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Headteacher, David Hudson, with the newly appointed Student Leadership Team

Welcome to the 16th edition of *Latin Life*

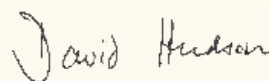
We finally seem to be returning to some semblance of normality. Our students and staff have shown wonderful fortitude in coping with the demands of the pandemic. Teachers have found new depths to their stamina, resilience and innovation as they have tangled with new forms of technology and ever-changing policy missives from the DfE. Meanwhile, our students have loved being back in school (yes, really!) and for many seeing their friends in person has given them a real boost - the world of social media is all well and good, but it turns out that nothing beats the old-fashioned virtue of a face-to-face conversation.

In spite of the pandemic, we have still been making great progress in continuing to develop and improve our school facilities. The Sports Campus in particular marks a really significant addition to the site - from September students, staff and the local community will all benefit from

state-of-the-art facilities including an all-weather pitch, fitness suite, sports lab and mind & body zone (for yoga, pilates and dance). Please see pages 10 to 14 for further details.

We have also completed a significant project to reduce our carbon footprint by installing solar panels on the New Block roof and triple glazed windows in Brookfield - all part of our plans to develop a greener school for the benefit of future generations.

It feels like a long time since we saw many of you here at school. I very much hope that this will change from September onwards and our Development team will be looking to see how we can welcome you back. We are also very aware that 2023 is just over 18 months away so our minds are very much tuned into planning a celebratory year! Please do continue to get in touch by email, 'phone or letter - we always love to hear from you.



David Hudson, Headteacher

Virtual Archive Open Day, 5th May 2021



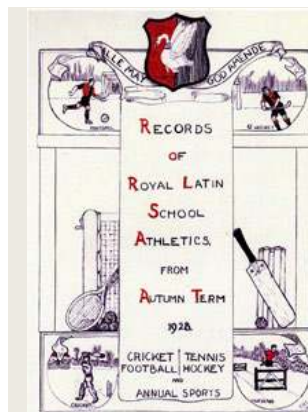
This year, with Covid restrictions still ongoing, we again hosted our Virtual Archive Open day on our RLS Alumni Facebook page rather than at RLS. Headteacher, David Hudson recorded a special welcome for Old Latins and provided a mini tour of the school, featuring Rotherfield, the Archive Room, Brookfield and our new Sports Campus site, with wonderful new aerial footage of the RLS site, recorded by our students. Hundreds of captioned photos from across the decades from the RLS Archive were also on view for Old Latins to browse through.

Thank you to the hundreds of you who visited our Facebook page on Archive Day, and since, and especially to all those of you who added your own images and memories to our displays. We were thrilled to see Old Latins from all over the world joining in and swapping memories with old school friends. All the photo displays are still available to view on the Alumni Facebook page, so please do feel free to visit. You can also watch David Hudson's mini school tour here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSrt9KopVjM.

We very much hope to be able to host an Archive Open Day back at RLS next May. Watch this space for more information in the next issue. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy the following selection of images to give you a taste of this year's virtual event.



A school photo from 1891 in front of the Chantry Chapel



1928 Sports Records Programme



1930s/early 1940s girls' school uniform



Cast photo from school production of 'Patience' in 1950s



Official school opening by HM The Queen Mother in 1963



Cricket team in late 1960s - courtesy of Robert Munday (Class of 1970), Pictured centre of back row



Mr Embleton plants a tree at the top of 'Dark Alley' 1979



1981 trip to Ennerdale (from the late Mr Collis' collection, courtesy of Mrs Collis)



1997 tennis team

Remembering Old Latins

Lieutenant Harry Hands (Class of 1940)



Harry Hands in uniform

Harry Hands (sitting) with George Capel, fellow WW2 veteran and Old Latin in the RLS Archive in 2018

Thanks to contributions received from the nephew of Harry Hands, the late Robert Munday remembered below (Class of 1970), and Harry's daughter, Carolyn (Head Girl 1967), we would like to celebrate the extraordinary life of Lieutenant Harry Hands, who attended RLS from 1935-40.

William Henry ('Harry') Hands was born in Buckingham in 1924, the youngest child of Frank Hands, a butcher who had served as a cavalryman during the First World War, and his wife, Ethel. Growing up in the 1930s, Harry dreamt of flying aeroplanes while he played with his wooden model versions as a young boy. When Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, he was working in his father's shop, but as the weekend passed, and Britain declared war, he finally saw a way to become a pilot. He volunteered for the RAF in 1943 and was sent to the US, where he trained in Texas. His instructor turned out to be a German-born pilot who flew for the 'side' during the First World War. In 1944 he joined the RAF as a Sergeant.

His opportunity came to actually fly in 1944 when he joined the RAF as a Sergeant. By the time he was 30, Hands was one of the Fleet Air Arm's most experienced combat pilots and one of its most versatile aviators, having flown 29 types of aircraft, from Tiger Moths to Grumman Wildcats, Sea Mosquitos and de Havilland Vampires, and set a naval air-speed record for a flight to Malta. Hands was one of two naval pilots who completed the 1,586-mile journey on February 6, 1953, in three hours and ten minutes, flying Hawker Sea Furies, one of the fastest piston-engined fighters ever produced. It was a brief but notable prelude to his involvement in a much more forbidding theatre of aviation: the Korean War.

In April 1953 Hands joined other pilots from No 807 Naval Air Squadron on the deck of HMS Ocean, a Colossus-class aircraft carrier. The ship was bound for the west coast of Korea, where there was heavy fighting between the communist North, supported by China and Russia, and the democratic South, supported by the western allies under the banner of the United Nations. Flying the Fury, Hands was in constant action during the last months of the three-year conflict, which was halted by an armistice on July 27, 1953. The Fury was used mainly as a ground-attack aircraft, but also as an escort fighter and had, in a remarkable episode a year earlier, shot down a North Korean MiG-15 jet that was 200mph faster.

Hands flew 98 missions from the landing deck of HMS Ocean, which arrived on station in the Yellow Sea in mid-May. He was in action almost immediately and his logbook entries rattle like a machine gun, with several sorties a day. On May 25 he flew a combat air patrol lasting nearly two hours; later that day he attacked North Korean anti-aircraft batteries; and he completed operations with a reconnaissance flight searching for enemy trains. His flying schedule was typical of the pilots serving with 807 Squadron. On another occasion he was involved in a mid-air collision while forming up over the carrier, but survived.

In an interview with Forces Television in 2019, Hands recalled the terrifying nature of some of his missions. 'Instead of firing straight at you, and often missing,' he said, 'the North Koreans had a nasty habit of firing straight up in the air so you hit this sheet of bullets, which wasn't pleasant at all. We lost several pilots.' Afterwards, he was awarded the United Nations Korea Medal. He ended his career with the Fleet Air Arm six years later with 1,634 flying hours in his logbook, but the huge G forces exerted on his body while dive-bombing in Korea took their toll and he suffered debilitating back pain for the rest of his life.

A year later Hands volunteered for transfer to the Fleet Air Arm, which was seeking pilots for the expansion of its carrier force. He joined 881 Naval Air Squadron and was posted to South Africa, where the pilots converted to the Grumman Hellcat and developed new tactics for ground attack. An inveterate smoker, he liked the Hellcat; it had an ashtray built into the cockpit. He had been due to join the British Pacific Fleet when the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan and the war ended. A convivial man regarded by his friends as both a 'charmer' and a raconteur, he returned to Britain in some comfort, with a first-class cabin on the Cunard liner RMS Mauretania.

After a brief period as an instructor Hands left the Fleet Air Arm in 1946 to become a Post Office engineer. He rejoined the service in late 1951 because of a shortage of experienced pilots. Training on Seafires — the naval version of the Spitfire — he mastered new aerobatics such as wingtip cartwheels and inverted spins, but also dive-bombing from angles of up to 60 degrees before being sent to the Far East. He is believed to have been the last surviving pilot of a Seafire. He also liked big cars. In the 1950s he bought a 1929 6.5-litre Bentley that he drove from Scotland to the naval air station at Culdrose in Cornwall. At the age of 92 he reluctantly gave up a beloved BMW.

Hands had left the Fleet Air Arm in 1959 to become a civilian air-traffic control officer, but he continued to work with military units on projects that included the development of the Harrier jump jet. On the day he retired at the age of 60 he was taken up in a Sea Fury by the Royal Navy's Historic Flight at Yeovilton. The visit was meant to be a surprise, but Hands had got wind of the trip and did some homework on his aerobatics. Once in the air, the pilot politely asked him if he would like to take control. 'Thank you,' he replied, 'I have control!' before launching into his aerobatic programme.

***'I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air....***

***From 'High Flight' by Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee Jnr
who died in a mid air collision December 11th 1941 aged 19'***



Robert Munday (Class of 1970)

It is with great sadness that we have to report on the recent passing of our volunteer archivist for the past six years, Robert Munday (Class of 1970). Robert was truly dedicated to the Royal Latin and has been an enormous help with our archive maintenance, Archive Days, reunions and alumni relations work, as well as educating our Year 7 and 8

students on the history of RLS, and helping to run an Archive Club with students of all ages. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him at RLS and we know you will join us in passing on heartfelt condolences to his family - Ruth Newell, Lara and Rachel Munday (all also Old Latins). A full tribute will be published in the next issue. In the meantime, Robert's family warmly invite any Old Latins who wish to pay their respects to visit this tribute page:

<https://robertmunday.muchloved.com/>

Meet our new Student Leadership Team



Adeoluwa ('Ade') Bademosi, Head Boy

My name is Ade and I'm honoured to be the Head boy of the Royal Latin School. I study Maths, Economics, and Business, with the hope of studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics at university next year. My time at the school has been both rewarding and challenging. I'm grateful for all the support and advice I have received up until this point, which

has allowed me to realise and strive towards my potential; not just in education but also as a young adult. I see this role as an opportunity to give back to the school which has provided me with so much. I am very passionate about diversity and inclusion, and being a part of the leadership team, gives me the opportunity to develop and nurture a caring and supportive environment within the school. As an avid sportsman, I also want to promote the use of our new sports campus and soon-to-be wellness centre. I'm excited to work with the rest of the team to enrich and improve the lives of all students at the school. Outside of school if I'm not mourning Arsenal's title hopes I will be strumming away on my guitar or playing football with my team.



Christian ('Fifi') Clarke, Deputy Head Boy

Hi, I'm Fifi and I'm very honoured to be Deputy Head Boy at RLS. The A levels I study are maths, further maths, physics and music and I hope to study either computer science or mechanical engineering at university and taking on a role in software engineering or in the automotive industry. I'm very passionate about sports like cycling, swimming,

sprinting and computing and they've become a very prominent

aspect of my daily life. Being part of this team, with the support of the other wonderful members of the SLT, is my way of giving back to the school, incredible staff and fellow students I've had the pleasure of working beside. It's also my way of giving suggestions, making changes for the better and leaving the school knowing that I've done something that will benefit the RLS experience of younger students both socially and academically. As a person who is passionate about sport, I am excited for the new sports facilities that will be fully built very soon and I am very excited to be able to introduce the equipment to students and to see the benefits that it'll provide our sports education. I also hope to implement a mentoring scheme across all major subjects. Finally, I've made many unforgettable memories since I joined in Year 7 and I'm eager to ensure that the memories of younger students are even better than my own.



Esther Evans, Head Girl

Hi, I'm Esther and I'm really proud to be the Head Girl of The Royal Latin School. I study Maths, Physics, Further maths and Spanish (it's safe to say I like maths a bit too much.) I'm looking to go on and study general engineering at university in order to enter the engineering industry where I hope I will be able to make a difference and have an impact on other people's

lives. These are also some of my main motivations for applying for a Student Leadership Team role; I wish to have a worthwhile impact on other students and help them to have as much of a positive and really enjoyable experience as I have had since the start of year seven here. Outside of school I am a keen footballer and cyclist, and I have a very unique hobby of taking old watches to pieces and creating art out of them, so I'm looking forward to bringing my teamwork and creativity to working alongside the amazing team we have this year. I am confident that we can definitely bring new ideas and innovations to the school whilst increasing the profile of these roles throughout RLS and I can't wait to do so!



Evelyn McKenzie, Deputy Head Girl

Hello, I'm Evie and I'm honoured to be Deputy Head Girl at the Royal Latin School. I study Physics, Geography and Business Studies and thoroughly enjoy each of them. After taking part in conservation trips and teaching English around the world, I am hoping to study International Business or something alike, at university. In my spare time, I love to

volunteer with local children's groups such as cubs and scouts, and I am a dedicated dancer taking part in shows and performances throughout the year. The Royal Latin School has given me so much in terms of support, opportunity and guidance, so I wanted to give back to it by joining the Senior Student Leadership Team and leaving a legacy I can be proud of. I recognise the importance of ensuring each and every student passing through this school community feels heard and valued; as a result I am extremely passionate about educating younger years on topics such as mental health which have become more of an issue over the past year due to the pandemic. I am so excited to work with the rest of the team and I can't wait to see the changes that spark as a result of the team's work.

Lockdown and school opening at RLS

Since the last issue, we have all been forced to continue to live under lockdown restrictions, with remote learning continuing into March. However, again, the school has remained open throughout for the children of key workers. We were thrilled to open our doors again to students in the second week of March, and it has been wonderful to hear the classrooms and fields come back to life, albeit with mask wearing and bi-weekly testing involved.



The main hall and staff volunteers ready to test the waiting students seated on the stage

Before students were allowed to return to school, RLS staff volunteers also successfully delivered the mammoth task of performing lateral flow tests on all students and staff (along with a further two rounds of tests of all students once school resumed), to allow everyone to return to school as safely as possible. Communal areas including the main hall and lecture theatre were transformed into testing centres and the whole exercise was executed smoothly and efficiently - a credit to everyone involved at RLS.



The school once more took full advantage of the emptier school during lockdown to carry out important improvements and repairs to the site, such as the sympathetic replacement of rotting window frames in Brookfield, thanks to a 'decarbonisation' grant awarded to us for this work. During the process of the removal of old window frames, the contractors involved stumbled across old newspaper pages that had been used to pad out the window frame cavities - the oldest newspapers they had ever come across in the course of their work. These fragments of *The Morning Post* provide a fascinating insight into the reading habits and interests of the occupants (or workmen) of Brookfield House in the 1930s.



Fragment of *The Morning Post*, September 27th 1932

Community support by RLS student during lockdown



We are very proud of Sulayman, a current Year 10 student who was awarded one of 22 Purple Plaques dedicated to community heroes up and down the country. The national awards were put in place this year to mark 22 years since the census began, to honour ordinary people who had done extraordinary things and had shown outstanding dedication to their local communities. Sulayman was awarded this prestigious plaque for his services to his home community in Buckingham. Initially inspired by Marcus Rashford, Sulayman set up Buckingham Free Meals last October to provide hot meals and food parcels to people in need in the local area.

The project has mobilised a small army of volunteers to help generate donations, prepare, cook and deliver food to Buckingham and within a 10 mile radius - something that was even more critical during the pandemic with economic insecurity and isolation rife. In the latest lockdown alone it has been providing up to 300 meals per week. Sulayman commented: 'I am truly honoured to have received the Census 2021 Community Hero Award, amongst the 100s of entries that were submitted. I wanted to do something that would help the people in my own community in these challenging times and the support of so many volunteers alongside me has helped to make this vision a reality.'

Your news from the decades

From the 2000s



**Hannah Hencken
(Class of 2018)**

The RLS 600 Campaign was thrilled to have been awarded three places in the 2021 London Marathon, and delighted to have selected former Head Girl Hannah Hencken of the Class of 2018 to be one of our official runners.

Hannah says: 'I attended RLS from 2011 and really loved sport at school and took part in a range of teams. I'm currently at Oxford studying medicine and am also very involved in sport at uni. I am the captain of the university seconds team for football and have also captained my college. Additionally, whilst at uni I have also played rugby and run every day. I have really reaped the rewards of regular sport at school and it has given me so many opportunities at university and I think that the sports campus will only maximise this for future students of RLS. I think that engaging with sport and exercise, both competitively and in a relaxed way is so important for physical and mental health and it is critical that the joy of sport and exercise can be imparted to young people.'

Hannah is excitedly preparing for the race, and would love your support! If you'd like to give her a boost, you can [sponsor Hannah here](#).

Charlotte Wilson (Class of 2016)



Thank you to Charlotte Wilson from the Class of 2016 for sharing her experience, knowledge and advice on a career in medicine with our year 12s on 31st March. We wish you all the best on your exams this summer.

If you study medicine or have a career in medicine (either as a doctor, vet or dentist) and would be interested in supporting our prospective medics in our MedSoc at RLS, with advice either remotely or in person, please do contact us at latinlife@royallatin.org.

From the 1990s

Charlotte Northedge (Class of 1997)



Congratulations to Charlotte Northedge on the publication of her debut novel, *The House Guest*, a psychological thriller, released in May.

Charlotte is joint Head of Books at The Guardian and has also contributed to other newspapers and magazines, including Psychologies and Cosmopolitan. **You can find her on Twitter: @charnorth, on Instagram: charlotte_north and on her Facebook author page: @charlottenorthedgeauthor.**

Louisa Allen (née David, Class of 1993)



Thank you to Louisa Allen of the Class of 1993 - one of the last Brookfield House boarders, for being one of the latest contributors to our Inspiration Bank, a wonderful resource provided by Old Latins, full of advice and life stories designed to inspire current Latins as they look towards their future after RLS. Louisa studied engineering at

Oxford, but developed an interest in law once she started work in the engineering industry and went on to train to be a solicitor. She currently heads up a department at Network Rail. One of her favourite quotes that she likes to live by is, 'Don't sweat the small stuff', because, 'we can all get caught up with little things that frustrate us, but getting the bigger picture and asking yourself "will this matter in 5 years time?" Is a useful check on whether you need to sweat over it. If you've messed up (and everyone messes up) don't obsess over it, ask what have I learnt, be gracious for the learning and then let it go. We are all works in progress, life is a journey but it's jolly fun too!' To read Louisa's full Inspiration Bank Q & A profile, visit: www.royallatin.org/latininspires/latin-inspires-inspiration-bank/

Your news from the decades

From the 1980s

Mark Collins (Class of 1983)



We are very grateful to Mark Collins of the Class of 1983 for getting in touch to share his story of life after RLS, including his reflections on the life skills gained at RLS and the teachers that inspired him, for our Inspiration Bank. Mark's mother (Class of 1953) also attended RLS and incredibly both Mark and his mother were taught English by Mrs Capell!

Mark has served in the Royal Air Force, leaving as the Senior Commissioned Catering Officer, and currently is CEO of military charity, Poppyscotland, a subsidiary of the Royal British Legion group. Mark believes that, 'Life is an exciting journey with opportunities and challenges that can be navigated, based upon many of the principles and life skills learnt at the RLS.' and particularly remembers PE teacher, Mr Martin, as, 'hockey became and remains a passion and Miss Griffiths, the Food and Nutrition teacher, 'who agreed to take me on, despite being a boy, and only after I had convinced the headmaster, Mr Luff, as to why I didn't want to do TD, wood or metal work.'

To read Mark's full profile, visit our inspiration bank at www.royallatin.org/latininspires/latin-inspires-inspiration-bank/ where you can also read all the other contributions from Old Latins over the past year, including the favourite quotes or expressions that have inspired them in life, such as:

Vicki Heath (Class of 2006)'s choice

'Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained' (Marie Curie, the first woman to win the Nobel Prize, the first person to win the Nobel Prize twice and still the only person to have won the Nobel Prize in two different categories.)

Trevor Saving (Class of 1974)'s choice

'Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up, it knows it must outrun the fastest lion or it will be killed. Every morning in Africa a lion wakes up. It knows it must run faster than the slowest gazelle, or it will starve. It doesn't matter whether you're the lion or the gazelle-when the sun comes up you'd better be running.' (Christopher McDougall, *Born to Run*)

Careers and Work Experience



The pandemic has had an impact on every academic year group, in so many ways. Overall, we are extremely proud of the way in which our students have coped, and overcome the challenges they have been faced with.

Lockdown has meant that students have been unable to visit universities in the way they usually would, or attend careers fairs and events, including our own really popular Aspirations Evening. The usual work experience schedule - whereby Year 10 complete a week placement with a local employer, and Year 12 also spend time with employers, gaining valuable experience and skills - has also not been possible.

'No real-life work experience for the Year 10 and 12 cohorts has been a real loss' said Jane Comben, RLS Head of Work Related Learning. "Some employers have been great though, and there are a huge range of virtual experiences available, which has actually increased the accessibility of some careers. Year 10 will be taking part in a two day virtual work experience event with John Lewis in June, which is great - but we're really looking forward to being able to introduce students to local employers again next year."

Old Latins and our Careers Programme

We're already working on a range of ways in which alumni can help inspire and support current students, and we plan to consolidate this work into a comprehensive menu of initiatives in the year ahead, to include:

- Inspiration Bank
- Alumni LinkedIn Page
- Work Experience
- Careers Talks
- Mentoring
- Skills Workshops
- Aspirations Evening

We'll bring you more news on this in the next edition, but please do get in touch with Jo at jballantine@royallatin.org any time if you'd like to help or if you have any thoughts on how we can support existing students, recent leavers, and each other by sharing career and life experiences.



600
Campaign

Sports Campus
Energise • Enjoy • Excel

Sports Campus Urgent Appeal Gathers Pace



Against all odds, the construction of the Sports Campus has continued throughout the pandemic and is on schedule to be completed in July, followed by fitting-out, and an official opening planned for the Autumn.

With £107,000 still to raise at the time of writing, and just ten weeks until building completion, Mr Hudson is renewing his appeal to Old Latins to donate if they can (see his letter, overleaf).

"It's taken us five long years to raise £2.9m to make the Sports Campus happen", states Jo Ballantine, Royal Latin Director of Development. "It's an incredible achievement for such a small community, with few resources, and with a pandemic to contend with. It's testament not only to how much we all believe in the value of investing in the physical health and mental wellbeing of our young people, but also to just how very special the Royal Latin community is. It's been a long slog though, with lots of setbacks and disappointments along the way - not least the government's refusal to help with funding.



Everyone's tired, but we're so very close to fulfilling our Sports Campus dream now. I'm making one final plea to our alumni community to help us reach our goal. If everyone does a little, we'll be able to make that final payment - and then breathe a sigh of relief!"



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Summer Term 2021

Dear Old Latin

I very much hope you are keeping safe and well. You may well be wondering why I am writing this letter to you at this time. It is a mark of the urgency of our fundraising challenge that I feel the need to update you and to ask directly for your support.

As you know, students' mental health & wellbeing are at the heart of what we do. In September all students will begin benefitting from the Sports Campus. The facilities will be an important addition to the school, and will play a vital role in helping our young people to rebuild resilience, both physically and psychologically.

We have only got this far due to the considerable charitable efforts of so many in our community, and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. It certainly hasn't been easy. Unfortunately, like so many other charities, the pandemic has severely impacted on our fundraising income, and we are struggling to raise the last £107,000 needed to finish the building. We now need every bit of support possible to get us over the line.

Appealing directly for donations really isn't easy for me to do, especially after a year which has been so difficult for many of us. If, though, you do feel you can do more to help, anything you donate over the two months between now and the end of July will make a real difference. If we are to succeed, we need donations at all levels, from £25 up to the very highest levels of sponsorship - all contributions are valued and will be cherished.

We've made donating as straightforward as we can; you can simply scan the QR code above, or go to www.royallatin.org/donate. You can also visit the Sports Campus virtually from the page. As ever, if you would like to talk to us about donating, or have any questions, please feel free to contact Jo Ballantine directly, at jballantine@royallatin.org. If you can donate or pledge by **31st July**, that would be hugely helpful in enabling us to manage the cashflow towards the end of the construction.

*With my sincere thanks, in anticipation, for your support.
I look forward to welcoming you back to school in the
months ahead, and to sharing you in person what the
inspiring Sports Campus will offer.*

*Yours sincerely
David Hudson.*

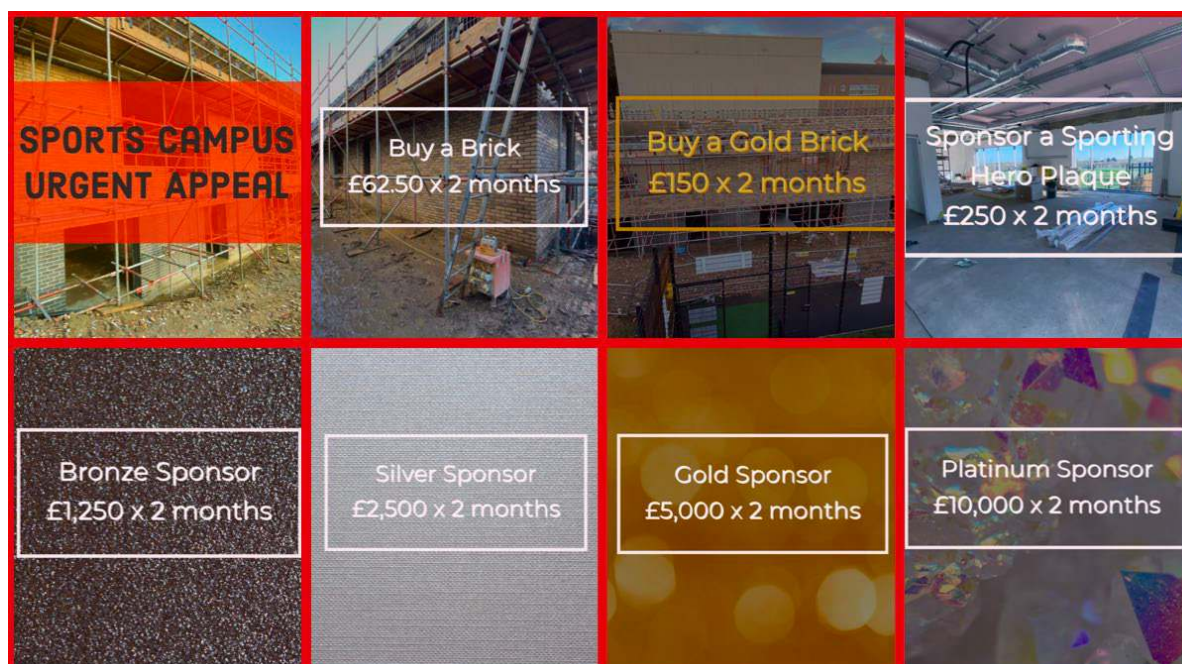
Headteacher: Mr David Hudson MA (Cantab)
Academy Trust Co No: 07686209: Registered: England and Wales

Final call for donations to our urgent appeal

You can donate any amount at all, no donation is too small! Or if you wish, you can donate one of the amounts shown below. Every single donation is much needed and greatly appreciated.

To donate, simply visit our urgent appeal page at <https://www.royallatin.org/donate/> which gives you all of the details you need to donate online, make a direct transfer to our account, or send us a cheque with the enclosed donation card if you receive a hard copy of this edition. If you'd like to discuss your donation or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Jo at jballantine@royallatin.org.

Thank you!



New: Final £100k Shopping List - Can You Help?

With the building nearing completion, it's time to turn our attention to appealing for donations for everything we still need to buy and instal to get the Sports Campus ready for use.

We've launched a new Shopping List so that our community can help by selecting an item to buy for us.

The list includes everything from bins to desks to gym equipment - please do have a look at the list and help out by buying an item for us.

Thank you!

Shopping List

Kettle	£20
1m of grassy wellbeing walk	£36
First aid kit	£50
Fire extinguisher	£65
Dishwasher	£200
Downlighter	£209
Outdoor bench	£400
Storage cage	£600
TV screen	£750
Rowing machine	£1,085
Water fountain	£1,150
1 metre of long jump	£1,160
Inspirational mural	£2,490
Exercise bike	£3,650
Treadmill	£4,950

See full list at: <https://www.royallatin.org/600-campaign/sportscampus-shoppinglist/>

Bernard Garbe Champions Student Fundraising - AND Local Corporate Giving

Students were delighted to be congratulated by Old Latin Bernard Garbe (who joined RLS in 1964) recently, as they reached their first £10,000 fundraising target. As promised, Bernard rewarded their achievements with a £10,000 match gift from his Maids Moreton-based company, Vitalograph.

At the same time, Bernard delighted us by throwing down the gauntlet to other businesses, by promising to donate another £10,000 if other businesses stepped forward and did their bit too.

"Vitalograph has supported the local communities in which we work and live for over 50 years," said Barnard. "Being able to boost what the Royal Latin School is doing to create ground-breaking facilities for the local community has been immensely satisfying. Getting involved in such a local project that will have such an immediate social impact is great for the local community, and great for business too. I encourage other Old Latins and business owners to take a look at what the Royal Latin are doing and get involved."



Could your business be next?

Could your business or employer take up Bernard's challenge and become our next sponsor? Student fundraising campaign, plus the sponsorship opportunities listed to the right.'

We're looking for ten pitch sponsors at £1,000 each, and for a £10,000 sponsor to match the second half of the student fundraising campaign. There are lots of benefits to your company being involved - if you're interested in finding out more, please visit our corporate partners page at <https://www.royallatin.org/corporate/> and get in touch!

We need:

- Pitch Sponsor: £1k
- Student Match Sponsor: £10k
- Landscaping Sponsor: £20k
- Disabled Facilities Sponsor: £32k
- Car Park Sponsor: £35k



"Excellence is never an accident."



Kindly sponsored by [your company name here](#)
Two sentences here about your business, what you offer.
Your key products / services / selling points.
[www.yourwebaddressorchosenacalltoactionhere.com](#)
A phone number or address here

We're on our way to Yorkshire!

Our challenge to tackle the famous three peaks of Yorkshire is now taking place on Saturday 10th July.

Now that restrictions have eased and plenty of accommodation is available, the team are full of beans and are concentrating on getting in a few training walks and asking family and friends to sponsor them.

This will be the final fundraising event for the Sports Campus.

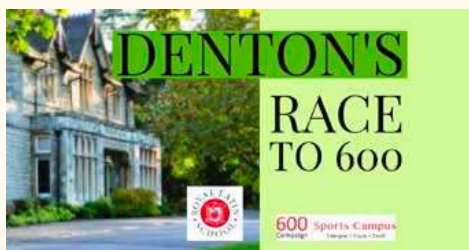
Please show your support for the team by sponsoring them at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/RLS-Y3P>



Last chance to join the team!

We have space for a few more Old Latins on the team, so if you'd like to find out more please contact Jo at jballantine@royallatin.org asap

Support your old house in their Race to 600

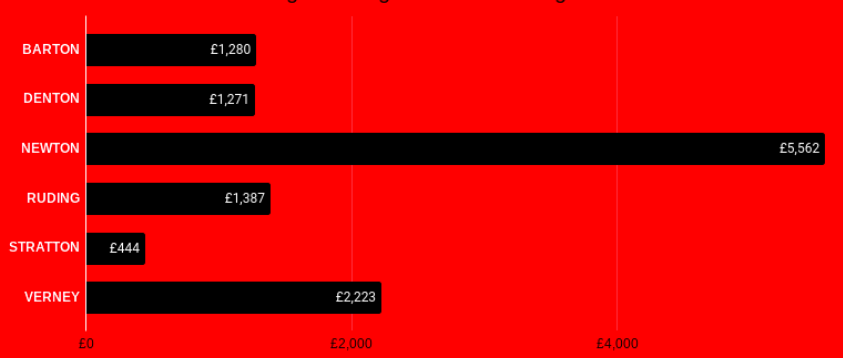


Every form has been challenged to raise £600 towards the Sports Campus. Some have already completed the challenge - others are yet to start! Here's how the Houses are currently doing:

If you'd like to give your old House a boost to their fundraising efforts, you can now donate via a special House donations page at: <https://www.royallatin.org/600-campaign-raceto600/>

You can follow the progress of each House on the page, and we'll report back next month on how the leaderboard is looking!

RLS Race to 600 Fundraising Challenge - House running totals



Looking ahead to 2023



The 600th anniversary of the school in 2023 is now firmly on the horizon, and it is important that such a significant milestone is given appropriate respect and recognition. We'll bring you further details in the next edition of Latin Life, but in the meantime, below is a summary of just some of the things we will be working on in the months ahead:

Book Publication

Regular readers will know that work has already begun, in the shape of commissioning Old Latin John Hounslow (Class of 1970) to write a book to commemorate the anniversary. John's book covers the established history of the school, as well as presenting memories and reflections from Old Latins across the generations, to give the reader a real sense of the lasting impact of school years on our lives. If you'd like to contribute to the book, please contact us and we'll put you in touch with John.

Events

We can't have an anniversary this big without lots of events! We'll be planning a whole year of extra special occasions, large and small, face to face and virtual, so that everyone can join in. Reunions, a Head Boy & Head Girl event, 2023 Ball, Old Latins vs Royal Latin sports matches, a concert and an extra special Founders Day are ideas on the list so far.

The Royal Latin in 2023

It would be nice to find ways to reflect the changing face of the school, and to try to encapsulate and share what makes the Royal Latin special. Commissioning an anniversary film, piece of artwork, a musical composition or poem as well as creating an anniversary logo and merchandise are all ideas on the list.

Investing in our Archive

We'll be applying for funding for our archive in the year ahead, to allow us to invest in looking after the records and artefacts we have, and to begin creating a much more accessible, digital archive, which Old Latins can access online much more easily. This is a huge project, but a really important one.

2023 Suggestion Box

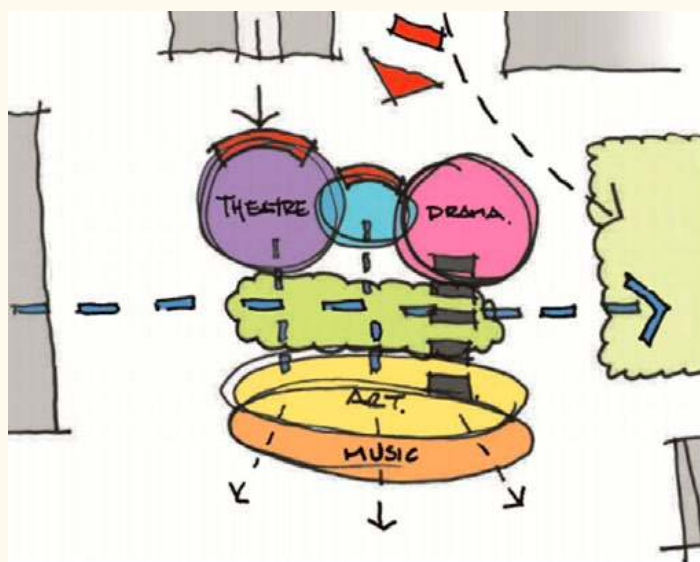
We'd love to hear your thoughts about things we could include in our 2023 celebrations. Please do send us any ideas, using the suggestion card in this edition if you're reading a hard copy, or by emailing us at the usual address: latinlife@royallatin.org.

The Future of The Arts at The Royal Latin

Way back in 2012, when the 600 Campaign was launched, we outlined plans for the third phase of the campaign: a large new centre for the Arts, incorporating new facilities for Art, Music and Drama. This remains a firm objective for the school, and later this year, we will begin formulating plans for this next major project. We anticipate that this planning phase will last for a minimum of two years, and will include:

- Formulating our vision for the Arts
- Seeking community partners and advisors
- Building design and operation
- Engaging possible sponsors

If you think you could help with any of the above, have ideas or experience to share, or would like to be kept informed of our planning progress, please get in touch with Jo at jballantine@royallatin.org.





Get in Touch!

Editor: Lucy Beckett

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

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

Calendar 2021/22

Wednesday 23rd June 2021:

Sports' Day part 1

Friday 25th June 2021:

Founders' Day & Sports Day part 2

Friday 5th November 2021:

Remembrance Service

Wednesday 4th May 2022:

Archive Open Day

Saturday 11th June 2022:

Class of 1974 Reunion

Wednesday 22nd June 2022:

Sports Day part 1

Friday 24th June 2022:

Founders' Day & Sports Day part 2

Saturday 2nd July 2022:

Class of 1991 Reunion

It's Your *Latin Life*



It's Your *Latin Life*. We rely on your contributions to shape this magazine - so 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

Planning a Reunion?



We are happy to help you make your reunion happen in 2022/23. The tried and tested format for a reunion tends to consist of meeting at 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. Note: Reunions planned for summer 2020 and 2021 have been postponed to 2022 because of the pandemic, so 2022 is likely to be a busy reunions year.

Don't delay in getting yours booked in! If you need help to arrange, contact latinlife@royallatin.org. All dates are provisional at the moment, due to the pandemic, but any changes will be communicated as far in advance as possible by email and social media

Alumni Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn



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**, on **Twitter @RLSAlumni** and **LinkedIn**.

Helping the environment

All of our paper copies of *Latin Life* are now mailed out wrapped in polythene-free, compostable wrappers.



Latin Life via Email

If you haven't already, please, please send us your email address! Electing to receive *Latin Life* by email will help us to minimise our costs and save trees!

1766

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!



756

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!



264

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



198

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!

