



Always Georgian

ISSUE 01

MAGAZINE

Happy 150th St George's

Students from both
Schools joined hands
across Weybridge



- Welcome

Welcome to St George's **Always Georgian** magazine.
We very much hope you enjoy this **new publication**.

We have chosen Always Georgian as the name for the new School magazine. Always Georgian celebrates our Georgian Family by featuring news and articles from alumni, staff, parents and students. As a member of the Georgian Family, you will play a huge part in continuing to shape our School into the remarkable place it is today. St George's aims to build and maintain strong, lifelong links to inspire our Josephite, Georgian Family to be the very best version of themselves.



Headmistress Rachel Owens and Junior School children.
Photo credit: Graham Carey, St George's College Staff

Working across St George's College and St George's Junior School, the Development Team unites the Georgian Family with each other and the School in order to strengthen our community and enhance educational provision for the future by encouraging Georgians to get involved and support where possible. The team includes Caroline Long, Director of Development & Old Georgian (OG '89), Joe Ridge, Deputy Director of Development, Melanie Gordon-Hughes, Alumni Relations Officer and Amy Dunton, Database and Administration Officer.

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The Development Office communicates with the whole Georgian Family. GDPR legislation means that we need you to say yes to receive emails from us. We hope you will agree that it's a great way to communicate; saving waste, money and time.

For more information about how we use your personal data please see our Privacy Notice on the Georgian

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Family website or the School website. If you have not received any online communication from us in a while it's probably because we have not received your consent - you can consent by either calling us on **01932 839352** or by email. development@stgeorgesweybridge.com.

Please **SAY YES! DON'T MISS OUT ON EVENTS AND UPDATES**



Follow St George's Weybridge, Alumni & Parents



Keep up to date with Georgian Family news and events. Follow us on [@stgeorgesalwaysgeorgian](https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgesalwaysgeorgian)



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St George's Weybridge is a Registered Educational Charity no. 1017853.

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Guest Editor – John Lewin

► The warmest of welcomes to this very first publication of the Always Georgian magazine!



By way of introduction, I am the current Chairman of the Board of Governors at St George's Weybridge and I consider myself to be Always Georgian as my connection with, and affection for the school runs deep. I am an Old Georgian (OG '78), I have two brothers-in-law Rupert Chichester (OG '77) and Crispin Quail (OG '78) and my wife, Rosemary, and I are blessed with four children Matt (OG '06), Stephanie (OG '08), Zoë (OG '10) and Joe (OG '13) all of whom went through the Junior School and College.

In our school Mission Statement we state that we are "perfectly balanced"; co-educational; 3 - 18; Josephite; Catholic. We are a Josephite School. The Josephites are a teaching Congregation. They have founded schools since 1817 and now have 16 schools in Belgium, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, the USA and the UK.

The Founder, Constant Van Crombrugghe, became Principal of the Collège d'Alost (Belgium) as a young priest. He was aware of the lack of educational opportunities for the poor children of his home town, Geraardsbergen. He gathered a small group of men together to address the problem, and in April 1817

constituted this group as the Brothers of St Joseph, who would later develop into the Josephites. The Congregation branched out from Belgium into other countries, reaching England and founding St George's on 18th August 1869. 150 years ago this year.

Van Crombrugghe was a priest, teacher and head teacher. He wanted the spirit of the Gospel to pervade the life of the schools he founded. Teachers were to follow 3 central pillars of Josephite spirituality: Misericorde, Douceur and Politesse: to make a loving kindness, gentleness and mutual respect a reality in the classroom, the playground, and onwards into the life environment. This is the Josephite ethos.

This is what underpins the educational offering of St George's. If you are Catholic, of other faith or of no faith (and all are warmly welcome at St George's), I would hope that you would agree with me that it is very easy to buy into this Josephite ethos. Who would not want that to be the basis for a learning environment for their children? The Josephite flame has been burning at St George's for 150 years, never brighter than now.

And so we celebrate 150 in 2019. A calendar of events planned around Celebrate 150 can be read inside this issue.

18th August 2019 saw the Georgian Family come together at a wonderful mass celebrated in the College Chapel on the actual date of our 150th anniversary when our Director of Music, Richard Quesnel, interrupted his honeymoon to direct a performance of the College Prayer set to new music of his own composition!

23rd September 2019 saw the official handing over of the £23m Activity Centre which lies at the heart of our Celebrate 150 campaign. Visitors to school over the last year will have seen the mighty construction project tower upwards and which now proudly stands on the College site. We now have facilities for dance, Pilates, Zumba, fitness training and, of course, indoor sports. One exciting aspect is our Mental Performance Zone where we are introducing an important toolkit, developed and kindly donated by OG John O'Keefe. This has never been done before and is not just to support sports but has a wide benefit across all students and staff. A feature on this is covered inside this issue. The Activity Centre is a social venue and a place where the entire school can gather in one place under one roof. It dominates the campus, because of its size, because of its beautiful design, and because it is

the talk of the county; other schools will want to come to St George's and play on our glass floor. It is a building that we expect to stand for 200 years. We expect it to be state of the art for 50 years. The glass floor is not a gimmick. It reflects our ambitions to be ahead of the game. In 50 years time glass floors will become the norm.

The fundraising campaign for the Activity Centre was immensely successful, achieving £6.5m in contributions thanks to the wonderful generosity of so many Georgian family members. We would not have reached this target without the support and generosity of our major benefactor and OG, Mike Gooley. In fact, Mike was inspirational in driving us to think boldly for the design of the building, the result of which is the magnificent structure now wrapped firmly onto Woburn Hill. Mike will be featured in a later issue of the magazine and readers can find out more about his really interesting journey. As we end one successful campaign we will be looking towards the future and securing funds for the Bursary Fund where we hope to have an announcement on that launch in the next few months.

The introduction of the first issue of the new Always Georgian magazine builds on our proposition to establish a life-long Georgian Community to facilitate social, career and business opportunities for all family members by delivering a vibrant events programme and communication channel. We aim to provide guidance and support for all students, and opportunities for parents and OGs to engage in careers advice and work experience. We hope to encourage financial support for the school through an integrated development programme - to help St George's deliver a perfectly balanced education. So, with that, again a warm welcome and do read on with our new magazine - Always Georgian.



Great Georgian Handshake
Over 1500 Georgian students, staff and parents lined the route between St George's College and St George's Junior School by linking hands, as a way to mark the School's 150th anniversary.



Celebrate 150

Celebrate 150

A reflection by **Antony Hudson,**
Junior School Headmaster



Nearly a year on from the Gala Ball which launched the 150th Anniversary celebrations, there have been associated events that have taken place since and are being planned between now and June 2020. They conclude with the Closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Nicholas Hudson in the Activity Centre. Why is it important that we celebrate our anniversary?



“

*Some things will never change at St George's:
three cheers to our Georgian Family Spirit –
Ad Multos annos. Plurimosque annos!*

The 'Celebrating the Generations' panels which have begun to adorn the walls of both College & Junior School have helped us to 'dip our historical toes in the water', relating key developments every 30 years in the evolution of St George's since its foundation in Croydon in 1869 with events on the National & International stage. Using that time span, it makes one appreciate that five generations is not very much at all in some ways - especially when some of us can well recall relationships with our own grandparents who were born at the time that St George's moved to Weybridge in 1884!

Yet so much has changed physically in that period of time across the centuries, culminating in the 'Merger' between St Maur's and St George's at the turn of the Millennium - a move which has set the course for navigating the 'Good Ship St George' for decades to come.

Just as the construction of 'The Ark' in 2016 sent out a signal to the watching world of the importance of Early Years Education in the life of a child, the Activity Centre on the College site surely sends a signal to future generations of the real importance of being 'Perfectly Balanced', with well-being at the heart of all that we wish for the children and young adults whom we have the privilege to educate.

There is no doubt that these are 'Golden Years' at St George's, and rightly so, but so should every generation feel the same and be proud of their achievements, whatever their context! The beauty of the C150 programme of events is that by gathering so many from the different layers of the Georgian Family, whether it be at sacred liturgies like the recent Solemn Vespers & Benediction at Westminster Cathedral or the performance of 'DragonSong' in the College Chapel in December, the 'Back to the Future' Symposium at Mercedes Benz World in May or the Georgian Family Day & Summer Fete in June 2020, they all encourage us to take stock of the gift of the Georgian Education which unites all of us in whatever capacity.

At its heart, of course, linking us all across the ages is the spirit of our Founder - Constant van Crombrugghe. He died in 1865, just four years before the School's Foundation, but was surely involved in its planning. Even though the wonderful buildings and grounds will no doubt be standing for centuries to come, they are but bricks and mortar at the end of the day. What van Crombrugghe would be most passionate about would be what kind of young men and women were being nurtured within our walls during their time with us, or rather, what kind young men and women were being nurtured, full of *Politesse, Douceur, Mercy, Honesty, Zeal, Happiness, Inclusiveness, Collaboration, Pastoral Care & Hospitality* who have got the tools they need to go out and make the world a better place because of them.

>150th Events

In November 2018 the spectacular Gala Ball marked the unofficial start to the School's 150th anniversary. The birthday Mass took place on Sunday 18 August and launched a year of events for the whole Georgian Family.

The 150th Committee have put together a range of events that celebrate our Josephite heritage, our success as an educational provider, the generations of our students that have come before us and the students that are part of our school today.

We hope that you agree that, in line with what lies at the heart of a St George's education, the final programme offers a 'perfect balance' of events for students and their families, staff across both the Junior School and the College, Old Georgians and the wider community.

Here's to the next 150 years!

29 November 2019

Unveiling of Commemorative Window and Founder's Day Challenge

1 December 2019

Founder's Day

5 December 2019

Celebrate the Generations 1959-1988

13 December 2019

DragonSong Premier at the College

26 January 2020

DragonSong in Hanover Square

February / March 2020

Regional Reunions

15 & 16 March 2020

The Gathering of the Heads of The European Josephite Schools

19 March 2020

St Joseph's Masses and Treat Lunch

March 2020

Celebrate the Generations 1989 - 2018
History panels to be displayed

23 April 2020

St George's Day Visit of Bishop Richard: Mass and Assemblies

May 2020

Pupils' and Students' Day

May 2020

Georgians around the world week

May 2020

Student and Staff Symposium

June 2020

Celebrate the Generations 2019 - 2048
Final history panels to be displayed

14 June 2020

Celebrate 150 Georgian Day including the official opening of the Activity Centre

27 June 2020

Summer Ball

29 June 2020

Blessing of the Activity Centre



Celebrate 150 Georgian Day



Always Georgian

SUNDAY 14 JUNE
St George's College
11am - 5pm



The Development Team will join up with the Parents' Association and combine the Annual Georgian Day and Summer Fete for one big celebratory anniversary event.

This day-long Georgian extravaganza will include the official opening of the Activity Centre as well as lots of entertainment and activities for all generations.



By Richard Quesnel

► St George's in the East and DragonSong

A new work to celebrate the **150th anniversary** of St George's Weybridge and the **125th anniversary** of the Royal Society of St George.

One of the most important outcomes of the 150th anniversary year is the composition of a large-scale musical work by Richard Quesnel, Director of Music at the College.

One of the most important outcomes of the 150th anniversary year is the composition of a large-scale musical work by Richard Quesnel, Director of Music at the College. Based on a specially commissioned libretto by Ben Kaye, this dramatic and entertaining work, 'DragonSong', retells the story of St George and the dragon; the hero learns 'politesse and douceur' (the College's key educational maxims) as well as compassion and mercy, as he journeys to confront the dragon. He overcomes adversity and learns humility from seeing the world from a child's perspective. The cantata is composed for professional soloists, adult and children's choirs, with an instrumental ensemble and includes audience participation to sing familiar hymns about St George.

The College and Junior School Chamber Choirs will be strongly involved in the performances of this new work in December and January. However, strong links are being forged with other schools.

A very special initiative took place on 22 May, in preparation for the premiere of 'DragonSong'. As part of a geography fieldtrip, all First Year students from St George's College visited the London docks and their visit included the church of St George's in the East, Whitechapel. They met up with children from Years Four and Year Five from St Paul's Whitechapel Church of England Primary School and spent time singing together. This initiative was made possible through the support of the school for a singing programme led by Tom Daggett, who leads a musical outreach programme from St Paul's Cathedral with dozens of schools across east London, including Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets. The Primary and Secondary students worked together to share repertoire, perform famous hymns (including words by John Bunyan) and even to learn an extract from 'DragonSong' as a taster of the big concert ahead!

We also learned that St Paul's School was founded in 1869 and celebrates its 150th at the same time as St George's College. Richard Quesnel hopes to continue such projects with other primary schools around Weybridge and with children from St George's Hanover Square Church of England Primary School. The intention is to include as many of these children as possible in a performance of DragonSong this winter.



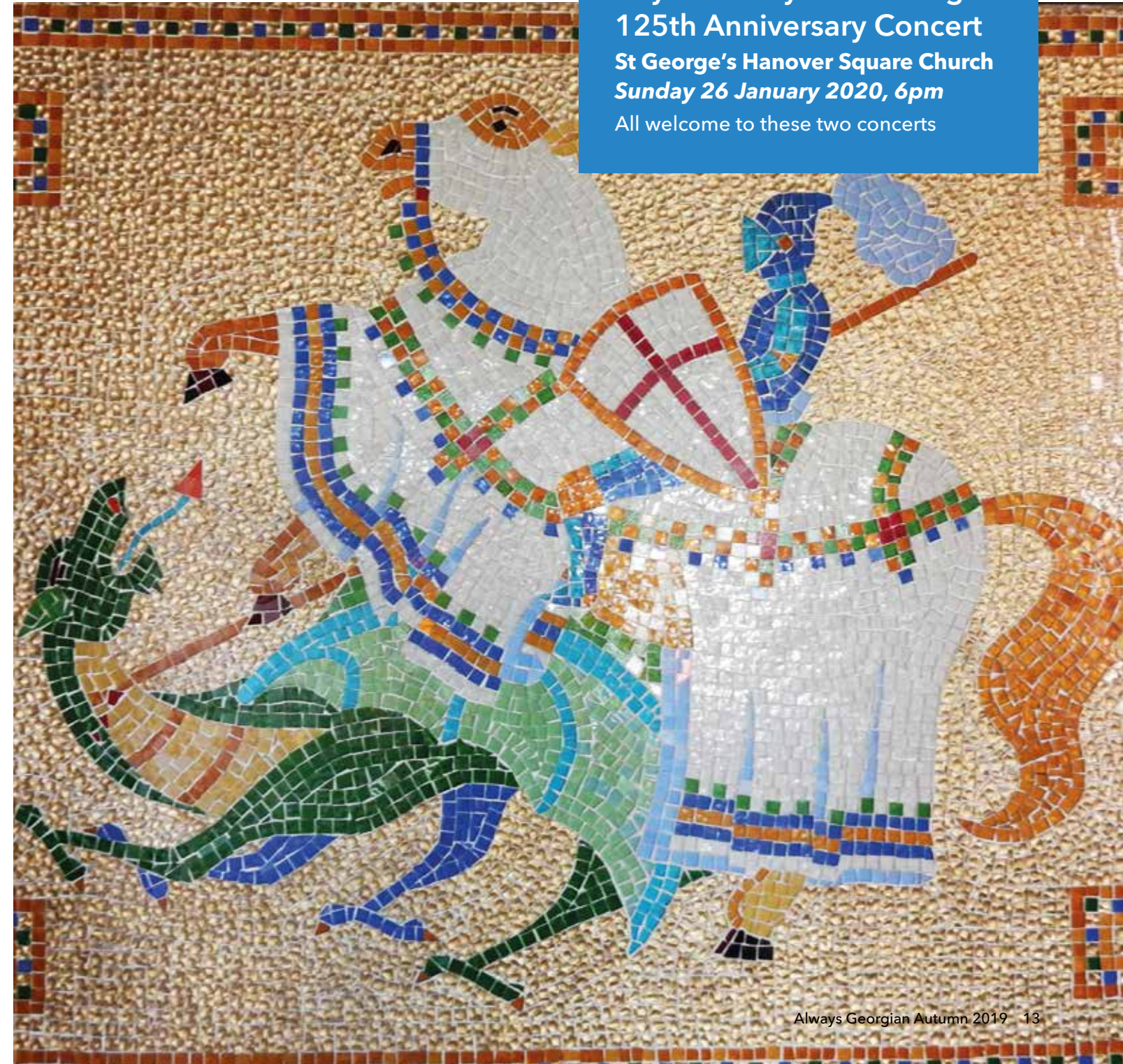
DRAGONSONG

**St George's Weybridge
Premiere**

**St George's College Chapel
Friday 13 December 2019, 7.30pm**

**Royal Society of St George
125th Anniversary Concert
St George's Hanover Square Church
Sunday 26 January 2020, 6pm**

All welcome to these two concerts



► Making Dreams Reality

Thank you to all those who have helped and supported the Activity Centre Appeal.

St George's is fortunate to benefit from a supportive and generous community. Over the last two years Georgians have come together and given £6.5m to the Celebrate 150 Activity Centre Appeal. That is remarkable; an extraordinary figure to have been donated.

We are grateful to every single one of you who has donated to the Appeal and who have helped with the project. You have played your part in building a facility that will mark the 150th anniversary but most importantly, you have provided a place for generations of Georgians to come together and enjoy being active, being part of a team, be inspired to try new challenges, to relax, be happy and be the best versions of themselves. Over the coming months there will be opportunities for you to visit and we hope you will feel proud to have played your part in this inspiring project.



Mike Gooley

I am very grateful to those individuals who spent time giving their feedback to our ideas, in particular Old Georgian Mike Gooley who committed over £5m to the project through his Trailfinders Charity early on but also encouraged us to be even more ambitious with the building design! Once the possibility of the Activity Centre was formed, a number of evening consultations took place in 2015/16 to gain feedback from the Georgian Family and wider local community. Those consultations were invaluable and truly helped formulate the purpose of the building. With some substantial donations from individuals in place, we were confident that we could launch a wider appeal in 2017.

This was kicked off with a launch event in October 2017 attended by over 600 Georgians from the youngest up! Guests of honour, Olympic Gold medallists Kate and Helen Richardson-Walsh, were met with crowds of excited Georgians; especially young hockey players eager for selfies.

It was an energetic start to the appeal which included fun runs, 24 hour online giving days via our Founder's Day Challenges, the incredible Gala Ball at the Grosvenor House attended by 800 guests and most recently the Glass Floor Appeal which has raised over £84k in just a few months.

The Appeal has now finished; although you are still able to fund a square foot of the glass floor if you would like and your name can be added to the interactive donor board. Now the real excitement begins as we see the Activity Centre in use and we continue a year of anniversary celebrations. As you enter the building you will see a special wall on which all donors have been listed as a mark of our gratitude and will remain as a reminder for generations to come.

Thank you Georgians

Caroline Long
OG '89, Director of Development

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© Hundven-Clements Photography





► Introducing our Unique Mental Performance Zone

Those lucky enough to have visited the Activity Centre would have had a glimpse at our brand new Mental Performance Zone (MPZ) which is placed prominently in the main foyer.

St George's is the first school in the UK to be introducing a high performance skills programme to its students and staff. The unique programme was generously donated by former Head of School and Old Georgian John O'Keeffe (OG '67) who has worked incredibly hard with Tanya Hall, Rachel Owens and other key members of staff to make this happen.

This unique programme is designed to help our students perform to the very best of their abilities. It will equip them with life skills for all performance situations that they will come up against whether in the classroom, sports field,

on the stage or in a future boardroom meeting. There are 7 skills which the students can learn via interactive audio-visual modules. For each skill they will receive very practical tools which are simple and effective to follow.

Our students will start with a very simple self-assessment which will indicate which module from the 7 skills they should consider learning. Each student can build up their own individual toolkit which will help them perform to their best.

Come and visit to find out more!

► Activity Centre

Donors to the Activity Centre enjoyed a Preview Evening on 26 September.

Guests were thanked for supporting the project by Headmistress Rachel Owens, Director of Sport Andy Cornick and our four Captains of School. They then had the first look around the new facilities which included a demonstration of the LED court lines on the new glass sports floor.

John O'Keeffe



A simple series of life events is what lead me to the Masters in Archives and Records Management.

I did a BA in Classics and English Literature at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Archives, at this point were still a mystery to me, I had no idea about the Archive sector until I began researching doing my Masters in Library and Information Sciences. I returned back to the UK and attended Liverpool University where I completed my Master's Degree in Archives and Records Management.

When I joined St George's I was not prepared for the staggering amount of dust and dirt that had accumulated in the archives. It was clear that in order to preserve the history of St George's and the Josephites at St George's I would need to do some serious spring cleaning! It took me about a month to get to grips with the dust and finally get it to a level where the collection is not being overtly damaged by it. It is still not perfect, but it is now in a place where we can move on.

The Winks Archive (named because this wing of the school was the Winks Dormitory) needed less scrubbing but still had a long way to go before it could be considered suitable to store archives. Like that of the Josephite Archive, both these repositories are situated in attic space, so maintaining environmental conditions will be an ongoing project. However, the transformation from storage room to archive has been fun to see.

The fun part of this job is exploring the archives, now that there is some semblance of order within the respective rooms, I feel like I can start to delve into the archives more.

For most people this is the aspect of the job that people relate to the most - it is like going on a treasure hunt and you never know what you may unearth. For me it is no different, I truly feel

like a kid in a sweet shop and don't know where to look first. The Josephites Archive holds the most extensive collection of archives, as this was the main repository for them for about 50 years. Fr. George Kean (former Headmaster) collected the records and then later Fr. Andrew arranged and catalogued it all using Index Cards. The amount of time and the level of organisation that has been put into doing this is astounding. Fr. Andrew has managed to create a narrative of the school's history from its move from Croydon to Woburn Park in 1869 through to the late 1980's. The collection does extend through to present day with new Issues of The Georgian being added and current Josephite newsletters getting accessioned, however the scope of this archive then transfers over to that of the Winks Archive. I was very excited to discover a Taylor and Co.'s carbonated water bottle in a drawer of miscellaneous items labelled 'artefacts'.

The accompanying note read:

"Found in the roof of the Red House Dormitory in 1992 when it was being re-tiled. It was most likely left there by a workman during the construction in 1880 or 1881".

The bottle dates from the early days of bottled carbonated water and would have been fitted with a cork top rather than a cap or screw top. The bottles distinctive shape is rather ingenious, for it tapers off at the bottom end making it impossible to be stored by itself vertically. The design is such that by not allowing the bottle to stand the cork never gets the opportunity to dry out and shrink, which would allow the gas pressure then to shoot the cork out much like a champagne bottle. What makes this an interesting addition to the collection is that it can be used by many different disciplines to learn more about society, marketing, engineering, advertising to name just a few. Its story goes deeper than simply where it was found, which is wonderful, but is only one element.



Kayleigh Graham, St George's Archivist

> Fantastic Beasts and where to find them...

► Georgian Events



Photo Left - Right - Marc Goemans ('84), Matt Boatfield ('85), Kathleen O'Gorman, Brian O'Gorman (OG '54, former member of teaching staff and OGA President), Nynke Van der Ven ('87) and Reinoud Van den Broek ('86)

Netherlands Reunion

Thank you so much to Nynke Van der Ven and Matt Boatfield for organising the Amsterdam reunion dinner which took place in May.

A very special thanks to Brian and Kathleen O'Gorman who flew in to meet the Georgians.

Over Sixties Lunch

73 Old Georgians and Old Maurians attended the annual Over Sixties lunch at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in London on the 6 June.



Georgian Family Day

Georgians of all ages enjoyed the annual Georgian Family day on Sunday 23 June.

Old Georgians, current families, former staff, friends and family enjoyed a day at the College with activities to suit all ages, from the car show to cricket.



St Maur's Reunion

60 St Maur's former pupils and staff came to a reunion held at the Junior School in May. The ladies enjoyed a guided school tour, archive display and refreshments.

"The spirit of St Maur's is vital to the history of Weybridge too, having remained there for over a century and educated thousands of girls in the local area - we must never lose it!"

"It's such a privilege to be able to come back to you and be transported back in time to those formative years which hold great significance - thank you very much indeed."

- Class of 1989 – 30 Years

Sixty classmates from St George's and St Maur's celebrated their 30 year school reunion at the Queen's Head in Weybridge. Following the reunion, five OGs returned to school the next day for a memorable tour of the College.

What have the Class of 1989 been up to over the past thirty years?
We caught up with a few of them.

① Sarah Wilson

I live in Walton-on-Thames with my husband, Ivan and nine year old daughter Ella and our two Rhodesian Ridgeback puppies, Otis and Kiki! I worked in film and television for 18 years both here and in LA and I am currently writing my first children's musical which we are aiming to show in the autumn this year.

② Alex Westlake

I was a boarder at St George's from 1984 to 1989. I really enjoyed my time there. I believe the school had a great balance between study (I went on to do a PhD in wind energy at Durham University), sport (rowing became a passion for me and I realised my dream to row at Henley), and care for society (social impact is a strong theme in the businesses I have founded). After university, I gained my chartered engineering status and then moved to Beijing in 1998. In China I founded and invested in several businesses in the clean energy, high tech and impact sectors. I now live in Mallorca but continue to work towards a fun, sustainable world.

③ Pippa Tucker-Brown née Copeman-Hill

I loved French and German at school and continued both at Manchester University. In the 90s I worked in PR for the IT industry, developing a love for cabling before discovering Sony in Weybridge. I met my husband Simon at a British Lions event. In 2004 I retrained as a reflexologist and started Life and Sole. Laurence arrived in 2007 and Hugo arrived in 2012. I sing in a fab choir and I do bits and pieces at the children's school.

④ Jeremy Stacey

I spent a year in Zimbabwe coaching and playing cricket and rugby, as well as teaching at Price Edward School in Harare. I then went to Leeds University, however after graduating, rather than returning home, I remained in Leeds, where I've been ever since. I work in the retail industry and for the last eight years I've been working as a consultant helping retailers deliver change within their buying teams. I'm married to Donna, and have two daughters. Despite living in Leeds I'm proud to say that both of my girls have inherited/ been indoctrinated in, my passion for Wimbledon Football Club.

⑤ Mark Oulson-Jenkins

I headed to Film School after St George's where I completed a Masters in Cinematography and then joined Carnival Films to work on many TV dramas and films. As a natural journalist of life, my next step was to head into hostile environments, filming frontline the war in Afghanistan which subsequently led to the threat of execution and forced me to go into hiding. After a particularly difficult film in Sudan, I chose to take a break from the more dangerous side of my work for a while and ended up travelling the globe with C4 show A Place in the Sun. I never did return to the hostile work as whilst on the popular property show I met and married its presenter Zilpah Hartley.

We moved up North and settled in the Ribble Valley with our three children. I am now Executive Producer of a broadcast and corporate production company Studio RTR which has a global client base making films for a whole raft of different genres and works from the stunning Broughton Hall Country Park Estate in Yorkshire.

⑥ Neil Holland

I spent most of the 90s working in financial services in the UK and Australia. I joined the Diplomatic Service in 2001, since then I've served in London, Berlin, Washington DC and Dublin working on security policy, FSU and European issues. My wife and I have raised four children overseas. I'm back in the Foreign Office in London for the next few years as Director of Protocol and Vice-Marshall of the Diplomatic Corps, which means I have one foot in the FCO and one in the Royal Household. I spend most of my working life fighting the urge to take photos of famous people. One of the benefits of being back in the UK is how great - really great - it has been picking up old friendships from school. The rest of the SGC Hollands are happy and healthy. Andrew (OG '88) is a BA pilot having spent 20 years in the RAF and is now a SGC parent. Richard and Alistair left the same year as me but would have been in the class of '91. Richard is CEO of Cardiff Blues and Alistair is CEO of a Cardiff-based business.



L-R Neil, Richard, Alistair and Andy

⑦ Toby Passant

Having left St George's College in the late 80s I pursued Art at Farnham and completed Degrees at Birmingham and Bristol before changing tack totally and joining the Metropolitan Police Service. Unbelievably I am in my 20th year!!

Serving as a Detective within the Service I have completed tours of duty in the Child Abuse investigation remit, Operation Trident Murder investigation and a pro-active firearm enabled crime team. I currently perform a more specialist role. I am lucky enough to say that I have enjoyed every single second. I am married with three children living fairly locally and remain in contact with several old mates from the school.

- Class of 2016

Three years ago the Class of 2016 completed their A-Levels and headed off to university and life beyond St George's.

Since the summer many have graduated from their university and we have caught up with a few of them to discover how they got on and what their future plans are.



Elizabeth Burn

I have just graduated from Newcastle University with a 2:1 Hons in BSc Surveying and Mapping Science.

I would really recommend Surveying and Mapping Science to anyone who likes science, geography and practical work. I joined the University Student Radio and the University Sailing club. I am hoping to find a Graduate Surveying job in London in preparation to working towards the RICS APC for Chartership.

Molly Parker

I'm currently going into my final year studying English and Theatre at the University of Warwick. Next, I plan to do a voice coaching MA in order to coach actors or anyone with speech impediments on how to be confident with their words.



Deniz Taylor

I have graduated from Durham University with a degree in Finance. In the future I look forward to starting at Ernst & Young in Reading and keeping in contact with the OG's.



Lindsay Eaton

I graduated with a 2:1 for International Relations and Politics from Oxford Brookes University.

I am looking at graduate programmes and internships for 2020 in a number of fields with the hope that I find one that will include my love of politics.



Becky Muggeridge

I studied Biomedical Science at the University of Sheffield. From the very start of my degree, I knew I wanted to do a year in industry. I secured a placement in Data Management at GSK.

From being the Data Quality Lead on three clinical studies to managing a SharePoint team site and organising STEM Insight events for school students, it's been a really wonderful year with great opportunity to develop skills and gain an insight into the pharmaceutical industry. I return to university in September to complete my final year of university.



Carys Wright

I graduated with a First Class degree in (BSc) Economics.

I am currently doing an internship for Tenzing Natural Energy, getting a taster into the financial, marketing and sales dynamics of a growing successful start-up. I haven't fully decided what career path I want to fulfil, but I am considering applying for a 2020 financial graduate programme within an accountancy firm. In the long run, I would love to end up working within sustainability as I am passionate about making a positive impact towards the social and environmental aspects of the economy!

Vassilis Karavias

I have completed my third year in Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, gaining a bachelor's degree with a first.

Next year I will be continuing my studies at Cambridge, attending an Undergraduate MA course in Physics. Assuming I am awarded the MA degree, next year I will be awarded both the BA and the MA degree during the same ceremony at Pembroke College. Following this I am looking to start a PhD in the area of quantum computing and security.



Jonny Foster

I have now graduated from the University of Birmingham with a first in law.

One of the most challenging parts of the last three years was a summer justice visit to Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya. It made me appreciate the rule of law in a new way. Many will remember me from tennis - I had the pleasure of playing at the Edgbaston Club last year. This year I am working and then hoping to travel to spend time in Europe and Australia. After that I attend the University of Law in Guildford and then start a training contract to become a solicitor.



Ashleigh Mason

I have recently graduated from Durham University with a first class degree in Geophysics with Geology (BSc Hons). I have enjoyed an incredible three years at Durham and a large amount of my time there has been dominated by rowing.

My crew was selected to compete for the GB Universities Rowing Team in July 2018 at the European University Games in Portugal. We raced very hard to come home with a bronze medal, with the Dutch and the German crews taking the top two positions on the podium. Since then, my crew have won BUCS Regatta, which is the pinnacle of university rowing in the UK. Now that I have graduated, I am going to take a break from rowing to focus on my new job as a Business Solutions Analyst at Euroclear UK.



Ashleigh Mason (2nd from the left)



George Stratford

I graduated with a 2:1 in Chemistry from the University of Bristol. I'm now at the University of Cambridge doing a PGCE in Secondary Science for the year with the hope of doing a MEd after a year or two. I decided on teaching while doing my final year project in a school in Bristol and a day back at SGC which I thoroughly enjoyed.

► Proudly Georgian



Tracy Cox (OG '15)

Tracy graduated with First Class Honours in BA Textiles: Innovation and Design from Loughborough University.

Martin Conroy (OG '81)

Martin has been nationally ranked among the top real estate professionals in the Real Trends / Wall Street Journal in 2019.

#19 on Palm Beach, #113 in the State of Florida.



Johanna Gannon (OG '15)

Being selected to represent Great Britain at the under 23 World Rowing Championships this year in Sarasota, Florida has definitely been the highlight of my time rowing.

Coming away with a silver medal and life-long friends is something I am very thankful for. When I was at St George's I had always aspired to represent my country at this level and being able to achieve this, as well as coming away 'second in the world' is something I believe SGCBC helped me achieve.

Avril Walters

Congratulations to St George's College student Avril Walters who was selected for the GB Team for the Coupe de la Jeunesse in Corgeno, Italy in August. Avril raced in the girls' quadruple scull. The GB team finished in sixth position.



Anthony Watson (OG '12)

Congratulations to Anthony who represented England in the Rugby World Cup in Japan.



Michael Dalton, (OG '18)

Congratulations to Mike who was part of the triumphant Oxford Brookes Men's eight crew who won the Temple Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta over the summer.

Jim Donnelly

Last summer four OGs from the Class of 1968 met up with their teacher Jim Donnelly who taught at St George's between 1961 to 1992.



L-R: Chris Steele, Rick Harnes, Jim Donnelly, Glen Cawdeary and Paul Marley).

L-R: David Cadwallader ('59), Bernard Style ('65), Francis Style ('59) and John Mottram ('59).



Old Georgians in the Old Crown

The friends you make at school really are friends for life. This is evident by a recent gathering of OGs who met for lunch at the Old Crown in Weybridge. Nearly sixty years has passed since these gentlemen were students at St George's.

John Hindley

Earlier this year four OGs from the Class of 1968 made their way down to Cornwall to visit their former Classics teacher John Hindley.



L-R: Peter Kornicki, John Hindley and Paul Marley

The Lowes Family

During July **brother** and **sister** were fortunate to be in the **air together** for a very special centenary fly past for BA at the RIAT air show.

Daniel Lowe (OG' 03) flew a Red Arrow (Red 9) while his sister Julia (OG'09) flew adjacent as a British cabin crew. Their brother Aidan (OG'11) was in the crowd watching and supporting his siblings. Aidan is a commercial pilot for EasyJet and said "RIAT was an incredible experience being there for such a historic moment! To have my brother and sister in the display was amazing and will be remembered forever."



Nick Mansfield (OG '58)

Congratulations to Nick and his wife Patricia on their Golden Wedding Anniversary which they celebrated on 2 August. Nick started at Barrow Hills in 1952 and progressed to St George's, leaving in 1958 where he then attended Sutton Grammar.



Ben O'Connor (OG '81)

Following 44 years of fighting Type 1 Diabetes, Ben is now five years post kidney transplant. He received his kidney from his youngest son. He is pleased to let his Georgian friends know that he is feeling great and despite slight left sided leg weakness he is working full time and enjoying life to the fullest.

Victoria Pugh née Moss (OG '07)

William Denis David Moss was born on Sunday 27 January 2019 weighing 8lbs 1oz!



Robert Hughes (OG '83)

The Court of Common Council passed an order for Robert Hughes to receive the Freedom of the City of London on 22 October 2018. A Ceremony took place at The Chamberlain's Court Room in The Guildhall where Robert read aloud the Declaration of a Freeman and was invited to sign the Register of Freeman.



David Woods (OG '52)

Congratulations to David who celebrated his 80th birthday earlier this year.

David is the author of four books and numerous articles, editorials and reviews in peer-reviewed publications. His memoir, *Time and Chance*, appeared at the end of 2015.

He holds a PhD in Health Policy. David has served as editor and publisher for *Philadelphia Medicine* and for five years taught a course on medical writing and communications to graduate students at Jefferson Medical College. He penned a series of essays on eclectic topics that take his fancy for the [Public Broadcasting Station WHYY](#) on the web. These include *In Praise of Eloquence*, *The Decline of Wit in Public Life*, and *History instructs, and we ignore it at our great peril*.

Tamryn Reynolds (OG '04)

Congratulations to Tamryn and David on the birth of their first son Albert George Rowlands, born earlier this year.



Sophie Duckworth (OG '02)

Sophie and Wes Mitchell were married on the 14 June at Fetcham Park House, Surrey.



Katie Hill née Doran (OG '02)

Congratulations to Katie and her husband Tim on the arrival of their second son Arlo. Earlier this year Noel and Adele Doran flew out to visit their daughter and celebrate their grandson's safe arrival. Over the summer Katie and Tim have returned to England, after six years living in Bondi, Sydney.

Larissa Lamb (OG '01)

Larissa Lamb married Ian Bayliss of Armidale, Australia, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Richmond upon Thames on 27 June.

Larissa's father, Peter (pictured right), taught languages at St George's 1997-2010. Helen Endacott (OG '01) was one of Larissa's bridesmaids, and Louise Burdett (OG '02) was among the guests. The reception was held at Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park.



> Obituaries

We record with sadness the deaths of the following Old Georgians and staff and we extend our condolences to their families and friends. You can read their full obituaries on our website.



Chris Blair (OG '64)

Chris attended St George's as a boarder between 1958 and 1964.

He qualified as a Solicitor, married Jill and had two daughters. During 2001 Chris suffered from a severe stroke which changed his life dramatically. Chris died suddenly on Friday 22 March.

John Patrick Connor (OG '51)

John attended St George's between 1942 and 1951. John took on an apprenticeship as a lighter engineering pupil at Vickers Armstrong Ltd in Kent which involved studying for his National and Higher National Certificates in Mechanical Engineering. In 1963 he took up the post of engineering co-ordinator for Vickers in Australia. He married LeeAnn Slessor in 1971.

John died in hospital in Melbourne in May 2019 following a long illness. His funeral Mass took place on the 24 May at St Roch's Parish Church, Victoria. 200 people attended and at his request the College prayer was included. Fr Robert was the celebrant when his ashes were interred into his parent's grave in Weybridge.

Andrew Cunningham (OG '60)

Andrew died peacefully in his sleep on 7 March 2019.

He left St George's in 1960, and apart from his academic achievements, Andrew showed himself to be an all-round sportsman, representing the school in the 1st teams for cricket, hockey and tennis, as well as the 2nd XV for rugby.



Barry Wright, former member of staff 1971 – 1975

Barry came to teach at St George's in 1971 joining the Biology Department led by Fr Andrew. Barry moved on to other appointments leading to the Headship of St George's, Southampton. Barry was one of several teachers recruited by Fr Peter who moved on to Headships.



Derek Davidson (OG '68)

Derek attended St George's between 1960 and 1968. He was a keen sportsman playing both rugby and hockey for the 1st XV and 1st X1 respectively. In his final year Derek was head day boy and deputy head boy. After school Derek trained to be an Accountant. He married June and they had two daughters. It wasn't long after his retirement that Derek was diagnosed with inoperable oesophageal cancer. He passed away peacefully on 13 May at Woking Hospice.

John Bailey (OG '43)

John attended St George's from 1936 to 1943. He was both Captain of School of Kilmorey. He joined the Fleet Air Arm, trained on Harvards in Canada and was commissioned as Sub Lieutenant, Pilot, flying Sea Spitfires off Carriers. After the war he studied for the priesthood and was ordained in the Southwark Diocese in 1954, serving latterly in Kent where he was well known to OGs as Parish Priest and Pastor.

Tony Pearce, former member of staff 1969 – 1981

Tony died on 20 March 2019. Tony joined St George's in 1969 and played a full part in the life of the school. He was an inspirational teacher, an accomplished reader of verse, a composer of satirical parodies which was often accompanied by skilful cartoons, cataloguing school activities and he was involved in many school drama productions. Leaving St George's he pursued a full time career as an artist, specialising in seascapes.

Paul Smith

Paul joined the PE Department at St George's College in 1987. He also coached the three major sports, rugby, hockey and cricket.

After leaving St George's in 1994 he taught for a while in South Africa before settling in New Zealand with his wife, Natasha, and their three sons.



The Class of 2019 Leavers

► Congratulations Class of 2019

A Level Results

We are proud to announce that the Class of 2019 have once again produced amazing A-Level results with over half (53%) of papers graded A*/A and 80% graded A*/B. We are sure our new group of Old Georgians have incredibly bright futures ahead of them.

GCSE Results

Congratulations to our GCSE students on another fantastic year of results with eight in every 10 papers graded 9-7 (A*/A) and 97% marked as 9-5 (A*/B).

A-Levels results
achieved over
53%
graded A*/A

GCSE results
achieved over
97%
marked A*/B

The GCSE Class of 2019



Mr Hudson and Sixth Form students. L-R: Thomas Amaee, Max Hall, Sam Addy

The St George's School journey

Earlier this year Mr Hudson, Junior School Headmaster met with three Sixth Formers to look back at school photographs where Max Hall, Thomas Amaee and Sam Addy were amongst around 22 students whose Georgian journey started in the Junior School under Mr Hudson's Headship.

“

"I was struck by quite how fast time passes and feel very fortunate to have been part of the St George's community for so long. I was invited back to the Junior School by Mr Hudson as one of the school's longest serving pupils and it was a poignant and reflective reminder of just how far I have come and just how much I have grown within my time there. As a student experiencing St George's from nursery through to Sixth Form I have been able to experience all aspects of school life, developing a love for rowing and teamwork with a high point of representing St George's at the Henley Royal Regatta. Thank you St George's!"

Max Hall

“

"I joined the Lower Nursery at St George's in January 2004 at the tender age of three. Through the many wonderful teachers who've made lasting impressions on me and the continuously evolving friendship groups, the Georgian spirit and sense of family truly has remained a constant over my near 16 years at the school. It is rather sad to be leaving after all this time, but I know that I will always have a lasting connection with my school, as an Old Georgian. As I look to the future, I am sure that the many skills and experiences gained at St Georges will be invaluable in my educational and personal development at university and in the years to come."

Thomas Amaee

We are pleased to feature inspiring stories from talented Georgians. Please get in touch if you would like to feature in a future edition.



David Haywood (OG '13)

► World by Bike

On September 3 2018, I rode out of my front door in Surrey, and set off around the world.

I was following the official circumnavigation criteria of riding 18,000 miles, in one direction, passing through two points on opposite sides of the world (for me, Madrid and Wellington, New Zealand).

From London I rode down to Lisbon, through France and Spain before tackling a coast-to-coast across North America: from New York, along Route 66, to snowstorms in New Mexico, ultimately reaching Los Angeles, California. Escaping winter, I saw in Christmas and New Year in New Zealand, before a dash up the Australian coast, from 40°C summer in Sydney, to North Queensland as the monsoon descended.

10,000 miles of Asia beckoned, riding from Singapore to Bangkok, up through rural Vietnam, then west to Mandalay, Myanmar. Due to visa complications I flew into Xi'an, China, riding the Silk Road past the end of the Great Wall and the Gobi desert, before being escorted by the Chinese police across the secretive Xinjiang region. Kazakhstan seemed almost European comparatively! Kyrgyzstan challenged me with 3000m mountain passes, and Uzbekistan delivered a tough 1500km stretch of empty 44°C desert, eventually ending at the Caspian Sea. A Soviet-era cargo ship dropped me in Azerbaijan, where the Caucasus led me to Georgia. The Black Sea coastline guided me to Istanbul and back into Europe, where I cut across Greece, Albania and along the Adriatic. Reaching the Alps, I rode from Slovenia to Switzerland, completing the longest ride of the trip (317miles / 510km) from Geneva to Paris, taking me back into familiar territory, having cycled from London to

Paris during my Lower Sixth year at St. George's. Paris led to Calais, Dover and eventually to London, arriving home after 21,619mi / 34,793km, 33 countries and 349 days. As the overwhelming majority of circumnavigators head east due to prevailing winds, I believe I became the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe westbound by bike, but as it's not an official record, I can't be sure.

Being alone, battered by northern Chinese winds, or having an unidentified animal attack my tent in -12°C weather helped expose some of the deepest fears and frailties that adventures can push you to confront, and overcome. Such challenges force you to take personal responsibility for getting yourself from A to B, whilst teaching you when to seek help to reach the goal - I think they're good lessons to learn. The support I received and hospitality throughout was incredibly humbling, motivating and encouraging. The trip route, blog and social media can be found through www.david-haywood.com/around-the-world-by-bike, along with a link to my fundraising page for the anti-trafficking charity IJM.

I am looking forward to starting at Queen's University, Belfast to study Medicine.



Ryan Green (OG '11)

► Hurricane Hole

I learned to dive at the age of eight, whilst on holiday in Dubai. I enjoyed the sense of freedom it gave me, and it decided my career path.

Good to know

We still have regular clean up's, we educate school children about the ocean and hold trial dive lessons, I've made the front page of the island newspaper, fame at last! As you can probably tell, I'm passionate about the Island and the world wide environment. I love the lifestyle and seek the opportunities it brings to travel, meeting new people and discovering new places above or beneath the waves.

I went on to obtain a number of recreational certifications on the PADI scheme and qualified as an instructor on my nineteenth birthday.

Work took me to beautiful places such as Cyprus, Sardinia, Florida, and St Marteen where I got to see amazing corals, reefs and marine life. I now live and work on Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands.

An exciting project I volunteered on which was funded by Richard Branson was the sinking of the Kodiak Queen. The Kodiak Queen, a former Navy fuel barge, survived the attack on Pearl Harbour. She now sits at a depth of 57ft off the shore of Virgin Gorda and has been a main attraction for scuba divers and snorkelers from all over the world.

My work as a commercial diver is quite different from recreational diving in crystal waters, visibility is almost zero, I dive in murky marina's working underwater, fixing ship channel markers, building sea defences, cleaning cruise ships and maintaining

pipelines, not such a pleasure, but I've found what I like to do.

In September 2017 the island was at the centre of the biggest Atlantic storm in history, Hurricane Irma which was followed closely by a category five hurricane Maria. Damage was beyond imagination, the entire population was affected, people were homeless, roads washed away, trees blown down, cars upturned, buildings destroyed and hundreds of boats sank. The community pulled together to repair the airstrip, clear the main road that runs the length of the seven mile island and the many steep winding roads that run up the side of the mountains, even with everyone working hard water and power was not restored for nearly five months. I had to power my home with a generator.

My task then was clearing Paraquita Bay, known as "The Hurricane Hole", 100's of boats were moored here in a mangrove surrounded bay in the hope of greater protection from the storm, but due to the severe intensity 99% of the boats broke free from their moorings, causing catastrophic damage. I worked long days for three to four months, alongside a barge and crane team. I had to dive in order to cut away riggings, such as masts, sails, booms and cables. To clear around the boat, straps were run underneath the boat and lifted slowly. Opening hatches would help drain the water as we were lifting and using a diesel pump to pump out the water, at a rate of 250 gallons per minute.



Once above the surface and the right way up, vessels were hot patched with fiberglass and moored on the edge of the bay until they were towed away for crushing or repair.

Throughout the first year my team alone salvaged around 250 boats and yachts, we had several close moments with 13 tonne straps snapping, crane booms failing to swing back the 180 degrees, or some came crashing down through the roof of the boat being salvaged.

I'm pleased to report that the island has now recovered, trees have regrown, the tourists have returned and new yachts pepper the ocean. My girlfriend is spearheading a coral restoration program so that coral lost during the hurricane, as well as bleaching due to climate change, can be regrown at a faster rate.



Dan Davie (OG '10)

► Me and My Animations

Whilst at St George's I enjoyed playing rugby and music, and like many Georgians, made some great friends who I still keep in touch with. Perhaps most importantly of all, I learned to keep asking myself 'what it is I really enjoy doing, and why?'

After St George's I studied History at Royal Holloway which turned out to be so much more than I had hoped for. Being a campus university it had a family vibe to it and I met lots of interesting people who, alongside the inspiring lecturers who led my courses, helped to shape who I am today. During that time I developed a real passion for hard work and a confidence in myself which had been lacking before. I also began to explore something new and totally unrelated to my degree - 3D animation, or 'VFX'.





In 2010 DreamWorks released the animated film 'How to Train Your Dragon'. The film is full of colourful characters and heart-warming relationships and I remember thinking maybe I could learn to help create stories like these. Many of my friends at University were computer scientists and they suggested software I should learn and I began to focus on animation in my spare time. When I graduated I knew this is what I wanted to do.

3D Computer Generated Imagery (CGI, or VFX) is made up of many different elements. Take the dragons in Game of Thrones. First the creature has to be modelled which is done by software, rather like sculpting in 'electronic clay'. You start with basic shapes and carve out the form of the creature, basing it usually on a mixture of reference photos of anatomy and concept art, before adding details like skin folds, scales and scars. This model is then painted and put in a scene where an animator will make it move, and a

lighter will light it to match the lighting of the shots taken on location. This is only a very brief description of all the things that go on and this is just for the creatures - there are usually explosions, environments and all kinds of other things that have to be done.

After Royal Holloway I retrained at Escape Studios. I then joined a London Studio called Time Based Arts which was an awesome place to work, and I had the chance to learn from some very talented people. We modelled flying origami birds for Mercedes; a dancing robot for Vodafone; trains, people and automobiles for Honda and, my highlight, the WWF 'Just Like Us' Christmas campaign where we were tasked with creating a full photo quality herd of elephants. I was given the job of sculpting which allowed me to study elephant anatomy in some detail, and it was a privilege to be even a small part of WWF's campaign which aims to bring about a ban on the ivory trade worldwide.

After a few years at TBA I began to get a bit restless and felt the need for a new challenge and so last year I moved to Canada. They have a vibrant film industry, most Canadians are about as friendly as they come, and one of my best school buddies Alex Day has happily settled here in Vancouver. So I applied for a working holiday visa and have just finished up working on a new TV show at Method Studios, one of the local post houses.

One of the best things about the move has been establishing a better work life balance. The very nature of CGI/VFX will always suck you into overtime, but here in Canada they are far better at discouraging overworking. I have been able to make more time to go hiking, snowboarding and getting out with my camera to take pictures of the amazing wildlife. To top it all off my commute is a 15 minute walk with a 360 degree view of the ocean and mountains - that sure beats the Northern Line!



Joe Lewin (OG '13)

► Blue Scooters

Tell us a little about Blue Scooters.

I am the CEO and Founder and we are providing fully integrated mobility packages to businesses across Europe, including hotels and offices. Blue delivers private fleets of electric scooters (or bicycles) to clients who are looking for a modern amenity to offer their customers or employees. Riders can instantly rent these vehicles from the building lobby to conveniently travel to and from client meetings or to simply enjoy the sights of the city rather than using a car or being crammed onto public transport.

What challenges have you faced while starting your own business?

Time management is the most important factor to stay on track as an entrepreneur. Balancing tasks from every side of the business, such as marketing, sales can quickly become stressful if you don't allocate time strategically. What I learned is that angels and venture capitalists focus heavily upon people first and their idea second. It is therefore essential an entrepreneur has an understanding of the business model and how they intend to differentiate in their market place. If you get rejected by an investor don't fret, simply make it one of your objectives to successfully scale your business in order to positively impact the world and to make a very healthy financial return for those investors that believed in you.

Why is Blue Scooter the way forward?

Blue Scooters is capitalising on an early mover advantage inside the corporate micromobility market in Europe. We are offering businesses the opportunity to promote their stance on innovation and sustainability in an age where climate change is a very growing concern. There are several major differentiating factors that have allowed us to rapidly scale in our private fleet niche segment to capture market share from unicorn startups, such as Bird and Lime.



What inspired you to be different?

My interest in disruptive businesses began after first reading about the emergence of Elon Musk. He bought Tesla whilst it was still a start-up, and he is also building Space X with the vision of building civilisations on Mars and is already securing contracts from NASA. I admire his hands-on management style and his overall vision for transformational change. He is pioneering new technologies that will support generations for years to come.

Who was your role model whilst at St George's?

My love for business was encouraged by my Business Studies teacher Mrs Lambie. My work ethic was certainly strengthened thanks to Mr Barham's insistent proclamation that 'free periods were never meant to be free at all' but rather only for study time.

What advice would you like to give any of our readers interested in setting up a start-up business?

Be open to learning to improve on your personal self and your vision, and reach out and network with as many likeminded people as possible.

You can contact Joe at joe@bluescooters.co.uk, or visit bluescooters.co.uk if you would like to learn more about Blue Scooters. *Investors would be hugely welcome too.*



► ‘So, what does a Bursar do?’

‘What do you teach?’ they ask, peering at my badge. ‘Actually I’m the Bursar’, I respond with an encouraging smile....‘Ah, the money man....’

I do indeed fulfil the role of CFO, but because the job also entails most of the COO responsibilities, there are lots of other plates to spin!

To give you a flavour, at St George’s the Bursar directly leads 8 departments: Finance, Facilities, Development, IT, Administration & Commerce, HR, Catering and H&S. The other ‘business’ department is Marketing & Admissions, which the Heads lead. These departments differ vastly in size but amount to about 150 Business Staff (please note: not ‘support’ or even worse ‘non-teaching’ staff!) who provide services to both schools and the governing body. Each of these is led by a head of department who is a specialist in their area, but who often has managers under them to lead sub-areas. A good example is the Head of Facilities, who has Grounds, Maintenance, Projects and Transport managers reporting to him.

This breadth is why the Bursar is often described as a ‘jack of all trades’, but due to increasing compliance scrutiny, no longer can we risk being the other half of that saying – hence the need to be part of a high calibre team. Further variety at St George’s is provided by our structure of two autonomous schools, which means the Business Staff support two of everything (head teachers, senior academic teams, campuses and so on). And if I get bored I can always tap into the work (of which there seems to be no Brexit-induced shortage) generated by my other role of Clerk to the Governors (aka Company Secretary).

A great joy is that no two days are the same. We are currently in the ‘holidays’, a quaint term referring to one of the busiest times of the year for the business staff. As I write we are nearing the end of the 18 month Activity Centre build (our largest ever capital project), holiday camps are in full swing, we are clearing up after a weekend wedding, we have hosted 4 state school sports days and Active Surrey’s premier sports event for 1000 children, the upper astro is being refurbished, the lights in the tennis centre are being replaced, the medical centre is being moved to a new facility created in-house, the College Reception is being refurbished, the theatre floor is being upgraded, 150 computers are being replaced, 10 new touchscreen displays are being installed in classrooms, the site-wide wifi is being overhauled, a second high-capacity internet pipe is being established, a new website is being created, 250 new families are being on-boarded, the financial year is being closed and 1200 new fee invoices are being prepared. There is more but I can see your eyes are glazing over...

Add into the mix the ideas and initiatives of our exceptional governors and Heads, and the role is both challenging and enormously varied. If it was just being ‘the money man’, this artilleryman would never have lasted 9 years... and counting!

Here at St George's our parents, staff, students and Old Georgians have come together to help raise funds to build our impressive Activity Centre to benefit future generations of Georgians.

We are incredibly thankful to our many Georgians who work tirelessly for a wide variety of charities both within the UK, Africa and our own school. Thank you for all the marvellous work you do, and the many lives you are helping to change.



Neil Twist (OG '62) SJAA Trustee and Former St George's Chair of Governors

► St Joseph's African Aid – SJAA

Here are a couple of images when you think of St Joseph's African Aid; the first is of a woman filling her bowl with water from a shallow muddy pool. The second is of pupils carrying baskets of building materials on their heads. The third is of a sheet of paper with signatures on it. Each, in its own way, describes an aspect of SJAA's work and are examples of how lives are being transformed.

The woman searching for water has a look of despair on her face. The water is dirty, probably contaminated by animals who share the source, but it is the only water available to her and her family. She lives in a village called Gagala in the far north of Cameroon. Water shortage is a reality and long walks to find water are the norm of daily village life. But this year the water sources have failed. There is a life-threatening crisis.

When we heard of the water crisis at Gagala we sent money to drill for and install a deep well. Thankfully the drilling was successful, water was found quickly, and the well was installed. We have now funded seven wells in different villages in the north of the Cameroon. Each has transformed the lives of the villagers and particularly of the women (and children) whose burden it is to provide water for the family.

The pupils carrying the building materials on their heads are more than a thousand miles away, in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These children lack educational resources which many may take for granted in Surrey. Those building materials will form the foundations of a new classroom block. The classrooms that the SJAA fund are simple, one-storey structures but a big step-up from lessons in the open air (or not at all). Buildings alone aren't enough. SJAA started to provide funds to make desks for the classrooms. Here we must acknowledge with gratitude the efforts of generations of St George's pupils who have raised funds for this very purpose.

The third image, of the signatures, is also from the Kasai. They are the signatures of teachers acknowledging receipt of a supplement, provided by donations from St George's staff, to tide them over the summer holidays when

their meagre government-paid salaries cease. Currently about 100 staff from St George's Weybridge donate through their salaries every month and the Governors match what the staff give. This raises enough to support each of the c160 teachers in the Kasai schools during their summer holidays when they would otherwise have no income.

The Josephites have very close links with SJAA and it is this link in the DRC and the Cameroon which allows us to be effective there. Through them we get a clear idea of the projects which help those communities and, working through trusted project managers, we are able to ensure that money we send is used well.



SJAA's running expenses are minimal. It has no paid staff and is managed entirely by its volunteer-trustees. We are looking for new trustees. So if you are interested, have a relevant skill or simply a good dose of common-sense, then please get in touch with SJAA's Chair, Fr Robert Hamilton at rhami13652@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you. You can learn more about SJAA.

www.sjaa.org.uk



Nicola Coldman (née Teuton) (OG '73)

► African Promise

I left St George's College in 1973 after spending many happy years both there and at St Maur's. Subsequently, my three now grown-up children were also privileged to receive a first-class schooling and university education in the UK.

I have always been determined to help bestow this right upon others and in addition to being a donor to St George's I have also been actively involved in the education sector in the UK and abroad for a number of years. I was a governor of my local primary school in Hever for 12 years up until 2017, helping to modernise the school from a collection of temporary classrooms into a school fit for the 21st Century, whilst I am also a founding Trustee of African Promise, a charity set up in 2008 by my elder son Charles to improve the quality of education in government schools in rural Kenya. Charles visited Kenya in his gap-year, spending a number of months in a remote corner of the country, and was so shocked at the state of the local primary school in the village where he was based that he made a promise to the head teacher that after graduating from university he would

return to help rebuild it. It was a promise that he kept and ten years on African Promise now supports a network of seven partner schools, serving more than 2,500 children from hugely impoverished and disadvantaged backgrounds, with plans this year to extend its work to an eighth school for the immediate benefit of a further 500+ children in the area.

As a Trustee, but also as a mother, I have visited Kenya on a number of occasions to see the work that has been carried out by the charity and by Charles and his small team. It is hugely impressive yet at the same time very modest compared to the world-class developments at St George's (and to a lesser extent, at Hever) that I have supported and been equally proud to see come to fruition in recent years. For schools in rural Kenya, the needs can often be as basic as a lack of safe toilets, or of sufficient classrooms and teachers, sometimes even of just food and water. Over the last 10 years we have invested more than £1m in the fabric of our partner schools - building classrooms, toilets, libraries, water tanks and much more besides - and we currently fund the salaries of 17 much-needed extra teachers and provide food to cater for a daily term-time lunch for 2,500 children. But, of course, there remains so much more to do.

Students at St George's are fortunate to have access to a high-quality education - an offering that gets ever better with the addition of impressive facilities such as the new Activity Centre - but if, like me, you would like to help some of the world's most disadvantaged children access even a basic level of education then I would ask you to consider supporting African Promise and our work in Kenya, whether on a personal or business level.

For further information about African Promise or to make a donation, please visit the charity's website www.africanpromise.org.uk

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► The Clubhouse Project

The Clubhouse Project was founded in 2011 and is situated in the **Old Georgians' Clubhouse** at St George's College.

The Clubhouse Project provides a service to young adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities. They supply a variety of in-house and community based daytime activities and are committed to maximising personal choice and promoting independence in a kind and caring environment.

Over the summer the young adults have enjoyed working in the Weybridge allotment. They have grown their own produce which they use in their weekly cookery sessions. The allotment is a peaceful and happy place for all of the budding gardeners to attend daily. One of the plots is a sensory garden; a lovely quiet place for them to just sit and enjoy the sights and smells in a relaxing environment.

Locker 27 in Weybridge have been working with a small group over the summer and they now have their own personalised workout routine. The staff at Locker 27 were kind enough to offer one of the young adults a volunteering opportunity. He really looks forward to his role every week.

The local Weybridge community and St George's Weybridge have been offering some of our young adults incredibly valuable work experience. One young lady volunteers every Wednesday at Nikki's Café and her confidence has grown ever since starting her role. A number of young adults volunteer in the St George's College dining hall serving lunch to students and staff.

The Clubhouse Project rely on the generosity and goodwill of their Clubhouse Heroes. These individuals make a real difference to the lives of the young adults in their care. The Weybridge Community have really come together over the past year to help provide financial support as well as work experience for the young adults.

If you would like to support the Clubhouse Project please visit their website www.clubhouseproject.org for more information.

Lourdes Bursary Fund



Since the 1920s the **annual pilgrimage** to Lourdes in France has held a special place in the life of St George's Weybridge.

Many Old Georgians will have fond memories of making the long journey to Lourdes. The group now travels as part of the HCPT Easter Pilgrimage. We would like to make it possible for any Old Georgian to afford to volunteer to look after Pilgrimage guests when they travel to Lourdes. The Pilgrimage takes place in Easter week and every year the OG volunteers raise money themselves to fund their trip which costs around £900. We hope to build a fund which can subsidise volunteers each year so that finance does not restrict the number recruited in.

If you would like to make this possible, please consider a donation.

"The pilgrimage encouraged me to consider the needs of others before myself. I developed strong friendships with both my contemporaries and the guests which I will cherish forever. As a student, it provided me with an enjoyable and worthwhile break from my studies. I went as a Sixth Former in 2014. I would go again without a doubt if a bursary was made available for Old Georgians." (Old Georgian).

HCPT St George's Group 802 are going to Lourdes at Easter in 2020 and we are looking for OG volunteers to help.

Next year we will be taking eight Assisted Adults from the Clubhouse Project as well as up to eight Sponsored Children so we will need all the help we can get. If you would like more information please contact Fr Martin at mashcroft@stgeorgesweybridge.com

With your help Old Georgians can continue to play a vital caring role in this life changing experience

To make a donation please contact us on 01932 839352 and we will send you a donation form. All donations are welcome.



► Georgian Outreach (GO)

Three years ago current parent Tiffany Bicarregui approached St George's about implementing a **volunteer programme** for our College Third Year students to become **engaged in public service**.

St George's already has a number of volunteering programmes for students which include Lourdes, Kennedy Club and SVP but Tiffany's vision was to create something where every single student can become involved.

Every student in the third year during a one week period in June, gets placed on a volunteer experience programme helping the local community. Our students are provided with opportunities for hand on experience which will have immediate impact. Currently St George's supports eleven different organisations where small groups of students are sent to work on very different projects.



Some of these projects include:

Elmbridge Countryside

Students had an opportunity to work on a very exciting conservation project with the Elmbridge Countryside Ranger. Their responsibilities included pine pulling and cutting on Esher Common, which will help to protect the habitat, particularly the heather. They also got the opportunity to build dens to help the stag beetle population. The major problem facing stag beetles on the common is the lack of rotting wood for them to lay their eggs near and for their larvae to feed on.

Lumen Learning Trust

The Lumen Learning Trust consists of three schools working in partnership with Saxon Primary in Shepperton, Echelford in Ashford and Riverbridge in Staines. Georgian students offered help to these schools with various activities including their sports day, music concert preparation and classroom support.

St Augustine's Care Home

St Augustine's is a care home with 24 hour residential support for 52 elderly people, some of whom are living with dementia and related illnesses. St George's has supported the care home for many years through work with weekly visits from the Senior School SVP students. Earlier this year GO students assisted with serving tea and coffee to the residents and organised a game of Bingo. They assisted the residents to chapel where Fr Martin took Mass and the students sung and read Hymns.

Philip Southcote School

Philip Southcote is a state funded senior school for boys and girls in Addlestone with a range of educational needs. Our students spent a few hours assisting in the classrooms, lunch breaks and on the playground.

This year we also launched the programme to our Year Six pupils at the Junior School, where they volunteered with a wide variety of local organisations. This included helping out with a mother and toddler session at the Salvation Army, a day with pupils at St James C of E Primary School on a learning experience about Holy Communion and a music performance at the Christ the Prince of Peace.

► Old Georgians' Association

In the year that our school celebrates its 150th anniversary it is only fitting to report that Old Georgian sport is providing greater opportunities for the Georgian family to enjoy sports at all levels, is developing the next generation of Georgians to participate and is surging ahead on all fronts.

The OGHC is flourishing, the 1st team won promotion to the National Premier League and are currently top of the division.

The Ladies 1st team won promotion to the South League 3B and the Ladies 2nd team were promoted and won OGHC 'team of the year'. The 3rd team won their league in April. The Dragons have 300 juniors playing hockey drawn from the school and wider community.

The OGRFC are also expanding. The first team are playing in Surrey League 1.

Congratulations to Francesco Grosso and Harry Samuels, who have both achieved 100 caps. The 2nd team played its first game and plans to play another four games this season with the intention of entering a league in 2020/21.

Old Georgian Cricket has had another successful year with more fixtures and more players representing the OGs.

Old Georgian Golf has had a resurgence, three golf days were held through the course of 2019 and the number of Georgian participants is increasing having won the Russell Bowl in 2018, and the Old Kingstonian Autumn Invitation. They again qualified for the Grafton Morrish finals in Hunstanton narrowly losing to the eventual winners. They also finished runners up in the Solihull Salver.

The Old Georgians are reliant on the support of the school and none of the above would be possible without their commitment to strengthen and expand the opportunities for Georgians to participate in sport. More exciting news is on the horizon.

► Parents' Association

The St George's Weybridge Parents' Association was established in 1957. The objective of the Association is to advance the education and pastoral care of students enrolled in the School by:

- Developing effective relationships between the staff, parents, Josephite Community and others associated with the School
- Engaging in fundraising activities in order to provide the School with those added extras in equipment and facilities which support the School, advance the education of the students, and improve their environment.

The St George's Weybridge Parents' Association has had another brilliant year and they would like to extend their thanks to all the staff, parents and students who supported the SGWPA fundraising efforts during the last academic year.

This past year a number of exciting activities were planned, all bringing the Georgian community together and raising funds for the school. The summer fete had a wide variety of activities for all ages which included a petting zoo, inflatables, tombola and many food trucks. The end of the academic year was celebrated in style with the Summer Ball which is organised for the Upper Sixth Leavers and School parents. The silent auction brought in funds for the school, and many of the prizes were generously donated by parents; thank you! Something very special is being planned for 2020, to celebrate our 150th anniversary so don't miss out! Over the summer the Parents' Association hosted the very first picnic for the College First Year students and their families. This was a wonderful opportunity for all parents and children to meet and get to know one another before starting School.

The Second Hand Shop is based at the College and is the Parents' Associations biggest financial contributor. The Second Hand Shop is open every Thursday afternoon in term time from 2:30pm-4:30pm. Good quality used College and JS uniforms, sports kits and accessories can be purchased. The shop is also open on the first day of every term from 8:30am-10:30am with the added bonus of coffee and cookies. If you would like to donate any school clothing or sports equipment please either drop these off at the Second Hand Shop or with Student Services. All donations are gratefully appreciated.

There are many exciting events to look forward to over the next year, starting with a Fireworks display on the 5 November and the Christmas market on 16 November.





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