

Polished CORNERS

QUONDAM FRANCIS HOLLAND REGENT'S PARK ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION



2016 MAGAZINE

Dear Quondam Members,

Let me begin with praise for my predecessor, Mrs Vivienne Durham, the fifteenth Headmistress of the school who completed her service here in December 2015. Mrs Durham's sense of purpose and her drive for excellence led a period of sustained improvement at Francis Holland. Elsewhere in this magazine, we can read a fuller account of her many achievements. Be that as it may, I would like to thank her personally for her support of me in the period before taking up office. She was generous with her time towards me during one of the busiest terms of her own teaching career and I am grateful. Typically for Mrs Durham, she was lavish in her praise of the pupils, the old girls and the staff. What is more, her precise and accurate knowledge of each girl, and each member of staff, as individuals was impressive.

This school was fortunate indeed to benefit from the dedication and long-service of Vivienne Durham – she leaves a school firmly-established on an upwards trajectory and destined for greater achievements yet.

Since taking up post at the beginning of the year, I have discovered first-hand what you have known for years – this is a wonderful school. Francis Holland is an academic school with a rare warmth of ethos. We are a school where girls are known as individuals; much is expected of our pupils and much is given. We are a school which is proud to celebrate the many and various successes of our pupils, some of which you can read about in the pages of this magazine. It is a privilege and an honour to serve Francis Holland School as the Headmaster.

I would like to share two recent experiences which strike me as classic Francis Holland. To begin, let me mention my very first day here, at morning break, when a pair of Upper Sixth Formers knocked on the door to my study. They simply wanted to say hello and to wish me a successful year (and perhaps to examine me at close-range), but they were certainly not put up to the task. This demonstrates the confidence and the curiosity that many of you may remember – classic Francis Holland. My second example comes from a meeting with twenty-six prep school headmasters and headmistresses in the Gloucester Room here at Ivor Place at the beginning of the Summer Term. One of my guests was describing the kind of girl who chooses to come here at 11+, "You get the all-rounders," she said. What she meant by that was that the girls of Francis Holland School excel not only in academic studies but also across a range of sporting, musical, artistic and charitable endeavours. This is as true today as it has always been.

Francis Holland is a school with an enviable reputation. Our school enables girls to flourish in an environment of nurture, support and challenge; today as it has done since its foundation in 1878.

If you have been out of touch with the school over the last few years, please take the time to reconnect with us. The work that goes on here is important as we guide and support the young women who will go on to be the next generation of leaders for our country and the international world. Francis Holland is not just a school with a rich and varied history – it is also a school with a bright future.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Quondam lunch on Saturday 5th November and our Upper Sixth Leavers at our Carol Service Drinks on Tuesday 13th December. Details of these events can be found on the back page of the magazine.

With very best wishes,

Charles Fillingham
Headmaster



Charles Fillingham being welcomed by former Headmistress Vivienne Durham



Charles Fillingham

QUONDAM COMMITTEE

Charles Fillingham – President/Headmaster
Alison Edelshain née Day (1972) - Chairman
Susanne Nendas née Quastel (1971) – Joint Secretary
Vivien Rose née Lind (1974) – Joint Secretary
Benita Mathews née Thomas (1970) - Treasurer
Kathryn Whiteman – Deputy Head
Jeannine Addinall – Honorary Staff Member
Diane Andrée née Miller (1954)
Jeanette Cumine née Clark (1954)
Nadia Demetriou Ladas (1988)
Nina Edelshain (2007)
Georgina Guy née Nendas (1995)
Maria Hadjipateras (1979)
Sumita Honey née Ghosh (1980)
Carol Michaelson née Day (1962)
Jennifer Purchase née Shier (1973)
Manuela Robson (1989)
Julia Strauss (1987)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Quondam would like to thank the parents of FHS pupils for their support. Thanks also to Jeannine Addinall and Helen Last for their contributions.

ANNUAL QUONDAM BIRTHDAY LUNCH 7TH NOVEMBER 2015

The annual Quondam Lunch, attended by over 70 former pupils and staff, was held on Saturday 7th November 2015. A volleyball match replaced the annual netball match which was cancelled due to torrential rain! Lunch followed the AGM which was a very special event as we launched the newly published FHS History book, called *Polished Corners*, and said farewell to Mrs Vivienne Durham, Headmistress from 2004 to 2015.



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JOIN OUR NEW FHS ALUMNI NETWORK!

Our brand new Alumni network, which is exclusively for former pupils, parents and staff, is a wonderful way to stay in touch with former classmates, keep up to date with news and events and become part of an exclusive professional network.

Joining only takes two minutes – please go to <https://alumni.fhs-nw1.org.uk> Or, if you would prefer, please send any updates to our Alumni Relations Officer by email quondam@fhs-nw1.org.uk or post Alumni Relations Officer, Francis Holland Regent's Park, 35 Bourne Street, London, SW1W 8JA.

We look forward to you joining us!

CONTACT

Please send us your email addresses.

quondam@fhs-nw1.org.uk

Alumni Relations Officer, Francis Holland Regent's Park, 35 Bourne Street, London, SW1W 8JA

Quondam \KWAHN-duhm; KWAHN-dam\adjective:
Having been formerly; former; sometime.

LETTER FROM THE QUONDAM CHAIRMAN

Alison Edelshain née Day

Dear Quondam,

This last year has seen considerable change at the school, the most apparent of which has been the passing of the headship baton from Vivienne Durham to Charles Fillingham. It appears to have been a very smooth handover and Charles seems to have settled into his new role with consummate ease. We look forward to his meeting as many Quondam members as possible at the Quondam lunch on Saturday 5th November.

Just before Vivienne left, the school launched a special Bursary Fund in her name to help students enjoy the benefits of an FHS education, who might otherwise have been unable to join the school. I am delighted that nearly £100,000 was raised and is being put to immediate use. Following the closure of the Durham Bursary Fund, anyone wishing to contribute to the newly established FHS Regent's Park Bursary Fund may contact Louise Richmond at the School's Development Office (development@fhst.org.uk). On a sadder note, I would like to extend our deepest condolences to Vivienne whose husband, Ken, (the former highly respected Head of UCS and Chair of HMC) passed away on 6th August.



Another major change for the school is the first full-time appointment of an Alumni Relations Officer to support and develop relations between the school and past pupils, parents and staff. This role, to be shared between both FHS schools, will provide enhanced support to Quondam members whether building up the database of past pupils' contact details (currently woefully out of date), helping to support reunions and providing other opportunities for alumni to keep in touch with each other and the school, as well as editing this magazine and providing links between current pupils and alumni working in their chosen career field. As I write this, we are just about to appoint someone to this new role and I will look forward to introducing you to the successful candidate at the AGM and lunch. (Please don't all write to me with spelling corrections.....we had long discussions as to whether the appointment should be "Alumnae Relations" or "Alumni Relations".... And since the role is to link with former staff and parents as well as pupils, it was agreed to go for "Alumni"Some of you will also remember that we used to have boys in the junior school.....)

This appointment does mean, of course, that Helen Forbes, who has so efficiently looked after Quondam matters on a part-time basis from her base in Moscow over recent years, is able to pass on her valuable experience and enjoy our reunions in future without having to worry about who is sitting where and with whom. May I take this opportunity to thank Helen, on behalf of all Quondam members, for all the support she has given to both former *Polished Corners* and to the Quondam Committee. I would also like to formally thank Vanessa McKinley who, together with her team, has bravely taken on the editing and publishing of this magazine while waiting for the new appointee's arrival. We are very grateful!

This year we chose "Regent's Park" as our Reminiscences' theme for the magazine and it certainly prompted a range of memories, whether of using the park for sports lessons or for recreational use during lunchtimes. I chuckled when reading about watches being kept "for safe keeping" down the PE teacher's stockings, the general hatred of lacrosse and the problem with "flashers" (which I also remember being a regular hazard). It was also good to read about the genuine enjoyment of the flowers and the summer tennis games. The school has certainly been very fortunate to be located so close to such a lovely park and it is good to know that current pupils continue to take full advantage of its proximity.

This year's Travel Scholarship was won by Amy Fass who plans to go to Sri Lanka to visit various underprivileged schools and children's charities in order to identify the best possible healthcare-based projects for a team of student volunteers to work on. We shall look forward to reading all about her experiences in next year's *Polished Corners*. In this issue, we are delighted to include the report from Bethany Wright, last year's winner who travelled to Bolivia to help support local women suffering from domestic abuse. It certainly appears to have been a life-changing experience for Bethany as well as for the women she was helping.

This year, we set the title for the Quondam essay competitions as "Can Education change the world". As usual we received a wide-ranging selection of approaches, most including some very well-argued comments. You will be pleased to learn that most girls believed education can change the world. We are delighted to congratulate Helen McBurney and Rose McGowan for winning the Senior and Junior competitions respectively. Their full essays can be found on the school website.

Thank you too for those who sent in their news. It is always a pleasure to read what you have been up to and this year is no exception. As I mentioned above, the school database of contact details for past students has many entries where "*Polished Corners*" have moved or changed their email address and not informed the school. So if you know of any past students who have not received this magazine, it is a good sign that we do not have their up to date address and would ask you to urge them to contact the school with their updated details.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Quondam Lunch on Saturday 5th November 2016.

REMINISCENCES

Memories of Regent's Park

1974 Hockey in Regent's Park with Post Office Tower in background



1950-1959

Sally Williams (née Harris) 1950

My dear friend Judy Taylor (née Taylor) recalls the lovely memory of holding her little brother Christopher's hand, when walking through Regent's Park in the Spring and seeing the carpet of crocus covering the grass.

Victoria Dean (née Keeson) 1952

I well remember playing Lacrosse in Regent's Park – always freezing cold!

Liz Camino 1950s

We lived close to the school, so formal walks were already part of my

early childhood. When in the care of Miss Guy, (who had only a small mention in the FHS book), 'crocodiles' of small children, hand in hand, were to be seen waiting for Queen Mary's car to pass at the crossing to the park. Were we expected to curtsey?

Those walks to the lacrosse pitches, in all weathers, in modest but itchy divided skirts driven by the relentless enthusiasm of Miss Tudor Evans... stoicism was born here... And then... the only possible experience of a Midsummer Night's Dream writ large by nostalgic imagination...

Sue Eckersley (née Lloyd) 1956

Regent's Park in my school memory meant tennis in the summer, which

wasn't too bad, and lacrosse in the winter, which was dreadful. I don't remember any changing rooms in the Park then – crocodiles to and from school in our tweed shorts were the order of the day.

Miss Chamberlain took Lacrosse in those days and if anyone had forgotten to leave her watch in school she would collect these up on the pitch for 'safe keeping'. She would then lift the hem of her divided skirt and slip the watches inside the top of a substantial lisle stocking! I can still remember not really wanting my warm watch back!

Not much later in my school career Miss Joslin asked me if my father would mind very much if I were asked to give up games. That evening Daddy laughed until he cried.

1960-1969

Anthea Grainger (née Schacke Andersen) 1962

Netball against Queen's College School, we were losing and I fell awkwardly and broke my arm so the match was stopped. I was transported to UCH by ambulance, with two games teachers in attendance and a Park Keeper in hot pursuit on his bicycle.

My arm was set by Dr Jonathan Miller, who I thought was gorgeous, but he was in A and E and my subsequent visits to the hospital were to the Fracture Clinic.

One December we had an early fall of snow and Miss Evans, the games teacher, took us for a run, a new experience. We stopped on one of the bridges and watched the ducks paddling in the snowy water. Then in a summer term we gathered in the park to watch an eclipse of the sun.

The Open Air Theatre provided live Shakespeare, and the Zoo subjects

for our sketch pads. In the middle of the Park Bedford College was a call to higher education. In 1960 it was a few years before most pupils and parents were ready to take up that call but we were lucky to have this most beautiful of London parks on the doorstep of our school.

Caroline Monk (née Jacques) 1962

I have wonderful memories of art lessons in the Park with Miss Dickie and playing lacrosse.

Linda Graichen (née Hiller) 1962

I remember playing tennis in Regent's Park in Summer, which I loved, and Lacrosse in Winter, which I did not love!

Robina Manger (née Fairburne) 1962

I was at FHS from the Kindergarten to Upper VI, 1949 to 1962. Lacrosse in Regent's Park – if one managed to swing it to be off games one could go and play on the swings in the

children's playground and pretend to watch. We used to see Dick Bentley – the then famous comedian from the radio programme 'Take It From Here' – walking past.

In Summer walking to and from tennis was much more enjoyable – the sun always shone then.

Caroline Lucas (née Mackinnon) 1965

My sister, Diana, was a natural but untrained tennis player. Such was her grit and determination that she won the singles finals one year. She won by lobbying the ball, since this was the only shot she knew. My friends (Margaret Carr and Joanna Glover) and I carried her back to school from Regent's Park with badly blistered and bleeding feet. Both Maggie and Jo were excellent at sport (unlike me!) and we were all very proud of her.

A few years later, she won a tennis scholarship to Millfield School and went on to play for Junior Wimbledon. Sadly, her tennis career was cut short by 'shin splints', a condition that would have been manageable nowadays.



Miss Holt (far right) in her famous cape with, left to right, Val St Johnston, Nick Stevenson and Elizabeth Sifleet



2014 Quondam Netball Match



1982 Staff Netball Team



1998 Carole Griffiths (Classics) and Liz Rolfe Johnson at Mrs Parsonson's leaving picnic

REMINISCENCES

continued

1970-1979

Alison Edelshain (née Day) 1972

I recall visiting the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre on a regular basis with the school and especially remember the magical productions of A Midsummer Night's Dream. They obviously left a very positive memory for me as I still attend at least one production there each summer.

I also remember being told if we were walking in the park at lunchtime, we should always be a minimum of three. This was apparently so that if one of us were to be assaulted in the park, one of the others could run for help. We were never sure what the third person was expected to do...? Provide moral support?

Sioned Burton (née Aeron-Thomas) 1979

Regent's Park – netball, hockey, rounders and tennis! Annual trip to the open air theatre for Shakespeare – at the time, lots of bored groans but now can't believe what a treat we had on the school's doorstep!

1980-1989

Ruth Logue (née Clifton-Samuel) 1983

My main memory of Regent's Park is to do with PE. We were playing hockey under the supervision of Mrs Freemantle when a tramp came out of the bushes and flashed at us. I just remember a whole load of us charging after him with our hockey sticks. I don't

think he ever came back!

I also remember running around the whole park at least three times each week with Mrs Forde encouraging us. I really built up my calf muscles.



1974 Walking through Regent's Park for PE lesson



REGENT'S PARK TODAY



OLD GIRL NEWS

1950-1959

Sally Williams (née Harris)

1950 sally@williams24.plus.com
- Crofton Cottage, Broad Street,
Cuckfield, Haywards Heath, H17 5DX

My dear friend Gillian Cockburn (née Pardoe) is now in a beautiful nursing home, called Woodbury Manor in Enfield, due to her failing memory. My other news is of Jill Green (née Gamgee). Jill had several loves in her life, her family, her grandchildren, her friends, but one, a hobby, was flying over the Sussex Downs in her little plane from Shoreham Airport. She sadly died at home after some years of ill health, on Sunday 26th June, with her family around her. She entered our lives in the Autumn term of 1950 and galvanised us to put on a show, which Anne White (née Schmiegelow) mentioned last year. Then 40 years later she started our reunions in her lovely home near Petworth. Dear Jill we will always remember you.

Now to my news: I suddenly had a new friend installed, a Pace Maker on 16th June! Luckily I'd decided 2016 I was having a sabbatical, which in my case meant NO travel! An exception has occurred which means I am visiting my grandson in Venice who is studying History at Warwick University, so cannot be at the Quondam Lunch, but my sabbatical ends on 5th January. I'm off on the maiden round the world cruise of the Magellan, a 120 night, 4 month Cruise. I am going though the Panama Canal down to New Zealand, then to Sydney, and then up to Hong Kong and lots of other places, then back via the Indian Ocean and Suez! Oh boy. If you know of someone who is also going, please do put them in touch with me.

Susan Levitt (née Falk) 1951

35 Northway, London, NW11 6PB

I have just met Judith Neill (née Mason) who is visiting London, with her husband. They live in New Zealand and are in England visiting family and friends. About ten of us from my year keep in touch. Not bad after nearly 70 years!

Victoria Dean (née Keeson)

1952 65 Granville Road, Limpsfield,
Surrey RH8 0BY

Diane Andrée (née Miller)

1954 4 Agamemnon Road, London
NW6 1DY

I left school and went to Central St Martin's School Of Art for 2 years, then in 1957 went to Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) and got married. I lived there for about a year. I love Sri Lanka and have been back about 30 times. I have two children, one lives in America and the other in Ireland and I have two grandchildren. I now live with Jeanette Cumine (née Clark) and we have been friends ever since we first went to school. We attend Quondam whenever possible and look forward to meeting our former friends.

Jeanette Cumine (née Clarke)

1954

After leaving FHS I did one year's Domestic Science at Queen's College, then one year at Secretarial College. My first employment was as PA/Secretary to the owner of a large (three floors) luncheon club in the City. I married an Architect and went to live in Hong Kong. We had three children. I now live in West Hampstead and work part-time as PA/Secretary to an Architect in London! I have six grandchildren and two great granddaughters. I travel quite a lot, when possible.

Wendy Max (née Segal) 1955



1955 school friend's party – From left to right: Elizabeth Garvin, Susan Davis, Ray Newman, Susan, Carolyn Leslie, Wendy Segal, Virginia Robertson.

Sue Eckersley (née Lloyd)

1956 16 High Path, Wellington,
Somerset, TA21 8NH

Yvonne Fisher (née Crisp)

1957 Mny-fisher@hotmail.com -
32 Hunstman's Meadow, Ascot, SL5
7PF

1960-1969

Gill Richards 1961

gill.m.richards@gmail.com

Sally Wallace (née Sassienie)

1961 sally@thewallaces.net - 370
Cedar Falls Drive, Apollo Beach, Florida,
33572 USA

I am retired and living in Florida. We moved to the United States in 1983. I have two children Nicola and Jamie and two grandchildren Liam and Emmalyn. Always interested in hearing from fellow classmates.

Frances George (née Wishart)

1961 maclyn374@hotmail.com

Evelyn Singer (née Kissin)

1962 singerevelyn@hotmail.com - 45
Campden Hill Court, Campden Hill
Road, London W8 7HU

Caroline Monk (née Jacques)

1962 carolinevmonk@gmail.com - 10
Marsh Lane, Mill Hill, London NW7 4QP

I have been teaching since 1972 and have my own Montessori school since 1990. Prior to that I lectured at St Nicholas' College. I really look forward to our annual get together with many of my old classmates. It is so good to see them and reminisce.

Robina Manger (née Fairburne) 1962

robinamanger@btinternet.com -
Hurstwood, Ashdown Road, Forest
Row, East Sussex, RH18 5BW

Anthea Grainger (née Schacke Andersen) 1962

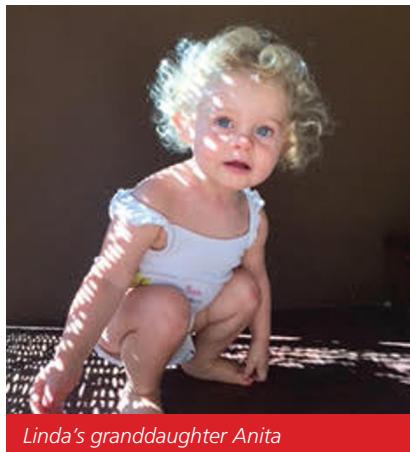
af.grainger@virgin.net - 10 Dalgamo
Gardens, London W10 6AD

Happy Birthday to my year group, the 1962 GCSE leavers! We are all celebrating a 70th birthday during the school year. That over half of us are in touch is due to Corinne Youngs, who for 10 years made available most of her spare time to maintaining our database, collating the magazine news, and despatching initially 500 copies to you all here and abroad. The circulation has more than doubled in the last ten years.

Linda Graichen (née Hiller)

1962 lsgraichen@gmail.com - 2 Hermitage Gardens, London, NW2 2EZ

I am still working part-time and look forward to meeting up with class members at a reunion later this year as we reach our significant birthdays. At the moment, I have one grandchild who is French/English and who is a great joy, despite living abroad. I attach a photo of her at 19 months at the end of last year. I also have two Hungarian Vizsla dogs to keep me fit with long daily walks, who are my loyal and devoted companions.



Linda's granddaughter Anita

Carol Michaelson (née Day)

1962

cmichaelson@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk - 6 Oakwood Court, London W14 8JU

Anne Diss 1965 (née Walters)

Peewit Castle, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St. Peter SL9 9QU

Karen Ann McKinna (née Arbuckle) 1965

kamckinna.96@sympatico.ca

Caroline Lucas (née Mackinnon) 1965

carolinelucas@talktalk.net

Vanessa Bourne (née Taylor)

1967 vbourne23@hotmail.com - Rhiwonon, Harford, Llanwrda, Carmarthenshire SA19 8DS

Overdue Reunion! It's amazing that we recognised one another, as it had been around 50 years since we left FHS. Organised by Cordelia Lamont (née Llewellyn), this was a reunion of six classmates - Elaine Corke (née Thomas), Judith Hart (née Clarke),

Cynthia Prince (née Haslam), Jill Stewart (née Chapman) and me - some of whom had started together in the then FHS kindergarten in the early 1950s. Elaine even brought a picture of us at her 5th birthday party. Since John Lewis had gallantly supplied years of school uniform, we decided to meet up there, and, like homing pigeons, found each other at the restaurant. Was it a success? Definitely: it was well over an hour before we realised we had been gassing away, totally oblivious of the menu, and the increasingly quizzical looks of fellow diners. For an all too brief, wonderful few hours, our different paths, in life and geographically, became one and a repeat date is planned.

Sara Best (née Cole) 1969

saravbest@hotmail.com

1970-1979

Constance Bierkan (née Reynolds) 1970

lotsafox@gmail.com
1321 Golden Willow Road, Evergreen, CO 80439, USA



Constance Bierkan

Catherine Norgren 1972

norgren@buffalo.edu - 48 Middlebury Lane, Buffalo, NY 14216, USA

Alison Edelshain (née Day)

1972 edelshains@aol.com - 8 Tudor Close, London NW7 2BG

I am still juggling running my HR consultancy together with being a magistrate and serving as Vice Chairman of the Francis Holland School Trusts. More recently I am now also assisting on projects helping asylum seekers and refugees on a regular basis plus my favourite job of all - being a grandmother (at last!!) to two gorgeous boys: Jack aged 12 months and Max, aged 9 months (by the time this magazine is published).

Vivien Rose (née Lind) 1974

vrose@lptuk.net

Our first grandchild, Harriet, was born on Christmas Day 2015. Best Christmas present ever! As always, I would love to hear from anyone in my year.

Cressida Stevens (née Sharman) 1974

cressidastevens@hotmail.com

Lucinda Lubbock (née Simms) 1975

lucy.lubbock@btinternet.com

Having moved from my early career in the art world, through to a full time mother to our four children, I am now concentrating more fully on being a Magistrate (seven years), particularly focussing on Youth Court work. I have also recently become a School Governor of a West London Primary School. I continue an interest in Photography through my husband's photo archive and licensing business.

Victoria Farrow 1978

I am thinking about organising a class reunion, for those who left in 1978. It will be forty years, so about time. Would anyone who is interested in helping, being involved or who might like to attend, be in touch with me - either by email (victoria@victoriafarrow.com) or phone (07956 228517).

Claire Lazarus 1978

clairelazarus@btinternet.com

Kalliopi Hadjipateras (née Lemos) 1979

kalihadji@gmail.com - 141 The Vale, London, NW11 8TL

I have been working as a Teacher's Assistant at Channing Junior School for five years now and enjoying my work enormously!

1980-1989

Jack Alvarez 1980 (Staff)

jack@alvarez.force9.co.uk - 2 Enid Close, Bricket Wood, St Albans, AL2 3EL

Elizabeth Uzielli 1981

EUzielli@aol.com

Elizabeth Sifleet (Staff) 1983

2 Shepherds Mead, Worthing, West Sussex, BN14 0JA

OLD GIRL NEWS

continued

Ruth Logue (née Clifton-Samuel) 1983

ruthclogue@gmail.com - 21 Hammers Lane, Mill Hill, London NW7 4BY

Dee Clayton (née Gard) 1984

dee@clayton.bz

Sarah Clarke (née Davies)

1985 sarah@newmarton.co.uk - New Marton Hall, New Marton Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3HR

Natasha Foster (née Collins)

1986 natashacoxen@hotmail.com

Hui Cheng Tan 1989

dprthc@nus.edu.sg - 32 Jalan Sampurna, Singapore 268289

1990-1999

Clover Mulhearn (née Lewis)

1992 clover_mulhearn@yahoo.com.au

My eldest Holly is about to start high school. Holly is 11. Rosie is 8 and a mini Clover apparently. Penny is just 4 and will still be in primary school when Holly has finished secondary school! And can you believe I am 42!!! Seems like yesterday I was gallivanting around FHS. Love to all from Oz.



Clover Mulhearn and family

Karen Canty (née Salem)

1993 Karen.salem@gmail.com

I left FHS in 1993 and went to Warwick University to study English & Latin. After graduating, I worked at Hamleys toy shop before progressing into a career in public relations. I left after 14 years to join a future trends consultancy then gave it all up to have my lovely children. And because having two kids under the age of 5 wasn't challenging enough, I thought it would be a good idea to study for a

Masters in Social Anthropology at the same time...! I am halfway through and loving it, with plans to consult as a Business Anthropologist once I graduate. I have stayed in touch with a number of old friends thanks to the power of Facebook but always delighted to remember old FHS faces. Get in touch!

Christianne Gavens (née Bromley) 1993

Sarum Hall Old Girls was founded in 2014. If you are an old girl and would like to join our Association we would love to hear from you. For more information, please email oldgirls@sarumhallschool.co.uk



Clare Hackett 1995

clarehackett@hotmail.com - 41 Ashdale Road, Terenure, Dublin, D6WC436, Ireland

2000-2009

Rachel Herzberg 2000

rachhuk@yahoo.co.uk

Pauline Edgar 2006 (Staff)

paulineedgar@me.com - 6 Pied Bull Yard, Theberton Street, N1 0EU

I am retiring from being Principal of Queenswood at the end of this year. I shall be living in Islington and in Spain.

Hilary Jones 2006 (Staff)

hstossel@hotmail.com

2010-2016

Marianne Williamson 2010

(Staff) Mwil50@cantab.net - 121 Meadoway, Barnet, Herts., EN5 5JY

Charlotte Amherst 2011

Whilst a music scholar at Francis Holland School, Charlotte, who began to study violin aged 5,



Charlotte Amherst

played in the London School Symphony Orchestra, leading it in 2011-2012. Charlotte read music at The University of Glasgow, and recently graduated with First Class Honours. Charlotte co-founded The Janus Ensemble, a London-based orchestra. We are very proud of Charlotte and all her achievements.

Emma Wong 2011

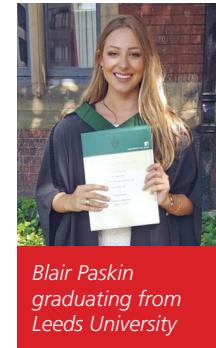
emmatywong@gmail.com

Jess Bernberg 2012

Now studying to be a Lighting Designer for theatre at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Founded Appetite Theatre Ltd in 2014 – looking forward to taking our second show to theatres in London and Edinburgh this year.

Blair Paskin 2012

Blair has just graduated with a First in BA Hons French and Spanish, as well as a Distinction in Spoken French, from Leeds University. We are delighted for Blair and wish her the very best going forward.



Blair Paskin
graduating from
Leeds University

Zoe Silkstone 2013

Zoe graduated with a BA (Hons) in English from Robinson College, Cambridge this year. She achieved a 2.1 overall, with First class results in several of her papers. Robinson College came top this year for English, making Zoe's results even more impressive. In September, Zoe will commence a Masters Degree in Early Modern Studies at UCL. Very well done to Zoe and we wish her all the best.



Zoe Silkstone
graduating from
University of
Cambridge

Alisha Mukherjee 2015

Alishamukherjee2401@gmail.com

FAREWELL TO MRS VIVIENNE DURHAM, HEADMISTRESS 2004-2015

Mrs Vivienne Durham

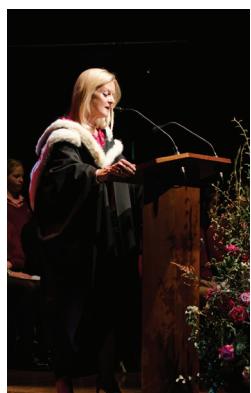
"It's not the grade, it's the girl": a saying of Vivienne's that most of North London has heard at some point in the last 12 and a half years. For me, that saying best sums up Vivienne's approach to leading and shaping the Francis Holland, Regent's Park that stands today. She was always kind, considerate and thoughtful towards the girls, and knew every student in the school. Vivienne was not only dedicated to each girl's personal growth, but strived for them to have the best education possible. She led from the front, teaching English and Oxbridge lessons. Vivienne always delivered inspiring assemblies, at first standing on top of her 'pink box' (a gift from an outgoing year 13 class, pictured below) before graduating to a lectern. The topics of her assemblies ranged from current affairs, role models, her favourite book *Ulysses*, and most importantly the values of a Francis Holland girl.

For twelve years Vivienne strived to get more space for staff and students, The Gloucester Wing representing one of Vivienne's most notable improvements to the school building. Most people who have walked the PE corridor in the basement have asked about the pink walls – Vivienne always wanted the girls' input for the colour of the walls in classrooms and corridors, her point being that they have to sit and learn in them and she wanted them to feel a sense of ownership of the school. Old girls of Vivienne's era would often come back wishing to see Vivienne and tell her proudly what they had achieved at university or in their careers and, despite her very busy schedule, she would always make time for them.

Vivienne also cared for her staff; in any personal crisis she was a strength and would always allow staff to take personal time, which was hugely appreciated by all. She created a happy staff knowing that this in turn meant a happy school.

Vivienne is, and will be, missed but her impact on many throughout her teaching career will remain. I will finish with a quote Vivienne used to conclude her open morning speeches, which sums her up beautifully: "It's not what you take from the world, but what you give back to the world".

Colette Mahieu
Pastoral Deputy Head



NEWS FROM THE STAFF ROOM

Staff Leavers

Mrs Sue Drummond retires after 35 years at FHS!

Mrs Drummond joined FHS in 1981 as a full time member of the Physical Education department. She taught all aspects of PE to all years but her love of two areas was evident in the introduction of senior hockey teams and expertly choreographed senior dances for the Gym and Dance displays and Musicals. She introduced vaulting club which has been enjoyed by many FHS girls over the years.



She has been involved in life at FHS in many ways, from being the first Head of Year in the 80s, to introducing Careers evenings, Lower Sixth taster days for the Upper Fifth and work experience. Mrs Drummond went part time in 1998 and taught Biology

as well as PE - her teaching of the menstrual cycle was unique!! She continued to be fully involved in the life of the school. She has been on many ski trips and sports tours where her organisational skills were much appreciated.



Mrs Drummond has finally decided to 'hang up her hockey stick' after 35 years of outstanding service to the school. Colleagues marked her retirement on Friday 1st July in the School Hall.

*Mrs Felicity Forde
Long-standing colleague and friend*



Mr Mark Chiverton

Mr Chiverton was appointed to FHS by Mrs Low, the then-Headmistress in April 2003, after serving for one year at Haberdashers' Aske's School For Girls. Whilst there he was quickly spotted by Mrs Durham, when she joined the school the following year, as a young man with a bright future at Francis Holland. Indeed, she mentioned Mr Chiverton to me several times as the best appointment she had ever made. Before he took up his appointment as Head Of Thirds, in 2004 Mrs Durham offered Mr Chiverton the responsibility for uploading photographs to the school website. He also became a representative on the Parents' Association Committee, and launched the Summer Camp, which is now in its 10th year.



Mr Chiverton has been Head Of Thirds for every girl in the school from the day he took up the role in 2007 to today. This is a responsibility that he has made look easy, though it is not. This apparent ease is a testament to his patience, intelligence, care and dedication. He leaves FHS after thirteen years to become a full time carer for his children, a noble calling. Mr Chiverton will be greatly missed and we wish him very well.

Charles Fillingham

Mrs Anjali Martin

Mrs Martin studied at NLCS as a girl and then went on to University at UCL to read Electronic Engineering. A Londoner for seven years, she taught at William Ellis School in Highgate before moving to FHS in September 2008. Mrs Martin was described by her old Headmaster, Mr Tanton, as talented and conscientious. I would echo this summary and add that I consider her to be warm, approachable, caring and dedicated. We have been very fortunate to benefit from her work here these last eight years.

We wish Mrs Martin a wonderful retirement.

Charles Fillingham



STAFF LEAVERS 2015-2016

Vivienne Durham
Julie Laytham
Sue Drummond
Jen Denniston
Mark Chiverton

Kristina Lewis
Jo Hallett
Ros Thomson
Rose Oloumi
Anjali Martin

Paarul Shah
Alexandra Gaudé
Julie Ann Hilton
Alice Lindsay

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN MITRA

Religious Studies Teacher from April 1991 to August 2000

Christianne Gavens, née Bromley

I will always remember Mrs Mitra for being a wonderful teacher whilst I was at school; and for the friend she became in the twenty years since I left.

Clover Mulhearn née Lewis

Susan was my teacher at Francis Holland and we became close friends after I had finished. We were lucky enough to share our Wedding with Susan and Robin and over the years Susan was an inspiration to me. I can remember her awesome teaching style and specifically remember her teaching me Philosophy. She truly enacted her Cartesian doubt "I think therefore I am." Susan was a woman who really believed in me growing up and becoming a Midwife and through her own inspiration and stoicism she is fondly remembered by those whose hearts she touched. Always gracious, always caring for others, always so generous and a true friend of mine. I miss Susan with all my heart and felt lucky to have known her. Her beautiful family is a shining example of what an amazing person she was. May she rest in peace.

Helen Last

Susan began working at FHS in 1991 and from the very beginning of her time at FHS she proved to be a very popular teacher who had excellent subject knowledge combined with a very natural ability to make the subject interesting. She cared about the girls she was teaching and wanted them to get the best results they possibly could. Her notes were legendary as anyone who was taught by her would tell you! Susan worked part time; she wanted to make sure she had enough time for Chris and Ali (her sons) and Robin as well as family and friends. The welcome at her house was always warm and food always delicious. I have lots of fond memories of Susan both at FHS and outside school. She was very good at keeping in touch with people. Susan was diagnosed with MND in 2013 and fought the disease bravely and with dignity. Whenever you saw her she was keen to know what you had been doing. She was cheerful

and those nails were always polished, she still looked amazing even though she must have been in a lot of pain. I will remember her both as a colleague and a friend who had a real zest for life. I don't think that she would want you to mourn her death but raise a glass of pink champagne and follow the advice of Joyce Grenfell, (words that Susan once gave to me) 'be the usual selves that I have known Weep if you must Parting is hell But life goes on so sing as well' So let's raise our glass of pink champagne and remember a beautiful brave lady, friend, wife and mother who had a real gift for teaching!



Susan Mitra and sons

Marjorie Gustave

The first thing which struck me when I met Susan was her love for life and, therefore, it is not surprising that, till the very end, she fought a brave and strong battle against MND. Determined as ever, during a visit I paid her two weeks before she passed away, she suggested we went out for a drink at the pub. How typical of Susan who never missed the chance of having a good time!

Susan also lived for her family, her husband Robin and her two sons, Chris and Ali, to whom she was a wonderful mother. She was certainly not going to miss Chris's wedding, so she got him to bring the date forward and, when Ali moved to Spain, she quickly sorted out a wheelchair to go and see his new flat. Susan was a true friend to many people, including me. She was gregarious, loved a party and was certainly the hostess with the mostest! Susan also loved travelling and delighted us with her various journeys abroad. She was particularly attached to Turkey where she worked in the late seventies before starting at Francis Holland and where she had made very close friends with whom she kept in

touch all her life. India was another place she visited frequently as it was the place where her husband Robin grew up. Name a place, Susan had been to it, and she was able to give you a detailed itinerary, which never failed to include churches, mosques, temples, and countless museums. Susan will always be remembered for her warmth and generosity. Her commitment to her students was second to none, even to the point of receiving students at her house, prior to their A level exams, despite her being in convalescence following an operation. She inspired and touched the lives of many, who kept in touch with her right till the end. She is greatly missed.



Susan Mitra

Marie Papworth

Susan was an incredibly supportive teacher (despite her frequent exasperation with my wayward behaviour, she valiantly persevered with my education) and subsequently became an even more supportive friend. I always looked forward to our long lunches - they were enormous fun, full of gossip and giggles. I will remain forever grateful for those times we spent together, and for her unfailing warmth and friendship until the end. I shall miss her deeply.

Susan sadly passed away in October 2015. She will be missed by all at Francis Holland.

QUONDAM TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP 2015

In 2015, Bethany Wright travelled to South America during her Gap Year.

Paz y Esperanza – discovering South America



Knocking on 800 doors and yelling at people to answer, educating mistreated Bolivian housewives about their basic rights, organising a march and running youth groups for street children was not what I had envisioned when considering my gap year. Nevertheless these all played a significant part in my year, taking place 3000 miles from home, and all in Spanish.



It all began with an interest in international development and the knowledge that to help on a programme overseas, local language skills would be essential. Hence, with no prior knowledge of Spanish, I devoted the first part of my year to tackling the language before gaining some experience with international development. Having never before travelled solo, my gap year was also an opportunity to gain some world experience and learn about other cultures. My time was split into two: first learning Spanish abroad and second using it with a development scheme. I spent the first 11 weeks attending Spanish school in Costa Rica and Ecuador, where I lived with a host family and experienced Latin American culture. That meant essentially becoming a local, dressing like the so-called "ticos", and consuming beans and rice not just for breakfast but also lunch and dinner! My weeks consisted of attending language school, where dance and cooking lessons were also provided, before

spending the weekends exploring the country. My Spanish improved quickly, and although my grammar was slightly lacking, after my first 11 weeks I was able to have a fairly fluid conversation with the locals. This knowledge of Spanish was essential for the latter part of my year: volunteering with ICS Tearfund in Bolivia. ICS is a government funded programme that works through different charities, bringing together people from different backgrounds to tackle poverty overseas.

Its main attraction is that it works on sustainable development, pairing up UK volunteers with locals. After a two week training course, my team



moved to the largest and hottest city in Bolivia, Santa Cruz. The charity with which we were working was called Paz Y Esperanza (Peace and Hope) which held the long-term goal of reducing violence in Santa Cruz. This seemed a very broad and unattainable aim, however the statistics were startling: 90% of women in the area had been mugged in the past two years. The charity's main work revolves around human rights and addressing domestic violence issues for women. They offer a service of free lawyers and counsellors for sufferers and abusers alike. Within Bolivia, sadly, the majority of women aren't even aware of their rights. As the majority of houses don't have a TV, and women generally remain at home as an "Ama de Casa" (housewife), it is all too easy for women to be excluded from the



outside world and remain uninformed of their human rights. This is where our team became involved: the easiest way to ensure these women gain the information they need is to literally walk from house to house explaining the law. However, due to the lack of doorbells, we were forced to abandon our British etiquette and yell "SEÑORA" at their front door. Originally these tactics were met with severe scepticism; it seems that if you ring the doorbell in the UK twice in under thirty seconds you are received by an irritated Brit, huffing and puffing. However, having visited almost 800 houses in ten weeks, we were proved wrong and were nearly always met by a friendly face, keen to listen, taking our leaflet and often sharing heart-breaking stories.

There were some sobering testimonies: one woman, along with her daughter, had been continuously physically abused by her husband for over ten years. Another admitted that her mother had died due to domestic violence at the hand of her father. Both these women have since come to our office and are currently using the help of Paz Y Esperanza to change their lives. Alongside this we organised a series of weekly workshops for street children with the aim of changing their mind-set surrounding domestic violence. My year out was a new experience and has made me continue with Spanish to potentially fulfil a career with international development in the future. If you're unsure whether to take a year out and try something like this, my advice would be to go for it - you won't regret it!



UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS 2016

JASMIN AKED	Post A Level application	
SERAN AKSOY	UCL	Classics
SERENA ASHDOWN	Cardiff	Civil Engineering
HANNAH BADAWI-CROOK	Bristol	History
ALIX BAKER	Exeter	Psychology
AMELIA BRADDICK MCMINNIES	Buckingham	English
CHARLOTTE COYNE	East Anglia	Law
AMBRE DE TOURNIEL	Leeds	Chemistry
NICOLA DOLL-STEINBERG	Sussex	Neuroscience
SAWYER EATON	USA Tufts	Liberal Arts
JOY EVENDEN	Edinburgh	History of Art
ELISABETTA FALBO	Kings London	French and Management
NATALIA FISHMAN	Post A Level Application for Medicine	
ELEANOR FRAME	Edinburgh	International Business
AOIFE GRATTE	Leeds	Biomedical Sciences
MIA GREEN	Birmingham	Biomedical Sciences
EDEN GUNDLE	Edinburgh	History of Art
MATILDA HOLT	Sussex	Geography
LYDIA HOOK	Birmingham	Sport and Exercise Science
LUCINDA KEEGAN	Leeds	Italian and Politics
SERENA KHEMANEY	Cardiff	English
XIUSI LI	Oxford	Maths
ARISA LOOMBA	Warwick	History
EMILY MAGUIRE	Edinburgh	History and Politics
CHRISTINA MANTAFOUNIS	St Andrews	English
CLAIRE FAIRLE MCDONALD	Exeter	Psychology
HANNAH MARGARET MCDONALD	Edinburgh	Geography
AMELIA MEHRA	Durham	Biomedical Sciences
ALEXANDRA MURPHY	Leeds	Sociology
ELLA NICKERSON	Edinburgh	History and Politics
ASIA NICOLETTI	Glasgow	Sociology and History of Art
ELERI O'CONNOR	Reading	German and Management/Marketing
HABIBA PERACHA	Kings	International Relations
EVE PHILLIPS	Leeds	Politics and International Relations
ELISABETTA QUACQUARELLI	Edinburgh	Philosophy and Politics
ISABELLA ROBERTS	Post A Level Application to a Music Conservatoire	
ROSIE ROBERTS	Leeds	History and History of Art
JEMIMA SAM RUSSELL	Durham	PPE
ELIZA SCOTT	UCL	English
ISABELLE SHIRLEY	Art Foundation Course	Camberwell College Of Arts
MIRANDA SOSKIN	Plymouth	Oceanography
IMANI STRANGWAY AL SAYIGH	Cambridge	English
JESSICA TULI	Glasgow	Computer Sciences
CAROLINE TURNER	Durham	Classical Civilisation
SASHA VANGER	Sussex	Neuroscience
KATHRYN WATERS	Birmingham	Economics
ALFIE WATT	Bath	Biomedical Sciences
JEAN WATT	Leeds	History of Art
AMALIA WHITE	Oxford	Archaeology and Anthropology
GEORGIA YOUNG	USA Miami	Liberal Arts
SOPHIA ZAPHIRIOU-ZARIFI	Sussex	Social Sciences with Foundation Year

TRIBUTE TO SOPHIE ALLEN *Student at FHS from January 1999 to July 2004*

Sadly Sophie left us in August at the very early age of 30. Sophie was a great example of someone who made the very most of life at FHS – the perfect Francis Holland girl! While at school she was invariably smiley, hard-working, enthusiastic and willing to help.

We remember her vividly from the school trip to Greece in 2001, having a wonderful time seeing all the iconic sites - Athens, Delphi, Corinth – I can see her hurrying down from Agamemnon's palace at Mycenae, so keen on the history that she was only just in time for the coach! We were delighted that Sophie's love of the Classical world led to a Classics degree at the prestigious University College London, and that her love for the subject endured throughout her life.



Our deepest sympathies go out to Sophie's partner, to her parents, to her sisters and brother and to all her family and many friends.

Jeannine Addinall and Helen Last

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

QUONDAM REUNION AND LUNCH 2016

Saturday 5th November 2016

12.00pm AGM - 12.30pm for 1.00pm Lunch

Come along and meet Charles Fillingham, the first ever Headmaster of Francis Holland School, who joined in January 2016. There will be a short Quondam AGM before lunch, to which all members are welcome.

Tours of the school will be available, and then the annual reception and lunch will take place.

Invitation and reply card are enclosed.

RSVP by 27th October, with acceptances only.

quondam@fhs-nw1.org.uk

QUONDAM TRAVEL PRIZE 2017

Quondam members aged 25 and below are eligible to apply for the Quondam Travel Scholarship.



The scholarship aims to help those who are in education or in unpaid or poorly paid employment, who wish to broaden their education and experience by travelling abroad. The scholarship is now £1000 and preference is given to applications involving elements of education or service to others.

For more information, and to enter, please go to our website: www.fhs-nw1.org.uk/support-us/quondam and click on 'Travel Scholarship', or email:

quondam@fhs-nw1.org.uk

2016 LEAVERS' CAROL SERVICE DRINKS

We would like to invite those who left the Upper Sixth this year to join us for drinks after the school's annual Carol Service on Tuesday 13th December. The drinks will be held at the Lansdowne Club, Mayfair.



Invitations will be sent out shortly.

WINTER DRINKS ON TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2017

You are all invited to a special Winter Drinks FHS fundraising event on Tuesday 17th January with full details, including confirmation of our soon to be announced guest speaker, to follow. Please email quondam@fhs-nw1.org.uk to register your interest in the event.

FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

Caroline Phillips 1977

Calling Class of 1977! Caroline and her classmates are organising a reunion for those who left Francis Holland in 1977 to coincide with the Quondam Lunch on Sunday 6th November 2016. If you are interested, please contact caroline@carolinephillips.net.

Victoria Farrow 1978

In 2018, Victoria is planning to hold a reunion for the class of 1978 to mark 40 years since they left Francis Holland. If you are interested in helping, being involved or might like to attend, please contact Victoria by email at victoria@victoriafarrow.com or phone on 07956 228517.