

2014



Insight

GAZETTE

The annual review of the school year for Old Edwardians

Issue 291



Inside...

Record-breaking GCSE results

Joe Speight on broadcasting and the World Cup

Punishment book returns to the archive



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM



pg16

A stunning send-off for Peter Bridle after 38 years at King Edward's School

A message from..



..The Chief Master

Sometimes you just don't know where things will lead. I remember nearly eight years ago the excitement of the Music Department when Robbie Ruisi came for a music scholarship. But I don't suppose that any of us expected him to end up leading the National Youth Orchestra in the Albert Hall, playing a Stradivarius violin loaned to him by an Old Edwardian, John Ludlow.

Four or five years ago Chris Johnson, the Director of Sport, thought it was a good idea to appoint a female PE Assistant to coach rugby. Not even he would have imagined that a few weeks ago two such PE Assistants, Mo Hunt and Emily Scarratt, would end up as World Cup winners and South Field was often their training ground.

In recent years, we have had memorable speakers at Speech Day, Lee Child, Sir Paul Ruddock, Richard Wolfe and, this year, Andy Street, talking about the regeneration of Birmingham and the school's role in that. As I write this, I am sitting in a hotel room in New York about to meet Messrs Child, Ruddock and Wolfe and other US alumni, but not Andy Street. Who'd have thought it? It's called serendipity.

■ John Cloughton (1975), Chief Master



..The Chairman

The Insight Gazette has now established itself as an excellent publication to supplement and support the main Gazette.

This edition has a really wide range of articles covering everything from Martin Leadbetter's review of the AP100 Campaign Launch at the House of Commons to the Chamber Orchestra's Italian tour.

This year's IB results are superb and they're a hearty endorsement of the Chief Master's bold decision to take the school along this more rigorous academic path, returning it to its rightful place at the leading edge of education. In no small part the increase in the number of Assisted Places has contributed to this success and I am pleased to say that the OEA has again played its part with a donation to the AP100 Campaign which will be followed by a significantly larger donation later this year.

Coming up on Tuesday 23 September at 1.00pm is the AGM of the Association. Whilst I recognise that AGMs are not the most popular of events, this year's AGM is important as a new constitution is being introduced. The aim is, now that the school has taken over the running of the OEA, to modernise the Articles of Association to meet its needs going forward.

In the future we are aiming to have a committee of the Association that represents each decade of OEs to advise Simon Lerwill and his team on the best way to maintain contact with the general body of alumni. If you are able to attend you will be most welcome. For those who cannot attend I would urge you to complete a proxy form so that your vote can be taken into account.

■ John Wheatley (1969), Chairman of the OEA

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Front cover image:

Inside the House of Commons where the first AP100 Campaign Launch event was held on Thursday, 5 June 2014.

pg04

Event review:

AP100 Campaign Launch at the House of Commons

Martin Leadbetter (1969) gives his account of the AP100 Campaign Launch event held at the House of Commons.

“It was a great evening”. This had been my verdict on the House of Commons reception to launch the AP100 Campaign. However this left me around 245 words short of the piece I have now been asked to write and more importantly does not do justice to the occasion.

Thanks to the good offices of parliamentary OEs David Willetts (1974) and John Hemming (1978), the former having been called abroad on Government business, we were hosted on the terrace at the House of Commons on a perfect early summer evening. Excellent canapés and wine were served al fresco before the formalities began.

John Hemming MP welcomed us to the House of Commons and spoke warmly of his own experiences at KES, before lending his support to the campaign. John Claughton outlined the ambitious programme to increase the number of Assisted Places to 100 from the current 60. Finally Rajiv Gogna (2010) spoke with real passion of the transformational impact on his life of an Assisted Place at KES. He commented on the rounded nature of the education he'd received which had culminated in his current studies at Oxford and his captaincy of the university darts team!

As the conversation and wine flowed we reminisced on the personal significance and wider benefits of an excellent free education for young people regardless of parental income or background. A number spoke of how they had been the first members of their families to attend university.

When I am asked what difference a free place at KES has made to my life I always respond “it's a long way from a council house in Shard End, Birmingham”. This encapsulates for me the significance of the AP100 Campaign.

Martin Leadbetter (1969)

To find out more about the AP100 Campaign visit: www.trust.kes.org.uk/ap100



Bill Oddie (1959) and Peter Lee (1959) enjoying drinks on the terrace

Forthcoming events

Old Edwardians Association AGM, Tuesday 23 September 2014

Drinks and a buffet lunch will be provided, prior to the AGM, which will take place in the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre.

Tolkien Lecture Series, Tuesday 7 October 2014

The speaker for the annual Tolkien Lecture will be Professor Gary Sheffield, one of Britain's foremost military historians, who will give a lecture titled *British Army Officers in the First World War: Recruitment, Training and Performance*.

Biennial Dinner, Saturday 11 October 2014

A special black-tie dinner held in Big School. This year's dinner will also commemorate the First World War and speeches will be given by three Old Edwardians serving in the armed forces.

London Dinner, Monday 24 November 2014

The speaker at this year's dinner will be Joe Speight (2004), sports commentator who most recently worked as part of the ITV World Cup team in Brazil.

Birmingham Festive Drinks, December 2014 (Date TBC)

An informal opportunity for OEs to catch up over a free drink at the German Market.

Oxford Lecture and Drinks, March 2015

A biennial gathering at Oxford University for drinks and a lecture.

Golden and Diamond Reunion (Class of '55 and '65), March 2015

An informal dinner and drinks reception for those who left King Edward's 50 and 60 years ago.

For more information about all forthcoming events and to book tel: **0121 415 6050**, email: oldeds@kes.org.uk or visit: www.oldeds.kes.org.uk/events

The Insight interview:

Joe Speight (2004)

Joe Speight (2004), talks about his first ever broadcast, getting started in the profession and commentating at the World Cup.

When did your interest in broadcasting start?

I'd watched so much football from age 11 onwards that I started to pay more attention to the way that football was broadcast rather than the football itself. I would watch television and listen to the radio all the time and throughout my time at school I was mad about sport and how it was reported.

When did you realise that you could make a career of broadcasting?

It all kicked off with a competition at BBC Radio WM just before I took my GCSEs. They were searching for a new football commentator and I thought there was no chance I would win because I was only 16 but I thought I'd have a go. I reached the finals of that competition, did my first ever live radio broadcast and got the bug for broadcasting.

Doing that first broadcast gives you the confidence that you can do it and that your voice is good enough. That's one of the main things with broadcasting, whether it be commentating, presenting or reporting, you have to have a good voice. I was lucky on that front and that my Brummy twang wasn't too bad either. There's only room for one Brummy on TV and Adrian Chiles has got that market cornered.

How did you get started professionally?

I went to Cambridge University and one of the things they stipulate is that you're not allowed to do anything outside of academia which you get paid for. I worked for BBC Radio Cambridgeshire every Saturday for about two years during university and took the chance that none of the academics would ever listen. I started to get paid for broadcasting for the first time and realised that I enjoyed it and could make a living out of it.



Joe Speight with Lee Dixon at the 2014 World Cup

At the end of my time at Cambridge I wrote to every national newspaper, television station and radio station to ask for work and luckily I got a couple of offers of jobs. My first job was with Setanta Sports, which gave me lots of opportunities to learn my way in the industry, but after two years they went bankrupt so I went freelance and I've stayed that way ever since. ITV and Sky are my main employers; I work with Sky on the Premier League and I've also covered rugby for ESPN. I've worked for ITV for the past three years on the FA Cup and the Champions League, the European Championships in 2012, and then this summer was my first World Cup with them.

And how was the World Cup?

It was amazing! Absolutely fantastic! It was an ambition of mine to commentate on a World Cup but I never thought it would come along as early as it did in my career. And it wasn't just any World Cup, to be asked to go to Brazil was a huge privilege. It's a stunning country, and although there are many social issues and it's not a perfect place by any stretch of the imagination, for five weeks or so it was a wonderful party atmosphere. One of the great perks of life as a commentator is the amount of time we have between matches so there's a lot of downtime, which when you're in Rio is quite nice. So one day we could be having a Caipirinha on Copacabana beach and the next day broadcasting to 10 million people on national TV. In terms of a month of work, it will take some beating.

What's next for you?

I'll be working again this season for Sky Sports on the Premier League and doing other pieces for ITV, the Champions League, and hopefully big tournaments coming up in future years in France in 2016 for the European Championships and then the next World Cup in Russia in 2018.

Have you got any advice for budding presenters?

You have to prove your enthusiasm and that you really want to be in the business, and that starts from a young age. Consume all sorts of media in different formats (TV, print, radio, online), have an opinion on it, be inquisitive, and have a desire to keep learning. There's no perfect broadcaster, presenter or commentator, I'm still striving to improve myself every time I pick up a microphone.

If you like a 9-5, Monday to Friday sort of job, well this is probably not for you. But for the chance to travel the world, be a part of some wonderful events and having the pleasure of communicating those stories and experiences to others, I would say it is well worth it.

Business focus

In this edition we are putting the spotlight on two Old Edwardian businesses. Rahul Vohra (2002) and Elliot (2006) and Zander (2009) Weaver write about turning their passions into their businesses.

Elliander Pictures:

Elliot Weaver (2006) & Zander Weaver (2009)

For reasons unknown, at the ages of five and three we picked up a video camera and decided to make a film; a 60-second story called *When The Toys Came Alive* and that single experience has shaped our lives ever since. Throughout our childhood we made over 100 little productions; short dramas with friends, mini-documentaries for coursework assignments, and music videos for mates with bands. It was a hobby that grew into an obsession, and an obsession that's grown into a career.

We were both already working as production assistants before leaving KES; the first piece of equipment we were trusted with was either the broom or the kettle and on a good day, both! With our foot already in the door we decided not to go to university but pursue our passion and dive straight into the industry full time. Since then we've climbed the ranks as cameramen, editors and directors, and received nominations and awards for our work. We've worked across a broad spectrum of projects from drama for the BBC, factual entertainment for Discovery Channel and commercials for brands such as Bentley, Honda and Sony.

But we stay true to our childhood passion of directing our own work through our production company, Elliander Pictures (still proudly sporting its original 1993 name!) which has now independently produced over 300 professional projects. Most recently four of our Documentary Films have been acquired by international broadcasters at the world markets held in Cannes, and we have also been nominated for a regional Royal Television Society award for Best Factual Programme of the year.

We're also currently in production on an independent feature film called *Cosmos* which is shooting in the coming weeks and scheduled for distribution in 2015. Our goal is to grow Elliander Pictures into a mature company that produces entertaining and emotionally enriching feature films enjoyed by worldwide audiences. As young boys we fell in love with the magic of the movies and one day we hope to return the favour and give future generations that same magical experience.

Find out more at: www.ellianderpictures.co.uk



Rapportive:

Rahul Vohra (2002)

I've been programming computers since I was eight years old. By the time I was an Upper Middle, I knew I would be a technology entrepreneur: I wanted to create beautiful things that make you smile.

Although I did well at teaching myself how to program, I strongly believed it would be valuable to acquire a formal background in the subject. So I left KES to study Computer Science at the University of Cambridge, where I was fortunate to meet some of the most amazing and talented people that I know.

In January 2010, I co-founded Rapportive with two fellow Cantabrigians. Our vision is to make you brilliant with people. Not just good, not just effective, but actually brilliant. That's our dream.

Rapportive adds rich contact profiles to Gmail. When people email you, you can see what they look like, where they're based, and what they do. You can see who you both know, and you can connect with them on LinkedIn. You can establish rapport by mentioning shared interests.

In March 2012, Rapportive was acquired by LinkedIn. Since then, we have been working hard to continue the dream and to make you brilliant with people.

You can download Rapportive for free at: www.rapportive.com. You can also follow me on Twitter: [@rahulvohra](https://twitter.com/rahulvohra).

Careers Network

Whether you're just starting on your career path or have a wealth of experience to offer, the OE Careers Network provides the opportunity to engage with OEs at all levels and to offer support to current pupils.

There are a number of ways you can get involved.

- Offer careers advice, work experience or placements
- Access careers advice
- Browse the OE Professional Directory
- Attend networking events

For more information visit: www.oldereds.kes.org.uk/careers

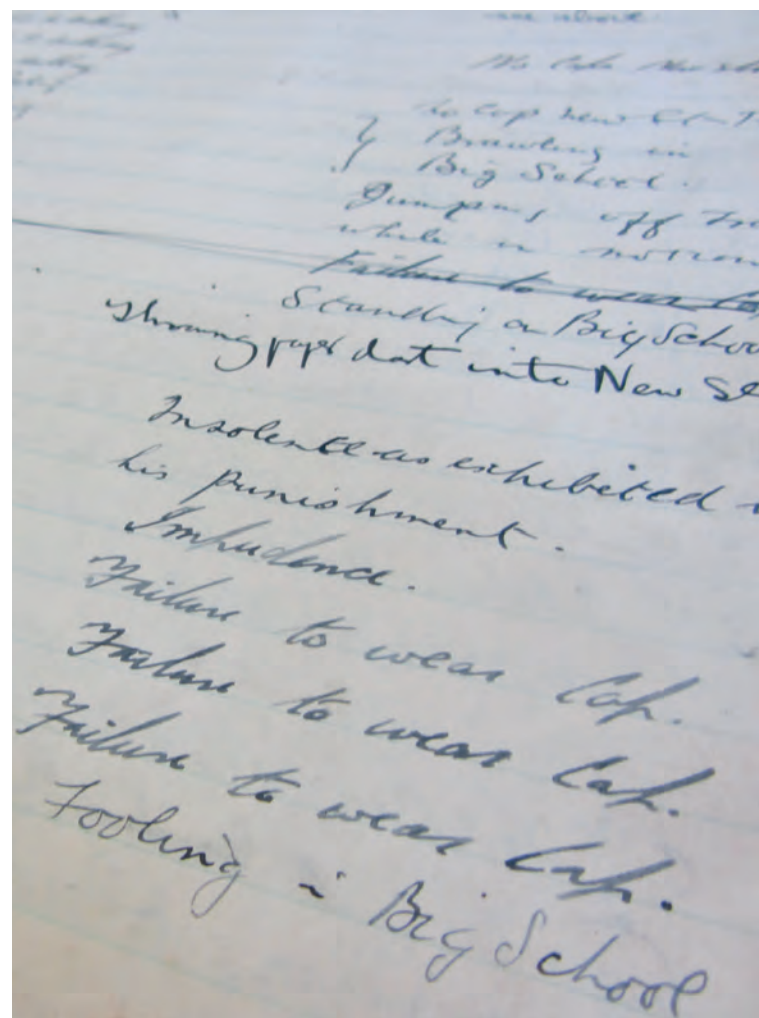
OE Benefits

OE Benefits offers Old Edwardians discounts on a range of businesses based in Birmingham including Hotel du Vin and Edgbaston Cricket Ground. To find out more about the benefits scheme visit: www.my.kes.org.uk/benefits

Alternatively, if you own a business and would like to offer OEs a discount, contact the Development & OEA office on: **0121 415 6050** or email: oldereds@kes.org.uk.

Archive matters

Artefacts returned to school by daughter of Old Edwardian



Two artefacts 'acquired' by Old Edwardian, Cornelius Mansell (1931), were returned to King Edward's School recently by Cornelius's daughter who felt that after her parents died they should be given back to the school. The punishment book and gargoyle have been of great interest to the King Edward's School archive.

The punishment book dates back to February 1929 and provides an insight into the various offences committed by boys at the school and the punishments imposed. The most common offence listed was 'failure to wear the school cap' and most punishments involved the writing of lines or essays.

Other offences listed include:

- Insubordination
- Brawling in Big School
- Cheeking Prefect
- Singing in class
- Disobedience on Parade
- Climbing on the roof
- Playing cards for money on the train
- Projecting apple-core in Big School
- Cutting name into the desk
- Hiding in the doorway, without cap
- Bad behaviour on the station platform
- Remiss execution of duties.

Punishments for these offences include writing between 50 and 200 lines; learning the school song; learning 30 lines of *Hamlet*; running six times around the quad; and, writing an essay on topics such as: The Psychology of the Modern Child, Ingenuity of Public Schoolboys, Efficiency of Corporal Punishment, The Abolition of the Death Sentence, and Silence is Golden.

The gargoyle was from the New Street school and was apparently removed from the school building by Cornelius who 'climbed up' and took it in 1931. Cornelius's daughter is unsure as to whether this removal took place on his leaving school or when the school was demolished but thinks that over time some poetic licence has been applied to the re-telling of the story. Since Cornelius died in 1976, the gargoyle has been an adornment in the garden and used as a bird feeder, as the open mouth provided a perfect place for bird seed!

King Edward's School and the Great War

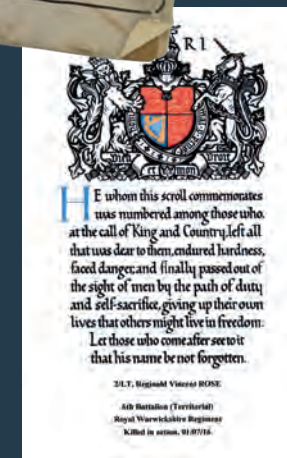
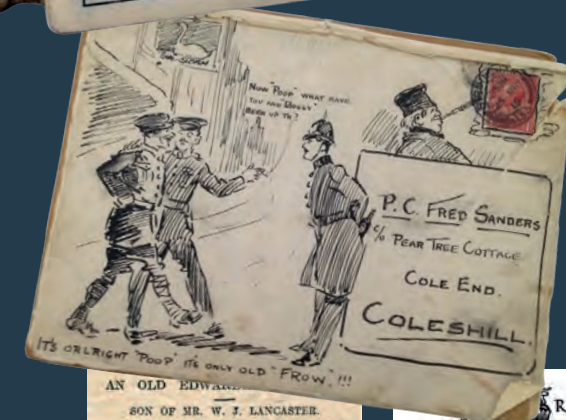
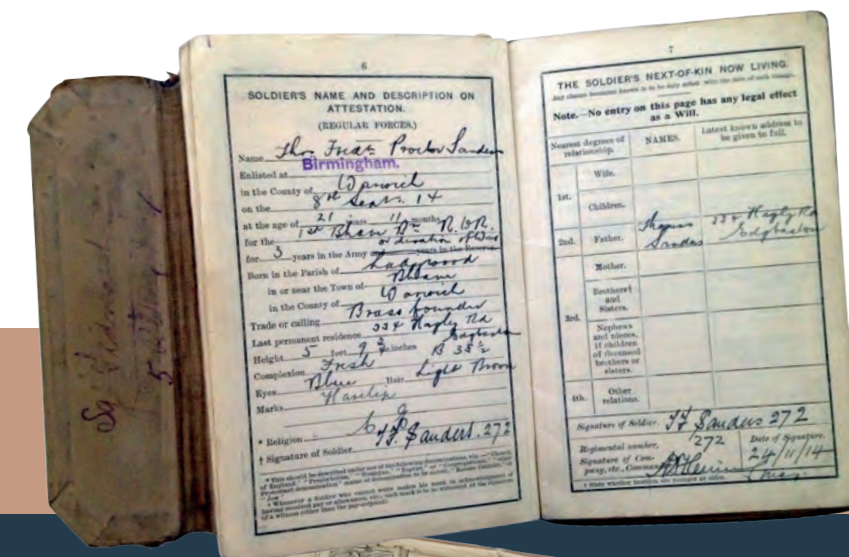
In November 2014 a new exhibition in the school chapel will mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.

Hundreds of King Edward's School's old boys and masters fought and died in the many campaigns on land, sea and in the air. Edmund Beech, admitted to KES in September 1887, was the first Old Edwardian to lose his life when he was killed in a dreadful mobilisation accident on 11 August 1914, just several days after the outbreak of war.

The exhibition will explore the school on the eve of war, the involvement of OEs in raising the Birmingham City (Pals) Battalions, and a short film will reveal the impact of the conflict on Tolkien and his school friends.

Archive material, memorabilia and photographs, many of which have been kindly lent to the school by families of OEs, will help piece together the stories behind the heartache and heroism. In addition, a virtual Roll of Honour, which has been created using touch screen technology, will enable visitors to browse through photographs and biographies for every old boy listed on the bronze memorial plaques in the chapel.

Further details about the exhibition will be sent to all Old Edwardians later in the year.



Old Edwardians

News in brief

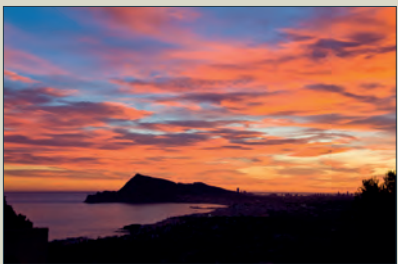
1950s

Arthur Stockwin (1954)

Though nearly 11 years into retirement, I continue to research, lecture and write about the modern politics of Japan. I also remain joint general editor of the Nissan Institute/Routledge Japanese Studies series of books largely on the politics, economy, society and modern history of Japan. I visit Japan at least annually and teach a course every January at Hosei University in Tokyo.

Roger Farmer (1955)

I retired in 2004 having been self-employed for the previous 30 years. I moved to Southern Spain in July 2007, bought a villa with a view of the sea and set about turning it into a home, completing it two years ago.



Graham Caulton (1956)

My wife and I spent a fabulous holiday in Namibia in May of this year. It is best described as a Flying Safari where the two of us flew between bush camps in a small aircraft. Luckily on the whole trip we didn't share the aircraft with anyone but the pilot. As a result he invited me to fly the plane along the Skeleton Coast for half an hour. This was low level flying at an altitude of about 200 feet and very exhilarating. Namibia is a beautiful country and well worth a visit, although low level flying over the rugged mountains and vast desert areas is not for the faint hearted.



David Arthur (1958)

I shall always be grateful to Dr Willis Grant, who combined the jobs of Head of Music at KES and Organist at Birmingham Cathedral in the 1950s, for introducing me to singing. At age 75 I am still singing in a chamber choir in Leeds. In politics I continue to be active, holding a number of positions within the Liberal Democrat Party. At a time when my children tell me I should be slowing down, I seem to be taking on more and more! I should always be very pleased to see any OEs who may be visiting Wakefield or Leeds.

Robin Cotton (1959)

Cincinnati Surgeon Robin T. Cotton, MD, FACS, FRCS(C), received the 2014 Jacobson Innovation Award of the American College of Surgeons, which recognises a surgeon's accomplishments in pioneering techniques used worldwide. Dr Cotton was honoured with the award for his seminal work in the reconstruction of the larynx and trachea in children.

1960s

Sergio Carlo Maresca (nee Sergio Tew) (1964)

Following an LLB (Hons) at the University of Birmingham, I entered the worlds of business and later education, lived and worked in Barcelona for four years, and then emigrated to Australia in 1976. For the last 27 years, I have been a world-ranked multilingual international business motivator who changes lives and businesses around the world. I am looking forward to arranging to speak to KES's current students on my next visit to the UK and would welcome being contacted by any fellow students from my time at KES.



Paul Hill (1966)

Having just 'returned to the fold', I retired in 2006 after a career in the bus industry, the last 21 years as Managing Director of Lincolnshire Road Car Company. As a musician at school, I've always kept singing, currently in three choirs with my wife. On retirement, I became chairman of the Lincoln Music & Drama Festival, and am also a Trustee of the British & International Federation of Festivals of Music, Dance & Speech. I hope to take a more active part in OE activities and to renew old acquaintanceships.

Roger Herbert (1969)

Now semi-retired after nearly 40 years as a solicitor, latterly working as in-house counsel in John Hemming MP (1978) associated IT and stockbroking companies. I have lived for the last seven years in Lanzarote, working as a holiday rep and timeshare sales agent at Club La Santa sports resort. I am helped in the business by wife, Jane, and younger children, Cathryn (21) and Matt (19).

1970s

Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie (1971)

I have spent a career in international education, first teaching English as a Foreign Language in England, Scotland, Egypt and Spain, then running or marketing language schools in the UK, and finally emigrating in 2000 to New Zealand where I have two Kiwi children and a lovely French wife. I am Chairman of a group of four schools, teaching Business, IT, Early Childhood Education and English to some 600 students, mostly international. I am still in touch with my KES contemporaries, the Rev Dr Martin Dudley, Paul Hadley and Dr Graham Knight.

Christopher Hodges (1972)

I was appointed Professor of Justice Systems at Oxford University (the first to hold this title) in July. It entails too much travel in advising governments across the world on how to reform their legal, court, regulatory, ombudsmen and related systems!

Peter Dean (1974)

Since retiring and moving permanently to France in 2007, I have tried to become as integrated as possible with French village life. I live in Semur en Brionnais, in Southern Burgundy, one of the most beautiful villages in France. For the local elections in May 2014 I was asked if I would be interested in standing for the village council. I agreed and was elected for a period of six years.



Paul Jephcott (1975)

After a running 'career' that started with being in the Evans and then the school house cross country teams (when both were unable to find enough runners), and was followed by a 33 year sabbatical, I have been selected to represent GB for my age group in a triathlon. I am taking part in the European (half ironman distance) Championships in Mallorca in October. I suspect it will be a very 'interesting' experience.

Ed Wickins (1976)

I was awarded an EdD at Bristol University in July. I am currently a School Principal of a successful school of 1,800 in Hong Kong teaching the IB Diploma. We have been here for 10 years now and my wife is a Vice Principal in a neighbouring school. My old friend Dr Geoffrey Griffiths (1976) helped us to celebrate the award.

Nick Brown (1978)

Having taken early retirement from my job as an international civil servant, mostly working in IT, I've recently been researching into dubious practices in psychology. In 2013 I had a paper published in American Psychologist, and just this month I have another paper appearing in Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences.

Jonathan Conder (1979)

Still head of private client at Macfarlanes LLP and just added two more children to the household, Tom and Francesca, (previously two of my own Chris and Rachel) following marriage in Rome on 6 July to Beatrice Puoti (partner in Burges Salmon LLP). The wedding was attended by one ex KES Neale Perrins (1979) and three ex KEHS friends Helena Myska, Sarah Cluley and Jenny Bird. Currently on honeymoon in French Polynesia - with time to deal with some emails!

1980s

David Wolffe (1981)

Since leaving HMV Group plc in September 2012 as Group Finance Director I have been launching a start-up business developing a revolutionary new backpack. The wolffepack is the world's only backpack that you keep strapped to your back but swings your stuff to the front to give you better access, more comfort and greater security. This British invention will be launching in October on Kickstarter, the crowdfunding website.



Mark Cooper (1983)

Since late 2012 I have been the Global Vice President Sales and Marketing for an automotive tier one supplier called Dayco with annual sales of around one billion US dollars. A wonderfully vibrant job which allows me to meet many fabulous people around the world from São Paulo to New Delhi. Based in Essex, UK, but home is still Paris with a weekly commute.

1990s

Andrew Brown (1990)

Following an MBA from New York, I started a company that genetically modifies chicken and turkey to give the texture of pork products such as prosciutto and bacon, which I then export to Israel. I will soon be exporting also to the whole of the Middle East and North Africa. Married my childhood sweetheart, Sharon Gaywood, and have four children – Elliott, Brooke, Nicholas and Jacob – we live in Tel Aviv, where the business is based now. Any Old Eds are welcome to come and stay anytime, especially Barny Miller and anyone from Jewish society.

Nick Hockley (1993)

Having completed six years at the Organising Committee for London 2012 (LOCOG), I have spent the past 18 months based in Melbourne, Australia, working as General Manager Commercial and Marketing for the ICC Cricket World Cup, taking place in Australia and New Zealand in February and March 2015. If any OEs are planning to make it out for the Tournament, please feel free to get in touch.

David Newman (1993)

I recently won an industry award and am very proud. I won the 'Most Popular DJ in Birmingham and the West Midlands' from the Wedding Industry Expert Awards. I also was a national finalist 'Most Popular DJ' coming 4th in England and 12th in the world! My wedding entertainment services are available for all OEs and their families!

Ishtiaq Rahman (1994)

Recently I was in Beijing where I have been offered a one year Cardiac Surgery Fellowship under the tutelage of Professor Li-Zhong Sun of the Beijing Azhen Hospital. Jas Bains (1994) is currently based in Hong Kong where he is involved with setting up a Hedge Fund. We were lucky enough to meet up for the weekend in Beijing and catch up and take in the site. We had a great time catching up on the other side of the world.



David Saunders (1997)

Promoted to Associate Curator, Department of Antiquities at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles.

2000s

Andy Perryer (2002)

Accepted a job at Kings' Dubai School as a specialist ICT teacher to start in September 2014.

Tell us your news

Thanks to all OEs who have sent us their news. Unfortunately, we cannot print everything we receive but all OE news is published on the website below. There will be a full register of all births, marriages and deaths as well as some detailed obituaries in the next Gazette due out in March 2015.

Email: editor@kes.org.uk or visit: www.oldereds.kes.org.uk/your-news

Academic & school news



Saajan Jemahl and Tom Claughton

Top marks again for third year of IB

The third year of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma at King Edward's School has produced another set of outstanding results.

The maximum score of 45 points was gained by two boys, Tom Claughton and Saajan Jemahl, a score achieved by only 146 students worldwide out of over 135,000 that took the IB Diploma in 2014. Over one quarter of the cohort attained scores of 40 points or above, higher than the equivalent of four A*s at A-level.

John Claughton, Chief Master, said: "This is a remarkable achievement and I am thrilled by the performance of our boys, in only our third year of IB. For two boys to once again have achieved the top mark of 45 points and so many to have gained over 40 points is a great credit to both the boys and the teachers. These results mean that a very large proportion of our boys will be accepted by the best universities for the most demanding subjects. I am very proud of how all the boys have done, but especially my son."



Record-breaking GCSE results (again!)

The 125 boys in the year have broken last year's records with the highest ever percentage of A* grades at 68% and 91% A*/A. This is the first time that the school has broken the 90% A*/A barrier and is the highest percentage of A*/A grades ever achieved by a boys' school in Birmingham. 27 boys achieved 10 A*s, 42 achieved either 9 or 10 A*s and 72 boys achieved only A*s and As.



Mr and Mrs Milton in their campervan at the Brandenburg Gate

Mr Milton's travels through European history

During the summer term, Mr and Mrs Milton travelled 12,000km through 11 different countries and the highways and by-ways of European history.

Amongst the many highlights of their trip were: meeting an ex-spy in Berlin; encountering the Stasi in East Germany; encountering the devil in East Poland; getting scared by a secret, huge Nazi U-Boat installation in East Prussia; seeing where the First World War started and ended; battling a plague of miniature snails at Sibinj; hunting Hitler in Berlin; marvelling at the Sea Organ at Zadar; gasping at a lightning strike at Auschwitz; wandering into a drug den in Sarajevo; telling off noisy school children at Mauthausen; getting told off for taking photos at Compiegne; recreating the Beer Hall Putsch in Munich; encountering a KES family in Zakopane.

In addition to the above highlights, Mr Milton said: "We saw fantastic scenery, met incredible people and learnt a lot. It has been a mind expanding, once in a lifetime experience."

View Mr Milton's blog of his travels at: www.bitly.com/ejm56



Lord Mayor's Annual Sixth Form Mega-Quiz

The 'KEStrels', a team of six boys in the Divs and Sixths, won the Lord Mayor's Annual Sixth Form Mega-Quiz, held at the University of Birmingham before Christmas.

50 teams from across the West Midlands competed in 10 rounds of questions in the quiz hosted by celebrity quiz-master, Mark 'The Beast' Labbett from ITV's *The Chase*. The KESTrels convincingly fought off tough competition including KE Camp Hill Boys on the way to the final where they faced a team from Bishop Vesey and emerged the winners by just three points.

For their efforts, the boys were presented with a trophy and given a certificate by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Mike Leddy.

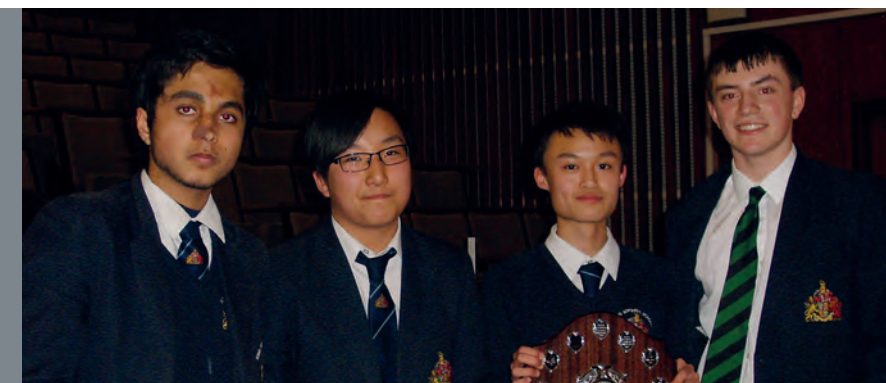
The KESTrels are presented with their prize by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Mike Leddy

Double success in chemistry competitions

Two teams of boys from King Edward's came top of the table in two very different chemistry challenges.

A team of four boys in the Fourths and Fifths won the West Midlands Chemistry Quiz Competition held at the University of Birmingham. This is the first time a team from King Edward's School has won the competition since it began in 2001. The boys' knowledge of all things chemical was faultless and they beat KE Camp Hill Boys in the final to become the proud holders of the MacDermid Trophy for a year.

Four Shell boys visited the Salters' Festival of Chemistry in April, also held at the University of Birmingham. The day consisted of a variety of practical challenges and forensics and the boys were faced with subjects they had never seen before. The boys worked brilliantly as a team, taking care with the fiddly investigations, and came 1st overall in the Forensic Challenge.



The winning Chemistry Quiz team



The winning team at Salters' Festival of Chemistry

Sport



Sailing for Great Britain

Congratulations to Tom Fenemore (Fourths), who has been selected to represent Great Britain in the U20 European and World Laser Championships in Denmark and Poland.



Cricket report

The U12 cricket team have had an incredible, unbeaten first season which culminated in them winning the Warwickshire County Cup. The U13 team also progressed to the Finals of the County Cup and their captain hit an impressive century to lead his team to victory against King's School Worcester on the way to the Finals.

The 1st XI team, a fine group of young men, were ably led by captain Tom Claughton. They produced a season of highs and lows, which was blighted by availability due to exams in the early part of the season. However, the highs were most enjoyable with good wins against Trent College and Notts HS. A fine 78 not out by ex-captain Simon Gateley saw the Old Boys finish the term with a win against the 1st XI. Sid Rao led the attack very well with 23 wickets and was player of the season.

1st XI Scorecard

P 15 W 5 L 9 D 1



Water polo report

It has been another strong year for water polo with the U18 team placed 3rd in the ESSA National Finals, the U14 placed 4th and the U16 team placed 5th.

Congratulations to Felix Abbot Black and George Davies who have been selected for the Great Britain U15 Water Polo Squad. Ben Coward and Joseph Taylor have also been selected for the Great Britain U14 Final Trial.



Hockey report

The U14 hockey team had an outstanding season, winning an impressive four titles: Independent Schools Hockey League – Midlands Zone winners; Warwickshire County Champions; Warwickshire Hockey League Champions; and, winners of the Midland Zone.

Hockey continues to go from strength to strength at the school. The U15 team won their Warwickshire League and the 1st XI also secured the title for a second successive year.

1st XI Scorecard

P 26 W 13 L 7 D 4 F 79 A 53

Rugby report

It has been a good year for the school's sevens teams. The U14 VII won the Plate in the Bromsgrove Sevens tournament and the 1st VII won the Plate in the King's Worcester Sevens. The U14A XV rugby team also had a good season, finishing in 2nd place in the Greater Birmingham Tournament, improving on their 3rd place finish last year.

It's been another tough season for the 1st XV with a formidable fixture list. Their best performances were against King Henry VIII School (43-21), Solihull (19-5) and Queen Mary's GS (55-19).

Congratulations to Josh Gain who has been selected for the Public School Lambs U18 National Squad.

1st XV Scorecard

P 23 W 9 L 14 F 349 A 565



Performing Arts



Orchestra hits all the right notes in Italy

The Chamber Orchestra delighted audiences on a tour of Italy during October half term under the leadership of Peter Bridle.

16 boys from UMs to Sixths entertained large audiences in three concerts across Tuscany in unusual venues, a cathedral in Chiusi, a theatre in Citta della Pieve, and a sanctuary church in Mongiovino, near Perugia.

The programme included pieces by Mozart, Marcello, Grieg and Rachmaninov and involved solos by two Sixths who are members of the National Youth Orchestra, Robbie Ruise (violin) and Adam Phillips (oboe). The tour party also had the opportunity to visit Siena, Assisi, Cortona, Orvieto, Pienza and Montepulciano.



A stunning send-off for Peter Bridle

The Summer Concert of 2014 was also the last concert for Maestro Peter Bridle and was packed full of incredible moments.

The concert began with Handel's *Zadok the Priest* performed by virtually every singer in both schools. The rest of the first half showcased the variety of ensembles and choirs at the schools.

After the interval, Symphony Orchestra and Peter Bridle took to the stage starting with Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio*. During a rendition of *Belle of the Ball*, Old Edwardian and professional ballroom dancer, Jamie Cutler, danced with his sister across the stage. To the surprise of audience and orchestra alike, Peter Bridle joined in the dancing and was soon accompanied by fellow retiree Jenny Herbert.

The dramatic finale to the concert was Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture* accompanied by indoor fireworks, cannon and confetti. A wonderful end to a glittering career at King Edward's.



The Winter's Tale

After *West Side Story*, last year, it was time to see if the Ruddock Hall was as good for spoken word as for music. It was therefore no surprise that Mr Bartlett turned to Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* for the Senior Production.

After grappling with the language and the characters throughout the rehearsal process, the show was pulled together and what a show it was. Simon Kent drove the production forward as a magnificently tortured Leontes; his stage presence and evident torment, achieving the difficult feat of ensuring the audience never quite lost sympathy with his ravings.

A beautiful but simple set of trees and columns transformed the Ruddock Hall from gloomy Sicilia to pastoral Bohemia and back again: all beautifully lit in one of the finest lighting designs to be seen in a Senior Production for some years. A wonderful production that wouldn't have been possible without the selfless dedication of Mr Bartlett in ensuring his cast were the best they possibly could be.



Dumb Waiter

The IB students have been studying 'Theatre of the Absurd', which tends to emphasise the random pointlessness of life by placing its characters in situations over which they have no control.

Harold Pinter's masterful *The Dumb Waiter* puts two men in a windowless hotel room and starts to send them apparently meaningless, but nonetheless threatening, messages. Aaron Thompson and Sam Wilson captured the intense claustrophobia and mounting hysteria of the two men with real style and genuine hilarity.



The Chrysalids

This year's Junior Production was *The Chrysalids*, David Harrower's adaptation of John Wyndham's classic novel.

The cast performed this thought-provoking play, which explores prejudice, violence and the enduring power of friendship, with a maturity beyond their years.

There were some stunning individual performances but it was an ensemble piece throughout. The Stage Crew created a magnificent set, lighting and costumes and the Front of House team took on, with much flair, their role of starting the audiences' experience from the minute they entered the Performing Arts Centre.



House Shout!

After narrowly missing out on the coveted title in 2013, Heath House won this year's House Shout with their mash up of *Cigarettes and Alcohol* by Oasis and the Rolling Stones' *(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction*.

Extra-curricular

As always, King Edward's can boast not just academic excellence but a host of extra-curricular activities enjoyed by pupils of all years. Below is a snapshot of some of the activities undertaken in the past year.



A group of Fourths and Fifths visited the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and other sights in Iceland.



32 boys from KES Ski Club spent a week in Kühtai, Austria's highest ski resort at 2,020m above sea level.



CCF Navy and Army cadets qualified as SSI Open Water Divers in preparation for the annual Scuba Expedition to Gozo.



Boys travelled to Berlin to visit an array of museums, monuments and memorials and experience the German culture.



Boys raised over £6,500 for Birmingham Children's Hospital by wearing balloons during their final lessons of the spring term.



BBC nature presenter and Old Edwardian, Brett Westwood, led 25 boys in a 24-hour BioBlitz to document as many wildlife species as possible on the school site.

The Living History Group has added a cannon to its collection of equipment, a millimetre accurate copy of the Loshult Cannon dated to the mid-fourteenth century.



After winning the Air Squadron Trophy area competition the RAF cadets went on to be placed 4th in the national finals.

Old Edwardians Merchandise

A range of gifts are available as a souvenir of your time at King Edward's. Visit the Old Edwardians shop at: www.olders.kes.org.uk/oe-shop to view the full range and order items, or contact the OEA office on tel: **0121 415 6050** to place your order. All prices listed include UK postage.



Christmas cards (set of 10)
£7



Golf umbrella
£25



Ties
£15 each



Cufflinks **£12.50**



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