

Alumnae Newsletter July 2011



Dear Alumnae,

It has been a very busy term in school, and I hope you enjoy reading about some of the events that have been taking place on the school website at www.lggs.org.uk

Alumnae news

As you may have already seen on the main LGGs newsletter, Professor Noreen Murray (nee Parker) sadly died in May. Noreen was a pupil at LGGs between 1945 and 1952. She then went on to study Botany at Kings College London. Whilst at Kings, Noreen developed an interest in genetics and in the early 1970s, together with her husband, Ken Murray, she led the development of what we now call genetic engineering; leading to a vaccine against hepatitis B, the first genetically-engineered vaccine approved for human use. Her contributions to molecular genetics were recognised with many honours including election to the Royal Societies of Edinburgh and London and the European Molecular Biology Organisation, honorary degrees from the universities of Birmingham, Umist, Warwick, Lancaster, Sheffield and Edinburgh, the Royal Medal of the Royal Society of Scotland as well as a CBE for services to science. In our centenary year she returned to the school to give a wonderful talk on her life's work. Our students were fascinated and inspired by listening to the person who discovered and developed many of the techniques they had been learning about in their Biology courses. Her lecture was delivered with such clarity and confidence that it was easy to see why she has encouraged so many women to make a career in science.



You can see more information about some of Noreen's achievements on the previous alumnae newsletters.

Eve Englefield

'I'm currently working in South Africa at SANCCOB, a penguin rehabilitation centre in Cape Town - in the past two months we've managed to release around a 100 juvenile gannets that were abandoned due to their parents migrating, and we help many African penguins who either come in injured, too skinny or oily, and the majority of which we are able to release into the wild. I've been out here for 10 weeks now, and return home in 3 weeks!'

Juliet Summerfield

'I've just had the result from my degree and I will be graduating with a 2:1 in MEng Automotive Engineering (Hons) with a Diploma in Industrial Studies. It was a long hard 5 years but totally worth it!'

Sue Flowers

Sue Flowers (née Gibson) is a former pupil of Lancaster Girls Grammar School (1976- 83) She is now a practicing environmental artist and Director of Green Close, a not-for-profit company which she founded in 1996 with her

husband, artist Pete Flowers. The company is based in the village of Melling in the Lune Valley; and delivers rural regeneration and social development through the arts: pioneering the application of contemporary arts practice within an international and rural context.

During the last fifteen years Green Close has supported the development of an interesting and diverse portfolio of creative projects, which have grown in size, scale and ambition alongside the leadership and management skills of the artists who currently work in a freelance capacity as both Business & Creative Directors.

Sue has just managed the fifth Bowland Arts Festival which runs from the 1 May until 30 June: an annual event which brings together a host of creative events ranging from open studios, exhibitions, music & performance to creative workshops, talks & walks, which all celebrate the importance of the environment & culture of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

At the moment Sue and her team at Green Close are working on a new project *Lancashire Witches 400* - an outstanding contemporary creative and cultural programme about the Lancashire Witches and the 400th anniversary in 2012 of their trial and subsequent death. They will be working with a range of partners on this project – including Lancashire Museum Service and Global Link (a Lancaster-based charity) to make communities aware of the history and its relevance to today.

Green Close will be working with local schools, communities and interested individuals to research the route the Lancashire 'witches' were taken across the Bowland fells on their journey for trial in Lancaster. It will then create a series of original artistic, performance, participatory, cultural and ecological events to mark this tragic historical story. Together, these will form a vivid and engaging starting point for the 'Witches Way' - a new long distance walking route developed for Lancashire. There is a unique one-off opportunity afforded by the 400th anniversary of the infamous Pendle Witch Trials in 2012. Please get in touch with Sue if you wish to become involved or have professional / local knowledge that you could offer to the project... Historians, Artists, Geographers, Human Rights Workers, Environmentalists, Botanists, Others.... All welcome...

Sue can be contacted at the studios on 015242-21233 or E sue@greenclose.org

www.greenclose.org

Tanya Williamson

'I had my first child, a baby boy called Jem Nathaniel Williamson on the 22nd February 2011.'

Kathryn Fishwick

'I am going to China at the end of August this Summer to study Mandarin Chinese at Beijing Language and Culture University for 1 Semester. This is part of the 3rd year of my Modern Languages degree at the University of Birmingham.'

Pat Lawrenson (nee Pedersen)

'If anyone is interested in ancient as well as old girls, I and my 2 sisters went to LGGS and my 2 brothers to LRGS. Out of the five of us three became teachers. My elder sister taught for many years in the International School in Vienna. I taught for a while in Zimbabwe. My younger sister became a librarian in Wales. I have now been living back in Lancaster for some years and would be interested in meeting anyone who was there during my time. I am now 80years ancient!'

Jo Houghton

'I'm getting married to Paul Butterworth on Saturday 6th August 2011, at The Windmill Village Golf & Leisure Club, Coventry. (Old girls coming: Lois Browne (Gregory), Jo Humphrey (Cruyton), Louise Ready, Kate Houghton & Pat Davies!')

Lizzy Mace



Lizzy Mace was born and brought up in Nether Kellet near Lancaster. She attended Lancaster Girls' Grammar School and studied at Cambridge before training in acting at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in London. Lizzy's parents and two brothers still live in Nether Kellet and her father has represented Kellet Ward on Lancaster City Council since 1999. 'Lizzy is currently preparing her second comedy show to take to the Edinburgh Fringe.

Mace and Burton/ PBH's Free Fringe present: ROM COM CON: a new show for the Edinburgh Fringe



'Have you ever watched a romantic comedy and wondered "Could that actually happen in real life?" Lizzy Mace and Juliette Burton have. And what's more, they've decided to find out! Join them as they take the rom coms for a road test in this light-hearted look at love on the silver screen.

Earlier this year Lizzy Mace had a summer calendar so filled with weddings, she felt like she was living in a certain Richard Curtis film. Meanwhile Juliette Burton had been asked to be a bridesmaid so many times, she began to feel like she was in *27 Dresses*. Like their kindred spirit Bridget Jones, they curled up on their sofas in their pyjamas and began to sing along to 'All By Myself'.

Somewhere between the second verse and the chorus, they both began to wonder; with all these happy endings around them, how on earth do you meet The One? It all seemed so simple in the romantic comedies...

Lizzy and Juliette set themselves a quest: to find out if **romantic comedies** hold the key to finding true love, or whether they are ruining our love lives. They decided they would road-test all the ways that guys and girls meet in the rom coms, and see whether any of them would bring them closer to a happily ever after of their own.

From being set up by her mother with someone whose paddling pool she used to play in, a la *Bridget Jones's Diary*, to tracking down her tweenage best male friend and chatting about love just like *13 Going On 30*, Lizzy and Juliette have done it all...

So, if you've ever wondered how many bookshops a girl has to visit before she meets her Hugh Grant a la *Notting Hill*, how many car journeys she has to share with friends-of-friends before she meets the Harry to her Sally, and just how many weddings and funerals it really takes to find true love, this is the show for you.' www.romcomcon.com

Dates for Edinburgh 2011

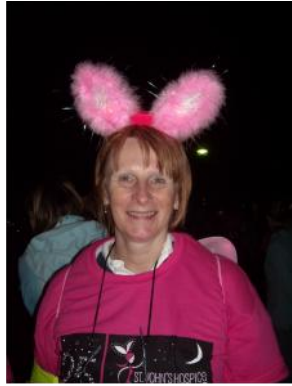
Venue: Medina (venue number 205)

Dates: 6-27 August (except Tuesdays 9, 16, 23)

Time: 12.05 (1 hour) Price: FREE non-ticketed; voluntary donation at the end

School News

Congratulations to staff who completed the St Johns Hospice Moonlight walk in June. Rachel Fitch and Cathy Miller (both old girls) along with Jackie Cahalin, Jacqui Sandbach, Lindsay Hudd, Julie Dobson and Julie Tonge and her daughter who completed this 14km walk at midnight to raise funds for the hospice.



Can you help?

LGGS History Society

The LGGS History Society was set up last half term. The idea of this society is to offer pupils (Years 10-13) with a passion and enthusiasm for History to become involved in and have the opportunity to stretch and challenge their knowledge, skills and understanding outside of the classroom. It is also geared up for providing a bridge to university level History (+ related subjects) for those students who are thinking of studying this at university. We have already had two lectures in the last month; Robert Poole (University of Cumbria) gave a presentation 'Earthrise: How we first saw the earth and what happened next', Sarah Rose (Lancaster University) came to talk about; 'Robin Hood; Myth or reality?'

We have 3 more talks booked in already for the autumn term (all from academics: 1. female surrealist artists in the interwar period 2. Titanic 3. Crime, policing and disorder + Phd study skills) and will be organising a variety of events throughout the year. We would be interested to hear from any past pupils with specific historical expertise, knowledge or skills or any contacts they have with people who have these too. What we would be most interested in are people willing to come into school and present or share this with our budding, enthusiastic historians!

If you think you can help, please email me at alumnae@lggs.lancs.sch.uk

Modern Foreign Language Department

The MFL department are always keen to keep in touch with alumnae who are studying languages at university or working in a field where their languages have proved to be useful. If any alumna would be willing to share her experiences with current pupils who are looking to study languages later on, we would really appreciate it.

Sixth Form

As part of our provision for the Sixth Form we have a full and varied programme of talks from universities and alumnae throughout the year that give the students a taste of what it is like to study a subject at university. We would be very interested to hear from any alumnae who would be prepared to speak to students during a lunch time or after school about their subject areas and university experience.

We also offer students in October and November the opportunity to have mock interviews for subjects that universities interview for. It is something that the students really appreciate. It can be difficult to match students to

subjects and we would be eager to hear from you if you could offer time to conduct mock interviews for university entry.

Please get in touch with j.stables@lqgs.lancs.sch.uk if you feel able to offer us any support in these areas.

Fundraising

School budgets are under enormous strain at the moment and we want to guarantee that LQGS can continue to operate as it has done prior to reductions in funding and to further develop our facilities.

As an ex student of LQGS, we hope you would agree that this school offers an outstanding education for girls. The Annual Fund has been set up in order to provide new facilities and opportunities for the direct and immediate benefit of LQGS students (see main school website for more details). As an ex student of LQGS I am sure you can appreciate what it means, to have these opportunities, and we are therefore asking you to make a donation to the annual fund in order for us to continue providing the opportunities you benefitted from, to our current students. Your contribution whatever the amount will make a real difference.

We hope that as many alumnae as possible can contribute. The donation form can be found at the end of this letter.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those alumnae who have offered their time and expertise to come and offer careers advice and guidance to our Year 11 students throughout 2010-11. The talks have been a huge success and we look forward to seeing some of you again next year.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Jackie Cahalin

Headteacher

Annual Fund Donation Form

Please return to: The Bursar, LGGS, Regent St, Lancaster. LA1 1SF

YOUR DETAILS	
Title:	Forename(s):
Surname:	
Address:	
Telephone Number:	Mobile:
Email Address:	

BANKERS ORDER
To The Manager (Bank's Name)
Bank address:
Postcode:
Exact name(s) of account holder(s):
Bank Sort Code: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Account Number: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Roll or Reference Number (if applicable):

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR BANK
I would like to give the sum of £_____ (Amount in words _____)
Please pay on the _____ (day) of _____ (month) _____ (year)
and on the same day of each succeeding month/quarter/half year/year (please delete as appropriate) until you receive further notice from me/us or until the _____ (please delete as appropriate) to:
Lancaster Girls' Grammar School Parents Donation Fund, Lloyds TSB, 47-49 Market Street, Lancaster LA1 1JH
Branch Sort Code: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Account Number: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Signature(s): _____ / _____ Date: _____
Ref: _____ (to be completed by LGGS)

GIFT AID DECLARATION	SINGLE DONATION
<p>Since 6th April 2000 charitable donations of any value are eligible for tax relief. For example, for every £100 you donate, we can now claim an additional £28 from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK taxpayer and would like LGGS to benefit please sign the following declaration and ensure that your name and address details are completed above:</p> <p>"I am a UK taxpayer and I wish LGGS to reclaim tax on all donations I have made since 6th April 2000 and all donations in the future to be Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise."</p> <p>Name of Daughter: _____ Form: _____</p> <p>Signature(s): _____ / _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	<p>I would like to make a single donation of £_____</p> <p>(I enclose my cheque made payable to LGGS)</p>

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM AND FOR SUPPORTING LGGS

