

St Edward's School

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2022



Welcome & guess the era

Welcome to the first edition of the St Edward's School Alumni newsletter!

As we approach our 60th anniversary of the school in 2023, we thought it would be a great opportunity to build our Alumni community further and reconnect with people from days gone by. We hope you enjoy hearing about what the school is doing today and reminiscing about your own experiences at the school.

In each edition we'll hear from former students and staff. Please do feel free to share your stories with us and let us know where you are now alumni@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk

Here is our first 'Guess the Era' photo. Do you recognise anyone? Can you guess which year this photo was taken at St Edward's? The answer will be revealed in the next edition of the newsletter.



Alumni, did you know...

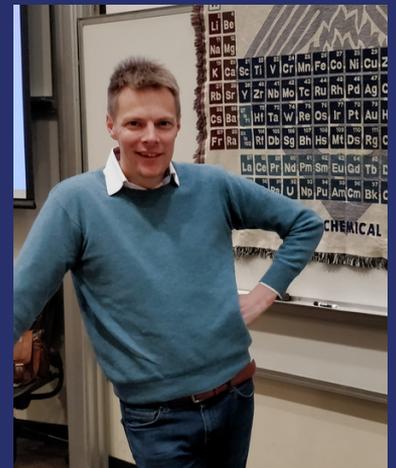
Many of our Alumni members are still in the area but some of our members now live in Germany, USA and New Zealand!

Where are they now?

In this issue, we hear from a former student from the 90s, Peter Banks, who now lives in Scotland and works at a prep school.

I attended St Edward's from 9/9/99 (I wonder why we remember that date!) through to the end of A-Levels in 2005. I was a fairly average student, and not the most academic but enjoyed getting involved with everything the school offered - this included, concerts, singing, playing, musicals, lighting, sound, sailing and even the odd bit of Science.

I left to study Chemistry and enjoyed a similarly varied life at University. I am now Director of Studies at a prep school in Scotland, having been head of Chemistry at the



world famous *Purcell School for Young Musicians* for eight years. I remember my time extremely fondly, especially the Science and Music departments who both absolutely set me up for my life.

Conts...

Would you like to be part of our feature? Let us know what you are doing now



A particular memory and pivotal moment in my life, took place as part of the statistics GCSE preparation. In Year 10, students completed a project on "guess-timating". It was the first opportunity for some independent, investigative learning and allowed students to look at a subject they were interested in. The projects each year took over the school and I am sure drove everyone slightly nuts as they were asked continually to guess the length of a line or give their age again and again! I remember it vividly as it became part of my research project, firstly at university during my PGCE, and then through later life. In 2018 I was invited to speak to the American Chemical Society on the links between Music and Chemistry as a guest lecturer at Butler University, Indianapolis and this was followed in 2019 by an invite to the ACS National Conference in Orlando chairing a panel of scientists and musicians from Harvard, LA Symphony Orchestra and across the world, and speaking alongside nobel prize winners and Buzz Aldrin!

I really do put this down to Mr Maxted's statistics projects in 2002, the amazing teachers in Mrs Holt, Mr White & Mr Whitehead and the environment I enjoyed at St Edwards.

I have been exceptionally lucky in my life to have attended the school!

Help St Edward's FoSE

Friends of St Edward's is a group of parents, staff and friends from the St Edward's school community who help to raise money for teachers to spend on extra assets and activities that will benefit students.

They also help parents connect with each other and with the school. They do this through organising school events, managing fundraising activities and running the second hand uniform sales. If you'd like to get involved, please email us friendsofstedwards@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk



There are many different ways in which you could help... we're currently looking for a Treasurer! Visit www.friendsofsteds.org.uk for more information.



Latest from the school

We are very proud of the facilities we are able to offer our students and staff on campus and we have a long term improvement programme in place to ensure that we operate in a modern, fit for purpose, efficient and safe environment.

We outgrew our current dining facilities many years ago and the need for a better equipped space for our students was important. Our building fund is supporting an exciting new project which will create a new, less congested and pleasant place for our students to eat right in the heart of our campus. The original design incorporated a mezzanine level, to provide our Sixth Formers with some much needed, dedicated space too. With global steel costs rising, and shortages of other materials, tender quotes have been coming in at nearly £1million more than originally costed. As a church school, we are classed as voluntary aided which means that although we get government funding for projects such as this, we have to raise the first 10% of funds.

The new building project as it stands would cost well over £1,900,000; and so we are radically redesigning our original plans to try and get a single storey space for our students within budget.

Do you belong to an organisation or business who could help? We're reaching out for sponsors and donations from those who are able and interested in supporting the future of the school.

If you'd like to help support our students and improve the facilities they use, please get in touch mlane@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk



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