



## LRGS Alumni Newsletter

January 2026

A very warm welcome and Happy New Year 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

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### Chess success

Congratulations to the Chess A team who were victorious against Sale Grammar School in Round Two of the English School Chess Championships. They played excellently, winning every game meaning the final result was 6-0. Well done to everyone involved! Many thanks to the OL Club for recently funding the purchase of digital clock timers for the Chess Club.

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### Fundraising for Mind

Please show your support, if you can, to these two students who are undertaking a personal fundraising initiative to raise awareness of mental health support and raise funds for the charity Mind. They are challenging themselves to complete the Take The Fell 10K Trail Run at Beacon Fell in March. Good luck to you both!  
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/969va-raise-money-for-mind>

### SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

#### 10K Run & Charity Head Shave for Mind



We are **Oscar and Mandi**, Year 12 students at Lancaster Royal Grammar School.

We are raising money for **Mind**, a mental health charity, by taking on the **Take the Fell 10K Trail Run at Beacon Fell**, Lancashire, and completing a **charity head shave**.

Mental health affects everyone, and **Mind** helps provide **advice, support and services** so no one has to face it alone.

Scan the QR code below to donate:



#### Why this matters

We've both been lucky to have strong rugby teams, **family**, and friends supporting us through challenging times.

Not everyone has that support, which is why **Mind's work** is so important.

Thank you for supporting mental health.

**Thank you  
for supporting  
mental health.**

Thank you for supporting **Mind**.

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## LRGSBC update

Well done to all LRGSBC crews racing in Runcorn earlier this month at the Junior Head North.

The latest LRGSBC newsletter (entitled Michaelmas-2) can be found on our [website](#)



## Thank you from the Stamp Club

Our Stamp Club members would like to say a huge thank you to OL Hamilton Baxter (51-54) for the lovely calendars and stamps, sent to them all the way from New Zealand!

## 2025 Elf Run

Congratulations to Y7 and Y8 pupils who raised an amazing £1,469 for St John's Hospice by taking part in the 2025 Elf Run. Well done to everyone involved!



## **Casual Exam Invigilators**

We are looking to appoint a number of casual exam invigilators to expand our current team for the external exam period during May and June 2026. The successful candidates must be reliable, punctual and flexible with good communication skills. You must be able to follow instructions and exam procedures accurately in a calm, alert and professional manner. You should also be confident working with young people.

You should be available to work during the exam period from Monday 4th May to Friday 26th June 2026.

The closing date for applications is Friday 27th February and interviews are expected to take place week commencing 2nd March 2026.

Full training will be provided online and in person. The in-person training is expected to be week commencing 23rd March 2026.

Please see our [website](#) for full details

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## **Alumni News**

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## **Sad News**

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### **Dr John Raymond Brew**

We were sad to learn that OL John Raymond Brew (47-54) passed away on 10th December at the age of 89.

Upon leaving school, John studied medicine and became a GP in East Lancashire. John remembered his time at LRGS with great fondness and attended several OL East Lancs dinners.

Our thoughts are with John's wife and family at this sad time.

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## Alumni updates

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### Alum aims to run a 'Week at the Knees' in July, fundraising for Willow Wood Hospice in Tameside.

OL Travis Taylor has set himself an incredible challenge and would be really grateful for any support that you can give.

Travis writes, "A very good afternoon to the Old Lancastrian community!"

*I'm Travis, an alum of the LRGS Sixth Form (Deputy Head of School, 2021-22) and final-year undergraduate of literature at the University of Leeds.*

*Since leaving Lancaster, distance running has become a large part of how I moderate my life around a rigorous study programme. There's something about the sport that is universally unforgiving – it never gets any easier when you push past the threshold that you can comfortably endure. There's a beauty to that, I think, and more so to the hunger for excellence that endurance sports instil in you. You can always go a little further. These lessons in resilience and self-growth are invaluable and ones which I try to translate to every aspect of my adult life.*



*The sport has led to me reach some big goals, too. I began with the Great North Run in 2023 and returned to the course in '24. Then, I set my eyes on the next milestone, running the Yorkshire Marathon in October '24 and Manchester Marathon in April '25. Then, the next milestone, recently completing the Kendal Skyline Ultra 50K in November '25. So, as the end of my undergraduate studies approaches, I have decided to set myself a new challenge that will demand much more of me and, crucially, give more back to the local community in Tameside.*

*From Wednesday, 1 July – Tuesday 7 July, I will run a marathon every day, for those seven days. No big event nor organising company. Just me and this mission. Should I complete those marathons (which the unrelenting, mulish OL in me swears he will), I will run 295K across that week. So, although sometimes known as a '7-in-7', I am aptly labelling my challenge a 'Week at the Knees'!*

*Today, I am appealing to the goodwill and generosity of you all, the LRGS Alumni community. I am fundraising for my activity and am donating all proceeds directly to Willow Wood Hospice, Tameside. The charity provides specialist palliative care to communities in and around Tameside and Glossop, and is very close to the hearts of my dear girlfriend's family. I champion Willow Wood's dedication to caring for their local area and ask that you donate as amply as you're able to. Should you wish to support me in my endeavours on their behalf, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/week-at-the-knees> to donate or for more information. I have raised £360 of a target £1, 000 at the time of writing. I'd love for us to smash this total together! For updates on my training and the July challenge week, I am documenting everything @trav.tayl on Instagram.*

*So, a hearty thank you for reading and supporting. I know how powerful and extensive the Alumni network is, so I do hope to connect and reconnect with you all at future events and dinners. I extend my thanks to LRGS, the institution and family which taught me to be resilient in my adolescence, and to always strive for that which is virtuous beyond ourselves.*

*Never has Praesis ut Prosis rang truer.*

*Kindly,*

*Travis Taylor."*

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### **Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust**

The Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust exists to help fund the costs of study in the UK or abroad, including costs of study and travel, art or music scholarships. LRGS alums are welcome to apply to the trust, which awards grants of up to £1000.

You can apply to the Trust for

- Postgraduate research or the extension of a University course for any proper purpose approved by the University or by the Governors.
- Postgraduate courses at Universities outside Great Britain.
- Graduates who wish to enter Articles as Solicitors or Chartered Accountants, or to read for the Bar.
- Travel Scholarships.
- Art or Music Scholarships.
- Medical electives

Requirements

Applicants must be over 18 and must have supporting documents detailing their chosen course, length of study, recommendations from a member of University staff or referees.

**Please note that the Trust's funds are running very low and will not be replenished, you are therefore encouraged to apply to the Trust as soon as possible, before the funds are exhausted. Applications will be treated on a first come, first served basis in respect of the remaining funds.**

Please send applications and supporting documents to [Ms Lyndsey Winston](#)

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## OL CCF Dinner 2026

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the OL CCF Dinner on Friday 9 January. It was a fantastic evening with great food, special thanks to Dr Rowe and OL Peter Fisher for organising this enjoyable event.

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## OL get together

Thanks to OL Richard Gittins for this great photo. Richard, Michael Burrow, Sean Bullen, David Roberts, Paul Richardson and Dean Blackhurst, all from the Class of '83, get together a few times each year, their most recent catch up took place earlier this month at Pizza Magherita in Lancaster. It looks like it was a great night! If you have a get together with OLs, the [Development Office](#) would love to hear about it!



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## Just for fun

### "Brave Ashton House boarders risking CCF firing squad if caught having midnight feast"

Thank you to OLs Francis Buttle and Graham Davies (60-67) for the headline and this great photo of Ashton House boarders having an illicit midnight feast of chocolates and milk. Francis is sitting at the back of the group, can you name anyone else in the photo? Please get in touch with the [Development Office](#) if you can!



Thanks to everyone who replied to last month's "Just for fun" sent to us by OL Ian Lewis (83-90) showing Storey House boarders in 1983. Thanks to OL Richard Jordan (83-90) who was able to name everyone in the photograph, with the exception of the prefects. Alums in the photograph are Richard Ayres, Michael Devoy, Niall Gallagher, Richard Proudlove, Paul Thomas, Simon Steele, Gavin Postlethwaite, Jason George, Simon White, Richard Hankinson, Paul Warhurst, Julian Campbell, Ian Lewis, Andy Parkinson, John McPherson, James Hardman, Paul Dickens, Mr Harris, Mr Davenport, Mrs Middleton, Mr Gibson, Mr Horseford, Mr Sunderland, Mr Armitage, Phil Herbert, Nick Murray, Dan Cox, Adrian Hunter, Joe Hendley, Christopher Briscoe, Jason Bradley, Timothy Lee, Richard Jordan and Stephen George Tunncliffe-Wilson.

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### **Future Event updates**

[Manchester](#) OL Dinner on Friday 6 March at Lancashire CC

Oxford OL Dinner on Wednesday 29 April at Vincent's Club

East Lancs OL Dinner on Friday 1 May

Founders' Dinner on Friday 3 July at Lancaster Golf Club

Cotswolds OL Dinner on Friday 11 September at The Colesbourne Inn

Leeds OL Dinner on Friday 2 October at Masonic Hall, Castle Grove

London OL Dinner on Thursday 6 November at RAF Club Piccadilly

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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[How You Can Help LRGs](#)

We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.

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