

King's Speech

Ascendant Artists

Former pupils making news in the art world

Meet Marcello Distefano

Managing Director of San Carlo, the iconic Italian Restaurant Group

Bolivia 2015

Sixth Form summer expedition report

2020 Update

Simon Hyde on the progress of King's ambitious plans



Editor's welcome

We are pleased to have reached the third edition of 'King's Speech'. Here you will find news about former pupils, features and reports on activities and events at King's, with some information about the Association and its doings. I would like to repeat the usual mantra: we love readers to make contact, with information that you think of interest to fellow former pupils. Our information-gathering processes are inevitably very partial!

One of the saddest elements of the Editor's task is the requirement to include obituaries. Though very few have come to our attention this year, many readers will no doubt be extremely upset to learn of the recent death of the school's former Head of PE, Keith Perriss. Keith featured in last year's edition, in the picture of an 'Old Lags' walking group; his death occurred,

tragically, whilst he was on the equivalent walk in December. Keith was known to, and hugely respected by, several generations of sport-playing former pupils in particular, although his involvement in school life between 1975 and 2006, when he retired, covered a very much wider range of areas than just sport and physical education.

One feature that many of you will find of interest is the one by the Headmaster in which he updates us on the current developments with regard to the plans to relocate the school to a new site near the Derby Fields, as well as on the rationale for the plans. It is good to learn that a number of former pupils have already been involved in helping the Head and the Governors with various aspects of the preparation of the plans thus far. Of course,

there remains a long way to go. Issues related to the type of housing being planned on the Fence Avenue and Westminster Road sites, traffic flows and loss of green belt, for example, have already been the subject of considerable debate locally, not to mention the as yet undecided fate of the Cumberland Street site itself, which I know exercises the mind of quite a number of former pupils. No doubt there will be much more to report in the 2017 edition!

Finally – and this is getting to be a habit – another postscript is required. When last year's edition was produced, it featured Peter Moores [1981], as the only England cricket coach to have been appointed to that position twice. Now, of course, he has also been sacked from the position twice. Whatever the rights and wrongs of the

decision, Peter has again very quickly bounced back; he took a short contract as 'coaching consultant' to Nottinghamshire and, in fact, saw them rise from a relegation slot into the top half of the First Division of the county championship by the end of the season. He has since taken on the post for a further two years. Perhaps some words from England Captain Alastair Cook suffice as an endnote: "When I was in a bad position after the Aussie debacle, it was the unwavering support of Peter Moores that kept me going. And he played a massive role in developing our current players. They became better players under Peter Moores, there's no doubt about that. He will always be a great coach."

Ian Wilson
Editor

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King's Speech is produced by King's Director of External Relations Caroline Johnson, designer Michael Patey-Ford, and editor Ian Wilson. We'd love to receive your feedback or contributions for the next issue. Please contact: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk

Cover image from *Arctic Alba* by Gemma Lord



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From the helm



Unlike 1959, when inspectors arrived 48 hours after the Cumberland Street Hall had been destroyed by fire, the

Inspection of 2015 passed without serious incident. We welcomed a twelve-strong team who came to examine what we do and responded by awarding us the top descriptor of 'excellent' in all areas.

I invite you to take a look at the report, which is on our website. As Chris King, current Chair of HMC and King's Governor, wrote: "It is a rare thing, even for schools with considerable history and standing, to be graded 'excellent' in all categories." The grades bear testimony to the hard work of our pupils and the dedication of my colleagues.

What impressed inspectors most, besides the School's obvious ambition and drive, was the enormous range of talent we have at King's. In just one week last term

came news of Christian Beeston in Year 8 who became National Young Cartoonist of the Year; Sam Danson who took top spot in the UK Long Jump rankings; and Remy Miller who came sixth at the European Junior Golf Championship in Andalusia. Remy is the youngest-ever grand finalist in the 23-year history of the event. The previous week in Berlin, Izzy Stephens, Antonia Bianchi and Susie Moores took silver at the World Cheerleading Championships, whilst Hugh Horne came second at the Horse of the Year Show.

These pages also demonstrate a wealth of talent amongst our former pupils. Do please continue to share with us stories of your success. It is a helpful spur to the aspiration of our current pupils.

The most enjoyable part of my role as Head is to congratulate the successful, but I would be a poor servant of the School if I did not draw attention to our

failings. The most important at present is the relatively small sums of money that are donated to support the School's Bursary Fund. Following the initial success of the Quincentenary appeal in 2002, the sums raised have been small in comparison with most independent schools.

Given the impressive sums our pupils regularly raise to support charities, and the many successes of our alumni, I would like to challenge our former pupils to continue the good work of our founders in bestowing gifts to the school.

Our need for philanthropic support is great: the individuals who benefit from our Bursary Fund and those who currently make donations know this only too well. If you would like to help us, do please refer to the 'Support Us' section of our website or get in touch. I am especially keen to hear from any former pupils who would like to join with me in founding our own Legacy Society and pledging a bequest. Of course, we remain grateful to all those who are providing much-needed support.

Dr Simon Hyde
Headmaster



FROM THE CHAIR



I am pleased to report another successful year for both the school and the Former Pupils' Association. King's has continued to perform exceptionally on all levels and I congratulate Dr Hyde and his team on the recent 'excellent' rated Inspection report.

Interesting times ahead for the school as it considers its future location. I am aware that this is a highly emotive issue for many of you and as such I would be pleased to hear your thoughts on the relocation of the school, so please write in if you feel strongly either way.

Socially it has been a great year, with well-attended golf and rugby events, the London dinner and drinks reception and the Annual Dinner with special guest this year, Matt Smith (TV Sports presenter).

As well as contributing to sports facilities which I know are greatly appreciated by Chris Thomson, Guy Mason, Steve Moores and the rest of the PE department and pupils, I am proud that the Former Pupils' Association has been able to fund and produce the brass plaque commemorating those additional former pupils who were killed during wartime conflict. This is now beautifully secured in its rightful place below the other plaques in the school's Main Hall (see page 23).

So thank you for your support and please keep in touch with us – we welcome your news and updates. I would like to end by thanking my fellow committee members for their support and enthusiasm, expressing my thanks to Caroline Johnson and Jill Major for their assistance, and to Caroline, Michael Patey-Ford and Ian Wilson for putting together this wonderful third edition of King's Speech.

David Barratt
Chairman

Preparing for Rio 2016 Sailor Elliot Hanson's Olympic progress

Elliot Hanson [2012] has been making some significant strides in recent months in his efforts to make a name for himself in the highly competitive world of international sailing. Perhaps the most significant, in the long run, may have been a sponsorship. In November, Harken UK, described as the 'world's leading performance sailing hardware manufacturer', chose to sponsor him. The company does not throw around its sponsorships lightly, and when they pronounced Elliot 'a rising star on the podium squad for the British Sailing Team [BST]', they were almost certainly only speaking the truth.

Elliot sails in the Laser class, and has continued his globe-trotting life over recent months. Competitions and training camps across the world make for a very glamorous-sounding life. It is also incredibly taxing, and with absolutely no guarantees of success, perhaps resilience is the characteristic most required for a sailor, even of Elliot's standard, as he moves into senior competition now he has reached the age of 21.

As part of his training, Elliot does a lot of both cycling and gym work, all carefully designed by the BST support staff to have maximum impact on performance in competitive regattas. After some time training in Palma early in the year, Elliot was very pleased to have won his first ranking event in the UK qualifiers in March. Then, after his fourth trip to Rio in 18 months, a slightly disappointing – to him, at least – 22nd in the World Championships in Canada in June was followed by a genuine breakthrough when he came 4th in the European Championships in Denmark in July. More training in Rio has recently followed, not to mention time spent in China, Miami and Weymouth. We shall watch developments with great interest.



Send your updates to
formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk



England Rugby focuses on Tommy

Keen-eyed readers who have visited the England Rugby website in recent months might have spotted the home page article, 'Memories: Tommy Taylor'. The interview with the Sale Sharks hooker and former King's pupil relives his memories of competing in the NatWest Schools' Cup.

The article explains that it was a case of like father, grandfather, and great grandfather for Tommy, who was the fourth generation of his family to attend King's.

He captained the first team, which reached the last 16 of this national knock-out cup. "It was a great experience," he says about his years at King's. "Everyone says to play rugby in a team with your mates at school is one of the best experiences you can have as a sports person. There's nothing to beat it. I don't think I've enjoyed my rugby more. I am now playing for Sale as a professional but it's not quite the same fun."

The 24-year-old keeps in touch with King's and recently helped out in pre-match preparations for this season's game against Sedbergh at Macclesfield rugby club. "It's always good to go back and our family has very strong connections. I'm the fourth generation to have gone to the school and my dad's brother also went to King's. And we all played hooker."

After leaving King's, Tommy gained senior experience by mixing the Sale academy and playing for Macclesfield in the national leagues. This earned him a chance at England Counties level – including an international against Spain – before he graduated to the Premiership. He is now a regular for Sale and has also gained England honours by playing twice against the Barbarians in the end-of-season match.



YOUR NEWS



Alice Taylor

Alice Taylor [2011] has taken up the post of Careers Officer at King's, to help guide and support future generations of pupils in their further education and career choices. Alice is currently undertaking a Masters in Sport & Exercise Psychology, having studied Psychology at Loughborough University. Prior to joining King's, Alice worked at Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College in the Marketing & Liaison Department. She says: "I really love my new role: it's so varied and it's great to be part of a fantastic team."

Donmar debut for Thom

Former School Captain Thom Petty has been starring alongside many well-known faces in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* at The Donmar Warehouse in London.

Thom, who played Major-Domo in the completely 'sold out' show, left King's in 1999. The stellar cast included Elaine Cassidy, Dominic West, Una Stubbs and Janet McTeer and the production marked the 30th anniversary of Hampton's adaptation of the classic story of sex, intrigue and betrayal in pre-revolutionary France.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses, directed by Josie Rourke, ran at the Donmar Warehouse from 17 December to 13 February 2016.

Thom, who is delighted with the reviews and popularity of the show, is a qualified doctor, having originally studied Medicine at university after King's. Now pursuing a different career, Thom's previous theatre roles include: *Light Shining in Buckinghamshire* (NT); *Housed* (Old Vic); *Three Sisters* (White Bear); *Macbeth* (Cockpit).



YOUR NEWS



Familiar faces return to inspire pupils

Former School Captain and Girls' Division Head Girl Katie Reid, (above right) came to speak to Sixth Form students about pursuing language-based degrees and careers. Katie [2011] recently graduated in German & Spanish from Robinson College, Cambridge and started a Masters in Human Rights at UCL. She spoke to current students about studying languages at university and her year abroad in Chile, working as an English Language Assistant at the British-Chilean University. Katie said: "I owe a huge amount to the time I spent at King's. It gave me the confidence to take on new challenges and to never pass up on an opportunity for fear of something being too difficult."

In the Girls' Division, former pupil and West End theatre star Fiona Finsbury (née Wilson, left) returned to tell pupils about life on the stage. Fiona [2004] has spent the last two years in over 750 performances of *The Phantom of the Opera*, playing the leading character of Carlotta an incredible 250 times.

Fiona is now doing a Masters in Opera Singing at the Royal Northern College of Music. She recalls: "During my time in the Girls' Division, I had a very active role in the music and drama departments; I was Music Prefect, a member of the Foundation Choir and I led the school orchestra as first violinist. Mrs Beesley was a huge inspiration, nurtured my love of music and instilled in me a belief that I could achieve my dreams."

Freddie & Tilly live the wild life

Former pupils and siblings Freddie [2010], Bert [2008] and Tilly [2011] Thorneycroft are on a mission to start a 'wild food' revolution using their passions for the environment, local food knowledge and the best quality ingredients.

Founder of 'Fruits of the Forage', Freddie, thinks it was probably pretty inevitable that they formed the new business. "A childhood spent outdoors meant office life never really appealed. Bert and I started experimenting with preserving, brewing and foraging as teenagers, guided by mother Claire, in order to make some cash to fund travelling and to sell at my mother's annual charity evening for East Cheshire Hospice. I've been growing fruit and vegetables since a teenager and a glut of chillies at age 17 led to our Chilli Jam being made."

"Reading Environmental Science at the University of East Anglia gave me a rounded view of the problems facing society. I carried out research at The Agroforestry Research Centre in Suffolk, which showed me how fragile modern monoculture agriculture is and that diverse farming systems are more resilient and biologically productive."

"In 2014, I went foraging with Bert and pretty soon I was hooked on foraging, bringing back far more than I needed, and the seed was sown, so to speak, for the business. I decided, this is what I enjoy, this means something to me, and this can make a change. That is how 'Fruits of the Forage' was born."

Still in its early days, the start-up business had a successful run-up to Christmas, with Tilly and Freddie a regular feature at Christmas markets around Bollington, Macclesfield and surrounding towns.

Freddie feels the initial response to Bollington's very own food business has been encouraging. "It feels like we're part of a bigger food movement, with people turning their backs on the supermarkets, starting to consider food miles, wanting to buy local produce, and reducing waste. Our ethos is cooking methods honed to perfection; using freshly ground herbs and spices; only using perfect ripe fruit for jam, with the rejects and overripe fruit for chutney or sauce; and importantly spreading knowledge of wild food and its uses. Our aim is to make wild food more available and promote environmental stewardship through conservation and sustainable practices."

Co-founder Tilly says "2016 looks like it could be a big year for the business", with marketing high up on the agenda, a new website in development, bigger events already in the calendar, including the Craft Gift and Food Fair at Capesthorne Hall in April, The Cheshire Show, and Knutsford Market on the first Sunday of every month.

To keep abreast of developments, or to book on to one of Freddie's foraging courses in Bollington, see: www.fruitsoftheforage.co.uk

Send your updates to
formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk



YOUR NEWS

David Hill appointed as English Schools' Cricket Association Chair

Former King's History teacher and cricket coach David Hill, has been appointed as the Chairman of the English Schools' Cricket Association.

David, who has been selected from schools' cricket officials across England and Wales, still lives in Macclesfield. He says, modestly, "The role is really just that of a figurehead and a reward not just for me but all those who have served schools' cricket in Cheshire. It is the second time Cheshire has had the award, the last being Phil Campey 20 years ago."

David has been involved with the ESCA since 1970, establishing the Cheshire County Under-13 side in 1974 and alongside that managing



the King's Under-13 side.

The ESCA is at the heart of English cricket, the chief agency for sourcing young talent, running festivals and identifying future England cricketers.

King's Cricket Coach Steve Moores said: "David is one of those quiet, unassuming, highly professional men who work diligently in the background to organise and administer county schools' cricket. This award recognises his significant contribution over 45 years."



Congratulations to

Laura Chatwin [2010] who graduated from the University of Newcastle with a 2:1 in MEng Civil and Structural Engineering in 2014. She was awarded the Civil Engineering School Prize for 'Outstanding Contribution to the School', and was cited as being an excellent ambassador for the School of Civil Engineering and Geosciences.

Hannah Gradwell [2012] who obtained a First Class Honours degree in Geography from Loughborough University in June 2015.

Olivia Soutter [2012] who got a First Class Degree in English from Royal Holloway, London. She achieved a First for every module in her final year. She has now been appointed to the role of PA to the CEO and assistant to the Chairman's PA of Sturrock and Robson (an Industrial Management company) in Mayfair.

Cameron McPake [2011] who received a First Class BSc in Accounting from Exeter. He was sponsored by KPMG throughout his degree and is now working full time for them in their Canary Wharf offices whilst he studies for the second part of his professional exams.

Annie Edgerton [2012] who has been offered a one-year paid placement at Abercrombie & Fitch HQ in Ohio, following her First Class degree in Fashion Design from Nottingham Trent University.

Jack Walker [2012] who has graduated with a First in Broadcast Journalism and an Outstanding Achievement Award: Jack wore his King's tie on graduation day.

Dr Emily Cudworth [2002] who graduated with a Doctorate in Counselling Psychology from Manchester University in July 2015. She previously achieved an MA (Hon.) 2.1 in Psychology from St Andrews University.

Esmé Patey-Ford [2000] who recently appeared in *Coronation Street* and is currently in the Broadway success *Hand to God* at the Vaudeville Theatre in London's West End.

Paddy Symmons Roberts [2014] who is a winner in the Warwick University playwriting competition for a second year running: his play 'Eli' will be performed later this term.

Ben Spencer Pickup [2012] who graduated with an Upper 2:1 from Maastricht University, having studied a BSc Economics & Business Economics, and will be starting at KPMG in March as a graduate Audit Trainee based at Canary Wharf, London.

Alix Barton and **Kieran Brady** [both 2011], who got married on 31 October 2015 in Sheffield.

Artists in the Ascendant

King's former pupils have been making waves in the art world during the past year, gathering medals, international awards and exhibitions across the gamut of disciplines, from conceptual art and painting, to product design and architecture.

Gemma Lord was 2015 winner of the Newbery Medal, Glasgow School of Art's most prestigious award; studying nearby, Harry Frost, second year painting student at Edinburgh College of Art, is heralded as the European winner of the Blumm Next Artist Prize 2015, while Alexander McDow,

a Masters student at Oxford Brookes School of Architecture, has received a prize for excellence from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). Meanwhile, established and internationally acclaimed artist Helen Marten has been tipped as a future Turner Prize winner and, in 2016, is preparing new work for exhibitions in New York and Washington DC.

We take this opportunity to take a closer look at some of their remarkable achievements.

Newbery Medal Winner Gemma Lord with *Arctic Alba*



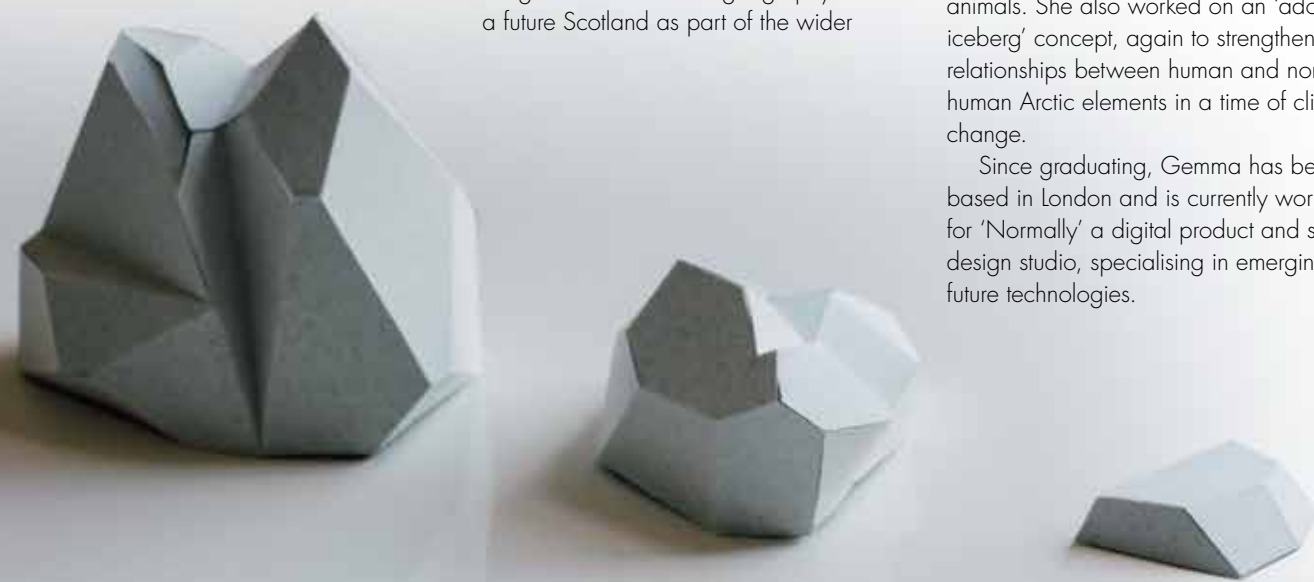
Product Design graduate and former King's student Gemma Lord [2009] was declared the winner of the highest accolade awarded by The Glasgow School of Art. Announced in June 2015, Gemma scooped The Newbery Medal, which is given each year to the highest performing student across the three Schools of Architecture, Design and Fine Art.

Gemma's Degree Show project, *Arctic Alba*, explored the idea of 'North' and being 'Northern', within the context of changing relationships within the Arctic. At a time when Scotland was seeking a referendum, Gemma used design to probe the real, perceived and imagined conditions of being a 'Northern' nation, investigating the relationships that Scottish people have with other Arctic nations. Through the idea of *Arctic Alba*, Gemma imagined an alternative geography for a future Scotland as part of the wider



Arctic group of nations and how evolving relationships with the North might manifest themselves in everyday life. Amongst the ideas explored, Gemma developed a hypothetical 'Wearbear' technology that would utilise the data already collected on Arctic polar bears and bring it into the public realm in order to develop closer relationships between humans and polar animals. She also worked on an 'adopt an iceberg' concept, again to strengthen the relationships between human and non-human Arctic elements in a time of climate change.

Since graduating, Gemma has been based in London and is currently working for 'Normally' a digital product and service design studio, specialising in emerging and future technologies.



RIBA Postgraduate award for Excellence



Masters student Alexander McDow [2003], has received a prize for excellence from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The Prize was awarded at the End of Year Show at Oxford Brookes School of Architecture. The judges were impressed with Alexander's project for Everglades National Park in Florida – the largest sub-tropical wilderness reserve on the planet. Alexander proposed ways of strategically relocating and archiving the Everglades' unique ecosystem. Now a fully qualified architect, requiring a minimum of seven years of study, Alexander has joined Hawkins Brown Architects – a large, ambitious and award-winning practice in central London.

International Art Prize



Harry Frost, [2013], currently a third year student on the Painting BA (Hons) programme at Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) was announced as the European winner of the Blumm Next Artists Prize 2015.

Organised by Pomilio Blumm, a leading integrated communications agency

in Italy, this international competition celebrates young talent from art colleges. To enter, participants were asked to produce a piece of work interpreting the rhino, the historical company's logo, in an art form of their choosing.

Harry was announced as the European winner (for participants outside Italy) from around 150 entrants, and he was presented with his award by international photographer, Jimmy Nelson, at a ceremony in Pescara in March 2015. As part of the prize, Harry returned to Italy later last summer for a week's internship with Pomilio Blumm.

More recently, Harry exhibited six new paintings in a series entitled *684 Grams* at the Dundas Street Gallery in Edinburgh as part of the Creativity Takes Courage exhibition, in support of Maggie's Centres.



International acclaim for Helen Marten's oeuvre

Tipped in a *Guardian* leader as a potential Turner Prize contender, Helen Marten's [2004] thought-provoking work and significant achievements in the art world continue to garner fulsome praise from respected international critics. Her *Plank Salad* exhibition, shown at the Chisenhale Gallery in London en route between Zurich and the USA, was described by The *Guardian* art critic Adrian Searle in glowing terms. "Rarely



have I been so struck", commented Searle. "Marten makes you want to look very closely at the things she makes and the traces she leaves. Her way of thinking, with its word salads and trap-door metaphors, is dangerously infectious."

After finishing at King's, Helen studied at Central Saint Martins, London and then went on to the Ruskin School of Fine Art, Oxford. In 2012, she won the LUMA Prize and has had solo exhibitions in New York, Paris, Oslo, Berlin and London. In 2015 she exhibited in the 56th Venice Biennale, *All the World's Futures* (pictured left).

Later this year, Helen will have her second solo exhibition in New York, at the Greene Naftali Gallery, with her work *Eucalyptus*, *Let Us In*, and at the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington DC.



Professor Sir Peter Downes

Ian Wilson interviews the Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Dundee

Pete Downes left King's in 1972, armed among other things with the U6 prize for Maths with Statistics, awarded to him on the recommendation of Ian Wilson [editor], his maths teacher at the time. Ian has recently been in touch again, for the first time for more than forty years, and Pete reminisced about his fascinating career in the intervening years.

Looking back at my beginnings, it seems unbelievable that I have somehow amassed such a range of letters around my name since I left King's. Perhaps I should fill in the details: FRSE (Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh); FMedSci (Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences) and FRSB (Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology), not to mention an OBE and a knighthood! Whilst the achievements these letters denote are obviously a source of pride to me and to my family, I must say that I am at least equally proud of my status as a former pupil of the King's School, Macclesfield and in my current role as Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Dundee.

My upper sixth year at King's was 1971/72 and I took Chemistry, Biology and Maths/Stats at A-level. But it was later that my career trajectory began to depart somewhat from the conventional. I stayed on for an extra term for the Cambridge scholarship exams and received an unconditional offer from Jesus College to study Natural Sciences – but instead opted for an HNC based at Stockport College of Technology! It was all to do with work

experience. I got a temporary job in the labs at ICI Pharmaceuticals at Alderley Park after getting my place at Cambridge, liked it, and discovered I could work there on a permanent basis and at the same time do a degree on day release. So, despite advice to the contrary, that is what I decided to do.

In retrospect, this was probably not the wisest of my decisions. But I came from a family which, although we valued education, had no experience of university. It was certainly not a matter of finance; I would not have been a burden on my mother, who brought us up on her own, because the maintenance grant at the time seemed generous and there would have been nothing for my mum to contribute. I rationalised the decision by the value I placed on work experience and, looking back, I seriously underestimated the value of a full-time university education. But what it boils down to is a fundamental lack of confidence that many young people from my background felt at the time – and still too often feel even now, in my experience – which breeds a fear of failure and of the unknown.

Anyway, I didn't dwell on the decision, nor now regret it. It meant that I emerged five years later with a degree in Biochemistry and having worked in labs

where the aim was to develop new drugs based on fundamental understanding of the chemistry of life, which was to shape much of the rest of my career.

In 1978, though, I finally developed enough confidence to resign my job and take up an offer to do a PhD at Birmingham, where began thirty plus years of a research-based career in what are now referred to as the life sciences, and which resulted in the OBE (2004, for 'services to life sciences') and then – and I was genuinely gobsmacked to receive it – the knighthood in 2015 (for 'services to higher education and life sciences'). I was very fortunate in my choice of PhD project at Birmingham, and after it I finally did go to Cambridge for a couple of years

before going back into 'industry', with first ICI and then Smith Kline and French in Hertfordshire, where perhaps my most significant scientific discovery came to fruition. By 1989, though, I had reached the point where I wanted the freedom to run my own lab, pursuing my own ideas, and in the excellent set-up we have between industry and academia in the UK, that inevitably meant into a university. So I accepted an offer of the Chair of Biochemistry at Dundee University – where I still am nearly thirty years later!

There have been lots of scientific developments during my time at Dundee, including a ground-breaking form of collaboration with several leading multinational pharmaceutical companies interested in exploiting our research on 'cell signalling', and culminating in 2014 in our being rated the UK's top university centre for bioscience research.

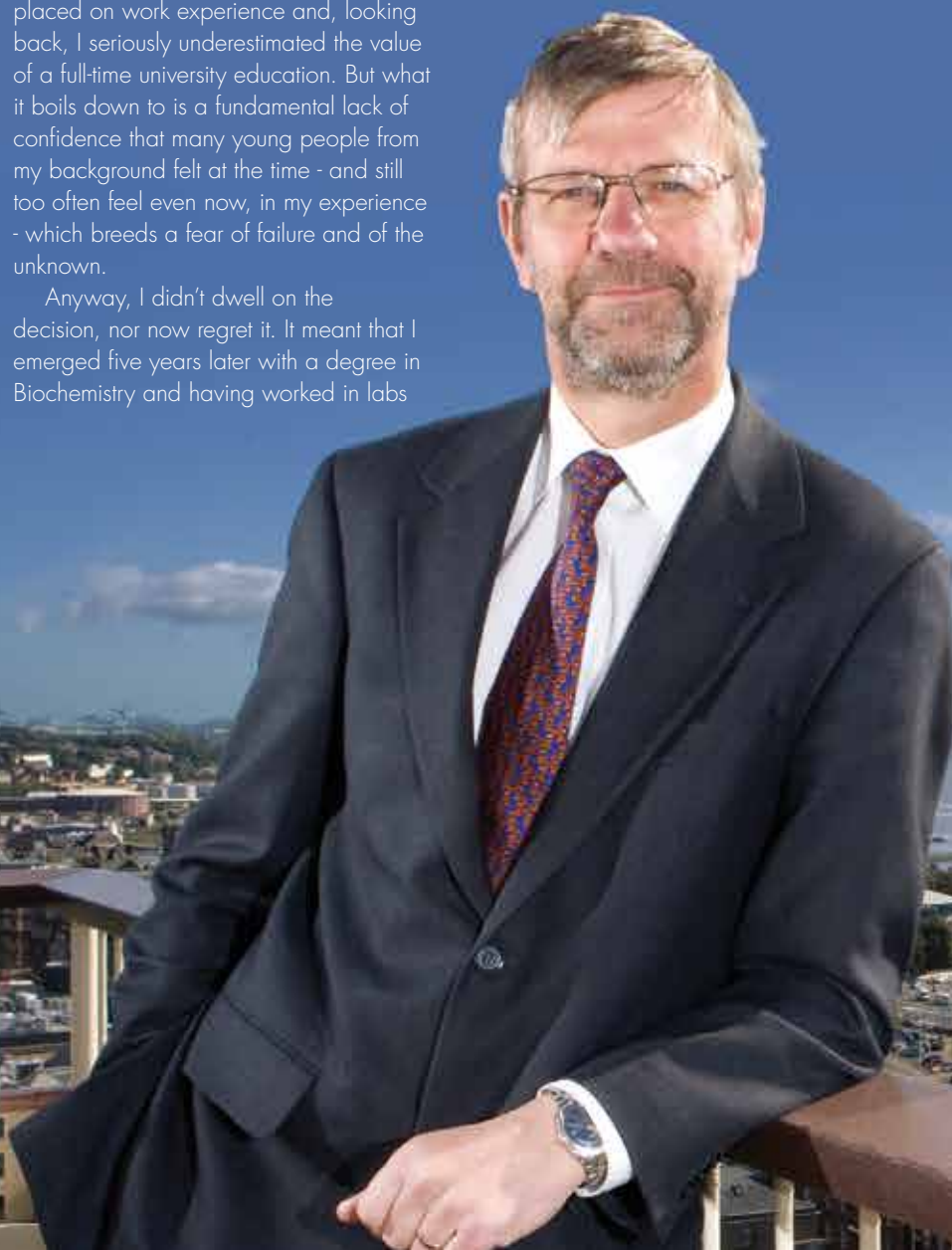
Of course, I have now moved away from direct involvement in life sciences research, having been appointed Principal/Vice-Chancellor in 2009. In that role, I have been very keen not only to see the university's strength in biosciences be widened into other disciplines, but also to assert our position as a lynchpin of the city and region's ambitions for economic growth and social justice. I have also seen even wider responsibilities as a Vice-

President of Universities UK and Convenor of Universities Scotland during the last three years, in both roles helping to shape the national HE policy environments.

My roots have no doubt resulted in my strong personal commitment to universities as a lever for social mobility, but there remain enormous barriers for young people from relatively disadvantaged backgrounds to overcome. Contrary to popular opinion, my own experience leads me to believe these are not primarily financial, but rather deeply cultural. After all, evidence shows that gaps in educational attainment begin even before children start at school, and the recent introduction of fees to attend universities in England does not seem to have affected access. Of course, in Scotland undergraduate education is still completely free; over the coming years, it will be interesting to evaluate which funding system is most successful!

Perhaps I can finish with some memories of King's. Being a pupil there ignited two abiding passions which have influenced

every part of my life and career – a love for sport, and the transformational capacity of education in all its forms. Although my preference has always been for football, I was a good enough rugby player to represent the school as rugby captain from U13 all the way to the 1st XV, eventually receiving a colours tie (my U15 side's photo is shown below; where are they all now?!). Being captain throughout that time, I am sure, developed the leadership skills I have benefited from in later life. There were passionate teachers as well who developed my interest in biology especially. But what I remember most, and what I suspect is disappearing fast from our schools, was King's tolerance of eccentricity. We had many eccentric teachers. This didn't always make them better teachers, of course, but they did add hugely to the cultural richness of the place. Most importantly, their interesting characteristics were not suppressed – and, to me at the time, and even more looking back since, there seemed no earthly reason why they should have been.



2020 UPDATE

Former pupils will be familiar with King's plans to develop a new school on land adjoining Derby Fields and to redevelop the existing sites at Fence Avenue and Westminster Road for housing. In September, planning applications were submitted and, as the date approaches for a decision on the applications, Headmaster Dr Simon Hyde outlines why the school needs to move and the benefits of the new school.

"All good schools need to develop. Over recent years, Maxonians have welcomed multi-million pound investments in all of the local state schools. Whilst King's has also invested in its facilities, there is a strong educational case for co-locating all of our divisions, from Pre-School to the Sixth Form, on a new, single-site.

Our Governors have decided that operation across two sites is not sustainable in the long term: old buildings are expensive to maintain and running two sites doubles the investment needed.

We initially explored whether we could accommodate the whole school on either of our current sites. Built last century, neither site has been designed for current transport arrangements, both lack on-site parking and neither site is large enough to accommodate the entire school.

In the proposals, King's is looking to the future, as its forebears have done, and wants to deliver for the local community

an outstanding educational establishment, with facilities that match and enhance our already outstanding academic, cultural and sporting attainment, from which future generations will be able to benefit."

Where are plans up to?

"In recent weeks, Cheshire East Council has conducted a public consultation on our three planning applications: at Derby Fields, Westminster Road and Fence Avenue. So far, we have not submitted any plans for the historic buildings on Cumberland Street and continue to seek suggestions and expressions of interest for that site.

Macclesfield Town Council has expressed its support for our relocation to Derby Fields and for the development of Westminster Road for housing. At Fence Avenue, there has been some opposition to development in the Green Belt. We await an outcome from Cheshire East Council on all three applications in late February."

What will the new school be like?

The Governors and I believe that a purpose-built school will deliver enormous benefits for pupils, parents and the wider community. The designs will incorporate the latest concepts and thinking regarding delivering education for 3 – 18 year olds.

The new facilities will include a large

drama and music studio for teaching and performances; a very large main theatre to allow us to fit all our pupils into one space – something we can't currently achieve; purpose built art, design and technology facilities and exhibition spaces; facilities to allow us to further enhance our range of extracurricular activities; and, importantly, international-standard sports facilities including a sports hall with swimming pool, studio for martial arts and dance, and indoor cricket nets.

Whilst clearly of huge benefit to pupils, the new facilities will also be available to the general public to hire. Also of great significance is the opportunity to plan and design appropriate transport, access and parking arrangements for what is one of the largest independent schools in the region."

Headmaster Simon Hyde with the latest on King's ambitious plans

What role can former pupils play?

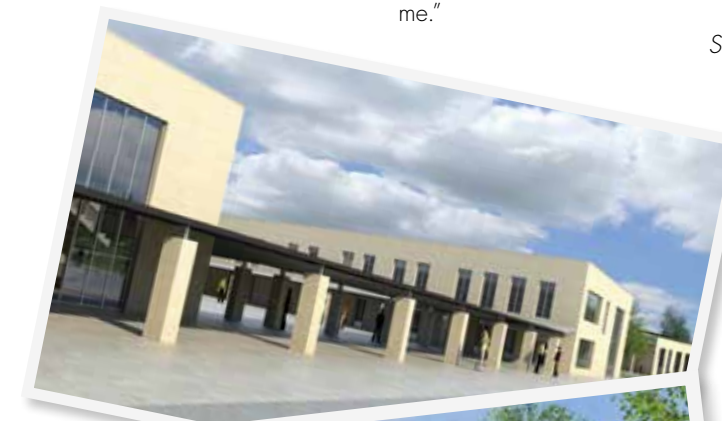
"The School has been located on five different sites in our 514-year history. We know that many former pupils, myself included, have very fond memories of being taught in the current buildings. But we also know that schools, just like businesses, have to keep pace with change. If Microsoft, Apple, M&S, or any other successful business didn't continuously evaluate its offer, its position in the market place and internal structures, they wouldn't still exist today. King's wants to remain in Macclesfield. We want our legacy to be a positive one and to ensure that our new School is a source of pride for generations to come.

A significant number of former pupils are already supporting our plans and

helping to realise our vision. Donations in kind – utilising our former pupils' expertise – have helped enormously so far. As we proceed with our plans, we are grateful to our alumni for supporting our proposals and also for financial help. Our need

for philanthropic support is greater than ever and we continue to seek assistance for both our capital expenditure and also our Bursary Scheme. If you would like to provide financial help for either the new school or for current needs, including our Bursary Fund, please do get in touch with me."

Simon Hyde



A photograph of Marcello Distefano, Managing Director of the San Carlo group of restaurants, sitting at a table in a restaurant. He is wearing a dark blazer over a light blue shirt and light-colored trousers. The restaurant has a warm, orange-toned interior with white tablecloths, orange chairs, and a central wine display. The background shows more tables and a bar area.

PROFILE

Marcello Distefano

Managing Director of the San Carlo group of restaurants

From A Level Art and Design with Peter Seddon and Debbie Inman, via an Art Foundation course, to becoming Managing Director of a chain of high-status Italian dining establishments represents quite a career path. It is the one trodden by Marcello Distefano since he left King's in 1997.

Talking to him at the central Manchester San Carlo restaurant, favoured by celebrities and city folk alike, it was evident that Marcello is both a very successful business man and one with strong views about how the family business should be run.

In spite of overseeing a significant expansion, first in other parts of England and more recently overseas, Marcello is determined that the business should retain a strong family ethic. "People who come to San Carlo know the family members and still expect to see us around. We're all still really passionate about the business and insist on the highest standards when it comes to quality of ingredients, service and an authentic Italian experience." Marcello has resisted the blandishments of private equity so far, and San Carlo is still a private limited company, with a turnover of around £60m, and with Marcello retaining a hands-on approach. He is also insistent on the vital importance of high quality staff in all the restaurants – very few part-timers, nearly all Italian – and

also the quantity of staff, which, along with a commitment to a high quality of food, are the hallmarks of the San Carlo outlets. "We now employ around 800 staff, of which around 75% are Italian. In the early years, we used to bring chefs, managers and waiters from Italy, as we struggled to get staff who saw the restaurant industry as a career option in the same way as southern Europeans do, but we now have our own training plans in place and like to promote from within when we can."

The business was founded in 1992 in Birmingham by Marcello's father, a Sicilian by birth, who is still very much involved in the business. Marcello never had any intention of joining it when he chose Art and Design, English and History for his A Levels, and then started a degree course at the prestigious Central St Martin's College of Art and Design in London after his Foundation course. Nor was it in his mind when he switched to a Business degree at Bath University in 2000, partly, he said, on the recommendation of old school and 1st XV pal Gordon Payne. But the urge to try to operate within the family firm gradually emerged, and so he began learning the ropes from the bottom up when he graduated in 2004. "When I first said that I wanted to get involved in the family business, my dad tried to put me off. He knew how gruelling life in the restaurant trade could be – long hours, hard graft, late nights. But eventually, I

persuaded him that this was what I wanted. I knew I had to start at the bottom and work my way up, to earn the respect of the staff and to learn the business from the inside out. I worked on the shop floor for several years, and it was important for me that people didn't think I'd been born with a silver spoon." After a few years, though, his father was sufficiently convinced that Marcello was the right man for the job that he moved upstairs as Chairman, and Marcello took over the MD role. Sisters Marissa and Sacha have also worked in the business, but it is Marcello who has led the introduction of the hugely successful San Carlo Cicchetti restaurants, offering an Italian version of tapas-style dining, which is increasingly in demand and leading to new growth in international business, especially in the Middle East.

Asked what he most remembered from his schooldays, Marcello immediately identified his rugby experiences - he was a regular throughout his time at King's, with his career culminating as 1st XV hooker; he also put in considerable amounts of time voluntarily to help get girls' rugby off the



Marcello with his father Carlo and, below, the iconic façade of San Carlo in Manchester

ground in the sixth form. "The experience of teamwork and the group's ability to overcome differences between each other in order to win was very special, and something that I tell my employees today; and the strong bond with mates within the team created friendships that still last today, nearly twenty years on", he said. "The other thing has been the emphasis on creativity that the Art A Level stressed; it has been so important in moving the business forward since I took the helm - one of those unexpected side-effects from a school career that turned out to be crucial in later life."



SCHOOL NEWS

Les Misérables School Edition

Early February saw the arrival of one of the biggest stage shows ever tackled by the school. With a cast of 42 young actors from both the Boys' and Girls' divisions and Sixth Form, together with an orchestra of 18 players, the four-night run was a triumph of talent and dedication.

With star performers Henry Reavey playing Jean Valjean; Ben Lynch the repressed Javert and the tragic Fantine played by Ellie McKenna, it was a cast to inspire, engage and enthuse any audience. Head of Drama, Donald Forbes said: "It's an incredibly challenging but rewarding piece with a string of memorable songs and we just felt it was time to seize the day."



Bolivia

Last summer, twenty students and four staff embarked on a month-long trip to Bolivia, during which they visited the Amazon jungle, taught English in a remote school, trekked in the Andes and swam with rare river dolphins.

Flying into La Paz, a sprawling cityscape cupped into a bowl among the mountains and one of the highest capital cities in the world, the young adventurers quickly discovered why Bolivia is such a fascinating country to explore. After two days acclimatising,

the Global Challenge team split into two groups to take their grand tour of the Andes, the giant salt flats, teeming jungle and colourful river basin.

At the heart of their trip was a community project helping a tiny school in the Bolivian outback. As well as building a new toilet block and giving the school a facelift, King's students provided English lessons for the local children whilst they themselves learnt about the life of rural children in the developing world.

Next on the itinerary was a 5,300 metre climb up the Pico Austria in the Andean foothills, before visiting the giant white salt flats, the remains of a prehistoric inland lake, framed by a smoking volcano, geysers and hot springs. The students' stay even included a night in a hotel made from salt. One of the many highlights of the trip was the great brown river and the chance to swim with pink river dolphins, see monkeys, anacondas and caymans.



SCHOOL SPORT

Cricket

As usual, the latest 'King's Illustria' contains details of the sporting year 2014-15 – available in full on-line. A subsequent notable achievement took place in the autumn of 2015. This was a formal recognition by the 'Cricketer' of the school as 'one of the top 100 schools for cricket in the UK'. The criteria used by a survey conducted by the magazine focused on quality of coaching provided, range of teams and fixtures, extent of facilities, and



quality and quantity of cricketers from the school historically progressing into the ranks of professional and league cricket. And in the latter category, it is good to be able to record that recent school cricket captains Alan Day, Tom Foreman and James Lomas joined the ranks of Cheshire players last season, alongside now regulars James Duffy and Khalid

Sawas. Further, Jonny Marsden has been elected Oxford University cricket Captain for 2016.

The 2015 season had its usual ups and downs for King's cricket, with a mixed-results 1st XI, and the U13s winning the Cheshire Cup (pictured) after both the U12s and the U14s had been defeated



in their age-group finals. The strength in depth of the sport at King's was perhaps well reflected by the large number of boys who represented the 1st XI during the season. A group of five seniors in particular – bowlers Tom Key, Archie Thorneycroft and Ben Winrow, all-rounder Callum McIlveen and the outstanding captain/batsman/wicket-keeper Finlay McCance – formed the solid backbone of a side that enjoyed some good victories and played some excellent cricket when on song. It is good too to be able to report something of a resurgence in the state of 2nd XI cricket, thanks largely to a move

to play a number of local games as T20 contests on Friday evenings, especially during the exam-dominated part of the summer term.

King's was also represented at U15 and U13 levels in the National Lady Taverers' Indoor Cricket Competition, with the younger side emerging as the third best side in Cheshire in 2015.

Athletics

Athletics and related sports are also thriving at the school. There were again both individual and team successes, including lots of personal bests and, for example, the Intermediate Girls finishing in fourth position and the equivalent Boys fifth in North West competitions, and Sophie Quinn competing in the English Schools' Athletics Association [ESAA] National Finals for the third time; this time she finished 7th in the Senior Girls' Long Jump event. Cross-Country is in similar good health at the school, with Lulu Griffiths doing extremely well to qualify to run for Cheshire in the ESAA National Cross Country Championships at Juniors age-group, and with many good performances across the board at district and county championship levels. Finally, in a sport probably not previously associated with the school in the minds of many former pupils, there was a healthy involvement by a sizeable group of senior pupils in local forest trail and fell running events during 2015.

Football

The successes of Junior Division football sides continued this season. U8 and U9 teams each enjoyed their first competitive matches, the U10s went through the whole season undefeated and the U11s were genuinely outstanding at local level. They first emerged victorious in the Macclesfield Primary Schools Cup, leading to a semi-final defeat as the resultant Macclesfield qualifiers in the Cheshire Cup. They then went on to complete a treble as unbeaten winners of the Macclesfield Primary Schools League and of the Reliance Sevens tournament. The U11 team is pictured below.



Hockey

Another sport that is definitely thriving at all age levels is hockey, with more sides being put out on a regular basis than ever before. At boys' 1st XI level, there were some excellent results and performances, mixed with the inevitable odd disappointment, during the regular season, but the climax was King's best-ever performance at the prestigious end-of-season Taunton School

Festival. For the girls, a very successful U16 side (pictured) emerged as winners of the Cheshire round of the National Schools' competition, and then won the annual Stonyhurst College tournament, and the U11s, after losing in the final of the AJS Championship, did incredibly well to go on to become North of England In2Hockey Champions.

Netball

Netball remains immensely popular at King's and the list of victorious outcomes demonstrates the strength in depth at the school. The senior side were runners-up in the Macclesfield & District League and then narrowly missed out on medals by one goal in The Cheshire County Tournament. They finished third place in the National Schools' Tournament, again missing out



SCHOOL SPORT

by goal difference. The squad ended the season on a high note, winning the Stonyhurst Invitational Tournament, a fitting end to a fabulous season. Lower down the school, the U15s and U13s won their Rydal tournaments, the U15s, U12s and U11s won the Macclesfield and District leagues, and the U11s won the AJS Championship (pictured) after an undefeated season.

Rugby

As might be expected, the 2014-15 season was another excellent one. After the excitement of the tour to South Africa last year, much was expected of the 1st XV, and they didn't disappoint. Exciting and attacking rugby was complemented by a gritty and well-organised defence that meant they were hard to beat, both on the road and at the now resplendent-looking 30-year-old Derby Fields. What the pack lacked in size, they made up for in tenacity, and the back line threatened at every opportunity and were able to carve open gaps and put key runners through them on a regular basis. The final record was 12 wins and 1 draw out of 18 fixtures, and given the strength of the school's fixture list, this enabled us to achieve a ranking of an excellent 12th nationally.

The sevens season was, if anything, even more scintillating. We consistently



played the game at real pace, with intelligent structure and shape, complemented by moments of individual brilliance. The outcome was the winning of the Bowl at the Solihull tournament, and the runners-up slot at both Stonyhurst and, remarkably, the national Rosslyn Park Schools Sevens, where it was only a single refereeing decision that took the winners trophy out of our grasp.

The age group sides also enjoyed good seasons, and both individual and team achievements were legion. The 2nd

XV lost only two games, as did the U16s, who also won the Cheshire Cup; the U15s reached two sevens finals; the U14s also won the Cheshire Cup; and the two most junior sides enjoyed probably the most successful seasons overall, with both winning the Nottingham sevens. The total number of games lost by both U12 and U13 A and B was tiny, with all recording huge favourable points differences. Future prospects are clearly rosy!



FAREWELL

Keith Perriss

Keith first joined King's as replacement for Deryck Siddall as Head of PE in 1975; by the time he retired in 2006, he had become an extremely significant member of staff in so many areas. He died tragically and suddenly, whilst on an 'old lags' former staff walk in Derbyshire, in December, 2015, aged 67. The picture below shows Keith, on the right, with Mike Hart, on a previous similar walk.

It is difficult to categorise Keith's role at King's, because he was so central to its whole operation for thirty years. As Head of PE, he ran a powerful department with a marvellous light touch and enduring sense of humour, which earned the wholehearted respect and support of those he led. But as the quiet driving force, behind the scenes, of the King's extra-curricular games effort, he was perhaps even more influential. And this is not even to touch on his stewardship of various rugby sides, or in

athletics or basketball – or indeed as a teacher of History and General Studies. Then there was his position as Senior Master (Administration), in which role he made sure that a very complex structure actually worked, on a day to day basis, including an invaluable position as planner-in-chief of the school's 2002 Quincentenary celebrations. He represented his peers in the staff room as both Chair of the Common Room and Teacher Governor. In all these various roles, Keith was always ultra-professional, efficient and – that word again – respected by all.

Perhaps some words from an ex-pupil who played on one of Keith's 2nd XVs are as good as any to sum up Keith and King's: "I am sure I speak for hundreds of pupils from their 30s to their 50s who would agree we were very lucky to benefit from his cheerfulness, enthusiasm, knowledge and generosity."



SUPPORTING KING'S

Ken Brookfield

Former pupil Ken Brookfield, who grew up in Marple and joined King's in 1935 on a County Scholarship, has been a lifelong supporter of the school. Now living in Canada, distance has not been able to dilute Ken's passion or support for King's.

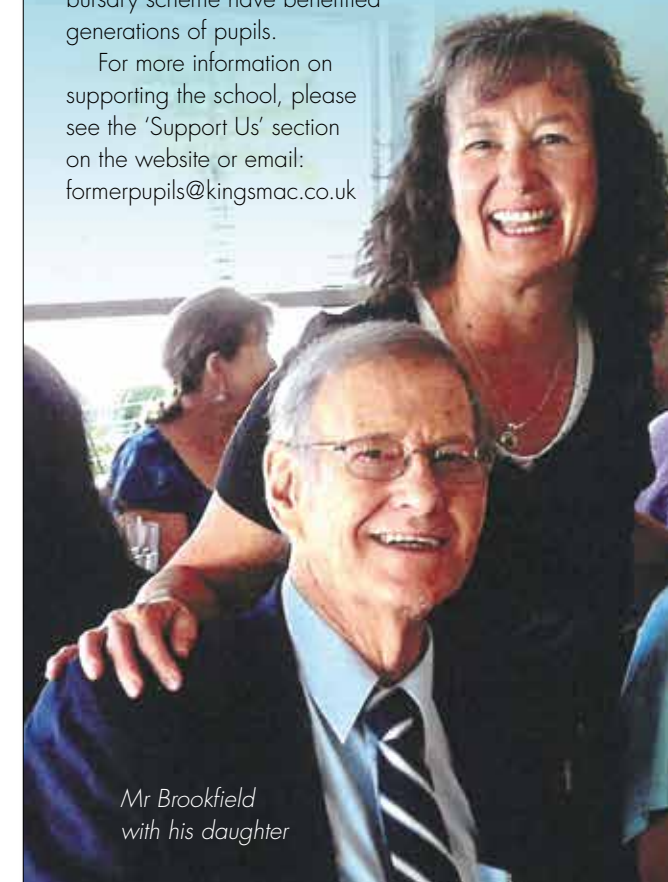
Following an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering, Ken began his career working on the Rolls-Royce jet engine at Barnoldswick in Yorkshire. He also began teaching management part-time at Burnley Technical College in 1945. He later earned a Master's in industrial relations and, in 1950, was appointed the first full-time management lecturer in Oxford, at a precursor of Oxford Brookes University. In 1965, Ken and his family emigrated to Vancouver and, over the following 20 years, he operated his own practice in management consulting and taught part-time at the University of British Columbia.

Ken cherishes the prizes that he won whilst at King's, and has endowed an 'Elizabethan Essay Prize' to the school to mark his appreciation for igniting a life-long interest in English history and culture.

A life member of the Former Pupils' Association, Ken has made several donations to the school, most notably donations to the Bursary Fund and donations to the library.

King's is exceedingly grateful to Ken for his lifelong support for the school. His numerous donations of books, the essay prize in his name, and support for the bursary scheme have benefitted generations of pupils.

For more information on supporting the school, please see the 'Support Us' section on the website or email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk



Mr Brookfield
with his daughter

EVENTS ROUNDUP

Old Boys' Rugby Festival

On Sunday 31 August, seven teams competed for the Old Boys' Rugby Sevens Cup. As always, it was a fun, yet competitive environment and very well supported by past and present staff, pupils and parents. This year the Leavers of 2014 (Cheshire Jake's Dream Team, pictured) won a thrilling final 14-12, against last year's winners (Shingles Silent Assassins, coached by the enigmatic Chris Shingles). There were 85 players and just as many supporters for what was a hugely successful event. The competition is now in its fifth year: next season it will be held on Sunday 4 September 2016 at Derby Fields.



Bursary Golf Day

The Tomlinson brothers retained their title at this year's Bursary Fund Golf Challenge at Macclesfield Golf Club.

Shooting an incredible 101, with seven birdies in the four ball format with the two best scores to count, they came in five points ahead of Mickey and David Jones and Steve and Julia Dunne. Charles MacKinnon's team were third with 91 points and Allan Stevens' team, who are also previous winners, were third.

The event raised £4,000 for the King's School Bursary Fund, which has now raised over £700,000, half of which has been raised by the Former Pupils Association, to provide assistance to families who would not normally be able to afford a place.

Headmaster Dr Simon Hyde, said: "Our former pupils continue to make a lasting contribution to King's, even though some playing today had left nearly 60 years ago. It's wonderful to see how the school inspires such affection and loyalty."



Charity Rugby match

On 23 December 2015 the second annual challenge match took place at Macclesfield Rugby Club between a Club XV and a King's Old Boys' (and staff) side. The game was played in excellent spirit and at a pretty high level, given the Old Boys' side has never played together. The ages of the Old Boys ranged from 17 to 50 (father and son, John Percival and Jake Percival) and in total around 40 Old Boys took part. Several former pupils still play for MURC, so they represented the club. An outstanding group of Sixth Form students, led by Ollie Meads, organised a raffle and collection, raising over £1000 for East Cheshire Hospice! Save the date for next year: Friday 23 December 2016.

Recent Leavers' Drinks

On 16 December, King's welcomed back to the school around 60 former pupils for pre-Christmas drinks. The former pupils, who had all left the school in the last three years, were able to catch up on news from what, for many, was their first term at university. Others, now in their second and third years at university, were able to mix with former school friends and staff whilst enjoying mulled cider and mince pies.



Drinks in the City

More than 60 former pupils and staff met together along with the Headmaster and Director of Finance at The East India Club in St James' Square, for what is fast becoming the annual 'Drinks in the City' event.

Those attending included leavers from the 1950s through to 2013, with a significant number of former pupils from the last 20 years, now based in the London area, attending for the first time. The gathering at the sumptuous surroundings of the East India Club proved highly successful. There was significant interest in the new plans for the school and the Headmaster provided an update on the developments for the proposed new site at the Derby Fields.

We hope to repeat this event next year, and welcome all former pupils and staff to come along to what always proves to be a pleasant evening of reminiscences, apocryphal stories about schooldays and the renewal of friendships.

King's Former Pupils' Association Annual Dinner 2015

Former pupils of all ages – both the more mature in years and recent leavers – celebrated their King's careers at the Former Pupils' Association annual dinner.

The Adlington Hall Hunting Lodge saw last year's Head Boy Aaron Shaughnessey and Head Girl Katie Fray return for the evening from Bristol, where they are both studying medicine.

The Association also welcomed much-loved and respected teachers Anne Eardley and Chris Maudsley, pictured here with Simon Hyde, who had both worked for nearly two decades at King's before retiring last summer.

National Sports television presenter Matt Smith hosted a special question and answer session after the meal with FPA Chairman David Barratt, who also announced the Association had funded a new memorial brass plaque, shown below, featuring the names of 15 soldiers who lost their lives in the First World War, but had previously not been named on the old plaque. David Barratt said: "We are delighted to have honoured our forgotten soldiers and know generations of pupils to come will look at those names with pride and gratitude."



Celebrating 50 years of hockey at King's

Fifty years ago a new sport, 'field hockey', was introduced at King's by schoolmaster David Hopper. Although he soon moved to pastures new, David Hopper started something that has become one of the mainstays of the school sporting calendar.

Martin Badger replaced David as head of hockey at the school and it was Martin's input that saw one of the biggest developments in hockey at King's with a big increase in the number of boys playing the sport. Reg Price followed Martin. Although a woodwork teacher, Reg seemed to spend most of his time arranging and organising hockey teams, practices and fixtures. As well as a hugely respected coach and umpire, Reg was instrumental in the installation of the 'The Astro' - the school's first artificial grass pitch - in 1989. Synthetic turf saw the greatest changes in the sport generally and King's was lucky to be one of the first schools to benefit.

Looking back at the photographs from 50 years ago, it is hard to equate a sport played on grass (or mud), old-fashioned "St Trinian's" sticks and goalkeepers in cricket pads with the modern game. Over the past 50 years the game has seen many

changes. Three of the most dedicated members of staff the school could have wished for: Martin Badger, Reg Price and Jeff Dodd (who followed them as head of hockey) ensured the school's development kept pace with the changes.

King's has produced its share of star players (Reg Price's son Geoff, Jamshid Farschi and Peter Hardman all representing England at school level), but it is the love of the game and the camaraderie that has been nurtured from an early age that is perhaps the school's greatest legacy.

With the fantastic new facilities at Westminster Road, the school now boasts brand new high-specification pitches and a new pavilion for the next generation of hockey players.

Hockey has certainly moved on, but the sport is still enjoyed by hundreds of former pupils at any number of clubs both locally and further afield. At a recent school dinner, seven former King's 1st XI players, all now in their mid to late fifties, were reminiscing about their school days. All are still playing the sport that they were introduced to at King's.



1st XI, 1970/71

Left to right, back row; Andy Coles, Ian Morley, Neville Shepherd, Terry Johnson, Anthony Eastwood, Peter Hardman.

Front row; Rob Blower, Barry Stansby, Richard Ashness, Jes Forward, Richard Berry.

Stay in touch!

Hundreds of our former pupils are now using the school website and Facebook page to stay connected with King's and former classmates. There is a dedicated Former Pupils' area on the website, accessed from the homepage, which contains dates of forthcoming events, profiles on notable former pupils, news stories, plus details of how to get involved and support the school. Please see: www.kingsmac.co.uk

Alumni Facebook group



This open group has around 750 'likes'. It contains updates and news from the school, details of forthcoming events for former pupils, old school photos and videos, plus updates from individual former pupils. Please see: www.facebook.com/kingsinmaccfp and click 'like' to receive our updates.



Dates for your Diary

Friday May 13

London Dinner at the RAF Club, London

Friday June 3

Frank Moore Golf Trophy at Macclesfield Golf Club

Friday July 1

Bursary Fund Golf Day at Macclesfield Golf Club.

Wednesday July 6

Inter-Schools golf at Bramhall Golf Club

Thursday September 1

Howard Worth Shield, at Knutsford Golf Club.

Sunday September 4

Old Boys' Rugby Festival, Derby Fields

For more details, please email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk