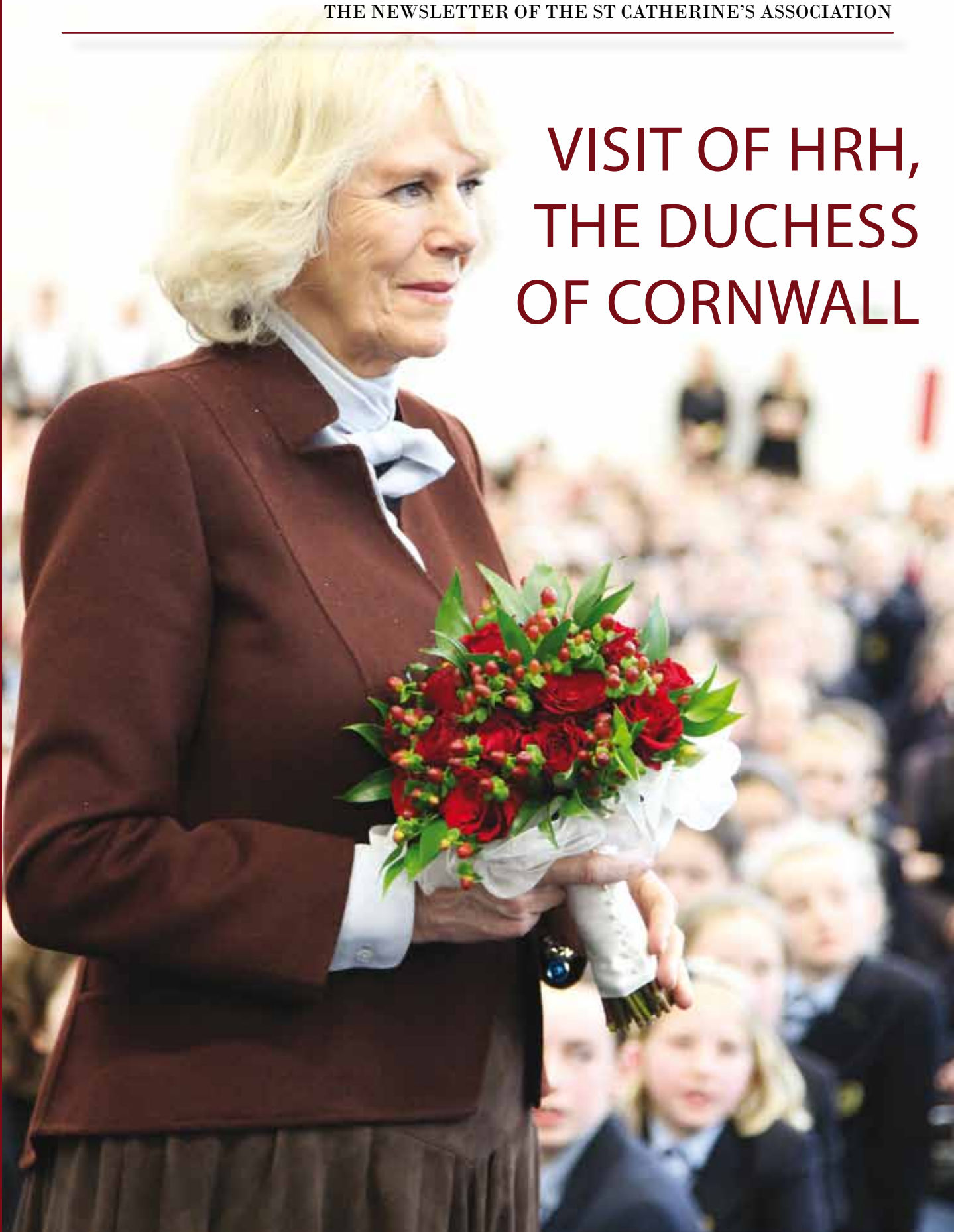


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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST CATHERINE'S ASSOCIATION

VISIT OF HRH, THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL



DIARY DATES 2014

JUNE	
Sat 7	19:30 Guildford Chamber Choir concert
Tue 17	14.00 – 16.15 Latin Certamen Competition
Fri 20	18.00 – 19.00 GCSE Art & Textiles Exhibition - Upper Atrium, Anniversary Halls - Private View
Fri 20	18.30 – 20.00 A2 & AS Art and Textiles Exhibition - John Palmer Centre - Private View
Fri 20	19.00 – 21.30 Middle School Summer Concert, Auditorium
Sat 21	09.00 – 20.30 Superteams - Sports pitches, courts, pool and Sports Hall
Sat 21	Round the Island Race
Thu 26 & Fri 27	19.00 – 22.00 L6 Musical – <i>The Producers</i> , Auditorium
Sat 28	09.00 – 12.00 Prep School Open Day
Sat 28	19.30 – 01.00 St Catherine's Association – 10th Anniversary Ball
Mon 30	19.00 – 20.00 Bob Hall (Presenting to Parents), Sports Hall
JULY	
Tue 1	15.00 – 18.30 Squad gymnastics competition, Sports Hall & Gymnasium
Wed 2 & Thu 3	19.00 – 21.30 LIII production, Auditorium
Sat 5	10.00 Speech Day, Open Day and Leavers' Ball
Wed 9	08.45 – 09.15 Lower Three Leavers' Service, Chapel
SEPTEMBER	
Sun 7	10.00 – 16.00 Association Day 2014
Thu 18	19.30 – 21.30 St Catherine's Presents... Elinor Goodman (Leaver 1965) - Maggie, John, Tony and Me
Tue 23	19.30 – 21.30 PTA Lecture with Marcus Child, Auditorium
OCTOBER	
Wed 1	19.30 – 21.30 St Catherine's Presents.... Baroness Greenfield
NOVEMBER	
Thu 6	19.30 – 22.30 St Catherine's Presents..... Swingles Singers

To book tickets for St Catherine's Presents, either visit the School website or contact the Foundation Office on 01483 899692 or association@stcatherines.info.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



WELCOME TO OUR NEW LOOK NON NOBIS, redesigned to celebrate this very special 10th Anniversary Year of the St Catherine's Association - for current and former pupils, parents, governors and staff.

As you leisurely peruse this, the 21st edition, I hope you will enjoy reading about HRH the Duchess of Cornwall's visit, and all the other fun ways in which we are celebrating our Anniversary, from the magnificent performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Guildford Cathedral in February to the Midsummer Association Ball being held on 28th June. If you haven't already booked your tickets for this wonderful celebration of everything the Association stands for, please visit the online booking form at www.stcatherines.info or email me for details.

Following our extremely successful Careers Evening last October, feedback from alumnae and parents was that they would like the opportunity to provide career support for pupils and alumnae on a more regular and formal basis. We have now set up a 'St Catherine's School, Bramley' LinkedIn group to help facilitate this. If you use LinkedIn, please join the group - whether you are looking for support or would like to pass on your experiences.

The newsletter is only as interesting as the information I receive so please send me any news/views/stories/photos you would like to share. We are always delighted to receive announcements for the school magazine so email me at dawn.pilkington@stcatherines.info.

EVENTS FOR YOUNG ALUMNAE:

Association Carols by Candlelight

Monday 16th December 2013 saw the launch, in the School Chapel, of our first Carols by Candlelight Service for recent leavers. Our Chaplain led the short service which included eight carols, voted for by the girls, and two readings. Mr Field played the organ.

It gives recent leavers living locally, home from university or on their gap year, an opportunity to meet up with their friends from school and sing their favourite Christmas carols. Members of staff were also invited. After the service mince pies and mulled wine were served. The occasion was a great success and will be repeated again this December so come along and join us.



Alumnae Reception before House Singing

The end of the Spring Term sees one of the highlights of the school house system - the House Singing Competition - and this year we invited the recent leavers, who often return to watch this event, to an Alumnae Drinks Reception on Wednesday 26th March from 6-7pm.

The reception was held in the newly-refurbished Speech Hall to give those who had not seen it the opportunity to check out this new library facility for the Sixth Form.

OLD GIRLS ONLINE

This online tool is like a mini Facebook or LinkedIn account where you can share your news and contact details with the school and other alumnae, but it is a secure site that can only be accessed with a username and password. Please see the covering letter enclosed with this newsletter for your log-in details or contact the Foundation Office at association@stcatherines.info.

It is a great way of letting the School know about a change in your contact details or any other news like your degree results, marriage, births, a new job, travel news or finding a friend. You will find a link under the Association heading of the website or go directly to Old Girls online at stcatherines.web-intouch.com.

Once you have entered your username and password you can update your own details, add photos and make your contact information visible to other users. You can look at a year group or find specific friends or old girls living in a particular town or city. If they have made their contact details visible you will be able to contact them directly; if not, please ask the Foundation Office to pass on a message for you. Our email address is association@stcatherines.info or call 01483 899692.

ASSOCIATION CHOIR CONCERT

ON SATURDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL provided the awe-inspiring venue for a very memorable performance, by the Association Choir, of Handel's acclaimed oratorio, *Messiah*. This was the first in a series of special events planned throughout the year to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of The St Catherine's Association founding charter.

The Association Choir has been singing together for the past ten years, comprising alumnae, parents, staff, governors and friends, both past and present. We give an annual concert, this year conducted by our Director of Music, Geoffrey Field, and joined by the school's Senior Chamber Choir. The Choir last performed the work in 2005, accompanied by a professional orchestra. On this occasion, Camerata, St Catherine's own flagship string ensemble, which rehearses under the baton of Silja Loya, was asked to accompany. They demonstrated their exceptional ability, rising to the challenge of such a demanding piece with huge aplomb. The Association Choir was fortunate to sing with distinguished, professional soloists including former St Catherine's pupil, soprano, Fleur de Bray (2002). The alto, Rosemary Clifford, tenor, Alexander Sprague, and bass, Bozidar Smiljanic, also added to the majesty of Handel's most famous work. At the end of the performance, the appreciative audience, which included the Lord-Lieutenant, Dame Sarah Goad, Cllr David Elms, Deputy Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Liz Wheatley, Deputy Mayor of Waverley, Cllr Tom Martin, Mayor of Godalming, Dr Jennifer Bate OBE and Rt. Revd Ian Brackley, Bishop of Dorking gave a standing ovation and enthusiastic applause for what all agreed had been a superb performance.

Messiah was originally performed in Dublin on April 13, 1742 for charitable benefit, and so it was fitting that the St Catherine's Association Concert should support the work of another charity. The retiring collection raised nearly £1400 for Shooting Star CHASE, in memory of Lachlan Armitage, who was cared for by this local hospice but sadly lost his battle with an incurable genetic disease just before his 3rd birthday. Lachlan's family, who have close connections with St Catherine's, are dedicating this year, which would have been his 10th birthday, to raising funds for Shooting Star CHASE.



Bozidar Smiljanic, Alexander Sprague, Rosemary Clifford, Fleur de Bray (2002) Geoffrey Field, Joanna Phillips

"Please note that there were many unsolicited compliments on our performance from regular members of the cathedral congregation on Sunday. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and am so pleased to be able to maintain my contact with the school through the Association Choir now that our girls have moved on to university." Former parent

"It was a superb evening. The choir, strings, trumpeter just about everything was amazing and wonderful. It was lovely to listen to the choir again. The programme was great, to read the history of the great MAN himself and be able to follow the words. Difficult to believe that he did it in just 3 weeks!!" Local resident



TWO SPECIAL COMMISSIONS FOR THE ASSOCIATION'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY



DUNCAN PALMAR JOINED THE ART DEPARTMENT AT ST CATHERINE'S in November 2011 and, much to everyone's delight, in June 2013 one of his oil seascapes was chosen for the front cover of *Country Life's* Collectors' Edition.

He started painting professionally in 1983, at the age of 19, and had his first major exhibition that same year. Soon after this he gave up painting to study Architecture in London, but eventually returned to pursue his career as an artist and has had many exhibitions around the country since.

Mrs Phillips and Miss Bartholomew, who wanted to mark the 10th Anniversary of the founding of The Association, were particularly taken by his work and have commissioned Duncan to paint two pictures. The Senior School painting will be of the new Anniversary Halls, including the chestnut tree and girls relaxing on the lawn. The Prep School painting will show girls at play in the garden and will also include either the new Little Wood Lodge or the back of the school.

Duncan is starting work on the paintings in May and, after they have been completed and unveiled, Limited Edition prints will be available for purchase. We are all looking forward to seeing how Duncan will evoke the spirit of St Catherine's.

VISIT TO THE LONDON LIBRARY



A SMALL GROUP OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS, including the Prep School's Bibliocats, (the volunteer parent library Assistants), went on an unusual St Catherine's adventure in March to discover the hidden gem which is the London Library, established in 1841 by writer, philosopher and historian Thomas Carlyle.

Although the Library is in Central London, in St James's Square, its existence came as a complete revelation to most of us. Its shelves contain 1,500,000 books with 97% of them available to take away or have posted to your home where you can then browse at your leisure. It is a testimony to its Victorian construction that it is still standing; the steel structure, into which the book shelves are built, saved the building when it suffered a direct hit in WWII.

After a welcome drink and tour with Alison Graham, who was the Interim Development Director at St Catherine's in 2010/11, we enjoyed a presentation on some of their rarest books from Helen O'Neill, the Archive, Heritage and Development Librarian. The highlight of the evening was the privilege of being able to hold, touch and turn the pages of these amazing pieces of history, including a *King James Bible* from 1611 complete with original leather cover, brass binding and hinges; a first edition of Darwin's *Origin of the Species* and a beautiful version of Chaucer's *Pilgrims' Tales* bound in white pig-skin. The printing in this book was brilliantly executed by William Morris and illustrated by Burne-Jones, both leading lights of the Arts & Crafts movement. We were impressed by the quality of the paper used in the past; these were books meant to be kept and treasured which the London Library achieves with great success. It was not difficult to imagine writers of the past, including Dickens and Thackeray, labouring over their manuscripts late into the night; today the Library is frequented by writers and actors including Simon Schama, Rupert Everett and Eleanor Bron.

At the end of a wonderfully stimulating evening we had to be prised away so that the Library staff could go home! You can visit the Library virtually at www.londonlibrary.co.uk. There are also tours on a Monday evening.

ASSOCIATION BATTLEFIELDS TRIP TO YPRES 3rd- 4th May 2014

THIS YEAR IS THE CENTENARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF THE GREAT WAR, described by HG Wells as "the war to end all wars". To mark this very special anniversary The St Catherine's Association organised a trip to the battlefields of Ypres. Thirty nine Association members (comprising of current and former parents, governors, staff, alumnae and friends) left school at 7.30am on Saturday 3rd May and travelled to the Ypres Salient in Belgium.

Few people knew each other prior to setting off but there was a friendly and comradely atmosphere all weekend with lots of laughter despite the sombre subject of our visit.

The tour was led as always by our wonderful professional tour guide, Andy Thompson, who is an encyclopaedia of information having led parties to the battlefields for twenty-five years. Andy shared his specialist knowledge of the area and the Great War and brought the subject to life with stories of particular soldiers whose graves we saw.

Over the two days we visited many sites including Essex Farm Cemetery, Sanctuary Wood, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Langemarck German Cemetery, the Pool of Peace. On the Saturday evening the group attended the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, a very moving experience.

A wreath was laid on behalf of the St Catherine's Association during the ceremony. The wreath bearers were Gemma and Ed Simmonds, Prep. School parents and Sue Shipway and Mike Jordan, current governors.

The coach was comfortable and the family-run hotel and all the meals were excellent.

The weekend was thought provoking, informative, enjoyable and will live in everyone's memory for a long time. Many have expressed their wish to do a follow-up tour next year ... watch this space!



Battlefield group at Tyne Cot Cemetery

"No matter how hard I try I just cannot imagine how horrible the conditions were in the trenches. There was just no respite as you were either dodging snipers or being shelled 24 hours a day. It was relentless. No wonder many did not want to talk about the horrors they had experienced. Andy did a brilliant job of bringing the history of the Great War so vividly to life."
Friend of the Association

"I just wanted to thank you so much for organising the wonderful Battlefields trip that we have just returned from. We both thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and learnt so much. Needless to say we thought Andy was absolutely fantastic and I seriously doubt that there is a better Battlefields guide out there. As promised, he made the whole experience educational and enjoyable. It was also very noticeable how much effort he made to get to know everyone in the group and to make time for our endless questions."

I think we made the most of every minute we had. There is so much to reflect on after this weekend and I feel so much more connected to the memory of all those thousands of soldiers who sacrificed their lives.

Thank you so much Dawn for organising this. I will certainly be looking out for future trips to take part in."
Current parent



HRH, THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL'S VISIT TO ST CATHERINE'S, BRAMLEY

A RAPTUREOUS WELCOME GREETED HRH, THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL, when she visited the school to dedicate the Anniversary Halls, housing the new Drama, Music and Sport facilities, and to open the newly-refurbished Speech Hall Library.

The Duchess of Cornwall enjoys historic family links with St Catherine's. Her great-great grandfather, the Right Honourable George Cubitt, the 1st Baron Ashcombe, MP for West Surrey, was one of the founders of the school in 1885. His name lives on today in one of the six school houses. He retained a very close interest in the school, presenting the prizes on Speech Day as late as 1914. His wife, Lady Ashcombe, also donated a sum of money which helped build and furnish Ashcombe House, once the school sanatorium and now part of the Music Department.

During her visit, the Duchess toured the Senior School where she chatted happily with numerous staff and pupils. She was clearly interested in the Sixth Formers' plans for university and was particularly impressed with the number of girls taking part in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Prep and Senior School girls provided a wide variety of entertainment for the royal visitor, including gymnastics, ballet and music and the entire Prep School greeted her with the hymn *Jubilate* as she entered the Auditorium. The cast and crew of the Senior School production of *Hamlet* were delighted when the Duchess announced that she is a huge fan of Shakespeare, and agreed with the Director of Drama, Madeleine Lewis, that Shakespeare is much better brought to life on stage rather than being read in a classroom.



In their welcome speech, Head Girls, Megan von Spreckelsen and Lottie Palmer, emphasised that it was thanks to the vision and philanthropy of the Duchess's great-great grandfather, and other like-minded dignitaries, that St Catherine's, a school for girls, exists. The Duchess was presented with two books - one of which was a collection of poetry by internationally-acclaimed poet U A Fanthorpe, who was educated at St Catherine's - and a donation to the National Osteoporosis Society, of which she is Patron and President. In her reply HRH spoke of the pride and joy she felt in her connection with St Catherine's and told the girls, "You are all extremely lucky to be at such a wonderful school."

To conclude her visit, the School Chaplain, Revd Benji McNair Scott, and Mrs Amanda White, Ashcombe Housemistress, welcomed the Duchess into the School Chapel along with all the girls in Ashcombe House. The Duchess was presented with a beautifully engraved leather-bound book completed by the girls, telling Ashcombe House's history and the school's connections with the Ashcombe family and a page written by each girl giving details of her studies, future plans and aspirations. The Duchess was also very interested in one of the chapel's stained-glass windows, dedicated by her great-great grandfather to his wife, Lady Ashcombe, who died in 1904. As the Duchess left the chapel the girls sang *Non Nobis Domine*, the School hymn, she was then met by glorious sunshine and many members of Bramley Village, parents and Prep School girls who waved the Duchess goodbye.




 THE SPEECH HALL LIBRARY
 originally built in 1935
 and redeveloped during 2013
 was opened
 on 13th February 2014 by
 HRH The Duchess of Cornwall

NATIONAL & WORLD CLASS LACROSSE

SINCE WE LAST REPORTED ON THE 2013 LACROSSE WORLD CUP (Issue 20, Autumn 2013), we have learned that several other Association members were also involved in the tournament: former member of staff, Miss Jodie Rayner, and two former pupils, Charlie Bergqvist (2011) and Katy Bennett (2000). Katy writes somewhat ruefully, "I represented England and was lucky enough to be Captain for the tournament. Unfortunately, I broke my foot in the first 10 minutes of our first match - against America. I was, however, very proud of the



Katy Bennett (2000)

team's performance from the side-lines and delighted to be England's recipient of the 'Heart of Lacrosse' award at the closing ceremony." Now retired from playing, her international career spanned 14 years. She has played

in four world cups, has two world bronze medals, two European gold medals and a garage full of worn-out trainers! As well as setting up her own lacrosse coaching company, sixbysix, Katy will be taking up the post of Director of Sport at Marlborough College in September 2014.

Back at St Catherine's, the lacrosse teams go from strength to strength with players emerging of national standing. On Sunday 2nd March at the prestigious Surrey Sports Park, the 1st Team played outstandingly to win the National Lacrosse Championships for the first time, beating Lady Eleanor Holles (LEH) in the final in extra time 1:0. St Catherine's girls excelled, Zoe Parker winning 'Best Goal Keeper' and Lauren Hirst 'Best Attacker', and we are particularly proud that Emily McDermott, our Association Prefect, won 'Best Defender'. Not content with the 1st team win, St Catherine's U14 team also came away from the tournament as National Champions. It was a great day for the school and St Catherine's Lacrosse, and many former players have been expressing their delight on Twitter!

If you would like more information about sports' events please follow the link below:

www.stcatherines.info/recentcompetitions

Alan Carruthers, Bradley Day & Mark Cranwell with their daughters Chloe, Nancy and Alice



"What a nerve-wracking, but proud, day to be a St Catherine's parent! After years of watching lacrosse, we have grown to love the game and have enjoyed great camaraderie with the other parents, sports staff and girls. It was a joy to witness the superb skills, fitness and teamwork of St Catherine's and to share in the excitement of that unforgettable day. Awesome!" Mo and Alan Carruthers, current parents

PUTTING ON THE STYLE FOR CHARITY & CLOTHES FOR AFRICA



THE ANNUAL CHARITIES BOARD FASHION SHOW took place on Friday 7th March to raise money for the Magnet School, Nairobi. In addition to GCSE and A-Level pieces from the Textiles Department, eleven local shops lent us outfits for sixth form girls to model, from prom dresses (Becca Jacks, Maureen's, New 2 Vous) to day wear (Mint Velvet and Lulu) to African garments (Abiola Aso-Oke).

During the event, the six finalists of St Cat's Got Talent also performed: an U6 Nigerian dance group, an U4 a cappella singing group, Phoebe Garthwaite (U5) who sang using a loop pedal, Mari-Liis Douglas (L6) who sang an original song accompanying herself on the guitar, Connie Burdett (U4) who also sang and played the guitar and Catriona McLachlan (L4) who danced. Particular congratulations go to Phoebe Garthwaite the winner of St Cat's Got Talent 2014.

The night was a huge success, raising over £4,500 for Bishop Kibobi's school. We are delighted to be

able to continue to support the Magnet School, having already given the school a donation towards a new kitchen, which Mrs Austin and Mr Price were honoured to open on their visit there last summer.

Our other link school in Kenya is St Catherine's, Nairobi. On the same Friday as the Fashion Show took place, two tonnes of second-hand sports kit, left Heathrow Airport for Nairobi, thanks to the caring efforts of Prep School mum, Mrs Bevan, who works for British Airways. In sharing the name of St Catherine's, the children will be able to wear the uniform most appropriately and, we hope, with equal pride.

"I think you all put on a fantastic show and I had a great time." Alison - Tortoise & Hare

LAX STATS SUPREMO

Alison Axon, mother of Emily McDermott, Association Prefect, explains her role

I have been compiling the match statistics for the 1st lacrosse team since Mrs Alexander handed me the sheet, as the nearest available parent, at a tournament some time mid-way through last season. At the time I was slightly alarmed but, with practice, have become very fond of my job. My favourite moment is being allowed to join the half-time team huddle!

The statistics are recorded for each player individually. They are a diagnostic aid, for the team and the coach. The girls get instant feedback on their own performances, and occasionally it can highlight something the team is doing wrong (or right). I record shots on goal, goals scored and assists. I also track turnovers (winning or losing the ball), whether the draw is successful, fouls awarded to us or conceded, and some special items for the goalkeeper.

These have gradually evolved over the past season as I have gained experience and a better understanding of the game. Like many other parents, I used to enjoy cheering from the sidelines without necessarily paying close attention to what was really happening on the pitch! I now realise it is much more useful to understand why we are losing the ball, not just the number of times it happened.



WEDDING BELLS FOR MISS CHARMAN

The St Catherine's Jazz Band, under the baton of Ian Young, was delighted to be invited to play at the wedding of former PE teacher, Miss Catriona Charman, in December. Held at The Tithe Barn at Ditcham, near Petersfield, the wedding was quite a St Cat's affair with many of our PE staff in attendance, as you will see from the photo. Can you spot Mrs Folley, Mrs Moore, Mrs Alexander and Miss Carter? Mr Vaughan (electric guitar), who teaches Biology, can also be seen in the photo. Miss Merrifield and Miss Vickers, who both play the trumpet, made guest appearances with the Band.



DONATIONS FUND LIVE STREAMING EQUIPMENT

Some of the unrestricted gifts from the Annual Fund in 2013 from alumnae and current parents have been spent on equipment that enables all concerts and performances to be filmed and streamed live over the internet. This means parents who live overseas and extended family members, also enjoy the wonderful performances. This would not have been possible without the generous gifts from friends of the School. Ten thousand pounds bought two cameras, software and a live video streaming licence.



Alex Robinson, Mari-Liis Douglas & Izzy Woolrych setting up the camera



Jean Arrick, Head of Psychology and co-ordinator of the Charities Board



Mrs Bevan, who organised for the second-hand uniform to be flown to Kenya



Andrew Price, Catering Manager & Nicola Austin, Head of Chemistry officially opening the kitchen at Magnet School



SOPHIE PRENTICE NATIONAL FASHION TEXTILES WINNER

LAST YEAR WHILST I WAS IN U6, I ENTERED THE NATIONAL FASHION TEXTILES competition, a newly launched Fashion/Embroidery competition aimed at young people aged from 16 to 19. I entered my A level Textiles coursework piece, a silk tiered dress inspired by the organic shapes and textures of the natural world.

I received an exciting email stating that my dress had been shortlisted from 230 entries to one of 20 finalists. On Thursday 13th March, my parents and I travelled up to Olympia in London to attend the Spring Knitting and Stitching Show where my dress, alongside the other shortlisted entries, was being exhibited! The announcement of the competition winners took place at 1pm which happily gave us time to explore the show beforehand.

Six awards were presented, three for highly commended pieces, and then first, second and third prizes. It was so interesting to see all the different garments people had created, and the competition looked very strong. The judges of the competition included a lecturer from the London College of Fashion who has just designed a new Textiles-related BA degree course.

I was absolutely thrilled to be awarded first place and was so delighted to hear the judges' lovely comments, describing my dress as "celebrating not only fashion, texture, colour, etc, but actually showing that the person who has created it absolutely loves it", which I felt really sums up my passion for Textiles! I was also pleased to hear the news in person, having travelled down from the University of Leeds, where I am currently in my first year studying Fashion Marketing, the day before. It was such a fun day with a wonderful outcome, and I do hope to keep up my love of Textiles in the future!

END OF TERM LECTURE

The Spring 2014 end of term lecture featured alumna Lindsey Paterson who, since leaving St Catherine's in 2000, has worked at a number of multinational corporations. Before the lecture, a large majority of the girls had little or no appreciation of what 'Corporate Responsibility' involved so, as well as recounting her travels and work, she gave us some insights into what her day-to-day job for Tesco entails. She spoke entertainingly and explained her complex role simply so that it was easy to understand for those who were new to it. She told us about the work carried out by Tesco to protect the environment and encourage growth in the community, as well as outlining some of their future plans. The girls also enjoyed the selection of videos she played to illustrate some of her key points!



DOUBLE CELEBRATION FOR THE ORGAN ACADEMY

EACH YEAR AT THE END OF THE SPRING TERM THE SCHOOL HOSTS the Jennifer Bate Organ Academy. This year was a double celebration as the Academy celebrated its 10th Anniversary and Dr Bate will be celebrating her 70th birthday in November. There were eight girls participating and one of the skills they learned, via a Choral Direction Master class, was how to conduct and direct a choir. The day was led by Sarah Baldock, Organist and Master of the Choristers at Chichester Cathedral, and as usual it was a good fun day for both the participants and the scratch choir of keen singers Mr Field put together.

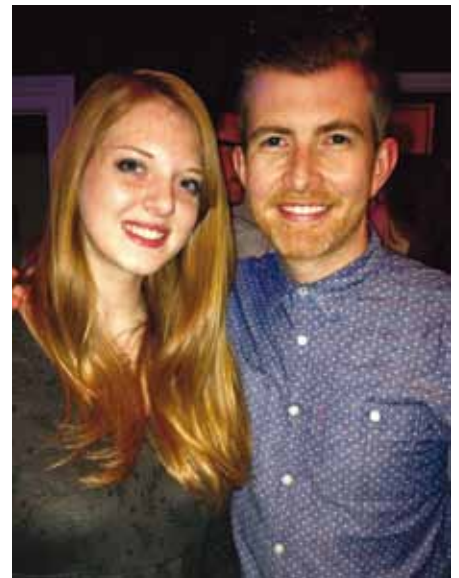
After a break for tea and a special birthday cake, which was a surprise for Dr Bate, the day concluded with an Evensong service of thanksgiving for the first 10 years of the Academy.



TREADING THE BOARDS

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE

Shakespeare's Globe has recently opened the doors of its new theatre, the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse and former pupil, Rosie Townshend (2009), is the Playhouse Co-ordinator. Rosie started at the Globe as an intern in 2010, and has worked in several areas. She has been focusing on the Playhouse for nearly a year since graduating from the University of York with a degree in English Literature. Rosie describes the Playhouse as "a unique candlelit Jacobean jewel-box of a theatre. A new space that is such a delight to be part of". *The Duchess of Malfi*, with Gemma Arterton, was the first production in the inaugural season; Rosie was part of the team working with Dame Eileen Atkins on her one woman show based on Ellen Terry's *Lectures of Shakespeare's Women*. She writes, "I'm working on a varied programme of events, a huge range of candlelit concerts, from Anoushka Shankar to Trevor Pinnock who has created bespoke series for the Playhouse. Every day brings something new, and we're constantly exploring what the Playhouse can offer to the worlds of theatre and music: the intimacy of the space combined with the magic of candlelight". To find out more about what's on in the Playhouse including the season, Summer By Candlelight, visit www.shakespearesglobe.com.



CARLY BROWN (2009) SINGING WHILE SHE WORKS WITH GARETH MALONE

I was very lucky and went straight from the world of essays and reading at university to full-time production work on *The Choir-Sing While you Work* on location at the five different choirs chosen for the competition (ranging from Dover to Cheshire), as well as in the offices in London and Brighton. The production itself is a real feel-good show, focusing on bringing people together and giving them the opportunity and confidence to sing. Gareth himself is a real inspiration; a natural presenter and talented choirmaster, he is brilliant to watch at work. He was also really lovely to all the crew!

Working on the series for six months was an amazing insight into the world of professional television. Not only did I learn so much about the editorial and production process, I also made some great friends and contacts for the future. Since this job finished, I have gone on to work with Channel 4 and BT Sports.

SERENDIPITY FOR FORMER DIRECTOR OF DRAMA

Miss Hilvert retired in 2011 after 13 years as Director of Drama at St Cat's. Prior to joining the school, she had a varied career working as an actress in the 1980s, as Press/PR Manager for the National Youth Music Theatre and was involved in running dance/drama workshops. She featured in Ronald Harwood's famous series for the BBC, *All the World's a Stage*, about the history of theatre, with Zoe Wanamaker and Simon Callow but it was her interest in youth theatre that led her into teaching in schools. Since retirement she has done a range of freelance drama work and has coached a number of pupils for Drama School entry. She thoroughly enjoyed directing and acting in *Arcadian Visits* at Orleans House in 2013 and has just starting rehearsals for *Serendipity*, a dramatised conversation between Henrietta Howard and Horace Walpole. Miss Hilvert continues to support Clemmie Reynolds (2006) whose drama company, BurntOut Theatre, puts on open-air performances of Shakespeare.



Miss Judith Hilvert

ALI DOWLING IN THE MUSKETEERS

The Musketeers was prime time viewing on Sunday evenings at the start of this year, and this thrilling 10-part drama featured Ali Dowling (2007 Leaver) as the young Queen Anne, wife of the French King Louis XIII. Much of the filming was done in the Czech Republic, and Ali features in a number of scenes with Peter Capaldi, as Cardinal Richelieu, with whom she really enjoyed working. Ali graduated from Oxford School of Drama in 2012, and before landing the lead role in *The Musketeers* appeared in episodes of *Game of Thrones* and Agatha Christie's *Poirot* as well as working in film.



ENGLISH ROSE BLOOMS IN DOWNTON ABBEY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Many of you will have seen Poppy Drayton (2009), described as an English Rose by the media, in the Christmas Special of *Downton Abbey*, playing Madeleine Aysgarth. Her success has been remarkable since leaving Arts Educational drama school with a 1st class degree in the summer of 2012. "I left slightly early to play Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet* at the Stafford Shakespeare Festival," she explains. "After that, I got the lead in an American TV movie *When Calls the Heart* for the Hallmark channel which took me to Romania and LA to film. Then I did an episode of *Father Brown* for the BBC before getting a part in the Christmas Special of *Downton Abbey*." You may also have seen Poppy in the 100th episode of *Midsomer Murders* in February. She's clearly destined for great things.



ST CATHERINE'S *has Presented...*



THE KING'S SINGERS

October 2013

WE WERE VERY EXCITED TO WELCOME world-celebrated ensemble The King's Singers to our Auditorium, hot on the heels of their night at London's Royal Albert Hall. In addition to a workshop with Senior Cantores during the day, they put on an amazing evening performance of their new "Great American Songbook" programme to a packed Auditorium. The group joined guests after the performance to pose for photos and sign CDs.

THE JAZZ CAFÉ

November 2013 & February 2014

THIS RELAXED, MUSICAL EVENING HAS PROVED very popular with parents, pupils and the local community. Led by Head of Contemporary Music, Ian Young, the foyer and bar of the Anniversary Halls is transferred into a Jazz Café for the evening. Joining the main band have been Aisha Pegley (2012), professional saxophonist Sue Greenway, Annabel Dersy and Duchess Idowu, both current pupils.



Daniel Brunn, Till Beiersdörfer, Ian Young, Aisha Pegley (2012)



ST CATHERINE'S PREP SCHOOL

LOWER 3 RISES TO THE CHALLENGE OF SPORT RELIEF

ON SATURDAY 22ND MARCH, GIRLS in Lower 3 took part in a Swimathon for Sport Relief at Godalming Leisure Centre. Twenty-four girls and 10 gallant Prep School teachers, split across 7 teams, rose to the challenge, each team swimming 5km (the equivalent of 200 lengths!). There were rumours beforehand of some hard training amongst the teachers' teams, obviously not wishing to be outshone by the girls!

A fantastic time was had by all - much laughter, a lot of swimming and a fair amount of competitiveness meant that the distances were achieved. Girls, parents and staff were all extremely supportive of one another from the pool side and in the water.

Afterwards, the teams and the many supporters celebrated with pizzas and cakes, during which well-deserved official medals were awarded. At the time of writing, the teams have already raised an amazing £5,000 - another example of the St Catherine's spirit. Please keep the sponsorship coming!

"I came back to support everyone as I found this a real challenge last year and remember what a difference the supporters at the end of the length made to me. I wanted to be here to cheer on everyone length after length." Rebecca Gardener (U3)

Rebecca Gannon, Naomi Bartholomew, Jane Cowx & Katharine Mallins



COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE THE START OF THE GREAT WAR

WE HAVE HELD TWO LECTURES THIS YEAR, organised by the History Department to commemorate the Centenary of the start of World War One. Charles Emmerson joined us in November 2013 to provide a bold new perspective on the glossy, globalised world before the First World War, more modern and more familiar than we had imagined. He enjoyed supper beforehand with history staff and prefects and also stayed behind at the end to talk to audience members and sign copies of his new book - *1913: The World before the Great War*.



Charles Emmerson

We were joined in March by Sir Max Hastings, journalist and historian, whose lecture on 1914 in the School Auditorium was a sell-out. He held his audience captive with his compelling narrative, judgement and evaluation. Even those unfamiliar with the events of 1914 would have left with a greater understanding and a desire to learn more. Sir Max was also kind enough to host a supper with historians and stay at the end of the lecture to talk to guests and sign many copies of his book, *1914: Catastrophe*.



Sir Max Hastings



SPRING SING 2014

ON 1ST APRIL ST CATHERINE'S WAS DELIGHTED to host the local infant schools' annual Spring Sing concert. Over 200 children from Chilworth, Ewhurst, Busbridge, Bramley, Shere, Wonersh and Shamley Green, and Shalford Infant Schools spent the day here.

After being dropped off by their parents in the morning, they rehearsed their fifteen songs together for the first time under the musical direction of Caroline Maxwell-Gale and their teachers, they had lunch in the school dining room and played on the grass outside the Anniversary Halls in the lovely Spring sunshine before their wonderful performance to 400 parents, siblings, grandparents and friends.

Their concert, about a time-travelling spider and his ladybug friend, showcased music from across the centuries and was a great success. Everyone enjoyed being in the Anniversary Halls and the children had a lot of fun performing on the stage. We look forward to welcoming the children back for their Commonwealth Games Day in July and for next year's Spring Sing.

COMING UP LATER THIS YEAR

Elinor Goodman – 18th September
 Baroness Greenfield – 1st October
 Swingles Singers – 6th November
www.stcatherines.info/events-and-reunions

ST CATHERINE'S, BRAMLEY EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN MELBOURNE

Fiona Thomas, former Prep Deputy Head who is now living in Melbourne writes:
 "ON A HOT AND HUMID MELBOURNE AFTERNOON AT THE START OF APRIL, I sat with three very cheerful St Cat's girls in the relative coolness of the Boarding House at St Catherine's, Melbourne. Catherine Burne, Cat Tiplady and Maddy Van Every were in the last week of their term's exchange in Melbourne and just brimmed with enthusiasm and support for the Exchange Scheme. All three were overwhelmingly satisfied with their experiences and agreed that the Exchange exceeded their expectations. Each girl agreed that there were many "best bits!" from boarding to rowing and just about everything in between.

A special highlight of the Exchange was a surfing lesson on Bondi Beach; visiting the Opera House, climbing to the top of the Harbour Bridge – and seeing Sean Kennan, from *Puberty Blues!*

Keeping up with the UK school work had not been a problem; the girls greatly appreciated the emails from staff and all three were delighted that they had received good grades from the UK for their term's results at St Catherine's, Melbourne.

Catherine, Cat and Maddy have been outstanding representatives of St Cat's, Bramley. And all agree it had been a life-changing experience."



Fiona Thomas with our three exchange students

WELCOME BACK – Claire Oulton, Headmistress of St Catherine's from 1994 – 2000, visited the School to see the new buildings, meet Mrs Phillips and catch up with staff she worked with or appointed.



GREAT BRITISH SEWING BEE



CERINA NICHAMIN, MOTHER OF LIZZIE ELLIOTT (2012), has been keeping a secret. She recently was a contestant on the *Great British Sewing Bee*. The series, shown on BBC 2, finished early this year and sadly Cerina was 'eliminated' in the

fourth week. She said "It has been a fantastic experience, meeting a very diverse group of fellow sewers from all over the country. I've made some lovely new friends and sewn some great pieces of clothing."

Her daughter, Lizzie Elliott, is in her second year at Manchester University and was cheering her mum along from a distance. Home for the weekend and catching up with St Catherine's friends, Lizzie returned from a day out to find a jolly Love Productions team filming her family, dogs, goats and chickens. "It felt like a mad house when I got home, but we have loved hearing all the behind-the-scenes stories and mum obviously enjoyed the whole experience."

"Sewing is something I have done since leaving school and I've so enjoyed it over the years; I've made party dresses, suits, one or two wedding dresses, costumes and lots of curtains. It's a great life skill. Under normal circumstances, it is relaxing and creative but maybe not quite so much under time limits and studio lighting!" Cerina Nichamin



THANK YOU AND FAREWELL to Emily McDermott and Katie Ratcliffe (front: left to right) who have been outstanding in their roles as Association Prefects over the past year. A warm welcome to Katy Hudson and Frankie Tamblin (back: right to left) who have taken over.

PORTRAIT OF BILL JENNER

BILL JENNER, DT TECHNICIAN FROM 1996-2006, often volunteered as a life model for the girls. Sadly he passed away last September and his wife contacted Jane Silk (former Head of Art) to see if we could locate one of those paintings



Lizzie Elliott (Leaver 2012) still had the portrait of Bill from her GCSE Art course which her Mum Cerina Nichamin kindly had framed so it could be presented as a gift to the Jenner family. Sue was delighted with the portrait and was very grateful to receive it.



GIVING BACK - Ellen Pilkington and Tash Allan (U6) have been giving music lessons and support to a Prep. School quartet for two years.



MARY TYLER (2011) gave a concert at Shalford Church in April. She is currently in her third year reading Music at Oxford. In September she is planning to attend The Royal Academy in London for a two year Masters in Performance.



E-SAFETY EXPERT Karl Hopwood gave an excellent lecture at St Catherine's in May organised by the Prep School PTA. This free event was open to all current parents at St Catherine's, Bramley Infants and Tillingbourne School.



non Nobis

Non Nobis Domine!

Not unto us, O Lord,

The praise or glory be...

The opening of the school hymn

Rudyard Kipling