



Accolade for
Geography
page 3



King's
Remembers
pages 4-5



Profile:
Bryan Lovell
page 7



When Harry
met the PM
page 8

King's Colours

Spring 2015

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

OXBRIDGE OFFERS FOR FABULOUS FOUR

A fabulous four talented King's students have earned offers from Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Pictured (from left) are: Laura Embrey, who has an offer to study Mathematics from Clare College, Cambridge. A hugely talented musician, Laura was one of only 11 candidates nationwide to get a 100% mark in her GCSE Maths examination and was awarded a distinction in the British Mathematical Olympiad earlier this year. Ultimately Laura wants study for a PhD in Applied Maths while continuing to develop her musical talents. Alongside her offer from Cambridge, Laura also has offers from both RNCM and the Royal Academy to study music – a significant achievement.

David Marchington, who is enjoying a gap year, has an unconditional offer to read English Literature at Regent's Park College, Oxford. David is particularly fascinated by the works of poets Robert Frost and Edward Thomas and said: "I love the natural cadence of their poetry."

Jasper Rossi has an offer to read Medicine at Downing College, Cambridge, and wants to become a surgeon. Jasper got a Gold medal in the UK Maths Challenge and is aiming to get another Gold in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which he will complete this year.

National Sprint Triathlon U20 cham-



pion, Rebecca Hughes, has an offer from Trinity College, Cambridge, to read Law and ultimately wants to become a barrister.

Principal of the Sixth Form, Ruth Roberts, said: "This year our A Level students are gaining some wonderful offers and much-prized places at Britain's top universities. We wish them all every success in the future."

Top of the league table

For the second year running, King's has secured the top position in the Department for Education performance tables for both GCSE and A level results in Cheshire East. King's out-performed all other independent and state schools in the area in examination results achieved in 2014 and 2013.

Dr Simon Hyde said: "We are delighted to have our students' hard work recognised in this way. Most pleasing is the fact that King's pupils are able to achieve their academic potential whilst engaging in a huge number of musical, sporting and other interests."



The theme of commemoration inevitably runs through the 2014-15 Academic Year as the nation remembers the events of a hundred years ago. Sadly the blight of conflict has not diminished.



Terrorist outrage has joined civil and international war to visit death and destruction on countless numbers of innocent victims. It is for this reason that acts of remembrance are important; not just in recognising the heroism and sacrifice of those who defend us, but in ensuring that we do our best to live our lives peacefully, constructively and in service to others.

Since January of this year, schools have had an obligation to teach and promote British values. We might debate whether the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance are exclusively British, but they are values to which we all can ascribe, even if we sometimes have to traverse the difficult territory when they collide.

Living and working together is nowhere better exemplified at school than in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Cooperation, resilience, reflection, reasoning and questioning (King's Learning Habits), all come into play. It was with considerable pride, therefore, that I was invited to St James's Palace (pictured) to watch the presentation of Gold Awards to twelve Former Pupils. I also received a certificate, the first presented nationally, to acknowledge the School's success in achieving over 100 completions in a single year.

I think British values and King's Learning Habits make for a pretty powerful combination!

Students have Midas touch

A team of student investors has qualified for the national semi-finals of the Institute of Financial Services' annual Student Investor Competition, beating around 10,000 teams so far. The winners of the competition will go to Wall Street in an all-expenses paid trip.

The students were given an imaginary £100,000 to speculate on the stock market and, after 3 months, had increased their pot to £134,138.

Isaac Brough (left) and fellow investors Doug Naismith, Johnny Jones and Jack Salem put the success down to "detailed analysis." Isaac added: "It's all about examining trends. There's a method to picking winners and avoiding losers. The competition has whetted my appetite for a life in the City."



Parent Portal pilot

This term, parents of Year 7 pupils have, for the first time, access to their child's assessment via the newly launched King's Parent Portal. This new initiative allows parents online access to vital data on their child's progress via the school's portal, and the chance to reply directly to form tutors to inform them that they have read the assessment, making comments should they wish.

In the future, the Parent Portal will be used for a wide range of additional features, including the publication of letters, key dates, school reports and examination results. It is envisaged that all parents will, in time, access reports and assessments via the Portal.

Pupils will also benefit from this new venture, as the Pupil Portal is scheduled for launch later this year. This will allow pupils to view and download their own reports and assessments, as well as access the school's IT networks and software from home. This will enable them to access resources whether on or off campus.

This successful launch comes on the back of major investments in the school's IT systems, including the roll-out of the free Office 365 offer to all pupils at King's.



Louis Moore and his father Alex accessing the Parent Portal from home in Buxton

Geographers win global debate competition

Sarah Laughton, Oliver Novak and Emma Jarvis beat teams from across the region to win the Cheshire & Manchester branch of the Geographical Association's geography debate.



Competing on behalf of the UK in the format of a model United Nation's debate, the three Sixth Formers, who all want to study Geography-related subjects at university, focused on the contentious issues of fair agricultural trade, land grabs, food aid and GM food production to beat their competitors.

The Geography department is also celebrating after King's was ranked Britain's best school for boys' AS Level Geography by the prestigious *Good Schools Guide*. King's was singled out for its

quality of results and the excellence and innovation of teaching methods.

Andrew Puddephatt, Head of Geography said, "To be considered by the *Good Schools Guide* to be the most successful Geography Department for boys at AS Level is a tremendous achievement and we are very proud of the accolade."

Maths success for Juniors and Seniors

King's mathematicians secured a range of superb Silver and Gold medals in the Maths Challenges.

Year 5 and 6 pupils took the Primary Maths Challenge and a whopping six pupils received a Gold Award. Pictured are: Oliver Hall, Dominic Townsend, Fay Fitzmaurice, Lewis Johnson, Mackenzie Blackaby and Emma Graham.

King's Senior pupils proved their talents in the regional heat of the UK Senior Mathematics Challenge. The King's team of Laura Embrey, Matt Harden, Dmitri Whitmore and Alistair Thomson took second place and a Silver Medal by beating nearly all of the top 30 North West teams. The students, who all want to study Mathematics at Cambridge University, share a love of numbers.

In the National Cipher Challenge, the King's team of Matt Harden, Theo Roffe, Dmitri Whitmore, Oliver Davies and Matt Smith were just one point off the main medal prizes in the national competition run by Southampton University and sponsored by GCHQ.



Biology Olympiad medal winners

25 students participated in this year's National Biology Olympiad, a UK-wide competition run by the Society of Biology. Over half the King's students achieved a certificate, bringing home a total of one Gold medal, four Silver, two Bronze and six Highly Commended awards.

Competing against 6,000 students from the country's leading independent schools, Tabitha Green achieved a Gold medal, Charlotte Taylor, Jamie Edgerton, Jasper Rossi and Jonathan Pinches brought home Silver medals and Callum Lavelle and Ailbe Smith fought hard for their Bronze medals.



KING'S REMEMBERS

The centenary of the start of the First World War has provided a poignant focus for many activities and allowed academic departments to work together on exciting cross-curricular projects

The establishment of a World War One Centenary Committee last year enabled staff to agree a series of learning objectives to underpin our commemorations. This ensured that all our pupils would understand the impact of war on society. In particular, pupils focused on the effect of WW1 on local people, and on the arts and literature of the last 100 years.

Infants & Juniors reflect

All year groups used the enquiry topic: 'How did WW1 affect people's lives?' as a focus last term. The result was a wide range of activities, including the investigation of artefacts on loan from the Imperial War Museum, a number of external speakers visiting pupils to talk about the war, a Year 5 visit to the Military Hospital at Dunham Massey, the construction of a giant poppy installation to remember local men who lost their lives, and the creation of an array of art and literature which went on display not just at King's, but in Macclesfield Library and in the Imperial War Museum.

The poem, 'The Lost Soldier', written by Emma Graham in Year 6 (pictured below) was selected for display at the Imperial War Museum.

Senior tributes

A special commemorative event was organised for every year group and several speakers were invited to the Senior Divisions as Remembrance Day approached. For Years 7 and 8, former History teacher and local historian, David Hill, spoke about the McKay family from Macclesfield (see right), whilst military historian Rob Thompson spoke to pupils in Year 10 and 11 about life in the trenches. Sixth Form students benefited from a talk by Professor Christopher Godden from the University of Manchester. For Year 9, a cross-curricular project was undertaken by the English and History departments focusing on the war poets and their experiences, leading to a trip to the Imperial War Museum North.

In Art, each of the current Year 8 boys researched one of the 85 former King's pupils who died in WW1. Each then created a ceramic plaque in their honour. The plaques, individually designed to portray the life of the fallen soldier, were put on display at the Year 8 Creative Evening in February, a collaboration between the Music, Drama, Art and D&T departments, which explored the theme of war.

In a further collaboration, our Year 9 Drama and German students enjoyed a bilingual play, *Messerschmitt v Spitfire*. The show was a challenging piece of participatory theatre that centred on the memories of a Frankfurt-based artist and

her sister, both of whom lived through the British bombings during World War Two. From a clever plot line, it emerged that the sisters had English relatives. The audience was taken on a journey that examined generational attitudes towards the war held by both German and British citizens.

Also this year, we established the Percyvale Essay Prize, an award in each section of the school for an extended piece of creative writing or work completed in pupils' own time. Students have been invited to relate the topic of war to their studies, for example, 'Medicine and War' or 'The Economics of War'. We are delighted that a significant number of students have taken on the challenge.

McKay Medals donated

Former King's History teacher, David Hill, has researched one of the most dramatic and poignant stories of service and sacrifice to emerge from the British military archives.

The story of the McKay family of Macclesfield is a deeply moving one about Mary Ann, her husband Robert and their six sons who served their country over a period of nearly 100 years. The father and eldest son died as a result of the Boer War; five sons served in the Cheshire Regiment in the First World War and the youngest son was killed in Burma in the Second World War. Tragically, two daughters also died in the worldwide influenza pandemic at the end of WW1.

Five of the sons attended Macclesfield Grammar School (now King's) and at the Remembrance Day service last November, Mrs Anthea Fairholm, daughter of the youngest McKay son who died in Burma in 1942, presented the McKay family medals to the school (pictured right).

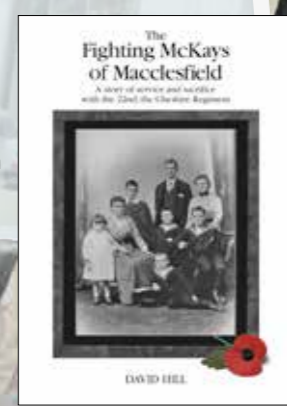
Copies of David Hill's book, *The Fighting McKays* are available from the school shop.

Macclesfield War Graves Project

The aim of the Macclesfield War Graves Project is to remember all 83 soldiers buried in Macclesfield Cemetery by laying wreaths at each grave on Armistice Day and a poppy on the anniversary of each individual's death.

Each of the town's schools has adopted a number of graves in order to help the younger generation to understand the real impact of war.

King's Infant & Junior Division was given the grave of the McKay family to look after, due to their links with King's. On Armistice Day, 13 pupils from Year 6 travelled to the cemetery for a service which was attended by Anthea Fairholm (pictured below), the daughter of Arthur McKay.



Pictured from left with their commemorative plaques are Matt Warham, Jack Mayfield and Thomas Robinson

Hockey Success

A significant number of pupils have been selected for the England Hockey Single System Pathway, having demonstrated great skill and ability in the sport.

Seven U13 girls were successful following their training with the East Cheshire and Derbyshire Junior Development Centres (JDC) including two talented Year 6 girls, Lottie Dennett and Holly Burke (pictured). Six girls are now part of the East Cheshire County Squad and one with Derbyshire Junior Academy Centre, where they will compete this spring.



Another seven girls have been selected from U14/15/16 age groups to represent East Cheshire. Thirteen boys from U13/14/15/16 age groups, who have been training hard at their respective County Junior Academy Centre, will be looking to impress in the upcoming competitions.

Abigail Johnston, Eleanor Toms, Allana Buckingham and Natalie Stevens have all represented the Manchester Pumas, having reached the Junior Regional Performance Centre (JRPC) Tier 1 Level. They competed against the best girls in the North of England and are looking to play at this level again this season. Not to be outdone, four young men – Christian Harrop, Charlie Toms, Sean Neary and Sam Buckingham – all made it through to the JRPC.

Eleanor Toms (right) then progressed to the next level on the England Hockey pathway - Futures Cup (JRPC Tier 2) – representing the Penine Pumas. Abigail Johnston was also asked to attend North England training sessions and may be selected for the squad to play against Scotland and Wales junior sides.



Rugby call-ups

A total of 27 King's boys ranging from U13 to U18 have been chosen to play rugby at representative level. A quartet of talented young men have made the regional grade with Murray Redpath (far right) selected to train with the North of England Independent Schools' squad. His elder brother Cameron (2nd left) has been selected to train with the Scotland U16 set up a year early.

Sam Higginson has been selected to represent the U14 Independent Schools' English National side to play London Irish and Northampton Saints. Pictured left is Matthew Peakman, who after successfully captaining Cheshire U18s is now training with the North of England U18 squad a year early. An uncompromising Number 8, Matthew has ambitions to play the sport professionally.

North of Britain Trampoline Championships

King's enjoyed its best ever results in the North of Britain Championships, which saw the largest number of King's teams qualify for the British Championships in March. Thirty two King's pupils represented the school and achieved outstanding results: a total of seven teams and three individuals qualified to represent King's in the National Championships.

Coming in first place were the U11 novice boys; U11 novice girls; U11 intermedi-

ate girls; U14 elite boys; U19 intermediate girls; U19 elite girls. The U14 elite girls achieved second place.



Harrison heads to World Championships

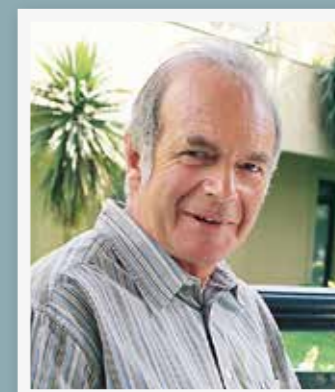
Only two years after taking up the sport, Harrison Quinn has won a Silver medal at the National Taekwondo Championships in the U16, U65kgs category.

Harrison, who will now go the World Championships in Portugal this summer, said: "Under the expert eye of Mr Ward, a third dan black belt and former England star, I stepped up training for the National Championships and will be doing even more training now to get ready for the World Championships."



PROFILE: Dr Bryan Lovell OBE

Dr Bryan Lovell, who left King's in 1960, is a leading geologist, consultant to the oil and mining industries, academic, campaigner on climate-change and a politician. He is currently a Senior Research Fellow in Earth Sciences at Cambridge University and was President of The Geological Society of London from 2010-2012.



Following his time at King's, Bryan studied geology at Oxford University (BA 1963; MSc 1964) and Harvard University (PhD 1968). He was a Teaching Fellow while at Harvard and then Lecturer in Geology at Edinburgh University from 1968-1981. He has been a consultant in the oil and mining industries since 1965 and held various senior positions with BP from 1981 – 1996, including Exploration Manager and General Manager, Ireland. During this time, Bryan was appointed OBE in 1989 for services to Anglo-Irish relations.

Bryan also has a keen interest in politics and was the Scottish Liberal Party energy spokesman from 1978-1979 and a Parliamentary candidate, standing against Gordon Brown in the Edinburgh South election in 1979: the seat was won by Michael Ancram.

Bryan is the author of *Challenged by Carbon: The Oil Industry and Climate Change*, (2009, Cambridge University Press). His book was much acclaimed and, as one review put it, "Bryan is not afraid to challenge views held by all sides of the climate change 'argument', trying to bring a sense of urgency to the issue. As a geologist, oil man, academic and erstwhile politician, Bryan is uniquely well placed to describe the tensions accompanying the gradual greening of the petroleum industry over the last decade. He describes how, given the right lead from government, the oil industry could be environmental saviours, not villains, playing a crucial role in stabilising emissions through the capture and underground storage of carbon dioxide."

Bryan says: "Geology was not on the syllabus at King's in the 1950s, but there were opportunities to spend time at field centres and to camp in the middle of the Borrowdale Volcanics on the school's innovative and character-building trips to the Lake District. My school year was the first group to be involved in Cumbrian expeditions: an early experience of life in the midst of rocks."

Congratulations to:

Tom Baston, Anna Beesley, Alex Frankell and Amy Jacobsen, who, as members of the Northern Spirit Singers, won the title of Adult Choir of the Year in October and were finalists in the televised BBC Choir of the Year

Stephanie Redfern, who won The Portico Library Trust Mixed Media Award and went on to be commissioned to create a mixed media hanging for the Portico Library

Katie Robertson and Stephen Shaw who have had works selected for an exhibition at the forthcoming HMC conference. Judge Peter Monkman, (BP Portrait winner and Director of Art at Charterhouse School), selected their works as outstanding practice in schools.

Kamlesh Sodha is taking a year placement with the Welsh Rugby Union whilst studying at Loughborough University.



Speakers inspire next generation

Two former pupils have recently returned to King's to provide talks to current students. Dr Ian Bratt, now the manager of the world's second largest platinum mining company, attended King's from 1965 - 1972 and returned to speak to current students about his career since studying Natural Sciences at Cambridge University and his subsequent doctorate in Chemistry.

Ian emigrated to South Africa in 1981 and alongside his senior role at Impala Platinum, he founded the South African Orienteering Association and later managed the National Orienteering team and was also Chairman of the South African Royal Society of Chemistry.

Ian said: "The most important lesson I learned is that you must work hard and persevere. This was definitely drilled into me at King's, but as you go through your career an important lesson is never let anyone tell you that you can't do something."

The Girls' Division was delighted to welcome back successful businesswoman Carrie Green, who founded the Female Entrepreneur Association and is dedicated to championing success amongst female entrepreneurs. Carrie spoke passionately about her personal journey to success and encouraged girls to "Dream big, decide what you want and go for it." Carrie spoke about the importance of believing in yourself and gave our girls the task of setting some personal goals for 2015.



Community



Harry has tea with PM

Charity fundraiser Harry Norton got a personal thank you from the Prime Minister for his heroic efforts to support The Seashell Trust. Year 8 pupil Harry has helped to raise over £60,000 for the charity which cares for those with severe mental and physical disabilities, including his two brothers.

Harry's fundraising activities, which include hosting sponsored activities, public speaking engagements and the auction of his watercolour paintings, earned him an invitation to the Downing Street party. Harry said: "Mr and Mrs Cameron were very genuine, everyday people, who put us all at our ease and wanted to know about our special circumstances. It was a great day and I feel very honoured."



Neonatal Unit cheque presentation

In February, the Girls' Division presented a cheque for £4218 to representatives from the Neonatal Unit at Macclesfield Hospital.

Charity Prefects Kate Poyser, Lauren Whitney and Lydia Pope said: "Last term, the Neonatal Unit was our chosen charity due to the incredible work they do with premature or seriously ill babies. We raised money through various activities such as cake and sweet sales, stalls at the Christmas fair and a Year 7/8 disco, which alone raised £100."

Headmaster's Distinctions were awarded to Phoebe Pointon, Olivia Hunter and Lizzie Adams, who each raised over £100.

Congratulations to:

Kate De Campos, who has again secured a place to play viola in the National Youth Orchestra.

Jamie Cunningham, who is the youngest Poppy Appeal Organiser in the country and was invited to take part in the televised Festival of Remembrance in November.

Rachel Dimery, Katie Mellor, Emily Pegg, Fran Pieczarka, Alexandra Quinn, James Raval, Amy Sanderson, Alexandra Swift, Anna Townley and Laura Venables who will receive their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards in March.

Laura Embrey, whose score in the Year 13 Physics Olympiad put her in the top 20% of Physicists in the country.

Jamie Edgerton, who played at the Royal Albert Hall in the Schools' Prom on Remembrance Day as a member of the 20-strong Greater Manchester Jazz Orchestra.

Luke Gray in Year 10, who won the Merchant Taylors' Photography Competition for his entry 'Rhinoceros'.

Olivia Hamblyn and Emily Jaques, who were selected to sing in the Hallé Youth Choir on Radio 4's Front Row in February.

Charlotte Horne and her horse Taggie, who have qualified for the International Show Jumping Competition in April after winning the Blue Chip Joint RLF Power Championship Class.

Oscar Johnson who has qualified for the England Indoor Athletics Championships after clearing 165cm in the High Jump.

Imogen McCance in Year 12 who has successfully trialled for U17 North West regional netball squad.

Emily Mound and Kenneth Tomlinson in Year 13 and **Dmitry Ruzzenkov** (Year 12) who have received their Level 1 Basketball Coaching Award.

Elliot Naylor in Year 5 who has achieved a black belt in karate.

Honor Price, who won the Portico Gallery's prestigious drawing prize in the annual Schools' Exhibition and Awards.

Hannah Ruskin, who has landed a placement in CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, in June.

King's U11 Football team who won The Macclesfield and District Primary School's Cup after a nail-biting penalty shoot-out.

King's U13A team and U12B team who are unbeaten in all rugby fixtures this season.

Tom Voysey, who passed his Grade 8 Trinity Drum Kit exam with Distinction.

Sophie Welch in Year 13, whose art work is currently on display in Chester at the 'Young Artists in Tuscany' exhibition for gifted and talented students.

Dates for your Diary

12 March	King's has Talent Evening (FOK) 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall
18-20 March	Year 6 Musical <i>The Little Mermaid</i> 7.15 pm Fence Avenue Hall
24-27 March	<i>The Visit</i> 7.00 pm Cumberland Street Drama Hall
27 March	Founders' Day Services Term ends
6 May	King's Swings 7.30 pm Cumberland Street Hall