

Mike Zywina – A right Royal visit!

900 students. Almost 400 groups. This year's Hitchers will travel nearly 1,000,000 miles and raise a combined total of over £400,000 for LCD.

Hitch 2011 is well and truly underway...and those going to Morocco may be treated to **an unexpected celebrity sighting!** Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall arrived in Rabat, Morocco, today as part of an official tour on behalf of the British Government focusing on trade, investment and climate change.

Charles and Camilla kicked off the tour last week in Portugal, where they met President Anibal Cavaco Silva. Like our Hitchers, their journey has also taken them through Spain before finishing up in Morocco. The Royals may have met more high-profile dignitaries along the way, but we doubt they've had as much fun as everyone currently on the Hitch!

The Royal Visit is **great news for LCD** for two reasons. Firstly, it's a sign that – despite the recent unrest in Morocco and problems in Libya – **travel to the region is still ongoing**. Charles and Camilla may not have any involvement with LCD or the Hitch, but their trip shows that they have judged the region to be safe enough to go ahead with their visit as planned. Indeed, tour operators have also continued to travel to Morocco as normal, and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) is not advising tourists against travel.

Secondly, any chance encounters between Their Royal Highnesses and students in Morocco provide an opportunity to showcase **the positive side of student passion and commitment to a cause**. Charles and Camilla may not have witnessed this [in London in December](#), but we're sure they'd be more pleased to hear about the achievements of our Hitchers.

Those involved in the Hitch will be playing a part in **raising over £400,000 for LCD's work** in sub-Saharan Africa, and that's something to be very proud of. So don't hesitate to play up this fantastic achievement to anyone you meet in Morocco, whether they're a member of the Royal Family or not!