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Welcome to Latin Life, the new publication produced by The Royal Latin School specifically for Old Latins of all ages.

I feel strongly that former pupils (and staff) should always feel welcome at the school, and the launch of this magazine represents a new commitment to retaining and strengthening our relationships with you all, and to keeping in touch.

RLS is at an exciting juncture in its history. In 2023, the school will celebrate its 600th anniversary, which gives us just over a decade to ensure that the school is in the very best position to embark on its seventh century of teaching.

Life at the school is as busy as it has always been, with every week bringing new events, successes and achievements. The challenge for the school is to take a step back every now and then, and to attempt to record the most noteworthy and exciting snippets so that you can enjoy them too!

I hope you enjoy the first edition of Latin Life, and please do get in touch and let us know what you think.

David Hudson

David Hudson, Headteacher



Goodbye Mr Cooper



Following forty years of inspirational service to the school, Deputy Headteacher **Andrew Cooper** has decided to retire at the end of the academic year. It is no exaggeration to say that he has made a unique contribution to the school and has had a wonderful impact on so many students' lives.

Such remarkable service deserves appropriate recognition and we hope that former students and colleagues will play an integral part in the celebrations. The Friends of RLS (our parent fundraising group) are kindly organising:

- A Summer Ball on Saturday 16th July 7pm – tickets £60, black tie, drinks reception, dinner, music by the Red Bullets.

- A Garden Party on Sunday 17th July 2-7pm – a larger event on the lawns at RLS featuring BBQ, cream teas, live music and performances from pupils past and present. £5 adults, £1 under 18's.

If you would like to attend these events please go to www.frlsa.co.uk

In lieu of retirement gifts, Andy has requested that contributions be made to The Andy Cooper Fund, which will be used to fund the renovation of The Green Room. "I have always enjoyed music and drama from our students" said Andy. "I would love to see a raised decking area around the Green Room, with electrics and lighting. It would be a teaching area, connected to the Green Room by french windows, creating a stage for productions in the summer months".

To contribute to the fund go to www.purecharity.org/theroyallatinschoolfund.3 or contact the school.

If you would like a message to be included in a Book of Memories for Andy, please write to Lorraine France at the school and we will send you a form to complete. There will also be a Celebration for Andy Service at St Peter & St Paul's in Buckingham at 7pm on Wednesday 20th July - more details available from school.

Please join us in giving Mr Cooper a fantastic send-off!

A Trip Down Memory Lane

On the 16th September 2010, the school hosted an Afternoon Tea for Old Latins living in the vicinity of Buckingham who had attended the school before or during the Headship of Mr George Embleton. More than forty Old Latins attended, some of whom hadn't seen each other for more than fifty years.

The purpose of the event, quite apart from spending an enjoyable afternoon together, was to introduce the idea of an RLS Living Memory Archive Project', which will seek to collate, catalogue and store unique records, memorabilia and memories relating to the school through the ages.

David Hudson, Headteacher and a historian himself, is keen to involve current students in the project: 'The school is approaching its 600th anniversary (1423-2023), and the creation of an organised archive is a fitting tribute to such a long-standing establishment.

Our current history A Level students will be taking a lead role in the archive project, and will be conducting oral history interviews with Old Latins so that we can capture a real sense of what life at the school was like in previous generations'.



The school has applied to The Heritage Lottery Fund for funding to establish the school archive – a decision is expected any day so fingers crossed. We'll report back in the next edition of Latin Life.

Calling all Old Latins!



Hopefully, this edition of Latin Life will have reached you safely. The contact details we have on file for many of you may be alarmingly out of date – so we would love to hear from you so that we can ensure we have the right details for you and anyone else you may still be in contact with.

Please take a minute to contact us using the contact details on page 4 of Latin Life to give us your up to date address details, or log on to www.rlsalumni.org.uk and go to the Getting Involved section to download a copy of our Information Form, which you can also use to update us about your career history and communication preferences.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Head Boy (centre) and Head Girl (left),
Royal Latin School head, David Hudson (right).

Duty Calls

We'd like to introduce the current Head Boy and Head Girl at RLS, Tom Riley and Emma Crossey:

What subjects are you studying?

Tom: Biology, Chemistry and Philosophy.

Emma: I'm studying English, History and Philosophy.

How does it feel to be Head Girl/Boy?

Emma: I'm very proud to be Head Girl of the RLS. It means that my hard work has been recognised and I can give something back to the school which has given me so much over the past seven years!

Tom: Head Boy is a position of responsibility, where you are seen as a representative for the school in the community and expected to be a role model for the lower school. The fact I was chosen to hold this position does of course make me proud, but very grateful at the same time!

What will be your fondest memory of RLS?

Tom: The Latin is such a friendly and warm environment, it gives you get the opportunity to meet many people, who out of the school environment you may not share much in common with. Some of these people I have made great friends with and will hopefully keep in contact with having left the Latin, and through university.

Emma: I think my fondest memory would genuinely be finding out I got the position of Head Girl and telling my friends and parents who were unbelievably happy for me!

What has RLS taught you?

Emma: The RLS has definitely encouraged me to work hard, have high expectations of myself and others and to develop good time management skills. In the past year, being Head Girl has certainly taught me to cope with all eventualities!

Tom: I think it would have to be that you should aim to be the best that you can be in whatever you do, whether it be sports, community work, meeting new people as well as academically.

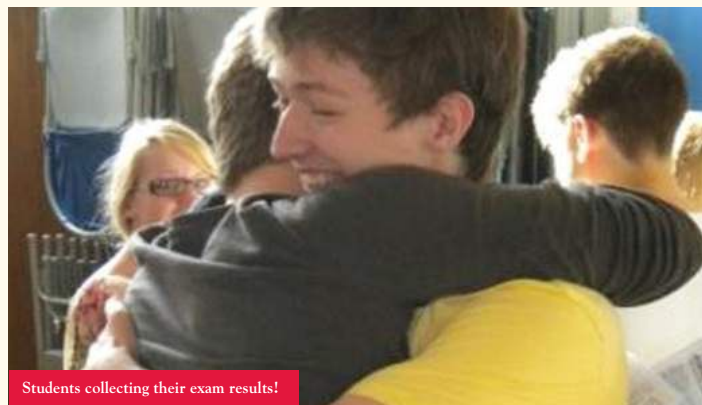
What are your future plans?

Emma: I'm hoping to study English and History at university, maybe looking towards a career based in writing, perhaps in journalism.

Tom: I'm hoping to study medicine at university and train in orthopaedics. I eventually plan to work for Medecins Sans Frontieres, practising medicine where it is most needed overseas.

**Can you remember who was Head Boy or Girl in your year?
Let us know – we'd love to get them all together one day!**

RLS Celebrates Record Exam Results



Students collecting their exam results!

There was cause for celebration last summer as Royal Latin students received their exam results. In the first year of the new A Level A* grade, 21% of entries were awarded this top grade.

All 11 students who had been offered conditional places at Oxford or Cambridge Universities were successful, and 12 students gained entry to medical schools (with minimum entry requirements of three grade As). 88% of all students got places in their first or second choice universities, with many looking forward to going to the country's top universities. Overall the 77% of A*-B grades and the 55% of A*- A grades mark our best ever year.

In Year 11 thirty students achieved at least eight A* grades at GCSE and 95 students achieving at least eight A* or A grades. Overall 91% of students gained at least five A*-B grades and 68% came out with at least five A*-A grades.

Overall students gained 68% A*-A grades. Congratulations to all of our students, so many of whom worked very hard and showed the commitment necessary to achieve so highly.

House Competition

The competitive spirit at RLS is as strong as ever, with the house competition still playing an important part in school life. Members of the six houses – Barton, Denton, Newton, Ruding, Stratton and Verney – gain points by competing in a wide range of activities including House Oscars, House Sports, House Poetry, Science and Maths Competitions. Points are also awarded for the all important Good Notes and for other contributions to school life. Winners of the House Competition in 2009/10 were Newton; currently in the lead for 2010/11 are Ruding.

Which House were you a member of during your time at RLS? Can you recall any particularly memorable House Competitions? We'd love to hear about them!



Get in Touch!

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or visit: www.rlsalumni.org.uk

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Friends Reunited?



Are you planning a reunion with your RLS classmates, or have you been invited to one? If so, please do get in touch and let us know all about it – we'd love to help. The school might be able to accommodate your reunion on site, and we may be able to help you track down missing Old Latins.

Class of 1986 Reunion 18th June 2011

The class of 1986 are holding their 25th Anniversary Reunion at RLS this year. To register your interest in the event, please contact the school.

Private Visits

If you would like to arrange a private visit to RLS, please just ask. We'd love to welcome you back and show you around, and to hear some of your memories of school life.

One From the Archives

The following poem appeared in the RLS magazine in July 1963, and makes reference to the change of headgear worn by the girls from berets to straw boaters (although sixth formers were given a special privilege and 'allowed to attend school minus headgear':

Boaters
Boaters, round with straw galore,
No more berets any more.
Ribbons long and dangling down,
People smile when we visit town.
The other schools all laugh and jeer,
As at our boaters they do peer,
Some people like our boaters, they do
But others could throw them into the zoo.

H Small and P Dempsey (1B)

Upcoming Events

Friday 17th June 2011: A Level Art Exhibition

Saturday 18th June 2011: Class of 1986 Reunion

Friday 24th June 2011: Founders Day & Sports Day

Saturday 16th July 2011: Summer Ball

Sunday 17th July 2011: Garden Party

Wednesday 20th July - 7pm: Celebration for Andy, St Peter & St Paul's Church, Buckingham

Please contact us for further information about any of these events.

It's Your Latin Life

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

We'd really welcome some feedback on this first edition, and 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!

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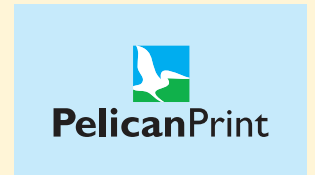


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Help!

As you will appreciate, funding Latin Life is not possible through our shrinking school budget.

To receive the next edition of Latin Life, please help us keep costs down by giving us your current contact details and telling us if you'd prefer an email or paper version.

We would also welcome donations/offers of sponsorship to enable an Autumn 2011 edition to be produced – we may not be able to do it without you!

Please get in touch today, and keep visiting: www.rlsalumni.org.uk for updates, photos and news about Old Latins.

Thank you.

