



# OK NEWS 2020

The magazine of the Old Kimboltonians' Association



**Spring 2020**

## Welcome

I hope you enjoy the features in this issue - thank you to everyone who has contributed. Sadly our 'News of OKs' section is somewhat shorter than usual this year - we know that everyone likes reading through this section, so please help keep it alive by making a point to send in your news to the OKA Office.

Despite a couple of set backs in 2019 the OKA Committee are working hard to find out what you, the alumni, want from the Association and to organise events that you would like to attend. I really hope that the interest in supporting the OKA is set to continue - remember the success of the Association relies on your involvement!

You will find details of future events planned in this publication and on the OK website. Even if you only have a fleeting thought about attending an OK event, please get in touch and find out more - we are here to help and just a fleeting thought shows you have some level of interest in connecting with the OKA and your former school friends!

Helen

**Helen Hopperton**



### Submission of articles:

We welcome articles for inclusion in future issues. Please bear in mind that it is not perhaps possible to include all contributions and we reserve the right to revise articles as necessary.

The copy deadline for the next edition is 15th December 2020. All copy and photographs should be sent to alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk, or posted to Helen Hopperton at the school address.

*Please note that the views of contributors are their own and not necessarily those of the OKA or Kimbolton School.*

## Contact Us

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**Alumni Officer:** Helen Hopperton (OK 85)

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Old Kimboltonians' Association



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## Handling YOUR Data

*The OKA holds and processes personal data about Kimbolton School's former pupils and former staff (OKs) as part of its everyday operations. We take seriously your privacy and the responsibility of handling personal data, and comply with GDPR and the requirements of Kimbolton School's Data Protection Policy.*

*Your data will be used by the OKA and Kimbolton School only for the purpose of keeping you informed of alumni events and news, and, from time to time, fundraising activities. However your name and contact details may be passed to an individual member of the OKA for the purposes of organising a specific OK reunion, event or sports team.*

*If you wish to withdraw your consent please advise the OKA in writing (this can be done easily by completing the OK Update Form on our website, or by email), and we will delete your personal data from our records.*

**(Cover Photo: Courtesy of R E Knell)**

*In the interests of the environment, this publication is produced using vegetable based inks printed on paper produced from managed sustainable forests with full FSC Accreditation, and is coated with an aqueous coating. Please recycle it responsibly.*

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*We couldn't resist including this drawing by Lower Sixth former Darcey Lancaster-Adlam - a view that many of you will recognise and that hasn't changed much over the years!*

# From the OKA President

2019 seems to have flown past and has been particularly busy in the Brown household where Nic and I welcomed William into the world, a brother to Jess, we moved home to Northumberland from London, and I moved job.

This has caused me to realise just how busy life has become for us all and how many pressures there are on time. It is therefore no surprise that whilst the OKA continues with a strong vein of support, we are faced with the realisation as a committee, we cannot always gain the support for all the things we want to do. That said, we must remember that the OKA will remain as the organisation that binds all those who attended Kimbolton, giving us all a common bond.

People often say that your school days are your best and whether you believe that or not, school was the place that shaped at least part of your life and, as such, it has been a pleasure for me to serve as the OKA President for the past 4 years.

In October, I will hand over the reins but not without a real sense of pride of being able to put back just a little to the place I didn't always enjoy, but the place that shaped a big part of me as a person. All I can ask is that whoever steps into the shoes of the OKA President is able to count on as many of you as possible for support in an ever-changing world.

In the Spring term, we were delighted to be able to return to the Landsdown Club in Mayfair, where we had moved the previous year as the venue for the London Dinner. Whilst numbers were down slightly, we saw members representing year groups from 1955 to 2007 attend and being reminded once more by Jonathan Belbin that whilst our time at Kimbolton has passed, records still remain of performances both academically and also, behaviourally!

We are continuing to look at investing in our digital library, adding additional images as funds allow, providing more people the opportunity to be reminded of their time at Kimbolton in a way that is far more accessible and available for all. Please do contact Helen if you haven't yet got the password to gain access to the site.

The Summer Reunion was again a great success and we were blessed once more with a glorious day, possibly a bit too glorious for some as temperatures rocketed; to all the sports teams who turned out to play against the school and the teams competing in the 5-a-side football tournament, my hat goes off to you all - it must have been baking!

One change we made at the OK Ball, which was again very well attended (it was good to see a large number of the 1989 year group there - possibly the largest 30 year reunion we



have ever seen), was for the committee to run the bar. Once we got the hang of the digital payment devices, there was no stopping us! It was great to be able to interact with so many OKs, even if sometimes it was just to line up another round of Jägermeister! We do not set out to make a profit at any OK event, however at the OK Ball there is a point when economies of scale do kick in and last year a surplus was gained; it is heartening to know the profits made were put straight to the OK Scholarship Trust Fund, allowing us to support more pupils in their education at Kimbolton.

Less successful was again, the Annual Dinner in October, where we took the decision for the second year running to cancel. This has allowed us, as a committee, to reflect on what is wanted from the Association and the Annual Dinner is obviously not hitting the mark. So, we have decided to remove the event altogether from the OKA calendar and look for another opportunity, more relative to people's requirements in the near future.

2019 was also a sad year for the Association, where we lost a number of members, some too soon in their lives. This has reminded me to not take for granted the friendships I have made, many of those through Kimbolton in many different ways and to keep close those dearest to me, however that may be.

As I sign off for the last time as OKA President, I would like to thank the committee and particularly Helen Hopperton, for their continued support and guidance over my tenure, it made the job all the more enjoyable and rewarding.

## The Committee & Representatives of the Old Kimboltonians' Association

### OKA Committee...

<b>President:</b>	James Brown (94)	<b>Treasurer:</b>	Position Vacant
<b>Vice President:</b>	Jonathan Belbin (Headmaster)	<b>Secretary:</b>	Helen Hopperton (Alumni Officer, 85)
Andrew Bamford (Staff)	Josh Doonan (13)	Alaster Gray (73)	Claire Murphy (90)
Danni Belbin (12)	Joanna Doyle (84)	John Hitchin (71)	Joshua Spink (07)
George Beverly (08)	Hattie Gellatly (13)	James Hodges (11)	Bill Skinner (Former Staff)
James Brown (94)	Theo Gibbs (68)	James Hopperton (94)	Roger Watson (Former Staff)
Thomas Campbell (14)	Sarah Gill (12)	Jonathan Hunter (80)	Fiona Whiteman (85)
Michael Capps (65)	Charlotte Goodson (88)	John Mayes (51)	

### OKA Sports Managers...

The OKs below organise the teams for the various matches against the School teams; if you are interested in playing in any of the sports please help by getting in touch with the relevant manager (dates of the matches are on the OK website) - it makes their life a lot easier!

<b>CRICKET - 1st XI</b>	Charlie Gingell	07972 071154	gingell.charles@gmail.com
<b>CRICKET - 2nd XI</b>	James Moore		jamescmoore6@gmail.com
<b>FOOTBALL</b>	George Wilson	07411 101363	george.a.wilson@icloud.com
<b>GOLF</b>	Charles Robinson	01480 860581	cjr@robinsonkimbolton.co.uk
<b>HOCKEY (Men's)</b>	Alec Bryden		alec.bryden@ntlworld.com
<b>HOCKEY (Ladies)</b>	Natalie Gaunt		natalie1.gaunt@googlemail.com
<b>NETBALL</b>	Danni Belbin		danni.belbin2120@gmail.com
<b>ROUNDERS</b>	Charlotte Ralph	07969 882797	cl.ralph@live.co.uk
<b>SAILING</b>	Alaster Gray	01480 461141	alasterlesleygray@hotmail.com
<b>TENNIS (Men's)</b>	James Hodges	07715286475	jameshodges93@ymail.com
<b>TENNIS (Ladies)</b>	Helen Hopperton	01480 862223	alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

### Are you interested in getting involved with the OKA?

We are looking for enthusiastic OKs to join the OKA Committee and help drive the association forward and organise events & reunions... for more information on what this involves please contact

Helen Hopperton, Alumni Officer:  
alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk / 01480 862223

# From the Headmaster

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I realise that I am in danger of repeating myself if I begin this year's missive by saying that we have a record number of pupils in the School (1050 to be precise), but that really is the case as Kimbolton School continues to grow. We are in the top 5% of schools, size wise, within the Independent Schools Council – the over-arching body to which most UK independent schools belong. With interest remaining high (over 170 candidates for 11+ entry this year), it is likely that the next School Development Plan, due later this year, will need to grapple with the (pleasant) ramifications of a larger Senior School.

Size isn't everything of course, but there can be no doubt that the political vicissitudes, which rained down on the independent school sector during 2019, have left us all bruised and wary. Should politicians continue trying to sink us over the coming years, it will be the larger schools who will have the buoyancy to stay afloat.

The December Election result brought a degree of certainty, if not surety, to the independent school debate (lazily depicted as 'posh schools' tax breaks'). However, the need to ensure post-Brexit equanimity in new Conservative seats, traditionally Labour strongholds, will undoubtedly mean further advancement of the social opportunity agenda. Ethically and morally, this is to be applauded but, all too often, 'private schools' end up becoming a surrogate vessel to camouflage government inaction.

Overall, though, the new decade begins on a very optimistic note as far as your old School is concerned. A new School Development Plan will undoubtedly look at ways to further advance the underlying strengths of Kimbolton School as we seek ever stronger academic success, married to a continuation of our extensive extra-curricular provision. Spring also sees the opening of a new building as, almost quarter of a century after its induction, the Lower Prep is physically connected for the first time to the Upper Prep. A large new entrance atrium brings the two buildings together, providing a more grandiose entry point compared to the previous bland doors, situated next to the boiler room iron steps, a fire hydrant and some wheelie bins. It also means that visitors get to see through the atrium to the green playing fields beyond, previously well-hidden by the somewhat austere Victorian red-brick building.

As the new School Development Plan begins to take shape over the course of this year, much of its 'meat' will resonate from a revamped Mission Statement and Set of Values. The current iteration dates back to my first year as Headmaster and is looking dated. Hmmm, let's move on.

We have engaged a Marketing Research company to provide external validation of our strengths so that we can continue to focus on those core elements (all rounder, warm, friendly community, academic rigour leavened by a balanced outlook etc) which I would hope you recall from your school days.

The instantaneous nature of social media renders any 'clunky' highlights reel of the last year somewhat redundant. Therefore, I would direct you to our excellent website and the pithily compiled news section of this publication. Suffice to say that the last twelve months have seen much success for Kimboltonians in the sporting, artistic, musical, dramatic and academic fields, including a magnificent tally of '9' grades at GCSE last Summer. At nearly 20% of the total, this new 9 (equivalent to a non-existent A\*\* in old money) was the second favourite grade secured by last year's Kimbolton 5th Form.

As always, I hugely enjoy meeting up with OKs over the course of the year, whether that be at 'official' OK functions or in the warp and weft of daily life. I am frequently delighted to discover, when talking to prospective Kimbolton parents, that one, or both, are Old Kimboltonians themselves. Increasingly, I recognise them from my time as Headmaster!

The Committee, under the excellent leadership of James Brown, continues to look to innovate, inform and excite. Initiatives only work, of course, if others are prepared to follow and support. Please do so. The very fact that you are reading this (and well done for sticking with me to the end) means that you are known to us, but there are still OKs absent from our database, yet privately known to you. Please encourage them to get in touch so we can further expand the Association – as I wrote at the outset, size equals strength!

**Jonathan Belbin**  
Headmaster



0900 The sixth form are the first to take their places



0900-0915 It's starting to take shape

**Friday 13 September 2019 - the date of the quinennial whole school photo. It was very brave arranging for the biggest ever Kimbolton School photo to take place on Friday 13th!**

With 1200 individuals including pupils aged from 4 - 18, the superstitious among you would have thought that anything could have gone wrong, but it didn't and, in fact, the whole operation ran like clockwork.



0930 Not many more to go...



0950 Staff are in place and the youngest Prep School pupils join in

# School NEWS

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

### EXAM RESULTS

#### A Levels

Kimbolton School students achieved another good set of results in the first year that all subjects followed the tougher two-year A level format.

Over 66% of the grades were A\* to B, with over half these at A\* or A. Twenty students, a fifth of the year group, gained at least three A/A\*s.

#### GCSEs

In the first year with every subject scored under the new 0 to 1 grading system, the school celebrated an excellent set of GCSE and IGCSE results.

An impressive 36% of all grades were awarded at the top 9 or 8 (equivalent to the old A\*) and 58% at 9-7 (old A\*/A). Twenty-nine students achieved nine or more 9 to 7 grades.

### PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Individual pupils and team ventures continue to keep Kimbolton School's name in the headlines of national educational events and competitions.

As this publication was being written a team of lower sixth formers were on the leaderboard of the national *Tycoon* enterprise competition set up by Peter Jones CBE. Another group of sixth formers were through to the National Final of the UK Mathematics Trust Senior Maths Team Challenge after winning the Regional Heat in Peterborough.

Last November students also impressed judges at the Oxford MUN competition with their public speaking and diplomatic skills. Meanwhile a sixth form bagpiper Abbie Kerr joined some of the last surviving WW2 veterans in Arnhem, Netherlands, as she led a procession to mark the 75th anniversary of Operation Market Garden - one of the largest airborne operations in history.

### DTE

The School's Design, Technology and Engineering Department was named England's Top Sixth Form Performer for DT Product Design in research carried out last year by Oxford Analytics.

As well as achieving impressive results at A level, over the last few years several DTE students have been awarded prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarships identifying them as some of the country's future leaders in engineering and related areas of design, and others have achieved success in the *F1 in Schools* competition.

### CRICKET

Kimbolton is named as one of the Top 100 cricketing schools in the UK in *The Cricketer* magazine's respected Schools Guide 2020. Inclusion follows an exhaustive process in which schools were judged against an extensive set of criteria, with the chosen establishments having outstanding facilities, fixture programmes and coaching.

School cricketers were rewarded last year with visits from several high profile international cricketers. In the summer term West Indies legend Sir Garry Sobers visited Kimbolton to talk to students about his life and share his expert advice on getting the most out of cricket.

A few days later parents and students were entertained by Graham Gooch who took part in a fundraising evening for the School Senior Sports Tour to South Africa.



Sir Garry Sobers (r) with School Sports Coach Alex Tudor faces questions from senior school students

In November two former England captains, Sir Alastair Cook and Alec Stewart OBE, were guests at a fundraising Sports Dinner in the Castle organised by the School Sports Department.

The evening supported the Professional Cricketers' Trust as well as the School's bid to host the PCA England Masters at some point... keep a look out on the School website for further news on this!





## FUTURE F1 CHAMPION?

Watch out for the name Dougie Bolger - the current fourth former was selected last year by McLaren as a potential F1 Champion of the future. Dougie races for Fusion Motorsport and is one of just 3 drivers remaining in McLaren Applied Technologies DNA programme (from an initial pool of 9 drivers).

## A NEW LOOK FOR OUTDOOR PURSUITS

The Outdoor Pursuits department had a makeover during the summer holidays - pupils returned to the new school year to find a smart timber-clad building had replaced the old blue one.



Before the Outdoor Pursuits makeover (above) and after (below)



## PREP SCHOOL BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

As we go to print the Prep School will be getting ready to use their new entrance (as mentioned by the Headmaster on page 6).

Work started last summer on the building of a 6-metre high atrium which will link the Lower Prep (Aragon House) to the main Prep School building as well as provide an accessible and welcoming new School entrance.

The completion of the roof in October was marked by an official "topping-out" ceremony by staff, pupils and construction workers (see below).



Pupils have buried a time capsule in the new entrance. Amongst other things the capsule contained class photos, a Kimbolton blazer, a collage of reception pupils' handprints, a recent newspaper and pictures of typical 21st century food!

It is hoped that this record of the Prep will give future generations an insight into current school life.

Keep up to date with all school news and activities by following them on social media:



@KimboltonSchool



/KimboltonSchool



kimbolton\_school

## COMMON ROOM NEWS

There were a few changes in the Senior School and Prep School staff rooms at the end of the last academic year...

### LYNNE STONE

Mrs Stone retired in July. She joined Kimbolton in 2002, the term before Mr Belbin joined as Headmaster.

As well as being the Head of the Religious Studies Department (recently re-named as Philosophy, Religion and Ethics), Lynne also taught English and was an Ingrams tutor for several years.



Having had to move on from making work sheets using carbon paper and playing Shakespeare plays to classes on LPs, to getting used to using Apple TV and iTunes U in the classroom, she is looking forward to retirement and perhaps spending time learning a new instrument (although we have noticed that she is back on the payroll as a part time proof reader this term..!).

### SUE YALLUP

After 15 years of service, Dr Yallup took the decision to retire at the end of the 2018/19 academic year.

At Kimbolton she played a fundamental role in the Maths Department, despite the fact that her first degree being in Physics and, prior to teaching, she was an engineer for 25 years!



She's pleased to have left the laborious tasks of marking and report writing behind and is looking forward to having the opportunity to do more travelling and pursuing new hobbies.

Australia and New Zealand are on her bucket list as is taking time to visit friends and pursuing hobbies such as water colour painting.

### JUAN GOMEZ

Senor Gomez left Kimbolton in July after 11 years running the Spanish department.

With his exuberant personality and his passion for his native language and culture, Juan helped develop the Spanish department into what it is today.

He ensured that Spanish became a



language available to all pupils, not just year 9 and above, and it was not unusual to hear the sound of spanish songs emanating from his classroom - being sung by pupils of all ages!

His lively character will be missed around the School.

### MARK BENNETT

Mark Bennett (Staff, 1986-2019) retired in July after 33 years in the Art Department. As well as inspiring generations of pupils, he was Housemaster of Owens for 24 years and ran the highly successful Clay Shooting team. He was also an important figure in the boarding community, supporting his wife Clare (a teachers' wedding in 1992!) in running White House for five years. See pages 12 and 13 for a full profile on Mark and his recent exhibition held in Kimbolton Castle.

A few other members of the Senior School common room also left last summer: **Daisy Collins** (English) moved to teach at a school in London; **Mayna Kfoury** (French) and **Lucy Whiteside** (Maths) departed for pastures new; **David Cole** (Chemistry) left to take on the role of Head of Chemistry at Wallington Grammar in Surrey. After 5 years in the Library **Katherine Morris** has moved to complete a teacher training course. The Prep School said a fond farewell to long standing teachers **Jenny Edwards** and **Jo Laino** last July, as well as the Prep Headmaster's PA, **Pat Williams**, and Prep Nurse, **Libby Maitland**.

**Andrew Bamford** stepped down from his role as Head of Sixth Form (after 14 years in the role!). **Matt Gilbert** has moved from being Director of Sport to take up the challenge of heading up the sixth form, and Clare Bennett has handed over the reins of Ingrams House to Oliver Hall.






# Kimbolton School

Co-educational day and boarding, ages 4 to 18

## OPEN MORNINGS 2020

Prep School (ages 4-11) – Friday 1 May & Friday 9 October

Senior School (ages 11-18) – Saturday 3 October

-  Half an hour from Cambridge
-  40 minutes from London
-  School bus network in 3 counties



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01480 862209

## MARK BENNETT

2019 was a busy year for Mark Bennett - after stepping into retirement, he set about planning an exhibition of his works which was hosted in Kimbolton Castle in November. Bill Skinner (Former Staff 88-14 and OK Committee Member) takes a look at Mark's career below...

First, here's an edited extract from the Headmaster's Speech Day text:

*Ninety-nine terms have passed since a bright, bushy-tailed young Art Master began his Kimbolton teaching career. Mark Bennett was described by the then Headmaster, Mr Donaldson, as 'having a quiet authority about him'. 33 years later, I couldn't put it better myself. Mr Bennett has led Owens House with integrity and that 'calm authority' for the past 24 years – it must be a record and, if not, it deserves to be. But there is so much more to Mr Bennett than Owens of course.*

*He is both an Art teacher and an artist. A skilled and highly respected practitioner in his own right, many of us proudly sport 'a Mark Bennett' on our walls at home (in fact, so do many ex-teachers, as a Bennett landscape is usually the gift of choice at a staff leavers' do). He is also a great shot, and has led our school clay shooting team to many triumphs in national competitions over the years. He recently took up archery; within months he was crowned Northants County Longbow Champion – a bit galling for those archers who have been striving away for decades!*

*Possessing a great sense of humour (or so he tells me!), over the years, many of us have been 'Bennetted'; by which I mean taking something very seriously, only for the dawning realisation that we have been victims of a wind-up – like living through an omnipresent April Fools' Day.*

*No joke this time though. Mark Bennett really will be 'leaving the building' at the end of term, and our lives will all be a little less colourful as a result.*



And here's one of many classic Bennett moments, recalled by Bill Skinner:

*I was on the crowded Portico steps standing next to Mark towards the end of the Sixth Form Ball one year. Anticipation of the fireworks was given extra excitement by the sight of two Upper Sixth lads (one, if memory serves, the Head of Gibbards) streaking across the Mall – at a (shall we say) discreet distance. After a minute or two of general hilarity, attention passed to the firework display. As the pyrotechnics began, I looked round and there standing behind us in the crowd were the immaculately-clad Headmaster and Bursar.*

*"Blimey," said Mark, "you two got dressed again quick!"*

### Mark Bennett: Profile of an Artist

After growing up in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, Mark was a student at the Mansfield and Maidstone Colleges of Art and then a post-graduate at the Royal Academy Schools in London before spending his early working life in adult education in Kent. As well as teaching at Kimbolton for 33 years from 1986, he has exhibited in many galleries locally (eg the Yarrow Gallery in Oundle) and in London, including the RA, Christie's, Burlington Fine Art and the Redfern Gallery. He has also had a long association with the Chappell Gallery in Colchester, who have shown his paintings in one-man and group exhibitions. He also does a lot of painting by private commission. He is not always able to keep track of his paintings after they have been sold, but there are examples of his work in the US and New Zealand.

Mark is a craftsman in so many ways. Not only does he work at an easel he made himself over 40 years ago from discarded mahogany lockers, but he also made the wooden studio (he modestly calls it "the shed") that houses it – and, for good measure, the wooden bridge over the river Kym that leads to it from his back door.

Two other features in the Bennetts' Kimbolton garden are a pair of archery targets. It's significant, I'm sure, that Mark,

after achieving much personal and team success in clay pigeon shooting, is now honing his skills in another sport that requires high levels of precision and hand-eye co-ordination. It was a real wrench, he says, to give up his shotgun, after he made himself choose between shooting and painting a few years ago.

Occasionally he works in situ, either sketching or in watercolour, but his paintings are all produced in the studio, mainly from his own photographs, sketches and memory, and all using Windsor and Newton Artists' Oils. He uses a maulstick to keep his hand and brush steady and some compositional aids, many works being arranged on the principle of the Golden Section. He says he "knocks out about one a month", which makes it sound a very casual process - but the strongest impressions of his studio are of the care and precision of his approach to painting.

Mark says: "I'm reluctant to talk about my work as I am fearful of pretentiousness and hope the images speak for themselves. My way of working is a quiet process of looking and distillation." Observation of landscape is always his starting point: "every time I see a full moon through trees I am filled with wonderment and a sense of magic, and that is what I try to paint in every image."

Lucien Freud and Francis Bacon are two modern artists he admires, for the way they build up tone through paint. Both are best known for their figure painting, but apart from an occasional statue amidst other architectural shapes, Mark's work avoids the human form. He says the inclusion of figures in his landscapes would be to introduce a narrative, and thus change the emotional effect of the painting on the viewer.

Another inspiration is the 19th century German Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich. Mark took a sabbatical term in 2010 and spent months in northern Germany following Friedrich's trail, researching his life and work, and interpreting Friedrich's landscape in his own painting. On his studio wall is a quotation from Friedrich: "The painter should not only paint what he sees but also what he sees within, should he see nothing within, he should not undertake to paint what he

sees." ("Read 'she' also for all the 'he's," Mark adds).

This connects with what he says about his principles as a teacher: always to encourage young artists to represent what they feel as well as what they see. Learning to paint is like learning a language, he says, and the teacher's role is to show the pupil the key features of vocabulary and grammar, the artistic equivalents being colour and form... "I believe firstly the image has to be expressing something felt, then one has to find the means of expressing and communicating, experimenting technically to do so and thereby achieving one's own direction."

His final words on 33 years of teaching art at Kimbolton: "The greatest thing I have ever shown a student is their own talent."

### **Exhibition: 'A Sense of Place' (by Bill Skinner)**

The title of Mark's exhibition at Kimbolton Castle in November, gives the key to all his paintings. Some of the subjects are immediately recognisable – the Grand Canyon, Stonehenge, the sand dunes in Norfolk, Monument Valley – but he is not mainly a topographical artist, and his paintings are not primarily works of record.

Instead, he appeals to our senses, showing us the beauty of a natural scene and inviting us to stop and look and wonder, taking our time and allowing our eye to move around the painting, following the line of a towpath, a bridge, an avenue, an opening in the sand dunes, to absorb the atmosphere. The scale varies, from a huge panorama of Monument Valley and a path in a cornfield under a vast summer sky to a secretive view of a priory gatehouse viewed through the trees at dusk. Another painting shows a lone blackbird perched on one of three skeletal winter trees against a snowy background. In each case, the atmosphere is evoked through close, detailed observation and intense aesthetic feeling.

Two words I always associate with Mark's paintings are stillness and colour. Apart from an occasional hint of human life, maybe in an illuminated window, there are no people, nothing moves, a sense of calm prevails – the atmosphere is everything. The colours are intense, catching the scene and the quality of light at a particular time of day or time of year, as suggested by some of the titles: "Pre-dawn Light", "Sunset and Full Moon", "Winter Pathway", "Passing Storm". The effect can be spectacular as in "Sunset from 2000 feet" and "Northern Lights and the North Star", or much more intimate, as in "Bluebell Wood": each time, atmosphere is evoked by colour, and the completeness of the experience is emphasised by the use of block canvas, not mounts and frames.

"Contemplative images" is one of Mark's own descriptions of his work. To some, the paintings may represent romantic escapism from the bustle and noise of the human world. To his many admirers, Mark's work allows us to appreciate with our eyes and hearts the timeless beauty of the natural world. A sense of place, indeed.

Mark's next exhibition, scheduled for April 2022 at the Bedford School gallery, is called "Four Seasons on Four Continents".



*Stonehenge*



*Norfolk Dunes*



*Mark in his studio*

# Welcome to the Old Kimboltonians' Association...

**Congratulations to the 2019 sixth form leavers on their exam results and welcome to the OKA!**  
 Leeds University has knocked Newcastle from the no. 1 destination for OKs over the last 5 years - Newcastle now shares 2nd place with Nottingham Trent. Find out below what university / career choices the latest OKs have made below...



<b>Mazen Badawy</b>	<b>LSE - Mathematics &amp; Economics</b>
<b>Eva Bennett</b>	<b>Leeds Beckett - Sociology &amp; Criminology</b>
<b>Imogen Bentley</b>	<b>Manchester Met - Business Management</b>
<b>Victoria Bowland</b>	<b>Durham - Criminology</b>
<b>Nicola Bright</b>	<b>Hartpury - Bioveterinary Science</b>
<b>Ella Brown</b>	<b>Bath - Modern Languages &amp; European Studies</b>
<b>Oscar Bryden</b>	<b>Nottingham - American Studies &amp; History</b>
<b>Holly Burroughs</b>	<b>Leeds Trinity - Primary Education</b>
<b>Amber Butterfield</b>	<b>Nottingham - Medicine</b>
<b>Owen Byatt</b>	<b>Nottingham Trent - Property, Finance &amp; Investment</b>
<b>Millie Carpenter</b>	<b>Leeds - Psychology</b>
<b>Archie Carroll</b>	<b>Loughborough - Art &amp; Design Foundation</b>
<b>Angus Carswell</b>	<b>Nottingham - Product Design &amp; Manufacture</b>
<b>Lydia Carter</b>	<b>Birmingham - Law with French Law</b>
<b>Umar Chaudhari</b>	<b>Loughborough - Aeronautical Engineering</b>
<b>Maryann Chen</b>	<b>UCL - Economics</b>
<b>Rachel Chisem</b>	<b>Leeds Beckett - Sport &amp; Exercise Science</b>

<b>Felicity Choy Winters</b>	<b>Edinburgh - Medical Sciences</b>
<b>Ted Clay</b>	<b>Nottingham Trent - Film Production Technology</b>
<b>Thomas Crimp</b>	<b>Nottingham Trent - Furniture &amp; Product Design</b>
<b>Molly Dean</b>	<b>Nottingham - Nursing</b>
<b>Hattie Dent</b>	<b>Oxford - Medicine</b>
<b>Joshua Denton</b>	<b>Lancaster (2020) - Engineering</b>
<b>Charlie Dickson</b>	<b>Keele - Geography with Foundation</b>
<b>Harry Douthwaite</b>	<b>UEA - Medicine</b>
<b>Peter Duberly</b>	<b>Manchester - Politics, Philosophy &amp; Economics</b>
<b>Rachael Duncan</b>	<b>Coventry - Mathematics &amp; Data Analytics</b>
<b>George Ellison</b>	<b>Nottingham Trent - Filmmaking</b>
<b>Fraser Ellson</b>	<b>Nottingham - Music</b>
<b>Sophia Farrington</b>	<b>Oxford Brookes - Real Estate</b>
<b>Chris Fok</b>	<b>Manchester - Environmental Science</b>
<b>Poppy Fortescue</b>	<b>Leeds - Philosophy &amp; Politics</b>
<b>Holly Fraser</b>	<b>Leeds - Medical Sciences</b>
<b>Lewis Giddings</b>	<b>Engineering Advanced Apprenticeship</b>

Kaine Gifford	York - Mathematics & Statistics
Adam Goodyer	Leeds Beckett - Sports Business with Foundation
Ben Grant	Gap Year
Sam Gregory	Bristol - Psychology with Innovation
Archie Grimshaw	Keele - Biomedical Science with Foundation
Lucas Gross	Nottingham Trent - Law
Zak Hall	Working
Katie Harris	Portsmouth - Business & Management
Taylor Harrison	Leeds - Economics & Mathematics
Marli Hems-Ward	Bath - Social Sciences
Harriet Heylen	Reading - Real Estate
Alwin Ho	York - Physics
Dominic Holdaway	Bath Spa - Acting
Izzy Hopkins	Guildhall - Clarinet
Daniel Jardine	Hartpury - Zoology with Foundation
Alex Johnson	Leeds - Product Design
Lauren Keating	Manchester Met - Art Foundation
James Kenny	Aberystwyth - Strategy, Intelligence & Security
Alex Kenyon	Newcastle - Food Business Management & Marketing
Andrew Lawrence	Bath - Mechanical Engineering
Katie Lawrence	Loughborough - Sports Technology
Celia Lee	Durham - Liberal Arts
Joe Lee	UCL - Arts & Sciences
Francesca Leonard	Lincoln - Bioveterinary Science
Renee Li	Essex - Global Studies with Politics
Ross McAdam	Leeds - International Relations
Ellie McGill	Exeter - Psychology
Lewis Meakin	Gap Year
Ruby Milne	Gap Year
Rupert Nelson-Lucas	Royal Holloway - Politics
Olivia Noakes	Winchester - Primary Education
Cameron Oldfield	Cardiff - Civil Engineering
Chris Oliver	Exeter - Politics & International Relations

Olamide Ore	Newcastle - Mathematics & Economics
Laurence Palmer	Warwick - Economics
Talia Paterson	Essex - Hotel Management
Jordan Payne	Coventry - Automotive Engineering
Tyger Peake	Gap Year
Thomas Pegram	Nottingham Trent - Business
Jack Percival	Brunel - Product Design
Giles Pitman	Falmouth - Film
Daniel Price	Degree Apprenticeship
Sadira Pyne Bailey	York - Philosophy
Ben Rice	York - Music
Marianna Rossi	Hartpury - Equine Science
Poppy Safford	Derby (2020) - Professional Policing
Holly Scott	Oxford Brookes - Psychology
Anushka Shukla	Imperial, London - Medicine
Jessica Simpson	Sheffield - Biomedical Science
Isabella Singlehurst-Mooney	York - Biological & Medicinal Chemistry
James Smalley	Working
Hannah Sutton	Nottingham - English
Ben Szczepanski	Reading - Real Estate with Diploma in Urban Planning
Sana Talat	Queen Mary, London - Biochemistry
Amy Tonkin	Loughborough - Psychology with Criminology
Rory Vartanian	Nottingham Trent - Pharmacology
George Wates	Manchester Met - Business Management
Reece Webb	Exeter - Renewable Energy
Shira Webb	Bath - Psychology
Chip Wilson	Gap Year
Harriet Wilson	Liverpool - Politics & International Business
Luke Wilson	Nottingham - History
Francesca Winter	Leeds - History of Art
Lotty Wylde	Liverpool - Philosophy, Politics & Economics
Jasmine Yip	Exeter - International One Year Programme
Harrison Young	Gap Year

## KIMBOLTON REVISITED

We have been pleased to welcome the following OKs back to the School this year:

**David James and Roger Stimson (both OK 61)** came to have a look around Kimbolton in March 2019, and they thoroughly enjoyed their visit and reminiscing about their time at school together.



*David James(I) and Roger Stimson pictured on the Pelligrini staircase*

**Andrew Crow (OK 09)** left Kimbolton in 2005 to move back to the USA. He has since settled in Arizona and, in May, came to England on holiday with his wife, Hanna, when of course they fitted in a visit to have a look around the Castle and Andrew's English school!



*Andrew Crow with his wife Hanna during their visit*

**Alan Raffie (OK 72)** - known by his school friends as 'Fred' (or Fereidoon) incorporated a trip to Kimbolton with his wife and sister last September whilst visiting England from his home in Vancouver.

Not having been back to his old School for some time Alan was delighted to have the opportunity to look around and, in his words, revive "all the wonderful memories of my youth and great times I had between 1968-72".

He is very keen to keep in touch with the OKA and would love to hear from any OKs visiting Vancouver.



*Alan (Fred) Raffie*

### Planning a visit?

OKs are always very welcome back to Kimbolton and we're delighted to show you around.

Due to safeguarding and school regulations, however, we are required to ask for advance notice so please email [alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk) when planning your trip so we can make necessary arrangements to welcome you on the day.



**Robert Allan (OK 55)** visited Kimbolton in October 2019 - the first time he had been back since his father accepted a 24 hour cancellation on a ship bound for Australia in September 1951, the day before he was due to start back at school after the holidays.

He was only at the School for 3 years, but writing his memoirs prompted Robert to get in touch with the OKA a few years ago; he has kept in touch ever since and it was a delight to show him around the School. Returning to Kimbolton was one of the 'must-do' items on his bucket list and judging from his comments on the day it was quite an emotional visit. Robert set off the next day on a cruise ship back to his home in Melbourne.



*Robert Allan on his tour of the School campus*



## LOOKING FOR ACCOMMODATION IN / AROUND KIMBOLTON?

You can find a list of local B&Bs and hotels on the OKA website:

[www.oks.co.uk / Local Accommodation](http://www.oks.co.uk/LocalAccommodation)



**Mike Atton (OK 78)** came back to Kimbolton in October 2019 with his partner to have a look around. He hadn't been back for some time and enjoyed reminiscing as he wandered around the castle and the school grounds.



*Mike Atton and his partner, Carolyn*

We were also pleased to welcome **Anthony Rodger (OK 81)** back to the School for a tour round in the Summer Term, and **Sealone Liu (OK 11)** and **Julian Moore (OK 92)** in the Autumn Term.

### OTHER VISITORS

We like to welcome OKs back to the School to speak to students at different stages of their school journey. Many OKs have a wealth of knowledge and students get so much from hearing about their career choices and paths and particular ventures / activities they have been involved in.

Over the last year the Careers Department valued visits from **Angus Duncan, Lucas Campbell Butcher, Talya Atkins, Sophie Coppins, James Thompson, Ben King and George Farrer (all OK 18)** to talk about their first year at university / gap year, and the Sixth Form enjoyed talks by **Harry Rowe (OK 06), Amber Carter-Thompson (OK 09)** and **Callum MacGregor (OK 10)**.

In January **James Burdock (OK 17)** and **James Purdy (OK 15)** returned to speak to the Manchester Group - a discussion-based group for 4th-6th formers designed to widen intellectual curiosity.

We would like to say a big thank you to all of the OKs who have come to Kimbolton and given talks. If you think that you have something to offer the students, please email Helen at the OKA Office on: [alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk).

# Remembering OKs lost at war

Commemoration of those OKs who lost their lives at war is, of course, a fixed annual feature in the school calendar. Kimbolton School cadets took part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Kimbolton as well as joining the whole school in a minutes silence on Armistice Day.



**An OK squad taking part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade - thank you to Thomas Campbell (OK 14) for organising .**

*OKs who marched were Talya Atkins (OK 18), Thomas Campbell (OK 14), Brynmor Digby (OK 19), George Farrer (OK 18), Henry Farrer (OK 16), Charlie Gardner (OK 17), Ellie Kirkpatrick (OK 18), Joe Simons (OK 16), Matt Simpson (OK 18), James Smalley (OK 19), Oliver White (OK 16) & James Wilkins (OK 18).*



**If you'd like to join the OK group in future parades please get in touch with the OKA Office.**



The third form trip to the Battlefields during the School Field Weekend continues to be a thought-provoking trip for students, especially just a few weeks ahead of Remembrance Sunday.



During their visit last October they laid wreaths at the grave of OK Rifleman Philip E Stubbs at Thiepval - an action that didn't go unnoticed by a couple of OKs who also visited the Thiepval Memorial in the following weeks and spotted the wreaths.

We found out last year that two OKs were awarded the George Cross for their actions during WW2.

**Dennis Copperwheat (OK 29)** of the Royal Navy won the George Cross for the herosim he displayed on 22 March 1942 in shuttling a burning ammunition ship in Valletta harbour, Malta.

**Raymond Lewin** of the RAF Volunteer Reserve was awarded the George Cross for the courage he showed in rescuing his co-pilot from their burning plane on 3 November 1940 in Malta. Raymond was sadly killed in action in 1941.

# OKA Nudges...

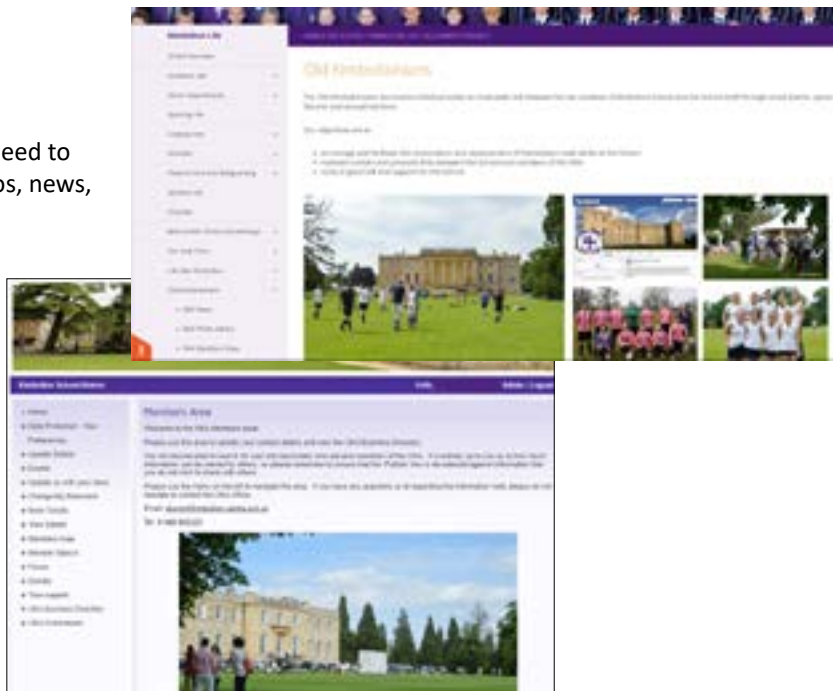
## OK WEBSITE

[www.oks.co.uk](http://www.oks.co.uk)

A reminder that the OKA website holds all you need to know about the Association - event dates, photos, news, sports contacts etc.

You can also use the **Members' Area** to look up your old school friends and their profiles (if they have given their permission!), update your own details and tell us what you are doing these days.

To have access to this email alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk and ask for a log-in.



## CAREERS SUPPORT & NETWORKING

The **School's Careers Fair** is now held bi-annually and the next one is on Friday 1 May.

At the last Fair over 50% of the 'stallholders' were OKs who attended to talk to current pupils about their university choices, career paths and industry experience.

The OKA would be delighted if this level of support could be repeated this year - if you are interested in visiting to chat to senior school pupils about your career and studies please email:

**Alison Bates, Head of Careers**  
**ab@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk**

or contact the OKA for more information.

\*\*\*

If you are just starting out in your career, looking for a change, or thinking about taking a specific qualification, don't forget that there is a large network of OKs out there who may be able to give you some advice on getting into a particular field of work, which courses to study etc.

Get in touch with the OKA Office for more information and check out the *Old Kimboltonians Group* on LinkedIn for OK contacts who may be able to help.



## EMAILS...

If you've changed your email address, please let us know!

From time to time we email out *OK Updates* - if you haven't been receiving them then we don't have your current email address or it might be worth checking your Junk mail folder...

## OKA ARCHIVES



Don't forget that you can browse through lots of old school photos, Kimboltonian magazines and other documents on the OK digital archives on our website.

OKs have unlimited access, but **will need a password** to log in to the resource - contact the OKA Office to obtain your login details.

# OKA Scholarship Trust Fund

**M**any of you will know about why the OK Scholarship Trust Fund was established but just in case you don't (or need reminding!) the details are outlined below. Hopefully some of you will be in a position to consider supporting this very worthy cause.

In 1993 it became apparent that some pupils were not able to continue their education at Kimbolton into the sixth form due to certain family circumstances which had made it unaffordable and achievable. An accident or redundancy for example, or the sad loss of a parent, dictated that they were unable to pay the full school fees. A donation from the OKA one year was followed by another and it became obvious that, if the OKA was going to continue to provide help with fees for deserving pupils in the future, a Trust Deed needed to be created and registered with the Charity Commission. This was done in May 1995, with 7 OKs and 2 former members of staff becoming the Trustees.

Funds available at the beginning were meagre, but with generous donations and covenants the financing of the Trust Fund soon improved and within three years the Trustees were able to agree to increase the annual award donated. Initially just one pupil received support, however at the Headmaster's proposal, the Trust Fund moved to supporting two pupils each year - one in the lower sixth and one in the upper sixth - and this still stands today.

The amount awarded each year is decided by the Trustees and this is directed to the recipients via the school. The recipients are determined by the Headmaster and this information remains confidential, however the Trustees are kept advised of the performance and success of the individuals which, to date, has been exemplary, making the Trust Fund so worthwhile.

The terms of the trust dictate that the capital invested cannot be spent, therefore the success of the fund relies on income from interest. Fortunately the low interest earned over the last few years has been boosted by donations from OKs to the *Geoff Coles Memorial Fund* and the OKA contributing any profit made at OK events, both of which can be used straight away; this has enabled the Trustees to continue to make meaningful awards.

Without this additional income the long-term future and benefit of the fund is not guaranteed; the trustees would be delighted to be able to increase the award in line with increasing school fees, however cannot do this without the help from OKs. If you are interested in supporting the fund and helping current pupils, please have a look at the information on our website - donations of all sizes play an important part in making sure that the OKA can continue to provide financial assistance.

## Making a donation to either fund is easy...

- ☆ make a one-off payment
- ☆ set up a monthly standing order
- ☆ set up a legacy to the Trust Fund

### ***For further information and a Donation Form...***

Contact the OKA Office:

01480 862223  
[alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

or go to the website:

[www.oks.co.uk/LendingSupport](http://www.oks.co.uk/LendingSupport)

**Donations of all sizes play a significant part in making sure that someone is able to continue their education at Kimbolton who would otherwise not be able to without extra support.**

# OKA Sponsorship

**O**ur sponsorship programme continues and the OKA are delighted to have been able to help two more OKs raise sufficient funds to enable them to pursue a specific personal venture. Read about their activities below and don't forget that sponsorship is open to all OKs...

## SARAH TAINE (OK 13)

**Sarah volunteered to work in a hospital in Borneo after she sat her final medical exams last year. A proportion of the money she raised to support her trip was donated to the hospital to go towards equipment and training.**

**D**uring the fifth year of my medical degree at Brighton & Sussex Medical School we were given the opportunity to do a clinical placement abroad in order to gain experience of medicine in a different culture, and learn about the Global Health issues faced by the local communities. I originally arranged to undertake my elective in Sri Lanka, however due to the devastating events there in April I unfortunately had to look for a placement elsewhere. After contacting many different hospitals throughout Asia, I luckily found a last-minute placement in Borneo, Malaysia.

Borneo Medical Centre is a small hospital located in the Sarawak region, famous for being one of the last areas of wild Orangutan populations, showcased in David Attenborough's newest TV

series! I found the 4 weeks I spent in this hospital fascinating. My supervisor, Dr Wong, is a General Physician – a job that no longer exists in the UK. Not only did he have a whole ward of almost 60 patients (twice the number that most UK wards would have), he also runs a clinic all day which patients can either book into or just turn up. He wouldn't leave the hospital until he had seen every patient, meaning he often worked way into the night. It was extremely rewarding to help Mr Wong by seeing some of his patients – and although he often worked 7 days a week, I did find time to explore the beautiful beaches and wildlife on the weekends.

Working in a general medical ward meant I was really able to see the huge variety of illnesses faced by the local population. Although I saw a lot of patients with conditions that are common in the UK, such as hypertension and diabetes, there were also lots of tropical diseases - many of these patients never got a diagnosis and were instead managed as "fever of unknown origin." One thing that stood out was how far some of the patients had come to receive a good standard of care, often travelling for several days to reach Borneo Medical Centre. There were a huge number of Indonesian patients – when I enquired as to why they came across the border to Borneo to see a doctor they explained that in Indonesia you can buy a medical degree, meaning

patients didn't have a lot of trust in their medical knowledge. The medical training in Malaysia is in fact extremely similar to that in the UK with a minimum 5 years of undergraduate degree in medicine, before undergoing 2 years of house-man training.

In some ways the hospital in Borneo seemed to be way ahead of health services in the UK – the hospital went paperless in 2010 meaning everything was recorded on computers; this is



something which many UK hospitals are still struggling to achieve. When I said to Mr Wong that the hospital didn't strike me as very different to ones I had experienced in the UK, he explained that being in a large city this was the only hospital in many miles so it had all the resources necessary; community outreach services were provided by travelling to the areas far from the hospital in order to provide care to those who couldn't travel to the city. I was lucky enough to accompany doctors on one of these outreach trips and helped to administer vaccinations to local children and educate families on key preventative measures with aim to reduce risk of infection.

I am hugely grateful to the OK Association for their generous contribution which helped in making this trip possible – my time in Borneo was unforgettable and I learnt a lot ahead of the start of my work as a doctor.



Sarah (l) on her placement

## CHARLIE GARDNER (OK 17)

Last March Charlie embarked on an 11 week placement to Zanzibar with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) to help rehabilitate children with disabilities from ages 1 - 17.

The VSO community based rehabilitation project focussed on helping children with disabilities integrate into society and to help remove stigmas and superstitions around them. There were two main ways we achieved this goal. The first was visiting the homes of children with disabilities and helping with physiotherapy, nutrition and teaching the parents how to help their child. The second approach was going to local schools and setting up clubs where we taught life skills as well as views on disability and general equality.

Home visits occurred twice a week and we visited 3 children per day. The visits were done in pairs - one UK volunteer and one in-country volunteer to help with translation. Most children had common disabilities like cerebral palsy and downs syndrome, so physiotherapy and nutrition were the focal points of our visits. Encouraging parents to take their children to hospitals regularly and do daily physiotherapy with them was a vital part of our work too as most parents had lost hope and did the bare minimum with their children.

Gradually we saw the children we were looking after improve and become more confident in themselves; parents also became more comfortable with caring for their children and we just hope that the parents can keep helping their children improve until the next cycle of volunteers arrive.

School visits also happened twice a week - groups of 3 would go to 2 schools each. In each group there was at least one in-country volunteer to help with the language barrier. Most sessions were done in English as we covered a wide variety of topics like talents and qualities, smart goal setting and equality. To help with integration of children with disabilities the classes would be comprised of a mixture of both able-bodied and disabled students.

Events called 'CADs' (community action days) were also held on certain Saturdays to help raise awareness for issues in the community. I was the secretary of the first CAD team which raised awareness in schools on types of disabilities and how to help and be friends with children with disabilities. Other CAD topics included being a parent of a child with disability and the challenges associated with this, and how nutrition is important for their children.



Every Friday, an ACD (active citizen day) took place. These days involved educating everyone on the differences in local and British culture and society; small groups would discuss specific topics with the aim to break down stigmas surrounding some subjects. My topic was on mental disability which was a complex and hard topic to explain to the in-country volunteers. However, it received a good response and created discussions which were productive.

We also held events called 'outreach' and 'playgroup' which were similar to CADs but with some differences. During playgroup the volunteers got children with disabilities together to participate in games which they could all play together. This helped the children see they were not alone and that they could still play with children despite their disabilities. It

was also very helpful to parents as they could see their child enjoying themselves with children in the same position as theirs.

Outreach enabled parents and children to meet professional doctors who would examine the child and suggest treatment. Not only did it assist with home visits, but it also helped parents learn how to help their child and get medication for their child's disability.

Each UK volunteer was assigned an in-country volunteer counterpart as well as a local home where they would spend their 11 weeks. I was fortunate to have a lovely host home with a family who were very accepting of cultural differences and open to discussion about it. I stayed in a nice house and our room had two double beds, a working shower, toilet, sink, fan and air con. The food was very different and I learnt how to cook as many local dishes as possible. Dinner time was the best time in the evening as the family would get together and eat and talk together. Eating with my right hand only (no cutlery allowed) took a while to get used to, but by the end I became very adept at it.

Not only did I learn a lot about the local culture in Zanzibar, I also learnt a lot about myself and overcame several personal challenges.

As well as wanting to do something constructive, my aim in doing this project was to help my personal development. After a year at Loughborough University studying aeronautical engineering I decided I wanted to do something else, but wasn't sure what. A year off seemed the best course of action and my time overseas has helped me overcome certain things.

Time alone was sparse. After spending each day surrounded by people at work I had to share my room with my counterpart - this was difficult to get used to and quite taxing at times, but I got used to it.

I needed to improve my work ethic as this was a major issue at university as I could not get into a good rhythm and work consistently. On this placement I had to be on top of my work at all times as the nature of the work was

unpredictable and new jobs could appear at any moment. This was hard to adjust to originally but as I started to get the hang of it I was able to manage my time more efficiently which allowed for me to enjoy more extracurricular activities after work. The improvement in work ethic has become clear to me even after the first few weeks where I manage to cope with the large workload I had with both an ACD and CAD in the same time space; I found this part of the placement the hardest when it came to workload and to be able to produce work to a good quality in that time was a big confidence boost.

I had several hardships to brave through on the trip including relationship issues with my girlfriend, a falling out with my counterpart, typhoid and even the loss of a good friend back home. In adversity I would have normally lost confidence and been more demotivated but this placement has made me much stronger and I have taken these hard ships far better

than I previously would.

Throughout this placement my improvement has surprised me and I feel more prepared for what life throws at me. I still don't have a set plan for what I will do next however whatever I do I will be ready to take the good times and the bad times as equals.

*If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with triumph and disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools.  
(If second stanza - by Rudyard Kipling)*

This year we are sponsoring two OKs who, as we go to print, are busy training for significant running events to add to their list of lifetime achievements.

**Amy Gordon (OK 13)** who, after brain surgery in January 2019 is running the London Marathon in April in support of HeadWay Oxford, and **Olivia Turon (OK 08)** is competing in the 35th edition of the Marathon des Sables - the toughest footrace on earth!

Find out a bit more about their ventures in the 'News of OKs' section (and how to sponsor them..!).

## LOOKING FOR Sponsorship?

**Don't forget...if you are looking for sponsorship / financial support for a project similar to any of those above, you too are welcome to apply for support...**

The aim of the OKA funding is to support OKs and current pupils in their pursuit of an exceptional venture which meets certain criteria, including:

- significantly helping others / charity work
- raising money for a worthy cause
- pursuit of a significant personal achievement.

Unfortunately the fund is not available for the extension of educational studies.

**Further details can be found on our website: [www.oks.co.uk/Lending Support](http://www.oks.co.uk/Lending%20Support), or please contact the OKA Office:**

**01480 862223 / [alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)**

# OKA Accounts - Year Ending 31 August 2019

It is pleasing to report that 2019 saw another solid year with a net surplus achieved despite a small increase in expenditure.

The OKA receives subscription income from the School and ad hoc voluntary contributions from OKs. This income covers the running costs of the Association, including subsidies for young OKs to attend OKA events, the publication of the OK News magazine and various OK sporting activities. As a non-profit making organisation, OKA events are carefully planned and managed so as to break-even, however from time to time an unplanned profit is made. When this occurs, the profit is donated to the OK Scholarship Trust Fund. Overall income in 2018/19 was boosted by a notable sum bequeathed to the OKA by a former pupil.

The cost of producing the OK News magazine remains not only our largest item of expenditure, but the item that increases year on year due to increasing printing and postage costs. Despite these costs rising by just over £1,000 in 2019, and additional funds being allocated to the development of our online archives, our overall increase in expenditure in 2019 was less than £350.

The OKA Committee remains confident that expenditure is focussed on moving the Association forward and would like to take this opportunity to thank Krista Alves, Deputy Bursar, for her guidance and support in maintaining the OKA Accounts.

If you would like further details, or to view a full copy of the accounts, please get in touch with the OKA Office.

## OKA Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2019

2019		2018
£65,190	Current Net Assets	£54,272
<i>Represented by:</i>		
£10,365	Bank Current Account	£ 4,334
£ 2,669	Market Harborough Building Society	£ 2,669
£ 0	Scottish Widows Bank	£47,269
£17,305	Nationwide 1	£ 0
£30,000	Nationwide 2	£ 0
£ 4,850	OK Merchandise Value	£ 0

## The Power in a School

by William Ingram

**Do you have a spare copy of the book 'The Power in a School' written by William Ingram?**

If so, please get in touch with the OKA Office as we have been contacted by OKs who would like a copy - thank you!



# The OK Lodge of Freemasons (Lodge No 7204)

By John Hitchin, OK 71 (Lodge Secretary)

2019 was another busy year for the OK Lodge. As well as 7 formal Lodge Meetings we held 2 social occasions, the proceeds of which go towards the £3,300 the Lodge donate to the Old Kimboltonians' Trust Fund. These occasions were a Lunch in February, which included musical entertainment from a top class trumpet and brass player, and a Summer Dinner which was followed by a Piano Concert and rounded off with a firework display.

The events were very popular and both occasions were a 'sell-out'. All OKs, whether Lodge members or not, are more than welcome to attend and help raise money for the School. Jonathan and Heather Belbin attended the Summer Dinner and at the February lunch our guest was Michal Capps, Chairman of the OKs Trust Fund. We also welcomed Ron Lancaster to both events who pronounced grace before the meals. Ron has been so generous over the years providing fireworks for the Summer Dinner; it was very poignant when the fireworks after the Summer Dinner were not from Kimbolton Fireworks, but Ron was given a special round of applause and fully approved of the new supplier.

In November we held an 'Open Evening' and welcomed 20 non-masons who learnt about the various types of clothing being worn by the members and the layout of the Lodge. Our Guests of Honour were Jonathan and Heather Belbin. Ged Dempsey, father of 2 Old Kimboltonians, spoke on the charitable activities of Freemasonry and about local lodges. Ged is a founder of *The 3 Pillars - Feeding the Homeless* charity and gave a very moving view of how some people live on the streets in Peterborough. Pupils of the School give time to the work of this very special Charity.

The Lodge Secretary spoke of the founders of the Lodge, William Ingram, Cyril Gibbard and other well know names from the early 1950s and of course of the 4th Duke of Manchester, reminding all present that although the OK Lodge had been formed quite recently in terms of Freemasonry ( 1952 ) the tradition of Freemasonry at Kimbolton Castle goes back some 250 years. We tread a well worn path!

One of our long-standing Lodge members, Dr John Beeton (Bob), sadly passed away in September, and his daughter, Claire (OK 89), spoke movingly of her late father and how much his membership had meant to him. She outlined how much she and all of her family had enjoyed being involved with Freemasonry and how supportive they were of her father's various memberships. Questions were taken and Jonathan Belbin enquired about the 'Masonic Handshake'; the Lodge Secretary promised that sometime in the next 12 months he would give the said handshake and would then enquire if the recipient had spotted it! For your information it is not especially obvious and these days Freemasons do not as rule use it other than in the various ceremonies.

We were delighted to announce at the Open Evening dinner that the Lodge would be lifting its annual donation to the

OK Trust Fund to £3,600, an increase of £300, and would continue with its donation of £250 to Macmillan Nurses in memory of Geoff Coles (a Lodge Member for nearly 50 years and secretary for 25 years) along with the £50 for the School Debating Prize and £250 to Katherine Farnden (OK 17) to support her studies at the Guildhall School of Music. As Heather Belbin invariably misses out on the various awards and donations while supporting her husband, she was presented with a cheque for £250 with the injunction that it should be used for whatever purpose she thought fit. I am pleased to report that the cheque was sent to the disability charity *Scope*, a charity that the Lodge is considering for inclusion on its annual regular giving list.



*Heather Belbin being presented with a cheque at the November event*

During the event Jonathan Belbin thanked the Lodge for an interesting and enlightening evening and expressed his delight that the Lodge continue to support the School. He also explained exactly how the money we donate to the OK Trust Fund is spent on helping pupils stay at the School whose families have 'hit the difficulties of life'.

As ever the question of 'Can women join Freemasonry?' continues to crop up and the answer is "of course". The OK Lodge membership is currently men only (due to its inception at a time when Kimbolton was a boys only school) however there are many Lodges for women. If any of the OK ladies are interested in Freemasonry please contact the Lodge secretary.

I would like to thank the Headmaster and Governors for their kind permission for the OK Lodge to continue meeting in Kimbolton Castle and of course the Bursary, Catering and Caretaking teams who look after us so well.

If you are interested in finding out more about this wonderful and unique society that has thrived and spread over the world during its over 300 year history please do get in touch with me. In any event please come along and enjoy the social occasions and remember- by attending you will be directly supporting Kimbolton School.

*John Hitchin*

johnhitchin@btinternet.com / 07702 597 670

# Memories Sports Days

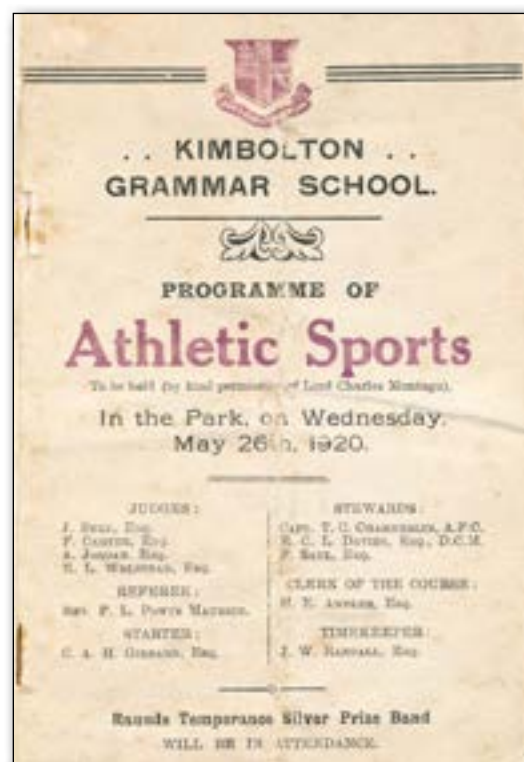
In his book *The Power in a School* William Ingram describes Sports Day as the “outstanding feature of the School-year” when white rails enclosed “the arena with row upon row of cars drawn up behind them” and “conspicuous against their background of tall trees, the long white marquees where teas were provided for well over a thousand visitors in addition to the School personnel”. It’s somewhat different now - let’s take a look at the history of the Kimbolton School sports day and how it has changed over the last 100 years.

Despite the School having no playing-fields of its own, in 1914 Ingram was determined to revive Sports Day and hold a new type of event - one with a detailed programme that would interest and engage visitors from start to finish. Keen for everyone to be kept away from the school buildings and the then ‘meagre’ accommodation, he gained permission to use the Kimbolton cricket ground and the meticulous planning began; invitations were sent out to parents, Governors, county Education Directors, the Press and to the Rt Hon Earl of Sandwich to present the prizes.

The programme included some interesting races and events, including a Swedish Drill Display, a Staff Race, an Egg & Spoon Race for the Mothers and a Flower-Pot Race... All appeared in subsequent Sports Days apart from the Mothers race because the mothers in those days “were not good mixers” and “the fashionable hobble-skirts of Bond Street were beaten hopelessly ... by the homely wider garments of the countryside”!

Ingram’s first Sports Day paved the way for the growth of the School; when the Earl of Sandwich left he said to Ingram “You must build a Public School for Huntingdonshire” giving him the inspiration to start development. In 1924 six and a half acres were leased, followed by a further eight and a half in 1931. In 1932 Kimbolton School hosted its first Sports Day on its own playing fields - Ingram recorded the arrival of 1200 parents and 300 cars on this occasion.

This style of event, albeit not quite so big, lived on until the 1970s and, to a lesser degree into the 80s. Many OKs will remember both the Prep and Senior School Sports Days being quite an occasion. The Prep School event still is; on the last Friday of the summer term families and friends can be seen unloading the picnics from their cars parked



*The earliest Sports Day Programme in the OK Archives was for Sports Day 100 years ago - 26 May 1920.*



*1935 Sports Day Swedish Drill Display*

near the Welsted Pavilion and setting up their chairs (and sometimes tables and gazebos!) in a position overlooking the athletics track. It’s a full day event and involves *all* pupils from Reception to Year 6.

Meanwhile, up at the Senior School the sports day format has had to be adapted to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers and school activities, and to work around the forever changing public exam schedule and study leave dates for 5th and U6th formers

which seems to start earlier each year. Over time it has become unrealistic to hold one single Sports Day so there are now two - a Seniors Sports Day (for the 5th and 6th form) and a Junior & Middles Sports Day (for the 1st - 4th form). The day for the seniors is held early in the Summer Term before study leave and public exams begin, and the other one at the end of term. Both days are, quite literally, "sports" days and in addition to athletics, pupils take part in tennis and rounders matches. Everyone is encouraged to take part and there is a focus on individuals and teams winning to gain points for their house. Parents are, of course, invited to spectate and many do, however not in the numbers that used to attend.

While many things have changed, though, much else hasn't -as these photos show!



1949



1959



2007



2007



2018



2016

# Memories Houses

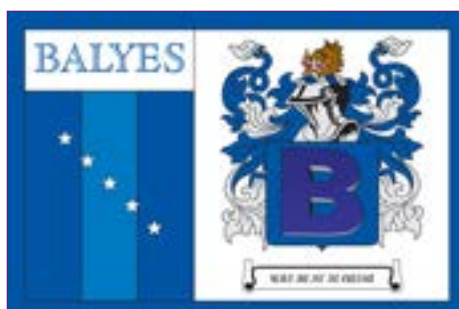
The Kimbolton School House System is 80 years old this year! While the basis of the system and some house names remain the same, there have been a few changes.

The July 1940 edition of the *Kimboltonian* magazine announced the introduction of the House System. At this time six houses were formed and named as follows: **BALYES**, **INGRAM**, **JOHNS**, **DAWSON**, **GIBBARD** and **MONTAGU**.

The purpose of the new system was for pastoral care and sporting competition. Special "house" afternoons were introduced when boys gathered in their houses to meet with their Housemaster, tutors and prefects to discuss their work and general well-being. Activities were arranged and house teams chosen for various competitions which were seen to produce a healthy rivalry for achievement between Houses. Headmaster, William Ingram, announced that "the House System will go on, with great benefit to us all" and he was right... the fundamental house system still exists today and there are strong similarities between what Ingram set up and what pupils now experience.

All houses now are a mix of day pupils and boarders. Where pupils live has no influence on which house they are assigned to. Pupils are always, however, in the same house as their siblings and any Old Kimboltonian relations.

Find out more about the history of each house below...



**BALYES** - named after Henry Balye, one of the School's founders.

Originally just a house for boarders, after boarders vacated Clancarty and the Castle in the early 80s, Balyes gradually became a day house.



**DAWSONS** - named to commemorate the other founder, William Dawson.

The house for boarders living in Kim House until the 1980s when Kim House became only for senior boarders.



**GIBBARDS** - titled after Cyril Gibbard (Senior Master 1911-1953).

Became a separate day house in 1965 but as the number of day boys grew Gibbards became too large so in 1973 it was divided into two... see Owens!



**INGRAMS** - named after Headmaster, William Ingram.

The house for the boarders based in the Castle... until the mid-80s when boarding in the Castle was phased out. Ingrams House was resurrected in 1994 as a house of 1st & 2nd formers only.



**OWENS** - named after Kyffin Owen (Senior Master 1920 -1963).

Created as another day house in 1973 when Gibbards became too big and was split into two.

## JOHNS and MONTAGU

The house name Montagu recognised the passing of Lord Charles Montagu a few months before the introduction of the House system (Montagu was the family name of the Earls and Dukes of Manchester). It is now one of the houses in the Prep School (along with Wingfield, Fitzpiers and Stafford).

Johns House marked the association of the School with St John's College, Cambridge, however we're unable to find a record of what happened to Johns - do you know?



## Spot the Difference over the years!

Work your way round the different perspectives and you will see how the school campus has changed.



# BOOK REVIEWS

Our feature to review books published by OKs in the last two editions of the *OK News* continues...

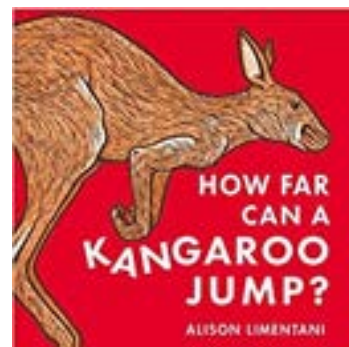
## How far can a Kangaroo jump?

by Alison Limentani (OK 00)

Ali has a Degree in Animal Behaviour and worked as a Zoo Keeper in Jersey before training as a veterinary nurse. Wanting to share her passion for animals she completed an MA in Children's Book Illustration at Cambridge School of Art, and has since published a series of children's picture books aimed at teaching 3-5 year olds about maths, units of measure and the size and scale of different animals.

The fourth one of the series called 'How far can a kangaroo jump?' was published last July and Ali is currently working on a fifth book called 'How fast was a Velociraptor?' which will be published in the summer.

Have a look if you've got young children - they've got great reviews!

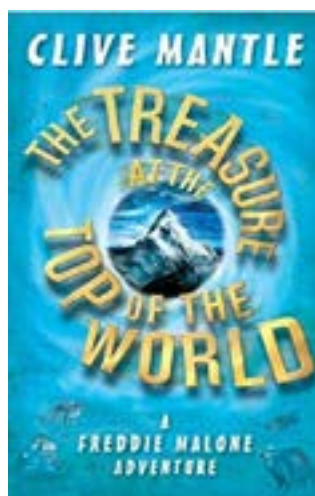


## The Treasure at the Top of the World

by Clive Mantle (OK 75)

This is the first in Clive's series of the Adventures of Freddie Malone and was the winner of one of The People's Book Prize categories in 2019.

Readers join young adventurer Freddie as he embarks on a thrilling time-travel adventure which takes him from his everyday life in England to Nepal. Described as a great fast-paced read full of thrills and daring deeds, the book is aimed at ages 8+.

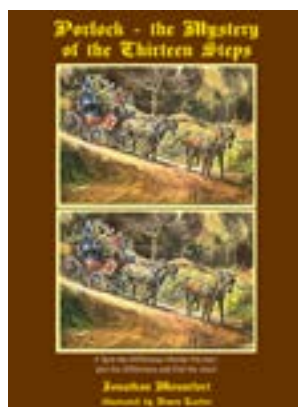


## Bring the Thunder

by Karen Pomerantz (nee Daley, OK 99)

Karen's name appeared in our first OK Book Review in the 2018 *OK News* when she published her second book *The Cost of Living*. She has now published her third book - *Bring the Thunder* - a crime-thriller oriented towards young-adults and adults.

The events in the story follow those in Karen's first publication 'Trapping Honey' and characters enjoy the same hobby as Karen - roller derby.



## Porlock: the Mystery of the Thirteen Steps

by Jonathan Mountfort (OK 75)

Having visited Porlock and its famous hill on numerous occasions over the years, Jon thought that the village would make an ideal setting for a murder mystery. But this one has a twist – spot-the-difference pictures based on actual locations give the reader clues to the story, which is set in 1904 when it took six sturdy horses to lug the "Lorna Doone" and "Red Deer" coaches to the top of the hill. Add to this pirates, witches, codes, underground tunnels and puzzles – a super historical yarn in a real and well-researched setting. Buy the book direct from Jon and get it for £6.99 plus a unique code letter in the back to find out the villain's plea over the graveside – jon@mountfort.co.uk.

Jon has also written *Railway Accidents and Indidents in Maps and Pictures* and *Scalextric Colletibles*, both recently published by Amberley.

## Wearing the Association Colours

# OKA MERCHANDISE



### Cufflinks

Each pair comes in its own presentation box and is available in either a **chain-link** or **T-bar** fitting

Chain-link @ £30.00 per pair

T-bar @ £25.00 per pair



### Ties

A choice of silk neckties or bow-ties (ready tied) in the OKA stripe or with our crest on a black background.

Striped bow tie @ £25.00

Striped necktie @ £18.00

Crested necktie @ £15.00



**Socks** @ £5.00

**Scarf** @ £12.50



**Bobble Hat** @ £15

**Umbrella** @ £20.00

Visit the Merchandise section of the OKA website at

[www.oks.co.uk](http://www.oks.co.uk)

# Reunions and Events

## 2019 London Dinner

Friday 26 April 2019

**W**e were delighted to welcome a sizeable gathering of OKs to the 2019 London Dinner which was held the Lansdowne Club in Mayfair for the second year running. After a short drinks reception, all enjoyed a tasty three course dinner accompanied by some fine wine.

Sadly the absence of any female OKs was noticeable so come on girls - book your ticket(s) for the 2020 London Dinner - let's make a difference this year and buck the trend of this being a male dominated event!



L-R: Andy Gray (OK 80), Paul Gilbert (OK 80), Dave Washbourn (OK 80), Rob Shorrick (OK 80), Richard Gregory (OK 80), Ian Tew (OK 80), Jonathan Hunter (OK 80), Bill Skinner (Former Staff)



L-R: David Brown (OK 89), Nicola Brown (Guest), James Brown (OK 94), Mo Brown (Guest), Jonathan Belbin (Headmaster), Maureen Hall (Guest), Richard Brown (OK 62), Heather Belbin (Guest), Anthony Hall (OK 55)



L-R: Oliver Bridge, Charles Taylor, David Lindley, Chris Abington, Josh Spink, Tom Kirkpatrick, Charles Alexander, Alex Boardman, Kris Stromdale (all OK 07)



L-R: Peter Lyne (OK 71), John Hunt (OK 71), Rob Kirker (OK 66), Andy Daniels (OK 72), John Purser (OK 70), Gary Hutchings (OK 72), Clive Newton (OK 71), Rick Butcher (OK 72)

**2020 OKA London Dinner**  
Friday 24th April



The Lansdowne Club  
Mayfair, W1J 5JD

6.30 pm for 7.00 pm | Tickets £68

For more information and to book tickets, please go to  
[www.oks.co.uk/OKA Events](http://www.oks.co.uk/OKA%20Events)



# 2019 Summer Reunion

Saturday 29 June 2019

**W**ell, we have to admit that, after the overwhelming turnout at the 2018 Summer Reunion, we were wondering if the 2019 reunion was going to be a bit of a let down... fortunately the word must have spread because we again welcomed a pleasing number of OKs back to the School on 29 June last year. It was great to meet OKs who had ventured back to Kimbolton for the first time since they left - and for a couple of OKs that was some time ago!

Fortunately the weather was once again exceptional - hot and sunny all day so the perfect conditions to view the school grounds and chat to former school friends over a drink or two from the bar (too hot though for the children to use the bouncy castle who needed socks to avoid little feet getting scorched on the plastic!).

The 2020 Summer Reunion is on Saturday 27 June... please put the date in your diaries, and don't forget that the OKA Office is always happy to help you organise a reunion and get in touch with long lost school friends.



# 2019 Summer Ball

Saturday 29 June 2019

The 2019 OK Ball was enjoyed by OKs from the 1989, 1999, 2009 & 2014 year groups who got together to mark specific anniversaries since they left school.

We think that the photos say it all... it's a fun evening and always enjoyed by everyone. Get your tickets booked for the 2020 Ball now!





## 2020 Summer Ball

Saturday 27 June

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE!**

Book via [www.oks.co.uk](http://www.oks.co.uk)

# 2020 Summer Reunion

## Saturday 27 June

Below is a taster of the activities planned for the Summer Reunion in June - further details will be published on our website nearer the time...

**Sports Fixtures**

- Canoeing
- Tennis (Ladies & Men's)
- Rounders
- 1st XI Cricket
- 2nd XI Cricket
- Sailing
- Year Group Football Tournament

*If you are interested in taking part, please get in touch with the relevant Sports Manager (see page 7 or website)*

**Tours etc.**

- OK Memorabilia on display
- Castle Tour
- Heritage Room open
- Queen Katharine Building Tour

**Families & Children**

- OKs families are welcome!
- Bouncy Castle
- Swimming Pool
- (& of course, the grounds to wander/run around!)

**Summer Ball**

The above day time activities will be followed in the evening by the OK Summer Ball - please see our website for further details and to book your ticket(s). It's a very popular event, so make sure you book early!

**Year Group Reunions**

The following year groups are celebrating notable anniversaries of leaving school this year, please get in touch with the contacts below if you are interested in attending a reunion...  
('TBC' means we're still looking for volunteers - please get in touch with us if you're able to help!)

1970	Peter Haynes	<a href="mailto:peterhaynes917@hotmail.co.uk">peterhaynes917@hotmail.co.uk</a>
1980	Jonathan Hunter	<a href="mailto:jonathan.hunter142@gmail.com">jonathan.hunter142@gmail.com</a>
1990	Hetty Dean	<a href="mailto:hetty@wrightsfarm.co.uk">hetty@wrightsfarm.co.uk</a>
1995	TBC	
2000	TBC	
2010	Natalie Belbin	<a href="mailto:natalie.belbin21@gmail.com">natalie.belbin21@gmail.com</a>
2015	Izzy Hilliard Oliver Harper-Smith	<a href="mailto:izzy.hilliard@gmail.com">izzy.hilliard@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:oliverharpersmith@yahoo.com">oliverharpersmith@yahoo.com</a>

## Refreshments

### BAR & BBQ

### TEA

*complimentary tea served in the Green Room*

You are welcome to take advantage of the beautiful surroundings and picnic in the grounds!

[www.oks.co.uk/OKAEvents](http://www.oks.co.uk/OKAEvents)

OKA Office: 01480 862223 / [alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

# Dates for your DIARY



At the time of going to print the following dates in the 2020 OKA calendar had been confirmed. Others will be added in due course and confirmed on our website.

Further details will be advertised nearer to each event on our website and social media.

To register your interest in an event, or if you require any additional information please contact Helen Hopperton in the OKA office.

## MARCH

**Sunday 22**

**Netball:** OKs vs School VII, Roger Peel Sports Centre, 10.30am

**Men's Hockey:** OK 2nd XI v School, Duchess Astro, 10.30am

OK 1st XI v School, Duchess Astro, 12.00am

## APRIL

**Friday 24**

**OKA London Dinner,** The Lansdowne Club, Mayfair

## MAY

**Saturday 2 May**

**OKA Committee Meeting,** 10.30 am

**Friday 15**

**OK Golf Spring Meeting,** St Neots Golf Club

**Sunday 17**

**OK Golf Club Grafton Morrish Qualifier,** Gog Magog Golf Club

## JUNE

**Saturday 27**

**OKA Summer Reunion,** School Grounds, 11.30am onwards

**Saturday 27**

**OKA Summer Ball,** Castle State Rooms, 7.15pm

## SEPTEMBER

**Tuesday 8**

**OK Golf Autumn Meeting,** Hunstanton Golf Club

**Saturday 19 (tbc)**

**OKA AGM & Committee Meeting,** GCR 10.30 am

**Sunday 13 (tbc)**

**Ladies Hockey:** OKs vs School, Duchess Astro, 10.30am

## NOVEMBER

**Sunday 10**

**Remembrance Day Parade & Service,** Kimbolton, 11.00am



## Keeping in Touch...



01480 862223



alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk



www.oks.co.uk

# OK SPORT

## *An overview of the fixtures in 2019*

### OK MEN'S HOCKEY



**Alec Bryden (OK 17)**



[alec.bryden@ntlworld.com](mailto:alec.bryden@ntlworld.com)

2019 was overall a good year for the OK mens' hockey teams. In March two teams played the school 1st & 2nd XI. The 2nds started the challenge with a focus to return to their winning form after a 4-1 loss in 2018.

They didn't disappoint! Although the school started strongly our defence made it difficult for them to capitalise on their opportunities in attack. A persistent OKs team didn't fail to keep attacking resulting in a 5-1 win.

Their match was followed immediately by the 1st XI game. With the OKs not having had a win since 2016 and walking away with a draw last year, the team knew that a win was in their grasp.

With a few seasoned players in the OK team we were strong opponents for the school team, despite the fact that they had played together for the whole term so should have been well prepared. The match was competitive but was played in great spirit and we are pleased to report that the OKs won 3-1.



#### **Men's 1st Hockey Team**

*Back (l-r): George Richards, Eb Muhktar, Will Tatman, Rob Chitty, Harrison Peak, Ross Basser, Ben Williams, Adam Barrett-Drylie*

*Front (l-r): James Harris, Jack Gallifant, Michael Lane, Andy Lane, Matt Chitty, Alec Bryden, Ross Gibson*

# OK LADIES HOCKEY



**Natalie Gaunt (OK 16)**



[natalie1.gaunt@googlemail.com](mailto:natalie1.gaunt@googlemail.com)



The disappointment of not being able to field two ladies hockey teams due to lack of availability of players was outweighed by the recent great results achieved by the one team.

In 2017 and 2018 we had solid wins against the school 1st XI and the 2019 team added to the winning streak. Played on a sunny Sunday morning in September, the squad of just 11 set off positively and after a short while were 1 goal up after being awarded a penalty.

In the first half we managed to maintain our lead, despite the school scoring from a penalty, but our better play came in the second half when we took a further lead and started to outplay the young school team. Final score - 5-1 to the OKs, our best yet!

Thank you to everyone who played (and spectated!). We'd love to be able to field 2 teams this year - or at least have a few players on the bench!

We know that there are more hockey players out there... if you'd like to play please get in touch and we'll be in contact when the 2020 hockey match date has been confirmed (it's likely to be on a Sunday morning in early September).



**Ladies 1st Hockey Team**

*Back (l-r): Vicky Wakefield, Claudia Pert, Hannah Sutton, Ella Brown, Danni Belbin, Kirsty Lucas, Sarah Gill, Louise Bulziz (nee Day)*

*Front (l-r): Lucy Napier, Natalie Gaunt, Kate Ramply*



## OK FOOTBALL



**George Wilson (OK 13)**



*george.a.wilson@icloud.com*

07411 101363

I am sure many of you will remember your footballing days at school and perhaps even turning out in the annual OKs v School fixture (if you do, we would love to hear from you as we are keen to update records and receive anecdotes of years gone by). It was certainly a game to look forward to, but on many occasions it was the only game on offer.

Some of you will know that the OKs have had some success in the last couple of seasons in cup football, but last season 2018/19 was momentous as we finally took our place amongst the brethren of The Arthurian League and entered league football for the first time. Destination Division 5 North! With no home ground within the M25 we played all of our league games away from home. If drawn at home, cup games were at the School.

As a team to beat we only lost one league game all season and won the league. This however didn't guarantee promotion as we qualified for a play off game with runners up from Division 5 south... running out 6-0 winners v Old

Kings Scholars sealed the prize.

As for the cups, in the Arthur Dunn Cup we defeated Premier League side Chigwell away from home 2-0 before losing narrowly to Old Reptonians 2-1 at Kimbolton.

The Junior Cup did not repeat the feat of 2017/18 as we were first round losers to the upcoming Shireburnians.

We did however still make an appearance in "Super Saturday" making the final of The DWT trophy (3rd tier cup). We lost to our nemesis club Old Alleynians 2's 3-2 in gale force winds.

Again over 35 players have played for the team this season. Younger players have been well represented including Harry Darnell & Henry Langley from the school team. In our first game of the season this year, 3 players from last years school side, Lewis Meakin, Adam Goodyear and Ross McAdam, played.

However, much of the success and credit go to a core group of players and their captain George Wilson. Not only is George a commanding centre half but he ensures that everything is well organised, that the teams are well turned out and is very inclusive in all that he does. He is well supported by others - messrs Dunmore, Fenton, Owen, S Findlay, J Kenmir, R Holmes, Biddle, Eddon, May, M Brown have been racking up plenty of appearances and are the spine of the team. Nevertheless with quality players such as Belbin, W Kenmir, Darnell, Langley, Meakin amongst others available from time to time, it would be an OK conundrum to pick our best starting XI.

At the time of writing, the OKs have started 2019/20 in good form by winning 8 of 9 games, top division 4 and are in all 3 cups. Our recent 3-1 away win v Old Malvernians in the Arthur Dunn is the highlight so far.

We have made the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield our home ground as it is relatively conveniently located for all players.

However Kimbolton is where our heart is and on behalf of all the players I take this opportunity to thank the Headmaster for his support of the side by allowing us use of the facilities for Cup games.

Both Chris Hope and Tony Lawless from the School are a great support in encouraging current school players to look to our side as a future team they can play for and instilling on them a love of the game with a great attitude to boot!

*Jonathan Hunter (OK 80)*



*Action from the OKs vs Schol 1st XI match in September in which the OKs drew 1-1 against a strong school side*







**OK 1st XI team & School 1st XI** (OKs are in the red stripes!)

*OKs Back (l-r): Jonathan Hunter (in blue), James May (patterned top), Lewis Meakin, George Wilson, Adam Goodyer, Sam Findlay, Scott Irwin, Morgan Brown*

*Front (l-r): Rob Holmes, Allan Owen, Jack Kenmir, Ross McAdam, Tom Biddle*



*An OK 2nd XI also played against the School in September - in a game where both teams were more evenly matched than in the last few years, the match was quite close. Fortunately the OKs won 1-0!*

*OKs Back (l-r): Brandon Cole, Jacob Shortland, Charlie Ibbotson, Will Bennett, Aiden Ward, Jack Findley, Nat Knell*

*Front (l-r): Oliver Harper-Smith, Will Tatman, Sina Kordany, Ben Szczpanski*

### Vets Football

An OK vets team is being re-established and we'd love to hear from you if you are interested in playing. Their first matches are in March, with more in the pipeline...


To find out more please get in touch with Romil Kanani (romilk@aol.com) or the OKA Office.

### Football Memories

We've been having a look at the history of OK football - if you have any recollections, stats and photos of OK games going back as far as possible please let us know.

## OK CRICKET

 **Charlie Gingell (OK 13) - 1sts**  
**James Moore (OK 11) - 2nds**

 *gingell.charlie@gmail.com*  
*jamescmoore6@gmail.com*



The cricket report on the 2018 match (as reported in the 2019 OK News) ended with “we look forward to returning to win back the trophy in 2019!’ - that’s what the OK 1st XI Manager said and that’s what the team did!

The 1st XI cricket remains a focal point of the OK Summer Reunion day and the weather last year was perfect cricketing weather. The OKs batted first and, after some impressive batting from Nick Borkett (93) and Charlie May (43), scored 261 for 9 after 49 overs.

The 2nd innings saw the OKs hold the School team to 202 after 46 overs, therefore winning by 59 runs. Captain Charlie Gingell was delighted to be presented the trophy by School cricket coach, Alex Tudor (see photo below).

The OK 2nd XI also won their match which was played on the Welsted Pitch. The OKs batted first and set a score of 180 for the school team to chase; they scored 169-8, so the OKs won by 2 wickets. Man of the match was Peter Fielding (OK 81) who batted and bowled superbly.



**The 2019 OK 1st XI**

*Back (l-r): Tom Hopperton\*, Will Briggs, James Wilkins, Will Tatman, James Harris, Charlie May, George Furbank*

*Front (l-r): Andrew Ramply, Charlie Gingell, Alec Bryden, Nick Borkett*  
*(\*replaced his injured father, James Hopperton (OK 94), at the end of the game)*



**The 2019 OK 2nd XI**

*Back (l-r): George Farrer, Sam Knell, Josh Morey, James Thomson, Zach Lancaster-Adlam, Ben King*  
*Front (l-r): Peter Fielding, Will Taylor, James Moore, Will Ford, Marcus Telford*  
*(Seb Doyle played but not pictured)*

## OK NETBALL



**Danni Belbin (OK 12)**



[danni.belbin2120@gmail.com](mailto:danni.belbin2120@gmail.com)



Unfortunately the OK netball team started their match against the school 1st VII last March at a disadvantage - with few OKs being available to play we only had a team of 6 and had to 'borrow' a player from the school.

Despite this the OKs approached the game in excellent spirit. The school took an early lead, but due the outstanding work rate and effort of everyone in the OKs team, the school lead was never too far ahead and it ended up being a low scoring game in which the school won 18-9.

Thank you to those who came along to play! If you'd like to play in future matches please let Danni know; you don't need to be a seasoned netball player, just someone who is willing to get involved and help keep this fixture going.



**2019 Netball Players with Headmaster presenting the OK Netball Cup to school Netball Captain Hattie Dent (OK 19)**  
 OK players (in pink bibs) l-r: Becky Cox, Ruth Watson, Maddy Stokes, Natalie Gaunt, Livvy Cotterill, Mary Holyoak.

## OK TENNIS



**James Hodges (OK 11) - Men's**  
**Helen Hopperton (OK 85) - Ladies**



[jameshodges93@ymail.com](mailto:jameshodges93@ymail.com)  
[alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

Peter Carrington, James Geary, James Clements, Ben Williams, Simon Boyce, Oli Hale, Morgan Thomas, Rory Beet.

Playing for the Ladies team were (pictured below): Libby Ramply (school), Tash Feaver, Hannah Summers, Lauren Irwin, Claudia Pert, Jess Gingell, Kate Ramply, Abby Hanson & Pippa Lowe (Jess Coppins not pictured).

At one point in the run up to the Summer Reunion it seemed that the tennis courts were going to be very quiet as it was proving difficult to get commitment from OKs to play. After some persistence all ended positively and we're pleased to report that both a men's and ladies team played on the day.

The men had 5 pairs and their match proved to be one of the closest played by OKs for some time. Fortunately the OKs won - 13 sets to 12!

The result of the ladies game was slightly different and the match was not quite so close - the OKs lost 2-13.

Playing for the Mens team were: Oli Knell, James Hodges,



## OK ROUNDERS



**Charlotte Ralph (OK 06)**



[cl.ralph@live.co.uk](mailto:cl.ralph@live.co.uk)

Unfortunately fewer than usual OK rounders players were available to play last year and we were only able to field one team to play against the school at the end of June.

That team, however, was a strong team who set out to continue the OKs winning streak - we had wins against the school 1st team in both 2017 & 2018!

Playing against a team who had only lost one game that term (which was against England Rounders...) a win wasn't necessarily expected. The game was however a close one and we're delighted to report that the OKs won 18.5 rounders to 15.

We hope to revert back to having two teams playing this summer - if you're available to play on the 29th June, please let Charlotte know.

Make sure that you have joined the *Old Kimboltonians Rounders Players* group on Facebook so that you can keep up to date with the match info!

*(Apologies for the absence of a rounders photo!)*

## OK SAILING



**Alaster Gray (OK 73)**



[alasterlesleygray@hotmail.com](mailto:alasterlesleygray@hotmail.com)

The Annual sailing match took place on the OK Summer Reunion day.

For a change it was decided to put a greater emphasis on team racing (where tactical sailing comes in to allow a team member through whilst holding an opponent back). The Firefly dinghies are perfect for this type of racing.

The weather was beautiful bright sunshine, with the wind light at 4 knots rising steadily to 12 knots.

Eight short races were completed with a worrying start for the OKs as we lost the first race, and then only just won the

second. As the wind freshened however the school couldn't match the speed gained by the OKs - no doubt helped by racing experience and dare I say greater crew weight!

So the result was 7-1 to the OKs.

As has been the case in recent years the OKs had two father and daughter teams with Paul and Victoria Carrington and Mark and Abby Aldridge. David Papworth and James Green completed the team.

Mark, David and Paul certainly played their part in being the devil's advocate, sailing the school well past the marks and engaging in pronounced luffing manoeuvres.

As ever these events cannot take place without support. Our thanks go to Jon Sweet and Vanessa Weedon Jones for course laying and race management.

The event was enjoyed by both the school and the OKs so we will repeat this format for next year.



**OK Sailors:** l-r: Victoria Carrington, Paul Carrington, Alaster Gray, Mark Aldridge, Abby Aldridge, David Papworth and James Green

## OK GOLF



Charles Robinson (OK 76)  
Tom Harrison (OK 68)



[robinsoncharles@btconnect.com](mailto:robinsoncharles@btconnect.com)  
[tombroughtonharrison@gmail.com](mailto:tombroughtonharrison@gmail.com)

*The OK Golf Club is open to all OKs  
- whatever your handicap ...*



**Old Kimboltonians Golf**

### OK Golf Club Spring & Autumn Meetings

8 OK's enjoyed a sunny afternoon at St Neots on 10th May. Tim Blackman won the John Wills Cup, with Jerry Williams second and Charles Robinson third.

A better turnout of 14 made it to Hunstanton on 17th September. Hunstanton is never the easiest of challenges and a north wind certainly added to the hazards. Richard Boyd won The President's Cup with 33 points with David Tylor and John Flack in second and third respectively. Richard also won the CV Robinson trophy for the best aggregate score of the two games.

We would like to welcome new OK Golfers to join us. We have two matches a year. The events are fun and not too formal. The usual itinerary is meet at 12:00, a light lunch, 18 Holes FHcp Stableford followed by a dinner. You can come for all or part of the day.

If you are interested, please contact Charles Robinson:  
07808 914545 / [robinsoncharles@btconnect.com](mailto:robinsoncharles@btconnect.com)

## GRAFTON MORRISH GOLF COMPETITION

Every year the OKs compete in the Grafton Morrish Golf Competition. This is a foursomes scratch event for former pupils of independent schools. Teams play in regional qualifying competitions in May, and the qualifiers then compete in the finals held over two days on the Hunstanton and Brancaster courses in October.

The OKs team last qualified in 2017 - we'd love to qualify again this year!

If you are a low handicapper (10 or under) and are available to play in the **2020 GRAFTON MORRISH QUALIFIER on Sunday 17th MAY** - please get in touch with:

**Tom Harrison:** [tombroughtonharrison@gmail.com](mailto:tombroughtonharrison@gmail.com) / 01223 893450 or 07860 960795

**John Flack:** [jdandvaflack@btinternet.com](mailto:jdandvaflack@btinternet.com) / 07807 771284

### 2020 OK Golf Events:

**SPRING MEETING - Friday 15th May**

St Neots Golf Club

**AUTUMN MEETING - Tuesday 8th September**

Hunstanton Golf Club

**All OK golfers welcome!**

# NEWS OF OKS

*Catch up with OKs from around the world...*

## Pre - 1970

**MICHAEL DAY (OK 49)** got in touch with the OKA Office last summer from his home in Alberta, Canada; he was preparing a presentation to give to his grandson's school close to Remembrance Day and was planning to include memories of his school days at key times during the war. We were pleased to be able to help him with dates of school terms etc. that coincided with key times in the war such as Dunkirk, the Blitz, D-Day etc. & delighted that school pupils in Canada learnt a bit about Kimbolton.

**THOMAS WARTH (OK 52)** continues to be blessed with relatively good health. He keeps up with his hobbies and drove his Citroen 2CV over 2000 miles from his home in Minnesota to Monterey for the famous Pebble Beach week (a prestigious annual automotive event open to prewar and postwar collector cars).

*Books for Africa*, the non-profit organisation he founded is now in its 31st year and, as the world's largest shipper of books to the continent, has donated some 43 million titles.



Tom Warth pinning a 'Books for Africa' badge on Kofi Annan's lapel

Kofi Annan was a long-time supporter of the organisation and he visited them before his passing in August 2018 (see photo).

**RODNEY BROWN (OK 53)** keeps in regular contact with the OKA Office and enjoys receiving updates from Kimbolton. He is an avid cricket fan and is a member of Arundel Castle Cricket Club - last summer at the age of 85 and 4 days, he played for the club in a match at Teddington Cricket Club!



Rodney Brown ready to go into bat at Bushy Park, Hampton Court in a match against Teddington Cricket Club - we had celebrated his 85 birthday just a few days earlier!

## 1970 - 1979

**KEITH STAPLES (OK 72)** finally retired in 2013 after over 30 rewarding years teaching languages, maths, sports and DoFE in the independent sector, the last 7 years at Stowe School, Buckinghamshire.

Over the years he was involved in countless school trips to foreign parts, including 4 or 5 joint trips with Kimbolton, led by Frank Burns. Together

they went to China, Cuba, Mexico and Spain (twice).

Keith's latest "trip" is a one-way ticket: he has retired to South America with his wife Ana Cecilia, buying a little place near Timbio, in the foothills of the Andes, where his wife grew up. There is a volcano (Purace) some 20-30 miles down the road which the locals tell Keith is dead - he'd like to believe them! Keith often thinks back to Kimbolton, in particular remembering the sports he was involved with (football and cricket) and being out on the field almost every day. He says that as an arrogant adolescent he didn't realise his good fortune but now looks back and realises how blessed he was.

**JONATHAN PAPWORTH (OK 77)** and his brother **SIMON PAPWORTH (OK 85)** are the founders of Person Centred Software, a company that won a place on the Deloitte Tech Fast 50 List in 2019. They wrote their innovative electronic care planning software in 2013 and it is now revolutionising adult social care by enabling carers to digitally record care as it is given - saving admin time and improving carer and nurse staffing retention.

## 1980 - 1989

**RICHARD BEEBY (OK 85)** and his partner Sarah have now completed the build of the *Mid-England Barrow* and are open for business. He'd welcome any OKs who would like to have a look round the rural funeral venue and barrow for the storage of ashes. Interested? Please get in touch with Richard via his website: [www.mid-englandbarrow.co.uk](http://www.mid-englandbarrow.co.uk)

**JANE LANCASTER-ADLAM (OK 87)** is working in Hong Kong as the Chief Principal for The International Chinese Academy.

**VICKY BECKWITH (nee Boutcher, OK 88)** wrote from her home in New Zealand to let the OKA know that she is now the Literacy & Numeracy Leader at UCOL (University College of Learning), an Institute of Technology and Polytechnic in New Zealand. She will have finished her MEd with a specialisation in Global Studies (University of Waikato) at the end of February.

**DARRYL FLEMING (OK 89)** is a director of Titanium Fireworks and featured in the 'News & Opinion' section of the *Association for Project Management* website in December. In the Q&A article Darryl talks about his involvement in key events such as the 2012 Olympics, Rugby World Cup and the 50th anniversary of VJ Day celebrations in London.

**JONATHAN GRAY (OK 89)** is the new Chairman of Governors at Kimbolton School. Jonathan has been a Governor for several years and started his term as Chairman in January 2019.

**MICHAEL HALFORD (OK 89)** studied Natural Science at Law at Trinity College, Cambridge has been working as a solicitor in the City since leaving Cambridge. He is currently Head of Private Investment Funds for Europe and Asia at the US law firm, Goodwin Procter.

Michael is married to Caroline, an Artist, and they live in London and Suffolk. They have three children, Edward, Flora and Freddie; Edward, the eldest, is in his first year at York University studying history.

## 1990 - 1999

**ABIGAIL EDWARDS (OK 91)** has moved from a career in teaching to become an Occupational Therapist. She is currently working at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge.

**ADRIAN PETTY (OK 91)**, after 18 years in various roles at St Edmond's College, Ware and latterly as Deputy Head and Registrar, took up the post of Headmaster of St Nicholas School in Old Harlow in January 2020.

**JOANNA LEITE (nee PEEL, OK 92)** has moved from Ratcliffe College and is now the Deputy Head (Pastoral) at Sidcot School in Somerset.

**NICKI SHEARD (OK 94)** has been appointed by BBC Studios as Chief Marketing Officer to lead its global marketing strategy. She will be guiding the commercialization of top BBC brands and programming such as Doctor Who, Top Gear and BBC Earth. Nicki returns to the BBC after a six-year absence, having worked there from 2008 to 2013 as head of marketing for BBC News, then director of marketing and audiences, audio and music.

**PATRICK LATHAM (OK 94)** has supplemented his series of cricket books (see 2019 OK News) with the perfect travel companion for any young person who is especially keen on sport. His *Dice Sports* book introduces eleven great sports and all you need is a single dice to play them! (The book can be purchased on Amazon.co.uk...)

**LUKE MARKS (OK 96)** is a Detective Chief Inspector in the Metropolitan Police. Last year he and his team featured in the BBCs *'The Met: Policing in London'* as they investigated one of the many murders in London.

**AMY LEONARD (OK 95)** received an MBE in the Queen's New Years' Honours for her services to charity. Amy is Chief Executive and Founder of The Transformation Trust - an education charity dedicated to opening the doors of opportunity to young people across the country.

Founded 10 years ago, the Trust has worked with some of the most challenged schools in the country, offering their pupils opportunities and experiences helping them to develop employability skills and build their confidence.

**MARK KLEIN (OK 97)** is a qualified triathlon coach and runs extra curricular triathlon and athletics clubs at a number of schools and clubs in South West London. He also offers private tuition to young athletes. His highlights are on Instagram @JnrTriCoaching.

**LOUISE ROBERTS (OK 98)** is now a children's Social Worker and works in Gloucestershire.

**HELEN GARDNER (nee GELL, OK 99)** currently lives with her husband of 15 years, Ian – a longstanding employee of Santander and rider coach for a very up and coming motorcycle racer, and 2 sons Max aged 11 (currently training as an elite gymnast since the age of 4) and Sam aged 8. Both have set their sights on becoming motorcycle racers following in their daddy's footsteps – or should we say boots! Helen has just returned to the world of work after 8 years out and started a job at the University of Buckingham from where she also graduated in March last year with a 1st in Law from their part time course which took 4 years – and a lot of blood, sweat and tears!!

## 2000 - 2009

**ASHTON CULL (OK 05)** was spotted playing against the professional quizzier on ITV's *The Chase* in February.

**CHARLIE ALEXANDER (OK 07)** has invested a lot of his spare time over the last few years turning a field into a rural holiday destination with a stunning lake and three boutique and luxury lodges. *Cambridgeshire Lakes* is just 10 minutes from St Neots - perfect if you're thinking of making a long weekend of if when coming to the OK Summer Reunion at the end of June..!

Have a look at the website: [www.cambridgeshirelakes.co.uk](http://www.cambridgeshirelakes.co.uk)

**OLIVIA TURON (OK 08)** will be completing in the 35th edition of the Marathon des Sables - known as the 'toughest footrace on earth'. She has taken 8 months off work to prepare for this race in April which involves running 250km across the Sahara Desert in over 40 degree heat carrying everything she needs for a week on her back!

The race raises money for *Solidarité MDS*, an association that encourages young people from the territory where they'll be running to take part in sport. If you are interested in sponsoring

Olivia, would like to find out more about the race or give her any advice if you've completed the race yourself before, please email her on:  
olivia.turon@gmail.com.

## 2010 - Present

**HENRY ALEXANDER (OK 09)** is having a break from the UK Civil Service and has taken up an opportunity to work for the New Zealand Civil Service in Wellington. At the end of November he took up a post working for the New Zealand Ministry of Primary Industries.

**SAM KNELL (OK 10)** joined the staff at Kimbolton in September as a Graduate History Teacher for a year.

**ALEXANDRA POLLARD (OK 10)** is now deputy culture editor at The Independent.

**SEAULONE LIU (OK 11)** has taken a career change and, after working in Accountancy for a while, he is now studying Medicine at Leeds University.

**CATHERINE BEEBY (OK 12)** graduated from Durham with a first degree in 2015 and is now studying medicine at Cambridge.

**CATHERINE FUSSELL (OK 12)** has recently joined the Kimbolton School staff as a Year 2 teacher in the Lower Prep. Catherine is enjoying her return to Kimbolton - but now at the front of the classroom!

**AMY GORDON (OK 13)** is running the London Marathon in April raising money for Headway Oxfordshire. In January 2019 Amy spent 4 weeks in hospital undergoing life-saving treatment for a brain injury caused by an ear infection. Since her discharge from hospital Amy has been supported by Headway Oxfordshire which is local to

where she lives. Read about Amy's journey from brain injury to the marathon in her blog on:  
[26milesbraininjury.wordpress.com](http://26milesbraininjury.wordpress.com). You can support Amy by sponsoring her via her donation page on:  
[uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AGMarathon](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AGMarathon).

**OLI KNELL (OK 13)** is currently Head Chef at 33 Abbeville Road restaurant in Clapham.

**ABBY ALDRIDGE (OK 14)** works for SDC and has been one of the architects overseeing the building of the development and refurbishment of the Prep School buildings.

**REBECCA BEEBY (OK 14)** graduated from UEA in 2017 and has just completed a Masters at UEA on plant genetics.

**KATIE DAVIDSON-SMITH (OK 14)** graduated from Coventry University with a Masters in Product Design. She worked in a graduate design position for a merchandising display company before moving to Homebase as a Format Designer where she designs bespoke displays, fixtures and aesthetics for their stores.

**CAMERON HORN (OK 14)** has graduated and is currently working as a dentist in his foundation training year.

**JAMES PURDY (OK 15)** is studying pharmacy at Nottingham University and at the end of his current placement year will be fully qualified.

**GEORGIE SPENCE-JONES (OK 15)** has been working on frontline ambulances for the last three years. She has completed her Paramedic qualifications and now works for the East of England Ambulance Service Trust.



*Georgie Spence-Jones on duty!*

**GEORGE FURBANK (OK 15)** made his international debut in England's opening game against France at the Stade de France in the 2020 Six Nations Rugby. After making his rugby premiership league debut for Northampton Saints last season, George has gone from strength to strength and was named as part of Eddie Jones' England squad in January. George started at Kimbolton in Reception and left post GCSEs to go to Bedford School where he could play rugby at school. His father, Tim, and his sister, Alex, are also OKs, as is his Godfather, Andrew Ramply (OK 87).

It was good to see George back in Kimbolton last playing cricket for the OKs - we're looking forward to seeing him notch up those caps for England!



*George Furbank, with his proud parents Tim (OK 87) and Becky, after playing his international debut*



**RACHEL WINTER (OK 15)** joined the staff at Kimbolton in September employed as a Graduate Art Teacher for a year.

**HARRIET BEEBY (OK 16)** is in her final year at Harper Adams studying Agriculture with Agronomy.

**HENRY FARRER (OK 16)** started training with the Royal Marines at the end of January.

**GEORGIE HUNT (OK 16)** graduated from the University of York in July 2019 with a First in Politics and International Relations. She was planning to start a Post Graduate course next.

**CIARA CHITTENDEN-ELLIS (OK 17)** took up a place at East 15 Acting School in October and is pursuing a BA in Acting and Stage Combat.

**KATE LYSTER (OK 17)** represented Reading University at the 2019 European Universities Sports Association regatta held in Sweden. She rowed in the women's quad which, after a nail biting photo finish, won gold.

**MARCUS RUDD (OK 17)** was spotted on the BBC Victoria Derbyshire programme taking part in a challenge to repair, reuse and recycle clothes for a London Fashion Week show. He is currently studying at Loughborough University.

**JOSH SMITH (OK 18)** has continued to play cricket since getting in the Kimbolton cricket record books in the Upper 6th. As well as playing for Peterborough Town CC in their Northants Premier Division campaign Josh was a member of the Leeds/Bradford MCCU squad and played for them in the 2019 Red Bull World Student T20 in Dubai.

## Former Staff

**IAN BURTON** (Former Staff 1962-00) appeared in 2018 in a short film 'Papworth: A Moving Story' which marked 100 years of what is now Royal Papworth Hospital.

**RICHARD MERRIMAN** (Former Staff 1989-97) went on tour to Australia last November as a member of the England Over 60s Cricket Squad. The tour saw the squad travelling across South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania. They also had a friendly international match with New Zealand.

## Have we included **YOUR** news?

**If not, it's probably because we didn't know about it!**  
Please don't miss out next time - send in your news as it happens to:  
[alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

### Life is full of coincidences...

A keen sports fan, Julian Simons (OK 94) went to the 6 Nations 'rugathon' at a pub in Wandsworth the weekend of the Calcutta Cup.

During the rugby a young lady stood close to his group of friends who Julian noticed was in particular cheering on George Furbank... he spoke to her and she told Julian that George had attended her school which, of course, got them talking and reminiscing about Kimbolton! It didn't really matter that the young lady, Eloise Scott (OK 13), was born in the year that Julian had left school!! They are both pictured below.



### *Did you play in a band when at school? Did the group continue to play, or re-form, after you'd left school?*

We are doing some research into the various popular music groups who have emanated from Kimbolton School... we already know of a few (*The Original Cheveraks, The Alice Band...*) but we'd like to make sure that we know about them all.

If you have information on any OK bands, we'd love to hear from you!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OK Engagements / Marriages / Births

**LAURA BEADLES (OK 04)** married Richard Fielding in April 2019.

**JAMES BROWN (OK 94)** and Nicola celebrated the arrival of William Thomas on 2 September 2019; a brother for Jessica.

**JAMES BUCKLEY (OK 07)** married Amy Carter in August 2018. Quite a few OKs attended the wedding - see photo below!

**HANNAH CAMPBELL (OK 10)** got engaged to Michael Beard in April 2019.

**LUKE EDDON (OK 12)** married Finola Glynn on 3 August 2019. The wedding was held in Northwood and followed by a reception at Chenies Manor. OKs in attendance were Luke's brother Josh (OK 15), Jacob Aldridge and Robert Craze (both OK 12)

**JACALYN GASCOYNE (OK 09)** married her long term partner of ten years, Uttaran Datta, at Stanbrook Abbey in Worcestershire on 25 August 2019.

**SAM GORDON (OK 08)** and Amber welcomed the safe arrival of a daughter, Isobel Rose Gordon, on 5 December 2019.

**JAMES HANSON (OK 14)** and **REBECCA LEE (OK 13)** got engaged in September 2018 and are getting married in 2020.

**GORDON HARRISON (OK 08)** married Megan Fairlie on 4 May 2019. Lots of OKs attended their wedding including Gordon's brother Neil (OK 11) and Sam Mason (OK 08) who were Best Men, and James May (OK 08) and Alex Bates (OK 08) who were Groomsmen.

**JAMES HUNTER (OK 07)** married Ruby Bronze in Ibiza on 26 September 2019. The couple live in Chelmsford.

**DAVID LINDLEY (OK 07)** is engaged to Sorrel Carss - their wedding is in May 2020.

**TIM MCGLASHAN (OK 09)** married Jess Dive on 11 October 2019 at St Nicholas Church in Hail Weston. They were married by Reverend Bland (Former Staff & School Chaplain) and John Hitchin (OK 71) was organist. Tim's brother Ollie (OK 12) was Best Man and David Childs, Guy Newsom and Chris Nixon (all OK 09) were Groomsmen. Other OKs at the wedding were Sam Griggs, Nick Ibbotson, Will Kirkpatrick, Sophie Anthony, Karen Anderson and Karen Brown (all OK 09).

**VICTORIA MARR (OK 12)** married William McIlroy in April 2019.

**ALEX PASKE (OK 09)** married Peter Wallace in August 2019.



**OKs at James Buckley's wedding** (all OK 07 unless indicated otherwise):

L-R: Sam Roberts, David Lindley, Andy Stone, Rosie Wood, Charlie Alexander, James Buckley, Amy Carter (Bride), Sam Paske, Alex Boardman, Toby Lee, Tom Kirkpatrick, Charles Taylor, Jemma Feaver (OK 09), Rob Colclough, Becky Harvey, Chris Abinton, Jenna Darler, Chloe Newsom.



**Tim McGlashan, his Best Man & OK Groomsmen at his wedding**

*L-R: Guest, Guy Newsome, Ollie McGlashan, Guest, Tim & Jess McGlashan, David Childs, Guest, Chris Nixon*

**SAM PASKE (OK 07)** married Emma Spridgen in October 2019. Best man was Charles Alexander (OK 07).

**BARNABY SPINK (OK 10)** is engaged to Lady Iona Murray and they will be married in August 2020.

**JOSH SPINK (OK 07)** and his wife, Louise, welcomed the arrival of their son, Edward Horatio Derrick spink, on 15 July 2019.

**ANDREW STONE (OK 07)** is engaged to Victoria Ruth and they are getting married in June 2020.

**JULIAN SYMONS (OK 94)** and Elinor celebrated the safe arrival of their second son, Nathaniel Garnet Symons, on 1 November 2019.

**MAX TAYLOR (OK 12)** and **ALEX DICKINSON (OK 12)** were married at Kimbolton Castle on 20 July 2019. In attendance were quite a few OKs from their year group (Alice Forward, Nicole Wolfe, Vishal Patel, Bill Haigh, Ryan Lovelock, Toby Roberts, Matt George and Megan Waring) as well as Sam Taylor and Josh Waring (both OK 09), Thea Dickinson (OK 11), Hamish Duncan (OK 13) and Jade Hellett (OK 15). Alistair Hamilton (former staff) also attended.

**HELEN WHITE (OK 06)** married Chris Beal on 4 May 2019 at Stoke Rochford Hall near Grantham. Amongst the guests were a number of OKs: Emma Kendrick (OK 02), Vicki Mitman (OK 03), Ashton Cull (OK 05), James Chapman-Booth (OK 06), Amelia Cook (OK 06), Katy Greenstone (OK 06) and Felicity Paddick (nee Ward, OK 06).



*Mr & Mrs Taylor after their marriage in July*

# DEATHS & OBITUARIES

The OKA is saddened to report the deaths of the following OKs and colleagues:

**RALPH ALLEN (OK 42)** on 26 March 2019

**JACK BAXTER (OK 49)** in 2018

**JOHN R BEETON (OK 57)** on 24 September 2019

**ROBIN BRADLEY (OK 58)** on 16 October 2019

**CLIVE BRANCEN (OK 55)** on 4 June 2018

**FRANCIS BRAND (OK 58)** on 5 January 2020

**ARCHIE BROCKLEBANK (OK 17)** on 28 April 2019

**DOUGLAS BROWN (OK 61)** on 2 May 2019

**STEPHEN HALDEN (OK 87)** on 4 December 2019

**IMOGEN HALFORD (OK 95)** in 2019

**PETER T HALSTEAD (OK 79)** on 15 December 2018

**ADRIAN HEY (OK 80)** on 20 August 2018

**MAX HUNTER (OK 09)** on 24 August 2019

**MICHAEL INGLE (OK 52)** in April 2019

**CHARLOTTE KIMM (nee TUCK)** in April 2019

**STEPHANIE LAMBERT (OK 11)** in January 2020

**JOHN W MAYES (OK 49)** on 23 January 2019

**COLIN RADFORD (OK 55)** on 21 February 2019

**KENNETH ROWLATT (OK 47)** on 16 September 2019

**MARY SMOUT (Former Staff)** on 28 January 2020

**CHARLES R B SPENCER (OK 45)** on 3 August 2017

**CHRISTOPHER J T SPENCER (OK 54)** on 31 January 2018

**JIM TOWNLEY (Former Staff)** on 14 June 2019

**KEITH VOLANS (OK 66)** on 6 April 2019

**WALTER JOHN H WATSON (OK 48)** on 11 January 2020

**RALPH ALLEN (OK 42)** passed away on 26 March 2019 at his home in Kingston, Canada.

Ralph was born in Northamptonshire and was the youngest of three brothers. As a child he enjoyed exploring the fields of his rural home which fostered his desire to become an artist. After leaving Kimbolton he attended the Slade School of Fine Art. He emigrated to Canada in 1957 with his family where he immersed himself in the art community in Kingston, Ontario.

His career included the appointment as the Professor of Art in the Fine Arts Department at Queens University and Professor Emeritus on his retirement in 1987.

*Taken from [www.ralphallen.ca](http://www.ralphallen.ca) (a website build by Ralph's family)*

**JOHN ROBERT (BOB) BEETON (OK 57)** Dad joined Kimbolton in 1951, the year that the school purchased the Castle. It was the beginning of a life long association with the school that he loved - despite occasionally waking up to frost on the inside of the windows in the Castle dormitory. Along with his beloved brother Chris, cousins Keith Wainwright and Michael Blott there were several family friends from Peterborough that he went through the school with. He gathered more friends along the way, many remained close to him during his life including, Roger Cheney, Roger Underhill, John Mayes, Tom Chamberlain, Tony Howarth, Tony Simpson and John Furnivall, to mention a few.

Excelling in his entrance exams and scoring the highest marks in his year he went into the year above. This excellence may not have continued during his time at school as we have been amused to read his reports since his passing. Cyril Lewis wrote "...lacking in forceful enthusiasm, he must put more energy into his study. I see that he has gained 6 inches in height in the last 2 years, no doubt this has taken much of his energy and hopefully, more will soon be at his disposal for his work."

Dad was a keen Kimboltonian sportsman and in his younger years, regularly captaining various teams then finally, making the 1st XI cricket team in the UVI, being joined by his brother Chris. A prefect, the younger boys described his punishments being delivered in a gentlemanly manner. Dad had an amazing relationship with his house master, Tom Pierce, and wife, Gertha, they remained close throughout their lives, and attended his wedding to mum in 1964. Gertha also attended my wedding in 1998 with Geoff Coles.

From Kimbolton, Dad went to Durham to study medicine. On graduation, he went to RVI Newcastle and whilst there met Mum, and they were married in 1964. After a short time at a practice in Norwich, they moved to Peterborough, where Dad remained with the same practice for over 40 years. He was adored by his colleagues who affectionately described him as occasionally "a little grumpy with an aversion to modern technology" - for him, the computer was known as the 'idiot box.' Dad always felt paper had served well for many years and didn't see the need for too much technological change. A remarkable diagnostic doctor, any referral to a consultant would be acted on immediately. In addition to his practice duties, he was doctor for the Posh, Peterborough Panthers Speedway, the East of England Showground, as well as a number of the larger companies in Peterborough.

Dad joined Kimbolton Lodge 7204 in 1968, the beginning of an incredible life in Freemasonry, becoming an eminent mason of 14 units and rising to high rank in many. He was Worshipful Master at Kimbolton in 1984, as well as the prestigious, Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards in 2006. Recently, I was invited to address the Kimbolton Lodge to talk about what being a family member of a mason at Kimbolton meant to our family. It was the first time I didn't resist going to chapel!! Dad would have been so proud. I loved Dad's continued passion for school and the friendships he had with OK's from his era to the current day.



*Bob Beeton (centre) pictured with the U15 cricket XI in 1953. The Master is a young Philip Burkett!*

Over the last year's with Dad's health deteriorating, my family moved to Stamford to be closer to home, allowing us to accompany Dad to many masonic events at the Castle. Anyone who knew me at Kimbolton may be surprised at my enthusiasm to return to school so often! As a family, at this difficult time, we have been incredibly supported by the Lodge, particularly John Hitchin, and we feel so lucky to have been embraced by this group of special men. John played the organ at Dad's funeral and memorial service, with Mark Constant delivering a wonderful tribute at Peterborough Cathedral. It was so lovely to see such a sea of purple, gold and black ties. Sarah Henry, Louise Holmes and I represented the OK ladies.

Dad was a consummate professional and exemplary Kimboltonian. A gentle man and a gentleman. He was a mentor and motivator, kind, intelligent with a razor sharp wit, and a wickedly dry, yet gentle sense of humour. His incredible presence shall be greatly missed by so very many.

*Claire Moloney (nee Beeton, OK 1989)*

*[An OK footnote. Dad loved cricket and we have just brought a Christmas present for our son, Finn, who captained Hunts County Under 13's this summer. It is called 'Cricket – A Leading Edge for Captains' by Patrick Latham (OK 1994), who is one of Finn's House Masters at Oakham. The book is dedicated to Dad's close friend, the wonderful Geoff Coles. It will be a fitting present.]*

**ROBIN BRADLEY CBE (OK 58)** died on 16 October 2019 after being diagnosed with blood cancer two years ago.

Robin was born in 1938. He grew up in Norfolk and was educated at Kimbolton School where he displayed an aptitude for maths. He then went to Mander College in Bedford, before winning a state scholarship to Loughborough University to

study mechanical engineering.

Robin began working for the MoD in 1962 at RAE Bedford, a research site of the Royal Aircraft Establishment. He joined Hunting Engineering in 1965 and would oversee development of cluster bombs and runway busters. In 1993, when Hunting-BRAE was awarded the contract by the government to shake up the management at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE), Robin was part of the delegation that was sent to AWE.

He became director of AWE in 1997. During his tenure, he removed bottlenecks in the production of Trident warheads winning over any resistance to his reforms with a style of argument as calm as it was persistent. He also encouraged the exchange of ideas between AWE and university labs, something his predecessors had never attempted on the assumption that it would be stymied by the Official Secrets Act. He was appointed CBE in 2000, in recognition of work in defending the UK.

Robin met his wife, Marguerite at a party in Loughborough and they married in 1964. They had three children. He was a keen mountaineer and would often holiday with his family in the Lake District, and he also climbed the Matterhorn. In his spare time he built a set of arches in the garden and worked on a scientific paper about gravity.

On his retirement from the AWE in 2000 he and Marguerite planned to travel extensively. They took cruises around the coast of Britain and to Croatia and Sicily, but had to scale back their plans when he received his diagnosis. He still managed a fulfilling retirement, gardening, stamp collecting and travelling around Britain.

**CLIVE BRANCEN (OK 55)** - died on 4 June 2018 after a long illness.

Clive originally lived in Denford, near Thrapston, coming to Kimbolton on the school bus. He started at the school in the mid 40s; his friends at school were the Ansell boys whose father, George, taught there. Clive was an NCO in the School CCF and soon after leaving Kimbolton he served in the Royal Airforce doing his National Service. After National Service he worked for a short time in Local Government before he joined the treasury in London, where he served the rest of his working life.

Clive's main interests, out of work, were having a season ticket for Chelsea FC, playing golf and fishing. He also enjoyed holidaying visiting many parts of the world.

Clive drove a TR6 sports car which he bought new in the 1970s. The car is now being driven by his nephews. Clive's sister, Audrey, who was a nurse for many years, was married to Alan Todd (OK 50).

Clive will be sadly missed by his wife, Carmel, and his niece and nephews.

*Words kindly provided by Clive's family.*

### **ARCHIE BROCKLEBANK (OK 17)**

The whole school community was saddened and shocked to hear of the untimely death of Archie Brocklebank on 28th April 2019. Following his A levels in Geography, DT and Photography, Archie was in the second year of a Product Design course at Nottingham Trent University. Charismatic and enthusiastic in everything he did, the massive turnout for his funeral in St Andrew's, Kimbolton was a testament to the love and respect he inspired. He was that rare student who was brought a year group together, with his impish sense of fun bringing a smile to teacher and student alike.



*Archie Brocklebank*

Archie was a student who really thrived in the Sixth Form, finding areas in which to specialise which have enabled him to excel. Within the CCF he was a section commander of great value, showing good leadership and teamwork skills. The area in which he has really excelled, however, was in the Devizes to Westminster canoe race. Archie joined the canoe team in the Lower VI and immediately made an impact; over the next two years he was the heart and soul of the team, a big character, always smiling and joking around, whilst being incredibly focused on his paddling - seemingly going faster and faster with each week that passed. In 2017, he and Will Day broke all four of the school's Waterside Series race records in their K2 kayak and it was a great shame that only a technical malfunction beyond his control prevented them from breaking the long standing school record for the race. What impressed people most, however, was not his ability but his determination and utter dedication. Completely self-deprecating about his achievements, he approached training with enthusiasm and was instrumental in bringing on some of the younger students in the group, leading by example but also actively encouraging.

Archie had the unusual capacity to take things he did seriously without ever taking himself seriously. He was a good but not outstanding cricketer, playing for three years for the Second Eleven without loftier ambitions. For such a happy-go-lucky young man one might have expected a cavalier approach to batting; in fact he was studious and defensive. This was, yet again an example of the difference between the surface and the reality. He was always happy to do things at which he knew he would not excel. He joined the side choir for House Music, not because he had a good voice but because he wanted to set an example.

It was within the tutor group that he really came to the fore. It is a cliché, but he really was the glue that held the group together. He mixed effortlessly with everyone in the group, whatever year they were in, and they all adored him. He was always cheerful and positive and he invented games which gave hours of fun. The more absurd they were the better - the favourite was throwing a board marker over your own head to try to get it to land on top of the whiteboard. Seeing a group of seventeen year olds playing this game each morning is one of my abiding memories. Intellectual? Definitely not! Complex? Equally, no. Drawing the whole group together in a communal activity? Absolutely!

*AJB and SKP*

**STEPHEN (STAN) HALDEN (OK 87)** The cheeky chappy that we all knew as Stan sadly passed away after several years of declining health. He had battled his illnesses bravely to the end and refused to give up on enjoying life to the full as much as possible - as those who knew him would have expected.

He is deeply missed by his family and young sons Max and Stan. Stephen passed away peacefully, on 4 December 2019, at home having spent a comfortable day at home with family and his sister, Vicki (OK 1985).

**IMOGEN HALFORD (OK 95)** sadly died last year after a long illness. Imogen had a great interest in languages, particularly Spanish (originating from studying with Frank Burns at Kimbolton) and also French which she taught at various times. She also enjoyed playing the piano (also learnt at Kimbolton).

Imogen is survived by her daughter, Poppy, who is in her final year at UCL studying Scandinavian Studies.

**PETER T HALSTEAD (OK 79)** passed away on 15 December 2018 at the age of 58, at home.

Peter was diagnosed with terminal cancer on 2 July 2018. Despite this diagnosis, Peter continued to work and fought with courage, never allowing the cancer to stop him from enjoying time with his family. He was a man of great integrity and kindness. Peter is survived by his wife Debra, and is two children, Thomas and Jonathan.

*Written by Debra Halstead.*

**ADRIAN HEY (OK 80)** was born on 16 November 1961 and sadly died on 20 August 2018.

Adrian loved his time at Kimbolton. He was one of the quiet boys in the class, didn't say much but clearly just absorbed all the classes and learning. He excelled in all the science subjects and mathematics. By all accounts the teachers were always impressed by his abilities across all subjects. We lived in St Neots, our father worked at Huntingdon Research Centre, so I remember lucky Adrian getting lifts with Dad to and from school whereas I travelled to school in Bedford on the bus.

Adrian took after our father in his natural love of science and maths. He didn't do a lot of sport, some tennis and swimming. I remember going to Kimbolton to join in with swimming lessons. One of the highlights was the "Statty" fun fair every year, summer Shakespeare in the castle forecourt and of course the Reverend Lancaster's firework displays. I believe Rev Lancaster taught Adrian chemistry. Adrian was an army cadet and I remember attending marches and parades in Kimbolton. One of Adrian's best friends from school was Michael Carpenter, whose mum and dad owned and ran the bakery in East St, Kimbolton. The Hey and Carpenter families were friends for many years after school.

He was encouraged to apply to Cambridge University and he successfully gained a place at St Johns College, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences. Adrian was a brilliant student, if a little maverick. I remember asking him if he needed to memorise all the mathematical formulas prior to an exam at Cambridge. He said not really, he just would go back to first principles and work them out almost 'off the cuff' rather than by rote learning. He was just a little contrary in the way clever people often are.

During his degree he switched to Electronics Engineering and he graduated in 1983. At this time personal computers were in their infancy and Adrian held a strong interest in this new technology, developing his skills further as a software engineer.

After university Adrian worked for some electronics



*Adrian Hey at his graduation in 1983.*

companies, including Racal and Marconi. Finding the constraints of big business not conducive to his very independent and individual approach to problem solving he ended up joining with 2 others in a business venture, working on sonar systems for Defence and Navy contracts. In more recent years he ran his own engineering consultancy, working on a variety of software and electronics projects in the UK and Germany.

Adrian was rather a solitary soul later in life. He never married but seemed content to run his own life quite independently. He was very close to our mother in her final years, although they didn't really live close by, Adrian in Watford and mum in Milton Keynes. When mum passed away, I believe this was almost a trigger for Adrian's own decline into poor health and then a final blow dealt by a very rare, aggressive cancer. One of those cancers that can kill you in a matter of days if not treated. It is a testament to his inner strength that he fought it off for 4 months.

Adrian was asked once by one of his Cambridge friends if he ever regretted not having children of his own? His response was that he shared DNA with every human on the planet and so the fact that he didn't actually have his own children was not a worry for him. I believe this thinking may have influenced his choice of where to donate some of his estate in his will, passing it down to future generations at two key places that were formative for him personally (your school and St John's College, Cambridge)

He was a good-natured person, very self-contained, but kindly.

*Kindly written by Adrian's sister, Alison.*

**MAX HUNTER (OK 09)**

Max started his time at Kimbolton School at the beginning of the Pre- Prep Department. Lessons initially were in porta cabins. He progressed right through the school and finally left in 2009.

He made many good friends during his time at school, and thoroughly enjoyed the sport with cricket being his favourite. He was in the first X1 for three years and went with the school team that toured South Africa. He frustrated a few teachers with his policy of doing just enough, however this attitude to exams got him to his first choice of University. Max had three wonderful years at the Royal Agricultural College. The move away from home suited his lifestyle and he really flourished there and came away with an even bigger circle of friends.

His first job was working on a large farm in Kenya, where he gained a lot of experience with working with many less well-off people. After his return from Africa he worked for Strutt and Parker as an agricultural advisor before settling with Anglia Grain Services. He gained a good reputation within the local



*Max Hunter (second from the right on the back row) with the 1st XI cricket team in 2009*

agricultural trade and was known and respected by very many farmers.

He lived in Wansford and enjoyed the social scene in Stamford where he was the life and soul of many social functions. He played rugby for Stamford where he was a first XVI player .

Sadly, he died so young at just 28 years old. School friends Chris Burgess, Rory Fenton, Nick Ibbotson, William Kirkpatrick and Guy Newson did a reading at his funeral which was in Kimbolton Church and attended by over 600 family and friends.

Within 6 months of his untimely death over £15,000 has been raised in his memory for the families chosen charity, Papyrus. **#itsoknottobeok**

*Kindly written by Max's father, Gavin Hunter*

**COLIN RADFORD (OK 55)** died on February 21 2019 after several years of declining health. He lived in the St Ives and Hemingford Grey area all his life. After leaving Kimbolton he went to agricultural college at St Albans. He graduated and joined his father and brother Leon [OK 47] on the family farm until retirement.

It was the Kimbolton Magazine of 1953 that recorded his school days achievements. Colin and sport featured many times. In 1953 he was in three team photos - Cricket, Tennis and Athletics. Athletics was very much Colin's forte but he was also good with a football and when in goal could kick the [old fashioned leather] ball beyond the halfway line.

In 1953 he also broke several records, the Hammer distance of nearly 170' being described as, "a remarkable feat". It is believed that this was held on a different day to the main sports - in the interests of the health and safety of the spectators. There was no such a thing as Health and Safety regulations in those days, just good old common sense. That Hammer distance compares very favourably with present day

**THE MAX HUNTER FUND**

Friends of Max will be heartened to know that *The Mintridge Foundation* have launched The Max Hunter Fund which will support the Foundation's delivery of mentoring programmes across the UK focussing on Max's favourite sports and encouraging dialogue around mental health.

A launch event #28NOTOUT will be held in July - 28 hours of non stop fundraising with each hour representing a year of Max's life and involving activities that he loved.

One of the activities is an **Old Kimboltonian vs Cirencester Alumni Cricket Match** being held in Kimbolton on 10th July - to find out more about how you can be involved or donate to this venture please go to:

[www.mintridgefoundation.org.uk](http://www.mintridgefoundation.org.uk)

or you can get in touch with the OKA Office.





English Schools' Athletic performances. This was probably just the warm-up because Colin went on to beat the Youth records for the Shot and Discus and, for good measure, winning the High Jump and Long Jump. All this resulted in his winning three Cups, the Warwick, Reed and Measures Cups (see photo).



*Colin Radford with the silverware he won on his last Sports Day at Kimbolton*

Colin also competed outside the School arena, winning the Bedfordshire AAA Youth Shot and placing in the Youth Hammer. He also gained his second Midlands AAA Youth title in two years at Birmingham and won the Shot and Discus at the Bedford Council Sports. Certainly, regarding Athletics, 1953 was Colin's halcyon year.

In among all this there was an indication of some academic endeavour, when the Merit List mentioned Colin's work in Biology and Art. And, of course, there was a pointer to the future because Colin was a member of the YFC – the Young Farmers' Club.

Colin is survived by his three children, four grandchildren and OK brother Leon.

*Words kindly written by Leon and Avril Radford.*

**PAUL ROBINSON (OK 64)** died on 12 January 2018. His death was briefly reported in the 2019 OK News and his family and friends have since provided the following:

*'School Years' by Anthony Weale (OK 64)*

Paul was a farmer's son from Rothersthorpe who entered the school in the Prep Department in 1955 and left the Senior School at Christmas 1964. Tall and broad shouldered, with a gentle and modest manner and a quiet sense of humour, he was a significant all-rounder. Intellectually he flourished on the science side and won a place at St Catharine's, Cambridge, to read Agricultural Science. On the sporting field, he was part of the very successful school athletics team of those days as a hammer thrower, able to throw over 45m, and regularly representing the school at inter-school events, including the All England Schools Championships. In other school activities he was (as might be expected) a stalwart member of the Young Farmers' Club, ending as Chairman, and also a member of a number of other societies ranging across both the science and the humanities, as well as CSM in the Cadet Corps for his last term.

He was part of a close-knit group of contemporaries

known as the '64 Club who managed to meet regularly for ten years after they left school, and he maintained many OK ties helping to organise the 50 year reunion in 2014.

Paul always talked fondly of his school years and remained close friends with a number of his fellow pupils.

*'University Years' by Fred Warburton*

Paul wasn't troubled by the academic rigours of the Agricultural Sciences Tripos at Cambridge and proceeded to a 2:1 with ease. He was more interested in the practical and experimental side of the degree syllabus enjoying visits to the NIAB (National Institute of Agricultural Botany), and ploughing practice as captain of the university team. This post meant that Paul's venerable Hillman Husky was a legal car allowing trips out of town most memorably to Point-to-Point race meetings.

A good many of his fellow students on the Agricultural Science course became lifelong friends.

After Cambridge Paul worked on his father's farm and later on his own account. He became a well respected figure in the Northants farming community and its shooting fraternity. Saturday at the cattle market a particular venue. Paul was not shy of experimenting with farming initiatives taking a great interest in national policy.



*Paul Robinson*

*1992-2018 by Duncan Greenaway*

Louise and I moved in with Paul in 1992 aged 9 and 11, as 'baggage', with the inherent lack of commonality two children from London have with a 46 year old bachelor farmer.

Paul was a private, peaceful and somewhat old fashioned Englishman but revealed his huge heart gently over time

and the longer we knew Paul, the more joy and a privilege it became.

The real beginning to what ultimately became a great relationship was the arrival of Henry and Frederic in '94 and '96, as we found a bond in our shared overwhelming love, pride and excitement for these amazing little guys (now 6'6").

Paul consciously never tried to be a father to Louise and I, instead he graciously and diligently took on a number of special roles as:

- a best friend with more wisdom and patience than one's own contemporaries
- a discreet and loyal ally, who, among other things, you could call upon when you put your car in a ditch (yet again) and needed a rescue without Mother ever needing to know, or you needed permission for a party (Paul loved a party).
- our chief and our rock. Serious when needed and infectiously silly when not.

Furthermore, Paul was a great husband to our wonderful mother and devout father to our dear brothers.

Paul and I never talked about our feelings for one another; Paul rightly upheld that actions speak louder than words; however, one silver lining of a terminal illness is that you have some time, and I am glad that Louise and I were separately able to tell Paul how much he meant to us.

**KENNETH ROWLATT (OK 47)** passed away on 16 September 2019. He started school at Kimbolton in 1941. He lived in Shelton and every day, regardless of the weather, Kenneth used to cycle to and from school, often meeting/leaving John Bridge, Cecil Watts and Edward Eaton at Tilbrook so he had company for some of his journey.

He enjoyed his sports at school, however left at 16 to work on his father's farm in Shelton.

**CHRISTOPHER SPENCER (OK 54)** died on 31 January 2018. He was a boarder at Kimbolton (he always remembered the ice on the inside of the windows) and after school he went to Northampton Technical College gaining distinctions in shoemaking. In his career he became Managing Director of Tecnic Shoe Company in Rushden before leaving this role in 1997 to pursue a consultancy business in Japan which was successful for 20 years.

Chris attended many events at Kimbolton in his retirement, most notably music concerts.

*Kindly written by Mrs Judith Spencer.*

**JIM TOWNLEY (Former Staff 1961 - 1992)**

Jim Townley, with his wife Pat, and their two

young sons, Nicolas and Simon, arrived in Kimbolton in 1961. His appointment was unusual because Cyril Lewis had not interviewed Jim because Jim had been teaching in Jamaica for three years and his expenses would have been rather excessive.

Everyone quickly warmed to the fine Lancastrian accent and there were ready mimics of his pronunciation of various words and phrases ("*If you see Mickey Mouse come dancing out the top of the tube, then say so...*") as he showed his classroom talents, early on in Chemistry and Physics, but later in just Chemistry,

His class discipline was strict - there was a job to be done and not time for digressions or red herrings, resulting in some pupils finding him occasionally remote, but they soon discovered a different Jim outside or after school. He knew how to relax, to enjoy himself and to bring enjoyment to others.

In 1962 Jim took on the first appointment of Careers Adviser at Kimbolton, a role he filled until the day he retired. He became the expert ISCO man and many sixth formers became acquainted with the regular 'Jim time' at the end of a General Studies session.

As numbers at Kimbolton increased in the early 1960s, particularly with the intake of day pupils, Cyril Lewis formed a new House, Gibbards, and Jim was appointed as the first senior Housemaster (along with Ken Laffin who fulfilled the same role for the Juniors) and he successfully guided the new House through its early years. These two colleagues also ran a regular taxi service to allow their House to participate in after-school activities. How different it is now!

Jim was always a fit, outdoors man. Any colleague who challenged him at squash soon appreciated he had met his match, and Jim's love of football, as a key staff defender in many contests, saw him still playing years after younger colleagues had hung up their boots. He also assisted John Corner with the Sailing Club activities and when John left in 1989, Jim took over sole charge.



*Jim Townley and his wife, Pat, at the OKA Annual Dinner several years ago*

Throughout Jim's long service he was always supported by his wife, Pat. This continued throughout his retirement and the couple remained stalwart supporters of Kimbolton School and the OKA, always attending OKA events wherever possible. Jim was an active member of the OKA Committee until recent years.

Sadly Jim was beset with ill health over the last few years and he passed away on 14th June 2019. His funeral was held in Great Staughton, his home village, and was attended by several OKs and former colleagues.

**KEVIN VOLANS (OK 67)** died 6 April 2019 after suffering from dementia.

Kevin arrived at Kimbolton in Autumn 1961 and stayed first in Corner House and then Kimbolton House. He was involved in cross country running, the Young Farmers Club and the Pig Club. He became Head of Dawsons.

**MELVYN HAYNES (OK 61)** died in January 2018 as noted in previous *OK News* publications. The circumstances around his death are rather thought provoking in that he prepared for his passing alone and organised in advance his funeral which, in line with his wishes, was without ritual at a private ceremony at an undisclosed location. Anthony Weale wrote the following in his memory:

Ivor Watson's reminiscences of Melvyn Haynes in the March 2019 *OK News* brought back memories of a person of independent mind, who was a friend from before my time at Kimbolton as we were neighbours in Raunds. He certainly had a talent to amuse and to entertain and an interest in France and the French language, as Ivor's piece shows. He was a model theatre and model railway enthusiast, with considerable technical skills. He was serious musician as well as an entertainer; at various times he was a church and chapel organist. He had a slightly subversive outlook, exemplified in early days by his delight in the Goons' humour, his immediate enthusiasm for Bill Haley and the Comets and his improvisations on secular tunes at the end of a church service. He could be both witty and provoking in conversation and was adept at telling sustained stories of plausible fiction with a perfectly straight face, so that you were more than half inclined to believe them to be true.

His interest in the cinema led him in his teens, as Ivan indicates, to part-time-work at the Carlton, Raunds where he once fell through the ceiling while changing a light bulb. It was a bad accident, but fortunately had no long-term consequences. In his retirement he was for some years projectionist at the Castle, Wellingborough, which was perhaps one of the happier periods of this part of his life.

His career was that of a primary school teacher, where his ability to hold an audience and his practical skills stood him in very good stead. I had early experience of his natural ability as a teacher. In the term before I started at Kimbolton, he decided to teach me some basic French. This was very successful and I was always grateful for the start he gave me. His serious, systematic approach and ability to impart knowledge with meticulously prepared worksheets were, I now realise, quite impressive for a fifteen year old.

Like many who play the fool, Melvyn had a melancholic side which came to the fore in his long retirement. For a long time he was a virtual recluse, not helped by having to cope for over ten years with prostate cancer. We saw little of each other for a large part of our adult lives, but a few years ago we exchanged a series of letters which gave us an opportunity to reminisce about our years as neighbours and to round off our friendship. Melvyn arranged well in advance for his death and burial to be totally inconspicuous and without ceremony; the site of his remains is unknown. There was a deep sadness here; he was a man of talents which, for many reasons, were not fully realised.

*Anthony Weale (OK 64)*

From Kimbolton he went on to graduate in Agricultural Economics at Aberystwyth University and was recruited by the East of Scotland College of Agriculture. He was very active in the development of the Scottish Agricultural College. He published a respected monthly economic summary and spoke at Outlook meetings far and wide. He became Director of the European Rural Information Service and visited Eastern Europe and Russia after the breakup of the Soviet Union; in Russia he established a business project which became very successful. In 1999 he became Vice Principal of the Scottish Agricultural College and was involved in a wide range of roles.

He met his wife Fred (Freda) in Edinburgh and they had 3 children, Henry, Belinda and Sam. When they returned to Oxfordshire, he remained active on Parish Councils and fundraising for local churches.

*KIndly written by Richard Reynolds (OK 66)*



*Back Cover Photo: Courtesy of C J A Bates*



**Old Kimboltonians' Association**

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