

Stamford High School



Old Girls' Guild
Magazine
2020-21



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WELCOME

A very warm welcome to all our former students from Stamford. This edition has been brought to you through a whole team effort, something that is a true value of the Stamford Endowed Schools.

In this edition we are covering news from what has been an extraordinary year of pandemic lockdowns and vaccination roll outs, plus updates from the Old Stamfordian community and the Schools. We have also been working hard 'behind the scenes' with updating the website and keeping you connected with the Schools.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this publication. As always, please do get in contact with us to let us know your news throughout the year as we love to share these across our Old Stamfordian community.

We wish you a safe and prosperous year ahead.

Your Alumni Relations & Development Team

Old Girls' Guild

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OLD GIRLS' GUILD COMMITTEE 2020/21

Honorary President: Will Phelan (Principal, Stamford Endowed Schools)

President: Vicky Buckman (Head, Stamford High School)

Vice Presidents: Miss GK Bland
Mrs P Clark
Mrs Y L Powell
Miss PA Tennison

Chair: [Jill Hamilton \(née Betts\) \(OS 80\)](#)

Treasurer: [Louise Rigby \(OS 83\)](#)

Minutes Secretary: [Anita Trowell \(OS 74\)](#)

Committee Members: Isobel Bates (née Temple) (OS 80)
Sue Bradford (née Bradley) (OS 74)
Alison Eaves (née Matthews) (OS 80)
Dawn Gent (née Hancock) (OS 86)
Nicky Lambert (OS 90)
Denise Speakman (née Smith) (OS 74)

Ex-Officio: Hannah Hamilton (Director of External Relations & Development)
Natalie Pretsell (Community Engagement Manager)



NOTES FROM THE OGG CHAIR JILL HAMILTON (OS 80)



It has been a very different year for everyone involved with the Old Girls, Old Boys and the Stamford Endowed Schools.

We were all hoping that the Reunion day would go ahead this year but, as you are all aware, we are not in a position to go ahead with the Reunion in June 2021. Look out for



emails from Natalie Pretsell about a possible November get-together.

If we go ahead with the November event then this year the reunion groups will be 5 year (2016 leavers), 10 year (2011 leavers), 20 year, 30 year, 40 year, 50 year, 60 year and 70 year. But do remember you are always welcome so if it isn't a 0 year for you why not get a group of friends together and join us.

We are very much hoping that any group who was planning an event in 2020 will also be able to join us, making it a very noisy and fun gathering!

If the November event is able to go ahead on this occasion there will be no joint event following the sports match, so why not try to get together with the boys from your year and meet in Stamford.

**May Christ us Spede
Jill Hamilton (OS 80)
Chair, SHS Old Girls' Guild**

NOTES FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD

VICKY BUCKMAN



Vicky Buckman
Head, Stamford High School

I finished my termly letter to parents, in the Autumn Term of 2019, in the aftermath of the General Election and Tory landslide, with these lines...

“A new year with new challenges and a new government; the headlines this morning indicate that anything might happen”

Things you wished you had never said...

Within 3 weeks of returning, the Principal, Will Phelan, was asking questions such as “what would we do if we had to close?” To a teacher who has only closed a school because of snow and a catastrophic power cut many, many years ago, the thought of a country-wide lockdown was completely alien....

And the rest, of course, is history – School shut on March 20th 2020, following a hasty End of Term Assembly to say farewell to our Y13 students and, with the exception of some weeks in June, that was it until September 2020.

It is very easy to allow a whole academic year to be defined by what did not happen – but we had already done two-thirds of the year and so much had, already, been achieved. And also, during that time, the student body embraced “Online Learning”, the “new normal” and “self isolation” with a determination and resilience typical of an SHS student. It has not been easy for anyone – and staff have worked hard to guide and support whilst learning new IT tricks in order to be able to do the impossible; re-create a classroom and the learning that goes on in it, on screen. I can only applaud the efforts of everyone.

So let me take you back, way, way back, to September 2019, when bubbles were something to be blown, social distancing was not yet a verb and 2 metres was a distance that most of the country, still using imperial measurements, could not really visualise. Covid 19 sounded like a sci-fi movie, and antibodies and antigens were still confused in people’s minds; worryingly so, in the case of some Y11 and Y13 biologists who really should know better. It was still possible to find hand sanitiser, soap, flour, and pasta and to buy toilet roll without getting into an argument.

In those halcyon days, 610 students embarked on a new academic year. With the sounds of cheering following the GCSE and A level results day, in which our students did incredibly well, we started the new academic year with optimism. Now, it is important to look back on the year, extraordinary though it has been and reflect

on the contribution made by every single member of the School community.

As ever, #wearesoproud!

Musicians have had a chance to shine – with concerts of all shapes, sizes, and sophistication. A splendid trip to Venice with some unforgettable experiences and performance highlights. The SHS Music Festival featured the youngest to the oldest student and some spectacular pieces were showcased in the annual Festival Gala concert. There was a workshop and concert with the Irish Guards Band and the usual choir-fest to mark many important points in the year. There have been fabulous theatrical performances – “A Christmas Carol” and then “Legally Blonde” just sneaking in a tremendous and exhausting performance, as the doors of the school swung shut for the rest of the academic year. And even when it all went “remote”, our Chapel choir continued to produce music

en masse and individual music lessons continued. Dance Showcase was “Alice in Wonderland” with large numbers of students involved and many wonderful styles.

The CCF had “night navigation” around Burghley, won by the Army, and an excellent new -format Inspection and Dinner, just before school closed. Our team was victorious in the annual Royal Airforce Squadron Command Task competition.

Despite some foul weather, swathes of students turned out every week to represent the school. The First Hockey team had a successful season with 16 wins out of 18 and we fielded an U16 team in Hockey for the first time this year and they gave good accounts of themselves both on Saturdays and during midweek England Hockey competitions. Our U19 gymnasts got to the National Finals of the Floor and Vault competition. The U15 footballers reached the



quarter-final stage in the ISFA competition. Our senior netballers, having become U19 county champions were consigned to 3rd place in the Regional competition despite some excellent play. The cross-country runners endured the mud and rain to turn in some excellent performances and a number were poised to represent Lincolnshire in the English Schools competition. A small skiing team once again competed at Flaine. We had SCUBA diving with many students participating in “try dives”. As ever, we have sporting representation at county, regional and national level. As lockdown spelt the end of anything competitive, the staff and students became very creative; the lockdown Olympics and virtual House Sport featured – throwing an orange, anyone?

If there is one characteristic of an SHS student that is becoming increasingly prominent, it is the desire to seek out a competition and enter it; and, possibly win it too. Rotary Club “Youth Speaks” and “Chef” competitions, ESU debating, interschool Balloon debates, the Independent Schools Mock Trials (for budding barristers), GCHQ languages competition (for budding spies), Royal Engineers, BIEA (for budding scientists) ISMLA (ditto linguists) the Geographical Association (self-explanatory) - we’ve had a team in there somewhere, doing something special and winning! These competitions stretch the minds and skills of our young people and they have such fun competing. And talents come to the fore in other ways too – amongst our number are TikTok and budding TV stars.

The Evergreens were with us once more at Christmas for their party- ably hosted by our students with homemade gifts, cards and much companionship on a rather cold and damp December lunch time. There has been fund-raising for other worthwhile causes too;



but not simply this, it is raising awareness of those less fortunate.

Time and talents have been devoted to activities in aid of Amnesty International, Parkinson’s UK, the Poppy Appeal, the Matt Hampson Trust and Mind. Individual efforts raised funds for Cancer Research, the Brain Trust, Macmillan Nurses and the Royal Air Force Association. And the pandemic brought its own opportunities to reach out to the community through the production of scrubs, scrub bags, bandanas, masks or simply by cooking for our fabulous carers and NHS staff. A number filled their days by taking on charitable challenges by running or walking. Others moved their charitable activities online including the organisation of a support group for the charity MindSpace.

Obviously, we had the usual round of House competitions during the Autumn and Spring term – but never has House allegiance been so important as during lockdown. Every week was a new challenge – from practical to cerebral – there has been something for everyone. Poetry, photography, maths, egg decorating, upcycling, baking – you name it, we have had a go at it.



And we even ventured beyond Stamford: South Africa, Spain, Venice, Bisley, Cardiff, Bletchley Park, Leicester, North Wales, Buxton, Our German friends were here for the 60th Anniversary of the school exchange – sadly the return trip was halted by you-know-what...

And at the end of the year when we said farewell, not only to some of our student body, we wished happy retirement to 3 staff who have given, in total, some 98 years to SHS!

Andrew Cox latterly Head of Philosophy and Ethics, former House Parent of Welland and veteran of some 32 years at SHS. He holds the distinction of being the first male SHS Head of Year and one of his roles was to make sure students had their hats on before



leaving school! He is a much-respected teacher, form tutor and colleague and will be much missed by the SES community. Dominique Evans, Queen of pastoral support; much sought after teacher of MFL, Head of Department and latterly, SLT member. Mrs Evans has been ally, supporter, friend, guide and advisor to so many parents, pupils and staff. Her wisdom and vision will live on in so many of our current staff and countless others! Nan Ingrams – think Nan, think SHS Music Festival, concerts, music-making, dearly loved and respected form tutor, Learning Support co-ordinator and 38 years service; “Our love and loyalty in word and deed” – what more can we say?

So a very strange year; and one which was the poorer for not being able to meet up with our OGG friends and have the School alive with your chatter and memories – may be this summer; I’m not saying anything – I’ve done enough damage! But wherever you are, I and all the staff of SHS wish you all well and hope to meet up again with you all very soon.

Christ us spede...

SCHOOL NEWS

New Girls' Sports Facilities Planned

The Schools have announced plans to redevelop the sports facilities on the Kettering Road.

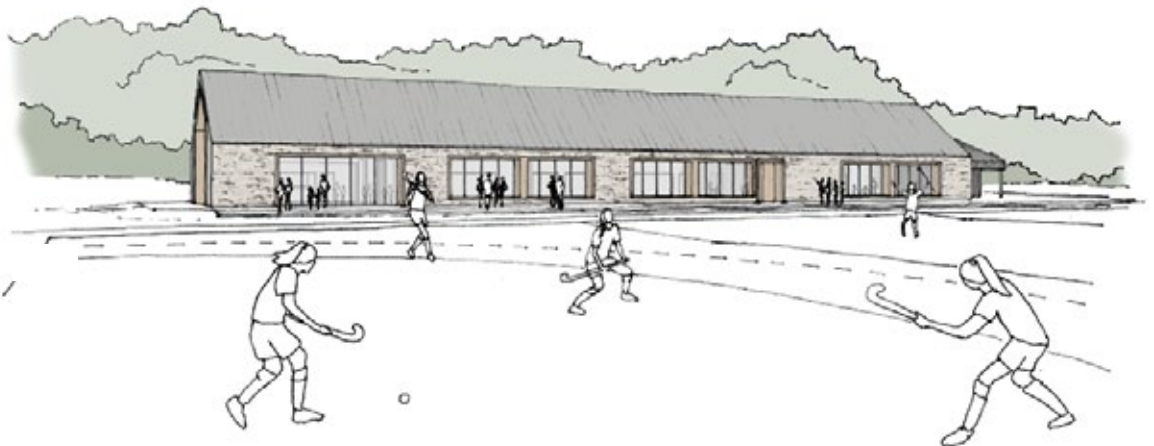
Announcing the project, Will Phelan said: "Sport at Stamford is going from strength to strength. The range of sports that we offer, and the opportunities to keep fit and active, are growing all the time. Our students are achieving local, regional and national recognition for their success in all kinds of different sports. But more importantly than anything, more and more of our students are taking in part in physical activities for the sheer joy of it, which we all know is a crucial part of any happy, healthy life. We want all of that enthusiasm, that commitment, and that growing passion to be matched by the facilities that our students can learn and train in."

The additional all-weather pitch will allow us to double our capacity for training and competitive fixtures on the site, which will

enable greater participation at all levels. Replacement of the existing pavilion will provide changing facilities for 100 students. The two studios and fitness suite will allow us to better support the wide range of sporting activities we offer to our students, including dance, indoor cycling, Pilates and yoga, to name just a few.

All of these facilities will be made available outside school hours for use by the local community. Discussions are already underway with England Hockey regarding the formation of a new Stamford Hockey Club: at present, the nearest community clubs are based in Bourne (eight miles away) or Oundle (11 miles away).

This project will support all of our students, and the wider community, in developing a lifelong, positive attitude towards sport and physical activity, and realising the health and wellbeing benefits that come from being physically active.



Armed Forces Covenant

The Schools have formally pledged their commitment to supporting current and former members of the Armed Forces with Will Phelan signing the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Covenant supports serving personnel, service leavers, veterans, and their families, and ensures that they are treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy, and society that they serve.



The signing of the Covenant marks recognition of the longstanding relationship between the Stamford Schools and the Armed Forces. Forces families make up a third of the boarding community at Stamford, with Forces parents serving across the UK and internationally, including a large number from nearby RAF bases Wittering, Waddington, Molesworth and Alconbury.

Mr Phelan said: "I am delighted to have signed the Armed Forces Covenant on behalf of the Stamford Endowed Schools. We have always been wholly committed to supporting the Armed Forces in every way that we can, and the Covenant is a fitting way to

demonstrate that commitment. We are very proud of our longstanding relationship with the Armed Forces, and all of us benefit from the contribution that Armed Forces bases and families make to our local community."

Sixth Form students fundraise for The Fire Fighters Charity

Sixth Form Prefects at the Stamford Endowed Schools completed their challenge to travel 576km by foot, the distance of the British Channel, to fundraise for 'The Fire Fighters Charity', following a fire which broke out at the Schools on the 12 June.

Cumulatively the 48 participating students walked, ran and cycled far beyond their original target, achieving over 1000km before the end of the school summer term. Their fundraising efforts equally matched this momentous number, with over £1000 having been raised for the charity. Three students in particular, Emily Ferguson, who travelled 103km, Emily Cox and Jai Venugopal who travelled 60km each deserve particular mentions for their dedicated contributions to achieving the cumulative distance.

The fundraiser was initially proposed by School Prefects Sophie Newport, Sophie Mihill and Molly Fowler.



Discussing their motivations for the fundraiser, Sophie Mihill said: “There have been a lot of negatives lately, so this has been a really nice positive thing to do. It has brought the new Prefect body, who due to lockdown hadn’t been able to work on a project together until now, and the community together and we’ve helped motivate each other. “

Principal of the Stamford Endowed Schools, Mr Will Phelan, said: “I’m incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our incoming Sixth Form Prefects, who have given their time and energy to raise such a large sum of money for The Fire Fighters Charity.

“The charity’s work to support fire crews across the country is invaluable, and I hope that this fundraiser goes some way in showing the Schools gratitude to both the charity, and the brave fire crews who work and volunteer their time to keep us safe.”

Legally Blonde 2020

Huge congratulations must go to the entire cast, crew, band, and staff who worked on the Stamford Endowed Schools’ senior production of Legally Blonde – The Musical.

Due to Government guidance surrounding Covid-19, the dress rehearsal night became the students sole performance. At short notice, the Oswald Elliot Hall at Stamford



School became packed full of eager parents, pupils, and staff, keen to see the one night show, and the performance certainly did not disappoint!

Amazing work from the Design Technology Department

The Schools’ DT department made national news this year when they produced and donated over 12,000 face shields to the NHS and front line workers.

A team of seven staff manufactured and distributed the the masks, and after 130 iterations of face masks designs, the process took only 58 seconds to laser cut each headband. The team were able to assemble each mask in just 17 seconds.

The designs of the easy-to-assemble face shield were shared with over 100 schools globally, including as far away as Australia and New Zealand.

Steve Newton, Head of Design Technology across the Stamford Endowed Schools, said: “As one of the first schools to start designing face masks, it was really pleasing to see many more DT departments requesting our designs so that they could also begin manufacture.”

SES Flags go to Antarctica

Lola Butler, a Year 7 student from Stamford High School has won a flag designing competition, and her flag has travelled to Antarctica with a scientist.



Students from across Year 7 at SHS entered their designs for an Antarctic flag, in a competition organised by the British Antarctic Survey.

A finalist was selected per form group, based on design and how well they adhered to the given brief – with the theme of penguins emerging very popular!

Lola's design includes one penguin for each country that has signed the Antarctic Treaty, and her flag travelled with researcher Alexandra Dodds to Bird Island, Landing Bay in Antarctica on the 28 November 2020.



Mr M Smith, Head of Geography at Stamford High School, said: "This year, we decided to enter the national Antarctica Day Flag competition. It is run by the British Antarctic Survey and is designed to create awareness towards why it is important for us to protect one of the Earth's last natural wildernesses. "At SHS, the competition was launched to all Y7 geographers and I was blown away by the calibre of entries. Students also had to reflect the importance of the Antarctic Treaty (created on 1 December 1959) in their designs, as well as portraying the importance of geography, science and an interest in the flora and fauna of the continent; I feel like they had all carefully considered this."

As Mrs Buckman said "this will be a first – SHS in Antarctica!" Congratulations to Lola.

Osprey Ambassadors visit Rutland Water

Stamford Endowed Schools' Osprey Ambassadors have visited the Rutland Water Visitor Centre, following news that the first Osprey of the season has returned to the nests.

The bird is one of the sites regular breeding females, who has been visiting Rutland Water for many years.



The Schools' ambassadors, Maliha Mirza, Evie Hodgson, Finley Sowden and Elyse Chan Chung, all Year 7 pupils, were selected following a visit from the Rutland Osprey Project Education Team.

Rose leads the way to support the coral reefs



Rose Chase, Year 9 at Stamford High School, put on a cake sale to fundraise and purchase a coral reef frame in the Maldives, in the name of Stamford High School.

The Marine Savers charity, affiliated with the Four Seasons Hotel resort in the Maldives, supports the 'Reefscapers' project, which involves advanced propagation to efficiently restore altered reefs and deserted sandy seabeds. The coral frames are designed and built on a local island in Baa Atoll, called Fulhadhoo, providing employment for several local people, allowing them to develop skills in marine conservation and tourism.

The programme involves long-term monitoring and maintenance, with all coral reefs being bi-annually monitored.

Discussing her fundraising journey, Rose said: "I was inspired to organise a cake sale, after watching a documentary about the

Indian Ocean by Simon Reeve. They showed a coral reef which has been bleached due to the temperatures rising in the oceans, and afterwards showed how we could help to protect it. Coral reefs help support 25% of all life in the oceans, and so it's crucial that the coral is saved."

"Over a thousand of the metal structures have been put in the ocean so far, and I wanted to contribute to that number. I decided to put on a cake sale and with the help of a couple of my friends, we had enough cakes – although they sold out pretty fast! We raised £65 in total, and with the money we'd also raised at home by selling vintage dresses on eBay, we had enough to buy a medium-sized frame.

Science, science, science!

Science competitions took centre stage at SHS, with teams winning third place in the Super Physics 2020 competition, two first places in competitions held by the British International Education Association and victory in the East Midlands 'Shell Bright Ideas' competition.



This was followed by individual success for year 10 student Olga Kryl, who achieved second place in the Biochemical Society's Science Communication competition.

After a group of students were named as finalists as part of a national STEM competition, Stamford High School welcomed Gareth Davies, MP for Grantham and Stamford, to the school.

Over 2,000 students participated in the Youth Industrial Strategy Competition, a national STEM competition organised by the British Science Association. The competition challenges students to submit practical projects that address one of the UK Government's four Grand Challenges: Clean Growth, Artificial Intelligence and Data, Ageing Society and the Future of Mobility. Mr Davies, MP, spoke with the students, learning about how their project works and how it addresses the Grand Challenge of Artificial Intelligence and Data.

Sophie Farr, Anna Barsham, Olga Kryl, Ruby Summer and Millie Hindmarch; Year 9 students designed a project that uses artificial intelligence to assist the visually impaired. The students conducted a survey, used an Instagram account and developed an experiment considering the ease of movement of those who are visually impaired.

Students Reach Semi-Final of CyberFirst Competition

A team of students from Stamford High School have reached the semi-final round of the 'CyberFirst Girls Competition 2021' for their achievements in a collection of cyber security, networking, cryptography, and coding challenges.

The national competition is run annually by the National Cyber Security Centre in three rounds: an online qualifier, to identify the top teams in each region, a semi-final and the grand final.

Only one team from each school in the competition were able to reach the semi-finals. Maggie M, Emily D, Emily P and Georgina P finished the qualifying round within the top 21 teams of the South East region, which was entered by all of Year 8 in teams of 3 or 4.



The challenging competition is designed to inspire young women to consider a career in cyber security. Through the challenges, students have developed resilience, teamwork, communication, independent working and practiced their research skills, by investigating specialized fields as additional research for some of their questions.

Head of Computing, Mr M Hearn, said: "This is the third year that Stamford High School have participated in the CyberFirst Girls Competition. Last year we came 2nd at our regional semi-final, and this year we're hoping for another amazing achievement. Our semi-finalists have been readying themselves over the last few weeks, and I am confident they will give it their all and make Stamford proud."

OS NEWS

International Women's Day

The Schools welcomed the return of four Alumni for International's Women's Day in 2021, who shared their advice and words of the wisdom with our current students.



Zoe Cameron (OS 02), **Emma Griffiths** (OS 09), **Claire Lomas** (OS 98) and **Sarah Outen** (OS 03) were invited to record messages to accompany an assembly, with the theme focusing on #choosetochallenge - celebrating those achievements that challenge gender bias and inequality to create an inclusive world.



The assembly was introduced by Mrs Buckman who explained that International Women's Day is celebrated all over the world before introducing the four Alumni.

The assembly was well-received by the students, with a wide range of comments including "the breadth of career paths former students had taken in life" and "their drive and ambition to aim high, no matter how many obstacles came their way".

Another student admired the way in which our Alumni had "remained focused until they had reached their dream job".



There were numerous comments on how inspiring they found each of the speakers, with one student commenting on Claire Lomas: "If she can make it through and still be positive I can make it through one bad day!"



Katie is inspired by upcycling project

Katie Rickett (OS 20) was inspired by her studies in Textiles Technology to begin a business upcycling clothing items, reusing materials that would otherwise go to waste to create new garments.

Katie creates upcycled, handmade garments, selling them through her Instagram and Depop. Whilst she told us that beginning a business had always been something she had been keen to do, lockdown provided her with the 'perfect opportunity to go for it'. Katie was inspired to begin her business, '**KHR Upcycling**', through her Year 12 upcycling project during her A Level Textiles course, where a denim jacket was created using old jeans.

Katie said: "It sparked my interest and love for upcycling and sustainable and ethical fashion. I've been sewing since I was young, as my mum and granny are both seamstresses, and I've always loved making things."

Discussing her aims for the future, Katie said: "I want to continue to create colourful, fun and adjustable upcycled clothing for all shapes and sizes.

Old Stamfordian opens Sustainable Store in Stamford

Annabel Britton (OS 13) has recently opened the All Good Market, providing a more sustainable and ethical way to shop for the local Stamford community.

The store stocks a whole range of produce, from cereal and coffee beans to cordial made from surplus fruit. It even features a pick and mix style section, where customers can bring in their own containers and purchase products such as rice, pasta and sugar, without the packaging, and in the quantity that they need.

After leaving the Stamford Schools, Annabel studied French and Portuguese at the University of Edinburgh, moving to Paris soon afterwards for work. Here, she enjoyed visiting and using the local zero waste shops that have been springing up around the city.

Annabel returned to England for lockdown, and during this time, Annabel said that her parents chose to avoid the supermarkets and shop in smaller local shops for their food, however, Annabel noticed that there was nowhere local to collect store cupboard ingredients without going into a supermarket.



This, alongside her time in Paris, provided significant inspiration for the 'All Good Market'.

Annabel discussed that she takes many factors into account when choosing her produce, with climate change and sustainability at the forefront of her mind. She said "focusing solely on plastic can be a bit counterproductive. Plastic reduction is important but there are so many different things to consider, such as biodiversity, soil health, food miles and CO2 emissions, so I have tried to take quite a holistic approach. This is why there are a lot of things in here that are organic, packaging free and local.

"My strap line is 'Zero Waste with a Local Taste'; when you buy from the All Good Market, whilst you are of course supporting me and my business, you are also supporting the local producers that I stock, so it's going that one step further."

Annabel has also signed up as a Stamford Card partner, which supplies in-store benefits while aiding local families and the community.

Annabel has great hopes for the store, and plans to soon stock local fruit and veg, alcohol, and "as much sustainable produce that she can fit in the shop!"

Supporting the Community

Throughout the year we have seen an increase in the number of Old Stamfordians supporting the Stamford Card scheme, run by the Schools in conjunction with #ShopStamford.

Annabel Britton (OS 13), **Amelia Hubbard** (OS 19), **Isabel Irvine** (OS 18) and **Isabel Thomas** (OS 16) have all signed their

businesses up as Stamford Card partners in the last six months, joining a list of over 125 local companies that now offer benefits for cardholders.

Cardholders pay £10 per month and these funds are used to provide transformational fee assistance for local children. These pupils, from within the Stamford community, would otherwise be unable to benefit from an education with the Schools.

Annabel Britton, who runs 'All Good Market' on St Paul's Street, spoke of her desire to give back to the Schools and to the community: "I am really fortunate to have been able to attend SHS because of an LEA-funded scholarship, so I absolutely wanted to be part of a scheme which helps people access the Schools."

The monthly fee of £10 per person entitles the cardholder to a whole array of benefits and special offers with many of the traders in and around the town and there is currently a wide selection of over 125 shops, hotels, restaurants, services and attractions in Stamford and the surrounding area.

Jo Peck, Head of Development, spoke of the importance of the scheme: "The Schools are an integral part of the Stamford economy, with the volume of footfall they bring into the town and the level of employment they provide locally. The Stamford Card scheme simply highlights the strength of our local community and our ability to work as one team for the overall benefit of Stamford as a destination".

To find out more please visit our website at **www.stamfordschools.org.uk/support-us/stamford-card**

EVENTS

Remembrance Day Service

On the 11 November, students met in bubbles, at a social distance, for a service in the Oswald Elliot Hall from the Chaplain, Rev M Goodman, and Assistant Chaplain, Mr B O'Neill, where three wreaths were laid and the names of the fallen were read.

The service was streamed to the members of the Stamford Community who were unable to attend.

Wreaths were laid by Dale Harrison (OS 03) on behalf of the OSC and Holly Naismith, staff at SHS, on behalf of the OGG.



Old Stamfordian Online Quizzes

Friday 21 August saw the first ever virtual Old Stamfordian quiz, where Old Stamfordians from across the decades battled it out, testing their knowledge on everything from science and sport to the Schools themselves!

The evening was attended by 14 Old Stamfordians spanning a total of 70 years at the Schools. Participants attended from across the globe with people dialling in from Spain and Hamburg to join in the fun and put their knowledge to the test. Sarah Howard (OS 84) was the triumphant winner of the evening. Second place was awarded to Timothy Knowles (OS 70) and joint third place awarded to David Spratt (OS 69) and Richard Ivett (OS 69).



The quiz was followed in November by the second meeting of OS quizzing brains. With significantly increased numbers from last time, and participants ranging from those who left school over 50 years ago, to those who left school only a few months ago, all enjoyed a light hearted evening of general knowledge and reminiscence.

Questions ranged from Stamford history and popular culture, to Christmas themed brain teasers. Congratulations again goes to Old Girl Sarah Howard (OS 84) who won the quiz for a second occasion!



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, led the event and 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.

A thanks to all OS wrote questions for the quizzes and the Quiz Masters.

The Stamford Lecture Series goes virtual!

Ben Thompson

Early October saw the Schools' Stamford Lecture Series 'go online' for the first time as the Schools were honoured to welcome BBC News presenter Ben Thompson to share his insight into the big political issues affecting the world in 2020.



Taking the series virtual has opened the doors to viewers from across the world; with our audience dialling in from Cyprus, Belgium, Portugal and the USA to hear about the key political battlegrounds and what to watch out for as the race for the White House reached it's final days.

Throughout the evening, over 130 families 'logged in' to hear Ben's discussions considering the building momentum of Trump and Biden's campaigns. Comments posted to social media following the lecture exemplified how Ben captured the interest of his audience. If you were in the room you would have be able to hear a pin drop as he spoke, sharing the honesties of this job; the good, the bad and the ugly, giving true insight in to what was happening in the world and his feelings of privilege in being able to report on them (even, as he commented, if it does sometimes require him to get up at four in the morning to film his news pieces!)

Dr Kevin Fong

Ben's lecture was followed in January 2021 by Dr Kevin Fong OBE, NASA consultant and award-winning BBC presenter. 500 households registered to join the lecture, held virtually on 29 January 2021, with viewers welcomed from the Stamford Endowed Schools, local secondary schools, and the wider community from 12 countries including Belgium, Cyprus, Qatar, Peru, Spain, the UAE, USA and China.

Dr Fong captivated the online audience with his detailed description of the setbacks and near-fatal problems which beset the final 13 minutes of Apollo 11's descent to the moon, 50 years after its historic success.

Taking the audience step-by-step through the process of approach and landing, Dr Fong described in detail the technical challenges that astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were faced with in the last seconds of their attempt to land on the surface of the moon. Exploring communication problems,

navigational errors and the limits of fragile technologies, his webinar particularly highlighted the importance of teamwork and trust in your colleagues. In one notable example, Dr Fong explained how the computer on board the lunar landing module displayed a 1202 error message, just minutes before they were due to touch down on the surface of the moon. Neither Armstrong nor Aldrin had seen the code before, and they didn't know what it meant. Nor did the Flight Director down at mission control, or the Guidance Officer. A junior specialist recognised the code, and reassured the chain of command it was safe to proceed.

Without that swift communication and trust in staff at all levels, the historic mission would have been aborted.

Those concepts of trust and communication have especially resonated with Dr Fong during the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst many recognise Kevin as an award-winning BBC presenter and author, and for his work



and training with NASA, he also works as a Consultant Anaesthetist at University College London. Throughout the Covid-19 crisis he has been working on the wards alongside his team: remarkably, his lecture to the Stamford community was delivered from a cramped broom cupboard at the hospital just before his night shift began.

Drawing on his own experiences as a doctor, Dr Fong explained how the delegation of tasks is critical to the success of large hierarchical teams. He highlighted, to the notable surprise of the audience, that the average age of the team in the Mission Operations Control Room for Apollo 11 was just 28 years old.

Dr Fong showed that, equally important to expertise and experience, was the fact that the young team were given ownership of their tasks, that no one “checked their homework”, and that they were given high levels of responsibility at a young age. That combination enabled the team to feel they could take on anything; a theory Dr Fong believes is just as vital for young people today.



In a live question and answer session following Kevin’s speech, ‘what drives you?’ was a question posed from the audience. Kevin’s response of simply ‘curiosity’

parallels the driving force of the Stamford Lecture Series – which is run as part of the Stamford Schools’ commitment to supporting lifelong learning within the local, and now worldwide, community.

In his own words, Kevin describes his career as ‘hotchpotch’ and the result of always asking ‘why’, having developed as an extension of consistently questioning, considering, and adapting; ‘not for the sake of perfectionism’, but because ‘there is always something to help make you better at what you do’.

Dr Fong’s approach, and his evident love of education, were strongly seconded by the Principal of the Stamford Endowed Schools, Mr Will Phelan, who hosted the evening’s session.

Natalie Prestell, Community Engagement Manager at Stamford, said: “I’m sure I can speak for the audience in saying that we were all drawn in by Kevin’s passionate and informative presentation, and I can certainly be sure that no one watching will be taking their humble laptop charger for granted – after learning that it is more powerful than the Apollo 11’s onboard computer!”

The Stamford Lecture Series continues on Thursday 10 June as **Christo Brand**, former prison warden and friend of Nelson Mandela, will join us live from South Africa.

More details can be found at www.stamfordschools.org.uk/stamford-community/lectures

NEWS & MEMORIES

Janet Wallen (née Theaker) (OS 56)

I am now 81 and live near Malpas in Cheshire. Widowed with 8 grandchildren. Playing lots of Bridge and still singing for pleasure.

Attended Stamford Girls School from 1947-1956.

Marigold Lamin (née Vipán) (OS 56, Staff 73-93)

After I married Henry Lamin in 1958 we lived with my mother at Morcott for four years and I began my teaching at Oakham Secondary School. I stayed for three years taking the girl's games. We moved to Bancroft Lodge near Riddlington where Henry worked on the farm and our three daughters were born while we were there. We lived at Bancroft for twelve years.

I taught at Belton primary school for four years till it closed and then at Leighfield school in Uppingham for two years while we lived at Bancroft. We then moved to a farmhouse at Couthorpe in Lincolnshire and it took two years to make it habitable. My Mother died and we moved to Stamford, where we lived in two different houses and I kept bees at Easton. I moved from Stamford after I retired from in 1993 to Greetham and lived with my husband Henry and Uncle at Belmont, a bungalow with nearly four acres of land. We acquired six geese with the house and brought goats and sheep, four cats and one collie dog with us.

After my husband died in 2013 my eldest daughter Felicity and her husband Bob built a new bungalow in the garden of Belmont

and I have a sitting room/ kitchen and bedroom/bathroom in their house. I keep busy with writing ,knitting and crochet, jigsaw puzzles, watching TV and gardening but sadly can't do much outside.

I see family and friends frequently but Ruth, our middle daughter, has just moved from Nottingham to Plymouth so won't be up so often. Our youngest daughter Eleanor lives in Lincoln with her husband Chris so comes more. Ruth and her husband Andy, a Methodist minister, have two children; Simon who is 26 and doing a Ph D in Nuclear Physics at Durham and Charis, 24, who is doing a PGCE to teach Sciences also at Durham.

Janet Green (née Yates) (OS 61)

I attended SHS in 1954 until 1961 and after teaching in Stamford I married and moved to Yorkshire where I have lived since 1966. We have one son, Matthew, who is married to Isabelle, and four grandchildren. They live in Chicago so as you can imagine it is very hard, especially now, at not being able to see them. They came to celebrate our Golden wedding in 2016, and again in 2019 when we met in London.

Mary Love (1964-65 only)

I was only at SHS for one year, 1964-5, in Lady Anne's House, and in the Upper Third. I live in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, where I work as a volunteer climate and Indigenous rights activist and as a poet, and before COVID, had a part time job invigilating for students with disabilities at McMaster University here in Hamilton, a blue collar

town of 525,000 that is situated around the Niagara escarpment. I have also been a children's librarian, a political street theatre actor and collective writer, and a playwright. I have one daughter who is 28 and the most marvellous young woman I know!

I now live with a retired toolmaker who knows how to fix anything, and who loves music as much as I do. He plays the ukulele, and I play spoons and washboard. We have an old small dog and two cats, as well as raccoons, skunks, and an occasional possum in the back yard. No coyotes, thank goodness!

The girls at Lady Anne's welcomed me, an odd Canadian, with open arms, and I'll always love them all for that. I hope they are all still with us, despite the dangers of life. All the best to all of you!

Janet Fry (née Carter) (OS 69)

I remember, lines x 100 'I must learn to appreciate that the buns that are provided for us are meant for consumption at supper time, together with a glass of milk, and should not be thrown wildly about the dormitory to the danger of other people in the vicinity.'

Alison Piper (née Hutchinson) (OS 73)

I retired from the NHS in May 2020 as

Head of Clinical Health Psychology Services, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn. Delighted to have had a career that has allowed me to meet people, make a difference to their lives and work with a fantastic team. Couldn't have asked for more!

Sue Hardy (née Dodkin) (OS 80)

When I left SHS I trained as a nurse and, after getting married in 1986, in 1990 moved into a career in Nurse Education, training the future Nurses of the NHS.

It was a fantastic career and I enjoyed 3 years as the Head of Pre Registration Nursing at the University of Bedfordshire. Sadly in 2013, after a diagnosis of M.E. / CFS (Myalgic Encephalomyelitis or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome) my career abruptly ended with ill health retirement.

However, after 4 years of working hard to improve my health and well being I was well enough to start on a new career as a volunteer with 'Action for M.E'; a national charity committed to improving the lives of people with M.E.

As a Trustee I sit on the board, and also participate in other work mainly aimed at educating the public, Health Care Professionals, and those supporting M.E. patients.



My dream is to have an ME nurse in every hospital. It is brilliant to have the opportunity to give something back, and contribute to their vision of "A world without ME".

Staying in touch with my SHS friends is an important part of my life as well as seeing my grown-up children.

Ruth Chislett-McDonald (nee Lamin) (OS 82)

Andy and I moved to Plymouth in August for Andy to take up the appointment of Superintendent of the Plymouth and Devonport circuit of the Methodist Church and I am now a driving examiner in Exeter. Our children, Simon (26) and Charis (24) are both in Durham in final year of a Physics PhD and doing a PGCE for secondary biology respectively.

Kate Sanderson (OS 85)

I chose not to go straight on to university after school and I have followed a diverse career path since.

10 years was spent in nursing followed by qualifications and experience gained in office management, book keeping, farm business management, Indian Head massage and Human Resource Management. I have worked across public, private and third sectors, most recently for an international housing aid NGO. Now I'm in the process of setting up my own independent HR Consultancy business and studying for an ILM Diploma in Coaching.

I can be found on [LinkedIn](#) as '[Kate Sanderson / Sanderson Consulting](#)' and my aim is to support the smaller end of the SME and charity sectors with people-centric, pragmatic advice and processes.

Elizabeth Appleby (née Udale) (OS 85)

In 1985 I left school and went to the University of Surrey. After completing my first undergraduate degree in London I went to work for Thomas Cook from 1988-1991.

I married my husband Kevin in 1991 and we lived and worked in the UK until 2002 when we emigrated to New Zealand. In the UK and NZ I worked in the area of Human Resources/Training and Development. My last role was as a senior manager in People and Change Consulting for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

I gained a Masters degree in Human Resources and Organisational Development in 2013 then promptly decided to change direction and trained as an Occupational Therapist.

I graduated with my Bachelors in Occupational Therapy in 2016 aged 50 and now work with people with intellectual and physical disabilities, still in New Zealand. Kevin and I celebrated 29 years of marriage in 2020 and we welcome any old girls who would like to get in touch by emailing me at helenappleby@xtra.co.nz

Helen Davies (née Childs) (OS 93)

I left SHS in 1993 and now live in Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk and am married to Charlie with 2 children (Minnie 10 and Freddie 9). I am just about to start a new role as Head of Communications for West Suffolk (NHS) Foundation Trust after more than 20 years working in politics and lobbying.

Carrie Lloyd (OS 98)

I am an ordained pastor in Northern California, at a church of 10,000 members. I have written three books, the third published by Harper Collins in June of this year called '[The Noble Renaissance](#)'.

Along with speaking and writing, I have been involved in anti-sex trafficking NGOs and missionary work in Philippines, Mexico, the U.S and helped with high trauma counseling after some of the girls escaped the Chibok kidnapping in Nigeria a few years back.

I am an advocate for vulnerable children, specifically children trapped in the Global Orphanages and reforming the US foster care system.

We have managed to procure a collection of NGOs, government officials in both the US and the UK, the UN and the private sector to help deinstitutionalize orphanages and reforms the US Foster Care System. The timing is set for February 2021 when a global campaign will stretch across the planet. We are excited to partner with the most influential world changes on this topic, as well as welcome in celebrity influence for our global messaging.

Despite 2020 and it's surprises, great things are on the horizon.

Anna Callow (OS 99)

Engaged to Mark Seamer and living in Ryhall. Mother of Sophie (11), Joseph (4) and Eva and Maya (born June 2020). Director of the Care Advice Centre, independent social work consultancy.

Lucy Glen (née Waudby) (OS 03)

I have a screen printing and design business based in Stamford. We have been going for 6 years after I spent many years in London in the design industry as an Account Director. Our business is www.basilandford.com so have a look and see what you think. I did alot of art and DT at school and it definitely pushed me into the creative industry.

Emily Wingfield (née McCarthy) (OS 03)

Emily and her husband, Paul, are pleased to announce the birth of a son, Wilfred, on 24th July 2019, a brother for Sophie.

Holly Dennis (OS 04)

I left SHS in 2004, still based in Stamford and currently working for a publishing company. I have two children: Grace, who is 6, and Nathan, who is 13, and is currently in Y8 at Stamford School.

Tessa Yates (OS 06)

I live in Bath with my partner and his 2 children and write and illustrate children's books under my fabulous self-made publishing house: [The Happy Book Company](http://TheHappyBookCompany). I have never been happier and love creating beautiful stories that make people feel things.
www.thehappybookcompany.com

Olivia Adams (OS 10)

I completed school in 2010 and went to the University of Sheffield to read Journalism Studies. After graduating in 2013 I moved to London. There, I began a career in showbiz journalism at *new!* magazine, a best-selling celebrity weekly.

In 2018 I moved to Dubai to work as Grazia Middle East's Features Editor, before moving to Cosmopolitan Middle East as Digital Editor.

I am now back in London and work for global luxury fashion brand Jimmy Choo, as their sole E-Commerce Copywriter.

I feel forever grateful to Stamford High School for nurturing my creative flair – in terms of the syllabus and extra-curricular activities - plus, providing me with friends for life.

Lucy Babbs (OS 11)

I was at SHS from 2004-2011 (Head Girl in my final year) and am now working for the NHS as a speech and language therapist in forensic mental health services. I left school not really knowing what I wanted to do and eventually came across speech therapy and haven't looked back.

Lydia Haines (OS 13)

I set up my own business last year; '[The Stamford Catsitter](#)'. I'm pleased to report that I managed to have a very busy second summer too, despite the worldwide pandemic. So busy in fact that I took on my first member of staff to cope with demand! With the uncertainty that the next few months hold, I'm confident that The Stamford Catsitter has found its place in Stamford's pet sitting market. I've learnt so much about what it takes to run a small business, as well as lots about Stamford and its residents too. If you'd asked me when I was at school what I'd be doing at 25, I'd desperately hope it was working with animals but probably wouldn't have thought it was possible. I certainly wouldn't have seen myself running a business - I feel very grateful to have grown up in such a wonderful town to do it in.

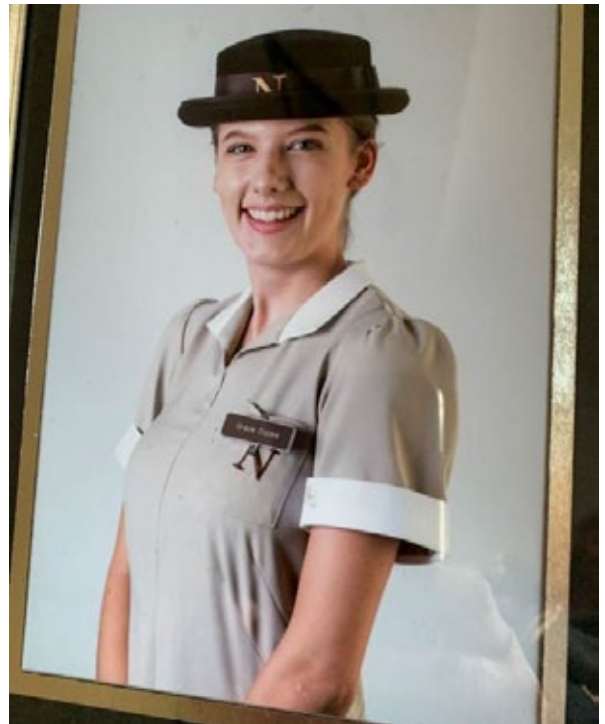
Grace Cooke (OS 17)

I left after my GCSE'S as I knew the career path I wished to take and my aspirations for the future so I enrolled at Stamford College as a stepping stone to then studying at Norland College in Bath for their 3 year degree course. I have just begun my 2nd year at Norland currently on a placement with a family on their holiday in Cornwall. My 1st year was amazing and everything I dreamed of and the opportunities for me in the future are limitless.

I feel I am an example of pursuing your dreams and not looking at what might hold you back. My GCSE results were fine and enabled me to enrol on the Childrens Play, Learning and Development course Level 3 at college however I do struggle with exams but this course enabled me to be continually assessed throughout the two years achieving an A grade overall.

While at Stamford I had regular weekly singing lessons and was a member of Cantare which saw me performing all over Europe and my love for singing has continued as I joined the Norland Choir in my 1st term and again have performed in many prestigious venues.

I feel extremely privileged to now be studying at a world renowned college and to also have had such a fantastic education at SES.



TRIBUTES

Miss Mary Pamela Halsey, always known as Miss Pam Halsey.



On 17 August 2020 Miss Halsey died at home in Stamford aged 95.

Miss Mary Pamela Halsey, always known as Pam to colleagues and friends, but respectfully to her pupils as Miss Halsey, was born in Bristol and educated at Bedford High School before going on to read Classics at Oxford. Miss Halsey obtained a teaching certificate at Bristol and spent some time at Bournemouth before she came to Stamford High School. Miss Halsey taught Classics full time at SHS from 1953-85, but did some part time after that.

“Miss Halsey has always had a scholarly approach to her work, and has been delighted when several of her pupils have followed in her footsteps.

She imparted her love of Classics to many thousands of girls and has brought out the best in her pupils.” – SHS Magazine, 1985.

She never set foot out of this country but was always eager to hear of other people’s visits to sites of Classical interest and increase her knowledge.

Miss Halsey was a much loved member of staff at Stamford High School and there were a number of memories shared on social media. Within the first five days there were 105 comments shared on the Old Stamfordian Facebook page alone.... the most ever received.

Here are a few of the memories shared:

It is with a sense of nostalgia and sadness that I have to say Miss Halsey died aged 95 on 17 August. I shall leave you with these gems ‘you silly cuckoos’, ‘ladies, ladies, desist’ and my favourite ‘ladies a little decorum please.’

‘More haste, less speed, puellae.’ Vale, Magistra indeed. What a woman. A gem of a teacher.

‘She was proper Enid Blyton old school.’

Awwww that’s so sad ... didn’t realise she was so young when she taught us ... ‘make haste, make haste’.

‘I’ll never forget her Dickensian brown shoes along with those tights with seams up the back, RIP lovely lady’.

Oh my, I can so see those shoes and tights now, and hear the ‘click clock’ walking around the quad!

How sad, but how marvellous to be so fondly remembered by generations of SHS girls. I don't think I had her for Latin (Miss Midgley all the way) but I had two years of one-on-one Greek with Miss Halsey in a garret somewhere at the top of the school. I have a lot to thank them both for.

It's a tribute that we all remember her so well and so fondly. Such a lovely person.

I asked to be moved into Miss Halsey's class in the UV. She was so kind. I didn't want to disappoint her. Lovely lady. And great to be reminded of all those phrases.

She was strict but fair. She calmly took control when anyone was having personal and traumatic issues. Her compassionate nature surfaced only when needed and thus small gestures were appreciated more by the recipient.

I remember she was really sweet and kind to me when my mother died, She (rather uncharacteristically) gave me a big hug!

'Precision in grammar was gently but firmly enforced. Her teaching led to girls being unaware that they were learning life skills, which enhanced problem solving and clarity of thought. Old-fashioned in dress and ways she may have been, but as can be seen, her values are respected and she is remembered for all the right reasons.

I hope she realised how much she enriched our lives, my generation will always be grateful as we can peruse graveyards, family mottos and the like with an element of authority.

It has been wonderful to hear and read of the kind words shared about Miss Halsey, she was much loved and will be greatly missed.

Mrs Mavis Burley

Mrs Burley passed away peacefully on Sunday 3 January 2021. Sharing the news of her passing on social media, we were once again touched by the memories that were shared about her, and the amount of Old Stamfordians that still have their well-thumbed recipe book in their kitchens. Here are just some of the comments we received:

Sorry to hear this, she was a lovely lady.

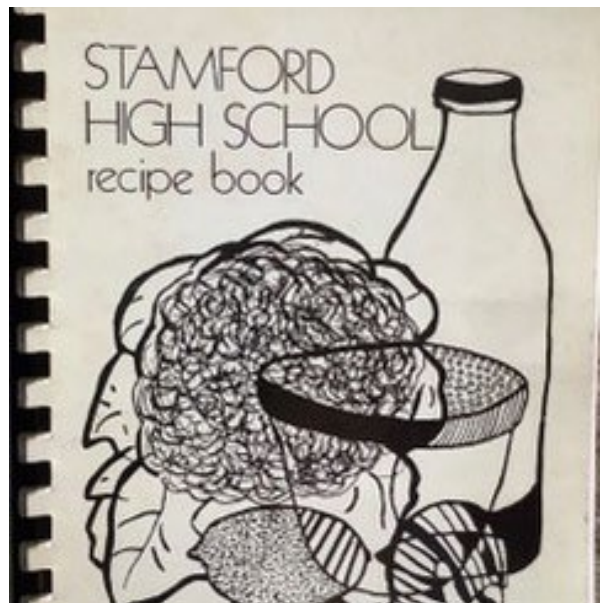
I've made a Victoria sponge this morning and I could hear Mrs Burley reminding me to add the beaten egg "a teaspoon at a time" and "always fold the flour in with a metal spoon"!

Very sad. She was a nice person and good teacher

So sad to hear this news. I remember Mrs Burley very well and her constant patience. Sending her family my deepest condolences at this time,

That is sad news. I remember her well. Best wishes to her family at such a sad time.

Ahh bless her. She wouldn't let me do Home Economics for GCSE ...I'm still a terrible cook.



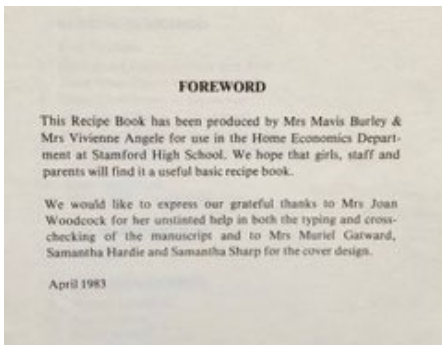
I remember Mrs Burley - a very kind lady. My deepest condolences to her family at this sad time.

Very sad news to hear. I lived with Mrs Burley for six months before my mum moved to Stamford - the boarding houses were full and she offered to have me to stay. Condolences to her family.

She didn't teach me - I had the lovely Mrs Angele - but I remember her as being very, very calm and kind. And, I still have my school cookbook (although the cover isn't really attached anymore) and it still gets used!

I remember Mrs Burley for many lessons but also for this book which still sits, battered and well thumbed, in my kitchen today. Rest in peace Mrs Burley.

I still have mine too. She was a very patient teacher. Rest In Peace x



I spent three days in Cheltenham with Mrs Burley at a cookery competition she was very good company. Rest in peace.

I also have my cookbook and use it regularly. Sad to hear of her passing. Mavis was devoted to the school and was such a lovely lady. We will really miss her

What sad news. RIP Mrs Burley. She was also very kind and looked after me so well when I had a bad burn.

In case you missed it...

In October Louise Rigby (OS 81) shared a picture with us that was loaned to her by Irene Glew who also attended the High School. The year was unknown and with many faces that we didn't recognise, but with the help of our Old Stamfordians we have identified all members of staff.



Back Row (L to R): Miss Halliday (Domestic Science), Miss Taylor (Games), Miss Wormald (Games), Miss Wensley (English), Miss Gilbertson, (French), Miss Sorsham (Bursar), Miss Anderson (Domestic Science), Miss Lloyd (Art)

Middle Row: Miss Bangert (Secretary), Mrs Shaw (Maths & Science), Miss Gilham (History), Miss Tyrrell (Classics), Miss Scrivener (English), Miss McCall (French), Miss Smart (Maths), Miss Baldock (Maths), Miss Cant (Religious Knowledge)

Front Row: Miss Gregory (Geography), Miss Eddon (Biology), Miss Barnsdale (Chemistry), Miss Best (Geography), Miss Lomax (Head), Miss Richardson (Latin), Miss Dix (French), Miss Ripley (English)

Lillian “Mona” Maund

#archivestories



The tale of an Old Stamfordian who worked for MI5 under the code name ‘M/2’, her story was almost forgotten. Now, Year 12 student, Freya Ibbott, brings it to life once more.

Lillian Mona Arrowsmith Maund was born in Worcester around the year 1895. Her father was a conservative solicitor whom Mona Maund was devoted to. Her mother died when she was 3 or 4 years of age, but her father remarried and Mona ended up having two half-brothers. Maund had an upper-class background and before she joined Stamford High School in 1906 at 11 years old, she had attended Worcester primary. Although it is not known what year she left Stamford High School, nor is there anything from when she attended Stamford, she went on to appear in and write for the Old Girls Guild magazine as well as do some very important work for the country during the 1930s.

After Maund left Stamford High School,

she served in the “Queen Mary’s Army Auxiliary Corps” for a short while. The QMAAC, established in February 1917, was the women’s corps of the British Army during and immediately after the First World War. According to the Old Girls Guide Magazine from 1919, Maund “was acting as patrol at Folkstone, crossing backwards and forwards on the steamers to Boulogne”. Although disbanded on 27 September 1921, it is clear that she hadn’t had enough of taking her place in what back then would have been a man’s world: in 1920, Maund trained for the Women’s Police Service and by January of 1921 she had gone to Ireland as a woman searcher. She wrote in the 1921 issue of the Old Girls Guild that her work not only consisted of typical police work, but also involved social work and other side issues that came up. In her writing, she also advertises the programme and service to other women, saying “It is also the aim of our Service to have better class, well educated women, as they are best able to work among all classes of our sex. I should recommend ex-servicewomen in particular for this work, and the age for our Service is 25 years.” Maund’s desire for woman to take their place in the working environment is clear throughout her career.

In December 1921, Maund returned to England but not for long. 3 months after her return, in April 1922, she went back to Ireland to continue her work as a policewoman under the Northern Government. By 1926, Maund had left her position in Ireland to work for the West London Vigilance Association, a British society established in August 1885

“for the enforcement and improvement of the laws for the repression of criminal vice and public immorality”. In the 1926 edition of the Old Girls Guild magazine, Maund describes her work as interesting and necessary and says “Fulham is one of my districts, and as I know my way about better I extend my work to Kensington, Hammersmith and Chelsea, a colossal area for one patrol, but I am hoping to have help soon”. However, we do not know if Maund received the help that she was hoping to get as soon after she changed career paths and it would appear she worked as typist/ secretary (perhaps even while still doing her police work) prior to being recruited by Maxwell Knight (MI5’s great Spymaster).

Maxwell Knight was a British naturalist and broadcaster, as well as spymaster, who played major roles in surveillance of an early British Fascist party as well as the main Communist Party. He also pioneered the use of female agents against the instructions of his superiors as he believed that they could be highly effective, not least because a secretary could see everything that was going on, but they could also easily become unnoticed in their role. Maund was instructed by Knight to attend Communist Party meetings. At this time, they were keen for volunteers with practical skills like typing. She persuaded senior members of the Communist Party to see past her right-wing credentials, and they allowed her into the heart of the organisation and after 6 years she was asked by the party if she wanted to work in the Communist Head Quarters. Maund worked unnoticed as a typist, passing back secrets under the code name M/2 and, once inside, she was able to report on an internal mole-hunt that followed Knight’s exposure of a soviet spy-ring.

Maund was 37 years old when she filed her first report to MI5 in 1932, a report

that identified more potential targets, including Melita Norwood. Maund reported information on Norwood that should have been a clue that she was engaging in something secret, saying that Norwood was ‘of a type definitely suitable for underground activity’. All this was true as Norwood had been recruited as a Soviet spy and given the codename Hola. In fact, Maund had identified Soviet Union’s longest-serving British Spy. Although Knight passed Maund’s warnings onto Jasper Harker, his superior, and pointed out that a very high percentage of the greatest coups have been brought off by women, he was completely ignored as Harker didn’t believe women could make good spies. Due to MI5’s perceived male-centred outlook, Norwood continued to be able to pass crucial documents to her handlers and in WW2, Norwood ended up working as a secretary within a company that secretly worked on the UK’s atomic bomb project.

In 1940 Maund retired to care for her dying Father. She died in 1966. At this time, no-one was aware of her service to country, until Maund’s identity came to light in the book ‘M’ by Henry Hemming in 2017. In this, it was revealed that Maund’s intelligence might have changed the direction of the Cold War if Jasper Harker, who later became Acting Director of MI5, had not ignored it.

Written by Year 12 student, Freya Ibbot, as part of her D of E volunteering project with the archives, and with the support of SES Archivist, James Buckman.

Sources:
OGG Magazines, 1919 and 1921

SHS Magazines, 1923 and April 1927

Hemmings, Henry, Maxwell Knight, MI5’s Greatest Spymaster (Preface, 2017)

HAVE YOU HEARD...?

A plea from the Archivist

We are looking to expand our Archives, and we need your help!

If you, or anyone that you know, have digital copies of your time at the Schools, whether it be a show that you participated in or a sports team, anything at all, we would love to see them.

Please feel free to send any digital copies to us at archives@ses.lincs.sch.uk, and take a look at the existing digital archive at www.stamfordschoolsarchive.co.uk.

Old Stamfordian Community Website

The Old Stamfordian page on the Stamford Endowed Schools' website has been revamped, with a straight-forward layout designed to make it more accessible as a hub for our community.

We have added some new sections, including a publications page where annual magazines, such as Stamford Magazines, OSC Newsletters and OGG Magazines, and monthly newsletters are available for you to read at your leisure, as well as a Find-a-Friend section.

We would love for you to head over to the website for more information www.stamfordschools.org.uk/stamford-community/old-stamfordians.

Virtual Reunions

With the Covid-19 pandemic putting a halt on events this year and last, we would like to offer out the opportunity raise a glass, share some laughs and memories and host a reunion online.

Stamford reunions offer the opportunity each year for many to come back and visit their former Schools, see fellow classmates and members of staff, and indulge in the nostalgia of school days gone by. Following the success of some reunions already held virtually, and also the Quiz nights, if this is something you and your classmates would be interested in please contact us and Natalie Pretsell, our Community Engagement Manager, will arrange this with you.

Membership Survey

We have been working on producing a Membership Survey to capture your feedback and ideas. We would be grateful if you could complete the survey as we are really keen to know how you would like us to engage with you and what benefits you would like to see as an Old Stamfordian.

Your answers will be saved in your individual profile on our database and will be used only for the purposes of improving our service and the activities we offer.

[Click here to take the survey.](#)



MENTORING AT STAMFORD

The Old Stamfordian Network is launching the trial of a mentoring scheme for OS.

Mentoring is a professional relationship during which an experienced person (the mentor) helps another individual (the mentee) develop skills and knowledge that will assist in their personal and professional development.

Serving as a mentor brings many challenges and rewards, with the best mentors working to shape their mentees into other leaders, rather than just good followers; while the opportunity to access a mentor's experience, positive challenge, guidance and network can be invaluable to a mentee's career development. If done well, the long-term impact of mentoring can offer life- and career-changing benefits to both parties.

The objectives of the trial are:

- to test the extent and nature of benefits which a mentoring scheme for OS could provide
- to identify the most effective means of administering such a scheme
- to identify and confirm the briefing/training requirements of those engaged in the scheme

- to determine the requirements involved in a subsequent larger-scale implementation, including how this might be phased and how best the OS Club could facilitate its operation.

The number of participants - both mentors and mentees - is being deliberately limited in this first phase so that these objectives are manageable and can be assessed. However, the ambition is to create an enduring scheme which supports the development of those in their first few years of leaving both Stamford School (and, once rolled-out, Stamford High School for Girls with a similar scheme) through accessing the experience and advice of those who are further ahead in their subsequent careers.

An initial briefing for all those involved will be held in central London by Robert Thorpe (OS 78) and Rob Forster (OS 14) who are managing the trial.

Robert is the Director of Operations at [The Courtauld Institute of Art](#), with specific HR responsibilities and with previous experience as the Manager of the Barclays worldwide Management Development Programme for graduates; Rob is the EMEA Marketing Manager at [LogMeIn](#) and has previously

spent time working at PwC in Belfast and New Zealand. Full briefing material and 1:1 support will be provided at the outset and through the duration of the trial. They will also be responsible for the initial “matching” process of mentors and mentees.

The “rules” regarding who would qualify as a potential mentor/ mentee for the trial are few – as a mentor, you will have sufficient career experience to be able to offer advice and guidance to a less experienced alumnus, which means that you may be some 10 + years post leaving the School; as a mentee, you will be within the first 3/ 4 years of departure. In both cases, you must be prepared to invest sufficient time and effort to meet the expectations of the other party; though it is not expected that this will be at all onerous or time-consuming.

If you would like to participate as either a mentor or mentee, please contact Robert Thorpe (robert.thorpe@courtauld.ac.uk) or Rob Forster (r.forster96@mail.com) with a very short note explaining why you would like to participate and what you think you would bring to/ gain from the experience and, in the case of a potential mentor, a short CV. Robert and Rob will then determine who best to include in the initial trial to provide an appropriate cross-section of participants. Please do get in touch if you wish to be considered for inclusion in this first phase.

Networking 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.

Geographical groups

Asia-Pacific
Overseas
United States
France
Asia
Australasia
Canada

Employment/Advice and Guidance

Property Sector
The Arts, Culture and Music
Medicine
Education
Military Services
Marketing, PR and Advertising
Accountancy and Finance
Public Services
Legal
STEM(Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

If we do not yet have a group for your sector, you would like to set up a group or for any further assistance please contact the Alumni Office: oldstamfordians@ses.lincs.sch.uk

Old Girls' Guild Accounts

Financial Year Ending 31 August 2020

There have been no transactions in the period 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020 therefore no formal accounts have been prepared.

The balances held remain as follows:

Lloyds Bank	8.00
Barclays Bank	14701.41
Cash in Hand	7.00
	<hr/>
	14,716.41
	<hr/>

Old Stamfordian Autumn Get-Together

20 November 2021

While we are unable to hold our usual Reunion this year, due to Government restrictions, we are planning a small Old Stamfordian get-together in the Autumn..

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 Church service at St Martin's 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.

[You will find the booking form for November's event here.](#)

It is disappointing to have had to cancel this year's Reunion, however the focus is now 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.

Old Girls' Guild Autumn Get-Together

20 November 2021

Timetable



Join us at this years Autumn Get-Together.

All events will be subject to government guidelines and restrictions and are subject to change.
In case of cancellation, a refund of your ticket price will be given.

Date	Event	Location	Price
Saturday 20 November			
10.30	Registration and Coffee	The Atrium	Free
11:15	Morning Prayer	St Martin's Church	Free
12.00	OGG Lunch	School Hall	Members Rate: £23 Non-Members Rate: £ 26
14.00	Stamford School 1st XV Rugby	Mainfields	Free

Book Online:

Purchase tickets swiftly and easily through our Box Office:

www.stamfordschools.org.uk/about-stamford/news/events/old-stamfordian-autumn-get-together

Contact Point:

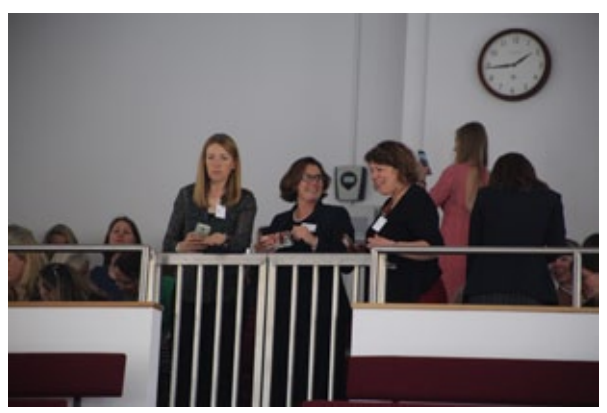
SES Development Office

oldstamfordians@ses.lincs.sch.uk

01780 750032



Reunion 2019



Keep your contact details up-to-date:

It is important for us to have the correct contact details and preferences for you as we are keen to ensure that we communicate with you in the most effective way for you and about the things that are meaningful to you.

In order to keep your details up-to-date, [click here](#) and follow the instructions.

Meet the Alumni Relations and Development Team



Jo Peck

Head of Development

Formerly from the world of sales & marketing predominantly within the world of hospitality, Jo spent November 2018 to January 2020 using her transferable skills as Head of Fundraising for the Schools. Jo now oversees and supports with the delivery of all aspects of the Schools' fundraising and community engagement programmes.



Natalie Pretsell

Community Engagement Manager

Having only recently moved into this sector from her previous experience in social care, Natalie is using her incredible social and interactive skill set to promote the benefits of being part of the Stamford Endowed Schools community and Natalie aims to build, and further develop, engagement within that extensive group.



Dale Harrison (OS 03)

Development Officer

Alongside being a **published author**, Dale supports the team with all aspects of their work: database management, management of the Stamford Card fee assistance fundraising initiative and centralised communications with the Old Stamfordian network are just a few of his areas of expertise.



James Buckman

Archivist

James volunteered as Archivist at the Stamford High School. This role was then converted into a part-time, paid role due to the interest that James's work gained. James now maintains and is in charge of the SES archives and he also supports with Old Stamfordian events to promote the Schools' extensive history.

Gifts & Memorabilia

All items pictured, and many more, are available for purchase from the School Shop.



For enquiries or purchases,
please contact the shop



SES School Shop
36 St Paul's Street
Stamford
PE9 2HL

sesshop@ses.lincs.sch.uk

+44 (0)1780 750349



Old Stamfordian Club
Blazers, Trousers, Waistcoat and
Cummerbund are available exclusively
from
www.oldstamfordianmerchandise.co.uk

Katie Cardew for the Stamford Endowed Schools



Exclusive SES memorabilia by Katie Cardew, including prints of the pictures used on the front covers of these magazines, are available to purchase. Prints can be ordered online at www.katiecardew.com, and other gifts can be found in the School Shop.



KATIE CARDEW
ILLUSTRATION



KATIE CARDEW
ILLUSTRATION



KATIE CARDEW
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