

# KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL



Autumn 2025

TERMLY NEWSLETTER



## Welcome to the first School newsletter of 2025-2026.

We started the new academic year with a renewed School vision which has been communicated to staff, students and parents: consolidating our core purpose (to provide the best quality education for all students so they can succeed and achieve life long success) and what we want for our School community: our students and families. We are continuing to integrate our values of integrity, curiosity and resilience into all aspects of School life.



As the autumn term 2025 comes to an end, we are very proud to recognise the achievements, academic and extracurricular, of our students across all key stages during what has been a very busy, purposeful and focused start to the year. We are also very proud of the achievements of our staffing body and Governing Board.

The many articles in this edition of the School newsletter reaffirm what an amazing, unique and successful learning community King Edward VII School is.

We hope you enjoy reading the uplifting articles and information in this edition of the newsletter.

If you would like to keep up to date about the School on a regular basis, please follow us on Bluesky; @kessheffield.bsky.social.

If you have an article that would be of interest to our School community, please email it to [jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:jjackson15@kes.sheffield.sch.uk) for consideration.

Warm regards  
Linda Gooden  
Headteacher

## Important Dates

- |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Wednesday 7 January 2026 - Year 9 Parents' Evening, 4.30pm-7pm                       | • Wednesday 4 March 2026 - Year 11 Revision Evening, 6pm-7pm                               |
| • Monday 26 January 2026 - Year 9 Information Evening                                  | • Monday 9 March 2026; Year 12 Consultation Evening, 4.30pm-7pm                            |
| • Tuesday 10 February 2026 - Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4.30pm-7pm                      | • Tuesday 17 March 2026 - Post 18 Opportunities Evening/Year 12 Parents' Evening, 6-6.45pm |
| • Friday 13 February 2026 – School closed for staff training                           | • Thursday 19 March 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening 4.30pm-7pm                              |
| • Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February 2026 - School closed for the half term break |                                                                                            |

# SCHOOL VISION

## School Vision

- Championing an inclusive culture of integrity, curiosity and resilience that empowers students to achieve success
- Maintaining high expectations and ambitious aspiration for all
- Preserving and building upon the unique historical legacy of the School.

**Core Purpose:** To provide the best quality education for all students so they can succeed and achieve life long success.

First place - Nia Patel Year 9



**Winning photos from our Eco-Committee autumn competition 'Earth's embrace at KES'.**



Third place - Glory Babalola Year 13



Second place - Mr C. Jarvis





## SUCCESSFUL LOWER SCHOOL CAREER FAIR INSPIRES FUTURE PATHWAYS FOR STUDENTS

*Miss R. Payne, Careers and Work Experience Co-ordinator and Foundation Learning Teacher.*

On Friday, 14th November 2025, King Edward VII Lower School hosted a highly successful Lower School Career Fair, bringing together a diverse range of organisations to inspire and inform our Year 8 and Year 9 students about their future opportunities. The event was a tremendous success, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of numerous organisations and professionals.

Attendees included representatives from the Environment Agency, The Council of Europe, NHS, John Heath & Sons, The Home Office, Ares Landscape Architects Ltd, In2MedSchool's School Engagement Programme, Sheffield College, NatWest, St. Luke's, HAYs, and Jobcentre Plus/ Civil Service. Their presence provided students with an invaluable chance to explore various career options, educational pathways, and qualifications.

The event was a vibrant hub of activity, with students engaging directly with industry experts, asking questions, and gaining insights into potential future careers. The participating organisations played a key role in broadening students' understanding of the diverse opportunities available to them beyond school.



We extend our sincere gratitude to all the organisations and individuals who attended and contributed to the success of this event. Their dedication and support are vital in helping our students make informed decisions about their futures. We look forward to continued collaboration and future events that will further inspire our young learners. Thank you to everyone who made this event memorable and impactful!

If you feel this is something you would like to be involved with in the future, please contact careers. [Careers@kes.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:Careers@kes.sheffield.sch.uk).

# Our Students

## BBC YOUNG WRITERS' AWARD WINNER

*Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form*



Earlier this term, Rebecca Smith, who has been with us since Year 7 and is now in Year 13, won the BBC Young Writers' Award 2025. This is such an amazing achievement and we are incredibly proud of Rebecca. If you would like to listen to Rebecca's winning story, please visit the BBC website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2cslf9QxZKznVCqpIBS0SY0/winner-of-the-2025-bbc-young-writers-award-announced>



### Winner of the 2025 BBC Young Writers' Award announced!



**Huge congratulations to Rebecca Smith, 17, who has won the 2025 BBC Young Writers' Award with Cambridge University, for her story, 'Scouse's Run'.**

Rebecca was announced as the winner on Tuesday, 30th September, live on Front Row, Radio 4, at a ceremony in Broadcasting House. The ceremony also celebrated the winner of the **National Short Story Award**.

Her emotionally charged story exploring toxic masculinity, the consequences of bullying, and the violence that comes from suppressed emotions, won enormous praise from the judges. Chair of judges Lauren Layfield, who announced the winner, says:

"It's important, massively relevant to 2025 and fun to read - until you reach the ending which will take your breath away. Rebecca Smith has written something remarkable, capturing kitchen sink realism and Northern grit - she's a true talent with a big future ahead and I'm thrilled that she takes the Young Writers Award 2025."

About her story, Rebecca says:

"I started the story as a sort of epic adventure gone wrong, but as I was writing I began to lean into themes of peer pressure and toxic masculinity. The character Runt's reaction is a result of built-up resentment from the bullying he has received [and] this violent element demonstrates, in my opinion, how young men deal with feeling powerless."



**You can listen to 'Scouse's Run' here**

A gang of teens, a stolen trolley, and a reckless bet. An emotionally charged story set in Yorkshire exploring toxic masculinity, bullying, and the violence that comes from suppressed emotions. Praised by the judges for its 'strong voice,' 'tension' and 'undercurrent of danger and violence'.



# Our Students

## CUTLERS' VISIT TO STRAALTECHNIK UK

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

On 4th November, Sarah Ward, Director of Better Learners Better Workers warmly welcomed the Year 9 Ambassadors to Straaltechnik UK, which is Sarah's family firm. They were given a tour of the factory by Graham Ward, who told us how he battled adversity to set up the multi million pound business he runs today. Thank you for having us!



# Our Students

## A DAY OF DISCOVERY AND CELEBRATION AT CUTLERS' HALL

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

On Monday 20th October, Mrs Hird and Mrs Proost proudly accompanied our Year 9 Ambassadors to the prestigious Cutlers' Hall in Sheffield. This visit marked a significant milestone in their journey as part of the Cutlers' Ambassadors Programme.

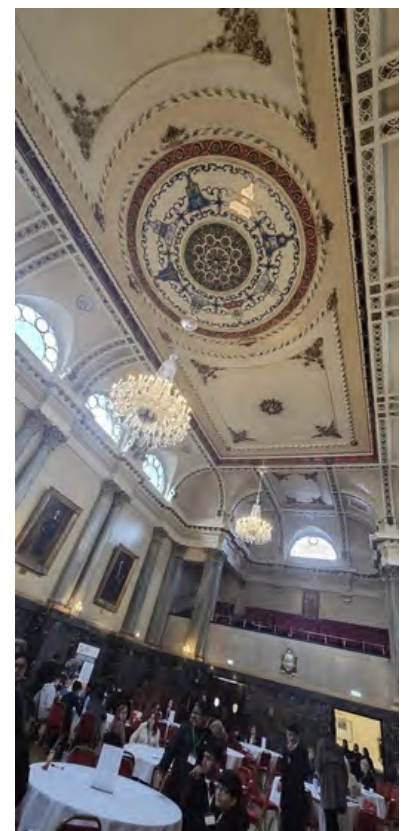


### Activities and Collaboration

Working alongside students from two other participating schools, our Ambassadors engaged in a variety of enriching experiences:

- 🏛️ Tour of Cutlers' Hall – Exploring the history and heritage of this iconic venue
- 💼 Worked with Aviva – Gaining insights into career pathways and future opportunities
- 🏗️ Construction Project Workshop – Collaborating with Willmot Dixon and the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre
- 🤝 Team-building Activities – Strengthening bonds and learning more about each other

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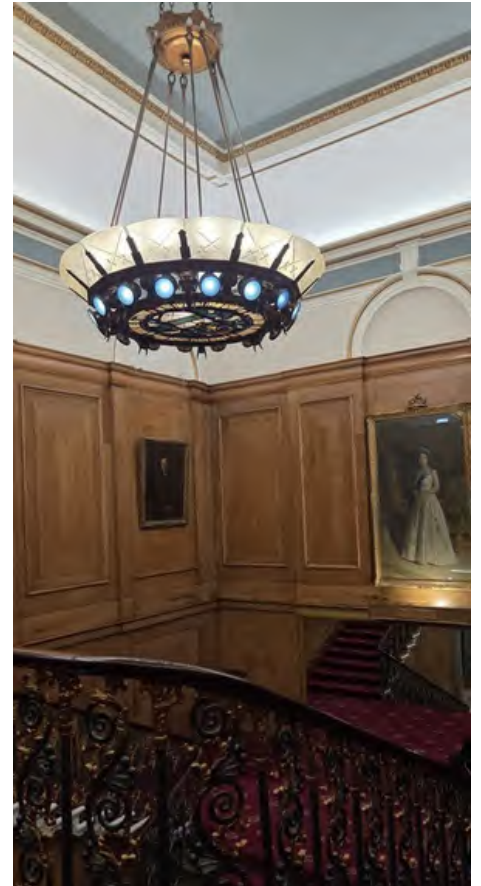
## *Cutlers' Hall celebration, continued*

### Evening Presentations and Formal Welcome

At 4:30pm, parents and guardians arrived to hear an inspiring address from Master Cutler, Professor Keith Jackson. Following the speech, our Ambassadors confidently presented their group projects to the assembled guests, showcasing their teamwork, creativity, and communication skills. The event concluded with a formal welcome to the programme by the Master Cutler, marking the beginning of an exciting year ahead.

### Reflections

It was a day filled with pride, learning, and inspiration. We are thrilled to see our students embark on this journey and look forward to the opportunities and growth the Cutlers' Ambassadors Programme will bring.



## OH CHRISTMAS TREE

*Mrs. K. Proost, Key Stage 3 Leader*

Sophie, Poppy and Olive made a superb job of decorating the tree at Lower School!

Thank you girls.



# Our Students

## WINTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The School's winter concert, held on 3rd December, was a spectacular event filled with talented performers and enthusiastic audience members. From the choir to the orchestra and solo musicians to bands, the concert showcased a diverse range of musical talents.

Every single performer brought their unique style and energy to the stage, captivating the audience with their performances. The concert was a true celebration of the musical talent at KES.



The success of the concert can be attributed to the hard work and dedication of all the participants, who spent countless hours practicing and perfecting their performances.

It was a night to remember, filled with joyful music, rapturous applause, and left everyone with a sense of pride for our School and the incredible community around it. Thank you to all who participated and to the staff that supported and nurtured this amazing talent!





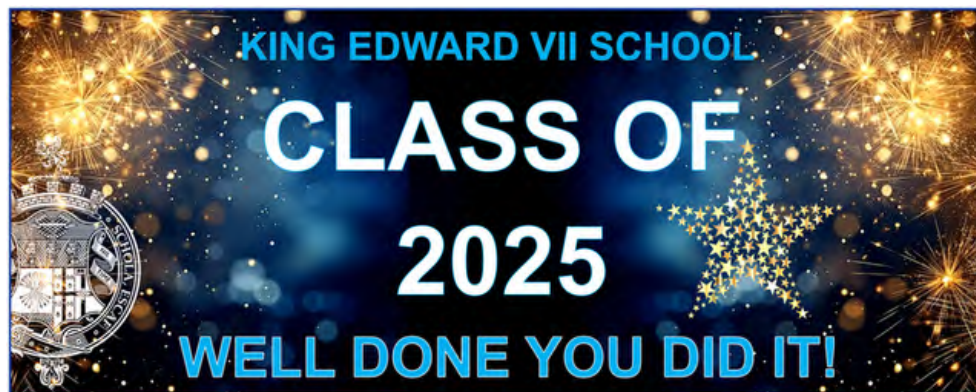
# Our Students

## YEAR 11 GCSE CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS EVENING

*Mr. J. Kennedy, Assistant Headteacher, Key Stage 4*

We were proud to hold our ex-Year 11 GCSE Certificate Presentation event in the Upper School hall on Thursday 4th December. It was lovely to welcome back students who had left to go into training or education elsewhere, alongside those who transitioned into Year 12 here at KES.

Lots of parents and carers came along too to celebrate their child's success which was wonderful. We wish all our students (and now Old Edwardians) continued success in their chosen pathway.



### **Outstanding Achievement Overall**

David Aaron  
Thijs Cissoko  
Elliott Taylor  
Nathan Wier

### **Old Edwardians' Associate Prizes**

Thomas Barrett  
Noel Broadbent  
Ruben Davis  
Minh Nguyen  
Zahida Qand

### **Outstanding Achievement & Progress**

Stella Charlesworth, Umar Ali Rehman, Farah Zaaneen, Abdulazeez Al-Jashaam, Esme Griffin, Poppy Tedstill, Nathan Wier, Hashaam Iqbal, Chevis Lau, Ruben Davis, Layan Awad, Edward Houtby, William Stringer, Jackie Wang, Noel Broadbent, Samuel Lawal, Lydia Miller, Thomas Barrett, Jomana Elgaiyar, Lucas Woods, David Aaron, Sydney Myles, Lacie Fennessy, Lyra Baker, Kaveesha Weerakoon, Eloise Radford, Leela Birdi, Ella Barradell, Millie Green, Asil Abu Shaala, Muzamil Aftab, Minh Nguyen, Hajrah Khan, Isla Wilson-Boulton, Thomas Anderson, Pablo So, Lucy Bedford, Ellin Draper, Abdulwahab Shebani, Robyn Hemingway, Thijs Cissoko, Rosa Ransford, Ayesha Mahmood, Husnain Mahmood



## A TRIUMPH ON STAGE: KS4 & KS5 PRODUCTION OF 'THE VISIT'

*Miss F. O' Farrell, Drama and Music Technician*

We are incredibly proud of our KS4 and KS5 students for their outstanding recent production of *The Visit*. Over the course of several performances, students demonstrated exceptional talent, commitment and teamwork, bringing this challenging and thought-provoking play to life with confidence and maturity.



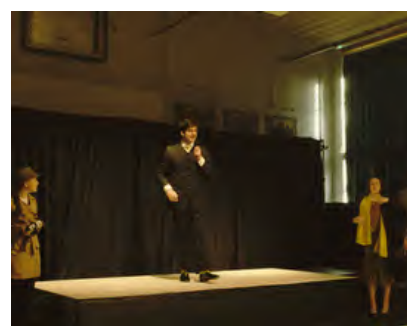
The cast delivered powerful performances, showing impressive characterisation, emotional depth and professionalism throughout. *The Visit* is no easy play to stage, yet our students rose to the challenge, captivating audiences and earning well-deserved praise.

What made this production especially remarkable was the level of student involvement across every aspect of the show. Live music was performed by students, adding atmosphere and impact to each scene. Props were designed and created by students, showcasing creativity and attention to detail, while lighting and sound were also run by students on performance nights, ensuring the technical elements ran smoothly and enhanced the drama on stage.

This production was truly a whole-school effort. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the staff who supported the performances behind the scenes — from those who helped with refreshments, cleaning and front-of-house duties, to our caretaking team and colleagues who generously lent props and resources. Their support was invaluable in making the event such a success.

We would also like to thank parents and carers for their continued encouragement, flexibility and support, both during rehearsals and on performance evenings. Your support makes opportunities like this possible.

Congratulations to everyone involved in *The Visit*. It was a production to be immensely proud of and a wonderful celebration of creativity, collaboration and commitment across our school community.







## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM

Please follow us on Bluesky to keep up to date with all our activities!

<https://bsky.app/profile/kessheffield.bsky.social>

**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 9d**

A wonderful evening of celebration at our ex Y11 Certificate evening. Thank you to all the staff, students and parents for making this a superb night to acknowledge the hard work, perseverance and tenacity our students displayed over the last five years.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**

Lots of donations to the foodbank so far from our very generous staff, students, parents/carers and community members. Let's keep up the good work! Thank you in advance for any further donations made.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**

Today we were thrilled to welcome award winning author Phil Earle to School. Phil captivated Y7's with stories behind his books including When the Sky Falls, and shared his journey as a writer. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, gain writing tips, and get their books personally signed.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 3h**

Thank you to parents, students and staff for donating to the KES foodbank appeal. Your donations will make a huge difference in the community. A big thank you to Dave and Zak from S6 Food Bank for collecting the donations 🍌





## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM



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**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 6h**

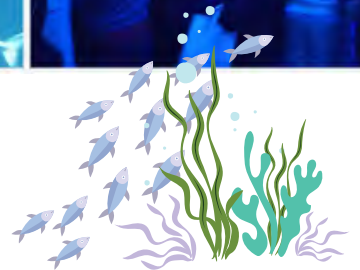
The last night of our play performed by members of our very own Blank Slate Theatre took place on Friday; Friedrich Durrenmatt's 'The Visit'. A darkly comic, thought provoking play. Original music written for the show by Elena Armitage, one of our Y13 students. Congratulations to you all!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 4d**

The Y7's visited the Deep yesterday and today!

The students were amazing and their behaviour was outstanding throughout the trip. They did KES proud!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**

#Inktober at King Edward VII School was a great success!

The students learned a great deal from the daily literacy prompts and practiced drawing skills that made a wonderful board of Art. Here is our Inktober board!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kessheffield.bsky.social · 9d**

The English department organised for Author Jeffrey Boakye to visit Y11 students this morning to talk about his work, his childhood and how identity is formed. Students were mesmerised and inundated him with questions at the end.







## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM

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**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**  
Students at Lower School are studying and working really hard today but are very excited to support Children In Need by wearing pyjamas, taking part in events and collecting coins to cover a massive Pudsey Bear. A wonderful parent has made the attached cake for Children In Need.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 11d**  
Things are getting festive at KES! Two beautifully decorated trees. Thank you to Poppy, Sophie and Olive for decorating the one at Lower School, and Mr Jarvis from our facilities department for decorating the one at Upper School. Both trees look amazing! 🎄 🍎



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 19d**  
30 students visited Magdalen College recently and they were a huge credit to the School. They took part in three academic sessions as well as meeting former KES students who are enjoying their time at Oxford. It was a great experience for all involved.  
#KES #Oxford #AcademicExcellence



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 27d**  
On 13.11.25 two students from KES entered the Historical Association's Great Debate competition. They were speaking about how local public and personal records are useful to Historians understanding our areas local stories. They both spoke exceptionally. Rayna won and Keziah came joint runner up!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**  
KES students were amazing in the School community earlier this week conducting their annual planting at Crosspool. Members of the public passing by were chatting with them and told them they were doing an amazing job, that they could plant in their garden and that they deserved medals!! 🌸 🌻 🌿



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 2mo**  
Geography Great Bake Off 2025: A Sweet Celebration of Learning and Creativity!  
This year's Geography Great Bake Off was a feast for the senses and a brilliant display of imagination, teamwork, and geographic knowledge—all served up in cake form!





## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM



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## SPORT

**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 10d**

It was a wonderful afternoon at Westways Primary School for all the Year 1 classes. Our Sports Leaders delivered their Winter Festival, getting everyone into the festive spirit. Lots of fun had by all! Well done to our fantastic helpers and to all the Year 1 students from Westways.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 21d**

Race 4 of the Sheffield Schools' Cross Country took place at Norfolk Park on Saturday with an excellent turnout from our runners. Congratulations to all participants for their efforts and outstanding individual performances. The next race is scheduled for Saturday 6 December at Castle Dyke 🌟



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 27d**

Y8 girls' orienteering team in Edinburgh this weekend: Representing KES at the British Schools' competition. Having won the title in Y7, they rose to the challenge again, becoming British Champions for the 2nd year in a row! Y12 girls delivered an excellent performance, finishing in 2nd place!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 7d**

We are incredibly proud of our Y10 girls who competed in the English Schools' Cross Country Cup Final this weekend. These athletes have been a team since Y4 at Westways Primary School. A huge congratulations to them on an amazing achievement and true team spirit!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 6d**

Well done to our Year 8 and Year 9 netballers who took on the roles of coaches and umpires rather than players. They supported a Year 5/6 netball tournament involving over 17 primary schools. They were all brilliant and represented our School with pride. Well done!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 27d**

On Sunday our netball players visited the Canon Medical Arena for a coaching session and to watch a match between Sheffield Steel and Hull Chevrans. Students gained valuable insights from the coaching and enjoyed a thrilling game. Many thanks to Sheffield Steel for this fantastic opportunity.







## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM

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## SPORT

**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**  
A busy weekend of cross country for KES. On Saturday morning our runners took part in the third race of the Sheffield Schools' Cross Country Series at Bradfield High School. The course was challenging but our athletes performed brilliantly with outstanding individual results. Well done to everyone!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**  
English Schools' Cross Country Cup: Y10 girls competing in the regional round of the Cross Country Cup in Leeds on Saturday. Their determination and teamwork were outstanding and they earned a place in the national finals in Rugby on Saturday 6 December. Fantastic achievement!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 2mo**  
What a start for our Year 8 Netball Team! They smashed their first 3 matches last night, taking home wins against Tapton A, Tapton B, and Meadowhead. Training is paying off, with solid defence and outstanding shooting on display. An amazing team effort from start to finish. Well done, girls!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo**  
On Monday, our Year 9 netball team played a friendly match against Tapton's A and B teams. They narrowly lost to Tapton's A team but put in a fantastic performance to secure a convincing win against their B team. A huge well done to the whole squad for their skill, teamwork and determination!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 2mo**  
Our Y9 netballers kicked off the season with some outstanding performances! The team have been training hard! A brilliant win against King Egbert. Narrow losses by one goal to both Tapton and Mercia – so close! You played fantastically; a team to watch this season for sure!







## SOME OF OUR BLUESKY POSTS THIS TERM

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## SPORT

**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo

This half term KS3 girls have been playing netball. To add a competitive element all forms take part in an interform competition to showcase their skills. Monday 20th October was the Y8 final, with 8S1 crowned winners and P1 & R2 joint second. Fantastic spirit and support – well done everyone!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo

A fantastic turnout for KES runners at the second Sheffield Schools' Cross Country race on 11.10.25 at Longley Park. Outstanding team performances! Well done to all who represented the School so brilliantly. The next race is on 8.11.25 at Bradfield High School. Good luck to all competitors!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 2mo

What a fantastic day for our cross country teams at the regional round of the English Schools' Cross Country Cup in York. 4 runners from each group achieved brilliant results: Y8 girls 5th, Y8 boys 6th. Huge congratulations to Y10 girls, who finished 3rd – securing their place in the next round!



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo

A lovely Sunday for our KES netballers at Canon Medical Arena! Huge thanks to Sheffield Steel Netball for inviting us – our players enjoyed a tour of the facilities, a pre-match workshop, met athletes, and watched a high-quality game. Our netballers are excited to keep developing their own game.



**King Edward VII School, Sheffield** @kesssheffield.bsky.social · 1mo

We were so proud of our Y7 netballers last night! They represented the School for the first time in the Sheffield Schools' Netball League and gave it their all. Although they didn't win, they showed fantastic effort, determination, and progress. A brilliant start to their journey!





# OUR SIXTH FORM

## POST 16 OPEN EVENING

*Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form*

The Post 16 Open Evening took place at the Upper School site on Tuesday 11 November 2025.

The event was a success with over 900 families on site. Prospective students and their parents and carers were able to talk to our Post 16 Ambassadors, quiz subject staff and explore the Upper School building.

It was a busy evening and many subject areas were very full for most of the evening.

The atmosphere was fantastic, with a real buzz to the School.

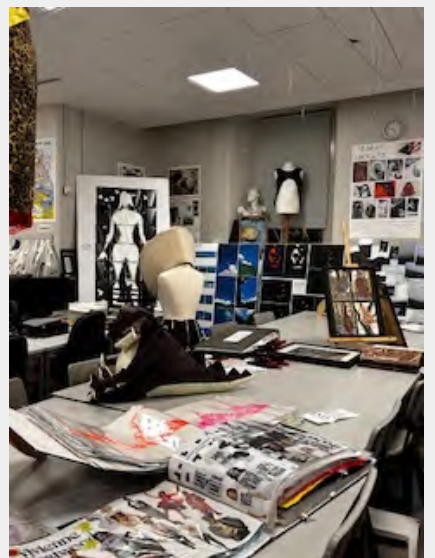
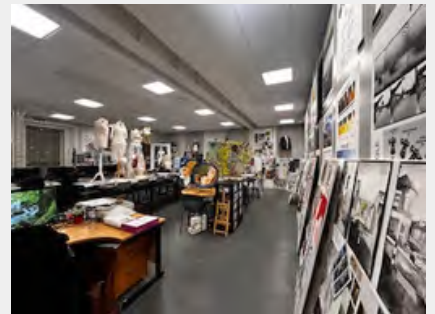
We received a range of positive feedback:

- how enthusiastic and knowledgeable were the staff
- ambassadors are fantastic
- the curriculum breadth makes it such an attractive option
- probationary private study is a good idea to bridge the gap between GCSE and Sixth Form independent study

If you missed the Open Evening there are lots of resources on our website. <https://www.kes.sheffield.sch.uk/virtual-post-16-open-evening-live-event>. These include videos of current student ambassadors, a site tour, and Curriculum Leaders introducing their subjects.

The Sixth Form Prospectus can be found on our website: <https://www.kes.sheffield.sch.uk/prospectuses>

Applications can be made on Sheffield Progress <https://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk/>. The deadline for applications is the end of January 2026.



## ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD PROGRAMME SUCCESS

*Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form*

We are delighted that twenty-five of our Year 12 students have been placed on the Access to Sheffield University outreach schemes. These play a crucial role in widening participation and ensuring that talented students from all backgrounds have the opportunity to benefit from higher education.



The primary benefit of these schemes lies in expanding educational opportunity. Access to Sheffield initiatives typically provide sustained academic support, mentoring, and guidance that help students build confidence and develop the skills needed for successful university study. Many participants come from groups historically under-represented in higher education—such as those from low-income families, first-generation university applicants, and students from schools with low progression rates. Through workshops, subject taster sessions, online resources, and summer schools, participants gain early exposure to university-level thinking, which demystifies the admissions process and reduces anxiety about the transition to higher education. A further benefit is the tailored personal support offered, which often includes help with personal statements, advice on course choices, and interview preparation.

Access to Sheffield schemes are intentionally broad to capture the diverse needs of prospective students. The programs generally target learners from Year 9 through to post-16, ensuring early engagement and long-term impact. Some schemes are subject-specific, focusing on areas such as medicine, engineering, law, and STEM, while others concentrate on general academic development and university readiness. The University works collaboratively with schools, colleges, families, and community organisations to create a supportive ecosystem around the student. The schemes usually include both in-person activities—such as campus visits and residential experiences—and flexible online components, making them accessible to students across the region and beyond.

The impact of Access to Sheffield outreach schemes is substantial, both for individual participants and for the wider educational landscape. Students who take part often report increased motivation, improved academic performance, and a greater sense of self-efficacy. Many ultimately progress to competitive degree programmes, sometimes with reduced grade offers in recognition of the additional barriers they face. The university benefits from a more diverse and socially representative student body, enriching the academic community and fostering a culture of inclusion. In the longer term, the schemes contribute to social mobility by supporting students into careers they may not otherwise have considered. On a societal level, they help address inequalities in access to higher education by reaching learners who would otherwise be overlooked.



## Our Sixth Form

## YEAR 12 CLIMATE EDUCATION RECEIVES DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION PLAUDITS

*Contribution from Millie Green, Year 12*



The whole of Year 12 took part in Climate Fresk workshops on October 21<sup>st</sup>. A Department for Education Officer who observed the event for the day praised the work of King Edward VII on cross-curricular climate education, as part of the school's newly devised Climate Action Plan, noting particularly the richness of student discussions, the rigour of the underlying climate science and the focus on building resilience and hope.

On 21st October the School dedicated a day off timetable to all Year 12 students, to encourage a new method of climate activism, not one of helplessness but instead one of facing facts and employing hope.

A global non-profit organisation, named Climate Fresk, delivered a three hour workshop to every student, educating us about the importance of understanding the science of climate change right through to recognising our role in the fight against it, and how this may be applicable to our futures.

The event is just one aspect of the KES climate action plan, a cross curricular approach which aims to demonstrate the applicability of environmental issues to all subject areas, whether it be the scientific relevance in biology or the media messaging surrounding the climate emergency in English.

**Continued on next page**

# Our Sixth Form

## Y12 Climate Education, continued



The session was a comprehensive deep dive into climate change right through from causation and effect, to action and impact.

Climate Fresk are a global organisation comprised of more than 90,000 volunteers across 167 countries who deliver workshops to businesses, places of education and many more in over 45 languages! They utilise the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, which collate scientific findings to advise global bodies and political organisations, to create a set of 42 cards which demonstrate the causes of climate change, the impacts and the actions which can be taken to ease the effects.

The workshop also utilised a thoughtful approach of head, heart, hands which focused on a range of skills derived from the principles of knowledge, feelings and actions. I found this to be an extremely helpful way to approach learning about such an enormous topic which so often is spoken about in an agenda fuelled way.

The first component of the session informed us of the scientific processes involved in climate change, we were given cards in bite sized chunks and were asked to order them in a way which made sense to us, we worked collaboratively, which allowed to us to gain insight into the perceptions of others on a wide range of the issues. By the end of this process we had ordered all 42 cards, and had discussed issues right through from the burning of fossil fuels, to the human inequality caused by climate change.

We were then asked to explore the emotions evoked by conversations we had just had, and we were prompted to discuss these feelings. This was for me the most interesting aspect of the day, to see how different people can react so differently to the same information. Some people were purely angered, angered by the human implication or the results of it. Others felt a degree of sadness or desperation, the sense that perhaps the often amplified rhetoric that climate change is 'too far gone' was true. No matter our reaction, we were encouraged to listen to others and recognise the relevance and validity of all of these feelings in relation to the climate crisis.

***Continued on next page***



## ***Y12 Climate Education, continued***

Finally the session was brought to a close by discussing ways change can be enacted. We were to plot our ideas onto two axes, how easy the action is to enforce, and how much of an impact the action will have. I found this was a really helpful lens through which to consider change as often the first things which come to mind are on the extremities of these parameters. We particularly focused on actions which can be implemented effectively within the school community.

The school has an active Eco-committee facilitated by Ms. Ursu, who leads a wide range of initiatives across the school, including improving green areas within the school and ensuring cross curricular climate education. One topic we explored hugely was ideas surrounding energy efficiency within schools. According to a 2024 study by e-Energy an estimated 30% of school's total energy consumption is wasted during weekends and holidays, and roughly 70% of schools are still using outdated and inefficient lighting. Whilst our school has recently installed efficient LEDs into most classrooms, there are still huge amounts which can be done within school to reduce our energy waste.

The day was undoubtedly unique, it was the largest event of its kind in a state school in the UK, and the enormity of that could be felt throughout. The event also drew traction and attention from central Government. A representative from the Department for Climate Education, Juanita Shepherd, visited the school to experience climate education in action.

She shared her observations of the day with the School: "It was a pleasure to be invited to see Climate Fresk being delivered at King Edward VII School. I was uplifted by hearing from the headteacher about her school's approach to climate education and enjoyed speaking to the students about how important this is to their futures. The climate science was rigorous and the richness of the students' discussion around their hopes, fears but also ability to change things for the better left me feeling optimistic. Climate change is a universal issue and all efforts being made to educate students of the facts and the importance of climate resilience should be applauded."

The session was hugely informative, and the facilitators evoked a real sense of pragmatic realism in the way they delivered the information, and it's undoubtable that we as a school have the knowledge necessary to implement real change within the school community.



# Our Sixth Form

## ECO-COMMITTEE NEWS

Miss Ursu on behalf of the Eco-committee.

Please take a look at our newsletter for November/December. As you can see, we have been busy this term. 🍀🌲

I would like to give a special thank you to all eco-committee members. They have been brilliant, very organised and committed to our meetings and activities. Also, to Mrs Creasy and Mrs Mellor for their help and support with our Art project. 🌸

As usual, we have a lot planned after Christmas and we cannot wait to share with you more of our work around KES.

The Eco-committee would like to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas/break. Well deserved!





## GETTING READY FOR THE REAL WORLD!

*Miss. R. Payne, Careers and Work Experience Co-ordinator and Foundation Learning Teacher*

### Post 16 Mock Interviews

Get ready for the Real World!



On Monday 24th November, our sixth form students had a fantastic opportunity to participate in a series of engaging and realistic mock interviews. These sessions are designed to prepare students for real-world interview scenarios, helping them develop essential communication, confidence, and professionalism skills.

Participating in mock interviews offered numerous benefits:

- **Build Confidence:** Students become more comfortable answering challenging questions under pressure, reducing interview nerves.
- **Receive Personalised Feedback:** Participants get valuable insights into their strengths and areas for improvement, helping them refine their approach.
- **Develop Key Skills:** The exercises enhance speaking, listening, and presentation abilities—crucial for success in any interview.
- **Prepare for the Future:** Whether applying for university, jobs, or apprenticeships, students gain relevant experience that boosts their readiness.
- **Make a Great Impression:** Showing initiative and preparedness can set students apart from the competition.

The event saw students actively engaging in their mock interviews and gaining confidence in their interview techniques. We are proud of their enthusiasm and progress and look forward to seeing how these skills will benefit them in their future endeavours.

A huge thank you to our visitors for giving up their time to help with the mock interviews — it would not be possible without your support.

Well done to all who participated!

# Our Sixth Form

## GETTING READY FOR THE REAL WORLD!

*Mr. L. Wainman, Second in Department Art, Photography, Design & Technology and Engineering*

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October our Btec Level 3 Engineering students visited Swann Morton Ltd., a local organisation that we have had very good links with over the years. We were welcomed and taken on a tour of their Hillsborough premises and the students were given the opportunity to ask questions to support them on the assignments involved on their course.



The students represented the School and themselves very positively and showed real interest and thoughtfulness in their questioning. We are very grateful that the School was offered the opportunity to give the students this informative tour of a local Sheffield engineering organisation.



The students involved were :

Matthew Dawn

Felix Tam

Joshua Holmes

Bibhan Chanda

Salah-Udeen Khan

Tomas Heskin



## SOROPTOMIST FUNDRAISER

*Contribution from Daphne Cawthorne, Soroptimist International of Sheffield*

Each year for the past few years, groups of Sixth Form students at King Edward VII School have worked with members of the women's organisation Soroptimist International of Sheffield.

The charity again this year is 'Mums In Need' (MIN), a Sheffield charity which helps mums who have left emotionally abusive relationships with the parent of their children and are looking for support to rebuild their lives. The women and children are given access to a caseworker who helps with wellbeing sessions, support groups, counselling and legal support if they need it.



In September 2025 some of the Year 12 girls signed up at the Enrichment Fair and after a few meetings organised a Bun Sale on 3rd December which raised £254.85. The next project will be a fashion show in April.



## UCAS EARLY APPLICANTS

*Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form*

Just over forty students have applied through UCAS for the courses that require an early application. These are dentistry, medicine, veterinary science and Oxbridge. All of these students have been offered a mock interview. The interviewers have included a range of Professors and Deans, ex-senior leaders from School and university student ambassadors currently studying the subject that our Year 13s have applied for. We hope this will enable our applicants to brush up on their interview technique and support some successful outcomes.

## YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY VISIT

*Mr. J. Rudkin, Teacher of Geography*

On Monday 1st December, Year 12 Geography students had an inspiring day at the University of Sheffield's School of Geography & Planning, taking part in a hands-on workshop exploring the planning and regeneration of Kelham Island. From analysing real development proposals to debating future visions for the area, they got a brilliant insight into how planners shape our communities, cities and futures.



## Y13 GEOGRAPHY RESIDENTIAL

The Year 13 Geographers enjoyed their residential at Cranedale in North Yorkshire on the 15-17 October. Day 1 was microclimates studies in Beverley, Day 2 was Changing Places in Scarborough and Day 3 was Coastal Management in Hornsea.

The first day was spent travelling to the site and collecting fieldwork data for the investigation of the effects of different land uses on the water and carbon cycles in Kirby Grindalythe.

For the Changing Places unit, students spent a day in Scarborough using a variety of qualitative and quantitative techniques to explore a sense of place.

On the final day of the residential, the fieldwork looked at the effectiveness of coastal management at Hornsea. Students collected data on beach gradient, actual sediment size and dominant sediment size.

They all gained skills to prepare them for completing their Non-Examined Assessments (NEA). A great time was had by all and many wished they could stay a few extra days! Well done on a successful visit!

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# GEOGRAPHY





## EX-Y13 PRIZE GIVING AND CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Mr. S. Cooke, Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form

On Wednesday 17th December 2025 we welcomed over 250 visitors to School for the ex-Y13 Prize Giving and Certificate Presentation. It was lovely to see our ex-students and their families. There was an incredible buzz as they caught up with friends after a term away.

We awarded 48 prizes across all academic subjects and a number of additional categories where students had contributed to the life of the School. Some of the prizes have been awarded every year for over 120 years as they date back to pre-1905 and the Sheffield Royal Grammar School which amalgamated to form King Edward VII School!

KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL



PRIZE GIVING  
AND  
CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION  
EVENING

Wednesday 17th December 2025  
6.00 pm – 7.00 pm

### PRIZE WINNERS

Prize Fund	Subject	Forename	Surname
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	Biology	Renad	Zargoun
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	English Language	Aurigny	French
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	English Literature	Evie	Grindrod
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	French	Marie	Astill
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	Geography	Aurigny	French
Sheffield Royal Grammar School	Spanish	Olive	Miller
Sheffield Royal Grammar School and John Cornwell	History	Ray	Lewis
King Edward VII School	Art	Esme	Lumb
King Edward VII School	Business	Lewis	Ray
King Edward VII School	Business BTEC	Michael	Lau
King Edward VII School	Chemistry	Bevan	Lowe
King Edward VII School	Computer Science	Marlon	Otter
King Edward VII School	Core Maths	Isabelle	Philips
King Edward VII School	Drama and Theatre	Nell	James
King Edward VII School	Economics	Hope	Wilson
King Edward VII School	Engineering	Kayode	Ademola
King Edward VII School	Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	Jana	Ostojin
King Edward VII School	German	Aurigny	French
King Edward VII School	Graphic Communication	Katie	Loftus
King Edward VII School	Health & Social Care (Double)	Safiyah	Mahmood
King Edward VII School	Health & Social Care (Single)	Bushra	Faisal
King Edward VII School	Health & Social Care (Triple)	Abeena	Dadzie
King Edward VII School	Music	William	Jones
King Edward VII School	PE	Libby	Thompson
King Edward VII School	Philosophy	Iona	Cross
King Edward VII School	Photography	Matilda	Stiegler
King Edward VII School	Physics	Beppe	Tyas
King Edward VII School	Politics	Hol	Jones
King Edward VII School	Product Design	Monty	Hall
King Edward VII School	Psychology	Baran	Sabah
King Edward VII School	Sociology	Polly	Senior
King Edward VII School	Textiles	Isobel	Higginson
WP Taylor	Further Maths	Bevan	Lowe
WP Taylor	Maths	Olive	Miller
A E Hanwell	Service to Drama	Edie	Cooke
A E Hanwell	Service to Drama	Anika	Stephens
A E Hanwell	Service to Music	William	Bridge

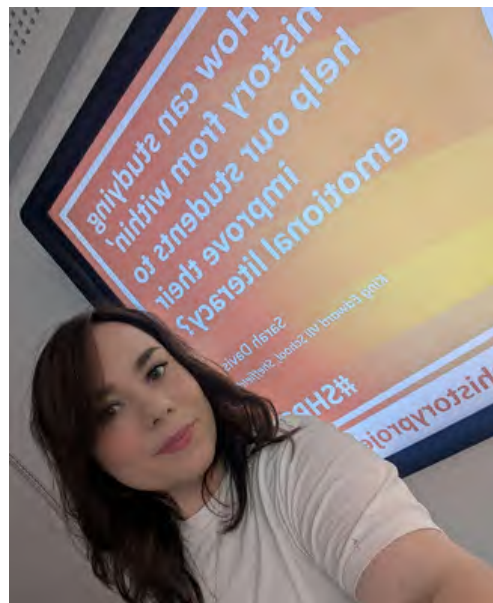


Chris Knowles	Chemistry	Rahma	Abdi
Chris Knowles	Chemistry	Junxuan	Chen
Chris Knowles	Chemistry	Michal	Rogalski
Chris Knowles	Chemistry	Jana	Ostojin
Chris Knowles	Chemistry	Amy	Thompson
Reading List Foundation	Reading List Foundation Award	Safiyah	Mahmood
Mark Firth and Ernest Adlington	Sheffield University Engineering	Kheress	Khan
Ernest Adlington	Sheffield University Engineering	Sahiba	Barakzai
Old Edwardians	Contribution to School	Kheress	Khan
Old Edwardians	Contribution to School	Betty	Akenbor-Moses
Old Edwardians	Contribution to School	Hannah	Winterbottom

# OUR STAFF

## HISTORY DEPARTMENT COLLABORATIONS

Mrs Brown and Mrs Davis have been collaborating with various academic institutions over the past two years and had the opportunity to present their work at several conferences in the summer term. Please find a summary below.



### Teaching Indigenous Histories and Perspectives in Schools

The Teaching Indigenous Histories and Perspectives in Schools (TIHPS) project is a pioneering initiative aimed at enriching UK history education by integrating Indigenous narratives into the school curriculum. In collaboration with leading partners, including The University of Sheffield and the School's History Project, the project equips educators with training, resources, and community support to confidently teach these underrepresented histories. A dedicated conference was held on Saturday, 28 June 2025, offering practical guidance and materials to help schools diversify and decolonise their curriculum. Mrs Brown presented her work on wampum belts, which explores the question "Why do different kinds of histories matter?" through a seven-lesson enquiry focused on Indigenous American perspectives—particularly those of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. It challenges students' assumptions about written versus oral histories by introducing wampum belts as vital tools of historical storytelling and cultural continuity. Pupils examine how histories are constructed, contested, and shaped, while learning about Indigenous agency, European contact, and the ongoing relevance of Indigenous voices today.

*Continued on next page*



## History Department collaboration, continued

### Emotional Literacy and Wellbeing in the History Curriculum

Building on her work with Prof. Julie V. Gottlieb from the University of Sheffield, Mrs Davis presented at the national Schools History Project (SHP) Conference and at a multi-disciplinary Ideas Lab in July 2025. Recent research explores how teaching “history from within”—a concept developed by Prof Gottlieb—can support students’ emotional literacy and wellbeing. In response to rising mental health challenges among young people, the project examined how emotionally resonant history teaching can complement students’ holistic education. A Year 9 enquiry, now published by the Historical Association, used historical sources like F.L. Lucas’ 1938 journal to help students connect emotionally with the past and reflect on their own responses to crises. The approach encouraged empathy, resilience, and deeper historical understanding, and led to the development of ethical principles for teaching emotion history across time periods. These principles have received national recognition through publication on the SHP Curriculum PATHS website. The principles prompt important questions about how curriculum design can foster emotional literacy and wellbeing across subjects.

### Broadcasting and social change in Sixties Britain

As part of the BBC History 100 Fellowship, Curriculum Leader, Sarah Davis has developed a powerful new enquiry exploring equality and diversity in postwar Britain. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Teacher Fellowship Programme brought together educators and historians—including Marcus Collins, Hannah Cusworth, and Will Bailey-Watson—to refresh the teaching of modern British history using video and audio sources. In the enquiry ‘What can Rainbow City tell us about Race Relations in Sixties Britain?’ students examine racism in 1960s Britain through broadcast materials, gaining insight into migration, race relations, and the legacies of empire. Lessons are structured using Schaffer’s ‘intention, production, response’ model to support critical engagement with media and representation. This enquiry offers a timely and inclusive approach to history education, aligned with current academic research and classroom practice and has now been published by the Historical Association.



## A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF SHEFFIELD HERITAGE

*Mr. D. Kavanagh, Teacher of Computer Science*

On Saturday 6th September 2025, Weston Park Museum marked an incredible milestone – 150 years since its doors first opened to the public in 1875. To celebrate, Sheffield Museums hosted a day filled with fun, learning, and community spirit, followed by an evening gala that truly showcased the city's cultural pride.

I had the distinct honour of being asked by Sheffield Museums to chauffeur and chaperone one of Sheffield's Hollywood Superstars, Mr Sean Bean. He was the VIP Guest invited to speak about his memories from his childhood growing up in Sheffield and visiting the museums and other heritage sites, commenting: "I've always found the Sheffield museums quite spiritual places". He donated a rather special prop from one of his recent movies to be auctioned off as part of the charity evening.



*Waiting for Sean outside the Mercure Hotel'*



*© Sheffield Museums / Sheffield Star*

*Sean Bean pictured here in front of my classic BMW along with his goddaughter Phoebe Armstrong (back from her recent European Tour with 'Phantom of the Opera' and currently appearing in 'Wicked' on the West End). I used my car to chauffeur Sean and Phoebe.*

The evening gala was spectacular. Other Sheffield icons came together to support the museum's future, with Richard Hawley performing an acoustic set, Pete McKee creating a live sketch, and the Sheffield Community Gospel Choir lifting spirits with their music. As well as Sean Bean's donation, Richard Hawley donated prints and Pete McKee donated artwork.

Most importantly, the event raised an impressive £72,000 to support Sheffield Museums' work across the city. Thanks to the "Double the Donation, Double the Difference" campaign, every pound was matched by local philanthropists Graham and Sue Royle, doubling the impact. These funds will help keep museum experiences free for families, safeguard Sheffield's heritage, and support learning for thousands of schoolchildren each year.

Reflecting on the day, it's clear that Weston Park Museum is more than just a building – it's a cornerstone of Sheffield's history and a hub for education and community engagement. As someone who attended the celebration, I felt proud to see how much the museum means to our city and how it continues to inspire future generations.

Here's to the next 150 years of discovery and wonder at Weston Park Museum!



## AUDIOMAPS VS EXQUISITE CORPS. REMIX / REPLAY.

Mr. S. Carley, Artist / Teacher

*“Only with distance can you see the landscape and understand where to make your stand. So walk. Until there is silence. Until you can see the horizon. Walk. And, where you find peace, clarity, drive your stake. Own the terrain and anchor yourself.” James Patrick.*

Some context.

Sitting here typing, June 23rd 2020. A stunning summers day.

I can hear the neighbours lilting music drifting across the back gardens; East African, he tells me, Eritrea. His name is Troy. The beats and melodies blend in with the

intermittent bird song, the loud buzzing of an enormous fly struggling against the kitchen window and the gentle breeze

rippling through the trees in the garden. And I think back to March 23rd when everything suddenly changed ...

aUDIOMAPS is an ongoing project. It's an integral part of my practise as an artist but it's the most difficult element for me to define. Part music, part soundscape, part sampled mashup, part noise. That weekend when the 'prime minister' (hmm) declared 'lockdown' I gathered up the essential items from my studio and brought them home; Eight track. Two old Akai S20 samplers. A mono synth. A Casio keyboard. Kaos pad. Microphones. Cables. Mixer.

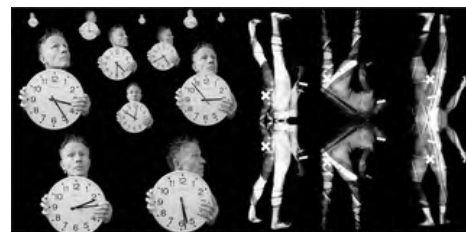
Less is more...

It's important to start with this context. The very first aUDIOMAPS / Exquisite Corps collaborations grew out of that surreal time five and a half years ago. Suddenly faced with 'what do I do now' I decided to share stem files with a group of creative friends ...

The result was aUDIOMAPS. (RE-imagined) from June 2021.

And now we are here. This organic collaborative relationship in a live context for the first time as an ensemble.

***Continued on next page***



aUDIOMAPS vs Exquisite CORPS. REMIX / replay.

Sound Junction. 7.30pm. Friday 26th November 2025. £10.  
University of Sheffield Theatre Workshop. 4a Shearwood Rd, Broomhall, Sheffield S10 2JD.



## ***aUDIOMAPS vs Exquisite CORPS. REMIX / replay. continued***

I was using aUDIOMAPS as my AKA moniker prior to March 2020. Utterly Lo-Fi, on the edge of being unlistenable at times. Totally experimental by nature but with a desire to make something almost like a song... Ha!

And working with sound and film / projections has its roots for me in the mid 1980's in The North East. Darlington, to be precise. A collaboration with my dear friend Mike English. We called ourselves Clint 'n' Max. We didn't really know what we were doing but there was a compulsion to do it. Loud, confrontational, anti-art. Or was it? Along the way I've been in a couple of bands. Devka and YoYo Static. I was a reluctant bass player ...

And this? You are probably wondering what REMIX / replay is all about?

Well, you all bring your own life experiences to this arena. So you'll all see and hear it from a number of different perspectives. Safe to say, it touches on current affairs, state control, fragmented society and the 'place of the self' in all of this. I think?

I start with Aldous Huxley talking about us vs the machines. Brave New World indeed ... And I end with a film clip of the grave stone of Samuel Holberry.

"Vanished is the feverish dream of life. The rich and poor find no distinction here".

Practically - based entirely around stem files of original aUDIOMAPS mixes and associated film files. Shared. Deconstructed. Remixed. Reinvented. I am director / conductor. Part disruptor. Sampler and dismantler.

My alter egos are part of the 'entertainment' (sic). With props. And bad suits / ties. (Clown trigger warning). I might / probably will play some sounds / noises. And talk / sing. The Exquisite Corps will play. And the films will tell their stories...

Humour - possibly. Dada - in a sense, yes. This isn't 'a band' by the way. Performance 'art' - maybe. I've got a long list of influences if that helps? Derek Jarman, Bruce Nauman, Peter Greenaway, Alfred Jarry, Cabaret Voltaire, TG, Forced Entertainment, Edward Muybridge, Mike Kelly... In one way or another these 'points of reference' have stamped their influence on my work.

Perhaps this all stems from when I was very young. I was thinking about my Grandmother and her rickety old cottage at the end of a lane in rural Gloucestershire. The lane was called 'The British Cul-De-Sac. And she was known by friends and family as 'Queenie'... And we'd sit by the open fire. She always said the flames of the fire told stories...

***Continued on next page***



## ***aUDIOMAPS vs Exquisite CORPS. REMIX / replay. continued***

My work is sometimes intentionally confrontational, sometimes intentionally beautiful. Profanities, congested space, white noise, ugly / beautiful, process led – ‘making a mark’. This is my PUNK ROCK.

*“People ask me, 'Don't you ever run out of ideas?' Well, in the first place, I don't use ideas. Every time I have an idea, it's too limiting and usually turns out to be a disappointment. But I haven't run out of curiosity.”* Robert Rauschenberg.

Demolished. Crushed. Girders. Concrete crumbles. Dust. Rubbish. Detritus. The left overs of lives once lived. Caved in. Ceilings. Collapsing walls. Undergrowth overgrown. Piled up. Stacked. Packed in. Stamped down. What remains? Sticks. Stones. Bricks. Brutal bones. The bridge has collapsed. The river is swollen brown. (There are no Gods here).

A huge thank you to The Exquisite Corps;

Julia Schauerman, Jim Ever, Chris Finguz, Simon Elliot-Kemp, Patrick Carley and Adam Zegma. Your creative generosity is extraordinary. I'm humbled.

Thank you to Nick Potter for giving me this opportunity. Really appreciated.

And to the technical and admin team at Sound Junction / University of Sheffield - Thank you.

[Link to the the event information - Sound Junction](#)

### **Friday 28th November: Stephen Carley and Guests**

aUDIOMAPS is the sound project of artist Stephen Carley, blending field recordings, lo-fi audio techniques and found sound into collaged, experimental soundscapes. Using glitches, loops, and re-configured samples, Carley creates live works that are as much about process as they are about performance.

Texts and voices emerge as fragments – cut-ups, overheard conversations, found declarations – layered with sequences, whispers, and post-industrial funk. The result is part manifesto, part immersive sound experiment.

Carley's wider practice spans large-scale paintings, collages, cameraless photography and short films, often made with 'poor' or discarded materials such as dust, cardboard, chalk, and ashes. Across all mediums, his work resists convention, oscillating between the confrontational and the beautiful, always leaving space for the audience to think, feel, and interpret.

Additional pieces will be performed by:

- Jake Parry
- Matthew Bridson
- Boyi Bai
- Alex Brommage
- Amy Spearman



**University of  
Sheffield**

## THE SKY AT NIGHT

*Mr. D. Kavanagh, Teacher of Computer Science*

My interest in astronomy began when I was a child and first picked up Carl Sagan's *Cosmos*. That book opened my eyes to the incredible scale of the universe, and I was hooked. From reading about pioneers like Galileo, who first pointed a telescope at the stars, to Edwin Hubble, whose discoveries changed how we see our place in the cosmos, I found myself fascinated by the story of space exploration.

As a child, I never missed an episode of *The Sky at Night* with Patrick Moore—his enthusiasm made the night sky feel alive and full of possibilities. Over time, that curiosity turned into a passion for astrophotography, giving me the chance to capture the wonders of the universe through my own lens.

In this article, I'll share some of my favourite images from my latest observations and explain what makes each one special. Along with a friend we have built up our telescope specification over the years and are still very much honing our skills in photographing and editing the images afterwards.



This is the galaxy group Arp 31, centred on the twin-arm spiral galaxy IC 167. This took us two hours to image, and quite honestly, I'm amazed it came out as good as it has. The wind was far worse than we thought at the time, but we went with it anyway. All these galaxies lie between 120 million and 180 million light-years away in the constellation of Aries. The light from these set off to hit our little 533 sensor in the camera long before Tyrannosaurus Rex walked the Earth!

NGC 6946 & NGC 6939. This is a wide-field image of the Fireworks Galaxy, only this includes the star cluster NGC 6939. In most scopes, you wouldn't be able to get both these objects in the same field of view, but with the RASA (our current telescope), it isn't a problem. 6939 lies 4,000 light-years distant.



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## *The Sky at Night, continued*

*Mr. D. Kavanagh, Teacher of Computer Science*



The Whirlpool Galaxy (M51), is an interacting grand-design spiral galaxy in the constellation Canes Venatici. It is estimated to be 23 million light-years away.



This one is NGC 7331 & Stephan's Quintet. It consists of NGC 7331 (the big galaxy) around 40 million light years away. The group of galaxies to the right however are 240 million light years away!



A bit closer into NGC 6946 aka "The Fireworks Galaxy" because it is noted for having a large number of supernovae over the years. About 20 million light-years away, we are pretty pleased with this result as you can really see the detail in its spiral arms. On this night, we were able to get our guiding down to three-quarters of an arc second! Something that we were told we could achieve with a RASA 8 on an EQ-5 mount!

*Continued on next page*

## *The Sky at Night, continued*



The area around Sadar or Gamma Cygni, the star itself is just out of frame as we wanted to capture NGC 6888 (top) it is nebulosity caused by the star in the centre which is a Wolf Rayet star. These stars blow their outer layers out into space and form bubbles like the one you see here. They are light planetary nebulas, only they don't blow their layers in one go, rather they keep doing it for longer. You can also see slight nebulosity all around in this area. It's another place we need to revisit with more time.



We were really pleased with this one. Captured on the same night as NGC 6946 above (hence the spot on guiding), this is a large emission nebula called "The North American Nebula" (I wonder why?) or NGC 7000. It's a huge cloud of gas and dust that spans several thousand light-years, not far from the star Deneb in the constellation Cygnus. Pretty much blew us away watching the colour come out with this one.

### **Look Up This Winter!**

On a clear night, the winter sky over the UK is full of other wonders:

- Constellations: Spot Orion's Belt rising in the east, with Taurus and the sparkling Pleiades nearby. Later on, look for Gemini with its twin stars, Castor and Pollux.
- Planets: Jupiter shines brightly all evening—grab binoculars to see its moons! Saturn is visible early in the night, low in the south.
- Meteor Showers: The Geminids peak on 14<sup>th</sup> December, offering up to 100 meteors per hour. The Ursids follow around 22<sup>nd</sup> December.
- Special Dates: The Cold Moon Supermoon appears on 4<sup>th</sup> December, and the Winter Solstice on 21<sup>st</sup> December brings the longest night—perfect for stargazing!

So, wrap up warm, head outside, and enjoy the cosmic show above Sheffield!

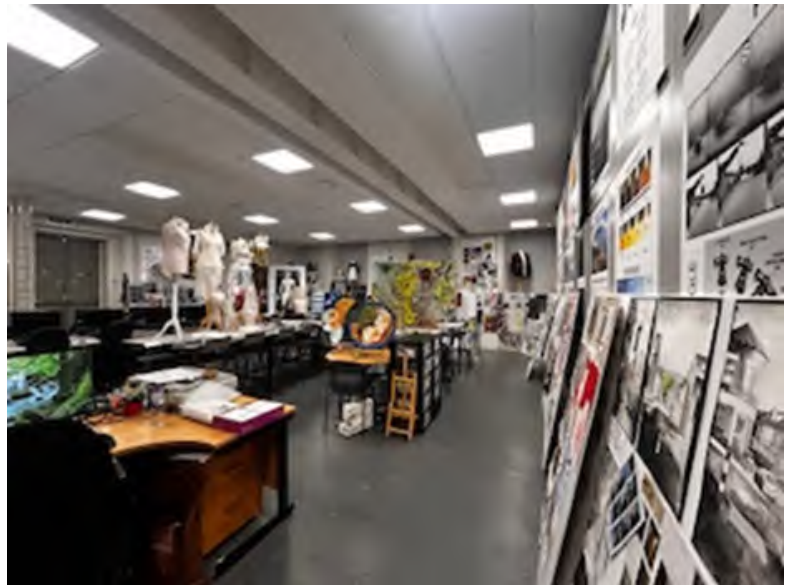


# OUR SCHOOL

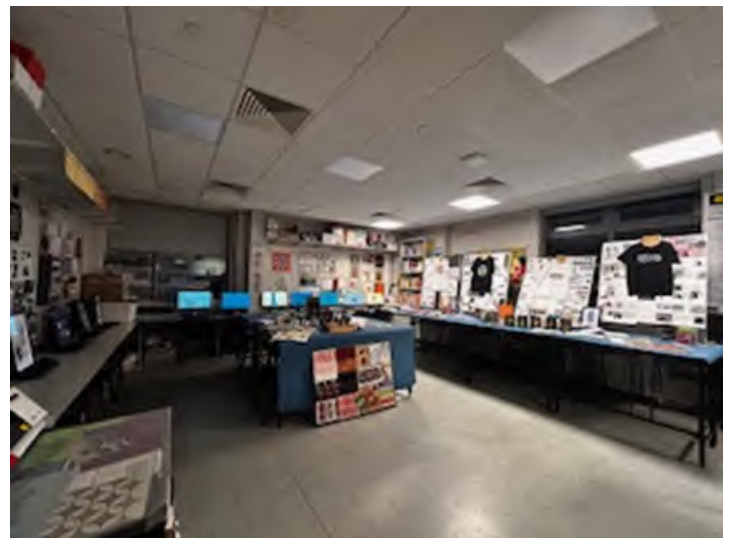
## CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND CULTURE IN ART & DESIGN

*Mrs. C. Creasy, Curriculum Leader for Art, Design & Technology and Engineering*

At King Edward VII School, creativity thrives in our Art and Design faculty. Recently, we prepared our exhibition of work from the previous year for the public to view on our open evenings. We are so very proud and dedicated to our students who work so hard to do a fantastic job. Walking through our studios, you're met with an incredible display of imagination — from expressive paintings and mixed-media portraits to innovative digital designs and intricate sculptures. Every piece tells a story of exploration, individuality, and cultural discovery.



Our students don't just learn to create art — they learn to see the world differently. Through studying diverse artistic movements with our experienced teachers, global design traditions, and contemporary creative practices, they build cultural capital: the knowledge, confidence, and curiosity that enrich their understanding of the world and their place within it.



## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Each year the School invites students to submit designs for the KES Christmas Card. Well done to everyone who sent in their artwork, we were delighted and amazed at the talent shown by you all and we would like to thank you for your efforts. Here are the winning entries.

Special congratulations to Tuana who has been a winner every year since Year 7. Her entry this year has been awarded 'outstanding' overall winner by Ms. Gooden. Such a fantastic final entry for Tuana!

### King Edward VII School Christmas Card Competition winners 2025



Painted by  
Tuana Taylor  
Year 13

Painting  
by Diya Sujith  
Year 10



Drawing by  
Lily Clare  
Year 10



Painted by  
Tanya Ninan  
Year 12



Painting by  
Bethany Spriggs  
Year 13



## BOOK BUZZ

*Mrs. S. Asquith-Richardson, Lower School Librarian*

Ms. Gooden presented the Book Buzz books to students in form time on Wednesday 26th November. All Year 7 students received their free Book Buzz book bought by the library. They were chosen by the students themselves from a choice of sixteen books from Book Trust.



Students were able to take their books home and keep them to enable them to continue their love of reading.



## REMEMBRANCE

Ms. Gooden led the Remembrance Day assembly for all Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students at Upper School on Tuesday 11 November 2025.

At Lower School, the assemblies for Remembrance Day for Key Stage 3 students took place on:

- Wednesday 5 November – Year 8
- Thursday 6 November – Year 7
- Tuesday 11 November – Year 9

There was a silence for two minutes at 11.00am on both sites and at Upper School, Mr Doubleday played the Last Post in the foyer.

Poppies were available to buy at both Upper and Lower School in support of the Royal British Legion.

There was also a Tree of Remembrance in the main reception on both sites where students and staff could place a leaf on the tree with the name of someone they wanted to remember.





## FOOD TO CELEBRATE BONFIRE NIGHT

*Mrs. T. Gillot, Unit Manager*

The Lower School Catering team had lots of fun celebrating Bonfire Night on 5th November.



## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON!

As our longest serving member of staff, the Christmas lights were once again switched on by Mr Cooke, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form.





## CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

The Upper School Catering team provided an amazing feast on Christmas Dinner Day, Wednesday 10th December. It was made even sweeter for those who found a star underneath their plate and won a box of chocolates.





## THE JOHN MOSS TROPHY WINNERS

The John Moss Trophy 2025: Huge congratulations to Mr Tom Grantham, Miss Jenny Murray and the PE department at KES!



KES is tremendously proud to be awarded with the John Moss Trophy 2025 for the range of sporting activities it provides for students in the School. The trophy was awarded by the Sheffield Federation for School Sports. More information on the Federation website - <https://sfss.co.uk/>.



## MEET A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Ahmed Mohamed is the CEO and co-founder of Infinite Skills CIC, a Sheffield-based social enterprise focused on education, employability, and community empowerment. He has a Master's in Education (TESOL) and an MSc in International Business Management, and is currently pursuing a PhD exploring social mobility and education.

With a career spanning education, social impact, and community regeneration both in the UK and overseas, Ahmed is deeply committed to creating opportunities for disadvantaged and underrepresented groups. Through Infinite Skills, he has led a range of community-led programmes that promote learning, skills development, and inclusion across Sheffield.

As a Parent Governor, Ahmed brings lived experience and professional insight to the role, advocating for equity in education, stronger school–community partnerships, and supporting all young people to reach their full potential.

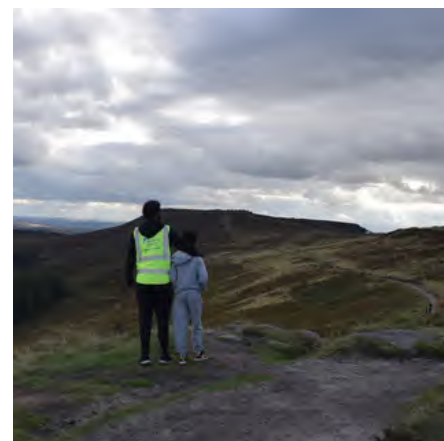
You can follow more of his work via Infinite Skills social media accounts:-

Instagram:- @infiniteskills.cic

TikTok:- @infinite\_skillsc

Linkedin:- @infinite-skills-cic

Website:- [www.infinite-skills.co.uk](http://www.infinite-skills.co.uk)





# OLD AND YOUNG EDWARDIANS

## OLD EDWARDIANS ASSOCIATION



Old Edwardians Association  
Sheffield

### OLD EDWARDIANS' ASSOCIATION



## ANNUAL DINNER

**Friday 13th March 2026**

**1889 Suite**  
**Sheffield United FC**  
**Bramall Lane S2 4SU**

**Dress: Smart/Casual    Time: 7.00 for 7.30pm**

**Price: £45**

**Parking on Cherry St**

[Click here to book your place](#)

We're delighted to announce the 2026 Annual Dinner will be held at Bramall Lane once again after this year's very successful event. Great food, great service, great company!

Reservation details are on our website:

[www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com/annual-dinner](http://www.old-edwardians-sheffield.com/annual-dinner)

It would help us enormously if you could book as early as possible so we can get an idea of numbers well in advance. Your cooperation is very much appreciated and, as ever, we look forward to seeing you there!

[info@old-edwardians-sheffield.com](mailto:info@old-edwardians-sheffield.com)

## MAISIE BROOK

We are so pleased to see one of our alumni, Maisie Brook, pursuing her dream career. Maisie, who left KES in the summer of 2025 at the end of Y13, can be seen performing at one of her upcoming dates shown on the poster here.

You can also follow Maisie's work via her socials:



Instagram: [@maisiejeanmusic](#)



Tiktok: [@maisiejeanmusic](#)



Spotify:  
[https://open.spotify.com/artist/18lhhJD5LYogVHCfcbgpNE?](https://open.spotify.com/artist/18lhhJD5LYogVHCfcbgpNE?si=Pr5HPE2SSfWiDgRd1c6Jvg)  
[si=Pr5HPE2SSfWiDgRd1c6Jvg](https://open.spotify.com/artist/18lhhJD5LYogVHCfcbgpNE?si=Pr5HPE2SSfWiDgRd1c6Jvg)

## Maisie Jean

### Upcoming Dates

- 01/11 royal park collars, leeds
- 23/11 the shipping forecast, liverpool
- 30/11 peggy mccoils, warrington
- 04/12 record junkee, sheffield
- 05/12 hyde park book club, leeds
- 10/12 the washington, sheffield
- 14/12 hyde park book club, leeds
- 24/01 hmv leeds
- 18/04 hyde park book club, leeds



## KES Rugby 1973/74

[KESmag 1974]

### 1st XV



Malcolm Napier, R Hawkswell, J Reid;

John Phillips, S Reynolds, Derek Hornby, Robert Payton-Greene, Brennan, John Parr;

Mark Eckersley, Trevor Rhodes, Chris Litherland, Ian Turner (Capt), S Blackburn, Andy Simnett, I Wallis, Mr  
M O'Connor;

Paul Warren, Charles Tallent

*Photo and names courtesy of John Phillips*

Our fixture list was the toughest in the 1st XV's history, and after another very successful season the school has finally established itself as having one of the best rugby teams in this part of the country. This was borne out in our hardest fixture, which was against Hemsworth H.S., without doubt the best school team in South Yorkshire. In conditions favouring the fast, open rugby of Hemsworth we went into an early lead from a penalty kick, and held it until about ten minutes from the final whistle when they broke through our defence to score a try which was converted. When they scored the Hemsworth players and supporters were jubilant and obviously very relieved - it was clear that they had felt close to defeat, their first defeat. We could not pull back from 6-3 down.

Hemsworth were the only team to beat us all season. One game at home against Minsthorpe was drawn, but that Saturday was one of our off-days, for we easily beat them 20 - 7 in the return match at Minsthorpe. The most notable of our victories were those against Templemoor, Shirecliffe College, Manor (Mansfield), Lady Manners, and Wath. The last of these was a really hard-fought match, fought being the operative word; but as was the case all season, we won the match by playing rugby and not by mixing it.



## KES Rugby 1973/74

[KESmag 1974]

### 1st XV

As expected our greatest strength was in the forwards who were fitter than ever before as a result of Mr. O'Connor's "light" training sessions in the gym. Our backs turned out to be amongst the best defensively but in attack they sometimes lacked the strength to power through the opposition. An analysis of the scorers for the season confirms this. 62% of the 95 tries scored by the team came from:

- Phillips at prop-forward.
- Litherland and Warren, a sound pair of halfbacks.
- Wallis and Turner, of the back row.
- Turner at No. 8 scored 20 tries and Phillips, who took the majority of the conversions, scored a total of 139 points; he also receives our congratulations for gaining a place in the South Yorkshire U.19 team at prop.

Our thanks go to Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Knowles for their efforts this year and for their contribution to the excellent team spirit which ran through the whole of the 1st XV squad.

Next year also promises to be successful as many members of the squad are staying on.



Staff v School 1st XV. Result: Staff nil. 1st XV 30!  
(Looks like Manchester Rd pitch with Cairns Rd in background)

# Old and Young Edwardians



## **RUGBY 1ST XV - 1974/75**

Trevor Rhodes, Pettman, Roger Salt, Bob Pearson, Peter Jones, John Ashley (?), John Blackburn, John (Kyff) Parr, Robert (Bob) Payton-Greene, Derek Hornby, Ian Wallis, Michael (Mick) O'Connor (Manager & Coach);  
Mark Eckersley, C Jordan, Andrew Simnett, Paul Warren, Steve Reynolds, Simon Henty, Derek (Des) Perks.

*Photo and names courtesy of Paul Warren, with additional names via Charles Tallent.*



## **FORM 1(1) - 1968/69**

Peter James, Paul Cockburn, Porter, Ross Martin, David Hunter, Alistair Reynolds, Paul Norris;  
Andrew Aplin, John Bleakley, Julian Muzyczka, Andrew Solway, Philip Hallam, Peter Loveday,  
Robert Mitchell, Kim Pollard;  
John Greaves, Dean Evans, Peter Sells, Geoffrey Easton, Martin T J Axford (form teacher),  
John Lukey, Simon Wessely, Peter Blake, Martin Archer;  
Nick Swinscoe, Alex Prentzas, Trevor Rhodes, Ian Robinson, Alastair Smith, Peter Clarke,  
Peter O'Dea.

*Photo courtesy of Geoffrey Easton; names via GE, Andrew Aplin, Paul Warren, Peter Sells, John Rawling, Simon Wessely, David Whitaker, Charles Tallent*



## OBITUARIES

### Jonathan Mayo Haworth

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of Jonathan Mayo Haworth [KES 1960-1967] on September 28th, a few days before his 77th birthday.

Jon studied law at Kings College London and went on to have a highly successful career as a barrister, recorder and, for almost two decades, a judge at Cambridge Crown Court.

He was also my best friend for 64 years.

A fuller report soon.

Mike Atherton

