

2018



Insight

GAZETTE

The annual review of the school year for Old Edwardians

Issue 299

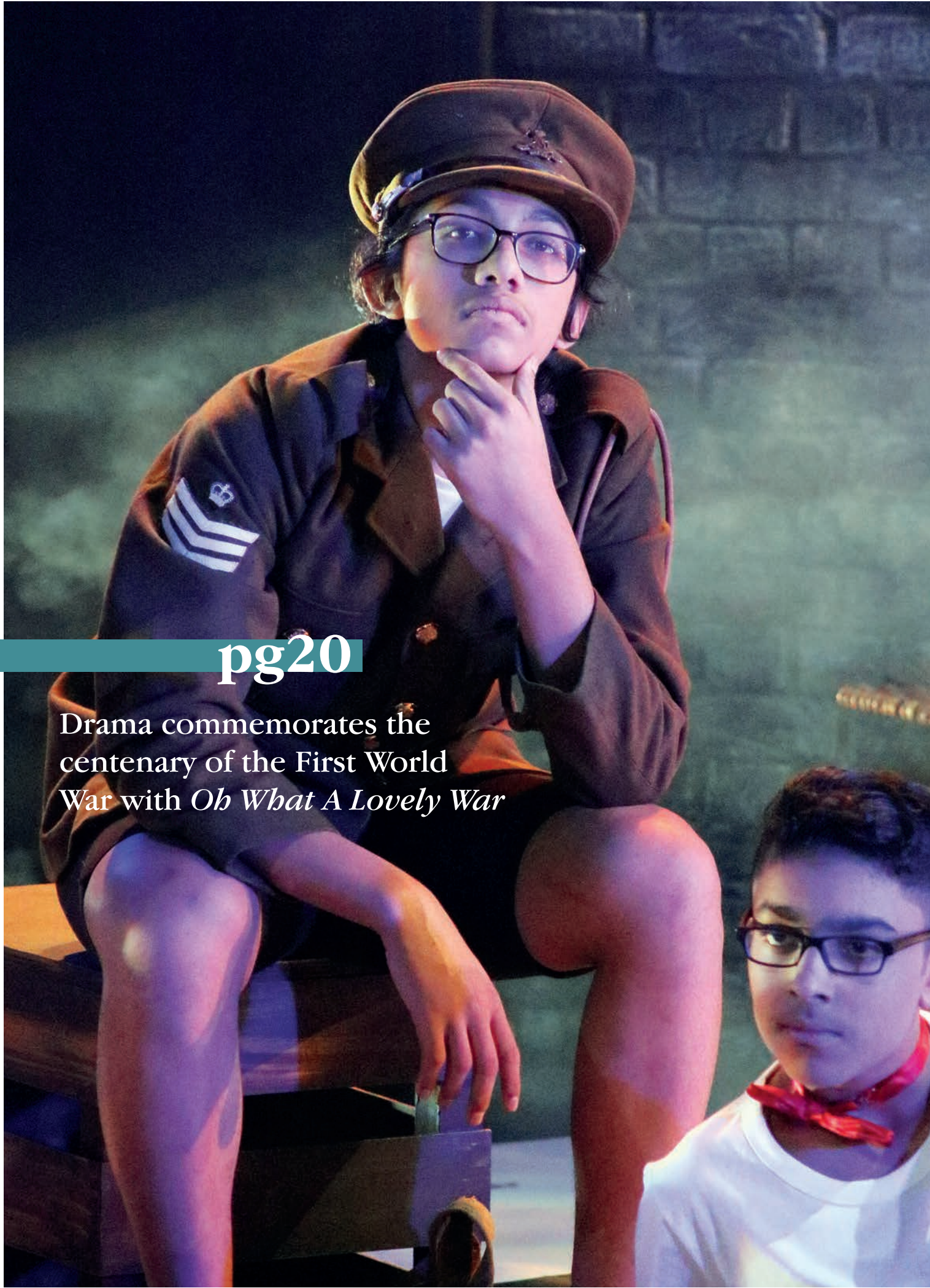


Inside...

Scott Handcock on audio dramas and Doctor Who
Transforming careers advice
Over 800 years of staff service celebrated



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM



pg20

Drama commemorates the centenary of the First World War with *Oh What A Lovely War*

A message from..



..The Chief Master

I know how Geraint Thomas feels, having spent most of my career in the service of others and now finding myself in the Chief Master's yellow jersey, albeit for just one year. It is strange; days could go by without my speaking to a boy, the whole school functions perfectly well without any intervention from me (it's the deputies who run the school, as I'm sure you know) but I have found this term the opportunity to appreciate what makes King Edward's such a unique school.

When boys, staff, parents, Old Edwardians and friends come together for an event like the Tolkien Lecture/Weavers' film/Chapel Exhibition evening, there is a real sense of community, of shared affection for an institution with a long and important history. There was a sense of shared purpose at the Humanities Careers Evening and of fun at the Biennial Dinner. And then there were the concerts, the carol service and the wonderfully bonkers junior play. The appointment a few weeks ago of Dr Katy Ricks as the next Chief Master is equally exciting; those of us who know her both from her time as a teacher here and from her outstanding reputation as Head of Sevenoaks are sure that the School will flourish under her leadership.

Next term we shall (finally) be setting foot inside the wonderful Andrew Brode Sports Centre, its grand opening scheduled for 10 May. If it has the same effect on our sport that Sir Paul Ruddock's performing arts centre has had on the life of the School, we will be in for a real treat.

Finally, unlike Geraint Thomas, I don't really think I'm a contender for Sports Personality of the Year, my outstanding record as captain of the staff cricket team notwithstanding. But my first term in Sapientia has flown by, so I must be having fun.

■ Keith Phillips, Acting Chief Master and President of the OEA



..The Chairman

'We live in interesting times' is certainly fair. Before long Keith Phillips' tenure in Vince House will be over with the arrival of Dr Katy Ricks, who is not only the first lady to take the role but someone who knows what she's letting herself in for, having started her career here. And if that isn't enough, we shall have a fabulous new sports complex to enjoy, and a new Development Director. Lindsey Mephram is moving to a new challenge in Yorkshire; my profound thanks to her (and Dr Fenton) for helping facilitate Andrew Brode's marvellous contribution to the sports facilities, and of course to her for all the fundraising for Assisted Places, and to her team for setting everything up for us.

At this year's Biennial Dinner, we were entranced by Tom Shippey's (1960) discourse on Tolkien's universal appeal: no notes, no autocue, no need when you have such command of your subject. These pages include more enthusiasts in their normal (remarkable) variety: a writer and radio producer who has worked with names we would all recognise; the inventor of personalised alarm clocks (by app); two Digitals: Cake and Catapult; and a piece about the Careers Network which I'd ask everyone to consider helping with.

The end of hostilities a century ago has been a focus for the Weaver brothers, Zander and Elliot, with their arresting film documentaries. The third and last was premiered in the RPAC in November, featuring Captain John Osborn Walford (OE). Shell shock is the theme; I shall say no more, but do watch it this year whilst it is so resonant. I am delighted to say that the OEA contributed to its production costs – so thank you to you all. These themes are continued in the fabulous exhibition in the Chapel which has been curated by our archivist, Alison Wheatley. Do see that too.

■ James Martin (1979), Chairman of the OEA

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Front cover image:

Throwing snowballs on South Field in December 2017.

The Insight interview:

Scott Handcock (2003)

Scott Handcock (2003) talks about accidentally getting a job in the media, becoming part of the *Doctor Who* world, and producing audio dramas.

When did your interest in the media start?

I always had an interest in scripts and drama, which is one of the reasons I pursued classics. We got to study the Greek plays and the conventions of drama. I enjoyed writing as a hobby and enjoyed listening to a lot of radio drama. In terms of thinking about it as a career, if I'm honest it didn't really occur to me at all. I always thought I would end up in a teaching role, or something like that. I ended up in the media purely by accident.

How did you end up accidentally in the media?

It was 2006, I'd just graduated and was still looking for a job. A friend of mine in Cardiff was working on *Doctor Who* and knew they needed someone to come in for a month as a runner, to literally ferry tapes back and forth. The BBC realised I could do slightly more than that and so kept extending my contract month by month, and then year by year. I slowly worked my way through the different drama productions at BBC Wales and ended up spending seven years at the BBC off the back of four weeks.

Have you always loved *Doctor Who*?

During my school days I think I was probably faintly ridiculed for liking *Doctor Who*, because back then it was a dead show, but yeah, I loved it growing up. To have it as my first job out of university was surreal. It was the David Tennant era and I was working with people like Russell T Davies, who is just an insanely talented writer and producer, and is weirdly now a friend.



1

How did you transition into radio drama?

When I was working on TV *Doctor Who* and those sort of productions I did a bit of script editing, and then an opportunity came up in the radio department at BBC Wales. I was also doing freelance writing and directing for a company called Big Finish, who coincidentally do a lot of *Doctor Who* related material. When I left the BBC, Big Finish plucked me to tackle a lot of their smaller ranges and then slightly bigger ranges going forward. I've been hired to write some fun scripts but also produce and direct some brilliant franchises and work with lots of ridiculous people, which is insane.

What is the biggest challenge to working in audio?

Because you don't have the visuals, you have to always ensure clarity in the performances and soundscape. Even though every listener will imagine something different, you need them to all be picturing the same sort of thing to get what's going on. It's quite an intricate medium in that sense and it's brilliantly collaborative. I'll have my thoughts as a director, the actors will have theirs, as will the studio engineers and the sound designers. On a very basic level, it's knowing that if you're outside in the rain, actors in a completely silent studio are going to be talking a little bit more loudly to be heard over

effects added later. You also work so quickly. An hour drama on TV you'd normally spend maybe three or four weeks shooting, whereas we do that in a day in a radio studio.

Do you prefer writing or directing?

I enjoy writing because you get to play lots of different parts and pretend to be all of the nice people as well as the deeply unpleasant ones, but I think directing is my favourite bit because writing is so solitary. Directing is brilliantly social and if you get a good cast together, it's a joy. Some of the peculiar situations you have to throw at people can be quite entertaining, like asking Derek Jacobi to run away from a troop of Daleks. Back when I was a kid, I never imagined that I'd be a) working with Daleks or b) working with Derek Jacobi. Little moments like that make you think, "I can't believe this is my job now!"

Who have you been most excited to work with?

Well, Derek Jacobi is just a ridiculous high point because it's Derek Jacobi and he's just indescribably good. I've worked a lot with Eve Myles who was in *Torchwood* but recently has been in *Keeping Faith* on BBC One. She's a powerhouse of energy and passion, and incredible. And then there are people like Mark Gatiss, who is one of the nicest people and enormously well-read.



2



3

Were there any teachers at school who influenced you?

The classics corridor definitely, particularly Stan Owen, George Worthington and Phil Lambie. They were a powerhouse triumvirate. That corridor bred such huge personalities and they all had very different ways of teaching the same subject. We did a module about Cicero with Phil Lambie during A-levels, and in the last couple of years I ended up making a drama about Cicero's life. I would never have pitched that idea without Phil Lambie standing over us during A-levels.

I never really got taught by Mr Milton but I remember his plays. He'd always write a few of the school productions and I think that encouraged me as a writer. Seeing someone else do it and have the courage to put their work out there and be judged. I have huge respect for him. Bradley Spencer was so supportive and just a brilliant, brilliant teacher, not just in his subject but in understanding his students. Looking back, I appreciated a lot of the teachers, not only for their academic knowledge but from a human angle as well,

people like Miss Tudor (now Mrs Duncombe) really went the extra mile to give me support and advice.

What has been your career highlight so far?

Every time I think I've hit a highlight something else happens. There was a point in 2012, when I was just making my mark in audio drama, that I pitched a series idea to Big Finish based on the character of Dorian Gray. It was a complete punt for them and it ran for five series in the end, which proved to a lot of people that I could tackle some of the more high-profile series that we've ended up doing.

I suppose the real highlight is the variety. One day you're doing a really serious drama set in the real world, and the next you're doing mad, fantasy drama or a bonkers comedy. And of course, the joy of radio is you can literally do anything and not worry about the budget.



4

What's next for you?

At the moment it's a lot of ongoing stuff, actually. I'm doing a lot more with Derek Jacobi as the War Master, which is very exciting, lots more *Torchwood* and *Doctor Who* and hopefully a few more original dramas like *Cicero*, to keep things from slipping completely into sci-fi territory.

Finally, do you have any advice for anyone looking to get started in the industry?

Never question what you can or can't do. My first script editing job for TV I originally turned down because I had never script edited. They had to convince me to do it, and it was a lovely job. I think self-doubt is the biggest obstacle and it's an industry full of rejection. Very often it's not a case of you not being good enough, it's just there happens to be someone else with more experience who's better placed, and one day you'll be that person. The most important thing is to stop looking at where everyone else is and keep focusing on where you are, otherwise you miss the opportunities that are coming your way and stop setting yourself realistic goals. The minute you relax, the more you can focus on doing the best job you can.

1. Scott Handcock in the studio.

2. Scott and members of the cast of *Cicero*: Richard Earl, Sarah Douglas, Samuel Barnett, Laura Riseborough, Scott Handcock, George Naylor and Katherine Pearce.

3. Scott with Mark Gatiss, who starred in his audio production of *Dracula*.

4. Scott with Derek Jacobi.

All images courtesy of Big Finish.

Event review:

Digital Catapult



Abhay Soorya (2011) gives his account of the London professional networking event held at the Digital Catapult building.

Mention Euston Road to me and my thoughts would be that of a busy and crowded street near King's Cross, surrounded by a faceless, urban sprawl that typically accompanies Central London – not particularly exciting.

19 April was different; as I headed to 101 Euston Road, instead of the ordinary, I found myself reminiscing about the long driveway into King Edward's School. It had been seven years since I finished – long enough to necessitate fresh familiarity. This time however, the experience of an anxious first walk had transmuted into a nostalgic stroll down memory lane, accompanied by an intense longing for my schooldays.

On this day, the offices of the Digital Catapult hosted a professional networking event for Old Edwardians. With plenty of jocular conversations and savoury snacks in the mix, it turned out to be a brilliant night – one in which I missed our school experiences: the flood of M2 textbooks in every corner (heavily used of course... ahem), the rush into D&T lessons to 'learn' computer-based design (i.e. play Tank Trouble), and attempts to avert detention by hiding underneath said computer's desk. Mr X's painfully dry banter and Mr Pitt's schoolboy like face at age 30+, made us laugh together until we cried.

My fondest recollection was the pervading sense of geniality and shared history at the event. Hugs and joyful tears of a longed-for

reunion were plentiful. Old Edwardians, regardless of age, distance, or professional status, welcomed one another with great warmth; even Jess Butcher and Andy Green – two highly accomplished and influential Old Edwardians – were interacting with those of us stepping into post-university lives, without the slightest semblance of a generational divide. Their stories were uplifting. Jess accentuated the importance of following one's own path: how unconventional career choices early on, albeit unnerving at the time, provided the variety of experiences that later enabled her to stitch together successful partnerships in business. Others spoke of the commitment to stay on course, despite times of brutal professional and personal failure.

To a large extent, I found commonality in disposition; character is the bond we shared above all others, and I have no doubt that our school had a formative role in shaping it. I was able to personally relate to every story I heard in some form or fashion.

Overall, this was a fantastic event: fun, cordial, and plenty of nostalgia. A slight retitling would be better however; networking preconceives barriers between people, but experience dictates that no such concept has existed (or will ever exist) between Old Edwardians. With that, I eagerly look forward to the next reunion!

Abhay Soorya (2011)

Forthcoming events

King Edward's School and the Great War exhibition, Friday 25 January, 22 February, 29 March 2019

The final phase of the exhibition centres on the School's Roll of Honour as well as remembering forgotten casualties of the First World War.

Senior Production Drinks Reception, Thursday 31 January 2019

A drinks reception in the Chief Master's study prior to this year's production of *The Crucible*.

Diamond and Golden Reunion (Class of '59 and '69), Tuesday 5 March 2019

An informal day at school including a tour, lunch, talk from the Archivist, and coffee and cake in the Chief Master's study.

Sports Careers Evening, Tuesday 5 March 2019

Old Edwardians who have either studied sport or have a sport-related career are invited to share their experience with current pupils at this informal networking event.

London Dinner, Monday 11 March 2019

Guy Woodward (1991), Deputy Editor of Harrods Publishing, will be the guest speaker at this annual black-tie event for Old Edwardians living in or around London.

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**

Careers Network:

providing opportunities



Transforming careers advice

While the topic of school careers advice crops up regularly in the media, it is rare to hear it mentioned positively. Those lucky enough to establish themselves in their profession look back on the support they were given in their teens and feel distinctly underwhelmed. Either there was no careers advice at all, or the advisor failed to recognise any of their interests or talents. As Head of Careers at King Edward's, I do not want to find our best efforts being discussed in these terms in some future episode of *Desert Island Discs*! The greatest challenge lies in how to connect pupils to the world of work and how to bring the world's opportunities into school.

Thankfully, at King Edward's we benefit from the generous support of many Old Edwardians and parents who donate their time and expertise in order to help our current pupils make sense of their future. The fact that we can draw on the knowledge and experience of hundreds of former pupils has transformed the way that careers advice is delivered.

Three times a year, we hold a networking evening in which we invite a panel of Old Edwardians to talk to boys about their career journeys and to share their experiences. These events have covered areas such as the creative industries, science, finance,

engineering, languages, medicine and law. Reading up on creative careers is one thing; chatting over a drink to journalists, architects, artists, musicians and actors, all of whom understand the School and remember their own time here, is another.

Access to work experience is also a key area in which Old Edwardians contribute. Particularly for boys who do not have well-connected family and friendship networks, these opportunities can be transformative. Old Edwardians also volunteer to come into school and carry out mock interviews, they give lunchtime talks, attend our Fifth Form Careers Seminars and Sixth Form Leavers' events and are an endless source of wisdom, knowledge, entertainment and good-will. It is no exaggeration to say that it would be impossible to run our careers programme without them.

So if an eminent former pupil ends up on *Desert Island Discs* in years to come, I am hopeful that he will reflect positively on the start of his career journey at King Edward's, and I suspect that the main reason for that may well be the many extraordinary Old Edwardians he met while at school.

Dr Jessica Amann
Head of Careers

To find out more about the Careers Network and the support you can access or provide, visit: **www.oldeds.kes.org.uk/careers**

The Careers Network in numbers

2017-18 academic year

84

applications made by current pupils

945

hours of time given by Old Edwardians and parents

1,040

total number of Old Edwardians and parents registered

Business focus

In this edition, we are putting the spotlight on two Old Edwardian businesses. Chris Thomas (1997) and Phil Neale (2008) write about their motivations for setting up their own businesses.

Digital Cake:

Chris Thomas (1997)

I left KES in 1997 to head for Bristol University to study civil engineering, following a general comfort zone I had for numbers and equations, with no real plan of where I would end up but with the hope it would set me off in the right direction. Whilst I loved the degree, I realised that a career in civil engineering was not for me, following two rather 'dry' summer placements, and I decided that going into business would be my future. In preparation for this, I got on the KPMG graduate scheme to train as a Chartered Accountant and headed to London in 2001.

My first business Cloggs was started in 2002 with my brother Nick Thomas (1994). We were amongst the first wave of retailers selling online when it was still very much an unknown quantity. By some luck and a lot of hard work, the business grew very quickly over the next 10 years and we became one of the country's largest retailers of branded footwear in the 2000s, reaching a peak turnover of £17m in 2012 before selling to JD Sports the following year. I stayed on as Managing Director for the following three years before the call of getting back into business for myself became too loud to resist.

On exiting Cloggs, I founded an ecommerce consultancy called Digital Cake in 2016 to help businesses deconstruct the challenge of the online world. As our lives become ever more interwoven with the internet, the power of online shopping continues unabated and with a 15-year track record in doing just that, Digital Cake is helping businesses firstly understand what they can be achieving online and then go about helping them make it a reality.

We have now grown into a full-service ecommerce agency of 10 staff based in the Jewellery Quarter, building websites, delivering digital strategy and marketing to companies across the country. We have offices in Manchester and plans to open in London before the end of the year.

Find out more at: www.digitalcake.agency or contact me directly at: chris@digitalcake.agency



Snoozle:

Phil Neale (2008)

I left KES in 2008 and went into an unplanned gap year, before going to Leeds University to study management with marketing. Throughout school and university, I was on the books of Warwickshire CCC, but felt I'd never be anything more than an average county cricketer who'd end up getting dropped in my late 20s and then starting a 'career'! So I skipped that bit and went straight into a marketing career after university (via a summer job at an estate agents in Birmingham city centre).

For two years I worked in marketing agencies before relocating to Hertfordshire as Brand Manager of Tesco Finest*, for which I was a finalist in *Retail Week's* Graduate of the Year. In the same year, I was also (very randomly) a finalist on *Britain's Got Talent 2015* along with my two brothers (also Old Edwardians) and our dad: 'The Neales'!

So I found myself Brand Manager at Tesco, and Band Manager of The Neales, and I somehow combined the two to disrupt the UK music industry and get The Neales to number six in the Official Charts... we out-sold Drake, who was number one, but we couldn't compete on the streams!

The music and media experience gave me a lot of the confidence I needed to go full-time on a business I had been working on alongside my marketing job and the singing. I had invested my savings into building an early version of an idea I had: to swap alarm tones (which I, along with many others, really dislike) for voice messages from friends (whom people like). I found that waking up to a succession of jokes, positive messages, cute messages, updates (and eventually news headlines, music and celebrities) is a much better morning wake up, and I called the app Snoozle™.

So I resigned from my role at Tesco in September 2017, and a month later raised £100,000 within just nine hours of going live on a crowdfunding website; making Snoozle the fastest ever crowdfunding campaign of all time! I've hired a Chief Technical Officer, and we launched the full product, which is more than just the alarm clock, in June 2018. It's proving popular and the early signs are very good (and Snoozle was featured in *Forbes*, which was nice)! It's early days for us as a business, but we're very ambitious and striving to one day be mentioned in the same breath as (or acquired by!) the likes of Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat.

If any current Edwardians or Old Edwardians feel I could add value to them or vice versa, please do contact me on: phil@snoozleuk.com



Commemorating our war dead

In each edition of the Insight Gazette we are commemorating Old Edwardians who lost their lives in the same academic year a century ago. The space here is too short to be able to tell all that we know about the lives of these young men but more can be read on the virtual Roll of Honour at: www.kes.org.uk/RollofHonour

Second Lieutenant Leslie Glendower Humphries
18 June 1898-16 September 1917

4th Squadron, Royal Flying Corps. Commemorated on the Lloyds Bank Roll of Honour and buried in Hooge Crater Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed while photographing over German lines in Flanders.

Second Lieutenant William Gordon Gething
9 February 1897-23 September 1917

2nd/6th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed in action at Ypres. William was in the Debating Society and a Sergeant in the Officer Training Corps (OTC).

Second Lieutenant Leslie Norton Rolason
12 February 1890-26 September 1917

9th Battalion, London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles). Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed in action. In September 1914, Leslie enlisted as a Trooper, serving in Egypt and Gallipoli. He was wounded in the Yeomanry Charge at Suvla Bay in August 1915 and invalided home with typhoid. In March 1917, he returned to France and was wounded again in May.

Lieutenant Arthur Vanderkiste Bisseker
18 September 1883-4 October 1917

6th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Buried in Dochy Farm New British Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed in action near Ypres.

Second Lieutenant Raymond Russell Cheshire
6 April 1898-4 October 1917

1st/8th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed near St Julien.

Second Lieutenant Howard Hallam
25 March 1887-4 October 1917

1st/6th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed in France. Howard enlisted in 1914, serving in Egypt and sustaining a serious wound at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli in 1915.

Lieutenant John Haydon Cardew
24 March 1882-5 October 1917

73rd Battery, Royal Field Artillery. Buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed at the Battle of Passchendaele. John fought at both Ypres and the Somme, before receiving the Military Cross in August 1917 for “gallantry and devotion to duty while under fire.”

Captain Harry Stanyer Powell
12 March 1893-5 October 1917

1st/6th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Albrighton and University of Birmingham War Memorials and buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium.

Died at Broodseinde from wounds sustained whilst leading a party and capturing a position under heavy machine-gun fire. Harry was posthumously awarded the Military Cross.

Second Lieutenant George Morley Smith
16 September 1895-6 October 1917

7th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. Commemorated on a memorial stone in St Mary's churchyard, Handsworth and buried at Godewaersvelde British Cemetery, France.

Died at a casualty clearing station from wounds sustained near Polygon Wood, Belgium. At school, George came top of his class across all his subjects in his final two years.

Second Lieutenant Hubert Ratcliffe Felton
10 December 1897-9 October 1917

17th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Reported missing, presumed killed, after leading his platoon in the attack on Passchendaele.

Captain Eric Thomas Gaunt
6 January 1884-9 October 1917

Royal Army Medical Corps. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed whilst attending the wounded at a regimental aid post near Polygon Wood. Eric was dressing a wound outside the dugout when a shell burst within three feet of him.

Private Ivo Frank Lewis
13 February 1885-9 October 1917

16th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Declared wounded and missing, presumed killed, at Ypres.

Acting Captain George Ernest Sanders
13 April 1894-9 October 1917

16th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Reported missing, presumed killed, at Ypres.

Lieutenant John Soulsby Wilson
16 August 1895-12 October 1917

8th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Reported missing, presumed killed, at Ypres. John saw action at the Somme and Aisne, he was wounded in February 1917 and mentioned in despatches for action at Beaumont-Hamel in April 1917.

Lieutenant Reginald Percy Chantrill
1 October 1880-26 October 1917

78th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Buried at Solferino Farm Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed in action.

Second Lieutenant Keith Saxby Curtis
23 April 1894-26 October 1917

14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed in action at Ypres.

Acting Captain John Percival Turner
26 August 1878-26 October 1917

3rd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed in action in France. John was a highly able academic, a Recitation Prizewinner, a top-flight gymnast, Captain of Eton Fives, and a regular in the 1st XV.

Private Frank Farmer Baker
27 March 1887-30 October 1917

1st/28th Battalion, London Regiment (Artists' Rifles). Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Killed at Passchendaele.

Chaplain 4th Class Rev Harry Dickinson
25 August 1885-30 October 1917

28th Battalion, London Regiment (Artists' Rifles). Buried at Passchendaele New British Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed on Passchendaele Ridge.

Private Benjamin John Morton Field
1 September 1897-30 October 1917

5th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. Buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, Belgium.

Died of his wounds in German hands, having been taken prisoner.

Captain David Archibald Pipe
30 October 1884-30 October 1917

Royal Marine Light Infantry. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium and on the Combe Martin War Memorial, Devon.

Killed at Passchendaele. David saw action at Beaucourt and Vimy Ridge.

Acting Captain William Alfred Foley
31 May 1895-1 November 1917

1st Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers. Buried in Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, France.

Killed in action in the Somme region. Born in Australia, William was an accomplished sportsman and a Corporal in the OTC.

Second Lieutenant Ralph Thomas Boddington
8 June 1883-2 November 1917

1st/10th Battalion, London Regiment. Buried at Gaza War Cemetery.

Killed while leading his men in an attack on a Turkish trench in Palestine.

Private Harold Reece Twigg
3 December 1879-9 November 1917

194th Company, Labour Corps. Buried at Potijze Chateau Grounds Cemetery, Belgium.

Killed in action.

Private Henry James Matthews
12 April 1888-17 November 1917

1st Royal Gloucestershire Yeomanry, Royal Army Medical Corps. Commemorated on the Jerusalem Memorial.

Died of wounds received between Gaza and Hebron in Jerusalem.

Lieutenant Herbert Ward Milligan
14 January 1884-21 November 1917

1st Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers. Commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, France.

Killed at Noyelle. In 1907, Herbert took up residence in Ceylon, now Sri Lanka. He was wounded during the Gallipoli Landing on 14 April 1915, and in 1916 was wounded three times, serving in France.

Gunner Eric Powell Davies
16 June 1895-28 November 1917

1st Army School of Mortars, Royal Field Artillery. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial and on St Mary's Church Memorial, Moseley, and buried in Aire Communal Cemetery, France.

Killed in action.

Second Lieutenant Fred Daniels
4 November 1888-3 December 1917

2nd/5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, France.

Reported missing, presumed killed at Cambrai. Fred was awarded the Military Cross in 1916 for his “coolness and courage during an intense bombardment on July 1, when all the officers of the company had been killed or wounded.”

Lieutenant Thomas Kemp Tabberner
10 April 1880-8 December 1917

2nd/19th Battalion, London Regiment. Commemorated on St Augustine's Church War Memorial, Edgbaston, and buried at Jerusalem War Cemetery.

Killed in action at the taking of Jerusalem. Thomas worked in the family dry-salting business and enlisted in September 1914, serving in France, Flanders and Salonika before being posted to Palestine.

Lieutenant Thomas Ewart Mitton
26 April 1897-24 December 1917

General Headquarters Signals, Royal Engineers. Commemorated on St Agnes' Church and St Mary's Church War Memorials and buried in Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, Belgium.

Accidentally killed on the railway near Ypres. Ewart was the cousin of JRR Tolkien, and in 1915 won the Governors' Prize for English Verse at Speech Day.

Lieutenant Eliot Spencer
5 April 1891-18 February 1918

5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Buried in West Bromwich Cemetery.

Died in the Prince of Wales Hospital, London, from wounds received in France in August 1917.

Second Lieutenant Leslie Sydney Last
12 February 1895-21 February 1918

Royal Flying Corps. Buried in the Cairo War Memorial Cemetery.

Died in a flying accident, whilst training a pupil in Egypt.

<div> <div>Captain Thomas Leslie Astbury</div> <div>11 August 1887-21 March 1918</div> <div>6th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, France.</div> <div>Killed at Bullecourt.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Philip Dawson Harris</div> <div>25 April 1888-21 March 1918</div> <div>1st Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France.</div> <div>Killed in action near St Quentin. Philip enlisted in 1911 and was sent to France in 1914. He was promoted to Captain shortly before sustaining the first of two major wounds in 1915.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Rifleman Wilfrid Hawkes</div> <div>9 August 1881-21 March 1918</div> <div>8th Battalion, Rifle Brigade. Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France.</div> <div>Declared missing, presumed dead, at Flavy-le-Martel. Wilfrid worked as an assistant farmer in Wales before enlisting in 1914 and was wounded three times while serving in France.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Robert Maxwell Trimble</div> <div>21 December 1895-21 March 1918</div> <div>5th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, France.</div> <div>Reported missing, presumed killed, near Bullecourt.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain John Drummond Crichton</div> <div>26 October 1891-22 March 1918</div> <div>9th Battalion, The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, France and on St Augustine's Church Memorial, Edgbaston.</div> <div>Killed by shellfire near Frémicourt during ‘Operation Michael’. John was a star pupil: Foundation Scholar, Prefect, 1st XV Vice-Captain, Swimming and Rugby Secretary and Sub-Librarian. He enlisted in 1914 and was wounded three times: at Gallipoli in August 1915 and at Vimy Ridge in May 1916 and July 1917.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Norman Toynbee King</div> <div>20 August 1897-22 March 1918</div> <div>3rd Dragoon Guards. Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France, the family memorial in Cofton Hackett churchyard, and Edgbaston Old Church Memorial.</div> <div>Killed at Noreuil.</div> </div>

<div> <div>Lieutenant William Davies Featherstone</div> <div>5 March 1896-23 March 1918</div> <div>77th Army Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Buried in Bancourt British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed on the Somme. William was awarded the Military Cross in August 1917 for “conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on two separate occasions under heavy shellfire, during which he showed extreme courage in putting out fires which had broken out in his gun-pits.”</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Harold Welford Sheffield</div> <div>23 September 1896-23 March 1918</div> <div>1st Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France, on St Agnes Church War Memorial, Moseley, and St Mary's Church War Memorial in Beverley, Hull.</div> <div>Killed near Épehy while encouraging his men from the parapet. Harold was seriously wounded at Mametz Wood in July 1916 and wounded again at Fountaine-lès-Croisilles the following year.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Major Herbert Whitehouse</div> <div>13 May 1895-23 March 1918</div> <div>34th Army Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Buried at Lebucquiere Communal Cemetery Extension, France.</div> <div>Died of “accidental injuries”. Herbert was made Acting Major in June 1916 at the remarkably young age of 20 for “special services rendered in the field.”</div> </div>
<div> <div>Second Lieutenant John Albert Ehrhardt</div> <div>20 February 1898-26 March 1918</div> <div>1st Battalion, Tank Corps. Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France.</div> <div>Killed near Bray while fighting on foot with a Lewis gun. John was educated in Heidelberg until the age of 12, when he joined KES with his three brothers. In 1916, John joined the Cadet Corps at Oxford and was later commissioned to the Tank Corps, serving as a Reconnaissance Officer at the Battle of Cambrai.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Alan Pat Harrower</div> <div>25 October 1895-26 March 1918</div> <div>12th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. Buried in Roisel Communal Cemetery Extension, France.</div> <div>Died as a prisoner of war, having been taken prisoner at Roisel five days before his death, after volunteering to take up reinforcements despite being wounded.</div> </div>

<div> <div>Second Lieutenant Lawrence Jack Preedy</div> <div>5 June 1898-31 March 1918</div> <div>4th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, France, and Four Oaks Memorial, Sutton Coldfield.</div> <div>Shot through the head by a sniper whilst trying to rescue a wounded soldier near Feuchy.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Sydney Henry Lane</div> <div>18 August 1892-5 April 1918</div> <div>38th Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Buried in Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed at Armentières. Sydney rose quickly through the ranks, serving as Acting Major in 1917. He was mentioned in despatches five times, twice posthumously.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Edward Grafton Herbert</div> <div>22 June 1894-9 April 1918</div> <div>90th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Buried in Croix-du-Bac British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed in action in Flanders. Edward was posthumously awarded the Military Cross for “most gallant behaviour through the whole battle.”</div> </div>
<div> <div>Private Martin Bartley Taylor</div> <div>16 March 1893-10 April 1918</div> <div>2nd/5th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. Commemorated on family memorial in St Barnabas’ churchyard, Erdington and buried at Ramleh War Cemetery, Palestine.</div> <div>Reported missing, and then killed, near Jaffa. Martin served in the Sinai and Palestine Campaign.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Private William John Hardwidge</div> <div>22 August 1899-11 April 1918</div> <div>1st/5th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall’s Light Infantry. Commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium.</div> <div>Reported missing, presumed killed, near Ypres.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Second Lieutenant Edward Francis Malins</div> <div>5 September 1898-12 April 1918</div> <div>2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers. Buried in La Kreule Military Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Hit by a sniper’s bullet while his battalion was offering “desperate resistance to the oncoming German hosts”, east of the forest of Nieppe near Merville.</div> </div>

<div> <div>Captain Frederick Julian Horner</div> <div>23 September 1895-15 April 1918</div> <div>2nd Battalion, Cheshire Regiment. Buried in Struma Military Cemetery, Greece.</div> <div>Died of wounds received in Malta. Frederick was posthumously awarded the Military Cross for “stemming an overwhelming enemy advance.”</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Walter Reynolds Mansell</div> <div>14 January 1892-16 April 1918</div> <div>2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment. Commemorated on the Moseley Rugby Club War Memorial and buried in Étaples Military Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Died in hospital in Étaples from wounds received at St Quentin.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Private Brian John Millward</div> <div>11 September 1895-22 April 1918</div> <div>1st Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment). Buried in Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed near Armentières. Brian was wounded in France in March 1917 and again in January 1918.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant William Barton Hughes</div> <div>21 September 1899-17 May 1918</div> <div>5th Group (Dunkirk), Royal Air Force. Commemorated on the West House School Memorial and buried in St James’ Cemetery, Dover.</div> <div>Accidentally killed while flying at Dover.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Gunner Herbert Leslie Tomlinson</div> <div>28 August 1896-23 May 1918</div> <div>58th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Commemorated on family memorial in Brandwood End Cemetery, Birmingham, and buried at Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed by hostile aircraft whilst in hospital in France. It is not known the reasons for Herbert’s presence at the hospital.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Harold Beresford</div> <div>25 January 1897-24 May 1918</div> <div>Royal Field Artillery. Buried in Ebblinghem Military Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Died of his wounds at Ypres. Harold received the Military Cross in April 1918 for actions taken on the first day of ‘Operation Georgette’ for remaining at his post as forward observation officer “until his communications were cut and he was nearly surrounded. He eventually brought in very useful information.”</div> </div>

<div> <div>Second Lieutenant Percy Arden Rogers</div> <div>26 March 1888-27 May 1918</div> <div>170th Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers. Buried in Noeux-les-Mines Communal Cemetery Extension, France.</div> <div>Killed in action in France.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Vernon Earle George Busby</div> <div>17 September 1894-8 June 1918</div> <div>Accidents Department (Air Ministry), Royal Air Force. Buried in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Selly Oak.</div> <div>Killed in a flying accident over Hendon while piloting the 13th test flight of the Handley Page V/1500. Following service in France, Vernon was employed at the Air Ministry on special flying work, often as a “service test pilot” of “Herculean physique but tender years”.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Arthur Cyril Jervis</div> <div>16 April 1887-3 July 1918</div> <div>3rd Battalion, The King’s (Liverpool Regiment). Buried in Lumbo British Cemetery, Mozambique.</div> <div>Killed in Mozambique. Arthur was in the First Class with JRR Tolkien, and taught personally by Cary Gilson. He was a Prefect, Sub-Librarian, holder of full rugby colours, strong swimmer, Debating Society member and thespian. He gained an Exhibition to Selwyn College, Cambridge and became a schoolmaster at Upcott School in Okehampton.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Flight Lieutenant Eric Simpson Morrison</div> <div>23 July 1891-7 July 1918</div> <div>27th Squadron, Royal Air Force. Buried in Huby-St Leu British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed while flying over France. Eric emigrated to Canada, where he worked as a mechanic. He enlisted in the Canadian Infantry, serving in France and was wounded and gassed while serving as a despatch rider at Passchendaele.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Lieutenant Cecil Howard Perkins</div> <div>9 November 1896-22 July 1918</div> <div>2nd Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, attached to 21st Trench Mortar Battery. Buried in Les Baraques Military Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Died in Calais from wounds received from an aerial bomb. Cecil saw fierce action throughout the capture of Mametz Wood.</div> </div>

<div> <div>Private Frederick Lynn Disturnal</div> <div>26 August 1894-8 August 1918</div> <div>49th Battalion, Canadian Infantry. Buried in Caix British Cemetery, France.</div> <div>Killed near Amiens when an enemy machine-gun bullet struck one of his Mills Bombs.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Serjeant Walter Herbert Harvey</div> <div>5 June 1898-11 August 1918</div> <div>32nd Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). Commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, France.</div> <div>Killed in action in France.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Arden Cotterell Coldicott</div> <div>28 February 1897-14 August 1918</div> <div>15th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Buried in Cologne Southern Cemetery, Germany.</div> <div>Wounded near Merville and taken prisoner on 28 June 1918, eventually dying of his wounds in hospital in Dortmund. Arden survived Mametz Wood but sustained a wound from a sniper two weeks later. He was wounded again in October 1916 and received the Military Cross “for conspicuous gallantry while leading a raiding party.” He then fought at Passchendaele and at Piave in Italy.</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Richard John Keates</div> <div>12 October 1879-20 August 1918</div> <div>23rd Brigade Headquarters, Royal Garrison Artillery. Buried in Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, France.</div> <div>Killed in action near Albert. Richard served in France and Flanders from May 1917 and was awarded the Military Cross in September 1917 for “gallant action at Boesinghe, saving a man’s life while he was gassed himself.”</div> </div>
<div> <div>Captain Leslie Sayer</div> <div>15 September 1893-23 August 1918</div> <div>16th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Buried at Shrine Cemetery, Bucquoy, France.</div> <div>Killed in action in Italy. Leslie enlisted in 1914 and was involved in all major actions, fighting at Arras, Mametz and Morval, where he was wounded in 1916 and received the Military Cross for his actions. He was posthumously awarded a Bar to this for leading his company “with magnificent courage and ability... under very heavy machine gun fire” during the attack in which he was shot and killed.</div> </div>

Old Edwardians

News in brief

1950s

Alan Richards (1953)

I am, by invitation, President of The Birmingham Book Club, which was founded in the mid-18th century and meets 10 times per year, with each member talking briefly about a book they have read.

Alan Brown (1955)

I entered KES in Shell A in 1948, just as TEB Howarth started as Head Master, and moved on to Caius Cambridge in 1955. Interested in hearing from any contemporaries still around (and joining the OEA club at last!)

1960s

John Sibson (1961)

After 17 years on the Fellside in Cumbria, we have relocated to the Norfolk/Suffolk border near Diss. I continue to paint actively, mostly still northern work, and to publish reproductions of my paintings (www.johnsibson.co.uk) – a far cry from my earlier career in mining and minerals! I write from Shropshire where we are taking a break, 58 years since geology field trips over the Long Mynd with Mr Joe Bennett, very fondly remembered. Can anyone else remember those epic outings?

Nick Brown (1963)

I left Tanzania with my Tanzanian partner Alice and our three-year-old son Francis in November 2018. I joined the malaria programme in Tanzania in 2005 and have worked for A to Z Textile Mills Ltd (the largest manufacturer of insecticide treated mosquito nets in Africa) since 2012. We have relocated to Cardiff, where I lived from 1993 to 2005, and where Francis will start primary school in September 2019. I continue to work for A to Z from Cardiff.

Pat Ferns (1963)

In the past nine months I have been given Lifetime Achievement Awards by the Chinese and the Israelis as well as having celebrated 50 years in the television industry. The photo is from the event in Tel Aviv: I am with the late Ms Orna Yarmut, the CEO and Founder of CoPro, who has tragically since passed away. I am pleased to have made an impact on the building of industry capacity in both

Israel and China, after doing the same in my own native land of Canada.



Christopher Hickin (1965)

In April 2018 I retired after more than 40 years as a Civil Servant, starting with the Department of Social Security and transferring to HM Revenue & Customs. In September 2017, as one of the longest serving members of staff, I was invited to assist with the formal opening of HMRC's brand new building in Croydon, One Ruskin Square.



Ches Mason (1965)

It is almost exactly 60 years since starting at KES. Not a diligent student at school (mucking about was more fun), nevertheless I left Oxford in 1972 with a DPhil in High Energy Physics and a burgeoning travel bug. Initially as a university academic, then an (Australian) government scientist, and subsequently an IAEA staff member, I've had the good fortune to visit some 50 countries around the world, many at the cost of my employer! One of my last trips was to return to Japan as one of the contributors to the huge IAEA report on the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. Having set up home in nine different cities in five countries, it's time to come down to earth and retire (and go back to mucking about).

Ian Nuttall (1965)

Every year in June, my old friend Bill Sykes (1964), who now resides in Vilamoura in the Algarve, hosts a wonderful garden party with all proceeds going to the locally run refuge and rehoming centre for abandoned dogs. Up to 100 guests are treated to live music, fine food, with plenty of wine and beer available, as well as having the use of

the pool and various sporting activities. At the last count, Bill himself had six canine friends roaming around and has been raising well over 1,000 euros each time for the cause.



Stephen Hiley (1967)

I have just celebrated my retirement. I left school in 1967 and proceeded to get a degree in chemistry from the University of Leicester – Derek Benson would have been proud of me. Since graduating I have only worked for three companies in 48 years of continuous employment. My first employer was an international chemicals company who produced consumable chemicals for the foundry, steel, construction and mining industries. For the last 28 years, I have worked for two global companies, the most recent of which was Oracle. My employment has taken me to visit/work in no less than 43 different countries.

Mick Workman (1967)

In 1970 I received University College London's first ever degree in Biology, because I had chosen such a mix of courses that there was no other way they could describe it! Becoming a committed Christian led me to Reading University and a PhD in Crop Production. I then joined 'CDC', a government corporation charged with strengthening the economies of Commonwealth (and later most developing) countries. I had a very happy 26 years as part of their agriculture team, mostly establishing oil palm plantations in the South Pacific and SE Asia and sugar cane in Swaziland, where I met my American wife, Barbara. We became parents to Anna and Peter and as of May we have a grandchild (whoopee). I took early retirement at 51, becoming the admin manager of a CofE church in Cheltenham. I was ordained in 2006 and in 2012 was appointed to St Luke's Church, Cheltenham, from which I retired (again) in 2016.

1970s

Cha Loh (1970)

It has been 48 years since I left KES and this is my first update! I received a degree in Mathematics from Manchester in 1973 and an MBA from London Business School in 1977. I then worked for a UK engineering company in overseas operations, living in Brazil, Malaysia, Kenya and finally Australia. I met a Canadian in 1985 and have been living in Toronto for the past 33 years. I gave up work for 18 years to be Mr Mom to my family – a daughter now 30 and son now 29. I now work for a Canadian public company managing software companies in the financial services industry, something that confounds me every day. I have recently taken up golf and have the dream of shooting my age, something that will require me to live to at least 110. I recently have been in contact with Malcolm Hunt and Brian Hanna and would love to hear from anyone in the class of 1970.



Chris Hodges (1972)

I am assisting in the design of regulatory and dispute resolution systems in various contexts, including for SMEs and banks, for the NHS, for financial regulation, food safety and medical technology. In the past year, this has involved trips to Australia, Singapore, Canada, Helsinki, Rome, Berlin, The Hague, Zurich, Paris, Dublin, Brussels and of course London and Edinburgh. The only problem is that there just isn't enough time to spend the air miles.

Paul Jephcott (1975)

In July I represented GB for the 60 to 64-year-old age group, competing in the 2018 European Championships for a standard distance triathlon (1,500m swim, 40k bike and 10k run) in Estonia. I was very pleased (and somewhat surprised!) to come 18th in a total time of two hours 34 minutes. My running career started in the 1970s as a less than distinguished cross country runner for Evans House!



1980s

William Benfield (1988)

I am living in Phoenix, AZ, USA, working for Arrow Electronics as a Trade Compliance Officer. Happy to meet up with any OEs who might venture out here!

Patrick Howarth (1989)

I have just started to learn Cornish Wrestling, something I have been meaning to do since moving to the county in 2001. My first opponent in the beginners' class was a giant resident of Bodmin Moor who had me licked quite quickly. But I have not let that deter me and intend to continue to keep fit and help maintain this ancient sport for future generations.

1990s

Hugh Houghton (1994)

I have been promoted to Professor of New Testament Textual Scholarship at the University of Birmingham. I recently gave a talk to the Ancient World Society at KES and presented Mr Laurence Evans with a copy of my translation of the recently-rediscovered earliest Latin Commentary on the Gospels.

Angus Henderson (1997)

After an 18-year career freelancing for the BBC, ITV, Ch4 and Sky on BAFTA and Emmy winning drama documentaries, I formed Alpine Films Ltd. I have been lucky enough to enjoy working on social media, marketing and corporate video as well as short films, one recently starring Dame Joan Collins. In 2018, myself and my team of video professionals have been invited to work for the world's fourth biggest copper mining company and enjoyed filming in Zambia, Panama and Spain. I have a lovely wife, Charlotte and two fantastic children, Honor Rose (7) and Max William (4), and live in Sevenoaks, Kent.



Matt Wheeldon (1999)

Still living in darkest north Oxfordshire and Moseley season ticket holder (probably a form of masochism). Engaged to Miss Anna Semler, wedding expected to be in Northants in summer 2019.

2000s

Andrew Holmes (2004)

I have been appointed Lecturer in Cardiac and Respiratory Physiology at the University of Birmingham. My research focuses on uncovering new mechanisms and treatment strategies for heart rhythm disturbances and hypertension. My research is funded by the British Heart Foundation and the Medical Research Council. I am always keen to develop new collaborations and support students aiming to gain lab experience.

2010s

Tom Lilburn (2012)

As part of my current job as a Lay Clerk at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, I sang with the choir at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle in May 2018.



Rick Collins (2013)

In September, I competed in the World Kendo Championships in South Korea for the GB Team. I had a lot of support for my Kendo from friends and teachers during my time at KES, and I'm very glad to now have the opportunity to compete at this level.

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 2019.

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

Academic & school news



Excellent results in IB's 50th year

In the 50th anniversary year of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, the class of 2018 produced another excellent set of examination results.

The maximum score of 45 points was gained by three boys, James Cleasby, Eugene Toso and Daniel Yue, a score achieved by only 0.1% of students worldwide out of over 160,000 IB students in total. A further five scored 44 points and 46% of the cohort of 110 attained scores of 40 points or above: 40 points is the equivalent of more than four A*'s at A-level. The average score is 37.9 points, eight points above the global average (29.8). Over 80% have gone on to Russell Group universities and 17 have taken up places at Oxford and Cambridge.

Higher Level IB grade	Equivalent A-level grade	% of grades achieved
7	A*	38.7%
7/6	A*/A	74.5%
7/6/5	A*/A/B	90.4%



Numbers add up at GCSE

Out of a year group of 138, 26 boys achieved 10 A*s/9s/8s, 49 achieved nine or more A*s/9s/8s and 54 boys achieved only A*s/9s/8s and As/7s. The overall percentage of A*/9/8 grades was 65% and 85% were A*/A/9-7.

In GCSE Mathematics, which uses numerical grades, 59% achieved the top grade of 9, with a further 27% achieving grade 8, and in Further Mathematics 73% achieved A* or A* with Distinction.

Young engineers triumph at national design awards

Technology created by two Sixths pupils has resulted in top awards at a prestigious national design competition.

Shonak Joshi was crowned the winner of the Triumph Design Awards 2018 and George Laight secured third place in the national final of the competition, which was held at the motorcycle manufacturer's headquarters in Hinckley on Saturday 7 July.

Shonak particularly impressed the judges with his winning project, The Smart Protect, a single smart device designed to protect the vulnerable and elderly. The device works by alerting relatives, via their smartphones, when it detects harmful gases, smoke, or motion caused by potential break-ins, and also acts as a home voice assistant.

George also impressed them with his project, SWOOP mini, an affordable, collapsible and portable cable camera that provides an alternative solution to the very expensive cable cam systems currently on the market.

In addition to taking home the winner's trophy and £500, Shonak received two weeks of paid work experience in Triumph's design department, while George received a week's work experience and £100.

On Monday 9 July, the boys were recognised again for their design talents, each winning prizes at the final of the Rotary Club Design and Technology Awards, hosted at Edgbaston Golf Club. Shonak won the 'Ideas' category with The Smart Protect and George won the 'Innovation' category for his laser activated camera system for photographing mountain bikers. Both were presented with £100, an encyclopaedia and a certificate.



Over 800 years of staff service celebrated

Members of King Edward's School staff with a combined service of over 800 years have been celebrated at two Long Service Awards Ceremonies.

In total, 28 current and recently retired members of teaching and support staff who have worked at the School for 25 years or more attended the events, which took place in the Dining Hall on Wednesday 23 May and Wednesday 11 July.

Following a drinks reception, Patrick Burns, Chairman of the King Edward's Foundation and BBC Midlands Political Editor, thanked staff for their service to the School, and medals were presented to those in attendance.

The recipients of Long Service Awards: Carol Baizon-Ward, Chris Boardman, Richard Bridges, Julian Burns, Shirley Carpenter, Trevor Collins, Jonathan Davies, Duncan Dewar, Catherine Duncombe, Laurence Evans, Jill Galloway, Jenny Herbert, Lynn Holbrook, Colin Howard, Rick Lye, Tim Mason, Duncan McNaughton, Ed Milton, Anne Ostrowicz, Deborah Parkinson, Keith Phillips, Jon Porter, Steve Rogers, Lawson Roll, Bradley Spencer, Simon Tinley, Garry Watson and Pat Williams.

Sport



Hockey report

The hockey teams have enjoyed immeasurable success this season. Only one game was lost in the Warwickshire Leagues during the autumn term from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, U15A, U14A and U13A teams.

The 1st team scored an incredible 96 goals in 21 games, only conceding 50. They were crowned Warwickshire League Champions after advancing through the competition without losing a single game. They also competed in the Indoor competition for the first time and beat Bromsgrove (8-7) and Dean Close (4-3) in warm-up games. At the Indoor County Championships, they beat Rugby (3-2) and King Henry’s (5-0), and lost 1-4 to Warwick to finish County Runners-up.

Other pleasing results include the 3rd team’s five-match winning streak and the improvement in results of the U15 and U14 sides, turning last year’s losses into positive results. Both the U16A and U14A teams progressed as far as the Regional Finals.

Individually, Ellis Owen has represented England (red) at the School Games in September, where his team won the Gold medal – a fine achievement. Saihej Mangat and Declan Bradley have been selected, and are training at the Warwickshire Performance Centre.

1st XI scorecard

P 22 W 15 L 5 D 2 F 90 A 48

Swimming success

It’s been a fantastic year of swimming for Aurelio Lencioni in Rems.

At the Worcester County Championships, he picked up six gold medals from six swims, as well as achieving qualifying times for seven West Midlands Championship events.

Then, at the West Midlands Regional Swimming Championships he went on to win gold in the 50m Backstroke, silver in both the 100m and 200m Backstroke, and added a bronze in the 100m Freestyle to secure a full set of medals.

Aurelio has also broken the School’s 100m Individual Medley record, the 50m Freestyle record, and the ‘five-minute swim’ record for Rems.



Water polo report

The water polo teams achieved an impressive medal haul this year.

The U15 water polo team finished in third place in the ESSA Plate Finals. They started with a strong win over St Edward’s, which was followed by a tough game against City of London and an agonising loss by a goal in the closing seconds. St Ambrose also proved too strong, but in a crucial match against Northampton, the team stepped up both in defence and on counter attacks to secure an all-important win and a bronze medal each.

The U13 team, comprising three Rems and eight Shells, won the Boldmere Water Polo Club Tournament for clubs from around the Midlands. The boys won all three group games, including against tournament favourites Boldmere. In the final against Handsworth, with just two seconds of the first half remaining and the score tied at 3-3, KES conceded a penalty. An unbelievable save from Tobias Ishaque proved to be a turning point, and the boys went on to win the tournament.

George Davies in Sixths had a spectacular year in the pool, and stood out in the ESSA U18 National Water Polo finals. However, his results representing his club team, Solihull Water Polo Club, were even more impressive. The Club won ‘the double’, winning the top division of the British Water Polo League, and also taking the title at the British Championships.

George was joined in the team by two previous KES water polo captains, Matt Madden (2017) and Morgan Hirsch (2011), who both currently represent GB at U19 and senior level respectively.



Rugby report

This year the 1st XV have recorded 12 wins, their most successful season in over a decade.

Despite four narrow losses at the start of the season, the squad improved each week to put in increasingly good performances, including four wins in a row against Bishop Vesey’s, Bablake, KE Aston and Warwick 2nd XV.

The highlight of the year was the 1st XV’s National Cup run, which ended in defeat to St Ambrose College in a game that saw a last minute try from captain Oliver Pegler (which would have tied the scores) ruled out for no clear grounding. Nevertheless, it has been a terrific year.

The U16s were knocked out of their Regional competition in the quarter-finals at the hands of Solihull, and the U15s made it to the last 16 of the National Plate competition too. The U14s and U13s have had a mixed season with some excellent performances against tough opposition, and the U12s have shown the future is bright for KES rugby with a core squad of players who look set to make up a very good team.

Following a fantastic Rugby Tour to India and Sri Lanka, the next Senior Tour destination has been announced and the current U15, U16 and some Divisions players will be invited to tour South Africa in the summer of 2019.

1st XV scorecard

P 22 W12 L 8 D 2 F 448 A 354

National judo champion

Congratulations to Pierce Maughan in Shells who retained his title as National Open Champion at the Amateur Judo Association National Open Championship in October 2017.

Pierce then went on to win the silver medal in the 42kg junior category at the HMC Independent Schools Boys Judo Tournament, held at High Wycombe Judo Centre in February 2018.



Cricket report

The summer has brought a multitude of opportunities for all the KES cricket teams, with the Cup Competitions very much to the fore.

The U13A team led the way with a run to the Regional semi-final of the National ECB competition.

Both the U15As and U13As reached the Warwickshire County Finals, but lost to strong teams from Rugby and Solihull respectively. The U14As and U12As progressed to the semi-finals of their respective County Cups.

The 1st XI won the majority of their matches, including a strong finish to the season with victories over Loughborough Grammar School and Nottingham High School.

In our own recreation of the Ashes rivalry, the 1st XI played a visiting team from Westminster School, Adelaide, and KES came out on top by 98 runs. The highlight of the season was a thrilling run chase of 285 against the MCC, where we ended up on 272 all out.

In the Solihull 6s, the U15As won three of their four matches, the U14As triumphed in two, and both the U13As and U12As won two out of three, with the latter going on to win the competition Plate.

Personal success was achieved by bowlers Dawud Akram (U13A), Aarye Goyal (U14A), Milan Dogra (U15A) and Vinesh Patel (U15A), all taking five wicket hauls. With the bat, congratulations must also be given to Saihej Mangat (1st XI) with a 134 not out and Varun Sinha (1st XI) for reaching 116, while Milan also added a 100 with the bat for good measure!

1st XI scorecard

P 19 W 12 L 7 D 0

Performing arts



Oh What A Lovely War

The centenary of the end of the First World War was commemorated with this year's Senior Production: classic '60s protest musical *Oh What A Lovely War*.

It is a curious piece: a collection of scenes, sketches and songs that basically tell the narrative of the war – with all its brutality and loss of life.

With no continuous characterisation for actors and audience to get to know, it has the potential to be a difficult piece to follow, but the cast of 45 boys and girls, supported by a terrific orchestra of pupils, rose to the challenge superbly.

The hilarity came thick and fast in the first half, where no opportunity for national stereotyping or comedy accents was left unseized. The second half turned appropriately darker and bleaker as the casualty lists rose, culminating in a tremendously powerful tribute to the 245 Old Edwardians who lost their lives during the war.



Toxic Masculinity

In June 2018, the IB Theatre students performed their collaborative project to the Divisions and Fourths.

The piece used comic stereotypes to explore toxic masculinity, but ultimately challenged the audience to think about how they contribute to this attitude. The group's aim was to address the unspoken pressure placed upon men, both young and old, and highlight the effect that actions and words can have on people.

Whether it be the common idea of 'manning up', or even 'banter', the group realised very early on that toxic masculinity was something more people needed to be educated about. Through their performance, they hoped to change the thoughts and attitudes of those conforming to the toxic male ideals, and encourage those who feel pressured to be or act a certain way, to be themselves.



Arabian Nights

This year's Junior Production was another mammoth undertaking – a spectacular Middle Eastern cornucopia of colour!

Six tales from the *1,001 Arabian Nights* were threaded together with the framing narrative of the Sultan Shahrayar, broken-hearted by his unfaithful wife he vows to marry every day but for one night only, each successive bride being slaughtered the following morning. Brave Shahrazad stops this cycle with a cunning cliffhanger that forces the Sultan to let her live another day.

The play is a celebration of story-telling and the production showcased the best of theatre. It was funny, silly and moving, and employed props, costumes, set, lighting and sound – alongside a cast of hundreds – to capture tales of the likes of Ali Baba and Sindibad the sailor.

One of the joys of a show involving several stories is that it gives a large number of pupils an opportunity to shine – and what a wealth of talent there was in the company!



Summer Concert

On Monday 23 April, 380 pupils performed in the Summer Concert at Symphony Hall, one of the world's great musical spaces.

The concert was a huge celebration of the scale, ambition, and quality of music in the two schools. It began with Händel's huge celebration of the 1727 coronation of George II and Queen Caroline, *The King Shall Rejoice*, sung by KES Choir and KES/KEHS Choral Society, and the chamber choirs of KEHS, all under the brilliant direction of Nicola Starkie.

The concert ended with Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony*, played by Symphony Orchestra, and in between there were performances by Concert Orchestra, Concert Band and Wind Band, Training Strings, and Junior and Senior Swing Bands.



CBSO and Hallé workshop

CBSO and Hallé Orchestra musicians visited King Edward's on Friday 3 November to provide a workshop for the Shells.

Margaret Cookhorn, Tom Redmond, and Adam Römer spoke, and the afternoon included the first performance of Upper Middles pupil Christopher Churcher's *Duet for Two Bassoons*, a King Edward's commission.

During the workshop, pupils had the opportunity to learn more about the viola, the French horn and the bassoon, and were treated to performances by each of the instrumentalists.



Choral and Orchestral Concerts

One of the great highlights of the school year, the Choral and Orchestral Concerts were held on Sunday 11 and Monday 12 March 2018.

In the first concert, Choral Society, with soloists Rosy Heneghan and Satish Vaze, sang the Fauré *Requiem*; with Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Yue was an astonishing soloist in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto.

On Monday evening, Symphony Orchestra played Stravinsky's *Scherzo à la Russe*, and then gave a powerful reading of Shostakovich's mighty Fifth Symphony.

House Shout!

Congratulations to Evans who won this year's House Shout with their rendition of *Do I Wanna Know?* by the Arctic Monkeys.

Extra-curricular

From being active in societies and fundraising to supporting outreach activities and taking advantage of a range of trips, there's always something that boys are involved in outside of their academic studies. Below is a snapshot of some of the activities boys have participated in during this academic year.

Dr Hugh Houghton (1994) spoke to the Ancient World Society about his translation of a long lost Latin commentary on the Gospels by a 4th century Italian bishop named Fortunatianus.



The Shells toured London, where they watched the Changing of the Guard, took a boat trip down the Thames and delved into the infamous history of the Tower of London.



50 boys and six staff spent a week skiing in the Italian Dolomites, roaming far and wide across the mountains.

Sixth Form design technology pupils spent a weekend living sustainably, staying in Eco Cabins at the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales.



Six boys found creative ways to answer the diverse questions posed to them by primary schoolchildren during their 'Ask a Scientist' Outreach workshops.



There was no shortage of snow for the hill walkers on their trip to the Lake District this year!



By completing the 100-mile Velo Birmingham, Fifths pupil Aadil Ali and older brother Sajeed (2013) raised funds to provide safe drinking water for children living in poverty in India.



Boys from the Fourths to the Divisions took to the air 70 times, accompanied by some of the world's most experienced pilots at RAF Cosford.



Between the end of IB exams and results day, boys in the Sixths took part in activities ranging from self-defence strategies and Teaching English as a Foreign Language to learning the principles of etiquette and improving their culinary skills.

As well as sharpening their Spanish skills, boys on the Mallorca exchange visited the former home of English war poet Robert Graves, were given a dancing lesson, and visited a 10th century mansion in the mountains.



Alex Scarrow, author of the TimeRiders series, treated the Shells and Rems to a dramatic reading, and talked about how his past as a rock guitarist and computer games designer led to him becoming an author.



Over 200 pupils, parents and staff raised over £12,000 for the NSPCC by rowing the distance equivalent to crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

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.



Postcards (set of 8)
£4



Ties
£15 each



Cufflinks **£12.50**



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