

LRGS Alumni Newsletter

March 2022

A warm welcome to you from LRGS.

This term has been a busy one, recent activities include Science Week, the Biology Olympiad, LAMDA exams, Year 8 Geography field trips, Rugby Sevens and Junior Quiz success.

During the last week there have also been trips for GCSE History, DofE, the CCF, and rugby at Rosslyn Park and a major student-led Sixth Form conference at the University Cumbria, with speakers on themes of Action Against Discrimination.



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Very well done to all those involved in fundraising, all year groups have completed a sponsored set run this week in aid of Lenten Charities and our prayers are particularly with a number of LRGS families closely affected by the war in Ukraine. Well done to everyone who helped to raise over £2500 for the Disasters' Emergency Committee appeal in our own clothes day.

The latest Headmaster's letter to parents can be found [here](#)

As always, we love to hear from our LRGS community so get in touch with [your news](#), be sure to update us of any [change of details](#)

With best wishes,

Lorna and the Development team

LRGS Updates

Sixth Form Conference - "Discrimination and the forms it takes"

Congratulations to all members of the Upper Sixth team who were involved in putting together and hosting a conference for Lower Sixth delegates from both LRGS and Ripley to discuss discrimination, diversity and inclusivity at the University of Cumbria on 23rd March.



The day started with a thought provoking quiz followed by an inspiring speech from OL Andre Dallas (07-14) who encouraged delegates to use their imagination to conquer prejudice and stereotypes and take lessons from the past to create a positive future. Delegates then separated into three workshop groups to consider and discuss gender equality, racial diversity and sexism in the workplace.

The thought provoking event was extremely professionally organised and hosted, thank you to all of the guest speakers and huge congratulations to the Upper Sixth team for delivering such a wonderful event.

Lenten Charity fundraising



The "Pie a Sixth Former" event organised by Mrs Gibson's lower sixth form group was a great success and a lot of fun! Well done to the Senior Prefect Team for being such good sports!

Praesis Ut Prosis

Congratulations to the 23 Sixth Formers who each completed a 100km journey either by running, swimming or cycling to raise money for the people of Ukraine. The team travelled a total of 2300km (the distance between Lancaster and Kyiv). The team initially aimed to raise £2300, one pound for each kilometre but thanks to the generosity of supporters, they reached their target amount early and are now hoping to raise £23,000.

You can donate and find out more about the challenge [here](#)



Quiz Team Success

Congratulations to our Junior Quiz Team who triumphed over seven other very strong teams in the north-west regional qualifier of the Junior Schools' Challenge Quiz. The team started the final superbly, romping into a 550-120 lead at the half-way stage. Their final opponents, Calday Grange came back strongly in the second half but the LRGS boys kept chipping away and finished the game victors by a

score of 700-360.

Well done to Mr Rafferty and the Junior Quiz Team!

Alumni News

Sad news

John Heaford

We were sad to learn that OL John Heaford (50-57) passed away on 1st March. John was a long term supporter of the school and enjoyed attending the Manchester OL dinners. Our sympathies go to John's family and friends at this sad time.



Alan Snowball

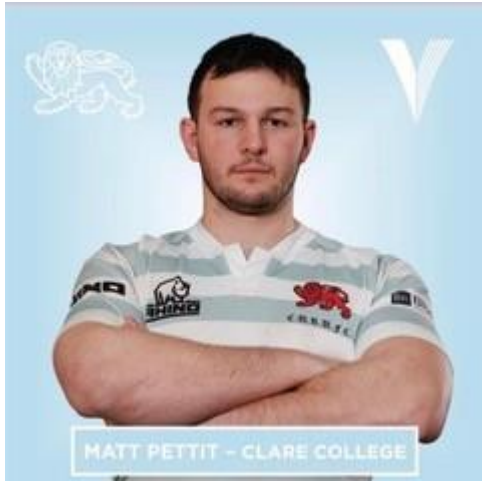
It is with the greatest sadness that we inform you of the passing of Alan Snowball (61-69), OL Club President. Alan died peacefully in hospital on Wednesday 2 March.

A full tribute will be published in this year's OLC Newsletter.

Congratulations

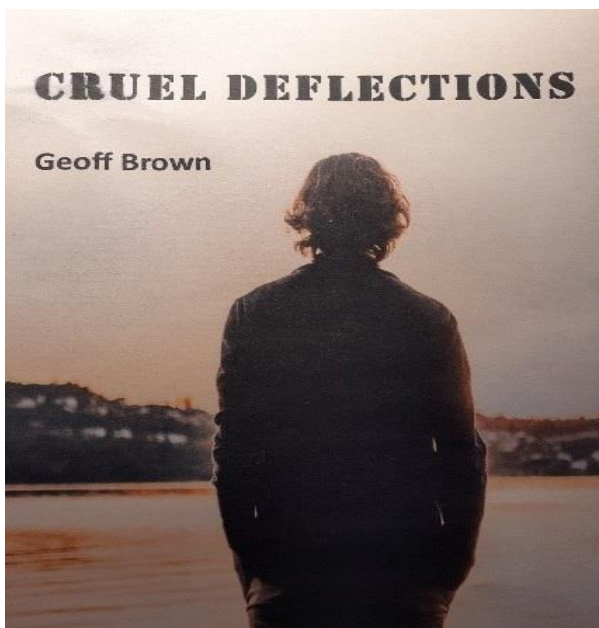
Many congratulations to OL His Honour Chris Critchlow LL.B, DL (62-69) upon his recent appointment as the High Sheriff of Surrey. During his Shrieval year, Chris aims to help all in Surrey who work with victims of domestic abuse, and to give support to the Police and agencies that are tackling violence against women and girls. It is a time of recovery from the adverse effects of Covid and this too will be an area of focus for Chris. You can read a full report and see additional photographs of the installation of Chris as High Sheriff of Surrey [here](#).





Congratulations to OL Matt Pettit (09-16) who has been selected to play for the Cambridge Varsity team at Twickenham on Saturday 2 April. Matt has battled against injury and fought hard for his place in the team - Good luck from everyone at LRGS!

Congratulations to OL His Honour Judge Robert Altham (77-84) who succeeds OL His Honour Philip Sycamore CBE (62-67) as Honorary Recorder of Lancaster. His Honour Philip Sycamore CBE is retiring from the role after 14 years. His Honour Judge Robert Altham is already Honorary Recorder for Preston, a position he has held since 2020.



Congratulations to OL Geoff Brown (54-62) on the publication of his second novel "Cruel Deflections". After leaving school, Geoff graduated from Sidney Sussex College Cambridge with an MA in Modern History and went on to have a business management career before spending thirteen years as a partner in Heidrick and Struggles a leading global headhunting firm. Geoff is widely travelled with a particular love of Italy and a member of Watford Writers.

Cruel Deflections has been described as "A complex and intriguing novel. I was carried along by the compelling storyline and a real desire to know how it would all end." (Michael J Lansdown author of Adam's Lock and The Land Beyond the Seas) and is available to buy from [TSL Publications](#) as a

[paperback](#) or [ebook](#).

News from abroad

We were delighted to hear from OL Roger Stringer MBE (87-94) recently. Roger is currently Her Majesty's Ambassador to Angola and São Tomé and Príncipe and after starting his career as a British Army infantry officer, transferred to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 2004.

During his time at school, Roger greatly enjoyed a range of sports, including rugby, cross country running and cricket. Regular adventure trips to the Lake District were also hugely enjoyable. During an Easter weekend camping trip with a school friend a broken gas stove meant surviving for two days on just three Cadbury's Creme Eggs, before reaching Ambleside and spending their (only) £10 note on an enormous fried breakfast...

Since graduating from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Roger has spent most of his career overseas, serving in Kosovo, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, South Africa, France and Angola. The OL tie has always followed on these assignments and is brought out for special occasions. Roger would be delighted to hear from other OLs or current pupils interested in military or foreign service, or simply wanting to be in touch. If you would like to get in touch with Roger, please contact the [Development Office](#).



Thank you



Thank you to OL Christian Powlesland (08-15), the latest speaker in our programme of John Gardyner lectures, for the fantastic talk to our U6 students. We were delighted that Christian was able to speak to our students (despite attending the Imison Award ceremonies that evening!) about his inspiration and introduce the award winning *The Chronicles of Wild Hollow* to a new audience, just ahead of the launch of series two.

If you would like to learn more about the wonderful world that has been created by the Shouting is Funny team, please [visit their website](#) where you can also catch up on series one of their fantastic broadcasts too!

Celebration of the Life of Douglas Cameron

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DOUGLAS CAMERON

You are warmly invited to join us on Saturday 7th May to celebrate the life of Douglas Cameron.

Douglas gave incredible service to the school and touched the lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals as teacher, second master, boarding housemaster, cricket coach, school governor and trustee.

Please join us on Saturday 7th May to pay our respects and to celebrate his life. The event starts in the Assembly Hall at 1.30 pm, after which light refreshments will be served before watching our 1st XI team play against King's School, Macclesfield.

There is no charge for the event but please make sure you reserve your [place here](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page for the booking form.

DOUGLAS CAMERON MEMORIAL FUND

We are also launching a Memorial Fund in Douglas' name to provide much needed additional spaces around the school site for all pupils to enjoy. From additional recreational spaces to covered seating areas, we have the opportunity to create dedicated spaces to help enrich the experiences of all pupils outside of the classroom - improving their fitness, their well being and their health.

If you would like to make a donation towards the DHC Memorial Fund, you can [donate on-line](#) or make a bank transfer to the school charity at Barclays Bank; Sort Code 20-47-61; Account number 70798282, using your name as a reference. If you elect to "gift aid" your donation this will add an extra 25% to your gift at no cost to you.

IN A CLASS OF HIS OWN - the life and service of Douglas Cameron. This tribute to a very special schoolmaster has been written by OLs and former staff with plenty of contributions from numerous individuals who knew him. The book costs £20 (+£3.50 P & P) and is available from the [Development Office](#).

Short trousers trivia

Thank you to everyone who responded to our question about the wearing of short trousers, lots of you got in touch with a reply, including the Headmaster of the time, Mr Joyce!

We understand that day boys were able to wear long trousers from September 1972. First year boarders continued to wear short trousers for a little longer but they were not part of the uniform from September 1974 onwards.



Event updates

[OL Oxford Dinner](#) - Wednesday 4th May 2022 in the Hall, St John's College, University of Oxford

[Celebration of life event in memory of Douglas Cameron](#) - Saturday 7th May 2022 at LRGS

[OL Cotswolds Dinner](#) - Friday 10th June 2022 at the Royal Agricultural College

OL Cricket Match - Sunday 26th June 2022, games starting at 10:30am on the Douthwaite

OL Founders' Dinner - Friday 8th July 2022 at the Midland Hotel, Morecambe

OL Manchester Dinner - Friday 14th October 2022 in the Players Lounge, Hotel Football

OL London Dinner - Thursday 3rd November 2022 at the RAF Club, Piccadilly

OL Durham Dinner - Friday 25th November 2022 at The Honest Lawyer Hotel

Please use the links above for full details and to book your place for the Cornwall and East Lancs dinners. Links to book a place at the remaining dinners will become available nearer the time.

Please continue to check our website and social media pages to keep up with the latest news.

Alumni in Scotland

We don't currently have a regional OL dinner taking place in Scotland, but should there be one?

If you would be interested in attending a dinner in Scotland, please get in touch with the [Development Office](#)

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We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.



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