

Over the Hill

September 2010

No 10



Kingham Hill - 125 years in 2011

- The School matures through its 20 20 Vision 200 boarders + 200 day pupils by 2020
- Headmaster Nick Seward's third year begins
- KHS's GCSE results the best ever
- More pupils (260+, day & boarding), another record
- KH OB Lord Andrew Adonis for Speech day 2 July 2011
- KHS's first ever fundraising appeal continues - £5m + in 3 years!
- New academic centre planned for September 2013!
- KHA's financial fee support continues.
- KHA supports careers advice & work experience placements.

2010 - Another good year for the school.

- Pupil numbers exceeded 260 - two new day houses opened by David Cameron.
- 20 20 Vision Appeal launched. New building's architect KH OB Mark Foley.
- KHA Reunion on Speech day a success. Speaker KH OB Rev Richard Priest.
- New 'schooldays' website launched, includes new secure membership side.
- Polytunnel donated by OB's flourishes - vegetables for & help from the school.
- KHA assists with careers advice & CV's with own printed book & CD CV template
- Peter Johansen dies. KHA stalwart, committee member, ex secretary, chairman & throughout OTH magazine's editor, creator of Woyjek Gambaski & so much more; irreplaceable.

I have offered to assemble this magazine, but we do need an editor. Jogi deserves much more than just the black header & outline, but attempting to sum him up in words is impossible.

At only eight pages this is much smaller than before. There is no news of old boys & girls. I hope we'll be able to find that through www.kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk, Facebook & Friends Reunited.

My e-mail addresses at Yahoo & KHS are both active. MJT.



Headmaster's letter

I hope this issue finds you well and in good heart - the school certainly is. It was good to see so many of you on Speech Day. Former pupil Richard Priest (an aptly named padre!) gave an excellent message to our girls and boys. It was very sad, of course, to lose Peter Johansen. He will be much missed, as an example of someone who benefitted so much from his time here, and who gave so much back; throughout his life.

Peter would be pleased I am sure, to see the progress we are making towards helping more young people with a boarding need to benefit from a home on the Hill. Our talks with Oxfordshire for example are progressing well and we look forward to this taking off in earnest in September 2011.

The school begins this September with the largest roll ever, for the second year running - not bad going in the middle of a difficult recession. The excellent news that Sam Zhu, one of our leavers has won a place at Oxford to read maths makes him our first Oxbridge success for some years. Another from further back (Andrew Adonis) will be our speaker for Speech Day, Saturday 2nd July 2011.

Our 20 20 Vision is progressing well. We are always grateful for your support & encouragement. In discussion with governors and trustees, we are keen to see more of the self-sufficiency of the past return to the daily lives of pupils; of growing our own vegetables and livestock. Above all, to enable the Founder's Vision to continue into the 21st century and beyond, we need a new building to accommodate our growing numbers and deliver an appropriate educational for today and tomorrow. Our £5 million appeal is ambitious, but we are confident that with the support of generous former pupils and others who love and care for Kingham Hill, that we can be successful in making the vision happen.

Hannah and I wish you the very best, and look forward to seeing you.

Nick Seward

Jogi's last Editorial, updated.

'Those of us who come back to Kingham Hill Reunions are an odd mixture. Some of us arrived as children, and it was our home until we left to find jobs. Others could pretend we were going to boarding school, but Obviously The Hill is going to mean more to those who remember it as home than those who just received a paid-for service. Over time too you realise that all pupils & staff you knew have left.

The school keeps changing, and now it is expanding to give more room to day pupils. This will enable the school to be far more financially stable & to teach a wider range of subjects. It is also bringing the school closer to the local people whilst still finding places for the sort of children who really need it.

Coming back to Kingham Hill for reunions, you meet people who were there at different times, when the Hill was a different sort of place, but still find that you have a lot in common. If you turn up a few times it doesn't take long to forget that your new friends weren't on the Hill when you were.'

In October, March or on Speech day 2nd July 2011 you too could meet friends & see today's school.

Then Jogi signed off for what became his last magazine with "And for my next trick...."

Now we need a new editor - there should be a magazine each term - September, January & May/June.

KHA's committee - Who Does What?

President:	Bob Hughes.	Vice Pres's:	Eddie White, Brian Dean, John Hughes, Leo Smith, Keith Targett.
Chairman:	Jon Montgomerie	Secretary:	Bryan Shaw
Treasurer:	Mike Kent	Events:	Ken Wingfield
Alumni/KHS Contact:	Mike Tadman	Schooldays:	Simon Howlett
Magazine Editor:		Archivists:	Jim Woolliams & Mike Kent
Memorabilia/200 Club:	Simon Briggs		
Committee Members:	Leo Smith, Tony Middleton & John D Timmins		



Speech Day 3rd July 2010

Kingham Hill School's annual speech day was also both KHA's summer reunion & the end of term. KHA had been invited to join the school for their big day. OB's & G's of all ages came back .

We started our day at The Founder's graveside, & then had our AGM, in about an hour! That weekend there is a concert & the weather was glorious throughout.

Speech Day started for many with a service at noon in the marquee. Lunch is mostly a picnic for those who plan ahead, or . . . The Chequers in Churchill provided sandwiches for us upstairs.

The speeches -the main event - started at 1400hrs & was over in a businesslike time of less than 90 minutes. It is good to hear how the school is doing (Headmaster Nick Seward reports below right), to know of the range of activities & achievements as pupils collect their prizes. As a 'proper' US school, some of our American students 'graduate from high school' in caps & gowns.



Speaker Richard Priest, left, was just right. Starting with "the last time I was on this stage I was collecting the singing prize" set the scene for the pupils - "he's one of us" - for parents & guests.



Speech day tea is worth enjoying, although many pupils seemed to have already left for their summer breaks by then.

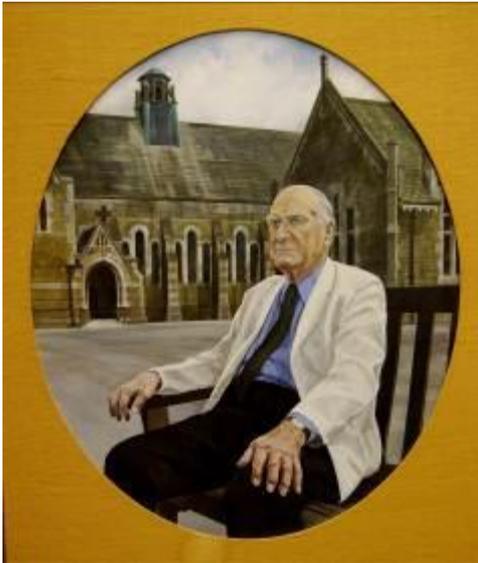
Being invited, as members of the wider Hill family, to join the school for speech day was a great idea & much appreciated. There were OB's & G's & ex staff old & newly 'old'. Although Ken Wingfield's KHA gazebo was very central it was impossible to count how many of us were there. There were recent leavers, not just brothers & sisters, as well as the old . . . stalwarts?

Below. The polytunnel bought by KH OB's & run by John D Timmins, with pupils for the school. Speech Day KHA's gazebo provided by Ken Wingfield. Buy & read KH OB Ken's autobiography & sign up to the new secure membership section of www.kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk. Photo's KHA's stand donated & produced by Tony Middleton - If you need a photographer, call Tony - a busy Cambridge based professional



The Kingham Hill Archive.

Kingham Hill will celebrate 125 years next year, but the archive is far from complete or accessible. We now have an archive room & an archive office, but there is masses still to be done. We have made what we can accessible on schooldays & respond to individual enquiries. Photo right is from the archive room towards the development office, above the Headmasters office. It was The San & once the Technical Drawing room / area.



We have magazines for the school & the association, 'stuff' on pupils from day one, almost innumerable photo's, of Houses, teams & a lot more. Jim Woolliams (or Mr Woolliams if that reminds you better) & Mike Kent have taken on this massive challenge. Our intention too is to adorn the archive room with pictures, shelves & displays. I have taken photo's of some warden's / headmasters & of Mr Cooper's Carpanini portrait. I'm sure the picture ECC will have stirred some of you, & we can all help.

Please don't think that because you're 'elsewhere' you can't help. The internet for example can identify all passengers travelling from 1 Fitzroy Square, London W1 (Latimer House), described as farmers (!) who were on their way to Havelock Farm in Canada. I have no doubt that there are many families who'd love to learn how their families came to be in Canada, USA, Australia & elsewhere. Birth certificates & census records offer hours of satisfaction for many. Early KHH boys had much to thank Mr Young for, & looking back I don't see The Hill as a forbidding, unwelcoming place that some too readily assume.

Every KH OB & G, indeed probably every KHA member / Friend of Kingham Hill School could add to our photo archive, by downloading & forwarding pictures. Sadly we have many, many pictures with no details on of who, where, which team, when? Please include as much detail as you can.



KH pictures - please send them in. If you can't scan them / they're not (yet) digital we should be able to help. Formal, informal, of people, places & 'things' - Thanks.

KHA, the web & you / each of us.

KHA's membership should include ALL old boys & girls as well as staff, ex staff parents & Friends of Kingham Hill School, but . . .

Peter Johansen worked hard building & maintaining a good card index system. Then we bought web alumnus with the school, but that will soon close; it's our fault - we didn't put much in so couldn't really have expected to have got much out! So in future: -

KHA's only website is www.kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk. We won't be transferring any data from the old (web alumnus / wakha) to the new. This isn't idleness - we know that many of our records are useless, so **please register** on 'schooldays'; you choose your username & password. Web Alumnus was bought by KHS with KHA & KHS has paid the annual fee of about £4,000. 'Schooldays' will cost about £2k through KH OB Simon Howlett. It is up to us to make this site work - we are each responsible for our own data.

Many from the wider hill family are also on friends reunited & facebook - fine, but we could do with a 'volunteer' for each of these sites to hand on news & advertise reunions. Friday evening 15 Oct, Saturday 19th March 2011, & Saturday 2nd July 2011. I'd prefer it if everyone registered on schooldays as well - it's free, once, for life!

If you're a web whizz, a bit of an author or photographer then you might think in terms of forwarding 'stuff' for future magazines; I'm no Jogi. Send me - miketadman@yahoo.co.uk - anything you think might be of interest to fellow members.

The Kingham Hill School Appeal / 20 20 Vision.

200 boarders plus 200 day pupils means we'll need a new building, or think another 'top school'. It's got to be well designed & built. Our aim is September 2013 & £5m+ !! We've launched the appeal for this HUGE challenge, thanks to all involved, but we'll only succeed with God's blessing, & with tax effective corporate support. We can all help- make sure your colleagues (& board members) know about Kingham Hill School & The Appeal - "much more than just a school, & still much more of a home to many".

The Appeal leaflet is A5 sized & I'll happily both send it & respond to any questions concerning it. Any donors welcome, visits agreed, press coverage generated or privacy respected.

M.tadman@kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk



KINGHAM HILL
SCHOOL

APPEAL

Help the school to help more pupils

With your donations we can build a bigger school and enable more free and assisted places for deserving pupils.

The KHA Dinner & Quiz night. Friday 15th October 2010.

The first KHA Sixth form dinner & Quiz was held in October 2005 in the sixth form centre. This has grown each year in the dining hall. This year we might even fill the school hall.

Jogi's conviction that the sixth (plus all pupils & even some staff) didn't know much about KHA & The Hill's history was right. Since the annual School v OB's rugby, soccer & cricket matches had withered or died ('elfansafety') a Quiz would see the whole of the sixth (about sixty strong) spend a jolly silly evening in 'competition', with OB's & G's, staff, parents & Friends.

Peter wrote about the first quiz - "the crowd settled into 13 teams . . . of old & young. . . & the winners were The Head's Hogs". It is a wonderfully informal evening, just organised enough to ensure sound results. Peter established himself as The master quizmaster. As someone on my team said "he looks as if he's about to lose it any second". I agreed, but then he often looked like that, & if he blew it was soon over. He certainly made his mark. When the sixth were told of his death there was a genuine expression of loss.

This year Mike Kent has 'volunteered' & we hope it'll be bigger & better than ever. Last year the leisure studies team were an enormous help. Please encourage everyone to join in then. Some idea of numbers attending would be very helpful (guessing at catering numbers is an imprecise art); e-mails please. Teams will be assembled on the day. That is The Sixth will be in teams & they could choose / encourage / flatter individuals into joining them, or we can 'invite' ourselves. Each team should include pupils, OB's & G's, staff & friends, but discipline & military precision will be largely absent.

The Rules. Jogi had two - 1 The Quizmaster is always right. 2. See rule 1.
The Hill's two legendary rules were "Common sense & courtesy". All four rules will apply!

Kingham Hill's timetable.

"It wasn't like that in our day"

After breakfast (meals are eaten by years) the day starts with chapel at 0830hrs. Chapel is compulsory (with tutor / year groups) three times a week. Kingham has pupils from other faiths & with none, but all understand & accept the school's basic Christian foundation. Pupils use the main doors & sit largely where they choose. Chapel on Sunday is at 2000hrs. The school day ends at 1700hrs when the day coaches leave. Prep is done in Houses.

On Saturday there are no lessons! There are school sports matches & trips out are arranged. Day pupil's only need to come to The Hill if they are in a team. They can stay or join the coach parties for the outings / visits.

There are two exeat weekends each term (pupils go home from Friday to Sunday evenings) & half term is a week or more. Each house has a kitchen for snacks, enormous TV's & Sky. Whether it really is that much different from 'our days' I don't know, so much has changed, in society, in education, amongst families & in beliefs.

Peter Johansen died in April.

A huge loss to Kingham Hill.

Peter spent years on The Hill (1962-69) & was only 58 when he died. He believed he was Yogi because “he was smarter than the average bear”; maybe. To me he was just Jogi; an abbreviation / nickname. After early years in Plymouth he blossomed in Clyde - ‘though he wasn’t a major sports cup winning asset.

Many will remember him, at school, in the Octagon debating society, editing our house magazine & in many other ways. He did not excel at cross country running or on the sports field & I was surprised to read that he made corporal in the CCF - I had tried to instruct him in the basics of marching / drill; he tried hard. He had been writing an autobiography & sending chapters to me through concerns about possible libel or simple inaccuracies; I’m very tempted to publish, so would value your thoughts re.

He didn’t make Oxbridge, but completed a degree at Newcastle University & then qualified as a teacher. He must have been a very ‘interesting’ supply teacher in Croydon; absolutely not him.

Peter then spent 19 years as a senior civil servant with what became the Department of Information (which he called the ministry of propaganda) & after that with the London Fire Brigade. His role at the Dol was to manage a team & the expenditure on adverts & other publicity, or to mediate - yet he was by his own admission not a numbers man. He appreciated the absurdity of spending money on keeping lights on for security at the same time as agreeing finance for campaigns to turn lights off; saving the planet!

Born in Moreton in Marsh to Danish parents who had come to England to work, the family lived in a house called Kildanes! Clearly his sense of humour developed early. His brother Michael also joined him on The Hill & his son, Jogi’s nephew was a considerable source of pride to Peter. His Danish girlfriend together with his Danish & American based sisters were all at his funeral; deeply saddened & shocked by his untimely end; he was much loved by family & friends.



Peter had a form of epilepsy & it had surprised him a few times when he came to in hospital as an emergency patient. He’d black out on a bus or train & lose a day or so, which he found ‘interesting’. He set up a spreadsheet of what he drank & was convinced that his instruction (no alcohol) was but an academic test. His brain seemed to him to need re-booting from time to time, & then didn’t; he died in his flat.

Every OB & G & Friend of KHS who is a member of KHA will have received previous copies of this magazine from him. His address card system from his time as membership secretary & Editor formed the basis of our membership database.

Jogi was an active member of KHA’s committee since he was ‘volunteered’ to ‘help with the editorial committee of our magazine’ in 1978. Actually there was no editorial committee & so he was instantly editor; the best.

During The Hill’s Centenary year of 1986 Jogi was Chairman of KHA & very involved in the celebrations & service at Oxford’s Cathedral etc. He has always supported the work of the school, largely through KHA & through our charity the KHA Centenary Trust; his contribution to The Hill is incalculable & support invaluable, for which we can all be much more than just grateful.

I could write much more, but I hope we’ll each remember him fondly in our own ways.

Kingham Hill Houses.

As a Clyde old boy I naturally feel some sympathy for all who live or lived in lesser houses; natural enough! I know that that's how we all think about everyone who wasn't in 'our' house. But, houses have changed their names & Clyde is no more!

To update everyone these are today's houses.

Durham. The first Home in 1886. Durham now houses 'homes' for day pupils. **Havelock** (boys, downstairs) & **Latimer** (girls, upstairs). A Kingham Hill house can still be a home to a day pupil. Durham also houses the medical centre (or San to most of us) & a classroom. Senior sixth boys have study bedrooms attached to Durham whilst senior girls are housed above the dining hall. This accommodation is intended to prepare students for University & beyond.

Norwich is the next house down The Hill, once called Clyde. When old Plymouth was sold the little'uns moved into Norwich & called it Plymouth! Norwich camped in Severn & called it Norwich! Then they moved to Clyde & called that Norwich.

Sheffield is still Sheffield & **Bradford** is still Bradford, & both have loyal ex residents.

Greenwich is the junior girls' house, having been the sanatorium & then a boys' house.

Severn has reverted to its proper name & is now the senior girls house.

Swansea & Stratford are staff housing, indeed the houses in Farm road & beside old Plymouth is known as staff village, separated from The Hill by a road barrier at the bottom of the planny.

Plymouth is for junior boys (converted briefly to house both boys & girls). It is the big house before The Headmaster's (Warden's) house.

The 'bursar's house', on the left before farm road, is now the deputy head's house. The houses around Sarsden Halt are now privately owned, although the old mill is owned by a KHS Governor.

Houses are the responsibility of houseparents & each boarding house is divided - no shared halls & staircases. Indeed the houses are largely run from an office manned by a houseparent or one of two or three tutors / associates in each house.

Prep is 'done' on a pull out desk from the Kingham Bed (really - designed for us & sold as such - includes lighting, a wardrobe, space for a lockable tuckbox etc). Dorms look very different because two Kingham beds head to toe are much wider than the old dorms. If you haven't been back for a while, please be aware of these changes, & if you do visit please pre arrange it. Legislation supporting common sense ensures that houses are secure (coded entry etc). Norwich boys now enter their house through what was Mrs Chapman's kitchen door.

See you 15th October 2010 & on Founder's day March 19th, & then The Annual Reunion on Speech Day, Saturday 2nd July 2011.

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