

# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

## The Old Georgians Association



**Newsletter  
September  
2022**



**“A school does not exist to send out men and women solely to play a part in life whereby they achieve a competence and honourable life of useful work and even a modicum of fame, but exists to send out for posterity and for their own generation, men and women who by their character shall leave the society in which they live the better for their presence and hence the world much nearer the Kingdom”**

**Dr A. H. Watts, Headmaster 1936-1947**

# Welcome from the Headmistress

**Helen Barton**

Georgian Newsletter – Autumn 2022

I am writing to you on a sunny Wednesday afternoon in September after just walking up Sun Lane after an enjoyable afternoon of House Cross Country. For the first time in four years we have returned to our traditional stomping ground of Rothamsted Park. It was the typical start of autumn day. Sunny and bright, blueish sky, but cold if you were not standing in the sun. The view down the long walk is still the same, as was the look on many a young persons face as they neared the end of their race running the length of the long walk, in front of the whole school. Perhaps some of you are sitting at home reading this thinking..... yes I can envisage that scene clearly in my mind or..... I can definitely remember that feeling!

I wonder how many other schools of 1370 students would walk their whole school through the middle of their own town? I wonder in what other school it would seem quite normal to be a sixth former walking through the middle of your local town carrying a rather large blue monkey (yes Monk house were out in full force today!). Probably not many. But that it is the joy of our school. Even if you cannot imagine this very event as you attended before its time, you would probably recognise the same sense of friendly competition; the same pride in representing your house; the same camaraderie in the crowd as you cheered on those who were competing; and the same sense of achievement that some felt as they completed a race, which they never really wanted to run in the first place, just because it brought their house valuable points for the House Endeavour Cup. There are many things that change in schools over time, but the traditional values including respect for others, and willingness to put yourself out there for the greater good, should not be one of them. Today was a great day to be a Georgian.

Miss Barton



# Updates from the Development Office

## Christmas Carol Concert



The Old Georgians Christmas Carol Concert will be held on Saturday 10th December at 3.00pm. This will be followed by refreshments in The Old Library.

We will be running a school tour at 2.15pm until 2.45pm if you would like a trip down memory lane.

Please forward this newsletter to ex St. George's friends and encourage them to make contact to be added to our mailing list. [development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)

We would love your feedback on any items contained within this newsletter and please let us know any topics you would like included in the next one.

Do you have a story to tell, please write to us [development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)

## The School Day Timings Are Changing

### School Bells

8.25 - Signal for all phones away, move to Registration (8.45am on Friday)

8.30 - Registration (8.50am on Friday)

(if you arrive after that time expect a late mark)

10.55 - Start of break

11.15 - Move to Lesson 3

11.20 - Start of lesson 3

1.20 - Start of Lunch

2.10 - Move off field and to pm Registration (2.00pm on Friday)

2.20 - Registration (2.10pm on Friday)

3.20 - End of Lesson 5 (2.50pm on Friday)

# Updates from the School Team



**Mr Jon Day**  
**Assistant Head (Fixed Term)/Head of Goddard House/Mathematics**

I joined the school in 2003 as a newly qualified teacher and 19 years on...I'm still here! I was young, free and single back then but I'm delighted that my eldest child will be joining St George's in September – how times have changed! I'm a member of the maths department and have been very proud to have been the Head of Goddard House for 16 years now, which is hard to believe. It's been great to have worked with so many students over the years and there is never a quiet moment in a pastoral role like this. Whilst retaining this position, I'm now joining the leadership team as an Assistant Head and am looking forward to the new challenges that this will bring.

I'm married to Emma and we have three delightful (mostly) children. I love getting outside and am often found running around the local area to find some peace, sometimes with our lab Maya who joined us during the covid period...yes, we are one of the lockdown puppy crew! I enjoy following most sports and my wife and I are both active in our local church.

I'm looking forward to getting stuck into my new Assistant Head role in September and playing a significant role in the leadership of this great school as we look to the future. One thing is for sure... it will not be dull!



**Mr David Ede**  
**Assistant Head (Fixed Term ) Head of Monk House/OE/Humanities**

This is the start of my 4th year at St Georges, originally having the task of filling Mr Robertson's shoes as Head of Monk, and now joining the school leadership team. I am in my 20th year of teaching having spent 12 years in Essex, followed by 4 in Hemel Hempstead. Having trained as a PE and Geography teacher at Brunel university I am pleased to still be involved in both of these subject areas.

My initial association with the St Georges dates back to 2005/06 when I brought a Davenant u13 team over to play Rugby, some of the alumni no doubt will have been involved. I am still involved in coaching Rugby but now for St George's

# Updates from the School Team

## Staff Changes

### Summer Leavers 2022

#### Teachers

Karen Ariss / Science

Caroline Edmunds/English

Emily Elmore/English

Pauline Emeny /Music

Nina Fox/MFL

Emma Jones/English

Neeraj Jumbu/Science

Leah McCarthy/Maths

Jacqueline O'Connor-Robbins/Science

Sally Pearson/MFL

Alastair Robertson/ Humanities. Alastair had a number of roles including Head of Geography and Head of Monk House over his many years at St. George's School.

Emma Sweeney/Science

Tracie Walker/Maths

Laura Woods/PE

Nicola Worsley/PE

#### Support Staff

John Andralojc/Science (21/07/2022)

Nicola Beart/Learning Support (19/05/2022)

Joanne Cassidy/Technology (06/05/2022)

Jimmy Cheng/Catering (10/06/2022)

Vicky Knight/Catering (15/06/2022)

Lorraine Kyriacou/Head's PA (22/07/2022)

Florence Leung/Catering (10/06/2022)

Gemma Mitchell/Learning Support (03/06/2022)

Lisa Morris /Learning Support (21/07/2022)

Zahra Oukhellou/Catering (31/08/2022)

Eddie Rocha/Boarding (15/04/2022)

Nina Sebastiane/ Student Services (06/06/2022)

Dominic Solbe/Catering (31/07/2022)

Hannah Tearle/Catering (28/05/2022)

Ryan Upton/ICT (17/06/2022)

Sophie Yeates/Boarding (31/08/2022)

# Activities week 2022



**Year 7 Trip to Whipsnade** A warm but cloudy day saw 185 year 7 & 8 students and 25 staff descending on Whipsnade Zoo. The first outing in two years., the hunt was on to spot all the new additions to the zoo.



Year 7 Tech Day



Year 7 Murder Mystery Day

## Year 8 Residential to Edinburgh

171 intrepid year 8 pupils and 18 staff set off early on a Monday morning heading for Edinburgh up the M1/A1. They stopped at Bamburgh Castle followed by a walk on amazing white sand.

The Edinburgh day went something like... a walk from Pollock Halls to Edinburgh Castle. Some groups opted in to the handheld audio guide, but all were impressed by the prisoners' quarters, and the gift shop. From there we all completed a town trail along the Royal Mile until hitting The Dynamic Earth Centre at lunchtime. The exhibition rooms included interactive displays on plate tectonics (which gets taught in year 9 in Geography), 3-D films about glaciation and ice, including real snow falling, a flyover experience taking in the world biomes, an ice chamber with an ice-cold slab of glacier in it and so forth.

From there the group bought ice cream before wending our way up Arthur's Seat (an extinct volcano about the height of the Dunstable Downs). The views from the top were amazing, but it was a steep and rocky final ascent. The above was done in reverse order by a different group. Meanwhile the other 2 groups went by coach towards the North Berwickshire coast. Dunbar Leisure Centre was invaded and the pupils had about an hour utilising the large swimming pool, the water chute with its electronic read-out of speed and time for the best slitherers, and there was a wave machine that went off twice an hour.

The coast walk was from the village of Coldingham to St. Abbs Harbour (some groups had their packed lunch there/others outside the leisure centre), then picking up the coast path to Coldingham Sands (a classic bay-head beach) and on to Eyemouth. The whole walk was 5 miles, the last mile of which was a bit of a trek across farmland. At Eyemouth more ice- cream was savoured, and a paddle in the sea. Some groups were lucky enough to see a seal just 50 metres off shore.

Each of the groups returned to Pollock halls by about 6 p.m for another sensational feast. The sugar rush then led to a foray again back to Holyrood Park for more frisbee, football, dodge-ball or chatter. At 10 p.m. it was lights out and sleep.

The teachers on the trip felt that it was superb because the activities came thick and fast, the kids were entertained and would have been very tired from the walking. One teacher's Fit-bit read 24,000 steps on the Edinburgh day and 18,000 on the coast walk day, not including the walk and running around the park in the evening, and the endless trips to reception to get yet another door key coded so that the pupils could get back in their rooms to retrieve the key card within.

The pupils we assumed would be exhausted, but the volume of food available meant that body batteries were re-charged, so that the evening park play time was energised. But by 10 p.m. that was that. The year 8s were amazing. Not one single problem occurred. The attitude was first class. They all got on, they all walked brilliantly, and they seemed to go to sleep with no noise on each of the three nights. They were a pleasure to take away. And no mobile phones; just conversation and fun.



## Year 9 St. Albans Trail Day & Trip to Bletchley Park



### Year 9 St. Albans Trail Day

They walked and walked and worked out many clues to get to the end of the town trail and work out the code.

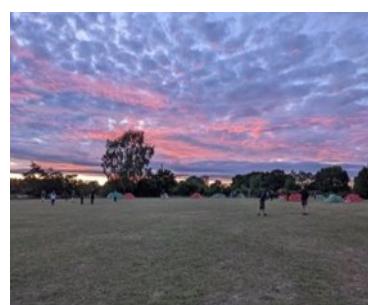


### Year 9 day trip to Bletchley Park, Mrs Povey writes...

A fascinating place set in beautiful grounds looking around various buildings and different achievements of the World War 2 code breakers.

### Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh assessed expeditions

Over 150 Year 10 students successfully completed the expedition section of their Bronze D of E award during Activities week..



### Year 10 Sculpture Day



## Year 10 Enterprise day, Mrs Potter writes...



## And relax.....Staff and Governors Friendly (Ha!) Cricket match



After a hectic week of organising pupil activities, it was great to see so many staff out to both play and support the staff vs staff Cricket match. This year we were joined by some of the Governors who helped swell the numbers. A fab afternoon in the sunshine was had by all.

# Sports Day



**Well done Goddard House, the winners of Sports Day and the Endeavour Cup 2022!**

# Careers Fair

St George's was delighted to host its inaugural Careers Fair earlier today in the Assembly Hall. Seventeen employers kindly gave up their time to come and talk to our Year 9, 10 and 12 students. This was a wonderful opportunity for students to speak to a wide variety of companies and gain important knowledge about today's complex labour market. It was great to see so much engagement and enthusiasm from participants and students alike. St George's continues to address the eight Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance and values any support we can give our students throughout their time here so if you feel you have something you could contribute to future events please do let us know at [careers@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:careers@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)



Thank you to Old Georgian Sara Hunt who attended the event from Farrer & Co.

Sarah was in Grant House and now her two children attend the school. Sara has fond memories of a school trip to the Lake district and winning House music the year she was Music Captain.

Thank you Sara.

## 6th Form Life 2022

Community is the best way to describe life this year in 6<sup>th</sup> form. This year the external students who joined turned our community into a more unique and interesting place and bought in a new perspective to sixth form. Everyone fits in to the St. George's way of life and creates a welcoming environment to new students that have joined throughout the school year and in preparation for the new year 12s who will be joining in September. School events are still an important part of sixth form as the new house captains adjust to their roles in leading their houses and encouraging those in lower, middle and even upper school. Sports day is coming up, as well as the announcement for the endeavour cup (which will occur on the same day) and is still an incredibly important event as the endeavour cup rankings are very close.

A typical day in St. George's 6<sup>th</sup> form first includes tutor base in the morning with the notices and then to either our lessons or a free period. Frees give us a chance to do homework, moocs (massive open online course) which allows you to do a course specialising in something, or just a chance to get some food in the refectory. At lunch (after 4 periods and a break) we can choose to either get food in town or in the refectory which has delicious toasties and chocolate! Straight after lunch is either chapel, house assembly or tutorbase time which normally includes doing things to help with work or things for the next step after 6<sup>th</sup> form. Then there's one more period and home time at 3:20. On a Friday however we don't have this last period and instead have an extra long tutor time ending at 2:55.

Ella Smith, Current Y13 Student—[Monk House](#)

Life in 6<sup>th</sup> form at St George's as a whole is about making new friends, learning new skills such as independent study, and finally getting good grades in our final A Level exam. However, a big part of the majority of students sixth form experience is being a prefect.

These roles can range from the top of the chain as a school captain to a house captain and then the rest of the prefect team with there being around 100 prefects in the whole team. Our school captains are the role models for the whole school and make sure to keep the prefect team machine running as smoothly as possible and also plan the prefect ball which every prefect looks forward to where we get together and celebrate all we have and will achieved in our year in post. The house captains are more involved with their own house and each house has 4 house captains who are guiding them with house events and help the rest of the house to get involved with those events too. Then we have the rest of the prefect team which has all different sorts of roles that people can get involved in ranging from music to drama to sport to media to helping the younger years in tutor time.

Being a prefect is an important part of 6<sup>th</sup> form life because it enables us to learn new skills like teamwork and leading which will then help us when moving onto uni. Although not everyone has the chance to be a prefect, it is a privilege that we are all grateful for.

Katie MacKenzie – Current Y13 Student – [Goddard House](#)

News from our

# Old Georgians

## Obituaries:



**Sarah Balmer**

**8th October 1967—28th July 2022**

**St George's School Shop Manager and much loved member of our community**

Sarah loved gardening and the secret garden, the many flower beds dotted around the school and her passion for the gardening club, certainly bear testament to this. She will be remembered by all for her love of all things pink and sparkly and for always having a smile on her face.



**Duncan Cameron attended St Georges form 1984 – 1989**

Old Georgean Duncan Cameron who attended St Georges form 1984 – 1989 died at his flat in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia on August 12.

Our thoughts are with his mother Mary Dolan at this sad time.





## Summer Fete 2022

A big thank you to the all the Old Georgians who came to see us at the summer fete in July, whether it was for a chat, a school tour or a Chapel talk it was lovely to see so many of you.

**Thank you for sharing your memories with us.**

### **Robert Stanley - Old Georgian**

Thank you for showing me and a group round the school last Saturday .

I much enjoyed my time at St G's as a boarder when total numbers were around 200 . I have left a legacy of appreciation to the school charity but it will only arrive when I have "mounted the last bus " !

On leaving I joined Ashwell ( Geoffrey Ashwell OG ) paints , Farnham nr Slough for a few months before joining the family business Stanley Handling in St Albans and never really retired before selling out to existing management just a few weeks ago -only 82 . The business will be 75 next year and I worked there for 63 years .

It is. multi faceted business in materials handling and we / they are one of the largest U.K. suppliers of battery powered stairclimbers handling safes , photo copiers , domestic appliances and more recently the grocery / white goods home delivery market for 100's of units to Curry's , Asda, Coca Cola , Sainsbury group etc

We also supply ROBUR Warehouse equipment to over 40 of the top 100 U.K. listed plc..

I could write chapter after chapter but this would probably only be of interest to the cognoscenti

6 years ago I bought Bright Instruments in Huntingdon- est 1937 - who are now the only remaining U.K. manufacturer of microtomes and cryostats . We have recently supplied a machine £ 500k capable of producing 6000 slices of human brains to Stuttgart University to provide World leading performance of such definition for study into dementia and other neurological conditions .

**Gail Partridge 1951—1957** My mother and her sisters also attended St. George's. I also married and Old Georgian Roger Partridge (1947-1958)

**Corinna Marlowe (Gedge, headmasters daughter) 1950 —1958** Fun to be back. So far dryer than 2007!! Met up with contemporaries Gail and Hazel.

**Hazel Still (Stevens) 1953 —1958** I remember a friend of mine going for a Sunday walk and coming back with a goat (they had bought) and tethered it on the lower Rugby pitch and eventually got permission to keep it! Many memories of fun, great dances and a wonderful choir. Excellent Staff.

**Peter Bigg 1968—1974**

**Alexander Monson 2001 —2008** Lovely to see the school again. So much has changed and so much is the same. Wonderful school spirit and amazing memories. Thanks for having us back!

**Oryane Yungu 2013-2020 & Bianka Yungu 2013—2020**

**Jennifer Mcgrandle** Lovely atmosphere here today, thank you!

**Paul Spinks 2006—2013** Used to run the fete.

**Jenny Catterfeld (Saul) 1993—2000**

**John Catterfeld 1989—1996**

**Gillian Parrish 1958—1968** Would love to come back to attend the Carol Service

News from our

# Old Georgians - cont.



Margaret Jane Hamilton

St George's 1952-59

Awarded badge for dressmaking in the summer of 1959

According to Margaret, 12 badges were awarded, 2 large badges to the Head Boy and Head Girl and 10 smaller ones (including hers)

Margaret has generously donated her badge to the school.

Did these badges become prefect badges? Do you have one of these badges, we would love to see your photos and hear your story.

# Old Georgians - cont.

Can you help us find out when the quilt below was made? Was it for a special event? Are your initials on here. Please let us know if you know any of the history relating to this item we would love to know the story behind it. [development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)



# On the Grapevine

We wanted to share the exciting news that St Georges leaver, and former art student, India Arkin has been selected to be the first person signed onto HMV's new record label. India is an indie singer songwriter and also creates all album art, developing on from skills fostered while a student at St Georges.

India will be performing live at The Horn in St Albans on 18<sup>th</sup> October (14+ admission, under 18's to be accompanied by a parent or guardian)

## Chloe Canell

**Message from Scott Tweeddale:** Chloe Canell was a student at St George's between 2011 and 2019. She went on to study Product Design Engineering at Brunel University. She has now graduated with an exceptional portfolio of work and her work has been featured on many design blogs since graduating.

<https://clcanell25.myportfolio.com/>

# On the Grapevine



**Calum Jenkins**

Old Georgian 2011-2018. I was a proud boarder all the way through, from 7 to 13, culminating in Boarding Head Boy. Many of my boarding friends turned to family and I constantly stay in touch with them all.

Importantly, before I found rowing there was rugby. A sport which I feel in love with playing at St Georges. I still remember the feeling of getting my 1<sup>st</sup> XV Jersey. I was in year 11. The fixture was St Albans Boys (Away) in the NatWest Cup. That year I was also lucky enough to go on tour to South Africa, where I made some unforgettable memories.

Overall, my time at St Georges, installed a sense of dedication and determination in me that has enabled me to push myself in sport and life.

Over the summer I made my senior international debut for the England Rowing Team. Having been selected in the Men's Sweep Squad for the Home International Regatta 2022.

(<https://www.britishrowing.org/2022/07/62-athletes-selected-to-represent-england-at-the-home-international-regatta/>).

We had a very successful regatta, winning both, the coxed four and sprint eights event. This came off the back off a successful season, having made the final at Henley Royal Regatta in the Britannia Challenge Cup.



# On the Grapevine

## Update on Refurbishments around the school site



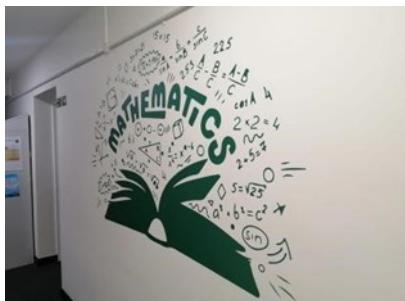
New Watts toilets



New Monk toilets



6x Refurbished Maths classrooms



New paint, carpet and notice boards in Maths



3 classroom new build



Geography lesson in the new build.

Just in day school, let alone boarding, there has been a vast amount of work done over the holidays. The Maths block now looks amazing, completely renovated, and the new build looks smart. Some of the toilets have been redone to a specification which has individual floor to ceiling cubicles, with a shared wash space, which are useable by any gender (albeit some cubicles retain some provisions needed only by female students). It is important to emphasise that these new facilities are part of what will be a diverse ecosystem of washroom provision: we do retain and will continue to upgrade some toilet areas which are designated male or female across the school, as well as all gender accessible single space toilets complete with basin or even shower facilities, should a member of our community need or prefer these provisions.

# Join The Legacy Wall



Name to appear on brick/s 2 lines max. 16 characters per line, punctuation and spaces count as characters, no accents.

## Join Our Legacy Wall Booking Form

A minimum donation of £48 will buy a brick which can be engraved with up to 2 lines of gold lettering.

I would like to buy  bricks at a cost of £48 per brick

I would like to donate £..... per brick

Total Donation £..... (Please make cheque payable to St George's School for the attention of the Development office)



Name:..... Address:.....

.....  
.....  
.....

Postcode:.....

Telephone Number.....email:.....

I am a UK tax payer

### Gift Aid Declaration

Please treat any and all donations that I make to St George's School (Harpden) Limited on or after the date of this declaration (unless and until I inform you otherwise) as Gift Aid, and reclaim tax on them. I will pay an amount of UK income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax I am asking St George's School (Harpden) Limited to reclaim. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand that the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1.00 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Signature: ..... Date: .....

# PSA SHOP

<https://shopkeepeeasy.com/stgeorges?anchor=>

You might need to get there fast ! Stock is running low on some of these great items!



**Luxury Christmas Cards**  
designed by Tim Edwards, St George's Parent, Illustrator and Artist.  
**Pack of 5 (A6)**  
**£6.00 (incl. P&P)**



**Upcycled St George's School uniform cushions and teddy bear designed and hand made by St George's Parents**

**Small Cushion £15.00**

**Large Cushion £20.00**

**Teddy Bear £35.00**



# Make a Donation

How you can contribute to the future of St George's

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the development office who will be more than happy to assist you OR make a donation using the details below.

Development Office,  
St George's School,  
Harpden, HERTS, AL5 4TD  
Tel 01582 765477

Barclays Bank A/C 03517586  
Sort Code: 20-03-62

or [development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)



# OGA Tie

**Why don't you commemorate your time at St George's School by purchasing a 100% Silk Old Georgian Tie**

If you would like to make a purchase, please complete the form below and return to:

Development Office,  
St George's School,  
Harpenden, HERTS, AL5 4TD  
or [development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)



# Old Georgians 100% Silk Tie Order Form

I would like to order \_\_ \_\_ 100% silk tie(s) at £15.00 each (plus P&P)

P&P national delivery: £2.50 P&P international delivery: £5.00

**TOTAL: £ \_\_\_\_\_ (include P&P)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

I enclose a cheque for the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to St George's School (Harpenden) Ltd

## BANK TRANSFER

Sort Code: 20-03-62

Account Number: 00018414

## Reference: Tie-Surname

Thank You

# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL HARPENDEN

[www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)

[development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:development@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)

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[twitter.com/MissB\\_at\\_StGs](http://twitter.com/MissB_at_StGs)

The Old Georgians Association website – <https://eu.ptly.com/uk/>

