



NOVEMBER 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

Dear Old Stamfordian

We will soon be saying farewell to our students as they go on their Christmas holidays and, as always at this time of year, preparations are underway for Reunion on Saturday 8 June 2024, as well as the annual OGG magazine. If you have any news or updates that you wish to share and include in either the magazine or these updates, [please contact us](#).

May Christ Us Spede

[*The Old Girls' Guild*](#)

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OLD STAMFORDIAN NEWS

Class of '73

It was fantastic to see the High School Class of '73 on Thursday 30 November as they came together for afternoon tea and a Christmas mini-reunion!

Organised by Julia Bullimore (née Jakes), people travelled from near and far to enjoy the afternoon at The Crown in Stamford followed by a tour of the old High School, now our Sixth Form site.

It was lovely to see your smiling faces ladies!



Award for Old Stamfordian

Old Stamfordian Rebecca Taylor (OS 15) has been awarded with the Professional Publishers Association's (PPA) Next Gen Award, which recognises 30 of the most exciting rising stars in UK specialist media publishing, under the age of 30.

The awards are designed to celebrate the individuals whose achievements and skills are shaping the future of the sector. Rebecca collected her award at an exclusive event on Thursday 12 October at the Mondrian Shoreditch Hotel in London.

Rebecca works as Commercial Content Manager for Retail Week, the UK's leading provider of global retail news, analysis, data and more. Working alongside global retailers and industry leading clients, Rebecca creates and executes content marketing campaigns engaging audiences across multiple channels and mediums, including events, reports, and digital features.

Rebecca was specifically recognised with the award for her "remarkable" performance at Retail Week, having worked at the publication for just seven months before being announced among the winners. She was described by the judges as "an outstanding professional who has gained trust and respect from clients and colleagues alike" in testament to her work at the digital publication.



Old Stamfordian Children's Books

We have wonderful news about two Old Stamfordians and their children's books.

Deborah Court (OS 76) has captured the essence of local history in her latest creation, *Wor Peter and Wor Percy and The Great War Adventure*, a children's book that unfolds World War One events. In this particular narrative, Deborah draws inspiration from three remarkable Hussars heroes - a man, a horse, and Peter the cat. Each character symbolizes the bravery and solidarity that defined the wartime experience, offering a unique perspective for children to grasp these historical and significant events.

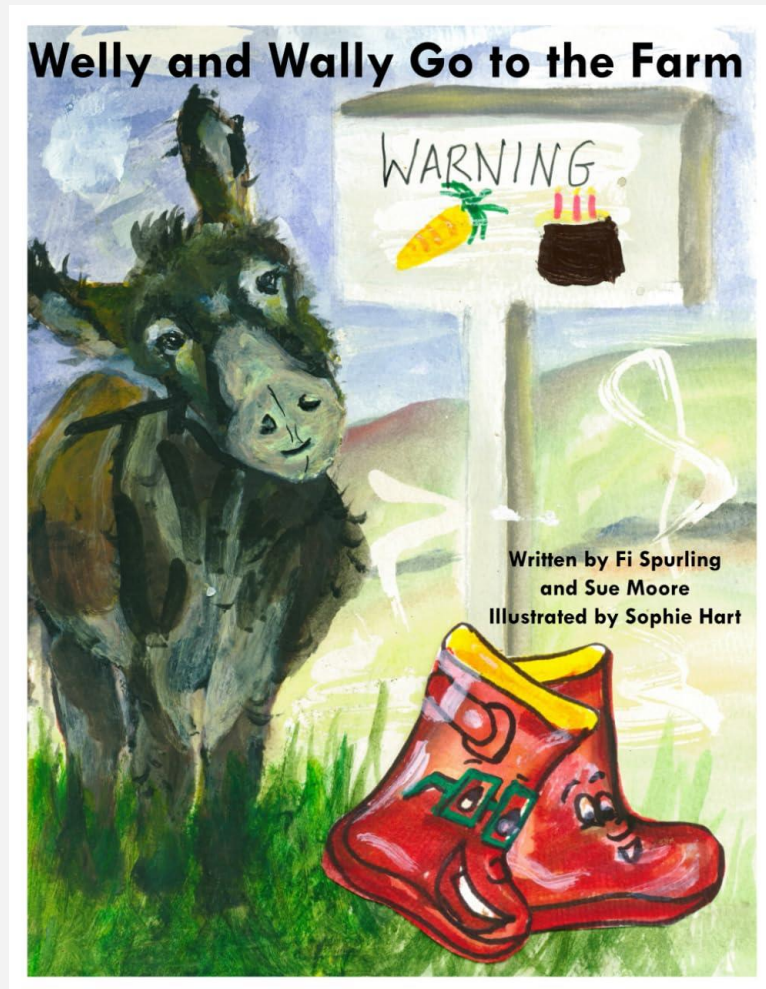
Deborah's commitment to preserving local history through the lens of children's literature is applaudable. The collaboration with a local illustrator further reinforces the sense of community, whose artistry adds an extra layer of charm to this tale, in spite of the subject. Deborah's book serves as a window into the past and allows young readers to visually connect with the characters.



Sophie Hart (OS 20) has also completed her illustrated children's book, a project that Sophie describes as being "a source of immense joy and grounding during a tumultuous year."

The book, titled *Welly and Wally Go to the Farm* is entirely hand-painted by Sophie, working alongside two other authors who wrote it. [It is available on Amazon](#), where it is described

as: A wonderful book for toddlers, full of colourful pictures and sounds that is perfect for 1-5 year olds. This book brings a pair of Wellies to life and tells the story of their magical day at the farm. The book is written using basic rhyme in order to encourage reading. The illustrations show Welly and Wally enjoying a day at a farm, seeing lots of different farm animals and hearing the sounds they make.



Congratulations to Deborah and Sophie!

FAREWELLS

Maggie Maclennan (Staff)

We are saddened to share the news of Maggie Maclennan, who passed away at the age 87 years on November 15th.

Maggie started working at the High School in the 1970's, teaching piano to countless students.

She will be missed deeply by friends, family and colleagues and the wider musical community. Her legacy as an educator and cherished member of our community will be fondly remembered.

You can [send your memories and messages of condolences to us](#) and the obituary, that was published in the Stamford Mercury on Friday 1 December, can be read [here](#).

[Kate Howton \(OS 83\)](#)

Last month, we learnt of the passing of ex-student Kate Howton, who has sadly left us at age 56 after a battle with cancer.

There have been many tributes paid to Kate who has dedicated many years organising charity events in her home town, Corby. Kate's final years were dedicated to fundraising for local charities, especially those dedicated to mental health support. [A newspaper article about Kate's incredible fundraising achievements can be found here.](#)

Our thoughts and condolences are with Kate's family, friends and all who knew her. Kate will be greatly be missed.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

[Netball Champions](#)

On Saturday 11 November the School was proud to host the Under 16 and Under 14 Lincolnshire Netball County School Championship at our Wothorpe Courts. This exciting tournament brought together talented young players from top schools across the county, including Spalding High School, Kesteven & Grantham Girls' School and Bourne Grammar School. After hard-fought matches, we are thrilled that both our teams emerged victorious, winning their respective county championships!



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