**David Lindsay Maxwell (KM 1959-1964)**

**8 April 1951 – 18 December 2023**

**In Memoriam**

David Maxwell created and tirelessly looked after this website, which was dedicated to the boys and staff of the school. Apart from being a fascinating historic and photographic record of King’s Mead School in Seaford from its opening in 1914 until its demise in 1968, it has resulted in the renewal of old friendships and the making of new ones due largely to David’s Herculean efforts. Over 200 Old Boys were traced as a result. David and others subsequently helped to organise four reunion dinners in 2002, 2005, 2014 and 2018. He also assisted in persuading Sunline Properties and Barratt Homes, the new owners of the former KM site, in allowing space for a small memorial garden to commemorate the school and allow remembrance of those boys who gave their lives in World War II.

David was born in Nairn in Scotland, the eldest son of a Black Watch officer who died when David was 11, leaving him with a strong sense of responsibility for his mother and younger siblings, two of whom (Charles and Ronald) also attended KM. David excelled academically at KM, winning a scholarship to Eton, where he was Captain of Boats and won silver in 1968 in the 8+ at the FISA World Junior Championships. He was also Keeper (Captain) of his College Wall Game team. At KM, his sporting achievements included winning the Preston Cup for shooting in 1963 and 1964 and a senior swimming medal in 1963, as well playing in the Rugby 1st XV in 1963 and 1964 and captaining the Cricket 2nd XI in 1963.

After Eton, David studied natural sciences, then social and political sciences at Jesus College, Cambridge and, in both 1971 and 1972, rowed in its winning Boat Race crews: the 1972 crew included a KM contemporary, Stephen Kerruish. David was also one of the winning coxed pair at the 1972 national rowing championships. That year was capped with a selection to the Munich Olympics with fellow Blue Mike Hart, where they were placed 8th in the coxed pair. His rowing career continued with his notable results including silver in the 8+ at the Lucerne World Championships in 1974, and silver at the 1976 Montreal Olympics in the 8+.

After Cambridge, his medical studies were at UCL and Westminster Hospital medical school. After qualifying in 1978, David’s postgraduate training and MD were in London. His training appointments were at The Royal London, Brook, Guy’s, Brompton, and Hammersmith Hospitals.

David’s area of specialism was in respiratory medicine. He was not deflected by the notorious absence of consultant posts in this area of medicine in the 1980s. It was not until 1993, 15 years after qualification, that he was finally appointed as a consultant at Dartford & Gravesham NHS Trust. In 1996, he moved to a more professionally fulfilling appointment at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst but was forced to move on again in 2000 by the government’s decision to close it. From then until his retirement in 2021 he worked as a hospital consultant in Eastbourne. Sadly just after retirement David was diagnosed with colon cancer, which he faced with characteristic fortitude.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine, their three daughters, and four grandchildren.

A celebration of David’s life took place at All Saints Old Chapel, Eastbourne on Saturday 2 March 2024 attended by, among others, seven KM Old Boys and contemporaries of David, including Erick Curzon (Earl Howe), who gave an address entitled “School Days”.