



# Old Stamfordian Club

OS Update, March 2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

*Dear Old Stamfordian*

As you may already know, we have been compelled to cancel this year's Reunion Weekend, however we can confirm dates for next year. The Reunion in 2022 will take place on Friday 10 June 2022 to Sunday 12 June 2022. Building on the excellent work done by John Smith (OS 70) for 2021, the Reunion in 2022 promises to be a first-class weekend. There is already considerable enthusiasm building up, so please make a note in your diaries and be with us.

You will already have received [the Membership Survey](#). Thanks to all who already responded. If you have not done so as yet, please do so. It is so important that the Committee is aligned with the aspirations and wishes of you, the members - the most important people in the organisation.

Please do make contact if there is any support we can give you in these times which for some are still difficult.

With every good wish,

[Phillip Hoskins](#)

Chairman

07889980058

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## EVENTS

### OS Online Quiz

Early March saw the OSC and OGG come together for the third online OS pub quiz. We had 17 OS attend from across the decades spanning OS 58 to OS 16, a great example of multi-generational attendance. Quiz Master and Vice Chairman of the OSC, Cameron Park, lead the event with questions on sport, 80s movies, Harry Potter, general knowledge and also introduced the picture round to get the brain going. The evening

proved to be one of light hearted fun and the quiz is certainly shaping up to be a regular in our programme of events.



Congratulations to OSC Stuart Clark (OS 00) who was the winner of the evening.

Should you have any ideas for future events please do let us know as we are always welcoming of feedback and ideas, or if you may wish to step forward to be a future Quiz Master, [just let us know!](#)

## **Old Stamfordian Autumn Get-Together**

**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).

For the OSC, the principles of good governance dictate that we should hold an AGM this year and this will be incorporated into the event along with a Chapel Service and lunch. Following this, there will be the opportunity to watch the School First XV Rugby on Mainfield in the afternoon.

Details for the OGG agenda will be confirmed nearer the time.

This Get Together is not a substitute for the Reunion but rather the chance of hospitality and some entertainment for those Old Stamfordians who are able to attend. The Chapel Service is always well received and we thought it would be a good gesture to offer the opportunity of attending a service at the beginning of the day.

Although it is disappointing to have had to cancel this year's Reunion, please rest assured that the focus is firmly on the Reunion in 2022. Things are looking good with a significant number of Old Stamfordians already committed to be with us next year.

A booking form for the Autumn Get Together will be issued in due course and, of course, we will keep you informed of any conditions relating to the phasing out of pandemic restrictions that might still apply in November, when we can.

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

### **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**

**Saturday 8 May 2021**

Meeting @ Luffenham Heath

**Friday 27 August 2021**

Meeting @ Burghley Park Golf Club

**Saturday 9 October 2021**

Meeting @ Luffenham Heath

Contacts: [Geoff Holyoake](#) (for the Luffenham Heath Events)

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

## **London Old Stamfordian Dinner**

**10 November 2021**

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

Contact: [Ian Brassington](#)

## **Old Stamfordian Reunion Weekend 2022**

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

Contact: [Natalie Pretsell](#)

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## **NEWS**

### **David Beadman (OS 75)**

Congratulations to David Beadman on the award of the John Mitchell Medal for significant contributions in the field of Geotechnical Engineering.

While at School David was a House Prefect in Ancaster and a School Exhibitioner.

[Here is an article on the Schools' website regarding David's achievements.](#)

### **Sir Michael Tippett (OS)**

Paul Johnson (OS 72) came across [this link about of our illustrious Old Stamfordians Sir Michael Tippett OM CH CBE.](#)

The Description Section is interesting referring to Sir Michael's connection with Stamford School and his relationship with Sir Malcolm Sargent and Mrs Tinkler.

Paul adds the rider that deep pockets are required if a purchase is to be made!

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## **FAREWELLS**

We are sad to report the passing of Michael Kee, Alan Field, Graham Robinson and Chris Acum. Our sympathy goes out to the families and friends of all.

### **Michael Kee (OS 62)**



Michael was at Stamford School from 1955-62. He was in St Paul's House during his first year, and then moved across to Radcliffe in 1956. He was CQMS in the CCF, School Prefect, and Editor of the Stamfordian. [We have a picture of him as a schoolboy – from the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Cricket Team, 1960.](#) Michael is fourth from the right in the back row. [His obituary was printed in the Stamford Mercury, dated 26 February 2021.](#)

### **Alan Field (OS 50)**

Alan sadly passed away in November 2020. He was at Stamford School for eight years. He was in Town House which he served as a House Prefect and Music Official in the 1949-50 academic year. Alan was Company Quartermaster Sergeant for the CCF Army Section. During the same year, he played David in the School adaptation of the Rivals. He “played his part with distinction achieving broad comedy without descending into farce.” Alan also earned a School Certificate in English Language and Drawing.

[The following tribute appeared in the Stamford Mercury.](#)

### **Graham Robinson (OS 65)**

We have recently been advised of the passing of Graham Robinson who passed away last July in Brazil where he had made his home some years ago. A full tribute will appear in a future Update. Graham was an enthusiastic Mini-Cooper owner and founder member and previous Chairman of the Mini Cooper Register, and there was [a notice on the website in July last year.](#)

## **Chris Acum (OS 70)**

The OS Club have been notified of the death of Chris Acum (1963-70).

Chris passed away peacefully on 6th February 2021 after bravely battling cancer, aged 69 years. He was husband of Linda, father of Jody & Gregg, grandad of Cleo, brother to Gill and Alison and great friend to many. Donations are being raised in memory of Chris, payable to LOROS c/o G. Seller Independent Funeral Directors, 75 Upper Bond Street, Hinckley, LE10 1RH. Tel: 01455 637457.

(LOROS is a local charity providing, high-quality, compassionate care and support to terminally ill adult patients, their family and carers across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.)

Chris lived near Leicester for many years and made a successful career in textiles.

*Ted Stevenson (OS 70) writes:*

Gentlemen, It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that our old friend, Chris Acum, passed away on February 6th. He had been battling bravely with cancer for a year.

Chris was a great guy. He and I were born only a day apart and we had many other things in common. We both represented various sporting teams at the school from the early days of junior football - he was a very good centre forward with a great ability for heading the ball - right through to the first teams at hockey and cricket when we were in the 6th form. Chris went on to play at a high standard in hockey in his adult life.

We also learnt to play bridge together and I clearly remember the two of us turning up - uninvited, yes, but nobody told us otherwise - at the Stamford Bridge Club one Wednesday evening only to be met at the door by a none-too-pleased Bruce McKenzie with the words 'what are you doing here??' Bruce had a fairly high position at the club and I don't think that either Chris's or my abilities were quite in keeping with what he would expect from anyone who may otherwise be there from the School!

What many of you may not be aware of is that Chris also excelled in a game that is peculiar only to the Stamford area: Push Penny. Not to be confused with

Shove Ha'penny, Push Penny was played widely in pubs in the Stamford area during the '70s but it would appear that it is now rarely seen. Maybe one of our old pals who are still in the Stamford area could update on this?

One final memory I would like to share with you about Chris. I was a regular visitor to Corfu during the '70s during my student and early teaching days. Although Greece, under the currency of the Drachma, was a fairly cheap place to spend 5 or 6 weeks in the summer, there were certain delicacies that were unavailable. In the year in question, Chris had succumbed to my

ranting about what a great place it was to relax in excess sun, sand and sea surroundings and came out to join me for the last half of my stay. As he unpacked his rucksack on arrival he passed me something that I had jokingly referred to before I had left with the words 'here's the jar of Branston Pickle you told me you are always craving for!'

He will be greatly missed.

*Ian Russell (OS 70) writes:*

So sorry to hear such sad news. Chris was one of the first friends I made at Junior School and being in the same "House" we enjoyed many a game of football, rugby, hockey and cricket together, though he was always a bit more athletic and nimble than me. Meeting up in the pub (Stamford or Empingham) ahead of going to parties in the late '60s, early '70s was another fond memory of a truly great guy. I always think of Chris when I'm passing Tickencote on the A1 and no doubt I'll continue to do so, though it will be even more poignant now.

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## **OSC Newsletter / OGG Magazine 2019-20**

Please click the relevant links below:

[OSC Newsletter 2019-20](#)

[OGG Magazine 2019-20](#)

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