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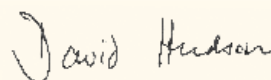
Welcome to the 12th edition of *Latin Life*

As you will see in the following pages, life is very definitely as busy as ever, both with Old Latins and current students. Prominent, I am sure, in both groups' minds this month will have been Remembrance.

In this year marking the centenary of the end of the First World War we have made a particular effort to ensure our students reflect on the reasons for remembering those who lost their lives. Staff and students have brought in the results of research into their own family histories with fascinating insights into how lives have been affected across the decades. Of course, it is right for us to continue to remember Old Latins who fell in the two world wars – their legacy is an important part of the RLS family history – and I was humbled, in our Remembrance Service, to

sit next to George Capel (one of our oldest Old Latins) who lost his brother Cyril in the Second World War.

You will see updates on visits from many Old Latins in recent months in this edition. I am so pleased that so many of you have been able to return to the Latin to meet former classmates and rekindle memories. It is also a pleasure to hear your memories and see how the school has developed over many years. Please do get in touch if you would like to organise a reunion or simply return with family or on your own – you will always receive a warm welcome.



David Hudson, Headteacher

1307

Old Latins receive Latin Life & event news on email. Please email us at latinlife@royallatin.org to add your email to our list and help reduce our postal costs!



481

Old Latins like our Facebook page for news, photos and the chance to share memories. Please search Facebook for [@rlsalumni](https://www.facebook.com/rlsalumni) and join in the conversation!



270

Old Latins are members of our group on LinkedIn and choose this as the preferred way to message us. Search for Royal Latin Grammar Alumni to join, or connect direct to Jo Ballantine



130

Old Latins follow us on Twitter for news and the chance to share Royal Latin stories with their wider network. Please follow us at [@rlsalumni](https://twitter.com/rlsalumni) and say hello!



We'd love to hear from you via any of these methods before the next edition of *Latin Life*, so next time you're online please take a moment to get in touch.
Thank you!

Remembrance

On Friday, 9th November our school community came together once more to remember those who gave their lives for us in war and conflict. This year, we remembered, in particular, the fallen of The Great War, with 2018 being the centenary of the end of that war.



The history department, together with students and other departments from across the school were busy in the weeks leading up to remembrance, preparing displays and tributes, creating a moving 'corridor of remembrance' next to the history classrooms, including work from students about Old Latins and their own family members who served during The Great War.

Silhouette figures of soldiers, 'dressed' to represent different themes of the War, including 'International', 'Theatre', 'Weapons', 'War Poetry', 'Chemical Warfare', 'Statistics', 'Medals' and 'Letters' were placed around the school, and there was also a striking poppy art display in the main school foyer, in memory of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



Belated additions to the RLS Roll of Honour for the Great War

In the lead up to the centenary of The Great War, our history department and archive team have undertaken careful research into evidence that has emerged to show that at least two Old Latins are missing from the official RLS roll of honour for 1914-1918 on our permanent memorials.

It has been concluded that there are definitely two names – namely Arthur John Pearson and Warwick Curtis – that were originally omitted, for reasons that have been lost in the mists of time. We were pleased to have confirmed their rightful place on the roll of honour in time for the reading out of the names at this year's Act of Remembrance at RLS, and are determined to rectify these omissions from the physical memorials as soon as is practicable.

Arthur John Pearson

Arthur John Pearson was born in July 1887 in Steeple Claydon, his family moving to Heath and Reach at some point in his early life. All the historical documentation points to the fact that Arthur attended the Royal Latin School, and we know that he was both Head Boy and Cricket Captain, going on to have a telegraphic career after leaving school, followed by a military life that saw him earning a Military Cross for his brave work in the Machine Gun Corps:

For conspicuous gallantry during operations. When held up by the enemy's wire after an advance through heavy fire, he established himself in a shell hole and held on for five hours. He then withdrew, bringing back his gun and a wounded man.

It was subsequently reported that Arthur wrote home to his parents, joking that the Machine Gun Corps was too dangerous for his liking and that he had decided to volunteer for the Royal Flying Corps – the fledgling form of the RAF – where, sadly, he earned his place in First World War history as the 25th victim of the infamous Manfred von Richthofen, 'The Red Baron', when he was shot down and killed on 9th March 1917 near Arras.

Warwick Curtis

Warwick Curtis was born on the 4th July 1886, and the 1901 census shows him attending the Royal Latin School. His came from a large farming family from Quainton and married a Quainton girl, Mabel Hughes in May 1916. During the Great War he joined the army as a Private, 1st Battalion, Queens Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment of the Royal Bucks Hussars. He was killed in action on 26th October 1917, and is commemorated at the Tyne Cot memorial at Zonnebeke.

We would love to be able to add both Arthur Pearson and Warwick Curtis's names to their rightful place on the RLS memorials – the stone memorial outside the main hall, as well as the brass plaque and wooden board in the school. The cost involved with adding these inscriptions will be significant (approximately £1,000). We have already received the generous offer of £200 towards this work from an RLS ex-teacher, and if you would be interested in contributing to the costs of this work, we would be very grateful to hear from you. Please email latinlife@royallatin.org. Thank you.

Royal Latin School Roll of Honour for The Great War 1914 – 1918

Charles Henry Bennett M.C.	Lieutenant (temporary Captain) Royal Bucks Hussars
Ernest W. Broughton	Private, 14th Battalion, Warwickshire Regiment
Cecil Butler	Private, 'A' Squadron, Royal Bucks Hussars
Arnold Samuel Clifford	Private, 10th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment
John Cox	Private, 2nd/1st Bucks Battalion, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
Frederick Charles Cabbage	Lance Corporal, 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment
Warwick Curtis	Private, 1st Battalion, Queens Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment, Royal Bucks Hussars
Cecil Vernon Gardner D.F.C.	Captain, 19th Squadron, Royal Air Force
Richard Percy Gardner	Private, 1st/28th Battalion, London Regiment (Artists' Rifles)
Percival Jonah George	Private, Royal Bucks Hussars
Herbert Douglas Hartland	Private, 101st Bucks & Berks Battalion
Gurth Holland	Private, Leicestershire Yeomanry
Tom Bennett Jones	Lance Serjeant, 4th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment
Sydney John Vickers Lester	Private, Royal Bucks Hussars
John Thornton Marshall	Squadron Serjeant Major, 2nd Mounted Canadian Rifles, British Columbia Regiment, Canadian Expeditionary Force
Thomas Morgans	Second Lieutenant, 7th Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry
Harry Spencer Parrott	Private, 20th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers
Arthur John Pearson M.C.	2nd Lieutenant, Northampton Regiment and 29th Squadron, Royal Flying corps
Harry Adams Priest	Chief Officer S.S. 'Sea Serpent' (London), Mercantile Marine
Reginald John Henry Purcell	Bugler, 2nd/4th Battalion, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
Richard Read	Company Serjeant Major, 1st/1st Buckingham Battalion, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
Morris John Smith	Corporal, 2nd/4th Battalion, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
John Noel Steadman	78th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force
William Niven Steadman	Private, 49th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Alberta Regiment)
Reginald Strickland	2nd Lieutenant, 3rd Battalion, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
Francis Thomas Watts	Private, Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry
Frank William Wood	Lance Corporal, 'B' Squadron, Royal Bucks Hussars

Photographs of the fallen



Old Latin, Tom Bennett Jones
(April 1896 – 2nd September 2018)

Until recently, we did not have any photographs in our archive of any of the fallen from the RLS roll of honour from The Great War, but were pleased to be able to put a face to at least one of the names on our memorials, with this photo, kindly shared with us by relations of Tom Jones. Conscripted into the army in 1917, Tom left for France from Georges Farm, Gawcott in early 1918, just before the German Spring Offensive of 1918. He survived this, but was lost in the second week of the British counter-offensive that ended the war. After seven months at

the front, he was declared missing in action on the 2nd September 1918, and is commemorated at the Ploegsteert Memorial in Belgium.



If you have any links to the other fallen from our WWI roll of honour, and have any photos that you would like to share with us for our archive, we would love to hear from you. Please email latinlife@royallatin.org.

Thank you to Richard Abbey (Class of 1979) for writing and sharing his account of his trek across the WW1 battlefields with his friends. We have included an extract below, and the full article can be read by following this link to www.rlsalumni.org.uk.



Richard and friends at the Thiepval Memorial

Live on 'To the Memory of the Fallen and the Future of the Living'

That's the fairly new slogan of the Royal British Legion which I feel sums up what the Royal British Legion stands for today, and what we should remember.

Two agricultural college friends and I walk together each year as a way of keeping in touch and have completed some of the UK's long distance footpaths – Offa's Dyke, Hadrian's Wall and the Coast to Coast.

Just over 12 months ago

we started the Southwest Coast Path and whilst sheltering from the persistent rain in a public house one of the friends spotted the 'Western Front Trek 2018' and suggested it would be a good idea to sign up and do something memorable to help commemorate the centenary of the end of WWI, whilst raising money for the extremely good cause.

Fast forward ten months and a Facebook page, 'RAC Ramblers', had been set up, together with a 'Just Giving page, Andrewconey3', and friends, relatives, business acquaintances etc., circulated and donations started to come in.

After a period of 'light' training, we set off with not a little trepidation to meet up with the other 65 participants in Greenwich, ready for an 8am departure on Tuesday 17th September, by coach and ferry, to Amiens. The target was to walk some 60 miles along the 1914/1918 Western Front from Amiens to Ypres, visiting a number of well known (and not so well known) cemeteries and memorable locations along the way.

Richard summed up his experience of the trek as follows:

It was an intensely thought provoking, sad, but at times uplifting experience that no-one who participated would have missed for the world and, without hesitation, were thankful that we had been part of. In its own way a fitting tribute to "Battles Over" a nation's tribute, which is being commemorated all over the country. If you are able to contribute, donations can still be made by searching JustgivingAndrewconey3 and then going onto the RAC Ramblers link page and donating. Every penny raised will go to help an ex-service man or woman.

Richard Abbey
Class of 1979

Archive Day, 2nd May 2018

About fifty Old Latins joined us in the Rotherfield Sixth form Centre and Archive at RLS for our annual Archive Open Day last term. We were very grateful to Ruth Newell (Class of 1974) for sharing interesting and amusing memories and anecdotes about her experience at RLS as a pupil, parent and governor through the decades, and John Hounslow (Class of 1970) provided a preview of his RLS book project and chatted to Old Latins as part of his ongoing research for the book. Most importantly, Old Latins were reunited, some for the first time in decades, and an enjoyable time seemed to be had by all. Thank you to everyone who attended, and we hope to see you again next year, on Wednesday, 1st May 2019.

Would you like to volunteer to speak at a future Archive Day? Please do get in touch at latinlife@royallatin.org.

Visiting the Archive

Don't forget that the Archive is accessible to Old Latins all year round, by appointment, not just at Archive Day. If you would like to arrange a visit, please email Latinlife@royallatin.org and our Archivist, Bob Munday would be pleased to arrange a mutually convenient time for your visit.



Fred Humphreys shows Jo Ballantine his school sports photos from his time at RLS in the 1960s



John Hounslow follows Ruth Newell's talk with his book preview



Ruth Newell (Class of 1970) addresses the audience of Old Latins



Jade Thomas (Class of 1990) and her mother, Linda Thompkins (Class of 1961) browse the archives together



Headteacher, David Hudson, welcomes guests

600 Years of History – The Story of the Royal Latin School

John Hounslow (Class of 1970) continues to work hard on compiling the content for the new history of the RLS, planned for publication in 2023, to mark the 600th anniversary of the founding of RLS. As part of his research, John has been meeting up with Old Latins from across the decades at RLS over the past few months, including Judith Beales and Ted Few from the Class of 1970, who visited the school in April this year.

David Hudson kindly passed on the following letter to us, from Judith Beales, which really does illustrate the affection with which so many students remember their time at RLS, and how, hopefully, the best principles of the school perpetuate today:

Dear David,

Many thanks to you and Jo for organising our day at school on Monday. And special thanks to Alex West, George West and David Gregory for allowing me into their lessons. Their enthusiasm and skills reminded me of the joys of learning, a habit I acquired from my own days at the Latin School and from my wonderful teachers and which has lasted throughout my life.

*I always wish that I had thanked them for the incredible gifts they gave me, so please reassure Alex, George and David that although they probably won't receive much thanks from their students now, in 50 years' time there will be another me thinking exactly the same about them! I had a wonderful time. It was an absolute joy and I am so pleased that the ethos of the Royal Latin School remains intact despite much time and many changes. Sometimes revisiting our past in the present is a dangerous undertaking - either time becoming devalued. But as they say (well they do in my French lessons) *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!**

So thank you again and thank you for cherishing the school. It's good to know it's in such safe hands!

Kind regards,

Judith

Oldest Old Latins visit RLS

We were delighted to welcome Harry Hands (Class of 1940) and George Capel (Class of 1939) – the oldest Old Latins that we are aware of, back to RLS in September. We are grateful to both of them for taking the time to visit, and to share their memories of their school days with John Hounslow.

We're hoping the book will include memories of Old Latins from across the generations, so please do send us your stories for possible inclusion, and for the Archive.

Email: latinlife@royallatin.org



John Hounslow with Ted Few and Judith Beales (all Class of 1970)



Ted Few observes a Year 9 English lesson



Harry Hands (left) and George Capel visit the RLS Archive in September 2018

Jacquie Baldock retires after 25 years at RLS

Old Latins from the 1990s and 2000s will remember chemistry teacher and deputy head, Jacquie Baldock, and the school bade Jacquie a fond farewell in July this year, when she retired from RLS after 25 years of outstanding service at the Latin. RLS teaching colleagues, together with family members including one of her three Old Latin sons, James (Class of 2005), joined together on a beautiful summer evening outside the Discovery Centre to celebrate Jacquie's time at the RLS. Headteacher, David Hudson, paid tribute to her contribution to the school:

She stands as a really excellent role model for both students and staff - kind, considerate, caring and unbelievably well organised, she is both a superb senior leader and inspiring teacher of chemistry. It has been a great privilege for me to have worked with such a wonderful person and exemplary professional. I know that I, colleagues, students and parents will miss her enormously, but we wish her all the very best for life beyond RLS.

Jacquie's leaving speech in her final assembly conveyed just how much of an impact the RLS has had on her personally:

I've worked in three schools in my teaching career and you are undoubtedly the best! You can tell when someone genuinely cares about you and I hope you realise that I genuinely care and will continue to care and keep connections with the school, because, 'Once a Latin, always a Latin'.

As fellow Old Latins, we're sure many of you will empathise with Jacquie's sentiments, and that you will join us in wishing her all good wishes for the future.



Jacquie (centre) with longstanding RLS friends and colleagues (from left) Sharon Barnes, Cathy Begley and Karen Bishop

Do you remember retirement parties from when you were at the Latin? Please share your memories with us at latinlife@royallatin.org

Your legacy, their future

***"You carry a Latin Legacy within you . . . now
You can ensure your legacy lives on at the Royal Latin"***

**Latin Learning . . . Cherished Traditions . . .
Nurturing Landscape . . . Enduring Friendships**

To find out more about leaving a legacy to the school, please request a copy of our Latin Legacies Guide from latinlife@royallatin.org

Or contact Nigel Pullen at
info@cornwall-law.co.uk
for a free will-writing service* in return for
leaving a legacy or gift to the school

*First 25 Old Latins only



From the 1950s

Class of 1959 and 1961 Reunion, 6th July 2018



Photo courtesy of the Buckingham & Winslow Advertiser

Friday 6th July was the long awaited date for the reunion of school years '59 and '61 with over 60 former pupils, their partners and teachers attending a tour of school and refreshments at Buckingham Rugby Club.

Meeting at school we were warmly greeted by Headteacher David Hudson and the archive team who had assembled plenty of items from our school years to be eagerly pawed over. The cause of much laughter as we all left RLS some 50 years ago but great to see this, now historic, material is so well looked after. We then were treated to a tour of the school and were able to visit our old class rooms and indulge in much nostalgia as we looked back at who sat where, who was head of dinner table etc. The original buildings were of particular interest to us but the new and refurbished areas of the modern school particularly The Discovery Centre show what progress our old school is making.

Back at RFC by now we had mostly sorted out who was who, who had aged best etc, now at or nearing 70 years young. An excellent fish and chip supper was provided by the Howes frying team, the bar was open, chat was endless and a great afternoon ended in the late evening with everyone asking when shall we do it again? Perhaps to see our brick in the wall of the new Sports Campus. Who knows.

Our thanks are very much due to David, Jo, Bob and Lucy for making us so welcome at RLS and to Buckingham RFC for their hospitality. Also thanks to Jake for his pic of us all on the steps of the Green Room.

Jeff and Jen Green and Graham (Pop) Robinson

Did you leave RLS in '49, '59, '69, '79, '89, '99 or 2009? If so, next year is your year! Do get in touch if you would like to arrange a reunion at RLS. Email latinlife@royallatin.org

From the 1960s

Class of 1963 Reunion



FRONT ROW (L TO R) Yvonne Burman, Mary James
2nd ROW Carol Ackerman*, Carole Hawkins, Joanna Bryant
3rd ROW Sue Nicholls, Sally Pollard, Pat Bush, Mandy Jennings, Margaret Savage
BACK ROW Ian Munro, Brian Townsend, Richard Palmer
*strictly speaking Carol is not a classmate, but she went to RLS and is married to Richard Palmer

We are ex-classmates from the RLS. Most of us began our time at the school in 1955 and all had left by the end of 62/63. In the decades following, there was some intermittent contact between a few individuals but, until recent times, many of us had lost all contact with our old friends. However, in 2014, a 70th birthday party brought a few of us together once more and this was the catalyst for what has now become an annual reunion, with people taking turns to organise an event in their locale. This year it was Guildford with Hereford, Henley-on Thames and Chester being the venues in previous years.

The reunion is a relaxed and friendly affair centred around a 'long lunch' and those staying in the area overnight will normally reconvene in the evening for more chat and laughter. The inclusion of partners/friends has always been very important to us.

Our numbers have grown somewhat, with tenuous links being re-established and the Archive Day has also helped. This year we totalled 20 in number, including 12 classmates. One of our regulars, with husband, is recovering from a car accident and couldn't join us this year: neither could two others who live abroad. We intend to continue our get-together for as long as possible.

Brian Townsend
Class of 1963

Carol Palmer (née Ackerman), pictured above, has been in touch to let us know that she is trying to organise a visit to the RLS in summer 2019 for those who joined the school in 1955. If you are not already in touch with the above group, and would be interested in joining in with this reunion, then please do get in touch with us at latinlife@royallatin.org.

Jacqueline Smethurst (Class of 1960)



Jacqueline with Headteacher, David Hudson

RLS 'Oxbridge' Honours Board 1955-1960

We were delighted to welcome back Jacqueline Smethurst on 12th October this year, during her trip back to the UK from her home in the States. Jacqueline was the first girl ever at RLS to have gained entrance to Oxford (in 1960). Jacqueline kindly sent in the following reflections on her return to RLS:

'Hello Jacqueline', Headteacher David Hudson said as he bounded down the stairs to greet me.

The years fell away and I was back at The Royal Latin School, after sixty years. In the 1950s when I was a student, the school comprised fewer than 180 of us, with just one teacher for each subject. The Latin School today, at over 1200, is a much larger and more sophisticated school, but I found it nonetheless 'my school.'

I had arrived at the Latin School midway through the second form from an inflexible and competitive urban girls' school. The Latin, by contrast, was very heaven: a place of ease, friendship and good humour. Yet nothing was missing in supporting students who strove to excel: All-England runners emerged; the Headmaster George Embleton was in the cricket nets every fine day with the boys; English master Reg Howard directed my reading so skilfully that I gained entrance to Oxford; others achieved scholarships and university places in maths, science and history; and the annual Gilbert and Sullivan performance showcased several fine voices. Whatever was required of a larger school we did it, whether producing a school magazine or mounting a mock debate for the General Election, performing the school play at the Town Hall or fielding respectable teams.

But it is not just as a nostalgic Old Latin that I appreciate the school. I live in the United States, where it is widely expected that alumni support their school and university, passing along to the next generation the opportunities we enjoyed. To do that with enthusiasm requires some understanding of the school as it is today. My visit astonished me. David Hudson led me on a tour that showed me 'High expectations for all' is a lived aim. Students were everywhere collaborating, engaged, and on task, with older students assisting younger students in the Discovery Centre, an elegant and highly functional place for exploration and learning. I met young entrepreneurs fund raising for their projects and learned of a varied and successful sports programme meriting planned-

for new facilities. And I found just as encouraging as any specific project the attitude of determination to constantly renew the Latin School as an outstanding place to grow and learn.

When my parents moved from Buckingham, rather than leave the Latin School I commuted three hours a day by train. When they moved even further away, I boarded in town. The Latin School had become my home. Sixty years later I still find a home here. Reg Howard wrote often on my essays, 'Pack more meat in.' So here is the meat: Visit the Latin School. You will find a warm welcome.

Jacqueline Smethurst
October 22, 2018



Shan Morgan delivers her speech, as guest of honour

From the 1970s

Dame Shan Morgan DCMG (Class of 1973) returns for Prize giving

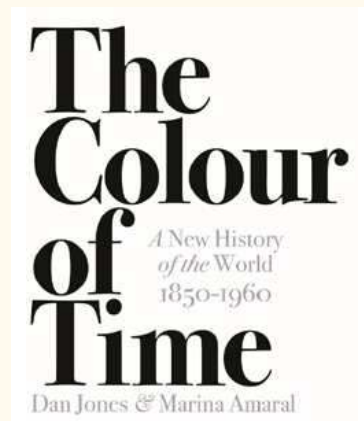
Dame Shan Morgan DCMG (Class of 1973) is Permanent Secretary for The Welsh Government, having previously been UK's Deputy Permanent Representative to the EU in Brussels, and, as covered in Issue 10, recently married fellow Old Latin, Tony Wright – also from the Class of 1973. Shan was made a Dame in the 2017 Birthday Honours.

We were extremely grateful to Shan for returning to RLS on 29th June 2018 as guest of honour at the annual RLS Prize Giving, where she delivered an inspiring speech to the assembled audience of about 250 students, parents and teachers. Shan summarised three key pieces of advice for students; *Learning is fun! . . . Always be open to the unexpected* and *Enjoy the journey*. In the final part of her speech, Shan went on to expand on the third of these three reflections:

Don't just focus relentlessly on reaching a specific destination or you'll miss a lot along the way. Detours can change your life and open up fantastic new opportunities . . . The best careers advice I give young people is to read a poem called 'Ithaka' by the 20th century Greek poet Cavafy. The poem uses Odysseus' journey home to Ithaka as a metaphor for the journey through life, celebrating the glorious adventures, distractions and detours of Odysseus' long journey.

From the 1990s

Dan Jones (Class of 1999)



Dan Jones (Class of 1999) is celebrating the release of yet another bestselling book, *The Colour of Time*. His synopsis reads:

It's a book that tells an epic, global history of the making of the modern world. The Brazilian digital artist Marina Amaral has used a combination of historical research and artistic wizardry to colorise 200 great historical photographs. I've written a text weaving them together in a story that spans every continent on earth and takes the reader from the steam age to the space age, and from the Crimean War to the Cold War.

The book was an instant bestseller (going to No. 3 on the Sunday Times best seller list) and is due to be published in a dozen other languages in countries from France and Germany to China and Japan. It's a fascinating read – we certainly have it on our Christmas lists for just about every member of the family! You can find *The Colour of Time* on Amazon and in any good book shop – we can highly recommend.

From the 2000s

Oli Hilsdon (Class of 2010)

Following on from the piece by Henry Hayhurst-France about Oli in the last edition, we thought you'd like to hear the latest from Oli himself, written a few weeks ago, about his progress with the start of immunotherapy treatment:

Hi all,

There has been an awful lot of progress in the last few weeks and it is all good news. This follows a very difficult time with the appearance of two separate areas of recurrences of tumours. We are now pleased to say things are finally moving in the right direction.

Earlier this week, I started treatment in Cologne, Germany, where I began part of the process for receiving a dendritic cell (DC) vaccine alongside an oncolytic virus and hyperthermia treatment. The first stage of the treatment takes place across 3 months with preliminary results expected in January, of which we will keep you updated. We hope to combine this with a T-cell therapy by Christmas to harness the full strength of immunotherapy against GBM, the supposedly

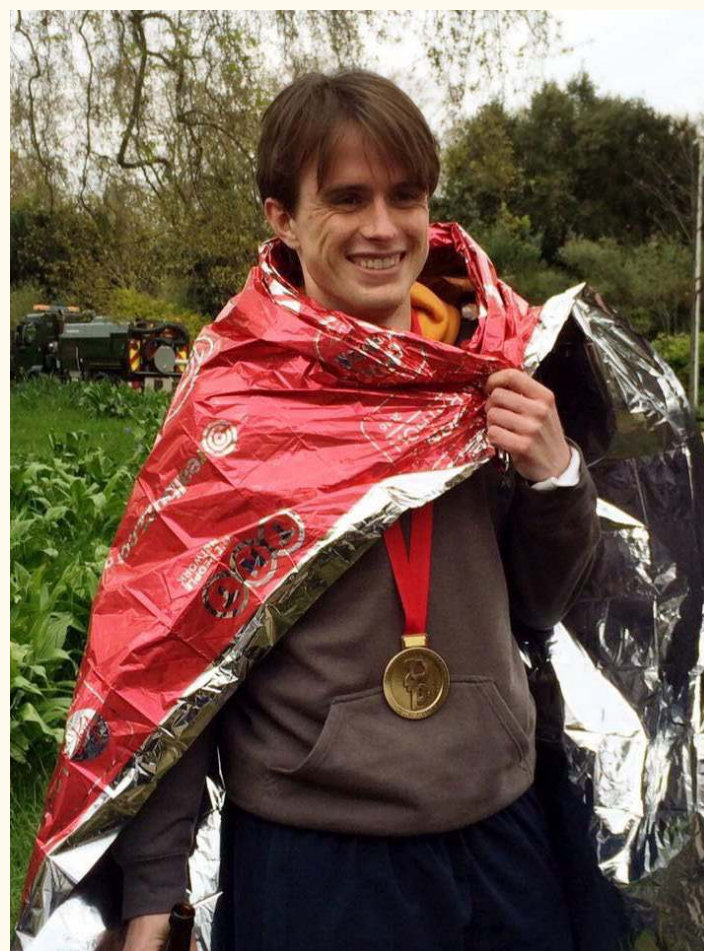
most lethal form of brain cancer (which I have no intention in succumbing to!). Obviously having another terminal prognosis and 6 month life expectancy stings a little, but I am as optimistic as ever. Last time round, nearly 4 years ago, it was only 12 months so I figure my odds are still pretty good if not better this time round and on this treatment!

We are also exploring further treatments to run alongside this to give the best chance possible, as it becomes increasingly clear that multi-modal treatment is needed to give the best chance for a long and happy life.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of everyone involved in fundraising and I am sincerely and genuinely grateful to every single one of you for your help, well-wishes, support, contributions, donations and involvement.

Thank you again.

Oli



Oli's friends, family and supporters continue to raise funds for Oli's ongoing treatment. If you would like to donate, please visit their Go Fund me page: <https://www.gofundme.com/olisfight> and like the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/olisfight>.

From the 2000s

Harry Hammond (Class of 2016)

Congratulations to Harry Hammond, a member of the Team Milton Keynes cycling and triathlon club, who has been experiencing success recently with international duathlon and triathlon.

He represented Great Britain in the 20-24 age group at the Gold Coast ITU Sprint Distance World Triathlon Championships in October, where he finished 45th out of 57, and at the Ibiza Duathlon European Championships in October where he came 9th out of 14.

Well done Harry, and we hope this will be an inspiration to all current and former students and demonstrate what can be achieved in a very short space of time given a determined mind-set.



600 Minute Challenge



For the third year running, the Royal Latin is challenging the whole school community to undertake 600 minutes of activity in February – that's about 22 minutes per day (on average), for one month. This year we would love as many Old Latins as possible to join in with the challenge.

Taking part doesn't even need to involve participating in a particular sport – walking the dog counts too! Full details of how to sign up are included in the poster opposite. Once you've donated, send an email to rls600@royallatin.org and we'll send you all the information you need to get started, including links to download and print an activity log for the month, a sponsorship form and a list of ideas for activities to try in February.

All proceeds from this initiative will be put towards Sports Campus, our much needed new and improved sports facilities. All those who register for the challenge will be entered into a prize draw for the chance to win £100.

We would also love it if you could share your photos and stories on Facebook and Twitter, or email them to us at rls600@royallatin.org. There will be prizes up for grabs for the best family, individual adult and Under 18s activity photos.

Registration is now open! Sign up today!



600 Minute Challenge

February 2019

The 600 Minute Challenge

One month, 600 minutes of activity
(That's an average of roughly 22 minutes daily, less than 2% of your day)
All in aid of the Sports Campus at RLS

Are you in? We are! Prepare to make February an action-packed month . . .

Entry £5 (under 18s), £10 (adults), £20 families (up to six people)

To register:	What do you get?
<p>Step 1</p> <p>Pay your entry fee via Text:</p> <p>Under 18s text BFIT19 £5 to 70070 Adults text BFIT19 £10 to 70070 Families text BFIT19 £10 twice to 70070</p> <p>Step 2</p> <p>Email RLS600@royallatin.org to tell us you've registered and provide the names of participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Activity log to help you keep track of your minutes ♦ Ideas of activities to try ♦ Sponsorship forms if you wish to ask family and friends to support your efforts ♦ Automatic entry into a prize draw to win £100 cash! ♦ Chance to enter our photo competitions to win more prizes!

Share your stories and photos with us on Facebook and Twitter [@RLS600](https://twitter.com/RLS600).
Further details, including downloadable forms, will be available soon at www.rls600.com



600

Campaign

Sports Campus

energise • enjoy • excel

600 Campaign: Sports Campus latest news



The good ...

We were finally granted planning permission for the Sports Campus in May this year, which means we can now focus all of our energy on raising the rest of the funding required to begin construction.

The bad ...

Unfortunately, in April the government turned down our £1m bid to the Healthy Pupils Capital Fund (the fund set up with 'sugar tax' proceeds). We appealed the decision and wrote directly to The Minister for Education, Damian Hinds several times, asking for clarity and for an indication of when any statutory funding may become available to improve the sporting education of our young people.

Without government support, the fight for better sporting education is now wholly ours, and we are more determined than ever to ensure we can deliver inspirational facilities for the benefit of future generations of Latins

David Hudson, Headteacher

And the challenge ...

We now need to raise another £1million in the next 12 months - that's £83,333 every single month. It's a huge and daunting task and we desperately need help, ideas and support from Old Latins in the months ahead.

How you can help

1. **Donate.** Absolutely any amount; it all really, really helps! Visit www.rls600.com to find out how.
2. **Fundraise.** Hold an event, take part in a sponsored challenge, or ask your employer to help. Use it as an opportunity to get your fellow classmates back together - we can provide fundraising support and guidance, so just have a go!
3. **Think.** Give some thought to how you can best help. Can you introduce us to someone who might want to help? Do you have skills or interests which could be useful to us?
4. **Support.** Come to our events, follow us and share our news on social media, and help us to spread the word about what we're trying to achieve.
5. **Talk.** Get in touch, any time with your thoughts or questions, or to request a meeting with Jo Ballantine, RLS Director of Development to explore how you could support the campaign, or to visit us to have a look at the Sports Campus plans in more detail.



Every conversation or idea pushes the campaign forwards. Old Latins play such an important part in the future of the school and we urgently need your individual expertise and collective support in order to create the momentum we need. Please get in touch!

Jo Ballantine, RLS Director of Development
jballantine@royallatin.org

Thank you...

...to everyone who responded to our plea for donations in the last edition of Latin Life. If you didn't respond at the time, please dig out the leaflet and send your donation back to us now - or find a copy of the leaflet and all of the relevant details at: www.royallatin.org/donate

We would be extremely grateful for any support you feel able to give your old school.



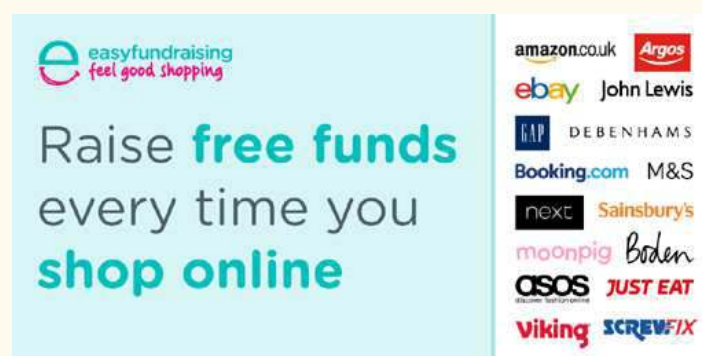
Every Little Helps!

The 600 Campaign is now registered with **Easyfundraising**. It's a great site where you can help us to raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping!

Over 3,300 big name retailers are included, such as Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, eBay, Boden and M&S. Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you!' It's completely free and over £20M has been raised for causes so far.

Please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/royallatinschool600campaign/>

There is also a very handy donation reminder app that you can download for your PC, laptop or mobile device, so that every time you start shopping online, a reminder will automatically appear whenever a donation is available.



Old Latins supporting the campaign



Marathon

A huge thank you and congratulations to Jess Wilkins, Class of 2011, for completing the London Marathon in 4 hours and 42 minutes, having never run more than 10K previously, and raising just under £3,000 for the Sports Campus in the process! Well done Jess, and thank you to everyone who sponsored her.

Jess certainly enjoyed her first marathon:

*It was an amazing day!!
Thank you so much for the opportunity, I absolutely loved it!! What an experience!*



Debbie (left) with RLS staff colleague Toby Easton

Debbie Morris (Class of 1987) took part in Swim Serpentine in September along with a team of Royal Latin parents, students and staff. The team braved the chilly waters and raised over £2,800 for the campaign. Well done Debbie!

Would you like a place in Ride London, the Vitality 10k or Swim Serpentine 2019? If so, please get in touch at latinlife@royallatin.org

Old Latins pay tribute to sporting heroes



Over the last two years, lots of sporting heroes have been telling us about who inspired them - and now we're giving Old Latins the chance to do the same.

You can pay tribute to your own sporting hero on a special dedicated wall in the new Sports Campus building, where your tribute will be on display and inspire generations of Royal Latin students. Each tribute costs £500 (or 24 monthly payments of £21).

As well as your tribute being mounted on the wall, you'll receive a commemorative plaque of your tribute, and will be invited to a special sponsor evening, where you'll have a chance to view some of tributes we've collected from sporting heroes themselves.

You can nominate anyone at all – they don't have to be famous! Perhaps even a former team-mate or competitor at school, who inspired you to greater things?!



Dean Jones (Class of '97) receiving his hero sponsorship plaque from David Hudson

You can find full details about how to nominate your hero for our Wall of Sporting Heroes at www.rls600.com

Be a brick!

We have now sold 125 bricks for the Sports Campus - and have just made another 200 available to buy!

The bricks are a wonderful way in which Old Latins can make their mark on the school. The bricks will feature on an external wall of the new sports building, and can be inscribed with wording of your choosing. Some Old Latins choose a name and date, some make a dedication to a loved one, and others give a message to current students.

Each brick costs £125, (payable in 12 monthly instalments of £10.42 if preferred). You can buy your own brick, club together with a friend, or do as the Class of 1975 have done, and buy one brick from the whole year group.

The bricks will be unveiled at a special ceremony when the building is ready to open, with all brick sponsors being invited to see their brick in situ. We can also provide you with a certificate thanking you for your brick – a nice memento, particularly if you are buying a brick as a gift for someone else.

You can find the brick sponsor form and payment details on the Buy a Brick section of www.rls600.com, or email us at latinlife@royallatin.org and we'll send you a form.



Nigel Norman (Class of 1972) faces Rt Hon Speaker John Bercow MP on the tennis court



Photos courtesy of the Buckingham & Winslow Advertiser

At the Sporting Heroes Dinner at the Emirates in March 2017, local Old Latin, Nigel Norman, was the winning bidder of an auction prize which offered the chance to play a tennis match with the Rt Hon Speaker John Bercow MP, Lead Patron of the 600 Campaign. On 29th October 2018, the busy diaries of both players finally provided a suitable time for the match to take place. Nigel fought hard against stiff competition on the court:

I had about a dozen friends and family members there to cheer me on. John showed no mercy (he has a devilish swerve on his serve), and he beat me hollow – we played three sets, and if I tell you there were a total of 18 games—you can do the maths on the score!

As a measure of his goodwill, we had played for the best part of an hour, for two hard fought sets, and instead of looking to go John said — ‘go on, let’s play another’ – so we finished about 6.25pm under the lights.

It was a great pleasure to assist in the fundraising for the Sports Campus in this way, and the school still means an awful lot to me as it definitely paved the way for my future and enjoyment of life.

After the match, Nigel remained in good spirits, and both players and visiting spectators headed for the pub. We are very grateful for Nigel’s efforts for Sports Campus – thank you!

We’re always looking for high quality or ‘money can’t buy’ auction prizes, as these have proved to be a particularly popular form of fundraising for the campaign to date. If you can help, please get in touch, by emailing latinlife@royallatin.org

Gin & Jazz



It was wonderful to see so many Old Latins attending our recent Gin & Jazz evening in the Discovery Centre at school. We hope you had a great evening!



The stunning Discovery Centre at RLS was the venue for Gin & Jazz and will be, we hope, for many events to come

Tad Newton's Jazz Friends provided the musical entertainment and Tad enjoyed seeing former pupils from years gone by. Our thanks to Tad, and also to Foxdenton Estate, Fever-Tree and Innovate for stocking the bar and providing the canapés.

Foxdenton also ran gin tasting in the Alumni Lab, which proved popular! We’re thrilled that the event raised more than £5,000 for the Sports Campus - we have a feeling it’s one we’ll be repeating in future, so watch this space.

If you would like to be involved with organising future events for the campaign or for alumni, please get in touch with us at latinlife@royallatin.org

Old Latins take to the course

Our annual golf day took place at the beautiful Whittlebury Park in September, and we were delighted to be joined by more Old Latins than ever before!

A great day of golf was had by all, followed by a buffet, prizegiving and raffle, and more than £4,000 was raised for the Sports Campus. Thank you to all the Old Latins who attended.

If you’d like to be involved in the 2019 Golf Day, as a player, sponsor or helper, please contact us at golf@royallatin.org - we’re already planning for the event and would love to hear from you.



Winning team Mills & Reeve from Cambridge with Jo Ballantine (RLS) and Stuart Branch (600 Campaign Board)



Get in Touch!

Editor: Lucy Beckett

Call: 01280 827306, e-mail: latinlife@royallatin.org

The Royal Latin School, Chandos Road, Buckingham, MK18 1AX

2018/19 Calendar

Monday, 17th December

2018 Sixthform leavers' Drinks
at RLS, 4pm-5pm

1st – 28th February

600 Minute Challenge

Wednesday, 1st May

Archive Open Day at Rotherfield
House (4pm - 6pm)

Monday, 27th May

Vitality London 10K

Friday, 21st June

Founders' Day & Sports Day

Saturday, 6th July

FRLS Ball

Sunday, 4th August

Ride London

Friday, 20th September

Golf Day at Whittlebury Park

Friday, 8th November

RLS Act of Remembrance



Latin Life via Email
If you haven't
already, please,
please please
send us your email

address! Electing to receive
Latin Life by email will help us
to minimise our costs.



Tell us your thoughts . . .

In the New Year we'll be sending out a survey on email to Old Latins, seeking your views on a range of things from how we communicate with you, how we can help with your reunions, what events you'd like us to invite you to, and what school merchandise you might be interested in purchasing.

Your responses will really help us to direct our limited resources into the things that you really want us to do, so please do take a minute to complete it whilst having a cuppa. If you don't already receive emails from us and would like to receive the survey and other alumni news, please email latinlife@royallatin.org and we'll add you to our mailing list. Thank you!

Your details . . .

We hope that you will continue to enjoy hearing from us, and know that we will always keep your details secure and respect your wishes. If you would like to unsubscribe at any point, you can just email latinlife@royallatin.org or leave a message on 01280 827306 and we'll remove your details from our mailing list straight away. Our data protection policy and privacy notice will be available to read via the alumni page on the school website at www.royallatin.org/alumni when the new data protection regulations come in this May, so if you have any queries, please have a read of those or contact us and we'll be happy to answer. We're putting lots of energy into keeping in touch with you all, and we very much want to get it right!

Planning a Reunion?

**We are happy to help you
make your reunion happen
in 2019/2020.**

The tried and tested format for a reunion tends to consist of meeting at the RLS at 2pm on a Saturday for a gathering with refreshments (we are happy to provide complimentary tea and coffee, but would just ask that you provide anything further you might like to serve), followed by a tour of the school.

**Please contact
Jo to arrange –
jballantine@royallatin.org**

Is there a doctor in the house?

We have a record number of 17 aspiring medics in our sixthform this year, and would be delighted if there are any current medics out there who would be able to give up some time to return to RLS to support the students, either by giving a talk to our 'MedSoc' or by providing valuable interview practice. If you can help, please email latinlife@royallatin.org. Thank you.

It's Your *Latin Life*

Please get in touch to share ideas for articles or let us know what you would like to see included in *Latin Life*.

We'd particularly like to be able to share your news – whether relating to career, family, leisure, travel or voluntary work – with other Old Latins, so get your thinking caps on and email latinlife@royallatin.org with your contributions!

Alumni Facebook and Twitter accounts



Please don't forget to follow us on social media. If you haven't yet joined, you can follow us on **Facebook at RLS Alumni** and on **Twitter @ RLSAlumni**

