

### Dear Old Stamfordian

We had an incredible response to the last newsletter, with stories, news, and updates; thank you to all those that contacted us.

There have already been lots of bookings for this year's Reunion and we are looking forward to welcoming many of you back to Stamford for what promises to be a fantastic day full of laughter and memories. In case you missed it, Reunion is being held this year on Saturday 14 June and you are able to book your place **here**.

The first edition of the new OSA Magazine is being finalised and will be landing in inboxes and on doormats next month. We hope you enjoy reading the magazine when it arrives.

If you have any news that you wish to share with us for the next update, please **contact us**.

May Christ us Spede

Nicky Lambert (OS 90)
Old Stamfordian Association Chair

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## News

In November 2024, to commemorate National Engineering Day, **Alice Kan** (née Kenyon) (OS 98) became the first living engineer to be honoured with a statue. Alice led the team that established the AstraZeneca vaccine's fill-finish manufacturing at Wockhardt during the pandemic, a key part of the UK's Covid-19 response. The statue, located outside the Royal Academy of Engineering's headquarters, highlights Alice's contributions and the vital role of engineering.

Designed by artist Kelly Anna, the vibrant abstract design shows Alice gazing upward with hope, featuring dynamic blocks and shapes to represent her team-building skills. A pencil symbolizes her problem-solving spirit, and an oversized vial signifies her work on the Covid vaccine.

Speaking of the statue, Alice said: "Being honoured in statue form is a very surreal experience. I really hope it encourages people to understand more about engineering, what engineers do, and why it is a great career for anyone who's got a curiosity for wanting to make things work better."

This unveiling is part of the RAEng's broader effort to shift public perceptions and inspire the next generation of engineers. By showcasing role models like Alice, the academy aims to highlight engineering's real-world impact and encourage young people to explore the field.



**Emily Batey (OS 19)** has contacted us to say she is taking part in this year's London Marathon, fundraising for an incredible cause.

Emily told us: "On the 27th of April, I will be running the London Marathon in aid of The Mental Health Foundation. The 27th of April is significant for me as it marks one year since I lost my grandad to suicide. This has affected us deeply as a family, and we wish for no one else to experience it.

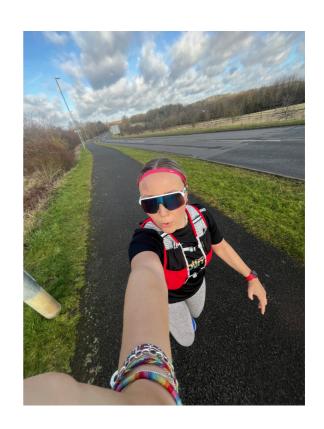
I find it hard to put into words what a wonderful person my grandad was, but his loyalty, love, and care for his family was always felt. His passing has left a big hole in mine and my family's lives. He is someone who can never be replaced.

Part of my commitment to The Mental Health Foundation is raising £2,200 to support their mission. The foundation aims to research and develop new and more effective ways to support and protect good mental health. The foundation also runs national campaigns and works with local communities to nurture good mental health.

This marathon is more than just a race for me; it's a mission to raise awareness for mental health support and suicide prevention.

Through this marathon, I aim to honour his memory and raise funds for the mental health foundation in the hope that no one else has to endure such a loss.

Every donation, no matter how small, makes a difference. Your support will help provide resources, counselling, and hope to those who need it most."



Any donations, however big or small, will help support The Mental Health Foundation, and you are able to **donate here**.

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**Richard D Palmer (OS 71)** has informed us of a recently published book that he has co-written.

Richard told us: "My wife and I have recently co-authored a book *The Art of Spiritual Writing - discovering your most authentic writing... and more about yourself on the way.* This was published by Darton, Longman and Todd in February.

There is a real connection for me with this book back into my education at Stamford School. I soon realised at the school that my first love academically was with words. I studied Russian and German up to A level and continued with German in my first degree at Loughborough University in Business and Languages. Hence, writing has always been rumbling along in the background of my life.



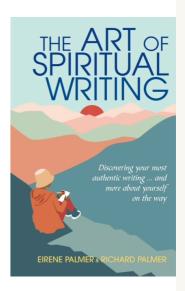
There was also a further connection. I became confirmed when Revd. 'Bubbles' Hartley was the chaplain and encouraged several of us to take up that option. I came back to my faith later in life and through the years became very interested in peoples' spiritual journeys, or as we prefer to call it, their life journeys.

I attended the school from 1964 to 1971. It was always rather confusing at the time because there were two Richard Palmers, and we proceeded together throughout the whole of the school in the same form. as RD Palmer and RF Palmer – I'm the RD! The modus operandi in those days was to address pupils by surname but some masters gave up on this one and we became known as Dick and Fred!

#### About the book:

"This practical, friendly, transformative book offers a treasure trove of ideas to help you write about your spiritual life from that deep reflective place that is inside each of us.

It shows you how your writing can help you explore your own journey, past, present and future, exploring those areas of unique individual interest and maybe recording your story for others. It will help you to discover the value of writing meditative and reflective work, as well as the benefits of writing for therapy and prayer. It also provides invaluable advice, good journalling practices, and tips for encouraging readers to get into the habit of daily writing and reflection."



Recently, our MedSoc students had the privilege of attending an inspiring talk by one of our Old Stamfordians, **Isabella Bowering (OS 18)**, who currently works as a lab technician at Alltech. She shared her career journey from her early school days to her current role in the field of biomedicine.

Her passion for science was ignited at Stamford High School, where she excelled in biology and chemistry. Encouraged by her teachers, she pursued a degree in biomedicine at university. After graduating, she joined Alltech as

a lab technician. In her role, she is responsible for conducting experiments, analysing samples, and ensuring the smooth operation of the lab. She emphasised the importance of hands-on experience and continuous learning in her field, sharing anecdotes about the challenges and rewards of her job.

Her talk was not only informative but also motivational, as she encouraged the students to follow their passions and remain curious. She highlighted the diverse career opportunities available in the field of biomedicine and the impact that dedicated professionals can have on scientific advancements.

The students left the session feeling inspired and more informed about the potential paths their careers could take.



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**Andrew Haigh (OS 72)** is the custodian of Browne's Hospital in Stamford, which this year is celebrating 550 since coming into existence.



There is a huge connection between Browne's Hospital and the School, with the foundation of Stamford High School and the endowment of Stamford School in 1871. Brownes Hospital still provides accommodation for 13 people, and the Audit Room, Boardroom and Chapel are open to visitors during the summer, and the Cloisters and Gardens are open throughout the year. There is no charge to view this wonderful building but donations are very welcome.

Throughout 2025 they are hosting a number of events; The Bishop of Grantham will conduct a service especially to commemorate the refurbishment of the original Stained Glass windows in the Chapel, vintage singers will be performing on VE day, in June there is a Friends of Brownes afternoon with music and an Auction, and in July there is a Garden Party with Stamford Town Brass performing.

Further information can be found on **their website**, where you can also buy tickets for the events, and if you wish to donate funds, auction items or raffle prizes, please **contact them**.

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As some of you may have seen at Old Stamfordian events, there was previously an OSC blazer in the club colours.

Rather excitingly, **Ian Banks (OS 83)** is now leading on the production of both male and female OSA blazers.







For sizing information and instructions, <u>please see this form</u>, and if you require any further assistance, please <u>contact the Alumni Relations</u> <u>team</u> who will be happy to help.

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Have you started a new job, launched a project, won an award, or hit a big milestone? Whatever it is, we want to celebrate it! **Send us your news**, achievements, and any great photos you have.

Your updates help keep our Old Stamfordian community connected and inspired.

# **Upcoming Sports**

## **Luffenham Heath Spring Golf Meet**

Saturday 10 May 2025

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

Friday 18 June 2025

#### **Luffenham Heath Autumn Golf Meet**

Saturday 13 September 2025

Please contact us if you wish to take part

# **Upcoming Events**

### **Property Networking Drinks**

Thursday 27 March 2025

Following the success of our last professional networking drinks, we are excited to announce our next event in London, focused on the Property sector. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to network with others in the same industry, share experiences and gain valuable advice. As well as sharing stories about your days at the school. This event is generously hosted by Adrian Shaw (OS 78) in East London, E15. Further details will be shared upon booking.



#### Please book here.

### **Stamford Futures: Speed Networking Event**

Wednesday 30 April 2025, 19:00 - 21:00 Stamford Sixth Form

We are thrilled to announce an upcoming event dedicated to careers in **Army, Aviation and Engineering** specifically for our Year 10-13 students and their families. We warmly invite Old Stamfordians working in these fields to join us as speakers. This event offers a fantastic opportunity for students to explore various roles and career paths within these dynamic industries.

The evening will feature a speed-networking format, where small groups of students and families will rotate through breakout rooms to hear from professionals. The event will conclude with refreshments and one-on-one conversations from 20:25 until 21:00.

If you are interested in speaking or know someone who would be perfect for this event, **please contact us**!

# **Old Stamfordian London Drinks Reception**

Thursday 22 May 2025, 18:30 - 20:30

We are delighted to be hosting a drinks and canapés reception for all of our Old Stamfordians at The Farmers Club, London.

Kindly sponsored by Julia Peach (OS 83) and Stamford School, the event promises to be a great evening, and we look forward to welcoming Old Stamfordians from all year groups.



Due to the limited capacity of the club, there are a limited number of tickets available. Tickets are £30, with a subsidised charge of £20 for those who left school between 2019 and 2024. You can book at the link below.

**Book now** 

# Reunion 2025

Saturday 14 June 2025

Booking is now open for this year's Reunion! Tickets for the day can booked using the link below.



# **News from the School**



U16 Netball team win Regional Competition **Read More** →



SJS marks Children's Mental Health Week with special visit

Read More  $\rightarrow$ 



Students Shine at Chinese New Year Celebration

Read More  $\rightarrow$ 

**Award Nominations** 

You may remember last month shared the news that the school is finalist in the Donorfy Awards in both the 'Simplified Solution' and 'Impact Beyond Fundraising' categories.

While the 'Simplified Solutions' award will be decided independently, the 'Impact Beyond Fundraising' category goes to a public vote and this is where we need your help. We would be grateful if you could take a moment to **vote**for Stamford School. Voting closes on Thursday 6 March and the winner of each category will receive a £250 donation to their charity and a trophy!

Celebrating the incredible achievements of charities using this database to support and enhance their work, the nominations showcase the Stamford Card, Stamford Lecture Series and our stewardship campaigns as part of the awards entry. The 'Simplified Solution' Award recognises the effectiveness of streamlined operations whilst the 'Impact Beyond Fundraising' Award highlights those making a difference beyond financial success which includes our sustainability and community outreach work.



# **Partnership** with Farewill

Legacies are a vital source of support for Stamford School and assist in securing the future of young people and their education experiences with us.

A legacy gift, regardless of its size, can significantly impact the lives of numerous students.

We are excited to announce our collaboration with will-writing specialists 'Farewill' as we enter the New Year.

This service is complimentary, straightforward, and can be completed from the comfort of your home in approximately 30 minutes. **Please click here** to take advantage of this opportunity and remain a valued part of Stamford's legacy.



# **Farewells**

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### John Atkinson (OS 53)

Dudley Bryant (OS 61) informed us that John passed away in October 2022. Dudley was recently informed by John's widow Julie-Ann.

She writes: "John was at Stamford School with, to name a few, Barry Sanderson, Ian Manchester, Chris Tunnard, Gerald Botterill, Tim Burnett, Clive Bannister and his cousins John & Chris Catlin (The Grantham Gingerbread Family!)

He was a member of Wainfleet Young Farmers, various racing clubs including Goodwood Road Racing Club and Hill Climb Sprint Club, and a life member of The Farmers Club in London. John lived for his farm at Wainfleet St Mary's; he won several ploughing competitions, both locally and and Nationally. He also won awards for his Lincoln Red cattle.

John enjoyed life to the full and was late getting married to me, at the age of 48!, I was a very young widow at the time. We have two children Elena and Myles who are both married now and we have four granddaughters."

Our thoughts go to Julie-Ann and John's family and friends.

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