NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025



YOUNG STANNERS

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to those of you who have supported the second year of our Young Stanners Society. We have come together at some fantastic events over the past year, and hope that those of you who attended have enjoyed strengthening your connections, tapping in to new networks, and accessing professional support and guidance. In addition, the philanthropic impact of your donations continues to make a real difference to student life and opportunity here in College – thank you. Please continue to support The Young Stanners Society and encourage your friends and peers to sign up!



OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

In November 2024 our Young Stanners Society met in London for our Winter networking drinks event at Huckster in Paddington. It was great to welcome our most recent graduates and new members for a super night of interesting conversations, new connections, catching up with peers and even a game or two of big Jenga. We were pleased to be joined by current and former JCR and MCR Presidents who really do expand our vibrant alumnae network.

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Our most recent event was a Young Stanners **'Careers Perspectives Night**' in College - where we discussed, debated, and offered advice on the current realities of the job market.

This event brought together recent graduates (Young Stanners), current MCR and JCR students from St Anne's College, members of the Saïd Business School and wider University of Oxford, and notable alumni as guests and speakers.

Our first panel shared their journeys and insights around how to break into the job market and how to leverage your qualifications. Thanks to: James Zhang, Director of Strategic Programs, CMO Office at Splunk (Cisco); Valery del Carmen Salas Flores, Consulting Analyst, McKinsey & Co.; Ardi Kuka, Banking Supervision Analyst, European Central Bank; and Davis Muthoka, Enterprise Bus Lead, Amazon AWS, Dubai/Kenya.

The second panel, titled Government, Policy & Start-ups, offered advice on managing complex government programs, blockchain, AI, emerging markets, and careers in energy and sustainability. Thanks to: Nicholaus Rohleder, Co-founder Climate Commodities; Martina Blake, ChPP UK Government Advisor, European Space Agency; Doris Edem Agbevivi Project Lead (E-mobility, Renewables) Energy Commission, Ghana; and Christel Buchanan Founder of Pivotal, a BTC Secured Network.

We finished the evening with a dinner, followed by drinks and dessert in the St Anne's MCR.

The event was put together by our very active Young Stanner James Zhang - many thanks James!

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THANK YOU FROM DOM BIRCH, OUR OUTREACH OFFICER



"In the last year **over 60 Young Stanners** have made one off or regular donations to our **Young Stanners Fund**. Gifts like these help support our valuable **outreach programme**, which is **100% funded by donations**. Thank you. Your gifts in so many ways help support and inspire the students of the future.

Outreach matters. In a country where opportunity isn't evenly spread, it's the chance to open a door that might otherwise stay closed, and introduce Oxford to someone who never thought it could be a place for them. This year **24.8% of the pupils we've worked with receive free school meals** and **55.5% live in the most disadvantaged areas in the UK**. These are students who often have the fewest resources, the least support, and limited exposure to higher education. We show them that coming to Oxford University could **change their future**.

So far this year, we have run or been involved in **160 outreach events**, reaching an estimated 5700 students, teachers and parents/carers, with **120 different schools** across our link regions of **Hillingdon and Southwark in London**, **the North East of England** and beyond. Every Michaelmas, we speak to current students who say that without Outreach officers, they would never have found themselves at Oxford. **Without the Outreach Fund**, **we couldn't make this happen**. Donations to Outreach are what enable us to keep up the hard work to make sure St Anne's is the home of choice for the brightest students, no matter their background."

Dom Birch, Outreach Officer

MAKE A FREE WILL ONLINE WITH OCTOPUS LEGACY COURTESY OF ST ANNE'S COLLEGE

In partnership with Octopus Legacy we are pleased to offer our alumnae and friends the opportunity to write a will for free. There is absolutely no obligation to leave a gift to College. It is never too early to write your will and ensure that the people and causes you care about are looked after in the future.

The online service is absolutely safe, secure, and easy to follow. The customer service team at Octopus Legacy are second to none and you can call them on 0800 773 4014 if you need any support or to talk to a solicitor directly.

Write your will for free today

Online Will | Will Writing Service UK - Octopus Legacy

An alumna (2016) of College said:

"I found the process with Octopus Legacy very simple to follow and everything made sense. I had a small query and the Octopus team responded quickly and helpfully. I am very pleased to have seen St Anne's advertising the service and would recommend it to other alumnae"



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

Remember the Young Stanners is for you! Thanks to those who have provided feedback - there will be exciting events to come in 2025/26! Want to get more involved? Have a great idea for an event? Please continue to send your thoughts, comments, or suggestions to <u>stacey.kennedy@st-annes.ox.ac.uk</u>.

BENEFITS OF BEING A YOUNG STANNER

Don't forget that membership of the Young Stanners Society includes:

- Free entry to two annual Young Stanners professional networking drinks in London and Oxford
- Access to our free will writing service
- A discounted rate on all College events
- Careers events online and in-person
- Mentoring opportunities
- News on job opportunities and internships
- An annual newsletter
- Priority access to specific sector events or networking sessions
- A special edition 'Young Stanners' metal lapel pin



UPCOMING EVENTS

GAUDY - SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Join us for the annual St Anne's Gaudy which takes place on the Oxford Meeting Minds weekend. There is a whole day of activities planned in College, so why not get your friends together and book a table for the Gaudy dinner - a three course formal. Dinner tickets are £60 - but Young Stanners come for only £38.

LONDON NETWORKING DRINKS - THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2025

Our lively winter social will once again take place in Paddington, with food, drinks and games. This year's event will also feature an inspiring special guest to offer a short talk... watch this space as plans are confirmed! Free entry for Young Stanners.

FESTIVE CONCERT - SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2025

Experience the sound of the new Steinway baby grand at our annual Festive Concert. Enjoy mince pies and mulled wine with the College community. Free entry for Young Stanners members.