

LRGS Alumni Newsletter

June 2022

A warm welcome to you from LRGS.

As you will see from the news articles below, it's been a busy month at school and we are delighted to see the return of some of our annual events as well continuing our school trips programme.

We warmly welcome our new Head of School team Oliver Biswas, Victoria Manifold, Ben Parkinson, Toby Rose.



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

Open Day

We were delighted to be able to open the school to visitors once again for our Open Day which took place on Saturday 18th June. Lots of fabulous pupil helpers and guides rose to the occasion, very many thanks to everyone involved!



EntreComp Certificate training



During half term, a group of Sixth Form students travelled to Cyprus to take part in an EntreComp Certificate training event. They collaborated with students from Sicily and Romania on entrepreneurial challenges designed to help develop the Certificate. They also enjoyed cultural activities such as a peace tour of the capital, Nicosia, and a visit to a traditional Cypriot village. They were delighted to be joined by OL Will Whitton (14-21), who is studying Medicine at the University of Nicosia. You can read a full account of the trip on the [school website](#).

Love to ride challenge

Congratulations to everyone who helped LRGS Cyclists win their pool in the Love to Ride challenge during May.

The Bike Month Challenge 2022 was one wild team ride. More than 41,000 riders teamed up and rode over 7.7 million miles and saved over 620,000 lb CO2 from entering the atmosphere - what an incredible achievement.



Jubilee tribute



Stamp Club created two fantastic display pieces, each consisting of 70 stamps, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, they also sent a card to Her Majesty to show her their work and send her best wishes on what was a most special occasion. Great work by the Stamp Club and Mr Talks.

Head of School team

We are delighted to introduce our 2022 Head of School team. Congratulations to Oliver, Victoria, Ben and Toby. You can read statements from each member of the team on the [school website](#).



Supper run



Well done to everyone who took part in this year's supper run; runners, marshalls, organisers, supporters, Friends, water squirterers - we had a blast! It was a fantastic evening and a very welcome return for this great event. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

Wimbledon bound

Congratulations to Y11 pupil, Tomáš and his tennis partner, Henry who have qualified for a place at this year's All England Tennis Club, Wimbledon. Click [here](#) for the full story, good luck Tomáš!



Additional Defibrillators



Many thanks to the Old Lancastrian Club for funding additional life-saving defibrillators on site.

They are now located at City View, Lee House, the Sports Hall, the cricket pavilion, Memo fields and the Medical Centre.

Share



Save



Boarding schools

Sir, Not all boarding schools are independent, so England's 31 state boarding schools should be central to Frank Young's excellent proposals for government-funded places for vulnerable pupils ("[Give spare places in boarding schools to children in care](#)", Jun 13). These state schools offer exceptional opportunities at lower fee levels. We can provide belonging, happiness and comfort to pupils from every starting point in life.

Dr Chris Pyle

Head, Lancaster Royal Grammar; chairman, State Boarding Forum

Alumni News

Sad news

Brian Beatty

We were sad to hear the news that OL Brian Beatty (51-58) passed away in February 2022 after a long illness. Brian passed away peacefully at home in Australia surrounded by his family. Our sympathies go out to Brian's family and friends.

John Brooke

We were saddened to learn that OL John Brooke (61-63) passed away on 26th May 2022, our thoughts are with John's family at this sad time.

Ian Graham

We are sad to report that OL Ian Graham (54-60) passed away on 24th May 2022, our sympathies go out to Ian's family at this sad time.

Congratulations

Congratulations to OL Josh Lancaster (02-09), a new world record holder! Josh smashed the previous world record of a single arm dumbbell by lifting 96.7kg on his first attempt on Sunday 12th June. You can read the full story [here](#).



Way of the Roses challenge



Congratulations to OLs Ben Layton, Paul Hutchison and Michael Jones who recently cycled the Way of the Roses. Thanks to OL Peter Haughton for driving the support vehicle and providing much needed fuel at the first stop! Apologies GB Murgatroyd, JR Clark (all 95-02).

Ben very kindly sent us the account below, detailing the trip and the group's inspiration

"In 2019 we successfully conquered Belgium with a gallant oblique transection of the country in the name of Martin Sutherland. This was to be followed up a year later with a glorious victory cycle from Morecambe to

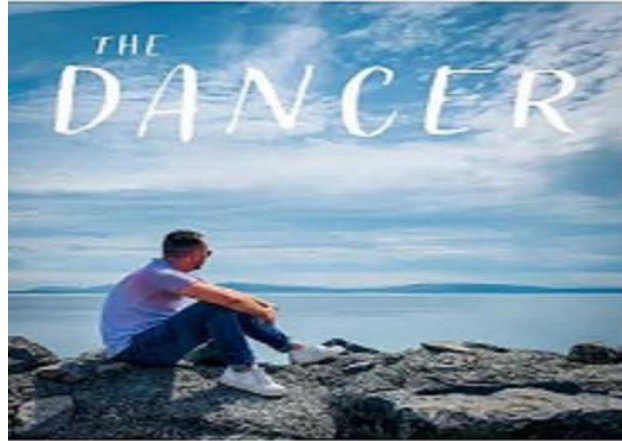
Bridlington, cleaving the nation in twixt. Unfortunately, world events put paid to the celebrations.

And so it was that that we would wait a full 3 years before embarking on the triumphant tour. With sponsorship secured from Fentiman's Botanically Brewed Beverages for a second time all six of us began training for the journey, fortunately time has been kind and this really was a piece of cake. Murgatroyd was the first to pull out with a last minute work commitment despite no firm date yet being set. Five quickly became four as a conflict in team and personal sponsorship deals ruled out Clark. Haughton pulled the short straw and reluctantly stepped up to drive the support vehicle meaning only three of us would actually be saddling up.

We set off at 08.30 hours from Morecambe where a crowd of 3 parents had gathered on Friday 17th June. Haughton followed the peloton as far as Wray in his stealthy hybrid BMW before turning back with a twinged hamstring. After various peaks and troughs, one minor accident, innumerable flapjacks and 2 sleeps we arrived in

Bridlington on the morning of Sunday 19th June. We await official confirmation but understand that a record pace was not set. Praesis ut Prosis."

Congratulations and good luck to OL Mike Haywood (02-09) on the release of his new single The Dancer which will be released on July 22nd. You can take a listen to the Dancer and keep up to date with future releases [here](#).



Congratulations to OL Patrick Dransfield (75-80) on the soft launch of his Audio Book, 'Inner Circle Book One: Duel of the Sorcerers' on 2nd June. Over two years in the writing, the Audio Book will be officially launched to download on July 11th - the legal content of the story is minimal but the hero is a trainee lawyer, Welsh-Chinese and Liverpool-based Paul Tian-Kermode - we find him in Liverpool's Chinatown in 1916. Visit [Patrick's website](#) to find out more and to order your copy.

Good Luck

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)

Good luck to OL Mark Houghton (77-83) as he embarks on his year long charity paddling challenge in the Lake District for mental health charity CALM. Mark will be paddling every single body of still water in the Lake District - all the lakes, meres, waters and even remote mountain tarns. There are approximately 120 locations in all. This has never been done before and Mark is doing it to raise funds for CALM - a national mental health charity that aims to combat suicide.

Mark has completed similarly ambitious charity challenges in the past, including a solo 400 mile walk from France to Lancaster to raise funds for the Alzheimers Society in 2015 and being the first person to run the Morecambe Bay Cycleway (81 miles from Barrow to Glasson Dock) in 3 days the following year.

Mark began this latest challenge on 4th June by paddling across Yew Tree Tarn near Coniston and has also recently paddled Red Tarn in Langdale and Greenburn Tarn in Tilberthwaite. He expects his challenge to take a year to complete.

You can keep up to date with Mark's progress by following him on [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#) and help him to reach his £10,000 target by giving a donation [here](#).



Event updates

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

OL Golf Tournament - Friday 1st July 2022, last few places available, please contact [Andrew Jarman](#) if you wish to take part.

Art exhibition - Friday 1st July 2022, 3:30pm - 7pm, see below for details

[5 and 10 year reunion](#) - Friday 1st July 2022 from 7pm in the Grab and Go, see below for details

OL Club AGM - Friday 8th July 2022 at the Midland Hotel, Morecambe

[OL Founders' and 50ish reunion Dinner](#) - Friday 8th July 2022 at the Midland Hotel, Morecambe

Morgan and Classic Car rally - Saturday 9th July 2022 starting at the Midland Hotel, Morecambe, please contact the [Development Office](#) for more information if you would like to take part.

OLLCC v LRGS cricket match - Wednesday 20th July 2022 at Esher Cricket Club, more details to follow

[OL Cotswolds Dinner](#) - Thursday 1st September 2022 at the Royal Agricultural College

CCF plaque unveiling and champagne reception - Friday 2nd September 2022 in the Armoury at 17:30, please contact [Dr Rowe](#) if you would like to attend, all ex-cadets are very welcome!

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 reunion, Founders' and / or Cotswolds 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.

5 and 10 year reunion - Final Call

E mails to the Classes of 2012 and 2017 have been sent out. The reunion event will take place on **Friday 1st July at 7pm**, please see our [website](#) for full details and to book your place (you need to scroll to the bottom of the page), we look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to contribute to your year group's Reunion Booklet, please send your photos and updates to the [Development Office](#) as soon as possible.

LRGS Artists, Past and Present

We invite you to join us for an exhibition of art on **Friday 1st July from 3:30pm - 7pm** in the Art Department, International Building.



Contributors include current pupils, OLs, staff and friends of the school and pieces will be on sale during the event. Further details will follow nearer the time and we look forward to seeing you there. Many thanks to the artists who have contributed to the exhibition.

[Update Your Details](#)

[How You Can Help LRGS](#)

We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.



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