



Young Enterprise
winners
page 3



DofE special
feature
pages 4-5



Junior
fundraisers
page 8

King's Colours

Summer 2013

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

KING'S SPORTING SUCCESSES!

King's Divisions have brought home a string of victories in recent months.

King's confirmed its reputation as the top trampolining school in the country at the British Schools' National Championships. Twenty pupils took part and all were placed in the top five in the country, with **Rowena Moores** crowned National Champion and the U13 Elite boys also becoming National Champions. Rowena now hopes to make the GB Olympic squad in 2016 or 2020.

Rebecca and Katie Hughes have both received world placings in the World School Biathlon Championships, with Katie taking bronze and Rebecca achieving 5th place.

Rising netball star **Imi McCance** has been selected to trial for England Netball U17 Regional squad. The midfield play-maker is part of the King's county-winning squad. Along with Imi, fellow Year 10 pupil **Sophie Bird** and **Antonia Bianchi** (Year 8) have all been selected to attend North West Regional Screening for netball. **Ellie Bird** has already been selected for the U17 regional squad.



Fellow netball squad member and athlete **Sophie Quinn** won the bronze medal in triple jump in the U17 National Indoor Athletics Championships. Sophie produced a personal best of 11m 22cm to take the bronze medal and is also hoping to compete at the Olympics.



In the Boys' Division, rising tennis star **Jordan Grocott** played a key role in Cheshire's promotion to Division Two of the National County Cup.

Our **1st XV rugby** team had the best season ever and reached the quarter-finals of the Daily Mail Cup for the first time in the school's history. Captain **Jack Sadler** also played for Cheshire and the North U18s, whilst **Jonny Kenny** was again involved with the England U18 squad. 1st XV player **Dom Sheratte** has also been selected for the England 18 and under team for the Fly Fishing World Championships in July.



Ruairidh Nichols has been selected for the national assessment camp for the Irish Exiles



U18 rugby team. The King's open side flanker captained King's 2nd XV and is set to be a key figure next year.

King's **U12 rugby team** won the Wirral GS U12 Sevens competition, our **U13 rugby squad** brought home the winner's trophy in the Nottingham HS Sevens and our **U15 team** won the Plate Competition in Solihull.

King's **Year 6 netball team** has recently won two netball competitions – not content with winning the Independent Schools' Tournament, they went on the following day to win the Macclesfield Primary Schools' Netball Tournament.

Last month, our **U11 football team** won the Reliance Sevens Tournament bringing home some fabulous silverware. In the Macclesfield and District Cross Country Championships, our Year 4 girls' team and the Year 5/6 boys' and girls' teams all secured bronze medals.



King's Juniors have completed their first overseas sports tour with a trip to Jersey in April. Emulating the Seniors

who have visited every continent in recent years, the youngest pupils jumped on a plane to undertake a succession of rugby

and netball fixtures on the idyllic Channel Island, with the girls winning the annual netball tournament in the 'Jersey Games'.



The final term of the academic year and 'exam season' are well underway and thoughts inevitably turn to those students who will be leaving school and moving on to the next stage of their learning or working careers. This is a time of celebration for our A Level students, their family, friends and our staff. A great deal of hard work finally comes to fruition in the awarding of A Levels and the departure to universities across the country or, for some, internationally.

Our Year 13 students have spent some time reflecting on their school days and all that it has taken to get them to this point. We hope that many of those leaving will stay in touch with us through our large and ever-expanding Former Pupils' Association. In May, I attended the annual London Dinner. Over fifty former pupils, many of whom live and work in London and the South, met for the occasion at the RAF Club in Piccadilly. It was particularly good to see this year a strong turn-out from more recent leavers.

This year's leavers have received an extraordinarily pleasing number of offers from some of England's best universities. King's alumni go on to study a particularly diverse range of courses – from aeronautical engineering and art through to veterinary medicine and zoology – and achieve excellent degrees which lead to an even broader spectrum of careers.

We know that universities and businesses value our students – many current Year 13 pupils received five offers and the majority each year go off to their first choice – because they not only recognize their academic capabilities, but also their work ethic, skills in communications, critical thinking and team working as well as their wider experience outside the classroom. Sam Butler, for example, has won a £2000 award to study Geography at Bangor University, whilst Dom Sheratte and James Lob have been offered Apprenticeships at AstraZeneca after a highly competitive assessment process. Whatever their chosen paths beyond King's, we wish all our leavers the very best and some strong results come August!



Careers in focus

In the year since Sarah Graham took up her post as Careers Officer, King's first full-time careers advisor, students have benefited from a whole range of initiatives.

The opportunity to experience the 'World of Work' begins in Year 10, when week-long placements allow students a taste of life in NW companies, including AstraZeneca, Richard Bossons architects, Bond Street vets and Manchester United TV. They also enjoy an Enterprise & Careers Day, led by the Business Studies Department and the Army, where building a miniature hovercraft is just one of many demanding assignments.

In Year 11, attention is on individual abilities and aspirations. Each student is given a one-to-one interview to discuss Sixth Form subjects and subject combinations, and to consider potential careers.

By the Sixth Form itself, the main focus has shifted to support and advice for university applications. For those wishing to defer university entry to travel or gain more work experience, there is help with planning a gap year. Apprenticeships are now also becoming an exciting alternative to university, and students from this year's Year 13 have been invited to apply for AstraZeneca's new scheme.

Building on all this, Sarah hopes to utilise Manchester University's extremely successful outreach programme giving students the chance to explore different career paths. She also has plans for a Sixth Form talk on 'online profiles' and how students can market themselves online – just the latest of the many schemes which reflect the importance King's attaches to career guidance.

Medal-winning linguists

Whether it's Ancient Greek or an Amazonian dialect, Harry Bradbury and Tom Meadows (pictured below) are able to make sense of the language. Harry won a Gold Medal in the British Linguistics Society's Olympiad while Tom won a Silver. Given only limited vocabulary, the A Level students were able to make sense of a diverse range of languages including jungle dialects, contemporary computing programs and Aborigine, simply by dissecting the languages and comparing patterns and rhythms of speech.



Victory in Faraday Challenge

Young engineers lit up Manchester University's Michael Faraday Challenge with their winning communication system 'Torch Code.' Competing against other top schools in the area, the King's team came up with their own version of Morse Code to solve a hypothetical communications breakdown between two mountain villages.

Edward Hammonds said: "We felt Torch Code, with a system of different coloured beams of light for different messages, would be a very effective solution. We had just two hours and the key was to work together to share ideas and stick with a simple system." Head of D&T Mr Nichols said: "This competition is designed to show the next generation that engineering is about designing failsafe systems. Britain needs more engineers, and we are doing our bit to promote this career choice to our brightest and best."

Pictured right: Libby Kirk, Angus Homer, Ben Lauber, Katie Hastings, Amy Morris and Edward Hammonds.



From Russia with love

King's History and Politics students undertook an eye-opening tour of two great Russian cities which revealed the differences between life before and after communism.

On the first King's trip to Russia for three years, 19 Sixth Formers visited both Moscow and St. Petersburg. The young historians visited the Kremlin, the Hermitage Museum and saw the shack where Peter the Great was born in 1672. The trip complements the A Level students' study of Peter the Great in the first year and Stalin's Russia in the second year.



Girls sing at Royal Albert Hall

Two King's pupils have been selected to join one of the world's best youth choirs. Emily Jaques passed the challenging audition to join fellow student Clare Mackinnon in the Hallé Youth Choir and both girls will now be performing with the choir at the opening night and the televised last night of The Proms at the Royal Albert Hall in July.

Clare has been singing in the Hallé Youth Choir for five years and joined the main choir last year. After completing her A Levels this year, Clare wants to take her singing diploma before joining a leading university or conservatoire. Her example has long been an inspiration for Year 9 pupil Emily who said: "Clare has quite simply the best voice I have ever heard and she is a fantastic role model and someone I feel privileged to sing alongside."



Young Enterprise winners

A Level Business students have won a region-wide Enterprise Challenge competition with their 'Why Not' company. The winning team took the title of best Trade Stand in the Regional Finals for their highly successful King's water bottle business.

Record numbers at King's are studying Business Studies and Economics at A Level and there are now six sets in Year 12. CEO of Vodafone UK and former King's pupil, Guy Laurence, says: "When I was at King's we did Young Enterprise and won. It changed my life for ever and taught me that my future lay in sales and marketing."

DEVELOPING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE AND WORK



work hard and achieve great things and raise ambitious, confident and well-rounded individuals who play a full role in the wider community."

King's is now one of the largest Directly Licensed DofE Centres in the UK with increasing numbers of our pupils undertaking the awards. In the last 12 months, there have been 23 Gold, 45 Silver and 93 Bronze Awards achieved by King's pupils. Dr Simon Hyde says: "DofE helps teach exactly those skills and attributes needed for success in the workplace – confidence, leadership, teambuilding, problem-solving and communications skills – making it a great way for students to differentiate themselves when competing for higher education places and jobs."

To complete the Bronze and Silver Awards, students have to undertake four types of activity: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and, for Gold level, an additional Residential activity.

Over the last four years, more than 700 King's pupils have undertaken the awards and have clocked up in excess of 18,000 hours of voluntary work helping other people, the community, the environment, charities, animals or coaching and teaching. They have also learnt an array of skills including cooking, astronomy, keeping livestock, photography, playing a musical instrument, journalism, dog train-

ing, horse handling, first aid, car mechanics and many more.

Sixth Former Helen Cooney is one of nine King's students who will be heading to St James's Palace in July to receive their Gold Award. For Helen, Gold level involved developing outstanding parade ground marching skills with Congleton 230



Air Training Corps, hiking 50 miles over four days in the Northern Lakes, playing rugby at fly half for the King's Girls' Rugby Team and volunteering for a year at Holmes Chapel Library, organising community events and laying out shelves.

Helen, who wants to read Geography at Exeter University, says: "I feel very proud of myself having achieved Gold by the age of 17 and it has certainly further fired my passion both for studying Geography and working with the Air Training Corps, where I have just been made a corporal."



Jordan Grocott

Jordan has completed both his Bronze and Silver Awards. He has volunteered for six months at a charity that helps young people with special needs, as well as playing tennis to regional standard, learning to cook and hiking in the Dark Peak.



Amber Twambley

Amber is currently undertaking her Bronze Award, volunteering at an animal rescue centre, improving her horse-riding skills and learning to sing.



Thomas Cann

Thomas has completed Bronze and Silver and is now undertaking Gold. He has worked with people with special needs, coached at a local Scout Group, learnt both fencing and sailing, studied astronomy and completed two expeditions – one on foot and one in a sailing boat.



Rheanne Beresford

Rheanne is undertaking Silver Award, having coached gymnastics at Wilmslow Leisure Centre, learned rock climbing with the ambition of leading an outside climb, and also learned to cook.

Robert Nowak

Robert is now doing his Gold Award, having volunteered in a charity shop, pursued karate and mountain biking and learnt to drive and to cook.



Jack Corcoran

Jack is teaching, coaching and learning leadership skills at 2056 Squadron ATC, in Knutsford, as well as improving his rugby skills and learning to cook.



Over Easter 112 Year 10 students completed a 25 kilometre expedition in the Peak District for their Bronze Award



Improving facilities for current and future pupils is one of the school's priorities. At the start of the year, King's opened new sports facilities at Fence Avenue to benefit our netball, tennis and cricket stars of the future.

With fundraising help from King's parents, we opened a new hard court surface with six tennis courts and four netball courts, plus Junior cricket nets.

The netball courts are being put to good use by our girls in Years 7 – 13, resulting in one of the best ever cohorts of young netballers. Rising netball stars (pictured below) include Ellie Bird who has been selected for the North West squad, Sophia Bird, Antonia Bianchi, Erica Jones, Allana Buckingham, Imi McCance, Sophia Jackson, Frances Gurney, Sophie Quinn and Kate Garnett who have been selected for Cheshire teams and Rachel Caitlin who plays for South Yorkshire.

Chris Thomson, Director of Sport, said: "Our aim is to make King's a centre of excellence and to host regional tournaments. The development at Westminster Road later this year will give us even more netball courts and greater flexibility for teaching and matches."

The new Junior cricket facilities have been boosted by the addition of a new bowling machine and iPad sporting analysis technology, giving our young cricketers the best possible coaching.



Steve Moores, Head of Cricket, says: "The new 'Bola' ball trainer is used not only for batting practice at all levels, but also for fielding practice. The automatic feed is a really good way for players to spend time just grooving shots, whilst the remote control allows a coach to stand next to a batsman and work on technique. It is brilliant for the Juniors, but it's just as good for the Infants and Seniors."



He adds: "The new iPads have revolutionised the way video-analysis is used in the field. The coach can record a player

as he bowls or bats and then view the footage immediately. It can be freeze-framed, annotated and acted on ready for the player to take the next delivery. We are already seeing the benefits".

King's has also welcomed the arrival of cricket coach Nick Ross (pictured below, checking the action on the iPad). Nick is an Australian First Grade club cricketer and also an expert in video-analysis. Nick has played against a host of Australia's top international and state cricketers and, last season, had his best year for Melbourne's Carlton Club, winning their batting award. Nick will coach King's Juniors and Seniors.

Last month, King's received Planning Approval to develop the sports facilities on Westminster Road. The exciting scheme will offer pupils and the wider community: six new cricket nets, four tennis courts, four netball courts, a new County standard astro pitch, a half size astro, a new sports pavilion and improved coach parking. Work will start in Summer 2013 and the facilities will be operational in Spring 2014.

New King's Squash Club!

From September, a King's Squash Club will be available for Years 7, 8 and 9. It will run after school every Friday and be based at Prestbury Squash Club. Mr Colville, who is setting up the club, says: "The initial aim is to encourage a fantastic game which promotes tactical awareness and cardiovascular fitness; the long term aim is for King's to compete in national schools tournaments."

Sporting honour

John Arnold (1960) was recognized in the 2013 New Year Honours List, receiving an MBE for Services to School Sport. John is the President of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association (ESTTA), and has been involved in the promotion of competitive school sport since he started teaching in 1963. John's interest in school sport resulted in his acceptance in 2001 of the Chair of the National Council for School Sport (NCSS), a post he still holds.



Doctor in the Himalayas

Ben Arnold (2008), a final year medical student at Keele University, is currently undertaking a two-month Elective in a hospital in Nepal, funded in part by the Former Pupils' Association.

Ben says: "Studying medicine has given me some of the best experiences of my life including, right now, writing from Kathmandu. Healthcare in Nepal is extremely restricted by the cost of treatment, which has to be funded by the patient, and by the geography and location of many of the villages, often a day's travel from the nearest hospital.

"People here present for healthcare in a much more critical state than they would in the UK and I'm learning skills that I will use back in Britain. It is my ambition to become an Emergency Physician specialising in 'pre-hospital medicine', providing immediate care in life-threatening situations. It requires an ability to cope under extreme pressure on your own, utilising the small amount of resources carried in an emergency doctor's car. This is second nature to doctors in Nepal and I hope to take away some of their methods and start to use them after I graduate as a doctor in July."

From the top of the world

Back in the late 1980s, Jonny Woodward was given the title of arguably the best American rock climber—and he wasn't even an American.

The former King's pupil, who hails from Macclesfield, first made a name for himself as a climber in England and then re-located to America. Not only is Jonny a very talented climber, but he is known for his bold routes that demand skill, technique and steady nerves. Most people steer clear of his routes altogether.



Woodward now lives in Salt Lake City and continues to climb at a very high level. Over the decades, his climbing feats and accomplishments are well known and his name is synonymous with death-defying climbs. He says: "I still enjoy climbing as much as I ever did, because for me it's the combination of the natural environment, the physical and mental exertion and the people with whom I share the experiences which produces the reward."

When asked what he thinks it takes to make a world-class climber, he explains: "Rock climbing depends on a subtle blend of strength, balance, flexibility, problem solving, mental focus and dogged determination. I was lucky to have a genetic gift incorporating these elements and a monomaniacal compulsion to go climbing."

Despite the very many achievements in a life that Jonny describes as "happy and enviable", he still considers his time at King's as one of the highlights of his life. "My time at King's during the seventies is perhaps second only to the period spent travelling around the US in my twenties. My memories of King's are of fierce friendships, hard playing and trying to keep out of trouble. The aura of a serious educational establishment permeated and you knew you were expected to learn because an ever increasing knowledge base was important to becoming a decent human being."

"I feel privileged to have been afforded such a first rate education. Under this tutelage I learned the importance of attention to detail, rigour in assessments and the necessity for clear and accurate communication for the absorption and sharing of information."

"When you are truly interested in your studies and when you are taught by excellent individuals, the learning process itself, regardless of individual aptitude, is profoundly confidence-building. My years at King's gave me a feeling of empowerment and this, coupled with a structured yet supportive life outside school, has been the most important factor in making my life a 'good' one."

Asked what advice he would pass on to today's King's students, Jonny says: "Take your studies seriously. A good education today is the key to your freedom as an adult."



Destiny Garden project, Kenya

King's Juniors have continued their fundraising to help disadvantaged school-children in Kenya. Our Juniors had fun working together to plan and create a number of baskets of goodies based on their chosen themes, which were then raffled to raise the magnificent sum of £1,078.



Whilst raising funds, the children also learnt about the lives of their Kenyan counterparts who attend Destiny Garden School in one of the poorest suburbs of Mombasa. The money from the raffle, plus £208 from the collection at the Junior Easter Service, has gone to the Macclesfield-based charity 'Destiny Children', which supports Destiny Garden School, and is already being used to build a new classroom. This will enable DGS to continue to provide a good education and a nutritious meal each day for vulnerable children, many of whom would otherwise not be able to attend school at all. Destiny Children is run by Judy Roper, a former King's parent, and supported by a number of current King's parents and helps to give local children an insight into the lives of others whose circumstances are very different. More information can be found at: www.destinychildren.co.uk.



Staff abseil into action

A lively crowd of pupils and staff gathered to cheer on four intrepid teachers who abseiled down the Physics building in fancy dress outfits in order to raise vital funds for charity. The event was organised by our Sixth Form to raise money for the Runway on the Runway organisation and proceeds raised will go to three charities: Teenage Cancer Trust, MedCare and Make a Wish. The total amount raised was over £600 and will boost the thousands of pounds already raised by Runway on the Runway, which is run by King's parent, Margo Cornish.

The event featured Mr Mason (Head of Rugby) wearing a chicken suit, Mrs Roberts (Principal of Sixth Form) wearing a leopard print onesie, Mr Street (SST Chemistry) wearing a tutu and Mrs Broadley (SST Biology) looking elegant in a pink wig and stilettos. They were ably assisted by Mr Edgerton and Dr Fitzgerald (experts in outdoor pursuits) who manned the ropes and assured their colleagues that it was 'perfectly safe' as they disappeared over the parapet on the roof.

Congratulations to the following pupils:

Junior pupils **Louis Adkins**, **William Cann**, **Jodie Foxton**, **David Harris** and **Freddie Higginbotham** who have qualified for the NW Mega-Finals of the UK Chess Challenge.

Tom Cann who has been offered a place at the Senior Physics Challenge at Cambridge University this summer and to **Ed Nathan** who has been invited to Cambridge University for an intensive course on mechanics, quantum mechanics and diffraction physics.

George Crummack who won the Manchester Classical Association Latin Reading Competition, and **Tom Meadows** and **Tom Rheinberg**, who were commended.

Laura Embrey and **Matthew Smith** who qualified for the Intermediate Maths Olympiad for the top 1000 mathematicians of their age. Laura gained a Distinction whilst Matthew was awarded a Merit. **Matthew Harden** and **Dmitri Whitmore** also gained Merits in the Intermediate Mathematics Kangaroo. **Hannah Li** and **James Shering** were awarded Participation Certificates.

George Wood, who will represent the UK at the International Geography Olympiad 2013 (iGeo) August 2013, held in Kyoto, Japan.

Senior Boys' Warhammer teams, who are through to the National Finals; the 40K team achieved first place and the Fantasy team third place. **Harry Wallace** also came second in a reserves competition, narrowly missing First on a tie-breaker.

Former Pupils:

Peter H. Spencer (1939) who celebrated his 90th birthday on 24 February 2013.

Esmé Patey-Ford (2000) who received two special commendations in the 2013 BBC Radio Drama Carleton Hobbs Bursary Competition.

Alex Waddingham (2007) who played Varsity rugby this year for Oxford University.

Jimmy Lomas (2009) who was selected for the International Universities 20/20 cup in Sri Lanka earlier this year and was awarded the bowler of the tournament.

Kathryn Nave (2010) who is the first prize winner in the London Library Student Prize, a writing competition open to all final year undergraduates across the UK. Kathryn's winning entry will be published in *The Times*.

Former Pupils Association Events

28 June	FPA Bursary Fund Golf Day 12.00 pm Macclesfield Golf Club
10 July	FPA Inter-Schools Golf 1.00 pm Bramhall Golf Club
1 September	Old Boys' Rugby Sevens Festival Derby Fields
3 October	Drinks in the City Oxford & Cambridge Club, Pall Mall
15 November	Annual Dinner The Hunting Lodge, Adlington

For more information please email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk