

## KIDDERMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL O.G.A. NEWSLETTER 2011

#### FUTURE EVENTS

**Sat. 17/9/2011 at 11.00am.** AGM followed by lunch at The Hundred House, Great Witley.

# Fri. 16/3/2012 7.30pm

Illustrated talk by Mrs Jo Roche about the early years of KHS including the 1912 building. To be held at King Charles I School (formerly KHS). Car park entrance via Comberton Road.

**Sat. 8/9/2012 at 11am.** A.G.M followed by lunch at The Hundred House, Great Witley.

# Sat. 6/10/2012 at 3pm

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

If attending a meeting, please notify **Beryl Bedford** two weeks beforehand. **Address**: 80 Holmcroft Rd. Kidderminster DY10 3AG Tel.01562 752997.

Website: www.khsoldgirls.org.uk

# FROM THE EDITOR (and 'Web-Mistress'!)

We had another sunny day for our 2010 AGM and luncheon and it was a really happy and enjoyable afternoon with visitors from far and near. We were thrilled to have Margaret Hoppensack nee Froggatt 1940 -47 with us from Canada.

After the meal a real variety of readings from old school magazines, taken from all decades was given by committee members Rosemarie Moore, Shirley Whiteside, Margaret Bazley, Gloria Phillips and myself and it felt good to be part of a real tradition. While choosing our excerpts we scanned all manner of short poems, essays, accounts, charitable donations, opinions, sporting achievements and felt a surprising sense of connection.

Miss Raymond who was Headmistress from 1912 to 1933 was hardly even a name I knew before I read her pieces but the quality, dedication and calibre of this woman shone through her warm and informative writings. She clearly loved the school, the staff and the girls and they reciprocated warmly. I loved her style and was massively impressed by the quality of her rich, fluent and inviting writing. Hopefully one day we can put excepts on the website.

Miss Bedford has recently presented the OGA with copies of all the missing school magazines. This was no mean task since she started her hunt over 35 years ago! She got them beautifully bound in decades. The real coup was finding the 1942 and 1943 magazines, individually type-written by members of the school due to paper shortages during the war. Thank you, Beryl. We will find some more gems from these and share them at this year's Summer Lunch.

Please join us if you can for the future events as shown on the cover of this newsletter.

Our email address is: web@khsoldgirls.org.uk

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 (see front cover for address) or myself at:

The Marshalls, Sneads Green, Droitwich, WR9 0PY



# COME & JOIN US! CENTENARY COMMEMORATION SERVICE

On Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> **2012** we will celebrating 100 years since the opening of the KHS building in Chester Road. The service will be at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster and led by Old Girl Alex Vaccaro nee 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 email Alison Hargreaves on web@khsoldgirls.org.uk.

#### **CHOIR**

In keeping with true KHS 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 (nee Pitt) on 01562 515358 or e mail: <a href="mailto:ramorgan@btinternet.com">ramorgan@btinternet.com</a>.

**COBHAM HOUSE** – If anyone can remember the House motto, please let Beryl Bedford know. Alternatively email us or post info on Facebook. (For contact details see front cover.)

#### 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.

Ann Dodd (nee Lacy) d. 2/5/2011 Jeanne Fletcher (nee Woolley) d. August 2010 Doris Hill d. 19/8/2010 aged 99 Dora Preston (nee Joslin) d. 6/4/2011 aged 97 Elizabeth Robinson (nee Johnston) June Tanser (nee Goodall) d. June 2010

#### WHERE IS SHE NOW?

Marilyn Cartwright UVS 1962-3, left the Lower Sixth in 1964 to take a prediploma course at Foley College of Art, Stourbridge. If you can help, please contact Miss Bedford.

## **NEWS OF OLD GIRLS**

**Pauline Carroll** (nee Insull) 1950 –55 has recently joined the O.G.A. When she left school she worked as a GPO telephonist rising to supervisor, then as receptionist at Steatite and Porcelain in Stourport. She then had a 7 year break having her two sons. She returned to Steatite in sales and retired 9 years ago.

**Linda Cox (nee Mann)** 1955-60 wrote from New Zealand that her mother Irene Hoedemakers (nee Shutt) celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in style in November 2009 with family from the UK and NZ and friends at a luncheon in a nearby colonial home. There is now a star named Irene Shutt in the Equatorial Firmament, just one of the many gifts she received. Linda sends her best wishes to everyone.

Elizabeth Darby 1970's is still a serving police officer.

**Pat Harman** (English teacher 1965-83) was 85 in September 2010 and celebrated with a family lunch at La Brasserie in Kidderminster and tea afterwards at her home in Blakebrook where she has lived for 46 years.

**Beryl Haughton** (English teacher 1957-64) had a very happy meeting with Karen Smith who now lives at Uckfield with Sue Alcorn (UV beta 1958) . They raked up many KHS ghosts! Karen is retired from Chailey Heritage Hospital and Sue from the DHSS. Margaret Miles (History teacher 1960's) is very happily settled in the house in the Forest of Dean in which she was brought up. Muriel Newman (Maths teacher 1960's) sees Beryl regularly as she lives in Bude and Beryl has a holiday home nearby. Audrey Hadley (nee Sparks) (Maths teacher early 1960's and 1973-77) is well when she is not falling over the dog and her own feet! Elaine Hugh-Jones (Music teacher) was one of those who joined Beryl to celebrate (or commiserate) on her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Elaine's career as a composer is flourishing. It was a pleasure to see Beryl and Audrey at the OGA lunch in September 2010.

**Phyllis Hudson** (nee Stoker) Staff 1947-73 reported the death of Trevor, husband of Brenda Jones (nee Taylor) 1958-63 at the end of July 2010.

Mary Johnson (nee Bradley) 1948-55. Her husband Arnold died in October 2010. Mary attends choir, the Workers [Educational Assoc and Civic Society.

She is Liaison Officer of the Talking Newspaper so if you can't read the Shuttle, let her know!

## Alex Vaccaro (nee Mills) 1975-82

Alex was ordained priest on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011 at Worcester Cathedral.

Margaret Kirkby (left KHS 1943) Margaret and her mother who was terminally ill made a table cloth for the mother of her fiancé Bill Beary, an airgunner missing in action over Yugoslavia in November 1944. It was given to Clare Beary, his mother, with a charming letter hoping the Beary's would be able to use it with Margaret "when good news about Bill arrives". Early in 1945 it was confirmed that Bill and his crew had been shot down and buried in Belgrade. The cloth was never used but was passed down through Bill's four sisters. Elspeth McPherson, niece of Bill Beary, appealed through the Shuttle to find Margaret's family to return the cloth. Helen Vine, Margaret Kirkby's daughter, was traced and she and her husband and Elspeth McPherson and her mother Patricia McPherson spent an afternoon together in early June 2010 when the cloth and documents about Bill Beary were handed over. It is amazing that Margaret's family was traced. She married, moved to Cheshire and emigrated to Canada and then returned to England. Margaret's daughter now lives in Leominster.

# Jean Ovens (nee Jarvis) 1936-44

Jean's elder daughter Carol Cole (nee Ovens, 1963-71) is very much enjoying her life as Head of Editing for a publishing firm in Spain. She had a serious shoulder operation in 2009 owing to arthritis but the climate suits her and she is happy out there. She was hoping to meet up with Gail Hobbs (nee Homer) in Autumn 2010 after 20+ years. Carol's son Jamie has just graduated from Oxford Brookes with an honours degree in automotive design and engineering.

# Elizabeth Watt (nee Gale) 1952-58.

The class of 1952 continues to meet every month for lunch at various locations; there are normally about 8 of us and this doubles in June and December when ex pupils come from further away to join us. We were very saddened to lose one of our ladies in May. Ann Dodd (nee Lacy) lost an 18 month battle with cancer which she fought very bravely. Ann was instrumental in finding so many of our old friends from KHS when she and I decided to organise a one-off reunion in 2002 which is still ongoing. She was a good friend to us all and will be much missed.

# Anne Nailer (nee Roberts 1954-61)

Anne and her husband moved to Manor Avenue South at the end of May 2010, having taken over two years to sell their flat in Cockfosters, London. She has joined Wharton Park Golf Club and Fitness First Gym. She attends St. John's Church. She is looking forward to meeting any Old Girls from her time at K.H.S. and is already in contact with Christina Hickman (nee Drew). {It was good to see Anne and her husband at Mr. Neil Cook's talk about Hanbury Hall gardens on 18/3/11, held at the school and attended by 43 members and guests.}

## Elaine Smith (nee Penn)

Miss Wells' Music Class 1950-51

Elaine has found two photos which are now on the website and on Facebook complete with most names. She says they must have been taken between Commemoration Day October 1950 and Easter 1951 since the girls are in Winter uniform but she can't think why the photo was actually taken. Has anybody any ideas?

## Shirley Whiteside (nee Hall) 1967-72

Shirley is recovering from her annual stint in the 1940's at the Severn Valley Railway with her husband Mark. Tasks include manning the 1940s 'house' – this involves much tea making, knitting, sewing, washing and ironing and also includes weekday talks to parties of visiting evacuee schoolchildren. It really makes you appreciate all the modern conveniences available at home. In June Shirley joined Alice Bennett (nee Cookson), Alison Hargreaves, Julie Ekman (nee Kynaston) Val Maybury and Marion Wilson (nee Groves). from 1967-72/4 years for a very enjoyable visit to Madresfield Court near Malvern. As the Court is now to be closed to visitors for the next two years as the new family settle in this was a special treat organised for us by Alice, who literally lives next door to the magnificent Hall, and who provided us and 20 other friends and family with a delicious lunch – thank you, Alice!

Muriel Hein (nee Taylor) 1939-46 tells us that Audrey Lewis (nee Spokes) is in a care home in Oxfordshire. She says: I believe her good friend in Kidderminster was Monica Carter. Is she still around? She left the High School when I was 13 so I didn't know her very well then but I knew her brother Johnny. Then when I was 18 I started working with her when she was 23 at Shenstone Training College. Apart from the matron and assistant we were the only females with 200 male students and 20 staff members! She married the history lecturer Jim Lewis. Muriel lives in Calgary.

# Rosemarie Moore (née Brockway) 1945-51

Rosemarie's youngest son Matthew and his wife Harriett are the proud parents of Beatrix Emma Moore who was born on July 8<sup>th</sup> 2011. Harriett's mother is Old Girl Jane Morris, (nee Tatlow).



If you would like to put anything in the Newsletter or have it added to the email version, please contact Alison Hargreaves via web@khsoldgirls.org.uk

The following are contacts and snippets via the KHS Facebook Group called "Kidderminster High School OGA"— where over 80 ex pupils chat, reminisce, debate and laugh. Join us ......

## Mary Ralph (nee Davies, 1968-73)

I left KHS in 1973 as Mary Davies and enroled as a cadet nurse at Kidderminster Hospital. I had always wanted to be a nurse and never even thought of staying on into the sixth form. I soon discovered i was duplicating studies done at school so i decided to leave there and get a job until i was 18 and then return to nursing. I joined the local council as a junior in the wages and accounts office of the engineers dept. I worked with a nice group of women and there was a variety of jobs and procedures to learn. I wasn't there long however before i met and married my first (and only) husband Alan and became Mary Ralph and started a family. It's hard to imagine now that there was no maternity leave in those days. I enjoyed being a full time mother though and Alan played a lot of sport so we followed him to football, rugby and cricket matches and got involved with making the tea's and enjoyed the social life.

The boys followed suit and it wasn't long before i found myself driving them all over the country to various sporting venues for their own matches. As a 'treat' i started to go to night school with a friend where we enrolled in a diverse range

of subjects including hair dressing, Indian head massage, reflexology, soft furnishing, book-keeping, ballet, typing and even tap dancing (Ginger Rogers eat your heart out!). Every year we did something completely different. After being desperate to leave school it seemed i quite liked studying after all!. My career had taken a back seat and apart from a few odd jobs i worked as a book keeper part-time for several years, then had a little second hand shop with a friend for a year before joining the ambulance service. This was a great job, i really loved it and we had such fun and kept all the patients amused with

our jokes and antics and they entertained us with their life histories. It's amazing how many people met their intended at the bus stop or the railway station years ago. After five or so years i decided to go back to 'uni' and fulfill my ambition of becoming a nurse. Alan and i had been to Australia and thought about emigrating and nursing opportunities were rife in Australia. Studying was hard going, training had changed a lot since the 70's. I started as a general nursing student but changed to mental health nurse half way through and qualified in Nov 1999. My first post was at Shelton Hospital. Shrewsbury - a bit if a trek from Kidderminster but i loved it there, it's one of the few older asylum type hospitals surviving, lovely grounds including a cricket pitch and bowling green, soon to close though with all the changes in the NHS. After Shelton i moved to Kidderminster Hospital and was able to walk to work. I missed Shropshire though and after splitting up with Alan in 2000 (well 40 is a funny age!!) i moved to Bridgnorth and got my present job in Telford but have moved house again - this time back to Stourport - it seems i must like driving too. I live with John, my partner of 8yrs, not far from the canal so we go on nice bike rides into Kidderminster and Stourport, around the basin and along the riverside and there is an old railway line we can cycle along too. In my spare time i still enjoy studying various topics and have. In the last few vears i have tried to utilise the skills i have learnt and work from home as and when i can and offer to clients/patients at work one day a week. I now have four grand-children Max, 7, Enid,4, Morgan, 2 and baby Zac 6m, so i do try and spend as much time as i can with them as they are so lovely.

## Carrie Kabek nee Howells, left 1970

Hi...I was Carol Howells at KHS, and left in 1970. Living in Kansas City, work for an affiliate of Amazon.com as a copywriter & editor, and I'm also an author, essayist and publishing-related graphic designer. My husband and I share five sons! We own a specialty food business.

# Anne Ursell (nee Pitt) 1955 to 1961

I had jet black hair, very curly and I was friends with Anne Price, Paula Bourne, Liz (Coore)Mein, Billie Hull, Gill Jones. Anne Price and I were called the two Annes and were always in trouble. I lived with my grandmother at Greenhill and cycled to school with Paula Bourne, who called for me. I moved down to North London when I left, then went abroad for a couple of years and married someone I had met in North London. When we came back to the UK, we lived in Harpenden for 25 years with our three children and have now lived in Cheshire for 16 years. Worcestershire will always be my favourite county. Looking back so far can make me feel sad!! Photos of me as a child on www.bigglesgb.com and Friends Reunited.

## Naomi Bishop 1971-77, KC1 1977-8

I live in Warwickshire. I have twins, a girl and boy, Thea and Louis, who have not long turned 13. When they're not taxing my ingenuity, I work as a journalist for BBC Midlands Today and a director of the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust of Gaydon, Warks. I completed the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run for the third time in four years. In 2010 I drove P909, the world's oldest Rover manufactured in 1904. Luckily apart from losing a manifold and a mudguard, it was pretty uneventful!

## Chris Goggin (nee Brook) 1969-74

Last year Pat and I joined our son Sean by becoming American Citizens. We have a been here on and off for the last for the last 26 years so as we now have no plans to return to the UK to live we decided it was finally time to apply for Citizenship. Luckily we both had our applications accepted, I dread to think what we would have done if they denied the application.

A couple of years ago I decided that I had been riding pillion on the back of a motorbike for long enough and took a 'Riders Edge' course to learn how to ride the bike myself. This course is a 4 day course and at the end of it you are able to take the certificate you receive to the drivers licencing office and receive your full motorbike drivers licence. Our class took the riding section of the course in 90+ degrees F, having your brain boil whist trying to learn a new skill is not much fun! I succeeded though and now am the proud owner of a Suzuki 250TU... she is red! Pat and I go riding most weekends.

I am now working full time again at the Marietta High School as Assistant to the Registrar, this unfortunately means I will not be able to join the Centenary celebrations in October. I shall be thinking of you all though.

I came back to the UK in June to visit my Mom, who lives in Stourport. I had the chance to meet Anne Budworth (nee Amies) and Carol Goodman (nee Pugh) for dinner one of the evenings they always make me feel as though I have never been away.

Sean, (son) graduated in May 2010 and now lives in Savannah, GA which is about 5 hours by car from us. Although, like many other graduates, he was unable to secure employment relating to his degree in Psychology he working at The Green Truck in Savannah, a restaurant. So should you be passing through I suggest you stop in as it uses local farmers to supply its food and is very good.



As well as motorbike riding I am still dabbling in quilting, cross stitch and love to read when I have the time.

#### Zena Ward 1967-1974

I have poor health and am currently mostly bed bound in Bewdley (bit like sleepless in Seattle!). I have no children, no husband or partner but two child substitutes in the form of Monty and Rupert (cats). I have been unable to work for the last five years but when I can stay awake long enough, I study for a degree with the O.U. I've just finished a two year course on creative writing and am thinking of doing psychology next so I can judge how barmy I am ③. (Zena reports from others in her year) Kath Reilly, who has now retired as a solicitor and taken up photography. Nicola Carmen (nee Webb) who recently found love in a hot air balloon! Cynthia Hepwood (nee Harley), who has been married to Phil for 31 years and has two children. Their daughter, Kristina, is 25 and works for a publishing company in Oxford and their son, Robin, will be 18 in September and will be looking to go to University next year, just as they put the fees up!

Maggie Bradley (nee Shaw) Raised £1450.00 for breast cancer projects by Moonwalking in London this year, dressed as a fairy elephant in a pink tutu! {Zena, Kath, Nicola, Cynthia and Maggie are planning a holiday in Cornwall later this year with Shelley Southall, Jill Cartwright and Jan Gullachsen!}

# Jill Ganderton (nee Cartwright) 1967-74

Back in IIIH, Mrs Crossland gave us all a project on Canada, and after doing the research and the project, I vowed to go to Canada one day. Well, here I am! Rik and I moved here in 1981, we came on a one year exchange from the UK, and never went back! So nearly 30 years later (YIKES!) we are now proud citizens of the land of the Maple Leaf, have our two Canadian sons Nik 23 and Tom 20, and we love life here.

A snippet from the past; one day I was called to Miss Renwick's office. I quivered all the way there, trying to figure out what she might have caught me out on! But it turned out she wanted to suggest that I go to University (I hadn't planned to go) and she thought I should be an architect! I thought it was an odd suggestion at the time, but have since discovered that I love buildings and

design! Rik and I have designed and built additions on various houses. In fact we are busy on a deck and some outside structures at our home right now! My work these days finds me constantly working with houses and I love to see a project come together. So Miss Renwick perhaps saw something in me at 17 that took me quite a few more years to discover!

#### Jan Gullachsen 1967-74

Every Cloud.....

My life changed 3 years ago when I awoke with double vision & a paralysed face. I spent 5 weeks on a neurological ward undergoing extensive tests & treatment. On discharge I felt like a baby having to re-learn so many things & it took nearly a year before I stopped seeing two of everything. At one point I had 4 specialists as it seemed all my No. 9 buses had come at once when I was subsequently diagnosed with Diabetes, then Breast Cancer & informed that completely incidentally I had a brain tumour that will need to be removed at some point.

A depressing tale you may think but these events have in so many ways improved my life for the better. As a Project Manager for an International Catering Company I was barely at home & spent week-nights in hotels.

Now I spend time with my family & friends & enjoy life far more. I have just spent an amazing & somewhat surreal weekend with my daughter & friends for her "Hen" Party in Wales (I danced till 2am) & this Autumn a group of us KHS girls will be descending on Rock in Cornwall for a week of fun & games.....perhaps I should leave that follow up story to one of them. (Jan lives in Stratford-upon-Avon with her partner of ten years, David and has 2 children).

# Libby Shewry (nee Owen) 1967-74

Having lived overseas since August 1980 I feel very left out of events in my home town and with KHS, I have caught up in person with Maggie Shaw (both in Sydney & in London) , Lesley Walker (on a visit to the UK in 2006) and keep in touch with others via Facebook and Friends Reunited. The Church service in October 2012 gives me the opportunity to reunite with

many of the girls who I attended school with and I fervently hope that many will attend the service and join me for breakfast/lunch/dinner/ or just a wine or two during my stay in Kidderminster. I am hoping that I may be able to catch up with some 'old girls' on my trip from Australia to the UK as there are quite a few who live in the Antipodes. Anyone wanting a travel buddy please make contact. I am looking for a colour copy of the old school badge as I would like to copy it (with the help of my trusty embroidery machine) for my trip in 2012. Please email dshewry@bigpond.net.au if you are able to help.(Ed's note, Libby has since been sent a picture of the badge but contact her via Facebook if you'd like to

## Lou Menzies (nee Salt) 1973-78

I worked in Local Government for 3 years, at WFDC. In 1980 I uprooted and moved to Sevenoaks, then Tunbridge Wells. I married Ian in 1988 in Nassau, Bahamas and the following year Dan was born. He was the first of four. Sophie in 1991, Lucie in 94 and Aimee in 1997. We moved to Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire when Dan was 6 months old, and have been here ever since! We did take two years out from 1991-1993 when we moved to Brussels with Ian's work. Having spent 20 years bringing up the family, I have been working as a make-up artist for the last couple of years.

I remember how awestruck I was at end of year assembly every year, with all the sixth form girls standing on the balcony above the hall, and a truly emotional rendition of 'Land of our Birth' resounding around the room ~ the acoustics in that hall were fabulous. Dear old Miss Renwick sitting on the stage in her finery, I seem to remember her in pale lavender...or is that just the way I imagine her? Favourite teachers were Miss Davies (Dippy) for English, Miss Finney (Skinny) for History, Diana Wake for Art (What amazing macrame hanging pots she used to make.) and Geraldine Meers for Geography. School dinners were actually very, very good~ despite the fact that my mother was (and is) an amazing cook, I always looked forward to lunch! Chicken Marengo, chicken curry, beef stew and dumplings all spring to mind; the only big no-no was

I remember the splendid outdoor pool where we had weekly lessons and an annual swimming gala. One day it was so cold in the water that I felt my swimming cap was tightening on my head, and almost fainted! —I had to be fished out and thawed out! A few of us younger girls used to sneak into Little Scotland and hang out with the sixth formers, until a teacher would come up and banish us back onto the field!

(Ed. Note: I used to look after Lou's 1<sup>st</sup> year class as their mentor – they were a lovely class despite trying to de-bag me on my last day! There is a strong chance I was in Little Scotland!)

# Sharon Cartwright (nee Wakefield) 1972-79

The chemistry lab was still and quiet as we worked on our test papers. Mr Armstrong walked squeakily from the front of the classroom. (I'm sure it was his feet that squeaked and not the shoes, as every pair was the same!). The squeak was the only sound heard and it got louder and louder, until Mr Armstrong stopped behind me. Leaning forward there was a pause and then he said:Did you know, that if all the people who slept in church services were laid end to end on the pews... they would be a lot more comfortable!" And "squeak squeak" off he went! (John Armstrong has since posted a comment about his squeaky desert boots! He retired 5 years ago from Bewdley High School and is

#### O.G.A. COMMITTEE 2010 - 11

Chairman Beryl Bedford (former teacher)

Secretary Beryl Bedford helped by Alison Hargreaves

& Rosemarie Moore (née Brockway)

Assistant Sec. Mary Wehner (née Crane)

Treasurer Shirley Whiteside (née Hall) 2008 - 11

Members Judy Neale (née Beddoes) 2009 - 11

Gloria Phillips (nee Galloway) 2009 – 11

Sheila Garlick 2010 - 12

Rosemarie Morgan (née Pitt) 2010 -12

Co-opted May Phillips (nee Tuck)

Margaret Bazley (nee Osborne)

Flower Fund Rosemarie Moore (née Brockway) and

Elisabeth Robinson (née Wrigglesworth)

Catering Elisabeth Robinson
Webmistress Alison Hargreaves
Newsletter Editor Alison Hargreaves

#### **GROUP LEADERS**

The following people are contacts for their peer groups: if you would like to contact them or add your name for your year group or time at KHS, please contact the editor or Miss Bedford.

Mary Wehner (nee Crane) 1943-50 Sheila Kirk (nee Ryder) 1946-53 Elizabeth Watt (nee Gale) 1952-58 Patricia Nash (nee Harris) 1956-63 Alison Hargreaves 1967-74 Lou Menzies (nee Salt) 1973-78

#### LAND OF OUR BIRTH

Alison Wadeley 1967-74 has been doing some research and found Brian Mattinson of the Kipling Society and sent him the link to Peggy Guest's pictures of the musical score which are on the website. He's going to have a look for us to see whether he can identify it. Alison wonders if there are any KHS music teachers who would remember. The link to his website is: http://www.kipling.org.uk/settings1.htm His catalogue of the musical settings of Kipling's verse. The aim is to make this as complete and accurate as

possible. So far, over 370 composers are linked with some 320 song titles. Including duplication, the song total is about 820; with instrumental items and theatre/cinema productions, the total number of entries has reached 900.

OGA FLOWER FUND – Elisabeth Robinson (nee Wrigglesworth) took over the flower fund in 1989 from Margaret Badland. Owing to Margaret's rather sudden death, the cash and address books were lost and it was only as a result of Elisabeth's hard work going over bank statements together with the help of various Old Girls that some sort of list of people who normally received Xmas gifts from the 'Flower and Comforts Fund' as it was then known, could be compiled. Times have changed and from a rather poor fund in 1989 when we had to ask people for donations to keep the fund solvent, due to the generosity of members we now have a healthy fund. Another Old Girl (who wishes to remain anonymous) has celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, so we now have 2 centenarians - unless someone knows differently! 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)

This the email version of the 2011 newsletter that is posted out to annual members.

www.khsoldgirls.org.uk