



King's
Worcester

Connect

Summer 2024

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

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A Letter from the Headmaster

I am delighted to report that King's is in very good heart, ready and able to face any challenges which may lie around the corner. Our outstanding academic, co-curricular and pastoral provision and achievements are interwoven into the fabric of our Foundation community, giving us strength and resilience.

We continue to enjoy pleasing recognition and top accolades: for the third year running the prestigious *Sunday Times' Parent Power Schools Guide* lists us as one of the Top Ten Independent Secondary Schools in the West Midlands, our outstanding co-educational provision was recognised for the second year running as finalists in the Independent School Awards, *The Good Schools Guide* named us as one of the top eight schools in the UK for rowing, and *School Sport Magazine* ranked us among the Top 30 Sporting Schools in the country, putting us in the top one per-cent. Much more important than all these plaudits, however, is the huge compliment paid us by all those OV parents and grandparents who entrust their children to King's.

We were delighted by the achievements of our A-level students last summer, as a record-breaking 93% achieved all their grades at A*-C, with over 85% obtained their first-choice university. We also celebrate the achievements of our Fifth Formers at GCSE, with 62% of entries receiving grades of 9-7 and 40% of all grades being 9 or 8. We look forward to this summer's results with similarly great optimism.

Our extensive co-curricular programme keeps our pupils busy from before school into the evening, with many also involved in sport, outdoor pursuits, drama, or musical commitments each weekend. For example, there are many opportunities for our musicians to perform at school, with the termly Cleobury Concerts and Open Mic Nights catering for all tastes, along with the chance to take their music beyond the school gates.

School lays the foundation for future careers, and we continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of so many OVs who offer their time and advice at events like our Careers Extravaganza, by visiting, and with one-to-one support to help our current pupils move on into the world of work.

Our Alumni Office continues to serve the OV community so well, with the excitement this year of the launch of the Vigornian Hub, which they are working hard behind the scenes to build; the launch of *Vigornian Voices*, an exciting, different medium with which to share our OVs' stories; and two new, additional, events for the OV calendar.

It has been wonderful to meet so many OVs at events and reunions, including those OVs overseas; we all feel passionately that the OV family should never be restricted by geography.

Finally, may I thank, as ever, all those who give back to the Foundation family, by donating their time and expertise, hosting events, and supporting bursaries. Each contribution makes a huge difference to the lives of all Vigornians, building a network which will grow ever stronger.

Front cover photo: OVs Alex Ward (CI 13-20 & Old St Alban's), Skye Weaver (Ch 13-20), Ellie Deehan (W 13-20) and Sophie Mitchell (S 13-20 & Old St Alban's).

Memories

The End of Boarding 25 Years Ago



*An extract from a speech made by **David Annett (HM 1959-1979)** at the dinner marking the end of boarding at King's School in July 1999, and published in **The Vigornian** that same year:*

"When I told a friend, who knew the School, what I was doing this evening, she said, 'It sounds rather like having a party to celebrate a divorce.' Unkind, because it was a gracious idea of the Headmaster to celebrate, or at least commemorate, the end of boarding at The King's School. It is indeed the end of an era, for 400 years ago, when the great Dr Bright was Headmaster, King's was one of the leading boarding schools in the country.

"When I came to King's in 1959 it was a Direct Grant School, a term which will mean little to most of you here tonight, for the Direct Grant system was abolished about 30 years ago. A Direct Grant School was a bridge between the Independent and Maintained systems, with the advantages of both and disadvantages of neither. We were unashamedly selective academically, but entirely comprehensive socially;

about half the boys here held 'free places', while for the remainder the fees were very much reduced, thanks to the subsidy of the Direct Grant. It is hard to believe now that when I came to King's the full fees for boarders were £175 per annum.

"In 1959 there were about 250 boarders and 350 dayboys in the School. It was in some ways a difficult school to run, for one had to make sure that important things did not go on at times when dayboys were not present, while boarders had to be kept occupied during the evenings and at weekends. I think, however, that both sectors gained from the presence of the other. I remember saying good-bye to a boarder who had started life in St Alban's, and so had been at King's for 10 years. I said to him, 'Ten years is a long time out of your life,' and he replied, 'Yes. I don't think I could have stood it in an ordinary school.' I liked that. On the whole, the boarders regarded the dayboys with genial contempt, and the dayboys regarded the boarders with genial pity, and they got on very well together.

"Of course, the heroes of the Boarding Houses were the Housemasters and their wives, for they were never really off duty

from the first day of term to the last, and they were constantly coping single-handedly with problems and situations which nowadays would involve a whole team of social workers and counsellors. In comparison with the Housemasters', the life of the Headmaster was easy, though we usually had living at the top of our house some boys whom one or other of the Housemasters had no room for, or did not get on with, and later on we had the first girl boarders. Life with them was not entirely trouble-free. One evening my wife and I came home late from a dinner-party and were alarmed to find The Green full of fire engines, and a large hose snaking through our front door. It appeared that someone in the High Street had seen smoke apparently rising from the Cathedral roof and had given the alarm. In fact, the smoke was found to be issuing, surprisingly, from under the sill of one of the top windows of our house overlooking the Cloisters. The fire was easily put out and little damage done. When the Chief Fireman was leaving, he said to me, 'I should tell your daughter, sir, that if she must smoke in her bedroom, it's better not to stuff the fag-ends under the windowsill.'"

OV Visits

The Alumni Office hugely enjoys welcoming OVs back to King's, whether it has been a few months, years, or even decades since they were last at school. The tours usually take in the familiar surroundings of such buildings as College Hall, Edgar Tower, old dormitories and classrooms, the Biology Block, and more, with the chance to see how the School is evolving with some of the newer facilities including the Art School, the Keyes Building, and the Michael Baker Boathouse.

Here are just a few of the OVs who have returned to school, to retrace their steps and share their memories of their life at King's. If you would like to re-visit your time at King's, and see how it is today, just get in touch with the Alumni Office via alumni@ksw.org.uk to arrange.

OV **Rupert Bader (Os 82-89)** moved to the United States soon after leaving King's, so it was a long overdue return to school for a visit. Highlights of his walk around the site included recalling the Library in Edgar Tower under the sharp eye of the late **Maureen Kings (Hon OV)**, as many OVs will remember. The John Moore Theatre and the Physics labs took Rupert back to his schooldays, with some great memories of Hon OVs **Mr Diamond**, **Mr Clemit**, and **Mr Hickson**. Having been Head of School and Captain of Boats, Rupert particularly enjoyed seeing the Michael Baker Boathouse, one of the newer facilities at King's.



Having been unable to make his Ten-Year Reunion in March 2023, OV **Luke Johnson (Br 08-13)** made a special effort to visit King's on his visit to the UK with his partner, Sasha, from his current home in Canada. In College Hall, Luke shared his memories of many concerts; the feeling of having to walk the length of the hall, being watched by all the parents, before reaching the stage and commencing playing had not left him! Commenting on his visit, Luke said, "I am a bit overwhelmed by the tour and seeing everything, but it was also great to have so many memories revived." Following their visit to King's, Luke and Sasha were off to the King Charles pub to catch up with some OV friends. Luke explained, "I've missed the pies and the wing-backed chairs!" This is something undoubtedly familiar for many OVs.



The King's Spanish and German linguists were delighted to welcome back OV **Grace Burgoyne (S 13-20 and Old St Alban's)**, who returned to school for a fortnight in the Modern Languages Department in the Summer Term 2023 to undertake some "teacher taster sessions" under the tutelage of King's teacher of Spanish, **Loles Ruiz (Hon OV)**.



The King's School gym saw rather more action than it normally does during the holidays when OV **Simon Insley (Br 99-06)** brought in the New Zealand BLACKCAPS to train. The team was in Worcester ahead of their game against Worcestershire Cricket, playing a warm-up match before their first T20I against England. Simon is the BLACKCAPS Performance Manager and had contacted **Gilly (Hon OV)** to see if his players could take advantage of the School's outstanding facilities whilst in town. While at school, Simon took the opportunity for a tour around, happily bumping into **Simon Cuthbertson (Hon OV)** on the way.



Our many thanks to OV **Andrew Jameson (Cr 51-58)** who returned to King's to donate a book he had purchased for the School: *Der schnellste Jude Deutschlands. Alex Natan (1906-1971) Eine Biografie*, by

Kay Schiller. It is a biography of Alex "Boffie" Natan, who taught History at King's, more of whom you can read about in "Features on Teachers" elsewhere in this magazine.





Although much has changed around King's since OV **Ian Van Ryssen (S 47-52)** was a boarder, he still felt a great connection with the School when he returned for a visit, and his memories certainly came flooding back, particularly in the School Gardens, where Ian recollected that **Dan McTurk** would teach the boys how to cast for fly-fishing from a mound in the lower garden and, one occasion, the floods were so high the boys could touch the water simply by leaning over the garden wall! In College Hall, Ian recalled lessons in the gallery, and cheering the winning sports teams into Assembly on Mondays and Thursdays. Edgar Tower had similarly changed very little, despite the desks now being the 'wrong' way 'round for Ian. A particularly fond memory was of the Tuck Shop, more specifically the Ha'penny Buns!

We were so pleased to hear from OV **Jack Everton (Cr 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, as he had lost contact with King's since leaving. Having moved back to Worcester in 2023 to join his family's company, Everton's Wine Merchants, Jack was keen to return to King's to re-connect, retrace his steps from his time at school, and see what might have changed in his absence. In a "circle of life" moment, there was a prospective King's family enjoying a tour of the School, who were considering starting at King's St Alban's before progressing to "Big King's", exactly as Jack had done. He was happy to spend a few moments with them, sharing how much he had enjoyed his time at each school and heartily recommending both!



It was wonderful to welcome OV **Reverend Dr Roger Latham (Br 85-87)** back to King's as he had not returned to see his 'alma mater' properly since leaving school and heading to Leicester University to read English. Although only at the School for the Sixth Form, Roger found his time at King's transformative, and made the most of the co-curricular opportunities, including some very memorable trips!

OV **Carolyn Evans (née Thake, Co 78-80)** had not returned to King's since finishing her A-levels, so it was a long overdue visit in April 2024. Carolyn added, "I really enjoyed my time at King's, but had forgotten so much until I walked into the different rooms, then it all came flooding back! I don't think much has changed, but those new buildings really do make great use of the space."



Maundy Thursday was a momentous day for King's as our School Monitors and Choristers served the wider community at the Royal Maundy Service in Worcester Cathedral. We were therefore delighted not only to welcome Her Majesty the Queen to Worcester Cathedral, but also OV **Cameron Walker (Os 08-15)** back to King's! Cameron is currently the Royal Correspondent for GB News, so took advantage of being in Worcester, covering the Royal Visit, to head over to his old school between live broadcasts around the Maundy Service.

In a change to "normal service", Old Hawfordian **Paul Milner** and OV **Peter Weeks (Br 74-79 and Old Hawfordian)** enjoyed a visit to King's Hawford. There have been quite a few changes since their day, but there were still so many familiar sights to revive wonderful memories of their own time there. Peter also kindly donated some of his King's memorabilia for the School Archives.



Over the Christmas holidays, it was great to see OV **Ben Winter (Ch 87-97)** back in the UK and at King's with his family, having travelled from their home in New Zealand. Ben hasn't had the opportunity to return to the School for a number of years, so it was particularly special that his brother, OV and King's Worcester Director of Operations, **Adam Winter (CI 84-94)** was on site to give a personal tour.



Careers Support

Our many thanks go to all the OVs who give their time so willingly to offer advice and share words of wisdom with both current pupils and other OVs. This support means a great deal, epitomising the generosity of the OV network and the closeness of the King's family.

While much of the support given is via email to accommodate OVs who are not local and indeed have their own busy schedules, some OVs are able to return in person to support current pupils by sharing careers advice, and letting the pupils benefit from the OVs' lives beyond King's. Here is just a snapshot of some of the visits from this past year.

Gap Year Talks give Lower Sixth students ideas, inspiration and insight into options and opportunities should they be considering a gap year. In June 2023, we were very grateful to OVs **Jack Wharton (S 20-22)** and **Josie Armstrong (Ch 14-21 and Old St Alban's)** who gave their time to speak with the Lower Sixth, who were gathered in the John Moore Theatre. Jack, who was in the midst of his final assessments at Leith's School of Cookery, joined remotely, while Josie was there in person to chat through her gap year experience of a ski season.

OV and former Head of School **Joe Fowles (CI 05-12 and Old St Alban's)** returned to King's while on a brief trip back to the UK from his current home in Australia, where he is Chief of Staff for a member of the Australian Parliament. He spoke at length with members of the Sixth Form, including the L6 Economics A-level class, some Oxbridge applicants, and the U6 Politics group. He also managed to squeeze in a quick catch up with his former teachers and Hon OVs **Simon Cuthbertson, Gilly, Tom Sharp and Dr Dorsett**.



OVs **Charlie Mackintosh (Cr 13-20)** and **Becky Ye (S 16-23)** spoke with the current King's Oxbridge candidates, offering advice and encouragement. Both students at Oxford University themselves Charlie and Becky joined the King's Oxbridge candidates on a Teams Call to go through some of the finer details of the interview process. Becky then returned to school to see Hon OVs **Dr Ronan McLaverty-Head, Rev'd Dr Mark Dorsett** and **Mrs Catriona Rees** in the RP Department to chat about her first term as a Philosophy and Theology student at Keble College, Oxford. During her visit, Becky spoke with Ronan's Upper Remove GCSE class about Oxford University and how to start preparing early!

In March 2024, King's opened its doors for the second annual Careers Extravaganza, welcoming over 500 pupils and their families from across the county over two days. It was fantastic to see so many OVs supporting the events, sharing their experience, advice, and insights. Our many thanks to all of the OVs who took time out of their busy lives to attend the Careers Extravaganza, including **Lewis Bryer (CI 78-87 and Old St Alban's)**, **Jack Dutton (Os 15-17)**, **Tom Hopkins (K 06-13 and Old St Alban's)**, **Amelia Martyn-Smith (Br 08-15 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Rebecca Maund (née Green, Co 86-88)**, **Simon Mico (Os 85-96)**, **Steve Perera (Cr 86-93)**, **Sqn Ldr Dr Bonnie Posselt (Cr 98-03)**, who was also one of the Keynote Speakers, **Barney Sears (Ch 10-15 and Old St Alban's)**, **Cllr Louis Stephen (Br 80-85)** and **Richard Tomlinson (CI 83-90 and Old Hawfordian)**.



New OV BBQ for the Years of 2021, 2022 and 2023

It was an absolute pleasure to see over 100 of our newest OVs from the years of 2021, 2022 and 2023 for their New OV BBQ.

We were blessed by glorious sunshine as we enjoyed food, drink, and plenty of opportunities to catch up in the Mulberry Marquee and Quad. It was lovely to hear what excitements the OVs have in store next: new courses at university, continued studies, years in industry, apprenticeships, new jobs, travels and much more.



Reunions & Events

King's Day 2023



While the format of King's Day has evolved, and now comprises just one service in Worcester Cathedral, it remains a spectacular and special celebration of the School and the Upper Sixth leavers.

It was wonderful to see all the pupils from the whole Senior School attend the King's Day Service, after a hiatus due to the Pandemic and then storm damage to Worcester Cathedral. As has become tradition over the past few years, following the service, U6 students passed through the doors of College Hall for one final time, where they were met by applauding staff and parents, and the sounds of the Worcester Cathedral bells ringing in their honour.

The new OV's, their families, OV and Hon OV guests were then treated to a lunch in the School Gardens, which had been beautifully decorated by Heads of House and Upper Sixth Form Tutors.

After lunch there were the much-loved King's Day events: the outstanding A-level Art Exhibition in the Sir Terry Frost Art Gallery, the annual 1st and 2nd Cricket Teams vs OV Teams down on the playing fields, and The KSW Boat Club Regatta on the River Severn. Seeing so many OV's return to school to participate in these sporting events and so many parents, pupils and OV's spectating was truly wonderful.



Henley 2023



After a few years away from the Henley Royal Regatta, it was great to have the King's Worcester gazebo once again adorning the Henley Cricket Club's ground and catching up with so many OV's, still thoroughly enjoying the sport they had each found during their time at King's, many of whom had gone on to careers involving rowing.

School House Lunch 2023

Thank you so much to OV **Tim Wadsworth (S 56-61)** who arranges the annual School House Lunch, on this occasion held at the RAF Club in Piccadilly, made possible by **David Murray (S 45-61)**, a member of the club. Tim added, "As ever, it was a pleasure to reminisce about shared youthful experiences of over 50 years ago and to catch up on whole lifetimes."



Remembrance Day 2023



On Friday 10 November 2023, the King's School Worcester, OV's, Hon OV's, Governors and Trustees gathered in Worcester Cathedral to commemorate The Fallen in a moving and poignant Service of Remembrance.

The President of the OV Club and former Head of School, **James Smalley (Br 10-17)** laid the wreath on behalf of all OV's, accompanied by one of the Heads of School, Jasmine S, who laid a wreath on behalf of the School. The wreaths had been marched into the Cathedral by the King's CCF Colour Guard. Prayers were led by the **Rev'd Dr Dorsett (Hon OV)**.

Our thanks go to OV **Lieutenant Commander (ret'd) Ed Sutcliffe RN (CI 82-92)**, who gave the address during the service. After Ed's Address, members of the current CCF then each stood in turn from their seats around the Cathedral to remember those members of our Vigornian Community who died in action in 1903 and 1943.

While on his visit to King's on this occasion, Ed also spoke with Upper Sixth students interested in a career in the Armed Forces, giving them a welcome insight into this world.



Five Year Reunion for the Year of 2018



A wonderfully balmy October evening welcomed the Year of 2018 back to King's for their Five-Year Reunion, one OV explaining that it felt like they were 14 years-old again!



The OVs were joined for drinks and canapés by some of their former teachers, including Hon OVs **Katie Beever, Robin Booth, Jim Chalmers, Gilly, Jonny Mason, Ronan McLaverty-Head, Donna Salkeld** and **Chris Wilson**, all happily reminiscing about their schooldays and



what they have achieved in the five years since leaving. As ever, the OVs carried the reuniting on into Worcester, but not until a vote had been taken for which establishment would be the first stop on the "Nine Dots" tour; the King's Head won!

The 120th OV Reunion Dinner

On Saturday 16 September 2023, we were delighted to open the doors to College Hall and welcome OVs from across the generations to the 120th Annual OV Dinner.

The evening began with Welcome Drinks, kindly sponsored by OV **David Mills (H 44-53)** and OVs **Charles (CI 78-88)** and **Julia Annable (nee Simcock, Co 85-87)** of Brockway Carpets.

The 2023 Chappel Memorial Award Winner, which recognises the oldest OV present who has not previously won, was OV **David Clark (CI 50-56)**. David was visiting Worcester for the weekend not only to attend the Dinner, but also to run in the Worcester City Run 10K in aid of the King's School Worcester Bursary Campaign.

There was a fantastic turnout from the years of 1983, 1993 and 2003, with a special mention for the 1963 cohort, all of whom were celebrating milestone anniversaries. The 'Archives' Boards, up on the College Hall stage, helped resurrect many long-forgotten memories!

The compère for the evening was due to be OV and Hon Secretary of the OV Committee, **Nick Stephens (Br 77-84)**; however, as Nick was convalescing from COVID, the OV Committee's Chair, **Julia Annable (née Simcock, Co 85-87)**,



graciously stepped in. We were honoured to have OV, **The Rev'd Martin Loveless (Cr 54-64)** offer the Grace before the delicious three-course dinner began.

Following the Dinner, all those gathered toasted The King, before the new President of the OV Club, OV **James Smalley (Br 10-17)** took to the lectern. James had been officially voted in at the OV Club Committee AGM which had preceded the Dinner, so this was his inaugural duty in the role. His speech drew many cheers from the attending year groups as they received their namechecks; James then continued his speech by drawing on his own experiences of King's and life beyond.

On behalf of the School, Headmaster Gareth Doodles then welcomed all present. In particular, he thanked everyone for their support of David Clark's 10K run and fundraising for the School's Bursary Campaign, which had inspired him and others on the King's staff to join David and donate their fundraising activities for their



half-marathon the following morning. Gareth gave special thanks to the OV Committee, who donated the proceeds both from this dinner and the 119th Dinner in support of David's fundraising and the bursaries.

The weekend was completed with the traditional Sunday Eucharist in Worcester Cathedral. It was very special to have OV **James Smalley** and **Hon OV Richard Chapman** representing the OV community with their readings during the service.



OV London Drinks 2024



In a change from recent years, the event was held at The Clarence, Whitehall: just opposite Horse Guards and down from Trafalgar Square, so easily accessible for all. A wonderful cross-section of OVs were in attendance, from younger OVs near the start of their careers to those enjoying their retirement.

Joining the OVs were OV and King's Director of Operations, **Adam Winter (CI 84-94)**, King's Director of Foundation Communications, **Andrew Maund (Hon OV)**, and Headmaster **Gareth Doodles**, alongside Hannah and Amanda from the Alumni Relations team.

1541 Society Lunch

On Friday 10 May 2024 we were delighted to welcome members of the 1541 Society to lunch in the Michael Baker Boathouse.

The 1541 Society encompasses all elements of the King's Community comprising OVs, Hon OVs, current and former parents. It recognises those individuals who have supported the King's School Worcester Development Trust in a major way, whether through an extraordinary gift, legacy pledge, or by donating their time to forward the work of the Trust.

Ten Year Reunion for the Year of 2014



On Saturday 23 March 2024, it was wonderful to welcome the Year of 2014 back to King's to celebrate their Ten-Year Reunion.

Starting with tours of the School, the 2014 cohort were accompanied by current Upper Sixth students to take a trip down Memory Lane. The OVs reconvened in the Mulberry Marquee with their school friends, many of whom had not seen each other since their Five-Year Reunion, or even since leaving School!

Joining the OVs were some of their former teachers, including Hon OVs **Katie Beever, Claire Neville, Dr**

Richard James, Chris Haywood, Gilly, Jonny Mason, and Russ Mason. It was a particular pleasure to welcome back Hon OV and former Headmaster **Tim Keyes** along with **Mary Anne Keyes**, who had similarly left King's in the summer of 2014.

Current Headmaster, Gareth Doodles, formally welcomed the Year of 2014 back to King's before handing over to their Headmaster, Tim Keyes, to say a few words. OV and former Head of School, **Dr Corah Lewis (Ch 07-14)**, followed Tim. Corah had prepared a brilliant poem, which was welcomed with cheers from her friends!

The guests enjoyed an excellent three-course meal prepared by the School's caterers, Thomas Franks, and the opportunity to catch-up with friends, old and new.

Our thanks, as ever, to all of those who support the King's School Worcester Development Trust.





JuneFest 2024

Thank you to everyone who came to the first-ever *JuneFest*: it was an absolutely amazing evening, and we were even blessed with the sun!

The event brought together OV's spanning from the 1960s to the 2020s, as well as both current and former staff, creating a truly special gathering of the Vigornian community. The evening was filled with cherished moments that carried on late into the night.

The King's School caterers, Thomas Franks, prepared the outstanding food, and we enjoyed excellent music from *The Alibis*, a band led by King's Hawford teacher Oliver Roberts.

We are already in the process of planning next year's event, and we can't wait to make it even more memorable!

Reunions & Events





Please do remember to share your own reunions with the Alumni team and the wider OV community! Seen here we have OVs **Immie Gillgrass (W 13-20 and Old Hawfordian)** and **Milly Short (W 14-21 and Old Hawfordian)** who faced each other when their respective US University Hockey teams met in a tournament; OV **Chris Pickford (S 65-70)** with OVs **Nick Cronin (Cl 62-72)** and **Barney Bell (Cl 59-67)** together at a Striking Competition at Kington in Herefordshire; OVs **Simon Bailey (Cr 80-91)** some of his 1991 contemporaries

on the Malvern Hills; **OV Nick Stephens (Br 77-84 and Old Hawfordian)** and **Guy Stallard (Br 77-84)**; OVs **Ros Ratanshi (née Parkes, E 89-91)**, **Isobel Manning (née Noble, Co 89-91)**, **Leslie White (née Reader, K 89-90)** and **Lucy Payne (née Perkins, E 89-91)** at the Hay Festival; and six OVs from the Year of '72 getting together in Cardiff: **Tim Curle (Cl 62-72)**, **Digby Armstrong (Cr 70-72)**, **Martyn Andrews (W 66-72)**, **John Derry (Br 65-72)**, **Philip Congrave (Br 62-72)** and **Rob Ward (Cr 62-72)**.



CCF Mess Night

Contingent Commander KSW CCF, Stuart Ellen, shared the following précis of the 2024 CCF Mess Night: "The King's Combined Cadet Force dined out at the West Midlands Safari Park for their annual Mess Dinner. It is a chance for the unit to celebrate achievements over the year, say goodbye to our Upper Sixth Form leavers and say thank you to all the staff. It is also lovely to see Old Vigornians back to join in the celebrations and to find out what the CCF has been up to since they left." It was also a bittersweet occasion as the last CCF Mess Night for **Hon OV Andrew Maund**, who retires this summer! The OV's joining the current cadets included **Lieutenant (RN) Ben Hyde (K 08-15 and Old St Alban's)**, **Flying Officer Jamie McDonald**



(**W 08-15 and Old Hawfordian**), **Flying Officer Ed Pountney (Br 08-15 and Old St Alban's)**, **Eli Edwards (Ca 14-21 and Old St Alban's)**, **Amy Hall (W 08-23 and**

Old Hawfordian), **Will Head (Ca 14-21)** and **Sophie Pitts (S 16-23 and Old St Alban's)**.

Spring Tea

It was a real joy to have the opportunity to host a special event at King's in June 2024: it was a wonderful occasion as we welcomed back some of our retired staff and OV's for the first-ever Spring Tea. The Mulberry Marquee provided a beautiful setting for an indulgent Afternoon Tea complete with finger sandwiches, an abundance of cakes, and, of course, scones with cream and jam. The Spring Tea created the perfect atmosphere for our guests to reconnect with each other and catch up with our current staff.



Welcome to your Vigornian Hub!

In September 2023, we launched The Vigornian Hub: <https://oldvigornians.co.uk/Main>

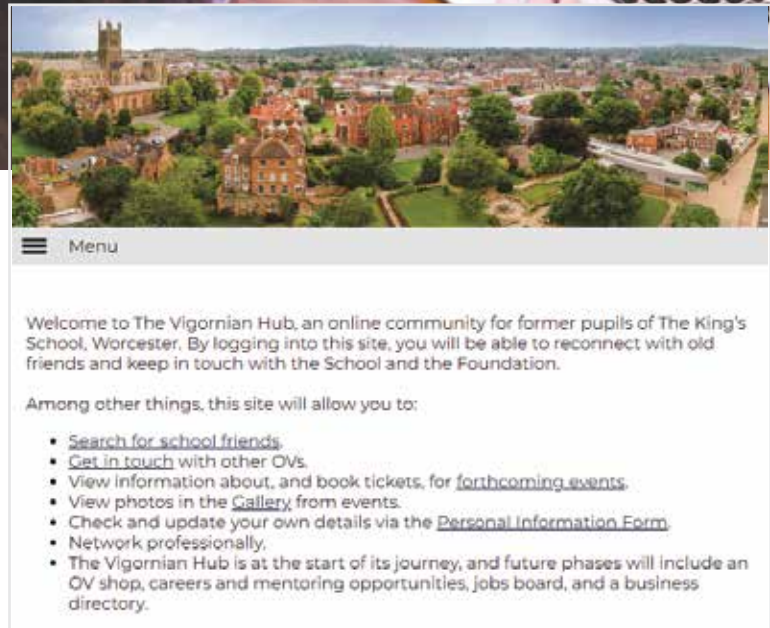
This is a secure platform for the OV community to keep in touch with each other and the School. Via the Hub, you can find out about and book OV events and reunions, update your profile, find your old school friends, see photos from past events, and so much more.

As it is a secure platform, this means that most pages can only be accessed once logged in. If you haven't yet set up your login or can't remember your password, simply enter username or email address and click "forgot your password", which will send an email message to you with a link to set your password. If you have any problems, though, please do get in touch with the Alumni Team via alumni@ksw.org.uk.

The 'OVs' Section

Once logged in, you can find your OV friends, as many OVs have already done! Simply go to "OVs/Find Friends" and enter in the details of your old school friend(s). You can search by forename, surname, year entered, matric year (year left), and/or House. Once you have your search results, if there is a yellow envelope icon next to the OV's name, this means you can send them a message via the Hub. Please note that you will not be able to see their email address, but the recipient will see the sender's to be able to reply.

In this section, you can also update your own details in the 'Your Profile' and 'Personal Information Form' pages.



The "What's Going On" Section

Here you will find which OV events are coming up to make sure you don't miss out, and where you can book your tickets. Every OV event requires booking, whether there is a charge or not, to ensure we cater appropriately. The Galleries page is for all the photos from OVs events, currently going back to events from 2019 although do keep an eye on it as more will be uploaded!

Over the coming months, we will be building the Hub further to include even more ways to connect and be involved with the King's family: an online shop for all your OV goodies, Careers and Mentoring support and opportunities, online archives. The list goes on so do keep popping by: <https://oldvigornians.co.uk/Main>

Archives

The Alumni team is gradually uploading all the historical Vigornian magazines currently held in the King's School Archives. They make for a fascinating read and wonderful snapshot of King's in days gone by. You will also find the House photos similarly held in the King's Archives – please do get in touch if you have a House photo that is not on the Hub as it means we do not have a copy.



Opening the Door to King's

OVs, current and former parents, and friends of the School give their generous support to King's today in so many different ways: volunteering, advice, time, and financial donations, for which the school and our pupils is incredibly grateful.

King's has a proud history of educating young people in the heart of the city, dating back to the Seventh Century. The King's we know today is directly descended from the monastic school which was an integral part of the Benedictine cathedral monastery until its dissolution in 1540.

Following the dissolution, the new Cathedral Foundation included the provision for a choir school for the benefit of ten Choristers and tuition for forty King's Scholars. The School was one of seven "King's Schools" established or re-endowed by Henry VIII in 1541 following the dissolution. His vision was to provide education to *"forty boys, poor and destitute of the help of friends, of native genius...and apt to learn."*

In the 20th century, up to 1997, nearly one-third of King's pupils were supported via government funding, under the Direct Grant or Assisted Places schemes. Once these schemes ended, King's continued with its philanthropic ambition to provide means-tested fee assistance to pupils. Donations to the King's School Worcester Development Trust have enabled the School to keep its doors open to talented children regardless of their financial backgrounds, albeit at a lower level than during the period of government funding, relying on the generous support we receive from so many members of our Foundation community.

Bursaries play a transformative role by offering the educational foundation and co-curricular opportunities for pupils to thrive not only at King's but also in their future endeavours. These bursaries have far-reaching benefits, fostering inclusion and diversity within the classroom and promoting social mobility. They also attract outstanding individuals who contribute to the overall excellence and

enrichment of our Vigornian community.

In our diverse and developing world, being able to open the door to King's to support bright and able young people has never been more important. Please support them and give to the Bursary Appeal in whichever way you can. Whether it's a one-time donation, a monthly donation, or even a contribution of your time and expertise, every act of giving matters.

OV **John Weston (S 62-69)** shared his thoughts on donating to the bursary fund, "Having benefited from a King's education under the Direct Grant scheme then in operation, I felt it would be good to enable less privileged but gifted pupils also to benefit. I have been encouraged by the feedback I have received, which has reinforced for me the value and impact of the bursary scheme. It has undoubtedly been the charitable donation that has given me the most satisfaction.





Online – you can set up a regular donation or give a one-off gift by visiting
www.ksw.org.uk/alumni/support-kings/donate/



By phone or email – if you would like to discuss your giving with us, please call the Alumni Team on **01905 721737** or email alumni@ksw.org.uk

From 30% to 0% in one generation*

*30% of all of King's pupils were supported by government funding until 1997

OVs Overseas



OV Overseas Reunion: Princeton 2023

The OV Reunion in Princeton, hosted by OV **Michael Pimley (H 61-71)**, was spread over the weekend of 13-15 October 2023 to give OVs joining from their homes in the UK and across America plenty of opportunity to reconnect and reminisce.

The first event of the weekend was a dinner held at The Peacock Inn in Princeton. Host Michael was joined by OVs **Abbas Kazerooni (Ch 91-96)**, **Ian Smith (Cr 73-78)**, **Rupert Bader (Os 82-89)**, **David Longstaff (H 92-97)** and Headmaster, **Gareth Doodes**, Former Headmaster, and Hon OV **Tim Keyes** and Hon OV **Mary Anne Keyes**.

The main event, a dinner in Michael's home, welcomed additional OVs and their guests, including **David Griffiths (W 89-96)**, **Ben Shuttes (W 92-96)**, **Nicola Willis (Ch 00-05)**, **Philip Warner (CA 67-77)**, **Mark Peters (W 85-92)** and his wife Susan. Michael gave a moving speech about his links to King's and how the School had moulded and shaped him into the person he is today, adding, "I remember that the last US reunion I attended had taken place 11 years ago, and I'm delighted to see you all here



today, especially with both a current and former King's Headmaster with us."

The final event of the weekend was a farewell brunch held on the Sunday morning at Michael's home and those in attendance were delighted to meet OV **Essi Sadeghi (Cr 88-95)** who joined for the morning and spoke so fondly about her journey through King's.



Overseas OVs Reunion: Hong Kong 2024

The Overseas OV Reunion held in Hong Kong was generously hosted by OVs **Andrew Eden (W 68-78 and Old St Alban's)** and his nephew **Antony Eden (K 86-96 and Old St Alban's)**, on Wednesday 13 March, 2024 at The Foreign Correspondents' Club.



King's Headmaster, Gareth Doodes made the journey to join them, noting how distance should not be a barrier for any member of the King's community to be involved and keep connected with the School.

Gareth, Andrew and Antony were joined by OVs **Simon Lowth (W 91-02)**, **Chun-Ho Peter Lau (H/Ca 92-98)**, **Joseph Kwok (Ch 91-95)**, **Wing Fung Alan Lau (Ch 80-84)**, **Yeun To Soong (Ca 79-82)**, **Robert Schemuly (Ch 78-83 and Old Hawfordian)** and **Thomas Chan (S 95-02)**.

The next Overseas OV reunion is kindly being hosted by OV **Abbas Kazerooni (Ch 91-96)** in California, USA, in October 2024. Please do get in touch with the Alumni Office for more details.



Teacher Tom's Travels

We have been delighted to receive updates from King's teacher of Physics, Tom Pearson, who is currently on sabbatical, travelling around Australasia. Having started his journey in December 2023, Tom was in Australia when he had a zoom call with our oldest living OV, **Peter Watson (S 38-41)** who will this year celebrate his 100th birthday, as well as Peter's grandson, James, to whom Tom presented a King's tie for Peter.



Tom also had a chance meeting with OV **Rory McKenna (Os 02-07)**, as they happened to be chatting and realised their connection through King's!

OV **Chris Barlow (Ca 59-64)**, a current Melbourne resident, contacted the Alumni Office having seen that Tom was due in Melbourne in March. We're delighted to report that the two of them managed to meet up!



Hello from Hong Kong

It was lovely to hear that former teacher and Head of Music at King's, **Malcolm Drummond (Hon OV)**, who visited Hong Kong in November 2023 for a personal trip, had met up with OV **Michael Soong (Ca 79-82)**. Together they enjoyed a dinner and a sight-seeing tour of the Chi Lin Nunnery and its surrounding Nan Lin Garden.





Barnabas

Distinguished OVs, who have excelled in their chosen professions, are invited by the Headmaster to join The Barnabas Group and speak to the school in College Hall about their experiences, lessons learned and the encouragement they feel able to pass on as a result. Founded in 2008, the group is named after St Barnabas, the "son of encouragement" (Acts of the Apostles Ch.4, v.36).

The full articles on our Barnabas Speakers and their visits, can be found at www.ksw.org.uk/alumni/clubs-and-groups/the-barnabas-group/

Barnabas Speaker: Lara Vafiadis



March 2024 saw King's welcome OV **Lara Vafiadis (Os 06-08)** as the newest member of the Barnabas Group. Lara holds the incredible accolade of being one of only 23 women ever to row any ocean solo, having successfully crossed the Atlantic, solo and unsupported, in 98 days, making land in March 2023. Lara had previously sailed the Atlantic, having gained her Yachtmaster Qualification at only 21, and felt rowing the 3,000 miles was the logical next step. In addition to her inspiring challenge while raising significant sums for charity, Lara is employed in the cyber security sector, and is a passionate advocate for Women in Tech, helping to foster diversity and inclusivity in STEM by speaking at corporate events, inspiring the next generation.

On Barnabas Day, Lara spoke eloquently to an enthralled school in

the Cathedral. She took the opportunity to provide an essence of how she has failed but also how she has succeeded in her time since leaving King's. The core advice Lara imparted was around five key points, inviting the pupils to take at least one of the points to heart to help them in some way in their life and future career.

Lara inspired further in her conclusion, "I'm not saying to go and row an ocean, but we have our own 'oceans', things in which we want to succeed. There will, though, be tides, weather, injuries, things that push you off course, things that don't go right, but if you go all in, ask questions, control the controllables, be kind, and most importantly don't underestimate yourself: you will get there." Her full speech can be watched and listened to on the King's Worcester YouTube channel. [add in link for digital version]

Lara was kind enough to spend the full day at King's, meeting with Sixth Form students in their lessons and for lunch, answering a huge array of their questions covering both her rowing challenge and her career. When not speaking with students, Lara visited her former teacher, Head of Art, **Chris Haywood (Hon OV)** and spent some time in the Art School, which had been her favourite place while she had been at King's. Lara also visited the Michael Baker Boathouse with Head of Rowing, **Jim Chalmers (Hon OV)**, and then found her old Oswald House room at the top of School House, where it still is!

Our many thanks to Lara for giving her day to the staff and pupils of King's, for answering so many questions, so patiently, and inspiring the future generations.

Barnabas Speaker: Abbas Kazerooni

In October 2023, we welcomed OV **Abbas Kazerooni (Ch 91-96)** back to King's as the newest member of the Barnabas Group.



Abbas is founding partner of the law firm Kazerouni Law Group, APC, based in California, where he specialises in personal injury, consumer rights and class actions. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Law and teaches Consumer Law at the California Western School of Law. This follows a successful writing career, with two books to his name, which chart Abbas' dramatic and difficult journey from Tehran to England during the Iran-Iraq war (*On Two Feet and Wings*), and then his life once he had arrived in England, which includes his time at King's (*The Boy with Two Lives*). In addition to this, Abbas is a professional actor and producer, with experience across TV, stage, and the silver screen.

The visit began with Abbas addressing the whole school against the inspiring backdrop of Worcester Cathedral. He explained the essential role that King's had played in his life, sharing his experiences of being homeless and how, despite not knowing his circumstances, his teachers, his school friends, and the School gave him a safe space, solace, and the family that he needed.

Abbas reminded us how it is a privilege to be at King's, no matter how you may have come to be here, and how with that privilege come many responsibilities, the greatest of which is to give back. He concluded his speech with a rousing call to action, "We as Vigornians choose to give back when it is the hardest, most inconvenient, when others will not; that is what makes us King's. Choosing to give back when others will not is what makes us King's, and finally, it is for us as Vigornians to choose to give back, because we understand our duties and responsibilities when others may not." You can watch and listen to Abbas's full

address on YouTube.

One of the Lower Fourth classes had been reading Abbas's first book, *On Two Feet and Wings*, with some already onto his second, *The Boy with Two Lives*, and they were incredibly excited to have the opportunity to meet the author in person. As such, Abbas joined L4A along with King's Librarian **Annabel Jeffery (Hon OV)** and was grilled for half an hour!

Abbas then joined Headmaster, Gareth Doodes, and Heads of School, Jasmine S and George C-F for Morning Break, where they presented Abbas with the Barnabas Shield.

Abbas also retraced his steps to the John Moore Theatre, where he had many fond memories, to see the name plaques on the theatre seats he had very generously sponsored in honour of those friends and former teachers who mean so much to him. Walking into the John Moore Theatre, Abbas was delighted to be surprised by his former Housemaster, **Russ Mason (Hon OV)** who had popped in specially to see him, and **Simon Cuthbertson (Hon OV)**, and all three had a great time finding their named seats.

Abbas then enjoyed lunch in the McTurk room in the Matthew Armstrong Library, with Hon OVs Simon Cuthbertson and Richard Davis and a group of Upper Sixth who were keen to meet with him. Abbas and the Upper Sixth talked about their hopes and aspirations, and he gave them some helpful and thoughtful advice for their future careers.

The Lower Remove WRAITH group promptly took over the seats from the Upper Sixth, as they too had been reading

Abbas's books and were brimming with questions for him.

In the afternoon, Abbas returned to No. 12 College Green, where he visited **Gwyn Williams' (Hon OV)** U6 Business Studies group, which was in a classroom Abbas knew very well from his own time at King's. Heading downstairs in No. 12, Abbas spent some time with Antonio Zarro's L6 Business Studies group, some of whom remembered reading Abbas's books when they were in the Lower Years and who had many questions, both about Abbas's history and his life now.

We are so very grateful for Abbas's time, and generosity, from his inspirational and moving speech, his thoughtful donations to the Bursary Fund and theatre seats sponsorship to his patience with the huge range of questions from so many pupils who were overjoyed to meet the author of the incredible *On Two Feet and Wings* and *The Boy with Two Lives*. Thank you, Abbas.



King's Today

Monitors and Heads of Houses for the 2024-25 Academic Year

Many congratulations to those Sixth Formers who have been appointed School Monitors and Heads of House for the 2024-25 academic year. They follow in some great footsteps!

Resounding Recognition for King's

During the 2023-24 academic year, King's received a number of independent accolades, including being recognised in *The Sunday Times Parent Power 2023 Schools Guide* as one of the Top 10 independent secondary schools in the West Midlands. *School Sport* magazine ranked King's in the top 30 sporting schools in the UK, the only school in Worcester to appear in the top 150, putting King's in the top 1%. A further exceptional award comes from *The Good Schools Guide*, which has recognised King's as one of the top eight schools in the UK for rowing. Head of Rowing, **Jim Chalmers (Hon OV)** commented, "We are delighted by such wonderful recognition of the rowing programme and Boat Club community. We always feel a great sense of pride that our alumni maintain their connections with the community and lifelong involvement in rowing and other sports. So many go on to row at university and clubs, with recent Henley medallists, GB representatives and Atlantic rowers all having started their rowing journey at King's."

Three Choirs Festival Music Celebration

King's Worcester, in partnership with The Three Choirs Festival, were delighted to provide an exclusive opportunity for Worcester schools to come together in a celebration of singing and music. Around 200 children took to the stage in Worcester Cathedral in March to perform songs that they learned in *Sing Together*, a series of specialist singing workshops and a Spring Showcase Concert led by King's Director of Music, **Simon Taranczuk (Hon OV)**.

Impressive Oxbridge

With only about one in six of all students who apply to Oxford or Cambridge receiving an offer, the seven offers received this year for the Upper Sixth Oxbridge candidates mean that King's has had nineteen in total over the last three years, representing a success rate of around one in four. This is well above the average for independent schools. The impressive record continues with those OVs receiving offers after leaving school, including OV **Jack Wharton (S**



20-22), who joined Oxford in 2023 to read Theology and Religion, OV **Ruby Kimber (W 16-23 and Old St Alban's)**, who heads to Oxford to read Fine Art, and OV **Hanna Khogali (Os 06-13)**, who joins Wolfson College, Cambridge, to read Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

A Royal Maundy Service

On Maundy Thursday, King's School Monitors and Choristers served the wider community at the Royal Maundy Service in Worcester Cathedral. His Majesty, King Charles III had been due to attend but, due to his illness at that time, Her Majesty, Queen

Camilla presented the ceremonial coins traditionally gifted at this service in his stead. After the service, the Heads of School and the Headmaster were introduced in person to The Queen. Her Majesty also greeted all the Monitors with cheery good wishes.



The Severn Shield, Modus, Challenge Cup, and the Superball

Four of the annual 'local derby' First Team games against RGS Worcester had taken place by the time this publication was in progress: Hockey, Rugby, Football and Netball. You will have to keep an eye on the OV news for the Cricket!

The King's 1st XI Hockey team drew 3-3 in an exhilarating match against RGS, in front of a record-breaking crowd.

The King's 1st XV reclaimed the Modus Challenge Cup at a packed Sixways Stadium, following a convincing 34-8 win against RGS. After a thrilling Challenge Cup game in February, the King's 1st XI Team similarly returned triumphant from Sixways with the title and the brand-new trophy, having beaten RGS 1-0. This 1st XI



also claimed the title of Under-18 County Champions in May, having won in a tight final against North Bromsgrove High School, becoming the first team from an independent school ever to hold this title. In the Superball 2024, held at the University of Worcester Arena, although RGS took home the trophy, the King's 1st Netball team made the opposition work exceptionally hard for the win and came home with heads held high.

Weddings



It was wonderful to hear from OV **Thomas Gorner (W 07-14 and Old St Alban's)**, who married Adele Carter at Blackwell Grange, Shipston-on-Stour in May 2023. Thomas's brother, **William (K 12-19 and Old St Alban's)** was his Best Man. They were joined by family and friends, including OVs **Jack Harris (W 07-14)**, **Bethan Hine (W 07-14)** and **Lizzie Davies (S 04-17 and Old St Alban's)**. The day was incredibly special, and the weather was absolutely wonderful! Thomas and Adele met at Bangor University, while they were studying Geography and Psychology respectively.



Congratulations go to OV **Rebecca Leach (Cr 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**, who married Gary Walker in July 2023 by Chew Lake, just outside Bristol. Joining Rebecca and Gary for their big day were OVs **Emily Monk (née Phillips, S 01-08)**, **Laura Harrell (née Dobbins, Os 01-08)**, **Colette Stock (née Brown, Cr 04-08)**, **Sophie Edgar-Andrews (née Andrews, S 03-08)**, **Amy Waller (née Haddock, Ch 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**, **Zoë Jordan (née Monkley, Ch 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**. Sadly **Frances Varley (née Phillips, Os 01-08)** and **Hannah Lucas-Motley (née Lucas, Cr 01-08 and Old St Alban's)** were unable to make it and were greatly missed. Rebecca added, "It was so special to have so many childhood friends present from many happy years at King's."



We have received lovely news from OV **James Tomlin (Os 99-06)**, who married Estelle Khajenouri, an interior designer from Wimbledon, in May 2023. They were married at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon before a reception held in a marquee in the Italian Gardens, Cannizaro Park, Wimbledon.

It was a glorious sunny day with drinks and dancing into the night. OVs in attendance included **Julius Baghdadi (Br 95-06)** as Best Man, **James Pole (S 97-06)** as MC and Usher, and a further 10 OVs from the 2006 leavers as well as James's two sisters **Sophie (Os 97-04)** and **Louisa (Os 02-09) Tomlin**.



OVs **Jorden (née Parsons, W 09-11)** and **Thomas Wilde (S 04-11)** were married in Elmley Castle in June 2023. The service was held in St Mary's Church, followed by a reception at Jorden's family home. There was a wonderful gathering OV's to help them celebrate their big day, including from their 2011 cohort: **Bethany Brass (née Jeavons, W 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Lydia Fox-Davies (née Harper, Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Natasha Linley (K 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Martha Newbury (née Hershman, W 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Jonny Howard (Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **James Doorbar (Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Charles Lilwall (Br 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Polly Silk (née Osborne, Os 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Lucy Robinson (K 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Rachael Brand (Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Jessica Forsyth (Cr 07-11)**, **Josephine Mann (K 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Michael Serafini (Os 04-11)**, **Ross Attwood (S 09-11)**, **Thomas Bird (Cr 04-11, Old Hawfordian)**, **Beatrice Dee (Os 04-11, Old St Alban's)**, **Katie Wreghitt (W 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **David Brazier (S 04-09 and Old Hawfordian)**. In addition, Jorden and Thomas also welcomed OV's **Charlie Silk (Os 05-12)**, **Liam Gwynne (CI 02-09)**, **Henry Wilde (Br 09-16 and Old St Alban's)**, **Nick Hammond (Ch 09-16 and Old St Alban's)**, **Josie Hales (Br 14-16)**, **Arti Fiaz (CI 88-95)**, **Nicky Yelland (née Wilkinson, K 03-08)**, **James Yelland (S 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**.



For OV **Bethany (née Jeavons, W 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)** and **James Brass**, their wedding was a wonderful, if belated celebration. Bethany explained, "We were supposed to get married in May 2020, but the world had other plans! We got officially married at St John the Baptist Church, Elmore, Gloucester in August 2020. We only had our immediate family present due to COVID restrictions. Four OV's attended, my sisters and their husbands: **Hannah Rowley (née Jeavons, S 07-14 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Edward Rowley (Os 07-14 and Old St Alban's)**, **Lottie Martyn-Smith (née Jeavons, Ch 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)**, and **James Martyn-Smith (CI 04-09)** and my mother **Abigail Jeavons**.

"On our second wedding anniversary in August 2022, we finally got to celebrate with all our loved ones. We renewed our vows at St John the Baptist Church

and then held our wedding reception at Elmore Court, Gloucester. It was a beautiful and happy day made all the more special by the presence of our twin boys Toby and Max Brass, who we welcomed in November 2020."

OV's joining Bethany and James were, from left to right of the photo: **Thomas Bird (Cr 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Beatrice Dee (Os 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Thomas Wilde (S 04-11)**, **Jorden Wilde (née Parsons, W 09-11)**, **Rachael Brand (Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Martha Newbury (née Hershman, W 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **James and Bethany**, **Hannah Rowley (née Jeavons, S 07-14 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Edward Rowley (Os 07-14 and Old St Alban's)**, **Lottie Martyn-Smith (née Jeavons, Ch 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)**, **James Martyn-Smith (CI 04-09)**, **Lydia Fox-Davies (née Harper, Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**.



Congratulations go to OV's **Tom Westley (CI 04-11)** and **Emma Pearman (CI 06-11)**, who met at King's aged 13 and were both in Chappel House. They tied the knot in Worcester Cathedral in August 2022, in the company of family and friends, which included OV's **Charles Lilwall (Br 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Abbie McCarthy (K 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Harri Sapsford (née Cornock, CI 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Hugo Watkins (CI 04-11)**, **Daniel Brooks (Ch 04-11)**, **Sam Pearman (CI 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**, **Suzanne and Bill Toleman (Former King's St Alban's Deputy Headmaster)**, **Charles Davis (Ch 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Millie Sephton-Ward (née Sephton, S 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Matthew Connell (Br 04-11 and Old St Alban's)**, **Lucy Scales (S 04-11)**, **Phoebe Watkins (née Cox, Br 04-11 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Sarah Haythornthwaite (née Conway, W 04-11)**, **Benoit Jamous (W 01-08)**, **Aleina Conn (née Binns, CI 09-11)**, and **Nicky Adams (née Mico, W 92-94)**.



Emma Kate Trow-Poole (Hon OV) and **Robin Booth (Hon OV)** were married in August 2023 in the Quire of Worcester Cathedral. The ceremony was officiated by King's School Chaplain, **Reverend Dr Mark Dorsett (Hon OV)**. It was a beautiful ceremony and wonderful to be surrounded by family and friends, and even some students and OVs! The reception was held in College Hall but it looked quite different from its usual appearance with the addition of sofas, bookcases, classical statues and a disco! It was a perfect day and it felt very special to be married in the Cathedral, having met working at King's.



We were so pleased to hear from OV **Steve Laney (Os 82-92 and Old St Alban's)**, who married Mandy at Newbury Registry Office (Shaw House) in April 2024. They were accompanied by close family and friends who also joined them for a reception in a nearby hostelry. The party continued late into the night with some classic Disco, 80s and 90s floor fillers.

Many congratulations to OV **Alex Pike (K 03-10 and Old Hawfordian)** who married Steph Spooner at Pendrell Hall in Shropshire in July 2023. The other OVs in attendance were **James Elderfield (S 03-10 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Geoff Darby (K 03-10 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Oliver Richmond (K 03-10 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Josh Holland (Br 03-10 and Old St Alban's)**, **Bryony Langford (K 08-10)** and **Charlotte Murphy (Ch 08-10)**. They were later joined by OVs **Dag Wolfram (previous Corbett, K 03-10 and Old St Alban's)**, and **Jed Brooks-Lewis (S 03-10)**.



OV **Issy Hershman (Br 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)** married Charlie Pinkerton in a small ceremony at Fitzrovia Chapel in Fitzrovia, London, in 2023 followed by a Reception at Home House in Marylebone. Charlie is also from Worcestershire but went to Shrewsbury School and they met in London! Joining their stunning celebrations were OVs **Jack Jeavons-Fellows (Ch 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, **Matt Marskell (Cr 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, **Ollie Meadows (CI 02-09)**, **George Williamson (Cr 02-05)**, **Will Harris (Br 02-09)**, **Jack Everton (Cr 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, **Alex Roche (W 04-09)**, **Hugh Brooks (W 02-09)**, **Harry Iddon (CI 03-10 and Old St Alban's)**, **Sophy Howard (Br 02-09)**, **Lauren Apparicio (née James, CI 02-09)**, **Sarah Twyman (Cr 02-09)**, **Camille Bloor (née Owen, CI 02-09)**, **Emma Roche (née Johnson, CI 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Milly Dewar-Johnson (née Dewar, S 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Antonia Shingler (Ch 02-07)**, **Tamsin Layton (Br 04-09)**, **Lucy Smith (K 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, **Louisa Tomlin (Os 02-09 and Old St Alban's)**, and **Claire Watson (née Gott, CI 97-06)**.



Congratulations to OV **Max Fellows (CI 09-16 and Old Hawfordian)**, who married OE Annie Newland in an incredible service at Worcester Cathedral in May 2024, led by Precentor, the Rev'd John Paul Hoskins. As a proud OE and OV, you can imagine Annie's father's speech of overcoming the school rivalry was very amusing! Supporting Max and Annie as

Ushers were friends and OVs **Charles Maymon (Ch 09-16 and Old St Alban's)**, **Charles Fellows (K 99-06)**, **Henry Fellows (K 95-04 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Banner Sanders (Ch 09-16 and Old St Alban's)**, **William Hollis (Ch 09-16 and Old Hawfordian)**, **Luke Pritchard-Barrett, Maxwell Newland-Fellows (CI 09-16 and Old Hawfordian)**, Daniel Galvin

(not OV), **Francis Purcell (W 14-16)**, **Charles Emmerson (Ch 09-16 and Old St Alban's)**, **Callum Jacob (CI 09-16)**, **Toby Fellows (CI 99-06)**, **Oliver Brothwood (K 09-16 and Old St Alban's)** and James Hicks. Of course, not forgetting Max's father, OV **John Fellows (Br 62-72 and Old St Alban's)**!



OV Babies



We have received wonderful news from OV **Chantal Jennings (née Smit, Br 12-14)** and her husband Ryan, celebrating the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Margot, in June 2023.



OVs **Fliss (née Hill, K 95-04)** and **Zac Purchase-Hill (Os 97-04)** shared their happy news: "We were all thrilled to welcome Cosmo to our family in September 2023. His big sisters, Persephone and Zipporah, are absolutely besotted and taking their sibling duties very seriously!"



We were also delighted to hear from OVs **Nicola (née Wilkinson, K 03-08)** and **James Yelland (S 01-08 and Old St Alban's)** who welcomed lovely Lottie in October 2023, and were at the top of Table Mountain, in Cape Town, by January 2024!



Many congratulations go to OV **Lucy Harding (née Tolladay, Br 15-08 and Old Hawfordian)** and her husband Ryan on the arrival of their son, Benjamin, in February 2024; he's simply gorgeous!



And in February 2024, **OV Issy Pinkerton (née Hershman, Br 02-09 and Old Hawfordian)** and her husband Charlie welcomed adorable Otis to the world!

OVs in the News

The President of the OV Club

OV **James Smalley (Br 10-17)** was voted as the latest President of the OV Club at the OV Club AGM in September 2023 with unanimous support. The role of the President is to represent the OV community at key events in the School's calendar, and act as a figurehead, embodying King's values while bringing the OV community together. The position is usually held for one or two years.

James takes over from OV **Julia Annable (née Simcock, Co 85-87)**, who has recently been representing OVs both as President of the OV Club and Chair of the OV Committee.



New Bursary in Memory of OV Norman Trapé (S 67-71)

Due to the generosity of OV **Michael Pimley (H 61-71)**, a new bursary has been created. The Trapé Bursary, given by Michael Pimley, will provide a child with seven years of fully-funded education at King's from September 2024.

Michael says of the grant, "I have worked with the Headmaster and the Alumni Team at King's to develop a bursary in memory of the Trapé family. I attended King's with the late Norman Trapé, and his brother John, both of whom became life-long friends. Norman firmly forged the link between the Pimley and Trapé families – our fathers had been at King's together in the 1930s – when he became my brother-in-law. I know he would wholeheartedly support the provision of this bursary in recognition of the education King's gave to us and the doors this opened in our future careers."

OV Ben Brings unique café to Worcester

In 2023, OV **Ben Parker-Jones (CI 93-00)** and his wife, Katherine, opened *The Dice Box*, a board game café, in Worcester. *The Dice Box* has a library of over 500 board games ranging from classics to brand new releases. Alongside the board game offering, *The Dice Box* is a fully licensed café, providing staff to help with game choice, set-up, and any rules queries.



OV Clara's Charity Shave



We have received inspirational news from OV **Clara Watson (Os 13-20)** who undertook a sponsored head shave in aid of Pancreatic Cancer UK and smashed her £500 fundraising target in the process. In addition to her fundraising, Clara donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust, which makes wigs for cancer and alopecia patients.

OV Theo for President

OV **Theo Osborn (CI 13-20)** was elected President of the Durham Union Society (DUS) for Michaelmas 2023. The election saw Theo storm to success, with 72% of the vote over his rival.



OVCC Slam Trophy Winners

Congratulations to the OVCC, whose 11-run win over Stourbridge CC at the County Ground on New Road in September 2023 meant they took home the Slam Trophy.

OV David's Dash for Bursaries



Many congratulations to OV **David Clark (CI 50-56)**, who successfully completed the Worcester City 10K in September 2023, running in aid of the King's School Worcester Bursary Campaign, with support from all areas of the King's community, including those who attended the 120th OV Reunion Dinner.

Inspired by octogenarian David's commitment, members of the King's School staff pledged their fundraising to the Bursary Campaign as well, as they prepared for and completed the Worcester City Half Marathon. Those taking part included Headmaster Gareth Doodles, Director of Finance, Georgina Mason, OV and Head of Sixth Form, **Josh Hand (CI 91-01)**, **Adam Knights (Hon OV)** and Tom Pearson. To date, David and the King's team have raised over £500 for the King's School Bursary Campaign, with many thanks to all the generous sponsors.

OV's England Cricket Cap

	G.P. SWANN	AUSTRALIA
2016	C.R. WOAKES	PAKISTAN
2017	M.M. ALI	SOUTH AFRICA
	B.A. STOKES	WEST INDIES
	J.M. ANDERSON	WEST INDIES
2018	J.M. ANDERSON	INDIA
2019	C.R. WOAKES	IRELAND
2021	J.M. ANDERSON	INDIA
2023	S.C.J. BROAD	IRELAND
	J.C. TONGUE	IRELAND

Congratulations to OV **Josh Tongue (Br 09-16)**, who secured his first cap for England in June 2023, playing against Ireland in a one-off Test. As Josh took five wickets in the second innings, his name will forever be recorded on the hallowed Honours Board at Lord's. We believe he is the first OV so to do!

OV's Financial Planning Firm Receives Further Recognition



Many congratulations go to Worcester-based *Britannic Place Financial Management*, founded by OV and chartered financial planner **Steve Perera (Cr 86-93)**, which has been named the Micro Wealth Management Firm of the Year for the second year running at the MoneyAge Awards 2023. In addition to the MoneyAge award, they finished as Runners Up and Highly Commended in the Leading Adviser Practice (up to 10 Advisers) Category at the Schroders UK Platform Awards and were also Commended in the Retirement Adviser of the Year category at the Investment Life & Pension Moneyfacts Awards 2023. Britannic Place was also recognised for the first time as one of the UK's Top 100 Financial Planning Firms by Citywire's New Model Adviser®, a prestigious financial services publication.

Vigornian Festive Spirit Raises £800 for Bursaries

Many thanks to all the OVs, staff, parents, and former parents from across the Foundation who added some Vigornian festive spirit to their Christmas tree with a King's Bauble! The inaugural year of the King's baubles saw over 200 sold, generating an incredible £800 for the King's School Worcester Development Trust Bursary Campaign. There were three designs to choose from: a simple King's Shield, a bespoke Old Vigornian ornament, and the opportunity to have a personalised bauble. For Christmas 2024, we hope to expand the offering to include tailored House Baubles as well!



The Wonderful Worcester Buoy



Huge congratulations go to the Worcester Buoy, aka OVs **Matt Bladen (W 08-15)** and **George Farmiloe (Br 08-15)**, who completed the "World's Toughest Row" in January 2024. Having set off in December 2023, George and Matt took turns rowing shifts of two hours on, two hours off to cross the Atlantic Ocean in an incredible 40 days, 16 hours, and 20 minutes. In doing so, they smashed their target of raising £100,000 for Acorns Children's Hospice in memory of a close family friend, Jack Dyer.

George and Matt also kindly joined the Lower Years' Assembly in February 2024 to tell the pupils about their challenge!

OV Mayor Hosts King's School Council



Many thanks to the Mayor of Worcester, OV Councillor **Louis Stephen (Br 80-85)** who hosted the newly relaunched King's School Council at the Guildhall in October 2023. Accompanied by King's School teacher, OV **Georgie Ormandy (Ch 06-13)**, the Pupil Representatives from the Lower Fourth to the Upper Sixth enjoyed a tour of the Guildhall, including the Mayor's Parlour and the old jail cells in the basement, as well as the opportunity for each pupil to hold the Mayor's ceremonial sword, which was definitely a most enjoyable highlight for everyone!

King's Boat Club Battle Through the Night for Charity



Over one hundred King's Worcester rowers finished 2023 with a bang, completing their annual One Million Metre Charity Rowing Challenge in 16 hours and 55 minutes: a new school record! In doing so, they raised over £5000 for Acorns Children's Hospice in support of both the incredible local cause and OVs Matt and George's own rowing challenge.

It was wonderful to see so many OVs return to the Michael Baker Boathouse to support the current pupils. The OVs took their turns on the ergos, slotting straight back into the KSWBC as if they had never been away!



OV's Digital Donation

It was great to see OV **Steve Perera (Cr 86-93)** back on the familiar turf of the King's First Team Rugby Pitch at Slingpool Walk in February 2024, having been a strong member of the 1st XV himself while at school. Steve was there with King's Foundation Director of Sport, **Jonny Mason (Hon OV)**, to unveil formally the splendid permanent digital scoreboard that Steve's business has generously donated.



Congratulations to Hon OV Capt Grinnell

Many congratulations to Hon OV **Captain Dave Grinnell**, who has been awarded the Lord-Lieutenant's Certificate of Meritorious Service Award for his services to the King's School's CCF Contingent.



OV's Serene Approach for AGA



Congratulations to OV **Henrietta Styles (K 12-19 and Old St Alban's)**, whose stunning print design won a competition being run by AGA and is now the brand's featured textile collection, available instore and online, called *Serenity*.

Hardings' History Hit



Well done to OV **Helen Harding (née Lee, Ch 94-01)** and her husband, Paul, who is a Lieutenant in the King's School CCF, whose education company, *Discover History* was a finalist in the Community Involvement category in the Worcestershire Education Awards 2024.

OVs Running for St Richard's



In April 2024 OV **Alfie Pritchard (S 10-17 and Old Hawfordian)** donned his running shoes to complete an incredible 1000 miles in 30 days, supported by OV friends en route, making his way from John O'Groats to Land's End via London, where he took part in the London Marathon on 21 April! Alfie's main incentive for completing this journey was to raise money for St Richard's Hospice.

Alfie is simultaneously launching a new active wear clothing brand, *Crocodile Pie*, which he has set up with his brother, OV **Joe Pritchard (Os 12-19 and Old Hawfordian)**. The brothers will release clothing "drops", collaborating with charities so that 25% of profits made from each collection will be donated to the associated charity; the first partnering is with St Richard's Hospice.



Victorious Volunteer

Congratulations to OV **Josh Moorhouse (Br 12-19)** who was named the Pitching In Volunteer of the Season for his outstanding efforts as a volunteer at his local club, Malvern Town Football Club. He was nominated for the award by OV **Toby Platt (K 12-19)**, who similarly volunteers at Malvern, and OV **Ali Robb (K 12-19 and Old St Alban's)** joined Josh for the prize trip.

Sky's the Limit for OV Landscape Artist

We were so excited to see OV **Melanie Thorn Potten (Ch 96-03)** on Sky Art's Landscape Artist of the Year 2024 recently. Melanie explained, "In June 2023 I travelled to Liverpool to take part in one of the heats for Sky Art's Landscape Artist of the Year 2024. I had been selected as a wildcard entry and be in with a chance of winning the £10,000 commission on offer by the

Science Museum for the winning artist. Being given a time limit took me right back to standing in the King's Art studios during GCSEs and A-levels! Whilst the actual painting time was only four hours, with all the filming going on around me for the show, the day was actually a lot longer! It was an absolutely incredible experience, unfortunately, I wasn't selected to go through to the next round."



OV Pillman's Passing Out

Bravo to OV **Henry Pillman (Br 12-17)**, who passed out from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in April 2024, after a 44-week Regular Commissioning Course, and now takes up his commission as Second Lieutenant Pillman with the Royal Dragoon Guards.



In recognition for his endeavours during the course, Henry was appointed Junior Under Officer (JUO) of Sovereign's Platoon, which is the platoon judged to be the best of the intake.



A Tortive Tour



OVs **Oli Brooks (S 96-03)** and **Ben Humphrey (Cr 93-04)** are currently working closely together following Ben setting up his own theatre Company, *Tortive Theatre*. They recently completed a very successful run of the production of *The Whirligig of Time* at The International Shakespeare Festival in Craiova, Romania. The play, produced by Ben and directed by Oli, with costumes by Hon OV Alice Humphrey (nee Brunt), now heads to The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2024.

Hon OV's Septuagenarian Celebrations

Former Head of Art, **Liz Hand (Hon OV)** celebrated her 70th birthday with an exhibition at the Spring Gallery in Cheltenham, which is owned and managed by OV **Conrad Clarke (Ch 01-08 and Old St Alban's)**. The abstract paintings were inspired by a visit to Varanasi in India. The private viewing was supported by many Hon OVs and OVs, and Liz looks forward to seeing even more at the Somerset Arts Week Open Studios and Arts Events from 21 September - 6 October, where she will be exhibiting.



OV Rose Running for Paris

We are very excited to learn that OV **Rose Harvey (K 03-10)** has been selected for the Great Britain team at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Commenting on her selection for Team GB, Rose said, "I am beyond excited to have been selected for the Great Britain Team at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Of course, there's a lot that goes on behind the scenes and I'm incredibly grateful to everyone in my team who has believed in me and supported me along the way. Follow your dreams. They might just become your reality."



Vigornian Voices Launches!



We are very excited to announce the launch of *Vigornian Voices*!

Vigornian Voices is a new podcast series, which will feature OVs discussing their life beyond King's: an insight into their lives and careers, what has inspired them, and their advice for current King's pupils, amongst other things.



Our first podcast features OV **Abbas Kazerooni (Ch 91-96)** in conversation with Headmaster, Gareth Doodles. The second podcast features OV **Lara Vafiadis (Os 06-08)** speaking with King's Deputy Head Pastoral, Harriet Dyke. You can listen to them both, and future editions, via Mixcloud - simply search for *Vigornian Voices* on **Mixcloud.com**

From the Archives



Earlier in this publication, readers would have seen mention of the Royal Maundy Service in Worcester Cathedral, which took place in March 2024. The School was honoured to be part of this memorable service, presided over by Her Majesty, Queen Camilla, in place of His Majesty the King, who had been taken ill.

Many OV's will remember the last time the Royal Maundy Service was held in Worcester, in 1980, when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II journeyed to College Green and the Cathedral. We delve into the Archives to see how this was recorded in *The Vigornian* of the time:

For those fortunate enough to be involved, the most impressive event must have been the visit of Her Majesty the Queen on Maundy Thursday. The Service in the Cathedral was a truly memorable one, as was a subsequent service commemorating the thirteenth centenary of the Diocese. On this latter occasion the King's Scholars had a major role to play, bearing gifts in honour of the occasion from dignitaries representing a whole range of denominations, and in both the Choristers sang magnificently.

**Andrew Milne
(HM 1979-1983)**
The Vigornian -
December 1980



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's visit was a pivotal event for pupils of The King's School, Worcester, as we read in the 1982 edition of *The Vigornian*:

Admission of Catherine Boulton (as Queen's Scholar) To the Cathedral College

Cathedral Evensong 22/3/82

During the course of this evening's service, we are to witness and enjoy an event of historic significance both for the King's School and for the Cathedral. As is well known, when Henry VIII dissolved the monastery in Worcester he laid upon the Dean and Chapter the responsibility of maintaining a School for boys - the King's School - at which a number of poor scholars, King's Scholars, were to be educated. The King's Scholars who are here today are part of that on-going tradition, part of a legacy of which we are justifiably proud.

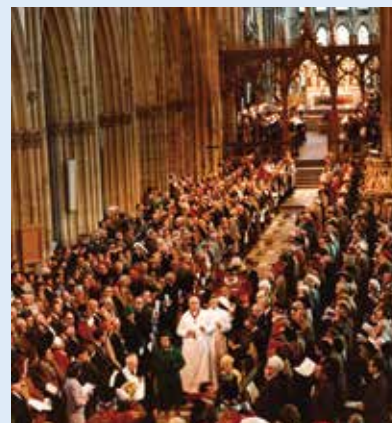
Tonight we develop the Henrician tradition further. There have been girls in the Sixth Form of the King's School since 1971, but only recently in substantial numbers. The time has come when selected girls should, along with selected boys, enjoy the status of Scholar. There would have been no constitutional objection to incorporating girls within the number of King's Scholars. However, given the fact that girls first joined the School during the reign of a Queen, there seemed to be an attractive case for instituting

Queen's Scholarships for girls to stand alongside the King's Scholarships that are available to boys, the more so in the light of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to Worcester on Maundy Thursday, 1980.

We are greatly honoured that the Queen has graciously consented to allow selected girl pupils at the School to be named Queen's Scholars and tonight Catherine Boulton is to be admitted as a member of the Cathedral College. Certainly, she is the first girl Scholar in the School's history. Certainly, too she is the first Queen's Scholar in the modern sense, though the boy scholars were briefly dubbed Queen's Scholars during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. As far as I know, Catherine is also the first female to be admitted to the Cathedral College. We congratulate her and ask God's blessing on our School.

A.M.M.

The Vigornian - December 1982



Features on Teachers: H.A. Natan

Head of History and German Master, 1944-1967



In the latter half of the Twentieth Century, many leading cultural figures in England were Jews who had fled Nazi persecution: King's School were privileged to open their doors to Alex Natan, a Jewish professor from Berlin.

A small, portly figure, often out of breath, it was hard to believe that he had been one of Germany's top sprinters. In 1929, in the German city of Breslau, now Wrocław in Poland, he and three other German athletes ran a 4x100 metres relay in a world record time of 40.8 seconds. He did not stay to enjoy his fame. In 1933, when Hitler came to power with the declared intention of eliminating Jews, Natan emigrated to Britain. The Nazis erased his name from the German athletic record books because it was so obviously Jewish. So until the end of the war, German records showed just three men running a world record in a discipline meant for four. It was a sinister act but, when Natan told the story himself, he chuckled at the absurdity of it all.

Thanks to Hitler therefore, a generation of King's pupils grew up learning their History from a German Jew. Born Heinz Alexander Nathan, he modified his

name to make it more pronounceable in English. With his foreign accent, he added an exotic and racy touch to what was then a rather provincial city. He loved to expostulate, theorise, and argue. The King's School boys, slightly misjudging his particularity, gave him the nickname of "Boffie", equating him to the boffins of science. It was near enough.

He sympathised with rebels a little more than the School's management would have liked. If a boy was protesting, or contesting some decision, Natan was quite likely to lend mischievous encouragement, as long as he himself was not the target. His provocative, probing way of thought could be annoying, but he had numerous friends. Many of the King's School Masters had just finished fighting against the Nazis in the war; their common travails bonded them together. My father, Harry Ferrar, who was Second Master and headed Modern Languages, was married to a German-born woman who had left Germany in 1939, after likewise falling foul of the Nazis. Natan, who remained a bachelor, was often in our home sipping tea, and became godfather to my sister.

I remember him teaching me heavy Romantic German literature. He set us to read Schiller's *Sturm und Drang* ("Storm and Stress") plays, which seemed to me an ironic but apt choice for a refugee from German aggression. It was hard going at times, but he could transport you to a different world. One weekly class that he organised for Sixth Formers consisted of

an hour listening to opera.

Natan made his peace quickly with Germany and developed a supplementary career as a journalist and author with German and British publishers. The German Athletics Federation restored his name to the record books and awarded him a gold pin in 1951.

His writings covered the new Germany, political and literary figures, opera, and sport. My mother spluttered indignantly at the journalistic style of his German prose. It was light, passionate, uncomplicated, and full of foreign words: not what she had learned at school. Later I became a journalist myself, and he was certainly among my inspirations.

Alex Natan retired from King's and moved to St John's Wood, London, where he gladly received old pupils. He died in 1971, just before his 65th birthday, of the heart disease which had plagued him for years. By that time, King's was taking advantage of modern travel opportunities, and its pupils were spreading abroad. In 2004, boys and girls of the King's School joined young people from Germany in a symbolic endeavour, cleaning German war graves in Holland. They were dealing with the past, laying ghosts to rest. "Boffie" would have approved.

With thanks to OV Marcus Ferrar (Cr 53-63 and Old St Alban's)



Beyond King's: Where are they now?

We regularly feature an OV in *Beyond King's* to help to showcase the diversity of OV activity since leaving School, and to inspire and motivate current pupils and members of the King's family. You can read more about the featured OVs' lives beyond King's in the Alumni Section of the School website: <https://www.ksw.org.uk/alumni/> in the News and Stories section. If you would like to be featured, please contact the Alumni Office via alumni@ksw.org.uk

**John Sear (Ch 72-82 and
Old St Alban's)**



Edward Kemp (H 74-83)



Essi Sadeghi (Cr 88-95)



Alex Borchardt (CI 79-88)



**Jack Everton (Cr 02-09
and Old St Alban's)**



Dr Corah Lewis (Ch 7-14)



**Carolyn Evans (née Thake,
Co 78-80)**



**Dave Morris (CI 76-79 and
Old Hawfordian)**



Mike Coley (Ch 57-64)



For their full stories, and others, visit www.ksw.org.uk/alumni/news-and-stories/ov-of-the-week/

A Picture Paints a Thousand Words



A Midsummer Night's Dream production in the School Gardens 2019



CCF RAF Easter Camp 2009



Some of the year of 2004



Richard Geary in the newly refurbished Lecture Theatre 2009



U18 Netball Champions 2004



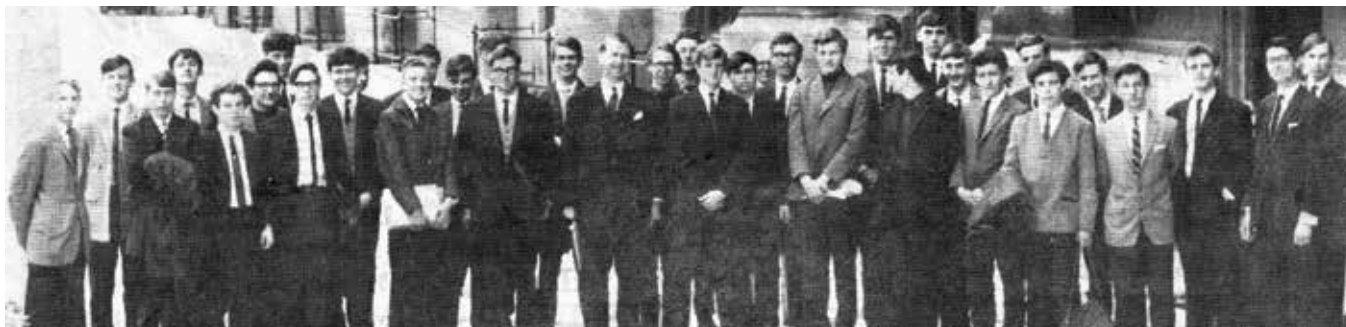
Scholars 2014



Rugby 1st XV 1954



Rowing VIII 1984



Commons visit 1964



Conkers in 1989



Alex Wenyon Alex Clark and Robert Ellis presenting cheque following the KSWBC 24hr Row 2014



King's Herald 1989



Trip to Nepal 1999



King's School Choir recording for an episode of The Archers on Radio 4 2014



U6 leavers 2019



Hostel 1924



KSW Fete Jet from Gladiators with 1st XV 1994



House Song Competition 1989

Dates for your Diary

For more details and how to book for all OV reunions and events, just keep an eye on your Vigornian Hub.

New OV BBQ

Tuesday 3 September 2024

Mulberry Marquee and The Quad, 4.30-6.30pm

We look forward to welcoming back to King's the Years of 2022 and 2023 to join us in welcoming the Year of 2024 into the OV family.

OV Club AGM

Saturday 14 September 2024

The Vigornian Room – Keyes Building, 6.00pm

Annual OV Dinner

Saturday 14 September 2024

College Hall, Welcome drinks from 7pm

The much-loved annual black-tie dinner in College Hall for all OVs offers you the chance simply to catch up with OV friends in style, or to celebrate a milestone anniversary; the doors to College Hall will be open to welcome you back!

School House 70ish Lunch

Monday 30 September 2024

RAF Club, 128 Piccadilly

For School House OVs in their 70s and 80s. Please contact the Alumni Office for more information.

Five Year Reunion for the Year of 2019

Saturday 5 October 2024

The Mulberry Marquee, 5-7pm

Although free to attend, booking for OVs and their parents/guardians is essential via the Hub!

OVs Overseas: California

Saturday 12 October 2024

Contact the Alumni Office for more details about the OV reunion in California, kindly being hosted by OV Abbas Kazerooni.

OV Golf Day

October 2024

All OVs, of whatever handicap, are very welcome to join the OV Golf Day. Please contact the Alumni Office for more information.

Contact the Alumni Office Team:

Alumni@ksw.org.uk

01905 721737

Head of Alumni and Business Development:

Hannah Sparrey

Alumni Relations Co-ordinator:

Amanda Sutcliffe

Alumni Office Administrator:

Trish Webb

All our events may be subject to change...



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