

# OGA

AUTUMN 2021

GODOLPHIN ALUMNAE



# From the Head

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair." Charles Dickens' famous opening paragraph from his novel 'A Tale of Two Cities' seems to be rather apt for the times we have lived through. With two academic years now affected by the global pandemic these words resonated. There have certainly been some dark times for our community as we lunged from one government announcement to the next and reacted to rapidly changing circumstances, not least the approach to school public examinations, which have yet again been impacted. But, there have also been many positives and lighter moments, new ways of doing things, new ways of interacting with each other and we have learnt to really value what is special about Godolphin. The pandemic has provided us with an opportunity to reflect, to adapt and I believe it is an invitation to look again at what we do and if necessary, to change our approach. At the best of times organisations should not stand still and out of many a crisis can come opportunity and growth. The immediate storm has passed and I see my role as pivotal in securing the future of the school so that we can together weather any subsequent crises. That's actually rather an exciting prospect.

The School is in good shape. It is heart-warming and incredibly inspiring just thinking about what has been achieved during the eighteen months, in spite of the school closures and Covid restrictions that we have experienced. In many cases we



## The pandemic has provided us with an opportunity to reflect, to adapt and I believe it is an invitation to look again at what we do

had to adapt our way of working. This meant no large gatherings and prayers and virtual chapel becoming the norm. Sadly our staff meetings had to be virtual too. I have spent far more time in front of the camera than I ever have before and learnt to get used to that! Our teaching staff and the students have been incredibly quick at adapting to this virtual world and our school digital strategy has moved on much faster than originally planned.

The approach to public exams has meant that students and teaching staff had a particularly challenging year. School assessed grades instead of sitting external examinations have altered the rhythm of the year and the taught content. Much of the first of half of last summer term was spent helping

our students navigate through several assessments in different subjects. These then had to be marked, standardised and collated alongside a mountain of evidence, all ready for the examination boards to award the appropriate grades. We are delighted with the results that came out in early August and very pleased that 92% of our students gained their choice of university.

With limited occasions to gather together over the last academic year, we made the most of 'Pitch One' and held services for Remembrance and for the National Day of Reflection marking the pandemic one year on. Very sadly we were not able to take the Upper Sixth to Westminster Abbey and similarly we were unable to go to the Cathedral and we did so miss having our annual Carol Service. Not quite the same, but we did manage to all gather outside the PAC at the end of the Christmas term in 2020 and whilst we were not allowed to sing as a community, the senior team sang a couple of Christmas songs to the whole school. It seemed to go down quite well.

Godolphin has done its best to maintain high standards in

art, music and drama. The art department lent out sewing machines so that those doing textiles could continue to work at home. They also provided catch up sessions for students once we returned after the second lockdown. Several Upper Sixth artists gained places on prestigious courses at Central St Martins and Edinburgh to name just a couple and their work formed part of a superb art exhibition at the start of September that was postponed from the summer term. Throughout the pandemic, the Music Department were incredibly inventive, knitting orchestral and vocal pieces of work together using ingenious software. Vocal Ensemble had the privilege of performing a piece written for them by Judith Weir, Master of the Queen's music and regular live streaming of concerts has become common place. Interestingly, audiences have often been larger than those when the school was open to visitors. Much like the country as a whole, the last academic year was a frustrating one for Drama with performances and our main production being cancelled. But smaller productions from Portal and BTEC exam pieces have been of a high standard. We now eagerly look ahead to 'We Will

Rock You' this autumn.

After virtually a whole year with no sports fixtures, our summer term was an unusual combination of both winter and summer sports so that our keen sports enthusiasts have not missed out. We have played lacrosse, alongside netball, alongside tennis, athletics and cricket. Autumn 2021 has seen a welcome return to competitive matches and spectators. It was excellent to start this new season with a lacrosse match for our first team against the OGs with the enthusiasm trumping the score line. I hope we can encourage more OGs to return to play in the future.

Interaction with OGs has continued every Friday during term time with a host of speakers talking about their journey from school, through university and to the many and varied professions that they have now entered. We have had OGs talking about their careers in, for example, sport, the media, engineering, business and technology. They always come across as such enthusiastic and grounded individuals and excellent role models for our current students.

Over the last academic year, we've also had involvement with several

OGs concerning Black Lives Matter. As a result of these discussions we have revisited our curriculum and also heightened awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion within our tight knit community. David Hallen will take on the role of EDI co-ordinator so that we can further evolve this important aspect of the curriculum.

So what comes next? Last Easter, Michael Nicholson stepped down from the Board and Chairmanship after a considerable number of years of devoted service to the school. I have certainly enjoyed working with him during the last eight years as Head. The mantle is now taken up by General Sir Nick Pope and I look forward to working with him and the Board in a post Covid world and to shaping a new direction for the school. As we look towards 2026 and a new chapter in the School's history, some themes are emerging for the way ahead. Key headlines are responding to the mental health crisis amongst young people, widening access to a Godolphin education, creating closer links with other educational providers locally and extending the Godolphin brand beyond these shores – going Global. I think the next few years are going to be busy ones.

## Alumnae

I want to extend an enormous thank you to all OGs who have contributed to the OGA Magazine this year. Despite a tough and challenging year for so many, we are never short of a story or news from our Old Girls.

It's always good to re-connect with OGs during the year. We have been bowled over by the amazing response to OGA Connect and Find Your Future Friday – two of Godolphin's Careers events which



have been so well supported by a number of OGs. A big thank you to all the OGs who have been involved with these events. Godolphin's Upper Sixth students have really appreciated your advice, tips and guidance as they have prepared for their time after Godolphin, particularly as circumstances have been so different again this year.

At School, the greatest challenges have been uncertainty and the cancellation of so many events. It was particularly disappointing for our 2021 leavers who were denied the opportunity of a final farewell at the end of the Summer Term when

the School had to close early due to high numbers of Covid cases. We were all so sorry to miss saying goodbye in person.

I'm pleased to say however, that in September we welcomed a number of OGs from 2020 and 2021 to Godolphin for the annual OGA Lacrosse Match, followed by Take Two of the OGA Leavers' Dinner. (Photos to follow later in the Magazine). Fun was had by all as we officially marked a significant moment in Godolphin history.

This year, we have published the OGA Magazine a little later than planned. We wanted to delay production until the start of this term, so that we could include the most recent news of our OGs and the postponed events. Thank you for bearing with us on this.

We're so fortunate to have such a strong and loyal Godolphin community: Our past and present parents, staff and Governors and our OGs too. We have an exciting year ahead – with various initiatives in School, Commem at Westminster in November and plans are already underway for GO Forward.- our OG networking event which will take place in May 2022. More details to follow soon.... We do hope we can encourage you to come back to school to join us at some of these events.

Please keep your news coming in and help us to keep the OGA alive and connected. Wherever you're heading this year, whether it's a new university, a new job or home, take care, stay in touch and visit us if you can. If you'd like to find out more about ways to get involved or simply want to share your feedback or ideas, feel free to contact me at oga@godolphin.org. We would love to hear from you!

Sarah Sowton (née Winstone)  
1981-1986  
Head of Alumnae  
& Marketing, Godolphin

# From the Chair of Governors

Dear OGs,

I was delighted to be asked to pen an article for this edition of the Newsletter. Having now been 'in post' as Chair of Governors for a couple of months, I felt it was high time that I took the opportunity to introduce myself!

After nearly four decades in the service of the Crown, I retired from the Army in early 2020. My last posting was as the Deputy Chief of the General Staff. In civilian parlance, this broadly translates as a cross between a Chief Executive and a Chief Operating Officer. I now find myself in the early stages of a 'plural' career, where my leitmotif is transformation. In short, I want to help others to make change 'fun'.

Perhaps more pertinently, I have four children, each of whom has benefitted from education in the independent sector. My youngest daughter, Lucy, was a Godolphin student (she was Deputy Head last year). And my wife, Jo, who is a local GP, is also Safeguarding Governor at Godolphin. So it would be fair to say that the Pope family roots are firmly intertwined with those of the School.

## Our School

What defines Godolphin? What are we all - Governors, Staff, Parents, Students and Alumnae, seeking to achieve? And how does one measure success? Part of the answer can be found in the description given on our School Website:

- *Godolphin is a remarkable school*

*that has been educating young women for almost three centuries. We are proud of this extraordinary heritage.*

- *We continue to uphold our founder's ethos by providing a broad and innovative curriculum that includes a bespoke learning programme for our younger students and a transferable skills programme for our Sixth Formers.*

- *Girls are valued as individuals and encouraged to develop their own opinions. Personal ambitions can be forged and talents discovered in an environment that celebrates the importance of a holistic education and where service to others is central to our values. Intellectual curiosity and physical challenge go hand in hand with creativity and mental wellbeing as we strive to provide our girls with a broad skill set that can prepare them for life beyond school.*

I hope that these words resonate for you. I hope that they reflect your own experiences of your time at Godolphin. I hope that you retain many fond memories from what, for all of us, was a formative time in our lives.

I believe that we all have a part to play in building on this heritage and delivering on the above principles, if Godolphin is to retain its status as a premier independent school. Yes, we can be proud of our school and celebrate in its many successes. But like all institutions, we need to ensure that we take account of the broader external context, and adapt where necessary in

order that our 'product' continues to meet the requirements of students, staff, parents and alumnae alike. In the post COVID environment, our students will confront a 'smorgasbord' of new challenges as they step onto the world stage - the social, political and environmental landscape is complex, cluttered, congested, contested. Think climate change. Think artificial intelligence and automation.

Think remote working (do you remember when zoom was a word in a comic book?). Think mental health and mental resilience. I could go on.

## Listening and Communicating

If Godolphin is to continue to flourish, I think that it is crucially important that we **understand** the perspectives of our various stakeholder communities. This requires a two way flow of information. I am a keen advocate of transparency, honesty and constructive challenge. To build on this philosophy, my intent would be to ensure that we, as Governors and the Senior Management Team, endeavour to communicate to **all** communities of interest in a timely, positive and proactive fashion. I want to ensure that there are no surprises. And that we all understand the part that we must play in delivering future success.

And I would also ask you to think about what part YOU can play in this 'plan for the future'. Help may come in many forms: Technical; experiential; vocational; financial; net-working - the list is legion. The choice is yours!

I look forward to meeting you all in the future.

Sir Nick Pope  
Chair of Governors,  
Godolphin



# AN INTERVIEW WITH...

## TAMSIN FORDHAM

As operations Manager for the HALO trust in Somaliland, Tamsin manages the operations of mine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams

### Tell us about your time since leaving Godolphin?

I left Godolphin in 2011, after a great 7 years from 1st year to Upper Sixth. After finishing my A Levels, I had a place at the Arts University Bournemouth to undertake a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and a deferred entry to study to Geography at Newcastle University for the following academic year.

I knew I wanted to take a year off before my undergraduate and doing an art foundation in Bournemouth was a great experience which I would definitely recommend even if you decide to study a different subject at University.

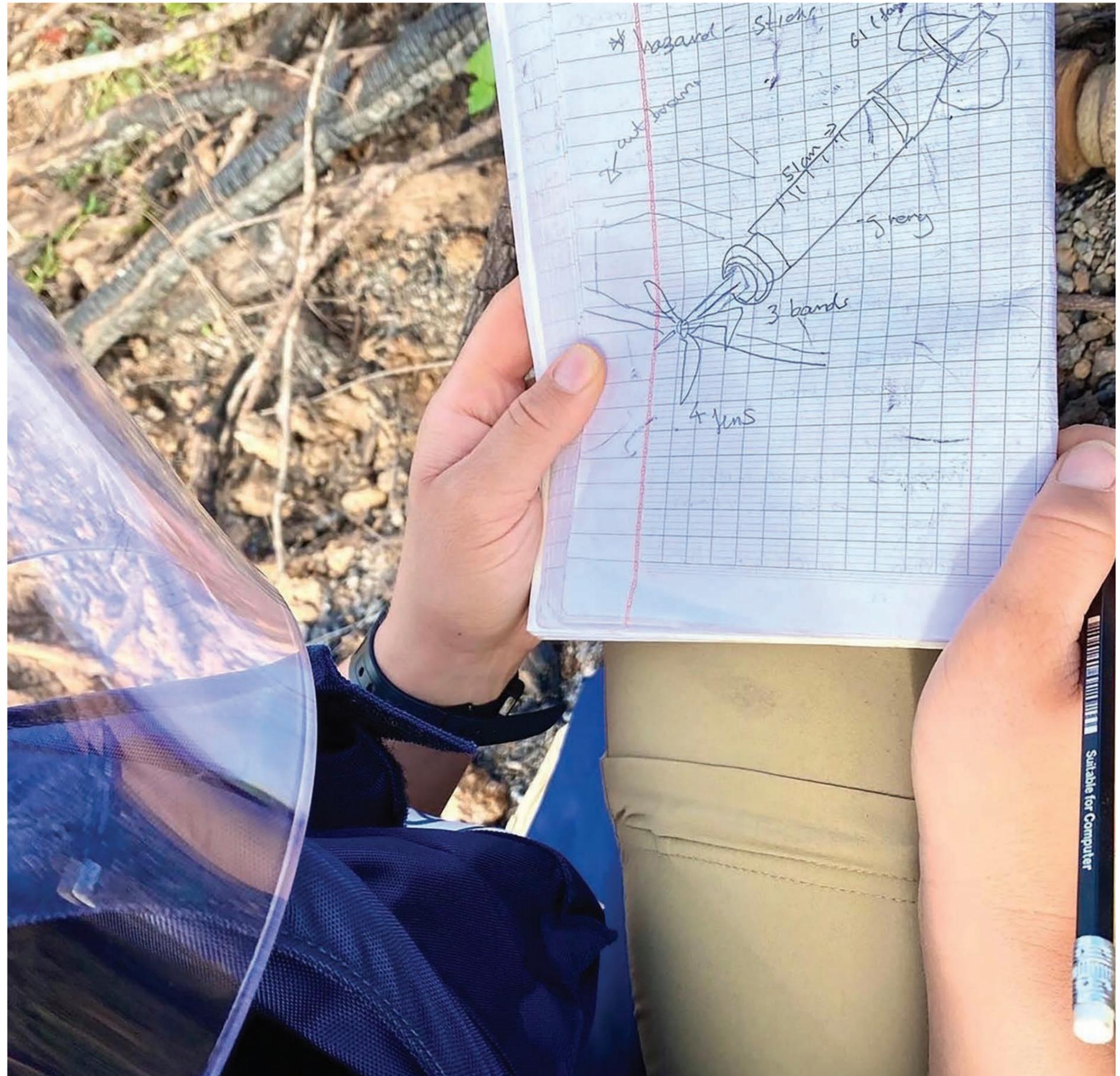
I then spent three years at Newcastle University studying BA Geography, with a particular focus on social and economic development. I was lucky to be able to combine travelling and studying; particular highlights were the field trip to Borneo in my second year and undertaking my dissertation research in the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania.

After graduating, I was very keen to work in the charity sector but needed to gain office experience so I moved to London for temp work. During this period, I did not know where I would end up! A 4-week

temp assignment at a media agency lead to 5 month contract, I was then offered another temping contract in the Civil Service at the Charity Commission. After a few months of temping I knew this was where I wanted to be. I was offered a Civil Service contract and worked for the Charity Commission for 3 years before joining The HALO Trust, where I currently work.

### Have you worked for many charities in the past? How did this happen, was this always your plan?

Working at the Charity Commission gave me a great insight to the charity sector. The Charity Commission is the regulator for all registered charities in England and Wales. I worked for two years in the Outreach Team hosting events for faith based charities and recently formed charities working in high risk areas. I was able to meet with many inspirational trustees from a range of charities doing amazing work all over the globe. During my last year at the Charity Commission I worked in Compliance, Visits and Inspections Team, which involved investigating regulatory issues and concerns of charities working internationally. Although the plan after university was to work in the charity sector, working for the Charity Regulator



equipped me with the skills and background knowledge to transition into the charity sector and join The HALO Trust.

**Did your degree help you get to where you are today?**

For me, it did. Studying Human Geography sparked my interest in cultural, social and economic development which linked to my interests in travelling and volunteering and influenced the experiences that have developed me personally and professionally.

**What are your responsibilities as Operations Manager at the HALO Trust?**

The HALO Trust is an international humanitarian demining charity working across the world, to save lives and help war-torn communities recover, by making their land safe.

I have been working in the Somaliland programme since January, prior to this I undertook four months operational training in Cambodia. The training was demanding and varied. We learnt the practical skills of demining and worked alongside the Cambodian national staff.

As the Operations Manager in Somaliland, I manage the operations of mine clearance and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams in country. I am responsible for ensuring that all operational staff are adhering to HALO's Standard Operating Procedures and that our operations are being conducted safely whilst looking for ways to increase productivity. The responsibilities are very varied among many things the role involves, regular visits to our minefields to conduct quality checks on our operations, managing the team lists and clearance plans for each minefield, conducting bulk demolitions alongside the EOD teams and hosting donor visits. No day is ever the same!



**What has been your greatest challenge since working at the HALO Trust?**

The greatest challenges have come with the greatest achievements. Part of our operational training included learning to demine to then work with a demining section. The training was hard, it was very physically demanding in the 30+ degree heat with full PPE on. During training you are trained to use the metal detector and identify, isolate and excavate signals which can range from anything from being mines, Unexploded Ordnance, bullets, scrap metal, or soil mineralisation. It was a great personal achievement to pass demining training and contribute to the mine clearance in Cambodia, by marking and destroying two Vietnamese stake mines laid during Cambodia's civil war whilst on live demining deployment.

**What are your happiest memories of your time at Godolphin?**

Being in the art block working with the radio on alongside my closest

friends. The hours would always fly by, I definitely took those moments for granted back then!

**Was there a teacher who particularly inspired you?**

What stands out the most in my memories of our teachers at Godolphin is their commitment and dedication. In particular, I think of my maths teacher for GCSEs Mrs Strong who had an unwavering patience with me in maths classes and conducted hours of extra lessons to prepare and support our revision for GCSEs. Mrs Collishaw and Mrs Morris who inspired me in A level Geography, enthusing me for the subject and motivating and supporting me with my application at University. I will also always be grateful to Mr Egg for his encouragement with art which was key factor in increasing my confidence throughout school.

**Do you think your Godolphin education had an influence on your life today?**

Definitely! Godolphin has shaped



who I am as a person and provided me with lifelong friends who continue to support me with every life chapter. From a career point of view, it was thanks to Mrs Ferguson who arranged work placement with a charity called FARM-Africa for summer work experience that I realised I wanted to work in international development. This experience was a driving factor for choosing my degree subject and shaped the experiences I sought out at University.

**What would your advice be to our current Godolphin students? And in particular, our leaving Upper Sixth?**

It can be challenging and feel very daunting to decide what to do after school, from my personal experience I would advise to keep you goals in mind but keep flexible. You might feel you are going off course but if you continue to enjoy the subject you are studying at university or the job you are doing you'll naturally be more motivated and then opportunities will arise and take you where you need to be.

Consider volunteering - this

does not have to be a few months aboard (although that is also a great experience!) It can be in your local area, one evening a week. It



can provide you with opportunities to see what you enjoy and develop transferable skills which can help you at university or job interviews. Godolphin gave me my first experience of volunteering, running an after school kids club at Salisbury's women's refuge. I later volunteered for an emergency response charity for two years in London which gave me leadership skills which I was not able to get in my junior role in the Civil Service, it was a key contributor in my success in the selection day for my current job. It's also a great way to meet new friends in a new city!

**Where do you see yourself in the future?**

I hope to continue working in different countries and gain more experience in the mine action sector. Happy to see where the future takes me!

**Tamsin Fordham**  
2005-2011

# ANNABELLE KING

Creator of The Kitchen Social, Annabelle King (née Walkinshaw) wants to encourage more people to eat healthily and think differently about what they eat



## What was your childhood or earliest ambition?

To work for Amnesty International or in television - both very far removed from where I ended up! But I always loved good food and eating, even as a child.

## How long have you been a chef?

I went back to school in 2019 to Leith's School of Food & Wine to study Culinary Nutrition so I wouldn't call myself a chef 'per se' - we studied nutrition and learnt how to cook more healthily. So, I'd say I'm a competent 'healthy' cook. I started my catering business in April 2019 so we've been going for two years - and we cooked all through Lockdown delivering our healthy food to the local community.

## Why do you enjoy being a chef?

I have always been a foodie as I grew up partly in France (my Stepfather was French) and I'm quite creative so working in a kitchen, creating beautiful food that tastes good combines my passions perfectly! I worked in advertising and branding for 12 years before having my children so I have also enjoyed creating and building the Kitchen Social brand.

## What is your guilty food pleasure?

A great big bowl of home-grown salad leaves, with our local Isle of Wight San Arrentino tomatoes, maybe some grilled local British Asparagus, toasted crushed hazelnuts & seeds and topped with some kind of grilled cheese like

halloumi, goats cheese or feta, all doused in a really excellent peppery extra virgin olive oil. Simple - perfect - delicious. All the food groups covered!

## Describe your food style in five words?

Seasonal, healthy, local, tasty, simple.

## Tell us about the food menus you have created at The Kitchen Social?

To give some context to our food, I started the business when my daughter was diagnosed with an inflammatory bowel disease in 2017. As a family, we had to completely change the way we ate and I went back to school to study nutrition. I started The Kitchen Social initially to teach teenagers (like my daughter) how to cook more healthily and to make healthier food choices. From here we were asked to teach the mums too and then the private catering jobs and events started. We have cooked and produced menus for Yoga Retreats, Nutrition workshops, Corporate lunches, Christmas Fairs, Hampers and private dinners. All of our menus are based on the principles of healthy eating: e.g. using seasonal, locally sourced produce, plant based proteins, less red meat, slow release carbohydrates, unrefined sugars, lots of raw vegetables & fruit, herbs as an ingredient not as a garnish, nuts, seeds, less salt, fermented foods etc.

## What are your favourite ingredients to work with and why?

I think probably nuts - we use them in pretty much everything and they are a superb plant based protein source. It is amazing how you can completely transform the flavour, texture and look of a dish by adding some toasted nuts - e.g. we add toasted pistachios to one of our

best-selling Green Couscous salads or chopped toasted hazelnuts crumbled onto a feta cheesecake. We also make a killer vegan Salted Caramel Slice which has a base made of chopped blanched almonds and dates.

## What is your ambition for The Kitchen Social?

To encourage more people to eat healthily and think differently about what they eat. Even if they change one thing in their daily diet from eating our food, that is a win for me! E.g. switching from sugary cereal to eating overnight oats with nuts, seeds & fruit. Or trying a plant based protein dish in a restaurant instead of a steak. We are evangelical about how good vegetable dishes can taste. Or if you do eat or order meat in a restaurant - do it less often but order the best on the menu, ideally British, grass-fed, locally reared. We buy most of our meat from my friend Tamara who owns a farm near Romsey and rears all her own beef and lamb. It is the best tasting meat in the area.

## Do you have any personal ambitions?

I am really interested in how food and nutrition can improve physical & mental wellness such as during the menopause and for mental health. Loyle Carner, the musician runs a cookery school for kids with ADHD as it really helps them to focus their energy. I would love to do something like that.

## In what place are you at your happiest?

In my commercial kitchen with my dream team around me. Or at my dinner table surrounded by family and friends, eating delicious food.

## What has been the more memorable part of your career so far?

We ran a stall at a Christmas fair at the end of 2019 and fed about 400 people over two days. The response to our food was phenomenal and we got so many follow up orders from that. People were stopping me in our local supermarket saying they'd eaten our food and how good it was. That made me really happy.

## What are your happiest memories of your time at Godolphin?

Lying on the lacrosse pitch on a weekend in the summer term with my mates, talking about life. Or actually playing lacrosse at the Merton trials which I think I made once (I wasn't very good!).

## Was there a teacher who inspired you?

Mr Cherry, my art teacher. He was phenomenal and I carried on to study Art A'Level and went to Kingston Poly to do an Art Foundation course. Although I didn't pursue a career in art, I think he taught me how to express myself creatively.

## If you were to offer a few words of advice to a current Godolphin student, what would they be?

If you have a passion for something or an idea, go for it and 'own it'. No matter how bonkers or random it may seem. Be curious, do your research, talk to people doing something similar, get inspired. It took me until I was 48 to work out what I really wanted to do and I wish I'd followed my instincts earlier and not just taken the first job that came along, to pay the bills. Life is not a dress rehearsal - you've got to go for it when you can.

## Annabelle's bio in no more than 50 words

Annabelle boarded in Methuen,

then School House, at Godolphin between 1982-1989. After school she did an Art Foundation course, travelled around Africa and finally went off to study French and Politics at Reading University. A 12 year career in advertising in London and New York followed before she gave it all up to have her three daughters. Now aged 17, 15 and nearly 12, Annabelle now spends less time doing their laundry and more time cooking at her commercial kitchen in Hampshire. [www.thekitchen-social.com](http://www.thekitchen-social.com) @the\_kitchen\_social

Annabelle King, (née Walkinshaw)  
1982-1989





## CLAIRE SANDARS

Artist in Residence loves the early stages of a painting when she can slosh paint on before she starts analysing it too much

### What's your background?

I am an army child so I was brought up between Germany and the UK... we moved frequently until I was about 10, my parents had a house near Winchester and we were based there from the time I started at Godolphin. After Godolphin I did a foundation course in Cheltenham followed by a BA in Fine Art at the University of Reading, not a cultural hub but it was a very interesting course and I made friends for life! What is something most people don't know about you? I got onto my degree course using

my wrong hand. I am left-handed and broke my arm halfway through my foundation course, I had to complete my portfolio with my right hand. The reason that I was using a palette knife and making blocky gestural work to compensate was perhaps a memorable selling point for the entrance panel.

### If you could go back in time, what would you tell your younger artist self?

To read more and make more of opportunities, free facilities and equipment. It's easy to take it for

granted when you are young. I loved languages at schools and read Italian in my first year at University but I didn't do an exchange year of any sorts, so I would also tell my younger self to spend six months to a year studying art in different countries ...Berlin, Rome, Paris, and other art hubs like New York or Tokyo.

### Who are your biggest influences? What art do you most identify with? Name three artists you'd like to be

I probably identify most with figurative art but I love lots of different creative processes, I love cinema a lot...art house films and art direction have been a big influence on my work particularly during my degree. I hugely admire people who fully immerse themselves in their work, who produce hundreds of sketchbooks jam packed with studies, thoughts, colours and marks; and I would love to have more time to devote to that. I think people are often also drawn to work that is very different to their own, that they could never achieve, and for me that includes early 20th century design...things like Bauhaus and Russian Constructivism. Regarding those I admire that are also figurative painters, I would like to be among the artists who push boundaries and achieve contemporary acclaim like Jenny Saville, Peter Doig, Anselm Kiefer or Luc Tuymans.

### What work do you most enjoying doing?

I love the early stages of a painting when I can slosh paint on before I start analysing it too much; the concerns or requests of a client or gallery aren't a factor at this point so it's much more liberating.

### What's your strongest memory of your childhood?

Holidays mainly...it was very easy

to get to the Alps from Germany so we were taught to ski when we were very young by the Army ski instructors. I was so small I would have to go up the T-bar lifts between my father's legs; we also had amazing summer holidays by the alpine lakes in Austria. Getting up at the crack of dawn to catch the ferry back to England or being taken along to dinner parties at night, we roll around loose in sleeping bags in the back of a car before seat belts were made obligatory.

### Describe a real-life situation that inspired you?

My first trip to Africa and particularly being surrounded by its wildlife was a seminal moment for me and sparked the decision to go back to art after an 8 year gap working in London. My foundation was also one of the most creatively exciting periods of my life where I was totally immersed in all media and really being experimental.

### What jobs have you done other than being an artist?

My first job after graduating was marketing for an International Film Sales company in London. After that I was an art consultant working with interior designers and architects advising them on art, framing and hanging for their projects. I also did my fair share of working in shops, pubs and catering when I was younger.

### What food, drink, song inspires you?

I love cooking but food and drink experiences are usually made exceptional by the setting and the company. Music really fires me up and I often put on tunes that fit in with what I need to achieve when I am working. I can't begin to choose a specific favourite song but I will listen to really upbeat dancey music, Radio 6 dance sessions or really loud indie music when I want to paint



faster and looser; and then more gentle music when I need to do more detailed work. I love podcasts and BBC Sounds programmes like Fortunately, Soul Music, The Reunion or Desert Island Discs. Will Gombertz's book 'What are you looking at : 150 years of Modern Art' was read brilliantly by him on Audible. I've also been reading more since Lockdown which is great...Tom Wolfe's 'The Painted Word' was a revelation.

### What's the best piece of advice you've been given?

I was once told by a friend when I was feeling a bit overwhelmed to go through my day to day commute and office life noting down interesting things about people and my surroundings. It sounds so obvious nowadays particularly since the 'mindfulness' revolution, but

this was twenty five years ago and it was amazingly helpful to make a conscious effort to connect with the reality around me. It's a great way to concentrate on the present. In the form of sketching it really proves how meditative and therapeutic art can be.

### Professionally, what's your goal?

The timing of being asked to be Artist in Residence at Godolphin has been incredible for me, it came just as my son started school and during a year of Lockdowns, pivotal moments in my professional life and a perfect time to re-evaluate 30+ years of studying and producing art. It has inspired me to get back in touch with what informed my degree work which was film and cinematography; now I would like to make more time to experiment and bring those qualities more



overtly back into my current practise, to fuse these ideas and make bold colour, mark making and compositional choices in my figurative painting.

#### What are your happiest memories of your time at Godolphin?

Anyone of my era will remember these...the 'Battle of the Bands' concerts, house parties with boys schools, school plays, the trip to Paris, Celmi outward bound week in Wales, the Rocky Horror picture show, being on the bus going to lax and tennis matches and the post-match teas, midnight feasts, back-combing our hair, pearly lip stick, puff ball skirts, checked shirts, dropped waists...I could go on and on.

#### What wouldn't you do without?

My family and friends is the obvious answer. And warmth.

#### Was there a particular teacher who inspired you?

Walter Cherry who was head of the art department at the time. And obviously, Mr Eggleton, who was hardly out of shorts when I was there! Little did I know that he would be writing the books on how to teach art that I read on my teacher training course.

#### What advice would you give to a current Godolphin student who is planning a career in art?

Probably the same answer as the advice I would give to my younger self...look at everything...write, read, draw, absorb and doodle as much as you can. Try out different ways of studying art, from very prescriptive/classical/ disciplined to the very progressive and loose. Make as many contacts as possible and

seek advice and mentors to help you.

It's very hard to know yourself and what you want to do when you are leaving school, the more experiences you have the more you get to understand what is right for you.

#### Claire Sandars' bio in no more than 50 words

Claire followed her art foundation course in Cheltenham with a degree in Fine Art at Reading University. She lives and works in a studio in her garden in North Wiltshire from which she paints portraits and wildlife. Claire exhibits and is commissioned regularly and also teaches art classes.  
www.claresandars.co.uk  
@clairesandars.art

Claire Sandars  
1984-1990

# NEWS

## Becky Maynard

I have been working in disaster response for about 12 years with a focus on international response, but after responding to a number of UK flood events with RE:ACT Disaster Response (previously known as Team Rubicon UK), I realised that I wanted to understand more about the challenges we face in the UK and what I could do both personally and professionally to alleviate them.

Climate change is impacting the world and in the responses I undertook in the UK it showed me how disproportionately it impacts the most vulnerable in our society. When I was in Tadcaster in 2015 I assisted a nurse who had lost everything in the winter floods – due to previous flooding in the area her insurance premiums had been too high for her to afford so she had no home or contents insurance. We continue to see people living on flood plains because the properties are cheaper – and even properties being built on “at risk” areas because they are affordable.

I decided that I wanted to undertake further education but taking on a Master's Degree when working full-time for a disaster response charity proved a bit of a challenge as disasters don't conveniently work around term and deadline schedules. So I took a year out to enable me to achieve my ambition and in November 2019 I graduated with a Master's in Disaster Management from Bournemouth University. Little did I know then what was happening in Wuhan and the impact it would have around the world and that far from supporting rapid onset flood events I had anticipated we would be faced by the largest global pandemic in our lifetimes.

For my dissertation I had



## Climate change is impacting the world and in the responses I undertook in the UK it showed me how disproportionately it impacts the most vulnerable in our society

surveyed the Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) across the country to understand how they engaged the voluntary sector – ultimately identifying that a lack of prescriptive guidance in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 or the National Resilience Standards for LRFs meant that each LRF engages with the voluntary sector in a different way, at a

different level, not to mention with an abundance of confusing acronyms!

Alongside that there was recognition that the voluntary sector does not always operate in a cohesive fashion as such was seen after the Grenfell Tower Fire and the Manchester Arena Bombings. Where major national charities are operating with hyper-local community groups and everything in between without centralised coordination, there is the risk of either duplication of support, or worse the omission of support. The Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCS EP) was created to try and bring continuity and more effective communication following these two 2017 disasters but really came into play during the Covid response.

For the first few months of the response I was volunteering with RE:ACT before being recruited through them to support the Southwest response for the VCS EP. It's been an incredibly busy role working with large national partners such as British Red Cross, Salvation Army and St John Ambulance as well as regional and local charities supporting their direct communities. My role was to work with the LRFs, the military, NHS workforce and other bodies to ensure they had access to, and understanding of, the multiple levels that exist within the wider voluntary and community sector.

I've helped to facilitate volunteer support for incredibly sensitive areas such as mortality management in temporary mortuaries; through to supporting schools with testing; manning the mass vaccination sites across the Southwest and mobilising a team at short notice to undertake house to house evacuation support when an unexploded bomb was found at Exeter University. As well as these large-scale projects we have also worked to help individuals through



well-being checks and single projects for marginalised demographics such as finding laptops for children living in temporary hostel accommodation following abuse so they could continue accessing education.

It's definitely been a challenging year – the isolation of working from home, particularly during lock down periods - has presented all kinds of

challenges. The biggest for me was not being able to see family who live all over the country, particularly my 98-year-old grandmother. Despite this I've felt very lucky to live in Falmouth, Cornwall being a long way from major outbreaks and walks by the sea with my dog to keep me going through the tougher times but a lot of people aren't so

## Amy Kelly

The past few years have been quite a journey, but I still can't believe it was three years ago when I graduated from Godolphin. Time really has flown by. I took a year out from 2018 to 2019 and was still deciding what university to go to. I was accepted by Cardiff to study Journalism and Communications, but I knew that I also wanted to pursue a career in the fashion industry so I began to look for other courses to see what my options were. It was Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design that really caught my attention as the BA Fashion Communication course is taught in two years, for a fast track into the industry. After long conversations with my parents and multiple pros and cons lists, I finally applied to Condé Nast College through their direct application process and was accepted in February 2019.

Up until the end of 2018, I started work at the clothing store, Jigsaw, which was a really fun experience as I was working with a very joyful team and many people that are still good friends of mine now. This was my first ever job that was slightly daunting to begin with, however it gave me a routine, taught me new skills, and helped me finance some of my travels that began in 2019.

From January to April, I was incredibly lucky to visit so many fascinating places. The first trip was to Tanzania where I worked at a school and then went on safari with my parents. I then went skiing in



Switzerland for a couple of weeks and soon after travelled to South East Asia where I went to Vietnam, Thailand and Bali. This was an amazing experience that I did with

fortunate. The roadmap to our release from lockdown seems to be progressing well but with new variants of concern coming on the radar it is far from time for us to relax but rather to stay aware and continue to protect our families and communities.

**Becky Maynard**  
1984-1992

one of my best friends from school and throughout our travels we were able to meet up with some of our other friends from Godolphin, which made the trip even more exciting.

After my exciting adventure around the world, I went back to Jigsaw to work through the summer before starting university. The whole year, from finishing school to starting a new life in London at Condé Nast College, happened so quickly and then only after five months after starting, the pandemic began and we were swiftly moved online. This was really difficult for everyone as it was completely new and no one really knew what Zoom was or how it worked. I was lucky to be living with my sisters during the first lockdown as it was hard not to be able to see our parents, as it was for many, and obviously it was a very scary and stressful time. For the majority of my time at Condé Nast College, I have been online, however we have adapted to this new way of learning and hopefully we will be returning to college at the end of May.

My time since leaving Godolphin, back in 2018, has been packed with so many different experiences and emotions and it is crazy to think that I am graduating from Condé Nast College in just a few months. I am currently working on my dissertation as well as other modules and I am also beginning to apply for internships and jobs in fashion marketing and advertising.

**Amy Kelly**  
2012-2018

## Lotte Burdge

I have very happy memories of my 7 years at Godolphin. I left in 2018 and started my gap year with a ski season in Courchevel. I worked as a chalet host...hard work but a lot of fun! I then went Inter-railing for three weeks with my best friend Jess and got to explore 7 European cities.

In May, Sarah and I travelled to Southeast Asia with Gap360. Unfortunately, this trip was cut short in Vietnam, as I had a bad accident and broke my neck. After spinal surgery and three weeks in hospital in Hanoi, I came back to the spinal unit in Salisbury, where I had further surgery to fix my neck!

After a summer of rehabilitation, I was very lucky to be able to start university in September. I am at Exeter reading Business and Management, which I absolutely LOVE. During lockdown I decided to set up my own jewellery business with a view to raising funds for Horatio's Garden charity. Horatio's Garden is a national charity creating beautiful gardens in NHS spinal injury centres and Boujee Beads donates 10% of sales.

I created Boujee Beads with the aim to provide affordable jewellery that is simple and stylish, from everyday essentials to something a bit more funky! All of my pieces are designed and handmade by me!

I have learned so much from starting my own business, from setting up a website, dealing with suppliers, product design, research and development and marketing. I now have two wholesale accounts and I am currently involved in the Exeter and Durham University Fashion Shows. I have also been invited to be part of the Online Summer Fair as part of the emerging talent category, alongside 95 independent brands. Although at times it has been a challenge running Boujee Beads alongside

my studies, I am really enjoying running my own business! My advice to anyone who has a business idea is to just do it! I am now at the end of my second year, and I have some work experience in real estate and marketing lined up for the summer. Exeter really is the best uni in the whole entire world and I would highly recommend it! Website [www.boujeebeads.com](http://www.boujeebeads.com) Instagram @boujee\_beads1

**Lotte Burdge**  
2012-2018



## Shiryn Millard-Hill

If someone had told me when I was 12, boarding at Godolphin, that I would be living in Salisbury when I grew up I wouldn't have believed them. Even crazier would have been if I had been told that I would be Commissioned Officer in the British Army! Both have turned out to be the case.

My life since Godolphin has taken a variety of turns that I could have never have guessed or planned. I was not interested in the CCF at

school and had little knowledge, or interest, in anything to do with the Services; in fact, I was very much the polar opposite. I studied at London College of Fashion for my undergraduate degree, but while I was studying in London, attending lectures on the Oxford Circus campus, I felt like something was missing. I was lacking a group of dynamic, like-minded friends, such as those I had had at school. University in London is much more isolating than a campus based environment, so it was difficult to

make natural connections. After a year I decided something needed to change, I needed to get involved in a club or society outside of 'Uni'. My sister (who was the CCF cadet and outdoors-loving sibling) told me to join the Officer Training Corps and she sold it to me when she explained I could be paid to go skiing!

Fast forward two years, I had a first class degree from LCF, multiple field and range weekends learning basic soldiering skills, scuba diving qualifications, skiing trips,

## The new Army recruitment campaign ‘Fail Learn Win’ is very apt and a true reflection of my career. There are still multiple opportunities and career paths that I am excited about



dogsledding through Norway and Sweden; and, an exchange with the American Army in Washington State, not forgetting that I had jumped out of a plane 58 times. I was hooked.

Following my undergraduate degree I then secured an Arts Council scholarship to a Masters programme in London, so I decided to increase my commitment to the Army and planned to commission into the Reserve Forces in 2012, while studying. On completion of my Masters I decided that it wasn't enough to be part time and that going to the prestigious Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for the full 44 week experience was the right path for me. In 2014 I commissioned

into the Royal Artillery and served in regiments based in Catterick and Larkhill.

In 2016 I was deployed to Afghanistan to manage all of the Surveillance Target Acquisition assets in Kabul. I was one of the few in my intake at Sandhurst to serve in Afghanistan.

My roles in the Army still included skiing trips, although I found a new interest in Nordic skiing (much more arduous), and was deployed to France, Austria, Norway and Germany to manage a small team of 12 training in biathlon nordic skiing and shooting, culminating in multiple competitions. My snow passion

pre-dated the Army so I jumped at the chance to be part of an all-female training team to conduct a trans-antarctic crossing. I was selected from 250 Army applicants down to the final 10, however, I had to withdraw due to injury.

The new Army recruitment campaign ‘Fail Learn Win’ is very apt and a true reflection of my career. There are still multiple opportunities and career paths that I am excited to pursue in the Army. I am currently working at the prestigious Army Officer Selection Board in Westbury, selecting the future leaders of the British Army.

Shiryn Millard-Hill (née Burns-Hill)  
2001-2003, Methuen House

## Oluwatamilore (Tami) Makinda

In July 2016, I passed out of the Godolphin School and ceremoniously joined the ranks of hardworking and talented women who had passed through the school's cosy hallways.

I was ecstatic. Our A-levels were done, we were leaving School and Jerred house behind and the future was stretched out in front of us. However, when my A2 results came in, I was short of a grade to enter into my first choice university at Bristol. I was devastated and in near tears from my home in Lagos, Nigeria. However, I had to act fast as there was a window of opportunity to accept the offer from my second



choice, Kent University or take up a clearance spot for Law at the University of Birmingham. I took the latter option—choosing to stay near family living in the UK. It is safe to say that choice led me on the path I am currently on.

After graduating from university with a first class degree, I had another big decision laid out in front of me. Take up a training contract at a prestigious UK law firm or return home and start up a new role as a writer for the Native Magazine, a youth-led independent publication in Nigeria.

Again, I took the road less travelled and flew back home, ready to take up my position as a mouthpiece for women who looked like me, talked like me and dressed

like me. Now, at the NATIVE, with two years of experience under my belt, I have been able to champion the stories of Black African women by hiring and commissioning female writers and creatives, spotlighting female artists and directors and carving a lane for others like us to thrive. It has been challenging, choosing a path that was less traditional for an African woman and sticking to my guns against my parents' judgements and advice. However, I have walked this path all on my own, learnt the ropes, got wise to the game and made a way all in the space of a few years.

Five years down the line from that timid girl who once danced during ENTS and starred in Mrs Findley's Cabaret production, I am

amazed at the level of personal, professional, emotional and spiritual growth I have undergone. Armed with the tools from all the places I have passed through, that shy girl is now a young woman walking into a new role as the Community Manager at the NATIVE and the host of a radio show on Black radio channel, No Signal.

I miss Godolphin School and all the friends and memories I once made there and I am so thankful to be part of her vast pool of alumni doing amazing things around the world and shaking up their respective fields.

Oluwatamilore (Tami) Makinde  
2014-2016

## Emma Lang

I left Godolphin in 2015, enjoyed a gap year before going to Bristol University to study Philosophy and Theology. Three years later and having had a brilliant time, I graduated with a First and landed a job in London working for Adoreum Partners, a hybrid business comprised of a merchant venture bank and a business development consultancy. At Adoreum, I manage a portfolio of sustainable and ethical businesses and help to accelerate the companies of other compassionate entrepreneurs. Once Covid hit, I had a reasonable amount of time on my hands outside of Adoreum and needed to challenge myself.

Since leaving Godolphin, my passion for art has never left me, largely due to the confidence inspired by Mr Egg. I have always had the idea to create an affordable art marketplace, however, have never had the financial means nor the business acumen to know where to begin. Thanks to the support and responsibility provided by Adoreum, I set up State Of The Art Marketplace



**SOTA was born out of my frustration that no central hub for affordable art exists. Despite certain businesses claiming to be ‘affordable’**

LTD in the height of lockdown three, an online curated and affordable art marketplace.

SOTA was born out of my frustration that no central hub for affordable art exists. Despite certain businesses claiming to be ‘affordable’ they sadly are not, and the art industry remains to be a largely elitist and impenetrable

to both consumers and artists. Therefore, I built SOTA to democratise the arts and bring together the everyday person with talented creatives. I believe that art should be for everyone and that artists of all demographics and experiences deserve to have a trusted platform to sell their affordable art. The platform also allows for secondary market pieces, creating a sustainable art economy. Our categories of artworks include paintings, photography, prints, original prints, ceramics, sculptures, textiles, drawings, illustrations, collages, cards and postcards.

In terms of my business model, the business has been built to empower individuals within the arts and so there are no sign-up fees, monthly contracts, listing fees nor an exclusivity demand when selling on the platform. Sellers can sign up for free, make unlimited listings and the business only takes a 6% commission fee upon purchase which is considerably less than other online galleries. Additionally, there is a strict pricing limit of £650 to ensure we are targeting the "Affordable Art" market. The site has an in-built social media following and messaging system so that artists can interact and collaborate with each other if they wish.

Despite launching a business during lockdown, I have been positively overwhelmed by the response from both buyers and sellers. The business has attracted around 180 artists who have listed approximately 750 pieces of work. I have also had a couple of exciting press features which has helped short term growth. My immediate goals are to start fundraising soon to build an App and hire a few team members. My long-term goals are to grow the business internationally, host exhibitions for artists, create grants for aspiring art students and successfully disrupt and democratise the industry.

Emma Lang (née Aubrey)  
2008-2016



## Tabitha Tossell

Working at the Department for Health over the pandemic has been undoubtedly stressful but also fascinating and hugely enjoyable. I am the Deputy Head of Project Management Office (PMO) for a particularly busy team in the global health directorate which has meant lots of late nights and early starts doing strategic planning for the UK and beyond.

**It's really exciting to be in such a current role, where every move you or the team makes can potentially have a lasting impact on the real lives of people**

My work centres on how we navigate life beyond the EU, which as one might imagine is a huge task on its own but made even more vast by managing it through the midst of a global pandemic.

It's really exciting to be in such a current role, where every



move you or the team makes can potentially have a lasting impact on the real lives of people. Working in Westminster also makes you feel as if you are traditionally in the heart of government too which is both exciting and surreal at the same time (although it has been 'wfh' due to government guidelines where necessary too).

My hopes for the rest of this year are to recover from the frantic (but managed!) scramble of successfully getting over the line at the End of the Transition Period, whilst looking to the future and ensuring that we are able to maximise the reciprocal health agreements to enable a variety of different avenues to continue.

For example, this could mean ensuring doctors continue to have their qualifications recognised beyond the UK to enable the medical workforce to practice at home and overseas, or ensuring that we have an effective continuity of supply of normal everyday prescriptions for those in need, as well as vaccines. I'm waiting for a Covid vaccine for myself later in the year which is very exciting, and hope everyone remains safe as we continue to move through the different stages out of this pandemic.

Tabitha Tossell  
2008-2015

## Tracy Hoar

I can't quite believe that I left Godolphin in 1990 – over 40 years ago – where on earth has that gone? I left school not knowing where I wanted to go to university as my predictions weren't great. I surprised everyone – not least myself in getting half way decent grades and decided to take a gap year and then apply to Bristol University to do Sociology. I was desperate to do a course that wasn't a traditional course like English and Sociology fit the bill as I'm interested in how people work.

My 3 years at Bristol flew by and suddenly I had to decide what I was going to do with the rest of my life. Help! I applied to over 40 advertising agencies thinking I'd like to do something with client development – I got 40 rejections.

I decided to try my luck in London and on my second day went to the pub for a drink. I got talking to someone at the bar about what he did. I thought it sounded interesting



and so booked in a meeting for the Monday and haven't looked back.

I have done Business development and sales in all sorts of industries for the whole of my career but latterly within the edtech sector in two start ups which has been fascinating and fast moving.

My top tips looking back would be:-

Don't worry if you don't know what you want to do when you leave school – not many people do!

Your first job doesn't have to be your final job – it is a stepping stone on your career path. Give it a go, establish foundations – sometimes its just as important to know what you DON'T want to do as well as what you do.

Don't be afraid to change industry or what you are doing – you will be fine

Be brave, be entrepreneurial in everything you do and be yourself don't be anything else – you are good enough!

At the grand age of 49 I have a fantastic job in business development at Talk Education [www.talkeducation.com](http://www.talkeducation.com) - a brilliant disruptor in the Edtech sector and I've never been happier.

Tracy Hoar (née Bradbury)  
1983-1990

## Richard Luetchford (Head of Drama 1990-2007)

It seems astonishing to me that I have been retired now for nearly fourteen years, almost as long as the time I taught at Godolphin!

When I first arrived at the School in 1990 as the new Head of Drama, I moved into my office in the Drama Studio. This was a "temporary" building, built in the 1920's, which was originally the school gym but had been converted into a drama space for lessons and also as a theatre for the school drama productions.

Drama was a relatively new subject on the School's curriculum then, being taught to all classes and then examined at GSE and Advanced Levels. I was the only Drama Teacher, and had a very full timetable! When



directing School Drama productions I also had to become a sound and lighting technician, and a set and costume designer. However, I did get some assistance from colleagues in the Music and Art Departments and we did some innovative drama productions there over the years which made good use of the space and facilities available, but it was

with excitement that I learned of plans to build a purpose built Performing Arts Centre to be shared with the Music Department and to include performance and teaching spaces, retractable seating, a dance studio, and state of the art lighting and sound.

The Performing Arts Centre has been a great asset to the Godolphin, it allowed the Performing Arts to expand and grow and established the School's reputation for Drama and Music, both as part of the curriculum, and as an essential part of school life.

Since retiring from teaching in 2007 I have had little to do with Drama, but still enjoy performing, pursuing my love of Blues music by singing and playing harmonica in local blues bands. My wife and I recently moved to New Zealand and I now play in two blues bands here.





## 2020 LEAVERS

**Jessica Adlington:** Newcastle University/Geography  
**Ella Beckley:** Bournemouth University/Art Foundation  
**Holly Bentley:** Gap Year/Newcastle University/Media, Communications and Cultural Studies  
**Madeleine Boissier:** Oxford Brookes University/Interior Architecture with Foundation  
**Emily Boxer:** Trinity Laban/Musical Theatre Foundation  
**Emma Browne:** Oxford Business School/Business  
**Grace Chan:** University of Nottingham/Pharmacy  
**Eleanor Coles:** University of Bath/Chemical Engineering  
**Pollyanna Corben:** University of Edinburgh/Interior Design  
**Lily Ferguson:** Gap Year  
**Isobel Gilligan:** Durham University/Psychology  
**Eloise Grant Goodey:** Gap Year/Durham University/International Relations  
**Oriole Gunter:** Oxford Business and Media College  
**India Henderson:** Gap Year/Newcastle University/Psychology  
**Felicity Holme:** University of Edinburgh/Italian and History of Art  
**Emma Jowett:** University of Exeter/Biological and Medicinal Chemistry  
**Phoebe Kett:** Gap Year/Hartpury University/Applied Animal Science with Therapy  
**Iris Khwaja:** Gap Year/University of Bristol/Social Policy  
**Amelia Kunzer:** Oxford Brookes University/Events Management  
**Pui Yi Lau:** Queen Mary University of London/Biology with Foundation  
**Imogen Lee:** University of Oxford/Japanese  
**Jiain Li:** University of Warwick/Education Studies

## INTENDED UPPER SIXTH DESTINATIONS

**Abbey Littlejohns:** Manchester Metropolitan University/Textiles in Practice  
**Priscilla Lo:** University of Manchester/Psychology  
**Harriet Lucas:** University of Bath/Biomedical Sciences  
**Lucy McCann:** University of Exeter/Business and Management  
**Anna Merritt:** Gap Year  
**Rosie O'Connor:** Kings College London, University of London/Biochemistry  
**Olivia O'Donnell:** Oxford Brookes University/Business Management and Geography  
**Emily Otton:** Gap Year/Cardiff University/Biological Sciences  
**Eleanor Pike:** Gap Year  
**Kate Prendergast:** Oxford Brookes University/Foundation in Business  
**Kitty Rawlinson:** University of Nottingham/Criminology and Social Policy  
**Jessica Rusby:** Durham University/Business and Management with Foundation  
**Isabel Sefton:** Cardiff University/Biomedical Sciences  
**Molly Sheppard:** Cardiff University/Optomety with Preliminary Year  
**Eloise Soester-Gulliver:** Guildhall School of Music and Drama/Production Arts – Theatre Technology  
**Violet Tetley:** Gap Year/Durham University/Modern Languages and Cultures  
**Rosanna Webb:** City and Guilds of London Art School/Art Foundation  
**Georgia Weston:** University of the Arts London/Ceramic Design  
**Charlotte White:** Gap Year  
**Francesca Willis:** Gap Year  
**Clementine Woodard:** Gap Year/University of the Arts London/Fashion Textiles: Embroidery



## OGs broaden students' horizons during COVID 2020-2021

During the past year, when “in person” visitors to the school, and trips and visits outside the school have been impossible, OGs have provided a welcome sense of the outside world to students here at Godolphin.

The rise of Zoom and Teams video conferencing in Lockdown proved to be one of the few positive aspects of a difficult year, and we grasped it with both hands - inviting OGs to take part in weekly Find Your Future Friday webinars. We have been bowled over by your willingness to take part in these. OGs have joined us from their bedrooms, kitchens, offices – from a building site, in one case - and spoken to students about their day-to-day work, giving tips for girls who want to follow in their footsteps.

At a time when girls' lives were limited to their home, or just their year-group in School, these sessions have provided insights into how life has gone on in the wider world and given them a real sense of hope – something to look forward to - in the future too.

The following Find Your Future Friday webinars took place this year:

- **Careers in Sport with Team GB rower Alice Baatz, GB Lacrosse player Iona Dryden, and Steph Crews, from Sports Talent management agency Footprint**
- **Engineering: from Aerospace Engineering to Apps, with Lexi Hopson-Hill**
- **Careers in the Civil Service, with Tabby Tossell**
- **Working in Advertising, with Jess Parrett (nee Over)**
- **Careers in PR and Communications Holly Ayres**
- **Working in Google Security, implementing short and long-term risk mitigation, with Eve Hollingshead**
- **How to Get a Job on Graduation, with Olivia Stuart-Taylor**
- **Working as a Private Chef, and the usefulness of Languages, with Anna Chadsey**
- **Find out about Gap Year Options, with Molly Adlington, Hermione Blandford, Bee Clapperton and Amy Robinson.**
- **Film, Festivals and Sustainability with Rebecca Whitworth**
- **Training as a Physiotherapist with Emily Caswell, in her final year of Physiotherapy at Cardiff University.**

For years, University Open Days have been a crucial part of choosing a degree, and where to study. The train journey, the coffee on campus watching other applicants arrive, the welcome lecture and accommodation tour have all helped Sixth Formers to imagine their new life at university and decide which location and course will suit them best.

In 2021, these university visits have not been possible, and while virtual Open Days serve a purpose, they do not have the same immediacy or real-world quality as a physical visit.

In a new initiative this year, we have reached out to OGs currently at university, and asked them to meet with Lower Sixth students to discuss their course, the application process and university life. We have been overwhelmed by the response, and every student in the Lower Sixth has met with at least one OG on Teams. Current students tell us it has been one of the most useful aspects of all we do for them in terms of university applications – all powered by you OGs. Many, many thanks!

We are so grateful to the following OGs currently at



university offered to take part in this initiative:

Anna Michael, Falmouth; Maisie Molyneux, Oxford University; Maddie Griffiths, Brighton & Sussex; Alice Tetley, York; Amber Howard, Lancaster; Misha Ansell, Northumbria; Iona Spark, Durham; Sam Eggleton, Reading; Helen Eggleton, Birmingham; Izzy Baker, Warwick; Charlotte Lumby, Edinburgh; Emma Simon, Durham; Alex Holmes, Oxford University; Faith Pybus, York; Polly Blythe, Exeter; Emily Horsfield, Durham; Hannah Whitman, Plymouth; Sarah Laptain, Sheffield; Alice Sullivan, Exeter; Olivia Forge, Oxford Brookes; Beth Southgate, Exeter; Sam Willis, Edinburgh;

Maddy Wright, Leeds; Crystal Huang, Nottingham; Ffion Leeman, Birmingham.

These OGs also met with individuals online to discuss how their degrees had enabled them to find work:

- **Julia Dutson, primary teaching**
- **Chloe Whitworth, working as an actuary, after a maths degree**
- **Olivia Dutson, performing arts, heritage roles and education**
- **Kiteny Chen, business analyst at McKinsey**

We were also delighted to work with OG Alex Jordan, Art Psychotherapist, who not only took part in Find Your Future

Friday this year, but also used her professional training to devise an art-based relaxation exercise that our Sixth Formers were able to use with First and Second Years as part of the focus on good mental health strategies during our Peer Education Project this year.

We are truly grateful to all the OGs who have taken part in these initiatives this year. We are always looking for more people to be part of the Bright Futures programmes here at Godolphin – if you can give us your time and if this is something you would like to be a part of, please do contact me, via email at fergusonb@godolphin.org - Many thanks.

Bethan Ferguson,  
Head of Bright Futures Programme



## Claire Floyd

I married Tom Greenaway on 26th September 2020 on an amazingly sunny day with 30 friends and family feeling very lucky to have made it despite the obstacles and had a honeymoon to Scotland! After leaving Godolphin I studied History of Art at Oxford Brookes getting my first job at MOMART, a leading art logistics company in London where I joined the Museums team arranging the logistics for V&A touring exhibitions. This fuelled my interest in the 'behind the scenes' aspect of the museum industry learning there are a range of roles within a gallery or museum which don't require a masters or PHD – just a practical mind and ability to project manage.

After three years of arranging a variety of touring exhibitions from Wedding Dresses to David Bowie, I moved to Tate's Registrars Displays team just as they were redoing all

of Tate Britain's galleries. Working with Curatorial, Art Handling and Conservation to create new displays, enabled me to get to know a hugely varied collection of over 60,000 works, from Turner's sketchbooks to Tracey Emin's Bed.

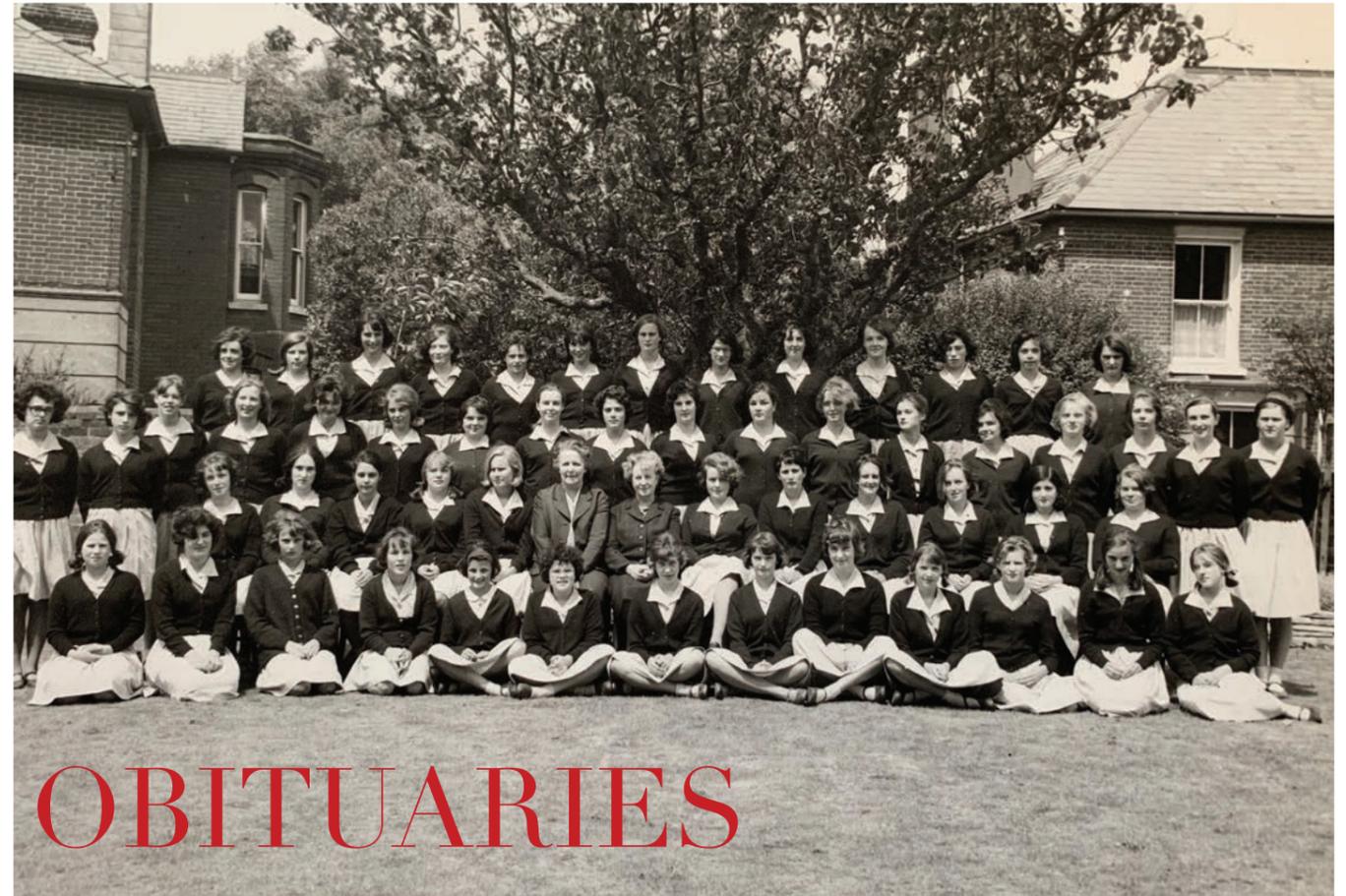
From Displays I moved across to the Loans Out team, lending Tate works to other exhibitions as well as managing Tate exhibitions abroad, providing an opportunity to travel with art works, exploring countries like Russia and Japan, finding ways to overcome language barriers on 16 hour truck journeys. Fruit Pastilles are key!

Years of hard work paid off when Tate allowed me to take a sabbatical for 3 months during which I qualified as a ski instructor in Japan and travelled the length of the country before moving onto Vietnam, Cambodia and ending up in Bali. I currently work at the National Portrait Gallery managing the Loans Out Department having

initially joined as Exhibition Officer where I assisted with the Michael Jackson tour, Martin Parr, Pre-Raphaelite Sisters and the BP Portrait Awards.

Over the last year, we have emptied the NPG galleries for storage or loan while we carry out renovations and been looking ahead, arranging loans for upcoming exhibitions in preparation for when gallery doors can open again. I now live in Northamptonshire where Tom is the only specialist in Pietra Dura in the UK ([www.greenawaymosaics.com](http://www.greenawaymosaics.com)) creating the most beautiful decorative art items, as well as doing restoration work for stately homes and museums. Like most people at the moment, we are taking advantage of both of us working from home and being able to see more of each other while renovating our cottage.

Claire Floyd  
1997-2003



## Mrs Barbara Shields Godolphin Staff from 1964 - 1987 d. 2019

## Jane Merivale (née MacBrien) 1963 - 1968 d. 2020

The privilege of a Godolphin education and experience mould our lives in so many ways, not least because of the lasting influences of both good teaching and good friendship.

Mrs Shields arrived at the school in my Lower IVth year. Until that point schoolwork had been a total nightmare and Maths in particular. I was disruptive in class, often sent out and made to stand outside Miss Engledow's (Headmistress) office. Mrs Shields was different – as well as being kind and patient she



understood each one of her pupil's needs. She had the key to unlock minds and to clear the fog. It is no exaggeration to say that Mrs Shields changed the course of my life – and gave me the ability to turn every calculation into a proportion sum!

Jane MacBrien joined the school in the Lower IVth and we soon became best friends, a friendship that lasted through all the changes in our lives and through all the years.

Jane did well at school and was

popular with teachers and fellow pupils. She was often form prefect and went on to become head of Douglas House.

After studying English at Stirling university, Jane taught English as a Second Language throughout the world. She taught in schools, colleges and universities with dedication and commitment. She was also a successful coursebook writer.

When she lived in other parts of the world, she did more than teach. Her first placement in the 1980s,

with VSO, was in Sri Lanka and while there she set up a women's shelter in Colombo. While working in Barbados, she formed a support group for survivors of breast cancer. She was first diagnosed with cancer in 1996.

Acting was in her blood, and she had many famous acting relatives. Wherever she went she would find an opportunity to act, usually in an amateur theatre company, but she also played the part of Mrs Boyle in the 1990s at the famous Mousetrap

Theatre in Toronto.

She had always loved elephants, among other reasons for their loyalty to the tribe, and in 2018 fulfilled a lifelong dream and volunteered to help in an elephant sanctuary in South Africa.

Her last years were a battle against cancer, but she faced this challenge with true Jane spirit. She died in October last year with her husband and son by her side. Her memorial was by "zoom" but that had its advantages – the

main one being that nearly 100 people worldwide were able to participate and many of us could contribute with our memories and photographs. A memory of Jane shared by all was her vivacity and joy of life.

There is no doubt that both Barbara Shields and Jane made a difference not just to my life, but to many, many other lives. They will not be forgotten.

Liz Granato (née Arnold)  
1961-1968

months. On one occasion all the school children were lined up for confirmation. Elizabeth and John were pulled out by the aunts at the last moment, thus stopping their conversion to Catholicism!

In 1932 the aunts took the children on a trip back to Canada, and Elizabeth experienced her first flight in a sea plane on the Muskoka lakes. From then onward she was hooked on flying!

Elizabeth attended boarding school in Salisbury, Wiltshire and regularly attended services at the cathedral.

In 1934 she obtained a scholarship and went up to Cambridge to study French and German, achieving a double first in 1937. How she achieved this is a bit of a mystery! From her diaries, her entire time at Cambridge was spent in social events, such as tea parties, punting on the River Cam, attending summer balls and amateur dramatics (performing plays in French or German). One week prior to exams, she blocked out the time to study!

However as a woman at that time she did not officially graduate until 2011.

During these Cambridge years Elizabeth met her future husband, a young New Zealander from the Bay of Islands, called Nigel Reed. They did not immediately hit it off, as Elizabeth was always late when they planned to meet, and she also had

a lot of other admirers and a very busy social life. Nigel was a more serious young lawyer!

After University, Elizabeth returned to Kingston, Ontario, where John was attending university, and took a 12 month business course.

On returning to England in 1938, she was interviewed for a job at the Foreign Office, and was told she would be "thrown into the typing pool". She declined this offer and was wondering what to do when an opportunity arose to go to Romania to be a governess to 2 young boys whose parents were White Russians. Life there was full of parties and interesting people, and while there she went on a road trip with another young English girl, who many years later she met again in Kerikeri, Margaret Auchinvole.

In March 1939, with increasing unrest throughout Europe and the second world war looming, Elizabeth was asked to accompany the 2 boys back to England by train. It was quite a scary journey, with armed drunken soldiers both on the trains and at the stations.

In early October 1939 after the declaration of war, Elizabeth now aged 23 years, received a letter from the Foreign Office, requiring her to present for war work. She had no idea what lay ahead, and was hoping that perhaps she would be parachuted into France!

Her instructions were to travel to

Bletchley Park station and to wait on the platform until everyone else had departed. Then a man would approach her wearing a dark suit with a white handkerchief in his pocket. He said 'Miss Langstaff I presume?' and she replied 'yes'. He then led her up to the Mansion where she was required to swear a solemn oath of absolute secrecy that she would never reveal what she was about to be doing at Bletchley Park. She was one of the first people to be recruited, with only around 100 people there until early 1940. By the end of the war there were over 10,000 people at the Park.

Elizabeth worked there until war ended in 1945. She worked primarily as a linguist in Hut 3, translating messages that had been transcribed from code broken on a daily basis by the Enigma machine. In 1943 she was promoted to PA to Eric Jones, the head of Hut 3, with responsibility for 600 personnel. Elizabeth was also a founding member of BP Drama Group, and whenever she had time off work she went to London by train, especially to go to the theatre. On one occasion she missed the last train back which meant she was running late for her shift. She persuaded a taxi driver to drive her back to BP, where the guards paid the fare in lieu of her gold watch as a pledge.

During the war years she saw Nigel's name mentioned in despatches and began corresponding with him. He was serving in the British Army in Iraq and they met up again when he came on leave. They were married after the war, in Dorchester, in September 1945.

After 2 years in London, where Nigel qualified as a barrister, they moved in 1947 to Lagos Nigeria. Before leaving England, they visited the Palm House at Kew Gardens to get a taste of the tropics!

Nigel worked first as a magistrate. They were to stay in Nigeria until 1975, by which time Nigel was Chief



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## Elizabeth Reed (née Langstaff) 1916 - 2020 - Eulogy

Elizabeth not only lived a very long life, she also lived a very full life.

She was born Elizabeth Langstaff on 9 May 1916 in Thornhill, Toronto, to an English mother and Canadian father.

In March 1917 her father died, and in August of that year her brother John was born.

They had an idyllic early life, living on a large rural property surrounded by farm animals until May 1921.

Tragically their mother died on Elizabeth's fifth birthday.

There is a stained glass window in Holy Trinity church Thornhill, dedicated to the memory of their family.

In September 1921 their lives changed dramatically when Elizabeth and John sailed to England and went to live in Dorset, to be brought up by their mother's English sisters, known as the maiden aunts, together with their very strict Victorian maternal grandmother.

In 1924 they spent several months in a seaside resort in Brittany, because Granny needed to take the sea waters for her rheumatism. Elizabeth and John were put into the local convent school for several



Justice of the Northern States.

Eila was born in Lagos, then son Nigel was born in Enugu, before they moved to Kaduna in the North, where Caroline was born. The rest of their time was spent in Northern Nigeria, and in particular on the Jos Plateau from 1957 until 1969, which was their favourite part of the country.

Elizabeth supported Nigel in his work and travels around the north, and was also involved in the Women's Corona Society and their charitable local work, as well as helping to organise concerts and activities for children during their school holidays. Both Elizabeth and Nigel loved the rolling countryside with its grasslands and rocky outcrops. Together with their children they explored the countryside with breakfast picnics, long walks and rock climbing. Elizabeth loved the local flora and fauna, particularly the birds.

One of Elizabeth's hobbies was water colours, and she often did sketches of the Nigerian country side while accompanying Nigel on his tours of duty.

Nigel and Elizabeth left Nigeria in August 1975 and for the next 20 years they spent 7 months in Wiltshire, and 5 months in Paihia, travelling extensively during this time.

Travel highlights included the trans Siberian Express and a trip out on the Oriana.

Throughout their Nigerian years and afterwards, they did many journeys to Vancouver to see Elizabeth's brother John and his family. Elizabeth and John had a very close bond, even though from early adulthood they lived in different countries for the rest of their lives.

At the end of 1995, they moved permanently to Paihia.

Sadly Nigel died in September 1997, and Elizabeth found herself on her own after 52 years of marriage. Luckily she had daughter Eila, husband Barry and children Dominic and Josephine in Kerikeri; also Caroline and Jim, with Matthew and Anna not too far away in

Melbourne. Sadly her only son Nigel predeceased her in 2009, but she was greatly helped at this time by her strong Christian faith.

She continued to travel to Vancouver every year until 2011. Her brother John died in his home earlier this year, aged 102.

Elizabeth was very involved with local Paihia life including St Paul's church, where she tended the graveyard for many years, and the Probus Club, and knitting thousands of teddy bears for the Red Cross and St John Ambulance.

Elizabeth was delighted to welcome her 2 great granddaughters to the family, Ruby now 5 years, and Holly now 8 months.

In 2013 she fractured her hip and since then she depended on carers to look after her in her home. All carers quickly learnt that the thing that mattered most to Elizabeth was keeping the birdbath full of water. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who have cared for Elizabeth during these last years, and enabled her to stay in her own home.

All in all she had an amazing life, and to conclude I would like to quote from her 100th birthday speech:

"Recipe for growing old gracefully: Enjoy your memories but don't wallow in them.

Everything in moderation, regular meal times, regular sleep times and always have something to which to look forward."

**DEATHS**

|                         |              |        |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Barbara Pemberton       | née Panting  |        |
| Diana Ruth Reynolds     |              | Apr-20 |
| Vivienne Harvey         | née Whittuck | May-17 |
| Anne Idle Smith         | née Liddell  | Mar-21 |
| Jacqueline Stokes       |              | Jun-20 |
| Diana Dampney           |              |        |
| Jane MacBrien           |              |        |
| Jean Fryer              |              |        |
| Jean Rosemary Griffiths |              | Jul-21 |
| Judith M Kent           |              | Jun-21 |

*For obituaries, submissions or notices, please contact Jenny McArdle: [jmcardle@waitrose.com](mailto:jmcardle@waitrose.com) or, Garden Cottage, Church Road Farley, Salisbury Wilts SP5 1AH*

**Richard Shephard  
Head of Music from  
1974 - 1982**

Richard Shephard died in February after a long debilitating illness. Rightly there have been formal tributes in the national press: There is no need for me to list the details of his meteoric rise in his chosen career of musical education, nor of his exceptional gifts as a musician and as a composer. As the Headmistress who appointed

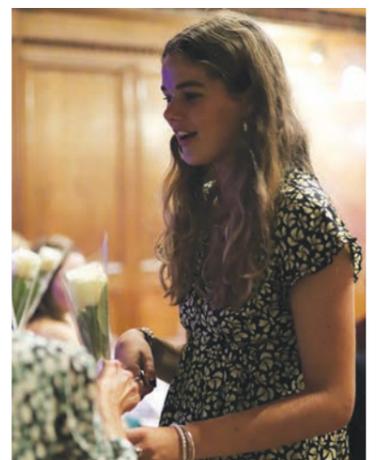
him I shall write, rather, of Richard's contribution to the musical life of Godolphin - a contribution which was considerable, as it was to school life generally. Richard was a highly professional colleague, injecting wisdom and dry humour into staff room discussions. I valued him enormously personally for his clear judgement, especially when he and I discussed problems in the music department among other things. There are many OGs who have had their musical talents guided and nurtured by Richard Shephard. He had high

standards but was also a humane teacher of the less able: His warm personality communicated a sense of enjoyment of music throughout the whole school community - daily in playing for Morning Prayers and, notably, in 1976, by his production of "Where There's a Will", a marvellous musical history of the School on our 250th anniversary. Godolphin was privileged to have Richard as Head of Music: The benefits and joys of having known him will live on.

**Veronica M. Fraser  
Headmistress 1968-1980**



# GODOLPHIN WELCOMES MOST RECENT LEAVERS TO OGA DINNER



After several failed attempts to host the OGA leavers dinner at Godolphin this year, the school was delighted to welcome back Leavers of 2020 and 2021 on Friday 10 September. Drinks and canapés were served whilst guests enjoyed the marvels of Godolphin’s Art & Design on the lawn outside the Ash Building.

During dinner in the Main Hall, OGs heard from Head, Emma Hattersley as she wished leavers well for their lives outside Godolphin. Nothing could dampen the Godolphin spirit of those who were excited to come together again. The OGs were presented with their OGA badges and there was a happy feeling as girls reunited with their friends and former staff.

Normally this event would take place in May, but due to the pandemic, and the closing of Godolphin before the end of term, we were forced to cancel these plans. However, although we missed many of you, we were thrilled to come together to officially mark this occasion.

Thank you to all the OGs who made it!

Please keep in touch with your news, let us know how you’re getting on, and do remember that you’re always welcome back to Godolphin.

# A WONDERFUL START TO THE LACROSSE SEASON AT GODOLPHIN



The sun was shining, and the Godolphin spirit was at an all time high, as Godolphin's current First team played the Godolphin OG team on Friday 10 September.

The Godolphin community came together to support current students and our sporting OGs for an exciting match resulting in a 13-2 win to Godolphin.

Many congratulations to the Godolphin team on their success - Better luck next time OGs!

Next year, the annual OGA v Godolphin match will take place on Friday 9 September. If you are keen and would like to play please email [oga@godolphin.org](mailto:oga@godolphin.org)





## OGA COMMITTEE 2021

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### **FORMER HEADMISTRESSES**

Miss Veronica Fraser  
Mrs Elizabeth Prescott-Decie (Hannay)  
Mrs Hilary Fender  
Miss Jill Horsburgh  
Mrs Sam Price

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email [oga@godolphin.org](mailto:oga@godolphin.org)**