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Greenhead News

Catering, Events, Balls

New Senior Students prepare for action



L-R Greg Tinker, David Stephenson, Will Smith, Kul Sanga, Vicky Farrand and Ashley Greenwood

The Editor recently had lunch with Assistant Principal, Alasdair Brodie-Browne and the new Senior Students, as they prepared for an afternoon's induction into their new roles. Here's what she discovered . . .

They all have in common a desire to do things for other people and feel up to accepting many challenges.

Ex Almondbury High School student **Vicky Farrand** wants to work with the Events Committee and hopes to come up with an idea for an event that has never been done before. **Ashley Greenwood**, a Barnsley girl who was head girl at her High School, is the treasurer and as such has a huge involvement with the College Ball. Ex QEGS student **Will Smith**, sees himself as a representative of the student body and is hoping to learn teamwork and leadership skills. He will work on the Catering Committee. 'Lead, don't push' is his motto. **Greg Tinker** who came to Greenhead from the Bluecoat School in Oldham was impressed when he first arrived here by meeting last year's Senior Students (and he admired their T-shirts!) **Kulcheta**

Sanga (Kul) from Newsome High School, welcomes the idea of responsibility and is surprised by just how much of this the Senior Students have. His priorities are to organise successful parties, raise lots of money for charities and help organise a successful ball at the end of the year. "Feeling you are doing something for the college" is how **David Stephenson** (ex Holmfirth High School) described his role. He is very proud of the huge success of their first party at Paparazzi which has resulted in £1,000 in the account for future events. I came away from the lunch thinking what a lively, mature, enthusiastic and talented group! The student body elected wisely.

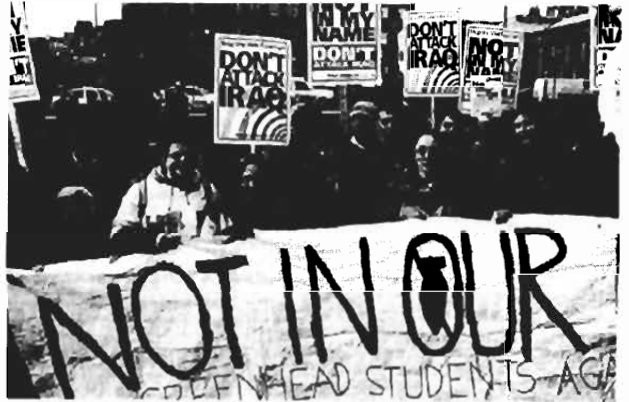
Four Greenhead students performing at a Valentines Day cabaret concert at Huddersfield Town Hall, with Honley Male Voice Choir.



L-R Nick Walker, Hannah Earnshaw, Christopher Pulleyn and Simon Allatt

Peace and War

With a student body of such diverse background and ethnicity it is natural that many strands of opinion have been expressed and acted upon by Greenhead students and staff. Many took part in the enormous March for Peace in London on February 18th. They are pictured here leaving Huddersfield Station with their banner.



The Right Honourable Alice Mahon MP addressed a large gathering of staff and students in the college recently.

The situation in Iraq has been debated twice in the Debating Society in recent months. The last motion — "This house believes that the war in Iraq is legally and morally wrong" was defeated by one vote only.

Meeting an MP

As part of an ongoing debate on current affairs, we were privileged to welcome the **Rt. Hon Alice Mahon**, Labour MP to college on March 7th. Invited by **Jessie Levene** on behalf of a group of students concerned about the conflict with Iraq, Ms Mahon gave us her analysis and opinions on the situation with great clarity and conviction.

A large number of students and staff were present and had the chance to ask questions and voice their opinions. Principal Martin Rostron chaired the meeting and we all felt it was a special occasion. Talking openly with an MP, especially one as committed and professional as Alice Mahon, is a living example of democracy in action.

A O'G



Dear Parents and Students

I am writing on the eve of examinations, AS and A level: can I offer best wishes to all about to undergo the ordeal. Of course, this isn't just the students sitting the exams – although personally they have the most stressful time: there is no denying that parents and college staff feel the pressure too! Nonetheless, can I urge all parents to put the needs of your sons and daughters first in the coming weeks? They will need privacy, peace and quiet, and sympathy, as well as gentle encouragement and motivation. There are great rewards for success.

For example, in the last edition of the newsletter we congratulated the 35 successful Oxbridge applicants this year, who, along with aspiring doctors, dentists and vets had to get their University applications in first. However, as any tutor or administrator here can tell you, that's the tip of the iceberg! We have actually processed around 800 university applications this year, and many applicants are still waiting for final decisions of some kind. And we have not included job applications in that count: these are still going on.

Our students enjoy great success every year in their hunt for places. Apart from their personal qualities, which make reading their 'personal statements' and letters of application a real pleasure, their cause is greatly helped by the teamwork of teacher/student/parent in getting the best 'value added', i.e. maximising their potential. The Value Added system that originated here at Greenhead College is now used widely around the country, and the system of estimating potential from GCSE results, and supporting students through monitoring, action planning and the dedicated personal tutor system, means that every student is offered a deal that is second to none.

The great majority accept the help (and the challenges) with enthusiasm and the results – in terms of exam results and job or university place – are well deserved.

So, the prospects for this year's candidates are excellent. Congratulations to all students on all the offers you have already achieved, and I hope your final decision on 'firm' and 'insurance' places is a straightforward one.

A final comment: thanks too to all the family members who have helped in the application process. According to research just published in the Times Higher Education Supplement, the student's best support is 'mum'! Apparently much of the investigation into opportunities and organisation of visits is carried out by mothers. Fathers, according to the THES, 'tended to remain in the background.' Whether or not you agree with that, I'll leave up to you!

Yours sincerely

Martin Roskrow



Dates for your diary

SUMMER TERM 2003

Mon 28	College opens.
MAY	
Fri 2	AS Higher Education Information Tutorials
Sun 4	French Exchange: French students in England (until 12 th)
Mon 5	May Day Holiday
Tue 13	Student Council meeting 12.30 pm
Thu 15	Placement and Project Supervisors meet all AS students 9.20-10.25 am
Fri 17	Study leave for A1 students begins
Mon 19	AS exams begin. Governors' meeting, 4.15 pm
Fri 23	Study leave for A2 students begins. College closes HALF TERM
JUNE	
Mon 2	College opens. Examination timetable resumes
Wed 4	Yorkshire & Humber Network Joint Training Day
Mon 9	A Level exams begin
Thu 12	Art department A2 Private view 7.00 to 9.00 pm
Fri 13	Full Health and Safety Check
Mon 16	Workshadowing/Project week
Mon 23	AS What's Ahead Conference 9.30 am to 12.30 pm A2 Courses begin pm
Wed 25	Workshadowing/Project supervisors see reports and presentations pm
Thu 26	A2 Biology field trips (until 2 nd July) Oxford/Cambridge visits
Fri 27	Open Morning. Last day of external examinations
Mon 30	Open Morning. Governors' meeting, 4.15 pm
JULY	
Tue 1	Open Morning. 12.45 pm. ALPS Conference
Wed 2	Open Morning
Thu 3	Student Guidance Conference. Oxford/Cambridge visits
Fri 4	Open Morning. ALPS Conference. D of E Expedition (to 9 th)
Sat 5	Art Trip (until 9 th)
Mon 7	ALPS Conference
Tue 8	Student Guidance Conference
Thu 10	College closes
AUGUST	
Thu 14	AS/A Level results published
Thu 21	GCSE results published
Tue 26	Enrolment Day



From our Foreign Correspondent

Last year's Business Studies student, Jenny Hatfield, is a GAP volunteer in a school on the island of FIJI. Here are extracts from her recent letter:

I have been in FIJI for two and a half weeks but have only been teaching for a couple of days. In the last few weeks I have visited a tropical island to go snorkelling and kayaking and been part of three Kava ceremonies. It's a local drug that is legal, but if you have too much you can't stand up. But don't worry, I only had a small amount because if you refuse it, it's a really big insult.

I now have the utmost respect for all teachers because it's very difficult to control a class and still have them like you.

I am currently living in what can only be described as a garden shed with a bed in it and at least ten gekkos. There are also rats, mosquitos, cockroaches and the occasional pigeon in the kitchen.

Despite everything I am having a wonderful time. A woman made me eat lamb's neck with the spinal chord still attached I was nearly sick!



Spring Concert



Transported from the nostalgia-inducing Beatles to the delicate refinements of the String Ensemble's Handel, from earthy jazz, swing and barbershop to operatic aria, we were privileged to be entertained by our musical students and staff. There were too many excellent solo and ensemble performances to mention, but **Joe Browning's** atmospheric interpretation of Debussy's 'La Cathedrale Engloutie' cast a hush over the hall. The chamber choir demonstrated their vocal expertise and versatility in languages, and the college choir closed the concert with a gloriously uplifting performance of Rutter's 'Te Deum'. A thoroughly enjoyable event which deserves a wider audience! Thanks to the music department and the indispensable piano accompaniment of **Geoff Lockwood, Brenda Burhouse and Jonathan Newcombe.**

JB



News of People and Events

- * Congratulations to Art Technician, **Tara Wiles** on the birth of her baby, Sam.
- * AS English Language and Literature students recently enjoyed a production of set text *Henry V* by the Northern Broadside Theatre Company at the Viaduct Theatre, Dean Clough, Halifax.
- * English Literature students attended a series of lectures on *Othello* and *Emma* at Pudsey Civic Centre.
- * French and German students have recently participated in 'Exchange' programmes. More news of this in the next newsletter.
- * A Higher Education Information Evening for Parents was held in March to prepare them for the intricacies of the application and finance procedures.
- * A wine tasting evening was held to raise funds for the expedition to Kenya this summer.
- * World Book Day was celebrated on 6th March. Students were able to claim free book tokens from the College Library.
- * Foundation work has started on a new building to extend and replace the Rosemary House area of College. Pictures of work in progress will be in the next newsletter.
- * We recently said goodbye to **John Hiley**, Psychology teacher and tutor. We wish him luck in his new job in the NHS.
- * Workshadowing Placement Officer, **Wendy Reed** left us lately to set up her own business. She is being replaced temporarily by staff members **Tina Watkins** and **Janet Stevenson**. Currently, 329 students have confirmed work-shadowing placements and approximately 300 students will take part in in-college projects in June.
- * Welcome to **Katrina Wickham**, a new cook in the College Catering department who joins us from Outlane Primary School.
- * AS student **Alex Millington** is through to the final of the Miss Great Britain Contest.
- * An Oxbridge day was held in March to introduce prospective first year students to the process. Four admissions tutors from Oxford and Cambridge Colleges were here to answer student questions.
- * The Careers Department has organised coach trips to several university open days.

"Carved and sculpted by ice, wind and weather"

Geology students on Arran

The geologists recently visited the beautiful island of Arran, situated off the west coast of Scotland. We stayed at the Lochranza Field Centre in the north of the island. The field trip was incredibly useful to us as geologists, because it allowed us to see the processes we had spent the past term studying.

The geology of Arran is fascinating with rock formations spanning over 600 million years of the earth's history.

The landscape we saw had been carved and sculpted by ice, wind and weather to produce an area of breathtaking scenery.

The trip also included a visit to the Hunterian museum that is attached to Glasgow University. The museum was opened in 1807, making it the oldest public museum in Scotland. Here, we saw rocks that originated elsewhere in the solar system and fell to earth as meteorites. We also saw the world's oldest piece of rock dating back to 4570 million years ago.

Our field trip was very worthwhile and has helped many people to further their understanding of the subject and provided us with a fantastic opportunity to appreciate the landscape around us.

National Olympiad Awards

Congratulations to all students who participated in these national competitions. The following students achieved 'medal' awards:

BIOLOGY: Silver: **Andrew Sobala**

CHEMISTRY: Bronze: **Rosemary Bruce, Patrick Durkin, Laura Hand, Victoria Barker and Rebecca Shakir.** Silver: **Geoffrey Martin and Andrew Sobala.**

PHYSICS: Bronze: **Michael Braisher, Daniel Cardnell, Aleem Ladak, James Hirst and Carrina Turner.** Silver: **Andrew Sobala.** Gold: **Edward Day.** A special mention for **Edward Day** for his Gold Award, putting him amongst the top 50 Physics students in the country. He is now involved in additional selection tests for the British team for the International Physics Olympiad—good luck Ed!

Maths quizzes prove popular again

The college hosted the second PopMaths Quiz for local pupils in years 9 and below on 15th March, as part of National Science Week. Ten teams turned out on the Saturday morning to attempt a series of twenty challenging questions on a mathematical theme. The winners were **Henry Bradford, Jonathan Garner and Michael Ladlow** from King James's School, with runners-up **Gareth Price-Baghurst, Alex Hall, James Hirst, Sam Sugden, Jennifer Norcliffe and David Beaumont** from Huddersfield Grammar School.

Two teams from Greenhead entered the senior version at Huddersfield University. Out of twenty-one teams, our first-year team of **Iain Dalton, Mary Dobson, Tahrir Mir, Vithya Nanthakumaar, Laura Parfitt and James Wright** were runners-up, losing out to Notre Dame Sixth Form College only after a very close tie-break question.

A series of monthly puzzles for our maths students attracted a large number of entrants again this year. There were three joint winners: **Emma Laithwaite, Tahrir Mir and Edward Day.**



King James's School winners

Duke of Edinburgh

by Lucy Wakenshaw

Our achievements were recognised at the Gold Award presentations held at St James's Palace, Westminster and the Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Philip was there to chat with us. He has never missed a presentation since the beginning in the 1950s.



We enjoyed taking part in many varied activities. For me it included ballet, debating, helping out at a dance school, spending a week on a residential with young children, and oh of course the expedition. Worth it? - definitely 'yes'.



SPORTS REPORTS



Football

The 1st XI's successful season continues with a first ever appearance in the last 8 of the National Cup. The away game at High Baird (Liverpool) saw us go out 0-1 in controversial circumstances as we had what appeared to be a blatant penalty denied with 10 minutes left when we were well on top. We look forward to the West Yorkshire Schools Cup Final against Notre Dame, and in the North West Colleges League we are presently joint top with one game at Holy Cross left. All players deserve great credit for a fantastic season. **BF**

Disruption to team through injuries and other problems has led to a season of mixed results for the 2nd XI, and this has continued over recent matches. There were comprehensive victories over St Leonard's School, Burnley, and John Leggott College, but these have been balanced out by disappointing, but narrow, defeats in the North West Colleges League against Oldham College and Carmel College. Despite these difficulties, there has been a great deal of effort put in by the very large number of players who have turned out for the 2nd XI this year, and particular thanks go to captain **Robert Large** and his deputy, **Gareth Jowett**. **MT**

The 3rd XI's improved form has continued with victories over Widnes College (5-2), John Leggott College (4-2) and New College (3-2). They were also denied wins over the Army Foundation College (3-3) and Shelley High School (3-3) by conceding goals in the last few minutes. The only defeat was with a weakened side against Holy Cross, Bury (1-7). Congratulations to all the players who have contributed to a good season. **MPi**

Hockey

The highlight of the hockey season was being involved in the British Colleges Sports Association National Finals weekend at Loughborough University. The Girls Hockey team won the regional tournament and represented the NE of England in a magnificent festival of sport. From the opening ceremony in the Sports Hall with 2000 competitors and officials through all the different sporting competitions all the way to the closing ceremony with cups and medals being presented, it was a privilege for the Greenhead girls to be there. The girls played superbly in every game, especially against Nelson and Colne College, our arch rivals, and at the end of the weekend tournament having played 7 games, winning 2, drawing 3 and losing 2, we finished in 4th place out of the 8 regions. This weekend was the "icing on the cake" for our hockey girls in being able to take part in such a superb event. **CW**



The Girls' Hockey Team

Netball

by *Michaëla Primus*

Netball this season has seen many quality performances from both the 1st team and 2nd team, with the 1st team reaching the National Schools Final, which took place in Brighton in March. Unfortunately, relentless weather conditions prevented the usual standard of the 1st team from prevailing, but team spirit remained high and all had an enjoyable weekend. As well as the National Schools Final, the 1st team have comfortably progressed through to the final of the National Colleges Cup after a number of successful games. The 2nd team also enjoyed a successful season drawing one and winning the rest of their matches in the British College League, just missing out in the final to Barnsley College.

Over all, team spirit has been high, leading to a series of strong performances from all team members, once again continuing to maintain the Greenhead sporting reputation.

The Netball team won the Yorkshire and Humberside finals for an unprecedented fifth time.

Back L-R
*Caroline Mackinnon,
 Emma Phillips,
 Eve Blanchard,
 Kim Henderson*
 Front L-R
*Katy Platts,
 Natalie Alcock, and
 Capt. Kelly Bostock*



Rugby

The rugby league team finished the season on a high note by beating Carmel College, St Helen's by 60-22 pts to become North West Counties league champions. In the league the team have remained undefeated and finished clear winners. In the Carmel game captain **Tom Tsang** led the way with a hat-trick of tries and full back **Grant Monkhouse** ran the ball out of defence in superb fashion.

In February the team won the British Colleges sevens title by beating Notre Dame College from Leeds 40-6 in the final, **Martin Wilson** crowning a superb display by scoring a fine individual try. The only blemish on a fine season has been the defeat at the hands of Winstanley College in the semi-final of the National Cup when injuries and other commitments meant that Greenhead played the second half with only eleven men!

Congratulations to all the team on a great season. **CA**



British Colleges Seven-a-Side Rugby Competition
Wednesday, 5th March

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