

# Old Stamfordian Club



## **AUGUST 2021**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Dear Old Stamfordian

The focus at present is very much on ensuring that the Old Stamfordian Get-Together on 20 November 2021 is a success. A warm welcome awaits you. The booking form is attached to this Update, but if you would prefer to book in over the 'phone, please telephone Natalie Pretsell on 01780 750359.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 11.00am on the same day. There is a separate note about the AGM below, but it is worth highlighting:

- the papers for the AGM are being published earlier than in the past specifically as a result of requests from members
- there is a link to the material about the Rules Update which will be considered at the AGM. I commend these papers to you

- we welcome nominations to serve on the Committee for 2021/2022. The closing date for nominations is 24 September 2021. Please give this careful consideration.

The Membership Survey has provided the Committee with some useful and interesting recommendations and suggestions. Thank you to all who took the trouble to respond. The Committee will be considering your feedback in the Autumn and you will be kept informed of actions and conclusions.

In the meantime there were significant number of pleas for contributions from members to the Updates, so please if you are able to contribute articles and/or photographs, these will be welcomed with open arms!

The next Committee Meeting will take place on 29 September 2021. One of our objectives will be to finalise the programme of events for 2021/2022 and this will be published in the October 2021 Update. We will also be looking at the numerous offers of support which we have received from members as a result of the Membership Survey and making contact with you all after our Meeting.

I thank all of those who have offered help. A really positive development-thank you! We can move forward with optimism as a result.

[Phillip Hoskins](#)

Chairman

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## AGM

The AGM this year is significant for three reasons:

- The Old Stamfordian Club has not held an AGM since 2019 and so this will be the first occasion for over two years when the Officers and Committee Members have been able to update members in person and more importantly when you will be able to hold us to account.
- Nominations for the Election of a New Committee (including nominations for a New Chairman and Vice Chairman).

- The Proposal for updating the Rules will come before the AGM for approval.

Please click on the links below to find:

- [Agenda for AGM](#)
- [Minutes of the AGM held in June 2019](#)
- [2019 Accounts to be presented to the Annual General Meeting](#)
- [2020 Accounts to be presented to the Annual General Meeting](#)
- [Rules Resolution](#)
- [Proposed New Rules](#)
- [The Case for Change](#)

Whether you are attending the AGM or not, please spend a few minutes reading the paperwork. If you have any points at all, please do make contact.

In the meantime as we look to elect a new Committee we are always keen to hear from members who wish to step forward to run the Club. If you are interested in serving on the Committee or would like to discuss what is involved, [please contact Natalie Pretsell](#) in the first instance.

The closing date for nominations is 24 September 2021.

## NEWS OF INTERNATIONAL PLANS

Further to the mailing about future international travel plans for the Schools, we have had some questions from Old Stamfordians about our international activities, and we wanted to share with you some of the detail about our global links.



International students make up a third of all boarding students in the UK, and they contribute greatly to the diversity of our school and boarding communities. Stamford's international reputation is going from strength to strength, with dozens of families choosing to send their children to our Schools: in a typical year, just under a quarter of our

boarders choose to travel to us from overseas. Interest in Stamford has continued despite the global pandemic, which is a reflection of how highly these families value the quality of education and experiences available at Stamford. In total, 14 nationalities are represented within our boarding community.

International families typically choose an international school through one of two routes: by utilising the services of an agent who can recommend schools and assist with the application process, or by attending events where they can meet representatives from different schools and discuss how each may be a fit for their child. Our Principal, Will Phelan, and members of the International Admissions team, visit a small number of these events in various countries each year to meet with families and share what Stamford has to offer. This overseas travel is an excellent opportunity for us to host social events for our OS community without the expense of making a special trip, and events in the past have been extremely well-received by those living in these areas.

For more information, [read the article 'Behind the scenes of Stamford going global'](#) written by our International Registrar, Meg Oswald.

## SECTOR GROUPS

In recent years, we have launched a Sector Group Programme through LinkedIn where groups of Old Stamfordians, from various industries/professions, are meeting for informal networking and to share ideas. These groups are open to people at any point in their career, including those simply considering a sector and who would like to speak to someone to explore the various opportunities open to them through career advice, practice interviews, talks, careers fairs, as well as to receive wider experience, direction and general advice.

We will be implementing a Mentoring Pilot for recent Old Stamfordians. Our aim is to harness the experience and expertise, within the Old Stamfordian Community, to help recent leavers to develop skills and knowledge that will assist in personal development. If you would like more information regarding this scheme, [please contact us](#).

**[LinkedIn Main Group](#)**

**[Old Stamfordians](#)**

## **Geographical groups**

[Asia-Pacific](#)

[Overseas](#)

[United States](#)

[France](#)

[Asia](#)

[Australasia](#)

[Canada](#)

## **Employment/Advice and Guidance**

[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)

## **REMINSCENCES**

*John Lewis (OS 54) writes the following:*

So you went to Stamford ? Well, briefly ...

John Lewis (now 85) was a difficult child and, it being wartime, father a POW and grandparents being far, far too lofty to help, I was packed off to Stamford School in 1943, aged just short of 7.

My interview was with Canon Day himself. He asked me to read a paragraph from a book picked at random off the shelf and the next weekend I was boarding. Initially I was

boarded with a charming couple named Carter whose life I soon complicated by catching chicken pox, a serious disease in those days.

Then 52 St Martin's was acquired under the Moores and odd children like me were herded into a rather attractive early Victorian house with a good garden.. A much more serious regime followed, professional and suffering no nonsense. Still troublesome, I seemed to survive without untoward incident. St Martin's being the opposite side of Stamford, those boarders had to pack their bags for the day, walk to school across Stamford and walk back after school. Decades later, I like to believe my lifelong love of walking developed at that time and also, probably, my ability to organize myself.

Incidentally on the route between St Martins and school were distractions, including a small row of primitive cottages. This was probably our first contact with the squalor of the very poor and sadly for some of us it may have been our last contact. We also passed a small camp of Polish soldiers who always seemed to have time to wave and laugh. As all soldiers of that time – one morning they were not there, gone we supposed to embarkation ports on the south coast.

The build-up to D-day was such a vast operation that it was the forbidden talk of the country. At that time the Great North Road ran right through the centre of Stamford, along St Martins and we watched in high excitement. Convoy followed convoy of American vehicles which had landed at Liverpool, day and night, grinding and roaring up St Martins. Tanks, guns, unrecognisable structures for building bridges, for destroying mines, and canvas lorries without number with strange faces peering out of the back. Day after day. Far into the dark, as the sound of another convoy approached, strict bedtime discipline collapsed and we were all at the blacked out windows.

VE-day and VJ-day came at last. In due course I moved to one of the School houses. I think there are plenty of reminiscences of that period so I will skip a few years.

I left in 1954 and went into the Merchant Navy as an apprentice in a London-Greek tramp. A much more interesting education. In due course, by the New Zealand Shipping Company and Canadian Pacific, I took my Extra Masters Certificate. After being called to the Bar as a barrister (a mistaken turn) I worked in the City, running a mutual insurance association.

Finally I retired in my 50s and worked overseas, mostly in Eastern Europe and the Balkans setting up micro-credit groups for a charity. That was quite the most rewarding and interesting period in my rather muddled career. My last task was a summer in Gaza which drove my wife to confiscate my passport.

## FAREWELLS

We are sad to report the passing of a number of Old Stamfordians and we extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

### **Alfred Leonard Vice (OS 39/40)**

We were informed that Alfred passed away, aged 99, in June 2021. His funeral was held on 23 July 2021 at Trinity Methodist Church in Woking, and further information, as well as a fundraising page, [can be found here](#).

*Our Archivist writes:*

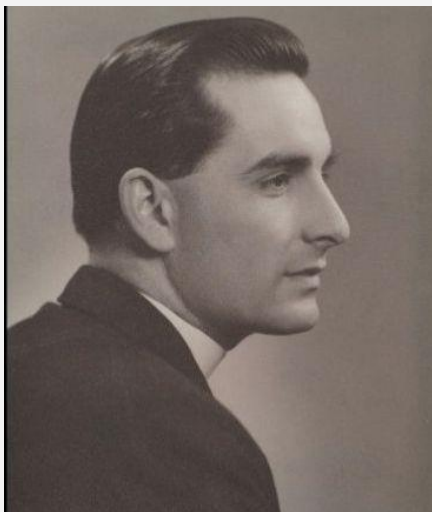
During his schooldays, Alfred Leonard Vice was Prefect for Country House at Stamford School. In 1937, he was awarded Form Prizes (Upper IV) for English Subjects and English Language, followed by Upper V Form Prizes in English Subjects and French in 1938. He also won the Samuel Edwards Leaving Exhibition and a Kesteven Major Scholarship which covered the fees for him to attend Lincoln College, Oxford.

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### **Revd Michael Savage (OS 52)**

Michael's family have informed us that he sadly died in April 2021.







SCHOOL HOCKEY XI., 1952.

T. CURTIS. M. A. SAVAGE. C. M. GRAYSON. I. HAYES. P. J. HOPPER. D. B. SUTHERLAND. C. D. POTTER.  
C. E. DOUGHTY. B. COUZENS. J. NICKERSON (Capt). J. P. KEALE. E. J. KINGDOM.

*In his own words.....*

“I had been studying Classics at Stamford School, but struggled with Greek, fluffing my “A” level, but was still accepted at St. Peter’s Hall, Oxford to read Law (but I was told to go away and do National Service first!). As graduation approached, advice came from all sorts of directions, yet the answer that kept coming was the call to ministry in the church. Some friends were encouraging, while others counselled caution. The college chaplain suggested contacting the C.of E. Selection Board; and their secretary invited me for an exploratory chat in London, simply “with a view”, and I found myself being recommended for training, which was more than I had expected!

“I was considering the need to change from reading Law to Theology, but I was anxious about my preliminary exams that first Easter (my school track record with exams had not been good!), and I feared I had spent too much time on the river with the College Boat Club. But these various hurdles were overcome, and what finally clinched the issue was a message of support from the Master if I were to change from Law to Theology.

“After graduation, the next leg of my journey took me to theological college in Bristol (Tyndale Hall, as it was then) now part of Trinity College. I had been invited to serve my



first curacy in Rugby (where I was to meet my future wife, Daphne). And so the Lord led me to down-town Bradford where we spent nearly seven years, which was followed by an extremely different parish in Ilkley. We spent our final years of ministry in a rural group of parishes in Norfolk, before retirement came in 1999. For retirement, we returned to our beloved Yorkshire Dales!”

*His son, Andrew concludes:*

“Dad died on 28th April 2021 after a short, but acute chest condition. We thank God for his life and legacy, which was forged by his faith and the challenges of daily life. Dad’s biggest regret, was his demotion from Head Boy at Stamford! The story goes, there was a mock-General Election and he announced the results to the school before the Headmaster’s approved hour. For this, Dad was stripped of his title... .. at least, this is the reason he gave us! Can a member of the OCS confirm or clarify these events?!”



Our Archivist has written a small piece about Revd Savage which [you can read here](#).

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## **FUTURE EVENTS**

### **Old Stamfordian Autumn Get-Together and AGM (OSC)**

**20 November 2021**

In the absence of being able to host a formal Reunion Weekend for 2021, we are pleased to be able to announce a one day event for Saturday 20 November 2021 (subject to government guidelines).

[Booking for this event is now live and you can find schedule of events and ticket information here.](#)

Contact: [Natalie Pretsell, Community Engagement Manager.](#)

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### **Annual Autumn Reunion Lunch @ Boston**

**18 September 2021**

**Boston and County Club PE21 6RL**

Expressions of interest to Dudley will be greatly appreciated at this stage.

Contacts: [Dudley Bryant MBE](#)

[Phillip Hoskins](#)

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### **Old Stamfordian Golfing Society**

**Friday 27 August 2021**

Meeting @ Burghley Park Golf Club

**Saturday 9 October 2021**

Meeting @ Luffenham Heath

Contacts: [Neil Nottingham](#) (for the Burghley Event)

[Geoff Holyoake](#) (for the Luffenham Heath Event)

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**London Old Stamfordian Dinner** - for those who attended Stamford School

**10 November 2021**

**RAF Club, 128, Piccadilly, London W1J 7PY**

Contact: [Ian Brassington](#)

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**Old Stamfordian Lansdowne Drinks Event**

**12 May 2022**

**London Lansdowne Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, Mayfair, London, W1J 5JD**

Further information to follow.

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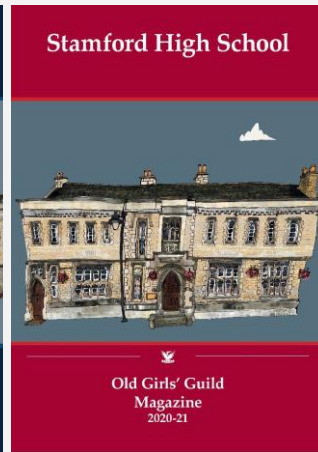
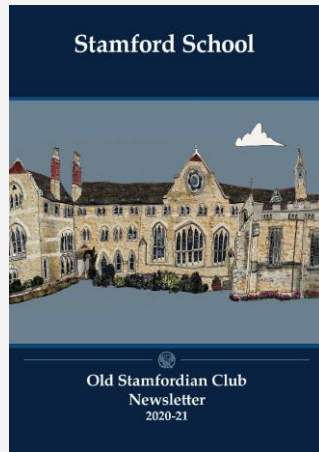
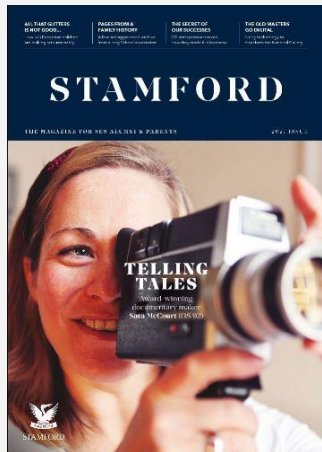
**Old Stamfordian Reunion Weekend 2022**

**Friday 10 June 2022 to Sunday 12 June 2022**

Contact: [Natalie Pretsell, Community Engagement Manager.](#)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

If you have missed any of our recent publications, you are able to download the most recent magazines by clicking on the covers below or [visiting the publications page on our website for older editions.](#)



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Stamford Endowed Schools Development Office  
Brazenose House  
St. Paul's Street  
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