

'Local Legends' Literature Project

As part of their 'Local Legends' Literature project, Year 8 pupils at Lancaster Girls' Grammar School embraced the opportunity to create sonnet poems based on the Eric Gill bas-relief mural in the Midland Hotel's foyer. In the style of the Cumbrian poet, William Wordsworth, pupils crafted poems which captured the story of Nausicaa welcoming the ship-wrecked Odysseus ashore; an image chosen by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway to represent the hotel's hospitality. Through their English lessons, pupils studied other Wordsworth poems, such as the one which inspired the ceiling medallion overlooking the Midland's staircase; 'And hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn' in order to echo and adapt his style in their own work. In this way, the links between art, literature and classical myths were made by the pupils themselves, and they were very proud of the final results! All Year 8 pupils involved are delighted to know that their poems will be read, on occasion, to visitors during their tour of the Midland Hotel and that their work will be available for guests to read at their leisure. The Lancaster Girls' Grammar School wish to thank the staff at the Midland Hotel for their encouragement in, and welcome receipt of, the pupils' work.

Mrs R Gibson Head of English

LGGS pupils presented Midland Hotel concierge Brian Jenkins with copies of their booklet of poems about the famous Eric Gill relief during their recent visit to the hotel.



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