widely involved in inspiring our current pupils; we much enjoyed opera singer Allan Clayton's visit as a Barnabas Speaker and have also benefitted from the expertise of OVs at our business skills conference and from their help in conducting mock interviews for our Sixth Form.

The work on the recently released film for our bursary campaign, *Open the Door to King's*, gave us the opportunity to meet with many OVs, to hear how the school shaped their lives and to listen to their stories of life after school. As you all know, a great many pupils at King's benefitted from the education here during the period of direct grant and assisted places and have gone on to great things as a result. One of the most appealing elements of the atmosphere at King's is its inclusive, welcoming feel, and the governors and I are anxious to ensure that the school should continue to provide access to education for those who will benefit most, even if their families do not

have the means to pay. As is evident from the bursary film, the generous funding of bursaries has a life-changing effect and any support in this area is hugely appreciated. Please do not hesitate to be in touch with the development office if you would like further details of this very important work.

2019 will again see a wide range of activity for OVs. The Foundation Office will once more be present at Henley Regatta, we are looking forward to hosting our annual OV Reunion Weekend in May and the Himalayan Club is holding a fund-raising lecture at school in March. Finally, next summer will bring an exciting opportunity to revisit the Old Chapel and reminisce about good times spent there. I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you at one or more of these events; the school is grateful for your support.

Matthew Amy



The Development & Alumni Relations Team; Liz, Sophie, Alice & Cath

# Memories

I was greatly amused by Donald Howell's note and it prompted me to put this together for a smile.

The letter from Donald Howell on the Memories page of Connect struck me as a splendid recollection of the redoubtable "NED" Dilks. It brought back to mind another interlude. He always delighted in reminding us that the old spelling guideline "i before e except after c" was incomplete and therefore inaccurate. In full it is: "i before e except after c, where's a long ee sound". He insisted that there were only three exceptions in the language, namely seize, weir and weird; and he promised a reward of 6d (two and-a-half pence today) to anyone who could come up with another. Many of us applied ourselves to this challenge and someone eventually came up with sheikh, pronounced, as we thought, "*sheek*".

On being presented with this he instantly (as ever) came back with the retort: "The word is not sheikh, pronounced "*sheek*"; it is pronounced "*shake*". So it proves the point that the rule is incomplete without the addendum about the long ee sound." The note of triumph in his voice was unmistakeable.

There is a postscript to this. In 1987 I moved with my family to Northumberland. There are many tales up here and there is much evidence towards the Scottish borders of the violent activities of the so-called Border Reivers. One day it suddenly occurred to me that incontrovertibly the correct pronunciation is "reevers". How I longed for many years to be able to meet up with NED and claim my sixpence! Or would I have faced another quick-fire response which found a way of ruling out my challenge?

Roger Ashmore (Ch 52-61)



We love to publish memories. Please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) if you would like to be featured in the next issue of Connect.

In 1963 NED assembled all of us about to sit O Level English Language and Literature, to give us a bit of a pep talk about the upcoming exams. With a bit of sparkle to his face, and in his voice, he said of the English Literature Exam: "You will get questions like 'Discuss Marlowe's humour'. Dead easy – he didn't have any."

Mike Page (Cr 60-65)

I was playing for the 2nd VII team in a tournament at Bromsgrove School. We had what would be kindly described as 'not the most mobile' of forward packs, which consisted of the entire 1st XV front row. We were at a line out and we were using the standard code for lineout calls. This involved calling out a word that began with one of the letters in the sentence 'Thames Rowing Club'. This would indicate where the ball should be thrown to. For example 'Exeter' would involve the ball going to the front of the line out, as 'E' is in Thames, and 'Brazil' would involve it going to the back of the lineout.

As 2nd VII captain, a position that tended to alternate between myself and the other mobile prop in the team, I was making the calls on the day. So, readying myself at the front of the lineout I called 'Orangutan'. I feinted forward and then moved backwards into the middle of the lineout waiting for the floated ball over the top of my opponent only to see our hooker pop up a pass to the

front of the lineout, which my opponent took gladly with open arms and proceeded to run in and score a try under our posts.

Immediately, I looked at our hooker with furious eyes and shouted something along the lines of 'what were you doing?'. He looked equally furious with me and said something along the lines of 'well, you called it'. What happened next put all of our efforts to fight the stereotyping of front row forwards back a number of years. I proceeded to remind him that I had called 'Orangutan' and to my amazement he said 'exactly'. When I started to look at him more quizzically, he blurted out 'yeah, you said A-rangutan didn't you? That starts with an A doesn't it' - I guess English was never his strongest subject at school. Marc Roberts, who had been watching all of this unfold on the side-line just burst into laughter and loves to remind me of this story every time I see him.

Steve Perera (Cr 86-93)



1993 Rugby Players



# OV Reunions & Events

## Henley

For a new event in the King's calendar, we went to Henley Regatta. We were delighted to meet up with a whole host of OV rowers - some still rowing regularly with their local clubs and universities - who popped along for a Pimms and a chat between races. OVs included **Cleo Reynaud** (S 52-58), **David Gregory** (S 50-58), **Gerald Lindner** (S 43-46), **Theo Beever** (S 09-16), **Jasmine MacDonald** (Os 10-17), **Peter Beaumont** (W 81-83), **Ed Pountney** (Br 08-15), **James Thorne** (Ca 69-74), **Simon Oldroyd** (Cr 72-77) and many more, with some bringing family and friends along to say hello too. It was a great occasion and it was very special to welcome OVs from different decades all sharing a passion for rowing.

It was also wonderful to hear about some of our OVs, who were rowing in a couple of the prestigious races at Henley.

## 20 Year Reunion

**Oli Doherty** (K 88-98), organised a reunion 20 years after the year of 1998 left King's. The group met for a very lively dinner at The Cavalry and Guards Club in London. The group consisted of Oli himself, Hon OV and their former teacher **Mr P.C. Thompson**, **Nick Jones** (W 87-98), **Adam Smith** (CI 93-98), **Zoe Harrison** (now Grainger) (W 92-98), **Natasha McGinity** (now Long) (CI 91-96), **Richard Lewis** (S 88-98), **Jake Brazier** (Cr 88-98), **Rosanna Brighton** (now Horsley) (W 96-98), **Victoria Williamson** (now Hagger) (S 96-98), **David Woodcock** (CI 88-98), **Alex Brittain** (W 92-98), **Alistair Brookshaw** (CI 93-98), **David Cox** (Os 89-98), **Christian Dale** (W 88-98), **Lauren Lawson-Pratt** (now Pruden-Lawson) (CI 91-98), **Rob Poole** (H 93-98), **Amy Thornton** (CI 96-98), and **Max Wright** (Os 91-98). Adam Smith delivered a very funny Grace which he had written for the event and speeches were delivered after dinner by Zoe Harrison and Nick Jones. The group had great fun reuniting, exchanging news and sharing memories of days at King's.



20 year reunion 1998 London Dinner

## King's Day 2018

Another year completed and we had a fantastic time celebrating King's Day on July 5th and welcoming the Year of 2018 to the OV community. We were joined in the beautiful Worcester Cathedral by parents, Governors, Trustees, OVs, OV Club Committee members, current and former staff and friends of the school to celebrate the past academic year and wish our newest OVs all the best for the new adventures that lie ahead of them.

## New Leaver's BBQ

In September we held a barbecue in the School Gardens for our newest OVs. It was so much fun seeing many of the year back together, having received their A level results and with a clearer idea of where they were heading for the next year. The excitement about starting new university courses or heading off on gap years was infectious and many of their teachers also joined them to hear the OVs' news and plans for the future. There were many promises to meet across



New Leaver's BBQ



New Leaver's BBQ



New Leaver's BBQ

the country at different universities, as well as plans to meet abroad. It was also great to hear about what our newest OVs had been up to over the summer, many gaining work experience, earning money to help with their university expenses and groups of the year had holidayed together in Ibiza and in Greece (recounted with much laughter but few details!).

## Guernsey Cricket Tour

**Mike Wilesmith** (S 93-04), **Tom Lea** (K 95-04), **Will Smith** (Br 93-04), **Huw Dimond** (S 93-04), **Sam Cullen** (W 93-04), **Pete Winstanley** (Cr 99-04), **Tom Weston** (Cr 99-04), **Charlie Loveday** (CI 93-04) and **Tom**

**Carr** (W 00-04) all enjoyed a reunion cricket tour to Guernsey in August. With reports of just as many beers bought as balls bowled, it sounds as if the group had a wonderful time (their unfortunate neighbours, not

quite so much!). Although the end match result saw the OVs come up 18 runs short, everyone left in high spirits with plans afoot for a repeat next year.



Cricket Tour of 2004,



Lorna Phillips, Sophie Haddock, Dani Bowkett-Willetts, Fran Szymanska, Sophie Jacob, James Weaver

## Five Year Reunion

8th September saw us joined by the year of 2013 for their five Year Reunion. The OVs, along with their parents, enjoyed a drinks reception in The Michael Baker Boathouse where the opportunity to catch up with former friends and teachers was a huge success. Liz and Sophie from the Development & Alumni Relations Office were delighted to meet the OVs and to hear about their lives and careers five years after leaving King's. Headmaster, Matthew Armstrong, welcomed the group back and spoke a few words on King's today. We were so happy that former Headmaster **Tim Keyes** (Hon OV), who the year of 2013 knew as their Head, could join us. The year of 2013 were particularly happy to hear their Head of School, **Ben Alexander** (Ch 00-13), give a short address which humorously reflected on the comments in their Year Book. The reunion far overran the intended finish time, and it is understood the celebrating and joviality continued into Worcester until the early hours!



Benji Airdrie, Cecily Nichols, Tess Titmuss

## 40 Year Cricket Reunion

2018 marked 40 years since King's Worcester U15 1st Cricket team reached the final of the Lord Taverners Cup Final at the Oval. To mark the occasion, **Steve Hobbs** (CI 74-81) brought together teammates **Richard Westley** (W 72-81), **Mark Lake** (Br 76-81), **Peter Campling** (Ca 72-81), **Nick Hales** (S 74-81), **John Vincent** (Br 74-81), **George Trowbridge** (S 77-79), **Ben Vivian** (CI 71-81) and **Robert Ganderton** (CI 74-81) for a dinner in Worcester and tours of school. Liz and Sophie from the Development & Alumni Relations office were delighted to meet the group and show them around old school haunts and the newer buildings on site. An extra special treat to proceedings was the presence of former teacher and cricket

coach **Ian Brown** (Hon OV) who came back to reunite with his successful team from 1978. Once the task of recognising each other was over, the group seemed like they had never been apart, remembering all the highs and lows of their cricketing days and their time at King's. College Hall brought memories of exams and assemblies flooding back, as did entering School House where the boarders were able to find the exact spots their beds were in, and the Annett Building where many of the dayboys were based. A drink at the Farriers Arms (another reminiscent trip down memory lane), was followed by a dinner, where the early birds of the group departed at 2am!



Steve Hobbs 40 Year Reunion



Holiday Reunion

We were so pleased to hear that a holiday for **Richard Underwood** (Ch 68-79) turned into an OV reunion with friend **Eddie Oates** (Cr 75-78), about 40 years on from when they last saw each other. Work had led Eddie to live in Cornwall, and while Richard was on holiday, the pair met for a drink and a catch up overlooking St Michaels Mount. Richard and Eddie had lots of news to share, as well as many memories of their time at King’s.



Eddie Oates & Richard Underwood

OV Professions

In June, we launched the OV Professions Group and, for this first meeting, we invited OVs who work in the professions of Tax, Advisory, Audit and Pensions to come together for an informal evening, meeting fellow OVs working in this sector. This programme was initiated by OV **Andrew Underwood** (S 77-88), working with the Foundation Development & Alumni Relations Office, with the idea of inviting like-minded OVs to meet informally and share experiences of working in similar professional fields. Such groups will be OV-led with assistance from the Development & Alumni Relations team to facilitate and spread the word. The potential for such groups is enormous and it was great to have such a positive reception to the first of these group meetings.

Andrew hosted the first of these events for those working in this sector at KPMG’s Mayfair office and it was a real pleasure for him and Liz Elliott, King’s Development Director, to meet OVs from across the years, ranging from leavers of 1995 to 2012. Interestingly five of the OVs came from the same house, Chappel, so there were a few familiar faces. The group represented a number of the major consulting firms in London: KPMG, Deloitte, PKF Littlejohn and EY.

London Drinks

On Friday 19th October we enjoyed welcoming a host of OVs to The Bankside Gallery for London Drinks. We were delighted to be joined by OVs from across the years of 1951 through to 2016. The Bankside Gallery offered a lovely location, right on the river Thames, opposite the beautiful St Paul’s Cathedral. The walls were adorned with a colourful selection of paintings from the Royal Watercolour Society exhibition, although with all the reuniting and sharing of memories, there wasn’t much time for artistic critique!

It was lovely to see that several of the years of 67-69 had used the event as an opportunity to meet, as had the year of 2012, and everyone was particularly excited to meet with former teachers, including Marc Roberts, Mr P.C. Thompson and David Brookshaw. Headmaster Matthew Armstrong had opportunity to speak to guests about King’s today and the wonderful part OVs play in the life of the school. We were also very happy to be able to show everyone our new film: *Open the Door to King’s*.



Alex Wenyon and Lizzie Fry



Russ Mason and John Malins



Brian Hicks, Andrew Sadler, Tony Dyson, Peter Miyazaki-Ross, Martun Pellew, Barney Holbeche and Richard Palmer



Catherine Maund, Jeannie Gibson, Andrew Maund, P.C. Thompson, Lucy Robinson, Peter Shepherd



Kate Wilson-Smith (nee Lumsdon), Neville Bulman, Michael Senter



George Hodgetts and Will Edmonds



Marc Roberts and Alastair Brookshaw



Rosie Shearburn, George James, Amelia Quiney, George Hodgetts and Tom Bradley



A Musical Farewell

**Stephen Darlington** (CI 60-70) retired in July as Organist at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford where he has held the post for 33 years. Under Stephen's Directorship, the choir has gained international recognition, and has become renowned for performing a variety of music of the highest quality.

Stephen's last service was Evensong on Saturday, July 7th. Following the service, there was a BBQ in the Master's Garden, at Christ

Church. Stephen invited OV friends **Barney Burnham** (Ch 59-69), **Andrew Millington** (Cr 68-70) and **Peter Hewitt** (Ch 64-69) to mark the occasion with him and we were delighted to be sent this photograph by Barney.

Stephen's many varied musical projects and accolades include recording of the Vicar of Dibley theme tune with friend Howard Goodall. We wish Stephen a very happy retirement.



Stephen Darlington Retirement

School House Lunch

"The School House 70ish lunch was arranged by **Tim Wadsworth** (S 56-61) and held once again at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in Pall Mall, kindly made possible by **George Beckman** (S 49-51) a member. The singing of the School House grace went well considering that it was over 50 years since some of us had last sung it. 23 people attended and we were glad to welcome Rory McTurk (Hon OV and son of House Master, Dan McTurk) again and also, this year, Liz Elliott, Development Director at The King's School. Several first-timers at the lunch, leavers of 1962-65, were present this year, which made a welcome

reduction in our average age. One of us managed to come in a School House tie, a bit worse for wear after 60 years or so but still recognisable! A convivial meal was had by all, excellent food in splendid surroundings: it was a great pleasure meeting old friends of one's schooldays after so many years. **David Gregory** (S 50-58) rounded off the lunch with the customary toast to School House and Dan McTurk."

Reported by T.W.

If you are a former pupil of School House from the 1940s to 1960s and would be interested in attending this special lunch next year, please let us know ([alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)).



OV's at Modus 2018

Modus Challenge Cup

A beautiful pink sky was the perfect start to the Modus Challenge Cup rugby fixture against RGS. It was wonderful that so many people came to enjoy the big game with us, and the OV cohort was in fine spirit and good voice to support our boys! Both sides played fantastically, and for a large part of the first half King's dominated possession. RGS made King's work really hard and in the end their strong play ensured them a well-deserved 32-13 win. Not quite the result we were hoping for however, King's made us proud with the OV's saying how impressed they were and everyone enjoying the evening thoroughly. Look out for more news on an OV get-together at Modus next year.

Remembrance Day



Commander Durham Hiron

It was a special occasion on Friday 9th November as King's commemorated Remembrance Day. The poignant and moving address during the morning service in College

Hall was given by OV **Commander Durham Hiron** (K 83-93). President of the OV Club **Sally Themans** (Co 84-86) laid a wreath on behalf of the OV community alongside current Head of School Sam Martyn-Smith, who laid one on behalf of current pupils of the school. **Jon Palmer** (Br 63-70) provided an excellent lecture in the John Moore Theatre, tying together the events of Western Front 1918 with the marking of the centenary in 2018. Lunch was followed by an incredibly fitting tribute to fallen OV's in the Wightman Studio, 'Before the Daylight Fades Away'. Pupils read letters from three OV's, the Wilmott brothers, who fought in World War One and the performance ended with a roll call of all the names of OV's who lost their lives.

Remembrance Day was also a wonderful opportunity to recognise the hard work of local historian and author Mark Rogers and King's Archivist Harriet Patrick who have

worked together to produce a book called All The King's Men. The book remembers all OV's who died fighting in World Wars One & Two, and also in the Boer War. With generous support from the OV Committee, every pupil will be given a copy of this special tribute to the brave OV's who fought and lost their lives.

Ten Year Reunion

December saw us welcome the year of 2008 back to King's, marking 10 years since they left school. School tours provided an excellent opportunity for many memories to come out of the woodwork, followed by a lively evening of drinks and canapés in the Michael



Andrew Wilson, Hannah Sheeran, Imogen Schofield, Lara Wilkinson and Andy Lowes



Henry Wigley, Lucy Halls and Emily Malik

Baker Boathouse. The group, who now live and work in a diverse range of professions and locations, looked as if they had never been apart, and the celebrating continued long after the doors to the Boathouse closed!

OV Visits



In May, **Peter Richards** (CI 41-46) visited King's enjoying a walk around school with Development Director, Liz, taking in the Chappel Memorial Room, the Michael Baker Boathouse, the John Moore Theatre and also the Art Department where he spent many hours as a student. Peter is an Architect and spent some time talking to some of the current Art A level students and admiring their final artwork pieces. The tour finished in College Hall and Peter showed Liz marks left in the Headmaster's chair by him and his friend 'Titch' Phelps, where they had fired an air rifle from College Hall gallery (for which they both received punishment from headmaster, Mr Kittermaster!)



We were delighted that **James Grant** (CI 97-02) and **Chris Gray** (K 93-02) visited school in June. Head of Alumni Relations, Sophie, thoroughly enjoyed showing them around the school site, and along the way Chris and James were delighted to bump into former teachers Russ Mason, Andrew Longley, Stephan Le Marchand and Richard Davis. A trip up to Archives unearthed some fantastic House photographs, and one of the highlights of the tour was finding a photograph of Chris playing piano for Kittermaster's rendition of 'Three Lions on a Shirt' which secured a win in the House Song Competition! As well as exploring their old stomping grounds, James and Chris were very impressed by the newer facilities on site. Chris and James have remained great friends since leaving King's and James was Best Man at Chris's wedding over the summer.



Brothers **Michael Boddington** (S 55-58) and **Tim Boddington** (S 59-61) called into King's for a visit in June, along with Michael's wife. Michael and his wife live in Laos and come back to the UK every couple of years. The Boddington family have been well represented at King's, with three generations attending the school. Michael was a keen rower whilst at King's and was very impressed with the new Michael Baker Boathouse and the impressive collection of boats that the school now owns. Michael and Tim were also able to pop their heads into College Hall (in between exams!) and recognised many of the names on the honours boards.



Brothers, **Simon Potter** and **Guy Potter** (CI 97-04) visited with Simon's girlfriend, Charlotte. Liz, Development Director, really enjoyed meeting the brothers who were back in the area for an OV wedding at the weekend, coming back to the UK from Brisbane (Simon) and Dubai (Guy). They thoroughly enjoyed looking into the School House library, meeting Head of Rowing, Jim Chalmers and seeing the Michael Baker Boathouse in full swing, with memories of time they spent in the bottom of the Annett Building on the ergos (not quite as smart as the current boathouse facilities!). Edgar Tower was a real treat for Simon and Guy as they remembered it as the school library during their time at school. A visit to the Archives to meet archivist, Harriet Patrick, also jogged a few memories, as the brothers were amused to find themselves in House photos.

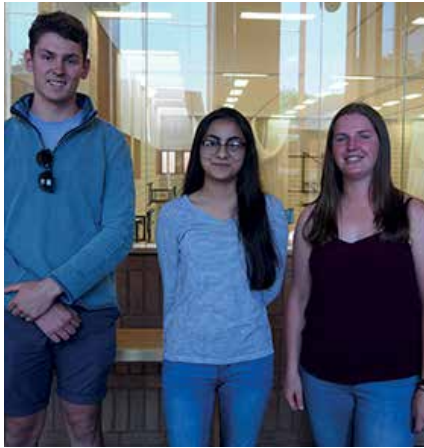


**David Morris** (S 52-62) had informed us that he would be coming to Worcester and wanted to pass on a number of King's School photos and memorabilia to the school Archives, which included School House photos from 1959-1962 as well as a First XI Cricket blazer. David and Liz, Development Director, paid a visit to School House and to what would have been David's dormitory and then senior study during his time at school. Mark Poole, Wulstan House tutor, was also pleased to meet David at the top of School House and reminisced about the views across to the Playing fields and the white cricket pavilion, and in the other direction views to College Hall and the Cathedral. David's memories were jogged by his visit to his former house, remembering his former House Master, Dan McTurk. He was also captivated with the new Keyes Building and noted how very impressive King's facilities are nowadays.



June saw the Lower Sixth take part in the Business Skills Conference here at King's. The Business Skills Conference, organised by the Careers Department, offers the opportunity for the L6 to take part in three activities designed to confront some of the challenges faced in industry and business, as well as encourage a better understanding of the breadth of employability skills which can be mastered. As always, the OV community came out to support the event, acting as mentors and helping to inspire and motivate the students as they took part in activities throughout the day. It was a pleasure to be joined by OV's **Nick Clark** (H 88-90), **Eleni Randle** (W 04-06) and Hon OV **Jean Vivian** (Head of IT 98-16) who thoroughly enjoyed being back at school and sharing their diverse range of career experiences with the pupils.





We were thrilled to welcome OVs **Theo Beever** (S 09-16), **Maha Munir** (Br 10-17) and **Kathryn Smith** (S 09-16) back to King's in the summer. The OVs were back to speak with current students who are considering applying to Oxford or Cambridge, and they were able to share their experiences of studying at these renowned institutions, as well as offering an insight into the application and exam processes. It was lovely to hear how the last year has gone for our OVs, and the current pupils were incredibly grateful for the opportunity to gain some advice prior to embarking on their University applications.



We were delighted to welcome **Peter Scandrett** (H 60-70) back to King's in July. Peter was a King's Scholar at school and also a member of the 1st Rowing crew. Peter was very happy therefore to be shown the Michael Baker Boathouse by Head of Alumni Relations, Sophie, and he commented on what an incredible facility it is. Peter also enjoyed a reminiscent trip into Hostel where he was delighted to find his old dormitory. Peter had some wonderful stories to tell, including the craze for keeping silk worms and feeding them the leaves from the Mulberry trees, as well as an occasion where his crew managed to sink their boat!



It was wonderful to welcome OV **Martin Carr** (Ca 57-62) back to King's. He popped by as a stop on a Bus-Pass tour of the country which he undertook whilst the Football World Cup was on. Martin was a keen oarsman as a pupil and was delighted to have a guided tour of the Michael Baker Boathouse from our current Head of Rowing, Jim Chalmers. Martin told us of many fond memories of his school days at King's including one of his proudest moments when he rowed for King's at the Henley Royal Regatta.



August saw a visit from OV **Mike Smith** (Br 61-71) when he very kindly donated some of his school physics items to the Archives collection. Head of Alumni Relations, Sophie and Development Assistant, Alice showed Mike and his wife around King's as Mike told us some great stories of his time as a pupil.



It was lovely to have a visit from **Alan Bufton** (Ch 49-57) in the summer. Alan thoroughly enjoyed a tour of school and also meeting Archivist Harriet with Head of Alumni Relations, Sophie. Harriet and Sophie were delighted to hear Alan's memories of his school days, and to see the photographs he had kept from his time at King's. Harriet was also very happy to share some photographs she had found, and Alan, who played for the 1st XI, could impressively still name most of his Cricket and Hockey teammates. Harriet also found many mentions of Alan in the Vigornian magazines, winning a reading prize in 1950 and also his performance in a play in 1951. Alan was especially delighted to read a review of his cricket in 1954 where he was described as a 'bright spot' and 'vastly improved'.



OV **Ewen Purcell** (Cr 90-93) returned to King's and enjoyed a tour of school with Head of Alumni Relations Sophie. Ewen, who enjoyed rowing when he was a pupil, especially liked the Michael Baker Boathouse and he had fond memories of English lessons at the top of Edgar Tower and House Singing in College Hall. Ewen visited with his wife and two sons.



It was such a pleasure for Development Director, Liz Elliott, to meet **James Wallis** (Cr 92-03) and Charlotte Wallis who were visiting King's briefly on a trip over from their home in the States. James was keen to show his wife (and young twins) College Hall and recalled assemblies, House Song Competitions and various other memorable events held there during his days at school. James remembered his days at King's very fondly saying "King's has always reliably provided a high standard of education and it was lovely to see College Hall again and makes me realise how lucky I was to come here."



It was a pleasure to see **Ruth Furber** (Ch 10-17) back at King's in July. Ruth was helping Director of Music, Simon Taranczuk to manage the music exams. It was lovely to hear how Ruth is getting on at Royal Holloway College where she is studying Music.



**Alex Styles** (W 08-15) came back to meet current King's rowers in September. Alex spoke of her pride at representing Great Britain at the World University Championships in Shanghai this summer. Alex was able to pass on lots of valuable insights, explaining that every knock back should be taken as an exciting opportunity to improve. Alex spoke especially highly of the coaching and facilities available at King's saying that her school coaches still keep in touch and lend support and encouragement to her today. She also enjoyed some time on the water with current crews.



It was a pleasure to have OVs **Kaushik Rai** (Br 09-16), **Maha Munir** (Br 10-17), **Sam Walker** (Ch 10-17) and **Duncan Drew** (S 10-17) back to share their gap year experiences with current U6.

Kaushik was able to tell us all about his year where he travelled around India following the Trail of Rama, and also his time in Cameroon. Maha spent her gap year in London, gaining professional experience as part of the Business Development team at a professional services firm called AlphaSights. Sam worked for the first part of his year to supplement the Robert Harley award which he received as he left King's. Sam enjoyed a trip to Montreal, Canada, where he worked on a bird conservation project.

Duncan Drew went to Malvern College, Cairo, in his gap year. Duncan, who is going to study Arabic at University, used his time there to fully immerse himself in the language, whilst teaching English to children there. The U6 were so happy to hear all the different gap year stories, and all staff and students listening to the talks were itching to get on a plane by the end of the session!



**David Shrimpton** (Br 55-63) and his wife, Phoebe visited King's on a stunning autumn afternoon. They climbed up the stairs into Edgar Tower to visit Harriet Patrick, King's School Archivist, and David recalled his study being in Edgar Tower in the 1960s. A look in College Hall was where David saw his uncle's name on the Honours Boards: **Arthur P Shrimpton** (Ca 26-32), who gained an exhibition to go to Birmingham University to study Civil Engineering. David and Phoebe were interested in seeing some of the newer additions to school and enjoyed a look into School House Library and the Michael Baker Boathouse. The Keyes Building was also admired and David enjoyed seeing the McClatchey Climbing Wall, having mountaineering experience of his own, climbing with his son in America, where David has lived since 1967.



In this edition of Connect we feature **Bob Burkill** (Hon OV), who was Head of Geography and Director of Studies during his time at King's. Bob's widow, Barbara, and his younger daughter, **Kimberley Perry** (CI 93-00) came into school and met Liz & Sophie to speak about Bob. Barbara and Kimberley enjoyed looking around the school where Bob spent so much time, including his old office. They also looked at some of King's newer additions, as well as re-visiting some of the school buildings that Kimberley remembered well from her days at school.



**Cameron Walker** (Os 08-15) came back to King's and met several members of staff, Andrew Longley, Gwyn Williams, Annabel Jeffrey, Russ Mason, Lois Haddock, Claire Neville, Chris Haywood and Jenny Hewitt. He was also really happy to see his house tutor, Elaine Friend who was equally delighted to see Cameron and hear all about the wonderful work he is doing with ITV, having graduated this year from Nottingham Trent University. Cameron was on a flying visit to King's having spent the week with ITV News London as part of his traineeship programme.



It was lovely to have **Georgina Blackburn** (nee Bentley-Walls) (Co 91-93) back to King's as an advisor for the Fifth Form Morrisby testing, organised by the Careers Department. On leaving King's, Georgina studied at Royal Holloway, followed by a Master's at the University of Bristol. She later trained in Careers Guidance at Coventry University and has enjoyed a varied career, first in publishing, researching and editing careers articles before embarking on her profession as a Careers Advisor.



OVs are able to provide motivation and career support to current pupils, and it was lovely to have OV **Louise Gwilliam** (K 03-10) back at King's in October. Louise is currently 5 Live Rugby Union producer at the BBC and she came in to pass on her experiences in broadcast journalism. Louise began the morning meeting Year 6 King's St Alban's pupils who thoroughly enjoyed hearing what Louise was like at school, the skills which have served her well in her career, and most important of all, the most famous sporting heroes she has interviewed! Louise met senior school students to give a lunchtime talk. Pupils were interested to hear about the resilience and tenacity required to get work experience and how important it is to say 'yes' to all the opportunities that come your way.



It was a pleasure for Russ Mason (Hon OV) to meet OV **Cassie Bray** (Os 92-99) when she visited in October and catch up on her news since leaving King's. Cassie is now Director of Business Engagement for Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce.



# Barnabas



Tuesday 25th September, saw an incredibly special Barnabas Day here at King's. Inspired by St Barnabas, 'son of encouragement', our Barnabas speakers are distinguished, inspirational OV's who have excelled in their chosen professions and come into school to share their experiences and to motivate and inspire current pupils.

## Allan Clayton (H 91-99)

The newest member of the Barnabas Group, **Allan Clayton** (H 91-99) is established as one of the most exciting and sought after singers of his generation. Allan garnered huge praise as the lead role in Brett Dean's *Hamlet*, which had its world premiere at Glyndebourne in June 2017. This performance gained rave reviews and saw Allan win several prizes and accolades including the 2018 Whatsonstage Award for Outstanding Achievement in Opera. Allan also sang the role of David in Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Summer 2018 saw Allan return to Glyndebourne to perform Handel's *Saul*, yet again receiving huge praise and commendation. Allan's awards are many and recently they include 2018 Royal Philharmonic Society Singer Award and Best Male Performer in Australia's prestigious Helpmann Awards.

Allan began his Barnabas Day by giving an inspirational address in College Hall, remembering his time at King's. He talked of how lucky he felt to try a variety of activities at school and whilst he spent a large amount of time as a chorister, he also enjoyed rugby, football and many other hobbies. He encouraged all the pupils to enjoy their time at school and explained that he wasn't sure until later on in his University studies of the career path he wanted to pursue. You can listen to his talk in full: <https://soundcloud.com/kingsworcester/barnabas-speaker-allan-clayton-25th-september-2018>

Throughout the day, Allan gave a fantastic masterclass to three King's singers where he workshopped a chosen piece with each of them, offering technical and performance advice.

Both St Alban's and King's Hawford schools enjoyed visits from Allan who was delighted to meet some younger members of the school, including current choristers. Allan was most jealous that the boys now get Tuesdays and Saturdays off from choir practice as he used to attend daily! The



Allan with King's St Alban's singers



Matthew Armstrong, Allan Clayton and Sam Martyn-Smith



Allan provides a singing masterclass

pupils were able to ask many questions from 'What is your favourite opera?' and 'What countries have you performed in?', all the way through to 'Do you own a comb?'

Allan met Headmaster, Matthew Armstrong, and Head of School, Sam Martyn-Smith to sign the prestigious Barnabas book where he was presented with his Barnabas shield.

Lunch at the Headmaster's House was followed with a truly superb recital where Allan delighted an audience of music students, scholars and members of staff with a resounding repertoire in College Hall, the perfect finish to a magnificent day. Our sincerest thanks go to Allan for making space in a full schedule to come and share his experiences and incredible talent with us all.

# OVs in the News

## Running Success

We were delighted to see that **Alice Wright** (S 06-13) was chosen to represent Great Britain in her senior debut at the European Athletics Championships in Berlin in August, where she gained a fantastic 6th place in the women's 10,000m in a time of 32:37. Alice has just graduated from the University of New Mexico and has recently joined the HOKA ONE ONE Northern Arizona Elite as an athlete. Congratulations Alice!



## OV Stars in University Challenge

It was really exciting to see **Lizzie Fry** (Cr 07-14) on University Challenge on 3rd September and Monday 10th December competing for St Edmund Hall, Oxford, winning both rounds. At Oxford Lizzie specialises in Biogeography. Lizzie said,

"Filming for University Challenge was great fun thanks to the lovely team I was part of, most of whom I only got to know through doing the show. We did put quite a lot of extra work in revising for the show, and I never anticipated needing to learn about BAFTA winners, Dutch Old Masters, and the islands of the Shetlands in the same week! Spending some time in Manchester and Salford was another perk of the programme. Our team has had some attention for its

## A Special Tribute

OV **Robert Spier** (S 45-55)'s wife Jean, was a dedicated volunteer for the RNLI and it is therefore very fitting that he has named a boat in her honour following her death in 2017. The RNLI, who boast Her Majesty The Queen as their Patron, were most grateful to receive this new addition to their Lough Derg fleet in loving memory of Jean.

## OV Appointed as new Chairman at Worcestershire County Cricket Club

We were delighted to hear that OV **Fanos Hira** (Os 80-87) has been appointed as the new Chairman of Worcestershire CCC.

Fanos, who has been a lifelong Worcestershire supporter, has been a member of the Worcestershire CCC Board since January 2016 and became the club's Audit Group Chairman shortly afterwards. Fanos is delighted to be filling such a

key role: "To be given the opportunity to be Chairman of this prestigious club is a tremendous honour."

Worcestershire CCC is one of eighteen first-class county clubs within the domestic cricket structure of England and Wales representing the historic county of Worcestershire.



## Fantastic New Opportunity for Upcoming OV Journalist

We are absolutely thrilled to hear that OV **Cameron Walker** (Os 08-15) has been accepted onto the ITV News Traineeship Scheme, which will begin in September 2018. From over 1000 applicants, Cameron has accepted one of just twelve places that have been offered this year. Trainees of the scheme go on to secure roles in regional, national and international news, with the majority staying with ITV to forge their careers.

Cameron graduated with a First in Broadcast Journalism from Nottingham Trent University and during his degree undertook several work placements including roles at ITV's This Morning, BBC News (national), Victoria Derbyshire and BBC Hereford and Worcester.





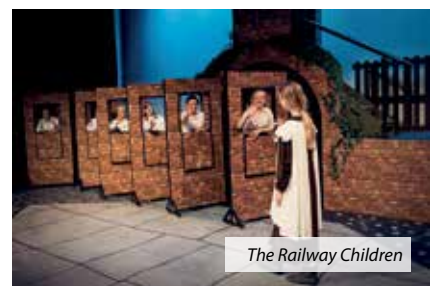
# King's Today

The King's U13 cricketers won the County Cup in June with a thrilling eight wicket win against Bromsgrove School. Bromsgrove hit one hundred and forty-seven for five in their twenty overs. Despite good innings from King's openers Joel Cox (thirty-nine) and Sam Hawes (twenty), King's still needed nine runs an over with just four overs left. However, Cameron Jones and man of the match George Tomlinson (forty-nine not out) kept their nerve to see King's home with seven balls to spare.



U13 Cricketers 2018

The Fourth Forms staged The Railway Children in the John Moore Theatre. This was a highly ambitious choice as a junior play but an excellent ensemble handled its challenges with aplomb, creating a rich evening's entertainment with moments of real poignancy. Congratulations to all involved; judging by the talent on display the future of King's theatre looks bright.



The Railway Children

The King's School Worcester is again delighted with outstanding A Level results this year. An impressive 93% of grades achieved were A\*-C, with 77% of results A\*-B. These are the strongest results at this level for a number of years. Leading the way were Head of School, Alice Evans, who achieved three A\* grades and one grade A which helped secure her place at University College, Oxford to study Biomedical Sciences, and Ollie Colebourne who achieved 4 A\* grades in Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths and Physics. Joe Ashton, Bill Bishop, Andrew Salkeld, Lucy Goodman and Jamie Havercroft all also achieved A\* in 3 or more A Levels.

Towards the end of July the Geography Department took twenty Upper Remove (Year 10) pupils to the French Alps. Days were spent learning about the physical surroundings and included plenty of walking along mountain trails to see the Alpine landscape. Highlights included walking through ice caves carved into the Mer de Glace, taking Europe's highest cable car to 3842 metres and enjoying a number of leisure activities. The pupils were excellent company and worked hard throughout the trip.



Geography Alps Trip

King's Worcester pupils came out winners of the Languages Prize at the RAF/National Space Academy/Business Language Champions International Space Challenge competition at RAF Cosford. Three teams of Upper Removes and Fifth Formers representing French, German and Spanish each completed design, construction, marketing and engineering challenges at the national event with the German team winning the Language Prize and Spanish and French teams both commended for effective team work.



International Space Challenge



A Level Results Day

In October Cadet Sergeant Will Gorner led a team of ten army cadets to Nesscliffe Training Area to take part in our Brigade's annual Military Skills Competition. The team spent the Saturday visiting various stands on which they were scored, with the team winning the Gun Run stand (something the team had never practised). Sunday morning brought the March and Shoot Competition in which the team had to perform a forced march around a two point two mile long course followed by an air rifle shoot. The team managed to come sixth out of seventeen teams in the March and Shoot and seventh for the overall Milskills Competition.



CCF Military Skills Competition 2018

RGS Worcester retained the Modus Cup following an exciting game and a strong performance both from RGS and the King's 1st XV team on Wednesday evening. King's supporters packed the East stand of the Sixways Stadium on a beautifully clear autumnal evening, as Captain Max Richardson led the team into The Modus Cup Challenge, now in its twelfth year. A strong start from both teams made for a pulsating first half, with King's registering the first points of the night when fly-half Ethan Summerwill landed a penalty on 23 minutes. RGS missed a penalty kick just four minutes later but crossed for their first try moments later and continued to extend their lead to 12-3 at half-time. RGS continued to add to the scoreboard during the second half, but King's were undeterred and were rewarded with a fantastic try from full-back and Vice-Captain Charles Clark in the 44th minute. RGS responded with their fourth try which was converted, taking their lead to 26-8. King's right wing, George Hale, went on to score an unconverted try in the 54th minute but RGS sealed their win in the 70th minute with a fifth try, taking the final score to 32 - 13 in favour of RGS.



Modus Cup 2018

# OV Weddings

Send us your wedding news and photos  
[alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)



Matthew and Alice Smith

**Alice Smith** (nee Rees Phillips) (Os 00-05) married Matthew Smith on the 11<sup>th</sup> August in Stanton Lacy with their lovely dog Toby there to enjoy the special day too.



Peter Winstanley, Lauren Creed and the Groom's Party

**Peter Winstanley** (Cr 99-04), married Lauren Creed in Winchcombe on June 9th with a reception afterwards at Sudeley Castle. OV Simon Potter was one of the best

men and OVs William Woodhouse, Thomas Weston and Patrick Dykes were all ushers.



Groom and Ushers

**Luke Weaver** (S 98-03) met Lizzie on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2013 on a blind date at The Fleet at Twynning, fast forward 4 years and 10 months later.....

Luke and Lizzie got married on May 26<sup>th</sup> 2018 at St Andrew's Church, Ombersley, followed by a marquee reception at Lizzie's parents'. The reception included plenty of drinks, canapes, a two course wedding breakfast followed by speeches and then everyone was entertained in the evening by a band from Cheltenham called "The Chip

Shop Boys" This was quite appropriate as Lizzie's great grandad opened the first ever Fish and Chip shop in Worcester. Suffice to say the day itself went really well and everyone had a great time, the weather even behaved and the sides of the marquee had to be rolled up as it got so hot - which was a bit different to the rain showers the day before! Two days later they flew out on honeymoon spending two weeks in The Maldives and three days in Dubai on the way back.



Luke and Lizzie Weaver

King's was well represented on the day, with the Groom's party including Alex Cross, Ali Young, David Brazier, Tom Mitchell, Joe Timson, Tom Squire, Alex Humpage, Oli Mathew and Jack Hampson. There were also lots of OVs in attendance, including Francesca Weaver, Tom Scaife, Tom Kolodotschko, Ed Pearce, Dave Payne, James Annis, Alistair Druett, Ozzy Fiaz, Cassie Woodcock (nee Brennan), Dave Woodcock, Daisy Scaife (nee Barnett), Rebecca Holt (nee Hewson), Richard Tomlinson, Rosie Tomlinson, Emily Weaver, Lucy Weaver, Emily Lang, Tom Wilde and Tom Bird.



## The King's School and the First World War: Armistice and Remembrance



Harriet Patrick,  
King's School archivist



O.T.C. AND CRICKET PAVILION.

During the course of the First World War, The King's School lost 79 OV's and three former masters to the violence of the battlefields. When peace was declared on 11 November 1918 King's, like hundreds of other institutions across the country, felt moved to erect a memorial to the young men that they had lost.

The circular letter sent out in 1919 set a target of £2,000 for a permanent roll of honour in College Hall, and a memorial window in the Cathedral Cloisters. The letter also proposed that scholarships should be provided for sons of OV's killed in the war; a new fives court be constructed in the playground; and a new cricket pavilion be erected on the New Road ground.

The Roll of Honour in College Hall was erected during the 1918 Christmas holidays. When the completion of the other projects was in sight, Cuthbert Creighton (Headmaster 1919-1936) arranged a special two-day Old Vigornian Festival beginning on 18 June 1921. Three cricket matches were played between the School and the Old Vigornians. After the lunch interval Canon Chappel, Headmaster of King's 1896-1918 and now President of the OV Club, performed the opening ceremonies. The drums and bugles of the OTC Band sounded the Last Post as Chappel unveiled the inscription and declared the pavilion open. The drums and bugles then sounded

the Reveille and the cricket was resumed. In the evening some 70 Old Vigornians and masters sat down to dinner in School House.

T.E. Rammell had joined King's in 1891 as a master with a keen interest in sport. The cricket pavilion was a project very near to



his heart, as he had been master in charge of cricket. He gave £500 to the project, and when the costs exceeded this figure, took the whole extra burden on his shoulders. The plaque over the entrance to the pavilion ends with a Latin inscription from Virgil's Aeneid, 'HAEC OLIM MEMINISSE JUVABIT' – 'These things one day it will be a pleasure to remember'.

On the following day, 19 June 1921, the School War Memorial Window in the North Cloister Walk was dedicated by Dean Moore Ede, Chairman of the Governors. In each of five main lights of clear glass eighteen or nineteen names were lettered under the school shield. Scenes from the life of St. Wulstan filled the small lights in the tracery above. Two platoons of the OTC, with the drums and bugles of the Band, were again on parade. The Cathedral Choir approached from the Chapter House, singing Psalm 121, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills", with its moving last verse, "The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in: from this time forth for ever more". The Last Post was sounded and, after the Dean's dedication, Reveille. The Dean gave a short address. The burial hymn was sung, "God of the living, in whose eyes unveiled thy whole creation lies", and the procession, followed by the OV's and the School, moved into the Cathedral for Matins. Canon Chappel preached the sermon.



The first War Memorial Scholar joined the school as early as May 1920. He was **Malcolm Royle** (Ca 20-27), the eldest son of **Capt. Dennis Carlton Royle, MC** (Dayboy 1893-1889), who had been killed in August 1918.

Royle's other two sons came to King's in 1924, **Donald** (Ca 24-32) and **Raymond** (Ca 24-33).



King's two Fives Courts on the school playground were repaired and a new one was built there in 1922 as a further

part of the War Memorial appeal. But the popularity of Fives gradually declined over the years and, having fallen out of use, the three courts were demolished in 2003. A memorial plaque was installed on the castle wall next to the original plaque from 1922. Both can still be seen today.



A.D. 1922 These Fives Courts were repaired and a new one built as part of the War Memorial to those who fell in the Great War.



A.D. 2003 The removal of three disused Memorial Fives Courts enabled this area to be greatly improved for the recreation and enjoyment of all pupils.

## New Accessions

- During the OV reunion weekend in May, Roger Hunt donated his magnificent 1951 Three Choirs Festival scrapbook to the archives, which was brilliant to receive.
- During the 1967-1969 reunion held at King's in June, **Michael Nelson** (H 57-68) donated a collection of material to school archives, including his collection of O and A Level exam papers, three Hostel House photographs, a Chappel House photograph, and a St Alban's photograph. It was wonderful to be able to fill these gaps in the archives collection – thank you ever so much.
- During the school summer holidays, **Michael Smith** (Br 61-71) donated a wonderful range of items to The King's School archives, including his A Level Science notes and his school badges. Thank you ever so much indeed.
- Also in the summer, **Alec Mackie** (Cl 47-56) brought in a collection of King's School badges, caps, and jumper

belonging to **John Maxton** (Ca 48-50) which have been added to the school's archive collection – thank you.

- In addition, **Andrew Burton** (Cr 77-83) sent in two CD for the school archives: one was the soundtrack of King's 1983 production of The Boyfriend; the other was a recording of Humphrey Lyttleton performing in College Hall with the Milne-MacDonald Big Band in January 1983. Wonderful!
- Just before Half Term, Jeanette Horn (KSW Former Parent) kindly sent in material regarding OV **Aubrey Webster** (S 00-07), who was killed during the First World War, aged 27: thank you very much indeed.

**As ever, the School Archives is very grateful for such donations of original material from Old Vigornians. Please keep them coming in!**

## Visits from OV's

In June, it was lovely to receive a visit from **Simon** and **Guy Potter** (both Cl 97-04) who viewed their old House photographs and back issues of The Vigornian from their time at King's.

Also in June, we were visited by **Chris Gray** (K 93-02) and **James Grant** (Cl 97-02), who likewise saw old House photographs and contemporary issues of The Vigornian.

In September, we were pleased to welcome **Alan Bufton** (Ch 49-57) back to King's and were glad to be able to show him a variety of school photographs and memorabilia, while he shared some of his schoolboy memories with us.

Also in September, **David Shrimpton** (Br 55-63) came up to Edgar Tower to view photographs and old Vigornian magazines from his years at school.

In October, **David Morris** (S 52-62) visited the archive and kindly put names to faces of school photographs he had previously donated to the archives – thank you very much indeed.

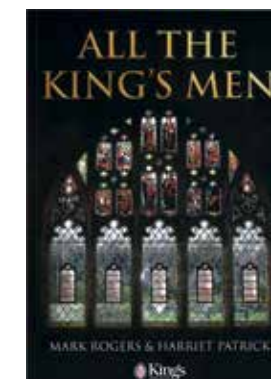
OV's are very welcome to visit the school archive: please contact the Archivist, Harriet Patrick, to make an appointment: [archives@ksw.org.uk](mailto:archives@ksw.org.uk).

## A Special Piece of King's History

'All The King's Men' remembers the fallen OV's who gave their lives in WW1, WW2 and The Boer War. Written by Mark Rogers and Harriet Patrick, this book is a very unique and special piece of King's history. Generously supported by the OV Club, we are delighted to announce that all proceeds will go to the *Open the Door to King's Bursary* appeal.

**£10 incl. postage**

Phone **01905 721737** to order yours today!





# Features on Teachers

## E.R. Burkhill

Geography Teacher, Head of Geography, Careers Master, Assistant Tutor Chappel House, 1969-1997.

Having undertaken his teacher training in Oxford, Bob Burkill arrived at King's in September 1969 as part of the Geography department. His dynamic teaching was an important feature of many pupils' school experience here for nearly 30 years.

Extremely knowledgeable about his subject, Bob enjoyed taking King's Geography GCSE and A Level students on field trips to many destinations including Wales, Scotland, Devon, Switzerland, the French Alps and Tunisia.

Outside the Geography department, Bob shared an immensely popular Saturday morning extra-curricular politics course with Bob Allum. Elsewhere, he enjoyed participating in the King's School staff pantomime. His passion for cars was legendary, and he even ranked his pupils' work not to the traditional "A, B, C" mark scheme, but according to makes of cars. He was also noticeable at King's for his "snazzy" dress sense, sporting brilliant ties and colourful pocket handkerchiefs.

Moreover, Bob was involved from the outset with the Diploma of Achievement at King's, which was subsequently recognised in the Dearing Report, teaching students a range of subjects including basic car mechanics and home economics. When he retired from King's in 1997, Bob developed this further and became National Director for

the Diploma which was taken into prisons, as he believed prisoners should have skills and means of supporting themselves when reaching the end of their sentences.

Bob died in 2010.

Bob's widow, Barbara, recently visited King's and shared some memories of her husband with us of his life post-King's:

"Bob retired from King's in 1997, aged 53, as he was advised by his doctors he should scale back. Alongside his work for the Diploma of Education, he became an examiner and moderator and wrote for University of Cambridge – International Examinations and worked part-time. Bob was a prolific fiction writer in his spare time: this was his way of relaxing from the energy he put into his teaching. He used to shut himself away in his study and write for hours. Bob wrote six novels and one short story. Bob was never happy with his writing, he over-analysed it and didn't get it seriously looked at by agents. He is, as yet, unpublished. His younger daughter, **Kimberley Perry** (CI 93-00), will now self-publish his writings via Amazon."

For more information about Bob's writing project, please contact the King's Development & Alumni Relations Office and we can put you in touch with his daughter Kimberley.



Our next 'Teacher Feature' will be: Mr Alan Stacey. Please email any memories to [archives@ksw.org.uk](mailto:archives@ksw.org.uk)

Jon Roslington, John Exton and Bob Burkhill

## Testimonies from OV's:

### Paul Raine (CI 69-76):

"I have told many people over the years about the inspiration I gained through the teaching of Bob. I was not a naturally-gifted pupil. He gave me a confidence and enthusiasm for his subject that motivated me to 'up my game' in all academic subjects and go forward to gain an honours degree. I attribute this in no small part to Bob: sometimes in life one person can make a real difference to the life of another - most likely without ever realising it."

### Matt Speirs (H 86-91):

"It is said that you never forget a great teacher and Bob Burkill was one whom I admired enormously ... I will not forget all the classroom windows being flung open to represent 'the cold wind of examination' or piles of books dropped on the floor as 'simulated examination noise' during silent practice papers."

### Kate Greenall (née Burkill) (CI 91-97)

"It's hard to describe just how much my Dad inspired me, both as my father and as my Geography teacher. It was such an inspiration watching him teach, and get the best out of me and everyone else who had the pleasure to be in his class."

I think he was the only teacher who started a lesson by drawing a random cartoon on the board (which he'd explain only sometimes), who issued red cards like a football match if you misbehaved, and he was definitely the only teacher who wore a plastic tie with real sand and a beach umbrella in it. He's also the only conservative anarchist I've ever met, alas. Talking politics with him was always riveting.

Outside school, Dad has made an incredibly positive impact on me. I'll never forget one brilliant piece of advice he gave me: 'live your life in technicolour, not beige'. I've based some of my best life decisions on that advice, including taking a leap of faith and moving to New Zealand.

I still miss him every day - his huge imagination, ridiculous humour (who else would stick Swiss flags on an Audi, and insist on wearing only red shoes?), and his unshakable faith in me and others are impossible to replace. When I see current world events I frequently wonder what Dad would make of it all. He would no doubt spark a fierce debate!"

# Where are they now?

Every week we choose a former pupil who is featured in a weekly newsletter sent to pupils and members. These OV stories motivate and inspire our current students and it is always wonderful to hear news of OV's around the world.

If you would like to be featured in 'Where are they now?', or know of someone who would, please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)

## Andrew Underwood (S 77-88)



This year the OV Professions Group was launched. Andrew Underwood (S 77-88) initiated this programme with the King's Foundation

Development & Alumni Relations office. Andrew hosted this first session at his company's Mayfair office, which focused on those working in Audit, Advisory, Tax and Pensions. At school, Andrew was very proactive, captaining the 1st XI cricket and 2nd XV rugby teams and he was also a school monitor and Head of School House. On leaving school, Andrew went to South Bank University to study Business Management before starting his Operations Consulting career with Ernst & Young in 1998. He moved to KPMG in 2006 where he is now a Partner and leads KPMG's UK Supply Chain team and is a member of KPMG's Global Operations Leadership team. Andrew is also a trustee of the King's School Development Trust and this year was appointed as a Governor at King's School.

## Jonny Tye (Br 04-11)



Jonny Tye (Br 04-11) was a very active student at King's taking part in School Council, Orchestra and he was also a Monitor. Jonny represented Great

Britain in flatwater kayaking during his time at school, in 2009 he won bronze at the European Marathon Championships and in 2011 became a double Silver Medallist at the Marathon World Championships in Singapore. After studying Physics, Chemistry and Maths at A-level, Jonny went to the University of Surrey where he studied Mechanical Engineering. Jonny is still a keen sportsman and is now Director of his own business, Precision Hydration, which offers unique, personalised hydration solutions for athletes. They work with a long list of professional sports organisations like the Greenbay Packers (NFL), Cleveland Cavaliers (NBA) and England Rugby.

## Jennifer Suggitt (Co 91-93)



Jennifer Suggitt (Co 91-93) threw herself into drama activities during her time at King's, helping to teach and act as well as being an active member of the

Cinema Club. After King's Jennifer attended Royal Holloway College, University of London and studied English Language and Literature.

Jennifer worked for BskyB as Affinity Brand Marketing Manager and then as Corporate Relations Manager for Historic Royal Places - where she set up the Corporate Fundraising function - before becoming Head of Corporate Relations at the British Museum where she has been for 11 years. Major successes for Jennifer as part of her current role include securing exhibition sponsorships with Morgan Stanley for The First Emperor exhibition in 2007, which attracted 850,000 visitors and the recent American Dream exhibition in 2017. Both went on to win industry awards including the Arts & Culture award at the 2018 Sponsorship Awards.

## Becky Leach (Cr 01-08)



Becky Leach (Cr 01-08) is Marketing Executive of Swoop Patagonia, Antarctica and Arctic, a company that helps plan adventures to the world's wilderness

regions. Becky was very involved at King's, taking part in DoFE, Orchestra as well as LAMDA. After leaving King's with 3 As at A-Level, Becky went on to gain a BTEC in Art Foundation, Textiles and Fashion and a National Diploma in Music before studying Commercial Music at Bath Spa University.

Becky is now an established marketing professional with experience within the festival production, property management, travel and hospitality industries. Her roles have included Marketing and Venue Manager at The Ethical Property Company and Marketing Executive at Kaleidoscope Collection before starting in her current position.

## Roger Bivand (CI 61-68)



Roger Bivand (CI 61-68) gained an Exhibition and studied Geography at the University of Cambridge. He then completed a PhD at London School of Economics

and a post-doctoral habilitation degree at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland, all in Geography. A-level project fieldwork in Norway and marrying a Pole appear to have had geographical consequences too. Following academic positions in Poznań and Bodø, Norway, Roger became a Professor at the Norwegian School of Economics in Bergen, Norway in 1996 and is still working there. Roger specialises in statistical software development for spatial and geographical data, using the R Language, and he is an ordinary member of the R Foundation. As well as being much in demand to lead PhD courses in applied spatial data analysis, Roger is also editor of several journals, including the 'Journal of Statistical Software' and 'The R Journal'. He gave the keynote speech at the European R Users Meeting in Budapest in May this year.

## Rebecca Linfoot (S 05-12)



Rebecca Linfoot (S 05-12) was hugely involved in drama while a student at King's playing the White Witch in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in 2007. At King's,

Rebecca was a monitor and a very enthusiastic pupil getting involved in everything including Charity Committee, Himalayan Club and Choir.

After school, Rebecca studied Drama: Theatre, Film and Television at University of Bristol and has since launched a career in film production. Rebecca has worked for major companies in the film industry including NBCUniversal, Marvel Studios and Heyday TV where she recently worked on 'The Long Song'; a three-part TV drama for BBC One. Rebecca has just begun an exciting role as Assistant to the Executive Producer of a new film by The Walt Disney Company.



# Foundation Development & Alumni Relations

Based at the top of Hostel House, the Development & Alumni Relations Office is here to keep OVs and members of the King's family in touch with both each other and the school. We arrange reunions, events, school tours, and love to hear news from you. Please see more information below on our roles, and keep in touch! Email: [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) Phone: 01905 721737



**Liz Elliott** née North (Co 82-84)  
**Foundation Development Director**  
Role: Liz oversees Foundation Development & Alumni Relations Office activity at King's and is well-placed to do so, as she is an Old Vigornian herself. Liz is particularly passionate about our 'Open the Door to King's' campaign, and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to be a part of this life-changing scheme.

Contact: [eelliott@ksw.org.uk](mailto:eelliott@ksw.org.uk)



**Sophie Borrillo-McLellan**  
**Head of Alumni Relations**  
Role: At The King's School, Sophie is responsible for fostering alumni relations that will build and strengthen relationships between the School and its community of over 14,000 former pupils, parents, staff, and donors in order to maximise alumni engagement with the school. If you have an idea for a reunion, Sophie would be very happy to help facilitate it.

Contact: [sborrillo-mclellan@ksw.org.uk](mailto:sborrillo-mclellan@ksw.org.uk)



**Alice Evans**  
**Development Assistant**  
Role: Alice supports the smooth running of the Development Office. You may well find yourself liaising with Alice when booking to attend one of our reunions or events. Alice also handles our social media and weekly news. Do let Alice know if you have something exciting to share.

Contact: [afevans@ksw.org.uk](mailto:afevans@ksw.org.uk)

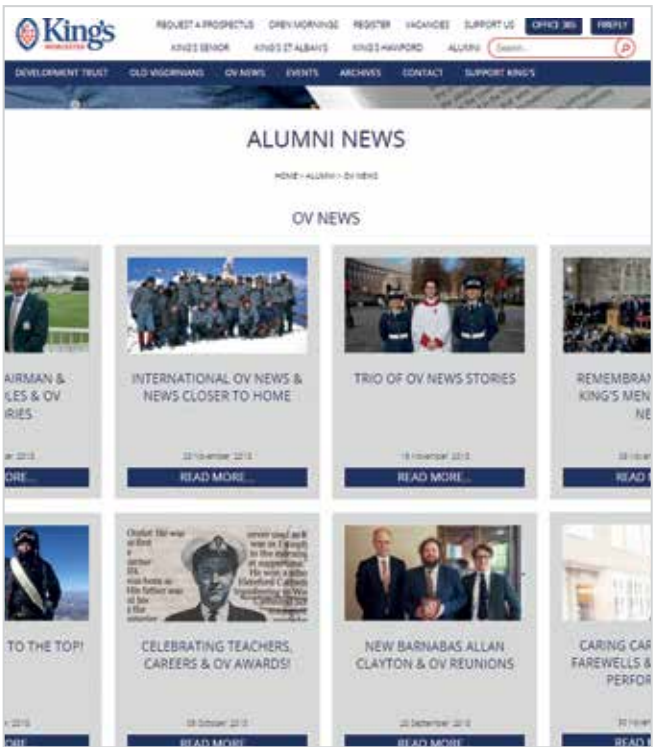


**Cath Williams**  
**Database Assistant**  
Role: Cath ensures contact details we hold for Old Vigornians are correct and up to date. She also maintains a paper archive of historic pupil records. If your details have changed, do let Cath know.

Contact: [cwilliams@ksw.org.uk](mailto:cwilliams@ksw.org.uk)

Please do check out our website and follow us online:

 [www.ksw.org.uk/alumni](http://www.ksw.org.uk/alumni)



 [@Old\\_Vigornians](https://twitter.com/Old_Vigornians)



 [@OldVigornian](https://www.facebook.com/OldVigornian)



## King's Memorial Garden

Two years ago, we were advised that an Old Vigornian had passed away and had included King's as a beneficiary in his will. The OV did not have close family members and hence he had directed that his estate be left to The King's School Worcester Development Trust and any monies realised be used to support pupil bursaries at the school. Leaving a legacy to King's is a very personal and meaningful commitment, representing support for the work of the school and our new memorial garden is a way of recognising these important contributions. The garden will also be developed as a quiet space in school for children and other members of King's to sit and enjoy our School Gardens. The garden also allows us to incorporate into the daily life of our pupils a visible reminder of the generosity of those members of the King's family who have gone before them and who felt that King's played an important part in their lives.

The 1541 Society is a group that recognises those individuals who have made a legacy pledge to King's and allows us to thank them in their lifetimes and each spring we hold a dinner as a 'thank you' to our 1541 Society members, in the Michael Baker Boathouse.

This autumn we planted our memorial tree, a 'Norway Maple' (*Acer platanoides 'Princeton Gold'*) in the School Gardens, in sight of both Worcester Cathedral and the River Severn. We look forward to seeing the tree grow in years to come, displaying bright yellow-green leaves in the spring, turning to burnt orange in autumn.

We have also been asked by the family of another OV - who generously remembered King's in his will - if a plaque could be placed in the memorial garden in memory of their uncle, 'Bunty' Wootten, and his wife, Linda. We were honoured and delighted that King's played such an important part in Bunty's formative life that his family wished to place a plaque in his name at school.

King's is a wonderfully supportive and caring family and our memorial garden has been created to remember those members of our family no longer with us, who have continued to provide for the pupils at King's long into the future.



### Tax Implications regarding Legacy Donations

Any donation to charity through your will is free from inheritance tax and if you leave at least 10% of your estate to charity, the inheritance tax paid on the balance is reduced from 40% to 36%.



Should you have questions about remembering King's in your will, please contact Liz Elliott, Development Director, who will be delighted to help. She can be contacted on [eelliott@ksw.org.uk](mailto:eelliott@ksw.org.uk) or 01905 721719



# A Picture Paints a Thousand Words



Battlefield Trip 2004



Hockey, 1994



Young Enterprise Group, 1999



1st XI Cricket Tour 2004



Lower Fourth Camp 1989



J15 Coxed 4, 1989



Choir House, 1979



Boat Club 1st IV, 1954



Himalayan Club, Nepal, 1999



College House, 1979



CCF Inspection Day, 1984



Les Misérables, 1994



King's XV at the French Youth Hostel, 1978



Lucy Brookshaw as Sister Jeanne in 'The Devils' 1994



# Upcoming Events

## Dates for your diary

### Cambridge University Reunion

**Tuesday 22nd January 2019**

**8-9.30pm**

**The Anchor Pub, 12 Silver Street,  
Cambridge, CB3 9EL**

Liz, Sophie, (and a couple more familiar King's faces) hope you will be able to join them for a relaxed drink and an opportunity to meet other OV's studying in Cambridge. If you can join us, please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)

### Bristol University Reunion

**Spring TBC**

Liz, Sophie, (and a couple more familiar King's faces) hope you will be able to join them for a relaxed drink and an opportunity to meet other OV's studying in Bristol. If you can join us, please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)

### OV Professions Group

**(Audit, Tax, Pensions & Advisory)**

Open to all OV's working within these areas of finance. A relaxed and informal opportunity to meet OV's in the same profession. Email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) for more details.

### OV Professions Group

**(Law)**

Open to all OV's working in Law. A relaxed and informal opportunity to meet OV's in the same profession. Email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) for more details.

### OV Open Mic Night

**June TBC**

### 'Open the Door' & Himalayan Club

**Lecture, Dinner & Auction**

**Saturday 30th March 2019**

**The King's School, Worcester**

In support of both Open the Door to King's bursary appeal and the Himalayan Trust, please join us, Tim Keyes and John Walton for this not-to-be-missed fundraising event. A fascinating and exciting lecture from Jon Bracey & Nick Robertson will be accompanied by an auction of completely unique lots and a scrumptious Nepalese supper. Email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) for more details.

### Annual Reunion Weekend

**Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th May 2019**

**The King's School Worcester**

All OV's are very welcome to join us at the 2019 reunion weekend. We especially encourage the following years who will be marking year group anniversaries : 2004, 1999, 1994, 1989, 1984, 1979, 1974, 1969, 1964, 1959, 1954 and 1949. Bubbly brunch with your teachers, tours of school, and of course a memorable black-tie dinner in College Hall, all offer the perfect opportunity to come back to King's and meet with friends. Booking form and schedule are enclosed, or email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk).

### Henley Regatta

**Friday 5th July 2019**

**Henley Cricket Club,**

**107-108 Remenham Ln, Henley**

**1.30-4pm**

Look out for The King's School gazebo and please do come and join us for a glass of Pimms between 1.30-4pm.

### Old Chapel Reunion Picnic

**Saturday 20th July 2019**

**The Old Chapel**

Bring your picnic and enjoy a trip down memory lane as we welcome OV's back to the Old Chapel. For more information and to book a spot, please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk). Please note that minibus rides will run from King's School Worcester or the main car park in Crickhowell. There is no capacity for any guest parking at the Old Chapel.

### 5 Year Leavers' Reunion

**Saturday 7th September 2019**

**The Michael Baker Boathouse**

**6-8pm**

We look forward to welcoming the year of 2014 back to King's for a drinks reception.

### Worcester Cathedral Choir Annual Reunion

**Saturday 7th September 2019,**

**Worcester Cathedral**

**5.30-7pm**

OV Choristers are invited to sing with current boys, girls, and gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir. A rehearsal will precede a sung evensong in the Cathedral. For more information, please email [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk)

### School House 70ish Lunch

**Monday 14th October 2019**

**Oxford and Cambridge Club, London.**

The lunch welcomes School House OV's of about 70 years of age. Enquiries or expressions of interest can be sent to Timothy Wadsworth, c/o [alumni@ksw.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ksw.org.uk) or 01905 721737



@Old\_Vigornians



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**[www.ksw.org.uk/alumni](http://www.ksw.org.uk/alumni)**



**Foundation Development  
and Alumni Relations Office**

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