SpC Alumni newsletter 2012

stephen perse alumni

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Overview from Tricia Kelleher



Welcome to our alumni newsletter for 2012. Thank you to those of you who have contributed to our features, we really enjoy hearing and sharing your stories.

The Stephen Perse Foundation continues to evolve as a centre of educational excellence in Cambridge. The co-educational Stephen Perse Pre-Prep in Madingley will be twinned this autumn with a new City Pre-Prep located on Brookside.

The Sixth Form College is now a well established co-educational institution in Cambridge with not only a reputation for academic success but also an ethos which encourages our students to be personally ambitious within a strong pastoral framework. Perse Girls continue to enjoy all the advantages of single sex teaching in our Junior and Senior Schools. This distinctive learning environment offers an exceptional education for our students. The new

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Front cover photo: Helen Purdie (née Rumbold) and Rachel Connor (née Jeanes), Group 66, at the 'Anti-Reunion' in October. Cover photo and Anti-reunion photos by Paul Sanders Foundation website endeavours to capture this very special ethos - www.stephenperse.com .

As a 21st Century school, we are very conscious of the challenges posed to our students by living in a digital age. Educating for this changing technological landscape and offering our students tools that will inspire them is an integral part of our ethos. For the past 12 months our teaching staff have been piloting iPads in the classroom. From September, every student in the Senior School will have an iPad, which means they will have access to far more educational resources and information than ever before.

As part of our 'New Horizons' fundraising appeal, we are reaching out to alumni to support the education of young people within the Foundation. We have included news of our first telethon in this newsletter and I should personally like to thank everyone who supported this telephone fundraising campaign. We believe fundraising is vital to enable the Foundation's vibrant and inclusive ethos to flourish.

Development

Verity Armstrong is the new Development Manager at the Foundation. Verity joins us from Girton College, Cambridge where she managed annual fundraising for nearly four years. Verity said, "In my new role, I

am responsible for the Foundation's long-term fundraising strategy and all aspects of alumni relations and development, working with Melissa Santiago-Val, who many of you will know. Some may ask, 'why do you need to fundraise?'. The answer is simple; we feel it is vital that we enable the Foundation's inclusive ethos to continue to



A successful initiative this year is our new 'Inspire Me' programme. By way of encouraging our students to think creatively about their future, we have organised a range of interesting and at times quirky events to challenge the conventional well-trodden career paths - not least because the future of our students is likely to be far from conventional. I'd be delighted if our alumni became involved in 'Inspire Me'. These events are taking a variety of formats from panel discussions with Q&A to keynote speakers and even 'careers speed dating'. We'd like to hear from you if you are happy to share your experiences and career paths.

As always, I hope you enjoy seeing the directions our alumni have taken, and the lifelong relationships that have been forged from early friendships at school.

I hope you will be able to join us for the next SPG reunion on 16 June. If you can't make that day, there are other ways to get involved – see the back of the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing some of you in June.

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flourish, and in order to facilitate this the Foundation is committed to increasing bursary provision and to growing its outreach programme (see our article on SteP Out)."

This will enable us to continue to widen access to our schools in our local community and ensure that young people with suitable potential are able to study here, irrespective of financial circumstance. At the same time we are committed to enhancing the fabric of our schools, offering our students the best possible environment in which to learn and grow.

The Stephen Perse Foundation is entirely feefinanced and we have no endowment to cushion us, so to achieve our ambitions we will fully depend on the continued generous support of our alumni and friends.

New Horizons

We have also been delighted to receive a donation from an anonymous donor to cover 100% fees for one pupil for five years at Perse Girls Senior School. Such generosity will make a huge difference to a family who would not normally be able to send their child to this school. We hope that many more friends of the Foundation will consider helping in whatever way they can. Please contact Verity Armstrong, Development Manager on

vaa@stephenperse.com or 01223 454738 if you would like any more information.

Please read more about how you can support the Foundation on the back cover.



foundation

The New Horizons Fund

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The alumni newsletter for Perse Girls and SPSFC

Junior School update

As part of our 130th birthday celebrations, the members of 3A invited Catherine Sharp (née Hann, Group 39) to share her memories of life as a Junior School pupil in the 1950s and as a teacher in the 1980s. Armed with her school beret, a hand mirror, some exercise books and a daffodil for each interviewer (as it was St David's Day), Catherine told the girls about



SPSFC update

We are delighted to see the Sixth Form grow again and now, nearly, have a rugby-team'sworth of boys! The trend continues for us to have about a third of our students coming from other schools both near and far and the Sixth Form College community gains much from the mix.

We have been pleased to see our enrichment programme enhanced by the formal adoption of 'Model United Nations', which gives students a wonderful opportunity to engage within the world of debate on a whole new level.

Pre-Prep update

Plans are underway for opening our new city Pre-Prep. The builders have begun converting the classrooms in the Junior School into exciting learning spaces for Pre-Prep aged children (4-7). Our City Pre-Prep has access to the Junior School facilities and has the Botanical Gardens and Fitzwilliam Museum on the doorstep. The Madingley site is surrounded by woods and from September will become a Forest school complete with an



what school days were like before the digital age and, a week later, 3A shared their findings in a brilliant assembly.

A Barnardo's style sale in the playground, which included games such as 'pin the glasses on Miss Cattley' and 'match the year to the Persean cover' brought the term of 'looking back' to a close and then came a term of 'looking forward'. The girls were given the challenge of designing a device for use in school in 130 years' time! Entries ranged from spelling pens and food capsules to transport systems and eco-zones. The two entrants from each year group whose entries were judged to be particularly innovative enjoyed a special visit to the Visual Arts Centre and DT Workshop at the Senior School as their prize.

We attended the Bath International Schools Model United Nations Conference once more and hope to push the boundaries to some European destinations in the coming years so if anyone has some contacts or ideas as to how to build on the enthusiasm for politics, economics, international relations and law in this area, please let us know!

Prior to the 2012 Gambia expedition, ten L6 students initiated a host of interesting and often physically gruelling fundraising events, which raised a fantastic sum in excess of £8,000. Accompanied by two members of staff, the students spent a busy week becoming familiar with the realities of life in urban and rural communities. As well as meeting and leading activity sessions with students from local

outdoor curriculum that encourages children to take managed risks and to collaborate with their peers in the outdoor environment.

The Pre-Prep had a busy start to the academic year. Fundraising began early in the term with the popular Harvest Festival sale. Proceeds from the sale went to the Seeds of Africa charity, helping a primary school to buy equipment to grow their own food.

In November our Year 2 classes delivered fantastic class assemblies about Remembrance Day, acting out the story of the poppy being the chosen flower and reading some of their own poetry about the poppies.

December was soon upon us and the nativity play rehearsals were underway for Hosannah Rock. The performance took place in the local church at Madingley and the money raised from the Christmas play donated to Children in



This year we have introduced an innovative curriculum designed to challenge and inspire current and future Stephen Perse girls. This is really taking root and we invite you to find out more by browsing our new website, or better still, coming to see us!

schools, they had the opportunity to discuss development issues with teachers, community elders and a doctor. The students were able to see the positive impact of past projects funded by students at SPSFC and to identify ways their money could be put to good use in the future.





Need and the Church funds. As well as raising money, we have also been spending it! Children enjoyed a fascinating Victorian day delivered by the History Off the Page team. They turned classrooms into a Victorian house complete with 'Upstairs and Downstairs' and the children all took it in turns to be the owners of the house and the servants. This term the topic for the whole school is 'Up in the Air' and to enrich the children's learning we are having owls to visit and a trip to Duxford Air Museum.





Local state primary schools partnered with our students in our first 'Serious Fun on Saturday' workshop.

Social engagement is becoming an increasingly important part of our work at the SPF. The SteP Out (Stephen Perse Outreach) programme has been inaugurated to promote social engagement at every level of the Foundation.

Initiatives beginning or developing this year under our SteP Out programme include:

• Outreach workshops in local primary schools in the area in Drama, English, Maths and Philosophy, delivered by members of staff and Year 10 or 11 students

• A 10-week course at our Visual Arts Centre entitled 'Serious Fun on Saturdays', focusing on a blend of Classics and Visual Arts and delivered to talented nine-year-olds from some of the city's most disadvantaged areas by teachers and L6 Student Mentors. We have begun to develop partnerships with four local primary schools – Arbury, King's Hedges, Mayfield and Shirley

• Engagement in community projects such as Whitworth House (see article below)

The SteP Out programme has already succeeded in securing funding for the Serious Fun project from the SHINE Trust and we are currently seeking additional funding to enable us to expand the programme in the coming year.

"Learning to think outside the box more and taking a different approach to Maths sometimes."

"It was really nice to feel that you helped the children to understand and I think they enjoyed it too."

"I really enjoyed this experience. It felt good to give something back to the community."



Supporting local causes



Whitworth House

Christmas is a hard time for many homeless and vulnerable people. So to support a local project tackling these issues, Ruth Taylor (Enrichment Coordinator and Head of Economics) masterminded a Christmas campaign for Whitworth House. This house, run by Orwell Housing Association, offers secure accommodation for 13 young women between the ages of 16 and 25 who have some support needs in addition to housing needs, with priority given to those who are homeless. Teachers, staff, students and friends all collected toiletries, chocolates, gifts and Christmas decorations for the residents, and the gifts were organised and wrapped into 13 boxes by the students. The response was huge and the presents filled an estate car. Ruth said, "The students chose this charity as it is a local and fairly unknown charity. The house is provided for girls only. As a predominantly female school, we felt it was important to support girls in our local area of a similar age to our pupils who are going through difficult experiences."

Sarah Martin who organises the Friends of Whitworth House Charity said, "My reaction was one of amazement that SPF staff, pupils, and their families and friends had taken so much trouble to provide such an abundance of gifts. These were clearly given with thoughtful consideration, for which the Friends of Whitworth House are very thankful."

In addition to all the SteP Out initiatives, students put together the annual Barnado's day (raising £2,500 this year), and supported a

PFA fundraising update

PFA (Parents and Friends of the Stephen Perse Foundation)

We have had another successful year of events for both Junior and Senior School parents. The 130th Anniversary Ball at Kings' College in September last year was quickly sold out, and other events have included the traditional welcome drinks for parents and the annual Christmas Fayre at the Senior School. The PFA raised funds for the gym at Annesley House to be refurbished into a dance studio. Tricia Kelleher said, "We are very grateful to the PFA for helping to enable us to refurbish the gym into a dance studio. We've had such great feedback from our students, and a variety of brilliant comments on Facebook from our alumni who can't believe it is the same gym!"



number of charities including Comic Relief, Dogs for the Disabled and The Poppy Appeal. A concert organised by two L6 students, Louisa Scott and Rosie Shennan, helped raise £500 for Teenage Cancer Trust and Oxfam. They performed a selection of songs from classical and popular repertoire, and were supported by friends with other musical items. It follows from Poppy Beddoe's similar concert last year (Poppy is now reading Music at KCL).



Students put together boxes of presents for the 13 residents at Whitworth House.

Creative & Performing Arts programme

We hold a number of music and creative arts events throughout our schools, many of which are ticketed or public. We welcome alumni to these events and we've published a programme of events running up until Autumn 2012. You can order a printed copy from the school or access it on our new website at: www.stephenperse.com and search for 'School events'.

Please note the Visual Arts Summer Art Exhibition will be on 21 June 2012.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts

Summer Art Exhibition Venue: Visual Arts Centre, Coronation Street

Students, friends, parents and artists are welcome to join us for our annual Summer Art Exhibition. Work on display will reflect an excellent standard of achievement across Animation, Digital Art, Film, Fine Art, Sculpture and Textiles at both GCSE and A Level.



Our hyacinth birthday tradition



Rosemary Tice (Geography and Biology teacher, 1965-1990), marked the 131st birthday of the Foundation by bringing in a hyacinth. This tradition has taken place every year since 1967, and has been passed from Miss Scott (Headmistress until 1967) who started the tradition on her retirement, then to Miss Graham-Campbell and then to Miss Tice, who hopes the tradition will be continued through Jane Way (née Whitehead).

In addition to this tradition, we held a birthday celebration assembly with a speech from polar explorer, skier and alumna, Caroline Hamilton (who was also taught by Miss Tice!).

That Summer in Ischia



Penny Feeny (née Cross, Group 48) Penny has published her first novel, *That Summer in Ischia*. Sun-drenched, dark, intriguing and gripping are just some of the words reviewers used to describe this perfect summer reading. A story of romance, a kidnapping and dark secrets in the luxurious Italian island of Ischia, this book became Amazon's best-selling title in the summer of 2011.

Penny has lived and worked in Cambridge, London and Rome. Since settling in Liverpool

many years ago she has been an arts administrator, editor, radio presenter and advice worker. Her short fiction has been widely published and broadcast and won several awards. Penny is



married with five grown-up children.

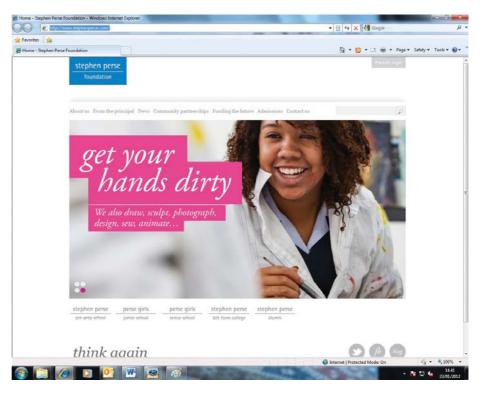
Website refresh

We have revamped and updated our website. The new site not only has a completely different look and feel, it also incorporates a tone of voice that we hope you will agree is much more 'us'.

Other new features include a site search facility and the ability for visitors to get news in real time through RSS feeds and is more closely tied into other new media such as our blog, Facebook pages and Twitter. We also have new sections on development, outreach and alumni activities - important parts of the Foundation. Parents can still get to the portal via a log-in link on every page.

We are developing a new area called 'Connect Me' where you can publicise your business to other alumni and our web users. More details soon!

Take a look at the new website and our alumni section at www.stephenperse.com



Then&Now



From The Persean magazine, 1940

Memories of school during WW2

Since our last newsletter, we received numerous memories of School during WW2. We have therefore pulled together some of your memories and some archive material, to give you a portrait of the School at the time. We also bring you the story of Eva Mosbacher, a Jewish refugee saved by the Kindertransport programme (nearly 10,000 children were sent without their parents to safety in the UK through this rescue movement), along with a report on the School's first Holocaust Study Day.

"Take the war in your stride; assume it as the background of your lives, and leave it in the background; make the thought of life and not the thought of war your central and cardinal thought."

This advice was given at Perse Girls' Speech Day in 1940 by Professor Ernest Baker (Professor of Political Science at Cambridge, and formerly Principal of King's College London).

Miss Cattley, Headmistress in 1940, refers in her Speech Day report to the fact that, despite major work to prepare the School buildings for war, the School only opened three days late and that School was largely unaffected by the war. During this time, many girls were welcomed from different nations and much work was done for the war effort, including agricultural work.

Addressing the Junior School Speech Day, Mrs G.F. Fisher, wife of the Bishop of London said, "We want to see you grow up responsible, interesting people, who are brave in standing up for the right and who have charm of character to get your ideas across to other people." We think that still rings true of the Foundation's ethos today.

A poem first published in The Persean magazine 1940:

My gas mask O that annoying gas mask, That slings upon my back. It bumps about and clangs about so, Like a potato sack.

I look so funny in it, Like a wart hog with a snout. And it makes a funny buzzing, Like a bee that can't get out.

It suffocates me terribly; I am glad to take it off. It may help in an air raid, Just now it makes me cough. M. S. Upper III

The story of Eva Mosbacher

During the summer holidays, we had a visit from Christoph Gann and John Lindgren from Meiningen in Germany. Herr Gann is putting together an exhibition about the deportation of the Jews of Meiningen, and in particular the fate of a girl who was a Jewish refugee who came to our School during the war - Eva Mosbacher. As part of the memorial and exhibition, two "Stolpersteine" (cobblestone-sized memorials) were placed in Meiningen. Eva's mother was born in Meiningen, and her parents were deported from there in May 1942.



Eva entered the School in May 1939 and stayed until July 1944, when she went into nursing. Two Christian women from Cambridge Miss Signe Laven (the owner at that time of Annesley House and the gym), and Dr EJ Lindgren (John Lindgren's mother), volunteered to look after Eva and so she was sent to them, and lived in the nearby village of Harston. Eva was then sent to Perse Girls, where she was welcomed, without an entrance test, and settled in very well. According to Eva's letters, everyone was very welcoming to her at School.

The research by Herr Gann and John Lindgren charts the necessity for her parents to send her away from home; their failure to get out of Germany despite strenuous efforts to do so; and their death at Auschwitz. Tragically, Eva herself died 20 years later, suffering from depression.

The exhibition will be shown in Meiningen from 10 May 2012 until November 2012, and then in Nuremberg (where Eva was born) in 2013 to mark the 50th anniversary of her death, 10 November 1963. www.judeninmeiningen.de On 24 January, Year 10 students took part in the Senior School's first Holocaust Day. The event was dedicated to expanding student understanding of this horrifying, yet hugely thought-provoking event that has historical and ethical significance that still resonates today. It was held during this week because 27 January marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp in 1945.

Harriet, one of our Year 10 students, gave us a student's view of the day:

"We took part in various different workshops focusing on different aspects of the Holocaust, helping to develop our perception of a world event with far-reaching consequences. We were lucky to have a talk from Eva Clarke, a Holocaust survivor, who told us the story of what her family had been through during the Holocaust. We all were completely engrossed - hearing a first-hand account was a sombre experience, yet made it feel a lot more 'real' to us and we realised we were hearing 'real history'. Although the Holocaust is an event in history, we came to realise that it is entirely possible for these events to be repeated in the future. As a child of the 21st Century, this proved both an invaluable link and time for reflection."

As Harriet says, such atrocities are sadly not consigned to the past, as more recent events in Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur show us only too clearly. Eva Clarke made the point that those who committed such acts were not monsters but ordinary people.

Importantly, students will now have a chance to reflect upon and apply what they have learnt even further, exploring prejudice and racism in a contemporary context.







Your memories of School during WW2:

Meriol Penn (neé Godfrey), "We knitted thick grey jerseys for Merchant Seamen and I was responsible for handing out wool and collecting the finished products. The parts were often knitted by different people and the assembled result bore unmistakable evidence of this!"

Daphne Newman (née Harding), "We had an incendiary raid on Cambridge and Perse Girls was saved by our firefighting teachers who quickly doused a small bomb in a bucket of sand."

Edna Chayen (née Greenburgh), "I must mention school-dinners. We had soup, meat or fish and two vegetables and gravy, and lastly, pudding with sauce or custard. The puddings were magnificent; about a foot in height. The bowls they were cooked in must have been huge. There were lemon sponge puddings, spotted dick, and most glorious of all, steamed treacle pudding with a lovely toffeelike top. The helping was a great big slice! Noone wasted food."

Pat Hurford (née Matthews), "At home, children had to be 'good' because it was such a difficult time. At school, we invented a rather wild outdoor game we called 'Scrum' during break sometimes – it had very few rules, and mainly involved keeping a netball away from everyone while running about wildly! We often wondered if this was the inspiration for Ronald Searle's St Trinian's drawings as his digs had overlooked the netball courts."

Patricia Burrows (née Langford) remembered the same game, adding "We often threw our hockey sticks into the walnut tree to knock the nuts down!"

Barbara Davies (née Foskett), "School uniform was not compulsory due to rationing. However, we did have to have a beret with the school badge so we could be identified while out



(in case of bad behaviour!), and we were expected to wear basic divided skirts and aertex shirts in the appropriate colour for hockey and

netball."

Joan Benner (née Draper), "The dining room and the first-aid room and one of the labs were reinforced with heavy wooden beams to act as air raid shelters. There was a rule that after a night alert, the school day started half an hour later than normal. Both teachers and girls were involved with 'war work'. Some teachers worked evening shifts in Pye's radio factory. There was such a broad outlook on the world, so much mental enterprise, that after Perse Girls, I even found my first year at Oxford a disappointment!"

Doris Moritz, "While I was not directly a Holocaust survivor, I arrived in Cambridge in April 1939 on a Kindertransport. Miss S.M Rickard, an ex Persean, took my sister and myself into her home. She saw to it that we were properly equipped with regard to the school uniform. Needless to say my first term was very hard, without any English. I have found my reports and the first one mentions that I must not despair, if I cannot understand everything. I have always been most grateful for the education I received at Perse Girls."

With many thanks to all of you who wrote or were interviewed for this feature - we plan to use more of your memories in a future archive project.



Miss M. H. Cattley, Headmistress 1926 - 1946

Inspire Me



Photograph: Inspire Me speakers from our event 'From Penicillin to Chocolate' in January

A key factor in advising our students on career direction is inspiration and so we have created a new event programme called Inspire Me.

Guest speakers - alumni, parents and industry experts - talk about their careers or life stories to inspire students, parents and other alumni. Our speakers come from all walks of life and their talks particularly help to broaden our

Rising stars



Alumni under 30 have often achieved huge success in their work already. We talk to Samata Angel about her business and career.

Samata Abudulai (known as Samata Angel, age 28) – is a fashion entrepreneur and designer.

students' intellectual, personal and social horizons. So far the Inspire Me series has consisted of the following talks: Silicon Valley comes to Cambridge; The City by Morgan Stanley; Inspire Me: PR; Inspire Me: From Penicillin to Chocolate (looking at varied careers of science graduates), with more planned focusing on languages and entrepreneurship.

Samata studied Economics, Finance and Management at Queen Mary and Westfield College. She was always passionate about fashion and creativity from a young age. "Whilst at school my sister would organise fashion shows, which I would be involved in and I would often customise my clothing when going out."

Whilst at university she worked in London's fashion scene, working for boutiques and assisting backstage at fashion shows. She then secured a job as Head of PR for an international Japanese clothing label which led to a role as Head of Marketing and Sales for the label. Samata subsequently, aged 23, worked as Head of PR for a Kings Road fashion boutique with brands like Amanda Wakeley and Issa.

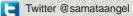
To celebrate our 131st birthday, we held an Inspire Me assembly. We were delighted to welcome alumna, entrepreneur and recordbreaking polar explorer, Caroline Hamilton (Group 59) to speak. Caroline was part of the first all-women team to ski to both the North and South Poles. In 2000 she travelled 700 miles to the South Pole, hauling sledges more than her own bodyweight, and in 2002 she travelled 500 miles to the North Pole. Caroline is now a successful entrepreneur. Her business is responsible for financing commercial projects in the creative and technology sectors, including large numbers of music albums in particular. Perhaps we will have another polar explorer in our midst in the future!

In March, we held our first Inspire Me – Careers speed-dating event. A panel of alumni, parents and industry experts took part. Their careers included wine master; fashion entrepreneur; inventor; branding guru and journalist. Students had five minutes to quiz each person on their roles and how they got there.

If you would like to take part in an Inspire Me event, be a Life Story on our website or feature in our newsletter, please get in touch.

Samata went on to become Fashion Editor of The Talent Magazine working with Nicholas Hoult and other rising talent. Ever the entrepreneur, Samata set up a clothing label, *Samata's Muse*, now called *Samata*, focussing on designing womenswear. "I love creating feminine, beautiful and luxurious evening and cocktail wear with my design inspiration being the glamour of a time gone by. Fashion is definitely a tough industry but I think that success requires creative talent and ability, a keen eye for detail, good communication skills and above all stamina and determination."

www.facebook.com/samataangelofficial



www.samataangel.com



Industry focus: a career in media

work in a particular sector or industry. This issue we look at some of the directions our alumnae have taken in the media.



Bridget Kendall MBE (Group 52) BBC diplomatic correspondent

Bridget credits her choice of career back to a day at Senior School when her class was visited by a former pupil. The visiting

alumna had studied Russian at university and won a rare scholarship to the Soviet Union. In time that is what Bridget did – an experience which inspired her and opened the door to her eventual career as a BBC correspondent.

"It just goes to show a single encounter on one ordinary day at school really can change your life forever."

Bridget was a foreign correspondent in Moscow (1989-94) and Washington (1994-98). In 1992, she became the first woman to win the James Cameron Award for distinguished Journalism. Since 1998, Bridget has been a BBC diplomatic correspondent, and now she also hosts the programme, The Forum. In 1994 she was made an MBE.

Georgina Cassels (née Caldwell, Group 78) Editor, Illustrated London News

Georgina studied Law and Italian Law at University College London. During a threemonth internship at Credit Suisse First Boston, she wrote an article for the IFLR and discovered her calling—journalism.

"On graduation, I applied to anything and everything (I was too broke to do a post-grad in journalism) and was appointed editorial assistant at European Cosmetic Markets magazine, a niche B2B. I didn't have an English degree, I had no experience and the competition was fierce; I got the job purely because I speak Italian—thanks Mr Minei!" Promoted from editorial assistant to editor in two years, Georgina then moved to a consumer magazine at Archant Life. Today, Georgina is an editor at Illustrated London News, a customer publishing company based in Spitalfields. Her work covers print and digital, producing magazines, websites, brochures and magalogues for luxury retailers, brands and travel operators.

"The role is client-facing and includes lots of international travel—I've just got back from Geneva where I attended the Salon International de Haute Horlogerie and interviewed Clive Owen! I honestly can't stress enough how important my languages were to my career progression. Languages open up doors that may otherwise remain closed. They are an incredibly valuable skill, whether you want to be a journalist, lawyer or a forensic scientist."



Sophie Miller (Group 67) – Went to Central St Martins, and now runs her own vintage lighting design business. Sophie used to direct pop videos and was a stylist.

Sophie graduated in Fine Art Painting from Central Saint Martins and then volunteered to work on a student film as a designer. First jobs included a test commercial for Nike, a pop promo for a Death Metal group ("surprisingly nice chaps!") and even a straight to video Vampire B movie, to get a 'foot in the door'.

"I had been doing work-experience for months and was in the East End of London one night with a friend when we spotted a film crew - I asked to speak to the designer, who kindly gave me a contact. I made the call, got an interview and with all my experience I was hired for a commercial on the spot. I remember being told what my pay would be for the week and my jaw hit the ground! My first task was to find three live chickens to run around the interior of a bus we were constructing!"

Subsequent work included styling, buying, artdirecting for commercials and pop promos for the likes of Belinda Carlisle, Phil Collins, Kele Le Roc, The Charlatans and Sting. Sophie had great fun working on a James Bond film, and was then asked to standby art direct the Inspector Lynley Mysteries for the BBC which she did and loved for three seasons.

"Working in film is great fun, but I was working long hours, for months on end, often away from home. After seven years I wanted a better work/life balance. My husband Chris and I moved to Cornwall and with his background as a lighting designer and mine as a stylist/buyer we set up Skinflint - an online vintage lighting boutique. We now have two children, the beach on our doorstep and both have jobs we love!"

www.skinflintdesign.co.uk



Hannah Wallis (Group 81) PR account handler

Since graduating from Edinburgh, Hannah has been working in PR and media consultancy in London. She says, *"My time at*

Perse Girls was a great grounding for my current career. From English lessons instilling a deep love of language (crucial to anyone in communications and media) to being encouraged to think of a subject from all possible angles in Debating Society, I couldn't have been better prepared."

Hannah is a consultant at Kwittken + Company, a New York-based corporate PR firm, advising clients including American Express on their communications strategy and handling day-to-day media relations.

One of our U6 students, Emma, went to do work experience with Hannah for a week. She says, "Without a doubt, the fast pace of London City is certainly mirrored in the office with everything abuzz with activity. I have learnt lots but perhaps most significantly, the importance of communication. Communications skills within Kwittken & CO are flawless both with the client and internally. There is a terrific atmosphere of teamwork and progress which I found so infectious that at one stage I felt I was really part of the team."

www.kwittken.com

We have networking groups for Law, Education, Medicine, Business and Media. If you would like to join one, please email with the group title in the subject of your email and we'll keep you posted with news and events. Next issue our industry focus will be Business. Please get in touch if you'd like to be included.

Retiring and leaving staff



Catherine Mahey – Head of French (teaching 1989 -2012). Catherine Mahey (once known as Madame Citron) will retire this summer. She joined the French Department at the Perse

Obituaries



Anne Taylor - 1922 - 2011, age 89

Head of Biology and Head of Science at Perse Girls 1949-1981.

Anne passed away the day before her 90th birthday. She had a big birthday party to celebrate her birthday the day before she passed away.

Having taught at Perse Girls for 32 years, Anne was very fondly remembered not only by her colleagues, but also her former students. Celia Beadle (Chemistry and Head of Year 8) said, "I was sorry to hear that Anne had died - she was a remarkable teacher and a very popular Head of Biology and Head of Science."

After graduating from Newnham College, Cambridge, Anne attended teacher training at Hughes Hall, Cambridge. She enjoyed her first teaching job at Bradford Girls Grammar School.

She then moved on to The Perse School for Girls, Cambridge, where she stayed for the rest of her teaching career. She was an inspirational and popular teacher of Biology, School for Girls in 1989. A born teacher, she immediately felt at ease in the classroom. Being with her students is what she enjoys the most. Over the years, Catherine has helped and guided generations of Perse girls through the complexities of French grammar and led them to the joys of communicating,

reading, speaking in another language. However, what matters to Catherine is that in her class, her pupils are happy - happy to learn and, happy to discover French literature: one of

and a supportive colleague, and she went on to become Head of Science.

Anne did a lot of travelling over the years with friends, and sometimes colleagues, visiting far flung places, and gamely taking part in adventures; such as staying in a yurt in Mongolia, travelling down the Yangtze River in China, and travelling to Brazil with a group of farmers to investigate pig farming there. In her retirement she kept busy. She stayed in touch with Perse Girls through the OPG, attending reunions and concerts.

She remained busy and mentally agile until very recently, was stoical during illness, and always enjoyed recalling stories from her full and varied life.

This edited obituary was provided by Jane Porter (née Taylor), who was Anne's niece. Her former students commented on Facebook:

Helen White Blair Miss Taylor was our biology mistress back in the 50s. She taught me to love biology. Lovely lady. May she RIP.

Bridget Costedoat Sorry to hear about Miss Taylor. I think she was one of the most memorable teachers ever, the epitome of the "formidable" schoolmistress.

Empi Richardson She was a formidable teacher - she put up with me because I could not draw biological diagrams. I do remember her once, at the end of term, talking about the variety of flora & fauna that could be discerned when you followed a hedge. I found that utterly fascinating and look closely at hedges to this day :)

Susan Cashdan-Roseman Miss Taylor taught me back in the 70s. I particularly remember her Coe Fen buttercup trips and her great attention to accuracy and method.

Catherine's many passions. Catherine has been, and still is, instrumental in organising exchanges and trips of all sorts. She has taken countless groups to Brittany, Paris and Normandy. These expeditions have enabled some Perse girls to form lasting friendships with French students and encouraged others to continue further with their languages.

Catherine has also been a Form Tutor for a variety of year groups and many will remember her kind and caring approach: she always makes time to listen and talk to her girls, taking pleasure and pride in their achievements.

If you would like to contribute to Catherine's eaving donation, please complete the form and return to us.



Susanne Davidson (née Ostberg, Group 20) 1924 – 2011

Susanne came to The Perse School for Girls in 1939 as a refugee from Germany. On leaving school, she was an active member of the OPG committee for many years and endowed a prize to the school 10 years ago. She retained a lifelong affection for the Perse: the school was kind and helpful in her early struggles with the English language. But she never got to grips with English sport! Her daughter Isabel also attended the school, and Isabel's husband, the Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP, gave the address at her funeral.

Susanne was always an enthusiastic supporter of alumni events. Some of her dearest friends from her time at school, including Geraldine Owst, also served on the OPG committee for many years. Her commitment and enthusiasm for furthering alumni relations was hugely valued.

She is survived by her husband John, her daughter Isabel Letwin (née Davidson, Group 52) and her son Peter.



Dr lain Macpherson 1924-2011

Dr Macpherson was Governor of Perse Girls (now The Stephen Perse Foundation) for 25 years, during which time his daughter Catriona Organ (née Macpherson, Group 57) also attended the school.

Former President of Gonville & Caius College, Senior Tutor, Tutor, Director of Studies and College Lecturer in Economics, Dr Macpherson passed away on Sunday 17 July 2011.

Dr Gill Sutherland, Chair of Governors said, "I worked with lain on many issues over the years and found him invariably a source of wise advice and guidance, the suggestions often delivered with the most marvellous dry wit. He was an outstanding raconteur and I remember him convulsing both my children with laughter during the interval of a School concert with his account of his debut on the violin, aged 7, in a village hall in the Highlands."

Dr Macpherson is survived by his daughter Catriona, son Donald and grandchildren Andrew and Claire.



(Lady) Angela Rosalind Runcie (née Turner, Group 28). 23 January 1932 - 12 January 2012

Rosalind Runcie, wife of the late Lord Runcie (Archbishop of Canterbury 1980-1991) has died aged 79.

Lady Runcie was never entirely comfortable in her role as clergy wife, but in her own bouncy and unorthodox way she made an important and valuable contribution to the life of the Church.

One of six children, Angela Rosalind Turner was born at Cambridge on 23 January 1932 and educated at the Perse School for Girls, Cambridge, and at the Guildhall School of Music, London, where she trained as a pianist. Robert Runcie was a friend of her sister's at Oxford and she first met him as a schoolgirl when her sister brought him home.

She met Runcie again when he became Dean of Trinity Hall in 1956, and began working parttime as his secretary. When they became engaged, her parents were horrified. Her father, Cecil Turner, was an atheist who took such exception to the proposed match that for a time he refused even to look at his daughter - and she considered calling the whole thing off. In the end she decided that her love for Runcie transcended her feelings for her father. Moreover, Rosalind Runcie made an important contribution to the life of the Church, raising more than £500,000 for charity from concerts and recitals.

"To see them together was redemptive and beautiful." their son recalled. "They did infuriate each other, of course, but they saw their friends a lot and went travelling together. They would pretend they were much more doddery than they were, calling each other 'duck'."

Lord Runcie died in 2000. Lady Runcie is survived by their two children.

Photograph: Eleanor Bentall / The Daily Telegraph

This is an edited version of the obituary originally published by The Daily Telegraph.

Ronald Searle, the artist who based his St Trinian's illustrations on Perse Girls, died on 30 December 2011, aged 91. The article below tells the story of his life and link with our school.

St Trinian's link to city school

CITY school was the inspiration behind St Trinian's, it has emerged - following the death of the Cambridge cartoon-ist who created the fictional girls' boarding school for delinquents. Born in 1920, Ronald Searle attended the former Boys' Cen-tral School in Cambridge before



Professor Martin Salisbury presenting Ronald Searle with his honorary degree.

BY CHARLOTTE ORSON CONTENT EDITOR

studying at Cambridge Technical College of Art - now Anglia Ruskin University - from 1936 to 1939.

And memories of the city, in par-ticular its feisty schoolgirls, never left Searle who was torn away from his birthplace following the outbreak of war which saw him incarcerated in Changi, a notorious Japanese prisoner of war camp.

Searle published the first St Trini-an's cartoon in the magazine Lilliput in 1941 after beginning his career doc-umenting the brutal conditions in the Singapore prisoner of war camp.

And following the artist's death aged 91 at a hospital near his home in southern France on Friday, principal of the Stephen Perse Founda-

tion Tricia Kelleher has unveiled a letter written by Searle to the school in 1993.

The letter describes the effect young girls attending both the Perse School for Girls and the Perse School for Girls and the former Cambridge High School for Girls - now Long Road Sixth Form College - had on the impression-able artist in the 1930s. It reads: "As you know, I was born in Cambridge, and St Trini-an's emerged from memories of an amalyzm gel Loral school girle.

amalgam of local schoolgirls. "My sister apart, I think we could say that the main influences were certainly the Perse and the Cam-bridge High School for Girls.

"The Perse School for Girls was a positive source of inspiration for St Trinian's but I hope the school won't hold that against me so many years after the crime



Miss Kelleher said: "Anecdo-

Miss Kelleher said: "Anecdo-tally it is something the school has known for years and it is a really positive link. "If you take the criminality out the St Trinian's girls were inde-pendent, entrepreneurial and quite extraordinary young people. "It is part of the historical mem-ory of the school and we cherish these links with the past."

these links with the past." Searle received an honorary degree from Anglia Ruskin in 2007.

He was too frail to travel to collect his award in person so professor of illustration at the university Martin Salisbury visited him and his late wife Monica - who died just a few weeks before him - at home in France.

He said: "One of my first inspirations when I was an art student was Ronald Searle and it was a big thrill to meet him. "I was terribly

nervous and arranged to meet him in one of his favourite restaurants outside his village in the South of France.

"He was something of a bon viveur and loved his Champagne, food and art. The restaurant was decorated with satirical drawings on a culinary theme he had done for them over the years.

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The generation game



The Rumbold sisters, I-r: Julia Ajayi (Group 63), Emma Fewster (Group 68), Helen Purdie (Group 66), Alison Pritchard (Group 62) have attended the School - Julia Ajayi, Emma Fewster, Alison Pritchard and Helen Purdie.

The Rumbold family know The Stephen Perse Foundation well. Between them, four sisters Alison Pritchard's daughter Ruth is at SPSFC, and her son Will was one of our first male alumni in 2011. Julia's daughter, Azume, also

Lifelong friends



Rachel Appleyard (Group 75) met some of her closest friends at school over 20 years ago. Rachel gave us an update on where they are now.

Annabelle and her husband Chris are both teachers, living in Dubai with their eight month old Toby.



Meal at Rachel's May 2011: Anticlockwise from bottom: Caroline Bridges (née Vance), Lucy Nicholson, Susanna Shepherd (née Payne), Annabelle Allen (née Roberts) and Rachel Appleyard

Caroline gained a PhD in the genetics of motor neuron disease at the Institute of Psychiatry, and is now a lecturer in Neurogenetics and Cell Biology in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Kings College London. She lives with her husband Jake and cat, Smartie.

Rachel lives in Cambridge with her fiancé Julian, working as a Strategic Business Development Director for a company on the Cambridge Science Park. She is a governor of a local mental health trust and is working towards a Masters with the Open University.



Sanky's wedding 2008 I-r: Caroline, Lucy Nicholson, Annabelle, (school friend), Susanna, Rachel, Natasha Vanstone (née Warsi), (school friend)

Susanna is a Clinical Psychologist in London, married to Jos with baby daughter Isla. Susanna is also a trustee of a children's charity, www.livelyminds.org attends the Senior School.

So what makes the School so special to this family? We were delighted to see the four sisters at our recent 'Anti-Reunion' event, where Julia said, "There was already a family history at the Perse Girls with our grandmother and great aunt having attended. Our grandmother, Peggy Miller started in 1928 and I joined the Senior School in 1978!

"My time at the Perse was a very happy one and it has been wonderful to share it with my sisters over the years. With my daughter now in Year 7, my niece just completing Sixth Form and my nephew having been one of the first boys to attend in the Sixth Form it is great to still be involved and to see all the developments."

Her sister Emma added, "In our conversations as a family and between friends at the wonderful reunion, this has been the prevailing feeling; that whilst we had fun and made lasting friendships, we are above all beneficiaries of an amazing education".



Duke of Edinburgh trip, Yorkshire Dales, 1990s: I-r: Rachel, Annabelle, Susanna and Natasha

Lucy spent five years as a teacher in Spain, and now lives and teaches in Cambridge. She has participated in many charity runs and has recently completed the Race for Life.



School trip to Flanders, 1990s: Top row: Susanna, Lucy, Annabelle, (school friend), Bottom row: Rachel and Natasha

Natasha qualified as a GP, and is living in the idyllic setting of Cornwall with her husband, Ross. She is currently enjoying spending time with her baby girl, Amelie.

Announcements

Marriages:



Tina Emery (Group 68) married Robert Bingham 19 April 2008 in Newmarket, Suffolk. They had a son, Samuel Bingham 2 August 2009 in Cambridge.



Jaime Dipple (Group 78) married Charles Edwards on 31 December 2011 at St. Andrew's Church, Stapleford.



Felicity Hill (Group 79) married Andrew Reynolds on 23 July 2011 in Barley, Hertfordshire, and they now live in Ely.



Heather Jayne White (Group 82) to Geraint Emyr Rhys Thomas on 23 July 2011 in Great Saint Mary's Church, Cambridge. Bridesmaids included Louise Welton, Rosemary Whitehead and Rachel Harriott.



Georgina Caldwell (Group 78) to Andrew Ian Cassels at Dorset House, West Sussex on 14 May 2011. Old Perseans Deborah Duke (née Oliver), Beth Oakes and Jenny Skelding were among the guests.



Deborah Oliver (Group 78) married Freddie Duke in Great Malvern, Worcestershire, on 23 August 2008 and then had another ceremony in Ulundi, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, a week later. Isabel Nandi Duke was born on 12 Dec 2011 in Hampstead.



Natalie Shenker (Group 74) married Andrew Morris on 28 October 2011 at Islington Town Hall with close family and friends, and now live in Pitshanger Village in Ealing. They will celebrate their Jewish wedding on 5 April 2012 at West London Synagogue in Westminster.

Victoria Lyon (Group 77) married Mark Windmill on 2 July 2011 in Cambridge.

Please let us know of latest births or marriages – ideally with photos.

Births:



Clea Mcenery-West (Group 64) and Neil; a son, Zack Elliot Mcenery-West, born 11 May 2011 in Whipps Cross Hospital, London.



Tina Bingham (née Emery, Group 68) and Robert; a son, Samuel Bingham on 2 August 2009 in Cambridge.

Deborah Oliver (Group 78) Duke and Freddie; a daughter, Isabel Nandi Duke was born on 12 December 2011 in Hampstead.

Deaths:

Mary Thatcher (Group 18), aged 88 on 12 October 2011.

Kate Beenham (Group 67), aged 41 on 23 January 2012.

Dr lain Macpherson (Former School Governor), aged 87 on 17 July 2011. See obituaries.

Anne Taylor (Head of Biology and Head of Science 1949-1981), aged 89 in July 2011. See obituaries.

Susanne Davidson (née Ostberg, Group 20), aged 87 on 22 April 2011. See obituaries.

Lady Angela Rosalind Runcie (née Turner, Group 28), aged 80 on 12 January 2012. See obituaries.

Enterprising SPGs

Perse Girls and SPSFC students have always been enterprising, and of course a huge number have been successfully running their own businesses.We'd like to help publicise your new ventures and businesses, so do keep us updated and join our LinkedIn group online.We will soon be setting up a new part on our website where you can list your business too.



Mitali Peckham (née Dasgupta, Group 70) – Baby Treasures

Baby Treasures creates bespoke gifts for babies and toddlers. Products are designed by Mitali Peckham and each item is handmade and personalised. With Baby Treasures you can create washable cloth photo albums which have your photographs and captions printed directly onto the fabric. Also available are velvety comfort blankets with loops of textured ribbon along the edges and a name of your choice appliquéd on each side. Both products are available online and the website allows you to input your design choices so your item can be tailor-made to your requirements.

"I have always loved designing and making things ever since I worked as an infant school teacher and have made many things over the years for my own four children. Baby Treasures has been born out of this love for creating tailor-made gifts for children. I think little children should be surrounded by beautiful materials so I try to make everything I design very tactile and appealing. Also babies and children love looking at the faces of their loved ones – what better way to share special photos with them than in a child-friendly photo book?"

www.babytreasures.eu

Dr. Natalie Morris (née Shenker, Group 74) Managing Director, Oxford Science Editing Ltd.

After spending eight years studying Medicine and working in Oxford, there was only one name for my company. Oxford Science Editing Ltd optimises the language of manuscripts written by non-native English-speaking scientists and doctors, who otherwise suffer publication bias.

Commissions range from papers intended for Nature or the Lancet, to reports on psychological outcomes in earthquake survivors and the mating rituals of locusts. It is never dull.

I manage a team of over 20 freelance science editors who are able to work flexibly anywhere, at any time, provided there is an internet connection. Crucially, it pays the rent while I am doing my own PhD, and I am looking forward to expanding my 'hobby' further in 2012.

www.oxfordscienceediting.com

Find us on LinkedIn, search for Stephen Perse Foundation - alumni relations. If you have set up a new venture or business and would like it featured here, please email us.

Awards & honours



Rosemary Pennington MBE (née Morel, Group 18)

We have been delighted to hear that Rosemary has been awarded an MBE for her devoted and varied services to the

Cambridge community. Rosemary has been a tireless fundraiser for the British Red Cross since 1984, and among her many roles, Rosemary (aged 88) retains the title of the oldest practising Samaritan in our region! She said, "I do a lot of things for the community, but so do a lot of people. I am delighted to get this award".

As part of our WW2 article research, we met Rosemary to talk to her about her experiences at that time. Rosemary was born in Frankfurt, and in 1934, when she was 12, her father had the foresight to move to the UK before war broke out. They lived, as 'Enemy aliens' as they were known, in Weybridge Surrey, before Rosemary was sent to live with relatives in Cambridge during the war. Rosemary describes the experience of being at school at that time: "Anyone from my situation was keen to assimilate into school and life in Cambridge, and not to be in any way different. One of the hardest things was the fact that being an 'Enemy alien' meant I could not volunteer for the war effort. My cousin volunteered for the ambulance service, but I was not allowed to get involved."

While at Perse Girls (now the Stephen Perse Foundation), Rosemary completed her Higher Certificate (the equivalent of 4 A Levels) in just one year, and was most impressed by the school. "Perse Girls always felt like a junior university compared to an ordinary school." Rosemary's first job was for the BBC German section, broadcasting to Germany. After the war ended, Rosemary obtained naturalisation, and she married in 1946.

Rosemary's long association with the Red Cross started with a broken wrist - she was approached and supported by a volunteer while waiting to be treated in hospital, and felt that she could 'put something back in' through volunteering herself. Arranging dinners and events to raise funds, Rosemary still helps with the 'Cambridge Open Gardens' for The Red Cross. Other charitable work includes The Fitzwilliam Museum and The Samaritans. Rosemary's daughter, Caroline Lloyd-Evans (née Hirsch, Group 48) is also an SPG, and has followed in her mother's 'supporting people' role. Caroline runs her own company CLE Consulting & Training and works as a Personal & Business Coach here in Cambridge, and is one of our Inspire Me speakers.



Helen King QPM (Group 61)

Helen started her police career with the Cheshire Constabulary in 1986. She was the Force Lead for Liverpool's Year as European Capital of Culture in 2008. Her operational experience includes being Gold Commander for a wide range of events including the Liberal-Democrat Party Conference in 2010. She is a Trustee of PSS, a Liverpool-based social care charity. She was awarded the QPM in the New Year's Honours List 2011, and is now Assistant Chief Constable for Merseyside.

Alumni reunion events

Around 130 alumni gathered for our 130th anniversary Annual Reunion in June – an ideal number! We met alumni from every decade of leavers from 1941 through to 2009. It was a bumper event, with an incredible performance of Beethoven's 1st Symphony in just one rehearsal from our school orchestra and some of our alumni. Thank you to those of you who took part; some of you travelling long distances to do so.

Our Principal, Tricia Kelleher, highlighted the importance of our history, with the recently produced '130 years of Perse Girls: A history in 10 objects' brochure (do let the office know if you would like one). Former Head Girl, Francesca Scott (Group 84), spoke about Lucy Norman, retiring after teaching Maths for 15 years. Francesca gave a brilliant speech about her former teacher, who had obviously made an impact, and had hilarious tales to recount. We were very honoured to have a rather special batch of Chelsea buns baked for us by Fitzbillies. The renowned bakers closed last year and has been reopened by alumni Alison Wright (Group 64) and her husband Tim.

In October, we ran a new event called the 'Anti-Reunion', for people who don't like formal reunions. We met over 100 alumni who came during Half Term to catch up over cava, canapés and cupcakes for a more informal event. As the event was so popular, we are planning more informal events, not just in Cambridge. Tickets are now available for the next Annual Reunion which is on Saturday 16 June 2012. Tickets are £20 for lunch and afternoon tea. Please use the enclosed booking form and book your table as soon as possible if you would like your group to sit together. Please join us to celebrate Catherine Mahey's retirement after 15 years of teaching French, feel free to donate to her leaving gift on the enclosed form, and we look forward to seeing as many of her former pupils as possible.

Book your Annual Reunion tickets now – Saturday 16 June 2012



Our first telethon 'It's good to talk!'

September 2011 saw the Foundation's very first telephone campaign take place. In two weeks, 12 recent leavers spoke to just over 600 alumni (SPGs) and parents. They chatted about upcoming events and the latest news and developments from the Foundation. Through the campaign we also sought support for our priority projects, which include raising funds for more student bursaries and to grow our outreach activities, as well as improving our buildings and facilities to ensure the best possible environment for learning.

Thanks to the generosity and support from so many SPGs and parents, we raised just over £80,000 – a tremendous start to our fundraising programme. Everyone at the Foundation is truly grateful for all the support that has been offered, whether it is of a financial nature or volunteering time/support for different projects such as the Inspire Me events. The money raised will go towards our New Horizons Fund, which will support three key areas.

To find out more about these areas please visit our new website:

www.stephenperse.com/funding-the-future or contact the Development Office.



Graham Mallaghan leads our team of alumni callers in our first telethon

The Development and Alumni Relations Office Perse Girls Senior School Union Road

Cambridge CB2 1HF

Tel: 01223 454700 (s/b) Fax: 01223 467420 www.stephenperse.com



1. Set-up a Direct Debit or send a cheque to support our New Horizons Fund

If you would like to support our most urgent priorities, outreach and bursaries or facilities and learning resources please complete a donation form found on www.stephenperse.com or contact the Development Office for more information.

2. Consider making a gift in your Will to the Foundation

As well as life-time gifts, many alumni have made a significant donation through a legacy to the Stephen Perse Foundation. For more information contact the Development Office or go to our website to download a legacy brochure.

3. Come to the annual reunion and join our Facebook and LinkedIn pages

We are always delighted to welcome back alumni to the Foundation to catch-up with old friends, to meet new friends and to find out what has been going on at school since you were last here. We hope many of you can join us this year. Find us on Facebook under 'Ali Lumnae' and join our LinkedIn Group, 'The Stephen Perse Foundation – Alumni Relations'.

4. Help us research your year group and 'lost' members

Unfortunately, we have lots of gaps in our alumni database. So any help you can provide to find more lost SPGs is always appreciated so that we can reconnect with them.

5. Make suggestions for our Inspire Me programme and attend Inspire Me events

Contact the Alumni Relations and Development Office for more information.

Please contact the Development and Alumni Office for further details on any of the above.



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The Stephen Perse Foundation (Private Limited Company No. 6113565, registered in England and Wales), whose registered address is Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HF, comprises The Stephen Perse Pre-Prep, Perse Girls Junior School, Perse Girls Senior School and The Stephen Perse Sixth Form College and is a registered charity for the advancement of education (Charity No. 1120608).