



Thorough

Volume 28 January 2026



A Message from the Chair – Simon Piggott

Welcome to another edition of Thorough, the annual newsletter of the Kitchener Scholars' Association!

It is a great privilege as KSA Chair and Chair of the Scholarship Committee of the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund to get to meet so many young and interesting people, whether speaking to young Kitchener Scholars at our events or interviewing applicants for our awards. This year, three Kitchener Scholars have written about what they are up to. Olivia Banks is a support worker for those suffering from brain injuries in Australia. Hector Skipworth, a recipient of a postgraduate award, has been working in the mining sector in the Congo – very Joseph Conrad Heart of Darkness – and is embarking on a PhD looking at Rare Earth Element Recovery. Rhiannon Barber writes about her impressive achievements as she embarks on a PhD researching the experience and barriers which disabled artists encounter in Wales.

The Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony continued to be very popular with just under 110 scholars and guests at the Victory Services Club. 2024 saw 29 undergraduates receiving a Kitchener Scholarship and four postgraduates, the majority of whom attended the dinner. The LKNMF continues to fund the dinner for new scholars for which we are very grateful.

The Committee continues to work hard to ensure that the KSA is not an Alumni Association where people do not know each other. The Uni Get-Togethers, where we pay for KSs at the same university to have a light meal and a drink, continues afoot. For the third year running, we created a WhatsApp Group for the new cohort of Scholars. The private KSA LinkedIn Group has grown to 250 members – join if you have not done so already. Around thirty matched pairs have been put into contact for through our mentoring scheme. There is a nascent London Weekend Run Club. And finally, our Webmaster, Caroline Mathews, working with our new Vice Chair, Mike Lakin, has created a secure Members Area Directory on the website where KSs can register and choose how much information about themselves they would like to make available to other KSs. This adds a degree of search capability not available on the LinkedIn Group.

In addition to our well attended Annual Dinner and Remembrance Sunday gathering on Horse Guards Parade, we held our service in All Souls Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral in June. The KSA was also invited to send a small party to take part in the VE day service in the Cathedral. We have had a visit to the Royal Engineers Museum and Hon. Historian Charles Bryant not only gave a talk on Kitchener: *The Man not the Myth* at the Marlow and Maidenhead History Society but also led a Statute Walk around Westminster and St James.

You will find a couple of interesting Features items in this Newsletter. Dr Edward Hicks, who holds a DPhil in History from Oxford University, and works at the House of Commons Library, contacted the KSA to gain access to a database we have of scholars from 1918 – 1948. He writes about the significance of the Kitchener Scholarship in this period. There is an article about the Kitchener Memorial and the Pietà in All Souls Chapel in St Paul's and their sculptor, Sir William Reid Dick. Finally, we have a poetry corner on page 14, where a very eminent former Fund Council Member and frequent interviewer of candidates, sets out his impressions of the candidates – in verse.



We hope you enjoy this edition of the Newsletter. Feel free to contact the Editors if you would like to contribute to future editions. Our details are on the back page!

Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony 2025

Simon Piggott

With supplementary funding from Annington Homes continuing to provide for a large cohort of 29 undergraduate Scholars and four postgraduate Scholars, the Committee decided to return to the Victory Services Club and their large Carisbrooke Hall. This comfortably coped with the 110 Kitchener Scholars and guests for this year's dinner, which again included a drinks reception beforehand.

Extensive research by the Committee about venues a few years ago showed that the VSC was the best value venue, and we managed to keep the full price ticket for a Drinks Reception and Four Course Dinner with Wine and Port below £100, whilst at the same time heavily subsidising ticket prices for the under 30s (one of the main uses of KSA subscription income).

Lady Emma Kitchener and her husband, Lord Fellowes, were in attendance with their son, Peregrine, and his wife, Henrietta. Our guest speaker was Sir Kevin Tebbit. Sir Kevin



Sir Kevin Tebbit and Lady Emma Kitchener

was Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Defence from 1998 to 2005 (i.e. the most senior civil servant for Defence), having earlier in his career been the Director of GCHQ and served for the Secretary General of Nato and in the British Embassy in Washington. He is a visiting professor of the Policy Institute of King's College London. Sir Kevin gave a fascinating talk on *The Geopolitical Situation* as it stood in March 2025. Sir Kevin bemoaned how some of the institutions which have been built over decades – the UN, NATO, WTO and IMF – as well as the international system based on rules had been “thrown up in the air” by Presidents Putin, Trump and Xi and how he viewed the Atlantic Alliance to be in its most serious crisis since 1945. In Sir Kevin's view, it will require much

higher spending on defence and other policies, both here and in Europe, to create more resilient countries. That includes, for example, investing in more companies with advanced technologies and developing new concepts of national service and reserves, creating a mindset in which the new generation becomes willing to fight for their country and know they have something to fight for. Sir Kevin's speech can be found on the KSA website www.kitchenerscholars.org.



The Honourable Mr & Mrs Kitchener-Fellowes and the Lord Fellowes of West Stafford (Julian Fellowes)



The cohort of new undergraduate and postgraduate Kitchener Scholars. Many congratulations to you all!



The Secretaries
LKNMF: Lt.Col. Mervyn Bassett BEM
KSA: Mr Neal Clifton

Visit to the Royal Engineers Museum

Charles Bryant

In May, a group of 20 Scholars and guests joined a special tour of this fascinating and extensive museum; it is adjacent to the Royal School of Military Engineering at Brompton Barracks, just outside Chatham. These sites are surrounded by the famous Chatham Lines, a series of 18th Century fortifications which also protected the important Royal Naval Dockyard on the River Medway.

The party mustered in the Medal Room for a 'meet and greet' session and to see the medal and honours collection of the 1st Earl Kitchener of Khartoum. With our museum guide, Chris Seymour, and the additional interventions of the KSA's Hon. Historian, we made our way around the very extensive range of galleries containing a huge variety of objects, displays and military equipment, all presented in a digestible way; this included the origin of the Corps of Engineers (the 'Sappers') with its focus on siege warfare, digging trenches (called Saps), fortifications, bridge-building as well as mining and mine clearance.



Kitchener Scholars and Guests in front of Kitchener of Khartoum's display cabinet

Episodes in Gibraltar and at the Battle of Waterloo are featured. The Great Siege of Gibraltar 1779-1783 was a prolonged military blockade by Spain and France against the British-held territory of Gibraltar during the American Revolutionary War, ultimately resulting in a decisive British victory thanks to Sappers digging defensive tunnels, tunnels which were used and expanded in World War II. The Corps now provides the military engineering and technical support for all British Armed Forces, whilst maintaining battle readiness as a fighting force.

As one of its most accomplished officers, Herbert Kitchener and his era is well covered and is the most concentrated location for seeing all that is 'Kitchener' including: his time as a surveyor and mapmaker in Palestine; the campaigns in Egypt and Sudan; the second Boer War; his time as War Secretary during the early years of the First World War; right through to his untimely death on HMS Hampshire in Orkney. The section on Herbert's hero, General Gordon, is particularly noteworthy with many objects collected in China and elsewhere.

The size of the museum did not permit a full review of the whole but encouraged many to think of a follow-up visit. Without doubt this is a must-see museum for all Kitchener Scholars – including Kitchener Scholars with young children, who will love some of the *Thunderbirds*-like machines on display, and the group visit will be repeated in future. Chatham is an interesting destination also with a long and historic High Street starting at neighbouring Rochester Castle and ending at the Royal Naval Dockyard, now a tourist attraction. A statue of a mounted Kitchener repatriated from Khartoum is prominent on a hillside.



The Royal Engineers Museum, Chatham

VE Day Evensong St Paul's Cathedral

John Ryder

On the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May 2025, a small group of Kitchener Scholars had the honour of being invited and attending a special Choral Evensong of commemoration at St. Paul's Cathedral. As one of the groups with links to the military and St Paul's, the KSA were invited to this historic service to mark the anniversary of the end of the War in Europe. The service was also attended by The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Lord Mayor and other representatives from the City of London, the Armed Forces, the Emergency Services, other civilian organisations and local school children.



L to R: Jim Watson, Angus Morton, Jim Rothwell, Ruairidh Cumming, Susan Saunders, Neal Clifton, Charles Bryant, John Ryder – all current or former KSA Committee Members, in front of a Spitfire “parked” in Paternoster Square by St Paul's Cathedral for the VE Day Service

Led by the Right Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, and of course now the Archbishop of Canterbury, the service featured prayer, music and song with two very special moments. The Reverend Colin McLean, a Catholic priest, contemporary dancer, former soldier and son of Sir Kenneth McLean (a senior Army Officer involved in the planning of Operation Overlord), read extracts from a sermon which had been preached by the Dean of St Paul's in 1945. This sermon had been directed to the St Paul's Watch, a group of 300 volunteers from various backgrounds who worked round the clock throughout the Second World War, tasked with protecting the building from aerial attacks by watching for and extinguishing incendiary bombs. Their efforts were crucial in saving the Cathedral, most famously during a devastating raid on 29th December 1940, when they worked tirelessly to prevent the building from burning down. This was a moving reminder of the sacrifices made by people on the Home Front, whilst we were also remembering those who fought across Europe to achieve the final victory.

Later in the service we enjoyed a performance of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams' *A Song of Thanksgiving*, featuring actor Stephen McGann, soprano Ellen Mawhinney and the choir of St Matthews Primary School from Westminster. This piece, originally entitled *A Thanksgiving for Victory* was commissioned by the BBC in 1943 and recorded on 5th November 1944, ready to be broadcast when victory had been achieved. Vaughan Williams' piece took excerpts from the Bible, Shakespeare and Kipling, setting them against music and song and it was a privilege to see and hear it performed live. Whilst our thoughts that day were of sombre remembrance, we had to remind ourselves of the scenes of jubilation filmed in London and around the country – VE Day was of course a day of extraordinary celebration.

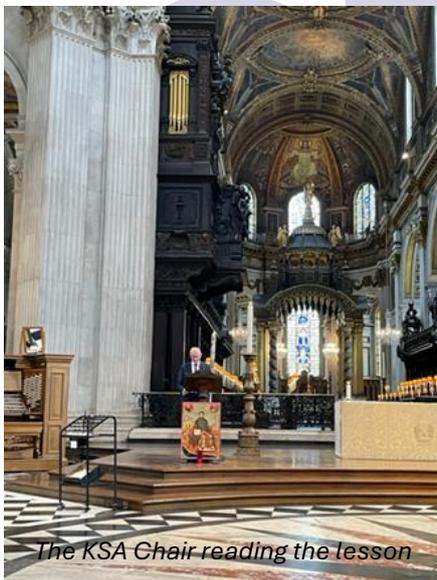
All in all, the service was a tribute to the nation's fortitude, courage and sacrifice during the war which led to victory in Europe. It offered an opportunity for those of us in attendance to reflect on the contribution of Kitchener Scholars past, notably the 126 Scholars who gave their lives in World War II, and our own forebears who served. It was especially poignant to do so in the magnificent St Paul's – a building which survived the Blitz and will continue to be a focal point for remembrance in the future.

St Paul's Evensong & Remembrance Service

As is tradition, a group of Kitchener Scholars and guests gathered for general Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral at 3pm on Sunday 1st June, a Sunday close to the anniversary of the death of Kitchener of Khartoum on 5th June 1916.

After General Evensong, for which the Order of Service has a piece about the KSA and the LKNMF and in which your Chair read the Old Testament reading, we gathered in All Souls Chapel for a short Service of Remembrance. For the third year running, we were lucky that this was led by the Dean himself, the Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett, who is de facto the most senior priest in the Diocese of London. Our President laid a wreath at the foot of her forbear. Elsewhere in the Newsletter you will find an article about the sculptor of Kitchener's Memorial and the beautiful Pietà, Sir William Reid Dick.

The majority of our group were able to take up Lady Emma Kitchener's kind invitation for tea in the nearby Café Rouge.



The KSA Chair reading the lesson



Lady Emma Kitchener laying the Wreath



The assembled party of Kitchener Scholars and the Dean of St Paul's

Lecture on Kitchener – the Man not the Myth

Charles Bryant joined Anne Samson, a recent biographer of Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, to give a joint lecture at the Maidenhead and Marlow Archaeology and History Society. The title refers to Anne's book of the same name and the lecture delved into many aspects of Kitchener's life and character in addition to his career highlights.



Charles Bryant and Anne Samson

There is a local connection in that Herbert Kitchener was a great friend of the Grenfell family at nearby Taplow Court and often visited them. Willy Grenfell, Lord Desborough, was a contemporary of Kitchener (and looked similar!), and was well known for his sporting accomplishments and being the organiser of the successful London Olympic Games in 1908 following their short notice transfer from the original location in Rome after the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. During the First World War, the Grenfell's' sons Julian and Billy were both killed, a loss which affected Kitchener deeply.

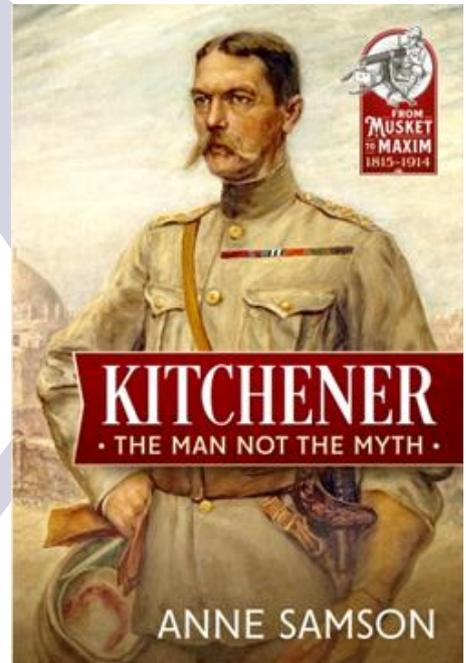
The talk referred to other friends, acquaintances and colleagues of Kitchener including Ettie Grenfell, Mary Curzon and Lady Alice Cranborne, examples of women with whom Kitchener regularly corresponded; his circle of military colleagues such as Lord Roberts as well as Oswald Fitzgerald and Francis Maxwell VC, both aides-de-camp; and 'adversaries' such as Louis Botha and the suffragette Millicent Fawcett. In sum, Kitchener's roles as a military leader, logistics expert, egalitarian, and humanitarian were brought out as well as references to a demanding and often solitary character. He was an intrepid traveller and extremely accomplished linguist.

Mention was made of the activities of the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund and the Kitchener Scholars' Association, and the tireless work of Lady Emma Kitchener and her family in keeping alive the memory of Lord Kitchener.

A recording of this lively one hour talk is available at the following link: [YouTube link](#)

Anne Samson's book: *Kitchener - The Man not the Myth* is available at:

[Kitchener | From Musket to Maxim 1815-1914 | Helion & Company.](#)



Careers Panel

Neal Clifton

What connects a CEO and founder of a private equity PR and marketing agency, an energy consultant, a financial modeller, a lead research engineer at EDF, a diplomat at the British Embassy in Lebanon and a former council and NHS Chief Executive? Well, these Kitchener Scholars made up the panel for a very successful and well-attended on-line Careers Panel held in September.

Once again, the evening was arranged and very expertly led by Committee Member Fay Margo, the founder of Brackendale Consulting which provides PR & marketing services to the private equity community, who had assembled this eclectic and varied group to talk about their career paths and experiences and to answer questions from the “audience” - mostly but not all scholars who were still at University or recently graduated, contemplating their next move.

After introductions from each of the panellists, Fay posed some searching and illuminating questions. Is what you are doing now what you expected to be doing when you started work? What is a typical day like? What advice would you give your younger self, knowing what you know now?

Unsurprisingly, answers were varied, fascinating and inspiring from such a varied group of panellists. Most had worked in several fields, sometimes related but not always, acquiring different skills and experience. As one panellist said, after a successful interview, he was told he had been chosen as he had done so much! Panellists described working days which were challenging but deeply satisfying and stimulating.

And what about advice to the younger self? Remember you are a long time in work - it might take a few jobs before you find the best fit. And keep a good work/life balance!

There was much positive feedback from the audience, some of whom were eager to contact the panellists individually for further advice and guidance.



David Hall

Fay Margo

Ollie Branston



Fran Cumming

Emma Giles

Will Hodder

Remember the KSA is there for all scholars of any age who are thinking of a career move or their first or next steps. There is such a wealth of experience in the Association and people ready to help, advise and mentor! And you can catch up on both the 2024 and 2025 Careers Panels on our YouTube Channel [Kitchener Scholars' Association - YouTube](#).

Statue Walk around Westminster and St James

Charles Bryant

In October, a small band of Scholars and guests joined a walk around Horse Guards, Whitehall, Parliament Square and the Embankment to view statues of people that Lord Kitchener knew or interacted with during his professional life.

Statues visited included: Kitchener himself; Lord Roberts and Lord Wolesley - prominent Victorian Generals; HRH the Duke of Cambridge, C-in-C of the British Army; General 'Chinese' Gordon killed in Khartoum; Earl Haig; Millicent Fawcett; Jan Smuts; David Lloyd George; and Winston Churchill. The group paused briefly to view the exterior of the Old War Office, where Lord Kitchener's office windows are visible (now the Raffles OWO hotel), the steps of the old Whitehall palace now in front of the Ministry of Defence, and the Battle of Britain monument on the Embankment.

Drinks and light refreshments, courtesy of the KSA, were taken at the Tattershall Castle, the former passenger ferry, now a public house moored on the Embankment with views of the Thames and the



London Eye. Subject to demand, this tour will be repeated annually for Scholars and guests.

One of the walkers, Neal Clifton, provided the following review:

"It is very easy to walk around London, or any city, with your eyes closed (figuratively speaking!) The group learned so much in this relaxed but varied statue tour with Charles, including memorials of the very well-known to perhaps slightly more obscure figures, but none the less fascinating. Why is there a statue of this person here in the heart of London? We may have thought that before the walk, but Charles brought each of them "alive" with just the right blend of historical detail and his own personal evaluation of their contribution to society and world affairs. Highly recommended including the refreshments- a fine way to round off the event!"

Remembrance Sunday

Ruairidh Cumming

This year's Remembrance Sunday parade took place on what was the last weekend of a period of unseasonably warm weather. This, in combination with the fact that this year marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, meant that there was a strong turnout of Scholars and an equally strong turn out of veterans in the parade.

The custom of Kitchener Scholars gathering by the Kitchener Statue on Horse Guards Parade is ancient and its origins shrouded in myth. This is of no interest to the Department of Culture Media and Sport who are responsible for the whole parade and, in recent years, have imposed more formality with respect access to Horse Guards Parade than older scholars may have experienced in days gone by. Not to be deterred, over 80 Scholars and guests gathered in St James's Park opposite the Clive of India Statue to be recognised and issued with access cards and lanyards by the Association's diligent secretary, Neal Clifton, who has to submit a list of attendees to the DCMS well in advance.

With those formalities concluded, we were ushered inside the security cordon and across the road in batches until with 15 minutes to spare we made our way through the armed guards up to the Kitchener statue. The only downside of the larger than usual celebrations this year was that more dignitaries were attending, necessitating a greater number of diplomatic cars parked in what your correspondent has come to think of as "our spot".



The improved organisation on show from DCMS this year was most evident in that, after the clatter of the horses, and the shouting of Kings Troop, the chiming of Big Ben, and the blast of the field gun, there was in fact, silence, for two minutes. The traditional chorus of car alarms had been prevented!



Our memorial service was once again led this year by the Hon. Peregrine Kitchener-Fellowes as Lady Emma Kitchener and her husband were away in Florida. Younger Scholars read out the names of the 126 Kitchener Scholars in the Roll of Honour who gave their lives in service of their country in World War II. Following the Lord's Prayer, those present sung with great zest and gusto the hymn, *He Who Would Valiant Be*, to the possible bemusement of public onlookers in Green Park.



Remembrance Sunday



While the last survivors of the Second World War are no longer able to march in the main body of the parade, a few of them lead the procession in wheelchairs pushed by their families and attracting cheers and applause from the assembled crowd.

This year, the salute was taken by HRH Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the good weather meant that the crowd stayed put until the scouts and the boys brigade had brought up the tail of the parade.

With our entry to the security cordon going so smoothly, it was to be expected that getting out again would be needlessly complicated. Having left Horse Guards Parade, a group of Scholars found themselves unable to get out of the road and had to follow the bands and the TFL veterans at a respectful distance up as far as the St James's Park underground station before breaking out and heading for lunch at the Great India Tandoori in Chelsea, as tradition dictates. Once again, members of the Association and their guests are deeply indebted to Lady Emma and Peregrine for so generously hosting this most convivial lunch.

Mentoring Scheme

A quick reminder that we launched a Mentoring Scheme back in 2024. Those interested in the scheme (either as mentors, mentees or indeed both) were then matched according to their skills and interests. We subsequently matched 33 Mentees to Mentors. Of course, it was not always possible to find suitable or useful matches for everyone, but all names were kept on file in the hope of finding a good match at a later stage.

Each matched pair decided how they wanted to operate, choosing how often they wanted to meet and whether they wanted to chat remotely or face-to-face. For some, it served as short-term support at a particular stage in the mentee's career, but for others it provided longer-term support and guidance.

Existing mentor/mentee pairs will continue to arrange their own meetings to suit their schedules. We welcome new joiners to the scheme so if you are looking for some advice to progress your career or to support and share your own experiences with the next generation of the KSA, please do get in touch with Neal Clifton at secretary@kitchenscholars.org.

Sir William Reid Dick: Sculpting Remembrance

Simon Piggott

Charles Bryant led an extremely interesting tour of statues around Westminster and St James, and this started me thinking about All Souls Chapel in St Paul's. I have attended the Remembrance Service for a number of years now and each time, the beauty of the effigy of Lord Kitchener and the evocative Pietà have always struck me – without ever knowing who the sculptor was and what was his background.

The sculptor, Sir William Reid Dick KCVO, RA, stands as one of Britain's most celebrated sculptors of the 20th century, renowned for his evocative public monuments and war memorials. The two works in All Souls Chapel not only showcase his artistic prowess but also serve as lasting memorials to lives lost in war and a nation's collective mourning.

Born in Glasgow in 1878, William Reid Dick rose from very humble beginnings to become a pre-eminent figure in British sculpture. He was apprenticed to a firm of stonemasons at age 12 before taking evening classes at the Glasgow School of Art. His style combined classical discipline with a profound emotional sensitivity, making his monuments resonate deeply with those who encountered them. Reid Dick served with Royal Engineers from 1915 to 1919 in both France and Palestine, as part of the Field Survey Group.

Dick's work was particularly sought after in the aftermath of World War I, as Britain grappled with the immense loss and sought appropriate forms of remembrance. The Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund was initiated by the Lord Mayor of London shortly after Kitchener lost his life at sea. One of its objects was to attract donations for the establishment of a permanent memorial in All Souls Chapel. Commissioned in 1925 as part of the post-World War I remembrance movement, Reid Dick's marble Pietà in St Paul's Cathedral's All Souls Chapel is a masterwork of spiritual and artistic expression. The term "Pietà" refers to a traditional depiction of the Virgin Mary cradling the dead body of Christ, symbolising both suffering and compassion. Reid Dick's interpretation is marked by its restrained elegance and emotional intensity. The figures are rendered with a gentle realism, their poses speaking to both grief and hope. The Virgin's face is contemplative, her sorrow palpable but dignified, while Christ's form is peaceful, suggesting a release from suffering.

Unlike some highly decorative Victorian memorials, Reid Dick's Pietà is notably restrained, in keeping with the mood of the early 20th century. The marble glows softly within the chapel, inviting quiet reflection. The sculpture becomes a universal symbol of loss and consolation, its placement in All Souls Chapel underscoring its role as a national site of mourning, not just for the dead of the Great War but for all lost souls.



Sir William Reid Dick (cont'd)

In the same chapel, Reid Dick's effigy of Field Marshal Lord Kitchener, also in marble, offers a striking contrast to the Pietà. Lord Kitchener died tragically on 5th June 1916 when HMS Hampshire sank off Orkney. His body was never recovered, making the memorial effigy in St Paul's all the more significant.

Dick's sculpture presents Kitchener in a recumbent pose, clad in military uniform, hands crossed in repose. The effigy is both naturalistic and idealised, capturing the dignity of a national hero while also humanising him in death. The tranquil expression and lifelike rendering emphasise Kitchener's role as a servant of the nation, while the overall composition evokes the long tradition of funerary monuments in British cathedrals. Two military saints, St George and St Michael, stand vigil over the body of the military hero as he awaits Resurrection.

Other notable works of Reid Dick post the First World War include the Royal Air Force Memorial on Victoria Embankment and the lion on top of the Menin Gate in Ypres.

Sir William Reid Dick's contributions to St Paul's Cathedral's All Souls Chapel exemplify the power of art to articulate grief and national memory. The Pietà and Lord Kitchener effigy are not only remarkable as works of sculpture; they are enduring symbols of collective loss and remembrance. Through these masterpieces, Reid Dick invites visitors to reflect on the human cost of conflict, the solace of faith, and the enduring need to remember.

I do encourage all Kitchener Scholars to come along and experience our service in June, on the Sunday closest to 5th June, and to see for yourselves these great works of sculpture.



The two military saints either side of the effigy of Lord Kitchener: St George and St Michael

Courtesy ArmChair Travel 2007



Sir William Reid Dick

National Portrait Gallery

Poetry Corner - "Such Creatures"

Their CVs stun – so much achieved, so young!
They're head girls/boys, with DoE awards,
predicted A stars, play pianos, flutes;
they've learnt hard languages, backpacked abroad,
visit old people's homes, work with deaf-mutes . . .
They dazzle like a world that's just begun.

At interview, they're fluent, smart and brave:
when asked what daunts them most, they're confident
their generation has the energy/
commitment/solidarity/competence
to tackle Climate Change, shackle AI,
detoxify our legacy, and save

the planet we've imperilled. Afterwards
we struggle to decide which of them showed
that extra-special spark which means we'll grant
a scholarship to lighten their debt load
when all of them have managed to enchant
with vibrant smiles, bold plans and stirring words . . .

But what right have I to judge who gets the dosh
especially given my own mismanaged youth?
While others shone, I didn't. I bombed in sports,
chucked music lessons, half dropped out - if truth
be told, got by on Mum and Dad support,
failing to make a mark, to cut a dash

even in the halcyon years we boomers knew
(putting aside of course the Cold War threat
of nuclear winter!), and what looked a carefree future –
now here, a mess they're fearlessly dead set
on cleaning up. They should be our accusers,
instead of which polite, hopeful thank yous

for sparing the time for them to pitch to us.
I wish I could believe in what they say
and that I couldn't see the storm clouds gather
over what lies ahead, though in a way
maybe it's best they're blest with such dumb swagger
and that none of us think to ask them to discuss

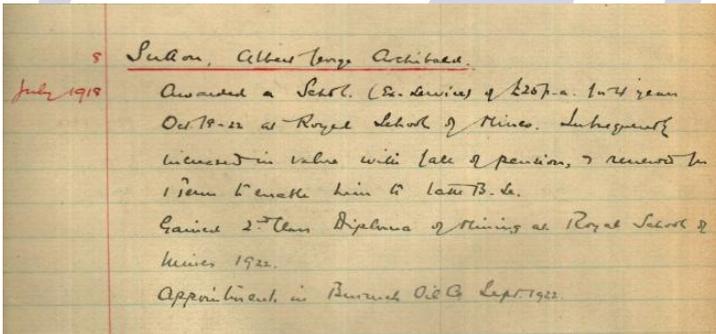
how it is each age had stars who started thus
but the world remains unsafe, unkind, unjust.

Tom Vaughan: *non-de-plume of a former member of the LKNMF Council and frequent interviewer of short-listed candidates for the Kitchener Scholarship. Published Snakeskins 327, April 202*

The significance of the Kitchener Scholarship in allowing ex-servicemen and their sons to attend university: 1918 – 1946

Dr Edward Hicks

Last year, I had the pleasure of being given access to the database of the Kitchener Scholarship Association covering the period 1918 to 1946. I want to begin by expressing my thanks to the Association, and especially Simon Piggott, for facilitating this opportunity. This article endeavours to draw on the database and other sources about the scholarship. I will explain what we can learn from the database, how the Kitchener Scholarship was distinct from other awards, and outline some of my findings about what students studied, where the recipients came from, and where they studied.



The database, held in Evernote and comprising scans of what appears to be ledger book entries and searchable by Name and by Year of Scholarship, contained information on 2,880 scholars. Sometimes this is only a name and the amount of money paid out. By contrast, other entries included where and what they studied; their examination results; their extra-curricular achievements; and their future careers.

Sutton, Albert Percy Archibald

Awarded a Schol. (Ex-service) of £25 p.a. for 4 years
Oct. 1919-22 at Royal School of Mines. Subsequently
increased in value with fall of pensions, & renewed for
1 term to enable him to take BSc
Gained 2nd Class Diploma of Mining at Royal School of
Mines, 1922.
Appointment in Burmah Oil Co. Sept. 1922.

The Kitchener Scholarship was operating in a crowded space. Without a standardised system of students grants or loans, potential students could pursue funds from central government (including, for ex-servicemen a dedicated further education scheme), local authorities, schools, universities, and alternative charitable foundations.

Nevertheless, the Kitchener Scholarships were unusually generous. They could be held by recipients from across the British Isles – including in the newly created Irish Free State. They could fund education at an array of institutions. These included not only UK and Irish universities and university colleges but also foreign universities; and other higher education institutions such as Schools of Mines at Falmouth and Treforest in Wales, agricultural colleges, schools of art, and technical colleges. The awards could be extended to cover further study, such as postgraduate degrees, or seeking ordination or teacher training. The payment received usually covered tuition fees but could otherwise vary from £10 to well over £100 and usually for multiple years. Whilst some clearly used the award to tie them over, others were heavily reliant on it. Thus, such awards could make the transformational difference between continuing in education or leaving it. Until 1922 recipients were supposed to aim for careers in industry or commerce. This reflected a wider desire to bolster the number of graduates going into business. It meant initially scientific disciplines, notably engineering, proving to be the most popular subjects. This linked with a belief that pre-war Britain had been dangerously behind Germany in these fields, something the scholarship could help avoid in future.

The Kitchener Scholarship: 1918 – 1946 (cont'd)

Dr Edward Hicks

After 1922 the future career restriction was lifted. Determining which subjects Kitchener Scholars studied is difficult – the largest group in the cohort had no clearly designated subject. Others changed their subject during their studies, reflecting university courses that facilitated that or differing attitudes over time. Among those whose subject came be determined, the highest number of qualifications were achieved in medicine, followed by chemistry, engineering and history.

The database appears, save for the first few years, to mainly record the sons of servicemen who received scholarships. By 1922 there had been 321 awards given to ex-officers. Among the sons receiving awards, press reports give us details of their father's backgrounds. In 1920 of the 86 scholarships awarded to sons of servicemen, 18 were sons of officers, 15 sons of officers who had been promoted from the ranks, and 53 were the sons of NCOs and rank-and-file. In 1932, 71 out of the 132 scholarships awarded went to boys whose fathers had been killed or disabled during war service. Putting this into context, the number of men (as opposed to women) studying for a first degree at a university in 1930 was 6,494. In other words, and whilst not an exact apple with apples comparison, **in the early 1930s around 2% of those in higher education were being funded through the Kitchener Scholarship.** Demand for the awards rose over time. In 1926 there were 413 candidates, drawn from 282 different schools; from whom 87 scholarships were awarded (drawn from 77 schools). Six years later there was a record 1,040 candidates (drawn from 551 different schools), resulting in fierce competition for the 132 scholarships that were awarded.

Press publications also helped to identify the previous schooling or army career of 2,582 scholarship recipients. The most popular former school among scholarship recipients, appropriately given enough its own connection with the army, was Wellington College, with 71 recipients (one of whom also studied at Peter Symonds College in Winchester). Behind Wellington, there were 49 recipients who attended Christ's Hospital in London, 36 Winchester College, and 28 Fettes College. Although the modern distinction between state and private schools is harder to draw in the inter-war year when all secondary schools could charge fees, Dunfermline High School, with 22 scholarship recipients, is the highest ranked institution that is now a state school. Reflecting the norms of the era, every one of its scholarship recipients then studied in Scotland, mostly at Edinburgh University. Similarly, almost every scholarship holder going to a Welsh higher education institution had been to school in Wales.

Where did recipients study? Looking over the period from 1918 to 1946, 634 students went to Cambridge University and 618 to Oxford University. The next highest was Imperial College with 178 students. It had been the most popular in the early years of the scheme when awards were limited to those studying scientific and technological subjects. Imperial was followed by the two most popular Scottish institutions: Edinburgh University (130) and Glasgow University (108); between them the pair received the majority of the 355 students studying at Scottish institutions. The Royal Military College at Sandhurst (82) and Royal Military Academy at Woolwich (69) also proved popular, especially in the late 1930s when another war was looming. Forty-four students attended Queen's University Belfast and 33 Trinity College, Dublin. Students at Trinity accounted for one-third of all 99 students studying at Irish Free State institutions. Twenty-seven students went to institutions in Wales.

The fate of the scholars differed markedly. Some tragically died during their studies; 126 died serving during the Second World War. The majority entered a variety of careers, both in Britain and further afield, ranging from the Indian Civil Service to managing the LNER's Royal Station Hotel at York. Such then were the varied futures that were made possible by the support of the Kitchener Scholarships.

Dr Edward Hicks

University “Get-togethers”

To try and establish stronger ties and relationships between KSs at the same university, in 2023 we started a scheme whereby, providing there were more than three students in any year at the same university, the KSA subsidised a get-together to go out for a light meal and a drink. The only requirement to claim the £20 per head subsidy was to submit a photo and a short report. We were in delighted that in 2025, proactive students at six universities took us up on the offer:



Birmingham



Durham



Sheffield



St Andrew's



Cambridge



Warwick

We have launched the scheme for this academic year, so over to current KS students to get organised – and we have even increased the subsidy to £25 per head!

Your LinkedIn Group needs you!!

The number of members of the KSA LinkedIn Group, to which only bonafide Kitchener Scholars are admitted has increased to 250. The Committee would like to encourage all members to post about what they are up to. If you haven't joined, why not join up now, and if you are already in the Group, **let's have some posts please!** Links to these three social media channels (LinkedIn would consider itself as more than a social media channel) can be found below.



www.instagram.com/kitchenscholarsassociation/



www.facebook.com/groups/kitchenscholars



www.linkedin.com/groups/974787/

What does “inclusive research” mean?

Rhiannon Barber KS 2025

For some of us, inclusive research is ensuring our conference papers use clear and concise language so that those of all reading abilities can engage. For others, it is ensuring the communities we are studying are involved in our research so that lived experience guides our approaches and outputs. As a Disabled academic, inclusive research, to me, means being allowed and empowered to research.

My name is Rhiannon and I am a first year PhD student at the University of South Wales. Since birth my left arm has been paralysed, but with an ex-forces father I was raised to believe I was almost superhuman. From teaching me how to do one handed push ups to opening coca cola bottles with my teeth, I am still not quite sure whether my father was trying to raise a daughter or a gremlin. Nonetheless, what he did teach me was to be resilient.



Because of this mindset, I have been fortunate to go on to achieve some incredible things, such as competing for the Welsh Paralympic team, becoming a national gold medallist in five sports, completing 6,200 press ups in a month, and now training for my first ever ultramarathon. I also set up my own company. After experiencing immense discrimination in the music sector, I began *Amplifying Accessibility*, a project focused on supporting other Disabled people to access music careers made accessible to them. In just two years, my company has worked with internationally renowned organisations such as Sony, supported Disabled people to start their own businesses or become charity trustees, and even hosted the first inclusive techno rave in the Welsh valleys.

But amongst all the excitement of ultramarathons and accessible raves, I am still someone who was taught a PhD was *not* something I could do. Diagnosed with ADHD at 23, I found the reason why school had felt like a chamber of “sit still” torture, garnished with a side of “pay attention” dressing. Being diagnosed was like a dusty old box being finally opened and inside was my full potential. I learned how my brain worked, and in doing so became a Masters graduate with a distinction and now a PhD student.

My PhD focuses on the experiences and barriers of Disabled artists working in the music sector in Wales, with the hope that equitable access will one day be a standard as opposed to a luxury. Because of the support of the Kitchener Scholarship and other funders, this research can happen. It is important that this research happens so that more Disabled people see that a career in music is possible, so that more marginalised communities see that a career in academia is possible, and so that in a few years I can sign all my Christmas cards with a “*from Dr Barber*”, forever frustrating my entire family.

To me, inclusive research means being allowed and empowered to research. Now that can happen. Rather sheepishly, and encouraged by your Newsletter Editor, I include a couple of links: one to a song that I wrote and recorded which has had repeated BBC Radio play:

[Rhiannon Cutler Song](#)

and one to my speech whilst receiving the *Youth Music: Rising Star Award*

[Rhiannon Cutler Speech](#)



Supporting Recovery

Olivia Banks KS 2018

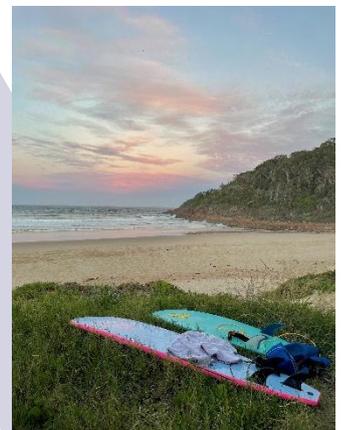
After completing my degree in Psychology, I began my career in London as a pharmaceutical market research analyst. It was meticulous, intellectually stimulating work that offered an early crash course in understanding human decision-making, health behaviours, and the quiet complexities woven into every patient pathway. Yet after two years, I felt an unmistakable pull toward something less theoretical and more grounded in direct human connection. So, in a move that felt equal parts bold and naïve, I packed my life into a single backpack and boarded a one-way flight to Australia.

After travelling for four months up the east coast of Australia, I then settled in the city of Newcastle. This is where I came across the role of support work. Drawing on my degree and patient experience research, I was intrigued by this industry. In the UK, the role I now occupy scarcely exists in its present form. Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has cultivated a distinct support model that bridges the space between rehabilitation, daily living, and community engagement. As a Support Worker for individuals with acquired brain injuries, I operate within the framework that recognises independence not as a clinical benchmark but as a lived, evolving experience.

My work is based at Headstart, an organisation dedicated to long-term support for people living with brain injuries. The individuals I support are often years or even decades, post-injury. The focus of my support combines elements of coaching, mentoring and social rehabilitation. Each individual has bespoke goals tailored to their recovery, and my role is to help rebuild routines, confidence, identity and purpose. In practice, this can mean anything from structuring a weekly plan, supporting cognitive rehabilitation exercises, accompanying someone to the gym, or navigating public transport together so that the world feels manageable again. A task that the rest of us complete almost unconsciously, thanks to intact procedural memory and executive processes, might take hours of preparation, step-by-step planning, and emotional reassurance for someone adjusting to life after a brain injury.



Of course, life in Australia is not solely defined by my work. Outside of Headstart, I return to the version of myself that first boarded that outbound flight: an adventurous traveller determined to explore as much of the country as possible. I surf (with a technique best described as “developing”), scuba dive whenever I can, and spend weekends discovering new coastal towns or independent coffee shops which Australia prides itself on (and rightfully so!!). The balance of meaningful, human-centred work alongside the freedom to explore reefs, beaches and the open landscape, has become one of the great privileges of my time here.



Working in acquired brain injury support has been humbling, stretching, and unexpectedly joyful. It has offered a view of resilience that is quieter and more enduring than anything I encountered in a lecture hall or London office. My time in Australia has been a reminder that service and curiosity can take many forms — sometimes in research, sometimes in leadership, and sometimes in the everyday work of helping someone regain confidence in their own life. I am extremely grateful to the LKNMF and KSA for its ongoing support and the strong foundation it has provided. The principles that underpin the KSA continue to influence my work and outlook, even as my path has taken me far from the UK. Nonetheless, I was delighted to be able to attend Horse Guards Parade with my parents on Remembrance Sunday this year. And of course, if any Kitchener Scholar finds themselves over this side of the world, it would be wonderful to connect!

African Mining and Rare Earth Elements

Hector Skipworth KS 2020 and KS 2025

As a fresh Earth Sciences graduate from Oxford University, I was thrown into the remote north-west of Ivory Coast on the border with Burkina Faso, working for a junior exploration company searching for a top-tier gold deposit. Fieldwork involved trekking through dense jungle to sample termite mounds and map elemental surface anomalies, because termites concentrate material from depths up to fifty metres, producing high-quality geochemical data. The jungle demanded constant vigilance, snakes, swarms of aggressive bees and termites themselves were real hazards, painful bites, but the results justified the discomfort.



A later posting in the Democratic Republic of Congo could not have been more different. I joined RSC as a consultant for Barrick Gold at Africa's largest gold mine – the Kibali Gold Mine. My role was essentially a metal accountant: mapping operational pathways from the resource model through mining, processing and finally to the gold pour. Reconciliation - comparing modelled tonnages and grades with mined production, plant throughput and final gold bars - is the backbone of operational control. When numbers align, the mine is under control; when they diverge, reconciliation relationships help pinpoint where the issues lie. That clarity builds confidence for operators and shareholders alike.

Outside work, I found camaraderie playing football with the geology team and cycling occasionally outside the fenced area in the Congo, much to my parents' concern!

In October 2025, I began a PhD at the Natural History Museum focused on Rare Earth Elements (REEs) in carbonatites in Angola, a fortunate opportunity to move straight from industry into research. Carbonatites are rare igneous rocks that host the majority of the world's REEs. Demand for these elements is accelerating; projections suggest consumption could increase many-fold over coming decades driven by powerful permanent magnets made from neodymium and praseodymium that are essential for renewable energy technologies, electronics, and defence applications.

My PhD concentrates on fresh rock, preserved below thirty metres, in drill core to unravel paragenesis, the sequence of mineral emplacement, identifying and quantifying REE-bearing phases, such as bastnäsite, monazite, and synchysite, is central to understanding both the genesis of carbonatites and the metallurgical pathways required to extract REEs. These minerals are chemically and texturally complex and processing them is challenging; precise modal mineralogy will inform the metallurgy team how to process these rocks exactly. Production is likely to start in 2027, so I need to act quickly!

Academically, carbonatites remain complex and only partly understood. Their petrogenesis, melt evolution and fluid histories are still debated, offering scope for original, high-impact research. Practically, improving our understanding of REE mineralogy and distribution will help secure critical raw materials for the energy transition. Bridging field experience, operational insight and targeted laboratory science has set me up well in this industry still very early into my career. From termite mounds in West Africa to the drill core in Angola that may unlock the next generation of critical mineral resources – it's an exciting industry to be in.

I am honoured and profoundly grateful to have received two scholarships from the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund. The scholarships have enabled me to attend conferences around the world, forge vital professional connections, ultimately secure a year in industry and more recently fund travel to my field site in Angola, a step that has been pivotal in advancing my research. Now that I am back in London, I look forward to attending more KSA events and contributing further to the KSA's mission.

LKNMF Report

Lt. Col. Mervyn Bassett

The Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund continues to fulfil its Royal Charter's objects by providing scholarships for the children of serving and retired forces personnel and to those under 30 who have served themselves. Funds under management as at the end of September rose to just under £2.9 million, a marked improvement on the figure of only £600,000 in 2018. The increase is primarily due to a small number of very generous legacies from former Kitchener Scholars. Huge thanks must go to the former and some current scholars who have so generously donated money to the Fund ensuring its ability to continue to award these scholarships. If you would like to consider a donation or leaving a legacy in your will, please do contact me on secretary@lknmf.com

This year, we had 136 (2024: 111) applicants for undergraduate Scholarships. Our Finance Committee led by Christopher de Mattos (KS 1986) provided guidance that we could budget for undergraduate scholarships numbering in the mid 20s at a value of £2,000 each. The number of scholarships available was somewhat less than the previous three years due to the withdrawal of additional funding from Annington Homes. These 136 were shortlisted down to 55 candidates for interview, requiring 12 sets of interview panels. Each panel consists of three panel members. I act as Panel Secretary and am effectively the common denominator across all interview panels.

We are tracking accurately how applicants learn about the award. 30% of applicants hear about Kitchener Scholarships from their school, with 40% learning about the scholarship from their parents, family and friends. Only 20% are using sources such as www.scholarshiphub.org.uk, which is the definitive repository of all scholarships and bursaries available to students studying at UK universities, the MOD intranet or other online resources. We have just over 220 secondary schools and sixth form colleges in our database who are contacted each year and reminded about the scholarship.

We were able to make awards to 27 (2024: 29) undergraduates and, for the third year running, four postgraduates. There was a reversal of the trend whereby female candidates had been significantly outperforming their male counterparts by a ratio 2:1, and this year awards were made approximately equally. Awards are broadly evenly split between on the one hand, independent schools and on the other hand state schools and sixth form colleges, albeit that selective state schools represented 20% of awards. Whilst the definition of what is a STEM subject is not always clear cut (archaeology, psychology?), the number of awards granted were broadly equal between STEM subjects on the one hand and Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts on the other.

We always welcome support for the interview process so if you have time to assist during the months of July and August, your presence on a panel would be most appreciated. There will always be an experienced panel member in the chair to guide less experienced members and there is a comprehensive Guidance Note for panel members. We would very much welcome some younger and particularly female interviewers.

As ever, the Fund's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025 are available to view on the Charity Commission website under Charity number 313525 or at this link [here](#).

The Trustees of the LKNMF wish to express their thanks for legacies received since 2017 from the following Kitchener Scholars or their widows: William Arthurton; Dr Rober Bogden; Ethyl Fyfe; Rupert Harvey; Dr Edward Inett; Victor Lake; William McCleery; Eric Morgan; Robert Simpson. The Trustees are enormously grateful to the late John Dunscombe for a particularly generous legacy.

Kitchener Scholars 2025

Name	Subject	Institution
Richelle Acheampong	Computer Science	Loughborough
Nathan Ali	Engineering	Cambridge, Homerton College
Jamie Andrews	Aerospace Engineering	Bath
Imogen Barber	Medicine	Newcastle
Jack Beckett-Lennon	Law	Bristol
Hector Boswell	Business & Management	Durham
Antonia Brown	Archaeological Science	Durham
Charlotte Cunniff	Psychology	Birmingham
Harry Dickens	Engineering	East Anglia
Alexander Ellison	Aeronautical Engineering	Loughborough
Sophie Jackson	Physics	Bath
Alice Janzen	Biochemistry with Molecular Biology & Biotechnology	Bristol
Alexander Judge	Biochemistry	Bristol
Jemima Kerr	American Studies	Manchester
Daniel Leslie	Medicine	Bristol
Jodie Meakin	Biomedical Sciences	Newcastle
Romilly Middlemiss	Structural & Architectural Engineering	Bath
Amelie Morris	English	Exeter
Saskia Mullin	Liberal Arts, focus on Chinese & Int. Relations	Durham
Hugo Richards	Liberal Arts	Durham
Sophia Sankey	International Development	Leeds
Eva Scates	Ancient History	Edinburgh
Iona Smith	Geography	Durham
George Whelan	Human, Social, & Political Sciences	Cambridge, Trinity College
William Woodhouse	Medicine	Newcastle
Caleb Yates	Natural Sciences	Cambridge, St John's College
Deferred from 2024		
Alice Bryant	Social Sciences	Durham
Jessica Esland	Nursing	Queen Margaret University
Deferred to 2026 (taking Gap Year)		
Freya Linegar	Medicine	Newcastle
Postgraduates		
Rhiannon Barber	PhD, Disabled Representation in the Music Industry of Wales	University of South Wales
Alexander Baxter	MPhil, International Relations	Oxford, Lincoln College
Capt. William Mansfield	MBA, Business Administration	London Business School
Hector Skipworth	PhD, Recovery of Rare Earth Elements	Natural History Museum / Camborne School of Mines

We look forward to welcoming new Scholars to the KSA and presenting you all with your certificates at the Annual Dinner on 20th March 2026!

AGM Report

Neal Clifton

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in London on 7th January 2026, with some members joining remotely. In his report, Chair Simon Piggott commented that 2025 had been another productive year for the Association with the usual main events and a number of other initiatives including some outside of London to attract scholars who may find it difficult to get to the capital. Simon thanked the Committee for their support and efforts during the year, particularly Ruairidh Cumming who after 10 years, latterly serving as Vice -Chair, was standing down. Fay Margo has also resigned due to the pressure of running her own highly successful consultancy, and having a young family. Over the last three years, Fay organised and chaired our Careers Panel evenings which have been well-received and beneficial to scholars contemplating their next move. Simon welcomed Mike Lakin, a former Royal Engineer, whose two sons are both scholars, as was his father and brother), as the new Vice-Chair.

There are reports on all the events held during the year elsewhere in the newsletter. The initiative where undergraduates are given a modest financial subsidy to encourage get-togethers in their respective University, continues to be successful with several gatherings taking place across the country. There is a designated WhatsApp group for each of the last three years for undergraduate scholars, helping communication between scholars with shared interests or at the same institution. There are over 250 members of the KSA LinkedIn Group. This, together with Instagram and Facebook, are all key in fostering networking and contact between members. The mentoring scheme continues to be available to members whether as mentor or mentees (or both) and it is pleasing to see that a number of helpful and supportive relationships have developed through the scheme.

In her report, our Treasurer Francesca Cumming commented that the year ending 30 September 2025 had been successful, financially, with year-end reserves totalling over £16,000 (increase of some £4,000 year on year.) There was a modest increase in subscription income with more scholars paying the correct rate. Members are reminded that the annual subscription is only £20 for **all** members - a rate held for several years! The reports of the Chair and the Treasurer are available on request to secretary@kitchenscholars.org

In closing, Simon re-iterated his main vision which is to drive and increase engagement and to encourage and facilitate networking among members. The KSA recognises with gratitude the financial support from the Fund for certain activities, notably funding the free Dinner to new scholars! As always, the KSA appreciates enormously the support and generosity of our President Emma, Lady Kitchener, not only for her presence at events but for funding the lunch on Remembrance Sunday and tea after the St. Paul's service. We have been delighted that her son, The Honourable Peregrine Kitchener-Fellowes and his wife Henrietta, have been able to represent her when Lady Emma has been away.

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates

The Kitchener Scholars' Association Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony - SOLD OUT!

*Drinks reception from 6:30, Dinner 7:45pm, Carriages 11pm, Friday 20th March 2026
The Army & Navy Club, 36-39 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JN*

St Paul's Evensong and Memorial Service

Further details including timing in due course, but likely to be 3pm, 7th June 2026

Remembrance Sunday Services on Horse Guards Parade

From 11am, 8th November 2026

Your KSA Committee

Your KSA Committee for the coming year is as follows:

KSA Committee

Chair	Simon Piggott <i>simon.piggott.t21@btinternet.com</i>
Vice-Chair	Mike Lakin
Secretary	Neal Clifton <i>secretary@kitchenerscholars.org</i>
Treasurer	Francesca Cumming
Newsletter Editors	Archie Taylor, Simon Piggott
Hon. Historian	Charles Bryant
Social Media	Grace Girling
Other Committee	Angus Morton, John Ryder
Members	
Website	<i>Carolyn Mathews at SuperVA</i>

Are you retired or semi-retired, with time on your hands, and looking to develop further outside interests? Do you think you could contribute to the Committee, for example, in organising an event or bringing some IT skills to bear?

*Then please drop me a line!
Simon Piggott*

Subscription Reminder

Please check you are paying the right amount

Just to remind you how subscriptions are used. A key use of Funds is subsidising the Under 30s tickets at the Annual Dinner as well as various printing costs associated with the Dinner, including printing this Newsletter for Scholars attending the dinner. Subscriptions also fund the Secretariat, the website and webhosting and subsidising events we organise such University Get-togethers, the Bletchley Park visit (2023), the Duxford visit (2024), the Royal Engineers Museum visit (2025) and face to face Careers Panels where we provide refreshments.

We are not draconian about enforcing payment of the £20 pa subscription. A number of Kitchener Scholars pay lower amounts which, for example, prevailed in years gone by and we do recognise that some of you living a long way from London or overseas have little opportunity of taking advantages of the events we currently organise. You will still stay on the mailing list (assuming you are still opted-in!).

However, we do ask that if you attend one of the Annual Dinners, any tea after St Paul's, lunch after Remembrance Sunday or a subsidised event, you are paying the correct subscription – and our Treasurer and Secretary now more rigorously check this. We hope you agree that this approach strikes the right balance! **We ask you to check you are paying the correct subscription of £20 by standing order, ideally on 1st October (the start of our financial year), 1st December or 1st January.**

ACCOUNT NAME: Kitchener Scholars' Association

BANK: NatWest

SORT CODE: 60-03-25

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 03808742

Thank you! Francesca Cumming ACA KS 2015, KSA Treasurer