



Dear Old Stamfordian

The summer flew by and at the beginning of this month we welcomed our students back to Stamford. We look forward to following their accomplishments over the coming months and we will, of course, share these stories with you. The achievements of both our students and Old Stamfordians are a source of incredible pride and in this newsletter we are delighted to share the fantastic successes that we have already seen over the last few months.

There are will be many events over the coming months and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at these.

This update also contains farewells to members of our Old Stamfordian community and our thoughts go to their families and friends.

We hope you enjoy this update full of amazing achievements and news from across our Old Stamfordian community. If you have any news that you wish to share with us please [let us know!](#)

May Christ us Spede

Nicky Lambert (OS 90)
Old Stamfordian Association Chair

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News

England Call-Up For Cricketer

At the end of August, cricketer Josh Hull (OS 22) received his first call-up to the England Men's Test squad. Josh, who plays for Leicestershire County Cricket Club and has featured for Manchester Originals in The Hundred, joined the squad for the final two Tests against Sri Lanka, replacing the injured Mark Wood. The call-up came just days after he was selected for the England Lions team, the 'second-tier' team that gives young cricketers international experience.

Josh's impressive performances include taking four wickets on his debut and helping Leicestershire win the One-Day Cup. These achievements have now earned him this well-deserved recognition on the international stage.

Although he didn't take part in the second test, Josh did play in the third. His maiden test wicket came on Friday 7 September and on the Saturday he took two more wickets, finishing the test with on 3/53.



Third Paralympics for OS

Roberta 'Bert' Sheffield (OS 99) competed in her third Paralympics earlier this month, competing in the Para-dressage for Canada.

Pictured below competing on her horse *Fairuza* in the Grade II Individual Event, Bert finished in 6th place. In the team event, along with her teammates, she finished 11th.

Prior to going to the Paralympics Bert told us: "I was probably the least sporty girl in my year partly due to my disability. However, I rode all through school then went to Aston University to study Politics and Public Policy. Some very special teachers at SHS believed in me and helped me to believe in myself which I'm sure helped me grow the resilience and courage to have my weird and wonderful career in sport.



I have gone on to represent Canada at the World Championships 2014 (4th), Rio 2016. World Champs 2018, Tokyo 2020 (7th) and World Champs 2022 (5th). I am currently 7th in the FEI World Rankings.”

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Project Launched To Benefit Rutland's Profile

Uppingham-based actor and writer Henry Dawe (OS 01) has begun a project to create a music video promoting Rutland. Talking about the project, Henry said "Richard Cole, High Sheriff of Rutland, asked me to write the lyrics to a new Rutland song which would praise the county and involve the community. Last year's High Sheriff

Geraldine Feehally, as a Trustee of the Rutland Youth Choirs, asked Susie Hill, their Director, to compose the music to the song which her choirs would then record.

“We saw the potential for this to be a music video rather than purely a song to listen to. In this way we would be able to include scenes from many locations which would showcase Rutland and everything that it has to offer as a tourist destination. The project has developed from the original idea and is no longer specifically connected to the High Sheriff, as it was felt that the song would have a wider reach if it were linked to Discover Rutland. I am pleased that Discover Rutland have kindly agreed to be the promotional partner for the music video online and we hope that it will do lasting good for the county.”



To finance its production, Henry will be staging comedy shows at Uppingham Theatre on Thursday 24 and Friday 25 October. Entitled *Cheer Upp!*, the evenings will offer a script-in-hand, radio-style entertainment featuring solo patter and sketches, bringing together other local actors for the fundraising effort.

Entry is free but all cash donations will go towards the project. The shows start at 7.30pm, with the doors and bar opening at 7pm. Tickets are now available in Oakham Wines, High Street, Oakham; The Falcon Hotel, Market Place, Uppingham; and at www.wegottickets.com – search ‘Cheer Upp’.



Henry and the cast of Cheer Upp!

MP Election

Sarah Bool (OS 06) has been elected as the Conservative Member of Parliament for South Northamptonshire.



"I am delighted and honoured to be elected as Member of Parliament for South Northamptonshire in this 2024 General Election. I have always been interested in politics, indeed I started leafletting when I was aged 9 for my Father in a Council By-Election. This was encouraged during my time at School through my A-Level in Government & Politics. Maybe winning the School Mock-Election for the Conservatives in 2005 gave me a good start!

After School, I read History at Oriel College, Oxford followed by a Law Conversion course in London before training and working as a Solicitor at Clifford Chance LLP. I moved to Forsters LLP and whilst there stood as the Conservative candidate in Vauxhall in the 2019 General Election.

In challenging circumstances, I was proud to be elected in South Northamptonshire and help to keep parts of the East Midlands blue. I am the 584th female MP ever and the 1st female MP from Oriel College, Oxford - a true honour and one for the history books!"

Running for Women's Aid

Ollie Plant (OS 17), a Sergeant in the Cambridgeshire Constabulary, and a 32-strong crew of officers and staff are running the Great Eastern Run on 13 October to raise money for Peterborough Women's Aid.

Ollie said: "Training has been going really well, aside from a few blisters and sore knees. We've been focussed on slowly building up the distance and adding in a few inclines to really test ourselves.

The Peterborough course is mercifully pretty flat, but that means it will be quick, so we need to make sure we're well prepared and up to speed – quite literally!"

Donations to Women's Aid, a charity that helps women in difficult situations and empowers them to seek advice, support, guidance and refuge, are gratefully received by the team and can be made via the team's Just Giving Page.



Atlantic Rowing

We have previously reported on a group of OS who are rowing across the Atlantic, competing in *The World's Toughest Row 2025*. They have been in contact to update us on the progress of training for the month-long race where they will battle 30-foot waves and the isolation of the Atlantic. There will even be a period of time where they will be closer to satellites in space than to civilisation!

The team, known as *Secondoary Fun* and comprised of James Leetch (OS 17), Jamie Kidd (OS 17), Ollie Pickering (OS 19), Ollie Hamilton (OS 19), and Adam Rowlatt (non-OS), will set off on the 3,000 mile journey in December 2025. As part of their training, earlier this year they took a rowing machine to London as part of their publicity campaign with the aim of rowing outside nine famous landmarks.



Secondoary Fun are taking on the challenge to support the incredible work of *Mind*, *Dementia Adventure*, and *T-21*. We will keep you updated with the team's progress and, in the meantime, if you would like to contribute the team have set a [GoFundMe page here](#).

Sport

OS Hockey v 1st XI

On Friday 30 August we had the pleasure of welcoming Old Stamfordians from classes ranging from 1993 to 2024 for a friendly match against our 1st team as part of their pre-season training.

There were smiles all around on such a wonderful sunny day with the match ending in a thrilling 1-1 draw. Off the field, the atmosphere was equally vibrant as Old Stamfordians shared stories about their time at the school and their post university achievements.



Upcoming Events

OLD STAMFORDIANS VS OLD UPPINGHAMIANS
FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER
KICK OFF AT 6:30PM
SPRINGFIELDS - ST PAUL'S SITE
BBQ AND DRINKS AVAILABLE

Rugby

*Friday 20 September,
Springfields*

We're looking for players to join our OS team for a rugby match against the Old Uppinghamians on Friday 20 September at 6.30pm.

Whether you're a seasoned player or just looking for a fun evening, please **email us** if you wish to play!

Boston Lunch

Saturday 28 September 2024, 12 noon for 12.30pm

Boston & County Club, Parkgate, Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 6RL

Dudley Bryant (OS 61) has shared with us the information for this year's Boston Lunch. Taking place at Boston & County Club on Saturday 28 September, the lunch is a delightful event that offers the opportunity to reminisce with fellow Old Stamfordians and take a trip down memory lane. If you wish to attend, please contact Dudley in the first instance.

Stamford Lecture

*Thursday 3 October,
Oswald Elliott Hall*

Will Gompertz is the author of a layman's guide to 150 years of modern art, *What Are You Looking At?*, *See What You're Missing: 31 Ways Artists Notice the World: and How You Can Too*, and *Think Like an Artist*, a manual to help anyone think creatively, be productive and be fulfilled by work.

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Will Gompertz



Thursday 3 October - 19:00 - 21:00

He has also written on the arts for *The Times* and *The Guardian* and even wrote and performed a show at the Edinburgh Fringe called *Double Art History*. He is the Director of Arts and Learning at The Barbican. Prior to this role, he served as the Director of Tate Media, where he was instrumental in developing the institution's award-winning online presence and Tate Etc., the UK's highest-circulation art magazine.

Before joining Tate, Will had a diverse career, including roles in stage management, television production, and short film distribution. He founded the DVD-magazine Shots, covering international short films and commercial promo films, and established a dedicated arts TV production company creating programmes for Channel 4 and ITV.

Will is set to deliver a thought-provoking and informative talk on the world of art and creativity. Including, tales from his time in broadcasting, whether it's mispronouncing the subject's name in an obituary, or interviewing superstars from Mick Jagger to Damian Hurst and Meryl Streep.

[Get Tickets](#)

Luffenham Heath Autumn Golf Meet

Saturday 5 October 2024

Contacts: [John Cartwright & Geoff Holyoake](#)

Law & Finance
Networking Event

Thursday 17 October

We will be holding our first professional networking drinks on Thursday 17 October 6-8pm in London. Old Stamfordians working in Law and Finance, we'd love to see you there!



LET'S GET SOCIAL!

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER
6PM - 8PM

Join us for an evening of networking and socialising in the heart of London. Enjoy drinks and great company.

[BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW!](#)



A fantastic opportunity for OS to network with others in the same sector, share experiences and advice. As well as sharing stories about your days at Stamford.

This will be a relaxed and fun evening. It is free to attend but please do book your place. Venue details will be shared upon booking.

Book your
place

186th London OSC Dinner

(for those who attended Stamford School)

Wednesday 6 November 2024

The Royal Air Force Club, 128 Piccadilly, London, W1J 7PY

Booking is now open for the next London Old Stamfordian Club Dinner, held in the breath-taking surroundings of the RAF Club in Piccadilly. Do not be misled by the word London in the title; attendees come from all over the United Kingdom and indeed the world.



Last year's event brought together 64 attendees from across eight decades of Old Stamfordians, ranging from 1957 to 2020. There was also a significant number of first-time attendees and we hope to be joined by many more this year.

[Book your ticket](#)

News from the School



Paralympic Success for Year 13
Bruce

[Read More](#) →



Students secure Oxbridge
places with four A* grades

[Read More](#) →

Victory at Sailing
Championships in Ireland

[Read More](#) →



SJS artwork displayed at Royal
Academy of Art

[Read More](#) →



GCSE Results celebrated as
45% of students receive A* or
A

[Read More](#) →



Outstanding A Level Results
for 2024

[Read More](#) →

[Farewells](#)

[Dave York \(OS 70\)](#)

Ted Stevenson (OS 70) writes:

At the 50th anniversary reunion for the 1970 leavers - held over from 2020 to 2022 because of the Covid epidemic - Dave York was asked by one of the attendees 'Dave, is it correct that you invented the detergent capsule?' In his traditional, modest way he merely replied 'yes'.

What he did not say, and what was also likely to be unknown by the vast majority of the gathering, was that Dave was both a Professor and a Research Fellow. The former was the status for his innovative work at Leeds University; the latter for having achieved senior director at Procter and Gamble. And with reference to the washing pod question, nor did he mention that there were over 40 other patents in various forms of particle processing credited to him.

That Dave was both inspirational and a visionary would not have been a surprise to those who knew him in his early years. Although he became a dependable all-round sportsman, a chemistry set was more likely to be in his letter to Santa than football boots or a cricket bat.



After passing his 11 plus at Easton on the Hill, he embarked on an enjoyable school life at Stamford in 1963. His ability in the sciences soon became apparent and he went on to read Chemical Engineering at Leeds in 1970.

After graduating, he joined Procter and Gamble in Newcastle and was seconded on an early assignment to their Brussels office with his young family. On his return to the North East at the end of the '70s he focused on research into the development of laundry detergents. He led various teams in product quality in manufacturing and process design, becoming a company expert in many areas.

His ability to inspire people resulted in the development of Procter and Gamble's initiative to develop their young employees with a wide range of design courses.

His passion for establishing collaborative research with academia was rewarded by appointments as visiting professor at Leeds and Birmingham universities. He significantly influenced the teaching of young academics and students, not only concerning the technical elements but also how to work with large businesses and the commercial environment. Such was the success of these programmes, Dave was in high demand.

On retiring from Procter and Gamble he became Professor of Structured Particle Materials at Leeds, finishing in the same department that he had joined as a student many decades before. He always remained generous in giving his time and knowledge to engineers and scientists around him, and he never lost a very engaging sense of humour.

One of his lifelong work colleagues stated in his tribute at his funeral that Dave was a 'smart, generous, caring, funny, chemical engineer.' All of his friends would wholeheartedly agree but few would be aware of his achievements. You may not have known him, but perhaps the next time you prepare the machine wash you could look out for the 'Made in Stamford' logo on the detergent pod.



Dave at the 1970 50th anniversary reunion

Thomas Dickerson (OS 71)

Tom's wife, Grazyna, and brother, David (OS 72) write:

Tom was the first Head boy of Brazenose House and represented the school at Rugby, Hockey and Cricket. He studied Applied Biology at Liverpool Polytechnic and went on to study dentistry at Manchester University where he was also a tutor at St Anselm Hall. As a keen sportsman, he kept playing Hockey for Chorlton into his 40's amassing over 400 goals for the club.



Tom had a distinguished career in general dental practice. With his entrepreneurial skill set, coupled with clinical excellence, he founded an award winning practice in Staffordshire. It became a training hub for newly qualified dental practitioners working within the Liverpool Deanery. He held a lifelong commitment to learning and was an active member of Mensa.

In retirement, Tom devoted his time to giving back to the community. He was a past President of Rotary and a Parish Councillor in Hartford. Tom also enjoyed playing an academic in the TV series of Albert and Victoria - one of several thespian roles!



He was married to Grazyna for over 35 years and lived in Hartford, Cheshire. Tom leaves his wife Grazyna and their son Thom. His many friends will remember him as a man of integrity and a natural leader with a dry sense of humour. He will be greatly missed by those whose lives he touched.

Donations to MacMillan Cancer Care would be received with gratitude. Please direct all contributions to: www.dodgsonfunerals.com/memories/406 or, alternatively, to Dodgson's Funeral Service, 25 Manchester Road, Knutsford, WA16 6TH.

Claire Lomas MBE (OS 98)

Claire was a remarkable and inspiring member of the Old Stamfordian community and beyond. Claire sadly died following an accident in Jordan on Thursday 22 August 2024.

Claire's early life was defined by her love for horses, leading her to a successful career as a professional event rider. However, in 2007, a life-changing accident at the Osberton Horse Trials left her paralysed from the chest down. Despite this devastating injury, Claire's spirit led her to achieve extraordinary feats that inspired people far and wide.

In 2012, Claire made headlines by becoming the first person to complete the London Marathon over 17 days, using a ReWalk robotic suit.

She was chosen to light the London 2012 Paralympic cauldron in Trafalgar Square later that year. Claire followed these achievements by completing the Great North Run, while pregnant with her second child, in 2016.



Claire completing the Great North Run in 2016

Her perseverance not only captured the hearts of the nation but also raised significant funds for spinal cord injury research. Claire continued to push boundaries, taking on challenges such as a 400-mile handcycle journey across the UK in 2018. In the last few years, Claire also learnt to ride an adapted motorbike and became a qualified pilot, flying microlight planes. Through her various

incredible endeavours, in total Claire raised nearly £1million for charity.

These contributions to charity and her impact on raising awareness were recognised in 2017 when Claire was appointed an MBE, presented to her by Prince William who said he was 'honoured' to meet her. Beyond these achievements, Claire was also a gifted speaker and author, sharing her journey in her book "Finding My Feet" and inspiring audiences around the world with her story.



In 2013, Claire returned to Stamford to deliver a Stamford Lecture, then known as the Foundation Lectures. In more recent years she kept in contact with the school, attended Lectures and was more than happy to speak to our students, sharing words of advice and inspiration.

Claire was not only an extraordinary individual but also a devoted wife to her husband Dan and a loving mother to their two daughters. Her family was the cornerstone of her life, and she cherished every moment with them.

Claire's legacy is one of courage, hope, and the power of the human spirit. She will be deeply missed by the Stamfordian community and all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course.



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