THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL

ALUMNI NEWS

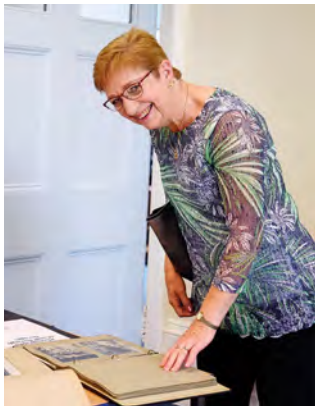
ISSUE 1 **AUTUMN 2024** www.thekingsleyschool.co.uk/community/alumni

WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of our new Kingsley School Alumni News. We hope you will enjoy reading about school and alumni news plus a range of events, reunions and activities which we are developing to help strengthen our Kingsley alumni community. We encourage you to share this newsletter with friends or contacts who may have lost touch with the school and invite you all to our events, whether at Kingsley, online, around the UK and/or overseas.

RECENT EVENTS – FAMILY FUN DAY

Members of the Kingsley community enjoyed an afternoon of family fun on 6 July as part of the Warwick Schools Foundation's Home Festival. Students entertained guests with music, dance and drama performances and organised games and charity stalls. Alumni of all ages enjoyed tours of the Senior School and congregated in the library to share memories of their school days over a glass of Prosecco and strawberries.



VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

Thank you to all those who have sent in a 'View from my window' for our online Kingsley Alumni gallery. We would love to continue adding to this gallery and invite you to share a 'view' on www.thekingsleyschool.co.uk/community/alumni.

Your picture could be of anything, from home, work or place of study, at any time of the year. If you would like to include an image, please email it to alumni@kingsleyschool.co.uk with your name, years at Kingsley School and a caption.

View overlooking the Prep School taken from a front window
Anna Gardner, TKS 1995-2000

View from my balcony in Aillon le Jeune, French Alps
Pamela Paterson, TKS 1961-66

View overlooking Holy Trinity Church taken from a side window
Anna Gardner, TKS 1995-2000

Wishing for Spring
Ruth Rodgers née Salkeld, TKS 1947-57

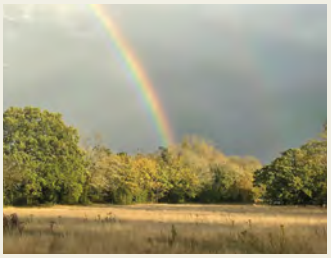
My bedroom window in Botswana
Sue Hurst, TKS 1961-67

From my office at the bottom of our garden in Northwest London
Gillian Howard, TKS 1957-68

Taken during a working holiday on the Helford River in Cornwall
Helen Masters née Taylor, TKS 1973-79

View from my window, Southam
Jane Jones, TKS 1991-2011

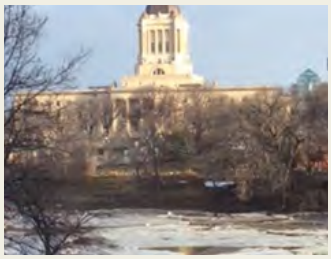
My garden pots
Jennifer Stephens, TKS Staff 2001-10



View from my desk in the office
Jody Fletcher, TKS 1989-94

The Aston Martin VIP Atrium before a convention
Laura Woodfield, TKS 2005-12

Clearwater Bay, Hong Kong
Rachael Desgouttes, TKS 1977-82

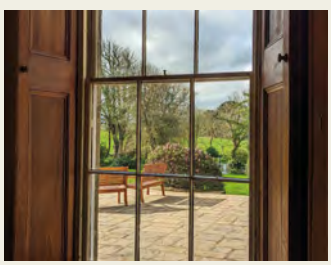


Ice breakup on Assiniboine River in flood, Winnipeg
Barbara Barnett née Dornan, TKS 1955-62

The Isle of Dogs overlooking the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich, with Cutty Sark to the right
Connie Foster-Hall, TKS 1994-2003

The "Old Workshop", Grittleton, N.Wiltshire
Sue Newman née Darbishire, TKS 1952-58

View from my bedroom window in Brisbane
Elizabeth Pollard née Clark, TKS 1976-81



An Easter getaway, Cornwall
Emma Heritage, TKS 2010-15

View overlooking the Kingsley School Garden
Anna Gardner, TKS 1995-2000

Our garden from our kitchen window
Gail Stallwood née Grunau, TKS 1960-70

View of the whole of Warwick, including the Castle and St Mary's Church
Holly Robinson, TKS 1996-2005

KINGSLEY ALUMNI NEWS

Opportunities for camaraderie, friendship and networking

"No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth." Words written over 200 years ago by English poet Robert Southey seem especially relevant today. From France to Australia and from New Zealand to the USA, Kingsley alumni are living all around the world. Whether you are in the UK or overseas, we would love to hear from you and include an image and line or two in our next Kingsley Alumni News.
If you are happy to give us an update, please email an image and a line or two to alumni@kingsleyschool.co.uk.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

VALERIE CLIFFORD, TKS 1975-86

Melbourne, Australia

Valerie has lived in Melbourne since 2000, after three years in Malaysia and SE Asia. She trained as an auditor, has had an amazing career of nearly 35 years across various fields and is now a Partner at one of the 'big four' professional services firms.

As well as being a mum to three grown-up children, she has a hobby farm south of Melbourne with assorted animals (and too many kangaroos) and fills her remaining time playing golf and tennis.

Valerie has kept in touch with some of her Kingsley friends over the years, those 'down under' and in the UK.

PAMELA FRACHISSE NÉE PATERSON, TKS 1961-66

Lyon, France

Pamela married a Frenchman and was an English teacher for post Baccalauréat students and also for companies. Now retired, she enjoys living in France but often travels back to the UK.

JO HAYES NÉE COLDMAN, TKS 1984-89

Auckland, New Zealand

Jo writes that living in New Zealand is a very different way of life than being in the UK. She and her family are surrounded by fabulous sandy beaches and although in the midst of winter, the sun still shines. There are plenty of opportunities to travel and work with a good work life balance. If you are looking for adventure and something a bit different, then it's a great place to come to. She loves it!

Jo is currently working as a Business Manager with several non-profit organisations, as well as having founded her own Charitable Trust, GrandFriends.

RACHEL NICKLESS, TKS 1983-91

Pays de la Loire, France

Rachel has always loved France so decided to move there permanently five years ago, having bought a property in the Sarthe in 2007. She works at Unilever as Head of Hospitality and balances the pressure of her job by enjoying the peace and quiet of life in rural France, surrounded by her dogs, ducks and chickens! Rachel travels extensively all around the world for work, so it's always a tonic for her to come home to relax.

SUMMER PRIZE GIVING

10 July 2024 – The Royal Spa Centre

Charlotte Davey (TKS 2005-12) was invited back as guest speaker at this year's Summer Prize Giving. At Kingsley Charlotte spent most of her extra-curricular time getting involved in Music and Drama. She studied English Literature, History and Music A Levels before reading English Literature and Language at Lancaster University. She then completed a Master's in magazine journalism and had a varied career in journalism and radio production before landing her current role making audiobooks for Penguin Random House.

One of the key messages in her amazing, inspirational and moving speech was the importance of friendship 'along the way'.

KINGSLEY ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

We are looking to create a new Kingsley Alumni Book Club. We hope this club will give you an opportunity to:

- Try something different
- Read books you have always meant to read... or even some you've never thought of reading!
- Meet with fellow Kingsley alumni online, to chat for an hour, once a month, about the chosen book.

THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL
Alumni Book Club

Within the club, you will be placed in a Book Group of approximately 6-8 fellow Kingsley alumni to meet, via Zoom, once a month, to chat about a book chosen by the group or member of the group.

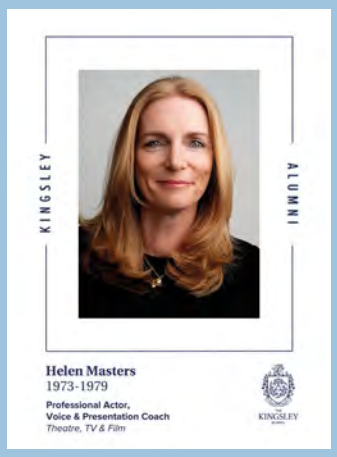
Membership is free. Entry requirements are simply that you make every effort to read the book and turn up to the monthly meetings. You may leave at any time (but we hope you'll stay!)

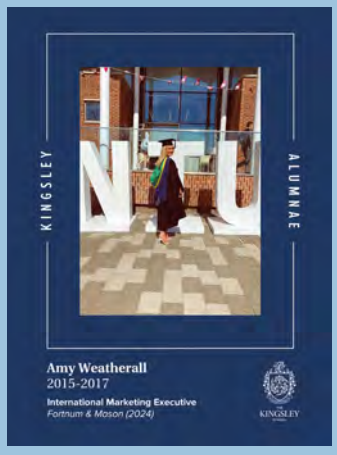
If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please let us know before 20 September at: https://forms.office.com/e/jVj3UDg9jr

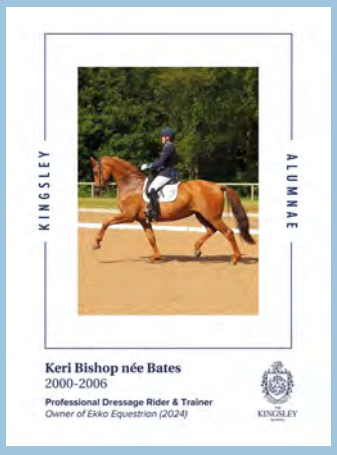
CELEBRATING KINGSLEY ALUMNI

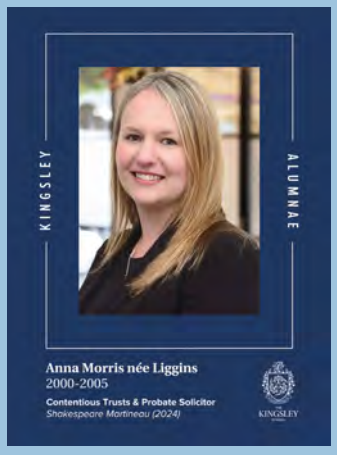
We would love to raise more awareness among our current and prospective students about the diverse range of careers, roles and achievements enjoyed by our Kingsley former pupils. A 'Celebrating Our Alumni' gallery now complements the wall on the first-floor landing at school.

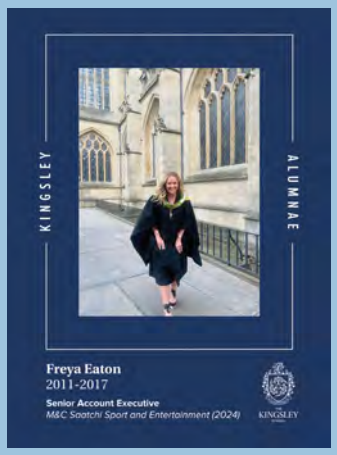
If you are happy to be included, please send an image, dates at school and a brief description about your profession/current role to alumni@kingsleyschool.co.uk

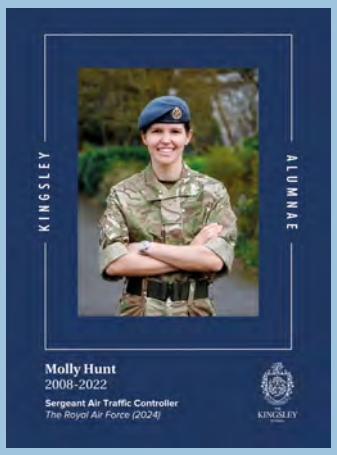


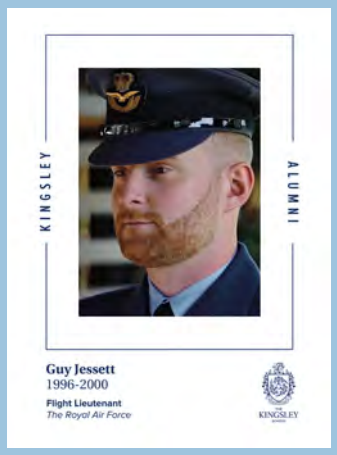


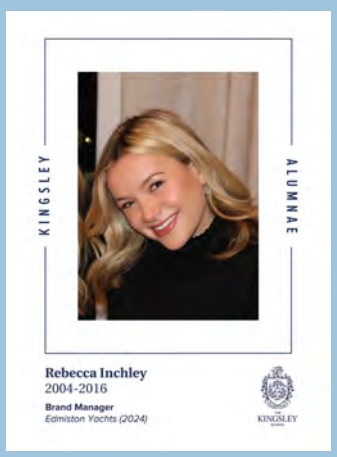












FORTHCOMING EVENTS

There are some exciting upcoming events to which Kingsley alumni are warmly invited

KINGSLEY ALUMNI GARDEN PARTY

Saturday 21 September 2024 – 2pm-5.30pm – The Kingsley School

We invite you to spend time back at school reconnecting with old friends and teachers, enjoy a delicious complimentary afternoon tea, hear from our current students, view historic photographs from our Kingsley archives and enjoy guided tours of the school, seeing much which will still be familiar, plus some of our exciting new developments.

There is no charge to attend but, so we know who's coming and can cater accordingly, please book here: https://forms.office.com/e/1TrT3HgKvQ

RECENT LEAVERS DRINKS

Wednesday 11 December 2024, 5pm-7pm – Warwick Hall

2022, 2023 and 2024 leavers from The Kingsley School, King's High and Warwick School are invited to Christmas Drinks on Wednesday 11 December from 5pm-7pm in Warwick Hall, Warwick School, Myton Road, Warwick.

Catch up with fellow recent leavers and enjoy complimentary festive drinks followed by a card-payment bar.

Please register your attendance here: https://forms.office.com/e/aaupsngPLs

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Kingsley Christmas Carol Service
Thursday 12 December, 6.30pm
Holy Trinity Church, Beauchamp Avenue, Leamington Spa

The Kingsley School 140th Birthday Ball
Saturday 7 February 2025
Save the date... more news to follow!

Details of exciting plans for 2025, including a 140th Birthday Ball and a Summer Celebration, will be included in our next Kingsley Alumni News.

KINGSLEY SCHOOL NEWS

A few highlights from the summer term

FRESH AIR, FIELDWORK AND FRIENDSHIP

Year 9 and 10 students headed to Somerset for three days of field studies. Y9 students focused on practical work for their biology iGCSE while Y10 geographers undertook GCSE fieldwork investigating social inequality and examining the impact of coastal processes.

PREP PUPILS PERFORM ALADDIN

Kingsley Prep pupils delved into 'a whole new world' with their vibrant, energetic and exhilarating production of *Aladdin*.

SPRING CONCERT

Students, staff and the Kingsley community gathered in Holy Trinity Church for the Spring Concert. Students of all ages, from Prep to Sixth Form, shared their musical talents through a delightful programme showcasing each of the school's musical ensembles, from voice and string ensembles to wind, swing and rock bands.

NEXT STEPS

Huge thanks to our six former students who returned to the Sixth Form Centre (one remotely) to talk to Year 11 students in June about their career journey since leaving school. The students benefitted from listening to their frank and inspirational insights.

L-R: Alice Taylor, Jane Bracey, Evelyn O'Sullivan, Emily Castle and Lucy Greaves. Not pictured: Grace Challis who joined remotely

KINGSLEY WELCOMES VISITORS TO ITS ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

Kingsley's annual art exhibition is always a feast for the eyes, and this year's was no exception! Featuring work from students of all ages, the exhibition was a true celebration of the creativity and talent at Kingsley.

At the centre of the art exhibition was Kingsley's contribution to the Foundation's *'Five Structures, One Home'* project – *The Hive*. Inspired by the unity of bees, its design and student artworks reflect the interconnectedness of the Kingsley community and echo the school's role as our extended home, nurturing unity and creativity.

GOODBYE AND THANK YOU

After 34 years amazing service to The Kingsley School, we said a sad goodbye to Jane Bostock who retired this summer. A surprise gathering was held in the school hall and Jane was presented with gifts, a wonderful cake and well wishes from work colleagues, friends, and family.

KINGSLEY SCHOOL ARCHIVES

For many years Rebecca Dyson, who first came to Kingsley as Head of History, has been the keeper of the school archive (down in the cellar), caring for the mass of paper, magazines, digital records and hundreds of photographs and other school memorabilia. Her knowledge of the school's history, right up to the present day, is unparalleled.

If you have any stories, images or items of interest for the school archives, Rebecca would be delighted to hear from you. Please email her at alumni@kingsleyschool.co.uk

1884 Rose Kingsley

1890

1919 Peace Procession

The Kingsley School 2000 © Gillman & Soame

1922 Beauchamp Hall

1994 National Junior Riding Competition winners © Evening Telegraph

1984

1935

STAYING IN TOUCH

All former students and staff are part of our Kingsley alumni community. We welcome contact with you all and invite you to get and stay in touch. Perhaps you have a memory you'd like to share, an old photograph to add to our archives, classmates with whom you'd like to reconnect, reunion plans or maybe you're happy to inspire our current students by sharing your career journey or offering mentoring support.

Julia Donoghue, Alumni Relations,
The Kingsley School

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