

The Old Petriburgians' Association



Noticeboard March 2024

Brewery Tap Reunion 2023

We had another fantastic reunion at The Brewery Tap, Peterborough, on 27th December 2023. The event was very well attended, and we have already booked for Friday 27th December 2024. Please keep an eye on our social media channels for more information on this event.



The King's Hockey Festival 2024

The King's Hockey Festival will take place on Saturday 15th June 2024. The School has been fortunate enough to have our Astro pitch at The Garton End Road games field resurfaced, so we are really looking forward to hosting the event on The King's School grounds. The event will begin earlier in the day this year, as there is another event later in the day, as you will see in the next item.



A Celebration of Helen Birch at King's

Helen Birch (Deputy Headteacher) is retiring this summer, and after our Hockey Festival on the 15th June we are going to hold a celebration event at King's, Park Road, in the evening from 16:00.

Current and former staff are being invited, and any former students are welcome, as is anyone else within our community who wishes to attend to say thank you to Helen and wish her well.

There will be food, drink, and entertainment with the opportunity to reconnect with a number of familiar faces; it should be a great evening.

Booking will be online, please keep your eye on our social media for more information.



The King's Access Programme



We have recently launched the 'King's Access Programme' in order to connect more of our former students with current students, in order to support them in professional advice and guidance.

The first part of the programme is to try and support some of our students in Work Experience placements. These would hopefully be in the Peterborough area, but could be further afield. If you think you could help, please do reply on the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/SDGJTgHaU2>

Y12 Futures Day

Wednesday 1st May 2024



King's Access Programme - Careers

We recently published an invitation for former students to come into King's and talk about their careers. The response has been overwhelming, to the extent that we are considering running additional sessions. If you feel that this is something that you could offer us, either this year or in the future, please add your details to the following form. <https://forms.office.com/e/44exXWbhY6>



Paul Faupel

The School is very sad to announce the death of Paul Faupel. Paul was an outstanding English teacher at King's between 1994 and 2017. Paul joined us from East London and, although quite tentative at first, he very quickly showed the depth of ability and character that made him the excellent classroom practitioner he was. He taught English throughout the School and in the early days some KS3 History and Sixth Form General Studies, too.

Over time he built up a particular bond with his colleague, Sue Paine, in A-level English Language and Literature. Their erudition and teamwork were outstanding, producing some of the best results in the School, indeed throughout the country.



As a teacher, Paul was kind, gentle, encouraging and empowering, always thoroughly prepared, ready to give time and support to any student in need. His quiet, inspirational style was hugely admired by all his students and colleagues, who saw in him a teacher of real commitment and dedication, ever supportive and ready to share his expertise. He had the uncanny ability of being able to pass on his passion for the English language and its literature to his students at every level.

Outside the classroom, Paul was for many years Housemaster of St.Chad's, as well as joining school theatre visits, a Classics trip to Italy and an expedition to Costa Rica.

As a man, Paul never sought the limelight. He was a very private person, modest, humble and understated. His main loves and pastimes were reading and the natural environment. At home he had several greenhouses with a considerable collection of orchids and succulents. He went bird-watching whenever he could, indeed he travelled the world to follow this hobby, to see flowers, birds, insects and mammals inc. in India, Cambodia, Guatemala and Africa. Closer to home he loved to walk in Ferry Meadows and Castor Hanglands, and was a keen angler.

Paul had suffered from cancer for some time, and bore his final illness with great dignity. Visiting him in his last days, our discussions always turned to The King's School; his eyes would light up with joy when he spoke of his time at the School and his memories of the pupils he had taught.

Paul's funeral was in the New Forest on 9th February 2024. Trevor Elliott spoke about Paul and his time at King's, and Sue Paine, his long-term collaborator, gave a reading of W.B. Yeats' 'The Lake Isle of Innishfree'



The History of King's

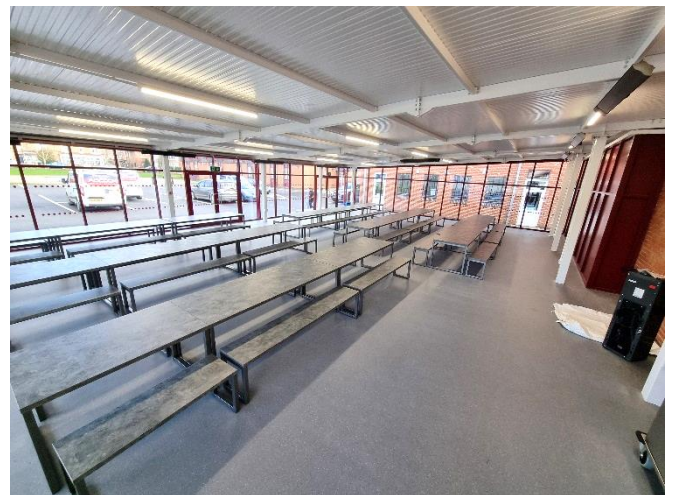
We have just installed a new display at King's, detailing the School's history from 1541 to present.

The research and photographs have been compiled by our volunteer archivist Trevor Elliott, and the design very kindly completed by Old Petriburgian David Mahoney, who runs a design agency in Edinburgh. The display has been funded from a legacy from OP David Witt.

Henry's

If you have been looking at our social media, you may have noticed that we have been doing some building work.

The new dining space is located on the side of Drama, and is called Henry's! It's an exciting development which will allow us to provide more dining space for students.



Meet the OPA Committee



John Harrison – President

John is the current Headteacher of The King's School, but has had a long association with the School, having previously taught at King's as Head of Geography and then later as Assistant Headteacher. He returned to King's in September 2022, and is strongly committed to maintaining our links with Old Petriburgians. John is an Ofsted inspector, and an avid supporter of Peterborough United.



Chris Dunn – Chair

I joined The King's School twice, firstly in 1991 as a student and then in 2004 as a Teacher of Biology. Since 2006 I've worked extensively in the Sixth Form, supporting students in their studies and post-18 aspirations. Having taught at King's for 20 years, I'm familiar with many of our former students, and enjoy hearing how everyone is getting on. I'm very keen to maintain the strength of the Association, and work to maintain our links to benefit those currently at King's.



Trevor Elliott – Vice Chair & Treasurer

I joined KSP as a Modern Languages teacher in 1976, was Head of Department between 1979 and 1986, and then served as Deputy Headteacher for 30 years, until I retired in 2016. It has been a joy to be associated with the School for all that time, to have seen and been involved in so many great things, and to know generations of former pupils. In retirement, I am the School's de facto historian and archivist. Having been Chairman of the OPA for 14 years, I am now playing a more supportive rather than a front-line role. Floreat Schola Regia Petriburgensis.



Heather Bicarino - Secretary

I joined The King's School in 1976; a significant year in the School's history as I was one of the very first intake of girls to attend King's. I returned in 2005 as Pupil Receptionist and later worked as the Data Manager. As a parent, I was thrilled when my son, Sam, joined the School in 2006.

Since becoming an OPA Committee Member I have been privileged to assist in the organising of several reunions, including one to mark 40 years since girls joined. I also had the immense honour of assisting with the memorial service for John Dexter, held at the school. I took on the role as OPA Secretary some 14 years ago and it has been a pleasure over the years to attend formal dinners, informal reunions, beer festivals, and more recently, be part of the organising party for the KSP Hockey tournament. I helped to organise Gary Longman's retirement events, including the staff party and OPA Open day at the school, but the highlight so far has to be organising Trevor's retirement event. Some 500 attended over the course of the afternoon, which included a This is Your Life style farewell. The look of utter surprise on his face when his mother, sister and family took to the stage was just brilliant. He listened with interest as our guest presenters read out the stories and tales of his 40 years at King's, videos were played from a variety of former students wanting to share their experiences and others, in person, addressed the full Hall, all wanting to be part of his retirement send-off. There will never be another long service event like this, although Mrs Amps is clocking up the years!

If you have an event, or an idea for one, that you want support with, do get in touch! We are always happy to help where we can.



Louise Laprun

I attended The King's School from 2003 to 2010. A proud member of St Chad's House, I was delighted to be appointed Head Girl in my final year, as well as Head Chorister of Peterborough Cathedral Choir.

I read Music at Royal Holloway, University of London, and now work in the construction industry as Senior Proposals Manager in the Brand, Comms and Proposals Team at Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd.



Alison Amps

I Joined KSP as a PE teacher in 1989 and became Head of PE. I also taught Geography from the onset, having a real passion for the physical landscapes. Over the years I decided to leave my PE days behind me and teach Geography full-time, however my sport has continued to be an integral part of my life both outside and inside the school. Geography has enabled me to instil a sense of awe and wonder of the world and for the past 20 years I have organised expeditions to many places, including Nepal, Uganda, Namibia, Montenegro, Romania, and many more!

The School has been a real family to me, both in the sense that my children thrived here and also because of the amazing staff and students we have here. I have thrived on seeing so many students go on to do so many great things and to see and be in contact with so many former students. Being part of the OPA Committee is important to me as it has been an opportunity to meet up with former students in events such as the Beer Festival, Christmas drinks at the Brewery Tap, formal dinners and the most recent event in the past 2 years of the OPA Hockey Festival. I would really like to see the OPA links increase, so that I can catch up with as many of you as possible. Not sure how many that is as I am now in my 35th year of my KSP career!



Langford Smith

I attended the Kindergarten, above what is now the Head's Office, in 1937 and continued my education in what we referred to as "Big School". I joined the OPA Committee in the 1950s after returning from active service in Nigeria

I was given two great opportunities, on my return, and both were from OPs. One role was in the Sea Cadets where I became Drill Instructor, and the other enabled me to become a Chartered Company Secretary. Family connection at King's continued as 2 of my sons both went on to attend.

Future OPA Communications

We have been using MailChimp to send emails to our Old Petriburgian distribution group but, to reduce costs, we are intending to revert to email communication. Those OPs who are not signed up to social media will continue to receive updates, but we would encourage everyone else to keep an eye on our social media, which always has regular updates about what's going on at King's. Our Instagram is very much about the day to day events in school, and The Petriburgian on Facebook contains lots of information on the history of King's, and OPA events.

Social Media Links

To find out what's going on at King's day to day, the best social media to follow is our Instagram. Our Facebook is very popular, and perhaps the 21st Century version of 'The Petriburgian'

We also offer information and recruitment via LinkedIn

[The King's School Peterborough \(@kingsschoolpeterborough\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
[The Petriburgian | Peterborough | Facebook](#)
[The King's \(The Cathedral\) School | LinkedIn](#)