



Old Stamfordian Club

OS Update, February 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Old Stamfordian

Despite the pandemic related constraints, your Committee has continued to make progress on several important issues.

We have focused particularly on keeping communication flowing and special thanks go to members of the Old Stamfordian Community who have provided articles and reminiscences. Please keep these coming as feedback received confirms that the Updates are greatly appreciated.

Other key initiatives that are being addressed include:

- Engagement
- Membership Survey
- Reunion Weekend
- Succession

All these topics have been mentioned in previous Updates (there will be a separate email sent about plans for the Reunion Weekend below) and we will keep you informed on progress. The initiatives are interlinked with the overall aim of ensuring that we satisfy the needs of the membership, make a full contribution to the SES/Stamford Community and have some fun and fellowship while we are at it!

Looking to the future, and with the Reunion Weekend uppermost in mind, the Vaccination Programme is going well and there are grounds for cautious optimism with regard to hosting 'in person' meetings in the summer.

As stated previously, until some degree of normality re-emerges, we will provide whatever support we can to any members in particular need. Please get in touch.

With best wishes,

[Phillip Hoskins](#)

Chairman

07889980058

EVENTS

OS Online Quiz

February will mark the first online 'pub quiz' of 2021! Following the success of our previous two quizzes, we look forward to an evening battling out the knowledge/skill of the OS community and dusting off the cobwebs of 2020.

The quiz will be held on 3rd March 2021 via Zoom at 18:30 and everyone is welcome to join.

The event promises to be a light hearted competition and fun for all and we should have everything tied off in time for dinner!

You must [register for this event](#) and you will then be sent a link with the log in details once registered. We look forward to seeing you there!

All the best

Quiz Master, Cam Park

Reunion Weekend

11 to 13 June 2021

We are making every effort to ensure that the Reunion Weekend can go ahead with Club members, friends and family on site at the School, if the pandemic Regulations in place in June allow for this.

An excellent weekend programme is being planned and a separate email will be circulated with all details included.

Rest assured that if the event at the School does not go ahead there will be a full refund of all monies paid and one of the several Reunion contingency plans we are working on will come into operation.

Annual Autumn Reunion Lunch @ Boston - 18 September 2021

(Boston and County Club PE21 6RL)

The Boston Lunch is a highly successful event in the Old Stamfordian calendar and as always thanks go to Dudley Bryant (OS 61) who pioneered the lunch some fifteen years ago and continues to build on previous successes.

All are welcome at the lunch. Please mark diaries accordingly.

We will be sending out invitations to Old Stamfordians in Cambridgeshire, East Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, North Norfolk, Nottinghamshire, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire in the not too distant future. All will be most welcome both from within the catchment area and beyond!

As with Reunion Weekend, please rest assured that the lunch will only go ahead if Regulations overlaid with a good dose of common sense permit.

If you would like to register your interest in the event in advance [please email us](#).

RULE CHANGES

As stated in previous Updates, it is important that the Old Stamfordian Club has a Constitution and a set of Rules that are fit for purpose and to achieve this objective proposals for Rule updates will come before the next AGM.

Since last year the working group dealing with the subject of updating the Rules has suggested some further amendments and you are encouraged to [click here to read](#):

- the version of the Rules which will be put to the AGM with the latest changes highlighted
- the explanation for the proposed updating

It would be appreciated if you could spend a few minutes looking at both documents and let us have any relevant feedback. Our aim is to provide the constitutional framework to further

develop the Old Stamfordian Club for the benefit of all generations and we welcome your support.

MUTUAL AID

In the Spring of last year at the onset of the current pandemic various members of the Old Stamfordian Community stepped forward to offer support and assistance to Old Stamfordians. Councillor Kelham Cooke offered help and support to those living on his patch in South Kesteven. Tim Hailstone and Michael Snarey offered help and support to those involved in business and Alan Hancock offered similar help and support to those engaged in education. Phillip Hoskins did the same on legal issues. Nick Gallop, Headmaster of Stamford School recently commented that for him the Old Stamfordian Club is all about Engagement and Mutual Support. So sincere thanks to Kelham, Tim, Michael and Alan. Additionally, in just about every Update since we have offered help to anyone in need.

We now reinforce that offering with a facility for those seeking work experience or informal career advice to register their requirements with the appropriate sector group leaders as detailed below, and secondly, we would ask any members who are able to offer work experience to make themselves known, and the type of experience are able to offer, to the same sector group leaders.

We are aware that having relevant work experience has always been an attraction for employers and is likely to become even more so as a result of the new working conditions imposed by the pandemic where employers are likely to want to recruit employees who do not require lengthy induction processes.

We cannot promise any results but trust that we might be able to be of assistance.

Information provided to the Sector Group Leaders will be kept strictly private and confidential by the relevant Sector Group Leaders and will only be used for the purpose of connecting employers and candidates.

Contact details are as follows:

Education - [Alan Hancock](#)

Finance - [Ian Brassington](#)

Legal - [Simon Stanley](#)

Marketing/PR/Advertising - [Rob Forster](#)

Military Services - [Major General John Drewienkiewicz CB CMG](#)

Music and the Arts - [Oliver Thorley](#)

Property - [Cam Park](#)

Public Sector/Public Services - [Kelham Cooke](#)
STEM - [Ben Hawkins](#)

REMINISCENCES

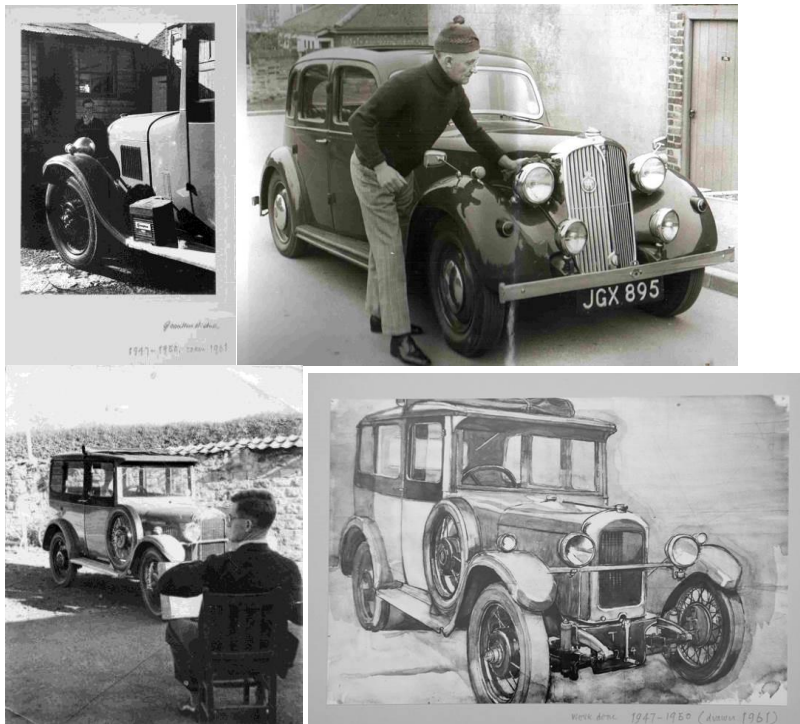
Colin Fowler (OS 65) writes:

I was interested to read the reminiscences of James Thomson (OS 66) in the January 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'!

Ben Locker (OS 90)

Apologies are given to Ben Locker who kindly provided his reminiscences in the January Update however photos were not included. Please see below for the photos of Walters Douglas' car 'Albert', his second car 'Jocky', and [click here to read a charming piece](#) of writing he did about the car.





Joe Wilcox (OS 58) writes:

The January Update afforded me more than my fair share of items to which I could personally relate, namely the pool flooding incident related by Roger Gooch and the mention of Tim Sharp by his brother Jonathan, after many years without news of him.

I was present in 1956/7 when the valve controlling the supply to the pool was turned "off". I wasn't part of the team officially responsible for the pool maintenance but was helping a bit as an interested party. After the event I was grateful not to be saddled with any responsibility, although I had fully understood what had been done and would not have done anything different.

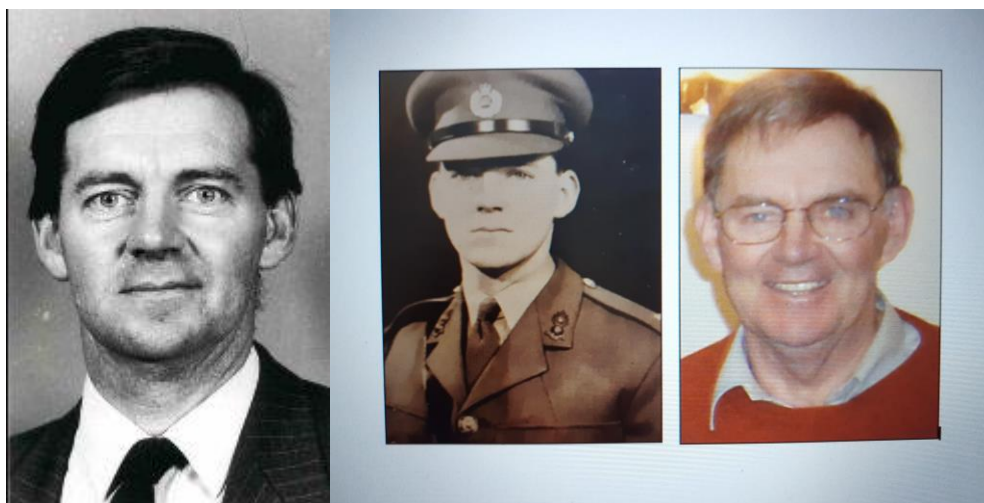
I learned about the fuss whilst breakfasting the next morning when my father returned from his early morning work. He had met the water company manager and so became aware of the pool problem. His view was that everyone should know that underground valves don't work like kitchen taps! I remember Squibbs was philosophical about it.

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. A number of reports appeared in these pages (in print of course, pre-internet) detailing his progress. I remember ones about Israel and then Thailand where he was working for an English language newspaper. I now know why sadly the reports ceased. I am attaching a photo of the school 2nd XV for which we both played in 1957.

FAREWELLS

John Hale - 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 in January's OSC update.

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.

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.

OSC Newsletter / OGG Magazine 2019-20

Please click the relevant links below:

[OSC Newsletter 2019-20](#)

[OGG Magazine 2019-20](#)

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