

LRGS Alumni Newsletter

October 2025

A warm welcome to you from LRGS.

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

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

Congratulations



Our PE and Modern Foreign Language departments have both been awarded the prestigious Prince's Teaching Institute Award.

The PTI offers support to teachers by delivering a wide range of professional development courses and CPD events which are subject-

focused, empowering teachers to provide a rich subject experience for their students.

In the PE department, staff have been working on:

Key improvements to Schemes of Work - including more adaptive teaching strategies and methods to integrate our team of Sports Graduate Coaches more effectively within lessons, to improve the quality of provision for all pupils.

Pupil voice in PE - allowing pupils to share their experiences and give suggestions for improvements across the curriculum.

Inviting outside speakers into the department - Old Lancastrians such as Will Fraser-Gray (Sports Psychology), Anatomy and Physiology Workshop - Gill Rawlinson (Salford University), a visit to Lancaster University Sports Science facilities.

Continuing to provide an extensive extra-curricular programme - for this provision we are also reliant on a number of other staff members - thanks must go to these people too who volunteer regularly to give up their own time.

New extra-curricular clubs, including Gaelic football and Spikeball. More opportunities to do recreational activities (table tennis at lunchtime) - thanks to the Friends of LRGS for the donation of two additional tables!

In the Modern Foreign Languages department, the PTI were particularly impressed with the work that has been done by the department on pupil assessment and feedback.

Thank you

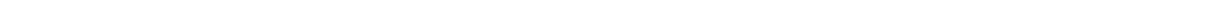


A huge thank you to OL Rt Hon Lord Don Foster (58-65), Chair of the House of Lords Select Committee on Justice and Home Affairs for conducting a fascinating discussion on some of the most pressing political issues of our time via videolink earlier this month. The group discussed a wide range of topics including digital ID cards, the rise of the populist right, and gambling reform. Lord Foster encouraged pupils to share and discuss their ideas whilst generously sharing his experience. A fantastic session, thank you to all involved.

Exploring Lancaster

Our Lower Sixth geographers explored the historic city of Lancaster with University of Lancaster lecturer, Dr Sunita Abraham, earlier this month.

The group were investigating how past connections have shaped the identity of Lancaster. The very name Lancaster is linked to Roman Lancaster meaning castle by the Lune. During Lancaster's heyday, the Georgian period (1714-1830), the slave trade enriched the merchants of Lancaster who built their fine town houses and the raw materials shipped across the Atlantic brought industrial growth. The former customs house (now Maritime Museum) was built in 1776, the old town hall, now City Museum, was built in 1781. Many stories were shared linked to the slave trade and the re-examination of what is arguably a dark chapter in Lancaster's past.



News from LRGsBC

Members of LRGsBC have produced a comprehensive newsletter containing the latest BC news, results, fixtures and dates of future events. Please visit our [website](#) to catch up on all the latest from LRGsBC, thanks to the team's captain, Hyrum, for this fantastic publication!

Alumni News

Sad News

Nick Holland

We were saddened to learn that OL Nick Holland (56-63) passed away on 4th September in Weldmar hospice, Dorchester. Nick, a huge cricket fan, was a life long supporter of school and was an umpire several times for school matches, most recently umpiring the OL vs Staff match held at Esher. Nick also discovered and developed his passion for choral singing and the army whilst here at school, both of which he continued throughout his life, eventually earning the rank of Colonel having been commissioned into the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in 1965. Nick was also a regular attendee of the Founders' and London OL Club dinners and will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with Nick's wife and sons and family at this sad time.

Frank B Holding

We were sad to learn that OL Frank B Holding (19-27) passed away on 1st October. Frank studied at Durham University upon leaving school and went on to become a librarian. Our thoughts are with Frank's brother and family at this sad time.

Congratulations



Honours awards

Congratulations to OL Peter Thompson (46-53) who was appointed MBE in the latest New Years Honours for "Services to the disabled globally". HRH Princess Anne presented the award to Peter at Windsor Castle

in July. A few weeks later, Peter, who is Founder of the charity Physionet, was made an Honorary Officer of the Order of Fiji during a visit there. Peter has helped to deliver more than 14,000 mobility aids to Fiji since 2009, Sitiveni Rabuka, the Prime Minister of Fiji, praised Peter's "invaluable contribution to Fiji".

Physionet is a charity which provides recycled mobility and disability equipment to people all over the world. To discover more about this amazing charity or to make a donation, please visit the Physionet website.

Troutfishing on the Tees Me and Tony Blair

Congratulations to OL Graham Dransfield (67-73) on the publication of "Troutfishing on the Tees, Me and Tony Blair" which is "A fearless satirical debut the twists politics, history and humanity into one sharp tongued rollercoaster.

A bold new voice in British satire releases a deadly funny and politically charged novel which pulls no punches.

Troutfishing on the Tees- me and Tony Blair is an irreverent imaginative and occasionally unhinged journey through the absurdities of modern society with a few familiar faces



Set in 2000, Oxford educated industrial chemist, Steve, enters into a declining industrial landscape in Northeast England, still recovering from the Miners' Strike. Undeterred, he believes that he alone can halt the decline with a little help from his local MP (yes that Tony Blair), whilst finally achieving a personal Holy Grail of his own company Ford Mondeo car. His dedication to the cause is diluted by his twin pursuits of glory on the cricket pitch and conquests in the bedroom, aided and abetted by the shadowy Chairman."

Graham was recently interviewed on Zetland FM and spoke about his experiences and inspiration for the book, you can hear the full interview (at approximately the 2 hour 20 minute mark immediately after the Robbie Williams track) by copying the link below into your internet browser.

<https://www.mixcloud.com/zetlandfm/zetland-fm-morning-mix-monday-22-september-2025/>

You can purchase a copy of Graham's book from the Book Dragon by copying the link below into your internet browser.

<https://thebookdragon.co.uk/product/preorder-troutfishing-on-the-tees-me-and-tony-blair-by-authors-graham-dransfield-patrick-dransfield/>



Congratulations to OL Nick Phillips (08-15) on completing his first IRONMAN (IRONMAN Barcelona-Calella). Nick says "The course was a humbling challenge - 3.8 km in the water, 180 km on the bike, and a marathon to finish - and an unforgettable feeling crossing the finish line!"

A fantastic achievement, huge congratulations Nick!

Just for fun

Thank you to everyone who got in touch to identify the members of the 1967 Cricket 1st XI team from the photograph kindly sent in to us by OL Roger Robinson. From left to right, those pictured are Roger 'Tosh' Robinson, Johnny Caton, Frances Buttle, Richard Sojecki, ADP Jackson, Michael Hart, D R Bennetts, EJ Rigg, TR Glover. Thank you to Eric Rigg for being the first to name all of the team!



Thank you to OL David Parker (59-66) for the photos below, the first image shows the 1st XV from 1965/66 including David Pogson (Back row extreme left, Hooker), Tim Barton (Front row extreme right, Prop), Lawson Spedding (Front row third from right, Prop) and Dave Parker (Front row second from left, Scrum Half).

The second photograph shows the same four OLs getting together (and still practising!) at Old Trafford to watch the Grand Final of the Rugby League Playoff.

David, Tim, Lawson and David would love to hear from the other members of the 1st XV 65/66 team, if this is you, please contact the [Development Office](#) and we can put you in touch.





Future Event updates

[London](#) OL Dinner on Thursday 6 November at the RAF Club, Piccadilly

Leeds OL Dinner at Masonic Hall, Castle Grove (date TBC)

Links to book a place at the above dinners will become available as soon as the details have been confirmed.

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

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