



OCTOBER 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

Dear Old Stamfordian

After such a wonderful Reunion event this year, we are delighted that we will soon be confirming the date for 2024. Once it is finalised we will send out a 'Save the Date' email so be sure to look out for this. We will, of course, share this on Old Stamfordian social media, and the links to these are at the bottom of this email. Please do follow the pages if you don't already - there are lots of memories and blasts from the past shared!

Do remember to [share your news and updates](#) with us for the next OGG magazine - we know that the Old Girls love reading these and, as always, if there is anything you wish to see from the committee, please contact us.

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The Old Girls' Guild

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OLD STAMFORDIAN NEWS

Class of '76

On Friday 6 October, it was lovely to welcome so many of the High School Class of '76 back to Stamford for a tour as part of mini reunion that they organised.

The Schools' Head of Fundraising and Engagement, Natalie Pretsell, was on hand to show the group around and there were beaming smiles all round. The group fondly reminisced about their time here, and enjoyed seeing the changes made to make the site our new Sixth Form campus - to quote one of the ladies: "It is luxurious!"

Thank you for coming Class of '76!



Award for Old Stamfordian

We are delighted to share that Amy Evans (OS 20) has been honoured with the prestigious GROW MENTORING's Diversity Advocate of the Year 2023 award. This outstanding recognition is a testament to Amy's commitment to championing diversity. Furthermore, she has been nominated for the Inspirational Women in Law award, following the founding of her business, [Able](#).

Amy was selected as a finalist from a pool of hundreds of nominees by the GROW Team, and her accolade was conferred by a panel of distinguished lawyers and senior professionals at Travers Smith. The award ceremony took place on Thursday 28 September, in London, where Amy had the privilege of attending a celebratory luncheon at the prestigious Travers Smith's office. According to Amy, the experience was every bit as exciting as it sounds!

Amy is a future trainee solicitor at Allen & Overy, currently pursuing an LLB Law degree at the University of Nottingham and is the driving force behind [Able](#). The company describes itself as "more than just a platform – it's a movement driven by a shared vision of creating a transformative shift in the early careers landscape."



We are incredibly proud of Amy for her accomplishments and we look forward to witnessing her continued success and the positive impact she will undoubtedly continue to make in the field of law and beyond.

Congratulations, Amy, on this well-deserved recognition!

Old Stamfordian Launches Online Store

You may recall in our last update we highlighted Emily Howard (OS 17) and her art exhibitions. We now have the fantastic news that her [online art store](#) is now up and running!



Emily's upcoming exhibitions, including a month-long solo exhibition over October in St Neots in [Art & Soul](#) and a joint two-week exhibition with three other artists in [Stamford Arts Centre](#), running from 20th November until 4th December, and now Emily's art is available for purchase online.

With greeting cards, prints and paintings, be sure to head to the store for some Christmas shopping!

UPDATES

[Andrea Griffiths-James \(née James\) \(OS 81\)](#)

Andrea writes this update:

I was 58 when my husband of nearly 30 years died of a brain tumour. After looking after him for two years I decided not to return to my original job in Sustainability for a Housing Association.

In the years before my 60th Birthday, I retrained as a Zumba Instructor and Group Exercise instructor but didn't really pursue my career or in truth have the confidence to instruct - I was nearly 60 and a bit overweight. My 60th Birthday proved the catalyst. I was going to do this. Fitness Instructing or give up on my dream - ten months later I teach six classes a week at two Leisure Centres. My classes aren't for the "over 50s" - they are

open to everyone and include Kettlebells , Circuit Training and Body Conditioning. Once I started, I absolutely loved it and my confidence grew - I love instructing and am a stickler for making sure people do the exercises correctly.

The feedback I get is tremendous and so supportive from the participants in my classes and I spend a lot of time curating interesting exercise combinations and really good music (though my punk roots still flinch at playing '80s pop!). I am a massive fan of the new dance music. Capital Dance is my go-to radio station - before it was Radio 4!

This is the best job I have ever had - I positively skip or lunge walk to my classes. I only do the classes in the first half of the week which allows me to indulge my other my passion of travelling, either discovering Scandinavia with my daughter or traversing the UK with my dog. Incidentally, my first dog at the age of 55 - you certainly can teach an old dog new tricks!



NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

Stamford Lecture

On Tuesday 10 October, the School launched its 2023/2024 Lecture Series with the visit of Henry Dimpleby MBE. As the co-founder of the Sustainable Restaurants Association, the Chefs in Schools charity, and the former CEO and co-founder of Leon Restaurants, Henry brought a wealth of expertise and experience to the lecture.



During the evening Henry spoke about topics such as food culture, sustainability, agricultural land use, and food policy in England, and the evening concluded with a book signing of Henry's latest book, 'Ravenous'.

[You can read more about the lecture here.](#)

House Singing

The Schools came alive with the sound of music on Friday 13 October as we had our first ever co-educational House Music competition. The morning session witnessed the Year 7-9 competition with each house performing the same duo of unison songs and in the afternoon, the Year 10-11 competition unfurled with each house singing a unison song, a distinctive acoustic ensemble, and a captivating rock/pop song.

Exeter House claimed victory in the Year 7-9 Unison Song category with a great performance of 'You'll Never Walk Alone' and 'Dancing Queen.'

The Year 10-11 Unison Song competition was dominated by Ancaster House, who wowed the crowd with their heartfelt rendition of 'Thank You for the Music.'

[Read more about the competition and the full results on our website.](#)



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