



Laurel Leaves

THE EDGBASTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

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*Generations of EHS Girls
Unite in Song*

Chairman's *Message*

Thank goodness we are now past the shortest day and, although still dark and cold, we can now look forward to the Spring.

Our last event of 2012 was a Pampering evening held in school in November. How nice it was to be able to think about ourselves and at the same time buy a few Christmas presents and cards. The lovely thing, which made this event so special and popular, was that it really was about Old Girls: almost all of the skills and products on display to tempt us were developed and assembled by our Old Girls and the School is mightily proud of them.

Our AGM and summer supper in June was great fun and very well

attended. When entertained by two such talented musicians, one who is an Old Girl, lunch was always going to begin on a high note. For 2013, we have decided that we will hold our AGM on a Saturday in June (date to be confirmed), enabling even more of you to attend.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Miss Elizabeth Mullenger's work with the Millennium Group, now known as the 'Millennials', a short article about which is included in this edition of Laurel Leaves. Thank you Elizabeth for bringing Old Girls together, wherever they are in the country! Do look out for more news regarding the Millennials on the Old Girls section of the website and via Old Girls



Reunited, our eNewsletter.

Here's wishing you all a very happy 2013. Three things are certain: it will get lighter and warmer, and we will still be here, so do come and join us!

Celia Bell

Message *from the* Headmistress



The OGA at EHS goes from strength to strength. The school is very proud of its Old Girls and very pleased that so many of them are involved with the school through supporting OGA events, EHSPA events, school events and as members of staff and parents of current pupils!

The success of the school is clearly seen through the achievements of its pupils whilst in school and once they are out in the wider world. This year's leavers are no exception, as you can see from both the destination of leavers in this issue of Laurel Leaves

and in their very positive involvement in all aspects of school life. It is this roundness of education which makes the EHS girl special and stand out in a crowd, qualities we have seen demonstrated by Old Girls Kate Fisher and Belle Robinson, both of whom have visited this year to speak to the girls.

The common characteristics of EHS girls are strong and clear in all the generations and are clearly represented in our school motto Fediliter, Fortiter, Feliciter!

Dr Ruth Weeks

On Thursday 14th June, 40 guests joined us for the OGA Annual General Meeting followed by a reception in the Octagon Link.

We were then all enthralled by a recital from Old Girl Sachika Taniyama on the piano accompanied by her friend Delphine Dewald on the flute: the music was a delight and these talented girls kept us entranced for 40 minutes.

Presentations to two members of staff followed. Cheryl Lund and Lynn Maile recently left the School after 13 years of service. Anne Howarth then made a presentation to Margaret Harper, who had announced her retirement after an amazing 37 years of teaching music to EHS girls.

Our appetites were then satisfied by a superb meal that Jenny Cartwright, the School's Catering Manageress, and her staff had waiting for us in Prep Hall. Judging from the amount of laughter and talking a very good time was had by everyone!



Please do make sure that you notify school of any change of address or change of email address. We do not continue to send copies of Laurel Leaves if we have had copies returned in two consecutive years. School address is: Westbourne Rd., Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3TS, email: oldgirls@edgbastonhigh.co.uk

Edgbaston High School
Old Girls' Association
Committee 2012-13

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Dr Ruth Weeks

Vice-Presidents

Mrs S. J. Horsman (1987-1997)

Miss E. M. Mullenger (1998-2006)

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Past Chairman

Anne Howarth (1954-1961)

Secretary

Diane Hirst (1947-1961)

Past Staff Representative

Stella Pinkess (1946-1960)

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Anna Stanley (1982-1989)

General Committee

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Lindsay Lucas (1973-1981)

Leyla Ogan (1989-1994)

Ronnie Shoebottom (1954-1968)

Laurel Leaves

Helen Holmes (1980-1985)

Legal Advisor

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A CELEBRATION of MUSIC



On the evening of Sunday 8 June, as rain closed the roof on the Wimbledon Men's Singles Final, the musical talent of generations of EHS girls raised the roof of the Octagon. The occasion was a concert given in honour of the retirement of our much loved Director of Music - Miss Margaret Harper.

Miss Harper has taught at school for the past 37 years and wished to celebrate her career by performing Vivaldi's Gloria with a choir that included both current pupils and as many of her past pupils as possible. As well as writing to members of the

Old Girls' Association, great efforts were made to trace girls who had lost contact with the school over the years and Sunday's gathering gave many former pupils the chance to catch up and renew friendships. The choir also included both current and retired members of staff and thus presented a complete representation of EHS life.

On Sunday morning, everybody gathered in Prep Hall and there was a general buzz of excitement as people recognised each other over coffee before moving into the Octagon for a first rehearsal taken by Miss Harper herself. Lunch followed and, amazingly, the weather held so many people gathered in groups



and ate outside on the terrace by the swimming pool. After lunch, current EHS girls led tours around school for the Old Girls who were fascinated by the changes that had taken place since they left school. Many of them were amazed to find their photographs on the wall by the library and these also precipitated other trips down memory lane.

We reconvened at 3.00 for a further rehearsal and this time the choir was joined by an orchestra of former staff and Old Girls that had been rehearsing independently down in the Music School. This was the first time that everyone had been together and it was immediately clear that this was to be a very special performance. Everybody was completely focused upon Miss Harper's baton and hung upon her every word, determined to do their very best. Tea followed and included the cutting of a cake presented by the Old Girls' Association and we then returned to the Octagon for the concert.

The first half of the concert consisted of solo performances given both by Old Girls and also by some who are still in school. Sarah Taylor opened with Mozart's beautiful soprano

aria *Ridente la Calma* after which she gave us a real contrast of mood in her sleazy rendition of *Song of a Nightclub Proprietress* by Madeleine Dring. Rebecca Whitener (Owen) then delighted us with her sensitive interpretation of Weber's clarinet Concertino with its liquid phrasing and sparkling passagework. Jody Smith (Year 10 Martineau Music Scholar) followed playing *Zigeunerweisen* Op 20 by Sarasate on the violin and we marvelled at her total involvement in this incredibly virtuosic piece. Grace Farrell brought the first half to a close with a most musical performance of *Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal* by L'Estrange which was followed by Tesori's dramatic song *The Girl in 14G* giving Grace the opportunity to show her incredible versatility in the handling of very different styles of music.

After the interval, we returned to the Octagon for the Gloria. Miss Harper has conducted this work twice before during the course of her long career at EHS and it was therefore a worthy choice for her final concert.



GLORIA by VIVALDI performed by EHS Former Pupils & Staff Members of the Senior and Junior Choirs

<i>Gloria in excelsis Deo</i>	Chorus	
<i>Et in terra pax hominibus</i>	Chorus	
<i>Laudamus te</i>	Duet	Aimée Presswood Lizzie Hartley
<i>Gratias agimus tibi</i>	Chorus	
<i>Propter magnum gloriam</i>	Chorus	
<i>Domine Deus</i>	Soprano Solo	Anna Stockton
<i>Domine Fili unigenite</i>	Chorus	
<i>Domine Deus, Agnus Dei</i>	Alto Solo	Suzie Purkis
	Chorus	
<i>Qui tollis peccata mundi</i>	Chorus	
<i>Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris</i>	Alto Solo	Suzie Purkis
	Chorus	
<i>Quoniam tu solus Sanctus</i>	Chorus	
<i>Cum Sancto Spiritu</i>	Chorus	

Orchestra

Violin:	Martin Owen, Charlotte Clemson, Helen Kynaston Victoria Earle (Stonier), Hilary Fletcher (Wain), Katherine Waller, Lucy Cotton (Newman), Serena Chang, Abigail Fisher, Sophie Gough,
Viola:	Colin Gough, Louise Clain (Thompson), Mae Eastwood, Alice Lee
Cello:	Mark Walkem, Becky Storey, Jadie Carey
Double Bass:	Simon Smith
Oboe:	Marcia Weigall
Bassoon:	Philip Brookes
Trumpet:	Eric Brookes
Organ:	Heather Howell & Gavin Bateman
Conductor:	Margaret Harper

The edition used in this performance was arranged by Desmond Ratcliffe and published by Novello
Orchestral Parts have been obtained from Chester/Novello Hire





Chorus: Old Girls and Former Staff

Joanna Alderson	Emma Arnold (Patel)	Helen Jane Arnold (Polding)	Charlotte Ashton (Stiles)
Sarah Ashton (Eason)	Harriet Austin (Dickinson)	Amandeep Bagary	Rinku Banga
Kelly Barnes	Catherine Bickley	Laura Bloom (Bushell)	Wendy De Paeztron (Blunn)
Harriet Borg Bartolo	Jane Briggs	Karen Briggs	Christine Brown
Julia Cheshire	Samantha Cobb	Lucy Cotton (Newman)	Lilith Dillon Parkin
Hannah Donaldson	Lucy Drake Lee (Clement-Evans)		Harriet Earle (Feilding)
Sally England Kerr	Rhian Evans	Lindsay Farnath (Lucas)	Irene Field
Sophie Garner	Elizabeth Hartley	Kathryn Head	Sophia Higgins (Mitchell)
Rebecca Hobbs	Alex Hooper	Laura Johnson	Joy Khalil-Marzouk (Bloice-Smith)
Georgie Käely	Chloe Leadbetter	Alice Lee	Hannah Little
Katie Milledge (Scott)	Elizabeth Mullenger	Felicity Murphy	Idu Nwokolo
Tiffany Pang	Elisabeth Paul	Alexis Peterman	Katie Pickford
Margaret Pickford	Stella Pinkess	Aimée Presswood	Notzarina Reevers (Howell-Jones)
Claire Robinson	Stephanie Rogers (Freeman)		Vicky Rothwell (Tomlinson)
Amy Slevin (Ward)	Kiranjeet Sokhi	Anna Stockton (Leyland)	Sarah Symonds (Presswood)
Sarah Taylor	Charlotte Towers	Charlotte Turvey	Sophie Wallace
Claire Walls (Dean)	Emma Walls (Hinkins)	Sarah Walls (Kirk)	Claire Walsh
Frannie Wernham	Fiona Whitmarsh (Haydn)		

Present Staff

Sally Allsop	Clare Bishton*	Martha Ann Brookes	Heather Gay
Fran Griffin	Jenny Harrison	Judith Hayward	Linda Kitto
Sara Kollberg	Suzie Purkis*	Ria Richardson	Penny Searley*
Susannah Sansom	Suzzie Vango		*Staff & Old Girl

Chorus: Present Pupils

Lydia Marshall	Kate Stedman	Bethany Lucas	Beverley Parsons
Heidi Stiles	Ellie Sullivan	Ruth Spencer Jolly	Rebecca Tozer
Rosie Swani	Lucy Yuan	Rhianna Voice	Aaila Ashraf
Omolara Akindeinde	Kiera Wade	Evie Boore	Rebekah Brydon
Laura Dunnaker	Hannah Clutton-Brock	Thea Chan	Molly Leyland
Elizabeth Edwards	Jenny Choi	Rebecca Michael	Zainab Fakir
Grace Farrell	Susannah Murphy	Saskia Freshwater	Alice Field
Mariel Orford-Hall	Molly Griffith	Rachel Gordon	Rebecca Presswood
Charley Johnson	Claire Griffin	Katie Shannon	Sharika Kaul
Rebeckah Trinder	Beatrice Williams	Yuna Lee	Philippa Watson
Lucy Visram-Cipolletta	Holly Morgan	Alice Barrett	Savannah Foster
Noor Mughal	Jemima Downing	Tamara Freeman	Cerys Stotts
Joanna Jefferson	Ellie Harper	Agnes Wilkes	Lauren Mabley
Lakshya Jain	Elysia Cheung	Jody Smith	Emma Khan

With many thanks to Jennie Cartwright and her Catering Team for providing food for us all throughout the day, the Administrative Staff, Kate Stocks for the organisation of the attendance of Old Girls, Steve Watson and the caretakers, all girls, friends and staff who have attended rehearsals for this performance, Carolyn Blake (former EHS Head of Art) for her drawing of the Vivaldi Church (La Pietà) in Venice for the programme cover.



 The performance was fully focused throughout and clearly demonstrated Miss Harper's sensitive musicianship as well as her expertise in choir training. The four soloists, Aimée Presswood, Lizzie Hartley, Anna Stockton and Suzie Purkis, are all Old Girls. They performed their sections of the work with great poise and were clearly thrilled to be a part of such an amazing musical tribute. However, it was the massed chorus representing so many generations that made this performance so very special and something that those who took part in will remember for a very long time.

At the end of the concert, flowers and a gift were presented to Miss Harper by Sixth Form musicians. This presentation was followed by speeches given by Miss Mullenger and Dr Weeks before Miss Harper herself took to the stage. She delighted us all by drawing various items out of a suitcase and using these as the basis for some very funny reminiscences which were particularly pertinent to some of the Old Girls present. When she had finished we were all left with the feeling that Miss Harper had thoroughly enjoyed her time at EHS. We wish her a long and very happy retirement!



Kate Stocks, Music Department



Briar

Burley (EHS 1986-2001) married Richard Keen in the stunning Chapel of Worcester College, University of Oxford on Saturday June 30th 2012. The service was conducted by the Chaplain of Worcester College, Reverend Dr Jonathan Arnold and during the signing of the Register, Worcester College Choir sang Vivaldi's 'Gloria' – a reference to Briar's time at EHS where she sang in both the Junior and Senior chamber choirs.

The reception was held in the grounds of a beautiful former rectory in the Oxfordshire countryside - and the location for the marriage of Matthew Crawley and Lady Mary in the award winning television drama Downton Abbey.

Briar's bridesmaids included two former EHS friends Charlotte Stiles (née Ashton) and Alex Hooper and Gabriella O'Donnell, a former colleague from her days as a broadcast journalist with the BBC.

Briar gained a degree in Modern History from the University of Oxford in 2004.

Briar has worked as an Account Director with the global PR company MSL in London for the past two years and will take up a new post as Senior Account Director with Freud Communications in the New Year.

Briar and Richard live in Islington, North London. Her mother Lois was also a former EHS pupil and for many years chairman of the OGA.



Destination of 2012 Leavers

Mah-Rukh Ahmed	Birmingham City University	Legal Studies
Sarah Alton	Cardiff University	French/Spanish
Avanti Banerji	Birmingham City University	Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations
Olivia Brown-Wallace	Birmingham City University	Media and Communications
Lily Burnand	Anglia Ruskin University	Business Management
Aneela Chauhan	University of Birmingham	Medicine
Hannah Cuthbert	Cardiff University	Biology
Riti Dasgupta	University of Birmingham	English Literature and Philosophy
Victoria Davies	Applying 2013	
Grace Downing	Applying 2013	
Katarina Duvnjak	University of Reading	Graphic Communication
Anna Farquharson	Applying 2013	
Masuma Fazel	University of Leicester	Mathematics and Actuarial Science
Harpreet Gheer	Newcastle University	Speech and Language Sciences
Gabrielle Hall	University of Sheffield	Russian and Hispanic Studies
Katherine Halton	University of Leeds	Medicine
Catriona Hampton	Aberystwyth University	Marine and Freshwater Biology
Kate Hardy	Durham University	Geography
Alice Harvey	Birmingham City University	Fashion Design
Natalie Hatton	University of Exeter	Exercise and Sport Sciences (2013)
Amy Hetherington	University of Leicester	History and Archaeology
Katrina Holmes	University of Leeds	Textile Design
Mumtaj Islam	Applying 2013	
Alexandra Jones	Anglia Ruskin University	Human Resource Management
Isobel Jones	Applying 2013	
Eunbyeol Kang	University of Birmingham	Chemistry
Laura Kennea	University of Leeds	International Business
Jessica Lam	Applying 2013	
Merina Kurian	Gap Year	
Clare Lewis	University of Leeds	Theology and Religious Studies
Lydia Marshall	University of Manchester	Classics
Sunita Matharu	Bangor University	Psychology
Faye Matts	Gap Year	
Hina Mir	Brunel University	Sport Sciences
Laura Muth	University of Bath	Psychology
Eleanor O'Brien	University of Exeter	Human Biosciences
Beverley Parsons	Coventry University	Physiotherapy
Victoria Payne	University of Bristol	Economics and Accounting
Sophie Poxon	University of Bedfordshire	Sport and Physical Education (2013)
Emily Price	Cardiff University	Biomedical Sciences
Raja Rajmohan	University of Nottingham	Physics with Medical Physics
Rebecca Scott	Applying 2013	
Tia Shah	Durham University	Combined Honours in Social Sciences (2013)
Simran Sidhu	University of Sheffield	Biomedical Science
Imogen Spannuth	Canterbury Christ Church University	American Studies
Ruth Spencer Jolly	Oxford Brookes University	Art Foundation Course
Shoshana Stanton	University of Nottingham	Physics and Philosophy
Sabina Storrod	Nottingham Trent University	Law
Afton Swani	Coventry University	Physiotherapy
Charlotte Underhill	Coventry University	Physiotherapy
Caroline White	University of Nottingham	Theology
Katie Yorke	Nottingham Trent University	Print Journalism
Lucy Yuan	University of Cambridge	Veterinary Medicine

My South African Summer Adventure

by Aimée Presswood, Initiative Award Winner

Each year, the Old Girls' Association contributes toward the provision of the Initiative Award. This award is open to Sixth Form students who wish to participate in a charitable endeavour, either in the UK or overseas. During the Autumn Term, the School was delighted to welcome back one of this year's recipients, Aimée Presswood (2011), to give an assembly on her experiences in South Africa.

In 1997, when I was 5 years old, my parents moved with my younger sister, Emily, and I to Pretoria, in South Africa. Over the four years that followed we explored many parts of southern Africa, and I have grown up with a strong sense of loyalty to the place where I first went to school, where my youngest sister, Rebecca (now in Year 10 at EHS) was born, and where baboons would sometimes sit on our veranda, eating bananas from the tree in the garden. In 1998, we moved to a town in the Lowveld called Nelspruit. It was here that Emily and I attended Uplands Preparatory School, a private boarding school in a town about 30km away from where we lived. Since coming back to the UK in 2001, I

have returned there twice on family holidays, but this summer was the first time I have been back on my own and for such an extended period of time.

Over the Christmas holidays 2011, I wrote to the headmaster of Uplands College and asked if I would be able to spend my summer holidays working at my old school, after I had finished my first year studying music at the University of Manchester. I explained that I was considering a career in teaching after university and therefore wanted to combine teaching experience with travelling and volunteer work in the rural communities. I was delighted when he accepted my proposal, and I started saving up for my plane tickets.

I flew into Johannesburg on the 18th July and took a shuttle bus north to Nelspruit. I stayed with family friends for the next five days before the Spring Term started, and at 7.15am the following Monday I arrived at school for my first day at work. At that point, I had a little experience mentoring younger pupils in one-to-one sessions at school, and I'd also been earning money teaching violin and piano lessons at university that year, but that was as far as my teaching experience went. So when I arrived on my first day and was asked to take a French



lesson for 30 Grade 8 pupils (our Year 9s), I felt that I had been somewhat thrown in at the deep end... In time, however, I began to enjoy preparing lessons and getting to know the characters in each class.

Over the next seven weeks, I divided my time at Uplands between teaching music, French and English and helping with extra-curricular activities. I accompanied school choir rehearsals and took girls' volleyball sessions once a week. My favourite parts of the week, though, were when I went into the local townships to help at community service projects which Uplands had set up or were involved with. I spent time at a small day care centre for AIDS orphans in Clau-Clau township which Uplands had close connections with. The centre, run by three local volunteers, looked after about 50 children, aged 3-10

and was a safe place for them to be between the end of school and the evenings when they would go to the homes of relatives or friends. In many ways, the most challenging experience for me was visiting another day care centre for handicapped children and teenagers. Some of them were severely physically and mentally disabled and the government provides almost nothing in the way of care for them, so they rely on help from donors and private doctors who offer their services for free. I would go with pupils from Uplands to play games with the children and spend time with them, and despite the language barrier, I got to know some of the children quite well.

My favourite place to visit was the Millennium Children's Home, which was an orphanage run in a house in the nearest town. There were sometimes up to a dozen babies and toddlers being looked after at any one time, and we would visit the home and help bathe and play with them. Many of these children had been badly abused and it was heartbreaking to meet the ones who were scared of being picked up or approached as a result. I also got involved with an outreach programme run independently of but funded by Uplands, where about 100 of the most promising pupils from the local schools would come to Uplands on Saturdays and have English, maths and IT lessons. I helped mark their pieces of writing and found it interesting to read their weekly journals, though the general standard of literacy was very low. I met an American graduate called Zak who had been living and teaching in Kabokweni township for the previous two years with the Peace Corps and he described how the teachers themselves struggled so much with basic arithmetic and English that it was unsurprising how low the general standards were among pupils. I met

Zak two days before he was due to fly back to America: the Peace Corps had organised his evacuation from the township due to severe rioting which had erupted due to water shortages. The community had been without clean water for nearly a month, and when the local councillor bought two new water butts for herself, the locals felt they had run out of alternative options and started burning tyres in the road and throwing stones at passing cars.

One of my favourite moments of my trip was visiting Fundijobo High School in Kabokweni with a German Youth Orchestra who were touring South Africa and being hosted for a couple of days by Uplands families. The orchestra did a concert for the pupils, outside in the baking heat. It was a very surreal experience, watching the symphony orchestra perform Duke Ellington, Dvorak and the Pirates of the Caribbean in the middle of the dusty courtyard, while pupils wandered past carrying between them huge poiki (cauldrons) of mealie pap for the pupils' lunch. It was even more surreal when the school choir stood on chairs and performed Mozart's Laudate Dominum from memory, with their music teacher singing the solo parts. They also performed some traditional local and gospel songs, and the sound they produced was quite astonishing in its power and diversity.

Overall, my experiences this summer have been some of the best of my life, and I have learned an awful lot about so many things. On a personal level, I had to deal with many challenging and uncomfortable situations, from my first time standing up in front of a class, to being dumped on the side of a motorway on the outskirts of Johannesburg by a local minibus taxi, in the middle of the night, with no money or phone credit, and unable to speak to the locals!



I met up with childhood friends I hadn't seen or spoken to in over ten years, and made many new ones. I experienced a very different way of life, and met several very inspiring people. I have learned how satisfying it can be to know you can live out of a suitcase for two months, and I have realised that the standard of living, healthcare provision, education and democracy we expect on a daily basis and view as our right are actually the exception in the world, and that most people live far simpler (and some might argue, happier) lives. It has made me reassess my priorities and appreciate more than ever how safe our streets are and that our government is, predominantly, honest and accountable. Most of all, it has made me realise how much of the world there is to experience, and I hope to travel as much as I can and continue to meet people who live in very different ways from me. I am already starting to think about plans for visiting Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia in the next couple of years.

I would like to thank EHS and the Old Girls' Association for their generous help towards funding my trip, and I would wholeheartedly encourage any other current or former EHS girls who are considering an adventure abroad to grab the opportunity with both hands.

Aimée Presswood



Fin Lei, an overseas student, left EHS in 2003 and graduated from Aston University in 2008 before returning to China. She now lives in Hong Kong where she works for a listed company called Bright Oil Petroleum in the role of China Team Leader of Marine Bunkering. Jin married her husband Justin Liu on 12 March 2011.



Laura

Diller joined EHS in 1995 and left at the end of the upper sixth. She went on to study Ophthalmic Dispensing in Glasgow and then Optometry at Bradford University. She now works in Birmingham city centre as an optometrist.

In 2011, Laura got engaged to Alistair Kirkby, a dentist from Harborne, and they are now busily planning their wedding for April 2013.



Milly

(Camilla) Parker's career has followed a winding path since her EHS days. She left EHS in 1998 and then after completing a degree in Geology at Bristol University in 2001 she decided to pursue snowboarding, another of her passions, and headed off to the Alps only to end up staying for a further eight winters!

Here, Milly created her first company, 'Sugar Mountain', running winter and summer chalets out of the French resort of Morzine, mastered snowboarding, met wonderful people and learnt lots about tourism, running your own business and hard work.

More recently, she decided to move to the sea, following her heart back to Cornwall, where she spent every school holiday during her time at EHS! Armed with a great amount of experience in the hospitality and tourism industries she found a way to continue to use her knowledge alongside her love of Cornwall, starting 'Milly and Martha' with best friend Martha, a company specialising in self-catering holidays with the aim of helping people find the perfect place to stay on their holidays. www.millyandmartha.com



Carolyn

(Jones née Radnor (OG, 1947-1959), having obtained her PhD in 1976, Carolyn's main area of research has been in the field of structure and biochemistry of reproductive tissues - mainly the placenta - at the University of Manchester. Last year she obtained a Higher Doctorate (Doctor of Medical Science) for a thesis which incorporated 72 of her 200 research papers.

Now retired, she continues her work as Honorary Research Fellow in the Maternal and Fetal Health Research Centre of the University at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and looks forward to many more years of active research.



ARCHIVES *at* EHS



The wonderful archive mural provides an endless source of interest to Old Girls visiting the school. This term as part of one of the sixth form enrichment courses, Naomi Coward, Rachel Gordon and Tess Hulton have been busy devising a historical trail round the school to highlight events throughout the school's history to the present day. On Wednesday 5 December all Years 6 and 7 were let loose on the trail. Working in groups of four, two from Year 6 and two from Year 7 they set off round the school to find the answers to questions such as "when was the school founded?" and "who was the first headmistress?", "which famous chocolate maker is associated with the school?" and "what is the time on the clock in the photograph of the library on the archive mural wall?" Scampering round the school supervised by Naomi, Tess and several sixth form helpers, all participants received an edible reward; the winning team and the runners up a suitable chocolate reward – Cadburys of course.

We are still trying to sort out the archive material and hopefully digitalise many of the photographs and catalogue all the material. This term we are being helped by an Old Girl who has recently graduated from Nottingham University, Ros Gammie. Ros has a First Class Honours Degree in History and has made an excellent start to the accurate recording of all our archive material. We do get several enquiries from Old Girls and from those doing research into well known Birmingham families, many of whom were educated at EHS. Most recent enquiries have come from Canada, Monte Carlo and France as well as this country. If you do have any records of the school that you would like to donate to the archives they will be well looked after. Records such as photographs, school exercise books – we have some school books going back to the 1930s. The present girls were very impressed by the standard of work achieved then and the neatness of the writing.

Anne Howarth

Amanda Stockton is trying to trace a photograph of Prep taken in 1979. We don't have a copy in the archives. If anyone can help, please contact us at oldgirls@edgbastonhigh.co.uk

Pamper Evening

EHS Old Girls may all have high powered careers but they also like a bit of shopping, particularly when the stallholders are also Old Girls just starting out with new businesses. Suprina Dhillon (née Palak) who runs her own beauty salon in Edgbaston was on hand with three of her assistants to give beauty advice, Rinku Banga who owns the Artful Bag company brought along beautiful designer handbags many of them designed by Rinku herself. Sophie Hunt who has a jewellery business had exquisite luxury bracelets and necklaces. Emma Heathcote who is multi talented has written three books, regularly writes for Worcestershire publications and was recently involved in the launch of the award winning refurbished Regal cinema in Evesham. Emma also owns the Little Soap Company selling specially blended soaps which can be bought in well known stores such as Waitrose. There was also a collection of designer clothes; helping on that stall was Rachel Joseph's mum who explained that Rachel (now married and with the new surname of 'Rachel!') is running her own company making



celebration cakes for celebrities - amongst her most recent clients were Kate Moss and Jude Law.

It was a very relaxed evening with Old Girls both recent leavers, older Old Girls, former and present staff all enjoying the chance to catch up with news while being served drinks and canapés provided by Jenny Cartwright the school Catering Manager. Many of those attending do now work in Birmingham but not all were local members indeed Jill Brierley (née Monkhouse) had travelled from France and was staying with her daughter Old Girl Anna Stanley who is now a teacher in Prep and is herself a mother of Kate in Senior School. Jill, a former head girl and former member of the School Council, was very impressed with all the new buildings and enjoyed catching up with many Old Girls from her era at school.



The Old Girls' Association *welcomes its new members*

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sarah Baig | Anna Farquharson |
| Rebecca Dass | Masuma Fazel |
| Giorgia Distefano | Harpreet Gheer |
| Ruth Garner | Gabrielle Hall |
| Jade Lail | Katie Halton |
| Aisha Majid | Catriona Hampton |
| Priya Nahal | Kate Hardy |
| Harsimran Phull | Alice Harvey |
| Hannah Saunders | Natalie Hatton |
| Asha Sohail | Katrina Holmes |
| Megan Sterry | Mumtaz Islam |
| Melissa Tekirdaglioglu | Isobel Jones |
| Hema Tiwana | Merina Kurian |
| Samantha Turner | Jessica Lam |
| Helena Venables | Lydia Marshall |
| Georgia Webster | Sunita Matharu |
| Serena Chandra | Faye Matts |
| Lauren Hadcroft | Hina Mir |
| Alexandra Harper | Laura Muth |
| Nuryia Ismail | Eleanor O'Brien |
| Puja Jalota | Beverley Parsons |
| Saara Khaliq | Victoria Payne |
| Vanita-Dee Panchal | Sophie Poxon |
| Helena Sykes | Raji Rajmohan |
| Celina Talib | Rebecca Scott |
| Harshita Vig | Tia Shah |
| Mah-Rukh Ahmed | Imogen Spannuth |
| Sarah Alton | Ruth Spencer Jolly |
| Avanti Banerji | Shoshana Stanton |
| Olivia Brown-Wallace | Sabina Storrod |
| Lily Burnand | Afton Swani |
| Aneela Chauhan | Charlotte Underhill |
| Riti Dasgupta | Caroline White |
| Victoria Davies | Katie Yorke |
| Grace Downing | Lucy Yuan |
| Katarina Duvnjak | |

Old Girls' News



1976

Julia King left EHS in 1976 and went to Newnham College, Cambridge where she studied for a degree in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, Archaeology and Anthropology. After leaving Cambridge, she went on to work in arts administration then as a journalist on technical magazines before going freelance in 1985.

She now freelances, writing articles and press releases as well as editing, alongside a role as project manager for the custom content team on The Wall Street Journal and editing articles for an online magazine. Elder sister Flip (OG 1974) also happens to work there!

After a brief spell as a keen mountain biker in the mid 1980s, acquiring the honour of being the UK's first Women's Mountain Bike Champion and racing in the first ever World Mountain Bike Championships 25 years ago, Julia now lives a slightly quieter life in Essex with her partner, Nick, their three children plus eight chickens.

1987

Asma Khalid (Head Girl, 1987) was prompted to contact EHS after the sad passing of Miss Belton, of whom she has many fond memories.

Asma trained as a doctor in London, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology. Realising that the NHS wasn't quite the right place for her, she completed a Masters degree at LSE and she now

travels the world in her work as a technical adviser for reproductive health.

1993

Sally Neale has been in contact with news of her recent engagement to her partner of four years, Chris Bird.

Sally joined EHS in the Prep department in 1982. Upon leaving EHS at the end of the Upper Sixth July in 1993, she went to Nottingham University in 1995, graduating in 1998.

Now living in Cambridge, Sally is kept busy by her job in running the Technical Publications team for a software house, by her new Labrador puppy Harvey and in planning for her forthcoming wedding.

2000

On 5 June 2012, Rachael Morris (née Hobbis) married Richard Morris at Birtsmorton Court, Malvern. Richard is an Old Boy of OSH and is the brother of Dr Catherine Morris (OG 2001). On the day, Catherine, Laura Bennetto (OG 2000) and Holly Cross (OG 2003) were her bridesmaids.

Rachael now lives in Pedmore and works as a solicitor.

2001

Lucy Macklin (née Hughes) married Guy Macklin on Sunday 12 February 2012. Their first child, baby Thomas Oscar, was born on 16 August 2012 weighing 9lbs 6oz.

Millennials

The newly formed EHS Millennials - the London Chapter, held their first meeting on Thursday 15 November organised by Louise Venables. A very successful evening with 26 EHS Old Girls who had left school from 2000 onwards enjoying non-stop chat and exchanging contact details. Publicised through a Facebook page the event had been able to contact many Old Girls who now live in London but still keep their home address in Birmingham as their address on the school database. Louise, who is now en route to work in Dubai, is handing over the future organisation of the group to Nicola James who is also working in London. Nicola is planning some future events in London so we hope to keep you posted. Do let school know if you are now living in London and would wish to be contacted or find us on Facebook at *EHS Millennials- London Chapter*.



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