



LGGS ALUMNAE

What have you been doing since leaving?

Updated September 2009

Sarah Clarkson (left 1990)

After I left LGGS in 1990 I started a successful career in the hotel & leisure industry, culminating in running a hotel in the ski resort of Serre Chevalier in the French Alps. After 10 years I decided to change career to something more fulfilling and I returned to education to retrain in 2001. I gained a BA in Applied Social Science from St Martins in 2006, along with some amazing work experience which brought me back into contact with LGGS as a support worker for 16-19 year olds.

Having identified a gap in the market, I set up a successful online TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) company with my mother, and in late 2006 I took the opportunity to travel to Turkey with my partner, to teach English. I loved teaching both children and adults, and have spent a happy couple of years exploring parts of Turkey that most tourists don't get to see.

I also started my Masters degree, and have just gained my LLM in European Union Law (Social Policy) from Leicester University.

I returned to the UK in February this year, and will start a PGCE at the new University of Cumbria in September. After that, we'll continue teaching our way around the world! In the meantime, we're planning our wedding for September 2010.

Though we're based in Carlisle now, I'm still in touch with lots of LGGS girls, both in Lancaster and further afield.

Rowena Darby (nee Lightfoot)

Phillip Darby and I got married on our 10 year anniversary – 24 January 2009. We met in our first year at York University! We were married in St Paul's Church in Brookhouse and then our reception was at the Midland Hotel in Morecambe – amazing venue! I had 5 bridesmaids - my two sisters, Phil's two sisters and Helen Jones. We had an amazing day, it didn't rain and even the sun came out for a bit!

We went on our honeymoon in March to Orlando, Florida for two weeks (where we did all of the parks) and then to the Bahamas for a week to relax!

We're now living in a village on the West Pennine Moors just north of Bolton.

Brenda Young (nee Hammond).

I left in the 5th form but would have been in the upper sixth in 1959. I went to teacher training college and then married and had 2 boys and ran the local playgroup for 10 years.

I then taught in primary schools including Ryelands and concentrated on special needs at Morecambe Road and The Loyne. After I retired I was an assessor for teaching assistants for the NVQ team at The Adult College where I also taught Yoga for 30 years *I keep in touch*

with Joyce Bond (Carruthers) in our local Keep Fit Association and also Cynthia Dickinson (Edmundson) with theatre visits who were both in my year. I now have 4 grandchildren aged 17,15,8 and 6 who live in Runcorn and Cardiff

Julie Kirby

I was in the upper sixth at LGGS in the year 1982 -1983

Since leaving school I continued my education at John Moores University gaining a degree in Social Studies . I currently live with my partner in Egerton where I am at present a stay at home mum looking after our two young girls.

Susan Rutherford (nee Wilson)

I left LGGS in 1966 after taking my O Levels. I went to work in the Pathology Lab. at the RLI and in 1972 I emigrated to Canada. From 1972 until 1982 I worked in the Blood Bank at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto where I still live. I met and married a fellow Englishman and have 3 grown up children.

Rona Cartwright (nee Johnson) 1984-1991

I am now the mother of two. A little girl joined our family on 10th December 2008 - Mina.

Wendy Maddox (nee Derham) left 1958

"I graduated from Liverpool University, taught English for four years before having two daughters and moving to the Virgin Islands. I now live in Florida."

Margaret Lund (nee Marchment) left 1964

"I was Margaret Marchment (now Lund) and left school at 16 with 6 O levels. I worked briefly as a Lab technician at Morecambe Grammar School before taking up a post as Lab Technician in the newly opened Biology Department at Lancaster University. It was there I met my husband and, on our marriage, moved to Manchester and fulfilled my ambition of becoming a teacher. Training Colleges were accepting entrants with few formal qualifications at that time, due to the bulge of school aged children and there being too few teachers. I was lucky to be accepted at Mather College of Education.

After teaching at schools in Stockport and Bury, we moved to Fleetwood where I eventually became headteacher of Shakespeare Primary School for 20 very happy years.

I retired in the summer of this year and went out on a real high having received the Ted Wragg Award for Lifetime Achievement at the National Teaching Awards Ceremony held at the London Palladium.

The event was televised on BBC2 so perhaps some "old girls" may have been watching. It was a fantastic honour to be presented with my gold Plato by Jeremy Irons and the whole occasion was a real celebration of the work teachers are doing in our schools. I'm even on You Tube so those who knew me can see how I've changed by looking up Margaret Lund there.

In my acceptance speech, I paid tribute to my own teachers who had inspired me. I have very fond memories of my time at LGGS and particularly of Miss Wright (Maths) who gave me great encouragement, Miss Bell, Miss Watson and, of course, Miss Gordon. The values taught there have stayed with me and I have good reason to be thankful for the education I received and the friends I made."

Margaret retired last year.

Cyd Waters (nee Thakurdas) left 1972 (the year Moira Gordon retired)

“After 30 years of teaching and being a Head of Music and an Advanced Skills Teacher, I have changed career slightly and am now a free lance musician and am also working as a Secondary Music Consultant for Hertfordshire.”

Marian Briggs (nee Row) left 1975

“Currently working as a Staff Grade physician in Care of the Elderly in Newcastle General Hospital. 3 adult daughters of whom 2 still at university (Warwick and Newcastle).”

Moira O’Neill left 1993

“I am living in North London and am married with a daughter Eleanor who is two and a half. I've been a financial journalist since I left Cambridge University and currently work at Investors Chronicle where I am personal finance editor. My first book 'Finance at 40' was published in October under the Guardian brand.

It's fantastic that Latin is reinstated at LGGS. I remember having to fight to study it at A-Level (1992-1993) - and proposing that I might go up to LRGS to study Ancient Greek (that caused a bit of a stir at the time). I'm still really glad I read Classics for my degree. It doesn't lead you in any specific direction but it's a great discipline for making you question the received line -which is very useful in journalism.

I have fond memories of LGGS - particularly music under the guidance of Mr Truslove; Faure's Requiem, Handel's Messiah, Swing band etc. I still come up to Lancaster every now and then to visit my parents.”

Anna Lewis left 1997

“I studied medicine in Nottingham and have been a doctor for 6 years. I still work in hospital medicine, having worked in emergency medicine, critical care and anaesthetics. I spent a year working in emergency medicine in Melbourne. I've recently taken time out to study the diploma in tropical medicine and hygiene and I am currently based in Cardiff.”

Becka Jolleys left 2006

“I am currently on the first half of my year abroad in Paris as part of my degree in French and Spanish at Manchester University. For my year abroad, I am an English Language Assistant, at 2 colleges (11-15 year olds) in the North of Paris. “