



## Old Girls' Guild



## Old Stamfordian Club

Dear Old Stamfordian

Welcome to the latest Old Stamfordian Association update.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting Welland House, my old boarding house when I was at Stamford High School. I had a lovely tour of the house and it was so nice to see how the students experience boarding at Stamford today.



Thank you to Franki Hall, the current Head of House, for making me feel so welcome.

You will notice that logos at the top of this email are still that of the Old Girls' Guild and Old Stamfordian Club. The OSA committee are working closely with the School's graphic designer to produce a new logo representative of both committees and we look forward to sharing this with you in the near future.

Thank you to Dudley Bryant for once again organising the Boston Lunch in September and to all those who attended. We are pleased to share that the date for next year has been confirmed for Saturday 20 September so please do save the date in your diary.

I hope you enjoy this update full of amazing achievements and news from across our Old Stamfordian community. With that said, there are also unfortunately some farewells as we say goodbye to valued and loved members of the OS community and I am sure you will join me in sending thoughts to their family and friends.

If you have any news that you wish to share with us for a future update, please **let us know**.

May Christ us Spede

Nicky Lambert (OS 90)  
Old Stamfordian Association Chair

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## Gymnastic Medallist

Lottie Smith (OS 19) excelled at the North European Championships in Dublin last month.



Lottie earned a bronze medal in the highly competitive Floor event, impressing judges and spectators alike with her grace and precision. Her overall performance was equally commendable, securing her a 7th place finish in the All-Around results. This is a testament to her versatility and skill across multiple apparatus.



In addition to her individual success, Lottie contributed significantly to the Scotland team's efforts, helping them achieve a respectable sixth place in the team results.

Well done Lottie!

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### **Old Stamfordians Return to the School**

The last month has seen many OS return to speak to our students and represent our Old Stamfordian community.

Ollie Kew (OS 09), Deputy Editor of BBC Top Gear magazine, visited the Junior School and Sixth Form, arriving in style driving a McLaren Artura. Junior School pupils had the exciting opportunity to sit behind the wheel of the car and attend a special assembly.

A standout moment of the day was for Arthur, a Junior School pupil and passionate Top Gear fan who has raised nearly £23,000 for The Brain Tumour Charity by climbing the equivalent height of Everest, received a private tour of the McLaren and even had the chance to interview Ollie. Arthur's journey is particularly inspiring, as he has lived with low-grade brain tumours since the age of three. Ollie followed this up with a Sixth Form assembly followed by an engaging Q&A session with students interested in media, marketing, and journalism.



Stamford Junior School recently welcomed expert archaeologists Alex Large (OS 20), Elliot Wade (OS 20), along with Zachary Markin, to work with Year 4 pupils as part of their History unit on the history of Stamford through the ages.



Pupils explored 1x1m test pits, used metal detectors to locate excavation sites, and identified and sorted historical artifacts. They uncovered evidence of Saxon and medieval life, offering a hands-on experience that made history come alive.

For the first time this year we also had Old Stamfordian representation at the Open Days; Georgia Bremner (OS 11) and

Thomas Watson (OS 20) attended the Sixth Form and Jonathan Fisher (OS 07) who represented the Old Stamfordian community at the Senior Open Day.

We extend our thanks to all those who have been supporting the students.



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### **Over 70s Cricket World Cup Winner**

In the inaugural Over-70s Cricket World Cup, Simon Sargent (OS 72) helped England to victory over Australia!

The final was held at Wormsley near High Wycombe, at the private cricket ground of Jean Paul Getty.

The IMC match report says of the closing stages of the match:

“New legs were needed now with a run rate at around seven an over, tight bowling and even tighter fielding, and those were provided wonderfully by Derek Towe (20 not out from 14) and



Simon Sargent (14 not out from 13) who dropped it and ran, brought the field in then hit over the top to deliver this first ever 70s World Cup to the England 70s team.”



Simon is pictured with the trophy in the second picture with fellow OS John Smith (OS 71) and Ted Stevenson (OS 70).

Congratulations Simon!

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### **Adventure With Purpose**

Jemima Belderbos (OS 24) received bursary funding from the then-Old Girls' Guild to support Raleigh International, a youth and sustainable development charity that runs overseas volunteering programs. Over the summer Jemima spent a month in Costa Rica as part of this programme, and has written an account of her experience.

“During my A-Levels, I stumbled upon Raleigh International’s Instagram, which inspired me to spend my summer in Costa Rica. Drawn by their “Adventure with Purpose” tagline and the promise of meaningful environmental and community work, I applied and soon found myself in one of the most biodiverse countries on the planet. From the moment I landed, I was immersed in



The local culture, staying at a school, experiencing traditional meals, and training for the expedition. The first week was filled with forming friendships, learning essential skills, and understanding Costa Rica's rich history and culture.

The following weeks were a blend of hard work and cultural exchange. In the remote Sinoli community, we built a dining hall, organized community events, and engaged in daily life without phone access, fostering deep connections. The adventure trek that followed was both physically challenging and breathtakingly beautiful, with early morning hikes and stunning sunrises. The final days were spent relaxing, exploring local wildlife, and celebrating our achievements with the group. My time in Costa Rica was transformative, filled with unforgettable experiences and personal growth, and I highly recommend Raleigh to anyone seeking a meaningful adventure.”





*This article is a précis of a larger article that Jemima has written, which will be published in the next alumni magazine.*

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## **England U20s Rugby Squad**

Our congratulations to Sam Williams (OS 23) on his selection for the England U20 Men's Elite Performance Squad for the 2024/25 season!

We are incredibly proud of Sam for this outstanding achievement. His dedication and talent have earned him a place among the nation's rising rugby stars.

Sam's selection means he could play a crucial role in the upcoming 2025 U20 Six Nations Championship, one of the most important international tournaments for emerging rugby talent. We look forward to seeing him take to the field alongside the nation's best young players as they compete for international honours.

Go well, Sam. We look forward to following your career!



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## English Channel Relay

In our May newsletter, we mentioned Jacob Germany (OS 16), who was preparing for an ambitious Channel Relay Swim, aimed at raising funds for Aspire in honour of his friend George Robinson (OS 17). We are thrilled to share that Jacob has successfully completed this incredible challenge!

On 27 August, Jacob and his team set off at 3 AM, facing a series of unexpected trials. Starting in the dark, Jacob swam at dawn and immediately encountered thousands of jellyfish, including the notorious brown compass jellyfish. Navigating these obstacles was just the beginning, as the team battled difficult currents and choppy seas while attempting to sneak past French port authorities to reach their unconventional landing site - over 25 km away from their planned destination.

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Jacob, second left, pictured with his relay teammates.

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Jacob's stints in the water were both demanding and exhilarating. He completed a 1.5 km leg at 5:30 AM in freezing conditions, followed by a 2.7 km swim after nine hours, where he found himself drifting close to an exclusion zone.

His final stint was a grueling 6 km at 5 PM, during which he bravely pushed through a jellyfish sting as the team raced against the clock.

After an intense 16 hours and 56 minutes, the relay team successfully landed in Calais just after 9 PM local time.

[Contact Us](#)

Congratulations on an extraordinary achievement!

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## Sport Reports

### OS Rugby v OU

On Friday 20 September the school hosted a brilliant rugby match between the Old Stamfordians and Old



Uppinghamians, with the OS  
running out as 52-7 winners!

The game was intense from the start, with both teams displaying incredible skill and determination, with the Old Stamfordians securing a well-deserved victory, thanks to their teamwork and resilience.

A big thank you to the Old Uppinghamians for making the trip to Stamford and the OS that played in the game. We look forward to more exciting matches in the future!

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### **Burghley Park Summer Golf Meet**

*Friday 19 July 2024*

Neil Nottingham (OS 84) writes:

A smaller than usual field assembled at Burghley Park Golf Club to contest the John Cartwright Trophy. The weather was set fair and the course in good condition, and ready for us to play our best golf. However, in reality the 12 scores were all bunched together, on a somewhat lower points total than expected, given the conditions.

After all the counting we had three players tied for second with Ian Delaine Smith edging out Dave Lennie and Mike Barton on count back. John Cartwright was present to award the prizes to Mike Barton for the best score on the front 9, Neil Nottingham for the best score on the back 9, and the nearest pin on the 3rd hole to Andrew Taylor. John then presented the Trophy to Andrew Taylor who prevailed with 33 points. We look forward to next year and hopefully we will return the participation levels back up to 20. The date will be Friday 18 July 2025.

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## **Grafton Morrish Finals, Brancaster and Hunstanton**

*Friday 27th September 2024*

The Grafton Morrish Finals at Brancaster and Hunstanton presented a challenge for the Stamford team, with the famously windy conditions at Hunstanton testing their skills.

The competition continued at Royal West Norfolk, where the team enjoyed fairer weather. A great week of golf managing to avoid the rain was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Keilin Harper and Charlie Armitage (both OS 18) have written a full report on the Finals which can be [\*\*read here\*\*](#).

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## **Luffenham Heath Autumn Golf Meet**

*Saturday 5 October 2024*

Geoff Holyoake (OS 74) writes:

A small but select field of OS golfers gathered on a crisp morning at Luffenham Heath. The course and weather were both set up to encourage good scoring.

Indeed, in the morning, there were three scores of equal to or better than handicap. Richard Palmer with 38 points against Andy Ferrier's 37 points won the Alistair Ross Bowl.



*(L to R): Martin Jaffrey, Andrew Taylor, Andy Ferrier, Alistair Weir*

Following the traditional 'hi-lo' draw for partners at lunch, at which John Cartwright joined the players, the afternoon foursome pairs challenged for the Geoff Holyoake Trophy.

Although Richard Palmer and Jane Hales kept up the good scoring with 36 points, the eventual winners were Alistair Weir (a seemingly foursome specialist with a list of victories with various partners over the years) and Robin Woodall with 38 points.



*(L to R): Geoff Holyoake, Jane Hales, Robin Woodall, Richard Palmer*

Next year's events, listed below, are open to all.

**Luffenham Heath Spring Meeting**

*Saturday 10 May 2025*

**Burghley Park Summer Meeting**

*Friday 18 July 2025*

**Luffenham Heath Autumn Meeting**

*Saturday 13 September 2025*

*If you are interested in playing in any of these, **please let us know.***

## Upcoming Events

### Stamford Futures: Speed Networking

*Wednesday 20 November, 19:00 - 21:00*

Stamford Sixth Form

We are thrilled to be hosting a careers event for current students dedicated to the fields of Marketing, PR, and Creative Industries. If this is your area of expertise we would be delighted for you to join us and share your valuable experiences and insights with our students, helping to guide and inspire the next generation of professionals.

#### Why Should You Participate?

- **Inspire Future Leaders:** Share your journey and professional experiences.
- **Network:** Connect with fellow alumni and industry peers.
- **Give Back:** Contribute to the professional growth of our students.

If you are interested in being a speaker or know someone who would be a great fit, please [\*\*contact us\*\*](#).

STAMFORD FUTURES is pleased to present

*Speed* **NETWORKING**

**CREATIVE & MARKETING SECTOR**

WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER  
19:00 - 21:00 at St Martins





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## **OS Netball & Hockey against the School 1st Teams**

*Saturday 4 January 2025*

Before spring term starts in January we will be once again be hosting our Old Stamfordian netball and hockey matches against the 1st teams, supporting their pre-season training and preparing them for the matches ahead.

The girls' netball will kick off at 13:30 followed by the boys' hockey at 15:30.



We are looking for Old Stamfordian players to take part in this events. If you are interested in playing please do **contact us**.

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## **News from the School**

### **Rowing Coach**

Stamford School is seeking a passionate and experienced individual to join our volunteer school community in setting up and coaching a new rowing group. If you have a love for sport and a desire to inspire young athletes, we invite you to apply. The sessions can be flexible;

either before school, lunchtime, afterschool or at weekends on school site.

#### Responsibilities:

- Provide guidance and instruction to rowers of various skill levels
- Assist with training sessions (initially land-based in the gym to start with, however we are looking to establish links with Peterborough or Oundle to get out on the water in the future)
- Promote a positive and supportive team environment
- Contribute to the overall development of the rowing program

#### Qualifications:

- Experience rowing at a competitive level (desired)
- Strong coaching skills and ability to motivate
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment

#### Benefits:

- The opportunity to work with talented and dedicated young athletes
- The chance to contribute to a successful and growing rowing program
- The satisfaction of making a positive impact on the lives of others

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Assistant Head Co-Curricular, Mr Brown, at [\*\*GPBrown@ses.lincs.sch.uk\*\*](mailto:GPBrown@ses.lincs.sch.uk).

We look forward to hearing from you!

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Gompertz on seeing the world  
differently

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## [Farewells](#)

### [Derek Mawer \(OS 48\)](#)

We were notified by Phillip Hoskins (OS 72), of the passing of Derek Mawer. A contemporary of Colin Dexter and Philip Goodrich, Derek was Head of School House. “Derek used to joke that Colin achieved fame with Morse, Philip became Bishop of Worcester and he simply became a Chartered Surveyor. He had a reputation for acumen, honesty and integrity - a true gentleman. He had a jovial nature and a razor-sharp wit which over the years brightened up many a gathering!”

Derek was a colleague and business partner of Mike Perkins (OS 59), with whom he worked since 1963 until quite recently. “To precis, he was an outstanding member of our profession and was held in high regard by fellow members and those involved in the local community, possessing many skills in the daily work of an agricultural surveyor.

He was an excellent auctioneer and was renowned as being one of the top negotiators in the county, perhaps aided by the fact that he had a great gift of the English language which no doubt was the result of his education at Stamford.

He will be long remembered and held in regard by many.”

Derek's funeral is scheduled to take place at 10.30am on 4th November at St Peter's in Eastgate, Lincoln - the church is situated close to the Cathedral itself.

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**Captain Anthony James Oglesby OBE, MPhil, Royal  
Navy (OS 49)**

Anthony sadly passed away in January 2022. In July this year his son Mark (OS 79) shared the news that the school was gifted a legacy fund in honour of Captain Oglesby. For the academic year 2024-25, this will fund two student's speech and drama tuition and examination fees for the year and also a trip to a theatre and backstage experience for our 26 drama scholars.



Mark writes:

“Despite their parents running the Midland Bank just down the road, Anthony Oglesby and his brother Ben were weekly boarders at Stamford School, Anthony attending between 1939 and 1949. Having considered a life in the theatre, he joined the Navy, a somewhat perverse choice in view of his Lincolnshire roots, reaching the rank of Captain and being awarded an OBE for his role in the Falklands War. He also gained a MPhil which provided the grounding for a move into social work and relationship counselling.

Anthony Oglesby died on 30 January 2022 (his ashes are buried nearby, in the grounds of Tixover Church). He is remembered by his children Mark (also an alumnus of the school) and Tamsin through the Anthony Oglesby Drama Bursary, reflecting his lifelong devotion

to the Arts – particularly theatre and poetry - and extending his fond connections with Stamford, both as school and town.

Ars longa, vita brevis.”

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### **Jean Shields (née Rowath) (OS 55, Staff 1961- 1993)**

We recently received the sad news from Jean’s sister, Barbara, (OS 68) that Jean recently passed away. She attended Stamford High School from 1948 until 1955 and then returned as a staff member for an incredible 32 years from 1961 until her retirement in 1993.

In her opening to that year's SHS Magazine, Miss Bland, Head at SHS from 1978 until 1997, wrote:

“Mrs Shields, who is of course also an Old Girl, retires after 32 years. She taught Religious Education and English. Then, at my request, accepted the challenge of teaching only English, giving herself completely to the task of setting pupils on the road of writing clear English and understanding Literature. Mrs Shields was a caring form tutor with a deep concern for her pupils that made her ideally suited for the work. It is typical of her that after so many years service she was ready to accept yet another challenge of giving up the form work she loved and becoming librarian. Mrs Shields has transformed the care of the libraries and has devoted to them many hours beyond the call of duty - far from becoming tired in her post her enthusiasm as librarian has grown every year: enjoyment and a sense of fun in the job has been the magic ingredient.”

Also in that edition of the magazine Helen Nixon (OS 94) interviewed Jean and you can **[read that interview here](#)**.

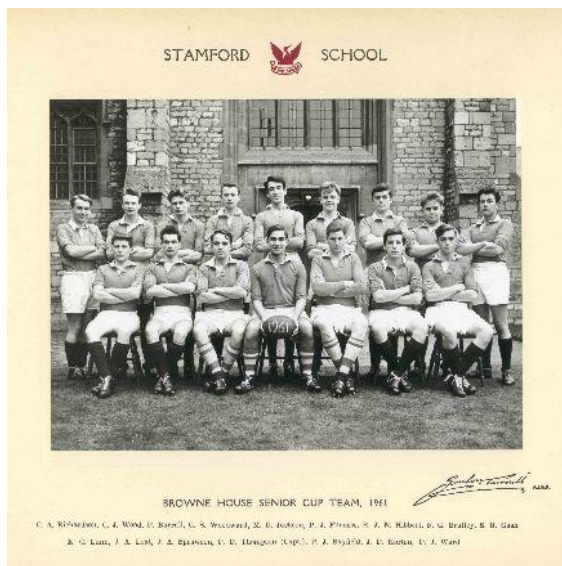
We have not yet received any funeral details. If you have any memories of Mrs Jean Shields then please **send them through**.

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**General Sir Mike Jackson, GCB, CBE, DSO, DL (OS 61)**

It was with great sadness that we received the news of the passing of General Sir Mike Jackson, a distinguished soldier and a proud Old Stamfordian, who passed away on 15 October 2024 at the age of 80.

Sir Mike Jackson attended Stamford School from 1953 until 1961, boarding in Browne House while his father served in the Army. At Stamford, he was an active member of the school community, playing the violin in the orchestra and singing in the Messiah. Athletically inclined, Sir Mike played rugby and tennis and represented Browne in athletics, cross-country and swimming. His leadership qualities were evident early on as he served as a house prefect, gaining experience in maintaining discipline and taking responsibility for others.



Joining the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) in his early teens, Sir Mike recalled in his book, 'Soldier', "I enjoyed the CCF camps, which meant going away for ten days or so with boys from several other schools, sleeping in tents or huts... this was my first taste of soldiering ... I'm sure that my experiences in the CCF had a considerable influence in demonstrating the pleasures of soldiering."

He was encouraged by Stamford School staff to pursue a military career, including art master Walter Douglas, who suggested he read "On War" by Prussian general and military theorist Carl von



Clausewitz. Sir Mike joined the Army directly from school, later reading Russian Studies at the University of Birmingham whilst attending Sandhurst. Sir Mike's military career was illustrious and marked by significant achievements and leadership roles.

Knighthed in 2004, Sir Mike was honoured by the CCF with a tribute parade in 2005 which he attended. He later returned to Stamford School in 2008 to deliver a Foundation Lecture and again in 2016 for a CCF inspection. Sir Mike once said, "For me, Stamford Endowed Schools was the catalyst that gave me the desire to achieve. I am proud to say that I am an Old Stamfordian, and I am proud to be able to give something back through my support."

**[An obituary can be found here.](#)**

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STAMFORD

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