



APRIL 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Old Stamfordian

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this year's Reunion - I am sure it will be a noisy and fun day! If you know others from your year group that may not yet know about the Reunion, please do let them know and drum up interest.

In this update are some memories of Frieda Gosling. I attended Frieda's funeral where so many people paid their respects. To me, Frieda was two different people; Mrs Gosling, who taught me geography and inspired my degree in Environmental Science, and after leaving school, Frieda, a great supporter of the Old Girls' Guild producing the magazine for so many years. Our thoughts and memories are with Frieda's family.

May Christ Us Spede

Jill Hamilton (OS 80)
Chair, Old Girls' Guild

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NEWS

[Contact with Former Teachers](#)

We have been contacted by an Old Stamfordian who is looking to contact two former History teachers, Mrs Feather & Mr Wills. We unfortunately have no details for them, but can any of you out there help with contacting them?

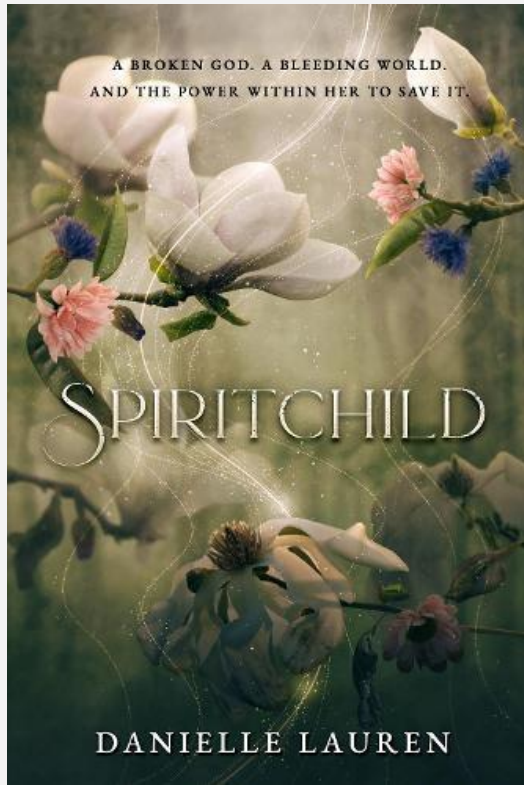
If you may be able to help, [please contact us](#).

[OS Author](#)

Danielle Redding (OS 06), writing under the name Danielle Lauren, has published her first novel, 'Spiritchild', [which is available here](#).

Danielle describes the book as "...a high fantasy tale centred around Fae, the only human in a city of elves, as she is called upon by the spirits of her world to fight a mad, broken god."





The blurb:

The beautifully imagined debut fantasy novel inspired by the likes of Lord of the Rings and Magician.

A young woman's yearning to become something more is brought to alarming fruition when she is pitted against the source of a malignant blight affecting the natural order of her world. Beyond the veil, the spirit realm connects all living things together. The ocean to the sky. The rain to the ground. The air, and the trees. But there is a darkness bleeding through the veil, tearing spiritlife out by the roots, leaving a lifeless void in its wake. The seasons have stopped turning, life withers where it should flourish, and vicious raiders prowl the lands. And in the heart of the darkness, a mad, broken god crouches, playing puppet master with the human race.

Fae is a gifted healer, and the only human in the elven tree-city of Arolynos. Brought to Arolynos as a young orphan, she remembers nothing of her life beforehand, but she has felt the eyes of the spirits her whole life. Never before have they deigned to speak to her. Until the day the trees scream. The spirits are dying, and the world is dying with them. Gifted with a seed of power by the spirits themselves, Fae is the only one who can save them. She alone must venture into the darkness. To defeat a broken god. Before the natural order collapses completely.

Congratulations Danielle!

OS Careers Talk

We were delighted to welcome Lucy Glen (née Waudby) (OS 03) from [Basil & Ford](#) back to the High School earlier in the month to speak with our Year 10 students about her career in the arts - more specifically screening printing.

It was great for the students to hear about her journey to such a creative career and the importance of having a go!

Thank you Lucy for your support.

If you would like to come in and speak with students about your career [please contact us](#).



Sporting Success

We have recently seen some fantastic sporting success at Stamford High School, with the U13A winning the Peterborough Club Touch Rugby Tournament, pictured below, while the U13 cricket team were crowned ECB Indoor Cricket County Champions. Congratulations to all involved!



For more sports results, be sure to check Old Stamfordian social media on Thursday evenings for a weekly sporting round-up, [or check our sport website](#).

SECTOR GROUPS

This joint venture between the Old Stamfordian Club and the Old Girls' Guild aims to provide a platform for supporting Old Stamfordians with career guidance, sharing of information, networking, and job/work experience opportunities, and also social events – a worthwhile offering for the alumni community I am sure you will agree.

We currently have groups covering the following areas:

- [Main Old Stamfordians page](#)
- [Property Sector](#)
- [The Arts, Culture and Music](#)
- [Medicine](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Armed Forces/Military](#)
- [Marketing, PR and Advertising](#)
- [Financial Services](#)
- [Public Services](#)
- [Legal](#)
- [STEM](#)(Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

- [Arts](#) (Facebook group)

We are also in the process of establishing networks for agriculture, IT and sport.

For the future, we would like for each group to have a face to face social activity and to have a spotlight feature in our Updates, sharing any stories or activities from the group. The aim is to increase participation and offer something really worthwhile to the alumni community.

An upcoming proposed event for those interested in STEM is a visit to Morgan Motors at Malvern. This will include a lunch at www.cottageinthewood.co.uk followed by a factory tour at www.morgan-motor.com.

If this is something you would be interested in please [let us know](#) Monday 16 May.

Once we have expressions of interest, we will fix a date hopefully convenient for all.

Finally,

If you wish to become involved in the Sector Group Project or know someone who could help in any way at all (giving talks, providing venues etc) please do let us know, or if you would like to join one of the existing groups or assist with setting up one of the new groups, please click on the links above or [email us](#).

WORK PLACEMENT

James McBain Allen (OS 06) has shared details of a job spec for a Placement Year at Bishopsgate Corporate Finance for Old Stamfordians who left in 2019/20 and are looking for experience in the financial sector.

[Full details can be found here.](#)

FUTURE EVENTS

[Old Girls' Guild Reunion Day 2022](#)

Saturday 11 June 2022

[Timetable and booking details can be found here](#)

Contact: [Natalie Pretsell, Development Manager](#)

FAREWELLS

We have been informed of the passing of a number of our Old Stamfordian community and we extend our condolences to their friends and family.

Professor Margaret McGowan CBE (OS 49)

We were informed of the passing of Professor McGowan on 16 March at the age of 90.

Margaret was Head Girl and, after reading French at the University of Reading, became a dance historian and historian of early Modern France. She was appointed Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1998 and in 2020, she was made a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettre.

[A full obituary can be found here.](#)

Victoria Bonner (née Stacey) (OS 91)

Lizzie Cornelius (OS 91) informed us of the sudden passing of Victoria "Vix" Bonner.



Memories from Lizzie and Helen

Vix joined the Upper Thirds aged 11 in 1984 and loved her time at SHS, within the walls of grey. She attended as a day girl until the sixth form, when she became a boarder in Park House. Vix threw herself into school opportunities with enthusiasm, both work and play. She loved sports and played in the hockey and netball teams and was also a school prefect. We have so many happy memories of school days and we were always laughing together and Vix always had a smile on her face.

Vix achieved her A Levels in Maths, Biology and Chemistry and after school went onto Newcastle University where she studied dentistry. After qualifying Vix followed her career as a dentist and worked in York near to where she lived with her husband, James, and two daughters, Katie and Molly. Vix adored her family and her girls, who she was so incredibly proud of. When we went away for trips in recent years Vix often was the first to call time on our weekends to get back to them. We are so glad that she did.

Vix was the most caring and kind soul one is ever likely to know, always wanting to know how our children and families were – in more recent years our trips away were exchanged for face time calls during Covid, catching up with the news. We had so many fabulous and memorable mini breaks together as a three over the last ten years: from spa breaks to the sights of Biarritz; from parasailing in Corfu to punting in Cambridge. Every activity obviously ended up with a nice G&T or so in a little bar somewhere!

We are thinking of all the family that Vix has left behind, especially James, Katie, Molly, and her parents, Cec and David and brother, Ed during this very difficult time.

Mrs Frieda Gosling

Lindy Carter (née Gosling) (OS 80) informed us of the passing of her mother, a long-serving member of staff at Stamford High School, Mrs Frieda Gosling.

Mrs Gosling taught for 35 years between 1969 - 1994, was a former Head of Geography, and also wrote 'Within These Walls Of Grey', a history of SHS which was published in 1997.



Upon sending out details of the funeral arrangements earlier this month, we received some lovely messages which we have passed on to Mrs Gosling's family, who were very appreciative of the memories.

"I am so sorry to hear this news.

Throughout my school years (1985-1992) I had such affection for Mrs Gosling, which only deepened the longer you knew her. She brought us on field trips to Norfolk messing about in sand dunes, to Boston to The Boston Stump and to study the different areas of town development, day trips to look at river development where we ended up going in for a swim!!! So many experiences that I will always cherish, and her enthusiasm was infectious. I have lovely photos of her on some of my those trips. I will look them out for this summer's reunion in June.

I went on to study Geography at Sheffield University, which was in no doubt down to her. I was so proud to tell her that on my next visit back to the school.

Please pass on my sincerest condolences to Frieda's family."

"Mrs Gosling, is probably one of the teachers I remember from school who really made an impact on my life.

I loved Geography! And, despite going on to History of art, my geography lessons are the ones that still help my life in my innate ability to guide myself through the world, anywhere - maps, topography, social geography - all.

Driving through Riyadh where I now live - no Google maps for me - just understanding my location at all times from observation and comprehension of landmarks and surroundings. Thank you Frieda Gosling for being my teacher."

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