

130 years of Perse Girls
A history in 10 objects





Perse School for Girls including Kindergarten, 1909



Front cover: Peacock Panel (detail)



Senior School Dining Room 2009



Panton House 1920



Painting of Annesley House 1947



Union Road door 2011



Laboratory date unknown



The Stephen Perse Pre-Prep 2011



The Stephen Perse Sixth Form College 2011



68 Trumpington Street (first premises)



Senior School Hall 2009



Classroom date unknown



Visual Arts Centre 2011



Garden date unknown



Nature reserve 2011



The Stephen Perse Sixth Form College during refurbishment 2007



Sixth Form Studio at VAC 2010



Junior School 2009



Foreword

Like many Old Perseans, I started at the bottom of the Junior School, a very shy seven year old. One early memory is standing in line after class netball, waiting for the form teacher to knot my black and blue striped school tie for me. In the early 1960s, the uniform of a white shirt, skirt, blazer and tie was strictly enforced, even for seven year olds. I also remember an early craze for Dr Who and the Daleks. I don't know which pupil invented the playground game which divided us all into Daleks and potential victims, but one break time it took over the entire school. Either you hid, or you were exterminated. It was exhilarating and terrifying.

At the Senior School, the best day of the year was when we all stopped lessons to watch the inter House Drama competition. My favourite play was *Winnie the Pooh*. I was the front half of Eyeore.

The most important thing, though, was learning Russian. I loved it from the start: an exotic alphabet that looked like crawling spiders and a rich literature of some of the world's greatest novels. One day our class was visited by a former pupil. She had studied Russian at university and won a rare scholarship to the Soviet Union. I could not imagine anything more exciting and thought to myself: "That's what I want to do: go to Russia and learn to speak the language properly."

In time that is indeed what I did – an experience that opened the door to my eventual career as a BBC correspondent. Not so long ago I met her again and thanked her for inspiring my ambition. It just goes to show a single encounter on one ordinary day at school really can change your life forever.

Bridget Kendall
BBC Diplomatic correspondent
Old Persean 1963-1974

Friendliness is a sort of tradition

Beautifully crafted and including a contribution from every girl in the School, this book is a testament to the very great affection in which Miss Cattley was held by her pupils.



Pages from Miss Cattley's book

Reminiscences

'In later years I have realised something to which a schoolgirl gave no thought, and that is the remarkable feeling of unity which prevailed among the staff... There was, too, a very easy relationship between staff and girls which was unusual for that time. Thus we gained a great deal from contact with lively personalities, some of whom we thought of as interesting antiques... some of them we liked and some of them we didn't, but they were all alive and they gave us a reliably solid foundation of intellectual and spiritual values.'

'The dominant influence in the School was naturally Miss Street [Headmistress 1881-1909] – 'Madam' we called her... We were, in our early years, a little afraid of her. She seemed to us so very old. But the fear passed, and as we grew older we came to love her. We found that we could laugh and joke with her and talk to her easily about our own affairs and ambitions; she took a very personal interest in all of us.'



Miss Street – 'Madam'



Perse Girls teaching staff, 1890s

A presentation book, produced by the pupils of the Senior School and given to Miss Cattley, Headmistress from 1926 until 1947, on the occasion of her retirement

Object 1: Miss Cattley's book

Anna Bidder, a zoologist and first President of Lucy Cavendish College, paid tribute in later life to the friendliness of the staff-pupil relationship which she described as 'a sort of tradition.' It is a tradition which continues to the present day.

Reflections

'I always know I can rely on the support and enthusiasm of all the teachers and approach them about any issues.'

'I know if I have any problems I am able to approach the network of teachers at any time.'

'The relaxed and friendly atmosphere at Stephen Perse is unlike any other sixth form college.'

'The teachers take care never to just present you with the facts, but also always help you find the best ways to learn and remember them. I've come across acronyms, biology raps and mathematical flowers to name a few.'

(current sixth-form students)



Teachers show their informal side at a picnic (1930)

Alumnae

Lady Parkes
Chairman of the National Council for Education and Training and President of the Christian Education Movement

Sally Powell
Head of the Baldwin School, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania



and, more recently, on Barnardo's Day



Object 2: Kindergarten photograph

Kindergarten, 1907 (John Maynard Keynes is on the second row, fourth from the left)

Side by side

'Your attendance is requested at a small preliminary meeting at Professor and Mrs Clark's on Monday Dec 8th [1879] at 3 o'clock to consider the desirability of taking steps to establish a Public Day School for girls in Cambridge.' This meeting marked the beginning of a sequence of events which culminated, on 17th January 1881, in the opening of the Perse School for Girls. Founded just thirty-four years after Queen's College, Harley Street, Perse Girls was one of the pioneering foundations for girls' education and has always been proud of its reputation as a centre of educational excellence for girls. Yet, in the early years of its history, the School admitted boys as well as girls in its Kindergarten. Here, among the pupils, sits the young John Maynard Keynes.

Moreover, while we remain committed to a girls-only education for our students between the ages of 7 and 16 years, our co-educational Pre-Prep (opened in September 2010) provides a cheerful and nurturing place for young boys and girls to work and play together while our Sixth Form College allows young men and women to study and relax side by side, in preparation for university and life beyond.

Reflections

'We have a friendly, modern environment that fosters a unique balance of support and independence.'

(current male sixth-form student)

'[It] is different, but I am not sure it is an improvement.'

'I thought they'd be a lot worse than they actually are.'

(current Year 6 pupils)



Pupils at the Prep-Prep make cakes to celebrate the 130th birthday of The Stephen Perse Foundation and wait to take their places in the first whole-school photograph for the Foundation, September 2010



Studying and relaxing side by side in the Sixth Form College

For the first 81 years of the School's existence, the teaching staff remained a female preserve. In 1962, however, history was made when Mr G T Burns joined the staff as a teacher of Modern Foreign Languages. Forty-nine years on, the number of male teachers has risen to almost 20% of the total.

We pride ourselves on demolishing gender stereotypes. The traditional gender bias towards certain subjects (such as mathematics and physics for boys), noted in many fully co-educational schools, is conspicuous by its absence here. Maths is currently the most popular option in the Sixth Form for girls. Among our alumnae we include several pioneers in their field, including science, politics and academia.

Alumnus

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| John Maynard Keynes | Economist |
|---------------------|-----------|

Alumnae

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Mary Bateson | Historian and activist for women's suffrage |
| Anna Bidder | Zoologist and co-founder of Lucy Cavendish College |
| Dorothy Russell | Pathologist and the first woman to become a Member of the Medical Research Society |
| Catherine Ogle | Recently appointed as Dean of Birmingham, only the third woman in the Church of England to become a Dean |
| Anastasia de Waal | Head of Family and Education at <i>Civitas</i> |

Ronald Searle
11, Jubilee Place, Chelsea
London SW3 3TE
England

Librarian:
The Perse School for Girls,
Union Road,
Cambridge CB2 1HF.

Monday, 5th July 1993



I enjoyed getting your letter, which brought back memories of Cambridge in the 'thirties.

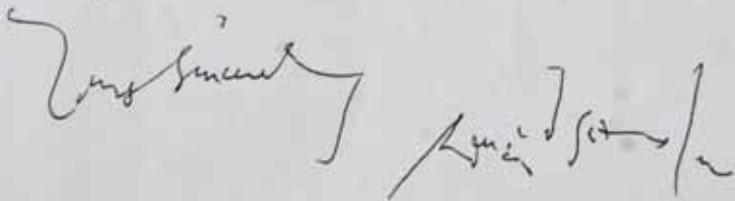
As you know, I was born in Cambridge, and St. Trinian's emerged from memories of an amalgam of local schoolgirls.

My sister apart, I think we could say that the main influences were certainly the Perse and the Cambridge High School for Girls - at play, on the sports field, in the pool and in 'crocodiles'.

I was a spotty teenager then, and my impressions of those girls was obviously deeply rooted. They crystallized a few years later, when I was trying to amuse two schoolgirl sisters at a friend's house in Scotland, with my scribbles.

So, let's say 'yes'. The Perse School for Girls was a positive source of inspiration for St. Trinian's, but I hope the school won't hold that against me, so many years after the crime!

With kind regards.



Ladylike behaviour at all times

Old Perseans recall a somewhat draconian regime of school rules in the early days:

'We were not allowed to walk home with another girl.'

'We always had to wear gloves.'

'For hockey we always had to wear black or navy blue woollen tam-o'-shanters and galoshes over our shoes.'

'When we reached the Sixth Form the ban on speaking between lessons was lifted, but it was explained to us that there was no longer a rule against talking because it would not occur to the Sixth to do such a thing.'

Nevertheless, as the evidence on these pages makes clear, there has always been a healthy streak of mischief and subversiveness in our students.



Current students appeared as extras in the recent remake of St Trinian's

Reminiscences

'We made it our mission to bend the school uniform rules as much as possible so that we could retain some semblance of individuality. We hated the A-line skirt which was a hangover from the late '70s but a friend of mine was lucky enough to have older sisters and she inherited an old-style skirt which was quite fitted. I was very envious so I took my skirt in down both sides to achieve a similar look: it was so tight I could barely walk in it and riding a bike became a real challenge. Big jumpers were very trendy so we all marched down to M & S to buy the biggest men's navy blue jumpers we could find – they were loose and shapeless and came down to just above the knees and the sleeves were so long that they hung off our arms. Someone discovered that if you waved your sleeve over a Bunsen burner it turned the synthetic material bright orange so, naturally, we all did this.'

'I have no idea why we did this, but one morning we decided to smuggle the boyfriend of one of our friends into the school to show him around. We were skiving off assembly and we had to creep past the glass doors, keeping low, so as not to be seen by the congregated school inside. I'm afraid to say we didn't get very far: as we approached the locker room next to the old dining room, we heard the click-click of teacher footsteps approaching. In a moment of panic, we quickly stuffed this poor lad inside one of the full-length lockers and shut the door, leaving us lounging (in a way that can only be described as pure nonchalance) against the doors of the lockers. Unfortunately for us, Perse-teacher-nous for sniffing out a boy in the vicinity must be a practised art, and the locker door was opened to reveal the frightened young man wedged uncomfortably between coats and books...

Once we discovered that the wooden blocks of the parquet flooring in the Physics lab were loose. We spent an enjoyable lesson hidden from the teacher's view behind one of the benches, happily pulling up the blocks to find a hole between the joists underneath. Reaching down into this grubby gap, to our delight, we fished out an old piece of paper. It was a note from an old student! A solemn greeting from the past, and a request that, if any student should find this hole and this note, then they too should add their own notes and greetings... We spent the rest of the lesson writing excited responses and stuffing them down the hole, before neatly replacing the parquet blocks and sealing up our little window to the past...

There was of course the time when we stole all the forks from the school canteen (slowly over a number of weeks, hiding them meticulously in a locker) and then spent days hysterically enjoying the complete bewilderment of the kitchen staff and the awkward embarrassment of everyone, staff and students alike, struggling to eat with a spoon and a knife!'



This photograph of Miss Kennett (Headmistress from 1909 until 1926) was taken secretly during a lesson by a student in the 1920s, Jacquetta Hawkes, using a concealed box camera. In 1981 Jacquetta Hawkes revealed to the then Head of History, Heather Cubitt, that she had sold copies of the photographs of her teachers, taken surreptitiously, to her school friends.



Rarely lost for words

Whether speaking or writing, Perse girls have rarely been lost for words in pursuit of an argument or in defence of a cause.

A current student reflects upon the possibilities presented by a blank sheet of paper.

'It's completely blank, leaves everything to the imagination. You could fill it with anything: lyrics, pictures of dreams. It can be taken as boring at first glance, but upon second glance you see the possibilities. At school you are being prepared for life. You are an empty cup ready to be filled with knowledge. Each different lesson is like a pen poised above the paper, ready to make a mark and permanently change the page. As you continue with your work, your choices become more refined. You start with a whole spectrum of colours to create a basic shape on the page. But eventually you will be using only a few of these colours to add the finishing touches. It may take time for you to decide upon your final choice, or you could be very decisive. It is all up to you. However, either way, the final product is bound to be something to be proud of. It will be something you have spent time on and have given a personal touch. It will be individual to you. The final step is merely to frame it and show the world what you can do.'

(Isobel Hale, Year 10)

Publications past and present:

- 'The Persean' - published 1894-2009
- 'The Peligraph' - newspaper produced by the Sixth Form
- 'The Perspective' - magazine produced by Years 10 and 11, available online
- 'Persephone' - the Junior School magazine
- 'Interperse' - the languages magazine, produced annually in our L6 news day

A volume of early copies of 'The Persean' and the most recent edition of 'The Perspective'

Object 4: publications



School tools old and new: slate, exercise book, iPad

Winner of the Writers' Club poetry competition 2011

Sitting on the windowsill,
 her music reduces the world to a silent movie, in which she plays
 an unaccredited extra.
 Raindrops waltz down the glass pane,
 one beat out from the music,
 just like her,
 one beat out from the world.

Lavinia Abell (Year 10)

Alumnae

Margery Allingham Detective fiction writer

Taqui Altounyan Writer and traveller

Daisy Bridgewater Newspaper columnist

Christine Carpenter Historian

Lizzy Dening Journalist and poet

Jacquetta Hawkes Archaeologist and writer

Lucy Hawking Journalist and novelist

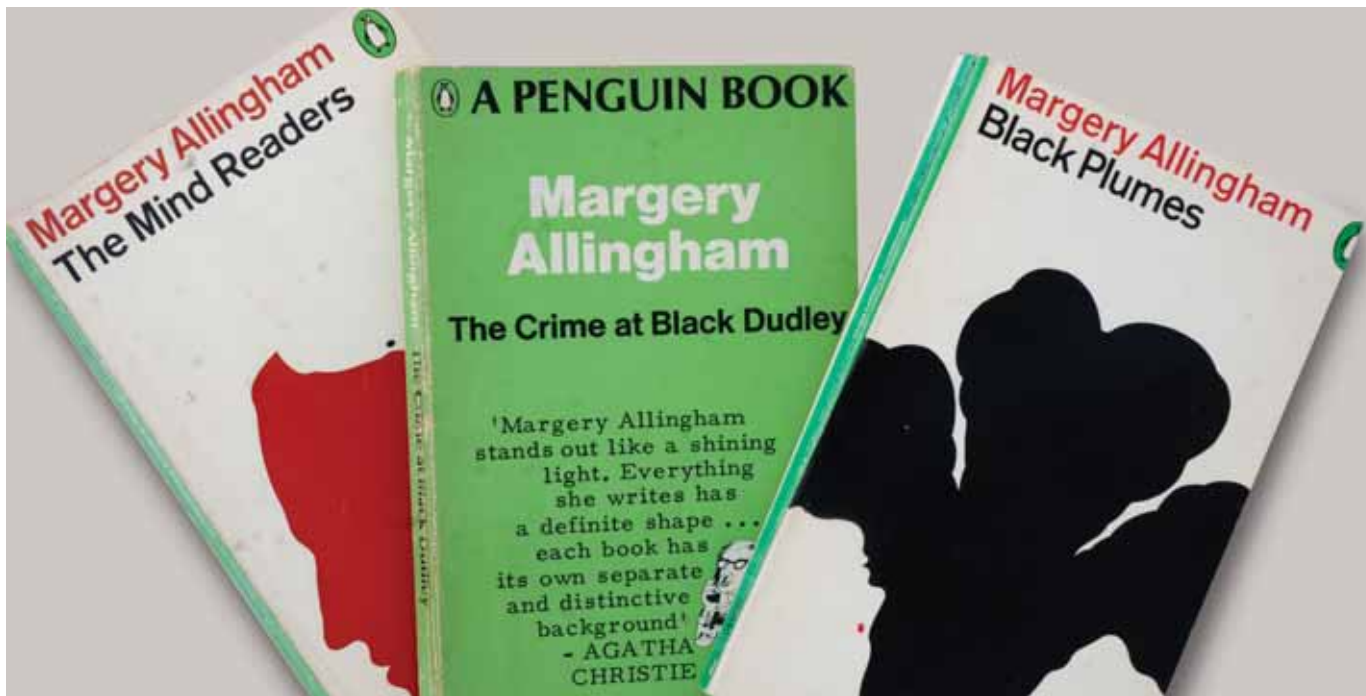
Philippa Pearce Children's writer

Ella Gwendolen Rees Williams (Jean Rhys) Novelist

Angela Rumbold Stateswoman

Barbara Wootton Social reformer, writer and public speaker

Novels by Margery Allingham, donated to the School Archive



Charity begins at school

Perse Girls has enjoyed a long association with Barnardo's.



Object 5:
Barnardo's
collecting box, 1940s



Reflection

'I remember clearly the magical moment before I went off to school when my Mum gave me FIVE WHOLE POUNDS to spend. To this day, Barnardo's remains a favourite Perse Girls pastime and a generally brilliant excuse to fill the dining room with excessive amounts of liquorice, stock up on fake nails and create a kind of haze on the ceiling of your classroom due to the sheer volume of hairspray that is just essential when attempting to raise money, and will hopefully continue to be for years to come.'

(current Year 11 student)

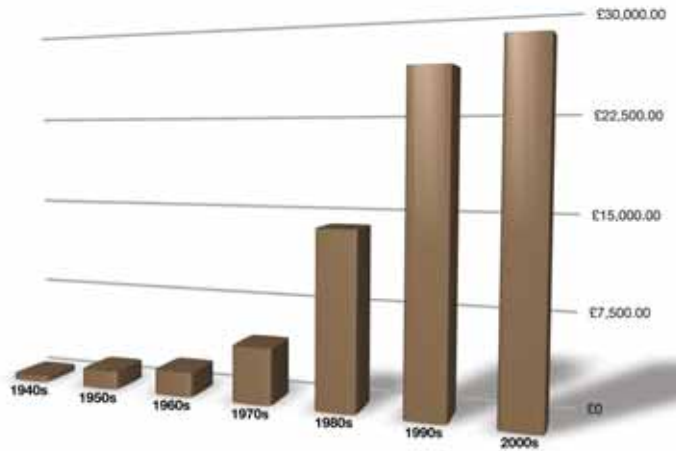
In recent years, while remaining loyal to Barnardo's, we have diversified our charity fundraising efforts.

Reflections

'We had fun wearing hats for Haiti.'

'I liked wearing silly socks for Sumatra and Samoa.'

(current Junior School pupils)



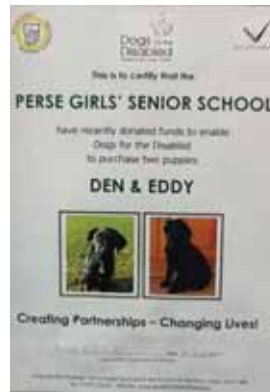
Amount Raised for Charity by Decade



Fundraising for SOS Children's Villages



Ocean Angels raise money for Cancer Care



Supporting Dogs for the Disabled



Continuing our commitment to projects in The Gambia



Raising money for a local charity

Alumnae

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Isabel Hill | Ran two marathons in two weeks to raise money for charity |
| Christina Musson | Is working with deprived children in inner-city New York |
| Elizabeth Walker | Serves as a volunteer for Kidsco |
| Fiona Waller | Rowed across the Indian Ocean as part of the Ocean Angels team to raise money for Breast Cancer Care |

L'esprit de son âge

Il faut savoir montrer l'esprit de son âge et le fruit de sa saison.

So runs the School's motto and, when our students and staff express the 'spirit of the age', it is very often in a foreign language. Our curriculum has always reflected our international-mindedness, with French and German featuring on the timetable from the earliest days and Russian being added in 1950. Our current curriculum also includes Spanish and Italian, as well as Japanese in the Sixth Form. During WWI and WWII, the School welcomed many refugees from overseas. In 1932, 1938 and 1945 Perse Girls was awarded the Vase de Sèvres by the President of France as the best school competing in the Grand Concours of the Société Internationale des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre. In recent years, the School has taken part in two EU-sponsored Comenius projects and, in this connection, has welcomed students and teachers from a host of European countries, from Finland to Portugal.

Reminiscences

'The first memory of the School of a little refugee is of the generosity with which she was received there... While there were so many refugee girls at the School we had our own Jewish prayers. I am surprised in retrospect, though I accepted it at the time, that we were trusted to run these prayers ourselves.'

'My mother and aunt came to Perse [Girls] from Breslau in Silesia... Miss Cattley was involved with helping refugees as were many in the University and the fees were covered, but I don't know by whom. At one point my mother and aunt lodged at La Roche opposite Coronation Street, run by the French 'Mamzelles!' – they may have been fiction.'

'And then of course there were the trips to the Soviet Union, and subsequently to the Russian federation. How Vera Petrovna [Russian teacher 1973-99] managed to keep these going through all the years of the Cold War and then the Glasnost era and the Yeltsin years I just don't know.'

In 2004 Perse Girls was awarded an International Schools Award by the British Council. This was renewed in 2007 and 2010.



Object 6: commemorative plaque

Plaque recording the participation of Perse Girls in the Grand Concours of the Société Internationale des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre, 1930



Work experience in France



Keio exchange (Japan)



USSR 1976



USSR 1976



Russia 2010



Flanders



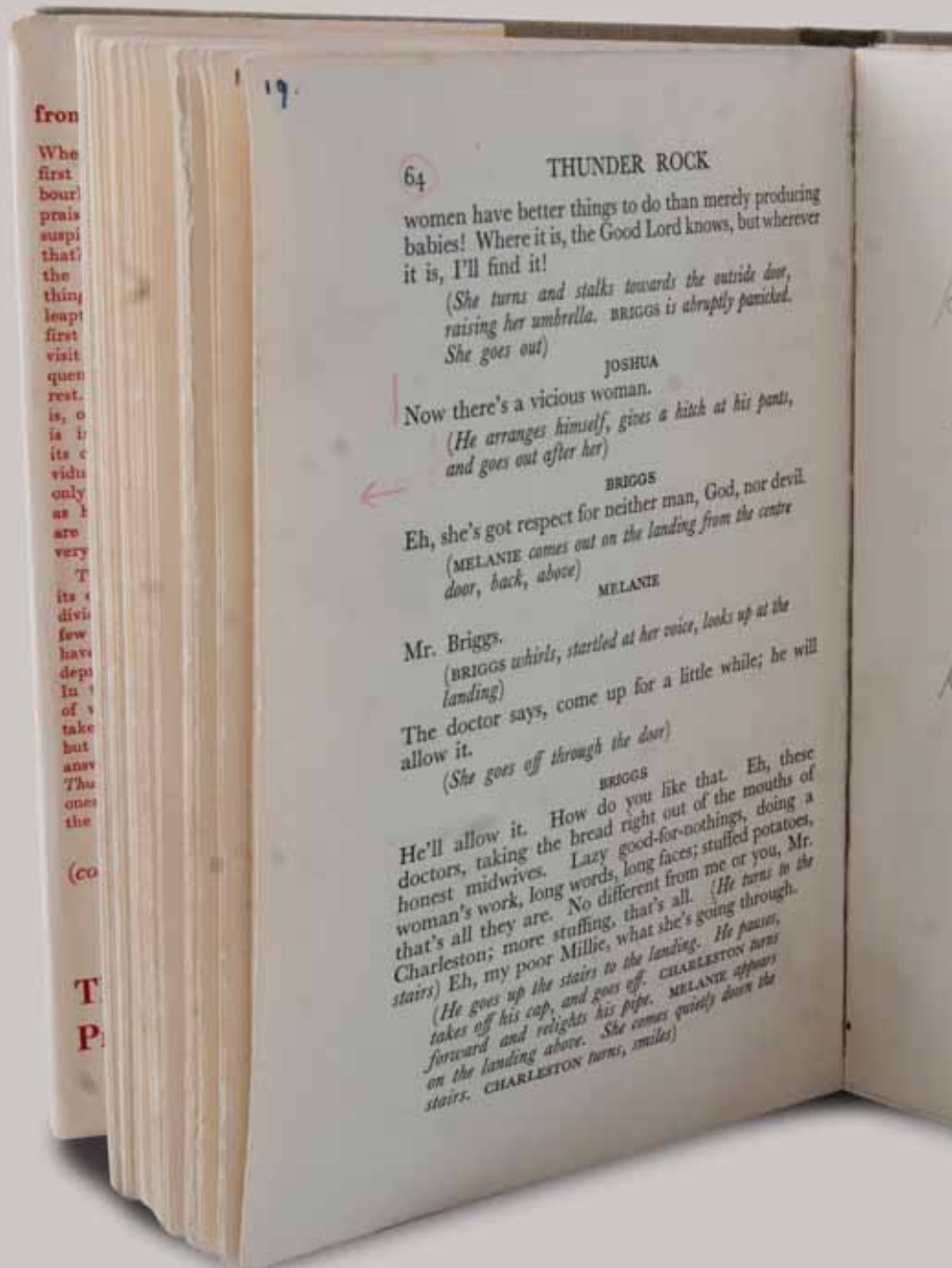
The Gambia project



The Baldwin exchange (USA)

Alumnae

- Joanna Brooks Policy advisor to the United Nations Development Programme
- Bridget Kendall BBC Moscow correspondent 1989-95
- Imogen Mollet Translator and administrator for the United Nations
- Myrtle Wright Peace activist and translator of Norwegian



Object 7: annotated play script belonging to Miss Cattley

From page to stage

Although Drama only gained a place in the curriculum in the 1970s, it has always been an important part of the School's cultural life, with frequent school productions giving students of all ages an opportunity to perform.

Reflections

'Drama at Perse Girls offers a wide range of opportunities, from working backstage to performing in a variety of different and interesting productions that explore many topics, time periods and texts.'

'The rehearsals are always very challenging yet enjoyable and the final product is always something to be proud of.'

(current Senior School students)

'I really enjoy doing Scottish dancing and performing a display to parents and making friends in different year groups.'

(current Junior School pupil)



Annotated libretto and score from 'The Princess' – an opera commissioned and performed to mark the centenary of the School, 1981



42nd Street (Years 10 – U6)



Alice in Wonderland (Year 6)



Dracula (Years 8 & 9)



Audience (Sixth Form)



West Road concert 2011



West Road concert 2011



West Road concert 2011

Alumnae

Melanie Armistead Singer

Victoria Ball Currently performing in *Macbeth* in the USA

Kate Sagovsky Theatre director - recently appeared on the plinth in Trafalgar Square

Miss Street, a keen music lover, included singing in the curriculum from the earliest days. Ever since, music, whether choral or instrumental, classical or contemporary, has been part of the life-blood of the School.

Reflection

'Aside from the incredible performance opportunities, from school concerts to tours abroad, what I enjoy most about music at Stephen Perse is the really friendly atmosphere. Whether it's rehearsing a small chamber group or pulling together a large-scale symphony orchestra performance the environment of support and camaraderie has always been very strong.'

(current sixth-form student)



Object 8: portrait of Stephen Perse

State of the art

Reminiscence

'For one of my pieces of Art GCSE coursework I painted a mural on the builders' hoarding which was up around the building site constructing the new RE rooms. In true Perse Girls fashion, (a characteristic which, unbeknownst to me at the time, was going to shadow my every endeavour) I was wildly over-ambitious in my plans to cover every last corner of the 10-metre-long hoarding in paint. I ended up racing against the builders who were finishing the building and threatening to remove the boards. I remember being allowed to come in to work on the mural during the final weekend of the building works, and, depressingly, I just got it finished and (poorly) photographed in the fading evening light, before the builders chucked the whole lot in a skip the following day, and the lovely new building was unveiled. Luckily the photos turned out well enough for the Art GCSE coursework...

I remember Art being very strict when I was a student at Perse Girls. We had to work in complete silence during ceramics lessons, and weeks and weeks were spent learning how to wedge the clay and roll it out in exactly the right way. I remember there was a strict method for how we had to wipe the tables at the end of each lesson, working the wet sponge over the table in straight overlapping wipes perpendicular to the edge of the table. Woe betide any student who had left a gap between the strokes of their sponge!

I've been lucky enough to be able to return to the School recently and see how much the Art department has changed. The new Visual Arts Centre now has not only state-of-the-art facilities but also a friendly and relaxed attitude. The students are allowed to express themselves through their work and given the freedom and encouragement to create unique and exciting pieces through media which range from animation to textiles.

My mother also went to Perse Girls, and she used to tell us stories of an Art teacher (I think she taught Art) who used to keep a miniature hip flask wedged in her cleavage, and every now and then she would nip behind the blackboard (a free standing one in those days) for a little swig... Now I am a teacher myself I fully understand this need!

This unusual portrait of Stephen Perse, featuring the pelican, was painted by Jane Bednarczyk, Head of Art at Perse Girls from 1966 to 1995. (She died in 2007.)



Textiles projects past and present



Students are allowed to express themselves

Alumnae

Em Cooper

Film-maker

Claerwen James

Painter

Nicola Westgarth-Flynn

Won the Young Designer competition in 2009



Object 9: hockey stick

Much more than jolly hockey sticks

Games were not at first considered part of the curriculum and the first fixture, a hockey match against Yarmouth High School, occurred a full sixteen years after the School was founded. Since the turn of the last century, however, sport has been a vital part of school life.

Hockey teams through the years



In the 1954 team Josephine Cherry is on the back row, third from the right.



In 2010 Perse Girls won the U16 county championships

This hockey stick was donated by Mrs Josephine Brearley (née Cherry). It was used by Josephine and her sister from 1946 until 1954. Josephine played in the First XI in 1953/4.

From drill to scull: sport through the years

Among our current students are sportswomen competing at national level in cross-country (Charlotte Gillard), swimming (Georgia Crawford), table tennis (Lucy Zhu), orienteering (Flossie Mills) and hockey (Alex Cullen), and at international level in pistol shooting (Anna Rehfisch), dressage (Ella Garfoot), fencing (Chloe Mullins) and golf (Miranda Brain).



Alumnae

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lara Abrahams | Equestrian |
| Stephanie Cook | Olympic Gold medallist in pentathlon |
| Caroline Hamilton | Polar explorer and skier |



A Perse girl's homework diary found in the Chemistry lab

To mark the School's 130th birthday, a competition was launched among the students to choose an object which best reflected life at Perse Girls in 2011 and to write a commentary upon it. Here is the winning entry.

'A Perse girl will undoubtedly leave her homework diary in a Chemistry lab at some point during her time at the school. Nobody knows why, but it's always the Chemistry lab. This is a traumatic experience – without a homework diary your whole life will spiral out of control.

As you open the battered front cover, revision notes and sheets of homework will undoubtedly fall to your feet. Some scribbled on, some untouched, some half-done but most complete. Party invitations and last year's Christmas cards will also be floating to your feet. Perhaps too a letter for a pen-friend or a note from a parent, which was supposed to be handed in at reception last week.

As you open the first page, scrawled writings of in-jokes and harmless banter can be seen. One name will be repeatedly re-written, surrounded by hearts and in the midst of song lyrics.

Each page has the day's homework written out immaculately and the date of tests written in bold. Next to the phrase 'no homework' there's a little smiley face and on every other week a note can be found from a friend, reminding you of their birthday.

Now that you've had a sneaky peek, you should probably pick up all the papers and stuff them back in the front cover, where they belong, as at this very moment the owner will be despairing at the loss of their academic-year-long friend.'

(Sophia Rolt, Year 10)

Object 10: homework diary

Forward



As you can see from the preceding pages, the past 130 years of Perse Girls education has been characterised by an interesting mix of the erudite, the exciting and the eclectic. A good school does not stand still and we will continue to offer a genuinely independent education that celebrates the curiosity, spirit and individual personality of every pupil. We will always strive for excellence, not only in the academic realm but also in the visual and performing arts,

and in sport and music, encouraging pupils to learn new skills and develop their talents.

The achievements of Perse Girls stem from a fun, inspiring and challenging education that puts creative and critical thinking at its heart. In every lesson we aim to foster habits of learning that best prepare our pupils for an ever-changing, global, digital world, an exciting future full of unknowns. The very special relationship between teachers and pupils fosters a shared excitement about ideas and educational discovery. Our passionate and highly-qualified staff bring creative energy to every class and activity, opening young eyes to opportunities and possibilities. Horizons are broadened by engaging with the local community and developing a national and international awareness.

The Stephen Perse Foundation is committed to extending access to the schools. As we look forward, we must find the best way to fund additional bursaries so that any child with the potential to be a bright, enquiring learner, can enjoy and benefit from the education, regardless of their previous schooling and whatever their background. We hope that pupils and parents, past and present, will support our goal of providing an education that truly prepares our pupils for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century.

Tricia Kelleher
Principal
The Stephen Perse Foundation

- 1881 – School founded
- 1894 – First edition of *The Persean*
- 1897 – First sports fixture
- 1902 – Old Perseans' Guild formed
- 1904 – Natural Science Club formed
- 1909 – Miss Street retired
- 1912 – Literary Club formed
- 1913 – School orchestra founded
- 1917 – Art Club formed
- 1920 – Kindergarten closed
- 1926 – Miss Kennett retired
- 1927 – Houses established
- 1935 – Current Events Club formed
- 1939 – Music Society formed
- 1942 – Dramatic Society founded
- 1945 – Parents' Association established
- 1948 – Junior department opened in Bateman Street
- 1949 – School uniform became compulsory
- 1952 – Last boarding house closed
- 1953 – Peacock Panels presented
- 1957 – Gymnasium purchased
- 1960 – Juniors moved to St Eligius Street
- 1962 – History Club formed
- 1967 – Miss Scott retired
- 1981 – Centenary celebrations
- 1985 – Fire caused serious damage to the Senior School
- 1988 – Lab Block opened
- 1989 – Miss Bateman retired
- 2001 – Miss Kelleher succeeded Miss Smith as Headmistress
- 2004 – International Schools Award granted
- 2007 – Baldwin exchange began
- 2008 – School renamed The Stephen Perse Foundation
- 2008 – New Hall and Dining Room opened
- 2008 – Stephen Perse Sixth Form College opened
- 2008 – Graffiti mural created
- 2008 – International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme introduced
- 2010 – Stephen Perse Guild formed
- 2010 – Stephen Perse Pre-Prep opened at Madingley
- 2010 – Named IB School of the Year by *The Sunday Times*
- 2011 – SPG Reunion and Concert to mark the 130th birthday



The Stephen Perse Foundation, 2010



Back Cover: graffiti mural

Sources and acknowledgements

M H Cattley *Perse School for Girls, Cambridge, 1881-1956* (Cambridge, n.d.)

M A Scott *The Perse School for Girls: the First Hundred Years* (Cambridge, 1981)

Odette Abbasi; Lavinia Abell; Janna Allen; Eve Anderson; Helene Barrell; Celia Beadle; Rhushub Bidd; Emily Cooper; Mary Dicken; Abi Dow; Geraldine Dutton; Paul Fannon; Chloe Francis; Isobel Hale; Catharine Hanlon; Lilah Howson-Smith; Alice Jondorf; Tricia Kelleher; Bridget Kendall; Sophia Keynes; Anna Kilby; Kath King; Sheila Lynn; Catherine Mahey; Rebecca Marshall; Fina Mason; Christine McRitchie Pratt; Sandy McPhoenix; Katie Milne; Dan Murton; Jenny Neild; Lucy Norman; Dom O'Keefe; Barbara Pankhurst; Susan Passmore; Sophia Rawlins; Charlotte Redford; Sophia Rolt; Matthew Rudd; Catherine Ryan; Freya Sanders; Olivia Sherwin; Melissa Santiago-Val; Helen Stringer; Tabitha Thornton-Swan; Becky Walsh; Aidan Whyte; Ben Woolley; Caroline Wren; Natalia Zernicka-Glover

KILA SHISTARS 2008



Africa

Africa

AFRICA

