



LRGS Alumni Newsletter

April 2024

A warm welcome to you 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



Debating Team news

Congratulations to our Debating Team upon reaching finals day, it was a phenomenal achievement and the team really managed to hold their own against the best debaters from across England and Wales.

Oskar, Alice and Sandy, although they didn't make the final, are Semi-Finalists and Regional Champions for the North-West and North Wales which means they are one of the top twelve teams out of

an original pool of 360.

A number of people came up to them on the day, including other teachers, parents and members of the ESU to congratulate them on their performance and to compliment them on their speaking style. The judges said that they managed POIs and rebuttal incredibly well, being polite and calm whilst managing to deal with the questions and points put forward. 'You didn't miss a point' was their observation.

It was noted how well they worked together as a team, pre-empting points and engaging with intellectual debate.

The whole team were a model of good sportsmanship and were generous in their praise of others.

Special thanks also to Iona, Matthew, Tayo, Juan and Anthony who gave up Thursday evenings throughout the year to provide POIs, questions from the floor, judge their contributions and make them justify their positions.

Many congratulations and thanks to everyone involved!

Life lessons for our leavers

Our Upper Sixth pupils enjoyed cooking demonstrations from Mrs Sharples this month. They have received handy recipe booklets and are feeling ready and prepared to cook for themselves on a budget next year and beyond. Thank you Mrs. Sharples!



Lenten charities update

After counting every penny donated to our chosen Lenten charities, the grand total is a fantastic £24,055.76! From sponge the teacher to tug-of-war, auctions and raffles, games like cheeky chin & the hundreds of bake sales. A big thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts.

The charities benefitting are Cancer Research UK, British Red Cross, Team Reece Children's Brain Tumour and Cancer Charity, Money for Madagascar and the North West Children's Support Group

Friends of LRGS Gin Tasting event

The Friends of LRGS invite you to celebrate World Gin Day with them on Saturday 8 June at 7.30pm. This is an adults only event and all proceeds help support pupils here at school.

Please book your place by copying the link below into your browser



Come along for an informal evening of gin tasting and canapés in the Grab & Go. With stations set up for you to enjoy seven different gins alongside the various different garnishes and mixers, you can choose to learn about what mixes well with each gin from tasting notes, or simply enjoy a Summer evening with friends. Suitable for adults only. Tickets available at [Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/58996?). All proceeds go to The Friends of LRGS in support of the school.



<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/58996?>

Alumni News

Congratulations



Congratulations to OL John Goodridge (65-71) who has been appointed as the new President of the John Clare Society. An expert on the poet, John is Emeritus Professor of English at Nottingham Trent University and a Fellow of the English Association.

Congratulations to OL Kirsty Maher (21-23), Kirsty won the school Set Run last year and has recently represented Ireland in the U20 World Cross Country Championships in Belgrade, finishing 39th! A fantastic result, huge congratulations to Kirsty.

Congratulations to OL Judd Bennett (10-17) on winning this year's Pie Eating Competition, hosted by the White Cross Pub. Judd took just 8 minutes and 1 second to consume three pies and a pint. Congratulations Judd!



Visit to Vietnam

Thank you to OL Lewis MacPherson (11-18) for sharing his recent experience of a medical elective in Vietnam with us.



Lewis successfully applied to the Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust to help with funding for the opportunity to work within an alternative health system. Lewis shares his experience below:

"For the last month, as part of my final year of medical school, I have been living in central Vietnam in the old imperial city of Huế. The purpose of completing an elective abroad is to experience healthcare from a different perspective, and particularly in countries with a less established or funded healthcare system to see how they adapt to challenges that we are lucky not to face in the UK.

Whilst in Huế I spent three weeks working at the University Hospital, rotating between orthopaedic surgery, plastic surgery, and anaesthetics. I was lucky enough to be surrounded by enthusiastic doctors and nurses who were keen to get me involved as much as possible and to discuss the differences between Vietnamese and British healthcare. Over the three weeks I was able to get lots of hands-on experience in theatre to improve my surgical skills, as well as learning new techniques. There was also a noticeable difference in the severity of injuries that were being treated - more extreme than what I was used to in the UK as patients would often delay making their way to hospital.

For my last week I traveled to the Quảng Ngạn commune and stayed in a rural village homestay. Whilst there I worked at the local clinic in the next village over, and the district hospital, which had an exciting morning commute by boat over the lagoon. There I was able to experience traditional medicine, which is still very prevalent in rural areas, and the implementation of 'Western' medicine alongside this.

The cultural aspect was also extremely important and interesting, and whilst there I had Vietnamese language lessons, historical tours, and cooking lessons. I was also lucky enough to experience a more 'traditional' Vietnamese lifestyle in the village and learnt traditional farming and fishing practices.

I have absolutely loved my month in Vietnam, and am extremely grateful to the Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust for their generous grant which helped immensely with the funding of this elective. I have made memories that I am sure will stay with me for the rest of my life, and I can thoroughly recommend Vietnam as a travel destination!"

Former students of LRGS who are undertaking undergraduate or 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 study in the UK or abroad, including costs of study and travel, art or music scholarships. It makes grants of up to £1000 per year per student. Please see our [website](#) for full details.

NORCA fundraising

Well done to all involved in the Northern Company of Actors (NORCA) latest performance, TWO by Jim Cartwright. TWO usually only has two actors but 11 actors were involved in this performance, some playing different roles on alternate nights. It was set in a Northern pub so three different locations around Lancaster were used, The Brewery, The Golden Lion and The Pub.



The group, which boasts three members of staff and OL Morgan Cvetkovic-Jones (08-15) amongst its members raised another £2,000 for Rosemere Cancer Foundation and St John's Hospice.

NORCA have now raised over £4,000 for both charities with the productions they have staged!

5 and 10 year reunion

E mails for the 5 and 10 year reunion event have been sent out, the reunion will take place on Saturday 6 July, please save the date and spread the word! Full details, including how to book your place, will be shared as soon as they are confirmed. Please send your updates, photos and contributions for the Reunion booklets to the [Alumni Office](#) using the link in the e mails.

Old Lancastrian Club News



2024 Event updates

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

OL **Founders' Dinner** on Friday 5 July at Lancaster Golf Club

Cotswolds OL Dinner on Friday 13 September at the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester

London OL Dinner on Thursday 7 November at the RAF Club, Piccadilly

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

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

[Update Your Details](#)

[How You Can Help LRGS](#)

We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

[Lancaster Royal Grammar School](#)

East Road, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 3EF