



CAOKS NEWS

ISSUE NO.77 | NOVEMBER 2019



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



08

New Sports Centre



14

Battlefields Tour



20

The Old
School Building



Introduction & Contents



Henley 2019



CAOKS
Newsletter
Editor
Anthony Russell

Welcome to this first edition of the CAOKS newsletter since the decision of the Association that all alumni should become members. That means that the readership of the newsletter has grown considerably and that many will be reading the newsletter for the first time. So, I hope that everyone will find something of interest.

In this issue we cover the opening of the new sports centre, a very successful visit to the battlefields of the First World War by alumni, and reminiscences of the old school and the Film Society in the 1960s and 1970s, plus reports on various CAOKS and school events.

Next year is the 60th anniversary of the opening of the buildings at Wrexham Road by Her Majesty The Queen Mother, so we will be marking that in the next issue.

It is hoped that members will feel inspired to submit articles on topics of interest and news of themselves, or their schoolfriends for inclusion. We are mainly dependent upon the membership for news, so please keep us informed – we are all interested to learn how the lives of our friends have developed.

For those who are new to CAOKS a brief summary of its functions and objects is set out on Page 7.

Contents

President's Message	3
Headmaster's Message	4
Officers' Messages	5
NEWS	6
Sports Centre Opening	8
Events	9
FEATURES	14
Battlefields Tour	14
Film Society	18
Visit to the Old School	20
OBITUARIES	22
OFFICERS	28



President's Message



From the President

Ravi Jayaram

As I sit down to write my first piece as president of CAOKS, I can't help but wonder how on earth I have ended up here. I was at King's from 1978 until 1985, starting as a naïve and slightly overweight bespectacled nerd and leaving as a marginally more world wise, banged-into-shape-by-rowing, contact lens-wearing nerd. The only certainties I had about King's at that time, as a Guardian-reading liberal-minded idealist, were that I had no need to, nor intention of, joining CAOKS as it was clearly an organisation for old men who had nothing but nostalgia to cling on to.

Quite a journey then over the next 34 years. I kept in touch with friends, occasionally caught up (directly or indirectly) with acquaintances and heard anecdotes about other peers as I went through my undergraduate and postgraduate medical training, never really giving a thought to the school. My younger brother was named head boy in 1992 and I came back once to see him sing in a G&S but that was about it. I was lucky enough to work in the North-East, Bristol, London and Australia; King's never crossed my mind. In 2004, I was at the stage of my career where the next move would be the final one. An opportunity arose to apply for a consultant post at the Countess of Chester and I was lucky enough to be appointed. A chance meeting with Alex Horne, who at the time was CAOKS president, led to me attending my first CAOKS dinner.

This was not what led to me being here as president now. In fact, to be totally honest, it struck me as being exactly as I had envisaged it would be when I left the school in 1985. So, I didn't sign up to join CAOKS and carried on being totally aloof. However, in my day-to-day work, I met many young people who were King's pupils, and would always chat about the fact that I was an alumnus. It was fascinating to hear their stories of the

school and hearing these made me for the first time start to think back on schooldays and how they had had a major influence in making who I am today. I also met current teachers socially and through them, met a few of my old teachers (as an aside, I'm sure I am not the only ex-pupil who has struggled to address an ex-teacher as anything other than "Sir" or their nickname)

Apart from decent O-level (old GCSE's for the young ones) & A-Level grades, I realised that King's had given me the ability to think for myself and to question, to be considerate and compassionate, to be tolerant and accepting of others and to be confident but also have humility. I also began to accept that nostalgia is not a bad thing. Ageing and the increasing awareness of your own mortality has that effect.

CAOKS was also changing. After a few years where the organisation seemed to be somewhat at odds with the school, differences were put aside and CAOKS and the school are now a partnership as they should always have been. My predecessor as president, Olivia Whitlam, put a huge amount of effort into bringing about these changes and I would like to formally put on record my thanks for this, not only because it should make my tenure as president far less arduous than hers, but also because the constitution she helped to devise will keep CAOKS relevant for the next few decades.

So why am I here and what do I want to achieve as president? I think back to my initial views on CAOKS as a leaver and wonder whether current leavers feel the same way? If so, what can be done to change this view so that CAOKS is relevant to all leavers (not just 30 plus years after leaving). There are many traditions of CAOKS and these must remain intact, but the Association has to broaden its appeal to younger leavers. CAOKS is not just for older 50+ types like me, it is for all alumni of the school and needs to evolve to achieve this. The committee and I really want to hear your thought as to what you would like for CAOKS and from CAOKS. The King's development team will be supporting us to take your ideas, however eclectic, from your frontal lobes to reality.

I am still a Guardian-reading, liberal-minded idealist, but one who has finally understood that without the King's School, I would never have been able to achieve what I have done in my life so far. I hope to meet many of you over the next couple of years at the various events CAOKS is organising, including the London event in November and also next year at the annual dinner, which has finally returned to the school after a few years in exile.



Headmaster's Message



From the Headmaster

George Hartley

As we rattle rapidly towards the end of the Michaelmas Term here at King's, it's my pleasure to provide you with an update of what we've been up to.

Firstly, it was excellent to welcome the CAOKS dinner back to the school in September after its absence of a few years. We all enjoyed a fine meal prepared by the school's catering team and excellent company provided by the members that attended. We naturally hope to see even more of you next year from all year groups. I am also very much looking forward to the forthcoming alumni get-together at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in London in November, followed by the various alumni events in school over the course of the next few months. For our Reunions it's the turn of those who left in a year with a '0' at the end in case you didn't know. It's been a real pleasure meeting alumni of the school over the last two years, and particularly hearing your favourite "tales of King's", some of which are not suitable for this newsletter of noble reputation!

I also hugely enjoyed the alumni trip that we ran to the battlefields of Belgium and France in July, which provided some memorably poignant and thought-provoking moments related to family relatives and many of the OKS lost in the Great War. We are currently looking into the possibility of a second battlefields trip for the summer 2021, this time a little further east which may give us the opportunity to

spend some time in the champagne region of northern France; a truly lip-smacking opportunity, so do watch this space!

In terms of school activities, we again celebrated another set of fantastic public exam results in August, with King's achieving the best A level results of any co-ed school in the North West for the second year running. Alongside our GCSE results, where half the grades achieved were at A* (grades 8 or 9 in the new currency), it was a truly remarkable year for academic achievement.

Such achievement is only one aspect of the education King's provides, of course, and there has been plenty going in the pastoral and co-curricular spheres of the school too. With the unfortunate rise in mental health issues amongst the young, we are doing more than ever to ensure that our students have excellent mental fitness (just as important as physical fitness, in my opinion) and also providing more and more opportunities for students to get involved in sport and other enriching co-curricular activities. It's involvement in such activities that does so much to develop character in the young after all and also provide enjoyable, healthy and well-deserved breaks from work.

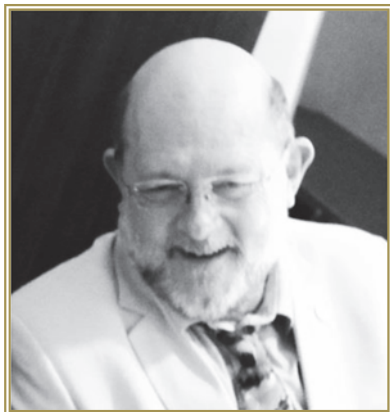
In terms of building development, we will shortly be opening our new student well-being centre (medical centre, learning support and counselling) which we will be called The Rohan Ingleby Centre after an outstanding young man we lost to leukaemia in 2018. This facility, located between The Junior School and Willow Lodge (our Infants school opened four years ago) provides further demonstration of our commitment to student welfare at King's. Rowers will be pleased to know that we've also started some renovation work on the Boathouse; much needed as it was originally designed for 80 rowers and now we have over 160 boys and girls using it regularly,

There is plenty more going at King's at the moment but I've run out of space for now so will have to let you know about other projects in due course. In the meantime, you can rest assured that your school is thriving and going from strength to strength in all respects. It's a great privilege to be leading such a fine institution.



Officers' Reports

From the Secretary *Adrian Ackroyd*



We have been working hard on developing our new relationship with the School since the Spring. At the Annual General Meeting voting members present unanimously endorsed this closer collaboration. The CAOKS Executive Committee now meets each term and continues to be independent of the School. Its membership and their contact details are listed on the back page of the Newsletter.

Since May this year CAOKS now has thousands of members rather than many hundreds. Consequently, there have had to be some minor changes in the administration of the Association.

Officers can be emailed at a new CAOKS.co.uk domain instead of their personal email accounts, where an email may be rejected as spam or just lost in the flood of emails. To ensure the right Officer receives your communication your letters should be addressed to the appropriate officer at "CAOKS, Development Office, The King's School, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 7QL" and your correspondence will be forwarded without delay to the appropriate Officer.

We also intend to set up a forum for alumni to feedback ideas for new events and networking opportunities in the coming year. In the meantime, if you have some ideas do contact Liz Gwyther or Nadine Isaacs in the Development Office.

Finally - a new Association tie will be arriving shortly; do let us know if you would like to have one so that we can order sufficient. Further information about this new 100% silk tie is in the Newsletter.

From the Dinner Secretary *Robin Hardi*



This year we were delighted to have the opportunity to return the School for the Annual Dinner. It has taken some time to return but with the support of the Headmaster and the Development team we were able to plan an excellent event. The School catering team were also extremely helpful during the year in developing the menu and produced some superbly presented and tasty dishes on the night. Clearly school dinners have changed a lot since my days! The event was held in the Vanbrugh theatre and with 80 guests, it filled the room nicely and created a relaxed and convivial ambience. It is always nice to see old friends and have the opportunity to catch up. This year we also arranged for some tours of the School before the meal which allowed guests to see the latest facility upgrades. One benefit of returning to the school this year was the opportunity to keep prices a little lower and we hope to maintain this in 2020. Speaking of which, we are pencilling in 10th October for the Dinner next year at the School but I will confirm in the next newsletter. Thank you to all who supported the event and as ever feedback on the menu and format is always welcome.





The Annual Dinner





Welcome to New Members



A Welcome and Introduction to CAOKS for New Members

This is the first edition of the newsletter since the decision to extend the membership of CAOKS (The Chester Association of Old King's Scholars) to all alumni of the School. So, a very warm welcome to our many new members, the youngest of whom are in the photograph above as they collected their A Level results in August.

CAOKS was founded in 1865 and is the oldest association of its type in the United Kingdom. The major founding principle was to set up and continue to provide for the Chester Old King's Scholars Exhibition at university, the most prestigious academic award for students from the School. Currently the award amounts to £750 spread over three years. More recently the Association has been charged with the administration of the Baty Voluntary Service Overseas Travel Award and provision of funding for that. Administering these two awards is the major charitable work of the Association.

Over time other objectives have been pursued and the Association's functions currently include: strengthening the ties between the alumni and the School; supporting the educational activities of the School in co-operation with the Governors and the Headmaster; and, promoting the interests, advancement and good fellowship of the alumni. In this connection there has been an increasing emphasis on networking and career support.

The Association operates a number of events for its members. The principal social event is the Annual Dinner which after several years' absence returned to the School in September. A report on the dinner appears elsewhere in the Newsletter. There are a number of events held in the Chester area, including an annual snooker competition against the old boys of Chester City Grammar School, an annual regatta reported upon in this issue, an annual CAOKS golf match, a bowls tournament and other social and sporting events. In addition, the Association supports the events managed by the Development Office which include the annual reunions and the London reception, which takes place this year on 21st November at the Oxford and Cambridge Club. The Officers are always willing to consider new events and welcome suggestions from members.

The newsletter is published twice a year with the object of informing the membership of school news, news of alumni, including obituaries, forthcoming events, and publishing articles which it is hoped will be of interest to the membership. Contributions on any matter relevant to the Association are always welcome, and should be sent to The Editor, whose contact details appear on the last page.



Opening of New Sports Centre

Tuesday 9 July saw the official opening of the new £4.5m Sports Centre by Rebecca Romero MBE, an Olympic Games silver medallist at rowing, and a former World champion and former Olympic champion track cyclist.

The Headmaster, George Hartley, who is a great advocate of sport, highlighted how the Sports Centre will increase provision for all students to get involved in some sort of physical activity not only for health benefits but also life skills such as resilience, leadership and teamwork.

King's Director of Sport, Richard Lunn, spoke about how the school strongly believes there is a synergy between being active and achieving success and the new facilities will widen its provision to truly offer 'sport for all'.

Rebecca's speech touched on how she always felt she was just a 'normal' person who saw athletes as superhuman. It wasn't until she was 17 and moved to

Kingston where a fellow sportsperson encouraged her to train, a moment she said which 'changed her life'. Ever since, she has been grateful that she found, not one, but two sports that ignited her passion for sport. Rebecca emphasised the benefits that sport can bring, developing skills which enhance a person's physical and emotional state in order to become a well-rounded individual.



The guests, who included King's governors, the High Sheriff of Cheshire and local business owners, had a tour of the new facilities, including The Terrace Café, ergo room, gym, and dance studio. They were also invited to the Sports Centre reception where Rebecca Romero unveiled the official plaque.



Rowing

OKS v The School Regatta

10 July 2019



The annual end-of-school-year races between the Alumni and the School took place on the last Wednesday of the summer term. Many of us had expected that the school crews, being in good form after the regatta season, and particularly the boys 1st VIII fresh from Henley, would prove a little too cohesive for the scratch OKS crews, despite the obvious fire-power of the latter. However, Pat Hanratty excelled in putting together an OKS crew that included former GB internationals (senior, junior and U 23) and top university oarsmen, including a current Yale oarsman and a former Cambridge Blue. This crew, even without any practice, beat the school 1st VIII by about half a length over the 500m sprint course.



The winning men's OKS crew:

Freddie Hill, Sam Arnot, Inigo Atkin, Jack Webber, Mike Thorpe, Rob Leech, George Middlehurst, Pat Hanratty, Harry Brightmore.

Such is the growing enthusiasm for the event, that a 2nd VIII was raised by the alumni. This crew raced the school 2nd VIII. Again this was a close affair, the alumni came out on top against a young school 2nd VIII, which had recently competed in the qualifying races for the Temple Cup at Henley. It is to be noted that the OKS 2nd VIII was made up of fit university oarsmen who were all in the 1st VIII when at school. The OKS Second VIII comprised: Dan

Weatherly, Christian Palmer, Patrick Hanratty, John Marsden, Simon Ellershaw, Freddie Hill, Harry Chappell, Harry Staples, Ellie Robson.

The girls race was won by Ellie Robson's OKS crew, by about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a length. The OKS crew was led by the stroke of this year's OUBC Boat Race crew, Amelia Standing, and was supplemented by two good rowers and a cox from the school squad.



The winning female OKS crew with the headmaster:

l-r, Helena Barker (KS), Daisy Ellis (KS), Amelia Standing, Nia Roberts, Becca Hatton, Millie Medland, (The Headmaster), Niamh Massey, Natasha Groome.

In addition to the serious events, there was a race between a Staff VIII (comprising the current coaching team and a guest appearance by the Director of Studies) and a mixed school crew made up of two athletes, a boy and a girl, from each of the J15 to J18 squads. The school won by a close margin on this occasion, however the staff are said to be already building for the 2020 comeback!

The final event was a race between a masters' (or veteran) crew and the winning VIII from the junior house regatta that took place a few days before. In recent years the alumni had formed a crew comprising some older old boys, supplemented by some J15s and a coach/parent or two. Normally the race finished more or less as a dead heat. This year the OKS organisers put together an VIII comprising five of the alumni second VIII and three 1960s leavers who contributed the "masters" designation, if little else. The result was a powerful crew that beat the school crew by $\frac{2}{3}$ of a length. In retrospect it was a little unfair on the school crew as well as potentially dangerous for the more senior OKS.

"It was an excellent evenings racing, enjoyed by the pupils, alumni and coaching staff. The event is growing in strength and numbers year by year"

David Wilkes OKS



Alumni Rowing at Henley

Rex BC is the alumni rowing club of the King's School and, with the help of the School, has been putting out high quality OKS crews for the last couple of years. The tendency has been to form crews for Henley with relatively little time together as some of the oarsmen are released quite late from their university crews. This year, as last, they entered the Wyfolds, the event for club coxless IVs. They did well against the seeded Lea Rowing Club, a regular club crew who were the fastest British crew in the event (Lea lost narrowly at the semi-final stage to Sydney University, the event winners). The coxless IV is a particularly difficult event for a (nearly) scratch crew due to the problems of steering under race pressure. One can lose a significant distance by failing to steer the optimum line (which is readily seen on the race videos).

The alumni club is growing with the support of the school and we want to do make OKS rowers aware of the opportunities this presents. It would be great to see a Thames Cup VIII entry (coxed!) next year? Please contact the Director of Rowing, David Blackham, at the School.

Henley Tea Party 2019



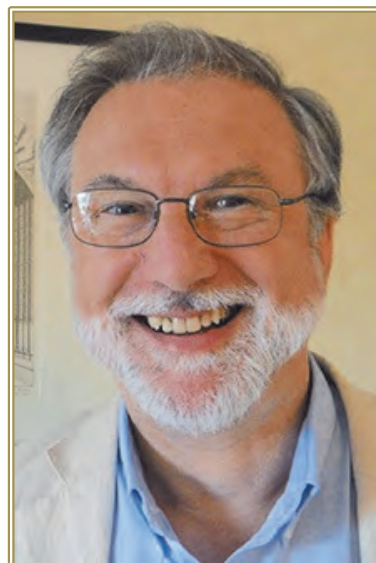
On the 5 July over 80 King's alumni and friends joined us at our gazebo on the Henley Cricket Field to enjoy the world-renowned Regatta and the free flowing Pimms and Prosecco! There was a superb atmosphere, enhanced by the glorious sunshine that continued throughout the day. It was fantastic to see so many former pupils, from a range of generations, all sporting their various blazers. Of particular note were the three white and navy King's rowing blazers, proudly worn by David Bate OKS 1987, Anthony Lighten, OKS 1986 and Tony Ward OKS 1985.

Exhibition Award

The trustees of the Association have awarded the 2019 CAOKS Exhibition of £750 over three years to Kate Jenkinson who is in her first year reading Economics at The University of Warwick.

We wish Kate every success in her studies and an enjoyable three years at university.

Professor Hagan Bayley OKS (1969)



Professor Hagan Bayley FRS has been awarded the 2019 Mullard Award by the Royal Society, for the invention of stochastic nanosensing, a generalized sequencing method for biopolymers. The Mullard Award is awarded to those who have an outstanding academic record in any area of natural science, engineering or technology and whose work is currently making, or has the potential to contribute to national prosperity in the United Kingdom.

Professor Bayley left the school after O Levels and continued his education at Uppingham School. He read chemistry at Balliol College Oxford and was awarded a Ph.D by Harvard University. He has held numerous academic posts and has been Professor of Chemical Biology at Oxford University since 2003. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2011 and is a Fellow of Hertford College Oxford. He is a great supporter of King's and has recently served as a School Governor.



Sir Stephen Phillips OKS (1980)



Stephen Phillips has been appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal with effect from Autumn 2019. He grew up in Chester as the son of two Welsh parents from Llanelli in Carmarthenshire. He attended a state primary school before being awarded a free place at the King's School, Chester.

After training as a barrister, he was called to the Bar in 1984 where he specialised in banking and financial law. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 2002 and then Master of the Bench at Gray's Inn in 2006. He was made a Justice of the High Court within the Queen's Bench Division in 2013 and was nominated a judge of the Commercial and Admiralty Courts in 2014. Mr Justice Phillips was also a nominated Judge of the Financial List and has been the Director of Civil Training at the Judicial College since 2014.

Lord Justice Phillips is a supporter of the National Theatre and during his time at Gray's Inn he ran the football team for 12 years, during which time the team won the London Legal League six times.

No other Old King's Scholar has achieved this high rank in the Judiciary.

2009 Reunion



The School welcomed the 2009 leavers in May for their 10-year reunion. Over 30 alumni attended. Fond memories re-surfaced as old friends reunited for a tour of the school led by three current sixth formers. The evening continued, with a presentation from the Headmaster, George Hartley, and Head of Development, Liz Gwyther, about King's today and a look back to 2009. Alumni enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with friends and old teachers including their former Headmaster, Tim Turvey, whilst enjoying a delicious meal. Former Head Boy, George Roberts closed the event, thanking the alumni team for a memorable evening.

This was the final reunion event of 2019 – thank you to everyone who helped to spread the word about this year's reunions which have all been very successful.

Some comments from alumni about reunions:

"It was great to be able to re-connect with old friends"

"Two issues people worry about when considering attending their reunion is firstly, whether their former classmates take great pleasure in telling them how successful they are and secondly, whether issues at school, such as mutual dislike or incidents of bullying, will resurface. From my experience, neither was an issue for anyone who came."

2020 Reunions

1960 Reunion (60 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 28 March** 11am – 2.30pm

1970 Reunion (50 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 7 March** 11am – 2.30pm

1980 Reunion (40 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 7 March** 6pm – 10pm

1990 Reunion (30 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 14 March** 6pm – 10pm

2000 Reunion (20 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 28 March** 6pm – 10pm

2010 Reunion (10 years since leaving King's) – **Saturday 16 May** 6pm – 10pm

The King's Tudor Society



The King's Tudor Society Rose Garden

On Saturday 29th June 2019 the inaugural event of the King's Tudor Society took place at the school when the founder members who were able to attend placed plaques in the rose garden, planted to mark their contribution to the school.

The King's Tudor Society has been established to recognise and celebrate supporters of the King's School legacy programme, and membership is given to people who are happy to advise the school that they have made provision within their wills for a bequest to The King's School Chester.

The Society enables the school to thank these benefactors within their lifetimes. A programme of activities is planned for members, each of whom receives a society tie or handbag clip and a pin-badge.

A dedicated red or white rose is planted in the King's Tudor Society Rose Garden in the central quadrangle.

Liz Gwyther, the Head of Development, will be happy to discuss legacy giving confidentially. Legacy giving can result in significant tax benefits and be a very efficient way of charitable giving. ***But it should be understood that the School cannot give legal or financial advice and anyone who is considering this course and wishes to understand how it would affect their own individual circumstances should seek independent professional advice.***

It is, of course, understood that there will be some who do not desire to give notice of their intentions, or be listed as benefactors, and these views will always be respected. Any enquiries about legacy giving should be made to Liz Gwyther, Head of Development, at the King's School. Email: eeg@Kingschester.co.uk Tel: +44 (0)1244 689492

Leading Light Award Winners

The Development Office thanks all who participated in the Leading Light nomination process this year.

Leading Light awards are given to alumni who have shown leadership, innovation and excellence in their professional, community and personal endeavours. Their accomplishments serve as an example for the King's community.

This year, the judging panel decided to award two trophies - to Anthony Russell, retired Senior Circuit Judge, Resident Judge for Lancashire and Recorder of Preston, and to Alan Vallance, CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Anthony Russell is also currently the Editor of the CAOKS Newsletter. Alan Vallance, a former President of CAOKS, has had a successful career leading numerous transformation programmes in high profile organisations, including The Law Society. He has given a great deal of time to the school and is particularly supportive of the bursary programme, which aims to widen access to a King's education for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The awards were presented by the Headmaster at the CAOKS Annual Dinner.

All nominations are carried forward for 3 years and should be submitted to alumni@kingschester.co.uk.



Founder Members with the Headmaster



Association Ties

CAOKS Tie

After several years of being unavailable, a new supply of CAOKS ties will be ordered soon. The ties are silk and of good quality, similar to the new King's Tudor Society ties recently commissioned by the school. The design is similar to the existing tie but with a slightly more modern style to replicate the current CAOKS crown and "h r" logo within the two gold diagonal stripes on a navy-blue background.

The cost, including postage, will be £14 for UK members and £16 for ties to be sent overseas.

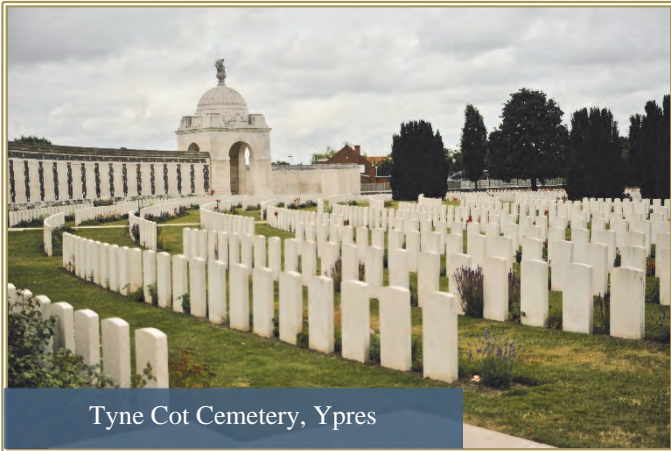
In order that numbers for the initial order may be gauged members are asked to **express an interest** in purchasing a tie by emailing the Honorary Secretary:

HonSec@caoks.co.uk





King's Alumni Battlefields Tour



Tyne Cot Cemetery, Ypres



At the beginning of the school summer vacation (14-18 July 2019), the School's Alumni Team organised a fascinating trip to the Battlefields of the First World War for former pupils, parents, staff and friends. David Wilkes OKS, former President of CAOKS, describes the visit.

Poignant moments were many; probably the most moving was the special visit to Bleuet Farm Cemetery where Edward Walley (OKS 1957) found the grave of his uncle Harold (OKS 1914), a gunner of the Royal Garrison Artillery, who died on 17 September 1917 near the edge of the Ypres Salient. Standing over the grave, Edward read out two letters written by a fellow gunner to Harold's mother. The first informed her that he had been wounded by a fragment from a shell that exploded close to them as they were walking between their dugout and their battery position, and that they had taken him to the Bleuet Farm ADS (an Advanced Dressing Station, set up at a forward position in preparation for the assaults of the Battle of Passchendaele). He was being cared for at the ADS, and it was thought his wounds were not serious. The second letter informed her that Harold had died only a few hours later. We observed a few moments of silence and Edward laid a wreath. Gunner Harold Walley, from a farming family near Waverton, was 20 years old when he was killed. He had left school during the year the war began and had just started his studies at the Cheshire Agricultural College at Holmes Chapel. He volunteered and joined the Royal Garrison Artillery in Chester in November 1914. He served at the front for 2 years and 3 months.

Other OKS were rather older when they joined the army. Captain Colin Laird came from Hoole, the family living in Shavington Avenue. The son of the Cheshire County Council's Weights and Measures Inspector, Laird had left school in 1903, had married and was working as an accountant by the time of the war. He was an enthusiastic oarsman, a good sculler (winning several events, including junior sculls, at Chester Regatta) and vice-captain of Grosvenor Rowing Club. Laird joined the King's Liverpool Regiment in September 1914 and after one year's training went to the front for 13 months, where he was involved in much severe fighting. He was killed on 20 September 1917 in the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) whilst leading a party of men to take a German stronghold. He was 20 yards away from the objective when he was killed by machine gun fire. His commanding officer wrote to Laird's parents, "He died gallantly as a fine soldier and an English gentleman. His loss to me is a great one, as I had a great trust in his capability and courage. He was rapidly being promoted in the profession



Photographs of Edward Walley at his uncle's grave and of his father's visit there in 1938



Features

which he took up when his country called him. He was always cheerful and bright, and it was always a pleasure to meet him. I know nothing can help you in your great sorrow at this moment, but hope that possibly his brother officers' and my own great opinion of him will somewhat help to soften the trouble". His body as never found and so his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, which lists those Missing in the Salient after 16 August 1917 – 35,000 in total; perhaps he lies in one of the unmarked graves in Tyne Cot Cemetery. Tyne Cot is located on 'high' ground near Passchendaele and is situated on the site of a German defensive strong point - machine gun bunkers lie within the confines of the cemetery. Tyne Cot contains nearly 12,000 graves, 70 per cent of which are unidentified. One of those whose grave is identified is OKS Lance Corporal Alfred Robinson. His parents ran a hotel at Mostyn but Alfred, who was at King's from 1898 to 1901, emigrated in the years before the war, as many did. His grave has the New Zealand Fern Leaf on the headstone for he was with the New Zealand Rifle Brigade – 'the Dinks'. The Dinks had been at Messines in June and were then involved in the assaults on the German positions near Passchendaele. He was killed in action on 16 November 1917. Robinson is a good reminder that many of those serving under a country's flag were not natives. Twenty-three of the 360 OKS listed in the 1917 Roll of Service served with overseas contingents ranging from Australia to South Africa.

Those who died in the Ypres Salient before 16 August 1917 and whose remains were never found are commemorated on the Menin Gate at Ypres. Included among the 55,000 names recorded there are three OKS. Captain Robert Forbes Stanley-Creek DSO of The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment was the first OKS to be killed in the war. Creek left King's in 1894 and, like his father, was a regular army officer. Just a week before his death at Gheluvelt during the First Battle of Ypres, the 36-year-old Creek had won the DSO near Langemarck "for conspicuous gallantry and able leading in the attack." It was from Langemarck, another



The Thiepval Memorial

German stronghold, that the Germans launched the first poison gas attack in April 1915. Today it is the site of a huge German cemetery which we visited; very different in atmosphere to the more familiar Commonwealth War Graves Cemeteries. Langemarck was also where another OKS named on the Menin Gate was killed. Second Lieutenant Gordon Eric Martin of The Rifle Brigade was a possible under-age enlistee. He attended King's between 1910 and 1913, and was only 19 when shot through the head by a sniper on 14 August 1917. Martin had enlisted in the Public Schools' Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers and saw much service; he trained as an officer and was commissioned in the Rifle Brigade. His father was the Station Master at Holywell Junction, and the family lived in Station House, Sandycroft. After leaving school (aged 15), Eric Martin worked for the London and North-Western Railway at Chester. Also commemorated on the Menin Gate is Second Lieutenant Geoffrey William Watson, Cheshire Regiment (KS 1909 -13). He was 21 when he was killed in action on 1 August 1917, the second day of the Third Battle of Ypres. Second Lieutenant Watson's father was a commercial traveller; like Laird, Watson lived in Hoole. Geoffrey was a noted actor and athlete at school; he had gained a scholarship to Holmes Chapel Agricultural College in 1913 (the year he left school) and probably joined the army in late 1914. The Headmaster, George Hartley and former CAOKS President, David Wilkes, laid wreaths in memory of the three OKS during the Last Post ceremony, which takes place at the Menin Gate every night at 8 o'clock. Tyne Cot and the Menin Gate leave no doubt in one's mind about the scale of loss wrought by the Great War. The colossal Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, which dominates the countryside for miles around, hammers the point home. There are almost 75,000 names listed on the panels of the Memorial, among them five OKS. In addition to Second Lieutenant P. M. Richards, Royal Fusiliers, OKS 1902-03, Private H. L. Ikin, Royal Fusiliers, OKS 1910-13 and Second Lieutenant F Harris, Cheshire Regt, OKS 1896-97, we saw the names of Lieutenant Francis Bardon Denham, Worcestershire Regiment, and Second Lieutenant Llewelyn Lewis, Royal



Features

Welch Fusiliers. On our way to the Thiepval Memorial we had stopped at Mametz Wood to see where Second Lieutenant Lewis was killed and had driven through the village of Contalmaison, as we did so learning something of his story. By a strange coincidence, Denham was a pupil of both schools at which George Hartley has been Headmaster, Denham attending King's 1906-10 and then Elizabeth College, Guernsey 1910-14. Born in India where his father was a history professor, Denham was educated in Germany for a time before coming to King's as a boarder. During his time in the school, he won the form prize (1907). Sadly, he was killed in action on 7 July 1916 at Contalmaison during the Battle of the Somme amid fierce hand-to-hand fighting, as the British tried



The Menin Gate Ceremony

unsuccessfully to wrest control of the fortified village from the Germans. Mametz Wood, where Second Lieutenant Llewelyn Lewis, was killed, was close by. Indeed, he and Denham, who overlapped at King's, were killed in essentially the same area, trying to push the Germans out of positions so that a further assault could proceed on 14 July. At King's, Lewis was a good sportsman, representing the school at football and cricket, and after he left in 1908, he worked for National Provincial Bank. He was shot by a sniper during the 38th (Welsh) Division's assault on Mametz Wood at some point between 10 and 12 July 1916: the nature of fighting was so horrific that one cannot even be certain when he was killed. We visited Mametz Wood and viewed the scene from the Welsh Memorial, a red dragon pointing defiantly towards the Wood. We looked across about 150 m of corn field, over which the almost-suicidal assaults of inexperienced troops against a wood full of experienced German units took place: a scene well described by Robert Graves in "Goodbye to All That".

Descendants of some of the troops of the Welsh Regiments were with us on the visit and added their own family stories to those Seb related. No doubt these filled our thoughts as the Headmaster and Henry Parker, Form J4 (Junior School) laid wreaths in memory of the five OKS named on the Thiepval Memorial later that day.

Perhaps the most detailed wartime story we heard about an OKS was that of Captain Whittaker. Roger d'Arcy Whittaker, whose parents ran a slate quarry in Ffestiniog, had left King's in 1902 where he was known as a good draughtsman and a fine sportsman, especially at football. He had trained as an engineer and worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway but gave





Features

up a good position to come over as a private soldier with the 72nd Canadians at the beginning of the war. He was gazetted to the Royal Sussex in December 1914 and was later promoted to Captain and served as Adjutant in the 13th Battalion. He was killed on 30 June 1916 ('the day Sussex died') in the Battle of the Boar's Head, a diversionary attack ahead of the Battle of the Somme (1 July 1916). The poet Edmund Blunden fought in the Battle of the Boar's Head and wrote about it in "Undertones of War" (1928): "What the Brigade felt was summed up by some sentry who, asked by the General next morning what he thought of the attack, answered in the roundest fashion, 'Like a butcher's shop'." Sergeant William Booth MM when interviewed by historian Paul Reed described finding Captain Whittaker's body on reaching the German lines: "A Captain was laying on the wire, dead. He was a company commander and started off in England as our platoon officer. We were his first command. His name was Whittaker."

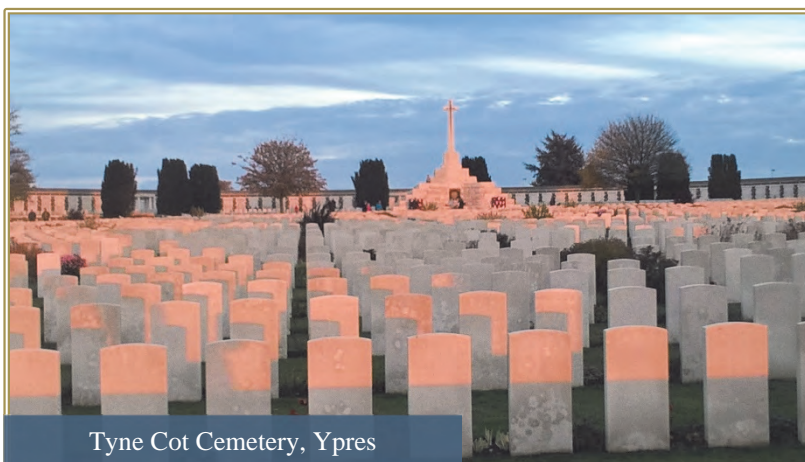


Mamet's Wood Memorial

Captain Whittaker's name is on the Loos Memorial, a wall of names around the Dud Corner Cemetery (a name inspired by the unreliable British artillery shells at the time of the Battle of Loos, a British offensive in September-October 1915). Some of the victims of the Boar's Head action are commemorated here. Alfred Lloyd, Form J4 (Junior School), laid a wreath in Captain Whittaker's memory.

King's contribution to the First World War broadly reflected the national experience. Records show that 374 OKS served during the War and that 58 (15.5%) did not return. For a school that was just 154-strong in 1914, these numbers demonstrate something of the huge impact of the War. Nationally, about 6,000,000 men were mobilised and of those 700,000 (14%) were killed. This is not to say, however, that all those who returned did so unscathed by their experience. Whether they fell or survived, whether they were taken prisoner like Sergeant Major F. J. Howard of the Cheshire Regiment, or were wounded like Second Lieutenant P. Dobie of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, all OKS, to paraphrase Virgil's words on the School War Memorial, 'earned their remembrance by their deeds'.

David Wilkes OKS



Tyne Cot Cemetery, Ypres



Features

The King's School Film Society 1967-1975 - Richard Lysons

In the 1960's and 1970's there was a growing interest in the study of cinema. Serious writing about films increased - in the broadsheets, magazines such as *Sight & Sound* and *Films and Filming* and in more and more books. In these days of multi-channel television; DVDs and the Internet, it is hard to imagine how difficult it was to watch serious or "arthouse" films. Before 1982 there were just three television channels and only BBC2 screened foreign films. Film societies existed in many towns and universities - and some schools! This article is an attempt to chronicle the school's film society during its existence and I hope that it stirs up readers' memories.

I served as Treasurer of the school's Film Society in the academic year 1973-1974 and subsequently Secretary the following year. This article has been researched using back issues of the Kings School magazine and the Queens School magazine "Have Mynde" archive which is available online. I also had access to some school calendars which are in the school's archive. There is some discrepancy over the dates of some film showings, probably due to the early publication deadline of the calendar and the inevitable postponement of some advertised screenings. I have had to rely on my own memory to try and fill some gaps. All quotes are from the school magazine's Society Notes.



"Unfortunately, the Film Society is still not yet on its feet as a result of administrative difficulties. This year's membership fees will cover three complete programmes - one at the end of this term and two next term: but films cannot be ordered until the full extent of membership is known. The main feature of this term's programme will be *The Trouble with Harry*" (Lent Term 1968).

"The final arrival of the Film Society has been greeted enthusiastically throughout the school. On March 21st a good attendance of members saw John Huston's *Beat the Devil*...May 17th heralded the showing of Olivier's *Henry V*, an O-Level set book. About 120 people saw the film; 20 came from outside school...The final film of the season will be *All Quiet on The Western Front*" (Summer Term 1968)

"The Film Society reports good programmes, but again, disappointing audiences. There are now only 24 members, as opposed to 60 last term, because enthusiasm wanes when money is mentioned. However, it is hoped next term's films- *Viva Zapata* and *On The Waterfront* will attract more members. The films shown this term have been *Battleship Potemkin* and *All Quiet on The Western Front*" (Michaelmas Term 1968)

"*Viva Zapata* and *On The Waterfront* have been shown this term, and discussions have been held on these films. Dr Moore gave a talk on Alfred Hitchcock. Perhaps next term's programmes- *Animal Farm* and *Tom Jones* ...will encourage members back.." (Lent Term 1969)

"The Film Society presented *Animal Farm* at the beginning of term and although it produced the second largest audience to date, membership is still very low. The term was concluded with *Tom Jones* and full supporting programme." (Summer Term 1969)

"At the beginning of term *Monsieur Hulot's Holiday* was very successful and in December *The Seven Samurai* was also well received." (Michaelmas Term 1969)

"The Society has been somewhat inactive of late; in fact, we have not seen one film this term. The Secretary S.P.G. Jones



Features

blamed "the apathy of the booking clerks at the Central Booking Agency of the British Film Institute" for the present state of affairs. Proposed programme: -March 2nd *Lord of The Flies*; March 20th *Umberto D*; *Animal Farm* postponed until May 18th." (Spring Term 1970)

"The Film Society exceeded its programme with three film evenings. The extra item was a repeat of the cartoon *Animal Farm*. The first scheduled meeting was the showing of a series of shorts. *Citizen Kane* was shown. The society is especially sad at the loss of Dr Moore. His knowledge and love of films and modern arts have been an inspiration to the society and a guide to its choice of films. The society sends its best wishes with him and wishes him good fortune at York." (Summer Term 1970)

I can recall *Citizen Kane* being screened in Room 14 (the old Science lecture theatre) and being enthralled by Orson Welles' masterpiece.

"The programme for the year was begun with the screening of two films during the Michaelmas Term, both of which were well attended. The first was Godard's *Vivre Sa Vie* ...the second, Antonioni's *Blow Up*. Unfortunately, plans for the Lent Term were held over owing to the Postal Strike. Plans for two full-length feature films were thus postponed until the Summer Term. However, at the end of term the Society did show *Dial M For Murder* and they intend to screen again the Film Making Group's own *Hallas In Wonderland* which proved highly successful in the Michaelmas Term." (Summer Term 1971)

I remember seeing *Vivre Sa Vie* which was screened in the large Form C classroom in the Junior School; I was only 13 but somehow was allowed to see this disturbing French film! It was probably the first film that I had ever seen with sub-titles.

"During the exam term, apathy has reigned. Attendances have been poor for both films shown during this period: *Hellzapoppin* and *Ugetsu Monogatari* with Queen's School attendance nil." (Michaelmas Term 1971)

"The first film ever shown by this society at the Queen's School was John Schlesinger's *Billy Liar*. This was considered a great success, with an audience approaching about one hundred people. This was followed by *Viridiana*, the work of Luis Bunuel. The school rejected the unfamiliar and attendance was slight...Catering for different audience, short films were shown during lunch breaks: *Dancing Romeo* and *Tom and Jerry* which attracted a mass audience of those bored with normal lunchtime arrangements. The Society has decided to show (Jean-Luc Godard's first film) *Au Bout de Souffle* (on) 5th May." (Summer Term 1972)

"One move (for The Sixth-Form Society to vary activities) ... has been joint ventures with the Film Society. In the Summer Term *Au Bout de Souffle* was shown and well attended but made a slight loss. Mr Parker (gave a) lucid and enlightening talk on the Nouvelle Vague in French cinema." (Michaelmas Term 1972)

"The Film Society has been very active this year under a new Secretary, M.W. Dutton and a new Treasurer, R.D. Lysons. They have introduced membership by termly or yearly subscription and the response has been successful. Meetings are held every Friday lunchtime with discussions, talks and quizzes. Among the films hoped to be shown are *Midnight Cowboy* and *The Seventh Seal*." (Lent Term 1974)

"The Film Society has had one of its most successful terms ever and has shown *Midnight Cowboy* in December and the French classic *Un Homme et une Femme* in March - both to large audiences. During the Lent Term, two *Tom and Jerry* films were shown at lunchtime with great success. In the Summer Term they are showing *Death In Venice* and the classic comedy *The Marx Brothers Go West*." (Summer Term 1974).

Midnight Cowboy was screened in the school hall and I recall the screening having a huge audience. *Death In Venice* was shown on May 10th 1974 and I remember buying the soundtrack album soon after with its brilliant use of Mahler's music.

Unfortunately, the Society Notes seemed to disappear from the school magazine in 1975 - the very year that I was serving as Secretary of the Film Society! I had served my apprenticeship as Treasurer. I remember browsing through the film catalogues and marveling at the range of films available for hire. Many of these films had never been shown on British television, so hiring them for a film society was the only way to see them. I remember the excitement - and sheer relief —



Features

of seeing the heavy cases of film reels that had been delivered by the distributors to the school's front entrance.

We showed the original *Frankenstein* on November 22nd 1974, partly because I was obsessed at the time with the films of Boris Karloff! The next film we booked for the New Year was Lindsay Anderson's *If...* but disaster nearly struck. BBC-2's "Midweek Cinema" had unfortunately shown it on December 18th. However, the television screening merely acted as an effective advertisement for us, as so many people wanted to see it again -or see what all the fuss was about. We had another packed film show! Lines from the film became as ubiquitous as those of "Monty Python" - "Run in the corridor!"; "how was India, Rowntree?" and so on.

We showed *Dr No* on April 18th 1975. It was a great success and made a tidy profit. Unknowingly, I was learning how to subsidise less popular films with the profits of the more popular ones a bit like the British film industry! The passage of forty years plays tricks with my memory, but I clearly remember Robin Arthan and Ian Heywood doing projectionist duties. During one film Robin and Ian wanted to go for a pint at the newly opened motel further up Wrexham Road between reel change-overs. I pleaded with them NOT to leave me on my own with a potentially temperamental film projector and a large audience. I think that I succeeded! We also showed *Kes* in May.

The school magazine for 1975-1976 states "Neither the Film Society nor the Film Making Group appears to have thrived. Are there no members of the school interested in the Silver Screen?" I can find no mention of a film society in the following year's magazine (1976-1977).

Another clear memory was the encouragement that Norman Hallas gave us as officers of the society. We had extraordinary responsibility delegated to us as pupils which gave such valuable experience. I am certain that this is where I learned to organise events- a skill that has served me well over the subsequent 40 plus years!

This article is dedicated to the members of staff who acted as advisers to the society (Dr Moore; Mr Hallas) and all former pupils who acted as officers; projectionists and ticket sellers over the years.

Richard Lysons OKS (1976)

A Nostalgic visit to the Old School

The King's School moved to Wrexham Road in 1960. From the early 1900s it was housed in various other buildings in the city centre, including the Blomfield buildings in St Werburgh Street (now Barclays Bank) and the former Bluecoat School on Upper Northgate Street. At a recent Barclays Board meeting one of the Board members (who also has connections to King's) invited Headmaster George Hartley and a couple of former pupils to look around and reminisce. Old boys Charles Pritchard (*OKS 1957*) and Martin Meredith (*OKS 1961*) acted as tour guides and gave Mr Hartley a detailed insight into the daily life of the school during their day, including where their assemblies and other activities had been held. Charles commented that it was "a bit sad what they have done to it, but at least it has given 60 more years of useful life, meeting today's requirements".

Charles wrote the following after his visit "I was thrown from the very beginning by not seeing the old main staircase. It has gone! As we walked in, off St Werburgh Street, the Main Staircase would have been directly in front of us. From the Bank entrance area, we in fact turned left with Charlie our Guide and went up a few steps. The steps were there of old and led to a corridor, facing us being The Head's Study and his Secretary's room



Headmaster with OKS Martin Meredith and Charles Pritchard



Features

(Gladys) which would have been in the corner below the modernistic staircase we eventually ascended. To the right of this was the Stationery Room, from whence we had to obtain our writing books. (Hank's room, its occupier being Mr Hankinson) But, before mentally ascending, look right and there would have been a 10ft wide corridor which led along to the Main Pupil Door...the one by which we later came in from the Playground. Going back to entry from the street, had we looked Right we would have been looking along a corridor 8ft wide running parallel to the street and, off to the left, was Room A (Dr Hadley, French) and at the end was Room B, Johnny Walsh, always the room for Upper Third.

"Now we can go upstairs, as we did. Our entry into the Assembly Hall would have been through what is now a lift - there was a big door there. Assembly Room pretty well as we saw it. There was a low dais under the balcony with The Head's Lectern/Desk central and a lectern right for Head Prefect to address us. He stood to the right until called for. The Assembly Hall had a central aisle but was otherwise filled with rows of chairs, in a yellowish colour, possibly oak, with a small shelf/box on the back of each to hold the Hymn Book for the pupil behind. The chairs each had the name of a former pupil on the front of the top rail, I presume they were bought/paid for by said pupil. I don't think I did one.

"Through the Lift Door was a corridor with Room E on the left (Tec Evetts) and Room F facing you at the end (A T Owen, Latin). On the right before you entered Room F was the door to The Library (which we could imagine at the far-right corner of the library itself when we stood in it) and also the arch to the stone spiral staircase to Room G, top floor, the external gable of which we saw high on our left when later leaving the Library. Remove A.

"The final bit we were clear about and that was the back staircase which we descended from the rear of the Assembly Hall and it brought us down to the Pupil Entrance and Room C (EY Eric Yates, fearsome history teacher) and to Room D, which I seem rarely to have used. At the foot of those stairs was a washroom with wash basins. The Chester water tasted very much of Chlorine."



The Old Assembly Hall



Alfred Gwyn Evans OKS (1956)

Gwyn Evans, a keen and supportive member of CAOKS, President of the Association in 1984, who for many years ran a long-established family printing business, died on 24th July 2019, aged 81. Born in Bangor, North Wales, on 24th September 1937 the family moved to Chester and Gwyn attended school in Newton before entering the King's School in 1949, where his love of rowing was nurtured and he became Captain of Boats.

Gwyn joined the 8th Chester Scout Group, became a Queen's Scout and supported The Gang Show ever since. He left King's in 1956 and studied at The London School of Economics, gaining a B Sc degree, and met Janet who was studying nursing. He then worked as a sailing and mountaineering instructor at Brathay Hall in Cumbria. At the time he bought his 1932 Riley Alpine Tourer which he fully restored, competed and toured in France, Norway and all over the UK.

Returning to Chester, Gwyn married Janet and became a Director of W.H.Evans and Sons Ltd., joining his father Alfred George Evans. Gwyn's great grandfather William Henry Evans had established the printing firm in 1840 and the company chronicled much of Chester's history. Gwyn was very proud to continue this tradition especially the long association with the Cheshire Yeomanry.

Like many King's rowers, he later joined Royal Chester Rowing Club as an active member, latterly in a keen veteran squad. A vice president of Chester Regatta, first established more than 280 years ago and claiming to be the oldest regatta of its type in the world, Gwyn printed the programme each year and was also very proud to have printed the annual British Rowing Almanac and the books "One man went to Row" and "1000 years of Rowing on The Dee" both by the late Keith Osborne.

Although not a Cestrian by birth, Gwyn was a true Cestrian by nature and was very committed to local matters having been a president of The Chester Freeman and Guilds. Like his father he was a Past Master of Loyal City Masonic Lodge and he was also a member of several other masonic lodges and orders and was a Trustee of the William Jones Almshouses in Park Street.

The loss of their son David in 2004 after a long illness was very sad. In 2006 Gwyn and Jan retired to Cumbria returning to the countryside they had explored in their youth, whilst still keeping an active connection with Chester through friends and societies and their house in the Groves beside his beloved River Dee. He is survived by his wife Janet, their two daughters and four grandchildren and at his funeral at the parish church of S. John the Baptist, the lower altar was draped with the King's School flag, flanked by masonic banners and his coffin, fittingly draped with the flag of the Royal Chester Rowing Club, was borne by members of his veterans' squad.

Gwyn was a true gentleman, proud of his Welsh heritage and his kindness, generosity and ever-present humour will be greatly missed by all who had the good fortune to have known him.

Jeremy Lloyd OKS



John Snagge presenting the pennant to the First VIII at the Northern Head 1955 – Gwyn Evans is on the right

The Revd Richard Green OKS (1968)

The Reverend Richard Green (KS 1960-1968) died peacefully in his adopted home city of Hereford on March 27th, at the age of 69. Entering the church had always been his ambition from early years. This was no secret to fellow pupils at the school, who knew Richard affectionately as 'Rev'. They will also have appreciated his down-to-earth humour, though: this stayed with him through difficult times ahead.



At King's, Richard's extra-curricular activities included minor parts in dramatic productions and becoming an attendant to the Bishop of Chester - a role confined to King's pupils. He was also a meticulous scorer for the first cricket eleven, his neat script gracing a good few scorebook pages.

It was in his last couple of years at King's that Richard's long battle with rheumatoid arthritis began. At first, he was able still to live life to the full. He proceeded to theological studies at King's College, London, relishing life in the capital, which he knew like the back of his hand. Here he developed a taste for any number of musical genres, attending live concerts in multiple locations. Art was another lifelong passion, stoked by access to London's wealth of galleries.

Following ordination, Richard served as a minister first in Broseley, near Ironbridge in Shropshire and then, for the remainder of his career, at St Martin's Church in Hereford - known as the SAS church. Despite his disability, he played cricket for the Hereford Diocese as a smooth-actioned off-spinner. Alongside his clerical duties, Richard became a Labour councillor in Hereford, where his eye for detail on all manner of subject areas came to the fore. Supporting Hereford FC was also a significant strand in his life, as was the Three Choirs Festival and its British musical fare.

Alas, the arthritis that had dogged Richard for decades gradually narrowed his activities - but never his horizons. Largely confined to his home in recent years, he

nonetheless (especially via the internet) kept a close eye on a dizzying range of interests. No wonder he was a wizard crossword solver.

The turnout for Richard's funeral at St Martin's in April was testament to the warm affection and respect in which he was held. He now lies in an exquisite woodland burial site in deepest Shropshire: countryside that meant so much to him, not least on account of its literary and musical associations.

Richard is survived by three OKS brothers - Andrew, Chris and Robert - and his sister Rosie (once of Queen's School).

Sir David Maddison OKS (1966)

Sir David Maddison, who died of cancer of the oesophagus on 29th June 2019 at the age of 72, was one of the most highly regarded criminal judges of his generation. David George Maddison was the elder child of Claude and Clarice Maddison, born on 22nd January 1947 in Cudworth near Barnsley,



South Yorkshire, where his father was an accountant for the Coal Board and his mother a midwife. The family moved to Chester and David attended the King's School from 1955 to 1966. At school David was an all-rounder, remaining a polymath for the rest of his life. Good at sports, sound in his academic studies and a keen musician, playing the piano and participating in the school operas, his wide-ranging abilities and interests were retained beyond his days at King's. He was a keen sportsman, playing golf and tennis regularly, and became a regular at Anfield enthusiastically supporting Liverpool FC. Whilst a teenager he played keyboards for Headline News, a local pop group, in and around Chester including gigs at the Quaintways nightclub. Later, despite a busy professional career, he sang baritone with a number of choirs in the Liverpool area.

He read law and economics at Durham University and was called to the Bar by Inner Temple in 1970. Initially he practised in London but in 1972 he moved to chambers in Liverpool where he soon established a substantial



practice, mainly crime but also personal injury work. He was the editor of the 4th and 5th editions of Bingham's Negligence Cases. It was in his early days in Liverpool that he met Indira Saverymuttu, a biochemist working for the NHS, and they married in 1976.

David Maddison was in due course appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court and in 1992, at the then young age of 45 for such a post, was appointed a full-time Circuit Judge. He was a member of the Parole Board for 4 years, and in 2000 was invited to sit as an additional judge of the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division). In 2003 he was promoted to the rank of Senior Circuit Judge and appointed Recorder of Manchester. This is a specialist post involving leading the judicial team of an area, important administrative and civic duties, and trying many of the most serious criminal cases at the court. It was a role in which David's knowledge of the criminal law, his empathy with people, lack of pomposity and wide-ranging interests made him spectacularly successful.

He continued to sit regularly in the Court of Appeal and it was no surprise when in 2008 he was appointed a Justice of the High Court (Queen's Bench Division) and knighted, as is customary on such an appointment.

As a High Court Judge he presided over many murder cases including one of the longest murder trials in English criminal history, arising out of the finding of the brutally murdered body of Daniel Morgan, a private detective, in London in 1987. The police investigations are the subject of an enquiry which is yet to report, but after many years the trial of 4 men came before Mr Justice Maddison at the Old Bailey in October 2009. There followed many months of legal argument and after 18 months in court the case eventually collapsed. One day the victim's sister, frustrated by the proceedings, stormed out of court shouting that the trial was a pantomime. The judge immediately sent his clerk to the woman to tell her that she was welcome back to court whenever she wanted to return. It was this sort of common humanity which explains why this exceptional judge was so widely admired.

In the valedictory sitting at Liverpool in 2013 to mark his retirement, David Maddison, who always enjoyed using

visual aids in court, produced the famous 1963 King's School photograph to great effect, unrolling it to display to the court as he called out the names of the King's School boys in it who had gone on to careers at the Bar and Bench, and those of us who were fortunate to be present were proud to answer "Here, Sir" when our names were called. His sense of humour always made judicial training courses, at which he was a frequent lecturer and Director of Training from 2010 to 2013, more bearable.

After his retirement David was elected President of the Athenaeum Club in Liverpool in 2017 and was able to spend more time with his family frequently visiting their cottage in the Lake District and their property in Portugal. Sadly, his illness struck in 2018 and with characteristic fortitude he bravely endured the unpleasant treatment but lost the struggle. He announced his diagnosis by emailing his many friends and colleagues telling us that we would not be seeing him for a while, not wanting there to be any speculation about his absence. We received regular updates from him and these always showed optimism. He spent some time in his last few weeks specifying the music, readings and speakers for his funeral service with the instruction: "Don't make it miserable".

David leaves his widow, Indira, and three sons, Graeme, operations manager for a pension company in Liverpool, Tim, a solicitor and head of law at a law school in Leeds, and Simon, a barrister in practice in Liverpool.

It was my privilege to have known David for over 50 years, latterly frequently working with him.

His Honour Anthony Russell QC OKS



The Recorders of Preston (Anthony Russell OKS), Chester (Elgan Edwards, whose widow Carol is a governor of the King's School), Manchester (David Maddison OKS) and Liverpool (Henry Globe) at Chester Cathedral for the Judges' Service, October 2007



John Alastair Crewe Maddock OKS (1941)

Born on 24th October 1923 John was the only son and youngest of three children of William and Dorothy Maddock. His early education was at Hollybank School, which was owned and operated by his maternal aunt, Marjorie Crewe. Then, just before his eleventh birthday, he started at the King's School on an Owen Jones Scholarship. All his life he remembered his time at the King's School with much pleasure. In July 1940, he was awarded his School Certificate, in which he received five credits and two passes. He attributes his success to one of his teachers, A. St. G. Walsh (Johnny): 'never have I forgotten him persuading me to enjoy a walk in Wales as a more suitable way of spending the weekend prior to School Certificate — and how right he was'. John was one of 'Johnny' Walsh's walking group, known as the 'Banim', and stayed in contact with him until his death.

John left the King's School in 1941 and prepared for joining the RAF by taking a Short Course at Queen's University in Belfast, where he was a member of Queen's University Air Squadron and gained his Certificate of Proficiency from the Air Ministry in April 1942. He started his training as an 'Air Observer', which involved navigation, bomb aiming, gunnery and wireless operation in England. One of his postings was to Hastings, where there were two bombing raids in the same week on the building in which he was billeted. After the second raid, the participants in that course were moved the next day to Harrogate. In late 1942, he travelled to Canada to continue his training where, following graduation in July 1943, he was commissioned as a Pilot Officer finishing the war as a Flight Lieutenant. He was then posted to India, where he saw service dropping supplies to Orde Wingate's Chindits in the Burma campaign.

Following Demob in 1946, John returned to England where he first tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade the family to emigrate to Canada. As he did not want to work in the butcher's business, which his mother had inherited from her father, he tried the tobacco industry in Rhodesia next. Returning to England following family pressure, he was working in the family butcher's business when he met Rosemary Kenyon. John and Rosemary were married in August 1949. Before their only child, Jennifer, was born in 1953, he tried one last time to escape. He applied successfully to re-join the

RAF. He was in London to sign his papers, but before he could do so, his father arrived with one last plea from his mother. John succumbed to family pressure. He returned to Chester and the family butcher's business. He buckled down, turning JM Crewe at 35 Watergate Street into the first self-service butchers in Chester. He built up the business, both at 35 Watergate Street and at a shop in the Old Market, to the point where he could make a change.

In 1965 he decided to close the butcher's business in 35 Watergate Street and open a toyshop, while keeping the Market shop going to support the new venture. There was only one toyshop in the city centre at this time and he believed that there was room for another, especially if he specialised in different types of toys. Toycraft opened in autumn 1965 and by 1967 was doing such good trade that he was able to take out a lease on 33 Watergate Street, more than doubling the floor-space of the shop. He continued to develop the business, latterly in partnership with Rosemary, until their retirement in 1987.

John was very active in city affairs. He was Presidents of both the Chester Association of Old King's Scholars and the Chamber of Trade, as well as Chairman of Chester Civic Trust. He was a member of Chester City Council from 1973-1979 and was Chairman of the Development and Planning Committee for some of this time. He was one of the Council representatives on the Falcon Trust. After leaving the Council, he became a member of the Conservation Area Advisory Committee for many years. And last, but not by any means least, he was President of the Freeman and Guilds of the City of Chester. He was admitted to the Freedom of the City of Chester in March 1947, but for some reason did not become a member of his family Company, the Innholders, Cooks and Victuallers, until 1966. He was both a member of Guilds Council and an officer of the Innholders Company for many years.

After selling the business, John and Rosemary spent some time living with Rosemary's aunt in mid-Wales before returning to Chester where they were as active in retirement as they had been in business. They played tennis and went swimming. John started and Rosemary re-started German lessons, which led to a course at the Goethe-Institut in Rothenburg ob der Tauber in 1990. While John learnt the clarinet, Rosemary studied the piano. In retirement, John was able to return to his love of walking. In June 1991, he walked Offa's Dyke from



north to south in eleven days. In addition to this he walked Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk and Offa's Dyke for a second time, but this time from south to north.

Sadly, as Rosemary developed Parkinson's Disease, these activities gradually stopped. John, who with Rosemary, had supported first her parents, then his parents and finally his sister, Marjorie, in their later years, now had to support Rosemary in the same way until her death in 2013. He in his turn was helped by his daughter, Jennifer, who moved back to Chester to live with him in 2017. He died on 19th March 2019 aged 95.



The choir at John Maddock's memorial service

Kenneth Harrison Worden (OKS 1948)

Ken Worden was a proud Cestrian and prominent local business man. He was a chorister at Chester Cathedral, a pupil of the Choir School and subsequently of the King's School. He was a life-long member of Royal Chester Rowing Club and later a prominent member of Chester Sailing and Canoe Club.

Ken learned to row at the School when rowing was reintroduced after the war in 1946. Initially he coxed the 1st IV in 1947, and is recorded as a stroke-side oarsman in 1948, the year he left King's. In parallel he coxed the RCRC 1st Vllls in the North of England Head of the River races in '47 and '48 and a IV at Olympic Trials later that year. By 1953 we see him rowing in the bows of the RCRC VIII that won the local Head. In 1954 he was a successful single sculler and a competitor in the Thames Cup at Henley. After that the demands of his career caused him to move into less intense rowing activities. Nevertheless, he competed in every North of England Head between

1946 and 2008. He is remembered as the most charming and amusing of crew mates in Royal Chester veteran crews over five decades. Some of us, twenty years his junior, remember him as a kindly and enthusiastic supporter of our schoolboy rowing efforts in the 1960s.

Ken, a determined and competitive character, also thrived in the academic field. He gave up a place to read classics at Cambridge in order to pursue optometry, his father's profession. He studied at London University whilst living in Thames Rowing Club. At 20 years old he qualified as an optometrist, launching his 50 year career in that specialisation. He rose quickly, becoming the youngest ever manager of a Donald & Acheson shop in 1954. A little later he and his father established Worden Opticians in Werburgh Street of which he was very proud particularly as it was situated so close to places that were important to him, namely the Cathedral and the King's School. Ken had an acute business mind, leading to his establishing several other branches in Cheshire and the North, and later, in the '60s and '70s, diversifying into property development before it became fashionable.

He had a lifelong passion for travel. His interest was sparked at King's when he went to Paris on a camping trip with-a-difference only not long after the end of the second world war. The visit was the first of many school holidays led by Mr Tolliday, and involved camping on a (cleared) bomb site just behind Les Invalides. Ken, showing an early interest in collecting memorabilia, acquired a German Iron Cross from a local resident. He recounted how he found Toll's trip such a marvellously formative, post-war gastronomic experience as he tasted Camembert, proper coffee and real hot chocolate for the first time; the beginning of a life time of gourmandise.

Kenneth Harrison Worden, born 20th September 1930, died 1st August 2019 at his riverside home. His funeral service was held in Chester Cathedral.





Graham Yeats OKS (1969)



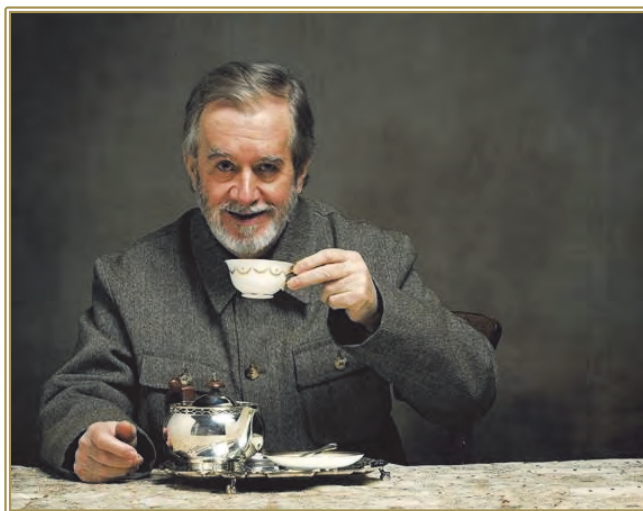
A few days short of his 69th birthday, Graham Barrington Yeats died on 22nd August 2019 of pneumonia following a serious accident. Graham was born on 27th August 1950 and entered the senior school with a city free place in 1962. At school he was a keen member of the choir and was often involved in the stage management of theatrical and operatic productions. Music remained an important part of his life, taking up the guitar and amassing a collection of instruments which gave him much pleasure.

On leaving school Graham went to Birmingham University where he took a degree in business studies. He subsequently obtained qualifications in marketing. He had a successful business career in a variety of fields. At about the age of 50 he suffered a serious problem with his health which continued for the remainder of his life resulting in considerable pain. However, he returned to his native Chester, where he became a well-regarded Blue Guide, his strong and distinctive speaking voice and his skills as a raconteur being considerable assets in this role. Despite his poor health he enjoyed life to the full, remembered by his friends as a stylish dresser, conversationalist and bon viveur.

Peter Williams M.A

We regret to announce the death of Peter Williams (TPW), Head of Geography at King's from 1967 to 1994, who died on 30th September following an accident in his garden. A full tribute will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

David Kilburn OKS (1961)



We have learnt of the death in September of David Kilburn who died in Seoul, South Korea, where he had lived for many years and in 2001 founded the Tea Museum Ltd with his wife Jade Kilburn. In 1965, David became a Bachelor of Science and graduated from Birmingham University with a degree in Chemistry, Psychology & Logic.



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