



LRGS Alumni Newsletter

November 2023

A warm welcome to you and all our new students and boarders from LRGS.

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](#) and be sure to update us of any [change of details](#)

With best wishes,

Lorna and the Development team



LRGS Updates

Speech Day 2023

We were delighted to welcome OL Professor Sir Peter Ratcliffe FRS Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2019 back to school on 10 November. Sir Peter held a lunch for Senior Prefects and some of our Speech Day prizewinners and then hosted an interactive session with our Sixth Form Chemistry and Biology students. Sir Peter attended LRGS between 1965-1972, then went on to study Medicine at the University of Cambridge. He later became the Clinical Research Director of the Francis Crick Institute (London) in 2016 and won the 2019 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability.

Sir Peter was our guest speaker at Speech Day this year and very kindly also officially opened our new Biology laboratory, a project that was made possible thanks to a Legacy gift from former LRGS teacher, Mr Noel Buller and funding from the Wolfson Foundation. A full photo gallery from Speech Day can be found [here](#).





Swimming success

Well done to our Yr 7 & 8 swimmers for competing at the ESSA Swimming Secondary Schools' Team Championships on 18 November in Birmingham at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre. It was purpose-built to host aquatics at the 2022 Commonwealth Games!

Debating success

On 21 November, LRGS competed against 5 other schools in the North West in round 1 of the ESU Schools' Mace competition, the oldest and largest debating competition for schools in English and Wales.

After Stonyhurst were a no show Preston Muslim Girls' School were awarded a bye through to round 2.



The remaining debates were judged on points which were awarded for: expression and delivery; listening and response; organisation and prioritisation as well as reasoning and evidence.

We debated first and with a confident start managed to see off competition from the Bay Leadership Academy and Sedbergh to go through to round 2 with St George's, our debating opposition.

The judge praised their style and delivery, saying they presented well and their use of notes was unobtrusive.

They also signposted their arguments and managed points of information well.

Alice, Tayo and Sandy were our speakers this time but the whole team have been involved in preparing for a number of weeks after school.

The second round is in person late Jan-early Feb, good luck team!

Congratulations to our Stamp Club



We are delighted to report that our stamp club won 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the annual StampActive competition. The entries were displayed at StampEx London an International stamp fair. Congratulations to Alex 1st, Tanish 2nd and Peter 3rd. Alex's winning entry can be seen here.

The [stampActive website](#) features a short article about the LRGS stamp club written by Y10 philatelist Edward.

Alumni News

Bright Young Dreams

OL Jon Richardson (94-01) has joined forces with Lucy Beaumont, Dan Walker and Jessica Ennis-Hill to launch a new campaign to help tackle the children's mental health crisis. The campaign, based in Sheffield, aims to raise £5million to create a brighter future for children. Please visit the [Bright Young Dreams](#) website to learn more about the campaign's mission and for details on how you can help. We wish them every success for this fantastic cause.





STEM careers talk

We were delighted to welcome OL Liam Targett (11-18) back to school to talk to our pupils about apprenticeships & careers in STEM. Liam currently works for Jaguar Land Rover and our Product Designers really appreciated the opportunity to receive guidance from a past pupil and look around a new Defender. Many thanks Liam.

Congratulations

It is great to see OL Kirsty Maher's (21-23) running is going from strength to strength. Kirsty placed 3rd at the Irish XC champs and will now represent Ireland at the European XC champs in Brussels. Good luck Kirsty!



OL 12 Pubs of Christmas event



Old Lancastrian's 12 Pubs of Christmas!

We welcome all OL's to join us for the 2023 12 pubs of Christmas gathering.

Dress Code: Christmas jumpers

22/12/2023

Pub 0 - 16.00
Beer Hall Galgate
Pub 1 - 17.00
Pendle Witch
Pub 2 - 17.30
The Royal
Pub 3 - 18.00
White Cross
Pub 4 - 18.30
Borough (Tipi Bar)
Carol 1 - 19.15
Town Hall Steps
Pub 5 - 19.30
Hogarth's
Pub 6 - 20.15
Wetherspoons
Pub 7 - 21.00
Staggered Inn
Pub 8 - 21.45
Bier & Twist
Pub 9 - 22.30
Greens
Pub 10 - 23.15
Mint / Study Rooms
Pub 11 - 00.00
Crafty Scholar
Pub 12 - 01.00
Vibe / Generation

The route for the OL 12 Pubs of Christmas tour has been finalised, thank you to OLs Damon Hall (10-12) and Olly Jacques (06-13) for organising the event and creating the route map.

The event will take place on Friday 22 December, starting at around 4pm in the Beer Hall, Galgate.

It's a great opportunity for OLs from all generations to come and have a social drink with old friends over the festive period. There is no pressure to come for the full event, feel free to drop in anywhere along the route, the poster below provides rough timings for where the group expects to be throughout the night. We look forward to seeing you there!

GCSE and A level certificates

All 2023 exam certificates are now available for collection from the office in Lee House during the following times:

Mon – Thurs 8.30am - 4pm

Friday 8.30am - 3.30pm

Please note that certificates must be signed for upon collection.

Countess Eleanor Peel Awards

Postgraduate study awards – Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust

Former students of LRGS who are considering postgraduate study are entitled to apply for financial assistance from the Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust. This trust exists to help fund the costs of postgraduate study in the UK or abroad, including costs of study and travel, art or music scholarships. It makes grants of up to £600 per year per student. Please see the details on our [website](#).

Sad News

Thomas Wilson

We were saddened to learn that OL Thomas Wilson (41-49) had passed away recently at the age of 93. Thomas was Head Boy during his time at LRGS and was OL Club President in 1994. Our thoughts are with Thomas' family and friends at this sad time.

Old Lancastrian Club News



Event updates

Hong Kong Dinner on Tuesday 19 December at United Services Recreation Club, please contact OL [Patrick Dransfield](#) for more details.

12 pubs of Christmas tour on Friday 22 December in Lancaster

Durham drinks on Monday 6 February 2024 at the renowned Victoria Inn on Hallgarth Street

Leeds OL Dinner on Friday 9 February 2024 at Castle Grove, Headingley

OL Golf Day on Friday 28 June 2024 at Lancaster Golf Club

Links to book a place at the dinners will become available nearer the time.

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

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We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.



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