THE CHESTER ASSOCIATION OF OLD KING'S SCHOLARS



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Introduction and Contents





From The Editor Anthony Russell

It is good to be able to report about the various CAOKS events which have taken place recently, now that it is possible to operate these following the 18 months or so of lockdown and restrictions, and readers will be able to read about them in the following pages. Otherwise, much of this issue concentrates on the Olympic Games and the contributions made by OKS, including reports on the recent Tokyo Olympics and the previous Tokyo Olympics of 1964 from two distinguished OKS.

I have decided to continue editing the newsletter during my presidency of CAOKS, mainly because, as I said at the AGM, I enjoy doing it. I hope the newsletter is found to be interesting by its readers, but welcome any comments or suggestions for items to include in future issues. It is always interesting to receive contributions from OKS, on any subject, so please consider sending in articles, and do keep us informed as to your news.

Because the CAOKS annual events card has not been circulated for several years, there is now a part of the issue (page 6) dedicated to details of future events. Further information about these and other events is published in the alumni section of the school website, and may also be obtained from the Development Office.

The newsletter is published twice a year in May and early December and the deadlines for receipt of material are about 4 weeks before publication, i.e. the beginning of April and the middle of November.

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President's Message



From the President

Anthony Russell

The President, pictured with Tim Ardern and Tim Macquiban at the summer get-together at the school

It is with pleasure, and much pride, that I assume the office of President of the oldest school alumni association in the country and one of the oldest such institutions in the world. I am conscious of the fact that there have been many excellent presidents of our association before me, and shall do my utmost to live up to their high standards during the next two years. In particular, I wish to pay tribute to my predecessor Ravi Jayaram, whose term of office has been blighted by the pandemic and who has not had the opportunity to do all that he would have wished in order to take the association forward. I am delighted that Ravi has agreed to remain on the executive committee of CAOKS, and it is a great advantage to be able to have the benefit of his ideas and experience as we resume our activities after the unwelcome hiatus inflicted by Covid.

CAOKS has awakened from its hibernation with events reported elsewhere in this newsletter. The postponed summer get-together held at the school on the first Saturday of September was a resounding success, and I hope that something of this kind will become a permanent feature in the CAOKS calendar. The annual dinner was also greatly enjoyed as the photographs reveal.

However, the last two years or so of inactivity, coupled with significant changes in the make-up, constitution and the officers of the association, have provided an opportunity to think about how CAOKS should progress and best cater for the needs of the membership. For a number of years there was an uneasy relationship with the school, which I am pleased to say appears to have been resolved. It is not helpful to dwell on the causes of the difficulties, nor to attribute blame, because numerous factors will have played their part, and we should put this history well behind us. I am satisfied that

the new arrangement, whereby every Old King's Scholar is automatically a member of CAOKS and with the association and the school working closely together, will not only work well, but is in the best interests of the association and the school. CAOKS remains autonomous, but with financial and administrative support from the school, and the full support of the headmaster, which will provide stability and security for the future.

We have been taking the opportunity to consider the events that CAOKS should organise for the benefit of all OKS, an increasingly diverse group of people. Whilst we intend to continue with most, probably all, of the regular activities, it has to be recognised that these have been very much those of an old boys' association with an emphasis on "old" and "boys", and, although at the age of 70 I am certainly in both categories, I regard it as essential to extend the scope of our activities so as to interest the younger membership and the increasing proportion of female members, and also to cater for the increasing proportion of alumni who are unable to attend events in Cheshire.

In recent years the London event, the Henley day and the year group reunions organised by the school development office have proved highly successful and increasingly popular with Old King's Scholars. Although these have not been "official" CAOKS events, they have our full support and I and the officers will be attending as many of them as it is practicable to achieve. The recent summer get-together, reported in newsletter, was organised by our Dinner Secretary, Robin Hardi, and the Development Office, and we hope to continue with such an event on a regular basis. The annual dinner, now at the school, whilst retaining much of the tradition of the past, has left behind some of the aspects with which some felt uncomfortable in the 21st century and the event feels a more inclusive occasion with a relaxed formality and happy atmosphere.

There are some new events being offered next year, in particular a quiz night organised by Ravi Jayaram, an informal supper for ex-pupils only, and we are hoping to arrange an on-line event to engage with members unable to attend events at the school or in this country in addition to those nearer to home. In addition, there will be an opportunity for members to attend the AGM online as well as in person, following the success of this year's Zoom AGM.

It is important not to over-reach ourselves, and there is a limit to how many events the association and the Development Office can manage to arrange, to avoid the danger of overkill. However, there are many opportunities for members of the association to arrange their own events, either on a one-off basis or regularly, and CAOKS will promote these and give assistance if possible to members who wish to organise their own KS orientated events or meetings. Many schools' alumni associations support sub-groups of a wide variety of kinds, for example professional or business networking groups, social or sports activity groups, members in a particular locality, women's groups, BAME groups, LGBT groups, theatre visits, hobby interests etc. Whilst I would hope that such groups would not divert interest from CAOKS I do not regard the existence of such groups or anything similar as a threat to the association, rather an opportunity to reach out to the widest range of alumni as possible. So if anyone wishes to form such a group, go ahead and do so, and let us know so that we, as the umbrella organisation, can promote the activity and give notice of events and contact details in the newsletter. Finally, on the topic of events and outreach, I would welcome your ideas, so please, if you have a suggestion feel free to contact me or one of the officers by email, and we can get back to you and discuss it and see how it can be taken forward.

We are looking at how we may best use the funds we hold to support the school and its alumni. At the last committee meeting we decided to increase the sum paid to the holders of the CAOKS exhibition from £250 to £300 a year. The CAOKS exhibition is the most prestigious award made to a student of the school on leaving for further education. We are also considering the future of the Baty Travel Award, which has not been called on in recent years. Any significant proposals for change will be put to the membership at an AGM.

I hope this article gives you an idea of my objectives for my presidency and that I shall have your support in this project. I hope we can welcome you back to the school or to the events held elsewhere and look forward to meeting old friends and making new ones over the next two years. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any matter concerning CAOKS or the school that you wish to discuss. Meanwhile I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year in the hope that we can put the last two years of misery resulting from the pandemic well behind us, and resume our lives

in an enjoyable and productive way. And, of course, may our fellowship arising from our times at the King's School prosper and flourish.

Anhoy Rucan



From the Secretary

Peter Bernie

Thank you for electing me at the AGM.

As I start out in this role, I must mention two of my predecessors and firstly, of course the recent incumbent, Adrian Ackroyd, who was in Lower IVth when I started at school in Remove D. As he freely acknowledges, he was a challenging pupil, with an infamous detention record for a wide variety of offences. Despite this record, or perhaps because of it, he went on to play a major role in CAOKS, initially as Dinner Secretary from 1996 to 2000, then as Secretary until June 2021, when he was forced to stand down by ill health. It was moving watching him speak from his wheelchair as he collected his Leading Light award at the September barbecue.

Secondly, I must mention Hugh Dutton, Secretary from 1914 to 1930, who 91 years ago wrote helpful guidance notes for his successors, opening with the attached letter. I doubt he imagined his letter being published in 2021.

Wishing you a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.

Officers' Messages

Newgate Chambers, 2, Newgate Street, Chester. 14th November 1930

To my successor in the Honorary Secretaryship of the Chester Association of Old King's Scholars.

Dear Successor

In the interests of the Association as well as your own, I have put together this collection of the methods of the Association as used down to the present, in the hope that you may find it useful to refer to. It is not a law of the Medes and Persians which cannot be altered. I have no doubt that the lines on which we have run from 1914 (when I was appointed) till now, can be improved upon. I only state what has been done, so that whatever was right may be followed and so that you may not be altogether in the dark as to the past.

When I was appointed in February 1914, we had just over 100 members. We have now well above 300 and it is on the increase. The striking off of members who are three years in arrears is a power which has very sparingly been used of late and the Committee might well consider that the obligations of membership should be more fully borne than they are.

I held the office till the spring of 1916 when I joined the Army. By the kindness of Mr Hope (who had been the Secretary many years, before Mr Beckett took it on in 1919) I remained Hon Secretary in name during the war, and resumed office (he having been Acting Hon Sec.) in 1919.

In those days we had only a Dinner and a Supper to organise and one Year Book to send out. There was no Football Match, Cathedral Service, or anything of a Dance. The work has not tripled. It is 6 times what it was.

With the best will in the world, I cannot carry it on, and I have written the following pages with one desire, to be helpful to you and to enable you to do better than I the work I have tried to do for the sake of the School and the Association.

Yours sincerely Hugh T. Dutton



From the Dinner Secretary Robin Hardi

It's an old joke but you wait ages for one event and two come in one newsletter. It seems like it's been such a long time since any CAOKS social event but I'm finally able to report on two events, the summer BBQ, and the Annual Dinner.

Covid once again pushed our first summer event out a little but it was eventually held in early September and turned out to be a splendid event on a warm and thankfully dry late summer afternoon. The event was held on the school playing fields in a very grand marguee and attended by 80 people including families resulting in a lovely relaxed atmosphere. Many of us took a tour of the school, risking missing the rounders which was hard fought and suspiciously won by the headmaster's team after strong competition on both sides. Afterwards the reward of a truly excellent BBQ was provided by the school's catering team and those looking to enjoy or re-live their youth took to the free offerings from the classic ice cream van. Music was provided by Sixth Form pupil Adele Bracegirdle who played extremely well. The afternoon was rounded off by a few awards and a specially commissioned picture of the school awarded to Adrian Ackroyd in recognition of his outstanding support to CAOKS in various roles over the years.

Close on its heels, the Annual Dinner was held in October. Numbers, 63 in all, were a little low, but despite Covid it turned out to be a very enjoyable and dare I say it 'normal' evening with friends. We changed the format a little to be lighter on speeches to give people more time to chat which seemed to work well. Certainly, the volume of chatter in the room was high which I think was just people catching up after 2 years away. Once again, the school catering team produced a superb meal of confit duck, and, with some wine included in the ticket price, conversation was lively. The guest speaker was Jonathan Samuels, a Sky News reporter and newscaster who gave a very enjoyable and

entertaining talk on life in front of and behind the camera, and our President, Dr Ravi Jayaram, rounded the evening off with a few of his own hospital anecdotes. Special thanks as ever to the school development team for supporting the organisation of both events.

On a personal note, these periods of lockdown have of course taken their toll on the ability of the alumni to meet up and so it was a real treat to meet alumni and staff again. I think everyone has just been reminded of the value of our own social network, 155 years of it in fact, and I hope that you will join us for events coming up in 2022. Look out for the summer event in early July and the Annual Dinner on 10th September.

It may seem a little early as I write this but may I wish you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2022.

Dates for the diary

Curry & Quiz Night

29th January 2022 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
Ravi Jayaram (OKS 1985) will be hosting a curry and quiz night held at the School on January 29th 2022. Come along and enjoy a delicious curry whilst pitting your wits against the other teams – there's plenty of prizes to be won!
Tickets: £2 per person (all proceeds will go towards the King's Bursary Appeal)
To register for this event visit
www.kingschester.co.uk/curry-quiz-night/ or contact Courtney Roberts on
cjr@kingschester.co.uk or telephone 01244
689494.

2022 Reunions

We are looking forward to welcoming back alumni who left in '62,'72,'82,'92,2002 and 2012 in Spring 2022. Reconnect with your peers and enjoy a tour of the school, a look through some archive material and a buffet dinner/lunch.

1962 reunion

5th March 2022 – 11am-2pm

2012 reunion

5th March 2022 - 4:30pm-8:30pm

1972 reunion

26th March 2022 - 11am-2pm

1982 reunion

26th March 2022 - 4:30pm-8:30pm

1992 reunion

23rd April 2022 - 4:30pm-8:30pm

2002 reunion

14th May 2022 - 4:30pm-8:30pm

To book onto your reunion please contact Courtney Roberts on cjr@kingschester.co.uk or telephone 01244 689494. Alternatively, you can visit www.kingschester.co.uk/2022-reunions/.

CAOKS AGM - 7th June 2022

6:30pm-8pm – at The King's School and on Zoom

Henley Tea Party – Friday 1st July 2022

Join us at the King's gazebo on the Henley Cricket Field to enjoy the world-renowned Regatta and the free flowing Pimm's and Prosecco!

Summer Get-Together - 9th July 2022

This date is provisional. Watch the website for information. Further details and booking information will be available in the New Year and the next newsletter.

CAOKS Annual Dinner – 10th September 2022

Further details and booking information will be available in the New Year.

London Event - 10th November 2022

Further details and booking information will be available in the New Year.

It is hoped that other events will be organised during the year ahead, circumstances permitting. Watch the Alumni section of the School website for further information. Details will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.



Headmaster's Message



From the Headmaster

George
Hartley

Dear All,

Since the last newsletter I'm delighted to report that we've almost had a whole two terms of uninterrupted school here at King's. Covid cases have fortunately stayed consistently low and whilst a few pupils and staff at any one time have been obliged to self-isolate, the great majority have been back in school and taking advantage of pretty much all the school has to offer. As I write this in mid-November, all activities are pretty much back to normal – we have said goodbye to facemasks, bubbles and furloughs - and we naturally hope this will continue for the rest of the academic year. We will also have our fingers crossed for *real* GCSE and A level exams this summer, having faced the challenge and travails of centre-assessed grades for the last two years.

I really don't want the entirety of this introduction to concern the dreaded pandemic; heaven knows we've all had enough of it and are hopefully now emerging towards clearer skies. As I've noted in the last two newsletters, whilst of course it has taken its toll in various ways and I am deeply sorry if you have experienced loss as a result of it, it has also provided a catalyst for innovation and change at King's and whilst it is unlikely we will look back at the last two years fondly, I do believe that King's is in a stronger place than ever going forward.

This is reflected in our pupil roll which at this academic year reached a new all-time high of 1108. This includes all pupils from the age of 4-18, including our wonderful Infant School Willow Lodge which was purpose built 5 years ago and also our recently extended and newly

renovated Junior School. Indeed, the whole school has been variously renovated and rejuvenated in its appearance over the last few years and I would welcome any CAOKS member who lives locally, or in passing over the next few months who may want a tour. This last summer we gave the hockey astro a new bright blue surface, added a new multi-use games area (MUGA) to our sports facilities and wholly refurbished eight classrooms in the Senior and Junior Schools. We are also in the process of creating a more coherent and attractive frontage to the Wrexham site; no easy task given the piecemeal development of buildings over the last 60 years but we are doing our best and are pleased with the results.

The aim of such development, as ever, is to provide our pupils with the best educational provision possible – something that at least partly relies on our physical facilities. Of course, the school continues to develop in other ways too and I look forward to telling you about these in future newsletters; schools in the 21st century are very different from those of the previous century (when I started my career!). We have made major strides in our approach to the academic, pastoral and co-curricular spheres of school life across all year groups and I hope you will be interested in hearing about what we've been up to.

In the meantime, it was delightful to catch up with so many alumni of various generations at the recent London get-together at the Savile Club in Mayfair. It was a splendid gathering and so good to be back in person together chatting, chinking glasses and snaffling canapes. We also enjoyed another excellent formal CAOKS dinner a couple of weeks earlier in the Vanbrugh Theatre at school, a report on which follows in this newsletter. As ever, I really look forward to meeting new old boys and old girls from King's and am relishing the continued return of our regular alumni year-group gatherings in the new year.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and hope to see you soon in King's or elsewhere.

Best,



School News

Girls at Henley

After the break in 2020, Henley Royal Regatta was back in August and it was a historic day for the School, as both the Girls' and Boys' 1st VIII qualified for the Regatta.



It was the inaugural year of the Junior Women's VIIIs event and King's was amongst four schools that have qualified both a Girl's and Boy's VIII. To add to the history, this was also the first King's School girls' crew to qualify in any event for the Regatta.

Before the race, David Blackham Director of Rowing said "I am so pleased that all 18 athletes will have the opportunity to race at Henley after the break last year. For many of the team, this is the culmination of 5 years' work at the Rowing Club, for others, their first taste of racing at this level. It is a historic day for the club and exciting for both crews, knowing that Wednesday will be the start of a new chapter for the King's School Rowing Club at Henley. The crews have shown great professionalism in their preparation, and I have every confidence that each crew will represent the club with pride."

Opening of the Rohan Ingley Centre



We were delighted to celebrate the official opening of the Rohan Ingley Centre, a purpose-built facility that houses our medical centre and Learning Support Department. Named after Rohan Ingley, a former pupil who sadly passed away after a long and courageous battle with Leukaemia in 2018, the Centre opened its doors to pupils in 2019. On September 9th, a group of almost 100 invited guests were welcomed to the centre by Headmaster Mr Hartley and watched as Rohan's parents and sister cut the ribbon and declared the centre officially open.

Guests, who included many of Rohan's classmates, were invited to tour the centre before making their way to the marquee in the school grounds for speeches and a drinks reception.

Director of Learning Support, Sarah Glass, spoke about the positive benefits the Centre gives pupils at King's, and Rohan's close friend Amelia Jones (OKS 2019) also gave a touching speech about the lasting impact her former classmate had on all who knew him. Amelia was followed by Rohan's mother, Dr Ingley, who spoke movingly about Rohan's time at King's and the continued support of his year group who have participated in a number of charity events in his name. Dr Ingley thanked the school for choosing to dedicate a building to Rohan's memory and helping to secure his legacy at King's for many years to come.

Retirement of Roy Wheeler and Chris Morris

As many of you may know, long-serving teachers Roy Wheeler and Chris Morris retired earlier this year. Between them they taught at King's for over 50 years. Roy taught English alongside coaching the boys first XI. He recalls one of his favourite memories going back to 2005/6 when the first XI won the ISFA cup final down at Leicester City's stadium. King's were very much the underdogs, so to win 2-1 when no one thought they'd get to the final at all was one in the eye for all those they beat on the way. Chris taught PE at King's for 26 years and was lucky enough to take part in many trips abroad over the years. His favourite trip was without a doubt the World Cup trip to Germany. Despite not having tickets to the game, Mr Horne managed to purchase some last minute and it was a tremendous experience. All at King's wish them an enjoyable retirement!



Both sides of the bursary coin





If you are reading this in the CAOKS Newsletter it is highly likely that like us, you benefited from the privilege of a King's Chester education. It would be wonderful to live in a world where all children have access to such quality schooling and not only a privileged minority. At very least, King's bursary provision makes a huge difference to the lives of many from financially modest backgrounds. We benefited in two rather different ways from a King's bursary many years ago.

Dave

My mother was widowed when I was still a child and we lived on a council estate in Ellesmere Port. Money for school fees was completely out of the question. With the exponential increase in school fees over the intervening years the money barrier is there for even more children these days. This is despite King's successfully keeping their fees significantly lower than many independent schools.

It is impossible to overstate the impact of my bursary-funded place at King's. I was the first member of my family to go to University where I thrived, building on my formative years at King's. I went on to a successful career in the corporate sector and so my bursary has not only benefitted me, but also my wife and children, the companies I have served and the communities to which I have been able to contribute. My support for the King's Chester Bursary Appeal is to my mind repaying the fees from which I was so kindly excused all those years ago, and in the knowledge that future generations will benefit as I have.

Let me pass over to Andrew who has the tale to tell of the other side of the coin.

Andrew

I was fortunate to be born into a family that was comfortably off financially and who valued the quality of education that King's offered.

Education is not just about academic study and learning, and rich extracurricular activity, but as

importantly social education and acquiring an understanding of wider society. The atmosphere of a school, with all children coming from the prosperous middle classes, is ill-equipped to deliver on this third essential element of a fully rounded education. My huge benefit from Dave's bursary was the good luck to forge a friendship at school that straddled our social backgrounds and which has endured over all the intervening years. My education and my adult life would have been very much poorer vita sine David - I'm sure shared frustration with our classical studies was but one area where we supported each other as school friends. My support for the King's Chester Bursary Appeal is in gratitude for my lifelong friendship with Dave and to help King's in their commitment to continue to support children from all backgrounds and foster friendships such as ours.

Many of you reading this may have benefited from bursaries in earlier years. Many from the other side of the coin. If you have like us already contributed to the Bursary Funds that's great. If you are still thinking about it, we hope our story may encourage you to act.

Dave McCarthy OKS (1978) Andrew Brannan OKS (1978)

2021 Bursary Appeal

A heartfelt thanks to all who have engaged with our King's 100 Bursary Appeal this year, which launched in January 2021. Whether it's been through direct donations, or joining our Tudor Society for legacy giving, your support is greatly appreciated and will allow us to keep transforming the life possibilities of bright pupils from low income families in the area. This year we have raised £188,000 in single gifts and 5-year pledges, from over 50 new donors, which is tremendous. There are now 61 students in the Senior School receiving full or part bursaries (an increase of 4 since last year). 82% of all A level grades achieved by bursary students this year were A*/A and two bursary pupils went on to Oxford, one to study Medicine and the other Engineering Science.





Alumni News

Inspirational school visit from Megan Pode



King's welcomed back Megan Pode (OKS 2015) in September to speak to aspiring Sixth Form medics. Megan is currently in her fourth year of Medicine at the University of Manchester and has achieved so much already.

Megan knew she wanted to become a doctor at the age of 7, however when leaving King's in 2015 she did not gain a university place to study Medicine, so instead chose Pharmacology at Newcastle University. After graduating with a degree in Pharmacology, Megan finally gained a place studying Medicine at Manchester. Alongside her degree, she started working as a relief healthcare assistant in A&E and was often asked by colleagues if she could help with their children's medical school applications. That is when Megan founded Medics&Me - a fantastic resource that provides in-depth insight into the world of medical school and enables students from disadvantaged backgrounds to have equal opportunities when applying to study medicine. Her aim is that every potential medical student from a widening participation background can feel supported and nurtured through the application process.

Megan shared her experiences with the Sixth Formers, offered an array of fantastic resources and answered the questions they had about applying to study Medicine. She was then awarded a King's Leading Light Award for 'Young Leadership' by Head of Sixth Form Josh Carter. She is truly an inspirational role model for aspiring medics and gives so much of her time to help others — a well-deserved winner of a King's Leading Light award!

Retirement of David Roberts

Popular King's School rowing coach David Roberts (OKS 1963) retired this year having coached King's rowers for over 50 years. David is a recipient of this year's Leading Light Awards in recognition of his commitment to King's and is pictured below receiving a commemorative blade from the Headmaster and Director of Rowing.

David Roberts was the star King's School oarsman of his day and an accomplished single sculler. He was in the first VIII for 4 years and was Captain of Boats in his final year (1963), when he was also Head Boy. In the summer term of 1963, there being no suitable senior rowing at school, he was invited to stroke the Royal Chester RC Thames Cup VIII and Wyfold IV. He drove the Royals crews through a successful season with many good performances especially in the major regattas on the Thames. In parallel, he and JCP Cole, the rowing master, formed a Colts' VIII out of promising 14- and 15-year olds. David coached that crew and inspired them with the self-belief that served many of them well in their future rowing careers.



Going up to St Catharine's College, Cambridge to read English, he won the Bushe-Fox freshmen's sculls, and throughout his three years served his college well on the river, especially at Henley, where they reached the final of the Visitors in '64 and the semi-finals of the Ladies in '65 and '66, losing, in both cases, to the eventual winners. More significantly, David represented Cambridge in the Boat Race in 1965, and in the Isis-Goldie race in '66, when he was also Secretary of CUBC. He was the School's second rowing blue. Arnold Cooke was our first blue in 1963, and also our first Olympian.

Whilst at Cambridge he did a lot of coaching at KSRC in the vacations. Some recall him substituting in the 6 seat in the school 1st VIII and transferring CUBC's rhythm to

King's – teaching us a smoother, more even cadence on the recovery between strokes. In that same year (1966) he guided us through the intimidating experience of our first Royal Regatta as KSRC's Henley Coach.

After leaving Cambridge, David taught and coached rowing in the USA, at Phillips Exeter Academy, New Hampshire. Allegedly, he lived a life of hedonistic excess that was much envied by those he had formerly coached at King's. It is said he drove an E-type Jaguar and raced it along country roads against a fellow rowing blue and college chum who had an Aston Martin DB6. The next phase involved a move to New York, where he lived in Greenwich Village and worked at American Express credit card HQ. Subsequently he progressed to Time Warner where he had an impressive career eventually returning, on their behalf, to London in the early 2000s.

During the New York decades, whilst MC Fox was Rowing Master (until '94), he was the regular Henley coach for King's crews, returning each year for the two-week coaching gig. David organised the first trans-Atlantic visits of KSRC to the Head of the Charles in Boston, finding sponsorship, accommodation and rowing facilities. King's compete there regularly these days, but back then it was a real innovation and was done entirely on David's initiative.

He retired a few years after returning to London, moved initially to Henley and then to Chester, where KSRC quickly recruited him and he became a member of the coaching team with special responsibility for the 2nd VIII. He is immensely popular with the crews he has coached; anecdotes are to be heard about his humour, his ability to inspire and the enjoyment to be had rowing under his leadership.

In essence, it is not just that he gave his time so freely and enthusiastically over the years, nor is it about the excellence of his coaching, rather it is about creating the love of a very difficult sport, creating the self-belief that enabled boys and girls of diverse abilities to achieve their potentials – or even if they did not, at least they all had a load of fun and acquired some very good quotes and stories out of it – and these things last a lifetime!

Prepared by former KS oarsmen: David Wilkes (1967), Stephen Janisch (1966), John Payne (1967) and John Tweed (1967).

King's in the Capital

We were delighted to welcome 60 alumni and their guests on Thursday 11th November to the Savile Club for our annual London get-together. Former pupils spanning the decades from 1960 alumni to 2017 leavers attended.





Guests were treated to a fascinating speech from writer and director Gabriel Range (OKS 1992) who revealed

what drove him to move from studying medicine to making movies and gave us a sneak peak of films he has directed including Death of President a (2006) and I am Slave (2010).Leading Light Awards were presented by the Headmaster to Adi Kasliwal (OKS 2008) above) (pictured and Nickolas Grace (OKS 1962) (pictured right).



The next London Get-Together will take place on 10th November 2022 so do save the date!

OKS Golf

Many thanks to Ian Beech for organising the OKS golf match at Eaton this year. Due to Covid there was no competition in 2020 so all were eager to restart. Twelve members arrived full of expectation and excitement at Eaton Golf Club on Friday 16th July. The standard of golf was, as usual, variable but a good time was had by all. We were blessed with excellent weather and the standard of banter had not dropped during the time of lockdown.





The trophy was presented to Gareth Morgan who scored a creditable 38 points. He will treasure this for the next twelve months but, as it is not an item of beauty, it will probably be consigned to a cupboard until it sees the light of day again next year.

Snooker evening



Unfortunately, with several players shielding, the Grammar School weren't able to raise a team for 19th November 2021 and so, while we very much hope the fixture will resume in 2022, we fell back to organising an evening of The Headmaster's Team versus The Secretary's Team.

After 2020's lockdown cancellation, it was lovely to meet old friends and get back into the Chester City Club for supper, then onto the hallowed baize. Despite the Secretary signing up Tim Leaman and Nick Threadgold as ringers, the match was tied after the initial frames, and then The Headmaster went on to defeat your Secretary in the decider.

So, it's congratulations to the winning side, seen above from left to right: Mark Thorp, Mick Moore, Alistair Jones, Martin Meredith (overcome with shock and emotion, so kneeling), The Headmaster, [to whom Tim Leaman is presenting a trophy], Mike Hurleston.

Oh well, if you can meet with Triumph and Disaster and treat those two impostors just the same

Peter Bernie

The Summer Get-Together



It was hoped that CAOKS and alumni events would resume with the summer get-together planned for July, however the continued restrictions meant that there was a postponement until the first Saturday in September. The occasion proved to be an outstanding success. About 80 attended, mostly OKS, whose time at the school spanned in excess of the last 60 years, from the 1950s to a group of 2020 leavers. There were also a number of former and current teachers present, the senior being Mr Reg Read.



The weather was very kind, and on the site was a large marquee which had been erected for the school prizegiving. This spacious venue meant that social distancing could be maintained to allay any fears that the more vulnerable may have had. After a welcome from the Headmaster a series of rounders matches were played, enjoyed as much by the spectators as the participants, and the competitive spirit was very evident. In the marquee a series of photographs were displayed, including pictures of the four masters after whom the four school houses most of the OKS remember were



named – Lindan's, Falle's, Shepherd's and Evans's – together with interesting pictures of the various school buildings, and school activities including sport and drama.



As always with CAOKS events, refreshments were important, and everyone was greeted with a welcome drink of Pimm's or a non-alcoholic fruit cup, and the bar was open for the whole afternoon. A delicious barbeque was presented by the school's caterers, of excellent quality, and there was an ice-cream van on hand to remind us of the delights of a Mr Whippy and a "99". The day was rounded off with a presentation of prizes to the winning rounders team and finally a

presentation by the President. Dr Ravi Adrian Jayaram, to Ackroyd who recently retired as **CAOKS** secretary. Adrian was presented with Leading Light award and a painting of the school by Steve Downey to acknowledge his long service to CAOKS.





The 155th Annual Dinner



Last year's dinner was cancelled because of the pandemic, so it was great to return to the school this autumn. It was the only occasion during his presidency that Ravi Jayaram was able to wear his badge of office (in public anyway) and he presided over his last event with style and charm. Numbers were down, but this is not surprising because many people are still wary of attending public events.



The Headmaster and Jonathan Samuels OKS (1991)

The school's caterers excelled themselves and the Vanbrugh Theatre was beautifully laid out creating a happy atmosphere for the meal. The reception before the meal and plenty of time for mingling afterwards, gave opportunities for old friendships to be renewed and new ones made. The three recipients of the CAOKS exhibitions awarded in 2019, 2020 and 2021 were guests of the Association and were presented with their certificates by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Martin Delaney. Dr Anthony Jenner OKS (1966) was presented with a Leading Light Award by the Headmaster.







The highlight of the evening was the speech from our guest of honour, Jonathan Samuels OKS, now a Sky News presenter. He gave an entertaining account of his interesting career and life in news reporting and broadcasting, referring to some of the places he has visited, stories he has covered and some of the hazards of the job, illustrated with some clips of his work. He concluded with a few tips for anyone who might have to face the media, which included a video clip of the current Prime Minister skilfully (?) avoiding the questions asked by the interviewer and instead answering the questions he would have preferred to have been put to him! In proposing the toast to "The School" Jonathan recognised the benefits he had gained from a King's School education and he was acknowledged with warm applause.



Thanks are due to Robin Hardi, our Dinner Secretary, and the Alumni team for all the hard work they put in to make this a most enjoyable occasion.





King's at the Olympics



Some perspectives on the two Tokyo Olympiads of 1964 and 2020 from Arnold Cooke OKS (1959) and Jonathan McEvoy OKS (1995)

Arnold Cooke OKS recollects the 1964 Olympic Games



Peter Webb and Arnold Cooke, the double sculls partnership in the 1964 Olympics

After Covid effects on Tokyo '20 and with the intervening Olympics marred by hostage-taking, boycotts and a plethora of politics, it seems strange to remember that the main problem in Tokyo '64 was avoiding the output of 8000 terrified pigeons released at the opening ceremony. It is also difficult to realise that the Japanese in 1964 were still regarded as inferior copiers of Western designs, with some grudging acceptance that they had transformed small cameras and small motor bikes. Then, Japan seemed incredibly remote from Britain and communications were basic so there was no realisation of the impact, if any, of the Games back at home – no direct news coverage, no Zoom, Facebook etc and few interviews.

The biggest single difference between Tokyo '64 and Tokyo '20 was the funding. Sport in 1964 was supposedly totally amateur and funding was correspondingly small. For instance, for events prior to the Olympics, such as the European Championships,

we were given two singlets for racing and a badge for a blazer but had to contribute towards our transport and accommodation expenses. The Olympics was the first event where we had everything provided. "Amateur" had a variety of interpretations in different countries. Athletes from the Eastern Bloc countries were nearly all lieutenants, captains or majors (rank dependent on gold medals won) and were virtually full-time professionals. The US eight were particularly vociferous about this. We knew them well as one of them – Boyce Budd – had rowed for Cambridge in 1962 and we had met them at various European regattas throughout the summer. As all the GB rowers were working full time back at home, we asked them how they afforded the time and when they had last worked? They finally worked out it was 9 months previously, but private sponsorship was OK while state sponsorship was not! Admittedly there were a very few members of the GB team who were in the services.



The British Rowing Team - Tokyo Olympics 1964

An extreme example of the amateur approach was illustrated by one of the GB fencing team, Alan Jay, who had won a silver medal at the 1960 (Rome) Olympics. We were given a questionnaire before the Games and one question was "When did you first start training 3 days or more per week?" Alan mused a bit and said "I have never trained that often regularly".

Individual travel by air was expensive so the British Olympic Committee (BOA) chartered aircraft for the whole GB team to travel together. Direct flights over the Pole were just becoming possible so one flight was chartered to transport the horses, giving them a 10-hour flight while the rest of us travelled the long route – Middle East, Indian sub-continent, Singapore, Hong Kong – taking 26 hours. At least we saw the Himalayas for the whole of one morning. The big advantage from the social point of view was that we all arrived 2 weeks



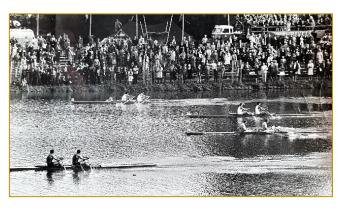
before the start of the Games and flew back 5 weeks later after the closing ceremony. Since the rowing was completed in the first week, the rowing team had 2 weeks to see Japan.

The GB rowing team was small with only three crews – a coxless four, coxless pair and double scull – compared with the 10 crews that qualified for Tokyo 20. We all knew each other well as five of us (three from the four and the double scull) had rowed together in the recordbreaking Tideway Head eight earlier in the year and we had trained through the winter in the University of London gym with the UL squad, which included the pair.

The double (Peter Webb and Arnold Cooke) were expected to do best as we had won the silver medal in the European Championships that year, finishing just behind the Russians, who went on to win the Olympic gold. The UL pair (Stuart Farquharson and David Lee-Nicholson) were only just coming back to the form which won the gold at the Commonwealth Games in 1962, while the four had been completely revamped after the Europeans by bringing in the two best scullers in the country (Bill Barry and Hugh Wardell-Yerburgh). Our coach was Lou Barry, father of Bill.

In the event, the four rowed magnificently to win the silver medal and the pair came fourth (a remarkable similarity to Tokyo 20 where the Quad scull won the silver and the women's pair came fourth). The double were nearly lightweight (averaging 72 kg) and lost out badly in the strong head winds to the heavier crews and came 7th, winning the small final. (The US crew averaged 100kg and weight tells in a head wind.) I looked at the Tokyo 20 weather – strong tail winds – and thought it would have suited us completely.

The pair was particularly unfortunate to miss out on a medal as the cross-head wind on Finals day made for grossly unfair racing conditions and they were in a poor lane. A consequence of the wind was that racing was delayed as long as possible in the hope that it would drop, so the eights race was illuminated by parachute flares dropped successively as the race progressed down the course, giving a suitably spectacular end to the regatta.



European Championships 1964 – Arnold Cooke and Peter Webb winning the silver medal

Once the rowing was over, we made good use of our remaining 2 weeks to explore Japan. We had one day in the main stadium, watching the athletics. We saw Ann Packer win her 800m gold medal. It is a sign of the huge changes since then that, in 1964, 800m was the longest race for women, and that was a new introduction. Previously, the longest women's race had been 400m. It was also interesting to see what a major change equipment development could make. Half the athletes in the pole vault started their competition at the old Olympic record height of 4.70 metres. Fibreglass poles had been allowed for the first time, replacing bamboo poles. The world record is now over 6 metres.

Our Japanese sightseeing was organised by system of "uncles" set up by the BOA. Local residents with British connections raised money from business associates and funded/organised our social events. We could and did wander out into central Tokyo at any time during our stay, unlike the Tokyo 20 teams. We had three days in Nara, Kobe and Kyoto, staying in a Japanese style hotel (shoes off, bare rooms, unroll your futon at night and bless the years of practice at sleeping on the floors of various flats after Saturday night parties); visiting shrines and tea gardens during the day; visiting the sailors' bar at night.

Other memories come back. Before the rowing events, we were very careful with the food in the Olympic Village but after it we made a point of trying as many different cuisines as were on offer, and they aimed to cope with the home food of the athletes from any country competing. Then there was the sight of the US basketball team wading waist deep through a sea of Japanese in central Tokyo; John Cork, our boatman, completely unperturbed as the wreckage of the four



and the pair emerged from the crate they had been travelling in; Lou Barry's face on sampling ceremonial green tea; the sight of Mount Fuji appearing through the clouds, looking too much like its photographs to be real; and finally, the informality of the closing ceremony with all the athletes walking in together, not in national groups.

Looking back, I feel sorry for the Tokyo '20 athletes for missing out so much on the social mixing both inside

and outside the Olympic Village. On the competitive side, I am not sure I would have coped with full time professionalism and the current rowing training regime – 3 sessions a day for four years with one day off per fortnight – but would have appreciated a little more time to train to get nearer the full potential of the double.

Arnold Cooke OKS (1959)

P.S. It might be worth recording the relative size of the two events.

TOKYO OLYMPIC GAMES	1964	2020
Number of events	163	339
Number of competitors	5151	11,656
Number of countries taking part	93	205
GB number of gold medals	4	22
GB total number of medals	18	65





Jonathan McEvoy OKS, Sports Journalist for the Daily Mail, covered the postponed Tokyo 2020 Olympics



Seeing as we are talking among friends, I can let you in on a white lie that allowed me to cover the Tokyo Olympics. Covid was the blanket horror that shrouded those Games of the XXXII Olympiad, causing the first postponement of the five-ring jamboree during peace time, from last year to this. And preparation for those of us venturing to 'Tokyo 2020', involved a coronavirus

testing routine of military precision, including tests 96, 72 and 48 hours before flying.

I had been covering the British Grand Prix at Silverstone and so had to self-administer my three tests in a hotel room while observed on Zoom by a supervisor and then hand over my swab to a courier who whisked if off to a lab. So, armed with all the necessary elaborate paperwork — or so I thought — I landed at Tokyo's Haneda Airport confident that the endless stream of certificates would grant me free passage. Like all arrivals, I had to take yet another Covid test on landing — one that for the first time, but certainly not the last, involved the delicate art of spitting into a tube. You then waited for the result before being freed to leave the airport.

Just one snag: my supposed 48-hr test was actually something like three hours out of date. I was taken to a side room for goodness knows what purpose. I thought I had a solution: proof of a further test I had taken to satisfy F1's protocols at Silverstone that was within the required window. But that was deemed



inadmissible – the wrong sort of form. 'This,' said the border control man, brandishing a new piece of paper 'is the form we need.' He handed it to me. And, to my shame, when he left the room, I ticked the necessary boxes and signed the form myself. He returned a few minutes later and I told him, 'Lo and behold, just look what I have found here at the bottom of my bag.'

Passage secured, it was now off to five days of quarantine in my room, a space made to typical Japanese dimensions — matchbox size. You were allowed outside for 15 minutes to buy essentials but only after signing in with a guard sitting by the hotel's lift door. Early arrivals from the Daily Mail team had set up a stairwell bar on the eighth floor. Our speakeasy served plonk bought from the general store across the road and Domino's pizzas, and it just about kept us sane.

My first trip out was to write up the Opening Ceremony. A few of us rattled around the fine 68,000seat stadium for the lengthy show. It struck me as a defiant bugle call from a Covid-scarred battlefield. Some thought that a Games without fans and with athletes cooped up was not worth the candle. It was only going ahead out of greed, said some. I hear those complaints but pressing ahead at least granted the 'youth of the world', as Pierre de Coubertin loftily called the participants when he created the Modern Games in 1896, the chance to fulfil their dreams and reward their hard work. Without funds principally drawn from the American TV networks that only flow if the Games actually take place, smaller national Olympic associations would have gone bust with dramatic implications for sport and health.

Anyway, the Olympics were on and on so many fronts a triumph, even if we all missed the buzz that an excited Japanese population would have delivered by their attendance. Covid cases turned out to be low. Much of the sport was terrific.

My early highlights included reporting from the pool on the first Monday. Adam Peaty, our breaststroker who beats his own world records morning, noon and night, took gold as he had in Rio five years before. He is probably our finest Olympian of the moment across all sports. That afternoon Tom Daley, along with partner Matty Lee, won gold in the 10-metre synchronised diving. It was a journey we the public had shared from when he was a 14-year-old in Beijing. He had waited

half his lifetime to see the Chinese production line, honed within an inch of their wits, flunk it. Finally, it happened. Victory was secured with great theatre after an anxious wait to see what marks the Chinese had been awarded. The margin in the end: 471.81 points to 470.58.

The fly in the ointment came at the rowing lake. The golden boat, the coxless four, missed out on glory, ending an unbroken thread of success dating back to Sir Steve Redgrave's final hurrah in Sydney 21 years before. Matt Rossiter, one of boys beaten into fourth place, sounded off that some of those such as Sir Matt Pinsent and James Cracknell who had gone before would be delighted by the failure. 'I hope they are happy we have not continued the gold run,' he said. 'Sometimes there's a feeling that generation revel in the team not performing as it should. They can be smug now.'

More blood-letting followed as the team dipped below their usual high standards, with the squad split on the decision a year before to oust Jurgen Grobler as chief coach. The East German, who had led crews to medals in every Olympics he attended since his first in 1972, had paid the price in a culture war that pitted the modernisers running the sport against Grobler's sometimes tougher ways. Forcing him out 12 months before an Olympics seemed ill-timed indeed.

Away from rowing, British medals rained down, 22 of them golds, to secure fourth place in the table. One of the best I saw was on the last day when Jason Kenny, the fine cyclist whose best days may already have been in the past, ransacked some of his old brilliance with a daring, front-running break in the Keirin. I wrote: 'He took our breath away, accelerating like a rocket into the arms of Olympic history, and there's nothing left to say but 'Arise Sir Jason Kenny'. Even in the Izu velodrome rendered half-full by this wretched virus that has hovered at the elbow of these Games, a loud crescendo of astonishment accompanied the Bolton boy to his seventh gold medal and a British record.'

So, the last copy was filed. Now it was back to the airport, and on to Blighty. What an experience it proved: often uplifting, usually exhausting, occasionally tough.

Now the torch moves on to Paris in 2024.

Jonathan McEvoy OKS (1995)



King's School Olympians

Arnold Cooke is the first of a number of OKS who have competed in the Olympic Games in the past 60 years. He left the school in 1959 to go up to Jesus College, Cambridge. He rowed in the Cambridge Boat Race crew in 1963, losing to Oxford in a race umpired by The Right Revd Dr Gerald Ellison, Bishop of Chester and Chairman of the Governors of the King's School. With Peter Webb he competed in the double sculls at the European Rowing Championships in Amsterdam in 1963, winning the silver medal, and competed in the Olympic Games of that year at Tokyo. He was awarded a Leading Light Award in 2016.

Most of the Olympians who followed in Arnold's footsteps are also, but not exclusively, rowers.

Stephen Peel left the school in 1985 for Downing College, Cambridge. He rowed for Cambridge in the 1987 Boat Race, and in 1988 rowed in the coxless fours event, reaching the final and coming fourth at Seoul. Two years previously he competed in the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh winning a silver medal.

Jim Walker competed in two Olympic Games, those of 1992 (Barcelona) and 1996 (Atlanta). After leaving school in 1986 he had an international rowing career which lasted for 15 years, winning medals at the Junior World Rowing Championships and the World Rowing Championships. He went on to pursue a career in environmental management and in 2004 was a cofounder of The Climate Group, a non-profit organisation working with business and government leaders to address climate change.

Simon Cottle who left the school in 1992 competed in the 2004 Athens Olympics in the quadruple sculls event.

Tom James competed in three Olympic Games, in 2004 (Athens), 2008 (Beijing) and 2012 (London). In the 2004 Olympics he stroked the British Eight, and he won a Gold Medal at each of the 2008 and 2012 games in the coxless four event. Whilst studying engineering at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, having left school in 2002, he rowed in four Boat Races, losing to Oxford in the first three, but captaining the victorious Cambridge crew in his last Boat Race in 2007. He has won medals in

numerous international rowing events and was awarded an MBE in 2009.

Chris Bartley was a contemporary of Tom James at school, also leaving in 2002. He won a Silver Medal in the 2012 London Olympics as part of the men's lightweight four. He studied biology at Nottingham University and won a number of medals at international rowing events, including a Gold Medal in the 2010 World Rowing Championships in New Zealand.

Olivia Whitlam left the school in 2004, having joined the Sixth Form in 2002 from a local state school. She had not rowed before. She studied environmental science at Nottingham University. Having won several medals in various world rowing events she competed in the women's eight in the 2012 London Olympics finishing 5th. Olivia was the first female President of CAOKS from 2017 to 2019.

James Fair is the only King's Olympian who was not an oarsman. He is a former international hockey player who has competed for England and Great Britain in numerous tournaments, playing as goalkeeper. He was a member of the 2008 Summer Olympics team, but did not play in any matches. In 2012 he played in every match. England reached the semi-finals but lost to Australia in the Bronze medal play-off match. After leaving the school in 1999 he studied geography and geology at Birmingham University and currently teaches geography at King Edward's School, Birmingham.



Olivia Whitlam, Tom James & Chris Bartley visiting King's in 2012



The Confrérie Saint-Etienne d'Alsace



Several OKS were intrigued by the photograph of David Ling OKS (1969) in his red robes in the last issue of the newsletter. David has provided this explanation for the curious.

The robes are those of the Grand Master of the Confrérie Saint-Etienne d'Alsace, the oldest wine guild in France, founded in 13th century as a craft guild. Like all similar institutions it was responsible for guaranteeing the quality of production and acting as impartial middleman between buyer and seller. Consisting mainly of local nobility, it kept a low profile after 1789 and gradually went to sleep in 1846. Luckily all its archives were kept safe. In 1947 it was revived in order to help with the rebirth of Alsace wines. Many villages and vineyards had been destroyed or damaged in the bitter fighting of December 1944 and January 1945 as the German army was forced back over the Rhine. A huge reconstruction effort was needed and despite warm words from Paris about "our compatriots liberated from Nazi annexation" not much money seemed to follow and the Alsace people were more-orless left to fend for themselves.



The 'Oenotheque' of the Chateau

The Alsace wine industry, the basis of its pre-war agricultural prosperity, had to be rebuilt from scratch. Incidentally this is why we have mainly varietal wines, as there was no time to teach the French consumer all the vineyard and village names in use before, so each grape variety was vinified separately. The Confrérie played its part by holding events to put Alsace back in the public eye by demonstrating the quality of Alsace wines and food.

Our statutes, still in use, date from 1561 (so post-King's School) and by recreating the robes and ceremonies of the past we were able to help this effort, culminating in the award of Appellation Contrôlée status in 1962. An immense achievement in only 15 years. I was honoured to be chosen as Grand Master for the year 2016, the first foreigner ever to hold the annual post (and, they joke, the last!). Not much merit involved, mainly muggins' turn, but I have been able help create more international events, with Dublin, London and Malta added on my watch, to existing regular events in Belgium, Germany, Holland, Sweden and the USA. All that was dead in the water since March 2020, as a result of the pandemic, but we are now moving on.



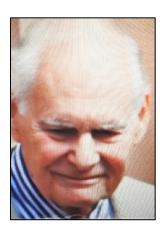


David Ling without his robes



Obituaries

Philip T Deakin MBE OKS (1957)



Philip Deakin, who died earlier this year, was born in Hartford, Northwich in 1937, and attended the school between 1950 and 1957. Along with many other students from the Northwich area he made the then lengthy journey to the old Chester Northgate station by steam train. After King's, Philip studied Civil Engineering at Glasgow University and worked at Northumbria Water on graduating. His work included mathematical modelling R and D projects, and he became Environmental Director.

After University he settled in the historic Northumberland town of Alnwick with his wife, Marjorie and they had 2 children Caroline and Celia and 2 grandchildren Beatrice & Martha.

One of Philip's great passions was archaeology, and he became prominent in this field in Northumberland, contributing to papers, books and broadcasts. He was active in many restoration and civic societies and helped to preserve and restore historic buildings such as the Lantern Tower in Newcastle upon Tyne and Belford Hall in Northumberland. His voluntary work was recognised in 2000 with the award of an MBE for Services to the Community, especially for the Alnwick Civic Society. He was also Mayor of Alnwick amongst many of the chairmanship roles throughout his life. One of the more unusual charities to which he devoted a great deal of time, was the protection of the Chillingham Wild Cattle who are thought to have lived in the large park surrounding Chillingham castle for nearly 800 years and were described by Simon Sharma as the great, perhaps the greatest, icon of British History.

Philip is perhaps best summed up by the words of Sir Humphry Wakefield, owner of Chillingham castle, after his death:

" ...Philip was truly, just like one of Wagner's Meistersingers, a leading figure in Alnwick's bustling community - hugely respected , and hugely good. Decades ago when a Swedish Countess of Tankerville chaired the Association, there was perpetual conflict with local landowning "swells" over management of the herd and of the extensive wild land in which the cattle live, threatening their future. The Countess brought in Philip, who, on her death, became Chair, and for many years smoothed all controversies, sensitively managed difficult personalities, made good appointments, and set a calm course for the future. The Wild Cattle will now go on in their gentle way, just as they have done since the last ice age. But those Wild Cattle will forever be grateful to Philip for his vastly productive and formative years of governance."

He will be remembered by friends and family for his love of British sitcoms, jazz, his sense of humour, his generosity and that he wore a tie every day, even at home.

Bill Rutter (Philip Deakin's cousin)

Peter Dutton OKS (1948)



Peter Dutton passed away in April 2021. His son Ian has sent this tribute.

Peter Dutton was a very proud King's Scholar, born in Chester in 1930. Peter won a scholarship to Cathedral Choir School and then The King's School, Chester, a period of his life which he held dear.



Obituaries

Peter gained his School Certificate at King's and he would happily profess that the major influence on his school life was the PE master Mr Broome. Peter would often talk about the sense of discipline instilled in not just himself, but everybody else who came under Broome's influence.

As a member of the King's School Football 1st XI, Peter was one of those few people who could combine a number of roles for a team. For King's he played as a half back or inside right and later in his sporting career Peter had a season playing for Chester City FC as a goalkeeper, mostly in the reserve team.

Peter was called up to National Service in 1948 with the RAF and was based at RAF Wharton. He was a stalwart member of the RAF Wharton football team which won the Armed Forces Cup against a strong Army team!

Peter was also a very proud Cestrian and was made a Freeman of the City of Chester in 1952 following in his father's footsteps. He held the position of President from 1991 to 1993 during which he worked with the Chester City Council driving the resolution that women should be admitted as Freemen which was granted during Peter's term of office.

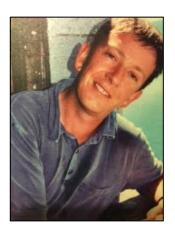
Peter was diagnosed with cancer, somewhat unexpectedly, in April 2020 and since then he valued every minute of his life, much of which was spent with his family. Peter was a very proud husband, father and Grandfather and was never happier than when his family were around him.

David Gould OKS (1976)

David Gould, known as Dave to his friends, died suddenly, but peacefully in his sleep, over the weekend of 14th/15th August, aged 63. Dave was born on 14th June 1958 and joined the King's School Sixth Form in September 1974 to study Arts "A" levels. He was a member of Shepherds House, and became Captain of Basketball.

Charles Hagon OKS (1985)

Former Head Boy Charles Hagon died on 1st July 2021. His good friend Tom Jones OKS has written this tribute. In memory of Charles a school subject prize for German bearing his name has been endowed, with contributions from many OKS and friends and family.



Charles William Benedict Hagon: April 14 1967 to July 1, 2021 aged just 54

Chas/Charlie was a pupil at King's from the junior school in the mid-1970s and left in 1985 excelling in all things academic but especially languages. He was appointed Head Boy in his last year of school which was both fitting and an incredibly popular choice amongst his peers and staff alike. Chas also excelled in music and art and heartily took part in school amateur dramatic productions, school camp adventures in Abersoch and foreign travels to Greece and Italy.

After school Chas went to Cambridge where he studied German and Russian at St John's College both of which he enjoyed in equal measure although it is fair to say that his passion for the Russian language developed into a love of all things Russian as he got older including food, drink, spoons, coins, hats etc.

After a spell at Courtaulds, straight after graduating, Chas qualified as a solicitor working in London and Stuttgart before moving back to the UK and to Manchester where he worked for Garretts Law Firm. It was there that Chas realised that Tax Law was not really his calling and so started to pursue his passion for languages in a vocational capacity as a freelance translator, before joining the European Central Bank in Frankfurt in 2003 as a Lawyer/linguist. He worked his way up the management ranks in his time with the ECB becoming at one point Head of Romance and Mediterranean Languages. He was Head of Section for Communications with responsibility for the Irish Language amongst other things at the time of his tragic passing.



Obituaries

Chas made friends easily wherever he went due to the time he gave to people and the genuine interest he showed in others. One of his closest school and lifelong friends is Tom Jones who was best man at Chas's Wedding to Clare in 2002. Clare survives Chas along with their two children Gus and Charlotte.

Through Clare and the family Chas developed a love for the outdoors, holidaying in different parts of the world where he and the family enjoyed walking and hiking. He always had a love of swimming in the sea which he has passed on to Charlotte, regardless of how cold it felt to others.

As many have mentioned already since his passing Chas had a brilliant mind with the gentlest of souls moulded together with a wry sense of humour. He is sorely missed.

- C caring, considerate, clever, chocolate eater
- W wry, wistful, wonderful
- B brilliant mind, best friend, secret Belgian
- H humble, humorous, honourable
- A adoring husband, father and son
- **G** giving, gracious, gentle, generous
- O one of a kind, original, outstanding
- N noble, never let you down, nicknames for all!

Barry Ball

Barry Ball, Director of Music from 1979 to 2004, died suddenly on 5th October 2021.



Former Headmaster, Roger Wickson writes:

Barry Ball was well established as Director of Music when I arrived at King's in 1981. He had been appointed to teach music to the first three years in the School, to GCSE candidates and to A level candidates. He was supported by some very fine part

time instrumental and singing teachers but the main responsibility for music at King's lay with Barry. He therefore had a very considerable work load. This was made greater by the fact that he was in charge of the School CCF and particularly the RAF section, a role he had no wish to relinquish. I fear that I failed to convince the Governors that he should have some assistance. It was not until after the School Inspection in 1997, when one of the inspectors was the Headmaster of Wolverhampton Grammar School who been Director of Music at the School before becoming Headmaster, that the Governors agreed to appoint a full time assistant, Miss Katherine Andrews.

In addition to his formal classroom teaching Barry set up the Schola Cantorum of boys who sang Choral Evensong in The Cathedral once a term. He also established The King's School Choral Society in January 1983. This was made up of boys, parents, friends of the School and members of the teaching staff. It gave a Family Christmas Concert in December and a large-scale Choral Concert in March. I always remember the Haydn choral concert in 1991 which consisted of the mighty 'Storm' chorus 'Insane et Vanae Curae', Symphony 49, and the Mass, the 'Heiligmesse'.

I particularly recall an occasion when I cancelled the last lesson of the morning and asked Barry to conduct the full orchestra in front of the whole school as every orchestral instrument was represented.

I have never forgotten the three musicals that Barry presented with a member of the English department, Mrs Carol Ruston, 'My Fair Lady', 'Guys and Dolls' and 'Kiss Me Kate'. All the female parts were played by Queen's School girls. I was bowled over by 'Kiss Me Kate'. I had never seen it and to this day it remains my favourite musical comedy.

The Online Newsletter

We are considering changing the format of the online edition of the Newsletter to what we believe will be a more user-friendly version. This issue may be read in the new 'Turtl' version by following this link:

https://kingschesterschool.turtl.co/story/caoksnewsletter/

We would very much like to know what you think – so please let us know by emailing the editor (editor@caoks.co.uk). If the response is favourable the Turtl format will be used for future issues.



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The Sheriff of Chester
W.S.D.Lamb Esq.
The President of the Association
The Hon. Treasurer of the Association
The Hon. Secretary of the Association