

THE DELEGATE

ISSUE TWO



Basia Molicka

EDITOR'S NOTE

As day 2 of the Royal Russell International MUN conference begins, I hope everyone has had success in whatever role they are here to do and feel proud of what you have accomplished.

This second issue of the Delegate is more centred around the conference itself. Delegates began lobbying their resolutions and the opening ceremony commenced in the GA kicking off the entire conference with the ambassadors. What many of you will find more interesting to see are pictures of the disco that was put on last night.

We were lucky enough to be able to interview our director of MUN, Miss Calvet and deputy director and head of approval panel, Mr Porter, finding out details of their own MUN experience and the hard work behind what they manage to pull off the conference.

Tonight's party theme is 'Pyjamas' so be sure to be in your comfiest clothes. MUNs Got Talent will also be put on tonight by our wonderful media team, starting at 7.30!



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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPAIN?

On September 19th 2021, a volcanic explosion causing lava to travel across the island until it reached the mouth of the sea, and ash was thrown out to the air. As a result, more than 6.000 people were evacuated, leaving behind homes, schools and other edifices. To this day, citizens are still evacuating.

Across Spain, electricity costs have been reaching historically high rates each month since early this summer, and they are expected to continue climbing. From our personal experiences, due to a new schedule in which the electricity prices are lower from 10:00 p.m. until 12:00 p.m., we have changed our routines so they are accustomed to the lower prices, for example, by having to wait until 10:00 p.m. just to do the laundry.

With regard to the COVID situation in our country, there have been 79 deaths from Covid-19 in the last seven days. Therefore, the global death toll from coronavirus in Spain stands at 86,827 people. Thanks to

the vaccination campaign, a total of 75,644,621 doses of the covid vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna, Janssen and AstraZeneca have already been distributed. The different waves that have occurred in Spain and the rest of Europe have led several countries to impose serious restrictive measures on Spanish citizens who decide to travel. There are countries that have imposed quarantine, others require a PCR test and ones that directly prohibit their entry. In the same way that many countries have imposed control measures on Spaniards who travel to certain areas, our country also requires controls to the people from countries considered at risk who want to enter the country through ports or airports.

Pedro Sánchez (president of Spain) announced that there will be a budget aid of 400€ for people who turn 18 in 2022. In the absence of more detail, these cultural bonuses may be requested by any young person who meets the age of majority next year



OPENING CEREMONY

RRSIMUN 2021

Last night, we commenced the 39th Royal Russell IMUN with the opening ceremony speeches from the ambassadors of all the countries attending. We commenced on the floor with the opening speech from Miss Calvet.

She has been involved in the Royal Russell MUN for nearly 15 years, including several years being on the Deputy Director Board and now it is her first year being the Director of MUN, taking over from Mr Keable-Elliott. She has shown great adoration for the RRSIMUN icon, referring to him as a “truly inspirational role model”.

After nearly two years of not being in the General Assembly, Miss Calvet is very grateful that we were able to get back to the dearly missed highlight of the academic year, with the help of the Headmaster, Mr Hutchinson.

We then heard a powerful speech from the Headmaster, stating that he was “absolutely delighted” to see everyone back in the general assembly. He further went on to speak about how compassion and kindness have been the “forefront of our minds” during the last 2 uncertain and hectic years, juggling the pandemic along with trying to get back

to normal life. Kindness, deriving from the word “kin”, meaning family, which has now been broadened to mean the “benevolence we show to anyone, regardless to any connection we have individuals.”

He thanks everyone for sharing “Ubuntu”, meaning humanity to others and urges that all participants of the conference to make the best of all the opportunities, for new friendship and for the formation of a united student body, which is at the heart of the UN philosophy.

Ambassadors presented their opening speeches very well,



and here are a few outstanding examples.

Rwanda fronted a very confident and moving opening speech. “We cannot stand here proud”, stated the delegate as they went on to list the vast problems Rwanda brought to light. These include the slaughter of citizens based on their religious beliefs, the problems of anti-Semitism within the international community and the issue of the “disgraceful, disgusting and corrupt” regime of Yemen who are exploiting the “brothers and sisters” of Rwanda.

Though they state that they are “not perfect”, however as a country they have come over leaps and bounds to be where they are in today’s society. They express that the only way they are able to solve these issues is through communication. “Together, through unity, that is how we achieve change.”

Another outstanding performance was from the South African delegate. The country’s motto, “Diverse people unite” was at the epicentre of the speech. They went onto say how South Africa has paved the way to empower and truly represent their citizens. Additionally

mentioning how they have the ability to be the “voice for the voiceless.”

The delegate highlighted both the destruction of the environment and the need to take advances within the African community without being “tossed to the side” by the western forces. Furthermore, they went into detail on how they want to be on a par with the big western countries regarding the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a “Champion for the African people”, South Africa will be fighting for the “equity of the unrepresented and oppressed”.

FASHION

Continuing
from yesterday,
we found our
favorite outfits
to show case to
you all, as good
taste should be
appreciated!





CHAPEL

This morning we attended a chapel service lead by Reverend Steve Padfield, Chaplin of King's school, Rochester and accompanied by guest organist Stephen Davies. We began with a hymn and went onto watch students voice the 'affirmations on behalf of the worlds faiths'. Each student stood to voice different aspects from these religions, such as head of security council Anna Stone describing Hinduism and its view that 'the whole earth is one family'. There were also words in Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism and Christianity and our student leaders described the compassion, love and honour upheld by each religion.

Reverend Padfield went onto lead an Act of Resolve, based on the preamble of the United Nations Charter. All who participated

spoke the words and we pledged to 'establish out faith in fundamental human rights' and recognise the 'worth of the human person' as we continue to conference and difficult discussion topics.

The service was an excellent resource to allow for reflection and remind us why we are here and what we hope to achieve in the coming days.

We ended by listening to the International Prayer for Peace and the hymn 'Love divine, all loves excelling' to affirm the tone of the service.

BECKY WARD



LOBBYING

Yesterday, delegates began lobbying for their resolutions in an effort to gain approvals and support from other delegates. Different committees met across the school to give opening statements from their appointed countries summarizing their ideas and resolutions. In SOCHUM, the United Kingdom seeks to pass a bill to make social media safer in the ensuing technological advancements. The United States spoke on the issues of sex tourism and accountability, encouraging nations abroad to introduce more stringent measures. Yemen also spoke on issues of sex tourism, focusing on the reprimanding ringleaders exploiting the system.

In DISEC, New Zealand spoke on the Iranian nuclear deal, and its failing commitment. SCPM lobbying took place in the auditorium, with Tunisia discussing the

treatment of refugees and focusing on the protection of children. Thailand considered the rights of the 5 million indigenous peoples living in the country and the integration of the society as an entirety. Island spoke on the rights of farmers and efficient Fairtrade systems, as well as anti-Semitism and equal rights across the nation.

Of the committees I visited I was astonished at the oratory skills I saw, and the hard work people had put into their resolutions. Those of you who spoke and gave incredibly insightful and thought-provoking speeches should be very pleased indeed! S

BECKY WARD

INSIDE WITH THE DIRECTING TEAM

MISS CALVET - DIRECTOR OF RRSIMUN



Q: Why did you choose to take part in MUN this year?

A: I have actually been involved with MUN for 15 years since I started at this school, I was so fascinated by the whole event and the process and I thought that it was a fantastic opportunity. So when I joined in the MUN team I was just helping around and then after a few years I got to be deputy director and now I am the director of MUN and I am so, so happy to have this responsibility because I think that MUN is a wonderful experience.

Q: How do you think MUN benefits people?

A: There are so many aspects of MUN that can be beneficial for students. It is a huge social experiment to start with and is a fantastic opportunity to meet people from other schools and other countries as well, just to share cultures. It is also great for building on people's public speaking skills as it gives you more confidence. It is also important as it makes you aware about what is happening around us in the world.

Q: What is your favourite topic that is up for debate at this conference?

A: I think all topics are really important but I am particularly interested in the question of Afghanistan. As I think it is very current and it just shows how unity and the United Nations can have a positive impact on things. I really hope that things are going to be improving for them as conditions in Afghanistan are quite dramatic at the moment.

Q: If you could pick any MUN position to do which would you choose and why?

A: I think if it was an early experience I would have liked to be a delegate. When I was at school in France, MUN was not something that existed. If it had existed, I would have certainly wanted to part of this as a delegate to start with and obviously throughout the experience maybe taking the part of a chair or secretariat general.

Q: Do you have a favourite memory of doing MUN?

A: I can't really pick one memory as I think that the whole experience of MUN throughout the years has been fantastic. I have been lucky to work with Mr Piggin and then Mr Keable-Elliott, who have been two amazing directors of MUN and I have learned so much from them. They have been true inspirations and I can't say there is one specific memory but I think MUN in itself has been fantastic.

Q: What are you most excited for in this MUN conference?

A: I think the most exciting thing is that we are again able to be together after two years of being completely isolated from each other which I think that it is a positive step forward into getting back to normality.

MR PORTER - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RRSIMUN



Q: Why did you choose to take part in MUN this year?

A: You might know this already but I did MUN as a 6th former. So, I came to this Royal Russell conference when I was your age. When I was a teacher and I was looking for jobs I was looking in London and I saw a Royal Russell job pop up. I knew that I recognised the school from somewhere, and I had wondered where do I know Royal Russell from? I then realized I had actually been to this school as a delegate and had lots of fun. So that is why when I came here I really wanted to get involved with MUN because as a student I saw the value in it.

Q: How do you think MUN benefits people?

A: A lot of the things I learnt at MUN, I took forward into my later careers such as the strategizing, the formal debate and actually just being able to speak like an adult. When I was an ambassador, I had to speak in the great hall in front of 600 people and that was the first time I had done it so I was terrified. Once I had spoken publicly once, I knew I would be able to do it again. So, in my career in radio I was able to speak in front of crowds of a couple thousand and later when I

became a teacher I could easily speak in front of the entire school in assemblies. That's why I think it is important to take part in MUN because people who take part will get a lot out of it and it will really benefit them in the future like it has benefitted me.

Q: What is your favourite topic that is up for debate at this conference?

A: Anything to do with gender equality or the treatment of women is my favourite topic as I think it is hugely important. What I find quite scary about it is that we can easily get detached and say that in the UK we have good gender equality. The truth is that we don't really so I think any platform that continues to raise awareness of the fact that actually sorry girls but you do have a bum deal. I think that's really important. I genuinely believe that.

Q: If you could pick any MUN position to do which would you choose and why?

A: When I ran a conference before, I was head of secretariat but I think what I would really like to be and what I would enjoy most would be chairing a really controversial committee. I think chairing the special committee or chairing DISEC for sure would be a lot of fun as there is not too much responsibility but enough to have fun with it.

Q: Do you have a favourite memory of doing MUN?

My favourite memory is when I painted myself green one year for one of the global warming themed parties. We obviously thought that was very important at the time and thought we would be the ones to solve it however that was not the case. We thought we would be the year that we resolved the climate change issue

CAITLIN CHACKSFIELD



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF SECRETARIAT

Rosie Ray was appointed head of secretariat, along with Thea Savva, on the 20th of May 2021. She had previously taken part in the 2019 RRS MUN conference as a secretariat and found the experience insightful and enjoyable, gaining valuable skills in responsibility and organisation. When given the opportunity to lead the taskforce she took it and ran with it.

You may not be fully aware of the role of 'secretariat', and I certainly wasn't aware of the breadth of responsibility that was taken on by the team and its leader. They work to plan, prepare and put on the conference in its entirety and without them the procedure would basically be unachievable.

Before the conference Rosie and Thea

worked for months on preparing placards, advisor packs and working on the GA, setting it up and maintaining it. They also worked to produce the 'secretariat bible' which is meant to be 'used religiously' by the team to successfully run the conference. Inside it contains all of the valuable information needed if someone is ever stuck or not sure how to handle a situation.

Rosie's day begins as such: her and her team working to clean committee rooms for use and organising the team. She then begins to go around the rooms and check everything is running smoothly, while keeping on call to director of MUN Miss Calvet and Secretary Mrs Tanner, working on administrative tasks that are much to boring to include!

BECKY WARD



THE WAY OF ST JAMES

The way of Saint James, is a network of pilgrims' ways or pilgrimages, which leads to shrine of the apostle Saint James the Great in northern Spain (Galicia). There is a Spanish film that you can watch to know more about it called "El camino de Santiago", as that is the original term for the route.

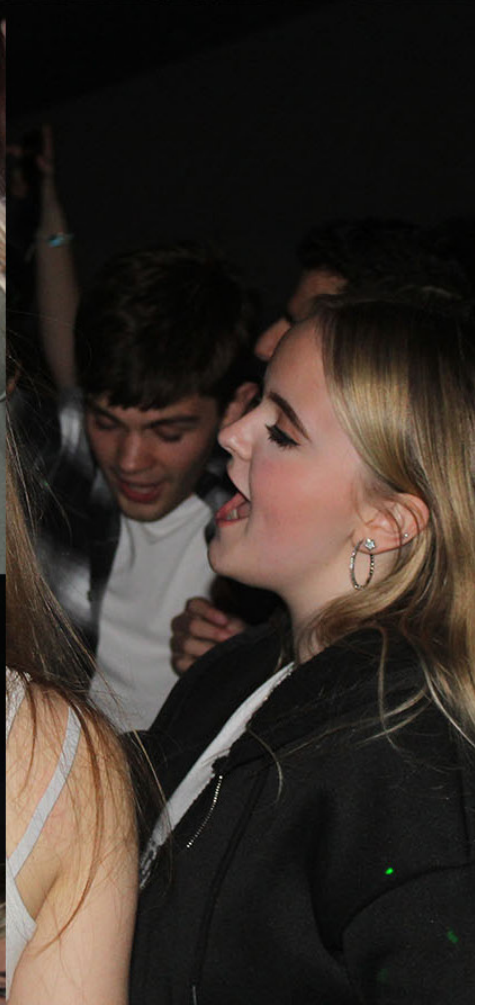
Its purpose for the peregrines was to gain an indulgence by trekking across the whole path in accordance to the Christians' beliefs, but now the people who do this, usually prefer to have it in mind as a personal goal or as a way of getting closer to God.

The newest sign is a yellow scallop shell in a blue background. During the route the signals that guide you have this symbol to help you to not get lost, as it is really easy to take the wrong direction.

If you do a minimum of 100 kilometres they give you a certificate and one of these shells as a proof of having finished your goal. As you can start the path in different places, how much time you spend walking is up to you.

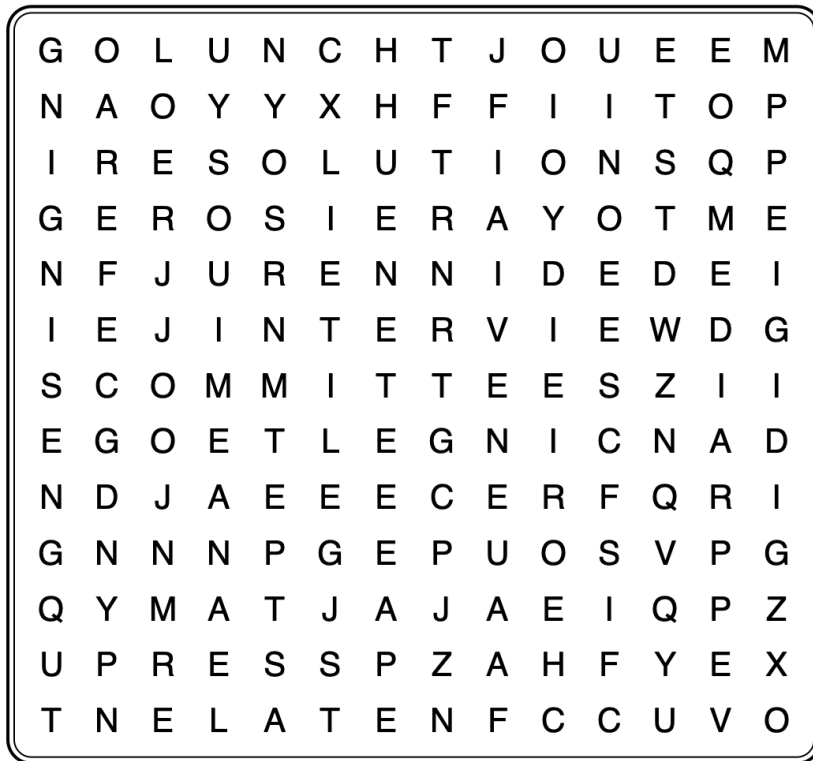
Across the route there are several hostels you can sleep in only one night to continue walking. There are 7 different start points, the time you spend walking depends on the place you decide to start. Each of these paths has a different name which depends on the place you start the way.

SARA ZUMARAN AND INES CHAPA

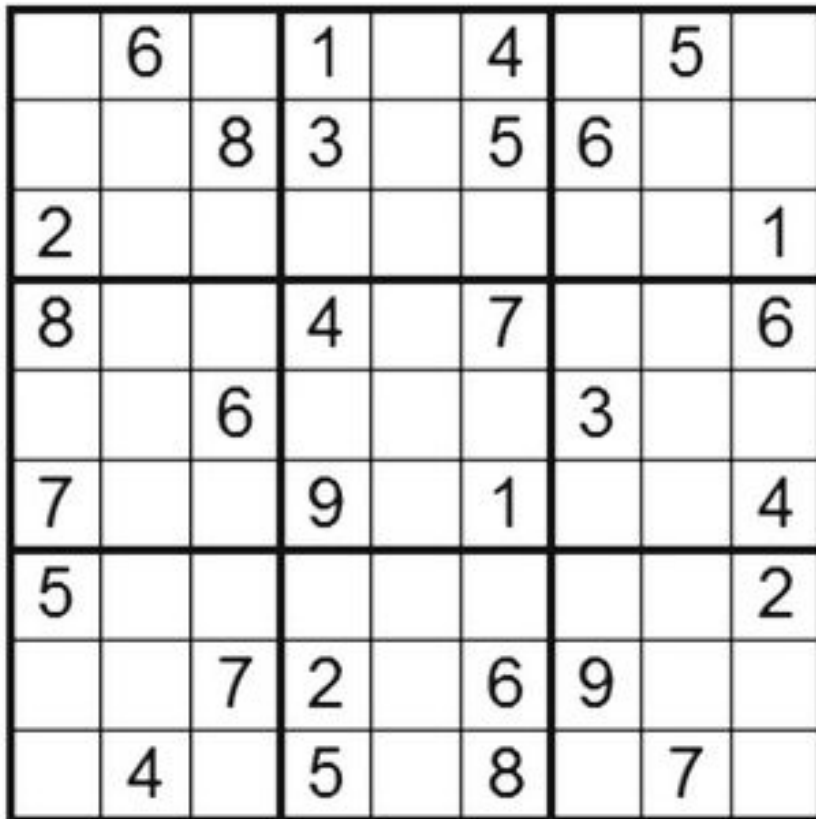




SO, YOU'RE BORED?



COMMITTEES
INTERVIEW
RESOLUTIONS
PRESS
MEDIA
DINNER
TALENT
LUNCH
CHAPEL
ROSIE RAY
DANCING
SINGING



TONIGHTS PARTY THEME...

Pyjamas



MUN'S GOT TALENT
7:30 PAC

