

Inside Latin Life



Rotherfield

As Roger Wagland remembers it from 1945 to 1964 >



'A New and Exciting Place to Learn!'

RLS Discovery Centre structure nearing completion >



Alumni Lab

Full steam ahead >



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It's your Latin Life

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Welcome to our sixth edition of Latin Life

I am delighted to be able to report on the development of The Discovery Centre. You will see, in this edition, that we are close to opening this exciting new facility and I hope that many of you will join us on 5th June to see it for yourselves.

Of course, this building is just the latest in a long tradition of capital work at The Latin and it is important that The Discovery Centre is a worthy addition to the fabric of the school for many generations to come.

Some of you may have picked up the concerns I have raised recently about the appallingly low level of funding we receive from government. The shocking truth is that our school is the second worst funded secondary school in the country.

We are, therefore, having to make some difficult decisions in cutting our expenditure in order to stop us from going into deficit. Nevertheless, even in this extreme adversity, we will strive to maintain the outstanding education that has been the hallmark of RLS for many generations.

As ever, I hope you all feel free to visit us as and when you are able, but particularly on 5th June.

David Hudson, Headteacher



Photograph courtesy of Jake McNulty Photograph.

Site Development over the Years

With a major building development, the Discovery Centre, now nearing completion it is interesting to review other major building developments on the site over the last 30 years.

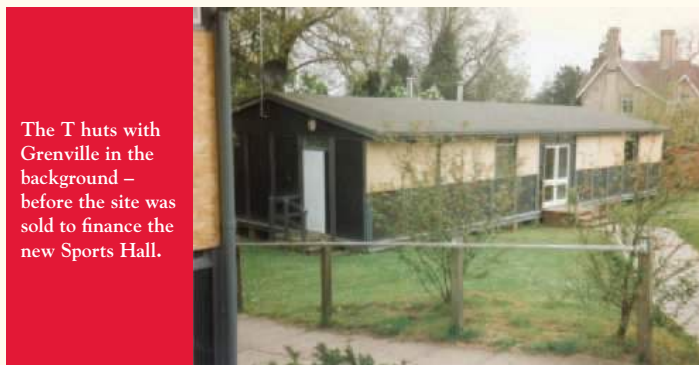
Grenville Cottage has gone, the swimming pool has gone, the terrapin huts - between Rotherfield and Grenville - have also gone. But there are far more new buildings and developments including the extension of the school canteen, the sports hall, the 'New Block', the redevelopment of Brookfield Boarding House into the library and classrooms, and the coach park. Here are some photos to remind you of the changes.



Inside Brookfield House, now Music, Science and Library.



The Swimming Pool - Before and After.

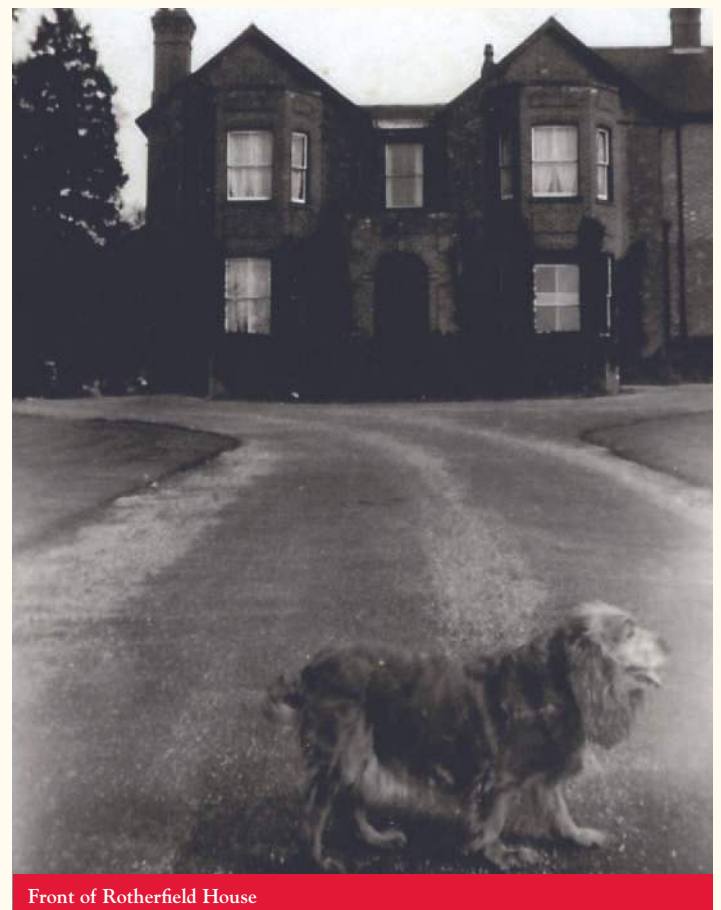


The T huts with Grenville in the background - before the site was sold to finance the new Sports Hall.

Rotherfield - as I remember it from 1945 to 1964

We had come to Rotherfield from Gawcott, where we rented a house called "The Retreat"- which seemed a rather inappropriate name in wartime (a little later it was renamed Single House).

Rotherfield was built, I believe, by Denny the builders, for Major Hooker of Milk Factory fame. The kitchen and the servants' hall were where we lived our daily lives, particularly in the winter when it was often too cold to venture into the rest of the house without an overcoat. I remember dreading the nightly sprint to the bedroom. The kitchen was of the farmhouse variety and easily accommodated the family as well as two large labradors who occupied an armchair each, in the corner of the room. No-one ventured into the kitchen from the yard without permission, as they would be knocked down and licked to death.



Front of Rotherfield House

When I arrived as a seven year old in September 1945, the right hand block was a laundry with a large boiler and wooden drying racks, which were hauled to the ceiling by a series of ropes and pulleys. Further down and attached to the laundry were a workshop for vehicle repairs and two large linked garages with heavy doors. Above the garages was an apple store called, in the details of the sale's brochure in 1945, a 'fruit room'.

The house we enjoyed immensely, but for five and a half days a week we shared the premises with about fifteen employees, who

worked for Wagland Ltd. At the end of the war, it was almost impossible to obtain the necessary permissions to build or extend factory premises and so my father decided the only solution was to buy premises with sufficient room for the expanding business. So it was that he bought Rotherfield and converted the laundry, the workshop, the garages and the greenhouse, along with the yard office, potting room and the study, into business use. This undertaking involved the repair of all failed Electrolux vacuum cleaners throughout the UK and the contract remained a staple of the company for the following forty years.

The house has a cellar described in the sale brochure as 'excellent dry cellarage', which became my hidey-hole during my childhood and continued as such well into my teens. Here my friends and I would celebrate all our minor triumphs be they rugby matches won (or lost), Savoy opera finales or sports days or whatever. Here I felt safe, as parents never trundled down the tight stone staircase, they simply called from the doorway in the stair panelling - it was just as well they ventured no further.

I shared this cellar with stuffed animal heads that my mother had purchased when she ventured, reasonably successfully into the world of auctions and house sales to furnish Rotherfield, (at a time when utility furniture was in short supply) and a sizeable consignment of large cans of "Lacta", a dried milk produced by Hooker and Gilbey (at the Milk Factory) - probably stored there in the event of serious war starvation. It was all still there along with those awful heads and mother's bottled fruit (that we had successfully avoided for years), when the house was cleared in 1964. Apart from me, the only other cellar escapee was one of the unfortunate heads - that of a stag - which was dragged into the drawing room each Christmas, hung from the wall and forced to sport a bright red painted nose for the duration - a very undignified end for a monarch of the glen.

The main attraction for me was not the house, but the garden. The sale details from 1945 state that the garden measured some 2 acres or 16 poles. It ran from Back Lane down to Chandos Road and was bordered by The Mount (now Brookfield) and Dark Alley on one side and Chandos Lodge on the other. The garden design was very straight forward and symmetrical. Looking up from the drive gates on Chandos Road the house occupied the left hand side of an oblong plot. The drive was 60 or so yards long and ran straight from the gates up to the turning area at the front door. On each side of the drive and for its entire length were lawns each some 5 yards wide and bordered by shrubbery and ornamental trees. Further to the right, behind a high fence was the kitchen garden, which could be accessed from a gate near the drive gates or another nearer the top of the drive. To the right of the house were three further lawns.

At the top was the 'ornamental' trees lawn and below that the croquet lawn, both of which are still in place. Below the croquet lawn was a full size tennis court, which is now under the road crossing Dark Alley into the Gardens. The house in Chandos Close that is nearest both to the alley and the new road still has, at the top of its garden, the old retaining wall and, I believe, part of the framed fence that divided the court from the kitchen garden. My father loved roses and these bloomed in profusion on the bank between the top and narrower croquet lawn as well as at the top of the kitchen garden, against the retaining wall.

The old house probably did lend itself rather more as a boarding house than a class/study room block. The yard was incorporated into the building along with the outhouses (coal, wood, coke,



The lawns at Rotherfield House

potting, office, kennels and stable) all of which were pretty unrecognisable by my departure in 1964. Also the ex-greenhouse and the cold frames have all been incorporated into what is now the lecture theatre and annex. The 'servants' area i.e. the kitchen, the larder, the butler's pantry and the 'servants' hall', have also disappeared into that area. The rest of the house was left pretty well alone and the dining room, hall, drawing room and study along with the loggia (we called it the sun-room), cloakroom and kitchenette are still visible today. I wouldn't say they still show much of their previous glory though - the house was very brown throughout. Every few feet along the hall and landing hung pictures in heavy 6 inch oak frames depicting all sorts of wild animals - most were signed prints by Herbert Dicksee and have since sold rather well (about the only thing that did, I hasten to add).

The rest of the work on the sixth form premises (Rotherfield) involved joining the house to the workshops and garages on the right as you enter from Brookfield Lane (Back Lane in my day). I haven't seen a great deal of the upstairs at Rotherfield since the school occupied it. However, originally there were 7 bedrooms. They were seldom all occupied at the same time during our tenure, except when friends in Nelson Street were washed out by the flooding Ouse and as overflow accommodation for the overbooked White Hart Hotel for meetings at Silverstone.

The development of Rotherfield into a modern 6th form centre will mean that the internal area I still recognise will largely disappear. However, in my mind's eye, I can still see my father's boudoir grand in the bay window of the archive room, hear the sound of ragtime piano and enjoy the uninterrupted view across Chandos Road to the milk factory piggery on the river bank. I'm pretty certain the cast iron radiator in that bay window is the original one and - blow me - it's still icy cold!

Former Science Staff Memories

Jenny Green (Former RLS Pupil & Lead Science Technician) Remembers.



Jenny Green

The move to the new school was carried out very efficiently by staff and pupils with the most precious items of equipment

entrusted to the least clumsy of us. Some of the old wooden stools are still to be found in the science block and are often used as props in school drama productions along with the skulls and bones still to be found in S4.

Roy (Maycock, Science Teacher 1958 – 1985) reminded me that we couldn't actually use the Bunsen burners in the new labs for some time as someone had

ordered the wrong size rubber tubing (easily done!). This meant that some science lessons were taught on the old school site for several weeks after the move.

I can still recall the smell emitted by the Kipps generator used to produce H₂S (bad egg gas) in the chemistry lab. The smell and the generator came with us to the new school but soon became obsolete thanks to more sophisticated methods of chemical analysis. It now serves as a plant container in my garden!

During the early days at the new site there were no power packs for physics, we relied upon banks of batteries which were recharged over the weekend. A disaster if the lab technician forgot this job.

Having been a pupil at both sites and then working at the school as a lab technician for some 25 years I saw much change particularly in the areas of health and safety.

Typically at the old site (now Grenville Combined School), without gloves, specs or fillers, we would suck up a solution containing arsenic or cyanide in a pipette. H&S was in a form of the antidote being available in a wall cupboard marked with a large red cross! This made you very careful.

Technology at the old school site was in the form of film loops, a slide projector and cine film - that had to be hand loaded. Now there are all the advantages of modern technology – including broadband and Visual Learning Equipment. It is amazing to think that IT actually started in S2 with the lunchtime computer club run by Mr Grimsdale - with just a few Sinclair computers on the side bench - such a long way from the facilities now available. I look forward to seeing all the latest developments in the Discovery Centre.

Roy Maycock (Science Teacher 1958 to 1985) recounts the following for us.

Up until 1958 The Royal Latin School had single form entry (i.e. just 30 pupils in each year). In September of that year a second form was added, together with an extra member of staff. That member of staff was me!

Until then Mr Bush had taught Chemistry and Biology and Mr Allitt did Physics. I took over the Biology from Mr Bush and introduced 'A' level. Two students took on the task of completing the course in just one year but, at the end of the first term, one left! The one remaining passed with flying colours in 1959.

In the 'old' school (the present Grenville Combined School on Chandos Road) there were just two laboratories – one for all the Chemistry (and, very occasionally, Biology), the other for Physics and Biology. Sharing meant the sixth form theory lessons (at least for Biology) were held in small rooms in Grenville House (now demolished and replaced by modern houses) – that's where I learned to write upside-down so that

students could copy the technical terms. There was no room for a blackboard!

Accommodation in the 'new' school in 1962 increased to four labs – one for all of Chemistry, one for Physics, one for Biology and one smaller one for 'A' level Physics and Biology. Prep room space was small – one between the Chemistry and Biology labs, and one between the Physics and 'A' level labs. Soon the 'A' level Sciences were extended to include 'A' level Botany and Zoology. With increased numbers of pupils throughout the school, there were staff increases too, so the three sciences had two teachers each, some of whom had a few other duties as well. Soon space became a premium and two extra labs were added to the science block with a single, larger prep room between them. Staffing and accommodation remained much the same for several years although three new labs were incorporated into new building works after my time.

Biology became the most popular science (now apparently its Chemistry) both at 'O' and 'A' level and could be timetabled with non-science subjects so allowing more flexibility in subject choices. From the single

'A' level student taking the Biology exam in 1959 there are now far more: in 2014 115 took 'AS' or 'A2' levels and 66 did 'AS' or 'A2' levels in Human Biology – a grand total of 181. I was amazed.

Unfortunately, being able to offer separate Botany and Zoology at 'A' level had to be discontinued when they were withdrawn by the examination board.

But, of course, the content of what is now taught for 'O' and 'A' levels has changed dramatically over time as have the methods and equipment available to staff – "chalk and talk" has become "prescribed text and the internet"! The exams, too, are different – no 3 hour sessions at 'A' level, writing five essays for example.

In 1958 total pupil numbers were just over 200; in 2014 well over 1200. It is no surprise therefore that a new science block – The Discovery Centre – is essential if the teaching of science is to continue to be effective for the needs of today. It will house more Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. I look forward to seeing it and being a part of the continuing development of science at RLS.

‘A New and Exciting Place to Learn!’



RLS students are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to get inside the new 12 laboratories of the Discovery Centre. We are thrilled to report that the structure is nearing completion after 14 months of construction – now the school faces the very real challenge of equipping all 12 laboratories before the end of the summer term.

‘The sooner we can get everything ready, the sooner we can move in and let this incredible building transform the science education we are able to offer’ said Jo Ballantine, RLS Director of Development. ‘Students and staff alike are really excited by how impressive the building is looking, and we can’t wait to get in there. One student has described it as ‘majestic’ – very apt for the Royal Latin!’

Of course, the Discovery Centre wouldn’t exist if it wasn’t for the support of both the government and the school community, including alumni. ‘Our students have a growing awareness of just how special it is that previous generations of Latins are willing to invest in the current generation’ said Jo. ‘It gives them an invaluable sense of belonging to a wider community – and makes them even more determined to work hard’.

Thank you
for making it
possible

Ben, Year 8

Thank you for
contributing to
the future of a
great school

Niraj, Year 10

Thank you
for helping
our future

Cameron, Year 9

Buy a Piece of RLS History

To help fundraise for the Alumni Lab, we’ve decided to make some of our lovely old lab stools available to Old Latins, in return for a donation of £50.

The stools vary in vintage, but all are wooden and unique! If you would like one, **please email** djones@royallatin.org – first come, first served.



Alumni Lab

Connect, Share, Inspire

Work is continuing on the Alumni Lab, Laboratory No. 11 in the Discovery Centre. We are directing all donations from Old Latins towards the cost of fitting out this lab, and are incredibly grateful to those who have contributed so far.



Old Latins Julian and Jade Thomas with fellow 600 Campaign Board member The Rt Hon John Bercow MP on a recent visit to the Discovery Centre site.

'We still have a long way to go with this lab in particular' said Jo. 'It is situated in prime position on the first floor of the Discovery Centre, between the Racelogic Innovation Lab and the Lillingstone Trust Community Lab.'

'We would like to start work on our Alumni Lab Hall of Fame very soon' added Chris George, Assistant Head at RLS. 'It would be great if Old Latins could nominate alumni from across the generations who are doing amazing things in the world of science, technology and innovation, so that we can use their experience to inspire future generations of scientists.'



Mr George admiring the glass fronted Community Lab next to the proposed Alumni Lab.

Please contact **Jo** at jballantine@royallatin.org if you would like to nominate yourself or a classmate to appear in the Alumni Lab Hall of Fame.

We urgently need donations of any size so that we can complete the Alumni Lab in the Discovery Centre. If you would like to donate, please visit www.rls600.com or simply send a cheque payable to 'Royal Latin School – School Fund' to Jo Ballantine at the school (see back cover of Latin Life for full postal address). Thank you.

Alumni Events

Thank you to the Old Latins who have come along to an event in the past few years.



Head Girl Georgia Crouch & Head Boy Callum Holliday welcome Old Latins to dinner at Blenheim Palace.

Whether you have attended the Archive Open Days at school, come to a reunion or just dropped in for a brief visit, we really appreciate you making the effort to spend some time with the school – you are always welcome!

Old Latins have also joined us for 600 Campaign events at Waddesdon Manor, Drummonds Bank, Blenheim Palace and the House of Commons - it is wonderful to have our alumni represented on special occasions, and we hope to be able to invite you to many more in the future.

Forthcoming events include:



Sean Riches & Simon Harper (Class of 1984) at CPA Global.

600 Campaign Golf Day at Whittlebury Park Golf & Country Club, 11th September 2015

This event will be returning in September 2015 following last year's popular inaugural event which raised £8,000 for the Discovery Centre. If you would like to enter a corporate team

or a team of Old Latins, **please email golf@royallatin.org** for further details.

Element Sponsorship Scheme Races Ahead



Company sponsors can include their logo on their element.

We are so pleased that Old Latins are joining those stepping forward to sponsor elements in our periodic table, including ones based as far afield as New York and Dubai. As one Old Latin put it:

"I was privileged and honoured to attend the Royal Latin in the 1960s. Supporting the 600 Campaign is my belated thank you and will help to ensure future students get the most out of this wonderful new facility."

We now have just 32 elements looking for sponsors, as listed below. Please do get in touch as soon as possible if you would like to reserve one and have your name up on our giant periodic table in the new Discovery Centre. You will be in good company – we even have a leading Formula One driver up there!

Element Number	Element Symbol	Element Name	Family Rate	Or 6 monthly payments	Corporate Rate
9	F	Flourine	£1500	£250	£2000
37	Rb	Rubidium	£1500	£250	£2000
78	Pt	Platinum	£5000	£833	£7500
81	Tl	Thallium	£1000	£167	£1500
83	Bi	Bismuth	£1000	£167	£1500
87	Fr	Francium	£1500	£250	£2000
101	Md	Mendelevium	£1500	£250	£2000
102	No	Nobelium	£1500	£250	£2000
113	Uut	Ununtirum	£1000	£167	£1500
114	Fl	Flerovium	£1000	£167	£1500
115	Uup	Ununpentium	£1000	£167	£1500
117	Uus	Ununseptium	£1000	£167	£1500
118	Uuo	Ununoctium	£1500	£167	£2000

Email Dean at djones@royallatin.org or telephone 01280 827306 to reserve your chosen element.

Defibrillator for our Sports Hall Foyer - Thank you Angela!



Angela Rhodes presents the defibrillator to RLS Head of PE, Ian Gould.

We were delighted to have received a very special gift of a defibrillator recently from former RLS Head Girl Angela Rhodes (Class of 1974) and Adam Naisbitt from Cooper Banks MacKenzie.

"As a previous student at the Royal Latin and with a son who has recently been diagnosed with a heart condition, this is something very important to me" said Angela. "I'm very grateful to be able to support the school which gave me so much as a student."

"We are so grateful to Angela and Adam for donating this defibrillator" said David. "The school has first-hand experience of just how important this piece of equipment is, and although we already have one device in the main block adjacent to the field, this second defibrillator will be sited in our sports hall, and will therefore not only be of benefit to our own students and staff, but also to any sports clubs and community groups using our sports hall facilities".

Discovery Centre Preview Evening



600 Campaign

Discovery Centre
Building the future Together

Friday 5th June 2015, 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Be amongst the first to step into the Discovery Centre, see our progress so far and find out what we still need to achieve before we can open for lessons

- Explore the building from top to bottom
- Take in the views of Buckingham from the roof terraces
- Chat to staff, students, sponsors and 600 Campaign Board members
- Visit our Donations Hub to arrange a donation if you wish!
- Refreshments available

Please email Jo at jballantine@royallatin.org by 1st June 2015 to confirm your attendance

The new Student Leadership Team



From left to right: Naomi Greener, Deputy Head Girl; Jonathan Aubrey, Deputy Head Boy; Athena Tzallas, Head Girl; -Michael Keating, Head Boy and David Hudson, Headteacher.

Athena Tzallas HG

It is a privilege to have recently been appointed as Head Girl. I strongly believe that RLS is an excellent school. The combination of conscientious pupils and passionate teachers makes our school community unique and a truly inspiring environment to study in.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and I am grateful to have benefited from the huge array of opportunities available to us. A recent example is the effort of our National Final Bar Mock Trial team, which I was so glad to have been part of. I am currently studying History, Politics, German and Spanish. Looking to the future, I hope to read Law at university with the ultimate ambition of working as a barrister.

As Head Girl, I hope to bring a positive attitude to the role and work with dedication and enthusiasm alongside all of the members of the Student Leadership Team. As a group, we are committed to making a valid and lasting contribution to our outstanding school and undoubtedly we will all gain a huge amount from the whole experience.

Michael Keating HB

In my new position as Head Boy I hope to improve my communication and managing skills within this new role, which I think are really valued throughout life, as well as my critical thinking and decision making abilities. I hope to bring my passion and enthusiasm above all else to this new position.

The RLS has given me a wide range of brilliant experiences, from going to local primary schools for the very successful annual Science Fairs, to winning the Daily Mail Vase at Twickenham, and taking part in brilliant musical performances.

I am currently studying Chemistry, Biology, English and Philosophy & Ethics. After school, I would love to go and volunteer in an aid project somewhere in the world for 6 months, after working and saving up for 6 months to fund it! After this, I would look to study English Literature and Philosophy at university.

I hope to work with people in a leadership role of some sort; I thrive on interacting with other people and driving them towards a goal,

which has been extremely helpful when working with like-minded people at the Royal Latin.

Naomi Greener DHG

Representing RLS as Deputy Head Girl is a very exciting time in my Latin career and I am hoping to develop my communication and teamwork skills throughout the next year. I am really excited to contribute my organisational skills and leadership qualities to the role.

I joined RLS in 2009 and since then I have had a fantastic time being involved in the school community. The opportunities I have had during my time at Royal Latin have been excellent, with everything from qualifying for the national final of the Business, Accounting and Skills Education competition, to successfully completing my Bronze D of E. However, the highlight of my time at RLS has definitely been being part of the athletics team. All of the PE department have been so supportive in helping me develop as an athlete and I've thoroughly enjoyed being able to represent the school in many competitions.

I am currently studying Maths, Economics, English and German. After sixth form, I am hoping to go to university to study Business Management with Economics. My invaluable experience and preparation from RLS combined with a good degree will open so many doors for me.

I feel privileged to be working with Athena, Michael and Jonny as part of a determined, devoted and enthusiastic team and I know we are all very excited to be able to contribute to RLS.

Jonathan Aubrey DHB

It is an honour to be able to represent the school in this role and give something back to the school that has supported me from year 7.

The support I have received has not just been in academic pursuits but within many different areas; from participating in a United Nations conference, winning football matches with the Royal Latin All Stars in year 11 (after 3 long years of defeat) or being part of the slightly more successful Daily Mail Vase rugby team winners. All of these pursuits have made me into the person I am today and enabled the development of my logical thinking, open mindedness and public speaking skills. I hope to be able to bring these attributes to my role of Deputy Head Boy as well as developing new skills and improving other aspects of my character.

I am looking forward to working and representing the school, whilst also completing my A levels in Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths and Physics. I am hoping to study Physics with Astrophysics at University. This route of study will open up many different job opportunities, but my greatest aspiration is to be an astronaut. Yes, you did read that correctly! Most people give up on that sort of a dream from a very early age, but, not easily deterred, I'm still determined to reach my goal.

I look forward to my new role and working with my friends to achieve something special. I am hoping Houston doesn't have a problem while the new Student Leadership Team is in place!

Head Boys and Head Girls: 1945 – The Present Day

Year	Head Boy	Head Girl
1945	Peter Fletcher	Edna Robinson
1946	Lionel Brazier	Jean Howes
1947	Gordon Bates	Patricia Chapman
1948	Richard Blake	Rosemary Butcher
1949	Derek Lillistone	Janet Butler
1950	Derek Lillistone	Barbara Aris
1951		Anne Rees
1952		
1953	Ronald Thorpe	Sheila Peet
1954		
1955	D. D. Knight	Sonia Puleston
1956	Roger Wagland	Diana Rhodes, Ann Capel
1957	Roger Wagland	Anne Gillett
1958	Jack Austin	Pat Viccars
1959	W L M Small	Susan Green
1960	Peter Duffett	
1961	Robin Harris	Gloria Williams
1962	Ray Cooper	Sally Pollard
1963		Ann King
1964	W J F Ford	Karina Lambrenos
1965		
1966		
1967		
1968	Paddy O’Gorman	Carolyn Hands
1969	Ted Few	Sally Battersby
1970	Andrew Darling	Jane Hammond
1971	Paul Luckock	Mandy Thompson
1972		Patsy Scammell
1973		Ann Worth
1974	Graham Carder	Fiona McKenzie

Year	Head Boy	Head Girl
1975	Podiwinski/Hilsden	Angela Crisp
1976	Simon Tansley	Susan Watkins
1977	Mark Harris	Jane Wagland
1978	Julian Young	Sarah Deaves
1979		Jennifer Evans
1980	Greg Wagland	Janet Capp
1981	Michael Jones	
1982		
1983		
1984	Sean Riches	Helen Capp
1985	Richard Withnall	Gillian Daniels
1986		Lynne Thorne
1987		
1988	Peter Neville	Sarah Tearle
1989		
1990		
1991		
1992-2004	No Appointments by Headteacher	
2005	Anthony Powis	Carmen Austin
2006	Michael Wilmott	Gemma Cook
2007	Nick Rakowski	Gwen Taylor
2008	Dominic Crocombe	Rachel Lane
2009	Guy Drury	Gemma Trott
2010	Tom Riley	Emma Crossey
2011	Ben Lewis	Natasha Stotesbury
2012	George Simons	Harriet Bull
2013	Max Hewitt	Poppy Doran
2014	Callum Holliday	Georgia Crouch

Can you help us complete our Head Boy / Head Girl honour boards?

If we were or know someone who was Head Boy / Head Girl in any of the missing years **please email acooper@royallatin.org** with the relevant information. We would love to hear from you.

From 1960s

Visit to the Archive by Martin Newman (Class of 1961)

It was a pleasure to meet Martin again and to read through the many documents and artefacts that he has given to the Archive. His visit to the area had been occasioned following the death of his mother Margaret Colgrove, herself an Old Latin who was at school in the early 1930s. He brought her RLS report book, beautifully kept, and here is a copy.

A favourite word seems to be "fair"! How different from the detailed, typed reports that teachers compose today. But there is still something very attractive about a report book that includes all the school reports in such careful hand writing.

DETAILED REPORT.

Subject	Term Marks	Exam. Marks	REMARKS	Grade of Mark
Composition	18	30		
English Language			Fair	3.75
Literature				
History	11	15	Very fair; must work harder.	AD
Geography	15	17	Fairly good	
French	5	9	Good	3.75
Latin	1	5	Consistently good	AD
Arithmetic	16	12	Lower to fairly well	4.75
Algebra	16	10	Fair; greater concentration necessary.	4.75
Geometry				

REPORT (continued).

Subject	Term Marks	Exam. Marks	REMARKS	Grade of Mark
Science	15	8	Satisfactory work well	9
Art	21		Fair	4.75
Handicraft				
Domestic Science	11	2	Must work harder.	5.75
Manual Work				

Number of Times Absent: 3 Number of Times Late: 0

General Report on Conduct and Progress:

Progress and conduct fairly good

Signed: H.H. Johnson, Form Master or Mistress
 Date: December 21, 1952
 H.G. Pritchard, Headmaster

Signature of Parent or Guardian: S.G. Colgrove
 Date: 23rd Dec. 1952

Martin was at RLS from 1954-61 and remembers particularly the school productions from that era. He was a Maths and A Level Woodwork student taught in the workshop by Mr Les Smith and remembers with great affection Les' mentoring and guidance. Sets were made at the Buckingham School and carried down to the Old Town Hall where the RLS productions were performed. Martin remembered the A Level Woodwork exam, 3 hours theory, 3 hours design and a 4 hour practical.

He went on from RLS to work at Harwell and later in a number of engineering companies.

Karina Lambrenos (Class of 1965. Head Girl from 1964-1965)

Karina and her husband Adrian came back to RLS for the first time since she left her alma mater. She remembers clearly the move up from Grenville, Chandos Road, to the new school and the visit of the Queen Mother in 1963. After leaving RLS, Karina went on to read Geography at Liverpool University, having been inspired by the teaching of Mr Archer. It was there she met her husband to be, Adrian who was eventually to become a Professor of Geography at the University.

After her degree she moved to Canada, taking a Masters in Geography followed by a B. Ed. Returning to the UK she studied for a Post Grad in Education and then taught English and Geography for some years.

Back to University, a change of career, a B.A. in Psychology, followed by a Masters in Clinical Psychology and then a D.Phil. She eventually retired from a post at The Royal Liverpool Hospital, Alder Hey.

On a tour of the school including the New Discovery Centre - Adrian said that the new science labs bettered the facilities in many Universities and Karina remembered with affection the hall, old prefects room, the gymnasium (without a roof in 1963), the classrooms in the main block and the outdoor swimming pool. She felt that George Embleton, Headmaster, was quite progressive in some ways - extra curricular activities on Friday afternoons included cookery for the boys - and ultra traditional in many others - no girls were allowed on the sacred cricket pitches and this included the girls' PE teacher who was herself an accomplished cricketer!

Karina left various school photographs from the 60s for the Archive, for which we are very grateful.



Jan Smith (Class of 1974)
The Latin and the Library.

From 1970s

Jan Smith (Class of 1974)

Last year I began working in the Royal Latin School library, a job I am really enjoying, especially as I was a former student at the RLS and it is really interesting to see how the school has changed over the years. When I was at the school in the 1970s, there

were only about 550 students, including the sixth form. The school had moved onto its current site in 1963; only the main block was in existence and this was already being outgrown, as it had only been designed for 350 students.

We were especially proud of the entrance foyer, the hexagonal music room (now the green room) and the open air swimming pool near the old gym - which hosted inter house swimming galas during the summer. Being thrown fully clothed into the swimming pool on leaving the school was the closest thing we had to a prom in those days!

There were then only three houses, Stratton, Denton and (most importantly!) Newton. We had a number of boarders at the school; Rotherfield was then the girls' boarding house; Brookfield the

boys' boarding house, and home to the then Headmaster, George Embleton. George, as he was always colloquially known, was Head for over 30 years and presented a formidable figure in the long black gown that was worn at all times by senior teaching staff, male and female. Assembly took place every morning, with the whole school attending. The Head, two deputies and various teachers would swish onto the stage in their long gowns and students had to stand throughout the proceedings, boys on one side of the hall, girls on the other. Quite often someone would faint and be carried out, but George would continue from his lectern undeterred.

The Vicar of Buckingham walked up to the school to teach RE once a week, with a pair of corgis at his heels. The corgis never made it into the classroom (I always wondered where they went) and the Vicar was soon replaced by a very young Andrew Cooper. Lessons (and students) were much as they are today; we worked hard, we had fun and we bent the rules where possible. Discipline was different though - Teachers were quite likely to throw a piece of chalk or a blackboard rubber at inattentive students and misbehaviour usually resulted in picking stones from the Head's rose garden during lunch and break. Needless to say, the rose garden was always looked lovely.

The library was originally on the first floor of the main block – now converted into two classrooms. One of my sisters, (also both former RLS students), was librarian there for eleven years - the family keep coming back! The new very spacious and well stocked library has been in the expert hands of dedicated librarian, Mrs Reading for the past eighteen years. Having studied English Literature and History at University, I especially enjoy looking after those sections.

Student numbers have almost trebled since I was at school and the building has developed accordingly, with the new block, technology block and sports hall. The new Discovery Centre will be a wonderful addition to the school and it is exciting to see the forethought which will carry the school into the 21st century.

From 2000s



Emily Rowe (Class of 2004)

Emily Rowe (Class of 2003)

Following in the footsteps of both of my parents, who attended the Royal Latin School in the 70s, I remember nervously walking up dark alley in September 1997 with Kim Child, unaware of the fabulous memories I was set to make over the coming years. Two years later, my sister Lucy also

joined the school and I remember Mr Cooper joking – “Not another Rowe?!” having taught our parents before us - obviously as a much younger teacher!

Once completing 6th form in 2003, I took a “year out” before going to uni - which quickly became 10 years out! During this time, I qualified as a nursery nurse in a local day nursery and went on to work in the Special Care Baby Unit at MK Hospital. After deciding I wanted to take a route into education, I started working

in a primary school as a teaching assistant and began a degree in ‘Applied Education Studies’ part time. I am now working as a learning mentor, still in a primary school, and am in my second year of studies. Once I have finished my degree, I plan to go on to qualify as a teacher.

Victoria Heath (Class of 2006)



Victoria at Porton Down Training (second from the right)

I left the Royal Latin in 2006. Going to university didn't really appeal to me so I got a job at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford as a Trainee Biomedical Scientist. I spent four years there, working in every laboratory and studying part time for my degree. I finished that course in 2010, and have spent the last five years studying, working in laboratories up and down the country and travelling. Currently, I am stationed in Port Loko, Sierra Leone working in the Ebola Treatment Centre there. It's hard, but incredibly rewarding work and I am glad that I have been able to come and lend my skills to such an important cause.



**The Whittlebury Park
RLS 600 Campaign Golf Day**

All proceeds to the Discovery Centre

Friday 11th September 2015

Individual entries £100, team of 4 £400 to include lunch on arrival,
18 holes of golf, 3 course evening meal and prize giving.

**For more information or to enter
a team please contact**

Dean Jones
The Royal Latin School,
Chandos Road,
Buckingham, MK18 1AX
Email: golf@royallatin.org
Tel: 01280 827306



Many thanks to our event sponsor 



Get in Touch!

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or visit: www.rlsalumni.org.uk

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

The Buckingham Partnership SCITT is now in its second year of leading its school based teacher training course.

It is very proud to announce that 4 of its RLS Alumni trainees (William Ockenden, George King, Ed Hinners and Yumna Ahad), successfully completed the course in 2014 as Outstanding trainees. They are now currently thriving as developing NQTs in our various partnership schools.

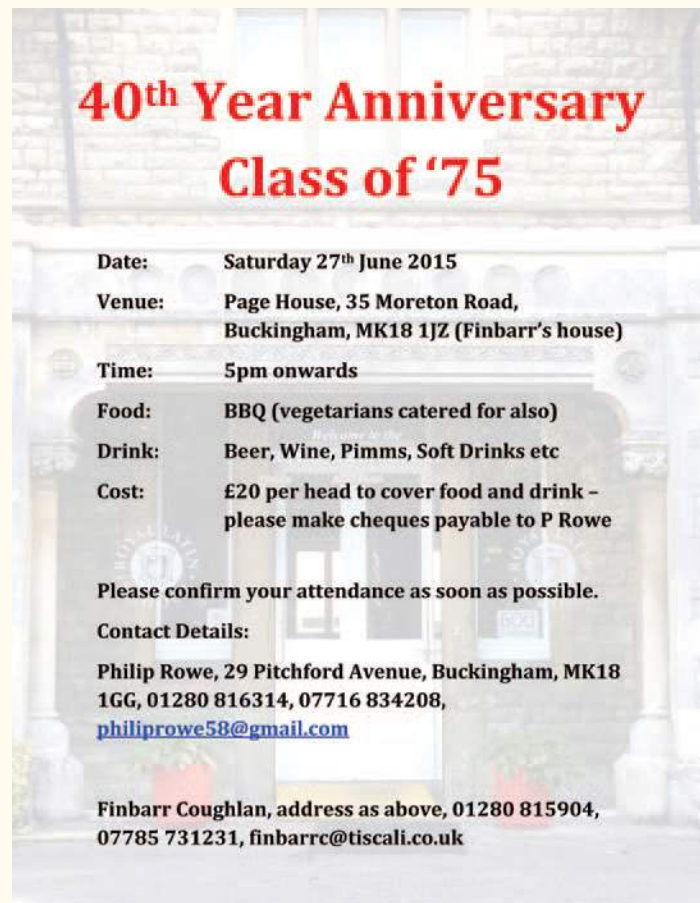
The present 2014/15 cohort includes 6 RLS Alumni students. It is a great privilege to see these Trainees developing from excellent students into first rate classroom practitioners. Their involvement is inspirational and a wonderful reflection of how the Royal Latin School pupils can work with the Partnership and contribute to the learning community by becoming the next generation of Outstanding Teachers.

If you wish to find out more information on training to become a Teacher please visit our website on www.BPSCITT.UK or contact Laura Whitty – lwhitty@royallatin.org, the Partnership Course administrator to book a place on our Teacher Taster Courses.

Forthcoming Reunions

The Class of 2005 are calling together their classmates for their 10th anniversary reunion at 2.30pm on Saturday 11th July 2015.

Please email djones@royallatin.org to register your interest.



**40th Year Anniversary
Class of '75**

Date: Saturday 27th June 2015
Venue: Page House, 35 Moreton Road, Buckingham, MK18 1JZ (Finbarr's house)
Time: 5pm onwards
Food: BBQ (vegetarians catered for also)
Drink: Beer, Wine, Pimms, Soft Drinks etc
Cost: £20 per head to cover food and drink – please make cheques payable to P Rowe

Please confirm your attendance as soon as possible.

Contact Details:
Philip Rowe, 29 Pitchford Avenue, Buckingham, MK18 1GG, 01280 816314, 07716 834208, philiprowe58@gmail.com

Finbarr Coughlan, address as above, 01280 815904, 07785 731231, finbarrc@tiscali.co.uk

It's Your Latin Life

The vision for Latin Life is that it should be produced by Old Latins, for Old Latins.

But to realise this vision we really do need feedback, so we would like to invite all Old Latins to

submit articles and images to the magazine (subject to editing).

Please get in touch to share articles or let us know what you would like to see included in Latin Life. We'd particularly like to be able to share some of

your success stories – 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!

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