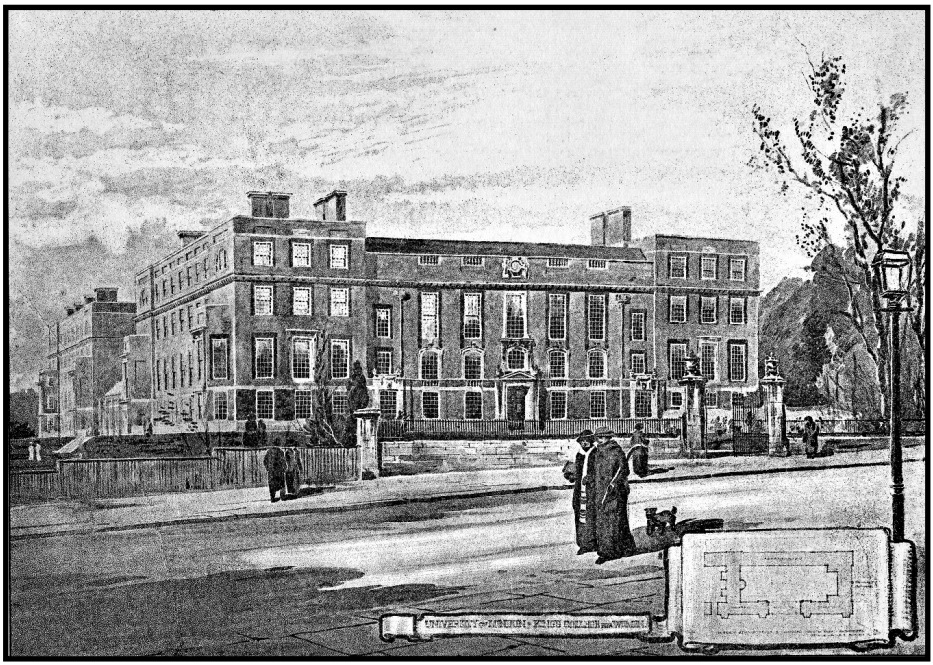
QE(K)A 2021

ENVOY



Published by Queen Elizabeth (Kensington) Branch

EDITORIAL

It has been another strange year bringing heartbreak for some and hope for others in the continuing fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. This year's Envoy includes some short articles in tribute to those we have lost. We also look back to the early years of the College to remember our own beginnings—but I found it all so interesting that I've had to save some for next year! Our web master Gary Thomas tells us about the web site, and I tell some behind the scenes stories about looking after bees. I hope you all enjoy! I would love to hear from anyone about their own memories of the College—or any other subject that you are interested in—whether just a couple of lines or a full article.

Please keep in touch and above all, STAY SAFE.

Lyn Embling (neé Rigby), Physics, *1972-1978*

bizzyblings@hotmail.com

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Front cover: King's College for Women artist's impression. J.J.Akerman c1910-12

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Paul Ogden,

Chemistry 1984-87

Once again I find myself passing on the committee's best wishes to all of our members after another terribly difficult year. We continue to hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

The committee itself has been touched by COVID-related loss. In January our long-serving membership secretary Radha Robinson very sadly passed away. Our thoughts are with her family and she will be greatly missed.

Unfortunately, even as government restrictions are being relaxed, we have found it impractical to organise a physical reunion and AGM event this year. This is primarily due to King's College being unable to take entertainment bookings at present. The good news is that we do plan to hold an online event instead. Last year we only held an on-line AGM but this year, in addition to the AGM, we will have Dr. Claire Thomas discussing what it has been like at the NHS's frontline through the pandemic and what the future may hold. We will be inviting members to submit questions for Dr. Thomas (see page 5).

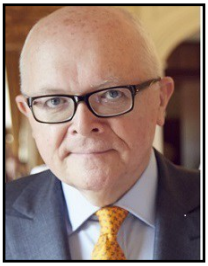
Finally, as always, I'd like to thank the committee members who have ensured that our alumni association continues to thrive even in these sad and difficult times.

QE(K)A Data Privacy Policy

Information on the QE(K)A data protection policy was provided in Envoy 2018 and 2019 and is also available on the QE(K)A web site: www.qeca.org.uk.

QE(K)A 2020 Reunion & AGM

Saturday 3rd October 2020



The 2020 Reunion had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation. We were disappointed not to be able to meet up with friends and hear from our guest speaker, Dr Brian O'Sullivan. We were pleased that he agreed to speak at the 2021 reunion instead, but now that has had to be postponed too. Hopefully we will hear from him in 2022!

The formal AGM took place as a teleconference event, with eleven members participating - though one person (your Editor!) failed to get a visual link. It was good to see that members who could not normally travel to a physical meeting were able to join in, even all the way from Australia!

2020 Teleconferenced AGM, courtesy Gary Thomas

QE(K)A

2021 Reunion and AGM

We regret the physical Reunion and AGM have been cancelled due to the lockdown situation but will be taking place on-line instead as a teleconference event on

Saturday 2nd October 2021 at 2pm.

Those wishing to participate in the AGM should contact our membership secretary, Sally Henderson, on qeka.mem.sec@gmail.com to register interest before Friday 17th September. She will contact you with instructions on how to participate a few days prior to the event.

Dr. Claire Thomas, who was guest speaker at our reunion in 2016, will be discussing what it has been like working throughout the COVID pandemic at the frontline of the NHS, and what the future may hold.

Dr Thomas did a biochemistry degree at QEC/King's between 1984-87. She went on to do a DPhil in molecular virology at Oxford University, a Medical degree at Oxford and St Bartholomew's Medical School, London, and registrar training in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology at Imperial College. Her Clinical interests include management of infectious diseases, tropical and travel medicine, global health, hospital epidemiology and infection prevention and control. She is now Director of Infection Prevention with Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Her experiences through the first wave of the pandemic are described in her article in Envoy 2020.

If anyone has any questions they would like Claire to address, please send your question to Sally Henderson on qeka.mem.sec@gmail.com before 17th September.

King's College For Women

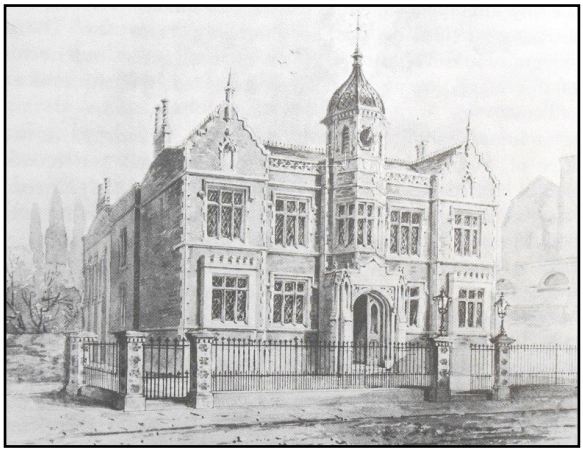
THE EARLY DAYS—PART I

An Education for Women—Doctors of Domesticity

In the mid 19th century young ladies were expected to learn the graces and accomplishments needed to attract a husband, bring up children and run a home. It was really not the 'done thing' to have any further intellectual aspirations. In the words of Jane Austen:

'A woman if she has the misfortune to know anything should conceal it as well as she can.'

But women were beginning to fight for their rights and have ideas of better education. In 1848 King's College London conceded a need to provide a higher level of education to governesses, often impoverished gentlewomen, who were responsible for the early teaching of children including young gentlemen who would later be the leading lights of the country. King's set up classes that women could attend, separate from the male students in the Strand, at 'Queen's College' in Harley Street. These were so popular that further classes were set up in Bedford Square (later Bedford College) then (1871) at Richmond and Twickenham. With ever increasing demand larger premises were found in Kensington, first at Vestry Hall (1878—85), then in a larger house at 5 Observatory Avenue (1879) and finally at Kensington Square (1885) as a separate King's College Women's Department.

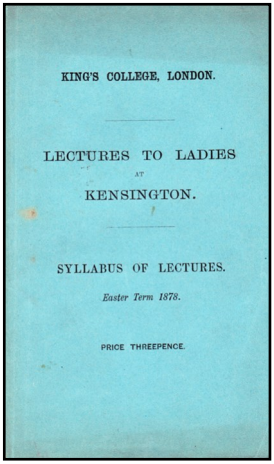


Kensington Vestry Hall (1878—85)

Subjects ranged from Holy Scripture and Church History through to Mathematics and Physics, with the odd Ancient Egyptian Tomb and Greek Vase thrown in for good measure. Fees ranged from 10s 6d to 2 guineas a term according to subject. With ever increasing demand further subjects were added under the guidance of the Vice-Principal, Lilian Mary Faithful, aimed at securing university qualifications: chemistry, physiology, drawing and music. By 1908 classes were being attended by more than 600 students.

5 Observatory Avenue (1879-85)
(now 9 Hornton Street)

13 Kensington Square (1885-1915)



KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

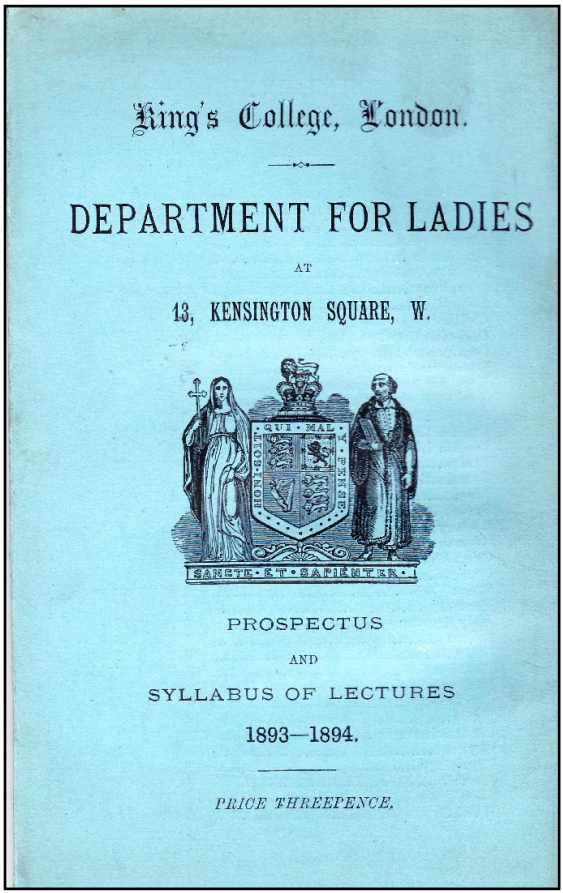
LECTURES TO LADIES
AT
KENSINGTON.

SYLLABUS OF LECTURES.

Easter Term 1878.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

Left and Below: Prospectuses from King's Lectures for Ladies at Vestry Hall (1878), and Department for Ladies at 13 Kensington Square (1893-94).
Right: Subject options at Kensington Square : from Ambulance Lectures and Ancient Egyptian Tomb to Wood Carving, and everything in between!



King's College, London.

DEPARTMENT FOR LADIES

AT

13, KENSINGTON SQUARE, W.

PROSPECTUS

AND

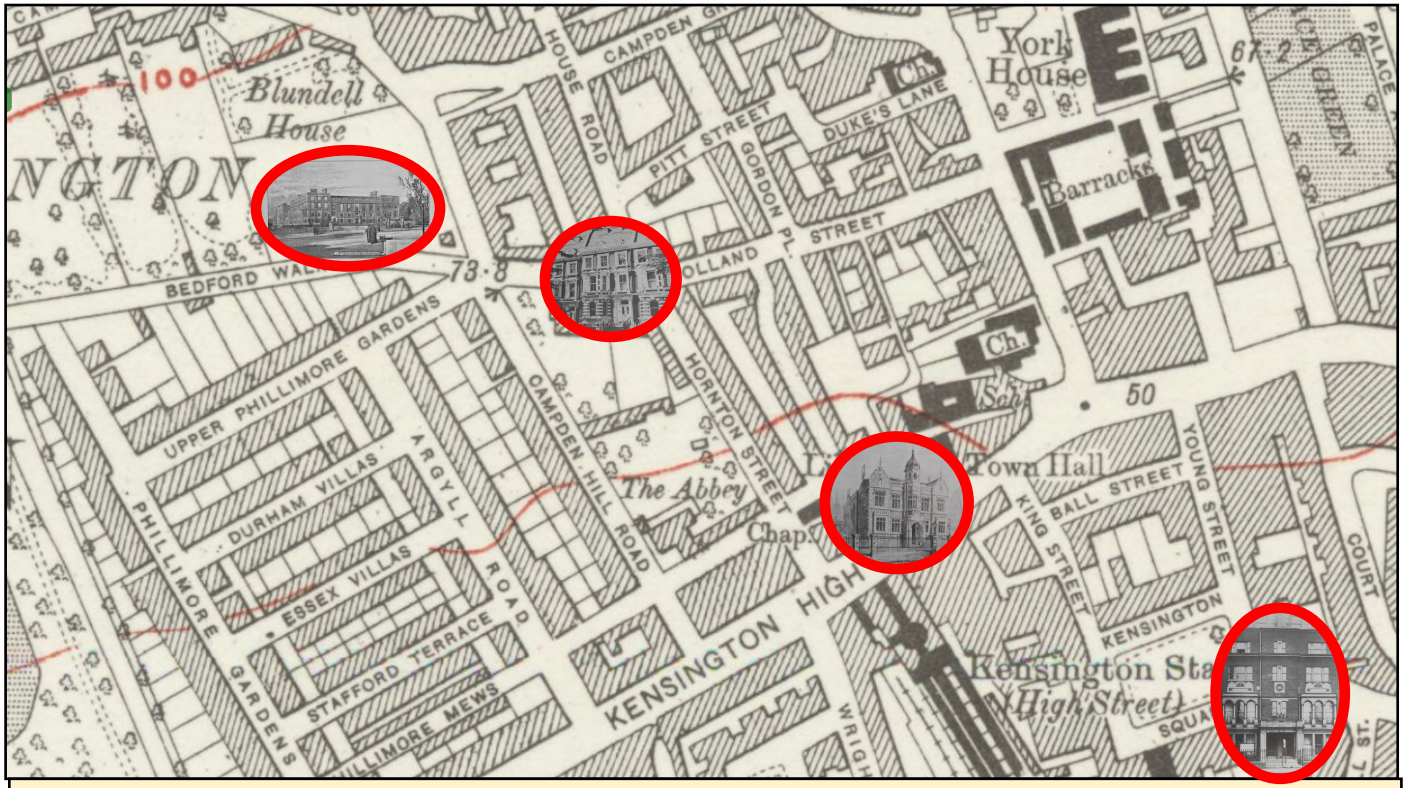
SYLLABUS OF LECTURES

1893—1894.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

Department for Ladies Syllabus in 1893-1894:

Ambulance Lectures
Ancient Egyptian Tomb
Ancient History
Architecture
Art Classes
Artistic Anatomy
Astronomy
Botany
Certificates and Diplomas
Christian Creed and its Evidence
Continental History
Domestic Economy
Elocution and Recitation
English Ecclesiastics
English History
English Language
English Literature
Ethics
Examinations
French
Geology
German
Great Church Composers
Greek
Greek Vases
Harmony
Holy Scripture
Italian
Latin
Mathematics
Modern English Teachers and Their Message
Music
Musical Lectures
Physics
Physiology
Spanish
Wood Carving



Kings College for Women—The Kensington Sites

Map extacted from London Sheet J (includes: Acton; Hammersmith; Kensington; Paddington). Revised: 1912 to 1914, Published: 1920. https://maps.nls.uk/view/102345858. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland

In 1908 a new course on Household and Social Science was introduced drawing yet more students but also attracting disparaging comments from the press regarding '*educated charwomen*' and '*doctors of domesticity*'.

Nevertheless, demand continued to grow and yet again the department was looking for further space to expand. In June 1912 Senate authorised an appeal for funds to build a completely new campus for King's College for Women.

Quite independently, a young doctor at Guy's hospital, John Atkins, was concerned about infant mortality and felt this arose in part from the ignorance of mothers regarding what to do for their children's health. He started his own practice in Kensington Gore in 1910 and was determined to set up some kind of institute to teach the mothers, and their teachers. Learning of the 'Home Science' studies at KCW, just down the road from his practice, he launched a fund-raising campaign along with Adele Lady Meyer who introduced potential sponsors from her contacts amongst the aristocracy and wealthy businessmen. Several hugely generous donations were received: Lord Anglesey donated £20,000 on the understanding that a department would be named after him; Sir Thomas Charles Dewey (Chairman Prudential Assurance Company) donated £30,000 and a Mrs Wharrie donated £20,000 to found the Chemistry Department. These were huge donations, even in today's terms, and £10,000 in 1910 was equivalent to nearly £1.2 million today!

An ideal site was found for the college at the corner of Campden Hill Road and Phillimore Gardens. This was then a highly elite part of Kensington comprising large lodges standing in their own grounds, and had once been named '*The Dukeries'* on account of the exalted

Opposite: 1915 Newspaper Clipping: ***HOME LIFE AS A SCIENCE***

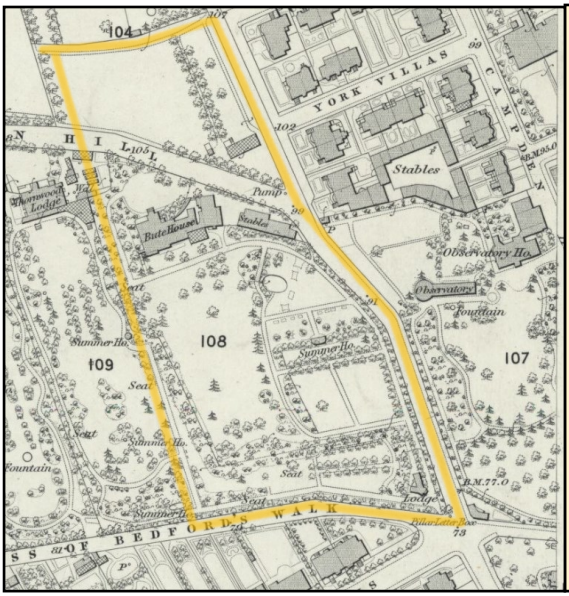
Top left: 'Flour under the microscope'; Top right: 'Is the milk all right?'
Below: 'Washing up is really an art in itself'
Caption: 'Domestic Science is taught to women at King's College, and degrees are granted in this subject. But surely the graduates will not be called bachelors?'

HOME LIFE AS A SCIENCE.

Flour under the microscope.

Is the milk all right?

Washing up is really an art in itself.



The Campden Hill area c1865 highlighting the extensive grounds of Blundell (Bute) House. Note also the observatory on the eastern side of Campden Hill Road, though this had been demolished by the time the College was built.

Map extacted from London (First Editions c1850s)XLI.

Surveyed 1863 to 1865.

Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.

https://maps.nls.uk/view/103313036

ranks of the residents. The 2.5 acre Blundell (formerly Bute) House estate was leased from Sir Walter Phillimore whose family owned large portions of Kensington and a new 999 year building lease was obtained for an annual rental of £1350. An architect, Mr Percy Adams FRIBA, was appointed to design the new College buildings including a Hostel, Home Science and other departments. Atkins enlisted the support of the Royal family and Queen Mary consented to give her name to the hostel. Queen Victoria's 3rd daughter Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein laid the foundation stone on 11 June 1914.

Progress was hindered, however, first by the Haldane Commission which recommended the dissolution of KCW and also by lack of funds and the imminent outbreak of war. After much political dispute it was agreed that arts and science should be amalgamated with King's at the Strand, but the Home Science Department should move into the new premises on Campden Hill.

With the onset of war, the College struggled for funding. Huge bills were received for continued building works but could not be paid as much of the money donated had been put into long term investment. John Atkins was away on active service and further fund raising efforts

struggled. Time after time the College was bailed out by gifts and loans from Sir Richard Garton whose fortune derived, somewhat ironically given future developments at the College, from him owning a sugar plantation and having interests in the Watney family's brewery.

The Household and Social Science department of King's College for Women finally opened in Campden Hill on 7 Oct 1915. The status of the College within King's continued to be debated for many years but it eventually became an independent College in its own right in 1928 - King's College of Household and Social Science, University of London, KCHSS.

Extract from an **APPEAL FOR FUND OF £200,000**, c 1916

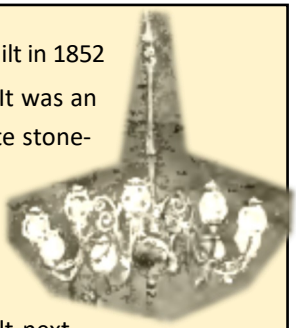
'The present accommodation is taxed to its utmost capacity, and students are still applying for admission. Education counts for so much in the upbuilding of a community, especially at a time like this when reconstruction and new foundations are essential, that it would be nothing short of a disaster should the College be compelled to refuse students ready and eager to equip themselves for leadership in rebuilding of the nation.'

Sir John Atkins (1875-1963) trained as a doctor at Guys Hospital and had a practice in Kensington. He was founder of the Household and Social Science Department and became Chairman of the Executive Committee in 1922. He continued to serve the College devotedly in many capacities for 36 years, until 1958 and died in 1963. The Sir John Atkins Building was named after him.

During WW1 he became a Colonel in the Army Medical Services and Personal Medical Officer to the Commander-in-Chief. He was later appointed Assistant Director General of Army Medical Services and Deputy Director of Medical Services in Great Britain. He had particular interests in chemical warfare and researched defence against gas attacks.

He was knighted in 1919.

KENSINGTON VESTRY HALL was built in 1852 to replace the meeting rooms of the old Parish Church. It was an imposing Elizabethan style building in red brick and white stone-work and an octagonal clock turret with ogival dome, directly opposite High Street Kensington station. It included features such as gilded railings and chandeliers though the local rate payers complained at this extravagance. A new, even grander, Town Hall was built next door in 1880. In 1889 Vestry Hall became home to the library which stayed there for over 70 years. QEC staff and students will remember yet another new Town Hall and library being built in Campden Hill Road in the early 1970's.



King's College Lectures for Ladies started at Vestry Hall during 1878. Although they moved into bigger premises on **Observatory Avenue** in 1879, some of the larger classes continued at Vestry Hall until 1885. Subjects covered Holy Scriptures and Church History, Logic and Moral Philosophy, Ancient and Modern History, English Language and Literature, French, German, Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Geology, Botany and Harmony.

The Vestry Hall became a Grade II listed building in 1969 and is now the only substantial relic of the Victorian era in the High Street, the Old Town Hall having been demolished in 1982. It is now home to Bank Melli Iran.

Vestry Hall and Town Hall : Photo by Cassell & Co. from The Queen's London *c1896*
Vestry Hall Chandelier: Kensington - Picturesque and Historical, W. J. Loftie (1888)

Observatory Avenue was built on the site of Sir James South's Observatory on Campden Hill Road, directly opposite **Bute (Blundell) House** (see map page 12). South built his observatory in 1831 to take advantage of a hill that was then surrounded by green fields and dark, clear skies. The dramatic story of subsequent events has already been told in Duncan Steel's articles in Envoys 2003 and 2010. After South's death in 1867 his house and observatory were demolished and (just like today) developers moved in to build new housing.

Observatory Gardens was built across the northern edge of the site in the 1880s, with **Observatory Avenue** running down the eastern edge. By 1912 the whole site had been filled with red brick houses (see map page 9). Number 5 Observatory Avenue (now 9 Hornton Street) became home to **King's Lectures for Ladies** between 1879 and 1885. At that time the houses would have overlooked the still vacant grounds of the observatory and beyond that the gardens of Blundell House that would later become the permanent home of **King's College for Women**.

Map extacted from OS London 1:1,056 Sheet VI.88 . 1895. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland. https://maps.nls.uk/view/101201361.

Kensington Square dates from around 1698 and was regarded the most fashionable spot in the London suburbs, inhabited by '*frequenters of the Court' ...'with upwards of forty carriages being kept in and about the neighbourhood*'. The demand for lodgings was so great, that at one time '*an ambassador, a bishop, and a physician were known to occupy apartments in the same house.*'

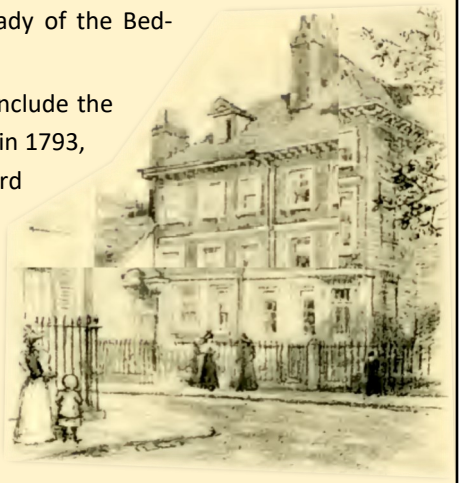
Doorway to 11 Kensington Square

The square was described as being '*very cheerful, the houses of a superior class and very varied, while the centre is laid out in a beautiful manner, a weeping ash being the centre ornament and old thorn trees filling each corner'*. By the 1890's however, it is described as '*a place of obsolete-looking, though respectable houses, such as seem made to become boarding-schools, which some of them are; and you cannot help thinking it has a desolate air.* '

The politician John Stuart Mill lived at 18 Kensington Square in 1839. He was an early advocate for women's education and raised the issue of women's voting rights in parliament in 1866, over 50 years before women actually got the vote.

King's Ladies Department occupied Number 13 Kensington Square in 1885. Later (1908-15), as **King's College for Women**, it expanded into Numbers 11 and 12 Kensington Square. No. 13 had once been occupied by Camilla, Dowager Countess of Tankerville, a former Lady of the Bedchamber to Queen Caroline.

Other notable occupants of the square include the French ambassador Prince de Talleyrand in 1793, and the Pre-Raphaelite artist Edward Burne-Jones. The author William Thackery lived a few doors away in Young Street from 1846 to '53.



11 and 12 Kensington Square

References:

The Old Court Suburb - Memorials of Kensington, L Hunt (1892)

Kensington - Picturesque and Historical, W. J. Loftie (1888)

Bute House from the garden

BUTE HOUSE (see maps on pages 9, 12 and 15) was built on Campden Hill around 1812 and was initially occupied by a leading British cabinet maker, Richard Gillow. It took its name from the second Marquis of Bute who lived there from 1830 until 1842. The next occupant was Hon. William Sebright Lascelles, the brother of the third Earl of Harewood. It later became the home of the sixth Duke of Rutland, from 1865 until his death in 1888. It was renamed **BLUNDELL HOUSE** after its last owner, Blundell Charles Weld, a Lancashire landowner and finally demolished after he left the house in 1912 or 1913.

The grounds of Bute house were very extensive— over six acres. **KINGS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN** was built on the southern part of the site, and several new houses were built on the northern part of the plot: numbers 1, 2 and 3 Campden Road (Numbers 2 and 3 retained the names of Blundell and Little Blundell House and then became Abuja House—home to the Nigerian Embassy) and 71 Campden Hill Road, which became the residence of the South African High Commissioner in 1946 and renamed High Veld.

Bute House from the road

References :

The Phillimore estate | British History Online (british-history.ac.uk)

Kensington - Picturesque and Historical - W. J. Loftie (1888)

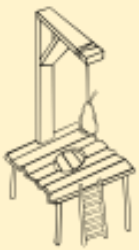
A Palatial College Building

The College was planned as '*a dignified building in the early Georgian style, the design of which is largely inspired by Hampton Court Palace*'. The buildings were planned around a central quadrangle and comprised the College, the Laboratories, the Hostel and Refectory.

The hostel, on the south west corner of the site, was completed first, in 1915. The whole of the ground floor was occupied with the kitchen, scullery, pantry and servants hall to service the Refectory. The Students' Common Room and Staff Rooms were on the first floor with sixty three bed sitting rooms on the floors above, each with fireplace and window, decorated in silver grey and all 14ft by 10ft or larger.

(Continued on page 22)

Queen Mary's Hostel artist's impression.

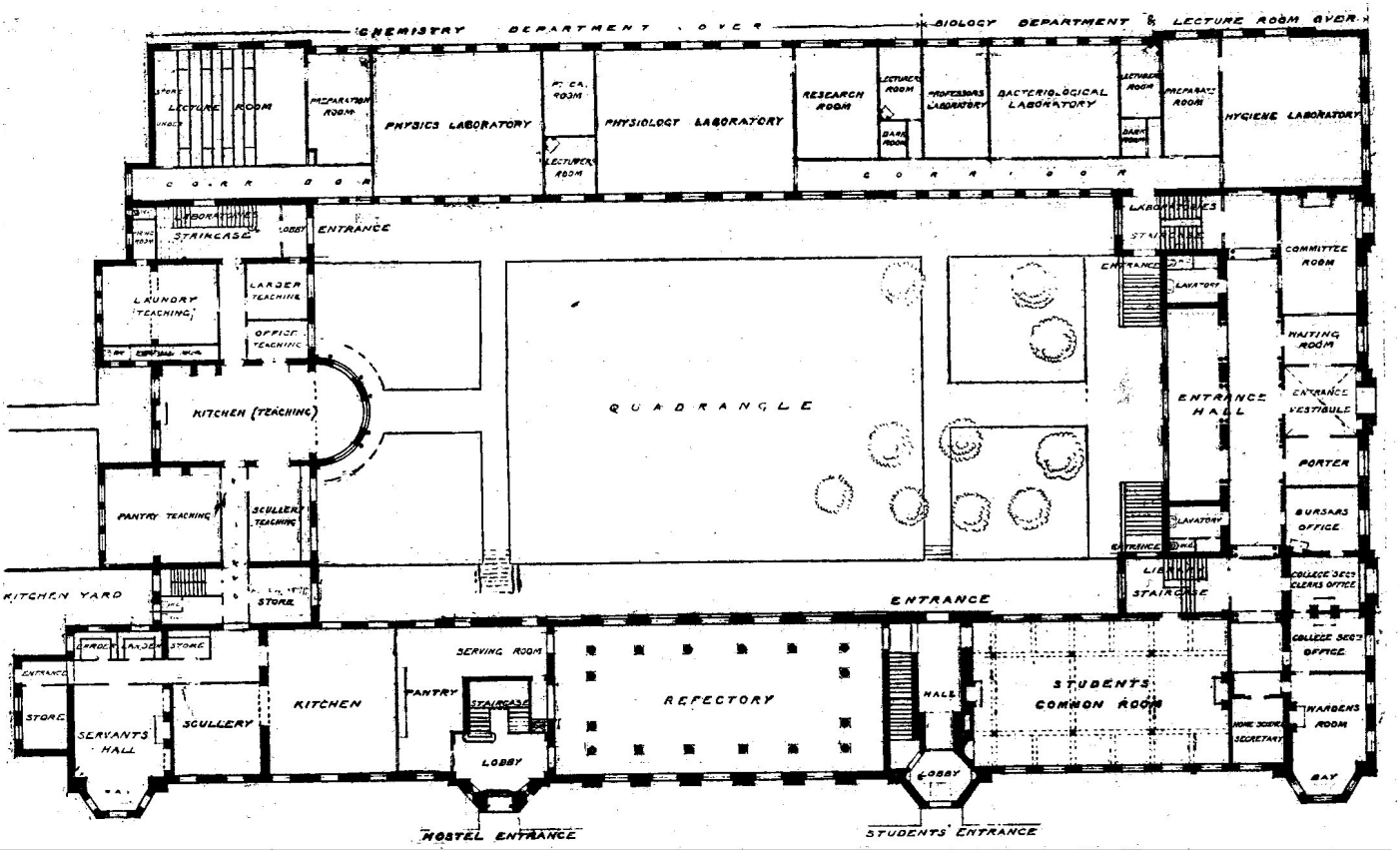


Ancient Gallows

While excavating the foundations of the hostel, a set of ancient gallows was dug up, though no records showed Campden Hill as place of execution. The contractors donated a small square commemoration stone engraved with a cross to be placed in a flower bed but this later disappeared.

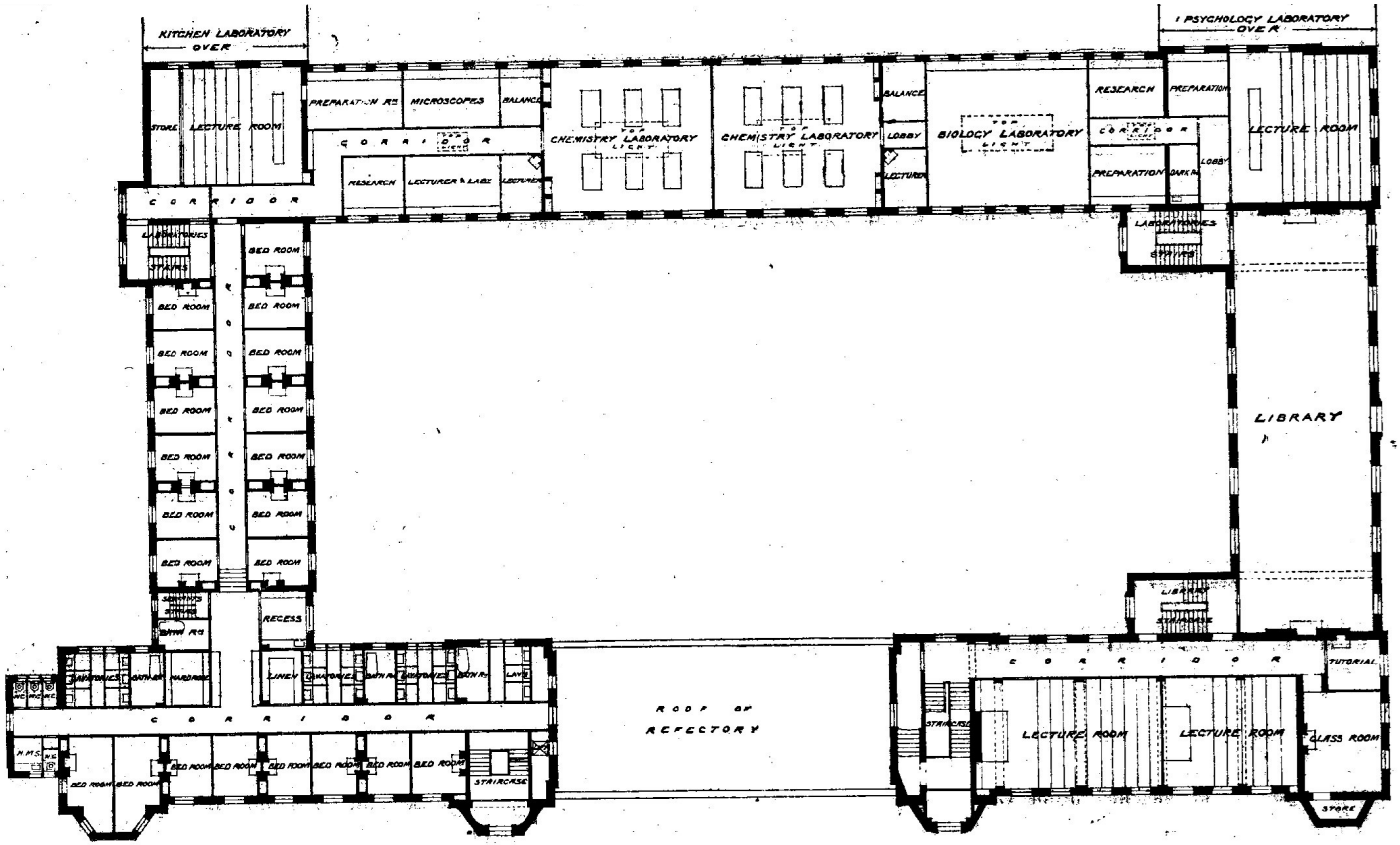
The Refectory c1916

Student's Common Room c1916



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON: KING@S COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, Messrs H PERCY ADAMS and HOLDEN, Architects

The Building News, 1 August 1913



Architect's Plan -of the Second Floor - The Building News, 1 August 1913

(Continued from page 18)

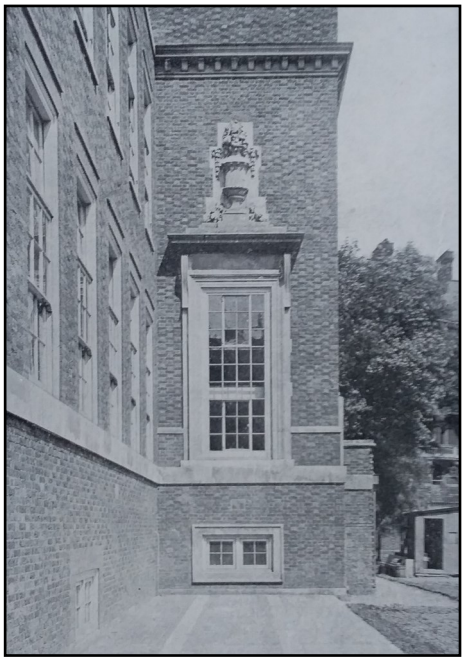
Every student was provided with a small dressing room, 6ft by 4ft , fitted with 'fixed lavatory' (no potty behaviour for these refined ladies!), hot and cold water supplies, fittings of porcelain and nickel and , '*joy of joys, a hot-air towel stand*'. The sitting rooms faced west, south or east while the dressing rooms were grouped together to economise plumbing and utilise the north aspect. Four bath rooms were provided to every twenty one students, also a housemaid's closet, linen press, wardrobe room, and tea pantry.

Bay of Hostel Building

Quadrangle With Teaching Kitchen Reaching Out Into The Cupola

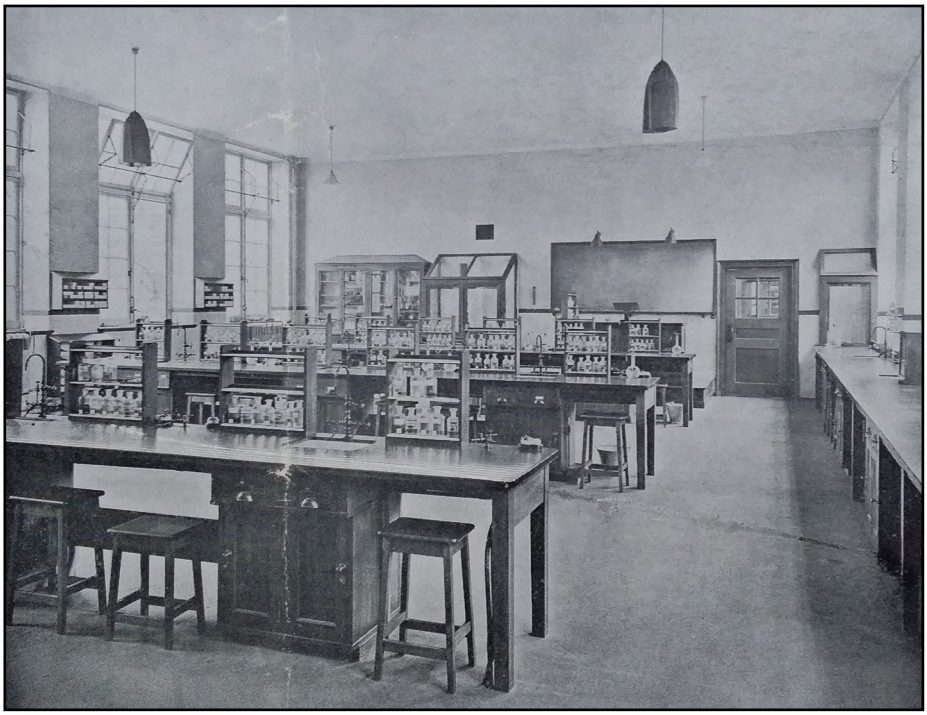
The West Wing was devoted to the Household Arts department with a teaching kitchen reaching out into a cupola in the quadrangle, scullery, pantry and teaching laundry rooms.

The North Wing comprised the laboratories, named after the sponsor Lord Anglesey, which were mostly two floors high. They consisted of physics, physiology, bacteriology and hygiene on the ground floor with chemistry and biology on the top floor. There were also laboratories for 'special kitchen work'.



Angle of Laboratory Building

Quadrangle and Section of Laboratory Building.



Physiological Laboratory

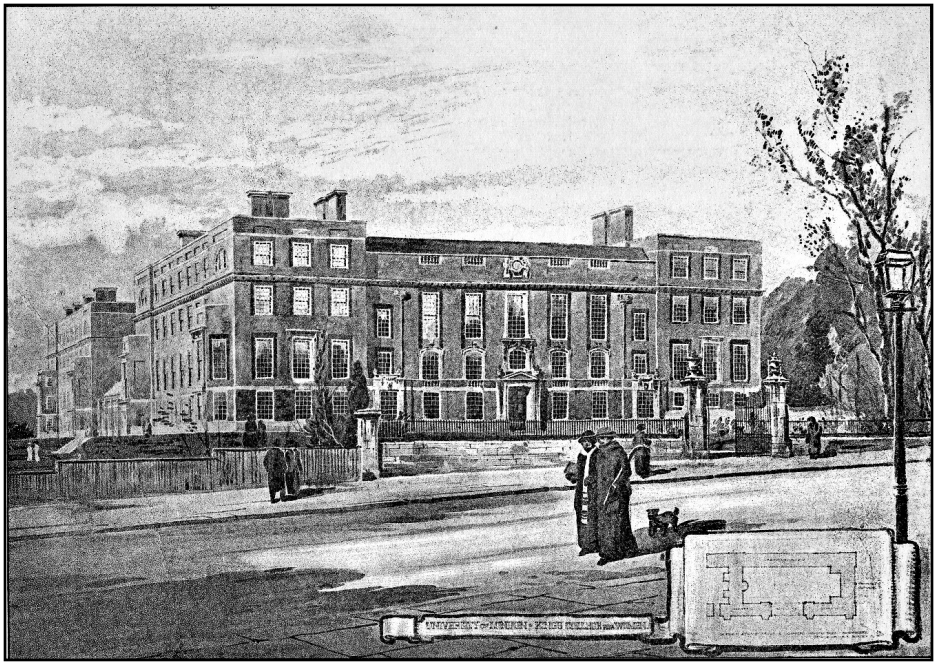
The East Wing block was added in 1923 and was to comprise administration on the ground floor with the library above and another physics laboratory on top. However, one of Atkin's patients was Mrs Samuel Courtauld whose husband was chairman of a large textile firm and founded the Courtauld Art Institute close to King's in the Strand. She noted there was no provision for recreational purpose and donated £5000 for a hall to be used for concerts, dancing, theatricals etc - the Courtauld Hall was added on the second floor and the library and physics lab were both moved up a floor.

The final block on the South East, added in the 1930s, comprised quarters for the Warden, further staff and student common rooms and forty one additional student rooms. A passage was built over the refectory to link the two sides of the hostel. In later years when East block rooms were taken over by male students, this passageway served more 'clandestine purposes' and was nicknamed as 'the sewer'.

View looking south from the Quadrangle — before the addition of the East Block

Constructing the Warden's quarters and East Hall, 1930

We leave our King's Women of Kensington waiting to move into their brand new college building. Look out for the next edition of Envoy to read the next exciting episode on life in the first few years at Campden Hill Road.

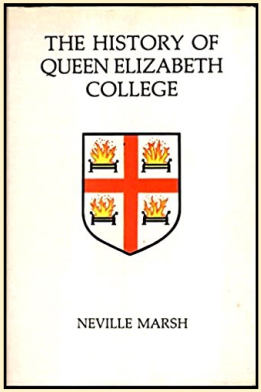


King's College for Women artist's impression. J.J.Akerman c1910-12

Compiled by ***Lyn Embling (neé Rigby)*** *and* ***Professor Neville Marsh.***

This article draws heavily on Neville's book

'The History of Queen Elizabeth College' King's College London, 1986



From our Web Master, Gary Thomas:

The QE(K)A Website

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

https://qeca.org.uk

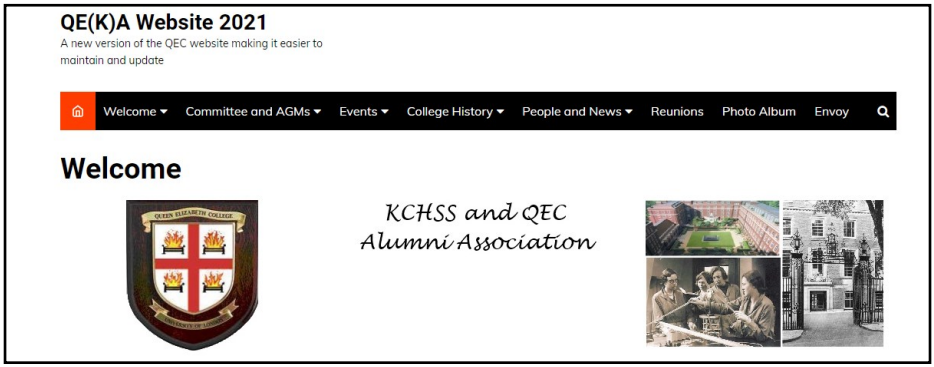
I really don't remember how it started.

My guess is that at the 2002 Reunion, which was a watershed event for the Association (you can read why on the, ahem, website), I may have said that what the Association needed was a website. And one of my friends probably said 'well, why don't you do one then'. And I probably said 'OK'. Probably.

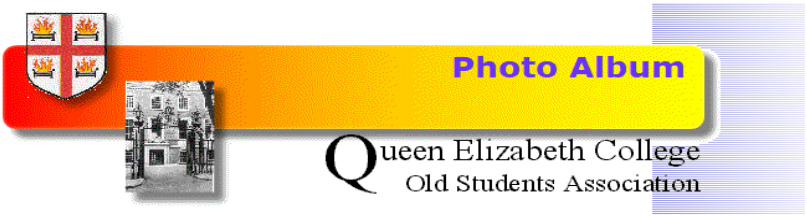
But why have a website?

The reason I felt there needed to be a website, and hence what I think the role of the QE(K)A Alumni website, is:

1. So former students and staff can find the Association and join it - thus, simply by existing on the Internet, ex-QEC'ers could find out about the Association. And of course there needed to be a 'Join Us' process.
2. To inform alumni of events - these days just the AGM and Annual reunion but we did more in the past.



3 To act as an accessible archive of QEC very much from the perspective of the personal experiences of staff and students. Hence ideally lots of photos, as the web is very much a visual medium, but also reports, documents etc. where appropriate. Hence the website has pages with photos of annual and other re-unions, and the 'photo albums' with pictures from QEC in the 1960's and 70's.



4 And, of course, to download Envoy!

Developing the website

Writing loads of HTML (the language of the web) is not my thing. However at that time I was dabbling with a 'family' website and had come across a 'web authoring' product called NetObjects Fusion. By 'came across' I of course mean that there was a free version on a CD that came with some PC magazine I had bought. Using NetObjects is a bit like using MS Word. If you want a word to appear **bold** ***italic*** you apply those styles and NetObjects creates the HTML code needed to display these formats on a web page. Thus it was that on 03 October 2003 I created the first version of the QE(K)A website.

NetObjects Fusion was quite a respected product in those days with some sophisticated features and was used on some large websites. After a couple of years I actually bought and paid for a full version of the product and have upgraded it over the years. It is a stand-alone, li-

censed software product i.e. you have to buy it and install it onto a computer to use it. It creates and stores the files needed to build a website in its own proprietary format but the output is pure HTML.

The design of the website has changed over the years as web fashions have come and gone. From time to time I would look at various web sites to see how they were designed and if I thought it was time for a change on the QE(K)A website I would use NetObjects to create the new look.

Whilst the look has changed over time the overall structure has remained more or less the same with the main sections being Committee; Reunions; Envoy, College History; People and News and Photo Album. This structure has worked well (I hope!) and means that just about everything that we want to put on the website has a natural home.

If you want to know what the website did look like in the past you can see archived copies on the WaybackMachine at:

https://web.archive.org/web/20040117145651/http://www.qeca.org.uk/index.html

The present and future

Over the last few years it was becoming clear to me that NetObjects Fusion was starting to be a drag on maintaining and enhancing the QE(K)A website. Development of NetObjects ceased in 2015 so it was becoming an obsolete product but was nevertheless essential to maintain the website; nothing else could read those propitiatory files. More significantly updating pages is quite long winded, to the point that simply adding a full stop

to a sentence could take 30 minutes from beginning to end and as a consequence I found I was simply putting off making minor changes to the website until I had a number to do and it might take months to get 2/3/4 updates to bundle and do all at once.

Thus it became clear that the website was not sustainable using NetObjects and I needed to move it to a different 'website building tool' to ensure longevity and ease of updating. I was also conscious that it needed to be a tool that someone else could take on as and when I decide to hand on the QE(K)A website banner.

I won't go into the analysis but I decided to migrate the website to Wordpress. It is properly known as a Content Management System (CMS) and is used by 41.4% of the top 10 million websites (May 2021; thank you Wikipedia!). No proprietary software is needed as it is accessed via a browser and just about every web hosting company has hosting dedicated for Wordpress.

My cunning plan was to import the HTML output from Netobjects and convert it to Wordpress and indeed there are tools that do just this.

Except it didn't work. A lot of the website was imported but links were broken, pictures not appearing, pages missing most of the content etc. etc.

In the end I abandoned the 'import' plan and moved to Plan B. This was to set up Wordpress as the Home page (aka the front end) and to have the existing website sitting underneath this Home page so that a link from the Home page, in Wordpress, would take you to the 'original' site. Over time I will recreate pages (there are 150 of them!) in Wordpress and remove the link to the 'original' site page. Most importantly all new content will go onto the Wordpress site which I can do in a matter of moments.

THE FUTURE

Maintaining the QE(K)A is now much easier and it is on a platform that has longevity. I am confident that the website will be there and be maintainable for as long as we pay the hosting fee.

Our Web Master, Gary Thomas,

welcomes any inputs for the web site. Please contact him on:

email@gcathomas.me.uk

The Science Bit

Yes, I see your hand up at the back, there is always one keen student!

- The site is hosted by UK2 The old website was hosted by TalkTalk who took over the company that took over the company that.....took over Freedom2Surf who hosted the first version of the website. There were some challenges getting the domain moved from TalkTalk to UK2.
- It is currently running Wordpress v5.7.2 using the Cream Magazine Theme.
  (Interesting fact: Wordpress first came out in 2003, the same year that I created the first version of the QE(K)A website)
- The database is MySQL and the PHP version is 7.3
- The 'original' website sits in a sub-domain old.qeca.org.uk
- Security is provided by NinjaFirewall (WAF) and Surcuri Security.
- The old site was HTTP (so an insecure link from your browser to the web-site) but we now have a 'certificate' making the site HTTPS i.e. the link from your browser to the site is encrypted. We don't of course ask for any sensitive information when using the website but a lot of browsers now view any plain HTTP site with suspicion and put up lots of warnings before they let you go to the site - as indeed might happen as you move from the new to the old site as it is still HTTP.
- For any complex page layouts I use Page Builder by SiteOrigin
- Analytics is provided by Google Analytics. I have the Monsterinsights plugin for quick views of the analytics data but for detailed views I use Google Analytics directly.
- Backups are via UpdraftPlus

GETTING THE BUZZ

Tales From a Bee Keeper's Wife.

The things we do for love! Like holding a ladder up against a tree while a swarm-ball of bees gets dropped on your head.

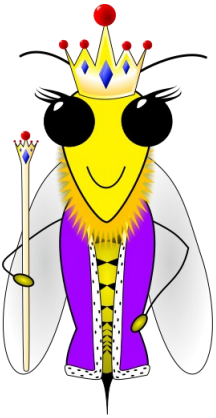
It all started when HE (our ex Membership Secretary, Henry Embling) decided to become a bee keeper. It was serious business - a Bee keepers' club was joined; a bee keeper's course was attended; and the bee keeper's exam was passed.

THE HIVE

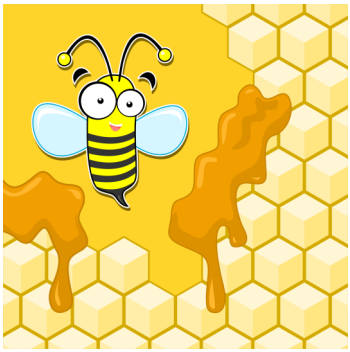
HE decided to make the hive himself. The bits were bought and the hive was made - two wooden boxes (supers) for the bees to store their honey and a 'brood' box for the queen to live in and lay her eggs. Each of the boxes were filled with wooden frames that supported thin panels of wax shaped into hexagons to provide foundations to give the bees a head start when building the comb in which to store their honey.

THE BEES

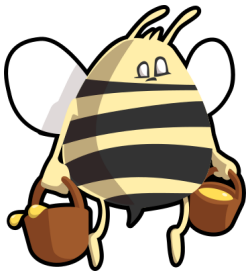
Then it was time to buy some bees - a queen and just a few lady friends to act as her attendants, dear little creatures costing over £100 who arrived in a jiffy bag sent, of course, by Royal Mail. They soon made themselves at home in their new hive. Queeny started laying eggs and her ladies in waiting raised the grubs so very soon the hive was thriving.



BEEHAVIOUR



Bees are a thriving co-operative community. They are very well organised creatures and all have different jobs to do. Some make the wax and mould the honeycomb. Some act as nursemaids looking after the grubs. Some are sent out of the hive to collect nectar, pollen, water or propolis (tree sap which they use to block up holes - it gungs up everything). Some are housekeepers and clean out the hive, or undertakers who remove any dead bees. Others fan the hive when it gets too hot. Some guard the hive and sting people using lawn mowers—perhaps they think they are giant bees coming to attack the hive.



The queen bee's job is to lay eggs. A new queen goes on a single virgin flight (nothing to do with Richard Branson) and mates with lots of drones from other hives. Just one long session in the Mile High Club and the poor girl is pregnant for life. She spends the rest of her days laying eggs.

Most of the bees are female. Drones arise from unfertilised eggs. If they want to hatch a queen they feed the grubs on different food. If only human life was that simple! The male bees spend their lives being fed and pampered, leaving all the hard work to the women and no doubt droning on about football. When it's time to perform their sole purpose in life, to mate, they leave home to find themselves a virgin queen from another hive. Once the males have served their queen they've also served their purpose and die.

THE SWARM

If the hive gets overcrowded the bees may decide to set up a new colo-

ny elsewhere. They may want to hatch a new queen in which case they feed a few grubs on Royal Jelly and the first to hatch kills off the remaining grub contenders to the throne. Just like Circe in Game of Thrones. The new queen may kill the old one, or may take her own supporters off to create a new colony elsewhere. The bees swarm.

A swarm in flight looks like something from the plagues of Egypt. The sky goes dark with a massive cloud of bees and there is a dreadful droning noise that makes you want to run for an Anderson shelter. They eventually settle into a football sized mass, usually near the top of a tree but sometimes on a park bench installing dread into people passing by. The swarm has no regard for social distancing.

HE volunteered to be our local swarm collector. One year we were called out to deal with about twenty swarms - although some turned out to be little colonies of about 30 bumble bees that had taken up residence in various bird boxes.

September 2020

So it's into our bee suits. Out with the ladder. Find a big box, secateurs and a saw. HE climbs the ladder in the bee suit, clinging onto ladder,

box in one hand, saw in the other, steadying branch with another (oh dear, not enough hands). Wifey assistant also in bee suit, holding ladder. HE saws off the branch the bees are on and drops them into the box - or on wife. Ease back down the ladder carrying half the swarm in box and remaining bees buzzing around head, ready to pass box to wife who is still holding ladder. No she isn't. She's run, screaming, helter skelter down the other end of the garden!

One day we were asked to remove a colony of wild honey bees that had settled long term inside a massive old willow tree. Bees were coming and going through a small hole about ten foot up the tree and we had to build a scaffold tower to reach it safely. HE started to take away the dead wood around the entrance hole, removing old honeycomb while the bees receded deeper and deeper into the tree. The small hole grew, and grew, and grew, until it was about 2 foot wide, 5 feet high and so deep that his whole arm plus saw disappeared inside the tree. There was so much old honey comb that we filled an old bin and several buckets and black bags. A very sticky job. HE eventually extracted as many bees as he could, boxed them up, wrapped the box in a sheet, took them home in the boot of the car, and put them safely into their new hive.

The next day they'd all buzzed off and disappeared.

BEES CAN KILL.

Some ancient cultures believed the bee was the sacred insect that bridged the living world to the un-

derworld. This belief is far too close for comfort:

It was Valentine's day, and he was giving his girls some tender loving care. They didn't appreciate his attentions and one stung him on the chin through the mesh of his bee suit. He got in a terrible sweat and collapsed in aphylaxis. A 999 call very quickly brought the paramedics, an ambulance and a few hours in hospital, but fortunately there was also a quick recovery.

The bee was not so lucky. A bee rips out half of its abdomen when it leaves a sting in someone, so the poor bee died.

People can be beekeepers for many years and then suddenly become allergic to stings. Some give up beekeeping. Others have treatment to de-sensitize them to stings. HE kept his bees and had the allergy treatment - it took three years to build up resistance to two stings - but he still keeps an epi-pen at the ready just in case—and sometimes wears his bee suit to mow the lawn!

The treatment has been put to the test several times since. Bees are experts at finding any gap in the bee suit and one day several angry bees got inside his hood, stinging him four times on the neck. Thank God, Aristaeus and Melissa for the NHS and the anti-allergy treatment!

HONEY

There has been a lot of publicity in recent years about the plight of the bees and how the world food supply could be in crisis due to insufficient pollination. This has led to increased interest in beekeeping and many new bee keepers being trained. Some bee keepers just provide

hives as homes to help the bees along. Others actively look after the bees, feeding them and checking for pests (varroa mites, wax moth) and disease, and take a little of their honey in return (maybe about 30 to 40lbs of honey a year from a small hive). Commercial beekeepers can have hundreds of hives.

For one little jar of honey the bees have to travel a collective total of around 6000 miles so we feel very guilty when we take any honey from them. They make honey as food and need stores for the winter. HE also gives them additional food in the form of a sugar solution, or as a fondant in the colder months. Professor Yudkin told us it was pure, white and deadly, but the bees need sugar to survive.

Processing the honey is a messy job. According to the Beekeepers book, the bees build a nice regular honeycomb, fill it with honey, and cap it off with a thin layer of wax. All the beekeeper has to do is to remove the frame from the hive, brush off the bees, run a knife over the frame to remove the caps and then put the frames into an extractor to spin off the honey.

But the bees have not read the book so reality is never quite that simple. Extracting honey is a very, very messy job but that's another story... And HE does at least clean up the kitchen afterwards!

They say love me love my dog. Love me, love my bees is another matter altogether.

Lyn Embling nee Rigby, Physics 1972-78

(With apologies for any technical details that I may have wrong. Like the bees, I haven't read the book!)

Photos by Lyn and Henry Embling

Clip art from www.clipsafari.com and www.allfree-clipart.com

The Piltdown Hoax

The Greatest Scientific Fraud Ever

Based on a transcription in Envoy 1998 of a talk given by Professor Brian Gardiner to the QE(K)A 1997 reunion

With apologies for any errors in this twice-transcripted report

The story of the Piltdown Man began in 1907 with the discovery of a fossil human jaw bone in inter-glacial sands near Heidelberg. Although it had human dentition it was massive and ape-like. Around the same time, shaped flints were found in gravel layers across Southern England that were believed to be man made tools from the pre-glacial and glacial periods. The hunt was on to discover the creator of these tools and substantiate the descent of man from the apes.

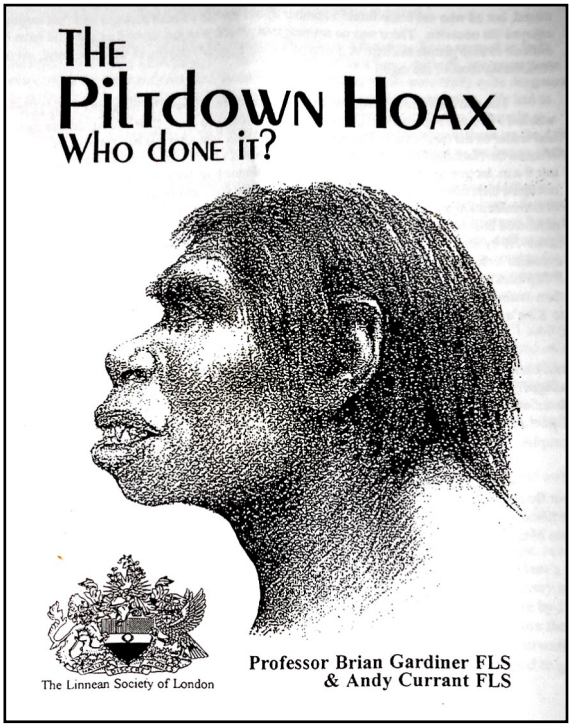
In 1912 a labourer was digging gravel from a pit in order to repair the drive at a local estate in Piltdown. He found a piece of parietal bone which he gave to Charles Dawson, a solicitor who was visiting the estate in his professional capacity. Dawson was also an amateur archaeologist and returned later to find another fragment of skull. He showed this to Arthur Smith Woodward, an eminent authority on fossil fish at the Natural History Museum (NHM). Together they carried out a systematic search of the gravel pit, which yielded further fragments of skull, the ape-like mandible. A lower ape-like canine was found by a local priest who helped with the excavation work. Piecing the fragments together they formed a reconstruction of the 'Piltdown skull'. They also found eoliths, Paleolithic hand axes, and a piece of bone apparently hand-worked to form a tool. Dawson and Woodward believed they had found the fossilized remains of an early human and presented

their findings in the Journal of the Geological Society. For many years the majority of the scientific community believed the so called 'Piltdown Man' was the 'missing link' between apes and humans.

Sadly both Dawson and Woodward had failed to appreciate that the material they had unearthed came from two different stratas which could not have occurred together in a gravel bed of no more than four feet in depth.

Their theory was discredited in 1953 in a Bulletin of the Natural History Museum - *The Piltdown Myth Exposed.* One of the authors of this exposé wrote a book - *The Piltdown Story* - in which he identified Dawson as the originator of the fraud. The ape-like canine found at Piltdown was later shown to have been filed down to more closely resemble human dentition in a further attempt to deceive.

It was at this time that Brian Gardiner, then a second year student, became fascinated with the story, and various events and coincidences over the following years led him to unmask the true villain of the hoax. He acquired a technique for the preparation of fossils from their calcareous matrix and the ability to identify decalcified bone. In 1961 he married a former QEC student, Elizabeth, who later went on to work with Kenneth Oakley, a co-author of the Piltdown exposé who had worked on the Piltdown fragments. A chance discussion implicated another potential



suspect for the fraud - Martin Hinton, a curator at the NHM.

Evidence to connect him with the fraud came when an old trunk carrying his initials was found at the NHM in 1980. Brian was invited to examine the contents and found a collection of bones and teeth showing the same brown staining as the fragments found at Piltdown. The bones had been worked on in a similar manner to those found by Dawson and Woodward. Final proof came when the executor of Hinton's estate was able to supply a collection of human teeth, some showing decalcification, a process that Brian easily recognised, and alternative staining techniques, evidence of Hilton's experimentation.

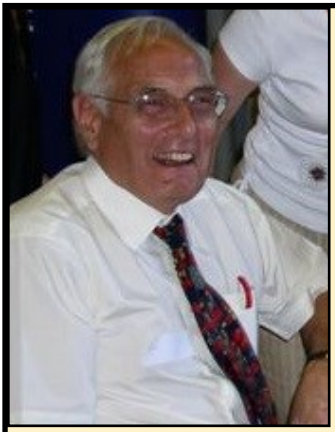
This provided the proof linking Hinton to the fraud. Only he could have prepared the phoney fragments and planted them together with the eoliths and 'man-made' tools to be discovered by Dawson and Woodward at Piltdown.

Motive? In 1910 Hinton had had an argument with Smith Woodward over money and his antipathy towards him was well known. It would have been a great joke to Hinton to provide Smith Woodward with a phoney missing link.

Other suspects for the fraud included Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who lived near to Piltdown, and was a member of the same archaeological society as Dawson.

More recently, suspicion shifted back to Dawson as the likely culprit. Miles Russell of Bournemouth University investigated Dawson's antiquarian collection and concluded that at least 38 specimens were clear fakes. In 2016, a team of British researchers used DNA studies to provide added evidence for the provenance of Piltdown Man and concluded it was forged by a single individual who they thought was most likely Dawson.

Nevertheless, Hinton still remains a candidate for the fraud. We may never know the true identity of the Piltdown hoaxer .



Extracts from Tony Trinci's Memories of the QEC Microbiology Department

(paraphrased by Ann Wood)

QEC in 1964: The senior staff in the Microbiology Department were John Pirt† (1961-87), a microbial physiologist, promoted to Professor in 1966; Patricia Scholes† (1955-65), previously Department of Bacteriology; and Alan Bull (1963-69), a microbial ecologist from Birkbeck College.

The Assistant Lecturers were Don Kelly (1963-66) recruited from UCL whilst still in the third year of his PhD, who studied autotrophic bacteria; David Smith (1963-65) from UCL, who studied bacterial systematics; and Brian Bainbridge (University of Sheffield) a fungal geneticist appointed 1963. Tony Trinci (1964-81) was a fungal physiologist from the University of Durham. All four were appointed to Assistant Lectureships during or immediately after completing PhDs. In those days one difference between Assistant Lecturers and Lecturers was that only the latter were supplied with telephones!

The combined teaching experience of the 5 staff appointed in 1963-64 amounted to just 6 years! Nevertheless, working under Pirt's leadership we developed courses in Microbiology from scratch, served as administrators in both the Department and the College, and developed our fields of research. In doing so, we were on a steep learning curve that newly appointed university staff today would not recognize. Today, scientists are usually appointed to a Lectureship only after completing several years of postdoctoral research; and are usually given light teaching and administrative loads for a couple of years to help them develop their research. Fortunately, in the early years of Microbiology at QEC the novelty of the non-medical Microbiology BSc degree attracted high calibre students who partly taught themselves; this compensated for our inexperience.

From 1965 onwards some of the microbiologists Pirt appointed were more experienced. G.E. (Ted) Mathison† (1965-80) interested in fungal infec-

tions of man, was recruited from a Lectureship (Nottingham); Simos Agnostopoulos† (food bacteriologist) was appointed in 1965 primarily to teach food microbiology to Nutrition students. Caryl Wallis (1966-69) a Cambridge graduate interested in mitochondrial biochemistry, replaced Kelly who had moved to Australia. John R. Birch (1968-70) a QEC Microbiology graduate was an animal tissue physiologist, appointed to Assistant Lectureship after completing his PhD with Pirt. Chris Thurston† (Microbiology graduate, UCL) worked on the biochemistry of the green alga Chlorella and was recruited to Microbiology (1970) from an Assistant Lectureship in QEC's Biochemistry Dept. Mick Bazin† appointed to a Lectureship (1970), was a mathematically based microbial ecologist. Alan Ebringer, a medically qualified immunologist from Australia, was appointed (1972) to a Joint Lectureship in the Depts of Microbiology and Biochemistry.

Somehow, the Microbiology staff appointed 1963-72 survived their difficult apprenticeships. Indeed, under Pirt's leadership all developed into independently-minded microbiologists and seven subsequently became Professors. Pirt's vision determined the ethos of the Microbiology Dept at QEC, which he led by example not exhortation. Pirt was dedicated to his science, and therefore so were we; Pirt carried out his own experiments, therefore so did we; Pirt believed that undergraduate teaching was important, therefore so did we.

Members of QEC Microbiology Department at Tony Trinci's leaving party in the QEC Senior Common Room, June 1981.

OBITUARIES

Radha Robinson *(née Subramaniam)*

Biochemistry 1975

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Radha Subramaniam who died of Covid-19 on the 8th February 2021.

Born in Madras in 1953, Radha and her family including two sisters moved to England when she was seven. Settling at first in Bexhill, then moving to Altrincham in Cheshire, at sixteen Radha spent a year living with an American Family in Los Angeles on an America Field Service Scholarship. Back in England and after A-levels, she arrived at QEC in October 1972 to read Biochemistry.

Taking a 2.1 in Biochemistry in 1975, she began a promising PhD project in immunology with Prof Alan Ebringer. Sadly, this was cut short when she contracted a severe cytomegalovirus infection requiring hospitalisation. After a prolonged recovery, she went to work in the Immunology Department of the Antony Nolan Foundation.

She met her husband Nick Robinson, a mining engineer and IT specialist from Imperial College, whom she married after a six-year courtship in 1984. Shortly before her marriage, her younger sister Chandy died leaving three motherless children. Radha and Nick immediately took them in and raised them as their own. The family was soon joined by Nick and Radha's children James and Anna. Inevitably, looking after five children spelt the end of Radha's scientific career at the Antony Nolan Foundation.

Radha never lost touch with QEC however, attending every meeting and eventually taking a leading role in the QEC Alumni Association. She served as Membership Secretary until her final illness.

Radha uniquely combined a natural friendliness with a down-to-earth mind-set, devoid of both naivety and pretence, making her a delight to know. As hostess or guest, she warmed a room with her beauty and intellect engaging all in conversation that simultaneously carried wit and weight of thought. She followed her father's adage that "Everyone has something interesting to say; you just have to find out what it is."

Radha's children inherited her charm as well as her love of science and humanity. James is a theoretical physicist, and Anna is a Physician. She will also long be remembered fondly by so many others of those she left behind. One thing is certain. No-one ever forgot meeting Radha.

Sally Henderson

Anthony Peter Joseph Trinci
(1936-2020) *Microbiology*

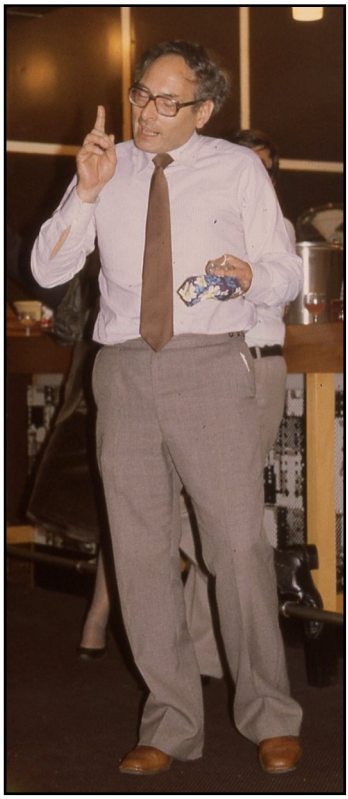
Tony died aged 84, on 7th October 2020, exactly 50 years to the day when he became my personal tutor in my first academic term at QEC. This tribute combines information from published obituaries, Tony's own words, and my memories.

Tony was born in Swindon and grew up in Barking, East London. He attended St Bonaventure's Grammar School (Forest Gate), then read Botany, followed by an MSc at Durham University, where he met his future wife, Margaret Doherty. They both worked briefly as teachers in Essex, before returning to Durham where he did a PhD on *Aspergillus giganteus.*

In 1964 he joined the new Microbiology Department at QEC as Assistant Lecturer, and stayed until 1981. He became one of the UK's leading mycologists as a result of his work there on fungal cytology and growth kinetics.

The Microbiology Department at QEC affected everybody who worked/studied there and it held a special place in our hearts and minds. Tony's own recollections (see page 41) of his early years at QEC show how much it meant to him and the influence it had on him - Many of the graduates and academics, including Tony, took this ethos away with them. Microbiology staff collaborated routinely with each other, across QEC departments, and with other universities/industries to develop their research ideas.

Tony developed methods for direct observation of colony growth and organisation of the mycelium by hyphal tip growth and branch initiation. He was the first to devise parameters for measuring colony growth on agar plates. Colony Radial Growth Rate, Peripheral Growth Zone, and Hyphal Growth Unit all allowed definition and mathematical modelling of hyphal branching and colony formation, which were used to compare wild type and mutant colonies. He recognised and took advantage of departmental expertise in continuous culture (Pirt), and modelling (Bazin) to study filamentous growth in submerged continuous culture and described novel aspects of fungal growth physiology and kinetics. Tony's direct and collaborative approach took him to the forefront of UK mycology research.



As students, we took it for granted that the latest developments were included in lec-

tures by all the Microbiology staff. Tony's lectures were referenced to his own research as well as the latest advances elsewhere, all of whom he seemed to know on first-name terms. I remember him excitedly coming in to lectures with no notes to tell us the latest 'hot off the press' results only just published! He could cover a blackboard several times over with information, without looking at any notes. We were rarely referred to textbooks, mainly because there weren't that many back then, so it's ironic that one of his last publications was a textbook. We were instructed at the leading edge of Microbiology by Tony and his QEC colleagues.

In July 1981 Tony moved to the Barker Chair of Cryptogamic Botany at Manchester University. He led organisational changes which created the first integrated School of Biological Sciences, of which he was inaugural Chair. The new School structure enabled and encouraged opportunities to apply molecular biology across the biosciences. This ground-breaking structure was subsequently introduced and reproduced across the Biosciences in UK universities and continues to this day. This innovative format provides major collaborative opportunities for research and degree structure. It also provides for economy of scale of infrastructure, equipment and staffing, as so many techniques are replicated across disciplines. After he went to Manchester, Don Kelly and I were invited to visit, and Tony gave us a guided tour round his new School which was so incredibly impressive in size and structure, compared with our university experience at that time. We could see it was the future. His influence widened during his period as Dean and then Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University, up to his retirement in 2001.

Tony was a great advocate of curiosity-driven research. His comprehensive mycology knowledge and expertise was applied not only to academic questions, but also to projects supporting commercial applications of filamentous fungi. One of these projects was on Quorn, developed by Rank Hovis McDougall/ICI. It is a *Fusarium* mycoprotein human food product now widely available in supermarkets. I recall him telling me of problems during fermentation, where variants arose

with short hyphal filaments. If they took over and adversely affected the culture, production had to be stopped, cleaned out and restarted, at considerable expense. Tony's collaborative research showed how and why the variants arose and how they could be suppressed/prevented. He happily shared the resolution and remedy. I was interested as a microbiologist and as an early consumer. In later years when I lectured on Quorn in Food Microbiology at KCL, I included his contributions, so completing the circle.

He investigated fungal enzymes from aerobic and anaerobic fungi for use in animal feed (Genencor). A phytase enzyme, isolated from *Penicillium* species, was used commercially to release phosphate in animal feeds. He had a long collaboration with Mike Theodorou (also ex-QEC), at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research, studying anaerobic gut fungi. They elucidated the gut fungal life cycle, identified a previously unknown survival stage, identified and classified novel fungi, and confirmed anaerobic fungi as ubiquitous in the GI tract of most large, mammalian herbivores digesting lignocellulose biomass. So Tony contributed to the food chain from pitchfork to table fork!

He received many prizes, awards, and honorary memberships from learned societies internationally. He served as President of both the Microbiology Society and the Mycological Society, the two largest UK Professional Microbiology societies at that time. He was awarded the Marjory Stephenson Prize (and lectured on Quorn!) by the Microbiology Society, was an Honorary Member of the British Mycological Society, the Microbiology Society and the Mycological Society of America, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology.

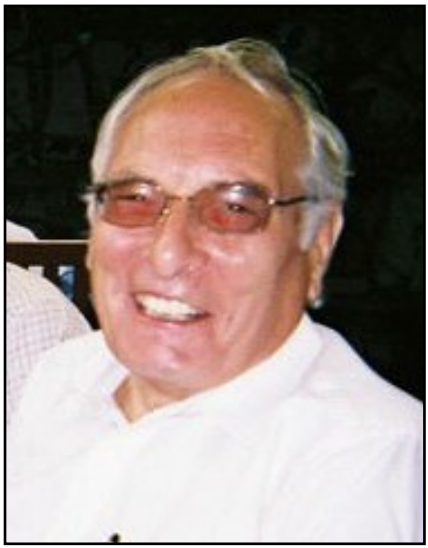
After his retirement, he collaborated with two ex-colleagues, in writing a textbook based on a mycology course they had taught in Manchester (21st Century Guidebook to Fungi, D. Moore, G.D Robinson and APJ Trinci, 2011).

Outside academia he was very much a family man. In January 1961 he married Margaret in Yorkshire, which he reminded me of many times,

as a Yorkshire lass myself. She survives him, together with three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In retirement he was involved in the community, socially-focused politics, school governorships (a Primary School, an 11-16 High School, and a Catholic Sixth Form College), charitable organisations and clubs (Rotary, Probus and Social) in which he also organised events, and with Margaret played Bridge.

Tony was an inspirational teacher, priceless mentor, an innovative and insightful researcher, and a foresighted educator and administrator. He always generously supported colleagues and students, and gave his time selflessly to improve organisations at all levels in work and retirement. He was a true gentleman, considerate and modest. His influence on the world of Microbiology was extensive, as he encouraged so very many careers globally.

I remember Tony as my personal tutor, was always helpful, always had time to listen, a lovely, reassuring voice, positive attitude and always sensibly pragmatic. He seemed to smile through the best and worst of times. In later years he was my role model when I became a tutor at KCL as I thought nobody would complain if I maintained his standards.



After I left QEC in 1975, I met up with Tony at conferences, QEC Microbiology 'Beermats' parties, dinners, reunions, and the closure of Kensington campus in 1999. Tony was my mentor, Microbiology-Dad and a dear friend who will always be imprinted in my heart. I truly wouldn't have had the career and life I've had if Tony hadn't influenced me so early and for so long.

Ann Wood , May 2021

Professor Brian George Gardiner PPLS (1932-2021)

QEC Biology Department

We were very sad to hear of the passing of Professor Brian Gardiner on 22 January 2021, aged 88, a victim of Covid-19 .

Brian was born in Stroud in Gloucestershire and was the first in his family to go on to university. He studied zoology at Imperial College, specialising in entomology, then went on to do a PhD in palaeontology at University College. He joined the Biology department at QEC in 1958 as assistant lecturer in palaeontology, rising to Professor in 1985, and moved with the department to King's until his retirement in 1998.

In 1963 he spent a year on sabbatical at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, resulting in a catalogue of Canadian fossil fishes.

Brian's interest lay in fossils, how they should be interpreted and classified, and what they revealed about evolution. He was interested in the anatomy, taxonomy and evolution of fishes, particularly actinopterygians (ray-finned fishes). He studied the evolution of bony fish into today's salmon and cod, investigated the relationship between lungfish and four limbed animals and joined a heated debate in *Nature* in the late 1970s about whether lungfish were more closely related to a salmon or a cow, that impacted theories on how life emerged on to land. Two fossil fish genera (*Gardinerichthys* and *Gardinerpiscis*) and the placoderm *Austroptyctodus gardineri* are named for him.

He had long standing association with the Natural History Museum in London, drawing on their fossils for his research, and later became an advisor on palaeontology.

He was admitted as a Fellow of the Linnean Society in June 1968, was

actively involved in the roles of Secretary and Editor of *The Linnean*, and later elected as President (1994-97).

Brian was fascinated by the infamous Piltdown Man hoax of 1912, and found evidence that pointed towards the real culprit of the hoax. He gave a fascinating talk on '*The greatest Scientific Fraud Ever*!' when guest speaker at the QE(K)A reunion in 1997.

When QEC was closed down in 1985, Brian wrote a '*History of the Department of Biology*' recording its vast achievements from its inception in 1912 until it moved to King's in 1985. He remembered it as '*a very 'happy' Department, with unusually friendly relations between lecturers, technicians and secretaries*' and felt that this '*bonhamie*' had led to '*effective cooperation*' that had allowed both teaching and research to flourish to the great benefit of all. He said '*The Biology Department is proud of its achievement and of the friendly atmosphere that is largely responsible for them*' .

His friends and colleagues from QEC remember as a '*lovely generous man*', '*kind*', '*warm, humorous and welcoming*', with a '*gentle manner and west-country burr*'. Having him as a lecturer '*made vertebrate evolution much more interesting*' .

Brian is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (neé Jameson), a former QEC student whom he married in 1961, their children, Nicholas, Catherine and Clare, and seven grandchildren.

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_G._Gardiner_(biologist)

A History of the Department of Biology Queen Elizabeth College 1912-1985 by Brian Gardiner

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A Tribute to Brian George Gardiner PPLS. G.M.Reid et al. The Linnean vol 37(1) April 2021 *(also on-line at: https://ca1-tls.edcdn.com/Linnean_Vol-37_1_April-2021_Brian-Gardiner-Tribute.pdf?mtime=20210421183919)*

Brian Gardiner Remembered

A Tribute by Neville Marsh

Brian was the loveliest of teachers, never scalding, always encouraging, always with time to spare. I count myself fortunate that he taught me much of my zoology and then we became colleagues for 20 years.

Brian took us to Millport, on the island of Cumbrae in the Firth of Clyde, for our marine biology field trip in 1965. I looked forward to this immensely as I had already enjoyed Brian's company at Box Hill, Surrey in the first year entomology field course. We worked in the Scottish Marine Biological Association labs on the island. Alan Brafield also came with us who was another biology great teacher.

Each day we would go out on a little trawler, the *Mizpah,* and dredge up all manner of creatures from the briny deep. Particularly prevalent was the common starfish *Asterias rubens.* We dredged up over a 1000 of the blighters and I became fascinated with the arm damage which varied for 1 to 4 arms being chewed off by predators. After I graduated, I wrote the work up as a Letter to *Nature* and got it accepted, not bad for a first year PhD student! I later learned that the editor of *Nature* was Sir John Maddox, who also happened to be the Chairman of QEC Council. Perhaps he looked on me more favourably that he should!

The other creature which we dragged up from the deep was the scallop, from the mollusc family Pectinidae. I looked forward immensely to dissecting these fresh as we had been presented only with pickled specimens in the past. Strangely, the scallops disappeared from the trawler catch bins on the first day, and then again on the second day. On the third day, I realised where they were going, they were ending up on Brian Gardiner's breakfast plate! Thereafter, we shared the spoils between the lab and the kitchen.

One of my precious pictures is the group photo of the field course.

Sixth from the left standing is Alan Brafield, 8th from the left is Prof Garth Chapman and 10th is our man, Brian Gardiner, with his trademark smile. In between Alan and Garth is Apollo Economides with whom I shared a room in hall. I'm second from the right standing.

Thomas Bigwood

QEC Mathematics 1974-1977, Died January 2018

On the day I arrived at QEC, I found I was sharing a room with Tom. He enjoyed the bridge club and intellectual pursuits while I enjoyed less intellectual pursuits. Nevertheless despite coming from very different backgrounds – he was the son of an antique dealer and knew everything about antiques – we got on.

After graduating in Maths he joined ICL and joined the hardware support team, while I joined an accountancy firm to become an accountant. But we continued to share a flat with two other QEC nutritionists and had a great time. When I got bored with accounting, he advised me to go into software development and I have been doing that for the last 40 years; his advice was sound. Tom found himself in the middle of a corporate political situation where he worked, which really upset him and he fell ill. He was diagnosed with schizophrenia possibly caused by this situation and was never able to work again. He re-

mained upbeat and moved with his family to the Forest of Dean, where he became a pillar of his church, ran the local badminton club and was self-sufficient in food, living off his garden. After his parents both died he purchased a house in Lydney. A week after moving in to his brand new home, he had a fatal stroke. The Lydney community gave him a great party as a send off for what he had done for their community.

David Johnston

Patricia Insull, neé Gould

14 December 1933—16 June 2021
1952-54 Household & Social Science

I first met Pat in October 1952 when we were undergraduates at KCHSS. We never much cared for the term 'Household' but ' Social Science' had a more academic ring to it and this provided a sense of direction for Pat's future studies.

We shared a room in the College Hall of Residence – it was pretty basic with dark green woodwork, heating was by way of a coin operated gas fire with an attached ring for cooking, no ensuite facilities but shared cubicles along the corridor

I have often wondered how the 'pairings' were arranged? Was the selection random or had the Bursar made her own assessment; Pat coming from a small town in Derbyshire and I from an unfashionable suburb in Birmingham? At any rate Pat and I got on very well together and have remained good friends ever since.

I think we were both rather naive and unsophisticated. We did not immediately appreciate the shopping potential of High Street Kensington and made our first purchase from Woolworth's - some crockery and a teapot.

The 1950s was an interesting time to be a student in London with all the city had to offer. We endured the last great Smog which engulfed the streets for 3 days and left some students without partners at the College Ball, we queued well into the early hours to file by the' Coffin

of King George 6th and Pat braved the torrential rain which fell on the coronation procession a year later.

In our first year as Freshers we were obliged to present an entertainment; Toad of Toad Hall was our choice with Pat giving a stunning performance in the title role. But Pat had other talents too, she was an excellent pianist, and sang with the University choir. She was elected on to the Students' Union Council with responsibilities for Students' welfare. Perhaps it was Pat's concern for others that led her to train as a Social Worker.

While still a student, Pat was required to spend her weekends and vacations in The East End – in Bethnel Green in conditions not dissimilar to those we have recently witnessed in the TV Series 'Call the Midwife'. Today we would call this work experience.

A short spell in retail, residential experience in a remand home infested by cockroache, and eventually a move to Birmingham. Pat's working life was spent in the service of others where she had great success and which she regularly downplayed, there are many who will acknowledge her help and guidance.

After university our lives continued in parallel but we always kept in touch. Pat married her husband, David, and went to live in Rome for a while when David's work took them there. They had three children, Mark, Clare and Nick but sadly Mark died just three years ago.

In my albums I have photographs of Pat with a smart new bicycle on which she arrived in Stratford on Avon for a holiday with fellow students (unfortunately no picture of her Lambreta - her later mode of transport) and in evening dress at the College ball. There are also holiday snaps with David in Rome and Provence – we had a lot of fun..

Pat became ill in later years curtailing her activities, but all Pat's friends and I will remember her with great fondness and as 'someone who made the difference'

She will be much missed.

Pat Cox, HSS 1952-54

Dave Frodsham, *Microbiology staff*

If anyone would like to add a tribute to David or any other friend from KCHSS/QEC, please contact the Editor, Lyn Embling

KCLA Report

by Paul Ogden

In a normal year KCLA organises a wide range of events to which all QEC graduates are invited. Of course this hasn't been a normal year and all of those events that were due to have been held have been cancelled. However, there are a couple of interesting events planned for the future:

The **2021 KCLA Annual Address** will be given by Alex Beard, CEO of the Royal Opera House, who has kindly agreed to speak on the topic of 'The Arts Following the Pandemic'. The date is Thursday 18th November 2021 and the venue, all being well, will be Bush House on the Strand. The Address will be preceded by the KCLA AGM to be held in the Council Room in the Strand campus.

Please also make a note of the **2022 KCLA Annual Dinner** which will be held on Friday 18th March 2022 at Vintner's Hall in the City of London.

Of course these arrangements are subject to ongoing guidance from the government and the College regarding COVID risk and may be subject to change.

QE(K)A's Relationship to KCLA

QE(K)A is a branch of the King's College London Alumni Association (KCLA) which is the independent body representing all alumni and former staff of King's and the colleges with which it has merged. All QEC graduates are automatically members of KCLA. Our association has a seat on the KCLA council and we endeavour to always have representation at their meetings and events.

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We also have a growing presence on facebook under

QEC and Kensington Campus KCL Alumni