

King's Colours

Summer 2002

The Termly Newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

Head's letter

Welcome to this edition of King's Colours. I hope that everyone is excited about the Royal visit: we are extremely fortunate to be honoured in this way and we are all hoping for a splendid



day. This continues to be a year of celebration and it is difficult to keep track of all the activities occurring to celebrate our 500th anniversary. Despite the onset of examinations this term, there are still many things happening and the Kingsmac roses should be blooming for the first time in the new flowerbeds at Cumberland Street as you are reading this newsletter. I hope that it continues to be a momentous year for all.

The Spring Term was very busy for a number of reasons, most of all because of the admissions season. Since Christmas, the energy of many staff and prospective parents has been directed towards securing places at King's for the coming academic year. The number of enquiries for all divisions was very high and it was at a record level in the Boys' Division. This demand has been turned into places and we have had to run an extra form at 13+ to deal with it. Another class has also been arranged for the Junior Division to cope with the requirement for more pupils in the Infants Department. This will bring the total number of pupils in the 3-7 age range up to a steady state of about 138 pupils. It is amazing to think that this vibrant section of King's did not exist five years ago. It is quite clear that King's is responding well to the demands of the new century and that our style of education is much sought after.

Stephen Coyne

ROYAL VISIT: JULY 24

There could not be a more fitting way for King's to celebrate 500 years of education in Cheshire than to have a Royal Visit and we are all delighted that the Queen has agreed to visit the school on Wednesday 24 July 2002. His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, will accompany her. This is the start of their visit to the North of England as part of Her Majesty's Jubilee celebrations prior to opening the Commonwealth Games.

Her Majesty will be shown examples of educational life in 1502 when the school was founded, 1952 when she became Queen, and 2002. The Silk Heritage Centre has kindly agreed to help with this venture, which is a celebration for Macclesfield as well as the school. She will meet a number of pupils who will talk to her about the school and its history.

His Royal Highness will meet several pupils also and we are hoping to show him how successful we have been with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. King's has a reputation for outdoor pursuits and members of the Fulcrum Challenge Group, who recently visited China and Mongolia, will be present to tell him of their adventures. He will also meet pupils who have made significant contributions to life in the community as well as at King's.

Representatives of all of Cheshire will be present to mark this wonderful day and both Her Majesty and His Royal Highness will see aspects of life in the county in marquees sited on the Cumberland Street cricket field. The displays have been designed with a specific concept in mind so that our visitors can sample the variety of Cheshire life. The three themes are: Business, Learning and Rural (involving agriculture, the countryside and food production). Although the Royal Couple will only spend an hour at King's, they will certainly get a real feel for life in this part of the world. This will be a very special day in the school's history.



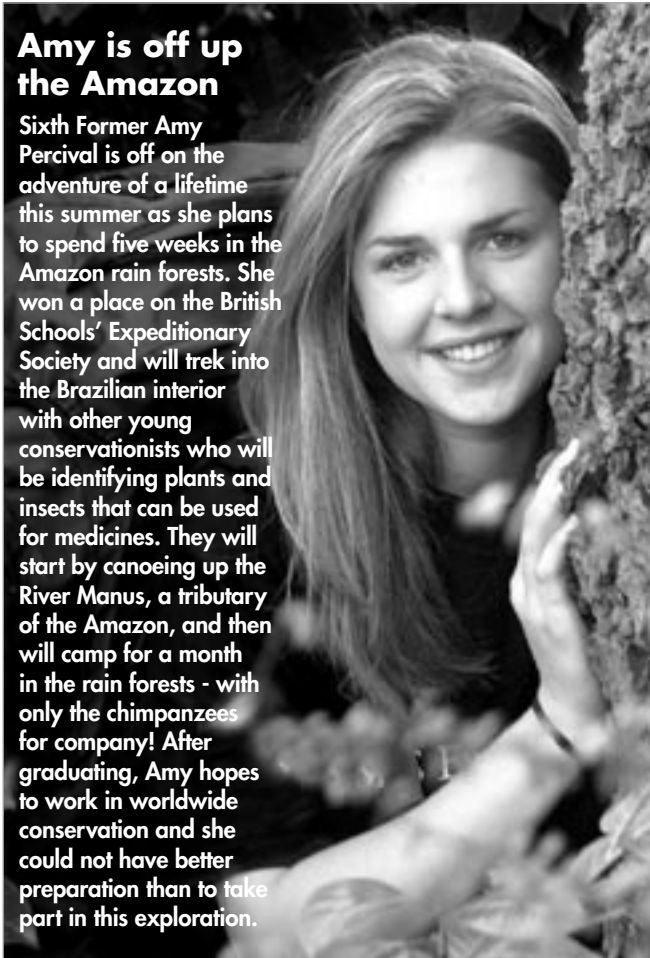
"Have a Care!"

The cry goes up as Lucinda Cliff ignites the charge in the *Falconette*. This fine cannon formed part of the impressive collection of working firearms demonstrated to Year 8 pupils during the annual visit of the Civil War Society in March.



Amy is off up the Amazon

Sixth Former Amy Percival is off on the adventure of a lifetime this summer as she plans to spend five weeks in the Amazon rain forests. She won a place on the British Schools' Expeditionary Society and will trek into the Brazilian interior with other young conservationists who will be identifying plants and insects that can be used for medicines. They will start by canoeing up the River Manus, a tributary of the Amazon, and then will camp for a month in the rain forests - with only the chimpanzees for company! After graduating, Amy hopes to work in worldwide conservation and she could not have better preparation than to take part in this exploration.



Palazzo on Rossetti

Fence Avenue-based English teacher Dr Lynda Palazzo (right) has recently published a volume entitled *Christina Rossetti's Feminist Theology* (Palgrave). Christina Rossetti is best known for her haunting poetry, but this book marks a significant step forward in Rossetti criticism, as it makes her many volumes of devotional prose more accessible to the modern reader. Her theology is striking and quite modern especially as she touches on issues central to feminist theology today.



Quincentenary Bursaries

England rugby player and King's old boy, Steve Smith, helped launch the Quincentenary Bursary Fund in January and it has already made huge strides towards its goal of raising money for able pupils of limited means. The scheme is the pet project of the Head, Dr Stephen Coyne, who himself benefited from a grammar school education. Both he and Steve know that they would not be where they are today without the benefit of a good education and their

parents would not have been able to pay for it. Many generous donors have already sent in contributions to the new fund and the first pupils to benefit from the scheme will be arriving in the school in September. Anyone wishing to support this scheme should contact Dr Coyne at the school (01625 260000).



Gideon Bibles

Through the generosity of the Gideon Bible Society, who each year present a New Testament to all Year 7 pupils, a special edition of the complete Bible was offered to all pupils and staff. This unique edition is embossed with the school crest.

Charities Week

Amongst the many bizarre events which took place throughout the Foundation during Charities Week, 9CAR spent a whole day in their pyjamas. This year the £3,350 raised was divided between several charities including *Wish 2002*, *The Granville Bear Appeal*, *Action Aid* and *Pendlebury Children's Hospital*.

Below are two of the magnificent *Mystery Play* puppets from *Such Stuff As Dreams Are Made On*

Such Stuff as Dreams are Made On

The Dramatic Society celebrated the school's Quincentenary with an original production entitled *Such Stuff As Dreams Are Made On*. With extracts of drama from the last 500 years and details of the school's history, the production was both entertaining and informative. A well-drilled and talented cast adapted to the demands of different acting styles, to say nothing of the need to change costume in record time, as the play made its journey from 1502 to the present day. The cast rose magnificently to the challenge of staging such an event, handling the various styles with confidence. The audiences were unanimous in their appreciation of a polished and unique event.

The Gut Girls

The senior division production of *The Gut Girls* played to packed audiences in January.

Directed by Catherine Thompson, this challenging and comical play follows the plight of young girls at the turn of the century in the gutting sheds of Deptford.

Ending with their transformation into parlour maids, the production featured spirited performances from a highly talented group of pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11.

Nicky Eardley (right) gave an outstanding performance as Lady Helena struggling against the rebellious Gut Girls including Rachida Brocklehurst shown here.



In the Footsteps of Shackleton

This year's Professor Tylecote Lecture was delivered in March by Dr Stephen Venables (left), one of the greatest British post-war mountaineers.

The first Briton to reach the summit of Everest without oxygen in 1988, Venables came to King's to relate his expedition to retrace the epic journey of Sir Ernest Shackleton across the sea, mountains and glaciers of South Georgia in 1916 to ensure the rescue of the crew of his ship *Endurance*.

An award winning author, Dr Venables proved to be a highly entertaining and authoritative speaker and he illustrated his lecture with a wealth of superb photographs.



Guys and Dolls

This year's Junior production of *Guys and Dolls* was another great success from the Lea/Aspinwall directing partnership.

Set amongst the gamblers and City Evangelists of New York during the time of Prohibition, the classic musical was realised with great style. All the performances from Year 6 pupils were of the highest order and contributed to a spectacularly entertaining show.



DE PIETATE
The School Song of the King's School in Macclesfield
Composed for the Quincentenary Celebrations: Day Service
in St. Michael's Parish Church on Friday 26th January, 2002
Roger Newton
Andrew K Green

1. Our hand - ing is there let us praise: For all we build with gifts which grace:
 2. To build a grace - less bar - i - tage: Time has - tated yet for a - ver more,
 3. How let the staff their char - ges teach: True wis - dom teach us gives life long,
 4. And all our en - deavours with us care: Their ca - rital in - dustry in - crease,
 5. As built - ing new - aids to us - ness: If their - ored still when they were done,
 6. The sun - & - dunes that cannot - with: The church - es many at times be wrong
 7. That all they yield us not to work: For gain or mine, not self - ish - ness -

King's Singtenary

Music has always been an essential ingredient in the life of King's and to celebrate the Quincentenary a new school hymn has been written by Mr Roger Newton, who taught Classics at the school for many years, and composed by Director of Music, Andrew Green.

Also commissioned for the Quincentenary, a new anthem *Clap your Hands* was composed by former School Captain and Organ Scholar, Thom Petty. This was first performed on Founders' Day. The new hymn will be sung at the last assembly of each term.



Junior swimmers win again

The Junior Division have won the Macclesfield and District Primary Schools' Championship for the fifth year in succession. Some members of the team are pictured during a break in their training at the Leisure Centre pool.

Concert for Uganda

In February, the King's Big Band and the Training Band put on a concert for the general public in the Cumberland Street Hall. Peripatetic music teacher and King's Former Pupil, Gareth Brown, was the inspiration behind the event which raised £1500 to allow members of Altrincham Baptist Church to go to Jinja in Uganda for two weeks in February. The group worked mainly on basic health matters with the local community.

King's Partnership with Tytherington Club

As part of a desire to be more involved with the community, King's is setting up a partnership with the Tytherington Club, one of the most prestigious names in Macclesfield. Plans are at an early stage but more details will be available for our next issue. The idea is that the partnership arrangement should benefit both the school and the club which means there will be advantages for King's parents and pupils.

Colts sevens victories

The U14 sevens side (below) recently won the prestigious Warwick School tournament with a powerful display of running rugby against the cream of schools' talent nationwide. It was a one-sided final as King's Worcester were defeated 46-10. The U14 side has lost only one game during their 15-a-side season, which bodes well for the first team in the near future.

The U15 team beat seven sides to win the Cheshire county tournament, scoring 201 points and conceding only 10.



Claire is going up...and under

Claire Winstanley, who joined the Girls' Division in Year 10 last September, has been selected to play for the North West U16 Girls' Rugby Team.

Claire, who has been playing Rugby for only five months, also plays for the Ashton-on-Mersey under-16 team and is looking forward to joining the King's Girls' Sixth Form team after her



FOUNDERS' DAY

The Quincentenary Founders' Day was a very special event with a plethora of invited guests helping celebrate 500 years of the school. Sadly, the weather was the worst of its kind to complement a day that proved to be the best kind of celebration. Several ceremonies of varied significance took place on the day. Mr Perriss rang the old school bell that was recently restored on the cricket pavilion at Cumberland Street and the Rt. Hon. Alan Beith watched the Quincentenary flag being raised before he departed to St Michael's for the service.



Mr Beith gave an excellent address and the choir, conducted by Mrs Beesley, produced one of their finest performances. The new school song and anthem were performed for the first time in public and Mr Bromley-Davenport, the Chairman of the Governors, unveiled a memorial plaque that is to be placed in the Savage Chapel, the site of the original school. The whole event was truly 21st century with a video link between the church, St Paul's and the Silk Heritage Centre. As a result, the whole foundation of 1400 pupils was able to witness a great moment for King's.



Many old friends returned for the ceremony and King's was honoured by the presence of the Rt. Hon. Nicholas and Ann Winterton. The Mayor, Cllr Clampett, invited all guests to a special memorial lunch in the Town Hall and the Chairman of Governors gave a speech to mark 500 years of the school. Former headmasters, Mr Cooper and Mr Silcock were also present with their wives to mark the momentous day. The afternoon was a great celebration for the pupils as they were involved in a number of events for charity. Their only regret was that, to accommodate these, no lessons could take place that day!





Stephanie to ride in Jubilee event

Year 9 Girls' Division pupil Stephanie Shaw has been chosen to ride at the Windsor Royal Horse Show before Her Majesty The Queen as part of her Jubilee celebrations.

Stephanie was selected by Pony Club officials after impressing them at various regional gymkhanas. She will be riding her 25-year-old mare Sandy and is confident that Sandy's considerable experience will help guide them through the event.

Former Pupils' Association

London Supper Club

Every year the Head of Foundation travels to London to speak to a dedicated group of former pupils who congregate in the capital to hear about the school's progress. Quincentenary ties were much in demand this year as people caught up with the news. Keith Aikin, Alan Cooper and Adrian Silcock also attended to reminisce on old times and rejoice in the news of the Royal Visit.

Forthcoming events

Very Old Boys v Even Older Old Boys Cricket

Friday 5 July 10.30 am start

Young Old Boys v School 1st XI

Friday 5 July 1.30 pm start

Old Boys Golf v Old Stops, Stocs, Wacs & Alts

Wednesday 10 July 1pm Bramhall Golf Club

Quincentenary Dinner

Friday 11 October Adlington Hunting Lodge

Memorabilia Exhibition

Open Morning Saturday 12 October

Quincentenary events & dates for your diary

Friday 10 May	Quincentenary Foundation Photograph (all Divisions) Cumberland Street
Sunday 12 May	Car Boot Sale (am) Rock, Cumberland Street
Tuesday 14 May	Yr 12 Higher Education Parents' Meeting 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
Thursday 16 May	Friends of King's Mothers' Luncheon 12.30 pm Derby Fields Pavilion
	Spring Concert 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
	Sportswoman's Dinner 7.00 pm Fence Avenue Canteen
Friday 17 May	Quincentenary Golf Day Tytherington Club
18-19 May	Junior School Stratford Weekend
Tuesday 21 May	Year 13 Leavers' Buffet Lunch 12 noon Cumberland Street Drama Hall
Friday 31 May	Sportsman's Dinner (Speaker – Steve Smith) 7.30 pm Tytherington Club
Wed 12 June	Yr 12 Higher Ed Students & Parents 6.00 pm Cumberland Street Main Block
Tuesday 18 June	Junior Sports Day
Thursday 20 June	Junior School Quincentenary Walk
Friday 21 June	No School for Pupils
Wed 26 June	Junior New Pupil Welcome Evening Boys' New Pupil Induction Evening
Thursday 27 June	Infant Sports Day, Picnic & BBQ King's Sings Again Choral Concert 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
Friday 28 June	Sixth Form Leavers' Ball, Shrigley Hall Friends of King's Summer Ball 7.30 pm Hunting Lodge, Adlington Hall
Saturday 29 June	Friends of King's Juns/Infs Medieval Fayre (pm) Fence Avenue Quincentenary Staff Reunion Doins 7.30 pm Cumberland Street
Tuesday 2 July	Infants' Summer Concert & Prize-Giving 10.00 am Fence Avenue
Wednesday 3 July	Girls' New Pupil Induction Evening
Thursday 4 July	Junior Prize Presentations 2.00 pm Fence Avenue Hall Junior Summer Concert 7.15 pm Fence Avenue Hall
Friday 5 July	Outdoor Assembly & Balloon Release (am) Cumberland Street
Saturday 13 July	Jazz for King's 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
Wednesday 24 July	Quincentenary Visit HM The Queen & HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
Thursday 15 August	AS & A2 Results Day
Thursday 22 August	GCSE Results Day

Admissions

For information about admissions to all Divisions, please contact the Admissions office on 01625 260000 or email: admissions@kingsmac.co.uk