



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL  
BIRMINGHAM

# OLD EDWARDIANS

GAZETTE 2024

## *In this issue...*

*Inspirational Old Ed*  
an incredible battle to return  
to work

*KES Families*  
read about the many years  
of some families' continual  
presence at KES

*Careers Focus*  
four very different  
career paths





Mo Belal - our Inspirational Old Ed. His remarkable story after breaking his spine and being paralysed from the waist down in a cycling accident.

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Artwork on front cover by Yusuf Khan  
‘Supercharged School’

# Welcome

It has been a pleasure spending the last five years getting to know the Old Edwardian community at our many events and reunions, at school and beyond. That sense of camaraderie was one of the draws to my return to King Edward’s. You consistently give your time, share your knowledge, and offer your support to your alma mater, and the school is a stronger place because of it. Your commitment to your school and the generations of pupils that follow you is truly valued. And above all, as KES boys, you are clever and fun!

It’s been another wonderful year at King Edward’s. As you might expect from a retiring Chief Master while your life rather flashes before your eyes, I have spent the last weeks and months of my tenure focused on the future.



As you’ll read on pages 12-13, when I returned to King Edward’s five years ago, I had not anticipated a second headship. I came here to focus on intellectual revivification and championing of the breadth that is the hallmark of this school. Bolstered by civic leaders and alumni philanthropists well-known and little-known, I am so happy to leave the school on such a strong footing, with a 30-year plan for the renewal of our site that will support our ever-ambitious education strategy. I look forward to seeing my colleagues and successors bring this to fruition, and wish all of the staff the very best for the future. You are in good hands.

I truly believe that King Edward’s School is at the heart of the Foundation’s mission to make Birmingham the best place to be educated in the UK. This is a tall order, particularly in today’s economic climate, but the new Foundation Executive Team has awoken a sleeping giant, never to rest again.

Together, we’ve achieved remarkable milestones and our collective efforts have created an environment where every student can flourish. I have been profoundly moved by the commitment and passion of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the steadfast support of our parents and alumni.

Reflecting on my time here, I am reminded of countless moments that I will cherish —from the outstanding Foundation MUN Conferences, the installation of the Burne-Jones window, visiting Rems Week, cake with the prefects, to all those morning chats with the Shells playing table tennis on the South Terrace. I look forward to seeing King Edward’s continue to thrive - and doing so from a viewpoint not bound to the academic calendar for the first time since I was five years old!

I encourage you all to remain actively involved, to support future generations, and to do what alumni have always done: send the spirit of King Edward’s out into the world. Whether through mentoring, attending events, acting as advisors, or giving to the school, your ongoing engagement is vital.

I look forward to seeing the continued success of our students and the lasting impact of our alumni community.

*Katy Ricks*

■ Dr Katy Ricks  
Chief Master and President of the OEA

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The views or opinions expressed in the *Gazette* are solely those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent those of the School.



## A brief word from:

## The Chairman



I am delighted to share with you the 2024 edition of the Gazette.

Our careers focus looks at alumni who have had varied careers, inspired by teachers who gave them the confidence to explore different passions. Our inspirational OE, Mo Belal (1992), shares his story of pushing forward when the knocks are hardest. Our contributors also include a number of family recollections – which to me gets to the heart of the place: competition and camaraderie which stand us in good stead.

Exciting times are ahead. We will shortly have Kirsty von Malaisé, Tom Quayle and Paul Arnold running the two Independent Schools – a good thing, given the ambitions of the Foundation. This means we say goodbye to Dr Ricks who, with a new path set, leaves with thanks and best wishes.

Another change ahead for your diary is the new London Dinner venue – please save the date and join us on Tuesday, 25 February at The RAG Army & Navy Club.

As with last year, may I repeat my request for volunteers to the Committee not to be shy. We have one recent recruit who is in the wine trade, so I hope that may encourage others...

With best wishes and thanks to all the alumni who have taken part this year.

■ James Martin (1979)  
Chairman of the OEA

If you would like to join the OEA Committee please email:  
[oldeds@keschools.org.uk](mailto:oldeds@keschools.org.uk)

## OEA Sports News



Eds Rugby Club has had a wonderful season losing just the one league match and finishing Champions of the Counties 1 Midlands West (North). Not only champions but with the highest + / - points scored difference! Secondly, Eds beat Evesham in the semi-final of the North Midlands Final and went on to beat Kidderminster by 32 points to 15 in the final played at Worcester. Champions in a tremendous season, playing attractive rugby, and watched by good crowds!

On the cricket ground Old Edwardians First and Second XIs each play in the Warwickshire CC leagues. Additionally, the Club plays KES in a midweek fixture in June every year and this year it is on Friday, 21 June, one day after the deadline for the Gazette going to print, unfortunately!

Finally, the Association and Sports Club are only too pleased to assist Richard Green in his efforts to raise funds for the Birmingham St Mary's and John Taylor Hospices through the collection of Christmas trees.

Everyone is welcome at Streetsbrook Road!

*Paul Thomson (1967)*

The Club can be contacted on **0121 744 6831** or on [www.edsrugby.com](http://www.edsrugby.com) / [www.oldedwardians.play-cricket.com](http://www.oldedwardians.play-cricket.com).

## Dates for your 2024 and 2025 diaries

**Tuesday, 23 July at 16:00**

OEA AGM – This will be online ([oldeds.kes.org.uk/agm2024](http://oldeds.kes.org.uk/agm2024)) and more details will follow

**Friday, 13 September at 16:00**

University Networking – Did you leave KES in 2019 or after? Then come and help the class of 2025 from both KES and KEHS with advice on universities, degrees etc. Taking place 16:00 - 17:30 at King Edward VI High School for Girls.

**Saturday, 16 November at 17:45**

Biennial Dinner – open to all KES Alumni and Former Staff – entertainment to be announced in due course. Be quick, early bird tickets of £69 finish on Wednesday, 31 July (£89 thereafter!)

**Wednesday, 27 November**

London Drinks – open to all KES and KEHS Alumni

**Monday, 2 December**

Birmingham Christmas Event - open to all KES and KEHS Alumni.

**Saturday, 25 January**

Reunion (for the classes of 1955, 1965, 1975 and 1985) KES and KEHS Alumni.

**Tuesday, 25 February**

London Dinner - open to all KES Alumni, taking place at a new venue: The RAG Army & Navy Club, London.

**Friday, 7 March**

OE Lecture with Chris Hodges (1972) - taking place at The Ruddock Performing Arts Centre.

**Friday, 23 May**

KES Former Staff Lunch - open to all KES Former Staff for welcome drinks followed by a buffet lunch. 11:30 – 14:00.

**Saturday, 21 June**

Milestones Reunion Dinner (for the classes of 1995, 2005 and 2015)

If you have any questions, please contact Jess Brindley on:  
[oldeds@keschools.org.uk](mailto:oldeds@keschools.org.uk)

## Events and talks



## John Kampfner Talk

In April, John Kampfner, journalist, writer and broadcaster, came to KES for a discussion with Professor Simon Green (Professor of Politics at Aston University) about his new book *In Search of Berlin: The Story of a Reinvented City*. Kampfner compared England's focus on London as its core, unlike Germany, where multiple cities share national significance and identity.



## Strava Events

In a first this year, we launched two hybrid digital sports events: the Bristol Road Run in January, and the Barnt Green Cycle event in May. We were delighted to see participants in person and across the globe. Can you beat the alumni record of three minutes and five seconds for the Road Run?



## Diamond &amp; Golden Reunion

Our annual Diamond and Golden reunion for people celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries as alumni was held in February. By special request, we also welcomed a couple of OEs celebrating their Platinum (70<sup>th</sup>) anniversary! Guests were able to browse the online archives and contribute to their very own alumni yearbook, which allowed for some lovely reminiscing!

Keep an eye on your inbox for details of events as they are announced, or visit:  
[www.oldeds.kes.org.uk/events-comms/upcoming-events/](http://www.oldeds.kes.org.uk/events-comms/upcoming-events/)



## Milestones Reunion

This June, we celebrated the Milestones Reunion, with around 60 Old Edwardians visiting from the Classes of 1984, 1994, 2004 and 2014. With detention cards at the ready and one alumnus covered in cobwebs from the 'secret corridor', it was a very memorable occasion... Special thanks to Guy Williams, from 1984, for representing his whole cohort!



Class of 1984



Class of 1994



Class of 2004



Class of 2014



## Former Staff Lunch

This is always a well-attended event with former staff and even the sun decided to appear on that special day! Dr Katy Ricks made a speech in the Common Room before everyone trooped out into the garden for a very large group photo! It was Katy's last time with them too.

## School *news*

### The CCF Annual General Inspection



On Friday, 9 April, KES Combined Cadet Force, with partners Selly Oak Trust School, held their Annual General Inspection, in the presence of Reviewing Officer Col George Marsh OE. This is an occasion when over 150 cadets put on a show of training and ceremonial to show official inspectors, visitors, and parents a selection of their activities.

After a high quality parade and inspection, guests had the chance to see exhibition drill, command tasks and cyber activities from the RAF Section, the Army Section displaying patrolling techniques, casualty evacuation, and living in the field (including ration pack curry which went down very well), and the Naval Section displaying a combination of coastal navigation training and coracle building in the Swimming Pool.

All Sections competed in the Field Gun competition, which combined physical challenge and teamwork, and the Army Section are to be congratulated on a very convincing victory.

After a series of awards to cadets, the Contingent said farewell to Captain Craig Storey, formerly Scots Guards, who received presentations from the Army Section, and to Commander Duncan Raynor RNR who was presented with a Royal Naval Officer's Sword in recognition of his 23 years in command of KES CCF.



Overall, this was a splendid display of the kind of thing the CCF gets up to on Friday afternoons and expeditions away - congratulations to all involved!

### Runners-up at Imperial College Science and Innovation competition



The Imperial College Science and Innovation Competition focused on creating innovative scientific solutions for the world's most pressing problems which meant the students had to align their solution with the UN sustainability goals. Their aim was to improve the long-range efficiency of regular consumer drones, which typically suffer from extremely short flight times.

The competition was divided into two phases: a video submission to select the finalists and a final event at Imperial College London. The boys' initial solution required further improvement but enabled them to be selected as one of nine finalist teams.

At the finals, the boys presented their refined solution to a panel of four lecturers from Imperial College London. They awarded them as runners-up, particularly appreciating the uniqueness of their design and the evidence of its effectiveness.



## A Memorable Visit to St George's Park where KES students trained like England Stars!



Both Higher Level and Standard Level Sports Science students had the opportunity to visit St George's Park, the national football centre for England, to learn about cutting-edge training methods used by elite athletes.

Established in 2012 in Burton upon Trent, this facility is the base for all 28 of England's national football teams, from senior squads to youth levels. With state-of-the-art amenities like multiple Wembley replica pitches and a sports science and medicine centre.

During this amazing day, the boys warmed up in the indoor futsal arena with the Hoff Circuit – a combination of sport-specific drills with cardiovascular, strength and overall fitness. They then underwent physical testing, including a 1km time trial, sprint exercises, a 30m sprint test, and an agility test. Post-lunch, they explored the full-sized indoor Wembley replica pitch and continued with more physical tests in the multi-purpose gym.

Their day concluded with a relaxing hydrotherapy recovery session, and used an underwater treadmill for injury rehabilitation. This part highlighted the importance of recovery in sports training.

It was an invaluable experience enhancing the students' understanding of sports science and its practical applications.

## Spring Biennial Concert Symphony Hall



The concert was a huge success with nearly 400 students from across the two schools taking part. The day began with rehearsals at Symphony Hall for all the ensembles involved.

The concert was a fantastic showcase of the immense talent there is across both schools with one of the most memorable parts of the evening being the monumental piece played by the Symphony Orchestra - their rendition of Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring.

James Mayhew, children's author and illustrator, painted an interpretation of The Rite of Spring during the Symphony Orchestra's performance. It was a wonderful moment to close the concert.

Many congratulations were given to the students in the many ensembles: The Massed Choir, Guitar Orchestra, Wind Band, Concert Band, Concert Orchestra, Swing Band, Big Band, KEHS Chamber Choir and Symphony Orchestra.

## Leaving School Captain's Reflections

Time waits for no man and that has certainly been true of my life at KES. From being a young, wide-eyed Shell who struggled to even navigate the buildings to a now more mature, seventeen year old ready to embark on the next chapter of my life, it is hard to get to grips with the fact that it is nearly all over. What a journey it has been. In just seven years (a mere 1.5% of KES' history!), the class of 2024 has seen the modern new Andrew Brode Sports Hall, a character building pandemic, legendary teachers retiring, brilliant new teachers joining, not to mention three Chief Masters! You would be forgiven for thinking it has been a turbulent time for the boys and yet the reality is that KES is like a deep rooted tree weathering the winds of change. KES will always be KES and the school is as buoyant and busy now as it has ever been. Indeed, as School Captain, it has become a negotiation with the dozens of societies and clubs as to which notices will get 'air time' in our weekly Big School assembly, an issue which I am told simply did not exist in years gone by. I wonder whether the OE of 1552 would have predicted the existence of Agora or Anagnostics Society? The established activities and sports have also gone from strength to strength in my time here. I will always be grateful for the role KES rugby has played in developing me as a person and a player. It is great to have been a part of the first team squad which has put the school back on the rugby playing map. I will also forever remember taking the stage in the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre. Both of these fostered my confidence and, as I look back, I realise that our experiences have been the sculptors of our identities, shaping us into who we are upon leaving KES. There have been many highlights over my school career but none comparable to the great honour of serving as School Captain (although captaining Levett House in my lower sixth came close!). My predecessors warned me of the more administrative, dare I say tedious, duties and responsibilities associated with the role of School Captain. It is certainly true that trying to pull the Yearbook together did little to help me prepare for my IB exams! However, being School Captain transcends mere administrative tasks; it is about endeavouring to embody the spirit and values of the school on a daily basis, whether in a speech at Founder's Day or encouraging a Shell to go



on the school trip to Lapland. I am humbled that the younger boys might see me as a role model and am inspired by their relentless enthusiasm. Just as the boys further down the school look up to the Sixth Form, so too do we Sixths look beyond the confines of the buildings to the Old Edwardians for inspiration. The breadth and depth of the OE network continues to surprise me. From coaches at my local rugby club, to dignitaries

at the Commonwealth Games, to my grandparents' neighbour in a sleepy Devon village, Old Edwardians pop up everywhere! As my peers and I face the daunting prospect of leaving school it is both reassuring and exciting to know that we become Old Edwardians and I look forward to meeting many of you at future events.

*Henry Trevis*



# Mo Belal (1992)

Way back in 1990, I joined KES in the Sixth Form, it was a bit of a culture shock for me, coming from a working-class background in Walsall.

I fondly remember the boys who joined me in the Sixth Form like Mohammed Waheed, Amerjit Kalirai and others who had been there since the start like Resh Diu and Raj Paw. I have happy memories of Chemistry with Mr Hancock, Biology with Mr Stan Lampard and Mr Rigby. Memorable Maths' classes with Dr Jones and Mr Clarke, who would always tell David Waine to stop talking!

The school really stretched my expectations and was instrumental in supporting me to achieve my dream, getting into medicine at Cambridge University. KES was also influential in developing my self-belief and confidence. I always remember the school song about 'Forward where the knocks are hardest' which is certainly resonant now.

I completed a degree in medicine at St Catharine's College, Cambridge University, followed by posts in Birmingham and Ipswich, basic surgical training in Oxford, research at the Bristol Urological Institute followed by higher surgical training in London. I completed an enjoyable fellowship in Melbourne, Australia. After travelling far and wide in 2011 I settled back at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, a stone's throw from KES. Birmingham has always been home for me, and I chose to settle and bring up my family here. I sent my son, Ali Belal, to KES too; he is shortly to leave after completing his IB.

My main area of surgical speciality is the function and reconstruction of the urinary tract, a niche area in urology. This involves creating new bladder using bowel, inserting artificial sphincters (for incontinence) and sacral nerve implants etc. This role involves looking after patients with congenital conditions and acquired conditions including spinal cord injury, meaning I had professional experience of the difficulties of disability. I was fortunate



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to create a national and international reputation in this field.

During the Covid period, surgeons were seconded to Covid wards and then Covid ITU; we witnessed the worst of the virus but were able to also see the best of the NHS; risking our own health to care for those critically ill. To manage the stress of this time, I became a 'MAMIL', (a middle-aged man in lycra!), obsessed with cycling with an increasing number of bikes. I used to leave the busyness of Birmingham to enjoy long rides with friends.

In February 2021, I was on one of my many trips, the weather was cold, but not windy and the route was a familiar one. Inconceivably, as I rode, a tree suddenly fell from the side of the road, landing directly on me. I saw the tree fall but was unable to move out of its path. I woke still on the road, but unable to move or feel anything below the waist. I was aware immediately that I was paralysed, and my spine was broken. I was aware too that recovery would be a slow journey; I did not, of course, know how long.



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My immediate treatment and surgery were at Coventry Trauma Centre. Pain was overwhelming, and my body went into shock, losing over 20kg in a two-week period. I was lucky to be transferred to the London Spinal Injury Centre at Stanmore, a specialist spinal rehab centre. The first few months were incredibly challenging; managing the loss of control, pain and total change in life. As we remained in the depths of the pandemic visits from family and friends were very limited. Just before my return home my team discovered my spine was unfortunately still unstable and I needed a second complex and risky procedure to stabilise it. This was a 12-hour operation which reconstructed my spine with a metal cage and bone graft. I am grateful for



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**“My fellow patients and I focussed our attention on our rehab, pushing ourselves beyond our comfort zone – ‘no retreat, no surrender’ was our motto.”**

my colleagues in their skilful work managing this. Through all of this I was able to stay optimistic through proactively working on my recovery, noting my small gains, and developing acceptance in my test. My fellow patients and I focussed our attention on our rehab, pushing ourselves beyond our comfort zone – ‘no retreat, no surrender’ was our motto!

I made it home after five months in hospital, but the work was in no way over. I had to wear a back brace for eight months and underwent many hours of daily rehabilitation to achieve my goal of returning to work and developing my independence. I did this in part by developing a new perspective through this test – I have realised how important family and friendships are as well as mental resilience and optimism.

I still felt the journey was not over, however. I loved my work and I knew I had so much to offer to my patients still. I had a waiting list still hoping I could perform their surgery. I also

knew that my personal experience of spinal injury and paralysis would help me better understand my patients. With time, planning and a lot of work, as well as support from my colleagues, I have managed to achieve this. Twenty months after my accident I returned to work. I now have a state-of-the-art standing wheelchair, which allows me to operate. I do get very tired and I am not able to work for as long as I did, however I am so pleased I am able to still operate.

Not only am I working, but my accident has opened other doors in my life. I was privileged to be given the Clement Price Thomas Medal, awarded by the RCS England, where I was lucky to meet Lasantha Wijesinghe – also a KES Old Ed (1983) - now on the Royal College of Surgeons' council. Lasantha suggested I shared my story with the Gazette. I had the opportunity also to give back to others experiencing this journey. I am now a trustee to Horatio Gardens, a charity which creates and maintains accessible gardens in the Spinal Injury Centres. I am also a Spinal Injury Association ambassador, and have spoken around the country about my experience, to inspire others undergoing challenge.

What have I learnt? Firstly, a new perspective; I really feel so much more gratitude for the things I do have. Having the opportunity to refocus on what is important to you made me



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realise how important relationships are with the people who you care about. We will all come across challenges, but we can gain from this; new perspective and new hopes. There will always be difficulty and loss, but noticing the new doors this opens has been helpful for me. Making an active choice to remain positive rather than focusing on the negative has been a vital part of my recovery. This is not always easy, I have had to view my journey as a series of significant challenges, focusing on them one at a time when the whole might have seemed overwhelming. Lastly, I learnt the importance of hope, which is an essential part of the human spirit and allowed me to keep pushing “forward where the knocks are hardest”.

1. Back to work - (November 2022)
2. With Lasantha Wijesinghe (1983) at the Royal College of Surgeons
3. The accident on 17 February 2021
4. 10 days after the accident
5. Back to operating
6. Receiving the Clement Price Medal from the President of the RCS



# Fond Farewells

Dr Katy Ricks retires at the end of the Summer Term after five years as Chief Master at King Edward's School, 22 years as a Head, and a teaching career spanning 39 years.



Katy graduated from Balliol College, Oxford with a first class degree in 1982, when she embarked upon a DPhil. Her studies were put on hold in 1985 when she began her career as an English teacher at St Paul's Girls' School in London. When her husband David secured a job at the University of Birmingham two years later, Katy took up a teaching position at King Edward's School.

The King Edward's of the mid-1980s was led by Chief Master Martin Rogers, who encouraged Katy as a new teacher. The English department of only four teachers (not many boys opted to study English in those days) was headed by the inspirational Dr Tom Hosty and was home to the legendary English master Tony Trott. There were just three female teachers in the whole school. Music and Drama were flourishing joint activities with KEHS even in those days, and Katy enjoyed directing the joint junior plays, *Under Milk Wood*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Twelfth Night* with her fellow English teacher Dr Paul Ford.

Positions at Latymer Upper School in West London and St Edward's School in Oxford followed, the latter as a Head of Department and her first experience of a boarding school, before she became Deputy Head Academic at Highgate School (then all boys). After five years in post, having been encouraged by her mentor Tony Evans, Head of King's College School and Chair of HMC, Katy became Head of Sevenoaks School in 2002. Already a strong school, Katy's 17 years in post brought about a renewal of the school's identity, firmly establishing it as a coeducational day and boarding school and leading the school into its current position as one of the biggest and most successful IB Diploma Schools in the world. Her first Masterplan led to the creation of several award-winning buildings: the Performing Arts Centre, a Science & Technology Building, a Sixth Form Study Centre and a new boarding house.

In 2012, nearly 30 years after putting her DPhil away in a drawer, thanks to the generosity of the Sevenoaks School

governing body who gave her a sabbatical term, Katy was able to resume her studies. A productive period was spent in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where David was a visiting scholar, and her doctoral thesis on Dryden's translation of Virgil was awarded in 2013.

A second headship had not been part of a plan, but the opportunity to return to KES as Chief Master in 2019, the pull of the other great all-IB school in England was strong. She found the spirit of the school similar to the 1980s, and plenty to reactivate for modern Birmingham. She was determined that KES would continue to be known for the tremendous breadth that it offered, and to meet the needs and aspirations of the contemporary student body.

She could see how the school could rise to its leadership role in the King Edward VI Foundation (of which the Chief Master of King Edward's School is the Headmaster), for the benefit of pupils, staff and city. Katy threw



herself into working alongside the Chief Executive Jodh Dhesi to broaden the Foundation's reach. In taking this huge role, she was greatly supported by Keith Phillips, a KES teacher with her in the 1980s, and whose tenure as Acting Chief Master facilitated a smooth transition. Tim Clarke, Chair of ISGB when she joined the school, was also an invaluable champion.

Throughout her career, in whatever role, Katy has found fulfilment as an English teacher and in getting to know the pupils she has taught. She taught IB Higher Level English for 18 years, and then took on a Standard Level set which she taught through Covid. She has enjoyed working under her Heads of Department Gemma Babb and David Leigh during this time and being honorary member of a great team. She has found herself sitting opposite fathers and sons at parents' evenings, having taught both generations; her longevity in the classroom means she remains in touch with her pupils from across the decades.

Katy has also found tremendous satisfaction in appointing teaching and support staff to their roles (hundreds over the years), identifying new talent and being a mentor. Indeed, about 20 current HMC Heads are her former colleagues and Deputies, whom she has encouraged and often mentored as they embarked on their first headships - possibly more than anyone else!

Perhaps the most visible thread running throughout Katy's career is one of crafting and delivering visionary change to schools. She has characteristically found herself arriving at the point where transition is needed: preparing for co-education, for example, or seeing opportunities for inventiveness in the curriculum or the potential for an inspiring physical environment; and, of course, leading through a pandemic. She has enjoyed planning transformative projects, working in a team to bring them to fruition and seeing the



enthusiasm of pupils in using them. Working with benefactors is important and has been tremendously exhilarating throughout her time in leadership, with Katy being incredibly grateful for their commitment and contribution to the school and its accessibility for the young people of Birmingham. Civic leaders such as Andy Street OE and former Mayor of the West Midlands, and the vice-chancellors of our neighbor University of Birmingham, Professor Sir David Eastwood and Professor Adam Tickell have shown tremendous support and goodwill, for which she will always remain grateful.

Katy leaves King Edward's School as it looks to the future and embraces its own period of transition. The vision she has set in motion will ensure that KES continues to deliver a world-class, broad and modern approach to education in our changing times. The joint leadership teams of KES and KEHS will now go on to develop and deliver the vision that she has articulated for both the schools and this wonderful school site as we re-establish



ourselves on the national educational landscape. Katy Ricks will forever be associated with fearless and bold leadership of King Edward's School, as we move into our future with strength and vision.





**Anne Ostrowicz**  
Thoughts on leaving after 33 years at KES

Despite having thoroughly enjoyed her final year at KES, not least her four different sixth-form teaching groups and form, Anne is really looking forward to retirement, with so much beckoning starting with her daughter’s wedding this summer!

It has been both passion and joy for her to teach RE and Philosophy to KES students. And as the diversity of the student body has increased over the years, classroom discussions, the mainstay of the subject, have been further enhanced.

In addition to her teaching role, Anne has been staff lead for Oxbridge Theology lessons, and for AGORA (Philosophy Society) since 1998. In recent years she was asked to chair the KES Diversity Forum, and participated in many pupil trips including Ed Milton’s Berlin trip, Phil Lambie’s Italy trips, and ten Chris Boardman summer cycle tours.

When Anne first arrived at the school in her twenties, there were few female teachers. It was also the first time the RE department had taken on a second teacher (just for two mornings a week), and the head of department was the school chaplain. There was no A ‘level offered in the subject though there were two groups of GCSE students. 2024’s upper sixth has had four IB Philosophy sets, and the department has four full-time staff. Probably the most significant change for her teaching during these years was the introduction of the Internet, enabling the easy importing of images and paintings which transformed the way she now teaches her subject.

Special moments for Anne are interactions with pupils when it is evident by a pupil’s expression, that something particularly meaningful or helpful has been encountered during a discussion.

Teaching has necessitated much (joyful!) reading, but Anne has also learned many very positive and inspiring things from her students, not least their spirituality and meaningful religious practices, propelling her to feel increasingly the relevance and value of inter-faith expression. Pupil book recommendations have been highly appreciated including Adam Ferner introducing her to novelist Jonathan Safran Foer, and Geraint Finglass’ enthusiasm for Tess of the D’Urbervilles opening the door to her reading all Thomas Hardy’s novels – Jude the Obscure her favourite!

Any advice? Keep your ‘internal life’ strong by whatever works best for you: spending time in beautiful nature; reading great literature; enjoying music; spending time with people you particularly respect. We all need an ‘anchor’ which holds us when life’s storms hit, or just generally when life is challenging.

Perhaps the most wonderful joy at KES for Anne is watching the evolution of students during their seven years at KES in terms of character and academic thoughtfulness. Her own children benefited from that same KES/ KEHS process.

Anne will be moving to village life by the sea in South Wales: walking, cycling, gardening and generally getting involved in village life including a book group.

What will she miss of KES? So much, but most of all the daily discussions with students on religion, morality, beauty, meaning, purpose. Also, the many amusing moments which KES pupils afford: many a time walking down a KES corridor a smile surfaces at passing pupil conversations! Then there are the amazing staff who create the magic which is KES.

**Craig Storey**  
Thoughts on leaving after 22 years at KES

I joined King Edward’s School straight from a 24 year career in the Army. My main role at the school has been to work with the Combined Cadet Force as the School Staff Instructor and OC of the Army Section. I have provided expertise in military matters when working with the cadets. I also set up, and will continue to run in the future, the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This continues to be a very successful and popular option with the Upper Sixth boys in the school.

On leaving the Army I was keen to start a second career working in education delivering outdoor activities. As an infantry Soldier I was already qualified to run ranges, field exercises and conduct weapon handling lessons. I was also a qualified Mountain Leader, Rock Climbing Leader and a Kayaking instructor.

This position has suited me well, working with the cadets and doing the adventure activities. There is a vast variety of extra-curricular activities being offered at the school and I have thoroughly enjoyed this aspect of school life.

I have been fortunate to be able to offer the boys some great trips in the UK and overseas. The most memorable was the white-water kayaking trip to the French Alps with a select team of boys and staff. The most recent trip was the ski trip to Canada which was excellent.

One of the delights of working at King Edward’s School is the boys themselves. They are always polite and motivated. Every year we have our annual parade for the CCF and on every occasion I have always been immensely proud of the standard and enthusiasm that the cadets have shown.

Over the last 20 years about 1,000 boys have taken part in the expedition phase of the Gold D of E award. The expedition is a real challenge and it’s incredibly rewarding to watch boys gain in self- confidence and self- esteem by completing the expedition.

I have also been very fortunate to work with some amazing colleagues over the years. I would sincerely like to thank all those that



have helped me run the Army Section: Tim Woolley, Will Chamberlain, Kiz Sidhu, Mike Follows, Elaine Sigston and not forgetting my old friend Trevor Collins; all those that have helped to run the D of E award, especially Christine Cheel, who has volunteered with the D of E for many years, and Chris Boardman for Shells’ Camps - all those weekends in Yorkshire, and the three trips walking round the high Atlas Mountains in Morocco.

My main thank you goes to Duncan Raynor who has overseen the Combined Cadet Force since I started at King Edward’s School. It was Duncan that employed me and has given me ongoing guidance and advice. Duncan, thank you for all your support and friendship over the years.

Finally thank you to all the boys that I have met over the last 22 years. You have all been amazing and I have been very proud to be a part of your time at the school.

Best wishes to all staff and boys in the future.



**Ian Connor**  
Thoughts on leaving after 27 years (and two terms) of teaching (over a 34 year period) at KES

Having become very interested in mountaineering, Ian’s initial motivation for becoming a teacher was that the long holidays would give him the time to go and climb in the greater ranges around the world. He did his PGCE in Worcester, and his teacher training at RGS Worcester, where he returned for the seven years between his times with KES (which were 1990-97 and 2004 – 2024), as Head of Physics. He was initially employed by Martin Rogers and has consequently worked under seven Chief Masters – Martin, Hugh Wright, Roger Dancey, John Cloughton, Mark Fenton, Keith Phillips and Katy Ricks.

Besides being a Physics Teacher, Ian has held a variety of posts over the years, including: Head of Careers (UCAS) for five years; Head of Professional Development for Staff for six years; a cricket coach in the early 1990s; a rugby coach for the U13 Bs for 25 years; the Contingent Commander of the CCF from 1995-1997; Head of Prince Lee for two years; Head of Year (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year groups) for four years; Liaison Officer for KES with the Commonwealth Games Committee in 2022, and a member of ‘The Dangerous Presidents’ staff rock band, alongside Jonathan Smith, John Emery and Julian Burns, for 16 years from 2004 – 2022. Throughout all his time(s) with KES, he has been involved in Outdoor Pursuits which has resulted in several trips trekking in the Alps and the Spanish Picos de Europa. More recently, Ian has also enjoyed taking KES staff on hill walking trips.

KES has been like a family to Ian. He married shortly before joining KES, and several of the staff that started at a similar time had also recently married, eg Ed Milton, Catherine Duncombe, and went on to have children of similar ages. Both of Ian’s daughters, Daisy and Hetty, attended KEHS leaving in 2013 and 2017 respectively.

Ian has loved teaching the KES students – many are very intelligent, funny and really challenge you as a teacher. There have been many occasions when boys have asked excellent, insightful questions that have led to complex discussions of Relativity and Quantum Mechanics, often at a level way beyond that which has been required for a schoolboy. Ian has learned a lot about Physics from the questions that boys have asked.

One time he particularly remembers is when a student realised at the end of Year 12 that he should have taken Physics (but against advice had decided not to) and desperately wanted to take it up in Year 13. Ian taught him the whole Year 12 Physics curriculum in two packed weeks that summer. The young man ultimately went on to become ‘The Top Physicist of the Year’ at Oxford in his final year!

When Ian leaves this summer, he will really miss the students and the many KES staff who have become very close friends over the years, but he doesn’t plan to return as a part-time Physics Teacher (anytime soon!!) He’s considering working more with adults on hill climbing pursuits.



**Here’s his advice to boys:**  
“My advice to boys would be to take on difficult challenges and embrace failure. Whether that’s learning a new language, or a musical instrument, or taking up something physical like running or climbing. People who never fail at anything aren’t pushing themselves enough. I wouldn’t presume to offer any advice to my colleagues, but I would remind them of their strength, when they have stood together.’



# Committed to Accessibility

Independent schools like ours are in the political spotlight and the questions surrounding our tax status loom large. It is proving to be a divisive issue, but perhaps the two sides of this debate have more in common than you might think.

The Labour manifesto lists six 'first steps for change', point six of which is to recruit 6,500 new teachers in core subjects by changing the tax rules for independent schools. There is no doubt that the state sector is in need of significant additional funding. The question raised by those on the other side of the debate is whether the sums add up, and where, in a recruitment crisis, the teachers will come from.

In a world where it is increasingly popular to take a polarised view, let's take a step back and focus on what the different sides have in common: they both care passionately about education. They want all children to have access to a good one – and that is exactly what we want too.

For many families with bright children, choosing a school like KES is simply not an option without the financial support of an Assisted Place. Assisted Places enable the brightest pupils to join our school. In turn, this enriches our community by fostering diverse perspectives and promoting an environment that actively encourages boys to step into other people's shoes. In a world of echo-chambers, Assisted Places create a breadth of perspectives.

We remain committed to Assisted Places. Our goal is to continue to have the best students walking through our doors each year. For almost 80 years, funded places at King Edward's have offered children in Birmingham an education second-to-none, regardless of their families' backgrounds. Assisted Places have opened these doors to children from all walks of life, and they have emerged as go-getters and changemakers, supported here to follow their aspirations, whatever they may be. They have enriched the

school to make it a better place for all pupils; and as alumni like you, they carry that enriching experience with them.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, KES is proud to have double the national average proportion of pupils receiving means-tested assistance. However, demand for assistance

“Thank you for making the dream come true for us!”

Parents of a Fifts student

far outweighs the funds we have available. We still have capable pupils missing out on a KES education due to lack of funds, and for them we need your help.

## How can you help us?

After a break last year, we will once again be running our Summer Telethon. This is a chance for you to speak to our wonderful student callers about all things KES.

Those of you who will be receiving a call will have had an email or postcard recently with further information. Our student callers are eager to connect with you, to share stories of your time at school and beyond, tell you more about school life today, and discuss the Assisted Places Fund. Our focus is not on the politics but on future-proofing equality of access and social mobility through Assisted Places.

We hope that amidst economic, political, and societal changes, our community will stand fast with us and show its support. Whether big or small, if lots of people give together, it will help combat inequalities, giving talented children the education they deserve. You will make an immediate and tangible difference to the lives of children in Birmingham and be a part of shaping a brighter future for generations to come.



## Legacies

We are always delighted by the number of Old Edwardians who remember KES in their wills. A legacy gift of any size is one of the most significant gifts you will ever make and reflects the things that matter to you. By leaving a legacy to Assisted Places you can be sure that the future generations of KES pupils will have the opportunity to come here, regardless of their means, giving someone the same opportunities that you had. Everyone who chooses to leave a gift in their will is invited to become a member of the 1552 Society, with special events and functions through the year.

“In my Will I have ensured that a legacy will see that boy through to the end of his schooldays. It is the least I can and want to do.”

Alf Manders (1954)

For more information on leaving a gift in your will, or in your lifetime, please contact the Development Office at [development@keschools.org.uk](mailto:development@keschools.org.uk) or 0121 415 2245

# Differing Career Paths

## Peter Wilkinson (1977)

My time at King Edward's 1970-1977 was very happy; I enjoyed all the subjects, the great teachers and making life-long friends with whom I spent time on School Scout trips and in Dramatic Society productions. I always knew I wanted a career using the Physical Sciences, and with the support of my A-level Physics teacher, George Andronov, and Chemistry Teacher, Bernard Guy, was lucky enough to get a place at Cambridge to read Chemical Engineering – which seemed a good combination of the two and offered the chance to work with the fascinating maze of pipes and vessels I could see in chemical factories and refineries on journeys around the Midlands and the North West. The Cambridge course started with 2 years of Natural Sciences, during which I took a course on Biology of Cells (not having done more than a term of Biology at KES) which piqued my interest in biotechnology, so I subsequently did an MSc in Biochemical Engineering at University College London.

My first job was with APV, who designed and manufactured stainless steel equipment and plant for the clean industries. After a couple of years I moved to Celltech, a recently-formed biotechnology company, for whom I designed and oversaw the installation of process equipment and managed the maintenance team. I was made redundant when the company's fortunes and strategy changed and joined a small specialist consultancy company offering design, regulatory advice and project management services to the pharmaceutical industry. I spent 15 years with that company in its various forms and enjoyed working on projects around the world. As consultants, we were also responsible for developing our own business opportunities. I was appointed a director of the company and participated in a Management Buy Out team who took over from the original founders. Redundancy came again after we sold the company on. Being married with a young family established in local schools, I did not want to relocate and so considered all options. I had enjoyed running training courses as apart of my consultancy work, so my wife suggest I think about teaching – something which had never crossed my mind before then. After spending time in local schools and colleges, I know I was ready for it and was lucky to be offered a job, with training, at a local girls' independent school. I have been there ever since as a Physics teacher and Head of Physics. It is a joy to see my pupils appreciating the subject and they can always surprise me with fresh perspective and interesting questions.

I am lucky to have enjoyed and received great fulfilment from both parts of my Dual Career and would encourage OEs not to worry about making a change, especially by 'closing the circle' and passing on what KES has given you by becoming a teacher.







### Tim Hamer (1980)

My career path has moved from engineering, to publishing, to senior management and now currently as a writer.

There was quite a strong science current claiming the aspirations of many of us in the 70s due to inspirational programmes like Tomorrow's World, and Horizon. We had many excellent teachers at KES, but Dr Grounds and Mr Andronov had the greatest impact on my choice of career path. They both had an infectious delight in exploring and explaining how things work and helped us all to work out the best way to solve particular problems or equations and tantalised us about the latest scientific discoveries or mysteries still at large in physics.

So I went to Durham University where I had an amazing three years, covering the three broadest engineering disciplines. I started to diverge from my original career path in my second year when I decided to read as many literature books as possible and became unexpectedly interested in the packaging and communication of ideas - books, publishing and the publishing industry. In my third year I interviewed for a sales job with an emerging scientific publisher, Van Nostrand Reinhold. Selling their books to bookshop buyers and persuading academics to adopt our textbooks as the course textbook was a big change of direction, my communication skills improved exponentially, and I was given a car and a travel expense account, to visit universities in UK and Ireland.

Then during the 1990s publishing underwent a revolution. Suddenly scientific books weren't just two dimensional page descriptions of knowledge, but data sets, that could be analysed and linked, graphically expressed and available instantly via the internet.

Over the next 20 years, publishers grew into information and data analytics businesses, delivering information solutions. The company I had joined grew to become Thomson Reuters, a billion \$ global information and intelligence organisation, but by 2010, and now a Senior Vice President, there was one board re-shuffle too many and I was made redundant.

The great thing about working for a major company is that you learn and are trained in a lot of 'best practice', 'leadership' and 'business strategy' skills, all of which I took with me to my new job Director of Knowledge, for the Institution of Engineering & Technology (the IET) - the biggest professional engineering institution in the UK, with over 169,000 members around the world. I was responsible for IET's commercial operations, but most importantly it was a surprisingly major publisher of engineering books, journals and databases - so I could take my engineering knowledge and experience and apply it to developing the IET's future publishing and information strategy - the business grew to generate over £40 million for the IET. For my services to engineering, I was elected as a Fellow of the IET in 2016, and then 'retired' in 2017.

I had always enjoyed creative writing, being very much encouraged in early years by Rev P Turner (at my previous school, Malvern), Mr Martin and Mr Maddocks at KES. International travel, during my career, means you have spare time waiting in airports or during the evenings in hotels, so I started jotting down ideas, phrases and character descriptions that could feature in future stories. I practiced with bedtime stories when my two sons were young, and then a whole 15 years later, in 2021, I managed to discipline myself to write two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon/evening, to complete the first draft. 'The Book of Tudllan', a dual timeline adventure story, full of action, intrigue and mystery has just been published (Jan 2024), and I am already working on the sequel.



### Jonathan Chan (2004)

I attended KES from 1997 – 2004. Art was by far my favourite subject, and I it seemed to be the only one of my A-level subjects where there was scope for creativity. The freedom to dive into topics and themes of our own interest, guided by our teachers, was very inspirational. I was pretty good at drawing, so when it came to think about a career, I naturally gravitated towards something that involved that. At the same time my parents were strongly encouraging me towards something they regarded as 'professional' such as being a lawyer or an accountant - something serious, office-based and probably involving wearing a suit. It was certainly a confusing time!

Brad Spencer, my Sixth Form tutor and A level Art teacher was instrumental in me choosing architecture as a career. I had made noises about becoming a lawyer and Brad said in no uncertain terms that I might want to rethink this trajectory. He was totally right – I would have been a crap lawyer, and miserable!

So, I settled on architecture, with a nod of encouragement from Art classmate Saman Ziaie, who'd also applied to study architecture. It was also met with my dad's approval - he'd wanted to pursue architecture himself when he moved to Britain in the 70s but didn't have the resources available to do so.

My career in architecture is going 'according to plan'. I'm fortunate to work with some excellent people on really interesting, fulfilling projects in London and internationally.

My painting crescendoed rather organically over the last eight years and I realised it was possible to turn a hobby into something that resembled a career, while keeping the day job ticking along steadily. Painting definitely filled my yearning for that 'art career' I wanted as a teenager, but there are challenges in having two careers running alongside each other. Time, of course, is a constraint, but having little time for other stuff helps to battle procrastination, which has always plagued me. I have now negotiated with my architecture practice to work four days a week, which gives me some more time to 'throw paint around.'

I feel to succeed in these two particular careers, requires huge wells of optimism, lots of commitment and hard work, and



a rather obsessive personality helps too. (Having a sympathetic partner also helps.)

Some of the proudest moments of my career(s) have been:

**Architecture:** 2018 was a great year for me - a hat trick of finishing my first big project which I led from concept design to completion (pictured); being recognised by the Royal Institute of British Architects as a 'Rising Star', and being promoted at my practice.

**Painting:** Being invited to join the Contemporary British Portrait Painters was a huge privilege (2021). And getting on the telly, on 'Sky Portrait Artist of the Year' was a wonderful experience (2019). Recently I painted a portrait of Brad Spencer (and his dog) which was a lovely moment of reconnecting. The painting was then accepted to this year's Royal Society of Portrait Painters show which was a cherry on the cake (pictured).



### Vikram Banerjee (2002)

My time at KES was unforgettable - exciting school trips, intense sports matches, and memorable lessons, and I remember the camaraderie like it was yesterday. The relationships with fellow students is instant, but with the teaching staff it develops over the years, and by the time Sixth Form comes around the dynamic has shifted. You are friendly with the teachers; they go above and beyond their teaching. A loyalty to the school that is still with me today.

I was a classic late bloomer, but at KES, I made the 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket team and played very average hockey in the winter to stay fit. We had a fantastic cricket set up. Martin Stead was in charge, and Roger Newman and Dave Collins were part of the great coaching team too. We also had a very talented team in our age group, and I still find it surreal that I was the one who made it pro!

After school, I went to Cambridge to study economics. At university, Wednesdays were for sports or econometrics (double maths essentially). Of course, I chose sports, and it paid off - I got a contract through the university scheme.

My cricket career took off. I trialled at Surrey but it wasn't the right fit for me and I wasn't sure if this was the right path for me. I then hesitated when Gloucestershire offered me a trial but convinced by my Dad to go, it turned out to be a great fit. I played a couple of games then got fast tracked into the first team, I took my contract and moved to Bristol, finding a small room to rent and that was that. I had many happy years at Gloucestershire.

Cricket was never my everything though. After seven years, I was looking for my next challenge, but where to start? I played some club cricket at Bath Cricket Club and

approached the Chair of the Club for some advice. This led me to work in his consulting company which gave me a crash course in business, and I learned valuable lessons about strategy, culture, and leadership.

Never wanting to rest on my laurels, Harvard Business School was next, and it was mind blowing! There were about 150 people on the course from 44 different countries, it was such a prestigious school and such a privilege to be there. There were amazing, inspirational people on that course, let alone the speakers we had on a day-to-day basis.

After Harvard, I wanted to work for a FTSE company, so I joined Whitbread, famous for being the parent company of Premier Inn Hotels and Costa Coffee (at the time). I had never worked for such a big firm, and it was a steep learning curve, but I was learning from good people.

While there, I got a call from the HR director at the ECB, who had a possible opportunity for me. Sport had professionalised rapidly over those years as had cricket and they needed someone to come in and help deliver their vision, they needed a strategy function. I went through the recruitment process, and it was a natural fit for me. I had learned so much from my previous roles, but always at the heart for me was what team sports can do for society. Now as Director of Business Operations at the ECB, being able to help shape – in whatever small way - the second biggest sport in the country and seeing the impact it has on millions of people is something I am extremely proud of.

The values instilled in me by my parents and from KES - work hard, be curious, figure it out, kept me going. I do think there is a bit of in-built resilience you gain from going to an amazing school like KES and I am very grateful for that.



# Archive matters

## The Lloyd family an 'Edwardian' at KES/KEHS for 156 years!

**Andrew Martin Lloyd and Nicholas James Lloyd – their thoughts on being brothers at KES after their father, Michael Bladon Lloyd, had previously attended.**

Nick and I were at KES between 1967 and 1974. Dad (Michael Bladon Lloyd) was at KES just before WW2 at the time of the transition from New Street to its current site. I remember him telling me that there was a time when they were taught in wooden huts in front of the current Edgbaston buildings. When we joined the school, Dad had already spent many years on the Old Edwardians' Committee so was well known to several masters. In particular, he was held in high regard by the Chief Master. We therefore had quite a reputation to live up to, which because of not being Oxbridge material we were unable to do. The only master that taught both my father and I was E V Smith. All three of us were in the CCF., but whereas Nick and I were in the Army, Dad was attached to the RAF, and represented the school shooting at Bisley.

I remember making the career choice of engineering, deliberately avoiding the consideration of accountancy, presumably so as not to follow Dad's reputation again. By contrast, Dad told Nick long after Nick had chosen a career in architecture, that he had expressed a similar interest but the war 'got in the way' and chose accountancy instead.

After Nick and I left KES and our mother had died, Dad became a Governor and in 1989 was appointed Bailiff. Nick remembers our stepmother commenting on the extremely long hours Dad was spending on school administration.

Nick comments that having an elder brother at the school was helpful as I was able to show him where things were, who was who, how things were done, and how to get home (!) but that was just day one! After that first day he was left to his own devices.

We both went into the CCF and specialised in Signals, winning national competitions. We never hung out together, with just a nod as we passed each other on the long corridors. Whilst I followed Maths, Nick followed Art. Nick also enjoyed sport at the school, whereas I didn't get involved in sport outside compulsory activities. We were on different paths from the day we arrived.

Although KES obviously gave us a good grounding, both of us were more successful at university (Bath and Sheffield). When I achieved a 1st degree, our Chief Master wrote to our parents expressing surprise because 'He had never shown any such promise while at KES'!



**Andrew Martin Lloyd** KES 1967-1972

Brother to Nicholas

Software Engineer. BSc, PhD. Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Bath University. Worked for several software houses including CapGemini, now retired.

**Nicholas James Lloyd** KES 1969 - 1974

Brother to Andrew

BA Architecture, Sheffield University. After working in London in the 1980s on some of the first low energy solar houses in the UK, Nick returned to the Midlands to set up Synergy Architects in Leamington Spa which he managed for over 23 years, when he retired.



**Michael Bladon Lloyd** KES 1935 - 1940

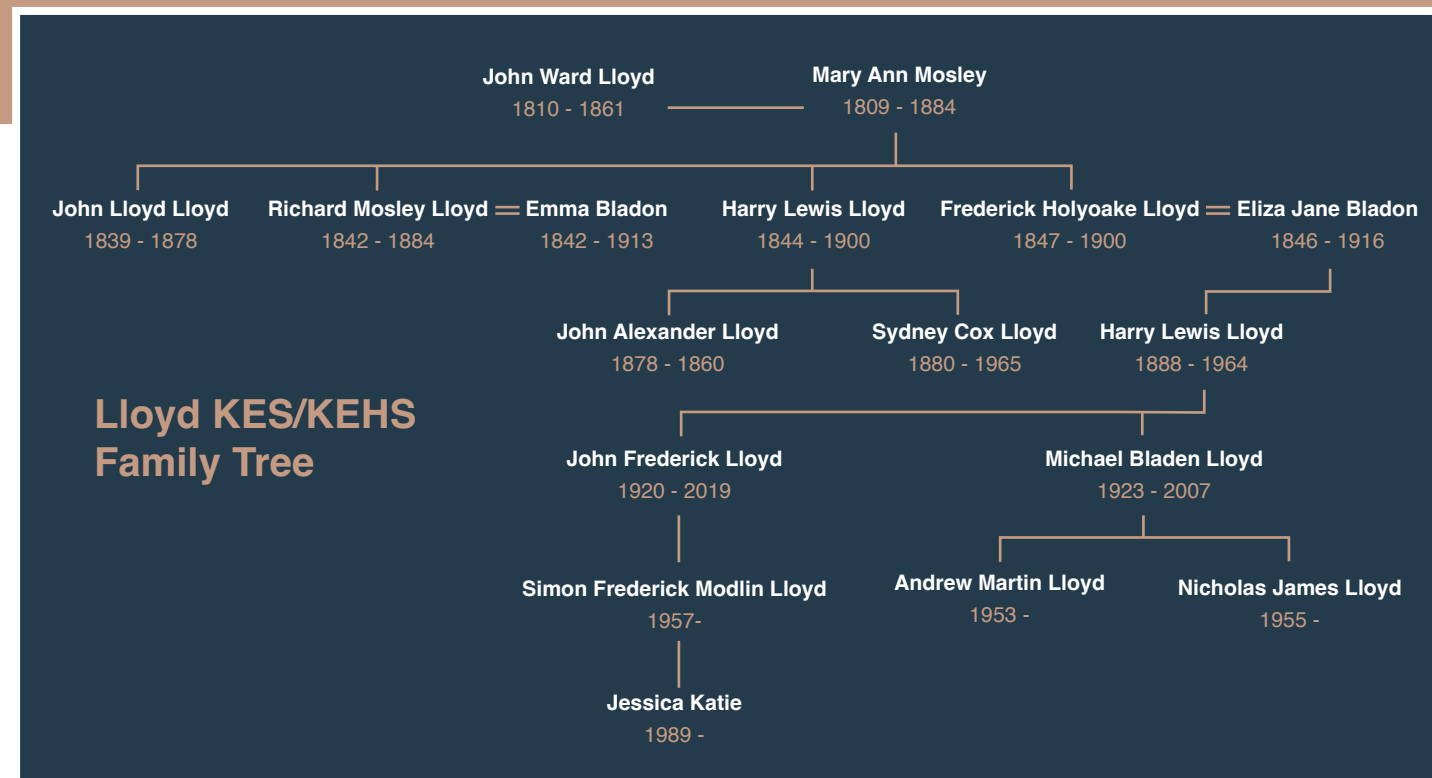
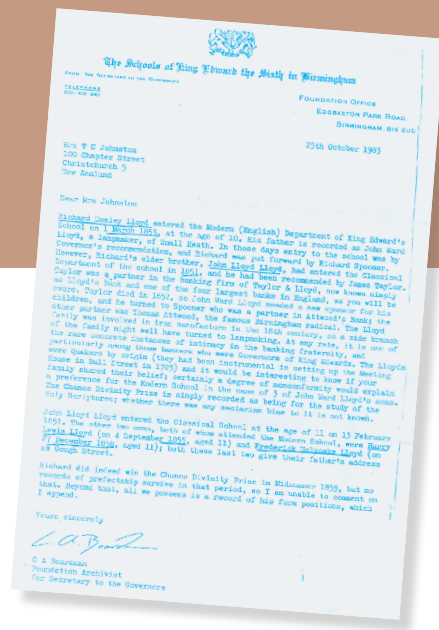
Father to Andrew and Nicholas

Chartered Accountant with Robson Rhodes. He became a Governor of the KES Foundation in 1981 and was appointed Bailiff in 1989. Served on the Old Edwardians General Committee from 1953 for almost 50 years and was a past Chairman. Also past Chairman of Edgbaston Golf Club and former President of the OE Golfing Society.

**John Frederick Lloyd** KES 1932 - 1937

Uncle to Andrew and Nicholas

Worked for the family firm of M A Lloyd & Son for 54 years, latterly as Managing Director, until the business was sold in 1991. President of Harborne Hockey club and also President of the Midlands Counties Hockey Association.



**Jessica Katie Lloyd** KEHS 2000 - 2007

Second cousin to Andrew and Nicholas (Granddaughter of John Frederick Lloyd)

Jessica studied medicine at Cardiff University and works as a GP in Bristol. She's a keen tennis player and played at school and for the county, and continues to play now. She has very fond memories of her time at KEHS.

**Fredrick Holyoake Lloyd**

KES 1858 - no record

Great Grandfather to Andrew and Nicholas

Brassfounder. Partner in the family firm M A Lloyd & Son. Died within 7 days of his elder brother Harry Lewis Lloyd.



**John Lloyd Lloyd** KES 1851 - no record

Great Great Uncle to Andrew and Nicholas

Newspaper reports would indicate he followed in his father's footsteps as a lamp manufacturer. He went into business with William Grove but in 1864 the firm was bankrupt and John Lloyd Lloyd absconded to Suffolk where he died in 1878.

**Richard Mosley Lloyd** KES 1853 - no record

Great Great Uncle to Andrew and Nicholas

A Graduate of King's College, London. Civil Engineer. Deputy Engineer at the Birmingham Water Works Department. Hobby: Conchology.



**Sydney Cox Lloyd** KES 1892 - 1896

Son of Harry Lewis Lloyd 1<sup>st</sup> cousin 2 x removed to Andrew and Nicholas

Carried on the management of M.A Lloyd and son with his brother Arthur and cousin Lewis following the death of his father and uncle. The company was now manufacturing mainly stationers' sundry items.

**Harry Lewis Lloyd** KES 1855 - no record  
Great Great Uncle to Andrew and Nicholas

Brassfounder. Senior partner in the family firm M A Lloyd & Son, a company founded by his mother Mary Ann Lloyd. Church Warden at St Mary's Church, Handsworth. Hobby: Conchology.



**John Alexander Lloyd** KES 1890 -1896

Son of Harry Lewis Lloyd 1<sup>st</sup> cousin 2 x removed to Andrew and Nicholas

Research Chemist. M.Sc. Birmingham University. Head of patent and legal department of Courtaulds Ltd. Churchwarden at Coventry Cathedral. Working in Germany at the start of WW1 was interned for four years as a prisoner.



# Archive *matters*

## The Watts' family

the father and his three sons all attended KES George (1940), Richard (1972), Mark (1976), and Simon (1978)

My two brothers and I all attended KES following in the footsteps of our father. He had been a pupil initially at the school in New Street and subsequently on the premises of Repton School when KES was evacuated there during the war. His own father had been a pupil at King Edward's Camp Hill.

From an early age we were all indoctrinated into the faith of KES as 'the school' and made to feel that it was a very special place. The admission exam was a high stakes event in our family and my parents did all they could to prepare us for it. Whether or not the pressure to gain entry exacerbated the daunting prospect of actually starting there is difficult to know, but certainly for the younger two of us, having an older brother to blaze the trail was a welcome comfort. He was the cleverest of us but in fairness to the teachers, we were never compared with each other. He was also an affiliate of a borderline subversive group of boys, so my younger brother and I had a bit of reflected "street cred" as well as help with homework from time to time. For a brief period, we were all at the school together and belonged to the same house, but generally did not see each other much during day-to-day schooling.

We shared a number of teachers, one of whom (Norman Craig) taught all of us but had also been present as a fledgling teacher whilst our father was at KES. He was my form master and the most delightful man for whom

we all three had a great fondness. There were several others who taught us all and generally we shared the same feelings about them.

It would be fair to say that the Watts family was not the main supporting pillar of KES sporting distinction, but we did manage to field two occasional swimming team representatives. I was the exception, having failed the redoubtable Sam Cotter's selection process. We did however establish a presence in the fencing team, initiated I think by Watts senior getting a foil for Christmas one year, which was passed on together with the captaincy of the team in turn to each of us. I do not recall us ever winning any competitions apart from during the interregnum as captain of a very talented fencer who broke our duck, but I gather my younger brother restored the status quo when he took over.

We all followed rather conventional career pathways, ending up as a vet, eye surgeon and GP, albeit in Richard's (the vet) case following a law degree and call to the bar.

Our recollections and memories of KES are surprisingly similar, especially considering that we overlapped relatively little. The one we all have, which we only feel able to bring to public attention nearly fifty years on from our leaving, was the secret that our father developed a friendship with the formidable and scary Chief Master Canon Ronald Lunt. At parents' evenings, which in those days were not attended by pupils, we never could understand why he returned home so late and with no useful report of our progress until we discovered that the routine was to undertake a

quick tour of our teachers, guided by the man himself, followed by the two of them retiring to the University Staff House for drinks!

We recognise that although there were three of us, our collective imprint on KES will be invisibly small, but the impact that the school had on us was enormous and no doubt most of our classmates will have similar feelings of gratitude for such a privileged education. We were truly fortunate to be able to enjoy this together as brothers. Sadly, the Watts family KES lineage ended with us, although all four of Richard's children attended King Edward's Five Ways.

*Mark Watts*

## The Frazer family

A tale of three brothers at KES in the 1960s.

Stephen Frazer (1966), the youngest and surviving brother of Adrian Frazer (1963) and Graham Frazer (1964) recalls their time at King Edward's School in the 1960s and the careers that followed.

Our parents had moved from London, after our father, Alastair became Professor of Pharmacology and Medical Biochemistry at the University of Birmingham from 1943.

All three of us entered KES at age 13 from the local prep school West House, where sport had been important to us, so were keen to win sports points for our Levett house from shooting to athletics.

Adrian and Graham both taller than me were in the school Athletics Team and the Rugby 1<sup>st</sup> XV, coached by the legendary Pete Robins, with his many caps for England. I didn't make the Rugby XV, but Pete Robins was my teacher for French and Spanish.

Friday afternoons were given over to the Combined Cadet Force. My brothers were drummers in the CCF Band, and I joined them as a bugler. They left to join the Navy section, as they had better looking uniforms!

I recall an annual CCF inspection, taken by Field Marshall Slim; the band sounded terrible, as light rain had detuned all the drum skins. A downpour then caused the entire parade to break ranks and run for cover into



*Adrian Frazer 5<sup>th</sup> from left and Graham is 7<sup>th</sup> from left - Back Row*

the school, later assembling in Big School to hear Slim's address.

Taking school meals was optional so we chose lunch in the Tuck Shop, with a hot dog, followed by a Mars bar and bottles of free milk intended for younger pupils.

Academically, none of us were scholars or Oxbridge material, preferring sport over study. Adrian and Graham were focused towards the Humanities, while my interest was towards applied Science and Art.

On leaving KES, each of us went on an Outward Bound Course for a month. Adrian to Ullswater and Graham to the Moray Sea School, where sailing the three masted schooner Prince Louis, seeded his interest in sailing tall ships and travel.

I went to Moray two years later, but sailed only cutters and climbed the Cairngorms. It was an important learning experience to team up and relate to the other boys, 50% of whom came from Borstal and deprived areas of Glasgow.

The Frazer family's Birmingham days ended in 1967, with our Father's appointment to head the British Nutrition Foundation. London was an exciting place to move to in the late 1960s with its social, cultural and economic changes.

Adrian became an antique dealer in Mayfair, later joining Christies as an auctioneer. He met his wife Louise in Mull, later moved out of London to Buckinghamshire with his family and set up his own antique business. Tragically he died in a car accident in 1989 at

the age of 44, leaving his wife with two young sons and a daughter.

Graham started training as a lawyer, but later graduated with a degree in Economics from Strathclyde. He then dropped out to deliver charter yachts to the Caribbean for two years. At age 28 he met his wife Katie and set his future career with the founding of Travel Awards. He had a successful 40 year career delivering incentive travel and prestige car launch events in exotic global locations, for Ford, Jaguar, Volvo, Toyota and Lexus. Highly valued by his clients and respected by his peers in the travel business, Graham retired to build a riverside retreat in Marlow and pursue his passion for racing model yachts on the Kensington Round Pond. He died in 2016 at the age of 69 from cancer.

I was luckier than my brothers in knowing early that I wanted to design and make things. Following study at Central School of Art and the Royal College of Art, I pursued a career in product design and innovation, working as a consultant for over 50 years and referenced in the 'News in Brief' section of this publication.

## Phillips/Worthington family

Mark Phillips (1965) (brother-in law of George, and Uncle to Christopher and Simon)

I was admitted to KES in September 1958 as a pupil in Shell C and left Classical Upper VI in July 1965 to read law at Liverpool University (1965-1968). I then qualified as a solicitor and spent most of my working life in industry.

In September 1970 my brother-in-law to be, George Worthington - he married my sister, Jane, in September 1973 – joined the Classics Department as an Assistant Master replacing Frederick L Kay on his retirement. He was a member of the department until he retired in 2009.

George's elder son, my nephew Christopher, was admitted to KES in 1990 as a pupil in Shell S and left Sci VI P in 1997 to read Natural Sciences at Gonville and Caius College Cambridge. After graduating in 2002 he joined the Bank of England where he still works.

George's younger son, Simon was admitted to KES in 2002 as a pupil in Shell T and left Class Sci VI C in 2009 to read Physics at Imperial College London graduating in 2013. He now works in Information Technology.

So with a gap of five years (1965-1970) there was a Phillips/Worthington connection to KES for 51 years!



## George Worthington

(Former Teacher 1970 – 2009)  
(married to Mark's sister, Jane)

I was teaching at KES for the whole of my two sons' secondary school careers and I'm sometimes asked how they coped with that. The answer is they coped very well. They carefully avoided ever being taught by me, to the extent that they chose science in the sixth form (while I was a classics teacher). They avoided any sport I was involved with, clearly aware of my limitations. They were in Heath House whereas I was Housemaster of Vardy. Both achieved First class degrees (Cambridge and Imperial), quite without any input from me. So, yes, they coped very well as a result.



*Left to right - George, Mark, Richard and Simon*



# Old Edwardians

## News in brief

### 1950s

#### John North (1953)

The only 'achievement' I can offer is relocation.

My wife, Sonia, had a fatal accident in France in 2019, and I now live close to my daughter, Penny, in Bath. My grandson, Oscar, is reading International Politics at Edinburgh.



I corresponded for many years with Brian David Williams and we took our A Levels in 1953.

I retired from ExxonMobil in 1996 after 30 years of service for them.

#### Graham Caulton (1956)

I have now outlived both my wives.

My first wife died before the COVID epidemic, and my second wife died in 2021. Since then, my present partner and I found each other online or rather she found me. She was looking for someone her age or younger, someone taller and a good rock climber. She failed miserably on all three counts as I'm six years her senior, slightly shorter and shrinking and I last climbed 64 years ago but up a church steeple, not a rock face!

I am now a member of a rock-climbing club in Huddersfield, known as The Fat Boys (not all fat and not all boys). I have since been climbing with my partner in Greece and Morocco. Together with tennis it is regarded as something of an achievement at the age of 85, albeit a rather dangerous pastime.



#### Neil McBroom (1958)

Last year, I had published, by Austin Macauley, a book written by myself and my wife, entitled *"In Steel and Computing The Rise of the Dip Tech Sandwich Generation"*. This describes how our careers developed on the back of Sandwich Education, which involved spending time in both industry and in one of the new Colleges of Advanced Technology which emerged under the Harold Wilson Government.

During this journey we were challenged by both personal, leadership and technical matters. The motivation came not just from within but also from the recognition of our competence from colleagues and other fellow travellers which left us with the required confidence. This confidence, added to that attained by my time at King Edward's, also enabled us to embrace life style challenges in particular our sailing experiences. These were described in our earlier book entitled *"We Sailed it Our Way"*.



### 1960s

#### Pat Ferns (1963)

In 1985 at Canada's Banff Television Festival, I created a public pitching format to help independent filmmakers present their projects to broadcasters and distributors. It became a hit and the format was taken up in the United States and then in Europe. Since that time, it has spread like a pandemic around the world; it took me to five continents hosting these events.

And now almost all film festivals around the globe have a public pitching forum.

For 20 years in Tel Aviv (and then Ramallah) I hosted CoPro, supporting Israeli and Palestinian filmmakers. This year will mark my twentieth year in Guangzhou, China where I introduced pitching to the Middle Kingdom. And it will be my fifteenth year in Taiwan hosting the CNEX Chinese Doc Forum, the most successful of all the franchises: 90% of the projects pitched to date at CCDF have been produced.

I will be 80 in 2025 and by then it will be time to stop globetrotting and to hang up my microphone!



#### Martin Baily (1963)

In 2023 my good friend Pat Ferns suggested we attend the 60th anniversary KES reunion. He lives on Vancouver Island but travels a lot. I live in Maryland but spend time with my daughter in France, and so Pat and I met on the Eurostar from Paris and headed for Birmingham.

It was very moving, meeting former classmates and visiting the campus. I walked into Big School and felt the years vanish. I remembered friends and waited for Reverend Ronald Lunt to stride in.

When I left KES, I went to Cambridge, Natural Sciences and then Economics. After a year in Vancouver, I went to MIT for graduate work. I had planned to go back to Cambridge, but MIT was the top economics department. 55 years later I am still in America. No complaints. A wonderful wife, four children, seven grandchildren, good friends, enough money, lovely home in Maryland, and I work part-time on interesting projects. I taught at Yale and

the University of Maryland spending the largest part of my career as a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. I am also an advisor



to McKinsey & Company. 1994-96 I became a Member of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers and returned 1999-2001 as the Chairman, a cabinet level position.

I still miss Britain. My youngest child now lives in France, and we have a small house very near her. There is much to love in France, and we spend two months a year there, but it does not appease my nostalgia for the places of my youth. Both KES and Cambridge were demanding, sometimes stressful, but full of wonderful memories.

#### Nick Collins (1964)

Hi! Apart from monthly pub lunches with Pat Ferns (1963) my major news is that during a three month stay in Spain, in late October 2023 to January 2024, I got to visit a museum in Manzanares, La Mancha. It is in the town where the bullfighter, Ignacio Sanchez Mejias, was fatally gored. Garcia Lorca wrote an epic elegy to him.

My 1960's graduate school essay studied that poem and found the source of many of its lines. Now copied and bound as a book it resides in the museum library. (So, it was some 53 years after I wrote my graduate thesis, before I got to hold it as a bound book in the museum in Spain, quite a moment!) That was a highlight of my professional language study career, along with Manchego cheese and other gifts I was showered with.

Starting with Spider Webb, in September 1958, followed by Jack Hodges and Victor Biggs, my learning Spanish set me on a lovely career as a language teacher and lover of all things Spain.

Muchas gracias.



#### Peter Handford (1965)

Peter retired from the University of Western Australia Law School in 2016 and was given the title of Emeritus Professor. In retirement, he has continued to research and write, most recently as one of a team of six producing the 11th edition of Fleming on the Law of Torts. He is also working on a history of the UWA Law School, to be published on its centenary in 2027.

In 2023 he was awarded the Frank Beasley Medal by the UWA Law School. Frank Beasley was the Foundation Professor of Law at UWA in 1927 and served as Dean for 36 years. The medal, established in 2003, is awarded for services to the law, the Law School and legal education in Western Australia. Peter is the 16th recipient (and only the second non-UWA Law graduate) to receive this medal.

Old Edwardians with long memories may recall that before emigrating to Australia in 1977 Peter rose from scoring for the XI while at school to scoring in a Test match (England v West Indies 1973), a near-Test match (Rest of the World v England 1970), and for BBC Radio. His history of cricket at KES, written shortly after leaving school, has recently been revised.



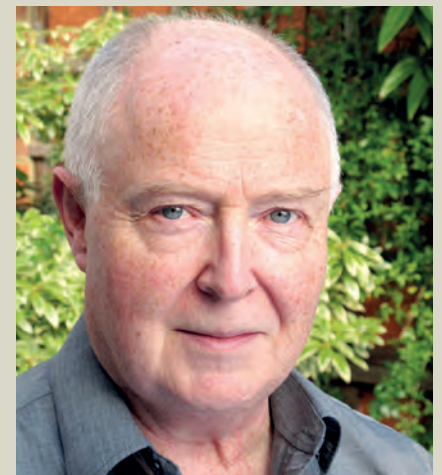
#### Stephen Frazer (1966)

As a student at KES, I gravitated towards the Art & Crafts department, headed by the inspirational Bruce Hurn. I liked drawing and working with different materials, as well as dismantling things to learn how they worked and successfully mending them. My A Level subjects were in Physics, Maths and Art, which pointed me towards pursuing a career in architecture or design.

On leaving KES I took an Art & Design Foundation year at the Bournville School of

Art; studied for a DipAD (Hons) Industrial Design at the Central School in London, and a Master's Degree at the Royal College of Art. On leaving there in 1973, my first and only full time job was working for Hotpoint and Morphy Richards on the design of domestic appliances.

The UK economy in 1974 was at a low point for industrial relations, and increasingly uncompetitive industries. I was made redundant with the rest of the design team. By luck, I was introduced to a startup company, Videomaster, who were installing the first Pong TV game machines into London pubs. They wanted to change direction and market a TV game for the home. This opportunity illustrated the future need to design completely new electronic consumer and business products which formed the core of our design consultancy work, for fifty years, for companies such as NEC, Alcatel, Psion and Sky, archived at: [www.frazerdesigners.com](http://www.frazerdesigners.com).



#### Martin Pitt (1966)

My best subjects at school were English and Art. I was always top of the class in English at primary school and published minor pieces from age 14.

I came second for the Art prize at KES and Bruce Hurn said I could easily go to Art College. However, I reasoned and told Ronald Geoffrey Lunt that I could imagine being a chemical engineer who read books and sketched for a hobby, but not the other way around. So I took Chemistry, Physics, Maths for A Levels.

Anyway, I have written quite a lot for technical journals, though there is little that would be of general interest apart from a recent and ongoing history of chemical



engineering, which might be of interest to some history students as well as chemical ones.

**The whole series is at: [www.thechemicalengineer.com/tags/chemical-engineering-history/](http://www.thechemicalengineer.com/tags/chemical-engineering-history/)**

**The first is at [www.thechemicalengineer.com/features/100-centuries-of-chemical-engineering/](http://www.thechemicalengineer.com/features/100-centuries-of-chemical-engineering/)**



#### Roger Barlow (1968)

A 1968 alumnus, I have lived in Australia since 1976 and have watched the School's development with growing interest. KES had been such an important part of my early life. My older brother, Hugh, had been a KES pupil before me; my father, Wilfred (Bill) Barlow had taught at KES for over 30 years. Indeed, he was the Modern Languages Division Form Master, and also my Form Master, when he died in 1966.

Earlier this year, on a rare and fleeting trip back to Birmingham, I contacted KES to see if a school visit would be possible. It was. And the School amazed me. There was so much that was new and wonderful:

The Ruddock Performing Arts Centre has stuck in my mind, probably because of the contrast between it and the modest stage in Big School on which we performed in the 1960's; The Andrew Brode Sports Centre – what wonderful facilities, and the covered swimming pool - a long way from my memories of shivering in the open air waiting for the starter's gun!

Yet there was so much that seemed unexpectedly the same. The playing fields, the Fives' courts and the look and feel of the main school classroom corridors were just as I remembered them. Peering in through the door window of my father's last Modern

Languages Division classroom filled me with many happy memories. Walking past the Chief Master's Study and on through the Masters' corridor once again filled me with dread. I was glad to see that Levett, my old House, was still performing well in the Cock House Championship, but what has happened to the Cartland Club? And what about...?

I think I will need another visit, hopefully before another 56 years are up.



## 1970s

#### Christopher Hodges OBE (1972)

I have been enjoying chairing the Regulatory Horizons Council, advising the Government on how to regulate new technologies, such as robotics in agriculture, quantum technologies, and space.

Things got a little out of hand when my work as Chair of the Government's Horizon Compensation Advisory Board suddenly went into overdrive. I wrote to the Lord Chancellor last December saying that the criminal appeal system would not overturn many of the 900+ people falsely convicted, and certainly not do so quickly.

The ITN drama series *Mr Bates vs the Post Office* then provoked a public outcry, and HMG decided to overturn all convictions through legislation. To say the weeks since have been challenging – and time consuming – is an understatement, but it has been a privilege to be a part of hopefully delivering justice to so many wronged people.



#### Paul Smith (1974)

After 40 years of working as an international director of the British Council, I have retired to live in Jaipur, India with my wife Viveka and with regular visits from our three children who all live and work in London.

My itinerant career – described by Tony Trott as 'Smith of the river' in *No Place for Fop or Idler* - took me to Delhi (university lecturing) in 1978 and then to British Council directorships in Kano and Lagos in Nigeria, Chile, Burma, Berlin, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Bombay, Egypt, Afghanistan, Washington DC, Indonesia and finally as Director, Germany and Northwest Europe. I was also three times in London, lastly as Global Director Arts for the British Council.

It has been a remarkable journey and one of great good fortune, promoting Britain's international relations with so many cultures and societies. And now to settle, consulting on soft power, lecturing at the University of Rajasthan, writing that book on Shakespeare, directing some plays and finally completing (after 40 years) my Cambridge PhD on Renaissance Scepticism.

As I wrote to the inimitable Charlie Blount, some 50 years ago, and quoting Earl Haig, "every movement will be a forward moment; there must be no retirement".



#### Paul Cockerham (1975)

I left KES in 1975, and went to St John's Cambridge to read Veterinary Medicine. One of the features of the course was that one could read, in the third year, whatever one wanted, so I took the BA/MA in the History of Art. Bruce Hurn had early on inculcated an interest in art/art history in me, but I'd had to drop it to focus on the sciences at A Level to get accepted at veterinary school.

Wind on 40 years, and having spent my working life as a vet in mixed practice in West Cornwall, I retired around two years ago, and have published a detailed study on the incised effigial slabs in the Pays de la Loire, in France - such slabs are a

common form of medieval funeral monument over there.

My current projects are a study of Cornish churches in the 19th century, and a second book on France, looking at the activities of tomb makers in early 16<sup>th</sup> century Paris. Pretty niche stuff, obviously, but the required scholarship keeps my grey matter ticking over. I did a PhD on Cornish funeral monuments which was published in 2006, and was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (FSA) in 1998, and just recently a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (FRHistS), so I am now far more qualified as a historian than I was as a vet!



## 1980s

#### Peter Mucklow (1980)

I retired in September 2023 after 37 years in the Civil Service.

In the 1980s in the era of mass unemployment I worked as a young fast-streamer on employment programmes for the Manpower Services Commission. I moved from London, to Sheffield where the MSC had its headquarters. My wife and I have lived there ever since and raised our two daughters as proud Yorkshire women.

In the last 25 years I have worked in the Department for Education, still based in Sheffield but with plenty of travel to other DfE offices across the country. My main causes have been to improve joint working across children's services, and to build a better further education and training system most recently as Director of Apprenticeships. I've enjoyed working with a wide range of Ministers including Ken Clarke, David Blunkett, Alan Johnson and Gillian Keegan, and working with front-line delivery services.

Retirement has brought new opportunities for travel including trips to New Zealand and Thailand. I also remain active in children's services and education as a Non-Executive Director for Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and a Trustee for a Multi Academy Trust with 10

local primary schools. I am fortunate to have a strong network of OEs from the 1980 vintage who have remained good friends all these years, and some of us still get together to relive our youth on hill-walking weekends in the Lake District, North Yorkshire Moors or North Wales.



#### Darren Scott (1989)

My latest feature film '*ALL ROADS LEAD TO HOME*' was premiered at the Birmingham Film Festival in November last year, where it duly won the Audience Award for Best Film. The film, which is currently screening at festivals around the world, is a musical drama featuring original songs - one of which was written in the Music School back in 1987.

For more information you can visit the film's website [www.allroadsleadtohome.com](http://www.allroadsleadtohome.com)



## 1990s

#### Alastair Natkiel (1999)

Alastair is currently performing in the West End transfer of 'Standing at the Sky's Edge' at the Gillian Lynne Theatre, playing the role of Marcus.

Alastair has been part of the show since the original production at the Sheffield Crucible in 2019, returning there in 2022 before a sell-out run at the National Theatre last year, for which it won the 2023 Olivier Award for Best New Musical!



## 2000s

#### David Ault (2000)

At the end of November 2023, I was invited to give a talk at the International Dark Sky Preservation and Astrotourism Conference in Manali, a small town nestled in the Himalayas. The talk explored the many uses of planetaria, both mobile and fixed, as tools for outreach and community engagement, drawing on my work as Head of Education for Immersive Experiences, a mobile dome provider.



#### Andy Perryer (2002)

Danuta, Alfred (3) and I moved back to Dubai in October 2023, where I am now Head of Digital Learning for Cognita Schools, an international schools' group with over 100 schools and 90,000 students.



We welcomed Ezra Patrick Perryer on 19 December 2023, so am currently navigating a new job in a new country with a new family member. The sunshine is helping.

#### Andrew Browning (2008)

My brother, Jonathan (2013) and I, along with James Griffith (2010), have teamed up to found a tech startup, SchemeFlow. We are using ChatGPT-style artificial intelligence to draft the technical reports needed for construction projects. There are lots of vital but time intensive reports required, and our startup uses AI to accelerate them. Our aim is to have things built more quickly so that people can get the benefits of new homes, buildings and accompanying infrastructure.

Old Eds are at the heart of this project, so if you (or anyone else) is interested to learn more, my email is [andrew@schemefflow.com](mailto:andrew@schemefflow.com).





2010s

**Rick Collins (2013)**

An update from me - I have been continuing Kendo, which I had done regularly after school throughout my time at KES, and have been selected to captain the GB Men's Team for the World Championships in Milan, taking place from 4 - 7 July! Here's a picture of me at a recent tournament!



**Triman Ahluwalia (2018)**

I graduated from King's College London in 2023 for Dentistry and am currently undertaking my Foundation year (DFT) in North London (based at UCLH).

This past year I published a feature article in the Student British Dental Journal entitled 'Preparing for practice in the modern era - a new graduate's experience'. Additionally, I am also honoured to have won the National Dental Law and Ethics Forum Prize (2023) for my essay on 'Obtaining Consent in Dementia Patients', which was presented at the December 2023 meeting and subsequently featured in the January 2024 issue of the British Dental Journal.

I am due to publish a new article this year entitled 'Preparing for Practice In The Modern Era - A Dental Foundation Trainee's Perspective' as part of the May 2024 issue of the British Dental Journal In Practice.



2020s

**Advait Kuravi (2022)**

At KES, I was the Founder and Director of the Sustainability Society and the 2021 Political Awareness Week. I also worked on the foodbank and the 2022 37-hour continuous football world record fundraiser.

I am currently in my second year at the London School of Economics. I wanted to update the KES community on my two committee positions as Vice-President of Raising and Giving (the Students' Union's fundraising arm) and Secretary-General of LSEMUN (LSE Model United Nations).

As Vice-President of RAG, I've led a 33-person committee and been at the heart of charity at LSE, bringing the university community together with the highest-profile events in the spirit of service. Notable accomplishments so far include:

- Spearheading an unprecedented Casino Night, which sold 250 tickets and raised £1,300.
- Spearheading a Giving Tuesday, which brought together over 16 societies for a takeover of campus and raised £1,200.
- Spearheading a fashion show, which involved over 500 students and raised £5,000.
- Introducing an Athletics Union calendar.
- Leading a freshers club night, which sold over 400 tickets and raised £2,000.

As Secretary-General of LSEMUN, we brought together over 200 students and 10 guest speakers for a weekend of debate. It was the largest university conference that LSE's United Nations Society has ever hosted. Furthermore, it took the unprecedented step of achieving carbon neutrality.



Former staff

**David Ganderton (Former Staff: 1964-74)**

As grandparents, my wife, Patricia, and I have been anxiously awaiting two Oxbridge applications outcomes -their parents even more so!

Happily, grandson, Daniel, who has been enjoying his stint as Headboy at MGS, has been given a conditional offer of a place for October at Pembroke, reading Chinese; and granddaughter, Sophie, has been offered a place at Peterhouse to read Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic subjects, but has been permitted to delay her entry till October 2025.

I look forward to reading news about other former colleagues and students.



Can you help us find any KES 'Old Boys'?

We have lost touch with a number of Old Edwardians. If you are in touch with someone who doesn't receive communications from us but would like to, please ask them to send us their details via email at: [oldeds@keschools.org.uk](mailto:oldeds@keschools.org.uk) or complete our contact form at: [www.oldeds.org.uk/contact-us-2/stay-in-touch](http://www.oldeds.org.uk/contact-us-2/stay-in-touch)

Tell us your news

Thanks to all OEs who have sent us their news. Unfortunately, we cannot publish everything we receive but please continue to keep us posted!

Email: [editor@keschools.org.uk](mailto:editor@keschools.org.uk)

Michael Roper-Hall (1939)



Michael John Roper-Hall died peacefully on May 3 aged 100, after a long and distinguished career as a pioneer in ophthalmic surgery. He introduced many innovations, mentored hundreds of budding young surgeons, and operated on thousands of grateful patients. He declined prestigious offers to practice in London and abroad, preferring to focus his expertise on patients in the West Midlands where he was born and raised. He felt the good fortune of having kind mentors and the accumulation of friends among colleagues at home and abroad.

Educated at King Edward's School, and nicknamed String because as the second smallest in the form Rope was considered too big. Matriculating at just under 14, he could be admitted, aged just 16, to study medicine at Birmingham University and qualified in 1945. Through his clinical training during the war, he developed and maintained a special interest in ocular trauma. He trained in ophthalmology at the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital (1945-1947 and 1949-1955). He served as a Major in the R.A.M.C. as specialist ophthalmologist in Egypt and the Middle East (1947 to 1949).

Aged 28 he was appointed consultant at Bromsgrove General, then BMEH and several hospitals across Birmingham (QE, Selly Oak, Centre for Neurosurgery, General Hospital, Accident Hospital). He was the first ophthalmic surgeon in the UK to use an operating microscope. He took an early active interest pioneering the use of intraocular lenses following cataract surgery.

He was a founder member of several leading national and international groups to promote good practice and research in ophthalmology. He was active in teaching in the UK and elsewhere. He lectured by invitation in most countries in Europe, several places in North and South America, Africa, Australia and across all parts of Asia. His main subjects were the management of ocular trauma, the application of microsurgery in ophthalmology, and the techniques of intraocular lens implantation.

He served as President or Chairman of all the relevant professional bodies for Ophthalmology in the UK. As President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, and simultaneously the Faculty of Ophthalmologists of the Royal College of Surgeons. He selected the Steering Group from both these bodies, which obtained the Royal Charter in 1988 establishing the Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

He setup and chaired the Birmingham Eye Foundation (BEF) charity in 1968 to promote Eye research. With Sir Adrian Cadbury, they established the first Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of Birmingham. In 1993, BEF established the Roper-Hall prize medal for a competition for West Midlands ophthalmology trainees and Michael made active contributions to the awards until 2019 (aged 96). In 2018, BEF changed its name to the Roper-Hall Eye Foundation to honour Michael for all the hard work he had undertaken over so many years.

Like all busy men he always has time. Outside his work he was a passionate sailor, enjoying time with family and friends. He loved to spend family time in Wales (his mother was Welsh), climbing mountains, or enjoying beach days. He was an enthusiastic squash player (playing until he was 90!). He was also a wonderful ballroom dancer and keen photographer.

He had been happily married to Sheila for 78 years; they had four children, Gillian, Richard (also an Old Ed), Alison, and Peter, all of whom have been successful in their careers and their marriages, thanks to his support and encouragement over the years, he will be missed by them and their families including 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren: also a cousin, 6 nieces and their families.

Alison Roper-Hall (daughter)

Deaths

Please see below a list of those Old Edwardians who have sadly passed away in the past 18 months.

- Michael Roper-Hall (1939)**  
**Robert Anchor (1943)**  
**Peter Rawll (1945)**  
**Peter Peters (1946)**  
**Alan Drummond (1948)**  
**Trevor Gatty (1948)**  
**John Beech (1953)**  
**Graham Howard Rhodes (1954)**  
**Barrie Gane (1955)**  
**David Leigh (1956)**  
**Anthony Lyne (1956)**  
**Donald Victor Parr (1956)**  
**(Christopher) Ian Davies (1957)**  
**John Harwood (1957)**  
**Anthony Clayton (1958)**  
**Chris Lettington (1958)**  
**Alexander Moon (1962)**  
**Tony Ralli (1963)**  
**Mark Phillips (1965)**  
**Jonathan Lee (1966)**  
**Ian Lennox (1966)**  
**Glyn Williams (1966)**  
**Bill Jenkinson (1968)**  
**Richard Felski (1970)**  
**Paul Hoggart (1970)**  
**Paul Dudley (1973)**  
**Keith Turnbull (1976)**  
**Jonathan Cooper (1984)**  
**Rob Colledge (1997)**  
**Thom Loxton (2002)**

- Former Staff:**  
**Michael Duncan (1965-1968)**  
**Peter Russell (1970-2007)**  
**Martin Stead (1972-2010)**  
**Richard Simpson (1996-2006)**  
**Dave Collins (1997-2015)**



Major Peter Leslie Rawll RM (Retd.) (1945)



Harborne born and bred, alongside beloved younger brother, Christopher (1948), Peter relished his time at KES.

As a contemporary of future infamous theatre critic, Ken Tynan, he was a frequent and formidable adversary in school debating competitions, while also showing athletic prowess in the first XV rugby team and as PT Captain.

His leadership potential was recognised as he was elevated from Prefect to Head of School in his final year as well as CSM in the Cadet Force and was awarded the ‘Knight Medal’. Unsurprisingly, this precipitated an early commission into the Royal Marines in January 1945, even before his final academic year was over.

Peter rose to the rank of Major during 27 years’ diverse and illustrious service, which included secondment to 22 SAS during the Malaya Emergency (mentioned in despatches “for distinguished service during the period 1 January to 30<sup>th</sup> June 1958”), as well as commanding officer and senior instructor roles in the SBS.

His second career was in the education sector, serving as School Bursar at Wycliffe College (independent school in Stonehouse, South Gloucestershire) from 1972 until his retirement in 1989.

During his long (30+ years) retirement, he grasped the opportunity to serve the broader community with roles as diverse as local councillor, heritage railway (GWSR) volunteer, SSAFA case worker and respected member of local charitable organisations, including the Royal British Legion, Rotary International and the OW Lodge.

Peter’s memorial service, in February, was packed with family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and comrades, representing a life well-travelled, well-lived and well-loved.

He is survived by his wife Cicely, son Andrew and daughter Katie.

Andrew Rawll (son)

Alan Drummond (1948)



Alan passed away in January. His Father, Alec, died suddenly of a brain abscess in late 1929, just four months before Alan was born. His mother, Gladys, brought him up, supported by her own mother, “Gran”.

Alan was academic from a young age and he gained a scholarship to King Edward’s School. Chemistry and woodwork became passions. A Chemistry Master expanded his view and persuaded him to apply to Oxford. It was there through friends that he met his future wife, June. He also discovered mountain climbing there, and June inspired his lifelong love of sailing.

Once married Alan did postdoctoral studies at the National Research Council in Ottawa and then they moved to California to join Chevron in 1956. During this time they were bringing up their three little boys.

Alan always said his best years were those spent with June in the United States and (later) in Brussels during his career with Esso in their “Paramins” oil additives division. When they moved back to the UK in 1961 he joined Esso’s research group in Milton, Oxfordshire. He was promoted quickly and was then transferred to the European office in London.

Alan was then transferred to Brussels in the early seventies and, after two years, to New York City, where he moved into a global marketing role at the Global HQ. Then they lived for four exciting years in Miami. Alan learned to mono-ski, scuba dive and sail yachts. He was a regular visitor to South and Central America throughout this time often working in Spanish.

Alan and June moved back to the UK in 1983 and he retired soon after. They spent the next 25 years living between their villa in Javea, Spain and England. All the grandchildren have very happy memories of holidays at “El Cerrito”.

Alan spent much time creating an array of elegant boxes matching designs to those he gifted them to. He also made beech wood trays with marquetry pictures inlaid in their surfaces. These boxes and trays remain his legacy for which he will be remembered for many years.

Jeremy Drummond (son)

Donald Victor Parr (1956)

To read Donald’s obituary, it can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam](https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam)

(Christopher) Ian Davies (1957)



Ian attended King Edward’s School Birmingham in the 1950s. He achieved a scholarship to read Biochemistry at Sheffield University, which led to a career in the chemicals industry with ICI.

Ian met his wife, Anne, at ICI’s offices in Ardrossan, Scotland and they married in 1965. They moved to Tunbridge Wells, Kent, where they had sons, Murray and Gordon, then moved again in the 1970s, to Altrincham, Cheshire.

In retirement, walking holidays in west Scotland spurred his research into the aviation history of World War II aircraft crashes in the local area; Ian contributed publications and archives to the RAF Museum, and assisted the families of the pilots with research.

Memories of King Edward’s that he recounted included the film club and cricket (he claimed to have taken a one-handed catch on the boundary, while holding an ice-cream!), leading to lifelong interests in both film and cricket.

Gordon and Murray Davies (sons)

Barrie Gane CMG OBE (1955)

Barrie Charles Gane was born in Birmingham. He went to King Edward’s School, excelled at gymnastics, was a lively and courageous hooker in the rugby first XV and was Head of House. He was picked for the British Schools Exploring Society’s expedition to British Columbia in 1953. After his National Service as a midshipman in the Royal Navy he became the first of his family to go to university, reading history at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Barrie joined the SIS, also known as MI6, in 1960. His first posting was to Laos, a country in crisis with a civil war between the communist Pathet Lao and the monarchy exacerbated by the involvement of North Vietnam, the Soviet Union, China and the United States. To get good intelligence on such a complex situation was a significant challenge for Gane but he performed well. He was then posted to Sarawak in the first of a number of paramilitary roles. He provided intelligence in support of the British, Commonwealth and Malaysian troops combating the Indonesian army’s cross-border attacks into North Borneo and Sarawak. His success earned him an OBE.

Barrie was also posted to Poland, Uganda, Hong Kong and Northern Ireland. He was a meticulous and effective planner; inspired confidence, gave trust and was trusted. He also held the role of Controller Far East, which was a key SIS role, overseeing stations in the Indian subcontinent, southeast Asia, Japan and China.

His last post, as director of operations, coincided with large changes in Europe, and more widely, after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union. He also experienced the first Gulf War. His significant contribution was to oversee the creation of a joint SIS and military intelligence team embedded in the advance HQ.

After retirement in 1992 he was taken on by Group 4 Security to develop new business for them based on his wide experience in the SIS. He opened many new enterprises, including in India.

Barrie was first married to Elizabeth Higlett. He is survived by two daughters, Tina and Nicki, from this first marriage. He is also survived by his second wife Jenny (née Pitt) with whom he was married for nearly 50 years.

Barrie passed away in December 2023, aged 88.

Contributed by Former Colleagues



## Major Anthony Lyne (Ret'd) (1956)



Anthony Richard Braund Lyne passed away unexpectedly in September 2021 after a short illness. Anthony left behind his wife of over 50 years, Jenny, four daughters and 12 grandchildren - he is dearly missed.

Anthony was a proud Old Edwardian, joining KES initially in the Classical Upper Middles on a free place scholarship. KES instilled the self-discipline required for Anthony's successful military career, as well as developing his (then) burgeoning interest for languages. He obtained A Levels in English, French, and German. Anthony's linguistic prowess, spirit of adventure and wanderlust led him to join the Intelligence Corps in 1956, turning down a university place at Cambridge and a scholarship at University of Birmingham. His military and civil service careers took him around the world, on postings to Egypt, Cyprus, Hong Kong, and Germany (where he met Jenny).

KES also cultivated and nurtured Anthony's lifelong love for music, the arts and for learning; passions he passed on to his children and grandchildren. Alongside his professional career, Anthony went on to achieve a Legum Baccalaureus, a Bachelor of Arts, a Master of Arts, and a Master of Philosophy. He enrolled on a Doctorate in Divinity as an octogenarian, only withdrawing when his health started to decline.

Anthony spoke with zeal and affection when he regaled family with stories of his time at KES and as such the school and his time there remain a treasured part of our family folklore, living a life that goes beyond this mortal one.

*Suzie van Strandmann (daughter)*

## Anthony Clayton (1958)



Anthony Broxholme Clayton, age 83, of Wilmington, Delaware, USA passed away on 20 August, 2023.

Tony was born in Solihull, England in 1940, the only son of the late Arthur Kenneth and Elsie Clayton. He attended King Edward's School in Birmingham and went on to study at Brunel University while working at Glaxo Laboratories in Greenford, Middlesex. After leaving there he finished his undergraduate degree at the University of Aston in Birmingham and then obtained his Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of Birmingham.

While working at Glaxo he met his future wife, Cynthia, and they were married in 1963. In 1965, they went to the United States where Tony was working on a post-doctoral fellowship at Cornell University. After two years at Cornell, Tony and Cynthia moved to Wilmington where Tony was employed by the former Hercules, Inc. where he was a research chemist for 30 years.

Tony was a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry, the American Chemical Society, Sigma Xi and the former Hercules Country Club. He was a keen sportsman and played rugby, cricket and soccer in England and golf and tennis in the US. He had many interests besides sports among which were travelling and exploring new places, gardening and woodwork. Tony and Cindy enjoyed traveling to visit their families in Seattle, WA, Charleston, SC, and Tampa, FL. They also had memorable trips to other countries including Ireland, Italy, Australia and New Zealand and numerous visits to their native homeland, England.

Tony is survived by his loving wife of almost 60 years, Cindy; his sons, Darrell (Elana) of WA, Derrick of SC, and Andrew (Katrina) of DE and his daughter, Robin Andrews (Jeff) of FL. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Tyler, Avery, Ciana, Mason, Darley, Kerr, Broden, Kalianna, Ashley, Sidney, Hailey and Clayton, and a number of cousins in England.

*Darrell Clayton (son)*

## Alexander "Alex" Moon (1962)



Born in Crickhowell on 17 June 1944, Alex was always very proud of his Welsh birthplace and became a staunch Welsh rugby supporter all his life. Alex was the second of four children, with one older brother and a younger sister and brother, growing up in the Sutton Coldfield area. He attended King Edward's School, the first member of the family to do so, and was a member of the school's cadet force alongside the then-unknown Bill Oddie. They would meet again many years later at a function in London where Bill was an after-dinner speaker, spotted Alex and greeted him as "Private Moon"!

Alex joined what was then the GPO (later BT) as a Telecoms tariffs specialist upon leaving school and worked in various UK locations before joining the overseas division in the early 1980s. He left BT after 30 years' service and became a freelancer, continuing to work overseas until retirement in 2007. Meticulous at keeping spreadsheets of just about everything, his flight schedule shows that he made 1,986 flights, clocking up 2.4m airmiles and covering 124 countries across all continents.

He retired to Malaysia with second wife Halimah and enjoyed his time there with a slower pace of life, while continuing to travel for leisure rather than work. Sadly diagnosed with Parkinsons in late 2016, he continued to live well until early 2023.

Alex is survived by Halimah and their son Ali, as well as daughter Stephanie and son Jonathan from his first marriage to Joan.

*Stephanie Moon (daughter)*

## Mark Phillips (1965)



I first met Mark 70 years ago at Chigwell House School in Highfield Road, Edgbaston. We sat next to one another in lessons and formed an immediate friendship. We both went on to KES but because Mark was eight months older than me, he was in the year above. There were three houses at Chigwell – Mark was a Trojan and I an Athenian, but at KES we were both in Evans.

Mark was the world's greatest giver of nicknames but over the years enjoyed three of his own. At KES he was known by his fellow pupils as 'Shaggy'. However, his Classics master, The Rev R G Lunt, always called him 'Copperknob or as Lunt pronounced it, 'Cawpernawb. When Mark started playing for the Wanderers soccer team he was affectionately known as 'The Cat', after the great Chelsea goalkeeper Peter Bonetti. In April 1974 Mark, George Worthington and I went on a tour to Blankenberge with The Selly Park Taverners pub soccer team. We played two matches and I scored in both. From then on Mark somewhat over generously referred to me as the only man who ever scored in every game in Europe!

After leaving school, all through our sporting lives, Mark and I played soccer for the Wanderers, cricket for the OECC, and Fives for the Old Edwardians.

Mark was one of those responsible for setting up and ensuring the continuation of 'The Old Lags Annual Reunion'. This is an evening get together shortly before Christmas of Old Eds and sporting colleagues at a Birmingham hostelry. It was undoubtedly one of the events Mark most enjoyed. His presence at this year's will be sorely missed, together with those of other past attendees: Jim Evans, Bill (Soft Alf) Riddick, Chris (Languid Larry) Roberts, Ian Nuttall, Ian Clemson, Dave Earl, Nick (Weed) Chapman, Roger Felton and Baz Macdonald.

Mark was loud – he was the only person who made my old Rhodesian Ridgeback dog bark. He was larger than life and remembered by all who had ever met him.

RIP my longest standing best mate.

To read two more tributes for Mark, these can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam](https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam)

*David Dallaway (1966)*



Jonathan (Jon) Lee (1966)



Jon was born in Edgbaston to Tom and Fiona Lee. His two brothers, Peter and Malcolm, also attended KES.

He went to West House Prep School before joining KES where he became School Captain. He was awarded colours for cricket and rugby. In the latter he was a hooker, where he was very enthusiastic and determined. Emerging from the scrum with a bright red face and delivering the ball to the scrum half. Just one small problem; his

eyesight was very poor, and no one ever passed the ball to him as he could not see to catch it!

John entered St Edmund Hall, Oxford, to study engineering and received a half blue for squash.

After graduating he went to teach at Oundle School as a House Tutor. He left there to become Deputy Head at Durham School. In 1988 he moved to Trent College as Headmaster. The school was having some difficulties at the time when Jon was appointed. He dealt with them with great success and continued to develop the school and adapt it to meet the challenges facing fee paying schools. He retired in 2006, only to return as Headmaster of Scarborough College. He finally retired in 2008.

Over the years he organised many expeditions for pupils, and also underprivileged children, in mountainous terrain including Ecuador, Afghanistan, China and Hindu Kesh. He ascended all the Scottish Munros, and being a keen photographer, took many photos on these travels.

He died suddenly whilst walking his faithful dog, Bertie. He will be remembered and missed by his beloved partner Denise, his family, and many friends.

*Max Davis (1966)*

Glyn Williams (1966)



Glyn was born in Birmingham on 3 September 1948, to aspirational, working class Welsh parents. The family lived in Erdington and he attended Yenton Primary School. He went to KES in 1959. A small boy, in short trousers travelling on two buses across the city to reach the school.

He could not speak highly enough of KES and credited the school with providing him with an excellent education and the opportunity to study medicine at Kings College London. He

represented the school at rugby and cricket and took up potholing, climbing and sailing as a member of the sea scouts.

As a medical student he spent three months in Tanzania studying the tsetse fly and sleeping sickness. This was instrumental in his choosing Infectious Disease as his specialty in medicine. In 1978 he was appointed Lecturer in Infectious Diseases at the University of Glasgow and in 1985 was awarded a scholarship by the English Speaking Union of Edinburgh to study infectious diseases in the Indian sub-continent. In 1986 he became Consultant Physician, with an interest in Infectious Diseases, in Ayrshire and Arran. He set up travel clinics and clinics for post viral disease. He also visited Kilmarnock Prison to deal with HIV and hepatitis. For this work he was honoured with an award from The Butler Trust. He contributed to several books on infectious disease and travel medicine.

He retired in 2007 and became a keen golfer and a member of Royal Troon Golf Club. He died of bladder cancer on 5 March 2023. He leaves Sue, his wife of 52 years, three children and six grandchildren.

*Sue Williams (wife)*

Bill Jenkinson (1968)



Born in Manchester in 1949, Bill grew up in Birmingham before moving to France for five years, then returned to Birmingham and King Edward's School in 1966. Bill went on to Brasenose College from KES, following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps. He studied History, proving to be a good scholar with a marvellous retentive memory. He was seldom seen without a book.

By 1973, Bill had taken up a post as History Teacher at Sexey's School in Somerset. His next teaching position was at St. Birinus School in Didcot where he met his future wife, Sandy. They married in 1985 and have since lived in Oxford. Bill later left teaching and joined the Royal Mail where he achieved professional qualifications in accountancy and marketing and was regularly promoted during the years when Royal Mail was undergoing considerable transformation.

Bill and Sandy had two sons, Toby and Oliver. Bill was blessed with the arrival of a first grandchild, Lilah, just a few weeks before his death from cancer this January.

Family holidays were taken in France, and ultimately in their own property near Saumur on the Loire. Bill, fluent in French, was very relaxed there, described by Sandy as 'like a technicolour version of himself'.

Bill retired in 2012 and enjoyed leading an Oxford poetry group, Stanza 2. The group enjoyed vibrant exchanges with German poets and artists. He also loved choral music. He and Sandy sang with local choirs, in Dorchester Abbey, and in Europe.

Bill will be missed by family and friends. I count myself lucky to have known him well for over 40 years.

*Mike Randall (1965)*

Richard Felski (1970)



Richard Felski died on 3 January 2024 at Valle Hebron Hospital in Barcelona after unexpected complications from surgery. He is survived by his sister, Rita and his niece, Maria.

Richard grew up in Hall Green and attended King Edward's from 1963 to 1970 before reading modern languages at Christ's College, Cambridge; some years later he studied for an MA in linguistics at Lancaster University. He worked at the British Council in Barcelona for many years; a gifted and popular ESL teacher, he often forged long-lasting friendships with his students after they graduated. He also served as the head coordinator for Cambridge English exams and was widely known and respected for his exceptional competence and scrupulous fairness.

Richard traveled widely and frequently and was remarkably talented in terms of his linguistic abilities (he spoke seven languages fluently). He also had an encyclopaedic knowledge of classical music and modernist architecture, as well as the history of train engines and obscure bus routes. He was loved above all for his cheerfulness and good spirits: his distinctive gales of laughter, his beaming face, and how his voice would bellow jovially through a room. His many friends in the local community came together in Barcelona to celebrate his life on 2 March, along with old friends from England and relatives from Poland; there was much laughter and drinking of beer, as he would have wished. As one of his friends remarked, he was a fabulous friend and a kind man who defied convention and categorization.

Richard had a rich life that he lived to the full; he will be greatly missed.

*Rita Felski (sister)*

Paul Hoggart (1970)



To read Paul's obituary and view a photo of him, these can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam](https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam)



Paul Dudley (1973)



It is with sadness that I report the death of my Uncle, Paul Maurice Dudley. Paul was born on 29 July 1955 and was the elder of two brothers. He grew up in Egerton Road, Streetly and would remain in Birmingham for his whole life.

Paul was awarded a partial scholarship to King Edward’s School, where he attended until 1973. It was during Paul’s time at the school that his lifelong passion for sailing and boating began. He joined the Naval section of the Combined Cadet Force and spent many hours on the water. Nowhere was he happier than on his boat in the Kingsbridge Estuary in Devon.

Paul thrived at King Edward’s and went on to attend the University of Birmingham Medical School, where he would obtain his medical degree. He became a General Practitioner in 1979 and opened his own practice, Cotmore Surgery, in 1995. Paul served the Birmingham medical community for over 40 years, before retiring a couple of years ago.

Paul continued his affiliation with the school in his latter years and attended a number of events and golf days organised by the Old Eds. He played most of his golf at Sutton Coldfield Golf Club and considered himself perpetually ‘unlucky’. Despite his questionable golfing ability, Paul’s flamboyant attire and good humour always made for an enjoyable day on the course.

Paul lost his battle with cancer on 13 May 2024. He is survived by his wife Annette, his children and grandchildren.

If the Old Eds’ network have any stories of Paul to share, the family would love to hear from you.

Robert Dudley

Keith Turnbull (1976)



Keith very sadly, and suddenly, passed away on 24 February 2024 at the age of 65. He loved his time at King Edward’s School, excelling at Physics, Maths and Chemistry as well as Eton Fives. He went on to read Engineering at Trinity College Cambridge, later using his talents to build an excellent career in the software industry.

Keith was brilliantly witty and entertaining, and would do anything for friends, family and even strangers. He had an extraordinary zest for life and will leave a huge hole in the lives of his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Sara, and children Emily, Joe and Tom.

Keith’s funeral was held in Chearsley, Buckinghamshire, on 28 March 2024, and was attended by a number of former teachers and friends from school, as well as many, many others.

We have gathered together a number of tributes to Keith, as well as photos, and these can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam](https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam)

Jonathan Turnbull (brother)

Thom Loxton (2002)



We are sad to announce that Thom died in September 2023.

After KES, Thom went on to study English Literature at Birmingham University. Following graduation, he undertook a successful career in education, and in the years following excelled in roles as teacher, lecturer, and later management roles. He adored literature, music, science fiction, travel, and cookery, and pursued each passion in his life actively and to its fullest.

Thom was a beloved father of two daughters, Penny and Grace, beloved son to Jane, and beloved brother to Jack.

At KES Thom was a prominent member of the Graphic Universe Club and wonderful friend to many of his year group during our formative years together at school, and beyond. We miss his sharp wit, artistic passion, and warm friendship.

Rest in peace mate.

Chris Branson (2002)

Former Staff: Peter Russell (1970-2007)



At Peter’s widow, Sarah’s request: “Be sure to sing this out with enthusiasm, as we all did at Pedro’s funeral” to the tune of ‘Coming round the mountain’:

He’ll be striding up the mountain in his dreams,  
He’ll be splashing through the bogs and mountain streams,  
He’ll be cursing tangled heather – and any adverse weather,  
He will make it to that trig point if he screams!

He’ll be organising dinner for tonight,  
Checking on the sous-chefs, will they get it right?  
He’ll be setting a wood fire, (the matches could be drier...)  
But soon he’ll get the flames up burning bright.

He’ll be watching Cary Gilson down the years,  
He’ll be sorting teams and giving them three cheers,  
He’ll be teaching sixth form classes, for top grades not just passes  
To set them on their medical careers.

He’ll be joining friends when they go down the pub,  
He’ll be buying pints and ordering some grub,  
He’ll be laughing, smiling, talking, telling tales of that day’s walking:  
No signpost and the path was lost in scrub.

He’ll be searching shops for bargains or for sales,  
He’ll be packing for his latest trip to Wales,  
He’ll be checking out some venues and formulating menus  
For adventures in his favourite Yorkshire Dales.

Sarah Russell (wife)

To read Peter’s full obituary, it can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam](https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriam)

Former Staff: Richard Simpson (1996-2006)



Born in London in 1943, Richard was the only child to parents Betty and William. His father was in the Fleet Air Arm, which meant that as a child, Richard lived a somewhat nomadic existence, equipping him with an independent spirit and healthy sense of adventure. A lot of family time was spent in Cornwall, which he looked back on fondly, recalling his parents

hosting many parties which perhaps contributed to his own sociable and outgoing nature.

At the age of eight, Richard began prep school at Downs House and later moved to Haileybury College around the age of 13. Richard became a keen oarsmen later going on to enjoy the game of squash and becoming an accomplished runner, once completing the London Marathon in a rather good time of 3 hrs 48mins!

Leaving school, Richard headed for Downing College Cambridge where he may have spent more time rowing than studying, but when his father took ill he moved to the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon, Devon.

In 1962, Richard joined the Navy and served there for nearly 30 years, working with radar, radio, mechanics and nuclear weaponry. Colleagues described him as ‘a phenomenally clever man (a Chartered Engineer, Chartered Mathematician, Chartered Scientist and Fellow of the Institute of Management) with a kind and humble heart.’

In 1979 he was appointed as a Commander; 1969 to 1973 saw him serve on a number of vessels, including HMS Resolution, Olympus and Superb, and from 1990 to 1993 he took the post of Director Technical Services in the Bahamas.

He came into teaching later in his career, joining KES in 1996, to teach Mathematics after acquiring a Maths Degree at the Open University. (He also completed his Masters’ Degree in his early years at KES.) As well as teaching Maths, he helped run orienteering and after-school squash; served as Treasurer of the Common Room Committee and took on a data role for the admissions exams. Outside the classroom, he may best be remembered for running the chess teams – nurturing them to a sport in which KES could compete seriously at national level – something he continued to do after his retirement.

Richard also played chess for Shirley & Wythall for 15 or more years. He captained the Fourth Team in the BDCL for 10 seasons.

The Birmingham Chess Club said they miss Richard’s passion for the game, support for the club and his generosity with his time. His wide knowledge on many subjects, including classic cars, chess theory, naval history, Kings Norton and people.

He is survived by his wife Claire, daughters Annabel and Jessica, and five grandsons.

Annabel Tall & Jessica Burnand (daughters)



Former Staff: David Collins (1997-2015)



Dave was born in Brierley Hill and at an early age he developed a lifetime love of football and cricket. He was never happier than when he was playing either sport, or watching his favourite club, Wolverhampton Wanderers. I'll never know how I managed to get him up the aisle on 17 June 1967. We were lucky enough to have two sons, Lee and Steven, both who are involved in playing both sports, and two grandchildren, Elliot and Evie.

In the early sixties, Dave became a playing member at Stourbridge Cricket Club. He was fortunate to play with test match cricketers – notably Glen Turner (New Zealand) and Imran Khan (Pakistan). He was also instrumental in the development of many Stourbridge players – Philip Whitticase, Stuart Lampitt, Gavin Haynes, Chris Tolley, Jonathan Wright, and later, Chris Adshead.

As Worcestershire Under-19 Coach from 1980 onwards, Dave helped many talented players achieve their potential. One special highlight was when they won the coveted Oxford Festival in 1983.

In the later 1980s John Huband and Dave became Educators for the National Cricket Association and later for the ECB. Dave was appointed as Chairman of the ECB's Midland Regional Coaches, and in 2015 was presented with an ECB Lifetime Coaching Achievement Award.

In later years, Dave took over from John as Professional Coach at King Edward's School, Birmingham. Dave loved his time at the school and was so pleased to be included by Lawson Roll in cricket tours of Australia and the West Indies. The photo presented on his retirement of Lawson and him watching a match at KES hung in his bedroom at Woodford House where he spent his last months.

What a great pity that dementia took away that love of both sports. He lost all interest in watching cricket and football, either on TV or live matches.

I was so touched by all the lovely tributes received from so many cricketers, whose lives Dave had influenced in some way.

Yvonne Collins (wife) and John Huband (former colleague and friend)

Former Staff: Martin Stead (1972 – 2010)



Martin D Stead was born in Leeds (in what once was the West Riding of Yorkshire) in 1948. He attended Leeds Grammar School, followed by Sheffield University (History) and then a year at Carnegie College of Physical Education, Leeds, for his PGCE.

In 1972 he was appointed by Canon Lunt to teach PE, Games and History, and

thus began his long, considerable and impressive career at KES. By wonderful coincidence, Geoffrey Boycott was the England County Cricket Board's leading run scorer in that same year - there was some similarity between Martin and he, not least that they could both be dour Yorkshiremen!

Martin's commitment to the school was huge, particularly in terms of traditional games and extra-curricular involvement, and literally hundreds of boys have him to thank for their introduction to properly organised sport. The simple statistics speak for themselves: 38 years of taking a school cricket team, including 21 as master I/c and 1<sup>st</sup> XI coach; 12 years of taking KES basketball teams, from U13 to U19; perhaps most impressively of all, 38 years of school rugby teams, most notably the seemingly unbeatable U13 'A' XVs. So not many 'free' Saturdays then, or weekday lunchtimes or afternoons!

Such commitment apart, Martin taught a full timetable of PE, Games and History; was always a Shell or Remove Form Tutor; was joint Heath House Master, and for over 20 years was in the CCF, initially Army section, then I/c Royal Navy section.

Never knowingly hurried or rushed, Martin carried out his many and varied duties with good humour, care and diligence, and a shrewdness of thought that his sometimes lugubrious manner belied. Martin was a very amiable, pleasant and patient person, and many people, both young and old, benefited from his considerable kindness. It was a most rewarding experience working with him for many years. He retired in 2010.

He is survived by his wife, Anne, their son, Tim, and their daughter, Catherine.

To read of Martin's incredible commitment to the sports of Rugby, Cricket and Basketball, it can be accessed by this website: [oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriām](http://oldeds.kes.org.uk/in-memoriām)

Stuart Birch (ex-colleague)

**Editor's note:** R Paul Holland's obituary in last year's Gazette had the incorrect author's name at the bottom. This should have been 'Lewis Holland (son)'. With sincere apologies to Lewis.

Old Edwardian publications



Garry Martin (Former Staff)  
The Truants  
Publisher: Colley Books Ltd



Howard Williamson (1972)  
Transitions on hold?  
Publisher: Strasbourg: Council of Europe



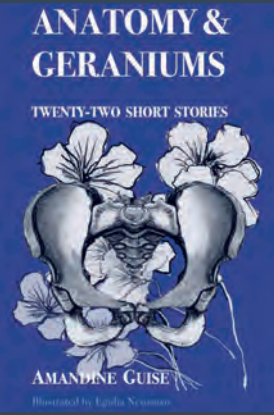
Hugh Houghton (1994)  
The Oxford Handbook of the Latin Bible  
Publisher: Oxford & New York



Martin Pitt (1966)  
Handbook of Laboratory Waste Disposal  
Publisher: Ellis Horwood in 1985



Matthew Nicholls (1996)  
Ancient Rome – The Definitive Visual History  
Publisher: Dorling Kindersley



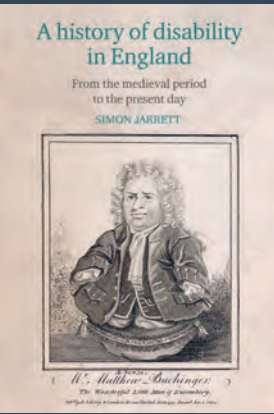
Michael Green (1959) – writing as Amandine Guise)  
Anatomy & Geraniums  
Publisher: An Clo Beag Glas (Scots Gaelic name)



Michael Ponsford (1961)  
Das Reich Gottes in Erwartung, Erfüllung und Vollendung  
Publisher: Glory World Media



Neil Hickman (1969)  
An Analytical Study of Lord Hewart  
Publisher: Cambridge Scholars Publishing Ltd



Simon Jarrett (1974)  
A History of Disability in England from the Medieval Period to the Present Day  
Publisher: Liverpool University Press/Historic England



Tim Hamer (1980)  
The Book of Tudllan  
Publisher: Troubador





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