



Ted Norrish — His Legacy and Lasting Influence

Ted Norrish leaves a lasting legacy as an inspirational teacher, coach, athlete and scholar

He inspired pupils' passion for athletics, coaching effective training methods for individuals and teams, and supporting young athletes across all track and field disciplines, as well as providing opportunities for them to attend world class international athletics meetings as competitors and spectators, nurturing their confidence and experience.

Ted founded the Octavian Droobers Orienteering Club for the benefit of the School and the wider community, which is thriving to this day across Warwickshire and Coventry—firmly establishing the Droobers on the British Orienteering championships map and at international events.

He instituted the Coventry Marathon for the benefit of future generations, celebrating the challenge and pleasure of running, from its roots in ancient Greece to modern day athletics.

Ted began the King Henry VIII Senior School Cross Country Club, growing it into one of the most successful in the country. He encouraged training by example, and—through great dedication—built up strong characters among runners of all abilities, inspiring a life-long love of running in many students.

He inaugurated one of the first and largest Schools Cross Country Relays, which has continued to attract competing schools from all over the UK over the last 50 years. The KHVIII Relay Race is a great asset to the School, and an excellent annual event benefiting schools' athletics and young running talent nationwide.

Ted established the School Mountaineering Club, leading many expeditions in the UK and abroad; inspiring generations of students, and fostering their curiosity, exploration and appreciation of mountains, nature, walking and sightseeing.

Ted was a passionate Master of Classics, encouraging an interest in and love for the Ancient World, history, and literature. His standard of perfection and ability to motivate students were characteristic of the strength of his leadership as Head of the highly successful King Henry VIII Senior School Classics Department. Ted inspired a succession of Oxford scholars, and instilled determination in many others to achieve excellence in all their endeavours.