

Over the Hill

January 2009



Obituaries

Mrs Knight, (P 1957-77) on 6th September, 2008, aged 97. Her first names were Gladys Lillian, but I don't know that anyone ever used them. Too much respect was due to her to allow that. When I arrived at Plymouth House in January 1962, a few months over the age of ten, I hadn't seen my mother for a couple of years, and badly needed one. Being an annoying little git, I soon found myself at odds with the rest of the boys, and as I remembered my mother working as a cook, I naturally gravitated to the kitchen, where I found Mrs Knight, who provided comfort as well as small tea as I poured out my miseries endlessly. It is only recently that it occurs to me that while she must have known about all of my problems, having been reminded several times, that I knew almost nothing about hers. I did know, however, that her son had been amongst those lost on the Rohilla, and instead of suing the school she was working for it. I found this attitude amazing. One thing that I did not know until her funeral was that during the holidays she did not take a well-earned break, but went to help other children in need for the Save the Children Fund.

We didn't always agree. In those days food was provided on a take it basis - you couldn't leave it - and with the greatest skill in the world it is impossible to make porridge that can go down this particular throat without its making escape attempts. After many stand-offs involving peaceful persuasion on her part and outrageous behaviour and lateness for chapel on mine, we found a compromise by which portions were provided of such a small size that they could be spread round the plate, giving the impression of a meal completed, without any of it actually going down my throat.

My mother returned to England, and I moved up to Top School, but often on Sunday afternoons I would walk the mile or so down to Plymouth, where Mrs Knight, instead of pointing out that this was the time when the boys were kicked out of the house so that the staff could have a nap, would brew some tea, find a cake from somewhere, and listen to further volumes of my woes.

In 1970, when the Wilkinsons moved out of Plymouth so that Harry could take over from Frank Ball as Second Master, Mrs Knight, with retirement



age coming up, also moved out. But she also continued to work for the Hill in other capacities, doing lots of those little jobs around the place that are only noticed when they are not done. Her little cottage in Kingham was always good for tea and cake on reunion weekends while the pubs were closed for the afternoon.

In recent years, her eyesight started to fail, and it became necessary for her to move to Castle View in

Chipping Norton. When I last visited her there in June this year, it was clear that she had had enough and was ready to move on. Her contemporaries had gone before, and the last of her old friends from the sixties to visit her regularly was Mary Wilkinson, whom she had watched going through her childhood. She took no great pleasure in being a burden to others, and gave the impression of having taken her place in the queue.

Her funeral took place at Kingham Parish Church on 19th September, conducted by Canon Geoffrey Shaw, and was well attended. Mrs Knight's niece, Mrs Griffiths, has let us know that the collection made at the service and via the undertakers amounted to £285.96, which was passed on to the Save the Children charity in accordance with Mrs Knight's wishes.

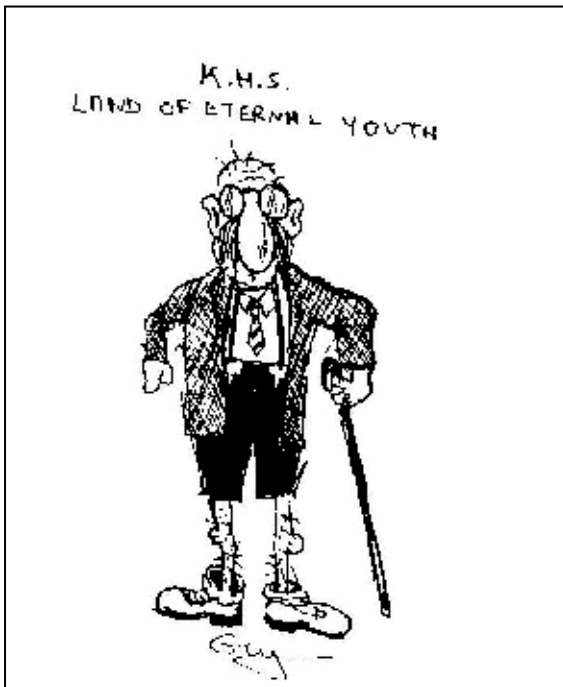
I apologise for having put so much of myself into this obituary of Mrs Knight, but she meant so much to me, and I am sure that there are plenty of other ex-Plyms who would want to say similar things. (*There are.*) She will be much missed.

Peter Johansen.

George Talmadge (B 1926-28) died in November 2008. He was on the Hill during the final years of the Founder, and became a member of KHA on retirement to the Isle of Wight. In 1985 he

provided "The Hill and Beyond" with a description of life in Bradford, including: "I have no special memories of Christmas. Except that we would have a roast dinner with Xmas pudding, apples, oranges and dates. I do not remember a Christmas tree, and we had no presents, but I think we had a small amount of money. I can not remember any special effort being made by the Boss (Melton) to create a festive spirit. Our happiness came from the cards and parcels that some of us would receive from relatives. Sorry if I make it sound so dismal, but that's how I remember it. I'm sure that things were more in accord with the Xmas spirit in Durham or Sheffield House." Another sign of the times that he provided was "I was good at drawing and received a prize twice. Both times it was a knife."

Your Letters and News.



(F) = Found on Friends Reunited.

Andrew Adonis (P+D 1974-81) is Minister of Transport. (Now, will he bring back the Chippy Dick...?) During October he featured on the BBC's *Any Questions* programme.

Roger Arthur (P+N 1967-72) has been driving large vehicles of late, and was last heard of awaiting a posting to Kuwait.

David Bacon (B 1972-78) reports "A few years ago I travelled to Ontario and traced a little of the legacy of Havelock Farm. The farm near Woodstock is no longer there. It was sold in 1946, after a fire. It would be interesting to know more in detail about the boys and their descendants.

There were evidently a number of young men who made their start out there. A new land with new possibilities. I spoke to a local historian out there who knew of C.E.B. Young and others who shipped boys out to Canada."

Martin Bee (P+N 1946-55) has now retired after flying Meteors, Hunters, Lightnings, DC10s and the last 17 years on the Dubai Royal Flight. He has homes in South Africa and the UK, and still flying with the local flying club. (F)

Ben Biggs (2000-2007) lives in Peterborough and works for Morrison's as a sales assistant. (F)

Edward Blake (Hughes P+D 1962-66) sent apologies for absence at Mrs Knight's funeral, being unable to attend.

David Bole (P+B 1976-1981) now lives in Lincolnshire. He writes "Beth and I now have four children, Ella (7), Jacob (5), Lawrence (4) and Evie (2). I am working for the Forestry Commission as Regional Development Officer for the East Midlands. We moved over here from Ludlow last December, and are still waiting for the builder to finish the house! Life is full and busy and tiring, but fun, too. My favourite part of the day is sitting down with the kids to tea and hearing about their days. Understanding that many people have to, I shall never send my kids away to board."

Kevin Brown (P+S 1973-79) lives in Bow, London.

Kelvin Bunyan (P+S 67-73) lives in Chipping Norton, having come back from getting computer technician's qualifications in Canada. (Thanks for passing on the sad news about Mrs Knight.)

Michael Clark (G 1972-77) lives in Devon.

Charles Dawson (P+B 1957-1962) found the "Schooldays" website and subsequently wrote to John Timmins. He and his wife Hilary now live in New Zealand after a life that has taken them to many interesting parts of the world. "On a personal note, I would add that I was originally intended to be on the ill fated voyage of the Rohilla, but was sick and unable to take part, and believe that my place was taken either by Mrs Knight's son Peter, or by Robin Green. This strengthened the bond between me and Mrs Knight." He has also provided a photograph of Plymouth House in 1958 that we may find use for in the future.

David Drake (C 1964-68) works in the legal field in Sheffield. (F)

It is rumoured abroad that **Lance Ellington** (P+G 1960s) is one of the vocalists on *Strictly Come Dancing*. Unfortunately they never do any close-up work on the musicians, just the prancers.

David Ellison (C1981-85) lives in Devon, working in sunny Plymouth after a 10-year stint in the smoke. (F)

Barry Fisher (1948-56) is now living in Chippenham after “a somewhat chequered career in the world of sales.” (F)

Adrian Foster (G1967-74) is still in Northampton after 25 years. He is currently working for the NHS in the children’s health area, gathering information for a project to provide a Children’s Public Health Observatory. He also fits in being a magistrate about once a fortnight, despite having been de-prefected twice in one year at KHS. He plays rugby most weeks for a veterans’ side. (F)

Fabian Foster (P+N 69-76) is an estate agent in the south of France. He recently visited Adrian when Montpellier (his rugby club) played the Saints (Adrian’s side). Fabian manages Montpellier’s vets’ side. He had his 50th birthday in the summer and all the Foster family turned up.

Julian Foster (G1965-72) lives in Perth and teaches in Fife. Still drives a Messerschmidt.

Woyzek Gambaski (G60-62) is a financial advisor and journalist. Having advised people to sell when others recommended hanging on during the first ten months of the year, he bought shares at the end of November and made an 11.5% profit during December.

Gerald Glover (1948-54) spent a couple of years in the RAF and moved on to the theatrical profession, being one of the co-founders of the British Music Hall Society in 1963. He has now retired and lives in SE London. (F)

Martin Glover (S 70s) rejoined the original line-up of Killing Joke to play two concerts at the Forum in London on 3rd and 4th October. A limited issue CD pack was issued. The recordings that they made for John Peel in 1979-81 have also been issued on a CD, with liner notes by **Alex Paterson** (S 70s), who was the band’s roadie at the time. Martin was last heard of playing with someone called Paul McCartney as The Fireman, with a new CD out.

Christopher Grierson-Jackson (C1964-69) is married with two adult children. He does offshore seismic work with the odd spot of lorry driving when on land. He was last heard of off Nigeria, working for Addax Petroleum of Geneva. “Mr Chapman would have smiled at one of my recent jobs off Ghana, that I’m sure.” He’s on Friends Reunited and would like to hear from anyone who’d like a chat. (F)

Iain Helstrip (B 61-65) is undergoing a lengthy course of laser treatments, but is still able to get about the globe.

David James (1965-70) spent a lot of his life “working on military construction contracts in best forgotten places.” (F)

Desmond Jarvis (C 1935-39) writes from the Isle of Wight, having just moved from Seaview into Ryde. “I arrived in April 1935, together with my identical twin brother **Martin** and my older brother **Terence** - and they were very formative years. My parents had split up (my father was a R.N. sailor who spent much time overseas, which led, I think, to a “Dear John” situation!) Anyway, we all three were motored down to Kingham Hill, which, it has to be said, was a fairly tough place for 7-year old twins used to the warmth and affection of a loving mother. It was no surprise therefore that we three brothers hatched an escape plot, and disappeared from the Hill one afternoon intending to walk to London with 6d (six old pennies) between us! Some sharp-eyed car driver spotted our uniform (and weariness) on the road, to the London side of Chipping Norton, in the dark and gently coaxed us into his car and delivered us back to the school where we were put in some sort of disgrace. As I say, not much sympathy for sad little boys in those days.

“However, homesickness past, we quickly adapted to the Hill’s ways, customs and patois - and Terence became the school’s swimming champion. Douglas Horsefield was appointed shortly after we arrived. His sister became a loving and caring teacher for us, and Miss Quay was matron of Clyde House, which in 1935, was gas-lit and a fairly cold Spartan place. As they say, I could write a small book on life there 70 years ago, and my grandchildren were always ‘up’ for a Kingham story at bedtime. My twin brother is still flourishing in Bromley, and I have lived on the I.O.W. since 1985. Both my dear wife and brother Terry have passed on. But I have my memories - even one of Geoff Ball visiting I.O.W. some years ago.”

Joshua King (2000-06) lives in Andover, and is studying. (F)

Toby Knight (P+C 1976-82) is an estate agent on the Isle of Wight. (F)

Tim Lofts (N 1963-69) decided to follow summer with spring and is now resident in New Zealand. "The house is fab, BBQ is just about in use, and summer is on the way. We arrived at the back end of the wettest winter that Aucklanders can remember, coupled with some very stormy conditions, which have resulted in some land slips and the disappearance of one or two clifftop homes into watery graves.

"That's all, we hope, behind us now and we have had a few weeks of mainly settled conditions as spring gets into her stride. This has meant that we've gone all agricultural and planted a veggie patch with a vast array of stuff. We also have the benefit of some small citrus trees planted by the previous owners - and it was only when we tasted the remaining oranges that we realised that they were Seville oranges...very bitter tasting. Cue the preserve pan, and we now have about 15 jars of marmalade."

Tim's had problems finding a job as yet, but Anne transferred within the same firm (PWC) with the minimum of fuss.

Emily MacAvoy (D 1999-2006) goes to university in Lincoln and is studying English Literature and having a fantastic time. (F)

George Mattison (B1945-55) is still working for himself as a painter living in Bedford. His stunt kite team "Art of Air" was voted the top UK team. (F)

Richard Moore (D 1962-65) now lives in Bournemouth, having retired as Vice-President, Corporate Real Estate for JP Morgan Chase Bank after a career in Building and Facilities Management.

Tim O'Brien (B 1986-90) works in Gosport, running a café and a computer repair shop. (F)

Simon Orpwood (P+S 1961-69) is farming in that area far to the north of Newcastle but where Scotland is but a half-believed rumour. He regrets that he was unable to attend Mrs Knight's funeral as "we are still struggling with the harvest after all the floods we had".

Bill (Wiggy) Parker (C, D, N+Str 1933-43) writes from that upside-down world where late

September means the start of spring. "In fact yesterday we had a taste of what might be in store for summer, a hot 33°C. In thirteen days time we will be heading for the tropical North to spend three weeks with our youngest son Martyn and wife Vikki at Mission Beach, 150 kms North of Townsville. We are travelling by train which takes 19hrs."



He sends us all Christmas and New Year greetings. "I bet you are not suffering in the heat like we are today." (Photo 31/12/2008)

Thomas Payne (S 1940-45) confesses that the photograph of Sheffield shown in the September issue was actually somewhere completely different, but the following can't refer to anywhere else:

"I remember a song:
We are the Kingham Hill Boys.
We know our manners.
We spend our tanners.
While we're marching down
The old Kingham Road.

Well, that bit of it anyway,"

Charlotte Peake (1990-97) is living with her fiancé Andy in Featherstone in West Yorkshire.

George Penrice (P+B 1990-97) lives at Leamington Spa. (F)

There are plenty of musicians who play the bass guitar because the other guitarist in the band is a better lead guitarist, but only a few who pick up the bass guitar because they like the sound of it and want to make a proper job of it. **Guy Pratt** (P+B 73-78) is one of these, and tends to be called in by bands that have lost bassists of the former type, or by solo superstars looking for just *that* bass sound. Consequently, he has played with

everyone from Icehouse (remember them?) to Roxy Music via Michael Jackson and Tina Turner. He also has a radio show on digital/internet station Planet Rock on Sunday nights. Sadly he had to cancel one of these shows in September as he is married to the daughter of the recently deceased Rick Wright, keyboard player of Pink Floyd, who died at too young an age. On the recent hit CD/DVD of the David Gilmour band at Gdansk he's the only one not too encumbered by age or technology to be able to move when it isn't on the script. Google "Guy Pratt inc." to see the man in action. The drawing at the start of this section comes from his days as cartoonist for the school magazine.

Stephen Price (N 1973-76) is flying Boeing 737s for KLM out of the Netherlands, though retirement threatens. After leaving the Hill he joined the Merchant Navy as an engineer, moved on to dealing with mining equipment and then studying Mining Engineering at Newcastle University, which led to gold mining in South Africa. Back in England, he worked for GEC commissioning large steam turbines. This naturally led to his current job. "Life is a mix. Certainly have fond memories of Norwich House with Gus at the Helm." (F)

Rev. **Richard Priest** (P+N 75-82), also an old boy of Oak Hill and an army chaplain, was one of the people featured in the hour-long BBC1 programme "Christmas on the Frontline" recorded at Camp Bastion, Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Professor **Hans Popper** (N 38-) qualified as a teacher, but specialised in mediæval German and started researching at Swansea University in 1961. Though retired from his post, he continues research work and volunteer work for The Samaritans and Amnesty International. The Schooldays website currently includes his article on how he managed to leave Austria at the time of the Nazi ascendancy.

Bob Rose (D 1937-44) comments "Have not spoken to Tom (Payne) since I left the Hill in 1944 August. I did get a line from Roy Adams some time back, otherwise I have not heard from anyone at Sheffield since then. I am in touch with John Hughes though. He was in Bradford with Reg Durrant. John and I shared some time as guests of her Majesty. He was in the Army catering corps, and I was doing my best to wreck all the radar equipment as a member of R.E.M.E. One bad winter's day he walked into the mess hall as the sergeant cook in charge."

Mr and Mrs Shepherd (B+W 1970-85) have now retired, and live in Woodstock. David continues to be a trustee of the Frank Buttle Trust, which financially assisted many of us to attend the school. He has also written an account of his time on the Hill which is to be found on the schooldays website.

Jemma Smith (Se 1995-2000) is married with two children. (F)

Dr **Peter Sonksen**, FRCP, (1945-47) lives in Hampshire, and is Emeritus Professor of Endocrinology at St Thomas's Hospital and King's College, London, and a Visiting Professor at the University of Southampton.

Robert Sturdy (P+D 1965-70) is a dog groomer with a wife with her own healthcare business, and has been living in mid-Wales since 1988. (F)

Peter Suchy (P+B 1963-69) runs a business mending Volvos and employing 5 people.

John Tait (P+D 1943-46) lives in a Holiday Resort in Queensland, Australia.

Jeremy Watt (P+G 1965-72) used to work for various local education authorities, but now works for the Ministry of Defence arranging educational placements for children of serving combatants.

Mike White (P+G 63-69) lives in Teignmouth in Devon. He regularly looks in the magazine for names he might remember, and wonders why there aren't more.

Atti Athar Zaheer (1988) has lived in Gothenburg, Sweden since leaving the Hill. He regularly travels to Oslo, Norway, to visit his girlfriend. (F)

A Subject Saved.

Kingham Hill was never one of those schools that got the best results by picking the brightest pupils in the first place, and consequently the crafts side of the syllabus has always played a prominent role. In my day it was a case of Frank Ball telling us to "Plane the face side; plane the face edge; gauge and plane to width; gauge and plane to thickness," but these days rather more equipment is needed to provide the skills needed to reach the required standards in design technology.

Nevertheless, it was a bit of a surprise when at the committee meeting in October we were asked if

two students could interrupt the proceedings and make a case for an item of equipment to be paid for out of Centenary Fund money.

In what must have been rather like a “Dragons’ Den” hearing, sixth-formers Charlie Smith and Ben Custance explained to the whole committee that CNC Router and Laser machinery eventually costing £29,000 was needed if the school was going to be able to enter pupils into the 2009 version of GCSE in Design Technology. They had their facts lined up, and explained the position in terms that were clear to those of us who regarded typewriters as new technology.

There have been a couple of large bequests to the Centenary Fund, and the money was available, and the committee was only too happy to approve the purchase of equipment that would enable to Hill to continue with its traditional work. Mike Kent, whose skills lie in this area, was also able to assist the DT Department in locating suitable equipment at the lowest price. The experience in pitching a proposal must also have been useful to the pupils, who made a marvellous job of it.

psj

What did you know?

The answers to the questions in the last issue are:

1. Albania
2. Prefects (and monitors)
3. William Hartnell.

I’m the last person who should report on the quiz that took place on 10th October, as I took the role of Bambi. Anyway, the sixth-formers were dragged away from their games consoles and forced to sit through an interrogation that lasted most of the evening, five rounds of ten questions. To make things worse, they had to put up with the inclusion in their teams of some historical relics for whom ancient history was current affairs.

The rounds were:

1. In the beginning.
2. Fun and Games (they call it).
3. Oh! Muddy Hill.
4. (Well, I said it was a) Pub Quiz.
5. What every schoolchild knew.

With this meagre information, the 11 teams had to pick a round on which they could score double points. For some reason round 4 was the most popular. With a maximum possible score of 60, the winning team was *Jellystone Yogis* (39) followed by *The Head Boy’s Team* (37) which also featured the Headmaster, with *F.A.G.’s* and *None of the Above* both scoring 35.

The next day the committee held a meeting, and in the evening they provided Mr and

Mrs Seward with a good idea of what the Hill had been like in the Old Days. The next morning I woke up in my underpants wandering the corridors of the Crown and Cushion with a vague idea of where the gents had been in 1960. There were ensuite facilities in my room, but so was the key. The staff were understanding and helpful. I subsequently discovered that the place had once been owned by Keith Moon of The Who, so such behaviour would not be new to them.

psj

Editorial.

At present it is proving possible to knock together an issue of “Over The Hill” every few months or so, and the main problem reported by members is that they don’t receive the paper version when they’ve paid for it, or that they’d like the paper version and want to know how to pay for it. As we keep being told, paper is going the way of the candle and the paraffin heater, and that people wanting paper can always download it. This is clearly not the case. For a start, not everyone has access to a computer, and for a lot of people downloading the magazine takes up a lot of expensive telephone time. Furthermore, despite the early attempts of Apple, computer screens are still, to my mind, the wrong shape and far too small to do the job properly. (When are we going to get desktop computers like laptops, where you lift up the top of the whole desk to get the screen? “Windows” is more like “Peepholes” when you are trying to look simultaneously at the bit you’re working on, previous minutes, earlier issues and various e-mails in order to put an article together.) And even if you have all the latest computer equipment on your desk, you still need to know when the latest issue is actually available for downloading. You have to admit that it is nice to be able to sit down comfortably in a settee or armchair, with a cup of coffee or pint of beer beside you, and the Orb or the Medici Quartet on the CD player, and start reading a magazine from the beginning, going on to the end and then stopping. (Websites are great if you know what you are looking for, but if you are just wondering what’s happening, and don’t want to miss anything, a newspaper or magazine can work better, and give your eyes a rest from the flickering screen.)

An added complication is that the list of people who have said that they want the magazine does not match the list of people who want to be e-mailed, and at present saying yes to magazines isn’t a hook by which I can pull a list of people out of the machine. (With luck I’ll have had some

training and be able to train the machine to do this by the time you receive this.)

Normally we send the paper version to all those who have asked, plus the people who paid for life membership in the days when we had membership, and it could be that some of these don't particularly want the thing on paper. If this is the case, please let me know.

Current print runs are too large to do on a home printer but too small to get bulk discounts, so the last issue (200 copies) worked out at about £2 each. I'd be happy to cut costs by taking out the photos and using A4 paper with a single staple in the top left corner, but I gather that members appreciate the current format.

psj

Kingham Swimming Pools

I was at Kingham when you could still make use of two swimming pools. Though I think the one behind the gym was actually out of action for a long while leaks were plugged. As the prospect of using it again dawned, the swimmers amongst us grew excited; only to find that the only pleasure was in getting out, not in - the cold was almost unbearable! However, our tolerance grew and a swimming match against Bloxham was organised. I think there were six of us who trained, early in the morning before house duty - the cold making us swim all the faster. Only Nick Botting could actually do butterfly and we watched, freezing, from the side while his early training in South Africa made us jealous.

There were other things about that swimming pool that I remember, one was watching the house martins swoop low and fast like little jet-planes, taking a drink hardly touching the surface. I don't know if the martins are still there, but I spent hours watching their displays. Somehow they always felt like friendly birds. Another is the stories, school legends, which were told and re-told. I don't know if they are true, but one involved a boy stealing the land rover belonging to the engineering club and driving it into the pool. Maybe that was why it leaked?

However, my favourite was the other pool. We did swim in it, but mostly we fished. While I singularly failed to realise people's expectations about my academic capabilities, Sean Power introduced me to fishing. At first, we started going only on Sunday afternoons. I had to borrow a rod and line, but soon managed to acquire one from my big bro'

who had moved on by then. Actually, we didn't really mind if we had a rod or not. A line and a hook was fine. We dug for worms in some woodland nearby or stole bread from breakfast. We rarely caught anything, but the adventure of being away from the school was intoxicating. Sometimes we would collect wood and light a fire. There was a small bridge over the stream which flowed out of the pool, and we used to lie on it trying the fabled art of tickling. We could tickle ok; the fish really did seem to like it. We just didn't master the knack of getting them out of the water. Sundays turned into 'whenever we could' and sometimes we would even get up at summer's dawn and walk across the dewy fields to fish before breakfast. On one triumphant morning we came back with two rainbow trout and took them to Reggie Ham, who despite his legendary temper was a friend to us dropouts. He bought one for 50p a hugely generous price and cooked the other for our tea.

Between fishing and swimming training (and escaping at night to climb the roofs - but that's another story) I think I was too tired for study! We lost drastically against Bloxham, though not completely disgraced, Nick did win the butterfly.

So what are you doing now Nick and Sean, do you still fish?

David Bole

The Other Story

So did you ever go climbing roofs then? When they rebuilt the gym it had a flat roof, but they left the eaves. It was a dare to climb over the eaves (at night obviously). I don't remember anyone doing it, but I do remember Reggie Ham coming out with a torch to see what the noise was. We scarpered on to the cricket pitch and lay flat and fortunately he didn't let his dog go.

DB

Bear-ing up under the strain.

Underneath these great monuments of website and magazine lie swirling streams of e-mails on all kinds of Hill-related subjects. One such rotating query, involving both the website historian and the magazine editor, was whether Edward Craig Cooper signed his name *Teddy* or *Teddie*. Eventually a letter from the great man dated May 1993 was found in a pile of ancient documents, confirming that Nobby signed his name as *Teddie*.

The Far-Away Tree

Does anyone remember the Far Away Tree?

When I was in Plymouth House during the late 1940s a small number of us Plymouthites were allowed to wander the Swansea Planney and established an outpost on the very lowest border which was easily climbed by little boys of 6 to 9 years and provided magnificent views of far away Chipping Norton.

The vantage point also gave a great view of the garden of Warwick House, the residence of the then Bursar, Mr Frank Goddard (Geoff's father).

However, many grazes, cuts and bruises had to be explained on return to Plym without admitting that we had been climbing. I'm sure Uncle Reg knew what the cause was, and with Auntie Ruth's ministrations all was well. All part of Dangerous Games for Boys!

By the way, the tree in question is still there, but doesn't seem so big now.

(Don't let HM H&S know about these goings on!)

Simon Briggs.

Wot about the street-urchins?

When the Hill first started, the Founder was able to cover the cost of all the boys out of his own money, but you can't keep up with inflation if you spend the interest on your fortune, and by the time I attended the Hill about half of us had extra school reports that went to the councils in our home districts, which paid a chunk of our costs, having the view that while our parents and guardians could manage to look after us during the holidays, they couldn't manage all the time, so that it made sense to pay to send us to boarding school. However, in recent decades the view has prevailed that children are always better off in their home environment, no matter what, and few children have received council funding to go to Kingham Hill. However, there have been some stories in the press recently of horrific events taking place when children have been left in families with problems.

Meanwhile, David Shepherd (B + Warden 1970-85) reports on his work with the Buttle Trust. "We've had a mighty campaign trying to persuade local authorities that all arguments are in favour of children being in boarding schools - of the right kind - rather than being taken into care. Eventually we approached Government, who in principle were interested, and this is where

Andrew Adonis (P+D 1975-81) has been so influential. He set up a working party, called the Pathfinder Group, to explore ways of doing this and to draw up a protocol governing procedures. Buttle was involved and also the Boarding School Association in the person of Adrian Underwood (B HM 1971-75). So you see, it was a strong Kingham Hill presence. It limped along at first - local authority inertia and social service suspicion of boarding schools as elitist and snobby, even though the state boarding schools are closely involved too - but is now getting up speed. Several newspaper articles are giving it the thumbs up - I read a positive one in the Guardian the other week, of all places! - and of course Adonis's own background is tailor-made as an exemplar."

Mr Shepherd has also produced some horrific statistics about children taken into care, rather than the boarding approach. "Off the top of my head, 55% of children get 5 or more good GCSEs; 5% of children who have been in care get 5 good GCSEs; 60% of people in prison have been in care...." The children supported by the Buttle Trust do considerably better.

Councils may complain about their social services departments when the newspapers get hold of juicy stories about maltreated children, but council departments are under eternal pressure to spend less than last year. Spending money on sending children to boarding schools, which are naturally seen as upper-class and elitist, is not a vote-winner. Nevertheless, it is cheaper than putting children into care. But it is also becoming clearer to councils that it is not always a good idea to keep children in dodgy home environments. And, one way or another, Kingham Hill has kept going during the years of unfashionability.

psj

The Octagon Returns.

Many of us have memories of tangling our tongues while attempting to propose, oppose or support motions on topics over which we had no control as members of the Octagon Debating Society. In the days when teaching mainly involved teachers talking and pupils taking notes, it provided fun and a useful exercise in trying to find reasons to oppose the most reasonable proposals.

The society has just been relaunched, complete with the octagonal table for the main speakers, and from January there will be weekly meetings under a new teacher, Mr Stannard.

psj

Can you wear this one?

Hans Leistina writes: "Were you aware that, based on my personal knowledge, from 1938 to 1945 - us boys wore no underwear?"

By 1957 underwear existed and was changed once a week on Sundays, along with shirts. Socks and handkerchiefs were changed on Wednesdays as well. The same applied in Plymouth 1962-64, but on my arrival in Clyde underpants were also part of the Wednesday change.

Given the need to save absolutely everything during wartime, and the scarcity of washing machines, the economy described by Hans does not seem entirely unlikely. However, given the nature of the Hill Wind that blows plenty good, there must have been a good deal of wistful thinking about Long Johns.

Hans envisages a formal meeting of Trustees and Governors to introduce the change and a further split between boxers and y-fronts taking up the rest of the day. I can imagine a more gradual process, by which boys with a parent smuggle them in from home, and those without make use of visits to Woolworth's....

psj

Newsflash !

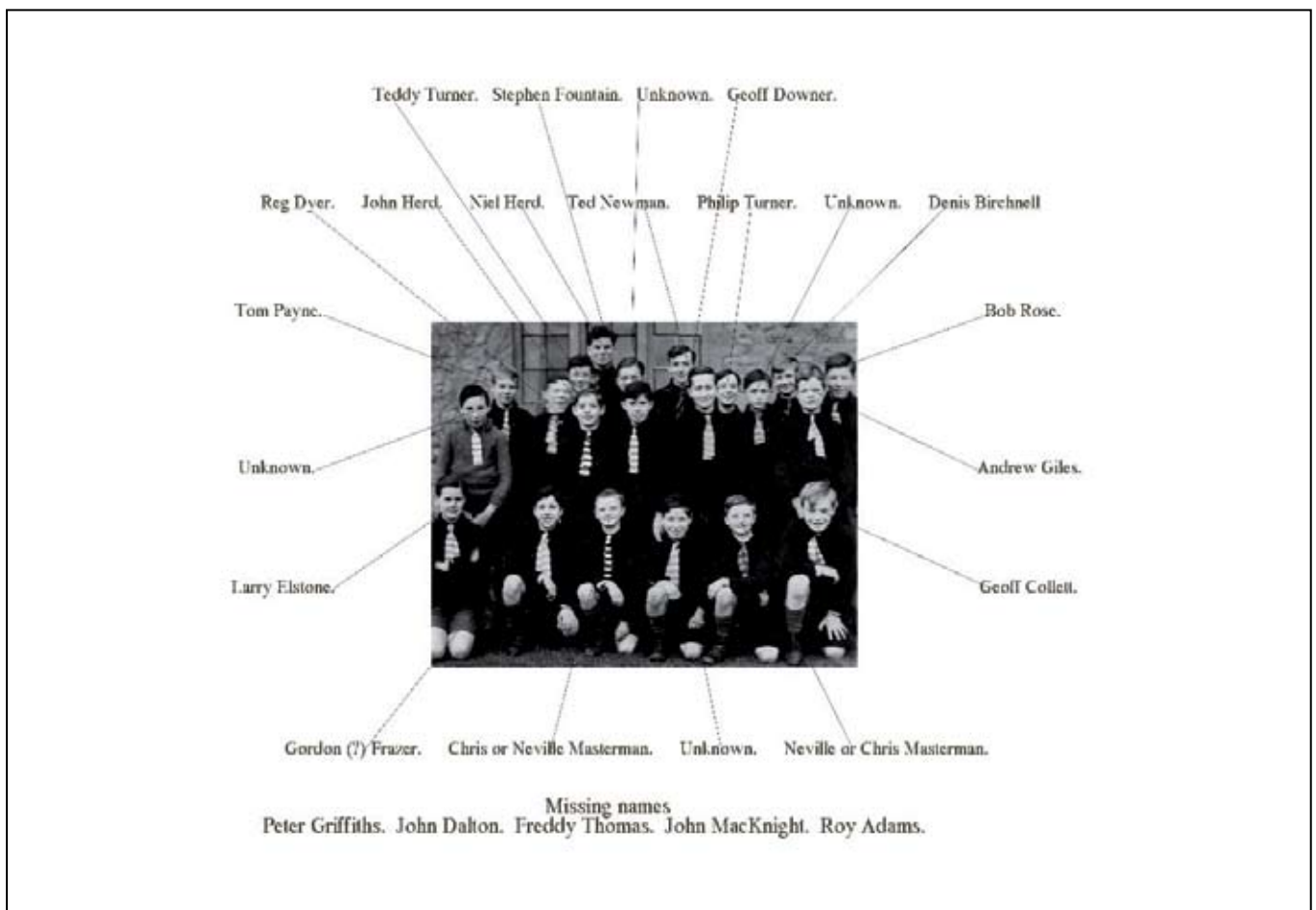
We have heard that a number of changes are planned for the way Kingham Hill School will be run in the future. It may involve the end of Saturday lessons and a greater number of day pupils. We've been shown the proposals at an early stage, and not everything planned may come to pass. But the next issue should include the full story.

OOPS !

Just out of interest, did anyone recognise any faces in the photo of Sheffield House during World War Two printed in the September 2008 issue? If so, you may want to check again, as the photograph provided by Tom Payne was actually of his son's prep school in Sussex. Some of our smarter readers reminded us that the number of pupils in the picture would have been a record.

This was the photo that should have reached us. And at least I recognise some of the names from earlier news of old boys.

psj



Who's Who ?

There are three communities which work independently to support the school: - the teaching / caring / domestic / support staff, the governors and trustees, and the committee of the Kingham Hill Association.

To a number of constituent members of these three bodies it seems both sad and unfortunate that we know so little about each other that not only can we not put names to faces but in many instances we quite literally do not recognise each other. Each group does of course work separately and there is no operational reason for us to interact. However - as one who is fortunate enough to be a member of two of these groups, I recognise the calibre of individual that the school attracts, believe that it would be helpful if we did know a little more about each other and - if this issue can be resolved, hope that the initiative now in train might help.

In an attempt to address this situation we will from henceforth publish a 'pen portrait' in each edition of 'Over the Hill' of one member of the school's staff, one member of the KHA committee and one governor / trustee (many governors are also trustees).

It is very much my hope that readers will enjoy getting to know individuals - many of whom do untold good work in a modest and retiring way through the pages of this magazine. If nothing else it may help us all to overcome our British reserve and - on encountering a member of staff, governor / trustee or member of the committee, actually engage them in conversation.

My thanks are due to those who have supported this idea with enthusiasm, to our editor - there aren't enough superlatives and to our first contributors who have bravely put pen to paper and supplied Peter with their potted biographies.

Keith F Targett

Governor and Trustee: David Orton.

My wife and I, together with our five children are members of a large London church, Holy Trinity Brompton, where I am Treasurer. In 1982 I received a visit from Geoff Rocke, who was Chairman of the Trustees, to ask if I would be interested in providing some financial advice to Kingham Hill School as a Governor.

I had attended a similar small boarding school with a strong christian ethos, Monkton Combe, which was also situated in a striking countryside setting. What particularly attracted me to Kingham was the existence of a substantial bursary fund which made it

possible to provide education for a large number of boys, (it was just boys then), who would benefit from a boarding community.

As a member of the Governing body we meet each term, with the headmaster, to review the running of the school and provide guidance for its future development. The Governors are fortunate to have within their membership past and present head teachers and others with educational experience, who are able to give advice from their experience of other schools.



As an accountant, with experience in both manufacturing businesses and latterly in a construction consultancy, I concern myself principally with the financial affairs of the school. The Finance committee of the Board of Governors seeks to balance the general expenditure of the school with the fee income. The founder provided impressive and well constructed buildings, but these need constantly updating and expanding to meet the needs of a thriving school, and this has to be planned ahead for several years.

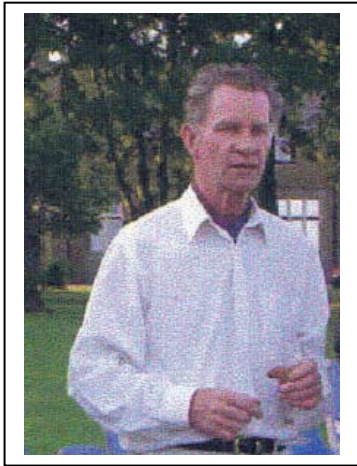
Regrettably, although the founder left a substantial Trust fund, the rise in the cost of boarding education over recent years means that the bursary fund can now only meet a smaller proportion of fees. Hence the concern of governors to increase the size of the school, so as to spread the cost of the overheads over more pupils and keep the rise in fees in check. Of course this has to be achieved without compromising the quality of pastoral care for which the school is widely recognised.

The reward for me as a governor, is being involved in a school with a strong tradition of spiritual and pastoral care in the Christian tradition. Following on from that it is a great joy to see men and women leaving the school having developed their character and talents and being prepared to make their contribution to the wider community.

KHA Committee Member: Simon Briggs.

When my father died as the result of enemy action in 1941 after service in World War Two he had already had his life's work commandeered for the War Effort, and he left my mother with 29/6d. It is fortunate that my brother John had had an unhappy experience at the hands of a Nun and that mother met a Mrs

Barnes whose son was at Kingham Hill and introduced her to the Rev. Horsefield. A few years later (I am six years John's junior) at the age of 5 a similar set of circumstances occurred to me, and thank heavens the good Rev decreed that brothers should never be parted. So on Jan 3rd, one day before my 6th birthday, I arrived on Kingham Hill, an event that was probably the most important event in my life. For the next ten years I was educated, rounded, nurtured, fed, boarded, clothed and comforted in times of trouble and stress. So, yes, I have always felt that I owed a debt of gratitude to the foundership of a unique establishment.



To this end I became a Life Member of KHOBA circa 1960, with the permission of my bank manager, who allowed me to have an overdraft to do so.

There then was a gap in my involvement with the Hill during my 4 years in the Royal Artillery and Hotel Training which I followed for the greater part of my working life. Whilst running a small Hotel Group in North Yorkshire I was sought out to support the City and Guilds of London and was their North of England Assessor for all food and beverage operations in some 15 catering colleges and universities. My greatest fun time was to be able to try and organise a Northern Reunion of KHOBA at one of my hotels, small in numbers but very rewarding, especially when Messrs Payne and Shepherd took the time out to stay after travelling to the wintery climes of the Yorkshire Dales.

We sold the company and I moved south and then was able to join the committee proper and try to formulate the now KHA thinking. I am currently retired and very active. I am a Director of half a dozen companies involved in a Trust fund and the secretary of my residence association. In addition I do 3 days a week gardening for elderly householders who need help, some of whom are younger than me. I am married with 3 children, 2 boys, 1 girl.

I now wonder how I ever had time to go to work. Incidentally, I would love to get busy selling some more scarves, ties, pens, etc. There's lots I've missed, but that must come out in the book !

Member of Staff: Mrs Irene Swain.

I have the privilege of being the inaugural contributor to the Over the Hill magazine from the staff at Kingham Hill. My name is Irene Swain and I hold the position of Head of the Specific Learning Difficulties Department, most affectionately known here as The Greens.



I am an Australian who has been residing and teaching in Singapore for nearly four years, prior to arriving at Kingham Hill. My last position was at The Australian International School in Singapore as the Head of Individual Needs. This was a very large school of nearly 3,000 students, so coming to Kingham Hill has been like a breath of fresh, and very cold, air. In Singapore I lived with my two children Callum, who is 15 and my daughter Brianna, who is 18. My daughter stayed in Singapore to complete her secondary studies and is returning to Australia to start University. My son Callum is here with me at Kingham Hill.

As my daughter was finishing her secondary studies, it seemed to me to be a natural time to consider a move - either back to Australia or further afield. When I chanced upon a position at Kingham Hill, I was initially drawn to the size of the school and its strong pastoral and Christian focus. I am a firm believer in holistic education that nurtures and supports all aspects of the child and, after speaking to members of staff, I felt this was a school where I could make a contribution professionally and importantly, a place where my son would educationally, emotionally and spiritually be allowed to grow.

I am passionate about children with learning differences and ensuring they enjoy equitable educational opportunities. My current area of research is the neuro-developmental causes of learning differences and the perceptual sensory difficulties that underpin low academic performance. I hope to continue my post graduate research next year at the Institute of Neuro-Physiological Psychology in Chester.

I am really enjoying working with the dedicated staff and the warm and friendly children here at Kingham Hill. I have been made to feel welcome and valued and I am even enjoying the dramatic difference in weather to Singapore. Professionally and personally I feel lucky to be here at this time and look forward to the coming years with excitement and enthusiasm.

A Kingham Hill Chronology.

(Continued)

(This was cobbled together as an A5 booklet for the Centenary of the Hill, but I've tried to add new items and corrections as I come across them, with a view to perhaps issuing a new version for the Hill's 125th birthday in 2011. Does anyone think this is a good idea or have any suggestions as to its format?)

1897 10th July. Bradford House opened. Mr Hitchcock was the Superintendent.

1899 The Rev. F.J. Hazeldine was appointed as Chaplain.

1903 3rd October. The Chapel was opened. The Organ was a gift from the Founder's sister, Miss Margaret Young, and, before the coming of electricity to the Hill, Plymouth boys took turns as organ blowers.

6th November. First meeting of the Kingham Hill Literary and Debating Society. The Rev. Hazeldine was in the chair.

1905 The levelling of the cricket pitch, which had taken several years, was finally completed.

Rev. Hazeldine moves on to parish work.

1906 25th January. Norwich House, for boys from 14 to 18, was opened. Mr Mildon was the Superintendent.

1907 14th October. Severn House, for those over 21 but still learning a craft on the Hill, was opened. The Superintendent was Mr Lamb.

1908 10th October. Greenwich House was opened as the Sanitorium.

1912 The Chaplain's House (now the Headmaster's) was opened.

1913 At this point the Sanitorium was run by Mr and Mrs Boxall.

1914 The start of World War I. While the full number of Old Boys involved in the fighting is not known, the Founder had a record of 355 of them. 63 Old Boys died.

1916 Clyde, Plymouth, and Swansea Houses were closed temporarily.

The Kingham Hill Trust is quietly set up without much publicity.

December. The Founder issued the first edition of the Kingham Hill Magazine, with the intention of letting Old Boys know how things were going

on the Hill. The Section for news of Old Boys is full of "-----" where the censor has obliterated the names of units, ships, places etc from the letters from the Front to the Founder. The names of 71 old boys known to be at the front are given.

1917 28 Old Boys are mentioned in the Magazine as having been wounded recently.

There was an outbreak of Diphtheria, starting in Durham.

Owing to severe weather, the School and the Chapel (but not the Houses) were closed for "some weeks".

Various hitherto unploughed fields were now sown with wheat, potatoes, and beetroot. Every Thursday a party of older boys would go to the depot at Didcot to help with loading stores.

Departure of Rev. H.G. Wheeler for a living near Bicester.

KINGHAM HILL ASSOCIATION APPEAL FOR 2009

As you will be aware, KHA, through its charity, the KHA Centenary Fund, supports both pupils and capital projects at KHS. We are, along with all charities, constantly seeking additional funds to enable us to carry on supporting KHS. Barring the occasional wreath, Speech Day prize, and subsidies to the KHA magazine, and the Schooldays website, there is very little expenditure that doesn't benefit KHS.

Naturally we will accept any amount, at any time and by any means (not cards) but ideally a regular income will help us to plan for the future.

A Standing Order, for example, of £10 per month, with the added value of Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, becomes £153.60 a year. Our target, perhaps ambitious, is to have 300 participants. It is not that daunting: all it takes is 100 people to do it and then convince/persuade two others to do the same.

Funding in the future could become a problem, but with your help we can continue to offer education and opportunities to other disadvantaged children, perhaps as you were.

Thank you in anticipation.

KHA and KHS.

The Other Website.

(Kingham Hill Association : [www. webalumnus](http://www.webalumnus) etc.)

Useful things, websites. You may need to check what county Bristol is in this week, the tax rate for people earning over £200,000 p.a., or what the drummer from Adge Cutler and the Wurzels is up to these days, and the chances are that with a bit of googling and guessing, you can find a website that will let you know.

Perhaps you may see a face on the box or a name in the newspaper, and wonder if that was that irritating third-former who was best kept locked in the boot room. Or something else might remind you of your days at Kingham Hill, and you might wonder if the place is still there and wonder whether it became a soup kitchen for starving peasants or a finishing school for the daughters of the aristocracy.

So you type in “Kingham Hill” into the internet explorer search box. Near the top you should see links to www.kinghamhill.org.uk , the official school website, with numerous subsections that you can click your way around, being welcomed by Headmaster Nick Seward, and see mug-shots of the staff; interior views of Greenwich and Bradford after recent refurbishments; a jargon-buster that explains the real meaning of words such as Plym, Gappie, and Green; and much more. There are all kinds of sections to show what a good place it is for children to be in. It may even persuade you that it’s just the right place to send young Torquil to.

Then there’s something called Kingham Hill School Days. Now this is a wonderful website put together by Old Boy John Timmins and website wizard Andrew Langley, and it is full of articles written by former staff and pupils. New items are always being added, and if you think that you have something that you can usefully slip in to the mix, contact historian@kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk . There is also a forum (the octagon) by which people can swap notes with each other.

But the website that I want to discuss here is the one for the **Kingham Hill Association**. This is the site to use if you want to find out what happened to Runtz Rabinowicz, or to arrange a party for those who were in Greenwich during the 1950s.

It isn’t always as easy to find as the other two, as it does not start off www.kingham..... but comes under the operating company’s name. So if googling Kingham Hill Association does not bring up a link to a Kingham Hill Association webpage, you

can go into either the school website, and on the left there is a bar for “Friends of Kingham Hill”. Click that, and a line for “Kingham Hill Association” will appear. Click that to get to the KHA entry page. Alternatively, you can go into the schooldays site, and at the bottom left there is, under “Friends” a link to the KHA.

However, there are two things to bear in mind with this website. Firstly, because it has details of individual people and how to find them, you need to log in with your own user name and password, and this can be a nuisance at times. (Personally I find it murder remembering all the various user names and passwords needed by all the various sites, and I’m going to have to keep a book telling me what user names and passwords to use for which sites. All my different user names developed different personalities long ago.)

The other niggle with this website comes from the opposite direction. It is only going to have the information that you’re looking for if you put it in in the first place, and then keep it up to date. Fully loaded, it should be able to tell you which of your old comrades live in the same town as you and give you the name of an honest (KHS) solicitor or garage owner when you need one. If you joined Form 1 and Plymouth House in 1960 you should be able to round up the others for a Golden Jubilee in 2010, but only if everyone gets into the system and confesses where they are and how they can be contacted. It is possible to provide your details so that they can only be picked up by association officials arranging events but not anyone else dipping in to the website. **But to a great extent the current details are based on the old address lists and are in great need of updating.**

Anyway, to **register for the first time**, on the left of the KHA screen there are white boxes for your user name and password, which you haven’t got yet, and below that, black boxes labelled Log In, Register, and Help. Click the Register box, and the next screen will ask a few questions designed to check that you are who you say you are, and also that we’ve got the basic facts right. After you have provided your phone number, scroll down a bit until you find a black box labelled submit. You may be asked to confirm. Within a day or two you should be e-mailed a user name and password that you can change to something that suits you more. Passwords need to have at least one digit and six or more letters.

At last! The machine knows who you are. You can now **log on**. In the white boxes on the front page

put in your user name and password, and click the black Log In box. The next page has links to various news items, but on the left there are two main sections.

Community enables you to find out what others are up to, but that rather depends on the lower part, **My Personal Details** being filled in first.

My who's who shows what is in the system at present, and may well go back to the records that the school had at the time you left. Unless it's perfect, you may want to update the rest.

Personal Details concentrates on getting your name right, and a few other details about your relationship with the Hill. How you fit in. If anything in the top half is wrong, click the black "edit" button to put them right. You can use the "Upload picture" to add a photo of yourself. Most of the items further down offscreen are managed by us, and entries often show who added the information. If you have made additions or changes, there will be "submit" and "confirm" boxes to click.

Family Details can be added if you wish to let people know about your spouses and children - and thus avoid bombardments of mail and mails from all those young residents of Severn who dreamt about you when you were Head Boy. (Not to mention all those boys who were always hanging around outside the chapel with no clear purpose.)

Contact Details. This screen enables you to let people know your phone number(s) and e-mail addresses. When you add or edit these you have the opportunity to say whether they should be on display to all members or just the website management.

School Details. Again you have a chance of updating the information on what you did at school. However, a lot of this involves drop-down boxes which don't cover all possibilities. We'll have to work on this.

Higher Education Details. Here's your chance to tell everyone how clever you are. On the other hand, one day you may be looking for an expert in Danish with a teaching qualification.

Occupations. Here you can tell everyone what sort of jobs you've done, and also offer to provide advice on what the job is/was like.

Honours. Your chance to let everyone know what other gongs you've collected. You never know, there might come a time when schools start competing on a MBE per thousand pupils basis.

About Me. A brief chance to say what you're doing now.

Relationships. Here's the chance for Adrian Foster to say that he's related to Julian and Fabian (but not Frank).

Professional Memberships. Again a work in progress. Ultimately it could be useful to know how many ex-KHA members of the Certified Institute of Management Accountants there are.

Professional Services. Here's your chance to advertise your little business or sideline.

At first these may look complicated, but once you get going you get used to the way you can add, edit or change the information that is being shown, regularly being asked if you want the information to be available to all members or just the site managers, with a submit and confirm routine at the end so that you can check that the machine has got the right message.

GETTING INFORMATION OUT.

Having told the website what you're up to, now to find out what others are up to. Let's start with something simple. Whatever happened to wosname - Smith, wasn't it? On "Find other members" you can write in "Smith" against "Family Name", click "Search" and at the time of writing up pop 19 Smiths and a name starting with Smith... together with the contact information that they're prepared to divulge. A bit more than you wanted. Well, he was male, and he left iner. Well, he was there at some point between 1960 and 1967. "On the roll between years.... and" should do the job. That's rounded it down to two, but they're not advertising where they are. Oh well. They don't get an invite to the party, then. On the other hand, you'd like to get together with anyone else who started in Plymouth House in 1962. Starting year = 1962, Junior House: Plymouth. Search. 16 of us, 7 with e-mails, 4 with postal addresses instead. Let's get the invites out.

As a real example, when Mrs Knight died it was possible for KHA to contact everyone on the database who had been in Plymouth in her time and let them know about her funeral.

Mailbox. If you don't want to let everyone know your e-mail address, what you can do is to set up a forwarding address on the website. The Home page has a space near the top for you to set up a mailbox. Click on the line, and a screen appears where you can put your name in a box before .KHA@webalumnus.com. Anything addressed to the e-address thus created is transferred to the address that you have given on your contact details screen as your prime e-address.

News! You've just found yourself next to a former member of staff in the soup kitchen queue, or watched that kid who was always grinding away on the fiddle at the Albert Hall. You've won the lottery and are leaving the country. You've opened a pub in Soho. You've got news! Obviously you need to e-mail it to the editor of Over the Hill, but it takes time for magazines to come out. You can put it on the Association website. Under "Community" there is "News", and then a black box top right saying "Add". Having got past that you find yourself with some white boxes. The top one should have a date about six months in the future. This is the date on which your news ceases to be particularly new. If you are advertising something that happens further in the future than that, you can change this to a later date. On the other hand your news may be dead in a month's time. Change it if you need to; leave it if you don't. In the next box give your item a headline, say: "Fred Smith opens Pub." Then comes the main box in which you can place your story. To help you lay it out, there are more ikons than in a Greek Orthodox cathedral, but you can ignore them or hover the mouse over them to find out what they mean. Put the story in simple terms that a Kingham Hill old boy can understand. Show what the KHS connection is - giving the dates the person concerned was on the Hill is a good way. If you want readers to contact you, remember to tell them how to do so. If the story gives full details of your 15 months with Somali pirates and goes on for a few thousand words, it may pay to add a summary in the bottom box giving the gist in a few words. Then you can save the item, confirm the machine has understood it properly, and then you may have to wait a bit for it to become available to everyone else. (When Friends Reunited started up some bright spark said that Kingham Hill was started by an Islamic Fundamentalist, and we'd like the stuff on our website to be a bit more accurate that that, so we put in a check.)

On the whole, once you can get in and start blundering about the system it soon starts to make sense. You have the options of *add*, *edit*, and

delete, and you are regularly asked to *submit* and *confirm* that the machine had got it right, and it is regularly asked whether you want the personal information that you are giving to go to everyone or just to management. So you can give everyone your e-address while keeping your phone and geographical location to management only, or just give your phone number, as you prefer. In giving your address, you can say whether or not you want mail such as the paper version of this magazine.

And at the foot of pretty well every page you can click "Contact Kingham Hill Association" and send us an e-mail asking for help. At the moment the website is better at asking you questions than giving you answers, but we are working on it, and it should soon be possible for you to organise a reunion in Tobermory, arrange for the old gang from 1950 to meet in a Soho nightclub, or whatever. But for this website to work, we need as much up to date information from as many former pupils as possible. We can't invite you if we've only got your late guardian's address from 1973.

Who Does What?

President:	Bob Hughes*
Vice-Presidents:	Brian Dean Eddie White John Hughes Keith Targett*
Chairman:	Rachael Callender
Secretary:	Bryan Shaw (shaw.wight@virgin.net)
Treasurer:	Mike Tadman
Membership Database Sec.:	Mike Tadman (miketadman@yahoo.co.uk)
Events Co-ordinator:	Ken Wingfield (winger@uwclub.net)
Magazine Editor:	Peter Johansen (peter.johansen@sky.co.uk)
Assistant Editor:	Jon Montgomerie
Schooldays Editor:	John Timmins (historian@kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk)
Sports Secretary:	Mike Kent
Archivist:	Mike Kent (mike.kent@inbox.com)
Sports Secretary (Ladies):	Libby Foley (libsel1@msn.com)
Archivist	Jim Woolliams
Marketing/200 Club:	Simon Briggs (sdhrbriggs@talktalk.net)
Committee Members:	Tony Middleton Leo Smith John Lawrence.



Forthcoming Events.

Well, with only weeks to go before Christmas I want to wish everyone a happy festive break; and on behalf of the Association a **big** thanks for your time and money in attending various reunions and

committee meetings. Well done to Mike Kent in obtaining IT machinery for the school. He spent many hours to do a deal. Thanks.

Many thanks to all the staff at "The Hill" for the welcome and generous hospitality to those old boys/girls who have visited. Also thanks to those organising events in 2008.

We start the New Year with a committee meeting on Saturday 24th January 2009, then:

Saturday 21st March.

0930 Founder's Service at Daylesford Church.

1015. Coffee in Room 5 - Top School.

1030 Committee Meeting in Room 5.

Afternoon Activities to be confirmed.

1800 Meet bar area with all the School Leavers for 2009.

1830 Dinner (4-course) in the dining area.

All old boys/girls of Kingham Hill are welcome. Please get your names to Ken (details below) before 17th March. There will be a small cost.

6th-7th June. Summer Reunion.

Saturday. 1030. Coffee in the School Hall at Top School.

1045. KHA Annual General Meeting (School Hall).

The full programme will be published during the next few months on the Schooldays notice board and in the next "Over the Hill". Bring the Family. Enjoy a day out!

Ken Wingfield, Events Secretary,

Tel. 01530 812361

e-mail: Winger@uwclub.net Mob. 07826 445244

Kingham Hill School Open Mornings

Saturday 7th February and Saturday 2nd May.

9.15am- 1.0pm

An opportunity to meet our new Headmaster, have a school tour with sixth form students, watch

activities, meet houseparents, view our newly refurbished boarding houses and stay for a buffet lunch.

This is a very enjoyable event for all concerned so please spread the word.

All welcome.

Goodies!

Be recognised as one of us (by the guys on the surveillance cameras, etc....). Wear/use this excellent KHA equipment:

KHA Tie	£10.00
KHA Parker Junior Refillable Ballpoint Pen	£ 4.75
KHA Lapel Badge	£ 2.00
KHA Cufflinks	£ 5.00
KHA Notepad	£ 0.80
KHA Ladies Neckscarf	£ 13.75
KHS Wire Blazer Badge (original School Crest. Outstanding quality and value at £15.00 And limited supplies of	
KHS Centenary Tie	£ 5.00
KHS Ladies Head Square (Black on white)	£ 5.00

Some of these items can be seen by going on to the www.kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk website, going to memorabilia, and then click the merchandise box. They are available from Simon Briggs. (sdhrbriggs@talktalk.net.)

And, Finally

If you want to be sure that your news gets in to the April 2009 Edition of *Over The Hill*, send your news and articles to

P.S. Johansen
37, Mount Ephraim Road
London
SW16 1LP

peter.johansen@sky.com

by 9th April, 2009

The last couple of issues can be downloaded from the www.kinghamhillschooldays.co.uk website. If you prefer to have something you can feel and scribble rude remarks on, paper versions are being sent to people who bought life memberships in the days when membership cost money and those who ask for it. (This issue is going to everyone.)

Over the Hill is published by the Kingham Hill Association three times a year for former pupils, staff and friends of Kingham Hill School.