



King Edward VII School



w: kes.sheffield.sch.uk

e: office@kes.sheffield.sch.uk



facebook.com/KESSheffield



twitter.com/KESSheffield

NEWSLETTER December 2021

Welcome to the first School newsletter of 2021-2022.

As we progress towards the end of an excellent, productive first term it is good to comment upon some of the School's achievements and successes, including: the implementation of a new quality assurance process, based on **Evaluating and Evidencing the Quality of Education** for teaching and learning, the delivery of a recovery curriculum in response to COVID-19, the gradual reintroduction of extra-curricular provision, alongside some trips and visits, and the sublime Winter Music Festival which took place at Upper School on the 7th December 2021.



In the autumn edition of our newsletter, you will be amazed by the individual and collective achievements of our students, such as Wilfred Lamont on pages 2 and 3 and some Sixth Form girls supporting survivors of human trafficking as part of Soroptimist International on pages 22 and 23.

Be inspired by 'The Historical Association Great Debate' on page 25 and immerse yourself in the article on the Civil Rights Movement on pages 26 and 27.

We hope you enjoy reading all the articles in this newsletter.

If you would like to keep up to date about the School on a regular basis, please follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/KESSheffield.

If you have an article that would be of interest to our School community, please email it to jjackson@kes.sheffield.sch.uk for consideration.

Warm regards
Linda Gooden

IMPORTANT DATES

- Tuesday 4 January 2022 - School reopens after the Christmas holiday
- Thursday 6 January 2022, 4.00pm-6.30pm, Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening via School Cloud
- Tuesday 8 February 2022, 4pm-6.30pm, Year 12 Parents' Consultation Evening via School Cloud
- Thursday 10 February and Friday 11 February 2022 – School closed – training days
- Monday 14 February – Friday 18 February 2022 – School closed – half term break
- Thursday 24 February 2022 4.00pm-6.30pm, Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening via School Cloud
- Wednesday 2 March 2022, Year 11 Revision Evening
- Thursday 10 March 2022, Spring Music Concert at Upper School
- Wednesday 16 March 2022, 6.00pm-6.45pm, Year 12 Post 18 Opportunities Evening
- Thursday 17 March 2022, Year 10 Science GCSE Evening
- Thursday 24 March 2022, 4.00pm-6.30pm, Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening via School Cloud

Our Students

Star Linguist Wilfred Lamont wins University Translation Competition



Wilf has come a long way since he uttered his first words in German when he joined KES in Year 7. His ability in languages was evident from the very start, but it is his enthusiasm and determination to succeed that really made him stand out.

It was his first encounter with a German speaking country that truly inspired him to commit fully to the study of the language. On the Y8/9 Study Visit to Austria it was a joy to see Wilf in action trying out the German he had learnt as a beginner. He really came into his own and changed from a quiet and unassuming boy to a confident and enthusiastic user of the language. This one week, as he readily admits, was a real turning point for him and has kindled in him an enduring love of the language and culture of German speaking countries.

Wilfred's commitment and passion for German is undisputable. He is conscientious and hard-working and has already developed excellent independent study skills. Not only did he achieve a grade 9 in his German GCSE, he also opted for German as one of his A-Level subjects.

Wilfred now also gets external recognition. This summer he won a place on the highly competitive international summer course "Deutschland online erleben", which was organised jointly by the German Pädagogische Austauschdienst and UK-German Connection. During the course he was highly commended for his excellent contributions and enthusiasm. This course, which enabled him to communicate with students from across the world who share his passion for German language and culture, clearly enthused him even more. His own account of this experience in this newsletter is testimony to that.

Wilf is keen to take up every extra-curricular opportunity offered to him. This term, for example, he was an enthusiastic participant in the UK-German Connection Café Connect, an online project where young people from Germany and the UK can meet and share their experiences and ideas. Last month he entered The University of Sheffield Translation Competition 2021 and we have just found out that he is one of the ten winners.

What an extraordinary achievement! We are so proud of him.



Where it all started: Wilf on our School trip to Austria, July 2019.

(first row, third from the left)



Studying hard and relaxing in Austria.



Our Students

Deutschland Online Erleben – Bericht

My experience with the virtual summer course with the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst and UK-German Connection

Dear Frau Lamb,

In the week beginning July the 12th, I took part in the Deutschland Online Erleben course that you helped me apply for at Easter. I would like to tell you that I really enjoyed it and I think I got a lot out of it in terms of my ability in German and to thank you very much for telling me about the opportunity.

I worked in a group of ten other 16 and 17 year-olds from Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and the UK, working from 9am to 1:15pm (UK time). The course was structured as a virtual tour of Germany, so each day focused on one or two German cities. After the teacher had introduced the city, we would often start by reading or watching a video about the place together, then we would move on to comprehension questions and discussions. Then the main challenge of the day would be dividing into groups of two or three and creating presentations about different museums, historical events or landmarks in the city. In breakout rooms we had to divide the work, prepare what we wanted to say and sometimes create PowerPoint slides.

Twice during the week, guests entered the classroom. On Wednesday, we were given a virtual tour of the Konrad Adenauer museum, which is at his house in Rhöndorf, near Bonn, and on Friday, we were given a presentation on the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin. Every day we were given a small activity to do as homework and at the start of the week we were given an assignment to deliver a longer presentation on our home town. During the week we heard about Pécs in Hungary, the Canton of Ticino in Switzerland and Malmesbury in Wiltshire.

I have felt the biggest improvement in my ability to speak German with confidence and to do so without an exact plan of each word of a sentence before saying it. Condensing lots of information into presentations and having to make requests to the teacher has made me practise expressing what I mean clearly on unfamiliar topics. Finally, though it might sound strange, I think working quickly with so many non-fiction texts has helped me by developing my skim-reading skill, so that now I can begin to fill in the blanks of words I don't quite catch in writing or in speech.

On the last day, when everyone was given a chance to reflect on the week, there was definitely a feeling of joint accomplishment, even though we had all only been connected virtually. I also think most people were disappointed that we weren't able to get to know each other around the lessons, as it would have been if we were working in person in Germany. Our teacher spoke to each of us in turn to allow us to give our final thoughts and to give us feedback on our development during the course.

After the course we had a celebration event, which included long breakout room sessions in which we could have reflective chats with some of the other British participants in English. These were thought-provoking and sometimes funny, and it was a lovely end to my experience with the course.

I would again like to express my thanks for showing us the application opportunity. I really can't wait to start A Level German with you and Frau Barber this September, especially with this experience already with me.

Yours,

Wilfred

Holocaust Memorial, Berlin



Our Students

King Edward VII School Creative Writing Competition - July 2021

This year's creative writing competition was with a twist, like all good stories! The sheer volume of work and lockdowns and disruptions have meant we couldn't run it in the way we normally do. However, we didn't want the wonderful, creative talents of the student body to go unrewarded.

Staff selected pieces the students had completed this year, either at home or during exams or classwork. The sheer number of nominations from staff was really overwhelming using a wide range of styles and stories.

Our panel of judges was made up of Mr Ingham, Mrs Goodhand and three former A Level English Literature students: Emily Lawson-Todd, Lambrini Das and Ariana Shemmer. We spent the afternoon with tea and cake (of course) to read and judged them all.

The winner 2021

Congratulations to Louise Smith!

This story was a stand-out favourite from the judges from the first reading. This story was understated in its description, yet the power and the crafting of the story meant we wanted to know more about his dark, twisted family.

The writer created a powerful sense of setting with a few chosen phrases. We immediately knew where we were and were left wanting to know so much more.

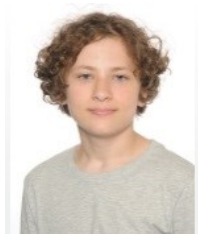
Our panel of Y13 students praised this writing, begged the person to write more and wanted them to do a screenplay. We NEED to know the back story of this family and what led the narrator to commit arson. They all said they could imagine this in an anthology.

Runners Up



Aurigny French - Aurigny's dark and brooding description of Dracula's castle was a powerful and detailed piece of writing. We were transported to Transylvania.

Oscar Jedzerjek - Oscar's short story from his exam was absolutely brilliantly crafted. His level of description, the dark brooding setting and the terrifying ending left us desperate for more. A brilliant example of how "less is more."



Honourable mentions

Dan Richardson - Dan's story was one of the more detailed and developed. It was an original and detailed take on the task and we really enjoyed the characterisation.

Daisy Talbot - Daisy's story really felt very current and very human. We connected a lot with the voice in the story and it was a joy to read. Well crafted.

Vanessa Gueorguieva - Another trip to Transylvania. We loved the crafting of the sentences in this, the unusual and vivid metaphors and a deep sense of Gothic doom throughout.

Laila Watson - It is hard to comprehend how someone in Y7 can craft such an engaging and interesting story. The ending was particularly gripping and it made such an exciting read. Great things are ahead for this young writer, we think!



Well done to everyone who was nominated. Such wonderful writers and a fabulous end to the term!

Our Students

KES Cross Country Team

During the Autumn term, King Edward VII School's cross country team have taken part in the Sheffield's Schools Cross Country events and the KES team have been performing exceptionally well. There have been some amazing individual performances during the term. You are all a credit to the KES PE department!



Our Students

Dan Richardson - an Inspirational Athlete



In August 2019, Dan Richardson, currently in Y11, became the Yorkshire Under 15 Pentathlon Champion. Just before lockdown in March 2020 he came 5th in the England Athletics Under 15 Indoor Pentathlon. In June 2021, he won the North-East Regional Under 17 Octathlon.

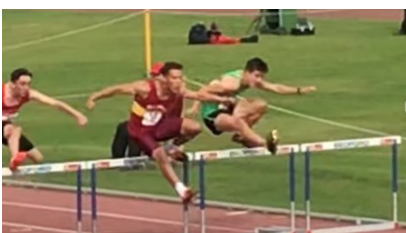
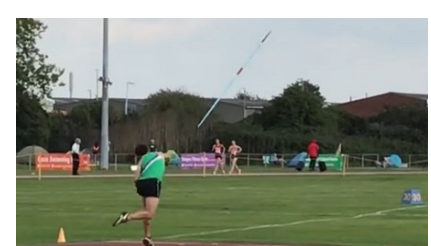
This qualified Dan to compete on 18-19th September 2021 at the English Schools Finals in Bedford where he represented South Yorkshire as the Under 17 North East Regional Octathlon Champion. There were 35 competitors in the Intermediate Boys and Dan did brilliantly to come 14th. He got four personal bests and increased his score by 194 points from the qualifying round to 4241. Some highlights were coming 5th in the 1500 metres (4 mins 36.57 secs) and 7th in the Javelin (39.33 metres).

As most of the other Under 17s athletes are Y12s, Dan will get another opportunity to compete next year too.

Under 15 Indoor Pentathlon: 80 metre Hurdles (60m indoors), Shot Put, Long Jump, High Jump and 800 metres.

U17 Octathlon: 100 metre Hurdles, Shot Put, Long Jump, Discuss, High Jump, Javelin, 400 meters and 1500 metres.

Congratulation and well done Dan! These are amazing achievements! Thank you also to Dan's parents for very kindly sharing their son's accomplishments with us!



Our Students

This group photograph shows several of the U17 athletes waiting for the presentations. Dan is in the green of South Yorkshire wearing number 85.



Bikeability

The Bikeability Scheme was run at Lower School by Cycle North @CycleNorthUK from 5th to 16th July 2021. The scheme is designed for Y7 and 8 students to improve their riding skills and road confidence. Over 80 students took part this year and we hope by building their road confidence that in the future students will need to rely less on cars, thus helping the planet for our current and future generations. We hope to run the scheme again next summer.



Our Students

Tate Miller - a rising cricketing star?



Tate Miller is an enthusiastic cricketer as is his father who played for the Old Edwardians Cricket Club (OECC) for many years.

Sheffield Collegiate Cricket Club, based at Abbeydale Park, now incorporates the OECC and has produced many fine cricketers over the years, modesty prevents me including of course Michael Vaughan and Joe Root past and present England captains. This is a very high level of cricket.

On Saturday 7 August Tate made his first XI debut in a game against Doncaster Town CC which Collegiate won handsomely.

Tate was called upon to bowl and bowled four overs including one maiden and took four wickets for only the cost of 11 runs. An outstanding performance by this young man, one that I was privileged to be able to watch.

John Parr,
President of the Old Edwardians' Association



Wear it Yellow

Lower School students wore yellow, donated money and held bake sales to support Young Minds during the annual Hello Yellow World Mental Health day on Friday 8th October 2021, organised in School by Mrs Wheadon.

The Young Minds charity fundraiser helps to support young people struggling with mental health issues. Altogether we collected just over £100 for the charity! Well done to all involved!



Our Students

UK Parliament Year 9 Assembly

On Tuesday 5th October 2021, the School hosted an assembly for Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students. The assembly was delivered by Gillian Bell, UK Parliament Outreach, to introduce students to the UK Parliament. The assembly was designed to equip students with a broad understanding of how the UK Parliament works, the roles and responsibilities of MPs and members of the House of Lords as well as how students can get their voice heard.

It was a highly engaging assembly for all students involved and has helped them to understand why young people should be more aware of the processes behind parliament.

Year 13 A Level Drama: Devised Performances

This term, Y13s completed their first performance assessment as part of their A level. They worked to create pieces of original drama exploring themes and issues chosen by themselves and working in the style of a recognised theatre practitioner. Working in four separate groups their plays explored:



Four characters dealing with inequality in the criminal justice system.



A character's journey to self-discovery.



Two women trapped in a room without a door and trapped in the preconceptions that society and they impose on themselves.

Two characters' struggles for survival, hope and humanity as the world is slowly dying around them.

They drew on a wide range of practitioners that they have explored throughout their course with the work of Frantic Assembly, Complicite, Gecko Theatre, Shared Experience and Out of Joint Theatre being used to create some powerful and thought-provoking pieces of theatre.

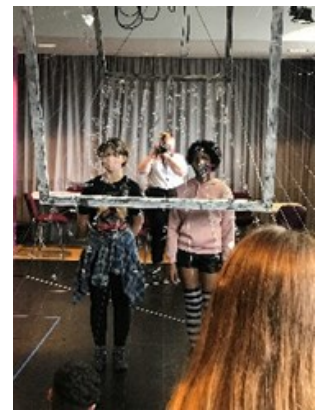
There will be a public performance of these pieces alongside the Year 11 GCSE Devised work (currently in rehearsal) in the Spring term 2022.



Our Students

Getting Creative at the Crucible

YEAR 10 GCSE DRAMA STUDENTS TAKE PART IN THE CRUCIBLE THEATRE PARTICIPATION PROJECT:



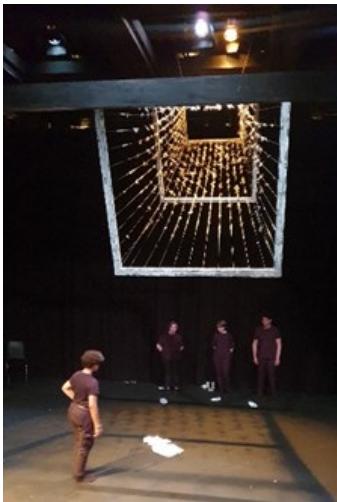
'A

SHOP OF BROKEN....'

Our Y10 students spent the first half term of their course involved in a participation project with The Crucible Theatre and Joe Bunce (a Director who specialises in immersive theatre.) They took part in a workshop at the Crucible with Joe and then used the material they had generated there to create their own piece of



immersive theatre. This culminated in a performance in the studio theatre at the Crucible. Below is an account of the project in the students' own words.



Marie: *At the very beginning of term, our drama group went to the Crucible to do a workshop. When we arrived, we were shown a set of four frames rising upwards with glass shards trickling down, and asked to write down our thoughts and ideas. Some of these were "sky falling down", "memory" and "broken reality"*

Anika: *It was a great stimulus to get help us come up with our performance ideas and to turn our thoughts into practical work.*

Sumayah: *We created two scenes in the workshops and after we got back to School we chose one to focus our play on. The performance was to be an immersive performance, which means that we had to include the audience.*

Marie: *We began with a rough idea and a few scenes, most of which were removed or changed. A story developed around our characters and we became attached to the characters: Bernie, Miranda, the angry old man on the balcony...*

We enjoyed playing with abstract ideas of Bernie's (our main character) voices and the inside of her mind. We struggled with the idea of immersive theatre, as none of us had really experienced it, but as we went on we had to remember to include the audience.

Rohan: *We struggled having limited time and with one cast member dropping out but we pulled through.*

Marie: *When it came to perform at The Crucible it was difficult, as we had not had a chance to practice there before and everything was not like we had imagined. We managed to figure out our audience, but had a tough time adapting to the technical side of things. After our dress rehearsal for the other group (and after we had watched theirs) it was time for our selected audience to come in.*



Our Students

Anika: *Our performance went really well, minus a small accident (Eri fell down the stairs in the middle of the show!) but we carried on professionally!*

Jess: *I surprisingly didn't face any performance anxiety during the performance because I was comfortable with my cast mates and had faith in the production.*

Rohan: *The audience said that it brought tears to their eyes.*

Jess: *They said it was sensitive and really highlighted the importance of mental health. My favourite part was getting feedback from the audience as it has improved my confidence and made me proud of my ideas, my writing and my acting.*

Sumayah: *Our audience thought that it was an emotional, inclusive performance and that our acting and storytelling were really good.*



Key Stage 3 Drama Clubs

Yet again the students in Year 8 and 9 Drama Club are demonstrating what amazingly imaginative students they can be! Currently, the group are working on a devised piece set in a Dystopian near future. The group aim to use the piece to explore current issues about which they feel strongly! Using images and sound as a starting point, they are now working on creating characters and building scenes - there's even some physical theatre!!

The Year 7 Drama Club has got off to a tremendous start. After honing our improvisation skills in the first half term, we are now working on devising a play. The students are showing an amazing range of skills as actors and every week they bring imagination and creativity to the creation of the roles, story and dilemmas that we are exploring.

"I really love Drama Club because everyone is really friendly, and we get to create together!"

Elodie Greaves 8S2

"In Drama Club, we do things that I would never have usually thought of when performing!"

Lydia Miller 8P2

Our Students

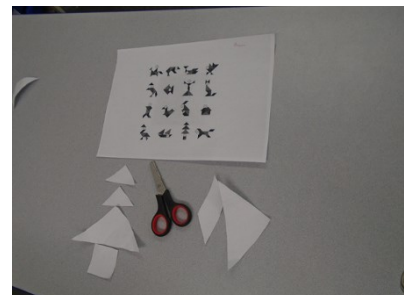
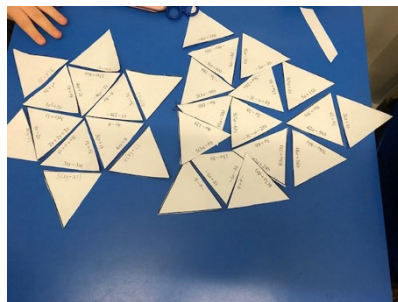
“No Pens Day Wednesday”

On 10th November our School celebrated a “No Pens Day Wednesday”, a national speaking and listening event. Students made excellent effort, enthusiastically engaging in lots of creative activities prepared by staff. Communication is the key to achieving successful professional career outcomes and building healthy, strong relationships in the future. Therefore, students were provided with a vast array of opportunities to develop their communication and social skills.

For example, in French lessons, they were playing fun interactive language games, enabling them to practise and consolidate vocabulary before the forthcoming assessment by participating in speaking and listening pair and group tasks, which involved physical movement. As a result, students were strongly engaged and motivated in French lessons.

In Maths lessons, students were using their ICT skills in practice doing Maths activities on “My Maths” website, typing on the keyboard. One of the biggest challenges faced by students with special educational needs is writing and handwriting in particular, so this specific group of students could build their self confidence this way. All students competed with each other in a lively manner playing interactive “Kahoot!” Maths games.

At the end of lessons teachers rewarded students by giving them stamps, achievement points and positive oral feedback. This day appeared to be fully successful for both students and staff members.



Feedback from Students:

Tom Jelbert - *What did I like about it? It was easier. I would do this more often.*

Hanise Mahmood: *"We did no pens in Urdu with Mrs Hameed and we played a game on the board to help us with our Urdu speaking. I enjoyed it".*

Our Students

Cutlers' Ambassadors Scheme

This year we had an unprecedented number of students applying to be Cutlers' Ambassadors as part of the Better Learners Better Workers programme which the School invests in each year.

We interviewed thirty students who all did exceptionally well. We are pleased to tell you that these students were successful and will now take up their role as Cutlers Ambassadors.

Their first task was at the Cutlers Hall on 30th November 2021.

Good luck everyone!



**BETTER
LEARNERS
BETTER
WORKERS**



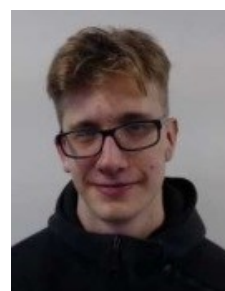
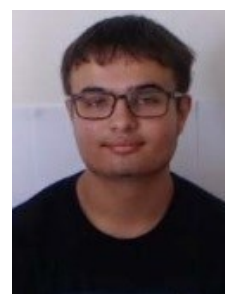
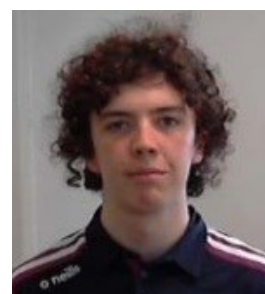
UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

In early November students from Years 11, 12 and 13 took part in the UK Maths Trust's Senior Mathematical Challenge, facing 25 multiple choice questions, testing their problem solving skills on a range of mathematical topics including numbers, algebra and geometry.

Of the nearly eighty students who took part, over fifty gained either Bronze, Silver or Gold awards; with four students gaining entry to the Senior Kangaroo which is the next round of the competition.

The students (Patrick Lodge, Gregor Burroughs, Dan Lowe and Artemis Vellacott) are awaiting their results from the Kangaroo as the newsletter goes to print!

Participation in the UKMT Mathematical Challenges is open to all years, with the Junior Challenge for Years 7 - 8, and the Intermediate challenge for Years 9 - 11. The challenges are just part of the wide range of extra Curricular maths activities which take place at both Upper and Lower School.



The positive integer k is a solution of the equation $(k \div 12) \div (15 \div k) = 20$.

What is the sum of the digits of k ?

A 15

B 12

C 9

D 6

E 3

Our Students

Social Action Car Wash Fundraiser

As the majority of our students were celebrating the start of the summer holidays one of our fantastic Y11 students was taking part in an event to raise money for The Children's Hospital Charity.

The Children's Hospital Charity

On Saturday July 17th, a group of young people came together to run 'The Wednesday Weekend Wash' to raise money and awareness for The Children's Hospital Charity.

One member of the group was Ted Hunt. Ted attends Alternative Provision at Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, as part of his Key Stage 4 timetable and was heavily involved in the planning and execution of this event.



Photo: preparation and planning for the event.

Paul Hebda, Inclusion Officer at the Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme, said:

“The Social Action Car Wash was a huge success, raising almost £300 for The Children's Hospital Charity. It was fantastic to see young people that attend our PL [Premier League] Kicks and AP [Alternative Provision]. Projects come together and plan such a successful event. The young people have also built and developed various skills from planning, developing, and running the social action event.

We had eight young people support on the event and it is something that none of them had done before, and to wash cars in 30-degree heat for four hours straight was incredible to see. They all worked together as a team, supporting one another, a real inspiration!”

Feedback from Ted himself after completing this amazing event:

“The social action car wash was a very good community project to raise money for the Children's Hospital Charity. It was great to see so many people from the community come along to get their car washed and donate towards the charity; it was a huge success!”

A huge well done to Ted and the other participants for this amazing achievement!



Miss Reeves, Learning Mentor (with responsibility for Alternative Provision) and Year 8 Pastoral Manager

Our Students

Future Sports Leaders

Recently, thirteen of our students from Years 8, 9 and 11 started their training to become sports leaders. This will enable them to work with our local primary schools to help coach younger children and organise sporting events.



British Schools Orienteering Champs

Joseph and Lydia both competed last week at the British Schools Champs (BOSC) at Stowe Gardens in Buckinghamshire. The event is held in the autumn each year with courses from white to green standard for teams from primary, secondary and tertiary schools around the UK.



With over 350 competitors from across the country, both had good runs in their respective categories.

Lydia finished 14th out of 25, and Joseph 17th out of 37. This is an outstanding achievement. Well done!

Click on image to toggle between large image and thumbnails



Credit: Jim Clarke

Image Ref: 11-04-56-IMG_9762

Click on image to toggle between large image and thumbnails



Credit: Jim Clarke

Image Ref: 11-10-54-IMG_9844

Our Students

Christmas Card Competition Winners

Our annual Christmas card competition was won by the following students:

- Tuana Taylor Y9
- Bethany Spriggs Y9
- Ella Parsons Cerulli Y10
- Charley Clarke Y12

Each of the winners will each receive an acrylic paint set and selection box. They will also have their design printed onto card and given out as the official King Edward VII School Christmas Cards 2021.

Thank you to everyone that entered and well done to our winners!



Illustration by
Tuana Taylor Y9



Illustration by
Charley Clarke Y12



2021



Block Print by
Ella Parsons Cerulli Y10



Our Students

KES Students Address Global Leaders at COP26 in Glasgow

Ugandan climate activist, Vanessa Nakate, addresses global leaders at the recent COP26 conference in Glasgow.



Most of us have been well aware of the COP26 conference of global leaders in Glasgow in the first two weeks of November. The summit of international leaders has addressed a growing sense of urgency many feel about what many refer to as the climate and ecological emergency.

Young people have played a striking role in raising the profile of issues surrounding the climate emergency, with activists such as Ugandan Vanessa Nakate and Greta Thunberg expressing the concerns of many young people across the world.

Many students at King Edward VII School are equally engaged in these concerns surrounding impact of climate change and what can be done to address its causes and mitigate against its further impacts. Students in Year 8 and Year 9 in some English lessons have been exploring some of the issues global leaders have been wrestling with and taking the opportunity to address leaders by writing letters to them, as part of a creative writing unit linked to writing to express a viewpoint.

Here is one letter by a Y9 student, Justin McLean.

Dear COP26 global leaders,

I am writing because we are in the midst of this ongoing climate crisis and action needs to be taken. As we all know, time is running out and the effects of climate change are happening in front of our eyes.

The causes of this are clearly massively due to our human lifestyle: for too long we have been burning fossil fuels without thinking about the consequences for the future. Why have we ignored this for so long? We are already witnessing the result of rising global temperatures. If we let the temperatures rise again by 2 degrees celsius in the near future then scientists have predicted that the already occurring extreme weather events will only worsen and increase in

Our Students

frequency. Why should we care? I'll tell you why, it's because we have one global system that we all rely on for our crops and fresh-water.

The impacts of climate change can be seen throughout the world. In the arctic, ice caps are melting which affects not only the animals living there but causes global sea levels to rise. This dramatically affects the global weather patterns, furthermore puts many low-lying countries at risk of flooding. For example many Asian countries including: Japan, China, Bangladesh and Vietnam. Rising sea levels will threaten 200 million people by 2100. In other continents, forest fires are becoming more frequent like in Australia and the Americas. In addition to this, hurricanes are becoming more prevalent.

What I think should be done is we need to take the bold move to step away from burning fossil fuels and move onto renewable energy sources which our planet provides us in abundance. Also areas we can easily make changes in are renewables, plastics and changing our habits like flying. I know some people may disagree about the changes necessary but immediate action must be taken before the planet has tipped beyond the point of return.

Yours faithfully,
Justin McLean.

Article by Mr Lallemand, English teacher

Diving into a fantastic future!



Robbie Wood in Year 7 is an extremely accomplished diver and is a member of Sheffield Diving at Ponds Forge. Robbie trains very hard and is taking part in the Scottish National Diving championships in Edinburgh in December. Robbie says:

“I dive at ponds forge for Sheffield diving club. I have been diving since 2018 and have just reached junior elite level. I like diving because the people are great and its fun falling off really high boards.

I have recently competed at a national competition for selection onto the team GB training program, where I finished top 3 overall winning 1 gold and 2 silver medals.

I train around 15 hours a week including some sessions before School.

During my time in the sport, I have been able to travel all over the country; often the trips are without my parents.

My favourite places have been Southampton, Plymouth and in December I am going to Edinburgh.”



Robbie diving backwards off a 7.5m high platform.

Our Students

Last day at Lower School

Kai Hindmarch and Devon Jackson had fun dressing up on their last day of term in July; their last day at Lower School before moving to Upper School to start Year 10 in September.

The other Year 9 students and staff thought they were wonderful but Kai and Devon did find it was a little tricky sitting on a chair in hall for the assembly!



Children In Need

For Children In Need, students supported the fundraiser by selling sweet treats, wristbands and pin badges at Lower School. Here are some of the Year 8 students that helped with the event. They managed to raise a fantastic £330!



Actors in our midst

Brothers Rohan (Y10) and Kamran Sadiq (Y8) are budding actors and have both been filming recently for Ackley Bridge and a short film 'Woody'. Both Rohan and Kamran are thoroughly enjoying their steps into the acting world.

We must get their autographs!
Fingers crossed they remember us when they are famous!



Our Students

Poetry Competition 2021

The English Department's poetry competition attracted some brilliant entries this year and the following students have been invited to the prize-giving event, either as a winner or a commended entrant.

Commended students will be given a certificate and a copy of the booklet of all twelve poems; prize-winners will get a Waterstone's voucher as well; and one of the entrants will be given the beautiful trophy, which will then reside in the trophy cabinet in whichever building's foyer for the year with their name attached to it!

Congratulations and well done to the following students!

Isabelle Gibbins - 9R1

Tuana Taylor - 9S1

Husnain Mahmood - 8L1

Ava Dibben - 7R2

A Khan - 7L1

Gracie Gibbins - 7P1

Merila Grammy - 11S1

A Barakzai - 12DJL

Jenalla Waddington - 12RSL

Simbiso Mushakwe - 13VM

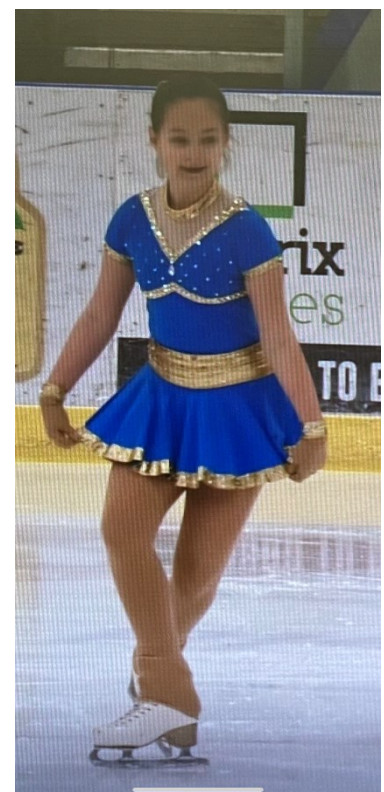
Esther Ayantuga - 13RCO

Isobel Williams - 13CCU

Ice Skating Success

Alexandra Aspinall in Year 7 is a highly accomplished and talented figure skater who trains hard every week before School Ice Sheffield. Alexandra has won many competitions, awards and prizes.

Amazing work Alexandra - we are very proud of you!



at

Our Students

Aspiring Footballers

Ethan Linley Lambert (Year 8) and Isaiah Powis (Year 9) both play football at a very high level. Isaiah is a member of Sheffield Wednesday FC Academy. Ethan is a member of Doncaster Elite Football Academy. We are very proud of both boys!



Basketball Success

The Year 8 boys basketball team won their first Sheffield Schools Sport League game against High Storrs, 26-28 KES VII (in blue).

The Post 16 boys basketball team also won their first Sheffield Schools Sport League game against Notre Dame, 18-35 KES VII (in red).

Well done to both teams!



Our Sixth Form

Healthy Hampers: KES Sixth Form Girls supporting Survivors of Human Trafficking in Sheffield



A group of Sixth Form students, under the competent and enthusiastic leadership of Lola Middleton-Welch, now in Year 13, have been working with the women from SI (Soroptimist International) Sheffield on a project in support of Snowdrop, a charity which helps survivors of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery to set up new lives. The idea for the Healthy Hampers project came from the workers at Snowdrop itself. They had identified several basic needs for their clients: learning the English language, familiarising themselves with the culture of a new country and, of course, healthy food for themselves and often their children.

The Healthy Hampers project supports all these needs. The KES students designed illustrated recipe cards in simple English which introduce a typical British dish. They also planned and managed fundraising activities to buy the ingredients and helped the Soroptimists pack the boxes with the food items and cooking equipment needed to cook the dish.

Several dozen hampers have now been delivered to women in need, helping them feed themselves and their children, learn about British culture and practice their English.

SI Sheffield recently sent a letter (p.24) to the Headteacher expressing their thanks on behalf of all the women that have been helped so far.

The Snowdrop Clients who have received these Healthy Hampers of food and equipment have been very grateful and enjoyed making meals such as vegetarian casseroles, veggie pasties and shepherd pies.

We are very proud of the girls and what they have contributed to the lives of the women who have been trafficked, sold and abused. The Healthy Hamper Scheme has helped these women in being able to build a new life. The girls not only created the recipes they helped with the packing and raised money for ingredients through the Bake Sales.

A huge thank you to each one of them! The girls and the project would also like to thank the staff at King Edward VII School for enabling them to take part.

Soroptimist International Sheffield works at a local level to educate, empower, and enable women and girls: <https://sigbi.org/sheffield/>

Our Sixth Form



Snowdrop is an award-winning local project which supports women and girls that have been trafficked, sold and abused: <https://snowdropproject.co.uk>



KES girls and Soroptimists with a car load full of Healthy Hampers ready to go.



Our Sixth Form

Soroptimist Share our Skills Project

Our students that volunteer for the Soroptimist's Share our Skills Project were recently recognised for all their hard work and commitment to the Healthy Hamper scheme. Linda Gooden, Headteacher was delighted to present the certificates to:

Lola Middleton-Welch

Libby Knight

Cindy Li

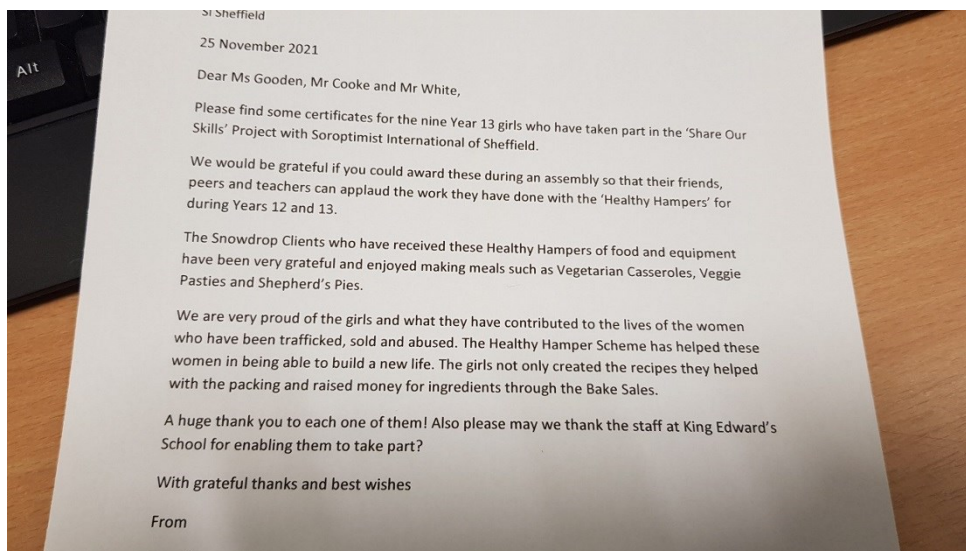
Grace Reading

Laura Noble

Maria Sarfaz

Salma Warsame

Eve Willis



Well done girls, we think you are pretty amazing too!



Our Sixth Form

The Historical Association Great Debate - regional heats hosted at King Edward VII School

On November 25th, Year 12 students from Sheffield and Doncaster answered the following question - 'Which changes of the last 70 years (Queen Elizabeth's II's reign) have affected your local area the most?'. The responses investigated the shift in industry, discussing Sheffield's reputation as 'the Steel City' and 'the Green City'.

King Edward VII students Maddie Jelbert, Savannah Cooper and Tom Flynn presented thoughtful, informative arguments. Savannah and Tom focused on the shift of Sheffield's reputation in steel manufacturing to the modern day emphasis around the environment.

Savannah included the impressive fact that, in Sheffield, there are four trees for each person. The competition presented an opportunity for the students to learn first hand about Sheffield's past from local resident's memories. Tom investigating through the primary source of a police officer at the time of Sheffield's reputation as the Steel City. He quoted, "You couldn't walk 5 minutes without collar and cuffs black from the smog".

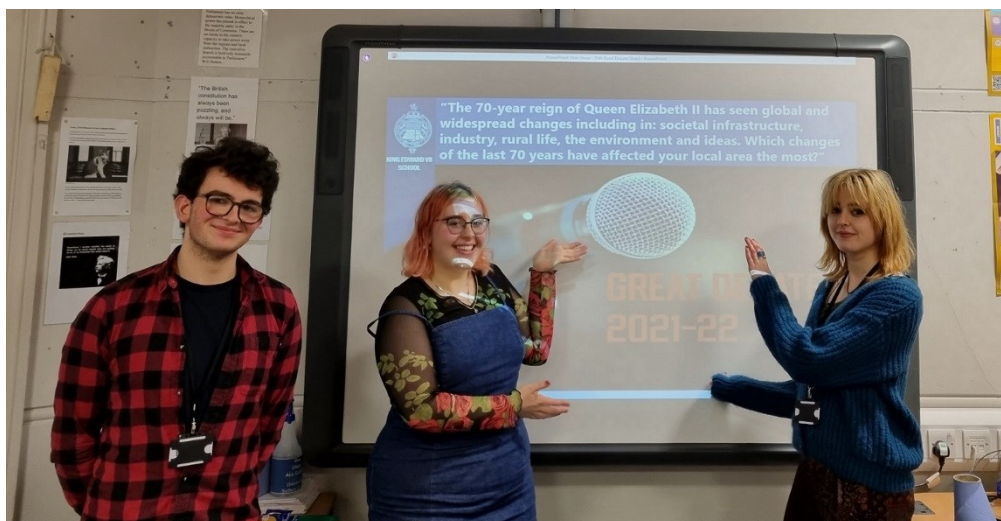
Maddie took a political standpoint considering not only Sheffield, but the national effect of Thatcherism. She was then insightfully able to display how this individually affected Sheffield through cultural references - The Full Monty presenting how Thatcher stripped (no pun intended) Sheffield workers of their agency, their dignity and their power.

The competitor representing Doncaster provided a contrast in the debate. Her poignant individual response highlighted Doncaster's past reputation as a mining epicentre; considering the devastating effect that the closure of the coal mines had on the town. She concluded that not only did this effect her local area most, but that it was the biggest tragedy in history, providing a bleak uncertain future.

High Storr's Isobel won regionals and will be attending nationals at Windsor Castle. Her speech focused on the Park Hill Flats: how their transformational journey mirrored that of Sheffield. She suggested the Park Hill Flats as demonstrating the neglect of cities' working class. The story of the flats as the 'epitome of gentrification', from a stigmatised no go area in the 70s and 80s to Urban Splash's revamp, a new romanticised area, inspiring performance art.

Hazel Brennan

Year 12 student



Our Sixth Form

The Civil Rights Movement

The talk on the civil rights movement given by Dr Heath from the University of Sheffield was simply spectacular. Dr Heath spoke in a calm, controlled manner and kept consistent in his delivery, connecting finely with the audience. It was a dark, rather uninspiring Wednesday afternoon but his words eliminated that dull mood and replaced it with a fresh, vibrant one.



The talk kicked off by diving into the reality of the 'American Dream,' coinciding nicely with the History A-level course. Dr Heath tackles the hypocrisy behind Thomas Jefferson's words in the 1776 Declaration of Independence: "God made all men equal and gave them the rights of life". Here, he maturely highlights the monstrous contributions Thomas Jefferson made toward the transatlantic slave trade. He was a slave owner and white supremacist himself. This confirmed how racism toward black people is systematic - embedded within society by the government from the get-go. This set a clear structure for his following topics.

He linked this fittingly to the 1619 project by Nicole Hannah Jones and other black journalists/historians from the New York Times magazine. They argued that America was declared a country the date slavery began, in 1619. This impacted me greatly, as it is quite easy for us as students to recognise the heinous crimes of America but forget its sly, unforgiving attitudes in trying to get away with these exact injustices. It is in this way, through the fluidity of Dr Heath's speech, that he made the room contemplate and question the government of America.

Furthermore, one fantastic point made was how the Cold War acted as a catalyst for the civil rights movement to progress. Dr Heath presented propaganda posters from the USSR condemning the USA for its treatment toward black people. He explained a brilliant study by American historian Mary Dudziak on how the USA became more willing to appeal toward the civil rights movement to counteract USSR's harmful posters and protect its reputation. This point was, for me, the most intriguing aspect of his talk. It left me in awe discovering how the USA saw beneficial, selfish gain out of the movement just as they saw beneficial, economic gain from the slave trade. This culminates the immense hypocrisy behind America's values continuing throughout history. America had not learnt from its mistakes and grew persistent in exploiting opportunities presented to them.

This is key in understanding the civil rights movement as the American government cooperated for the wrong reasons. It smoothly fits into Dr Heath's emphasis on how we shouldn't view the civil rights movement as 'one, decided point in history' because it allows us to miss the connections it has throughout time, up until the present day. This incredible point was something you surely could not get in a classroom. The talk ended with an insightful question and answer session where students took the opportunity to clarify on past points made.

Our Sixth Form

Unfortunately, this was cut short due to time constraints. Overall, I can confidently say that Dr Heath's talk was truly valuable to me. I came out of the library that evening disappointed that it had ended but happy to have come out having felt I learned something truly meaningful. I would like to end this with a massive thank you to Dr Heath for volunteering to deliver his powerful talk and would highly recommend students to visit any similar talks in the future.

By Musaddiq Iqbal 12RC



Visit to Magdalen College, Oxford

The Sixth Form took thirty Year 12 students to Oxford to visit Magdalen College on 1st December 2021. The students attended workshops on applying to Oxford as well as lunch in the college and tours of two other colleges. We hope this will raise their aspirations about potentially studying at Oxbridge after Sixth Form at King Edward VII School to maintain the long standing tradition between the universities and our School.



Our Sixth Form

Debating Society

After its postponement for a year and a half, due to Covid-19, we are so pleased that the Debating Society is up and running once more. Thank you all of the Year 12 and Year 13's who have registered!

It has been a delight to get back into topical discussion and have the opportunity to share what matters to us today and indeed our futures. The Society allows a reflective discussion and a mutual respect in all our values and by the very nature of debate we are able to consider others voices and ideas.

The Society has had a light hearted debate on whether 007 should be female and whether Harry Potter should be part of the National Curriculum. More serious reflections have been on the impact of social media. The staff involved have been personally up-lifted by the maturity of discourse.

One of the intentions of the Society is to enable issues to have a platform that enables free speech but in a sensitive and balanced setting. We hope we are achieving that!

Mr Spears, Teacher of Sociology

Post 16 Open Evening

The Post 16 Open Evening took place at the Upper School site on Thursday 11 November 2021. The event went very well. Prospective students and their parents and carers were able to talk to our Post 16 Ambassadors, quiz subject staff and explore the Upper School building.

Over seven hundred copies of the programme were given out during the evening, there was quite a draft with all the windows open and we gave out nearly 1,000 face masks for visitors to maintain COVID-secure measures.

One family said:

Thank you to all your amazing staff and fantastic student ambassadors for this evening's 6th Form Open Evening. My daughter and I were completely wowed and excited about the prospect of her studying at King Edward's. The enthusiasm of everyone we met was infectious, and as we left, my daughter said she "loved everything about it".

If you missed the Open Evening there are lots of resources on our website.

www.kes.sheffield.sch.uk/virtual-post-16-open-evening-live-event

These include videos of current student ambassadors, a site tour, curriculum leaders introducing their subjects and a recorded presentation from the Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form Prospectus can also be found on our website:

www.kes.sheffield.sch.uk/the-school-prospectus

Applications can be made via the Sheffield Progress website www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk/

The deadline for applications is 31st January 2022.

Our Sixth Form

UCAS Early Applicants

Just under forty students have applied through UCAS for the courses that require an early application. We have seven applying for dentistry, eighteen for medicine, two for veterinary science and sixteen to Oxbridge. All of these students have been offered a mock interview.

The logo for UCAS, with the letters 'UCAS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is stylized with a red triangle pointing upwards, forming the top of the letter.

The interviewers have included a range of Professors and Deans, ex-senior leaders from School and university student ambassadors currently studying the subject that our Year 13s have applied for. We hope this will enable our applicants to brush up on their interview technique and support some successful outcomes.

Outreach Schemes – Raising aspirations and supporting transition to Higher Education

Deciding whether and where to go to university – and what subject to study – are big choices to make. The Sixth Form team work directly with the Outreach team at the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University, both of whom have created a wide range of excellent, student focused programmes and events that develop and support students and teachers from sixth form centres.

King Edward VII School has a long standing relationship with both universities in our home city and this year we are pleased to report that just over thirty students have accessed the Realising Opportunities and Discover programmes.

Realising Opportunities (RO) is a unique collaboration of leading, research intensive universities including Sheffield, who work together to promote fair access and social mobility of students from groups underrepresented in higher education. The Discover programme provides sustained support to participants throughout Year 12 and 13 in raising aspirations and exploring Higher Education study. As well as general workshops and events, the programme is split into six subject and career pathways that offer a unique experience and specialist support.

Alongside the many Post 18 transition strategies we employ in school, including guest speakers, workshop visits, HE and Apprenticeship Fairs, careers advice, application support through unifrog, one to one tutor review meetings and mock interviews. There are tailored, sustained, outreach schemes to support those considering a career in medicine, dentistry, law, arts and humanities, and STEM. Indeed, the Realising Opportunities Scheme benefits all subject areas with a widening participation focus.

Detailed information can be found at these addresses:

- www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk
- www.sheffield.ac.uk/outreach/post16

The logo for Sheffield Hallam University, with the words 'Sheffield Hallam University' stacked vertically in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

Our Staff

Dedicated teacher retires after 29 years



In July 2021, King Edward VII School had to say au revoir to David Kirkup, one of our longest serving teachers. He said: "I have worked under three Headteachers, with countless colleagues and have called myself variously a teacher of technology, product design, engineering with a bit of art and PE, year tutor, year leader, head of year and now year 12 raising achievement leader.

Both jobs have changed massively but simply put, enable students of all ages to be the best they can be.

In my interview on joining the School I told the Headteacher the reason I'd come back to my hometown of Sheffield to start my teaching career was because the city had so much to inspire and offer. This School is a microcosm of that society and, as such, a more diverse and dynamic community I could not wish for as a workplace.

I was extremely privileged to see both my daughters and one of my nieces through the School, alongside many friends' offspring. Stressful at times but I wouldn't want it any other way!

The stature of King Edward VII School is such that I still cycle in, even now, and wonder at this impressive building, the academic history and the students who have gone on to great things, in and around this country's institutions. It's not just the famous alumni but the ex-resistant material student behind the bar who asks if I remember his CD rack, or the barber's chair offering to give me a short back and sides.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme has allowed me to indulge in and pass on my favourite activity of navigating the wilds of Britain and my love of cycling has coincided with School trips to the velodrome in Manchester and trail centres in and around the Peak District."

David said leaving King Edward's will be a "wrench" but the friends he has made will still be available for a walk, a ride or a chat over a coffee. "I count myself extremely lucky to have found my niche so early on in my teaching career and I never had the need to move on," he said. I wish all my colleagues the same good fortune and job satisfaction that I have had, and half the stories I can take with me into retirement!

Clare Creasy, Curriculum Leader of Art, Photography, Design and Technology and Engineering, described David as a consummate professional, a rock, a guide and confidant, as well as an amazing teacher and friend.

She said: "He gets the best out of everyone he works with because he always gives the best of himself. I will miss him wholeheartedly. He will always be a massive part of King Edward's."

Article taken from The Star online 14/07/21 - www.thestar.co.uk/education/dedicated-sheffield-teacher-retiring-after-29-years-only-expected-to-stay-five-years-3309345

Our Staff

Headteacher, Linda Gooden, said: "Dave Kirkup has made a significant contribution to the success of King Edward VII School and shaped the lives of so many students. We wish him all the best for the future."



Inspirational Mentor Award — Alistair Lowe

At the Institute of Education at Sheffield Hallam University, Initial Teacher Training (ITT) trainees complete evaluations at the end of their placements where they are given the opportunity to nominate a mentor for an Inspirational Mentor Award if they so wish and to comment on how this person has been influential to their training.



We are delighted to share with you that Mr Lowe, Teacher of Computing, has been nominated for such an award which is a significant personal achievement. Alistair was nominated by Chirag Patel, one of the ITT students that had a placement at King Edward VII School.

Chirag said, "Alistair was my mentor on my first placement. He's the one who introduced me to a range of AFL (Assessment for Learning) techniques that allowed me to grab students attention proactively. I was able to settle in at my second placement school by incorporating all the ideas he had given me from my time with him in my first placement. The feedback he gave me was highly beneficial into modelling me into the teacher I am today and is something I will forever be grateful for. Without his help throughout placement 1, I wouldn't have been able to land my job at the school I'm scheduled to teach in September. The passion he has for teaching, mentoring and computer science is a true inspiration. I hope to be a teacher who is as good as him one day."

This nomination demonstrates the dedication and commitment Alistair has shown to training the next generation of teachers. Well done Mr Lowe, this is a fantastic acknowledgement!

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**

Our Staff

New Years Honours List

David Jackson, father of Catherine Jackson, Assistant Headteacher at King Edward VII School, has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) - for Services to the Community.

Whilst David was named in the 2020/2021 New Years Honours List, due to Covid restrictions he had to wait until 20th October 2021 to receive his award from the Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Mrs Johanna Ropner, in a ceremony held at Camp Hill, Bedale.

David worked for various local Social Services Departments and Local Authorities for nearly 48 years, and this gave him the opportunity to become involved in charity work. He explained that the first real venture was to be invited to a teaching hospital in Kumsai in Ghana. Very heart-wrenching work. Further visits followed and latterly a piece of land was purchased and donated to a local HIV/AIDS charity to provide a home for children orphaned by this terrible disease.

More locally David together with his wife Dorothy became involved in supporting a local Primary School in East Middlesbrough, initially listening to children read and then supporting the many school activities. Several years ago, David was asked to become Chair of School Governors, a position he still occupies. David is also involved in raising monies to help buy food for approximately 30/40 families each week who might be in crisis, and each Summer they host 2 young children from Belarus through the Chernobyl Childrens' Lifeline.

After retiring, David continued for a while with his consultancy work and arranged for his printing to be done through a print service provided through a local day centre for Adults with Mental and Physical Disabilities. This involvement resulted in him being asked to be Chair of the Trustees, another position he still occupies.

About UK Honours

The honours system celebrates the people who go above and beyond to change the world around them for the better. The honours system rewards those doing vital and extraordinary work across the country.

A Queen's honour helps shine a light on many achievements which might otherwise go unnoticed such as merit, service or bravery. Honours are given to deserving people from every walk of life from community volunteers to soldiers, performers and business leaders.



Article provided by the family.

Our Staff

St John Ambulance Hero

We would like to offer our congratulations to Michael Black, one of our wonderful Teaching Assistants!

Mr Black was recently presented with a medal for 10 years of service to St John Ambulance as a Youth officer, demonstrator and an advance First Aider. The award was presented by Hazel Thomlinson, a member of the priory of St John.

In addition to supporting students in the classroom, Michael also runs a First Aid Club for Year 7 students at King Edward VII School. This valuable life skill can help students take care of themselves as well as others, and provides the knowledge that they could help someone who has had an accident, or even save a life!



Gargantuan Golf Fundraiser

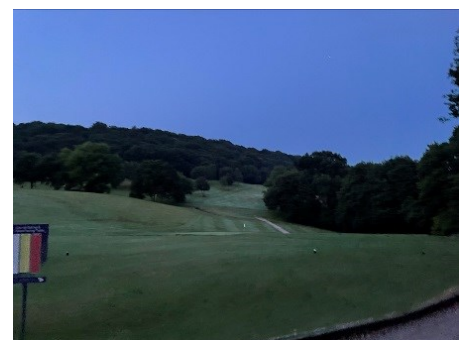
On Tuesday 20th July, our Curriculum Leader for PE, Mr Paish-Plunkett, and three friends undertook the longest day golf challenge, all in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Mr Paish-Plunkett said, "Macmillan was instrumental in my best friend's recovery from Hodgkins Lymphoma so decided we would like to do something to support the charity."

The day involved four rounds of golf with the first tee off at first light (5.20am), over 20 miles walked, a number of lost golf balls and £3500 raised!

If you would like to donate please go to

<https://longestdaygolf.macmillan.org.uk/Team/gladishankedit>



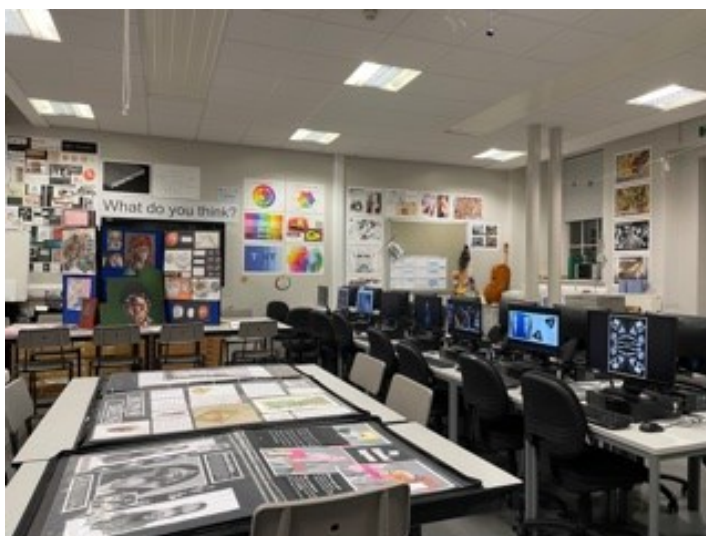
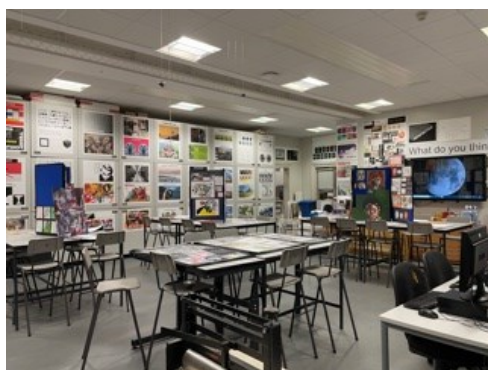
Our School

Year 5 and 6 Open Evening

On Tuesday 28th September King Edward VII School held its first large scale event since the pandemic, hosting the Year 5/6 open evening on the Upper School site.

Staff from each department were on hand to talk about the courses they offer and to showcase some of the work current students have created.

The evening was a tremendous success and it was so lovely to meet lots of prospective students and their families face to face. We hope we see you again soon.



Our School

Food Bank

The annual King Edward VII Food Bank appeal started on 1st November and ran until 10th December 2021. Once again, we collected for the S6 Food Bank as this area serves many families of students from KES.

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to Pryde Reid, Muhin Mohammed Begum, and Ciaran Forde whom have been helping to sort, box and label the food bank donations. They have been attending to this weekly since the appeal started.



Our School

Big Challenge 2022 and Lower School Christmas Market

Every year we enter many teams for the Big Challenge - a city wide enterprise competition where students make, market and sell their own products with a £25 start up fund. This year we have 56 teams entered and King Edward VII School has funded 10 teams who pitched successfully to Mrs Proost.



To support these small businesses, instead of our usual Christmas fair, on 9th December 2021 we held a Christmas market at Lower School, specifically for our Big Challenge teams to showcase and sell their wares.



It was an extremely busy afternoon with some wonderful products on offer and many teams completely sold out! 'Will Dunbar, Year 7, made a donation to 'Cash for Kids Mission Christmas Charity' with his hard worked earrings which I am really proud of him for doing.' Catherine Dunbar (mum). We are proud of you too Will!

It was lovely to also welcome teams from two of our neighbouring secondary schools, Tapton and High Storrs, to market their products too.



Our School

Tremendous Trees

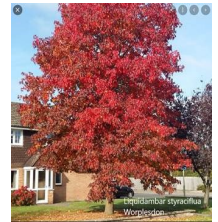
King Edward VII School has some wonderful trees on our grounds and over the last ten years our buildings' team have been monitoring them carefully. They have payed particular attention to our Horse Chestnut and the Beech trees on the south side of School (Newbould Lane), which have been in place for as long as the School as been here.



We recently had the devastating news, that at least four trees are to be removed due to fungal disease, some compaction and the Leaf Miner. The Community Tree Officer has assured us that this is a problem throughout Europe and unfortunately there is no cure.



On a positive note, next year is The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate this Her Majesty has asked for people to plant trees, calling it the "The Queen's Green Canopy".



Our buildings' team have been working closely with the Local Community Forestry Team and have fortunately secured five new trees to part replace the ones we have to say goodbye to. They will also develop a new tree line well within the boundaries of the School's field on Newbould Lane.



These new trees will be approximately 2-2.5 metre tall and will be planted between December 2021 and March 2022. The trees have been handpicked for colour, visual impact, size and because they are bee friendly. They include:

- Acer campestre Queen Elizabeth
- Catalpa bignonides
- Fagus sylvatica Purpurea
- Liriodendron tulipifera
- Liquidambar styraciflua Worplesdon



In the future, the new trees will be easier to maintain but they will immediately help with the fields drainage.

We will be working with the Community Forestry Development Team and are looking for helpers to dig the holes and stake the young trees in their new home. Please get in touch if you can offer your assistance.



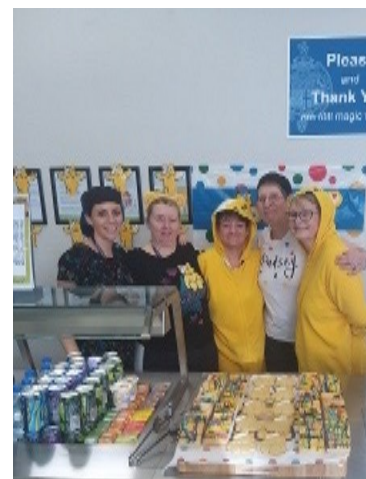
Mr C. Jarvis, Buildings' Officer

Our School

Lower School Catering

Autograph, the catering team at Lower School, have thrown themselves into the fun celebrations during our autumn term and made some delicious treats.

Year 7-9 students have enjoyed Halloween themed sweet treats, Bonfire inspired buns and Catherine Wheel cookies, as well as Children In Need bear related products. The decorations and dress up went down a treat too!



Upper School Catering

The catering team at Upper School are getting into the festive spirit by offering luxury hot chocolate drinks - perfect during these cold winter days - and serving Christmas dinner to students and staff on Wednesday 15th December 2021.



Our School

Remembrance Day 11 November 2021

It is important that the School, staff and students pause to reflect upon Remembrance Day each year. It is a profoundly significant occasion for the School.

The Headteacher led the Remembrance Day assembly for all Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students at Upper School on Thursday 11 November 2021, Armistice Day. The assembly started at 10.30am.

During the assembly the Headteacher reminded students of what we were remembering and why. 'We remember people who have served and sacrificed for and alongside the UK, including the armed forces, emergency services and all those affected by conflict and wars.' We also remember the significant contributions made by the Commonwealth Countries, particularly in the Great Wars.

The Headteacher paid particular respect to the Old Edwardians who lost their lives in World War One and World War Two. Their names are on the Roll of Honour Boards in reception at Upper School.

Robert Griffin, an Old Edwardian, was killed in the Falklands War (1982) and there is a war memorial for him, alongside the War Memorial Cross, in the grounds at Upper School.

His mother and family have been coming to the School each year on Remembrance Day to remember Robert Griffin. Unfortunately, his mother passed away in 2020 but his sisters, Mandy and Joanne, with their family members attended this year. They also placed a wreath for him, on behalf of The Royal Marines, at the Cenotaph, in Sheffield City Centre on Remembrance Sunday, 14 November 2021.

Mandy and Joanne with their family members, and the wreath that was laid at the Cenotaph.



Our School

Remembrance Day 11 November 2021 (continued)

Mrs Proost and Mr Creedon led assemblies for Key Stage 3 students at Lower School.

The whole School fell silent at 11.00am for two minutes. Ted McDaid, Year 13, played The Last Post in the reception area at Upper School. The music resonated throughout the building.

King Edward VII School shall never forget.

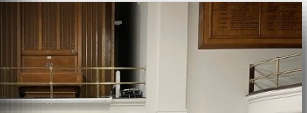
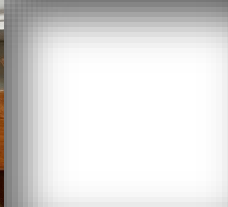


Winter Music Festival

The School would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Doubleday, Mrs Doubleday, Mrs Machan and Mrs Doran for producing the Winter Music Festival 2021 which took place on Tuesday 7th December. With approximately 100 students performing, from Y7-Y13, it was absolutely superb! There were many fabulous ensembles and solos and the performances could be likened to those at many professional events, for example Andre Rieu's concerts!

The Headteacher received a number of positive emails from parents also thanking the staff involved and for making the effort to make the concert happen.





Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

The Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire

Andrew Coombe was appointed as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire in 2015 and retired from his post on the advent of his 75th birthday in November 2021.

A former lawyer and chartered accountant, he spent the majority of his working life based in Sheffield and South Yorkshire and although not a former pupil of King Edward VII School, he was a friend, supporter and visitor to the School.

In addition, Andrew was also Chair of Sheffield Cathedral Council, the President of the Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (North East), South Yorkshire Community Foundation, the Royal British Legion South Yorkshire, and Sheffield Sea Cadets.

A Vice President of St Luke's Hospice and heavily involved in community cohesion, he was also a founder member of South Yorkshire Muslim Community Foundation.

During his tenure as Lord Lieutenant, Andrew was engaged in projects aimed at improving the aspirations of young people in South Yorkshire and involved in reducing anti-social behaviour in communities within the urban areas of their county.

Prior to being appointed Lord Lieutenant, Andrew served as High Sheriff of South Yorkshire exhibiting a broad portfolio of charitable work as a trustee of :

- St Luke's Hospice
- Broomgrove Nursing Home
- the Bluecoat Educational Trust
- the Freshgate Foundation
- Ashdell Preparatory School
- Claremont Hospital
- The University of Sheffield Students' Union.

The office of Lord Lieutenant was established during the reign of King Henry VIII to control the military forces of the Crown and today is a largely ceremonial and essentially non-political role promoting local issues and acting as the personal representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. There are currently 98 Lord Lieutenants covering the whole of the United Kingdom. The duties of the Lord Lieutenant include arranging visits by Members of the Royal Family, and receiving and escorting Royal Visitors as appropriate, presenting Honours and Awards on behalf of the Queen to individuals, voluntary groups and business organisations, performing certain duties in connection with the Armed Forces of the Crown; in particular the Reserve Forces and participating in civic, voluntary and social events, encouraging charitable work and local initiatives within the County.

The grateful thanks of The Old Edwardians' Association and King Edward VII School, Sheffield go to Andrew Coombe for his dedicated service to the Crown and the communities of South Yorkshire and we wish him a long and bountiful retirement.



Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

Our Champion! Harry Bliss

Ex-King Edward VII School student Harry Bliss has gained the accolade of the prestigious Young Leader Award at the 2021 Northern Leadership awards for his health and wellbeing company, 'Champion Health'.

Harry set up the company in 2018 by building the platform that has been described as 'The Netflix of Wellbeing'. Champion are now working with global clients through to the NHS, to build resilience and support wellbeing. Although Harry is the second youngest member (27 years old) of the team of 65 people, he's the CEO and leading the way.

Harry was a student at King Edward VII School from 2005-2013 until his A Levels which he successfully completed in Psychology, Economics and Politics. Harry mentioned his experience at King Edward VII shaped so much of what is needed to run a successful business.

"The experience that I had at King Edward VII School was invaluable and is carried forward into the work I do now. The diversity of students, the passion of the teachers and the down-to-earth nature of the School has given me ability to speak to anyone of any background and ensure my feet remain firmly on the ground."

Harry now has built his business up after a life changing moment when a family friend and local businessman, who he saw as a mentor, sadly, took his own life. This event made Harry want to help change people's lives for the better.

Champion Health became a company devoted to helping others with all aspects of wellbeing that has gone on to help countless people and has saved at least four lives in its first three years.

All the staff who remember Harry here are thrilled for his success and wish him well for the future. I'm sure he'll be in to speak soon!

Well done Harry!

Clare Creasy Curriculum Leader for Art Design & Technology



Book Donation - Francis J Houghton B. Met.

The School would like to thank Mrs Edwards and Mrs Butterworth for the donation of their father's books to our extensive archive.

Their father, Francis J. Houghton B Met, left King Edward VII School in 1938 and went to The University of Sheffield to read Metallurgy. It was clear to see that he was definitely a major figure in the Sheffield industry when he was the Chairman and Managing Director of Pickford Holland and Company Limited, as well as the Joint Managing Director of J&J Dyson Ltd.

Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

Ron Gains (1975-1980)

The Headteacher is always tremendously delighted to be contacted by Old Edwardians, especially if they wish to visit their alma mater.

In September 2021 she received an email from Ron Gains who had 'never returned [to the School] since the day [he] left' and it was on his bucket list to see his old School, made more poignant after surviving a massive brain haemorrhage in 2013 and becoming the seventh person in the UK to survive an occipital arterial bypass. Ron found out afterwards that he was in fact the first person to have it performed laid on his side because of his other complicated medical issues.

So on Monday 8 November 2021, the Headteacher, accompanied by Mr John Cornwell (former Chair of the Governing Board, archivist and author amongst many other things - see his contributions to this newsletter in the obituaries section; pages 45 - 47) welcomed Ron Gains and his wife Jayne, with delectable pastries and tea, back to King Edward VII School. It was a profoundly emotional moment for Ron to be able to walk up the steps to the main entrance because in the past students were never permitted to use the front entrance. Re-visiting the main hall, the dining room and wandering the timeless corridors was overwhelming for Ron.

Ron enjoyed his time at King Edward VII School as a student and spent over thirty successful years in the motor industry. His last post was as the Service Manager of BMW in Chesterfield before leaving Sheffield to live by the sea in Scarborough.

It was an absolute pleasure for the Headteacher and Mr John Cornwell to welcome Ron and Jayne Gains to the School. It was a joy listening to Ron reminiscing about his time as a student and learning about Jayne's career pathway too. Both 'give back' to others and their community via their voluntary work.

Ron is an inspiration to many, including his surgeon who conducted the occipital arterial bypass operation. They still keep in touch to this day.

It was an honour and a privilege to spend time with Ron and Jayne.



Ron Gains (first on the left)

Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

Obituaries



Thomas Keith Robinson OBE

1926-2021

Taught at KES from 1954-65

Keith Robinson was one of the most respected and successful teachers at King Edward's during the period when Nathaniel Clapton was Headmaster from 1950-65.

This was a time at the school when the Head and the staff fully appreciated the opportunities the 1944 Education Act had handed the school. After 1945 all boys admitted to King Edward's had won a scholarship. In a city of half a million people that produced some very bright pupils who came from all parts of the city and all backgrounds, KES became one of the most successful schools in the country and it attracted teachers who were also of high quality.

One of these was Keith Robinson, who came to KES in 1954 to start a new department teaching Economics, then a subject taught at very few schools. At the time Economics was considered by most academics as a subject appropriate only for study at university.

Keith Robinson was born and educated in Manchester, graduating from Manchester University in 1948. At KES he set about developing an excellent A Level Economics course and soon KES pupils were getting the best marks in the country at A level. In 1960 out of just 25 Distinctions awarded nationally, Keith Robinson's KES pupils achieved 13. He also started a British Constitution course, another ground breaking subject taught at very few schools at that time. Many prominent Old Edwardians can attest to the fact that their initial interest in politics was fired by "Ticker" Robinson (*he got the nickname from his initials TKR*) who taught so fairly and inspirationally, without at any time betraying his own political preferences.

One Old Edwardian wrote recently, "*In a school where hard men ruled, Ticker showed a warm, human touch. Always addressing his sixth form students as "gentlemen", something that promoted maturity in the boys in his classes*".

He was a prominent supporter of school sports, serving as the master-in-charge of the First XI cricket team, always there at net practice, team meetings and matches home and away.

In 1965 he successfully applied for a post at Jordanhill College of Education in Glasgow, where he passed on his knowledge about the teaching and study of economics to aspiring teachers. So appreciated was the enthusiasm and breadth of knowledge he brought to his new position, that in 1971 he was appointed the Director of the Scottish National Curriculum Development Centre, with special responsibility for Social Subjects.

He was awarded the OBE in 1986 for his work and he retired in 1988 as the Director of Curriculum for Scotland.

During his time at KES he had been elected the National Chairman of the Economics Association (now the EBEA), the professional association for those people interested in the teaching and study of Economics. Within that organisation he was described recently by a former colleague as a "Colossus", whose academic ability, enormous energy, leadership skills

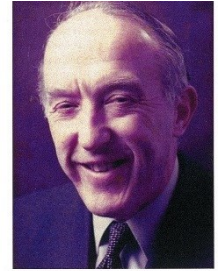
Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

Obituaries

and his wide interests made him a highly respected and hugely popular Chair.

Keith Robinson was married twice, first to Joyce, who died in 1989, and subsequently to Patricia who died in 2020. During his second marriage Keith moved back to England, where many old friends from his KES days visited him at his home in Buxton. He was a frequent visitor to the Old Edwardian Annual Dinners and he was delighted to attend the school's Centenary celebrations in 2005 at Upper School.

J.C.Cornwell.



Kenneth Hutton - 1922-2021 (KES 1936-40)

Straight from school he volunteered for the Royal Navy as a fleet air arm fighter pilot for the second world war. He trained in Canada and went to East Africa where he was shore based flying Hurricanes. From there he went to Ceylon and joined the Pacific fleet on board HMS Indomitable as Pilot and Deck Batsman and temporary Deck landing officer when the permanent officer was injured by a Kamakazee attack and was involved in Task force 57 against the Japanese in Sumatra and the Pacific islands.

After the war he became a civilian and worked as a commercial traveller before becoming a shopkeeper. He married Margaret in 1948 and they had three children, Robert, Helen and Philip.

He was a keen sportsman both at school and in the Navy where he was sports officer at the various postings he had. Prior to going into the navy he played football for Nottingham Forest football club. After the war he continued with his sport especially Cricket and Tennis. He was captain of the Gedling cricket club in Nottinghamshire, which won several trophies. He played competitive tennis and won many tournaments both at singles and doubles. He played doubles with Margaret on many occasions. When he retired to Mareham Le Fen he enjoyed playing bowls.

His other interest was in the Nottingham Sea Cadets where he served many a year as Chairman of the parents association, he only gave it up when he moved to Mareham.

After many years of shared tiring work with Margaret in their shop they retired to Mareham Le Fen, here he involved himself within the community, both church and Parish council and served as parish council chairman for a while.

He found joy in his garden and spent many a happy hour grueling away among his plants and shrubs. He loved tinkering with all things to do with his garden and house. He was very fortunate in having good health right up to his end.

God bless you Dad, we all love you.
Bob Hutton (son)

Old Edwardians and Young Edwardians

Obituaries

Kenneth Hutton (KES 1936-40)

1922-2021

An Old Edwardian who flew from Carriers in the Pacific War.

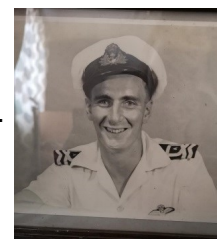
Kenneth Charles Hutton died in September 2021 aged 99. He was at King Edward's from 1936-40 and was one of the leading sportsman in the school, playing right half for the Football 1st XI 1938-40 and opening the batting for the School Cricket eleven in the 1939 and 1940 seasons. In 1939 he scored over 300 runs, a fair achievement for a schoolboy and after leaving school in 1940 he played for Nottingham Forest in the wartime league. He was then called up in the Royal Navy in 1941 and did pilot training in Canada.



Back row L. to R. Mr. Titchmarsh; S.H.Holmes; E.Allsop; R.Stamp; Dr. Barton; G.R.Gilfillan; P.J.Gunter; Mr. Waghorn (Coach).*

Front Row. L to R. K.C.Hutton; T.R.Buckley; P.J.Wheatley(Captain)*; L.W.Fletcher*; W.E.Wigley.*

Sent to the Pacific as part of the large RN fleet to fight the Japanese, he flew fighters from HMS Indomitable, survived Kamikaze attacks and in summer of 1945 he was the Deck Landing Control Officer with the rank of full Lieutenant. He returned to Britain after the Japanese surrender and was demobbed in 1946.



In 1948 he married Margaret (who survives him) and they had three children, Robert, Helen and Philip.

Post-war he found employment as a commercial traveller but later ran his own family shop.

His interest in sport continued, especially cricket and tennis, he was the captain of Gedling CC in Nottinghamshire and played competitive tennis, including doubles with his wife, Margaret.

Among his other interests, he was chair of the Nottingham Sea Cadets and Chair of the Parish Council in Mareham-Le-Fen, where he and his wife moved to when they retired.

He died one year short of his century, which would have been an appropriate ending for the keen cricketer.

J.C.Cornwell.