

THE ILEX



LANDOR
ASSOCIATION

www.landorassociation.co.uk
www.warwickfoundationconnect.com

Autumn 2022 – No. 133

A Fond Farewell

A popular senior member of staff moves to snowy pastures.

Future Fwd

The Conference that keeps the Foundation at the forefront of education.

A Win Win Situation

Two Successes for King's High at the ISA Awards.

All Change

Uniform evolution for King's High and Warwick Prep.

By Royal Appointment

The Princess Royal officially opens our new buildings.



Introduction from the Landor Association President



I am delighted and honoured to be addressing you as the new President of the Landor Association. However, I am very conscious that I am following in the footsteps of Clare Sawdon who was the very first Landor President and who has done such a great job.

As an Old Warwickian with a sister who was Head Girl of King's High, I would like to think that I have some understanding of the rich history of King's High. My daughter went to Warwick Prep and King's High and my son went to Warwick School. When they left, I really missed not being associated with the schools. The creation of the Landor Association in 2017 means that former parents can remain actively involved in the life of this fantastic educational institution.

In my own case, I re-established contact in 2008 when I became a governor and, subsequently, Foundation Chair for 12.5 years. It was such a privilege to be actively involved in Project One Campus and to see the opening of the magnificent facilities on the new King's High campus.

As some of you will know, at the beginning of the Autumn Term a year ago, the whole Foundation held a "Welcome Back" service at St. Mary's Church. It was a wonderful weekend when current and former parents, current and former pupils and many others could celebrate the fact that the Foundation schools were open again.

It was lovely that girls from Kingsley School, now part of the Foundation, were also able to participate. For King's High and Warwick Prep in particular, it culminated with the official opening of the new Music School, a development that had been on the wish list for many years.

In November, it was a privilege being part of the group that welcomed the Princess Royal on to the Foundation site. As well as officially opening all the magnificent new King's High facilities, she held meetings with a number of important local charities with long-standing connections with both the Foundation and the town of Warwick.

It is marvellous that in just a few short years, the annual Landor Association Carol Service in December has become such an integral part of the school calendar, allowing all the Landor community, including Old Girls, to participate (since St Mary's is no longer large enough to accommodate the whole school and its parents at the school's end of term Carol Service).

Another excellent event was the Landor Association lecture on 28th January, given by Old Girl, soprano and broadcaster, Miss Catherine Bott. Catherine is such a loyal supporter of King's High. Then, on 29th April, the Founders' and Benefactors' Service was held at St. Mary's Church. It was hard to take in the fact that King's High School had been formed on that same day exactly 143 years ago.

There will be a whole series of social and speaker events during the coming year that will enable current and past pupils, parents, staff and governors to be involved. Let us all make the most of the ongoing links with Warwick Prep and King's High that are provided by the Landor Association.

David Stevens
WS 1968-1974
Foundation Chair of Governors 2009-2021

Landor Association

- **Landor Association Director:**
Sarah Didlick
- **Landor Association Administrator:**
Polly Beidas
- **Landor Association Committee:**
Stephen Burley, Hellen Dodsworth,
Jenny Edwards, Sue Lampitt, Jill Lillyman,
Helen Owen, Phillip Rothwell, Tim Satchell,
Nell Stanislas



We want to know that we have accurate contact details for you all. Please use this QR code to update your contact details.

From the Principal



As the nation mourns the death of our late monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, we are reminded of the special place Royal visits hold in our psyche. Most recently, our Foundation welcomed HRH Princess Anne to open the newly built Warwick Preparatory School in 1990, and HRH Prince Charles, now King Charles III, in 2014,

marking the 1,100th anniversary of the founding of Warwick School.

Our request to the Lord Lieutenant was for a member of the Royal Family to formally open the new 'Project One Campus', the most significant single infrastructure investment on the site since Warwick School relocated in the late 19th century.

In addition, the lieutenancy was keen to promote Warwickshire charities and organisations during and post pandemic. Warwick Hall would provide the perfect venue to showcase these successes, and the Foundation's relevance to the local community. Covid altered meticulous plans, and we still proceeded cautiously, given possible restrictions in place.

We were delighted to learn that HRH The Princess Royal would be visiting Warwick on Friday 5 November. It was important to me that the whole Foundation was involved and that all pupils and staff on site, and, if possible, the wider local community, should have the opportunity to see – if not speak with – our Royal guest.

The day began with local school pupils from Aylesford, and Westgate Primary, welcoming HRH The Princess Royal and setting the tone for a local community celebration. In Warwick Hall, The Princess Royal spoke with representatives from several groups; more information about them may be found on page 12 of the Ilex. We then moved into the Foundation celebration. Princess Anne was greeted by a Guard of Honour comprising boys and girls from the CCF.

Her Royal Highness visited much of the campus. In the new Music School, she was welcomed by all pupils from Warwick Junior School and Warwick Preparatory School, before being introduced to **Sally Austin**, Foundation Chair of Governors. The Princess then proceeded to the new King's High Art and Design

block, before meeting **Stephen Burley**, Head Master of King's High, prefects and school representatives to view The Spirit of King's sculpture and the Changemaker Gallery.

Introductions to **James Barker**, Head Master of Warwick School, **Hellen Dodsworth**, Headmistress of Warwick Preparatory School, **Andrew Hymer**, Headmaster of Warwick Junior School, and **Victoria Espley**, the new Foundation Bursar, followed in the King's Quad, along with current and former Governors and pupils from the Myton Campus schools.

The penultimate visit was to a Drama Studio, meeting pupils and staff from King's and Warwick to hear about their collaborative activities, further enhanced by the schools' co-location.

Finally, Her Royal Highness was escorted to the Plaza, where all pupils from King's and Warwick awaited her, along with pupils and staff representing The Kingsley School, Governors, and special guests of the Foundation. Here, Her Royal Highness unveiled a commemorative plaque, formally opening the completed campus, and received a bouquet from the two youngest pupils in Year 3 at Warwick Prep and Warwick Juniors.

The Princess Royal's visit provided a perfect opportunity to focus our collective minds on the wonderful accomplishment of such an ambitious development – bringing together our great historic schools.

Royal visits take a great deal of meticulous organisation. Thank you **Tim Cox**, the Lord Lieutenant, for enabling this visit, and **Clare Sawdon** for much of the liaison with the visiting organisations. Thank you too to the 'home teams' – staff and pupils – for the exacting execution of the Foundation's part of the day.

The whole event showed the Foundation off to its very best: embracing our local community and demonstrating the great opportunities afforded by the co-location of all our Warwick-based schools. Thank you to all members of the Foundation for making this such a special day.

Mr Richard Nicholson

Introduction from KHS Head Master and Head of Warwick Prep



Welcome to the latest edition of our Landor Association Ilex Magazine, at the end of our third year in our new school.

It has been a tremendous year for our school, which was announced Senior School of the Year by the Independent Schools Association at their awards evening in the Autumn Term. It has been,

however, our first full academic year in our new school to be unaffected by the pandemic and, as the traditional rhythms of the school year have been restored, we have seen the return of so many important events for our community.

The Foundation community was excited to welcome Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, whose visit marked the completion of Project One Campus.

The King's High House System was originally introduced by **Miss Gardner** in 1921, and reintroduced after over seventy years' hiatus by **Mr Nicholson** in 2015 with four new houses. In the Spring Term this was developed further with the introduction of six new houses: Austen, Earhart, Franklin, Seacole, Tubman and Yousafzai. The new

houses, the names for which were chosen by students from their nominations for the Changemaker Gallery are now paired with the six houses from Warwick School and will enable a range of new, exciting collaborative activities across our schools.

The newest and youngest member of the Landor community is our school dog, Parsnip, who is a Parson Terrier. She is a very popular addition to King's High and is loved by adoring fans whenever she is in school, a far cry from **Miss Hare's** poodle, Delta, whom some of you will remember.

This year, we have been delighted to see the success of our football teams at King's High, as well as the introduction of rugby as we continue to extend and enhance the opportunities for our students. Our Drama and Music Departments produced a superb range of concerts and productions this year and won the prestigious Independent Schools Association Award for Excellence and Innovation in the Performing Arts.

I look forward to meeting many of you this forthcoming academic year. We are welcoming former staff for lunch in October, the Class of 1972 for their Golden Reunion in November, and, as many of you as possible, for December's Landor Association Carol Service.

I hope you enjoy reading about the King's High and Warwick Prep communities in the *Ilex* and look forward to seeing you in person soon.

Dr Stephen Burley



I am delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of The Ilex which brings you up to date with the endeavours of the children at Warwick Prep.

Following the visit of HRH The Princess Royal to officially mark the completion of 'Project One Campus', Christmas was marked

in our customary fashion with performances and carol services involving every child from Nursery to Year 6.

Our Music, Sport and Drama departments celebrated many really exciting occasions during the year, including children gaining places in the National Children's Orchestra and National Youth Choir and competing at a national level on the sports fields.

Our school community continued to reach out further afield and our charity fundraising endeavours continued to make a meaningful difference to those in need. Further details may be found on page 26.

One of many celebrations during the year that deserves mention is that of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. I hope we created life-long memories for all the children. The Queen's loyal commitment to service is an example to us all and we were delighted to reinstate our flag pole to mark this historic occasion. The flag pole was a gift from one of my predecessors, **Mrs Prichard**, whose service to the school we remember with deep appreciation.

Finally, in the summer term, we were visited by inspectors from the ISI who confirmed that 'the achievement of the pupils, including their academic development, and the personal development of the pupils' are both excellent, the highest grading possible.

The Landor Association brings us together in myriad ways and I am indebted to you for your unwavering support of our school; I look forward to welcoming you into school soon.

Mrs Hellen Dodsworth



In last year's Ilex we explained that bee keeping is a new Friday afternoon activity. Rosie Cameron KHS 2014-2021, who is now studying Fine Art at Loughborough, continued the bee theme with her splendid illustration 'Nature's Harvest'. This was awarded second prize in the National Finals of the Independent Schools Association's Art competition, and first prize in the Independent Schools' Association Midlands Art competition. Well done Rosie.

Farewell Mrs Renton

After seventeen years at King's High, Mrs Caroline Renton left us last Christmas to begin a new life at a prestigious Swiss boarding school.

Mrs Renton was an early appointment in the 'reign' of **Mr Surber**, joining us in 2004 as senior teacher with responsibility for pastoral welfare. In addition to teaching Geography, using qualifications including B.Sc in Earth Sciences from the University of Leicester, and an M.Sc from University College, London, Mrs Renton soon found herself as Head of Key Stage 4, succeeding Miss **Ruth Court**. On the retirement of Mrs **Caroline Russell** as Deputy Head in 2007, the role of Deputy Head was split, with Mrs Renton assuming the Pastoral Deputy role, thus elevating the pastoral remit of the school, and a new colleague, Mr **Stephen Bethel**, joining the school as Academic Deputy. Hers was a natural progression; having lived and worked among teenage girls as a housemistress at both Moreton Hall and Wycombe Abbey schools, there was nothing Mrs Renton didn't know about teenage girls!

Many former students will remember Mrs Renton's brightly-decorated and comfortable study in the Cottages at Smith Street, festooned with origami of her own creation (and that of junior girls who joined her popular origami club), and photographs of her many travels overseas, for Mrs Renton was every inch a geographer. In addition to teaching of Geography and PHSEE, she led school expeditions to Arizona and India, instigated pastoral and welfare initiatives in school and, latterly, introduced beekeeping as a new school society of pupils and staff. Her involvement in King's High's move from Smith Street to Banbury Road should never be underestimated; she had a geographer's eye for knowing which rooms at the new site would fit where.

The Ilex of 2008 included a Q&A session with the two new Deputy Heads. In this, Mrs Renton revealed that her favourite book was *The Sot-Weed Factor* by John Barth, and her favourite song was *I am the Resurrection* by the Stone Roses. Among the 'five things we didn't know about you' were the confessions that Mrs Renton had over seventy first cousins and enjoyed 'sitting in hidey-holes'!

When **Mr Nicholson** left as Head Master to become Foundation Principal, Mrs Renton became our acting Head for a term, before the appointment of **Dr Burley**. Her last role was as our Senior Deputy Head with responsibility for Strategy and Operations, joined by **Mrs Watson** as Pastoral and **Dr Seal** as Academic Deputy Head. Perhaps this was not quite her last role, as the end of the Autumn Term saw her starring as Mary in the staff nativity play, alongside Dr Seal's Joseph.

Over one hundred people comprising Old Girls, current pupils, staff, parents and governors past and present, friends of the school and her husband, Dr **Robert Renton**, attended a Saturday brunch celebration before Mrs Renton departed Warwick. The Catering Department, under Head Chef M **Christophe Charpentier**, provided a sumptuous hot and cold buffet brunch, and had decorated the dining room with bee-themed Christmas finery.



Among the guests were speakers from each area of Mrs Renton's school life, with **Dr Burley** as the M.C., telling the guests of the wonderful things their colleague and mentor had done. For the former governors, we had Mrs **Sue Lampitt**, former Head of Catering Mrs **Lesley Dudley** spoke on behalf of the staff. Parents were represented by Mrs **Emma Griffin**, and the Old Girls by **Jemima Allden** (KHS 2010-2017), in addition to current pupils.

Mrs Renton left us to be housemistress at a prestigious Swiss boarding school, reprising the pastoral roles she held before joining King's High in 2004. We wish her well as she leaves us, and are delighted that she has accepted the dual accolades of Honorary Vice President of the Old Girls' Association, and Fellow of the Landor Association.



Valediction for Caroline

Both Geog and welfare were your things,
When you first joined us here at King's.

Thereafter you led Key Stage 4,

But Mrs Surber wanted more!

She had the very worthy notion,

To give you quite a big promotion.

Dear Mrs Russell left a hole,

It would take two to fill her role.

Two deputies – yes, in the plural,

Your remit was for things pastoral.

[NB to aid scansion, please pronounce the 'pas-TOR-al', rather than 'PAS-toral']

You ran a club for Origam-

I (an oasis full of calm).

To Arizona thence you flew,

A Geographer most keen and true.

And took us on a pony trek,

(Though none fell off and broke their neck).

A cottage study was your lair,

With folded paper everywhere.

For POC you did your best,

Your spatial powers put to the test.

You masterminded our move down,

From Smith Street to the edge of town.

Your discipline was meted fairly,

You lost your temper very rarely.

Skirts stayed below 'the Renton Line',

(It seemed to work most of the time).

From Deputy to Acting Head,

The school at Banbury Road you led.

Your last role here was seized with glee,

The topmost Deputy of three!

You set up several buzzing hives.

The school you love it lives and thrives.

Do stay in touch, and heed our pleas,

Sweet Caroline, our Queen of Bees.

Polly Beidas

Miss Doorly's Plaque

Miss Victoria Eleanor Louise Doorly was one of our most charismatic Heads, and, with 22 years of headship, was our joint longest serving Head.

Born in Jamaica in 1870, Miss Eleanor Doorly, as she was known, came to England at the age of 7 to live with a great aunt in Leamington. She attended Leamington High School, now the Kingsley School, and then read French and English at London University, later taking a Master's degree in History. She trained as a teacher, and took a secretarial diploma. She obtained her first Headship in London aged 35, but teaching was only part of her story. Miss Doorly was an accomplished linguist, reputedly speaking seven languages; she travelled widely in Europe and is believed to have worked as a translator of Scandinavian languages in the First World War. Her factual books for older children, such as the Carnegie medal winning 'The Radium Woman', were celebrated works. She also had many friends in the world of the arts, such as writers, musicians and artists who were regular visitors to the school, giving talks and recitals to the pupils.

Arriving in Warwick in 1922, Miss Doorly made sweeping changes, introducing School and Form councils, the Association of Parents and Staff, and (after a few false starts), the new school song 'Jerusalem' in 1924. Her pupils remember her as a formidable figure, commanding respect but at the same time encouraging independent thought. They also remember Vlah, her huge German Shepherd dog, who was her constant companion at home in Landor House, and who can be seen in the long school photographs from 1929 and 1934. As she approached her sixty fifth birthday, the LEA, which controlled the school then, sought her retirement at Christmas 1944. She died aged 70 in 1950.

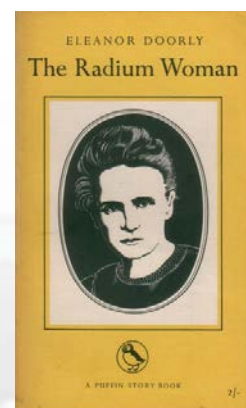
Representatives from King's High and Kingsley, including her former pupils, the Royal Leamington Spa Blue Plaques Group, and Miss Doorly's very much younger first cousin once removed, David Doorly, gathered at her childhood home in St Mary's Crescent, Leamington, for the unveiling of a blue plaque in her honour. This was followed by a reception at Leamington Town Hall.



2022 Doorly Plaque Unveiling



Eleanor Doorly



Eleanor's Books

The Class of 1971 Golden Reunion

Some of this cohort are pictured with their former English teacher, Mrs Gillian Hall, after a day of nostalgia and wonderful food.



1960s Decade Day

Old Girls at school in the 1960s enjoyed touring the new school and celebrating the 80th birthday of their former history teacher, Miss Helen Lenygon.



Former Prep Staff Lunch

Former staff from Warwick Prep enjoyed a tasty lunch and were entertained by music and drama in the new Music School.



Founders and Benefactors' Service

This year's service at St Mary's fell on the school's 143rd birthday. Old Girl Dr Jean Constantine was honoured, and the Landon prefects read about girls' education over the past 143 years.



Landon Carol Service

All the Landon Community was welcome to hear seasonal music, singing and readings performed by current students, and to join in with carols.



A Community of Changemakers

It was the shortlived but far sighted **Miss Gardner** who, in the second of the three terms she spent as Headmistress, introduced the House System to King's High. After much deliberation, it was decided that the houses would be named after figures connected with the history of Warwick, namely Beauchamp, De Montfort, Dudley and Greville, and in the Ilex of Autumn 1921 we were told that 'Great enthusiasm was shown by all in the desire to gain points for their House', in sport, deportment and even the arrangement of wild flowers.

These Houses flourished for over twenty years until they were quietly discontinued after the arrival of **Miss Hare** in 1948. It would be nearly seventy years before **Mr Nicholson** reintroduced the House System to King's High in 2015, creating nearly fifty new leadership positions within the school, with House Heads and Deputies, both Junior and Senior, in sport, drama, music and charity. Influential British women were voted for to name the four houses, the winners being (Judi) Dench, (Audrey) Hepburn, (Emmeline) Pankhurst and (JK) Rowling. A 'sorting hat' filled with four different types of sweet determined which house the students would join.

In 2021, under **Dr Burley**, the Big Changemaker Conversation allowed students to discuss and debate female public figures past and present who have inspired them by making wholesale changes for the better in society. Such people were dubbed 'Changemakers', and the plan was to have a gallery of nineteen of them, again voted for by the student body. Senior Prefect **Jenny** suggested that a twentieth space should contain a mirror, so that the students could stand in front of the gallery and see themselves there, inspiring them to be future changemakers. Perhaps they will see people who look like them, or to whom they can relate.



2022 Changemaker Gallery with new Head Girl Team

After the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the mirror was temporarily replaced by our late sovereign's image in recognition of her sense of duty and dedication which can inspire us all.

With the school's expansion, it was decided to increase the number of Houses from four to six, enabling us to have 'partner' Houses with the six at Warwick School. Dr Burley encouraged to students to vote for the women from the Changemaker Gallery to inspire the Houses. The six with the most votes were (Jane) Austen, (Amelia) Earhart, (Rosalind) Franklin, (Mary) Seacole, (Harriet) Tubman and (Malala) Yousafzai.

This is our Changemaker Gallery. How many of them can YOU name? (A key is provided on page 12).

Our Sixth Landor Association Lecture

Catherine Bott



Singer and broadcaster Catherine Bott first found her voice in the choir at King's High between 1964 and 1971: after A-levels she studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Following two years scat-singing with the Swingles, she began an international solo career with prominent early

music ensembles. Helping concert audiences to appreciate an unfamiliar repertoire eventually led to a new career in broadcasting: after 10 years as a regular presenter on BBC Radio 3, in 2013 she was invited to move to Classic FM, where she presents a popular live Sunday show. Catherine is a Fellow of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and an Honorary Fellow of Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, where she has also served on the Board of Governors. She is also one of our new Fellows of the Landor Association.

We are so grateful to Catherine, who, less than two and a half hours after coming off air at Classic FM in London, came into King's High to deliver our sixth Landor lecture on Wednesday 19 January 2022.

Guests from the whole Landor community enjoyed wine and canapés, and were entertained by musical selections from talented pupils **Hannah** and **Krista**. Head Master **Dr Burley** was delighted to welcome everyone back into school for a live event.

The Lecture had sage advice, humour, and fun. The negativity of the ideal world presented on social media and the unfairness of past rules to women and the LGBTQ community were all 'called out', in modern parlance. Indeed, Catherine made reference to over four dozen current buzzwords like 'woke', 'Karens' and 'snowflakes', deconstructing them all and urging the rising generation to get out there and take risks.

The difficulties of school life under the oppressive regimes of the 1960s and 1970s, the hellishness of imposter syndrome in British radio, and 'activism versus clicktivism' were all covered.

Although speaking to encourage current students at King's High, Catherine alluded to her own personal development. Reading about Hiroshima and working out that she was born less than ten years after its horrors was, for Catherine, 'the moment history became real.' We learned of the UK's perceived differences between BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM, and why Barry Manilow was one of Catherine's favourite cultural experiences of one particular year, for there should be no such thing as a guilty pleasure.

Catherine's advice to her modern counterparts was to 'be braver!' Don't glue your hands to a train to stop people going to work; become a scientist! Girls can do anything! Head out there and enjoy yourselves – together.

Landor prefect **Maud** led a Question and Answer session where we learned of one of Catherine's proudest career moments: bringing Bach to the many and varied 'residents' of Brixton Prison (complete with the Radio 3 banner urging the listeners to 'Escape to Bach', perhaps not the best advice for prisoners!), that career rejection need not be taken personally, and that in spite of a career in classical music, Catherine still loves the music of Randy Newman, The Who, The Beatles and Sparks.

A vote of thanks was given by Landor President and fellow Old Girl **Clare Sawdon**, and Maud presented Catherine with a charming bouquet in appreciation. Plaudits from the audience swiftly followed. Current pupils 'thoroughly enjoyed the talk', and a current parent said that Catherine's Lecture was 'full of warmth, humour, perception, and a little bit of mischief! What a wonderful template for an old King's High pupil.'

Thank you so much, Catherine.

Organisations introduced to the Princess Royal

Armonico Consort: based here in Warwick, this nationally-renowned choir and instrumental ensemble, encompasses professional performances, wide engagement with schools and amateur singers, and a programme for gifted younger singers, which very often includes pupils from our Foundation schools.

www.armonico.org.uk

Helping Hands: a local charity helping local people in need.

www.helpinghandscharity.org.uk

Warwickshire College Group's apprenticeship programme supported by the Oken Trust: this included a blacksmith display on the Stevens Quad and the presentation of a paper-weight made by the apprentices.

www.wcg.ac.uk/page/1290/bursary-for-students-from-warwick-launched-with-oken-eyffler

Young People First: a local charity helping vulnerable young people to overcome their problems and succeed in life.

www.youngpeoplefirst.org.uk

Warwick – A Singing Town: this is a new initiative, run through the Foundation through funds given by King Henry VIII Endowed Trust, Warwick, which amongst other choral initiatives, puts singing into the curriculum of the town's primary schools. The programme was represented by Year 4 pupils from St Mary Immaculate Primary School.

www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk

Kissing it Better: a charity well-known to the Foundation, founded by a former Foundation parent, with pupils from King's High and Warwick supporting its work each week.

www.kissingitbetter.co.uk

How many Changemakers could you name?

Top Row: Eleanor Simmonds, Tarana Burke, Hedy Lamarr, Li Tinting, Claudette Colvin

Second Row: Octavia Spencer, Helen Keller, Jessica Ennis-Hill, Maya Angelou, Katherine Johnson

Third Row: Amanda Gorman, Rosalind Franklin, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Harriet Tubman, Greta Thunberg

Bottom Row: Amelia Earhart, Jane Austen, Mirror, Malala Yousafzai, Mary Seacole

New Landor Fellows for 2022



Miss Catherine Bott

KHS Old Girl, Soprano and Broadcaster



Mrs Elizabeth Prichard

Former Headmistress of Warwick Preparatory School



Mrs Caroline Renton

Former Deputy Head



Mr Neil and Dr Ann Thurley

Former Governors. Neil is an OW and Ann an OG.

A Year in the Life of Warwick Preparatory School

Another exciting year for Warwick Prep featured the following events:

- A coach outing to the Warwick Play Village for Nursery children
- Reception children learning about farms at All Things Wild
- Forest School – an exciting part of the curriculum for all
- Year 2 acting in 'What's the Crime, Mr Wolf?'
- Year 3 enjoying a wonderful trip to Conkers
- A residential trip to Wales for Year 4
- The PGL Adventure Centre hosting children from Year 5
- A science study week for Year 6
- A Year 6 production of 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'
- Sports successes in netball, hockey, football, cricket, tennis and gymnastics
- Musical highlights including the Year 3 strong group, participation in festivals and the Summer Concert
- Charity fundraising for Myton Hospice, Comic Relief and Save the Children
- A new Classics Club enabling children to get to grips with Latin and Greek
- Celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee including collage making and cake baking
- Year 3 Mayan Day
- Learning About CCF



Year 3 Mayan Day



Football at St George's Park



Year 2 'What's the Crime, Mr Wolf?'



Platinum Jubilee



Summer Concert

A Grand Day Out

(with apologies to Wallace and Gromit)

Jeanne Shillington née Forrester (KHS 1947-1952)

In 1955, three years after leaving KHSW, I was commuting by bus to Coventry from Leamington. I bought a Vespa scooter to reduce travelling time, but it kept breaking down, and I exchanged it for a BSA Bantam, and so began my lifetime obsession with motorcycle sport. I joined two clubs, rode as a sidecar passenger in trials, and eventually met my future husband when he was competing in a cross-country scramble which I had organised.

I saw John Surtees race at Brands Hatch in 1957 – he is the only man to have won world titles on both two and four wheels – but since the 1990s I have followed motorcycle racing on television, particularly the British Superbike series. Each season we would pick out a rider we thought showed promise, and then follow their progress. Back in 2018 I noticed Brad Ray who had a very good season but seemed to struggle for the next two years. However this year he changed from riding a Ducati to a Yamaha, and finished on the podium 8 times in 9 races, placing him on top of the championship.

After watching him ride at Oulton Park over the Easter weekend I felt compelled to e-mail his team and say how pleased I was. (I also mentioned

that I was 86, a former trials rider, and a racing fan since the 1950s!) I was amazed when the OMG Racing Team boss, Alan Gardner, phoned me later that evening and invited me to join the team as their guest at the next meeting at Donington Park on 21st May.

I was treated like royalty by all the team. I met Brad and his fellow rider, Kyle, I toured the pit garage, had an amazing lunch and then the highlight – a walk on the starting-grid, where I talked with Brad and Kyle just five minutes before the start of their race, and of course, wished them good luck. I was given a choice of where to watch the actual race – in the grandstand or the hospitality suite – BUT I elected to sit in the pit garage with the mechanics.

The atmosphere was brilliant, and quite emotional and very noisy when Kyle won, and Brad was third! Then I was rushed down to the Winners' Podium for the traditional champagne-spraying, a truly memorable end to my day's adventure.

I think this proves that if you are polite and remember to thank people for giving you pleasure, the gesture may well be appreciated and rewarded.

Mind your manners, girls!



Jeanne in 1958 on her Velocette



Jeanne talking to Kyle Ryde who won that day



Jeanne (centre) with Brad Ray and Shakes Byrne



Jeanne sitting in the garage with riders and mechanics



Jeanne with Brad Ray

Future Fwd Creative Conference

4-5 July 2022

The Foundation has hosted its first Future Fwd conference, the brainchild of Foundation Principal Richard Nicholson. The Conference focused on Next Generations, and how educationalists and business leaders can enable them to be the changemakers of tomorrow. Therefore the traditional conference format was reimaged to be a practical, future-focused, creative conference, with young people at its core.

Day 1 began with a 'Next Gen' (i.e. Generations Z and Alpha) panel interview followed by a programme of talks on Curriculum, Tech, Industry & Business, Culture and Entrepreneurship, including speakers from The Royal Shakespeare Company, the University of Warwick and Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. The evening featured a reception at Warwick Castle, with discussions with pupil groups on the themes of the conference.

Day 2 started with a morning of discussion hubs to develop the ideas from Day 1 and incorporate them into the future direction of education. Running parallel on Day 2 was a Jubilee conference specifically for sixth formers.

Billed as 'a Conference like no other', the Foundation worked with partners from the University of Warwick and the Warwickshire College University Centre. The next generation is the future, and Richard Nicholson explained that 'Society is navigating through a pandemic and post-pandemic era, with significant implications for education and the workplace. I believe schools must reflect these seismic changes in their approach to education, otherwise we will lose our relevance, and risk being disconnected from the communities we serve.'

The second Future Fwd conference will take place in July 2023.



Future Fwd Richard Nicholson



Future Fwd Reception at Warwick Castle



Future Fwd Next Generations

‘Watch the birdie!’

‘Long’ school photographs first appeared in the 1880s. King’s High’s first was in 1922, exactly one hundred years ago. Our twenty first has just been taken.

1922’s photograph shows **Miss Gardner**, our fourth head, who left us a few weeks later after just three terms, in order to marry. Matron **Miss Paine** in her angel’s wings cap sits beside her. The girls had recently started wearing navy blue box pleated gymslips and white collarless blouses. The huge Ilex tree dominates the background, with the Cookery School to the right, and an arc round to the high Butts wall on the left. **Mary Bennett** was one of its 300 pupils; she returned to school as **Mrs Steele** to teach Mathematics.

Seven years later was the school’s Golden Jubilee, with long-serving head, **Miss Doorly**, at the helm. Her live-in companion was **Vlah**, a ferocious German Shepherd dog, who doubtless terrified the Kindergarten youngsters in his close proximity. To Miss Doorly’s side is Deputy Head, **Miss Naish**. Other long serving staff alongside her are popular music teacher **Miss Springall** (‘Spriggs’) and **Miss Lord** (Mathematics). There were about 350 pupils in the school, and Eastgate can be seen in the background.

Five years later in 1934, the school settled into its regular pattern of having photographs every five years, thus capturing all pupils at least once. This pattern continued until 2018, punctuated only by the Second World War. The splendid figure of Vlah again appears at the foot of the photograph, posing for the camera.

By 1939, Miss Doorly was ageing, although still only in her late 50s. Vlah had gone to the great kennel in the sky. Some of those on the King’s High scene who had appeared by then were **Miss Whittlesey**, the eventual Deputy Head, and popular Art teacher **Miss Struan Robertson** (later **Mrs Soren**).

The war delayed the next school photograph until 1946. By this time many changes had been made in school. Miss Doorly had retired, and under the terms of the 1944 Education Act, the boarding house was closed and the Kindergarten became a separate school. New Head Miss Wiseman lasted only three years because she, too, wanted to marry, becoming Mrs Gunn in 1947.



Mary Cooper (née Wilkins) spots herself in 1939



Diana Warr (née Peacey) finds her pre-teen self in 1954

1949 saw the first of five appearances of long serving Headmistress **Miss Hare**, and the first of eight by our longest serving teacher ever, **Miss Dobney**, who taught Mathematics for 41 years. But real changes were not observed until the next photograph in 1954; the ilex tree had fallen and the old blue gymslips had been replaced by yellow blouses and grey skirts. By this time a much larger sixth form was developing.

By 1959, **Miss Greenwood** and **Miss Wallace** were both well established members of staff, with **Miss Whittlesley** stepping up to the Deputy Head’s plate when Miss Naish retired. Other long serving members of staff, **Miss Bate**, **Miss Browett**, **Miss Burton**, **Mrs Howes**, **Miss Loane** and **Miss Sunman** can also be seen. 1964’s photograph shows the girls wearing summer dresses. By now there were nearly 600 girls in the school with sixth form and university becoming the regular educational path for many of the pupils.

By 1969, Priory Block has risen in the background, and hairstyles and hemlines were higher than before.

New Head Miss Leahy appeared for the first time in 1974. The photograph for the school’s centenary in 1979 was the first in colour, so we could see just how bright those yellow blouses were! Miss Leahy’s strong supporting cast sit around her in the 1984 photograph, and until the end of the 1980s when she retired, including Deputy Head Miss Greenwood, and senior staff Miss Dobney, **Miss Inchley**, **Miss Turley** and Miss Wallace.



1922 Whole School Photograph



1954 Whole School Photograph



1969 Whole School Photograph



1979 Whole School Photograph

Conventions had changed by 1989. Our first married Head **Mrs Anderson** had joined us. Her Deputy was Mrs Russell, and other key figures in her 'cabinet' were **Miss Lenygon**, **Miss Clark** and **Mrs Pulham**. By this time, the sixth form uniform had been replaced by a dress code, and by 1994, the new jade green and blue tieless uniform had made its debut. The first male teachers joined the staff. By the end of the twentieth century, in 1999, the male invasion continued apace; today over a quarter of the staff is male.

By 2004's photograph, a new headmistress, **Mrs Surber**, was in charge, and there were now two new Deputy Heads, namely **Mrs Renton** (Pastoral) and **Mr Bethel** (Academic). The new language block from the 1990s was joined by a brand new Sixth Form Centre at St Mary's, a new Creative Arts Centre at Chapel Row and a state of the art Dining Room. By the time of the 2014 school photograph there were about 650 pupils in the school.

By 2018, our first Head Master, **Mr Nicholson**, was keen to include Warwick Preparatory School, which was now, as before 1944, the

Junior School to King's High. Although it was our last year at the Smith Street site, the photograph was taken on the playing fields at Myton Road, and a year before the usual sequence. By this time there were more than 1,000 children included.

Our latest photograph, one hundred years after the first, was again taken on the playing fields, with King's High alone now having 800 pupils, and a staff of nearly 300. The Squirrels were with us again with the Head Mistress, **Mrs Dodsworth**, sitting alongside new King's High Head Master **Dr Burley**, and his three Deputies, **Mrs Watson**, **Dr Seal** and **Mrs Didlick**.

When training sixth formers to give tours, I always explain that the Old Girls will spend ages looking for themselves on the photographs. Then they will want to find their friends. Then someone will say that her aunty was at school in 19XX, and so they will go and pore over an earlier photograph. Perhaps this is because we were never able to do this when we were pupils; the prefects were always ordering us outside! OGA Reunions are usually our only chance to have a proper look.

Polly Beidas



1994 Whole School Photograph

A warm welcome for a Ukrainian family

Sally (née Peters, KHS 1974-1981) and Mike (WS 1970-1981) Shorthose worked around the clock to get visas for a Ukrainian family who were fleeing Russia's invasion of their country. Sally sets out below what a special experience it has been for them and what they've learnt.

When news broke that Russia had invaded Ukraine, we didn't expect to be taking a Ukrainian refugee and her newborn son home from their local maternity ward just a few months later. But, as we heard stories of the plight of many refugees, we were moved to help. Like many people, we found the situation very worrying and wanted to do something positive. The UK Government's "Homes for Ukraine" scheme encourages hosts to partner up with Ukrainians before they apply to the programme, which made our situation difficult at first as we didn't know anyone.

A few weeks later, a friend put us in touch with Valentyna. She worked for our friend's company, living in Lviv and was very worried about the air raids and, especially, the bombing of maternity hospitals. She had a four-year-old, Davyd, and was heavily pregnant with her second child so wanted to go somewhere she knew her children would be safe. When we heard about their plight, we didn't think about it for two minutes. We had the space and an opportunity to help.

There has been extensive news coverage of air raid shelters in Ukraine. In flats, the basement is the most dangerous place to be if the building is hit. It is safest to go one wall away from the outside wall. Val and family were sleeping in the corridors of their flat, waking up every time there was an air raid warning. They were exhausted and then had to cross Europe by train, waiting for their visas to be sorted.

On 28 March, we agreed to host Valentyna, her four-year-old son, Davyd, and her mother, Olena (Roman, Valentyna's husband, was not able to leave as he may be called up to fight). Valentyna gave birth to her second son, Platon, a week after her arrival on 1 May.



Sally and Mike's extended family

From the day we accepted them until the day they arrived, we were working every day to get them here. Once we had agreed to host the family, we made a group of local contacts who had also signed up. We wrote to Jeremy Hunt, our local Conservative MP, explaining that Valentyna was pregnant. He responded quickly with support both times we reached out.

Valentyna herself also contacted the office of Peter Bottomley, the Father of the House. A lovely lady there helped us to get the final visa approvals. Val then booked Eurostar tickets immediately. She arrived on Sunday 1 May.

Mike was lucky enough to be able to collect Platon from the hospital. Holding the baby while Valentyna got ready to leave he found extraordinary as we had only known each other for eight days at that point.



Valentyna and Davyd

The local support network has been incredible – for example, our local council in Waverley, Surrey, has been excellent. Ukrainians have access to all of our local services and have free bus passes which gives them some freedom. Once these people are with us, I feel they are embraced as quasi-British citizens. That has been very positive. We have also been inundated with gifts and support, including several pushchairs and all sorts of baby and maternity clothes, toys and offers of other support like lifts to appointments when we are away.

Valentyna speaks very good English. She is outgoing with an understanding of and deep interest in English culture. Her mother, Olena, is lovely but quite rooted in Ukrainian and, actually, Soviet tradition. She does speak some English and we have established a language class for her and others who want to improve their English. Davyd is learning English very fast and picks up our funny expressions! He has fitted in beautifully at a local nursery.

We are committed to providing a home for at least 6 months, although our family had initially planned to stay for just a very few months to ensure the safe arrival of Platon. The situation in Lviv, however, hasn't really changed. There is still a constant threat of air raids, and men between the ages of 18-60 can be conscripted at any time with no notice. There will be a point when the pain of being separated from loved ones outweighs the dangers and discomfort caused by going back. We don't know when that will be.

Since the situation in Ukraine has not improved, we are making plans for Val to get a job, for Davyd to start school and for them to find somewhere to live in due course. We shall remain very close to them and continue to provide support for as long as they need.

We have found hosting the family a very interesting and rewarding experience but have also learned some tips for anyone thinking of embarking on a similar project. For example, it is helpful to have “them” and “us” places. Ring-fencing some areas and time is important.

We have less spare time now but that is to be expected. We are learning about another culture and about people who have trekked across Europe, heavily pregnant, without knowing what's at the other end. We would also recommend connecting with people who are in the same situation as you, so you're not all reinventing the wheel at the same time and can provide moral support to each other as well. Meeting people through the hosts' group has been a big plus of this exercise and we have been working with like-minded people to provide opportunities and activities for the refugee families.

Our Ukrainian family has been very open about sharing things with us. We have taken them to church services and concerts, and they eat with us and any other visitors most of the time. They were delighted by the welcome they received in the UK generally. In turn, they have embraced all opportunities and love trying new foods, cooking together, singing and dancing and discussing politics, religion and social mores – nothing is off the table!



A twenty mile charity walk by staff and students of King's High and Warwick School raised £10,345 to equip two decommissioned NHS ambulances to send to Ukraine

Spaghetti! Spaghetti!



At my Primary School, it was a truth universally acknowledged that Mr Pearson was a brilliant teacher. I attended a small school, with around 12-15 pupils in each year group, so classes were combined. Mr Pearson taught Years 3 and 4. I remember my excitement during the

summer holidays as my Year 3 career approached: two whole years of being taught by Mr P!

Amongst the raft of happy memories from my time in his class, one stands out. It goes like this. Mr Pearson approached me one day and said: "Philip, I've noticed something about you. In class, you're shy. You don't like putting your hand up. But in the playground, I see something different. You can be confident and creative. I think there's a performer in there waiting to come out. So I want you to do something for me. I want you to select a poem from this book and perform it to the class next week."

Next week arrived and there I stood, clutching the book in shaking hands and hotly regretting the decision to read a poem about spaghetti in an extravagant Italian accent. (If you're curious, the poem was 'Spaghetti! Spaghetti!' by Jack Prelutsky.) The rest of the class waited in nervous silence. Taken by fear, I think I might have exited stage left if it hadn't been for Mr Pearson, standing at the back of the class, fixing me with wide eyes, and pointedly putting his thumbs up. "Do it!" those thumbs said.

So I did. I read my poem, accent mild at first but then then finding its full flow. And the class, after some initial surprise, ascended into hoots of joyous laughter, followed by overwhelming applause. I remember the experience of that moment so very well: relief, happiness, and, most of all, gratitude to Mr Pearson.

Psychologists describe stories like the one above as episodic memories. Essentially this means a recollection tied to a context – a time and a place without which the memory wouldn't function. When you think about your own school experiences – for example, when you reminisce with old school friends – you are dealing in episodic memories: the funny occasions,

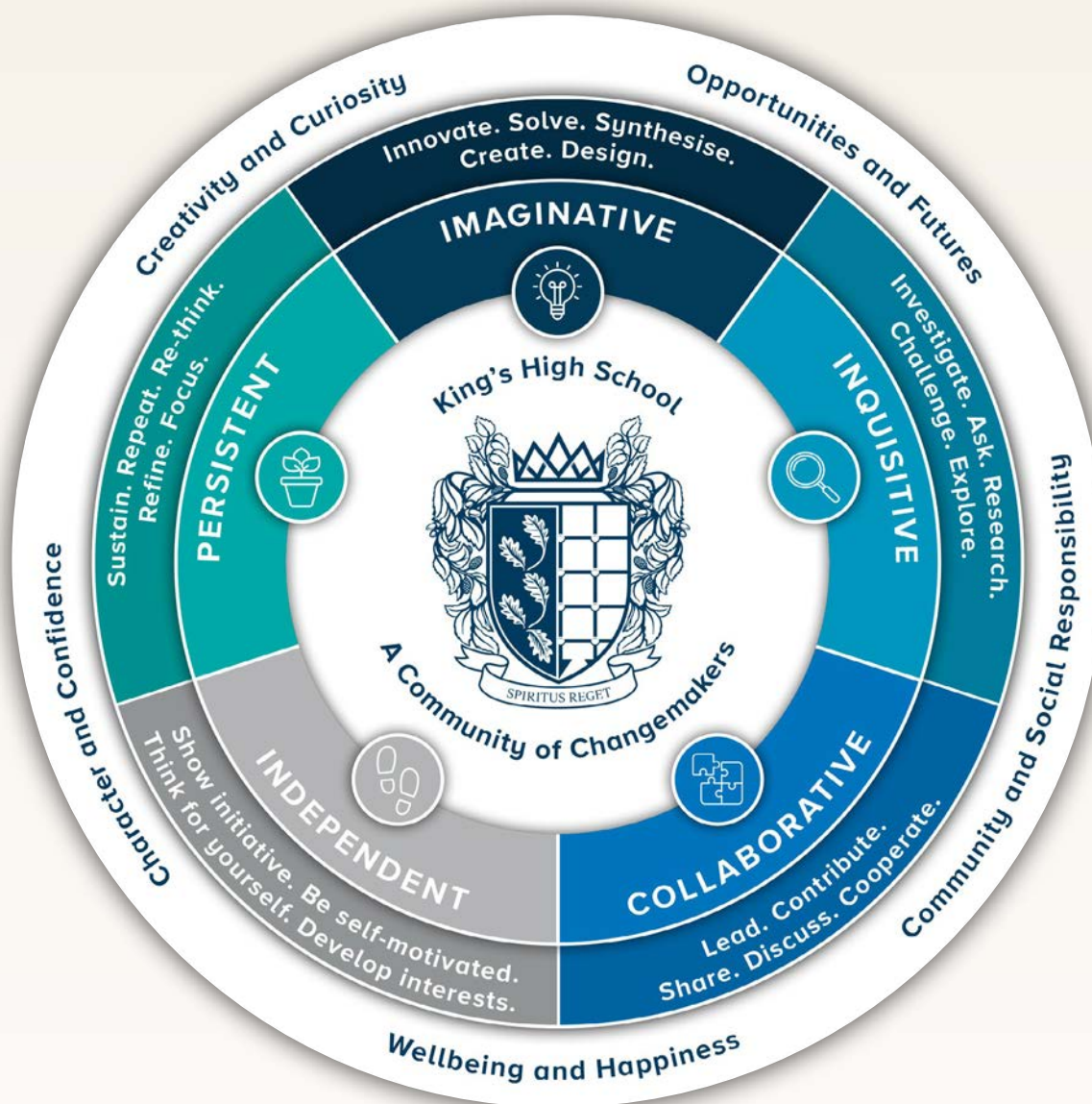
interactions with idiosyncratic teachers, and legendary events that form the folklore of your time at school. These episodes are crucial. They are the stories we tell, to ourselves and to one another, about what school means to us and what it was like. It's worth spending time reflecting on what yours are.

One of the drawbacks of our current education system is that the cultivation of transformative episodic memories isn't encoded into the way we formally examine pupils. Pupils are mainly assessed using examinations and coursework, rather than through methods that they might remember later on. There are good reasons for this. Exams lead to clear results that can be marked and ranked on a national scale. This standardization of outcomes is rigorous and (especially in subjects like Mathematics) fair. It has led to our examination system being highly regarded across the world.

Yet I wonder whether too much of a focus on exams and coursework comes at a cost. Debate continues amongst commentators and politicians (at times with surprising ferocity) about what the core priorities for education should be during the excitements of the coming decade. Is it the delivery of traditional canons of information, leading to clearly designed standardized examinations? Or should we focus much more on cultivating habits of learning and experiential skills that will equip pupils longer term?

If you ask a teacher these questions, they will tend to know what the answer is: we need to do both. Children and young people need to memorise knowledge, but they also need their 20,000 or so hours in school education to be multi-coloured, focusing on the experiences, skills and dispositions that will shape them in profound and hard-to-measure ways.

It's a source of pride and excitement that, at King's High, we are turning conversation into action when it comes to combining high quality, rigorous education with the generation of golden moments and impactful memories. For example, from September 2022, our Year 10 and 11 pupils will be able to opt to complete one of our new GCSE replacement courses. The King's High Global Changemaker Programme has units on social justice, global citizenship, climate change, and the legal system. The King's High Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programme focuses on sustainable engineering, data analysis, neuroscience and entrepreneurship.



Each of these units will be assessed using two methods. On the side of knowledge-acquisition, pupils will be required to complete a memory-based test to show that they have understood the core knowledge of each unit. On the side of cultivating episodic memories, each unit also contains a more creative form of assessment. Giving a TED talk, producing a film, participating in a courtroom scenario, building a model vehicle, designing and running a business, completing a viva – all of these will be central to how we measure our pupils' success. I hope that our pupils will remember these experiences for many years to come.

In addition, from September 2022, the King's High Learning Wheel (pictured above) will accompany all King's pupils in their learning. As pupils acquire and refine their knowledge base, we also want them to cultivate dispositions (for example, persistence) and skills (for example, leadership and creativity) that will help them to grow into rounded young people, full of

the confidence to become the changemakers of the future. There is so much more that we could report to you, but I hope that this gives a feel for our vision: a both/and model that tries to get beyond polarisation and combine the best of traditional and progressive thinking.

Twenty years after I read my poem about spaghetti, I bumped into Mr Pearson in my family's home town. I recognised him and introduced myself. To my amazement, he immediately remembered me. Then, without any prompting from me, he said: "I could tell you a story about Italian accents and poems about spaghetti!" There's another piece to be written about how a focus on golden moments is as important for teachers as it is for pupils – but that's one, perhaps, for another time.

Dr. Philip Seal, Deputy Head (Academic)

Why Teach?



Rosemary Chapman

I am sure that you, like I, can look back to your school days and find at least one person who taught you that has had a lasting impact. For me, it was the enthusiasm of my Chemistry teacher in Year 9 and how not one of her experiments ever worked. As a teacher, I have never ceased to be amazed by seeing what I call 'the lightbulb moment' as the sense of pleasure and excitement is clearly visible as at last some strange chemical concept falls into place. After all we all know that 'chemists have all the solutions!'.

After 24 years at King's High, I have just said goodbye hoping that I really have made a difference to those students I have been privileged to teach. It has been a source of great joy that I have been joined in the Science department by four of my former-students all of whom took Chemistry at A level. They are Mrs Alhassan (née **Rebecca Helps** KHS 1999-2006), Dr Harrison (née **Mimi Beckett** KHS 2003-2010), Mrs Paterson (née **Annabelle Marriott** KHS 1996-2003) and Mrs Scott (née **Jennifer Kneeland** KHS 1998-2005).

Rosemary Chapman



Michelle Jones – From NMAPS to Maths Teacher



Mrs Paterson (née Annabelle Marriott KHS 1996-2003)



Dr Harrison (née Mimi Beckett KHS 2003-2010)



Mrs Scott (née Jennifer Kneeland KHS 1998-2005)



a teacher takes a hand *opens a mind* and touches a heart



Bethan Irving KHS 2006-2013

Girl (KHS 2006-2013) and current music teacher can help.

'I am very fortunate to have a job where I get to share my love of music with a generation of such hardworking students, every single day. Helping individuals on their learning journey is a challenge and a joy, and there's nothing that can replace the feeling when your pupil has that light-bulb moment! This isn't a one-way street of learning; I get to learn and be inspired by the girls, who are so creative and often come up with the most brilliant ideas.'

As we reflect on the recent pandemic and try to rebuild relationships, our lives and experiences impacted by it, why should university students, school leavers and people established in careers consider training to teach?

Maybe **Bethan Irving**, Old

Michelle Jones, who completed her training in June 2021 and is now employed in the mathematics department at King's High, especially loved the subject-specific nature of the course: *'Our hub subject leads were brilliant! Spending nearly all of my training in a school from day one was great. I had a fantastic mentor and was in a great department where I felt supported by everyone. Having the Friday training days on top of this was the perfect balance and a great way to meet other trainees from different schools.'* I know she would definitely recommend NMAPS to anyone considering training to teach Maths or Physics.



Ms Cooper, Teacher of Physics

of the National Mathematics and Physics School Centred Initial Teacher Training Programme (NMAPS SCITT). This entirely school based one-year training programme with its unique subject specific focus leads to the award of Qualified Teacher Status and would see you working with some of the truly inspirational teachers within the Foundation.

Ensuring a sufficient number of suitably qualified teachers to educate and care for our young people must be a priority. We were delighted to be asked to lead, in conjunction with Warwick School, the Warwick Regional Hub

Beth Andrews, an Old Girl (KHS 2003-2010) who returned to the Foundation on her appointment to Warwick School as a teacher of mathematics in 2020, is passionate about the role that teachers provide in the development of young people by inspiring them and nurturing them as individuals. We were all delighted to hear of Beth's appointment as Assistant Programme Lead – Mathematics for the NMAPS SCITT. This national appointment celebrates the work that Beth has been doing, and more widely the success of the Warwick Regional Hub. Benefitting from excellent teaching herself, Beth is well placed to take a leading role in the training and development of the next cohort of maths teachers.



Beth Andrews KHS 2003-2010

If you, a member of your family or somebody you know is interested in learning more about becoming a teacher please encourage them to contact me on r.chapman@warwickschool.org or nmaps@warwickschools.co.uk

Award Winning School



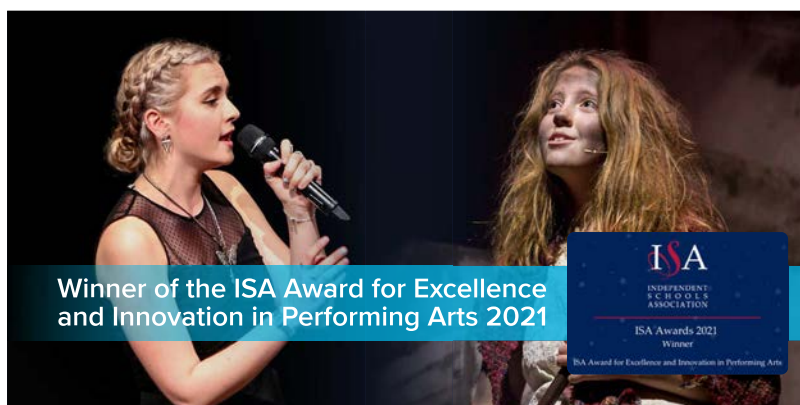
Mrs Didlick, Mrs Watson, Dr Burley, Mr Nicholson, Mrs Renton and Ms Whittington



We are delighted to report that not only did King's High win Senior School of the Year in the prestigious Independent Schools Association (ISA) Awards for 2021, but we also won the award for Excellence and Innovation in the Performing Arts. In addition, we were highly commended for Outstanding Sport and Excellence and Innovation in Fine Arts. This followed our recent short-listing for UK School of the Year in Performing Arts (Music and Drama) in the Independent School Parent Awards.

Rudolf Eliot Lockhart, Chief Executive Officer of the Independent Schools Association commented: 'King's High School have built an excellent foundation for the children in their care through a diverse curriculum and outstanding provision across all areas from sport, the arts and pastoral care. The school have been a beacon of positivity for students throughout the pandemic with their focus on wellbeing and community and we're honoured to recognise them as our Senior School of the Year.'

Hot off the press is the news that, in 2022, King's High has been shortlisted in three awards categories by the ISA. These are the ISA Award for Outstanding Sport (Large School), the ISA Award for Innovation in Independent Education and again the ISA Senior School of the Year Award.



If that were not all, for 2022 we have been shortlisted in the Healthy Eating School of the Year from a different awarding body, the Independent Schools of the Year.

We won't have long to wait to find out if we have won, because the winners will be announced over the next few months.

New Uniforms for King's High and Warwick Prep



L to R Uniforms: 1920s-1950s, 1950s-1990s, 1990s-2020s, 2022-



New Prep Uniform



New King's High uniform

September 2022 sees the launch of the brand new King's High School uniform, the first chosen wholly by the student body. Whereas previous generations used School Council as a means to make subtle changes to what they wore, the 2022 uniform was designed and made entirely after consultation with its future wearers.

King's High did not have a uniform in the nineteenth century, but gradually by the early twentieth century a school hatband and school tie made an appearance. Prior to this, white dresses were worn for special occasions such as Speech Day or to mark the presence of a special visitor. It was the advent of sport within schools that kick-started the uniform, with a sports blazer bearing the first of four school crests ensuring that one was ready for any athletic emergency.

As you will see from the first long school photographs in the 1920s, a collarless white blouse, a box-pleated gymslip in navy blue and black lisle stockings formed the first proper uniform. We are lucky enough to have one in the archive, donated by **Joan Poole** (KHS 1937-1942), the mother of **Julia** (now McConaghy, KHS 1962-1969), **Janet** (now King, KHS 1966-1973) and former teacher **Ruth Court** (KHS 1970-1977 and staff 1987-2015).

In the early 1950s, under **Miss Hare**, the school blue gymslip uniform was replaced by yellow blouses, black crested blazers and a grey skirt and jumper or cardigan. Black 'pork pie' hats were winter headgear, with a 'white Breton sailor hat' or boater for the summer. The hats proved unpopular with successive generations as the twentieth century wore on, and King's High was one of the last schools in the county to retain headgear.

Eventually, after many attempts at School Council, the hats were voted 'optional', (which the student body interpreted as 'abolished') and hats disappeared from King's High heads in 1977. About ten years afterwards, **Miss Lenygon** took a group to a sixth form history conference in Birmingham. All were aghast to see that they were the only school represented still wearing a uniform. School Council was again pressed into service, and sixth form uniform was replaced by a dress code, which at one time included a chic black waistcoat.

By 1994, the school had changed in many ways, and headmistress **Mrs Anderson** wanted a new uniform to reflect this modernisation. Away went the yellow, black and grey, along with the school tie. The new uniform colours of jade green and blue were displayed in a tailored business suit-style jacket, a pin striped blouse and a pleated skirt for KS3. A rite of passage was marked when one graduated to the pencil skirt of Key Stage 4. A summer dress had fallen out of favour by the turn of the century, but under **Mr Nicholson** was reintroduced in 2015, chosen by the students and influenced by the school in Australian TV soap opera 'Home and Away'.

Now we have a new school site and a fourth school crest. The time is right to change our uniform once more. The blue blazer is darker, and trousers are available as an alternative to the skirt. The skirt, however, is a kilt in a check akin to the summer dresses. The new school blouse is white. Students have two year grace period to adopt the new garments, and we hope they will prove popular with all.

Not to be outdone, Warwick Preparatory School has also debuted its new uniform this term.

WPSA News



At the recent WPSA AGM, outgoing Chair Helen Owen was able to report that the year had been 'a bit more normal', although some events had been held outside or online.

These events included the Macmillan Coffee Morning, a virtual pumpkin carving competition, visits from Father Christmas and his reindeer, an online pantomime, Film Night for Years 1 and 2, the Prep Disco and the Easter Eggstravaganza.

WPSA continued to support the school by funding items such as House badges, new merit badges, Year 2 leavers' squirrels and Year 6 leavers' gifts.

The WPSA Treasurer was pleased to report that a net amount of £6,663.19 had been raised, which was more than in the Covid years, and in keeping with the usual amount raised. In addition to the funding mentioned above, some charitable donations had been made to the MS Society and

the Myton Hospices. The children all had Platinum Jubilee commemorative bookmarks from WPSA, and £2,294.40 was donated for a Forest School gazebo, £1,322.63 for 50% of the cost of woodwind and brass instruments for Year 3, and £415.20 for giant Octoplay equipment.

With the launch of the new school uniform, which has a two year grace period for its introduction, (see page 25), the WPSA-run School Uniform Shop had to reduce its prices by up to 60% so as not to be left with obsolete stock.

Helen and her committee are to be praised for their ongoing voluntary commitment to WPSA and the school, and we wish good luck to new Chair **Julie Moon** and the new committee members.



@WPSACentral



@WPSA10



Cheque for Myton Hospice



WPSA Disco



Santa's stall



Easter Eggstravaganza



The easter Bunny visits



Helen Owen with Santa's reindeer

KHAPS update



Review of 2021-22 school year

We had another changing of the guard at KHAPS this year. Soon after **Emma Griffin** stepped down as chair, long-serving staff representative **Caroline Renton** departed for Switzerland.

For as long as any of us can remember, Caroline was at every second-hand uniform sale to open the doors to parents and dispense wise advice on the best choices to be had from the racks.

The annual Head Master's quiz won't be quite the same without Caroline sharing hosting duties and firmly settling disputes as only an experienced teacher could.

In her stead, though, we've thoroughly enjoyed working with **Sarah Didlick** who is our new fount of all knowledge and main point of contact with the school.

Looking back on fundraising activities last school year:

- Head Master's quiz night was held in the real world after two years on Zoom and it was a joy to return to face-to-face competition over a Doom Bar or two. Committee member **Helen Owen** injected more creativity with a wine & cheese taste-test round which went down well in both the figurative and literal sense
- Helen also introduced Easter and Christmas prize raffles, ably supported by committee members **Kate Clark** and **Bomme Stuber**
- As always, the main fundraising activity was our termly second-hand uniform sales, in which all committee members were involved with special thanks to **Aya Jasper**, **Anna Clarke**, **Gwen Heath**, **Vanessa Pellow** and **Bomme** for their efforts.

Overall, we raised £20k.

One of the main beneficiaries was the Personal Achievement Awards, overseen by long-serving committee member **Emma Griffin**.



A 'Taste of King's'

Each year, the girls are invited to apply for funding contributions of up to £300 towards extra-curricular courses or activities outside the school that enhance their personal development.

Sponsored activities this year included British Youth Musical Theatre Summer Camp, yoga teaching training, shark conversation volunteering, the Future Doctor Summer Experience, an outdoor first aid course, volunteering with underprivileged children in Morocco and a jewellery-making course.

We also spent £5k on new seating and tables outside the cafeteria and lunchtime games for use in the quadrangle.

And parents received £7k from the sale of their daughters' clothes in the uniform sales.

The KHAPS annual general meeting will be held on Thursday evening, October 13, before one of the best KHAPS evenings of the year, the Taste of King's dinner, where the school chefs pull out all stops to prepare a sumptuous dinner for the parents.

We will be happy to welcome new members, particularly with long-serving committee and former chair Emma Griffin standing down after 10 years, and will also be looking to replace our committee secretary **Hannah Jenkins** who is sadly stepping down from that role after two years.

Tim Satchell – KHAPS Chair

Personal Achievement Awards underwater!

Warwick – A Singing Town

Warwick – A Singing Town, is a unique, philanthropically-funded project to promote singing as part of the artistic and cultural post-pandemic renewal in Warwick.

Through free, high-quality singing and choral opportunities in schools, sharing information about local singing and choral opportunities for all town residents, and bespoke partnerships with groups who may benefit from the therapeutic aspects of singing – our goal is for singing to be better understood, promoted, and available to all residents. The King Henry VIII Charity is advancing this project, which has Foundation

Principal **Richard Nicholson** as its great instigator and driving force. Among its patrons are the world renowned **Simon Halsey**, **Roderick Williams** and our own **Catherine Bott**, and the Mayor of Warwick.

Local schools, and indeed the whole community, will be involved, under the auspices of its research and delivery lead, **Jeremy Dibb**. Regular singing workshops will be held to promote its three tenets: Happiness, Health and Harmony.

For further information, please see:
www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk

OGA Annual Lunch and AGM

On 5th March 2022, many Old Girls from their twenties to their late eighties came to see the new Banbury Road site, and to enjoy a day of nostalgia, with refreshments on arrival. A polished band of senior girls acted as tour guides, and the Old Girls marvelled at places such as the Drama Studios, DT suites and the new Music School. It was the first time post-lockdown that many of the Old Girls had met Head Master Dr Stephen Burley who spoke about his own teaching career and his pride at leading such an innovative school.

After the AGM, the star of the show was our guest speaker and Old Girl Mrs **Sue Moore** (née Ashton, KHS 1960-1967), one of the first King's High girls to study business in the 1960s. Sue spoke of the two strands to her life, her career as an executive mentor with Blue Chip clients such as the Dorchester Hotel, Microsoft and Sony, and her all-consuming passion for drama, which led to her becoming artistic director of the Loft Theatre, Leamington. Peppered with sage anecdotes and careers advice which resonated with those whose careers were in the past, those currently working and those starting out on their career journeys, Sue's address gave us all the idea of following our

dreams and finding work doing something for which we have a passion. After all, she explained, Martin Luther King said 'I have a dream', not 'I have a forty eight page business plan'!

Memories of Miss Hare carrying her poodle, Delta, Blofeld-like, under her arm amused her contemporaries. We were also treated to a fabulous monologue delivered by Sue from the play *The Lady in the Van*.

Everyone had been so inspired by Sue's talk that she was invited back to give this year's Speech Day address in July. Thank you so much to **Christophe Charpentier** and his catering team for a wonderful lunch. Next year's OGA Lunch is on Saturday 18th March with our guest speaker being Dr **Felicity Bee**, medic and Olympic hopeful (KHS 2009-2016).



Sue Moore, Polly Beidas, Dr Stephen Burley



OGA Annual Lunch

Class of 2022

We are delighted to welcome members of the Class of 2022 to the OGA and Landor Association community. Here's hoping they will enjoy a long and fruitful membership. We are very proud of their achievements, with 65% of their A level grades being at A or A*. 82% of our students will be studying at their first choice university, with 79% of them going to prestigious Russell Group institutions.



www.warwickfoundationconnect.com

Recent leavers and all Landor Association community are invited to join and engage with our free, online networking platform.

- Join the dedicated group for Old Girls plus your own specific year-group
- Connect with alumni, parents and friends of Warwick Independent Schools Foundation
- Request or offer mentoring opportunities
- Promote your business on the Business Directory
- Advertise or search for job opportunities or work experience.



Sign up in two minutes at www.warwickfoundationconnect.com or download the  Graduway Community App and enter 'Warwick Foundation'.

Supporting Our Schools

Members of the Landor Association, former pupils and friends have generously supported our schools with gifts of time, expertise and donations over the past

year. Your support, generosity and involvement are always enormously appreciated.

What your gifts supported this year

Margaret Stone's Xylophone

In March, we welcomed the Squires family, who kindly funded a new Xylophone for the Music Department. There is a lovely story of music and family behind their wonderful gift. **Margaret Stone** – who the Margaret Stone Practice Room is named after – attended King's High from 1916-1923. Her family reconnected with King's High, when they came to the opening of the new Music School.

Margaret's son David explained what the school had meant to Margaret and how it shaped her life, and also her children's lives, growing up. They were inspired listening to our Artistic Director, **Alex Laing**, which led to a family discussion about how they could assist with equipment. They decided upon our magnificent new Xylophone. Thank you to David and his family for this support.



The Squires family, Ema and Head Master Dr Burley

One Campus Plus

Our schools continue to benefit from pledges made to the One Campus Plus fundraising campaign in 2019. We are delighted that several new stones have been added to our Benefactors' Pathway over the past year.

Bursaries

A growing number of donors support our means tested bursary fund with regular or one-off donations, or by gifts in wills. There will be a renewed focus on increasing free places for deserving pupils over the coming year.

New Jet Engine for King's High School

King's High was delighted to receive a donation from **Mark Smyth**, parent of a pupil and a pilot, of a Rolls Royce Viper 102 Turbojet engine, which will be used as a teaching and learning aid for our Design and Technology Department, and CCF's Air Cadets.



Gifts of time

Our Landor Association community has generously volunteered time and shared their talent and expertise by:

- Speaking to current pupils
- Offering careers advice
- Acting as a mentor
- Participating in our education conference Future FWD.



Former pupil Eleanor Deeley, speaking at a business breakfast event

For more information on how members of our community can support our schools, please visit www.kingshighwarwick.co.uk/howyoucansupportus. If you would like to discuss any aspect of our work, please contact Phillip Rothwell, Foundation Director of Development, via email at development@warwickschools.co.uk or by calling 01926 776402.

Thank you to all our benefactors who have supported us

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And all our anonymous benefactors



Your exclusive online network and mentoring platform

www.warwickfoundationconnect.com

The value of a life-long connection

The Foundation is in contact with over 10,000 former pupils from our schools, based all around the globe and pursuing varied interests and professions. Every member of our community is warmly invited to participate in this world-wide-mutually-supportive network. There are fantastic opportunities to benefit from, and give support to, fellow members.

Online mentoring

Our Warwick Foundation Connect platform has powerful mentoring tools to make it easy for members of our community to connect, network and offer support to one another.

Our mentors use their knowledge and experience to help recent school leavers develop new skills and build larger networks.

The scheme has proved to be very popular, with almost 1,000 people on the platform who are willing to offer their connections, expertise, and support to others. We are very privileged to have such a vibrant and generous community that supports one another at every stage of their careers and lives.

If you would like mentoring or are happy to offer mentoring, please register at www.warwickfoundationconnect.com.

London networking breakfast

In March, 35 former pupils from King's High and Warwick School visited The Lansdowne Club, London, for a networking breakfast with the Foundation Principal, Mr **Richard Nicholson**.

Former Warwick School pupil, **James Uffindell**, spoke to the group about the future of work, highlighting the importance of building resilience, problem solving and communication skills, and especially developing self-awareness and getting support from mentors.

James then led a speed networking session to get everyone back into the habit of networking after so long apart. More pictures of the event can be found on the London Networking Group on the Warwick Foundation Connect platform at www.warwickfoundationconnect.com.



Networking breakfast alumnae