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THE STUDENTS EXPLORING MARRIAGE TRUST

EXPLORE

explore...
lasting relationships and marriage

EXPLORE ANNOUNCE ANNUAL LECTURE

Explore are pleased to announce that Lord Justice Paul Coleridge has generously agreed to give the 2009 Explore Lecture.

Sir Paul Coleridge, 60, who is married with three adult children, is one of Britain's most senior judges sitting in the Family Division. He presided over the divorce of Sir Paul McCartney and Heather Mills and made the ruling in Britain's largest divorce settlement in which Beverly Charman received £48 million when she divorced insurance magnate, John Charman. His widely-reported views on the importance of marriage and the family have caused quite a stir and in June 2009, he delivered a hard-hitting speech in Parliament calling for the promotion of marriage to end the "social anarchy" of family breakdown.

The Explore Lecture will be held at the prestigious Attlee Suite of Portcullis House, in Westminster on Thursday 24th September 2009 and will commence at 12.45pm. Attendance is strictly by invitation only - which can be obtained from Andrew Wileman on andrew.explore@yahoo.com.

GIFTING YOUR TAX REBATE

HMRC are offering the opportunity to donate tax that is rebated through overpayment to charity. The scheme is called "SA Donate". If you would like to help Explore this way, please contact Andrew Wileman on andrew.explore@yahoo.com.

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Partnership agreed for a Devon organisation

Explore have reached agreement with the Exeter Community Family Trust to work together in partnership to bring Explore's unique experiential methodology to schools in Devon and, especially, during 2010, those in Exeter.

The Exeter Community Family Trust is a well-established registered charity in Devon committed to strengthening and enriching marriage and family life through a range of courses which are organised for couples at any stage in their relationship. The ECFT already have a strong membership of couples and mentors.

The Devon Project was launched at a well attended meeting in Exeter on Wednesday 1st July when a team from Explore were introduced by Tanya West, Chair, ECFT.

John Murphy will be commencing adviser-coach training and couple preparation in Exeter in September. Two Half Day Conferences have already been agreed with a local secondary school.

Letter from Laura Rae—2 years after

When I think back to the days of Sixth Form at Ranelagh, I mostly sit there and smile—partly with happy memories and partly with bemusement that I actually manage to complete my A Levels. I took on the role of Explore Coordinator for Ranelagh at the start of my final year. We had a group of about 10 students from Years 11 and 12, and, although we mostly hadn't spoken before, we became strangely connected after the Explore sessions, as if we had become privy to some great secret. Looking back now, the thing that has struck me most was our ignorance, how we thought we knew all about relationships when in reality we were dumbfounded to realize we knew next to nothing. The best thing about Explore was the knowledge that it gave me; it was like a crash course for life in some ways. The fact that we could ask anything, face to face with real couples, was quite empowering. Explore had a huge impact on my life. I would wholeheartedly recommend it to any student who has ever wondered about how relationships work in reality.

Reaffirmation of marriage as the gold standard would be a start. It has proved to be the most enduring and the children of such relationships perform best. That is simple provable fact However unpalatable to its detractors." Mr Justice Coleridge..

Wine and Strawberries at the Cotton Club

Explore Berkshire have enjoyed a record year and will be organizing an even larger school programme in 2009/10 with already 3 new clients confirmed. To celebrate their success, the Berkshire team are holding a Wine and Strawberry Evening at the Cotton Club in Reading on the 10th July 2009. This social event is not only to update and thank the current team but is intended as an opportunity for new recruits to learn more about the work of Explore in a social environment. Congratulations to Martin Westacott, Tonia Elliot and the Berkshire team