



## KIDDERMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL O.G.A. NEWSLETTER 2012

### Future Events

#### **Sat. 8/9/2012 at 11am.**

A.G.M. followed by lunch at The Hundred House, Great Witley. Please bring any photos you may have from your school days to share with fellow Old Girls.

#### **Sat. 6/10/2012 at 3pm**

Service at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster to commemorate the centenary of the opening of K.H.S. building on Chester Road South.

#### **Sat 11/05/2013 at 3pm**

Opportunity to see the site of the former K.H.S. (now King Charles 1 School) followed by tea at 4pm.

#### **Sat 21/09/2013 at 11am**

A.G.M. followed by lunch at The Hundred House, Great Witley. If attending a meeting, please notify Beryl Bedford two weeks beforehand.

### **OGA Contact Information**

- Website - [www.khsoldgirls.org.uk](http://www.khsoldgirls.org.uk)
- OGA website Alison Hargreaves [web@khsoldgirls.org.uk](mailto:web@khsoldgirls.org.uk)
- Items for newsletter – Anne Budworth 108 Park Lane, Kidderminster, DY11 6TB. [budwortha@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:budwortha@blueyonder.co.uk)
- For all other enquiries please contact Beryl Bedford - 80 Holmcroft Rd. Kidderminster DY10 3AG Tel.01562 752997.

## **From the Editor**

Welcome to this, the 2012 edition of the K.H.S. OGA newsletter.

I would like to thank Alison Hargreaves for all her effort, knowledge and enthusiasm in producing the newsletters for 2009, 10 and 11.

After many years as a parent, governor and PTA committee member of King Charles School, I have finally become involved with the OGA by offering to edit the newsletter. I hope some of you remember me – I'm Anne Budworth now but when at school (1967-74), was Anne Amies. Some of you may also remember my sister Hilary or my mother Barbara King.

I have lived locally since leaving school and currently live in Park Lane in Kidderminster. While my children were growing up, we lived in Chester Road so both of them went to King Charles. My son is now married and living in Cheshire and my daughter has recently moved to Coventry after a number of years in Norwich. I am eagerly awaiting the arrival of our first grandchild in September – so much knitting – so little time!

I have worked at King Charles School since 1996, initially as a Teaching Assistant before moving into admin and becoming the Attendance Manager, and more recently the Exams Manager. For anyone who remembers music lessons upstairs in Hillgrove with Miss Ellis in the late 1960s and early 1970s, my office is in part of the singing room which was converted into offices several years ago. My bit has the balcony – on a bad day I dream of Pimms and lemonade with a huge dish of strawberries and cream on the balcony.

I am still in regular contact with Carol Bishton (née Pugh), Chris Goggin (née Brook), Sherry Bird (née Delamont) and Sue Smith (née Cartwright). Sue and I recently had an enjoyable lunch with Jenny Booth (née Brookes). I also bump into Judy Hinksman (née Clee) at music events and festivals throughout the area and more recently at Motor Cycle Mart in Kidderminster to hear a talk from a professional around the world motorcyclist!

Please send any items for inclusion in future newsletters to me at [budwortha@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:budwortha@blueyonder.co.uk) or 108 Park Lane, Kidderminster DY11 6TB.

## **Come and Join Us at the Centenary Celebration Service**

On Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 we will be celebrating 100 years since the opening of the K.H.S. building in Chester Road. The service will be at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster and led by Old Girl Alex Vaccaro (née Mills) at 3pm. There will be a choir and refreshments and it should be a day to remember. If you would like to sing in the choir, help on the day or if you can help with publicity or organization, please contact Beryl Bedford or Alison Hargreaves.

## **Choir**

In keeping with true K.H.S. tradition, the Centenary Service would not be complete without choral contributions, and this is where you come in - we already have some volunteers, but more are needed!

It doesn't matter whether you have sung regularly since leaving school or not - please come and join this unique choir.

A rehearsal will be held on the day of the service – rehearsals prior to the day will be arranged depending on availability of people and premises.

If you are interested, please contact Rosemarie Morgan (née Pitt) on 01562 515358 or e mail : [ramorgan@btinternet.com](mailto:ramorgan@btinternet.com).

## **Library Exhibition**

During the month of October, the display boxes at Kidderminster Library will house a number of K.H.S. artefacts. If you are in the area, why not go along to the library for a trip down memory lane! The Library is open until 5.30 on Saturdays.

**Posters** about the centenary events are available – please contact Alison Hargreaves if you are able to display any in your local area.

There are a number of reunions taking place at various locations around the Wyre Forest area – we have details of the one for pupils starting in 1964 from Ann Hunt and for the 1967 and 1952 starters from Alison Hargreaves.

## **Ann Hunt sent the following information -**

The Class of 64 are holding a reunion on the evening of 6th October 2012 for all the pupils who attended Kidderminster High School for Girls from 1964 to 1969 (GCE O Level) and 1964 to 1971 (GCE A Level). We are also hoping that some of our teachers will be able to join us.

The event is to be held in the King's Suite at the Mercure Hotel (used to be the Heath Hotel, Bewdley). The cost per person will be £20.00, which includes a buffet.

*Further details can be found on our web site*

<https://sites.google.com/site/reunionkidderminsterhigh/>,

along with some photographs from past events and our days at school.

Our last reunion was held back in 1982 when we were still young enough to shop in trendy boutiques, Michael Jackson released his Killer album, Prince William was born and Argentina invaded the Falklands. Why not come along and catch up with old friends who you have lost contact with over the years and reminisce about the good old days.

*If you are interested in attending, please contact Ann Hunt (Cook) on either [ann.hunt52@gmail.com](mailto:ann.hunt52@gmail.com) or 01905 764921.*

### **Alison Hargreaves sent the following-**

Join us at La Brasserie in Kidderminster for an evening meal for around 100 people after the Centenary Service.

La Brasserie has 2 private function rooms above the restaurant and will seat up to 124 diners for a sit down meal with a set menu, or 94 people if we have a seated buffet. The cost for either option will be £20, and the decision about which format will be based on demand for seats, nearer the time and the menu will be posted nearer the time. A vegetarian option will be available.

Sue Smith is taking bookings. Please contact her via Facebook or [spsmith122@gmail.com](mailto:spsmith122@gmail.com) or phone her on 07971 908864 and she will give you with details of where to send your payment etc. The venue was originally booked for the 1967 and 1952 starters (who have 40 places reserved). Staff and all other years are very welcome to join us. Mr. Armstrong and Miss Whitehouse have already signed up and we hope for several more!

Places will be available on a first come, first served basis but speak to Sue if you are getting friends together so she can pencil in places for you. Obviously you can sit with your friends but there will also be mixed tables for solo's or small groups and lots of time to socialize.

If you would like to be involved with any of the other reunions planned for the evening, please contact the following year group contacts direct if details are shown or alternatively via [ku.gro.slrigdloshk@shk](mailto:ku.gro.slrigdloshk@shk) or many can be found on Facebook on the Kidderminster High School OGA group.

1943-50 Mary Wehner (née Crane)

1946-53 Sheila Kirk (née Ryder), Elisabeth Robinson (née Wrigglesworth)

1952-58 Elizabeth Watt (née Gale)

1955-62 Margaret Bazley (née Osborne) [bazleymargaret@aol.com](mailto:bazleymargaret@aol.com)

1956-63 Patricia Nash (née Harris), Anne Marie Morgan (née Ashcroft)  
[am52wrb@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:am52wrb@yahoo.co.uk)

1960-67 Chris Titley (née Balkin) [chris.titley@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:chris.titley@blueyonder.co.uk)

1964-71 Ann Hunt (née Cook) [annhunt52@gmail.com](mailto:annhunt52@gmail.com)

1967-74 Alison Hargreaves [khs@khsoldgirls.org.uk](mailto:khs@khsoldgirls.org.uk), Jan Gullachsen

[jangullachsen100@hotmail.com](mailto:jangullachsen100@hotmail.com), Susan Smith (née Cartwright)

[david@whistance-smith.f2s.com](mailto:david@whistance-smith.f2s.com), Libby Shewry (née Owen)

[dshewry@bigpond.com.au](mailto:dshewry@bigpond.com.au), Alice Bennett (née Cookson)

[alicejbennett@btinternet.com](mailto:alicejbennett@btinternet.com)

1968-75 Mary Ralph (née Davies) [mary.ralph1@tesco.net](mailto:mary.ralph1@tesco.net)

1969-76 Cheryl Skidmore (née Faulkner) [chelskidmore@gmail.com](mailto:chelskidmore@gmail.com)

1970-77 Rosemarie Morgan (née Pitt) [ramorgan@btinternet.com](mailto:ramorgan@btinternet.com)

1972-77 Naomi Bishop KC1 1977-78 [naomibishop3@gmail.com](mailto:naomibishop3@gmail.com), Ann Mullard  
[ann\\_mullard@hotmail.com](mailto:ann_mullard@hotmail.com)

1973-78 Lou Menzies (née Salt) [louisemenzies16@gmail.com](mailto:louisemenzies16@gmail.com), Vivien Fairclough (née Shepherd) [vivien.fairclough@gmail.com](mailto:vivien.fairclough@gmail.com)

For those of you who have not visited Kidderminster for a while and who have Satnavs, here is a list of postcodes which may be useful on the day-

King Charles School DY10 1XA

St Mary's Church DY10 2JN

The Brasserie DY11 6UU

The Mercure (formerly The Heath) DY12 1LA

Kidderminster Library DY10 1AB

There are a number of hotels in Kidderminster in case accommodation is needed-

The Mercure, Habberley Road, DY12 1LA

Travel Lodge, Park Lane DY11 6TL

Premier Inn, Weaver's Wharf DY10 1AA

Stone Manor Hotel, Stone, DY10 4PJ

Gainsborough House Hotel, Bewdley Road DY11 6BJ

### **In Memoriam**

Sadly, we say farewell to a number of friends.

If anyone would like to send an obituary or memories of any Old Girl, please email or send details to the editor.

Mrs Mary Cartwright – d. 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011 – Mary was the School Kitchen Supervisor from November 1970 at K.H.S. until 5<sup>th</sup> June 1982 at King Charles 1 School.

Linda Cox -(née Mann) – d. 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011

Susan Griffiths- d. 2011

Gwen Gwilliam (née Pardoe)- d. August 2011

Joan Martin-Smith (née Read) – d. June 2011

Joan Massey (née Clark) – d. 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 (aged 102)

Barbara Pritchard (née Pugh) – d. 6<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Mrs Janie Thomas – Biology teacher 1975-1977 d.14<sup>th</sup> December 2011

Winifred Wheeler (née Hughes) d. 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011 (aged 100)

Margaret Rushton(née Lashford) d. May 2012.

The following tribute to Margaret has just been sent by Elizabeth Watt- Margaret died in May this year in America aged 90 after a short illness. She had lived there for about 25 years, moving with her husband Mark when they both retired to be nearer to their son Chris and his family in New York State. Margaret was always interested in K.H.S. Old Girls and in March wrote to me wanting to know about the Centenary Celebrations and the Service in October. When she was last in England some four years ago, I suggested she might like to attend. Sadly this will not happen now

Sheila Kirk has written the following tribute to Linda Cox.

Linda died on the morning of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011, in Oxford NZ hospital, convalescing from heart surgery. Her husband David (ex Sebright School) died the same afternoon in Christchurch Hospital, New Zealand as a result of pancreatic cancer. Linda leaves a son and daughter, plus her mother Irene Hoedemakers, formerly Mann née Shutt, also a former pupil of K.H.S. and now in her 90s. Linda also had a younger sister who travelled to New Zealand for the funeral. Other Old Girls living in the area, namely Jenny James (née Oakes) and Diana Gooseman (née Slater) represented the School at the funeral. Linda and David emigrated following their marriage and set up their first home in Christchurch, though David left almost immediately, leaving behind a very pregnant Linda as he was in the Merchant Navy. He spent many years travelling the world. Linda will be sadly missed by many people. She was always very proud of having been a scholar at K.H.S. and still had many old exercise books, reports, magazines etc. She had been an OGA member for a number of years. In New Zealand she was well known and respected in many circles, especially among Wool Spinners and Weavers. She recently served on the National Board of this organisation, representing South Canterbury. During her period of office she organised the Area Conferences held at various venues mostly on the South Island and also attended the North Island events on behalf of South Canterbury. She was a competent speaker. Be assured she did K.H.S. proud. Linda's mother, Irene, emigrated to New Zealand some years ago. She is now physically frail but mentally alert, still an expert Scrabble player. When we visited in March she beat us hollow. Linda was her carer for the past few years and will be sorely missed. Very shortly after Linda's death, Irene contacted Jenny James asking her to let me know the sad news. Her wish was for me to pass on the information to former school contacts. I took it upon myself to ask Jenny to represent us at the funeral and where appropriate to put forward messages of condolence on our behalf. I am sending a sympathy card to Irene who must be quite devastated.

### **News of Old Girls**

If you would like to put anything in the Newsletter or have it added to the email version, please contact Anne Budworth.

### **Alice Bennett** (née Cookson) - 1967-74

In September 2011 Alice's Madresfield Early Years Centre was national runner up in a competition for Learning Outside the Classroom. They collected their trophy at a glittering end of conference dinner at Condover Hall in Shropshire where the judges were most complimentary about the outdoor woodland school and adventure programmes and facilities. In December the MEYC was winner in the Indoor Nursery Environment Section of the national

finals at the London Metropole Hotel.

**Wendy Williams** (née Whitehouse)- Maths teacher 1967-74

I'm living in Halesowen having taken early retirement after developing Parkinson's Disease. My main activities involve a variety of craft work- card making, cross stitch, other needlework and jewellery making etc. I sell the cards I make to raise funds for Parkinson's UK. (I take commissions for special occasion cards – if anyone would like a handmade card for any occasion I can be contacted on 0121 422 9296 or email [wendyc1980@btinternet.com](mailto:wendyc1980@btinternet.com). I keep in touch with Gillian Carter (1968-75) and she persuaded me to join the OGA. (She also buys my cards!) but I find it difficult to get to the AGM as I've had to give up driving. I hope to get to the centenary celebrations if at all possible.

**Diana Hackett** (née Waldron) – 1949-55

After leaving K.H.S. I trained as a Chartered Physiotherapist at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. After qualifying I became a staff member and then worked at the Joyce Green Hospital in Dartford and Kidderminster General Hospital. After 20 years working as a physiotherapist I took a complete change of direction and worked as a secretary/PA in my husband's Chartered Accountancy Practice. I retired in 2010. My hobbies are mainly amateur dramatics through the Nonentities Society at Kidderminster Playhouse and later The Rose Theatre where I undertook, besides acting, stage management and directing. I was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Nonentities in November 2006. In 1999 I joined the Worcestershire Federation of WI's and was asked to join the Performing Arts Sub-Committee and later became Chairman. I have one daughter, Fiona, a lecturer in English at the University of Kingston-upon-Thames. Fiona has represented England in Women's Rugby on several occasions. My only claim to 'athletic fame' was in 2002 when I was a Queen's Jubilee Baton Relay Runner(in Worcester) for the Manchester Commonwealth Games. 2012 will be a landmark year for John and myself also, as we hope to celebrate our Golden Wedding in June.

**Phyllis Hudson** (née Stoker) Staff - 1947-73

Still mobile at 97, my special joy in 2011 was a visit of 6 days to Rome with friends Anne (née Roberts) (1954-61) and Peter Nailer. In July during the Music Week in Somerset on Mahler, I spent an afternoon with Elizabeth Ahmadi (née Payne)(1963-70) who lives in Taunton with her husband Jamshid. Elizabeth has now retired from Taunton College but is doing a lot of community voluntary work.

**Annette Jacobs** (née Devitt) – 1934-43

I am 86 and still on my feet and involved in village life. I am no longer allowed



to drive but am blessed in having good friends who take me shopping and to social affairs. My thanks to Beryl Bedford for her work in tracing the missing school magazines and 'making up the set', 'Land of our birth' research – the school song is very much part of the school's history. I remember vividly Marjorie (Tissie) Hawker who had always claimed she could not wait to leave school, standing on the balcony of the Hall on her last day at K.H.S., and when the song started bursting into tears and sobbing bitterly all the way through!

**Mary Johnson** (née Bradley) – 1948-55

Mary is going to visit New Zealand to see her sister in Hamilton(North Island)and many friends she made during the five years when she lived in various places on both islands. She expects to see Jennifer Morris (née Astill) (1942-54) and Diana Gooseman (née Slater) (1948-54), also Linda Cox (née Mann) (1955-60), the latter having lived there for many years. On her return, she expects to take up her usual interests.

**Shirley Keays** (née Green )- 1943-53

Shirley reports that Muriel Fraser (née Frier) who left in 1953 was widowed in 2010. She lives in America, close to her daughter Sarah and son Andrew, both married with children. She is well and active and would like to hear from any K.H.S. old girls. Her address is available from Beryl Bedford.

**Judith Knowles** (née Bourne) – 1934-42

Judith often talks of K.H.S. with Lilian Bradley(née Smith) who lives in Verdun, Quebec. Lilian's husband Roger to whom she was married for 67 years died of lung cancer in February 2011.

**Anne Nailer** (née Roberts) 1954-61

Anne and her husband settled well in Kidderminster after their move from Cockfosters. They joined a golf club, bowling club and Kidderminster Horticultural Society. St John's Church has made them very welcome and they are useful there as cleaners and sidesmen.

**Jean Ovens** (née Jarvis) 1937-42

Jean's daughter Carol Cole (née Ovens) (1963-71) made contact in 2010 with Gail Hobbs (née Homer) and Tim plus their children and grandchildren when they went across to Calpé for a holiday. Carol's home in Spain is just a few miles up the coast. Lots of 'nattering' about County Youth Orchestra and K.H.S. took place.

**Mary Painter** (née Coney) – 1929-40 – PE teacher at K.H.S.

Mary's friend from Kindergarten, Joan Martin-Smith (née Read) who left to go



to school by the sea for her health, died aged 88 in June 2011. Recently Joan had lived down in Sussex near Mary and her husband John. John' aged 92, who was also in the Kindergarten is now completely blind. Mary is having trouble with leg ulcers. She is sorry not to be able to come to the OGA meetings any more. She sends greetings to those who remember her. She is in touch with Mary Greenway, an exact contemporary of hers, who has lived in New Zealand for many years.

**Valerie Vaughan** (née Dewick) – 1946-51

Valerie and her husband Bob celebrated 55 years of marriage in October 2011 and have a great-grandson aged 18months. Bob was a King Charles Grammar School boy at the same time that Val went to K.H.S.

**Diana Revitt** (née Blackford) – 1952-59

Diana lives in South Australia. She is still in touch with friends from her schooldays- Mary Barten who has visited her in Australia, Ann Bewick (Mrs Spooner), Pauline Cornwell (Mrs Rogers), Jill Eustace (Mrs Edwards), Ruth Taylor (Mrs Jerreat), Bridget Troughton (Mrs Stapleton) and Jane Wardle (Mrs Edmonds). She recently made contact with Jennifer Potts (Mrs Gowland) (1953-60) via email, courtesy of Alison Hargreaves. There are only 3 K.H.S. Old Girls of her era in Australia that she knows about – herself, Jennifer Gowland and Barbara Midwood (née Parkington) (1952-59) who lives in Queensland which is about 3000km from her. They keep in touch and sometimes meet. If there are others of Diana's or any other era, please let us know. Since retiring, Diana and her husband have taken up four wheel driving in the Australian Outback which they love. In June 2011 they drove down the Canning Stock route which is 2000kms long and stretches from north of Australia to the south. There is no habitation at all, just wild life and amazing scenery. There is no petrol or shops so they and the other 4-wheel drivers had to take everything for 6 weeks. They slept in swags and tents. It is just a track used by the stockmen in the late 1800s and early 1900s to get their cattle down to Perth to sell. Diana and her husband are involved in volunteer work at Innaminaka which is a desert region near the Simpson Desert. Diana is still in close contact with Phyllis Hudson who keeps her up to date with what is happening here. She is godmother to her eldest son, Michael, who lives in Huddersfield.

**Mary Dolphin** (née Wilkes) 1950-55

Mary writes that she enjoys reading the newsletter each year. She moved away from Kidderminster when she married and never came back to live there again. Her husband's work took them for a long spell to South Africa, then the north of England, West Wales, Malta, North Africa and finally the

U.S.A.. They returned for a short time to Ludlow and then to France where they live permanently in a very small hamlet of 12 houses, deep in the countryside. Their 2 daughters who live in London, visit them frequently and enjoy the peace and quiet of Sallerit. Diana Osborn (née Humpherson) (1956-63) has a holiday home in the Charente and they visit each other most years. Any Old Girls who find themselves in Mary's part of France will always be welcome to call by.

**Sherry Bird** (née Delamont) 1964-70

After my father died during my first year it was decided I would benefit by repeating a year, as I was August born. I was left in the strange position of being left behind by those I had made friends with and then making new friends in my second first year! Although not invited to stay on to sixth form, I have always been very grateful for my High School education. I joined the Library service in 1974, had time off to have two sons Jamie (coming 34) and Seb(31) and then went back in 1990, when by turns I was an assistant, library manager at Hagley for several years, supervisor at Droitwich Library, then back to being on the shop floor when that job disappeared. I took voluntary redundancy this year, and now work as a Bach Flower Remedy practitioner using my knowledge of the remedies (4 years' training) to treat both people and animals with emotional problems(yes, very busy thanks!) I have had several other jobs over the years, especially when my children were small. I married Paul Bird in 1973, but sadly, he died in 1992 from stomach cancer. I met Peter Childe in late 1995, and we have been together ever since. I still see friends I made at the High School who have been very supportive of me, especially Anne Budworth (née Amies) and Ann Hunt (née Cook).

**Liz Burns** (née Reeve) 1979-82 After leaving school I went to Kidderminster College to study for a secretarial certificate which I successfully achieved. I was then employed by Wyre Forest District Council where I spent many years in the Human Resources Division; my position was PA/HR Assistant. After taking about a year off from working I applied for a position at King Charles I School and was successful in being appointed. In my spare time I have achieved qualifications in holistic therapies and beauty. My husband and I are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary this August. We have raised two wonderful children, Katherine who has just qualified in Photography with a BA honours, and Gareth whose just completed his GCSEs and is hoping to go on to college to study Graphic Design. We have a Golden Retriever called Alfie and two cats, Sooty and Tabitha. I enjoy baking cupcakes, knitting, reading and watching films. Over recent years I have had some wonderful experiences, holidaying in North America, flying over the Grand Canyon and the Rockie Mountains to name a few.

## **Where are they now?**

Lorraine Wright (K.H.S. 1970-75) left UVS to go to Stourbridge College of Art. Information to Beryl Bedford, please.

## **Facebook**

We now have 80 members using the Facebook Group (Kidderminster High School for Girls) where old school themes are batted about – hats, school meals, teachers, houses, pointless rules etc – and there are quite a few photos. Newsletter articles can be emailed or sent by post to either Miss Bedford or the editor.

The following are contacts and snippets via the K.H.S. Facebook Group called “Kidderminster High School OGA”– where over 80 ex pupils chat, reminisce, debate and laugh. Join us .....

(Note from the editor – apologies for the brevity of this section in this newsletter but I am only slowly coming to terms with Facebook having spent the last few years resisting it!)

**Lou Menzies** wonders if there are any 1971 starters in the Facebook group/OGA – she has been in touch with Mandy Poole (née Reyner) who would love to come to the centenary celebrations but doesn't have Facebook so is unsure how many people she would know.

**Della Ransom** (née Canning) has just found the Facebook page and wondered if anyone remembers her. She lives locally and her daughter is currently a pupil at King Charles.

**Kimberley Wells** wonders if there is anyone using Facebook who was born around 1928 and attended Kidderminster High School.

**Jill Ganderton** (née Cartwright) contributes to Facebook discussions from Canada and is proud to confirm that she can still eat quite a lot of Rolo ice cream in half an hour!

**Shirley Griffin** (née Owen) 1962-7 has just joined the Centenary choir and wonders if anyone else from her era could be cajoled into joining.

**Elaine Breakwell** (née Griffiths) who started K.H.S. In 1972 has recently joined Facebook.

**Lesley Everley** posted that Philippa Ditcham is currently rather poorly in Hereford Hospital. Our thoughts are with Philippa, her family and friends.

## **O.G.A. COMMITTEE 2011 – 12**

<i>Chairman</i>	Beryl Bedford (former teacher)
<i>Secretary</i>	Beryl Bedford helped by Rosemarie Moore (née Brockway)
<i>Assistant Sec.</i>	Mary Wehner (née Crane)
<i>Treasurer</i>	Shirley Whiteside (née Hall) 2011-14
<i>Committee</i>	Sheila Garlick 2010-2012

	Rosemarie Morgan (née Pitt) 2010-12
	Monica Bashford (née Hall) 2011-2013
	Margaret Bazley (née Osborne) 2011-2013
Newsletter Editor	Anne Budworth (née Amies)
Catering	Elisabeth Robinson (née Wrigglesworth)
<i>Flower Fund</i>	Rosemarie Moore (née Brockway) and Elisabeth Robinson (née Wrigglesworth)
Coopted	Judy Neale (née Beddoes) Gloria Phillips (née Galloway) May Phillips (née Tuck)
<i>Webmistress</i>	Alison Hargreaves

### **OGA Flower Fund**

Elisabeth Robinson (née Wrigglesworth) took over the flower fund in 1989 from Margaret Badland. Over the years since then, due to the hard work of Elisabeth and Rosemarie Moore, a healthy Flower Fund has been built up. Quite a few people have attained their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays and members will therefore be guests at the AGM and lunch in September. Elisabeth and Rosemarie continue to do a great job, with help from Sheila Garlick, in taking and posting flowers and vouchers to over 60 ladies.

If you hear of anyone who is ill or bereaved and would appreciate a visit, or someone celebrating a special occasion, please contact:

Elisabeth Robinson (01562 750891) or Rosemarie Moore (01562 67546)

### **Invitation from the Old Carolians' Association**

The secretary of the Old Carolians has written extending an invitation from the committee to all members of the Kidderminster High School Old Girls' Association to join them for the Annual Dinner of the Association in the Oldfield Hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

Application forms for the dinner will be added to the Old Carolians' website <https://www.oldcarolians.org.uk> some four weeks before the event. If you would like a hard copy, please let Beryl Bedford know. 2012 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Old Carolians' Association as well as the centenary of the opening of K.H.S. in the buildings in Chester Road.

### **From the Archives**

The following is an extract from a copy of the Kidderminster Shuttle Diamond Day Supplement from 24<sup>th</sup> May 1957.

Young Kidderminster clarinetist, Peggy Summers of Chester Road South was the only local member of the Birmingham School of Music Orchestra which played for the Queen in the Town Hall. (Her mother was organist at St George's Church where her father was the churchwarden).

**Linda Perkins** (née Griffiths), who attended K.H.S. from 1968 to 1975 , sent the following report about being inspired to take Latin to the next generation.

I have always loved Latin (and Greek) and first became inspired at school by a fantastic inspirational Latin teacher and carried on with Greek at Birmingham University inspired by an amazing lecturer. I was determined to pass on my love of classics to the next generation because I know, if Latin and Greek are taught properly, they are fabulous subjects. My first opportunity came when I became Deputy Headteacher at St James's in Wollaston. I began a Latin Club for gifted children in Year 6. I got to know Barbara Bell of 'Minimus' fame and together we started the club. I attended Barbara's training courses and took advantage of a grant which helps provide financial help for people who want to set up Latin groups in State Schools. We had a wonderful time for 2 years, entering competitions using podcasts, design technology ideas and the Internet. Roman and Greek stories are a real hit with the children. I then moved to be Headteacher at St Mary's in Kingswinford. I set up a Latin Club, but this time for the whole of Year 6 with taster sessions to inspire Year 5. Again Barbara inspired the children with her visit and I advertised for a person to run the club. I met Kate who now teaches a whole morning in Year 6 weekly. It is wonderful to see how the children's language skills have improved as a result of learning Latin in a really enjoyable way. We have provided master-classes for local primary schools who have loved it too! I am really glad that parts of the media are now reporting that the teaching of classics is a good idea, because I think in the past it has had a bit of bad press with people saying it is elitist and no use at all in the modern world. It is when you see a child who has never heard of Latin shine in the subject which is amazing. Children also never spell words like 'audio' and 'video' incorrectly again. And it is such a bonus if children want to be linguists or join the medical or legal professions. With the advent of digital media, Latin is accessible to everyone.

Long may it continue!

PS I am now on the case for Greek!

### **Information please**

We have been contacted by Charlotte Munby who discovered that her grandmother went to K.H.S. In the 1930's while researching family history. The person in question was Joan Barbara Winifred Davis born in 1917. Charlotte would like to find out information about the School in the 1930's and in particular about Joan. Does any one have any photos or information from this era?

### **Stop press**

One of the groups on Facebook, Kidderminster Past (currently over 2000

members), has a huge library of photos of old and not so old Kidderminster. The photos are split into sections according to location – the latest of which is a section of pictures of K.H.S.. Thank you, Muriel Scriven, for making this happen.