

Stamford School



**Old Stamfordian Club
Newsletter
2020-21**



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[Gifts & Memorabilia can be found on our website.](#)



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 Stamfordian Club

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OLD STAMFORDIAN CLUB COMMITTEE 2020/21

Chairman: Phillip Hoskins (OS 72)

Vice Chairman: Cameron Park (OS 07)

Secretary: David Denney (OS 74)

Treasurer/ Secretary: Alan Hancock (Staff 80)

Committee Members: Richard Allen (OS 81)
 Ian Brassington (OS 73)
 Tom Gulland (OS 13)
 Neil Paterson (OS 85)
 John Smith (OS 71)
 Simon Richardson (OS 84)
 Robert Thorpe (OS 78)

Honorary Vice President: Alan Maddox (OS 64)

Governance: Honorary President: Will Phelan
 President: Nick Gallop
 Attending: Hannah Hamilton (Director of Development & External Relations)
 Natalie Pretsell (Community Engagement Manager)



NOTES FROM THE OSC CHAIRMAN PHILLIP HOSKINS (OS 72)



An unusual year – for you and the Old Stamfordian Club!

Few of us can remember a year quite like 2020.

At the time of writing, relief appears to be in sight thanks to Covid-19 vaccines, although 2021 may still see us being ‘socially distanced’ for some time.

Despite these challenges your Club has continued with its forward momentum building on our key objectives to be an organisation that promotes:

- Fellowship and Friendship
- Networking
- Support for all members

If we are successful in achieving these objectives, we will be delivering on our **Vision of Developing greater Engagement and Growth** for the Club and its members.

Succession Planning

All organisations, including the OSC, need to have a process in place that ensures a steady supply of interested and enthusiastic candidates to join the Committee and to take on Officer roles. This is especially important in a Club like ours where we rely entirely on alumni volunteers.

The Committee has commissioned two of our previous Chairmen, Neil Paterson (OS 85) and Peter Scott (OS 01) to take a fresh look at how we attract and retain committee members and their recommendations are being considered by the current Committee with a view to a progress report being made at the 2021 AGM.

Membership Survey

Considerable work has been undertaken by Alan Hancock (Treasurer) and Natalie Pretsell from the Development Office to



organise a survey of the OSC members, which hopefully you will have been invited to complete, either by email or via post, by the time you are reading this report. We asked for frank responses to the current OSC offerings and we are committed to acting on the survey results. We will keep you advised on the key survey findings and our actions in response.

Reunion Weekend 2021



Due to Government guidelines, we sadly had to cancelled the Old Stamfordian Reunion Weekend for the second year running.

We are planning on a smaller, low-key event in the Autumn, and more details on this can be found on page 49.

It is disappointing to have had to cancel this year's Reunion but the focus now turns to the Reunion in 2022. Things are looking good with a significant number of Old Stamfordians already committed to be with us next year.

Club Activities

In last year's Review we featured the planned launch of a **Mentoring Programme** to provide a vehicle for experienced OSC members to pass on advice and guidance to other Club members looking for support in their careers or in life in general. The pandemic proved too great a distraction for the launch to go ahead as planned but Mentoring will be one of our key 2021 initiatives.

More progress was made this year on Sector Groups with those involved with the Property and the Culture and Arts Groups being especially active. Expanding the **Sector Group** initiative will also be a focus in 2021.

Work has also been underway to ensure that our Club Rules are up to date and reflect best practice for alumni associations like ours. Any proposed Rule changes that the Committee agree are required will be presented for approval the 2021 AGM.

Thanks

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those without whose support the OS Club could not function.

Will Phelan and Nick Gallop have been unstinting in their endorsement of the Club's vision and Jo Peck, Natalie Pretsell, Dale Harrison and James Buckman from the Development Office have all worked tirelessly on the more practical activities.

The Committee have demonstrated their commitment to the Club throughout the year and their personal encouragement for me has been invaluable.

Above all, in these difficult times, our thanks to you the Club members for making our efforts worthwhile.

Phillip Hoskins
07889980058






Our collective challenge has been to do our utmost to sustain our educational ambition and standards and to support the welfare of our pupils as best as we possibly can; to have had the sustained support of an enormous community of parents, families and alumni during the course of the health crisis, has been a rare privilege.

Notes from the Desk of the Headmaster Nick Gallop



In his book *Humankind*, the Dutch historian and philosopher Rutger Bregman, urges us to reconsider our received views of human nature. Rather than instinctively see humans as self-interested creatures, there is a wealth of evidence to the contrary – that our deeper impulses are in fact co-operative, trustful and generous. It certainly feels like a timely re-interpretation of human history, when collective action and mutual support – amid such uncertainty,



insecurity and adversity – have been so essential.

At Stamford School, just as for you in your lives, it has been an exceptional period of time. For all who have anything to do with education – either as pupils or recent school leavers, university students, parents, grandparents, educators, governors or interested observers – it has been unparalleled. Our collective challenge has been to do our utmost to sustain our educational ambition and standards and to support the welfare of our pupils as best as we possibly can when, for long periods of time, we have either been closed or open only under very straitened conditions. To have undertaken a challenge with such a dedicated and professional group of teachers, support staff and

senior leaders; to have had the sustained support of an enormous community of parents, families and alumni during the course of the health crisis, has been a rare privilege.

Back in the distant early months 2020, school life was continuing at full pace. In sport, the U18 hockey team made it through to the last 16 of the Nationals and remained unbeaten in the Schools' league; the 2nd XI made it to the Regional Finals and the rugby 1st VII won the Nottingham 7s. Our academic

highlights included three Year 11 students shortlisted for the prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarship and the School's debating team through to the ESU regional final. Unexpectedly for all of us, the Year 13 Charity Dinner in March 2020 turned out to be the last major school function of the calendar year – fortunately, it was a super occasion, raising money for the Matt Hampson Foundation and welcoming back OS George Robinson as a marvellous guest speaker.

Our pandemic journey takes us all the way back to the Summer Term of 2020 – the strangest of terms. We had been required to close the school on Friday the 20th of March, just at the end of the previous Spring Term, and were not permitted to fully re-open until September. When I wrote to parents at the end of 2020's Summer Term, we had been closed for an extraordinary 111 days. That, throughout those days, a huge amount of teaching, learning and academic endeavour had continued was impressive to say the least.

Despite closure, many notable highlights continued, albeit remotely. Virtual Chapel services and co-curricular activities continued apace, expertly directed, edited and communicated to our dispersed community. Year 10 recorded current affairs-based talks (many of which focused on their lockdown experiences and political aspects of the response to the pandemic), music concerts continued online as did a variety of sporting and fitness activities, and our Year 7-9 Scholars took part in an online debate on the motion 'This House Prefers Virtual School' – I won't reveal which side won!

All of these achievements remain a testament to our creative and adaptive school community and to the teachers who have excelled and surpassed expectation with innovative and engaged remote activities.

The Autumn Term of 2020 started on a positive note when we welcomed all boys back, including a full complement of new Year 7s to the School and several new members of staff. Our message to all the boys at the time was to be optimistic about their immediate future despite the events that were unfolding outside of their control. Making the most of school life – amid all the strictures of social distancing, ‘bubbles’, one-way systems and sanitising – was the first and most important objective, as was ensuring that they remained fully engaged in all of their lessons and activities, every day. Needless to say, the boys thoroughly enjoyed being back learning with their friends and teachers, interacting, playing and socialising again.

Notable recent highlights have included record-breaking academic achievements in the Maths and Science Challenges; several of our linguists winning their regional finals of the foreign language Spelling Bee competition and qualifying for the national finals; and our Year 10 Geography Team beating all neighbouring independent and state schools to win the (virtual) regional Worldwise Geography Quiz 2020.

We were pleased to sustain levels of music too with all individual music lessons continuing thanks to the dedication of so many instrumental teachers. When the School was open, orchestras were split into smaller ensembles and we were still able to enjoy singing concerts, Scholars’ concerts, Year 13 recitals and piano concerts. In drama, the senior production of *Our Country’s Good* was sensational – a fitting, inspirational and brilliantly produced piece of entertainment.



Our message to all the boys at the time was to be optimistic about their immediate future despite the events that were unfolding outside of their control.

Despite all inter-school sports fixtures being prohibited for many months, we counted 114 different school sporting clubs thriving through the winter months to keep the boys physically active and engaged at what was a difficult time. House activities came to the fore in the Autumn Term, with boys competing in House football, rugby, swimming, hockey and cricket on consecutive 'Super Saturdays'. The Fives Club and Squash Club were also full to capacity and hugely popular, especially with boys in Years 7 to 9. Numerous sporting activities continued in the early hours of the mornings too: hockey training, cricket nets, swimming, and the ever-popular strength and conditioning sessions.



The CCF continues to flourish despite having to adapt to work with boys and girls in separate 'bubbles' as well as keeping the age groups apart. Over the October half term several boys and girls completed their weapon handling course, with other courses being offered on Sundays too. In addition, dozens of boys undertook their Silver and Gold expeditions over the October half term with over 80 students in walking or canoeing expeditions.

One of the things that was not compromised, and that we are very proud to have sustained over some difficult months, is our charitable and service activities. The boys continued to donate an enormous amount of time and resources to great causes and to people that are considerably less fortunate than they are. In the Autumn Term the Foodbank collection was immense, amounting to well over half a metric ton and the equivalent of more than 300 meals for those most in need. Amongst many great causes, the boys and staff continued to support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, the Evergreen Care Trust, Movember, Save the Children and several cancer research and care charities.

It has been a difficult period in the lives of many people. I am so proud to be able to communicate how well the boys and staff have coped with all the changes we have had to make.

I wish you and your families well.

**N D Gallop, Headmaster
Stamford School**

SCHOOL NEWS

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

12,140

FACE MASKS MANUFACTURED AND DISTRIBUTED



BY DATE MANUFACTURING
100 HOURS OF LASER CUTTING
OVER 1000S OF PVC VISORS
SOURCES OF SHEETS OF PVC
BE BECAME EACH TO LASER CUT
BY BECAME TO ASSEMBLE
1000 MANUFACTURED IN ONE DAY
THE LECTURES SUPPORTED AROUND THE UK
IN RADIO INTERVIEWS & TV INTERVIEWS
OVER 100 TALKERS OF FACE MASK DESIGN
DESIGNS SHARED WITH OVER 100 SCHOOLS &
DESIGNS SHARED AROUND THE WORLD

AMAZING COMMUNITY SUPPORT THROUGH
DONATIONS, MANUFACTURING & MATERIALS
9 AMAZING STAFF MEMBERS MANUFACTURING
1 OUTSTANDING DESIGN TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
...all to support our local heroes



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
@DES_OT

THANK YOU
NHS Staff

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. 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.

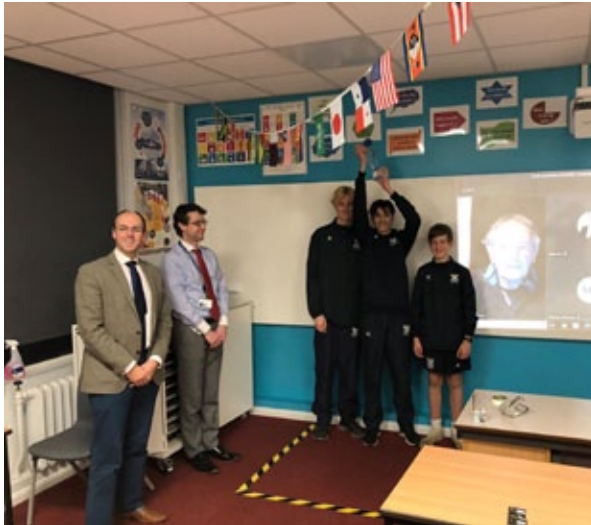
Stamford School become WorldWide Quiz Champions

A team of boys from Stamford School have become South Lincolnshire WorldWide Quiz Champions 2020, competing in the first virtual version of the competition.

Stamford School's Year 10 team narrowly beat Uppingham School by two points to finish first, with a score of 96 points.

Four Schools competed, entering two teams each into the competition, which is usually held at Stamford School; this year having moved online to allow the quiz to still take place.

Eight rounds were played covering 'all things geographical', from alphabet rounds and spotting the outlines of countries, to UK geography and recognising distinctive physical features and landmarks around the globe.



George reflects on Rotary Young Chef District Championship win

Two students at Stamford School, George and Matthew Worthington, have progressed through the first rounds of the Rotary Young Chef Competition and Junior Bake-Off, respectively.

George, Year 9, was crowned 'District Champion' of the Rotary Young Chef competition earlier this year, with the following rounds of the competition unfortunately having to be cancelled due to

the Covid 19 pandemic. Matthew, also Year 9, progressed through the first stages of the Junior Bake-Off, participating in rounds virtually using video calls, and just narrowly missing out on a place in 'the tent'.

On his performance in the Rotary Young Chef Competition, George said: "The competition was fun and a great experience, the people from the rotary club were all lovely and helpful."

About the Junior Bake-Off, Matthew said: "In my first zoom interview, I had to cut my lemon meringue pie and sour-dough bread in front of the camera, which was nerve wracking as I didn't know how they would turn out! The lemon meringue pie was inspired by my granddad, as that was his favourite pudding."

"The last round was the hardest. I had to open a sealed recipe which they had sent in the post with a box of ingredients. Then with those I baked a ginger cake, and decorated it, in front of the camera in a zoom call, whilst they talked to me continuously about the baking, as well as asking other questions, all in just 40 minutes! I completed the challenge, just in time!"

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.

Celebration of Achievement in the Combined Cadet Force

Congratulations are in order to three Year 13 students who have recently been promoted to high ranking positions within the Combined Cadet Force.



The promotions are as follows:

Oliver Fraser to Cadet Warrant Officer, the most senior Cadet in the entire contingent.

Megan Gunther to Flight Sergeant, the most senior Air Cadet.

Poppy Fleming to Staff Sergeant, the most senior Army Cadet.

A special mention must also go to Alex Timson, who was previously promoted to Petty Officer, the most senior Naval Cadet.

Mr E Howard, the Schools Staff Instructor, said "Over the last 4 years Oliver, Megan & Poppy have shown themselves to be exceptional young people that have drive and determination. They have only been promoted through their own efforts which have been considerable. Every time they wear their cadet uniforms they are outstanding ambassadors for the CCF

and the school, and an example for all the younger cadets to look up to."

Top in Tennis

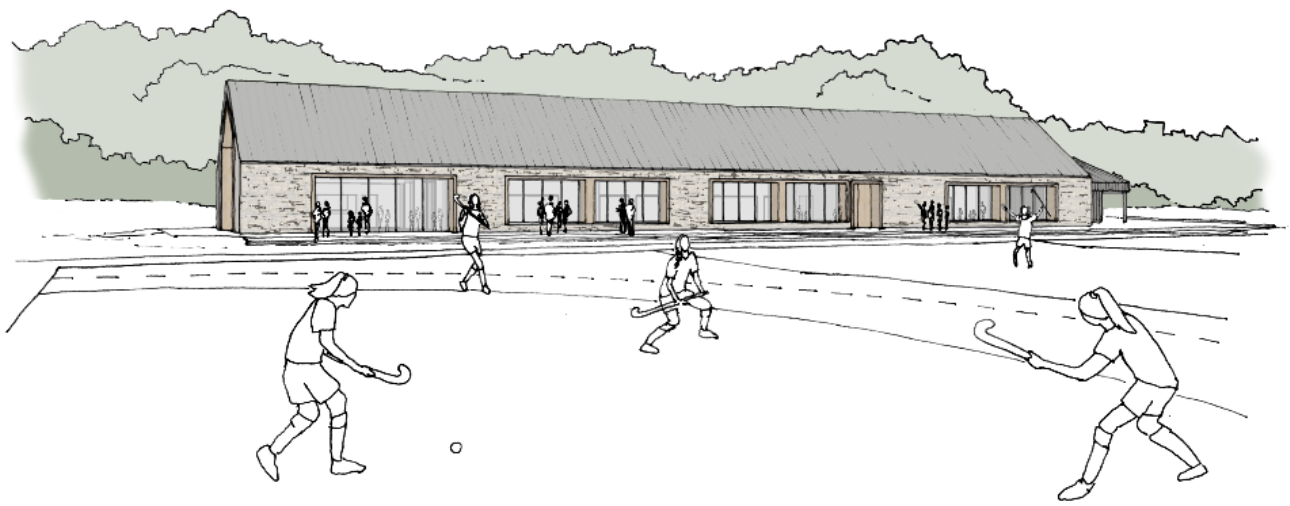
Chase Burgess, a Year 9 Stamford School student has been recognised by the Lawn Tennis Association as being ranked 1st in the county of Lincolnshire, after a successful year of play.

Chase has achieved remarkable and sustained success on the Tennis Court. Chase's success has been recognised by the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) where he has been ranked, as of January 2021, 1st in the county of Lincolnshire and 75th in the entire country for his age.



His most recent achievements have included; coming second in the U16 Central and East Country Tour and coming first in the U14 Midlands Country Tour. His continued success has also meant that global Tennis brand, Head, will sponsor Chase for a fourth consecutive year.

As well as being a Sports Scholar, Chase is also a Richard Harris Art Scholar and enjoys taking part in a wealth of co-curricular activities. These activities include; Spanish Club, Debating Society and 1532 Society.



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 the Schools to double the 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 (8 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.

OS NEWS

Football podcast gains pace for Old Stamfordian

A football podcast hosted by Old Stamfordian, Jack Godfrey (OS 13), is gaining pace across social media.

'AfterXtraTime' was started by Jack, alongside his two co-hosts, following the increasing success of their interviews with ex pro footballers on Instagram live over the lockdown period.

The podcast has now become a weekly occurrence and can be streamed on anchor, Spotify and Apple Music, with new episodes released at the beginning of each week. Additionally, the trio host 'Facebook live' events each Thursday, on their page 'AfterExtraTime'.

Discussing the podcast, Jack said: "We began AfterXtraTime as a footballing podcast with some controversy and good footballing debate covering many topics, from youth football to non-league and mental health. Weekly results are rounded off and discussed, and the cohort look forward to the week ahead; making predictions for the upcoming games, as well as discussing wider football related news and transfers."

"The highlight of the podcast for me so far is having Marlon King on and having him talk so openly about mental health in football, his time in the game and how football clubs deal with mental health in the game."

Major award for Old Stamfordian

Congratulations to David Beadman (OS 75), who has been awarded the John Mitchell Medal for his role in the Geotechnical Engineering Community. The award was first launched in 2008 after John Mitchell of Arup (who was a Geotechnical engineer) was unfortunately killed while observing piling work at a central London site in 1990.

The John Mitchell Medal award celebrates the careers of individuals in the field who have made significant contributions through their work.

David's speciality is the design of piled foundations and embedded retaining walls, which tend to be used for city deep basements and metro stations. Early in his career, David worked on the stations for the Jubilee Line Extension in London and the Copenhagen Metro. David also co-authored a design guide for embedded retaining walls which is used in the UK and around the world.

David attended Stamford School from 1966-75, enjoying maths and physics, Latin and Greek. David said: "I knew I wanted to do something related to construction, so maths and physics were the obvious choices. The most important thing that Stamford gave me is that love of maths. Mr ('Jock') McKenzie taught in the Sixth Form and I enjoyed his lessons and his weekly tests."

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.

London Dinner

Wednesday 11 November 2020

Following Government regulations, the 182nd meeting and dinner of the London Old Stamfordian Club was held on November 11 2020 in Woodford Green, with Ian Brassington, Club Chairman, as the only attendee.

Due to lockdown restrictions in place in England throughout November, Ian

Brassington was the sole member of the committee able to attend the dinner, upholding annual appropriate formalities including making an entry to the register, holding the Loyal and Silent toasts, as well as toasting Stamford School.

Throughout the year, the London OS committee planned to host the dinner in various formats permitted throughout the developing Covid-19 restrictions, including an event for 30 members, a virtual event, and an outdoor dinner for the six committee members. It was agreed that for the dinner, due to be held on Armistice Day, the most appropriate format of an in-person dinner with a sole attendee was settled upon.

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/stamford-community/lectures

REMINISCENCES

PETER SAYERS (OS 56) writes:

Who remembers the School fete in July 1956?

It was organised to top up the fund needed to complete the building of the swimming pool. In 1945 the Old Boys agreed that an appropriate War Memorial would be the pool because the War had shown that every boy should learn to swim. It was completed that year being opened by Lord Burghley on 26 May. I was one of the swimmers that took part in the ceremony. Under Mr Nottage's (biology) tuition his pupils put on a highly slapstick display of wall papering. It was huge fun to do attracting such a large crowd that we were asked to do it all over again later in the afternoon.

MIKE WEAVER (OS 64) writes:

As I have been retired for several years and currently being forced into lockdown during the Covid 19 pandemic, I have been taking the (long needed) opportunity to clear out my study and "tidy up" a bit.

Whilst going through many years of papers, documents, photographs etc I came across three photographs that I took during the first School Trip to Russia organised in 1964 by Messrs Bell and Henderson. I then remembered reading with much interest an article in the Stamfordian in 2016 about the then most recent trip to Russia and the fact that the trip had been a regular one since the original.

As I was one of the members of the original trip in 1964 I thought the following photographs might be of interest.



The five shown in the first photo are (L to R): Paul West, John Foinquinos (aka I believe, John Alkin), Chris Hawkins, Mike Blee (behind the camera and sadly no longer with us) and Neil Sanderson.



The four in the second photo taken on the deck of the ship we sailed backed on after the trip are: Pete Furness, Chris Hawkins, John F and Paul West.

The main photo shows the whole group with me centre left with a fur hat on two away from Keith Bell and just in front of Neil Sanderson. It was a three week trip and a very memorable one for many reasons and in those days a very exciting one. I seem to remember that only a few of the group (three I believe) were actually studying Russian and

most of us had actually left school at the end of the Summer Term before we travelled!



Many things stick in my mind, such as Berlin Railway Station being lined with armed guards to prevent anyone getting off the train when we stopped, then on reaching the Russian border on the train at around 2.00am having the carriage searched by armed soldiers and being searched again when we arrived outside Moscow. I also remember the queue to see Lenin's body in Red Square was so long it took about an hour and a half to get in.

If I remember correctly the trip cost around £66 which seemed a lot in 1964, but for three weeks I suppose that was not bad. We travelled by train to Moscow which took three days and then had five days in Moscow and five days in Leningrad (now St Petersburg.) After this we caught a boat back to the United Kingdom stopping for a day each in Helsinki, Copenhagen and Gothenburg. We then sailed back across the North Sea in a Force Eight Gale. The remainder of the trip I would rather forget about. 56 years later, having travelled extensively over the years, I can honestly say it was the worst journey of my life and if I'd had the strength to get off my bunk I think I would have thrown myself overboard! I think there were only two of the party who

were not badly seasick that trip - it was awful.

I have many good memories of the trip (despite the return sea crossing) and a few years ago my wife and I visited Moscow and saw many of the sights I saw in 1964 during the trip - most of which had not changed that much.

I hope that those who have gone on this trip over the years have found the welcome to be as we did and also enjoyed it as much as I did (and I think I speak for the others that went.)

Dr CHRIS JARVIS (OS 65) writes:

I do remember the School fete in July 1956, just, and still have a single memento purchased then: a shield with the school motto and insignia. This was probably the brainchild of the legendary art master Walter Douglas. How it survived down the years... God only knows, possibly a unique survivor the event. Clearly needs a little TLC.



Many familiar faces on the Russian trip. I was at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School with Pete Furness from 1965. Amazingly there were five of us from Stamford School in that year's intake. We actually matched Epsom College's numbers. I think I also recognise Pete Liddle and Roger Easey in the photographs. Do I also see the late John Cockin in there too? (also a former band mate)

I failed to get on the minority time Russian course at School - it was oversubscribed. Does that happen any longer I wonder? However I did Russian at night school about twenty five years ago to assist with my work in elite sport. After the dismantling of the USSR I discovered that many Russian athletes had learned English but were not allowed to use it. Prior to this, basic O level German via Mike Chew maintained an effective communication channel with most of the Eastern bloc.

At School I did not realise how useful German would be in later life. No doubt others will say the same thing. That said, the Cyrillic alphabet came in useful in reading Greek Restaurant signs.

Greetings to all from Groundhog Day in North Cornwall. So many worse places to be at present.

DUDLEY BRYANT (OS 61) writes:

Inspired by a photograph on Facebook of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Stamford in 1961, Dudley Bryant (OS 61) sent in a photograph of what he describes as "this famous band."

Back row L-R JR Broadbent [definite] AP Lorenz [not sure] CN Branston
4th row PJ Furness, MD Meek ?? KC Lunn
3rd row IL Starsmore, RA Haywood [definite



] DW Wright CE Cooke
2nd row PS Heath SG Cooke CFT Smith FA Aylin
1st row EA Beck, Captain G. Johnstone G.R.S.M. (Lond), Stanley Boddington, DA Bryant (Drum Major)

Capt ANTHONY (TONY) WARDALE (OS 48) writes:

I was Patrol Leader of the Cuckoos with Whisky Wainwright as the el supremo. He was I think a maths teacher. It all seems like yesterday. I was there from 1943 to 1948 when as a family we moved from the area down to the South Coast. I was aged ten on entry and as a Country House pupil came from Bourne. Bill Packer was the Housemaster. Later Raymond Mays of BRM fame sponsored a pupil and I remember a fast run back home in a car with Raymond doing 83 mph.

We had an Art Master, Gerard Hofnung, who alas died far too young. Other masters I remember were Squibs Bowman, Major Lamb, Randy Shelford, P Hughes (who was the reason I gave up Latin.)

The School ran a camp at Bench Wales which I went on twice living under canvass. I was very interested in chemistry. One was able to buy all the various compounds over the counter at the local chemists in Bourne, also

in Stamford one could buy a string of crow scarers, no checks or questions asked.

MARK ALLENBY (OS 55) writes:

A response to Captain Anthony Wardale. I also was leader of the Cuckoo patrol under the regime of Whiskey Wainwright. I would rather it had been the Eagles, but perhaps that experience of leadership enabled me to have a pip on my shoulder during National Service.

Whiskey took the scouts camping on Ingleborough. It rained incessantly, a stream through the tent and after a few days we went home early. I have a detached memory of a suitcase full of jumbled corned beef sandwiches which might have been part of that experience or on some other expedition.

HARVEY CLEGG (OS 66) writes:

My parents were lucky living in Kesteven, so my education was free after passing the 11+. They did however have to pay for my brother and me before. I have now retired gracefully from the Illustration World and spend my time designing, building and restoring pond yachts. This may be a first for OS?

I loved reading about Bart's Rolls Royce which was always parked near Little School. Strangely I passed him driving the Rolls Royce many years after I had left School



when holidaying in Devon. I remember the window glass being so yellowed it must have been difficult to see out, which is why Bart rarely exceeded 30 mph.

Other notable teachers' cars from this era were Mr Bailey's Jaguar XK 120 (I think a red Roadster) and Major Lamb's Rover which Pont bought after the Major retired. The Major had a brand-new Rover 2000 as a present for having survived so many years at Stamford School. Well that was the story at the time!

On a different theme I loved seeing the pictures of Form 1. I can still smell the polish after returning from hols. I was in Form 1 with Mrs Kinghorn and Miss Ennals 56/57. The only prize I won from 1956 to 1966 was the form prize for handwork in Form 1 (which of course I still have.) This probably explains why I flourished in the Arts later. I was also reminded at this difficult time, the flu outbreak of 1957/58ish. I caught it early (most likely because my parents travelled abroad frequently) and recall how few class members were present on my return.

Thank you for all the happy memories!

JOHN HATTON (OS 67) writes:

A few random memories from my time at Stamford 1957 to 1967:

Whatever the weather, Summer Term meant swimming without any heating. It could be as low as 59 °F, 15 °C. I wonder how many Health and Safety rules that would break nowadays. White stripe on swimming trunks until you could swim a width. Trunks that sagged and filled with water when wet. Plucking up the courage to jump off the top board. I never did dare to dive off it.

Major Lamb taking chemistry lessons in the (then new) science block and frequently popping out for a gasper whilst we wrote up the latest experiment. Unofficially taking bits of sodium out of the oil filled jar and dropping it down the sink to hear it fizz and splutter while he was having a drag.

The solitary heating boiler in the “Rems” prefab classrooms. We were only allowed one hod of coke a day, which did not last too long and so the poor boys at the back could get pretty cold; however we could illegally go and fill the hod up at the heap and avoid being caught. Hence, the stove could be filled up and the air vents fully opened so it would blaze away and get red hot. This didn't go down too well with the teachers who had to stand too close to it. Or pouring free school milk onto the lid and creating a huge stink as it burned away. Collecting the free milk in crates from under the snow to find it frozen on the top or curdled in the Summer.

Bill Tomlin did a good job of teaching me Latin as I was able to help one of my daughters to pass here GCSE. I recall he had been a mid-upper gunner in Lancasters and still had a nervous anxiety from the experience. Mr Chew taught me German and I was again able to help another daughter with her GCSE 35 years later.

At the end of term, Bart Frere would read to us; sometimes ghost stories which he made really spooky with his deep voice. Same as Bartell, 'Pont' Douglas would read to us as we painted in the art sessions. He read to us 'Slide Rule' by Neville Shute, the story of the R100 and R101 airships; a really good, but sad story.

CCF was great fun. I recall enjoying heating up a spoon on the gas cooker at home and

burning the dimples off the new boot toe caps before spending hours polishing them to build up a deep shiny layer. Blanco-ing belts and brasso-ing buckles and clips. 22 rifle shooting at the range. Then into the RAF section with less “bull’ but pretty technical stuff with navigating and flight theory. RAF Camp at Little Rissington: all the way to London on the train and then out to Kingham in Oxfordshire (I think.) Took all day. It was a hoot, hiding people's beds, removing their springs, raiding another School's dorm when they were out. First ever aeroplane flights: a Chipmunk and a Varsity, I think, and practice in a Link Trainer. I now volunteer at a local aircraft museum (majoring on the DeHavilland Mosquito) and we have a Link Trainer as a museum piece, fifty-five years on!

After that, Fire Station training. Station Officer Binks was a really nice man. We took a Coventry Climax engine water pump out into the sticks to suck up water out of a pond. Sadly, we blew the engine up, seized solid!

Kissing the Old Man; the tradition for new boys to kiss a stone effigy above the outside door of the Chapel. I too kissed the Old Man as a new boy or “smally” and was really quite anxious as I was told it was smothered in salt and pepper. I was lifted up by a pair of boys standing on benches, I recall.

Best wishes to all who remember me.

MARTIN VINK (OS 72) writes:

Thank you also for the photograph of the cadets on a naval outing. Particularly our esteemed Chairman standing on the left. I think I recognised nearly all of the crew including Jim Scorer and Mike Kimmons who went on to join the navy.



DAVID BOWLER (OS 69) writes:

Just a comment to John Hatton's remarks about Mr Tomlin, who also tried to teach me Latin. AH (Tony) Tomlin was definitely a pilot and not a mid-upper gunner, joining the RAF Volunteer Reserve and rising to the rank of Squadron Leader. He held the DFC and Bar and had flown with 619 Squadron which operated Avro Lancasters out of various Lincolnshire airfields during its lifetime. I recall that he bravely did over two tours of duty and that it is possible that he was also attached to the Pathfinders at some stage in his RAF career.

He was most certainly a nervous man displaying, not surprisingly, what today is known as PTSD; any pupil who banged his cutlery on the table at lunch in the Hall or at 30 St Paul's Street when Mr Tomlin was on lunch duty would be in for a pretty hefty number of "dates." It was explained to me once by my Housemaster that it reminded Mr Tomlin of anti-aircraft fire.

He was, of course, a "leading light" in the Stamford RAFA just a little way down St. Paul's Street.

GRAHAM BRIGGS (OS 58) writes:

I remember riding in Brian Hodgson's brother Lou's Armstrong Siddeley Sapphire. A very dignified vehicle with an early Rolls Royce automatic transmission. The transmission would somehow store a considerable amount of energy. At a red traffic light he would place both feet firmly on the accelerator and brake pedals as engine revs mounted. When the light turned green he lifted his brake foot and the car would rocket forward with squealing and smoking tyres.

Mark Allenby reminds me of a similar experience to his with a Whiskey Wainwright scout camp. He must have somehow attracted torrential rain. The camp was in Devon and this was in 1952, the year of the Great Lynmouth Flood. As in Mark's experience, we ended up with a stream flowing through the middle of the tent. But instead of going home early he found a local farmer with a large barn on whose wooden floor we spent the last couple of nights of camp. Alone among the campers, my parents had provided me with an inflatable mattress. It did me little good: someone would always stay awake until I fell asleep, at which point they would pull the plug and I would be back on hard boards like everyone else.

Harvey Clegg reminds me of Bartle Frere's 1929 Rolls Royce. He actually let me drive it once. There was no synchromesh on the gearbox so changing gear without loud grinding noises was a challenge. Bartle and I became friends and one year he and his brother (an archaeologist) took me touring in Northern Europe looking at archaeological sites in his brother's 1932 Rolls.

Bartle's whole family owned Rolls Royces and he had a picture of seven of them in the

family driveway. On one occasion Bartle attended a garden party with an associated parade of antique cars, one of which was a non-running Rolls on a trailer towed by a Land Rover. Knowing Bartle's affinity with cars, the organiser asked him if he would like to drive the Land Rover in the parade. He reportedly responded that he had never driven anything except a Rolls Royce and he did not think now was the time to start.

At that time the Art Master, whose name I forget, also owned an antique car. I am not sure what make, but it might have been a Crossley. Perhaps someone else remembers? I wonder if I was the only boarder to have a car while at school. I was able to do so because I was learning to play the church organ and then as now sadly there was not one in the chapel. I had special permission to go into town after school to practice on one of the organs in town. Well sometimes I did and sometimes I went for a drive. The car was a 1929 Austin Seven that I bought in Peterborough for twenty-five quid. I parked it down at Stamford Meadows. Luckily it never broke down so I was always able to get back to school in time for dinner!

Editor's Note: I suspect that the Art Master was the legendary W.F.E. Douglas

MICHAEL SAVAGE (OS 52) writes:
Fascinating how old memories surface and events long forgotten come back into focus, given the right nudge. Mark Allenby's contribution re Whiskey Wainwright's Scout Camps brought back to mind my first trip to Yorkshire and to that saturated Scout Camp at Ingleton (circa 1950.) I still recall the train stopping in Keighley, then totally unknown to me, but now the town where I have lived for over 20 years in retirement (and I still have to correct the frequent mispronunciations I hear and inform people

that it should be pronounced Keithley!). I pass Ingleborough quite frequently when travelling on the Settle-Carlisle Railway, driving north on the A65 in the Yorkshire Dales or heading for the Lake District-it is one of Yorkshire's Three Peaks, a popular climbing challenge, which I must admit I have never conquered and now in my late 80s probably never will! But I did manage Hellvellyn in 2009, with family alongside-and coming down was a lot harder than going up!

Happy memories indeed!

BILL TURNILL (OS 53) writes:

I remember Major Algy Lamb with his magnificent green Rover. We also incurred his wrath by pouring remnants of diazo amino benzine down his beloved lead sink which stained it a remarkable shade of brown. A delightful man to whom I owe much in that as careers master, he steered me towards the RAF, where I continued my love of flying for free, nay paid to do it!

The Jowett Javelin belonged to the Reverend Bang Wright of which we were very envious, since it was a huge improvement on all the old bangers that were still around. His ability to teach French enabled me with my O level pass to use it in all sorts of situations, and I reckon I could still have a garbled conversation with an understanding French person.

The Slingsby Glider was introduced in my time, and I did manage to get in airborne, much to the concern for his beloved cricket square by Bill Packer. As for the swimming pool, Squibs Bowman rigged up a solar heating system consisting of a war surplus pump dribbling water over a blackened corrugated iron sheet.

JOHN HARTLEY (ex staff) writes:

Some may remember me as the last appointment of Basil Deed (I believe, someone will correct me if I am wrong!) Others more probably as I filled a gap with a Local Studies course in the LIV year-or perhaps other activities during my time as the (last) Housemaster of that long gone junior boarding house St Peter's House. Though I am now living just a generous stone's throw or so from the English Channel I still find myself "doing" a considerable amount of research about Stamford's past.

PHILIP ASHBOURNE (OS 55) writes:

Thank you Michael Savage for reminding me of the Ingleborough Scout Camp. I have happy memories of this, especially of getting there and back by train. Many of us were train spotters in those distant days and some of us still are-still chasing steam at home and abroad. The highlight of the trip was the Thames Clyde Express behind a Royal Scott engine which took us from Leicester to Leeds where we changed on a train to Clapham Junction (not that one) where we changed onto the fourth train of the day to Ingleton.

These were pre health and safety days and we were given much more freedom than we would be allowed today. The train spotters were given a day off to chase trains, not before cleaning out the porridge pans. The highlight was climbing Ingleborough as a group, but running down on my own. Coming from the Fens I fell in love with mountains on that day and since then I have walked, climbed and cycled them at every opportunity.

JOHN BALAAM (OS 61) writes:

I would like to add further comment to Graham Brigg's letter in Reminiscences about the Art Master's Car. The Art Master was

undoubtedly Walter Douglas, more usually known as Ponto. He always told us that his car was a 1938 Singer which he called Albert. Albert spent most of its time in his garage and very few of us ever saw it. The nearest I got to seeing it was when I once managed to take a peep through a window and just saw only Albert's roof.

Ponto would tell us the story that the car took him and his family on their annual holiday to Wells-next-the-Sea, after which it needed major maintenance throughout the winter months. During the winter parts from Albert would appear in the Art Room for us to spend a lesson sketching them.

CLIFF DIX (OS 71) writes:

Bill Turnill mentions Squibby's solar heater for the swimming pool. It may be that Squibby had two attempts at that because I (as one who avoided the misery of games and worked with Squibby on games afternoons) was involved in a project that used the fall of the fountain in the pool enclosure to push water around a flat concrete bed outside the pool walls (no additional pump.) This construction was the length of the pool and about twelve feet wide, edged with a single brick rim, and with a run of similar brick down the centre, so that the water made a complete circuit of the base at a depth of maybe a couple of inches. I seem to recall being the bricklayer for much of that!

PETER FAWCETT (OS 60) writes:

The School Chaplain in the mid 50s was Rev David Kinghorn, who had an Austin Seven, I think. One day he had parked it in the driveway to the School Hall. A group of us "mechants" lifted it by the bumpers onto the terrace outside the Hall, then watched for Mr Kinghorn's reaction-which was calm and

Christian, I have to say! Of course we did not know who the offenders were (!) but we offered to lift it down the driveway for him.

Another connection with early motoring at that time was the elderly Mr Pick who lived just along from the Headmaster's House in St Paul's Street. He was perhaps a brother of Jack Pick-or Jack Pick himself?- who made cars in Stamford between 1899 and 1925. I understand there is published history of the Pick Motor Company.

Editor's Note: The book Stamford through Time by Christopher Davies includes a picture of the Pick Motor Works in Gas Lane. Thanks to Ian Brassington (OS 73) who has provided some further information about the Pick Motor Company. Ian has suggested that we establish a dedicated Local History Section within OSC. Watch this space!

JAMES STEPHEN METTAM (OS 59) writes:

Graham also mentions Bartle Frere's Rolls Royce and Bartle's brother. I met him on one occasion and before this I knew of him from one of his pupils of my age who I had met in Libya where I lived during vacations in my last three years at school. This younger brother was then a teacher at Lancing, a school that both he and Bartle had attended. Living abroad had the big disadvantage that parents could not take one out at weekends (at that time three 'day-out' weekends were permitted per term). Bartle was very kind to those of us whose parents were too far away to visit. He sometimes would take four of us at a time for rides in his Rolls and buy us 'tea and buns' in some very respectable cafe.

JAMES THOMSON (OS 66) writes:

The old changing room, to which John Hatton refers, was pretty spartan. I remember the two flights of concrete stairs, which took you down to the changing area. There was a strict rule that boots must be

removed before going down. In my haste to catch the bus home, I decided to ignore the rule one day and slid from top to bottom on my backside/elbows, which resulted in my finding out what 'water on the elbow' was. I got into a few scrapes like this.

Another concerned a game which we used to play, which involved throwing stones in the puddles in the car park behind St Peters. The trick was to run away quickly before your opponent could unleash his missile. On one such occasion, Andy Kluz proved that his aim wasn't so good, totally missed the large puddle and hit me just above my right eye... stitches in the hospital.

Another 'health and safety' nightmare, which wouldn't ever see the light of day nowadays, was a game called splits, which we played with knives. The object was to throw the knife so that it stuck in the ground within one foot of your opponent's foot, who then had to move his foot out to that position, repeated until someone fell over. This once resulted in a knife through Tim Hailstone's foot. I don't know if Matron ever believed that he cut it on a milk bottle.

CCF camp was just as good. I was in the army section, pictured below at Thetford camp, I think. Many guys I remember here and Messrs Chapman, Wolfenden and Riley from the staff.



Although I was in the army section, I also managed to sneak on to the RAF camp at Little Rissington, probably in the same year as John Hatton. We played the just-released 'Can't Buy Me Love' non-stop on the NAAFI jukebox so it must have been 1964.



For me, there were some outstanding teachers, Mike Chew being the star. He really set me on my way in life. I wasn't really very interested or very good at any particular subject until he inspired the keen interest in German, which led me to a degree from UCL.

The musical competition...don't think I particularly enjoyed it at the time but still know most of the words of 'The Vicar of Bray', 'In the Bay of Biscay', 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen', 'Do you ken John Peel' and a few other choice English Folk songs. The Fact and Rep exam was another highlight for me. It involved learning, by heart, a French poem, an English poem, all the Kings and Queens of England with their dates and quite a lot of other very dry information. There was a prize too and having achieved 98%, I thought it was mine. Unfortunately someone in Remove C got 99%. I wonder when the Fact and Rep was phased out?

Editor's Note: Fact and Rep was still going strong in Remove Year 1966 to 1967

ED DOLBY (OS 64) writes:

I recently came across a list of members of the London OS that was distributed by Arthur Henderson, then Chairman of the

London Old Stamfordians with an invitation to a dinner at the Honourable Artillery Company to be held on 7 June 1973. The cost of the dinner with sherry before hand was £3.50 per head. The list begins with those who left School before 1914 and ends with my generation. It shows addresses where known - long before GDPR!

BEN LOCKER (OS 90) writes:

I have a number of photographs of Walter and his car, Albert, plus one of the car taken on the school playing fields, as well as a drawing Walter did of Albert.



Albert was the first car that Walter owned. He subsequently bought a 1947 Rover called 'Jocky' with the registration JGX 895. This car previously belonged to Major Lamb, chemistry master at the school. I remember from my childhood the beautiful smell of Jocky's pristine leather interior. Finally, in the 1980s, Walter bought a Citroen 2CV6, 'Héloïse' which his elder son (my uncle) Francis (OS 62) now has.

Some of Walter's enthusiasm for old cars rubbed off on me. When I was 17, we restored an old bicycle together, following the instructions in the back pages of Ronald English's 'Cycling for You'. Every step was done perfectly, methodically and the finished machine was better than new.

MARK DEXTER (OS 74) writes:

Pont's car was a Rover, either a 12 or 16. He once tried selling it to my stepfather. It was in immaculate condition. Pont was a very eccentric but very wise old owl who was very good to me.

Pont used to smoke Senior Service, in front of the class, (what a different world) and if you asked him a question he would take a long inhale drag on his cigarette and say 'My dear boy'. He was related to scottish 'royalty' that had fallen on hard times apparently.

JONATHAN SHARP (OS 64, variously Jon, Jonnie or Seamus) writes:

I have been following the recollections of Walter Douglas with interest, and can claim to have some 'insider knowledge' as my father, H. B. (Nobby) Sharp, English master, and he were friends and our families used to spend time together.

I remember his wife, Eugenie I think, as a lovely, smiling, no-nonsense lady and there was always a welcome in their St. Leonard's Street house.

The photo shows HBS in true style standing by my grandfather's houseboat The Pilot at Heacham, Norfolk. I guess this must have been taken in 1951 or 2, as the houseboat was washed away in the Great Flood of 1953.



My brother Tim went to Stamford before me (1948? - 1958?). His claim to fame was as hooker in the Rugby 1st XV and as a trombonist. He was in the 'orchestra' for a school play production, and I remember the musicians breaking into a trad jazz number after a performance, swiftly silenced by the director, Richard Chapman I think! Tim spent most of his life in Thailand and sadly died there suddenly when he was only 64.

I have been living in south-west France for 31 years and have recently set up the Sombrun Forest Garden Project.

I can still claim to be the record-holder for the Mile in Athletics (Sports Day, 1964), as the following year the event was changed to the 1500m!

ROGER GOOCH (OS 57) writes:

I also was reminded of my time at the Ingleborough scout camp, but my only reminiscence is of struggling up

Ingleborough! Climb, reach a flat ledge, climb again, repeat several times. I recently climbed it again with my 70+ year old friends. In the meantime, however, I have lived in Scotland for over 50 years and have climbed all the Munros, some more than once.

Cliff Dix reminds me of an 'incident' involving myself and two other pupils at the school. Strange as it may seem in this time of overdependence on health and safety, we three six-formers were given responsibility for running the pool. This involved stopping and starting pumps, changing chlorine cylinders, operating the 'break-point chlorination' system for pool water sanitation, back-flushing the large sand filter tanks, etc.

Now comes the 'incident'. Come end of swimming for the year, we decided to check that the water supply to the pool was shut off. This involved getting out the pool plans and finding that the water valve was buried in a flower border. We dug in, found the valve and proceeded to turn it until it stopped turning. Next morning, before we went into lessons we were summoned to the Headmaster's office. There we learned he had been woken up by a call at three in the morning from the police (or it might have been just the water board) to say that people in the street nearby had reported that their gardens were flooded and cabbages were floating down the road! It seemed that the water board used underground valves which closed by turning opposite to normal taps. Naturally the the pool overflowed and flooded The Dell and drained through the gardens to the road. After this embarrassing interview no further action was taken and we slunk off late to our classes. Of course, by this time, the story had leaked around

the school. My lesson was maths and the joker (sorry, Bruno Brown) was taking it. His opening remark was "Ah, Gooch, turned any good screws lately?" As I hid behind my desktop lid, my face must have been redder than it was in the Headmaster's office.

COLIN FOWLER (OS 65) writes:

I was interested to read the reminiscences of James Thomson (OS 66) in a previous edition of the OS Update, and in particular the comments about the infamous 'Fact and Rep' test. This brought back some memories for me as in my case this test marked the only event for which I achieved any prize or award while at Stamford. Being presented with a book token by BLD at assembly for getting 100% was very satisfying, but did nothing for my 'street cred' amongst colleagues! Sadly, the rest of my time at Stamford was devoid of any academic highlights. In later life, as a university lecturer, I used to tell students that in the 1960s, grade E at A level stood for 'Excellent

JOE WILCOX (OS 58) writes:

I was pleased to read about Tim Sharp. Tim stayed in Stamford for a number of years after leaving school and we would meet up occasionally when I and other contemporaries were in the area. He was a ruthless Monopoly player who would readily bankrupt an unfortunate opponent rather than settle for a lesser amount in order to keep the game the game going. It was quite an experience riding in his Robin Reliant 3-wheeler!

He left Stamford with the intention of working his way around the world. I remember reports about Israel and then Thailand where he was working for an English language newspaper. I now know why sadly the reports ceased.

DEATHS & OBITUARIES

OLD STAMFORDIANS

ANTHONY PARKER (OS 43)

His son, Andrew, writes:

ANTHONY KEY PARKER 1925 – 2021

After leaving school, Anthony was sent to Trinity College, Cambridge, before being drafted into the Royal Navy, where he served as a Radar Officer in Home Fleet Destroyers. After two more years at Cambridge, Anthony took posts with the Zinc Development Association, Mond Nickel Company and Butterworths Scientific Publications, finally joining the Cambridge University Press, where he worked from 1957 to 1985. Initially, he was the editor for scientific publications but later moved to a research and development role which included involvement in the planning and construction of the Edinburgh Building to house the entire UK Publishing Division operations. It was opened by HM The Queen in 1981. He lived in South West Scotland from 1985 to 2015.

During his lifetime, Anthony became a firm believer in the truth of the Christian Gospel and of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers.

His interests included sailing, country walking, architectural history, railways and woodworking. He co-authored a book on the Fenland.

Anthony was married and widowed twice: first to Joanna Lloyd, who bore him two sons and a daughter and, secondly, to Alison Bagnall, through whom he acquired a large stepfamily.

MALCOLM LOUIS HARDINGHAM (OS 45)

Martin Hardingham (OS 50) and Catherine Doubleday (OGG 61) write:

Our brother Malcolm Louis Hardingham (OS 45) died peacefully aged 92 years on 21 July 2020 at Bramshott Place, a retirement home in Hampshire. The Thanksgiving and Burial Services took place on 14 August 2020 at St Mary the Virgin Church, Bramshott. Malcom was married to Brenda, who predeceased him in 2004. They had four children: Nigel, who also predeceased him in 2004, Richard, Michael and Karina.

On leaving Stamford School Malcolm worked for E Bowman & Sons in Stamford for a short time before being called up for National Service in the Royal Artillery. He liked being in the Army and became a regular soldier transferring to the Rifle Brigade when he went to Hong Kong, where he became ADC to the Governor General. He was a keen sportsman at School and his enthusiasm for sport continued throughout his life.

LESLIE THISELTON (OS 45)

John Riley (OS 72) writes:

I have to pass on the sad news of the death of my godfather and Leslie Thiselton (OS 72) at the age of ninety one in Peterborough City Hospital on 22 April 2020. He lived in Stamford all his life and was a great friend and singing companion of John Craddock.

JOHN SNODIN RILEY (OS 45)

John Snodin Riley passed away at the end of May 2020 at the age of 93 years.

His son writes:

My Father followed his father George Nelson Riley into Stamford School as a boy and then later, after his degree, he returned as a Master. On leaving Stamford in 1959 Father moved to Halliford School in Shepperton Middlesex where after being Geography Master for two years, he became Headmaster until 1983 when he retired from education. Father was a keen and avid member of the Old Stamfordians, especially the London section and he and Mother who predeceased her, herself a former Stamford High School girl, regularly joined the weekend gatherings until ill health precluded their attendance.

A tribute to John can be found on [page 41](#).

BARRIE HEMPSTEAD (OS 49)

His daughter, Louise Turner, writes:

I wanted to let you know that very sadly he passed away on 7th December, 2020 aged 88 years. His name was Barrie Charles Hempstead and was a pupil at Stamford School between (I believe) 1945 and 1949.

ALAN FIELD (OS 50)

Alan sadly passed away on November 12 2020. Mark Walmesley (OS 64) gave a eulogy at his funeral.

“During the eight years he spent at Stamford School, Alan was in Town House for which he served as House Prefect and Music Official in the 1949-50 academic year. He was also 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 to farce’. Alan also earned a School Certificate in English Language and Drawing.”

ALAN JONES (OS 51)

John Smith (OS 71) advised us of the death of Alan Jones on 19 June 2020. Alan lived and worked in/around Peterborough area all his life. He lived for sport and particularly cricket and was a key member of the Ufford Park Cricket Club and played with distinction for them for over 20 years. He always said he felt very privileged to have played in the School XI under MJK Smith. Following his playing days he took up umpiring and was a well respected member of the local umpires association. He was also the appointed umpire of Oundle School for a number of years. During his time at the School he was awarded the House Athletics Colours and the House Cricket Colours.

JOHN READ (OS 51)

We were informed that John Read passed away last year. Sadly we have no further details.

GERALD BRADSHAW (OS 54)

Gerald died at the age of 81 in August 2020. [The Stamford Mercury covered his death here.](#)

GORDON MacDONALD MBE (OS 66)

Major General John Drewienkiewicz (OS 64) advises that Gordon died in March 2020.

A tribute to Gordon can be found on [page 40](#).

IAN HODGSON (OS 67)

Kevin Hodgson (OS 70) reports the death of his brother Ian on 19 August 2020 in the John Ratcliffe Hospital, Oxford two days before his 71st birthday.

NOEL ASPILL (OS 70)

Noel was in St Paul's House and then in Radcliffe House. He represented the School in the 1st XV Rugby Team in an era (one of the many) when the standard of rugby at Stamford was extremely high. Noel will be remembered as a good guy.

ANDREW KNIPE (OS 70)

Andrew passed away at home in Radcliffe on Trent on 7 November 2020 aged 67. Andrew leaves partner Anne and children Eleanor and Philippa. Andrew is survived by older brother Richard and younger brother Stephen. All boys were Old Stamfordians.

RICHARD MATTHEW STANLEY (OS 89)

Steve Stanley (OS 82) reports the death of his brother Richard on 4 August 2020.

ALISTAIR TARWID (OS 72)

Alistair Tarwid of Flensburg, Schleswig Holstein, Germany, a much-loved father, grandfather and friend, died in his sleep, aged 67, after a courageous and dignified battle with cancer at Neibüll Hospice.

Tributes to Alistair can be found on [page 41](#).

ADAM JONES (OS 07)

Adam Nicholas Jones passed away at the age of 31.

From the Parents of Adam Jones, Phil & Deb, and his brother Matthew:

We would like to let you know that our son Adam passed away on 7 November 2020. Adam attended Stamford School from 2000-2007 having completed A levels in History, English and German alongside being the Captain of the Rugby 1st XV.

Adam then went on to Warwick University where he graduated with a BA Hons degree in History. At University, he became a black belt first dan in Judo at just 19, and in 2009 won the "Warwick Sport Most Improved Sportsman" award awarded across all sports. He won national medals in university judo competitions.

Adam's career took him down a path of data analytics which he very much enjoyed, and in the [September OSC Update](#) he wrote a piece about his experiences as a Web Analytics expert for people looking to explore a career in data and digital analytics.

He was loved by his friends and work colleagues and was known as entertaining, well-read and good fun.

We would like to share that Adam died of acute liver failure brought on by acute alcoholic toxicity and alcoholic liver disease. He was only 31. We had a choice: do we hide this, or do we tell people what happened to him and perhaps help others. In the end the decision was simple. We had to talk about this. Not simply for us, but for others and perhaps some good could come out of this.

The charity '[Alcohol Change](#)' conducts research; they provide advice, they look at the whole person: alcohol use, mental health, and a person's complex needs. They run alcohol awareness weeks and campaigns such as Dry January. They believe serious alcohol harm, as happened to Adam, can be prevented. [You can read more about what they do on their website.](#)

For us, his parents and his younger brother Matthew, this is a great and tragic loss. We have been touched by the messages and conversations we have had with his close friends since his death. Adam was clearly loved and [a justgiving page](#) has been set up in his memory.

To the family, friends and work colleagues of Adam we offer our deepest sympathy.

STAFF

JOHN HALE - 1985-2000, Headmaster, 1997-2000

We were sadly informed that John Hale passed away on Monday 18 January 2021. A funeral will be held on Thursday 4 February.

Before his passing, we were contacted by John's son, Edward Hale:

"John has suffered with dementia for many years and is currently very poorly in palliative care. He will be 80 on 05 January 2021 and, for his birthday, we are fund raising for Dementia UK charity in view of the fantastic support carers have given Dad over many years."

A tribute can be found on [page 43](#).

REVEREND DAVID HUGHES (1956-74)

David's family informed us of his passing at the age of 94 in July 2020. Old Stamfordians will no doubt remember David as the Northfield housemaster and teacher.

Phillip Hoskins (OS 70) writes:

David was a true inspiration to his students. He was a man of high standards and exemplary integrity. Many Old Stamfordians have good reason to be thankful to David. His work at Stamford touched so many of us, whether as House Master of Northfields, a teacher of French, a Scout Leader, the organiser of foreign trips for students, the founder and Officer Commanding RN Section CCF or simply as a conscientious, enthusiastic and kind School Master, forward looking but with Old School values.

Tributes can be found on [page 38](#).

STATION OFFICER BINKS

From Heather Mears:

Following the reminiscences of John Hatton I am writing to say it is lovely to read the happy memories of time spent on the Duke of Edinburgh's award with my father Station Officer Binks. I would like to inform all those who did their Duke of Edinburgh Award with my father, Station Officer Binks, that it is with great sadness I am writing to say he slipped away quietly and peacefully on January 5th 2021.

ANNE TIMM, Widow of Former Headmaster Geoffrey Timm

Julian Timm (OS 86) writes:

"I thought some of the Old Boys would want to know that my Mother Anne Timm died in mid October 2020 very peacefully and calmly at her Care Home in Northampton. She had

been living there for almost two years having been dealing with Parkinson's Disease-ironically the same illness with which Dad had suffered for many years. Until then she had been living in Easton in the house that my parents had built for their retirement from School. Those who knew Mother at all will know that she was a massive and integral part of what kept Dad going through his time as Head, and she was directly involved in many aspects of the School."

Our deepest sympathy goes to the Timm family.

PHILIP ENNIS

Died 14th December 2020.

His family wanted to share the words of Martin Pearson upon Philip's retirement, feeling they make an appropriate tribute.

"Philip Ennis joined the chemistry department in 1996 as a part-time member of staff, and his unfailing good humour and strong commitment to the school quickly endeared him to his colleagues. He freely gave up his time to assist with trips to the British Museum, The Science Museum, and to the Norfolk Coast Birdwatching. I was particularly impressed by his care and concern for the individual, and he was a thoughtful and cooperative colleague. His subject knowledge was first rate, and the department was grateful for his contribution. I am in no doubt that Philip will keep himself very busy – as an O.U Tutor, J.P., and someone with a passion of all aspects of the countryside. Cycling in from Uppingham everyday certainly meant he saw more of it than most! I hope he will keep in touch, and we wish him and Janet well for the future."
MLP

TRIBUTES

Rev. David Hughes (Staff 1956-74)
22nd August 1925 – 23rd June 2020



David's daughter, Jane Redfearn writes: David Hughes was born at Banstead, Surrey, where his father founded and ran a private school.

David was a sickly child and remembered being sent to recuperate from whooping cough to Tenerife on an Olsen cargo steamer, together with a boy whose parents lived on the Island and a governess. Happily, the governess took to her cabin with sea sickness and the boys had a lovely time entertained by the crew. He gained a love of the sea on that voyage, which later influenced his decision to go into the Navy.

His father had moved Rose Hill School to Alderley in Gloucestershire just before the outbreak of war, so David's school holidays were spent there. He had an enthusiasm for trains and spent much time in the local signal box mastering Morse code, even being allowed to send the signals for changing points and announcing trains. The box further down the line always knew when Master David was on the line by the deftness of touch.

He was at Rugby School at the same time as John Magee, the war poet buried in Scopwick War Graves and, indeed, his elder brother was in the same class and corresponded with John during the early part of the war. When he was old enough, David left Rugby School to join the Navy, serving on Merchant protection runs in the Solent on the *Mignonette*, a Flower Class corvette, before being transferred for duty in the underground munitions store at Corsham near Bath. When he left there he was replaced by the Duke of Edinburgh.

Entering Trinity College he took an interest in hockey and organised a post war hockey tour to Bayeux, where to his surprise he was feted as the younger brother of the officer of the battalion which recaptured Bayeux but died in the assault. After Trinity he joined his father's school as a teacher and there met and married Anne Vere Whitehead in 1950, who had recently joined the staff as a school cook, and their first daughter Jane was born there.

Like many sons he wanted to be more independent of his father, so he left to take a position as a teacher at Abberley prep school and second daughter Sally arrived.

Two years later he was appointed as Northfields housemaster at Stamford School,

where he stayed for more than 25 years. Rachel was born at Northfields and he often joked that he had a family of three girls and 36 boys. While at Stamford he taught English and French, coached rugger and hockey, ran the local Scout Troop, becoming District Commissioner, and also inaugurated the School's Naval CCF Section.

As a member of a family who were generally either teachers, lawyers or clergymen, he felt a calling to the church. He trained at Lincoln Theological College, serving his curacy at St. Botolph's Boston, with a special responsibility for St. Christopher's at the time virtually just a hall, and then Rector of Graffoe.

His mentors were his uncle and godfather, the Reverend Geoffrey Raven of Lyddington near Oakham and the Bishop of Grantham, Tony Otter.

On retirement in 1990, he and Anne moved to Ruskington and adopted the friendly congregation of Bloxholm as their home church. They much enjoyed their extended family of six grandchildren and more recently three great grandchildren.

As a retirement project, in 2003/2004 he adapted some of his sermons into two books of *Homespun Homilies*, as a daily reflection during Lent and Advent.

His beloved Anne died in 2008, but the strength of their bond left him with the continued sense of her presence.

Although not able to get about more recently, he puffed away at his pipe and extolled the virtues of "The Repair Shop" and other topical interests.

He died peacefully in his sleep at home on 23rd June 2020.

David was one of those people whose God was a cheerful being with a sense of humour, as was David. He always said it was better to be content than merely happy.

Jerry Newlove (OS 69) writes:

I have fond memories of David, Anne and the girls at Northfields House and it was always a pleasure to be able to tell your School colleagues that you were part of the Northfields family, because that is how it felt. I am still in contact with two or three ex Northfields friends even after 50 years!

That bond of friendship was born out of the wonderful atmosphere created by David.

David was a keen scouter not only with Groups in Stamford but rising to become District Commissioner and I recall David and my parents organising various events in Lincoln to raise money for the Stamford School Scout Troop.

I am also eternally grateful to David for giving me my first taste of responsibility as Head of House at Northfields, something that I only appreciated later in life.

A sad day, but there must be many ex Stamfordians like me, over whose life David had a great influence.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon MacDonald MBE 1948-2020

Major General John Drewienkiewicz (OS 64) writes:

Those at Stamford in the first half of the 1960s will be saddened to learn of the passing of Gordon MacDonald at the comparatively young age of 71.

Quiet, kind and dignified, he was a Town House boy who was captain of cross country and very keen senior cadet of the CCF. He was instrumental in assisting Ken Riley to set up the CCF's Arduous Training base in the Lake District, which sparked a love of the outdoors which remained with him throughout his life.

On leaving Stamford he joined the Army and completed officer training at Sandhurst. Among his achievements there was completing the gruelling Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race. He was commissioned into the Royal Engineer. Most of his contemporaries then went on to study for a degree at the Army 'university' at Shrivenham, but Gordon opted to go straight to an operational unit, arguing that was what he had joined for.

Consequently, in the summer of 1969 his troop of sappers were part of the High Readiness 'Spearhead' Group which was sent to Belfast as the 'Troubles' erupted. He was thus the first Royal Engineer on that scene, an experience which defined his subsequent career.

After this literal baptism by fire Gordon was posted to Germany, where pleasant garrison life beckoned. But instead, his early experiences in Northern Ireland made him a natural for the training team set up to prepare the long succession of units that had to be sent from Germany for emergency tours in Ulster.

His sterling service singled him out for attendance at the Army's Staff College at Camberley, as featured in the BBC series 'War School'. While at Staff College Gordon took up dinghy sailing and with a friend went on to win the Army Dinghy Sailing Championship.

However, Northern Ireland came calling again and in 1983 Gordon was sent to command the only Engineer Unit permanently based there. This unit contained the specialist elements that required extra skills and continuity, such as High-Risk Search. Two frantic years were rewarded by a well-deserved MBE for Gallantry, early promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and selection to return to the Staff College to teach the cream of the next generation.

In 1988 he was sent to Ripon to command the 700-strong Engineer Regiment there, which at last got him back to the hills he had loved in his youth. His life was challenging and busy but with enough time to get hill walking again and to enjoy the ambiance and peace of the Dales.

After so many years of having to move at short notice and with so much time separated from his family, Gordon decided to retire from the Army and settle in Ripon. His vast experience made him much in demand advising on the security and protection of buildings, designing bomb proof buildings far and wide. He then completed a master's degree in Construction Safety at Liverpool University. Subsequently, he worked as a consultant, advising architects and engineering companies on safety.

He was working up to September 2019, when while still feeling very fit and active he was diagnosed with lung cancer of unknown origin. Very sadly he passed away in March 2020. Gordon is survived by his wife Christine, the love of his life throughout his career. They had a son and a daughter and latterly a granddaughter, now just 2 years old. Gordon was delighted to have belatedly become a granddad.

John Snodin Riley (OS 45)

Michael Sharpe (OS 64) writes as follows:

My sincere condolences to John Riley's family. "Snod" as he was affectionately known, was my first form master in Upper II in 1954. As a rather shy eight year old in my first term at "big school," I was at first rather shy of this strict, but fair master. But I always remember him marching in one afternoon and declaring that there would be no lessons that afternoon, we would be listening on the radio to one of our own OS playing on the wing for Oxford in the annual Varsity Match against Cambridge. This was of course MJK Smith, who went on to become a double blue and a double international-at rugby and cricket. I credit "Snod" with giving me the enthusiasm for competitive sport and the motivation to do well. After all, if a Schoolboy at Stamford could achieve so much, why couldn't I? I will always be thankful to him and have been telling this true story for the last fifty years or more!

Alistair Tarwid (OS 72)

Alistair's sister, Helen Gilliot, writes:

Alistair joined St Peter's boarding house in September 1962 and left in 1972, after a mixed academic career. He had fond memories of living in Stamford and continued to visit friends there over the years. Not at all suited to the medical career mapped out for him whilst at school, Alistair



moved to Flensburg, another architecturally beautiful town, in his twenties. He became a gifted linguist, working as a simultaneous translator at International Conference, taught English to Renewable-Energy Engineers and translated anything and everything from pamphlets to technical manuals (Ger-Eng-Ger), voice-overs for promotional videos and progress videos for Kiel shipyard.

Alistair was a Bibliophile, keen historian and archivist, tracing his family's roots to C15th Poland/Lithuania. He was writing a book on Colley Cibber 1671-1757, whose family came from Flensburg.

A flamboyant character with many friends in Flensburg and across Europe, he will be greatly missed by his daughter Katharina, granddaughters Lilly and Anna, and his sister Helen and her family.

David Bond (OS 62) writes:

Alistair died on 11 November 2020 in Flensburg Northern Germany where he had lived for the past forty years.

At School he revelled in the Art Shack world of Walter Douglas and the idiosyncratic ways of Cuthbert Ward and Bartle Frere. These were his heroes and legends whose DNA he assimilated and displayed throughout his life.

After a short lived career as a Policeman, he began working on archaeological digs, including the Stamford Castle Site, where he made drawings of the items that were discovered. He also became an enthusiastic member of the local arts and theatre groups and a frequent singer at concerts.

It was romance that took him away to Flensburg where he worked initially

as a graphic designer and latterly as a freelance translator, much in demand by large organisations. His artistic and musical interests continued unabated, and as a consummate communicator, he was often hired as the MC for concerts and conventions. Most remarkable of all was his joining a theatre group that toured all over Schleswig-Holstein performing plays and musicals in Low German.

He never lost his interest in or affection for Stamford and has been a frequent and welcome visitor to the town. He was a generous and kind man of immense stature and presence. SES can be proud to have nurtured him.

Simon Sergeant (OS 72) writes:

I was recently reading old copies of the Stamfordian and read a contribution by Alistair. He was the person who introduced me to archeology as I heard the digging sounds in Edley-Morton's garden. He was in charge of excavating the well. I was Squibby's gardener. Later we dug Stamford Castle together. Last time I saw him was in 2010 at the Mansion House dinner. We went to a bar afterwards. He was always bit eccentric, even in Browne where he shared a room with Roy Hamley next to the one I shared with Mike Earl. These rooms were destroyed by the fire.

Editor's Note: Alistair, Simon and I were together in Form I and Lower II. Alistair leap frogged Upper II and left Simon and me behind, although Simon stayed with him in Southfields and Browne. He was very bright, but always had time to help and support those of us of lesser ability.

James Buckman, SES Archivist, writes:

Alistair Alexander Tarwid attended Stamford School from 1962-72. We already know

that he was secretary of the Archaeological Society. According to his admissions card, he earned his General Certificate in Mathematics in July 1968, and then the following year in English Language and Literature, History, French, Chemistry and Art.

Alistair also took part in Drama during his time at the School. In 1968, he played "Mr Whinby" in *The Form* by N.F. Simpson. Later the same year, he and his sister, Helen, were in the cast of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Alistair played Seyton and Helen was Lady Macduff. Alistair was also an assistant to the Stage Manager on the production side.

John Hale (Staff 1985-2000, Headmaster 1997-2000)



Dr. Peter Mason, Principal of Stamford Endowed Schools 1997-2008 writes:

I was so sorry to read the sad news of John Hale's recent death. John was the epitome of a dedicated Stamford schoolmaster in his teaching and influence on the boys. I had the privilege of working with him for three years before he retired and benefiting from that dedication when I took up post as SES Principal in 1997. John's experience, gentle and wise advice were all invaluable in helping to guide us through those early stages of restructuring the schools.

The natural respect that Stamford School colleagues had for him helped to reassure and alleviate the natural anxieties that existed at that time of change. As a key member of my senior team he was always a pleasure to work with: thoughtful, measured and someone for whom the words duty and dependability were of central importance. And in his more relaxed moments he showed a great sense of humour.

Like other Stamford schoolmasters before him John will be remembered with thanks and great affection by many boys, parents and staff.

Upon announcing John's passing on social media we received many comments from Old Stamfordians sharing their memories of him.

Here are a selection of those comments:

Very sad to hear the news about John Hale. I think we both joined the school at the same time, and his younger son was in my year. I was incredibly fortunate to be taught maths by John at school. He was a fantastic teacher and I'll always be grateful for his patience and guidance!

Many years later I was invited back to play on several occasions in the annual OS XI v Tolethorpe cricket fixture which John organised. He was always interested in how pupils had progressed in life after school and it was always fun to reminisce about the past! Thankfully I don't recall ever being in any serious trouble. But the values that John instilled in me during my time at school will always be invaluable.

Apart from him at School, he was a neighbour of ours for many years - Adelaide Street. Such a quiet man. He and Anne were simply a lovely couple. RIP John. Such sad news. Mr Hale aka Chopper was a legend. Years later I got to know John (as I was able to call him then!) through Tolethorpe cricket. Great bloke and part of SS history

Very sad news, a good man and a good teacher. My condolences to his family.

This is sad news. He was a really nice man and managed to fill the very large shoes of Bruce Mackenzie with great style.

Really sad news - RIP

Very sad news. Fond memories of a lovely and well respected teacher/headmaster who had a quiet yet knowing manner which drew you in. RIP John and thank you for being so wonderfully approachable. My first memory post interview of John must be the staff production of Trial by Jury and also the many dinner invites which always made you feel at ease.

He had great qualities which I believe the boys at Stamford respected. He was an excellent headmaster.

RIP. Such a lovely man always had time to chat to staff.

Very sorry to hear this. He became Headmaster in 1997 when I was Head Boy and we met for lunch yearly after I left Stamford for a few years. Was a great guy. Sad to see this. RIP

Very sad to hear this. He was a lovely man and a good friend of my family.

He was a solid guy, you knew where you stood . I remember having a difference of opinion with him a few weeks before leaving, he shut me down by saying, "You never leave Stamford School!" Memorable line

Was a true gentleman. RIP

I'm sad to hear this news and please pass on my condolences to Mr Hale's family.

A lovely man who will be remembered fondly by very many of us.

He was a real gentleman

My favourite teacher

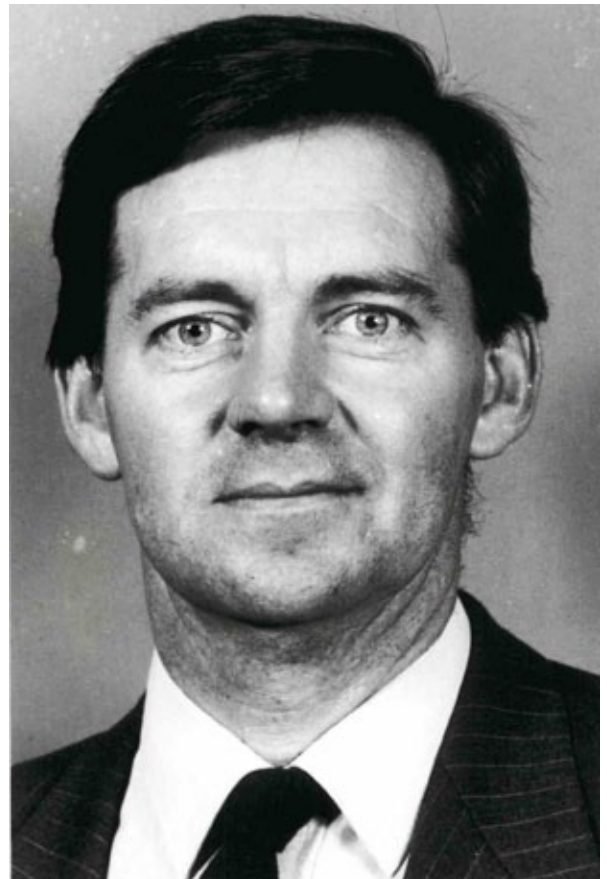
He was my maths teacher and thanks to him I had As for all them. His signature move was to use the door to 'fan' the room when he entered.

We used to call him Chopper, dunno where it came from.

Rip chopper

Great maths teacher and all-round good guy

I remember Mr Hale well. He did the Deputy Head role very well taking on the disciplinarian act and keeping us all on our toes! Glad he got the top job and I bet he was far more relaxed in that role too. Rest in Peace, Sir.



The Beechey Brothers

#archivestories



The tragic tale of three brothers who gave their life for King and Country, Year 12 student, Elizabeth Henry, reminds us of the sacrifices made by the heroic men.

On the August 4th, 1914 Britain declared war on Germany which was to change the life of every person living in Britain.

“Britons Wants You! Join Your Country’s Army!” This advertisement beckoned the men of Britain to enlist for war. Among these men were the eight sons of the Rev. Prince William Thomas Beechey, Rector of Friesthorpe: five of whom were never to return. Their mother, Amy Beechey, was presented to King George V and Queen Mary in April 1918, and was thanked for her sacrifice by Queen Mary, she famously replied “It was no sacrifice, Ma’am- I did not give them willingly.”

As a School we have many alumni to be proud of, no more so than three of these

brothers Barnard, Charles, and Leonard Beechey.

The first-born, Barnard, was also; the first to die, the first telegram home, and the first-time a worry-stricken mother would read the words “It is my painful duty to inform you...”

Before war stole his life Barnard was a talented mathematician and teacher at the school between 1899-1901. Anyone who reads the letters written home to his mother can understand him to have been a devoted son. Sergeant Beechey spent the war in France and in a letter to his mother in September 1915 said, “I have just come out of the trenches, we were in three days and it rained most of the time.” His very British reference to the weather seems like an attempt to normalise and comfort his mother that the trenches, that were in truth inexplicably brutal and squalid, were not that bad. Only a few days before his death he wrote to his mother for the final time, again trying to provide her with some reassurances, telling her “I really am all right and don’t mind life, only we all wish the thing was over.”

Like so many his body was never found, nor is there a marked grave for Barnard Beechey, but a cross laid on the grave of a Lincolnshire soldier in a French war cemetery “known only unto God”.

The second eldest son Charles, known as ‘Char’, was a pupil at Stamford School

between 1890-1897. He then entered St John's, Cambridge in 1897 earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1900, becoming an Assistant Master and returning to his old school in 1913 to 1916. In 1916 he went from being our assistant master to being a soldier in France in the trenches. By Christmas of that year he was in the hospital with kidney disease and his recovery came with sorrow hearing of two of his brother's deaths. In a letter to his mother describing his grief he said, "I do not think many families have done more for the country than we have." There is no dispute in the enormity of the 'sacrifice' the Beechey family made.

8 sons; 8 brothers; 8 men; 8 telegrams to fear the arrival of.

Charles was a keen naturalist. In 1917 Charles found himself, now a Private, aboard a ship heading for eastern Africa. His new, exotic surrounding left him in wonder at the diverse wildlife. Amy, his mother, received a letter detailing "The butterflies here are the most beautiful and varied". Charles retained hope of being "able to bring a few of the best home to show". However, only a few months later, Amy received the feared telegram telling her that her son had been hit in the

"It was no sacrifice, Ma'am- I did not give them willingly."

chest leaving "little hope". Aged 39 the enthusiastic naturalist died, laid to rest in a war cemetery in Dar es Salaam.

Leonard Beechey, who was a pupil at the School in 1897, was one of some 2000 railway clerks in an office at London's Euston station when the war began. At 35 in 1916 he signed up among comrades half his age in the London Irish Rifles. Sprung from London to France's trenches by the next Christmas he wrote letters packed with questions about his brothers indicating the close-knit family that the Beecheys were. Learning of the death of his brother Charles was "very difficult" and he said, "each one seems a harder blow than the previous one." He, along with so many others, craved the comfort only a mother can provide saying "I wish I could see you." Rifleman Leonard Beechey's cross is placed in a cemetery where he is buried near the French city Rouen where he was gassed, the effects of which are demonstrated in the scrawled letter he wrote whilst he was dying.

In Friesthorpe, for the first time in 100 years three restored church bells rang to remember and commemorate the five Beechey brothers killed in World War One and the family, that was one of only three in the country to have lost so many sons, that suffered.

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

Sources:

Stamfordian Magazines, 1916 and 1918



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

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

Upcoming Events

Luffenham Heath Golf Meets

Saturday 8 May 2021

Saturday 9 October 2021

Contact: [Geoff Holyoake](#)

Burghley Park Golf Meet

Friday 27 August 2021

Contact: [Neil Nottingham](#)

Boston Lunch

Saturday 18 September 2021

Boston & Country Club

Boston

PE21 6RL

Contact: [Dudley Bryant](#)

183rd London Dinner

Wednesday 10 November 2021

RAF Club

128, Piccadilly

London

W1J 7PY

Contact: [Ian Brassington](#)

Old Stamfordian

Autumn Get-Together

20 November 2021

Contact: [John Smith](#)

OS Reunion Weekend 2022

Friday 10 June - Sunday 12 June

Contact: [Natalie Pretsell](#)

[Community Engagement Manager](#)

For enquiries please contact the
Development and Alumni Relations Office:
oldstamfordians@ses.lincs.sch.uk

Old Stamfordian

Autumn Get-Together

20 November 2021

We were unable to hold an AGM last year and even though we are unable to hold a Reunion Weekend this year the principles of good governance dictate that we should at least hold an AGM this year. We therefore propose to hold a reasonably low-key get-together on 20 November 2021 with a Chapel Service, AGM, lunch and the opportunity to watch the School First XV Rugby on Mainfield in the afternoon.

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.

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

It is disappointing to have had to cancel this year's Reunion. 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.

Year Group Representatives - Events

We are delighted to be able to bring you an Old Stamfordian event this Autumn, and although it won't be as large an event as the usual Reunion Weekend, we hope that you will be able to join us. Enthusiasm for the Reunion in 2022 is already gathering pace, particularly after the cancellation of Reunions in 2020 and 2021, so at this point, please note your diaries and be assured that a warm welcome awaits you in Stamford when the time comes.

The Old Stamfordian Club now seeks your help. We are looking for Year Group Representatives to help us encourage your contemporaries to return to Stamford for all or part of the Autumn Get-Together as well as the Reunion Weekend 2022.

Generally we approach Year Groups to attend Reunion on a fifth or tenth anniversary of leaving or a multiple thereof. For the 2022 Reunion Weekend we have some catching up to do given the cancellation of the 2020 and 2021 Reunions.

We will be therefore be approaching leavers from the 1950s and 1960s, 1970, 1971, 1972,1975, 1976, 1977,1980, 1981, 1982,1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016 2017, 2020 and 2021.

Seeing the joy on people's faces and feeling the warmth when friends from Stamford meet up makes the whole job more than worthwhile.

We are not limited to the years mentioned above. Groups from other years will be just as welcome and equally well supported.

Thank you in anticipation.

Simon Richardson

Contacts:

[Simon Richardson](#)

[07974 395220](tel:07974395220)

[Natalie Pretsell, Development Office](#)

We also encourage you to spread the word of events to any Old Stamfordians that you may be in contact with and who may otherwise be unaware of events.



Old Stamfordian 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 | | | |
| 10.00 | Morning Prayer | Chapel | Free |
| 10.30 | Registration and Coffee | The Atrium | Free |
| 11.00 | OSC AGM* | Geoffrey Timm Reading Room | Free |
| 12.00 | OSC Lunch | Oswald Elliott Hall | Over 25: £27 25 & Under: £20 2021 Leavers: £10 |
| 14.00 | Stamford School 1st XV Rugby | Mainfields | Free |

*All are welcome to attend the AGM but only those with voting rights under the current rules are entitled to participate in the meeting and vote

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 Points:

John Smith (OS 71)

SES Development Office

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.

THE OLD STAMFORDIAN CLUB
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| <u>Income</u> | | |
| Annual Subscriptions & Donations | 1,020 | 1,085 |
| Interest received | 78 | 168 |
| OS Merchandise sold | 0 | 85 |
| <u>Received by School in future</u> | | |
| Term subscriptions | 0 | 525 |
| Profit/(Loss) on Reunion Day | 0 | 2 |
| | 1,098 | 1,865 |
| <u>Expenditure</u> | | |
| Sundries | 125 | 163 |
| Other postage and expenses | 0 | 0 |
| OS Merchandise purchased | 0 | 55 |
| Stock write down | 0 | 0 |
| Silver buttons | 0 | 806 |
| Loss on Leicester Tiger tickets | 0 | 350 |
| <u>Paid by School in future</u> | | |
| Foundation Costs Accrual released (Sept 18 - Dec18) | 0 | -1,667 |
| Leavers ties purchased | 0 | 0 |
| Bursaries | 0 | 599 |
| Promotional events | 0 | 0 |
| | 125 | 306 |
| Excess of income over expenditure | 973 | 1,559 |

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| <u>Assets</u> | | |
| Sundry stock | 250 | 250 |
| Sundry debtors | 0 | 0 |
| | 250 | 250 |
| <u>Cash at bank</u> | | |
| Current account | 12,444 | 1,435 |
| HSBC Deposit account | 19,853 | 20,333 |
| Secure Trust account | 0 | 10,862 |
| | 32,547 | 32,880 |
| <u>Liabilities</u> | | |
| Accumulated fund at 1st January 2020 | 31,574 | 30,015 |
| Excess of income over Expenditure | 973 | 1,559 |
| Balance at 31st December 2020 | 32,547 | 31,574 |
| Sundry creditors | 0 | 1,306 |
| | 32,547 | 32,880 |

The above accounts were adopted by the Committee of the Club on *January 23* 2021

OWG

 Chairman

Accountants report to the Committee of the Old Stamfordian Club

We have examined the above accounts without carrying out an audit. These accounts are in accordance with the books and records produced by us.

Jackson & Grimes

 Jackson & Grimes Limited
 Chartered Certified Accountants

.....
1st April 2021

THE OLD STAMFORDIAN CLUB MARCH 2021

THE CASE FOR CHANGE (amendments in bold)

Background

The initiative for the Rule Changes has come from the Committee of the Old Stamfordian Club.

As is well known, the Old Stamfordian Club jealously guards its independence, while at the same time recognising that the Old Stamfordian Club forms a seamless part of being a student at the School and part of the Alumni Community.

Our aim is to ensure that the Rules reflect the mission of the Old Stamfordian Club.

The Old Stamfordian Club is committed to serving all members of the Club and it is important that there is a set of Rules which provides the framework to enable us to meet the needs and aspirations of all members. **As has been stated before, the most important people in the organisation are you the members.**

Over-arching Reasons for the Rules

Over-arching reasons for the Rules are:

- set out the objectives and purposes of the Club
- define the structure of the Club
- provide the cornerstone upon which the Club operates as an effective group
- ensure smooth and efficient running of the affairs of the Club
- set out the rules by which the Club will operate
- define the management regime of the Club
- provide a framework for the members to control the Club

Changed Circumstances within the Old Stamfordian Club

There are two key changes of circumstance in particular:

- Will Phelan, Principal of Stamford Endowed Schools, has a vision of the Stamford Community consisting of the three schools, the Old Stamfordian Club, the Old Girls' Guild, parents of students and alumni, and local institutions. On the basis that so much more can be achieved by co-operation and collaboration, the Old Stamfordian Club is committed to playing its full part in the Stamford Community as it develops
- The level of activity within the Old Stamfordian Club is increasing substantially and the nature of some of the activities is changing. The Old Stamfordian Club is committed to providing a pro-programme which will appeal to all generations. The dream is that one day we will have a programme which has such a beneficial offering that when Will and Nick Gallop, Headmaster of Stamford School, are talking to prospective parents they are able to say "not only will your son receive an education, but afterwards he will be a member of the Old Stamford Club, the benefits of which are life-long fellowship and friendship and an integrated package of support, also life long."

If we are to achieve our goals and objectives, then it is important that the Rules not only meet the criteria under the Over-arching Objective above, but also provide a framework which is fit for purpose and enables the Old Stamfordian Club to meet its goals and objectives and make good on its promises.

Please see in particular:

- Rule 2
- Rule 3
- Rule 4
- Rule 5
- Rule 6

- Rule 7
- Rule 9

Rule 2 underlines the commitment of the Old Stamfordian Club to play a full part in the Stamford Community as well as being of social benefit for individual members.

Rule 3 deals with Membership. Membership fees are now collected by the School via a fee supplement throughout the students' time at School. In recent years membership has in practice been automatic and the result of the amendment to Rule 3 is that this position is recognised. Membership is therefore automatic provided that the criteria in clause 3.1 are met. Nevertheless, it is important both from an operational and a governance point of view that the Committee takes over-riding responsibility for the management of the Old Stamfordian Club, including issues of genuine concern that are caused by the actions of individual members, which will inevitably arise from time to time. For many years the Rules contained an expulsion clause and it is proposed to re-introduce this. Please see clause 3.6. The exercise of this power is circumscribed by the Committee's over-riding duty of fairness and by the rules of natural justice (everyone has a right to be heard before a decision is taken.)

Rule 4 contains a provision that the Chairman of the Reunion Organising Sub Committee should be an Officer of the Club. The Reunion is one of our flagship activities and this provision simply reflects the importance of the Reunion within the Old Stamfordian Club.

Rule 5 contains a provision for attendance at Committee Meetings via electronic means at the Chairman's discretion.) Given the way in which the Old Stamfordian Club is evolving, the increased workload of Committee Members and improvements in IT/Communications, attendance via electronic means is equally effective, saves travelling time and frees up Committee Members' time which can be used to

drive the Old Stamfordian Club forward.

Rule 6 provides an additional control mechanism for the membership at large. In addition to members being able to exercise control by participation in the AGM, there is also a provision whereby control can be exercised via an EGM. The expression Independent Examiner features in clause 6.1 for the first time simply to reflect current practice. This does not change the fact that the Committee remains responsible and accountable to Old Stamfordian Club members for financial performance and stewardship.

As stated, fees are now collected by the School via a fee supplement throughout the students' time at School. While the Old Stamfordian Club remains independent and jealously guards that independence, Rule 7 reflects the fact that the Old Stamfordian Club, now engages the Development Office to provide a Secretariat function. The relationship is now governed by a Charter and kept under regular review. In short the Committee provides the leadership and takes responsibility, while the Development Office provides the Secretariat function.

Our hope is that Dissolution is and will remain the remotest of prospects. Nevertheless Rule 9 provides a mechanism in the event that possibility comes into play.

Finally

The Case for Change is no more and no less than this:

- to reflect the evolution of the Old Stamfordian Club
- to ensure that there is a set of Rules which are fit for purpose and provide a framework to enable the Old Stamfordian Club to meet its goals and objectives and make good on its promises.

Phillip Hoskins
March 2021

OLD STAMFORDIAN CLUB

RULES

(amendments in bold)

1. Name

1.1 The Club is called the 'Old Stamfordian Club'.

2. Objectives

2.1 The objectives of the Club are to be a fellowship and friendship organization, providing networking and support for all its members. In addition, the Club recognizes its position as a member of the Endowed Schools Community and the key supportive role it can play through engaging with others in that Community.

2.2 The Club will operate on a 'not for profit basis'.

3. Membership

3.1 The Club consists of: all students, who have attended Stamford School and are granted ordinary membership once they have attained the age of 18 years. This membership is granted on the basis of the fee supplement collected by the School from students throughout their time at the School. Any automatic right to membership may not apply to a student who has been expelled from the School.

3.2 Teaching staff at the School will automatically be associate members of the Club for life. Associate members pay no membership fees and have no voting rights.

3.3 Former staff can apply to the OS Club Secretary for ordinary membership of the Club. (Details of any joining fee for full membership will be made known at the time of application and will be held as part of Club administered funds).

3.4 The Principal and the Head of Stamford School will be ex officio, Honorary Life Members of the Club.

3.5 Honorary Life Membership can be awarded in recognition of special service to the OS Club and/or the School. The grant of HLM bestows full membership upon the recipient, if they are not already an ordinary member.

3.6 The Committee may by unanimous vote refuse, suspend or terminate membership.

3.7 Only members of the Club are entitled to wear Club colours.

4. Officers of the Club

4.1 The following will be Officers of the Club ex-officio:

- The Principal will be the Honorary President of the Club
- The Head of Stamford School will be the President of the Club
- Any Honorary President or President retiring from the Endowed Schools will be Vice President for life

- Members of the Club who are deemed to have given especially meritorious service may be elected to the office of Vice President
- The immediate past Chairman will be an Officer of the Club for as long as his successor is Chairman

4.2 The following are the Elected Officers of the Club:

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- **Chairman of the Reunion Organising Sub-Committee**
- Membership and Information Secretary
- Communications Officer
- Editor of OS Updates
- Events (Sports) Officer

5. The Committee and its Responsibilities

5.1 The Club will be managed by a committee and it will transact all the necessary business of the Club.

5.2 The Committee will meet at least once a year for this purpose but otherwise, in its management of the Club, it will decide on the frequency and agenda of its meetings, ensuring at all times that the operation of the Committee is consistent with the overall objectives of the Club and these Rules.

5.3 The Committee will exercise oversight of the operations undertaken on its behalf by the Endowed Schools' Alumni Office. The Director of Development and External Affairs, and the **Community Engagement** Manager will normally attend Committee Meetings to assist in this process.

5.4 The General Secretary will be the Secretary to the Committee. An emergency meeting of the Committee can be convened at the discretion of the Secretary or by him at the request of any 2 members of the Committee.

5.5 The lower of eight voting members or one third of the number of Committee Members in post rounded up to the nearest full number will constitute a quorum and can include any members that the Chairman has agreed can contribute by electronic means.

5.6 The Committee will comprise the elected and ex-officio officers, 2 members nominated by the London Old Stamfordians, together with 8 other elected members and any other members, who have been co-opted onto the Committee. Co-opted members have no voting rights.

5.7 The Committee will consider nominations for Honorary Life membership and those nominations that are considered deserving by the Committee will be put before the AGM for ratification. Ratification of HLM status at the AGM requires support from at least 2/3 of those voting.

5.8 Those proposed for Honorary Life Membership will be expected:

- Teaching staff – to have been employed at the School for at least 15 years and to have worked outstandingly in the

service/interests of the OS Club and/or the School

- In all other cases - to have given outstanding service to the OS Club and/or to have promoted the standing, reputation and prosperity of the School

6. General Meetings

6.1 Annual General Meetings (AGM)

- The AGM of the Club will take place on the Saturday of the annual Reunion Weekend. Voting on the business before all General Meetings will take place by those present through a show of hands (unless stipulated differently elsewhere in these Rules). Those entitled to vote at a General Meeting are: Ordinary Members, the Hon. President, the President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Life Members who are not Ordinary Members and any Elected Officer not otherwise eligible to vote (during their period of office).

- The Elected Chairman (or an agreed deputy) will take the chair at this meeting and at all other types of meeting of the Club. He may exercise his personal vote at his discretion, whilst being aware of the need to convey impartiality. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman can exercise a casting vote to resolve the matter.

- The Chairman will make a report at the AGM, detailing the work of the Committee and the main activities of the Club, during the previous year.

- An Auditor [**Independent Examiner**] will be appointed at the AGM. The Club Treasurer will present **to the AGM an annual account that has been subjected to an independent examination**, together with his report.

- The AGM will also consider a proposal not relevant to 8 below, that has been submitted to the Secretary in writing, at least 2 months prior to the date of the meeting. A quorum at the AGM will be fifteen members.

- The Elected Officers of the Club (in 4.2 above) and the 8 members of the Committee will be elected at the AGM. They will automatically resign at the end of each Club year and will be eligible for re-election, subject to the provisions of the Rule below. Should the Secretary receive more nominations than there are positions, then the procedure in the Appendix to these Rules will be followed.

- Any member of the Committee who has sat continuously for 7 years, without holding an Officer position, will not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year. (Those not eligible for re-election will not exceed two in any one year)

6.2 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

- The Committee have the power to call an EGM of the Club. If the EGM is called by the Committee to deal with unresolved business from the previous AGM, then a quorum will be the same as that for an AGM.

- For all other matters and in all other respects, the Committee will comply with the conditions set out below.

- The Secretary will also call an EGM upon receipt of a requisition to do so, that identifies the single issue to be debated and is signed by at least 100 members. The meeting must take place within 60 days of the requisition being received, with not less than 21 days' notice being given to all members of the date, time and venue. This notice can be given by email or post. A quorum at an EGM will be 30 members.

7. Finances

7.1 The subscriptions previously paid over to the Club by the School are now used to pay for the Secretariat functions that are provided by the Alumni Office to the Club and to fund an annual operational budget agreed with the Alumni Office. On behalf of the Committee, the OS Treasurer will be the responsible Officer for making the budgeting arrangements. Any existing funds held by the Club on the 1st September 2019 will be retained by the Club under the direct control of the Club's Treasurer, and includes any regular payments made by individual members as traditional fees or donations in the future.

7.2 The Committee is empowered to invest and spend Club Funds. **Any such investments should be considered as low risk.**

8. Amendments to these Rules

8.1 Any member wishing to amend the Club Rules must submit a motion in writing to the Secretary at least 3 months in advance of the AGM. Any such motion must contain the full text of the proposed amendment and be supported by at least 2 other members in addition to the proposer. The proposed amendment will be implemented if supported by at least 2/3 of those voting at the AGM.

8.2. Should the Committee wish to amend the Rules then it will pass a motion at one of its meetings by a simple majority, to put before the AGM, where the 2/3 majority vote will also apply. Members will be informed by email or post as to the wording of the proposed amendment and be given at least 2 months' notice prior to the AGM.

9. Dissolution

9.1 If it becomes appropriate at any time to consider winding up the affairs of the Club, then this will be done at an EGM, specifically called for this purpose. The Secretary will ensure that all members are given at least 3 months' notice of the date, time and venue for such a meeting. Notice may be given by email or post. The Committee will also put in place a system of voting, for this particular occasion only, that ensures every member known to the Club at the time is able to cast a vote. The meeting will also consider the disposal of the Club's money and any other assets by deciding to pass them either to:

a) a successor organisation **with similar aims that operates on a not for profit basis**, or

b) the Stamford Endowed Schools Foundation Charity (1109995)

9.2 Any proposal at this EGM to be implemented requires the support of a simple majority of the total votes cast, for or against the motion.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1 Each member is entitled to receive a copy of these Rules on joining and at any other time on request.



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