

Somerville College

**Mary Somerville Lecture 2018**

**Wednesday 28th October, 5.30pm**

**Dame Stephanie Shirley CH**

***‘Excluding the excluded’***

**Hosted by Jan Royall**

Dame Stephanie Shirley (85) was an unaccompanied child refugee who took her maths degree at evening classes and was a late pioneer of computing. In 1962 she started what became a successful software

company of women, for women; and then gave most of her self-made money away.

As the National Ambassador for Philanthropy in 2009/10 she took as her pledge

*Giving is a pleasurable act of desire and compassion*

*to help, change or challenge any aspect of society*

*by raising the bar on our capacity to be generous.*

Dame Stephanie is a Foundation Fellow of Balliol and on Oxford University’s Court of Benefactors. To-date

she has given £68m, some to IT (her professional discipline) but mainly to autism (her late son’s disorder).

The first woman President of the British Computer Society, she is a Companion of Honour and has been honoured by Cambridge and numerous other universities. Her TED Talk has had over 2m views

and filming of her memoir Let IT Go starts next year.

Flora Anderson Hall, Somerville College, Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HD

*followed by a reception, All welcome*

*Please email* [*principals.office@some.ox.ac.uk*](mailto:principals.office@some.ox.ac.uk) *to register and opt in to receive emails of our future events.*

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