



**Junior jockeys race for charity**  
page 2



**Is jazz making a comeback?**  
page 3



**Will this be the cup tie?**  
page 3



**George Frith remembers 75 years of rugby**  
page 6

# King's Colours

Spring 2006

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

## Head's letter

May I take this opportunity to wish all readers a Happy New Year. There are many changes to report, as well as some excellent academic and sporting successes. The new year represents a time for looking forward and the arrival of a new Chairman of Governors, Professor Michael Burdekin, is an exciting opportunity for the school. I am very much looking forward to working with him in this new role as successfully as I did in his previous position as Chairman of the Governors' Education Committee.



This is also a time for goodbyes as we say farewell to the previous Chairman of Governors, Mr William Bromley-Davenport. I have been privileged to work with him and it has been an honour for the school to be associated with his family for 504 years. Needless to say, all at King's expect the friendship to continue for a long time to come.

The year 2006 represents another milestone in the history of King's in that it is 150 years since the school arrived on its Cumberland Street site. As can be imagined, the pupils immediately began playing sport, especially cricket, and 2007 will mark 150 consecutive years of willow being applied to leather on the front field. I am sure this will be an occasion to mark in a suitable way and you will hear more of this anniversary throughout the year.

I trust that you will enjoy reading about another successful term at King's in these pages. I wish you a most enjoyable 2006.

*Stephen Coyne*

## University success

King's was remarkably successful with its A level results last summer and one offshoot of those achievements became apparent once university terms started. Of last year's Upper Sixth students, 93% gained places at their first choice university. Early indications are that this success could be repeated this year, the most obvious signs coming from last summer's AS examination results at the end of the Lower Sixth. Thirty six students obtained full marks in one or

more of their module papers and four achieved 100% in every module for a particular subject. These are remarkable achievements and bode well for the A level results in the summer. We look forward to seeing the results of their efforts later on in the year.

Meanwhile, the eight pupils below have received conditional offers of places at Oxford or Cambridge this October.



Back row: Nicola Bridge, St Edmund Hall, Oxford (Material Sciences); Tom Hill, Mansfield College, Oxford (Material Sciences); Elizabeth Conway, Emmanuel College, Cambridge (Veterinary Medicine); Sophie Sutton, St Hilda's College, Oxford (History); David Kennerley, Worcester College, Oxford (History); Nick Petty, Jesus College, Cambridge (Chemical Engineering); Front row: Katherine Harrison, Magdalene College, Cambridge (Medicine); David North, Magdalen College, Oxford (Computer Science)

### Question time

'It was like being back in the House of Commons – only the questions were more to the point!' was Shadow Chancellor George Osborne's verdict on his 45-minute grilling at King's. The MP for Tatton took time out of a busy schedule to debate economic policy with King's Economics students. During a non-stop question and answer session, the hot topic was his recent promise to set up a commission to investigate a flat-rate tax to replace the traditional staggered income tax.

Andy Reeve, Head of Economics, said: 'It was a fantastic session. Everyone wanted their chance to quiz the Shadow Chancellor and he had no respite... He did not evade any issue but gave straight answers to all our questions. We're tremendously grateful that such a leading figure in contemporary British politics should go out of his way to talk to our pupils.'



### Art and autobiography

Lily Dunlop's arresting piece, 'Autobiography', pictured right, was one of several works by six King's art students on show at an exhibition at the Portico Gallery in Manchester. The best of North West schools' artwork was selected for display in the exhibition last October and the King's pupils were delighted to win awards and gain commissions as a direct result of the show.

### Updated Ali

Year 4 presented a hilarious version of the story of *Ali Baba* for their annual pantomime. The story was brought right up to date, with Ali working for a takeaway pizza company. Bethany Wilcock and Katherine Fray led the cast as Mr and Mrs Baba, with Sam Stockwin as the evil Mustapha Shower, the dirtiest villain in the land. All the children sang, danced and acted their way into the audience's heart with their sheer enthusiasm and enjoyment.



### And they're off!

In a nail-biting race round the all-weather surface, Junior Division jockeys mounted their hobbyhorses and took to the track. The aim, appropriately

enough, was to raise money for the Brooke Charity, which provides veterinary assistance to horse owners in the Third World. Kate Garnett (pictured third from left) was first past the post.





### Infant cuisine

Coffee, croissants and home-baked cakes were on the menu at the Infant Department's recent fundraising event. Billed as 'The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World', it filled the main hall at Fence Avenue and raised £368 for the Macmillan Nurses Appeal.

### Cup fight

Gawsworth have accrued a barnstorming lead in the Boys' Division House Cup. The house, whose members can be identified by their ties with red stripes, are steadily gaining the upper hand. A new jet of life was injected into the previously lacklustre cup when dozens of new competitions were introduced and elections held for the new house captains.

The competitions have ranged from rugby and cricket to paper aeroplanes and chess and all have been fabulously well supported.

The mercurial Adlington won a bitter-fought debating competition, whilst Gawsworth picked up a remarkable number of points from merit marks.

With the race for the trophy still wide open, it lies upon Adlington, Tatton and Capesthorpe to overtake Gawsworth and make a challenge for the cup. Whether or not they can accomplish victory is uncertain, but what is certain is that the competition remains the most imaginative, exciting and innovative scheme to hit the school in an extremely long time.

*Joe Banks 11AR*

### Catwalk time again

King's annual charity fashion show is always a glittering, high-octane affair and this year's was no exception. Thanks to the generosity of local retailers and the talents, energy and entrepreneurial skills of sixth formers, King's raised over £2,000 for Christies Against Cancer. Latest fashions were loaned by Annie, Bank, Birdcage, Burton's Bestman, French Connection, Scandinavian Board Riders and Storm. Hair by Wilsons.

### All that jazz

Life looks like being even more hectic for sixth former Ben Illingworth. Already a member of the Wigan Youth Jazz Orchestra and founder of his own quartet, he has now won a place in the National Youth Jazz Orchestra, one of the world's top such orchestras. Ben, who has played with the legendary Georgie Fame, performs all over the region and has a rapidly growing fan base.

He likes all sorts of jazz – the standards, jazz funk, Latin salsa and bebop – as well as alternative music and some Indie stuff and is fast transforming tastes among his friends. 'Many older people may be surprised at just how large a following jazz has among the young, but my friends seem to like tunes such as *My Funny Valentine* just as much as their parents, grandparents and even great grandparents did before them.'

## Congratulations to

**Daniel Cotterill** and **Hannah Hills**, who won a bronze medal in the West Midlands and North West Biathlon Championships respectively.

**Heidi Hughes**, **Ben Illingworth**, **David Kennerley** and **Rebecca Stanford** who led the Senior Carol Service at St Michael's Church on the final morning of term.

**Sam Lea**, who achieved distinction in his Grade 8 Associated Board oboe exam.

**First XI Boys' hockey team**, who won the Cheshire Cup, defeating Birkenhead School.

**U14 hockey team**, runners-up in their age group in the Cheshire Cup final.

Also on the hockey field, **Joe Bryant** and **Lyam Hollis**, who have both represented Cheshire at U17 level, and **James Gibson** and **Matthew Murray**, who have played at U15 level.

And to the large number of boys and girls at King's who represented Cheshire in so many different sports during the Autumn Term.

*Former pupils and staff*

**Nicola Squares** (Junior Division), on the birth of her baby son, Jack.

Former pupil **David Illingworth**, who has been awarded a Choral Scholarship by Worcester College, Oxford.

**Beudry Kock**, who did get a First Class Honours degree from Imperial but did not, as reported last time, attend King's Macclesfield. Apologies for any embarrassment caused.





### Silver stars

Girls' Division orienteers have every reason to look pleased! After a gruelling five-mile race in bitterly cold conditions, they came home with silver medals from the National Schools' Championships – King's best ever result. The four team members (pictured) all ran separately in the U15 event, navigating over rough terrain at Temple Newsam in Leeds and finishing within six places of each other.

Overall, the King's teams, including other age groups, finished 7th nationwide, King's best result for many years. Since the National Championships attract the best schools' squads, finishing in such a high position puts King's very much in the Premier League.



### Spreading canvas

First step towards the Olympics? Single-handed Topper racers Joe and Elliot Hanson certainly hope so. They started sailing in King's Saturday morning club five years ago and are now heading for national selection in the Royal Yachting Association's West Squad.



The Squad programme is aimed at channelling talented young sailors into the National Squad and then towards European and World Championships. A comprehensive range of coaching, training, off-water workshops and competition guidance is provided, so there won't be much free time for the two brothers – or their parents.

### A place in the sun

Barbados, birthplace of generations of superb West Indian cricketers, was the sun-soaked destination of King's tourists at Christmas. A development squad of potential 1st and 2nd team players, supervised by senior coaches Steve Moores, Andy Rice and Ian Wilson, played six games on the island – and witnessed first-hand the continuing onrush of Caribbean cricketing talent.

All six matches were closely contested: King's won one, tied another and lost four, two by the narrowest of margins. Highlights included a scintillating 160 from Khalid Sawas (pictured) against

Coleridge and Parry High School. Elliott Purdom was the other centurion, scoring 110 not out against Holders Hill High School, and right arm seamer Tom Fisher was the leading wicket-taker with 10 wickets.

The fourteen-day tour also gave the party, which included many enthusiastic parents, a chance to see the impressive regeneration of Barbados ahead of the World Cup in 2007.

### Setting the pace

Tough, tricky terrain at Rossall Grammar School and competition from over 170 cross-country runners failed to daunt King's Junior girls (pictured below). For the second year running, they became the North-West regional qualifiers in the AJIS Championships. King's top runner was Lara Knowles, who finished 3rd, with Holly Smith 10th, Katie Powell 16th, Megan Bailey 17th and Maddie Coutts 25th. The vital squad runners were Bethany Tallents and Anneke Rood.



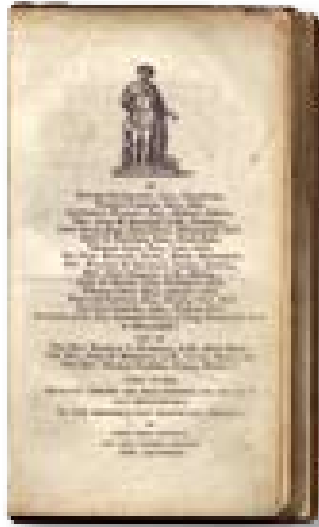
# End of a glorious reign

It's nearly forty years since Bill Bromley-Davenport first became a governor of the King's School – and almost twenty since he took over as chairman. During that period he has been unstintingly generous with his time, wisdom and hospitality. His retirement at Christmas ends a link between his family and the school which stretches back over 500 years.

In 1502, two of his forebears, William and Rauf Davenport, were among the seventeen original governors of the fledgling school founded by Sir John Percyvale. They were charged with appointing 'a virtues preest conyng in gramer & graduate' to act as the first master. Two other family members are listed as dedicatees in the mathematics textbook (pictured right) written by the eighteenth-century master Molineux.

Although, over the centuries, the school has expanded and changed out of all recognition, the tie has continued unbroken. But the weight of history and

tradition has not made Bill Bromley-Davenport's contribution a conservative or cautious one. He has overseen a whole range of exciting and successful developments at the school, from the

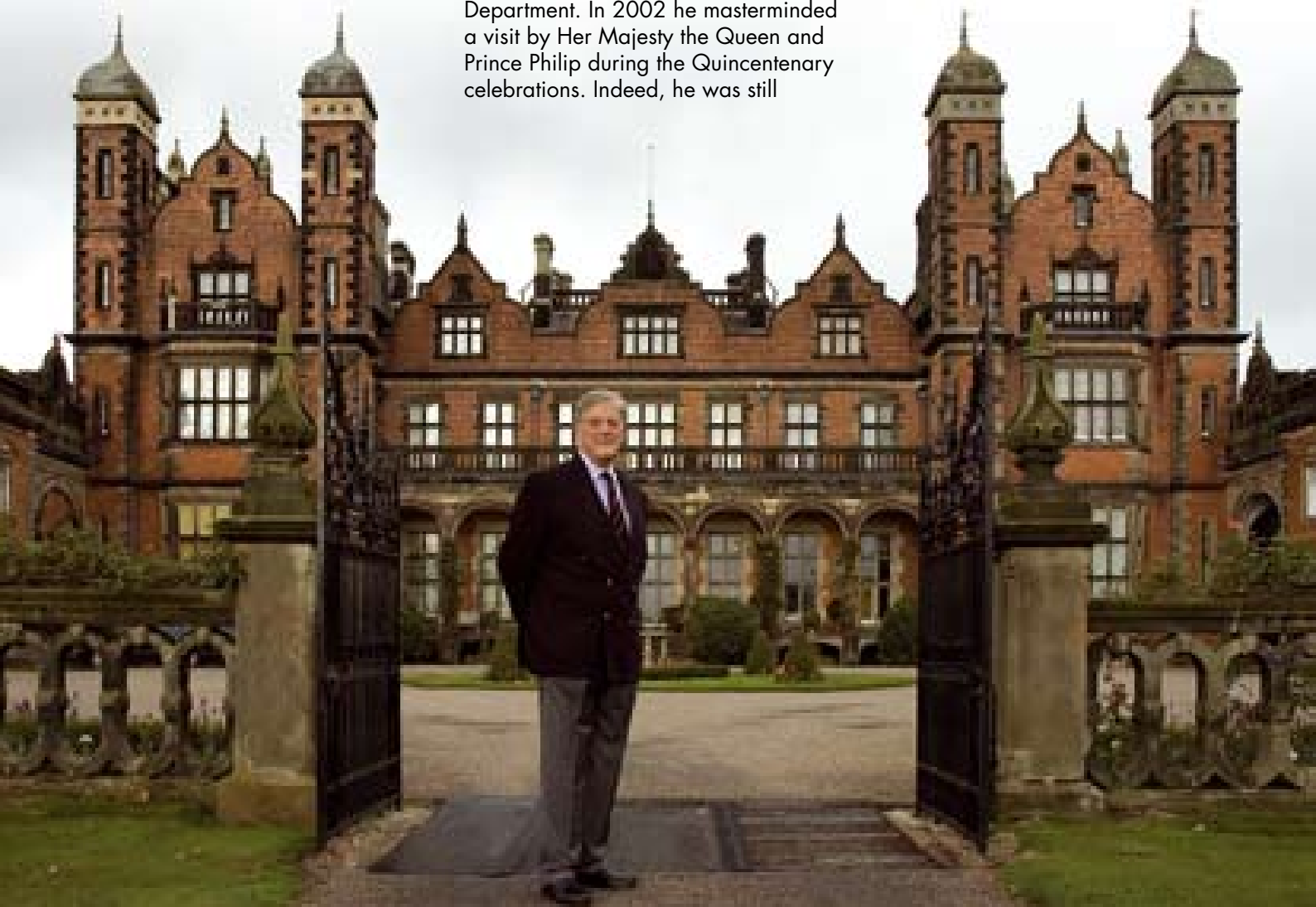


transition to independent status to the introduction of girls, the acquisition of the Fence Avenue site and, more recently, the formation of the Infants Department. In 2002 he masterminded a visit by Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip during the Quincentenary celebrations. Indeed, he was still

presiding over new initiatives at his last governors' meeting, before handing over the reins to his successor as chairman, Professor Michael Burdekin.

Despite the demands made on him by his many roles, including that of Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, Bill Bromley-Davenport has the air of having time for everyone. His unwavering courtesy and geniality make him an ever-welcome visitor at King's and he and his wife Lizzie have hosted many memorable sherry parties for staff at Capesthorpe Hall, the Jacobean house where the family have lived since 1726.

The school's gratitude for four decades of support was expressed in a special presentation by the staff on Training Day and in a farewell reception held by the governors. We wish Mr and Mrs Bromley-Davenport a very happy and richly deserved retirement. It is the end of a remarkable era – but we hope that the break in a long tradition will prove only temporary...



# 75 years of rugby at King's

King's oldest living rugby player, George Frith, was guest of honour when the school celebrated 75 years of rugby. George, pictured right at last term's dinner, was among the first pupils ever to play rugby at King's. Now aged 92, he remembers a game much less complex than it is today. 'It was very rudimentary in our day. The school changed from playing football to rugby in 1931 and basically we were given 30 minutes with a blackboard to learn the essentials before we were told to get out there and play ... We'd never seen the game on TV, nor was it a major spectator sport so there were no fancy tactics. The forwards won the ball, got it back to the scrum



half who passed to the fly half who in turn fed the threes who were there to do the damage. When former headmaster T T Shaw arrived he introduced some tactical thinking, but it was still not like it is today.'

After captaining the school in 1933, George played as prop for Macclesfield before continuing his playing career for the RAF during the war in the Far East and Australia. He spent the majority of his working life in Devon, managing a textiles company, but returned to his birthplace in 1995.

King's current Head of Rugby Andy Rice said: 'This evening proved to be hugely successful, with many players transcending several generations meeting for the first time in 40 years.'

## Quincentenary bursaries update

A generous donation from George Frith (above) has ensured that an award is to be named after Charles Hyde. Charles was captain of cricket at King's in 1931 but, sadly, was killed in action on New Year's Eve 1944. All at King's are most touched and honoured to be able to remember him in this way.



F H (Freddie) Bradley was a member of the school during the war years and became captain of cricket and school in 1943. He went on to read History at Oxford. In his will in 2005 he left funds for the foundation of a permanent bursary, to be awarded annually to allow pupils of limited financial

means to benefit from the education he received at King's. Freddie was a great all-rounder and the epitome of the type of pupil that the school has been proud to educate over the years. The F H Bradley Memorial Bursary will be awarded each year in his honour.

## Former Pupils' Association

7 April	Spring Dinner Dance 7.30 pm Adlington Hunting Lodge
12 May	London Dinner RAF Club Piccadilly
18 May	Golf Day Wilmslow Golf Club

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16 February	Infant Parents' Evening
20-24 February	Half-term holiday
27 Feb-3 March	Year 10 Work Experience
6 March	Year 9 Boys' Parents Evening 6.00 pm Cumberland Street Hall
8 March	Year 9 Girls' Parents Evening 6.00 pm Fence Avenue Hall
14-18 March	Alice 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
23 March	Musical Soirée 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
29-31 March	The Wizard of Oz 7.15 pm Fence Avenue Hall
4 April	Macclesfield Music Festival 7.00 pm Macclesfield Leisure Centre
5 April	Senior Divisions' Founders' Day Services St Michael's Parish Church Junior Easter Service 11.00 am St Paul's Church Term ends at lunchtime

## Admissions

For information about admissions to all Divisions, please contact the Admissions Office on 01625 260000 or email: [mail@kingsmac.co.uk](mailto:mail@kingsmac.co.uk)