

SOUNDWAVE

Securing the future of deaf children & young people



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Red Nose Day
2017



Come on lads!



Our first day



That's a big book!



Yay! The Listening Bus
is here



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Mary Hare, Arlington Manor, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 3BQ. www.maryhare.org.uk

ONTO THE NEXT CHAPTER!

by Peter Gale



Mr Peter Gale



Our Principal

Whether you are a pupil, parent, relative, family friend or a friend of the school in another capacity, welcome to another edition of Soundwave. I hope that we have captured the huge range of activities which our young people get involved in.

People often ask me how Mary Hare prepares young people for adult life. It's one thing for them to be confident in their small school in the country, the argument goes, but what about the real world? I believe the answer lies in the pages of Soundwave. Mary Hare seeks to be a setting in which young people develop transferable skills and attributes. The key to a deaf young adult making their way in a challenging world is instilling personal resilience, confidence and a positive self-image. We do this through education, residential care, Speech and Language Therapy, but also in all of the experiences and activities described in this edition of Soundwave.

I write to you in exciting times. We got our Ofsted 'Good' in the penultimate week of the last school year - old news now but good to record it in Soundwave and I am grateful to all staff and pupils for the part they played in securing that judgement.

Our pupil numbers continue to rise and we have exciting plans for our future - enough to keep me and two or three Principals after me, busy and enthused. Our current project is to build a brand new primary school on our Snelsmore campus and some exciting work has already been done on this ahead of the launch of our Fundraising Appeal on July 4th. Pam Robinson and I share a vision for this new school. It should be separate, yet together. The primary school pupils will not grow up in close proximity with older

children and will have their own campus. They will, however, be close enough to make use of the facilities such as the swimming pool with less logistical planning! Crucially, staff from both schools will find it much easier to collaborate and to share information and new ideas. Finally the school will be built to provide a great environment for learning and playing with all relevant staff and young people being consulted along the way.

We will keep you informed of our progress.

Before each Annual Review we ask pupils to write down their view of their schooling so that they can be discussed at the meeting. A few months ago, one pupil, who joined us in year 10, wrote, in answer to the question 'Is there anything else you would like to add?' 'Just that I love it at Mary Hare and that I am so much happier here. I am so thankful that I am at such an amazing school.'

These humbling words show the difference we can make to the lives of our young people. I will, if you don't mind, end with a request that you and your families and friends keep us in mind if you are doing a marathon, coffee morning or other fundraising activity. There's always so much more we would like to do.

Do enjoy Soundwave and have a great summer.

Peter Gale

Principal and CEO

June 2016

The Mary Hare Year Summer Extravaganza and Fayre

By Tony Trigwell-Jones

In Summer 2016, to celebrate the 70th anniversary and for the chance to try something new, the Creative Arts Faculty threw open its doors to provide an afternoon of entertainment by students from across a range of subjects.

Just outside the kitchen, in the courtyard was an outdoor production of Mary Shelley's Gothic Horror, starring Luke, Alliyah, Tom, Bethany, Benedict, Jayden and Emily.

Over inside Arlington Arts was an hour of music and dance performed by two bands, soloists and whole year groups. Stand out performances from Norika, Lucas and Lili, who all appeared more than once. Meanwhile most of the cast of Frankenstein played in the band too.

Outside Arlington Arts was a promenade performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream, featuring students from Year 7 and 8 including Alex, Joshua, Joel, Joe, Sophie, James, Benedict, Reanna, Jennifer, Jacob, Charlotte and, of course, two very busy English teachers (Miss Walsh and Mrs Sullivan) trying to keep up with speech-bubble captions.

In between all the performances visitors were able to visit over 40 stalls that were set out on the field for the popular Mary Hare Summer Fayre, which was running alongside the Summer Extravaganza. There were go karts, inflatable slides, welly wanging and tombolas - a truly traditional Summer Fayre!

Feedback from the day has been incredibly popular with visiting parents...

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for the brilliant performance. It was great fun and lovely to see [my child] in action... It was lovely to watch"

"Giving kids like [my child] the chance to do something like this represents everything that makes Mary Hare wonderful for me."



Suzi in the stocks



African dancing



Lili shows us her moves



The Mary Hare Year



September 2016



The Mary Hare Year

Junior Speech Day

On Friday 16th September, Mary Hare School held its annual Junior Speech Day.

Mr Gale welcomed guests, and our new Chair of Governors, Andrew Strivens gave an inspiring speech with two key messages - 'to be successful at something requires a lot of hard work' and 'do things that interest you and things you are passionate about and work on them and improve. You don't need to be the very best to have a good time and be successful.'

The first prizes were for the pupils who had consistently good achievement and effort grades every term throughout last year.



Andrew Strivens



Jack Swabey

CONGRATULATIONS WENT TO:

Jacob Tidcombe and **Angel Page** in Year 7.

Benedict Morgan and **Simron Gurung** in Year 8.

Jessica Clark and **Christian Clark** in Year 9.

THE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY PRIZES:

Jude Hiorns and **Angel Page** in Year 7

Jack Swabey in Year 8

Luke Champney, **Sonny Hollingsmith** and **Razzaq Ahmed** in Year 9

THE BOARDING HOUSES PRIZES:

Angel Page and **Tobi Elson** in Year 7

Alannah Sumner and **Joel Greenfield** in Year 8

April Platt and **Tobias Hester** in Year 9.

KiriLynn awarded the Youth Club prize to **Jodie Ryan** in Year 9.

Dr Rocca awarded the 9R prize to **Sonny Hollingsmith** for being the forms rock!

Mr Garrett awarded the 9LG award to **Tom Green** for always being well behaved. The 9G prize from Miss Gibson went to **Bethany Hudson** and the 9CS prizes from Mrs Carmichael Jones went to **Coni Crovetto**.





Isabella Giddins



Elle Johnstone



Emily Sharpley



Victor Angafaa

Our Language Enrichment Group prize went to **Elle Johnstone** in Year 9 for being the most hardworking pupil Madame Orpin has ever taught!

The Liz May Prize is awarded to the pupil who perseveres and makes the most progress in English in Key Stage 3. For her improvement in inference and understanding of texts she reads, it was awarded to **Emily Sharpley**.

SUBJECT PRIZES

- Art & Design - **Elle Johnstone**
- Biology - **Bethany Hudson**
- Chemistry - **Tobias Hester**
- Design & Technology - **Elle Johnstone**
- Dance - **Ruby Bando**
- Drama - **Alliyah Evans**
- English - **Savannah Day**
- French - **Tobias Hester**
- Geography - **Tom Green** and **Bethany Hudson**
- History - **Ollie Rowley**
- ICT - **Isabella Giddins** and **Bethany Hudson**
- Maths - **Jessica Clark**
- Music - **Jayden Reid** and **Bethany Hudson**
- PE - **Grace Thomas** and **April Platt**
- Physics - **Jessica Clark**
- Religious Studies - **Lily Marden** and **Tobias Hester**

The Kenneth Bayliss Cup Trophy for Sports is awarded for the most progress made in PE. This year it was awarded to **Victor Angafaa**.

Mr Gale awarded a special Principal's prize to **Ethan Mount-Jones** who 'faced challenges and gradually, with determination, overcame these challenges and is now working hard and behaving really well. He is a kind and thoughtful young man too.'

To finish, Mr Gale said "A huge well done to everyone who has won a prize today. You have all come a long way in your time here and I know you will continue to do your best."



Ethan Mount-Jones



Tobi Elson and Angel Page



April Platt and Grace Thomas

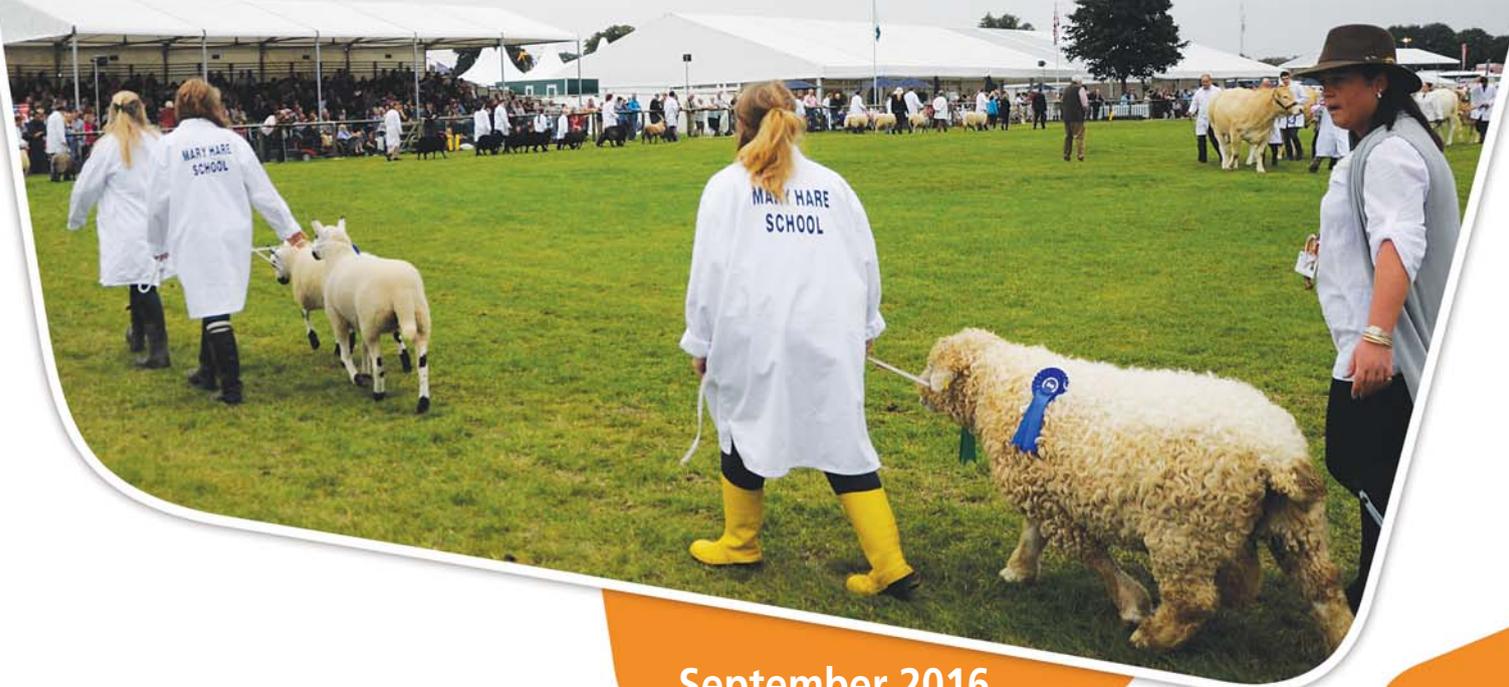


Bethany Hudson and Coni Crovetto



Lily Marden and Tobias Hester





September 2016



The Mary Hare Year

Newbury Show

On 17th September, our students took part in the annual Royal County of Berkshire Show. Mary Hare School students have been participating, along with their animals, in Newbury Show for the past 3 years. This year we had more of our animals taking part and the pupils had been working extremely hard in their lessons preparing the animals and even had to clean the sheep to ensure that they looked their best!

The judges spent 15 minutes examining the animals looking at their conformation and the way that they walked. Our ram came in 4th place and our goose, Pineapple, won best in show!

Ffion in Year 13 explained the pride she had felt after participating in the event:

"From the moment that our Devon & Cornwall Longwool ram had secured 4th place, I knew there was nothing that could diminish the pride I felt for our ram, PJ.

To think that moments beforehand, I was secretly trembling with apprehension when lining up with our potential prize-winning sheep, standing before the judge, praying that our ram was looking as good as possible, and ensuring that PJ looks as square and sturdy.

However, my worries meant nothing, as my experience had been so rewarding I will remember it with bliss.

Another fuel to my pride was finding out that our Embden Goose, Pineapple, had won 1st place, while one of our Indian Runner duck, Hammy, placed in 2nd!"



Baaaa!



Pineapple wins Best in Show!



Ffion with PJ



September 2016

Year 9 Activities Week

by Miss Leach

The week of 19th September saw our Year 9 students enjoy a fun-filled activities trip.

MONDAY 19TH MULTI-ACTIVITY BASED AT YMCA PADWORTH CENTRE AND THEALE LAKE

The pupils first activity was the 'Ballistic Challenge' which involved catching water balloons in a massive plastic sheet. Both teams did really well, although a few definitely got wet!

The pupils then practiced their archery skills. They made hot chocolate when Sharon taught them how to start a fire and boil the Kelly kettles in the woods. They also practiced the 4-person canoes for the Duke of Edinburgh's expedition later in the week.

TUESDAY 20TH INDOOR CLIMBING - RESCUE AND SAFETY

The pupils (and some of the staff!) all had a go at climbing. The instructors said we had some very impressive climbers in the year group. We then went back to the YMCA Padworth Centre for 4 activities.

- Learning to use the gas powered cooking equipment ready for the Duke of Edinburgh expedition later in the week
- First aid equipment
- Water rescue skills
- Ariel Laporte archery

WEDNESDAY 21ST MOUNTAIN BIKING AT SWINLEY

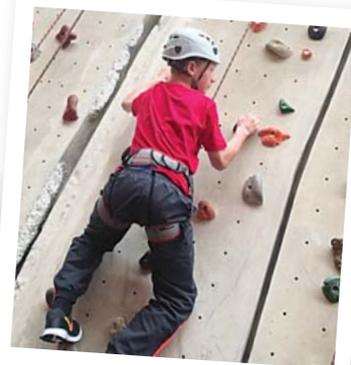
The pupils were divided into three groups and enjoyed the following activities: mountain biking, orienteering and disc golf.

THURSDAY 22ND & FRIDAY 23RD BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We started our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's award. We met at Croft Field Centre in Hungerford at 10.00am to prepare our expedition equipment and maps before travelling to Great Bedwyn where we camped for the night. On Friday we enjoyed our final activity which was canoeing to Kintbury.



Target practice
for Rebecca



Alfie climbs high





October 2016

Year 7 Trip to Marwell Zoo



The Mary Hare Year

On Tuesday 4th October, the new Year 7 pupils went on the annual trip to Marwell Zoo. In their Science lessons the students have been studying classification, environments and habitats and adaptation. They have also been learning about various endangered species, so Marwell was the perfect place to see some of those animals up close and personal. The zoo is famous for its conservation work and trying to breed endangered species.

Firstly, the students explored the grounds and saw lots of different animals...

"I liked the land train because it took us all around the zoo and we could see the animals, we waved at people too. We saw wallabies and colourful birds. I went to see the meerkats. They were standing up and had babies too. They have big eyes to see everything and are camouflaged. They have claws to dig to find food."

Loui Beyzade-Salter, Year 7

"My favourite bit was seeing the three tiger cubs. The tigers are adapted as they have sharp teeth, big claws, camouflaged fur and powerful legs."

Matthew Deadman, Year 7

"We saw a skinny slimy penguin with a massive beak making a squeaking noise. They have black bodies with a white front. My most favourite part was the horse because it had cool camouflage. It was black and had grey spots."

Jacob Kelly, Year 7

"We saw an Ostrich. They are really fast because they have long legs. When we were on the land train we saw them running. They also have strong feet to scratch the ground to find food."

Joshua Walker, Year 7

Next stop was the education talk which gave the students the opportunity to learn about the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates and the 5 groups of vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds)...

"We went to see a lady called Sue for a lesson on adaptations of the animals. I was brave to touch the rats. We played a game and I won 3 times. We saw three types of fur; they were all types of big cats – one was a tiger. We also saw the skin of a turtle and a crocodile."

Emma Kirkaldy, Year 7

"Sue showed us the pet rats. I like rats because they have soft fur, this keeps them warm. There were two rats. One was white, one was brown."

Chloe Burton, Year 7

As they do every year, all the students really enjoyed their trip to Marwell Zoo. For some, it was the first time they had seen some animals in real life. With the trip being so early on in the year it's a chance to enhance the topics they had learnt in the lesson and bond with their year group. A very fun packed day full of lots of memories.



Up close with
the penguins

November 2016

Young Chef of the Year

On Saturday 19th November, three Mary Hare students took part in the Young Chef of the Year competition at Newbury College.

Alliyah Evans, Grace Thomas and Hannah Allen in Year 10 were delighted to be given the opportunity to take part and practised hard in the weeks leading up to the competition. They had to cook two courses in 1 hour and 45 minutes and competed against pupils from other schools in the area. The judges were very impressed with the standard of food our pupils produced and the skills they showed.

Congratulations to Alliyah Evans who came second overall!



Hannah, Alliyah
and Grace

Year 11 Work Experience

by Miss Leach

Work Experience is a fantastic chance to be part of the world of work and learn what practical and personal skills are necessary when working. This year students worked in a variety of placements in the local area and at home including schools, farms, shops and offices.

Here are a selection of comments made by the employers:

"Ben worked well, he was keen to help in every department he worked. He was able to understand and work independently. He was a real pleasure to have working with us."

"We were thoroughly impressed by Lewis' attitude, punctuality, commitment and flexibility. We threw him in at the deep end and he swam! He has a great sense of initiative and also a talent for Media. We would definitely welcome him back in the future."

"Jess had a very good week with us. She impressed us with her eagerness. We had many laughs and Jess has enjoyed herself. She said she didn't want to go! She did a particularly good job of mucking out and grooming the donkey."

"Imogen has been outstanding during her placement. She has shown an excellent attitude towards work and has completed all the tasks put to her really well. She has forged really positive relationships with the staff and students and has been able to communicate effectively. Thank you for sending her to us! She is a star!"

These were just some of the brilliant comments I have received.

Annie Alexander won the Principal's 'Set Your Sights High' Award because she relished the opportunity of work experience, worked hard and was resilient enough to handle all the challenges of being hearing impaired in the workplace. Her employer had the following to say about her:

"Annie became a great asset to the team as the week went on. Throughout the week Annie's confidence grew; combined with an enormous willingness to give everything a go; we can see her becoming an essential part of the team. Her presentation was immaculate throughout the week and I have received numerous comments from the team praising Annie's efforts. A pleasure to work with"

Barclays Bank were so impressed with Annie they offered her the opportunity to go back for an apprenticeship. They said the team would have had to work late if it weren't for Annie's hard work. Congratulations Annie and well done!





November 2016



The Mary Hare Year

Speech Day 2016

On Friday 25th November, we celebrated our annual Speech Day with former pupil, Justine Durno, as our Guest of Honour. Justine was a Mary Hare pupil from 2000 - 2007 and has since gone on to study medicine at university. Justine presented awards to current and returning pupils for their academic achievement, effort and progress.

LIST OF AWARDS:

Habiba Bernier

Dickson Memorial Prize for Head Girl
Subject Prize for Applied Science

Tomas Gerrard

Eichholz Memorial Prize for Head Boy
Rose Fenney Service Prize
Trevor Brooking Cup for Sport
Subject Prizes for Economics and Psychology

Aaron Wise

Chairman's Prize for Academic Achievement
at Advanced Level

Claudia Davies

Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE
Subject Prizes for English, Geography and History

George Dowsett

Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE
Annie Fogden Prize for GCSE English
Subject Prizes for Mathematics and Chemistry

Abid Mussa

Margaret Caws Prize for Art
Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize

Fae Al-Kalamchi

McLellan Prize for Art
Anne Mazey Prize for English (Advanced)

Levi Choutan

Prize for Outstanding Contribution to
Extra Curricular Performance
Subject Prizes for Psychology and Chemistry

Henry Munro

Phyllis M Buckell Prize for Integration
Subject Prize for Sports' Studies

Owen Swanson

Peter K Hanton Memorial Prize for Technology
Duffell Prize for Effort and Progress (Advanced Level)

Oliver Harknett

Dr Mike Milne Cup for Achievement in
Information Technology
Elizabeth Dyson Prize for Progress and Achievement

Louise Flynn

Amy Sale Memorial Prize for Drama
Subject Prize for Business Studies



Eddie Cleere



Justine Durno





Thomas Gerard



Beth Kelly



Oliver Harknett



Theo Thomas - Afonso

Isabella Stone

SK Anderson Prize for Effort and Progress (GCSE)
Subject Prizes for Art, Media Studies and Performing Arts

Emma Jackson

Pope Music Prize
Subject Prize for Art and Design Photography and Design
Technology Food

Beth Kelly

Jim Wright Prize for Academic Achievement in GCSE PE
Margaret Ann Robinson Award
Subject Prize for Geography

Georgie Paul

Margaret Ann Robinson Award
Subject Prize for Biology

Theo Thomas Afonso

Jack Askew Prize for Science
John Rowsell Sports' Endeavour Prize
Subject Prizes for IT Practitioners and Music Technology

Tom Jackson

Lightmongers' Science Innovation Prize

Andre Preston Morley

Lightmongers' Science Innovation Prize

Madeline Hawes

Thomas Award for Innovation in Art and Design
Subject Prize for Dance

Simon Thursz

Hugh Ogus Award

Sol Warwick

Laurentia Tan Award

Emily Moore

Jasbir Kaur Johal Prize
Subject Prize for Vocational Courses

Amy Trigwell-Jones

PTA Prize

Anna Wallis

PTA Prize

Hajra Mirza

Subject Prize for Art and Design: Photography

Cameron Levy-Pollock

Subject Prize for Art and Design: Textiles

Alex Kearney

Subject Prize for Art and Design: Textiles

Charlotte Webb

Subject Prize for Business Studies

Freddie Barrett

Subject Prize for Design Technology Resistant Materials

Rosie Pound Clarke

Subject Prize for Drama

Mae Al Kalamchi

Subject Prize for English

Eddie Cleere

Subject Prizes for French and History

Pearl Orpin

Subject Prize for Health and Social Care

Elanya Marsh

Subject Prize for Home Economics: Child Development

Calum Medlock

Subject Prizes for Mathematics and Physics

Terry Yew

Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize

Liam O'Brien

Lesley White Challenge Cup



The school band perform



Eddie and Habiba thank Justine





December 2016

Christmas 2016 at Mary Hare School

Mary Hare School kicked off the Christmas celebrations on Thursday 15th December with a delicious Christmas lunch and afternoon of entertainment.

This year Blount Hall was decorated in a Disney theme and our 6th Formers dressed up as their favourite Disney characters to serve pupils and staff their Christmas lunch. Our catering team served up a fantastic lunch with Christmas pudding and mince pies for dessert.

After lunch, the whole school headed to Arlington Arts Centre to enjoy the Christmas entertainment. The school band performed some Christmas songs, there was a performance from Mr Gale and finished with the House Dance Competition!

House Dance Results:

- 1st place Arnold - 35 points
- 2nd place Beverley - 31 points
- 3rd place Braidwood - 27 points
- 4th place Mary Hare - 24 points

6th Form Christmas Party

Elderly from all over the community attended the second annual 6th Form Christmas party. Our students worked very hard organising food, activities and costumes.

There were musical performances, poetry and fun activities including bingo and a 'Guess the decade quiz/fashion show'.

Our guests then enjoyed party food prepared by our Catering and Hospitality students before singing Christmas carols to end the afternoon.

"What was really nice for me was that when everyone was leaving, they all said to me how wonderful it was and how much fun they had." Andrew McWhinney



Disney theme



Christian and Elle enjoying lunch



Enjoying the entertainment



The Mary Hare Year



January 2017

Year 7 Trip to Roald Dahl's Museum

In January, the English Department organised for our year 7 students to visit the Roald Dahl Museum in Buckinghamshire.

"We went on the coach to Great Missenden, it was quite a long way but we had fun chatting and laughing. When we arrived, we went to the Roald Dahl's Museum. There was a lady who was taking us on a tour, her name was Helen. I was surprised to see so many of Quentin Blake's drawings on the wall.

We went in the storage room where we left our bag and watched the lady talking about Roald Dahl's life. It was very interesting about Roald Dahl's childhood. Soon we were put into form groups and Helen was guiding us around the places. There were lots of clothes in a box, Layla and Valentin put some coats, scarves and hats on me, I looked hilarious! We carried on the tour, it was fabulous!

After that, we walked around Great Missenden village and saw the library from Matilda, the orphanage from the BFG, the petrol station from Danny, Champion of the world and even Roald Dahl's grave in the churchyard."

Vernon Eminowicz



Emily in the writing chair



Joshua on Dahl's WW2 plane



Roald Dahl's grave





March 2017

Paris Trip 2017



The Mary Hare Year

On 10th March, Year 10 and 11 French and Science students enjoyed a great trip to Paris. They set off early Friday morning and arrived at their hotel, the Chateau de Grande Romaine, by 5.30pm. Saturday and Sunday was a chance to explore the city of Paris!

Saturday was filled with sightseeing and a visit to the Eiffel Tower. Madame LeLaure said *"Students were very impressed by the view from the 59th floor of the Tour Montparnasse as they were by the Eiffel Tower up close!"*

There was even more sightseeing on Sunday! There was a visit to the Cite des Sciences Museum and a trip to Sacre-Coeur and Montmartre. Here students were able to get their portraits drawn by street artists and eat some delicious, traditional French cuisine. Students found places such as Notre Dame Cathedral and the submarine at the Science Museum very interesting and moving. On Monday, the journey back to Mary Hare began with a stop at the Vimy Ridge Memorial.

Overall, students and staff had a wonderful trip and look forward to returning in the future.



India, Martha and Imogen



Eiffel Tower



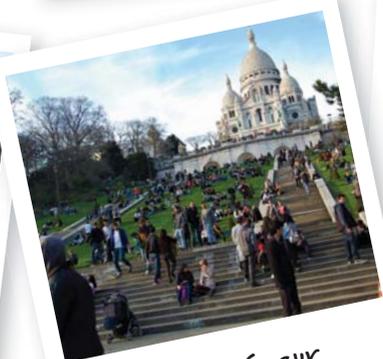
Group shot!



Street art



Heading inside the submarine



Sacre-Coeur



April 2017



The Mary Hare Year

Our new Head Boy and Head Girl

We are delighted to announce that George Dowsett and Claudia Davies have been elected as our new Head Boy and Head Girl.

"We would like to thank those who elected us as your Head Boy and Head Girl for the next academic year. We promise that we will represent the student body to the best of our ability. We would like to remind you of our goal which is that we want to ensure that every student who comes to Mary Hare feels involved and comfortable within the school community."

George and Claudia



Prefect team:

Head Boy

George Dowsett

Head Girl

Claudia Davies

Deputy Head Boy

Frank Allen

Deputy Head Girl

Bella Stone

Year 7 Prefect

Maddie Molloy

Charity Prefects

Emma Jackson

Georgie Paul

Rej Muharemi

Prefect

Dillon Parmar

Prefect

Maddie Hawes

Prefect

Calum McGowan

Prefect

Grace Nash

Prefect

Sophie Cuerden

Prefect



April 2017

NDCS Roadshow

The NDCS Roadshow was back at Mary Hare Secondary for three days at the end of April and visited Mary Hare Primary for one day before the Easter holidays.

The Roadshow staff with us this year included former pupil Mark Gill alongside Jamie Chivers. Over the three days over 90 pupils took part in a range of workshops.

This included a session on Online safety with our Key Stage 3 Language Enrichment groups and a session with students who had recently joined the school on "Who am I?"

For the sixth form the focus of the workshops was on preparing for life after Mary Hare. The 'My Futures' workshop focused on options and support after school. The Technology workshop attended by year 13 allowed students to be updated on the range of technology to support them in work and at home and the opportunity to try out the equipment. Comments from the students:

"It was good fun."

"I think you are doing a good job helping students like me. Keep it up!"

"Very helpful staff and they introduced us to a wide range of products that could be used."

For further information on Technology go to www.ndcs.org.uk/technology

Please do not forget the Technology Test Drive which allows families to borrow products. One Year 13 student successfully used this service to trial a ROGER FM system and is now planning to request this technology as part of his Disabled Student Allowance support for University.

Does your child have the NGT (Next Generation Text - relay) app on their phone?

If they cannot hear on the phone it allows them to speak to someone using text. This could be very helpful if they e.g. needed to phone emergency services.



The bus

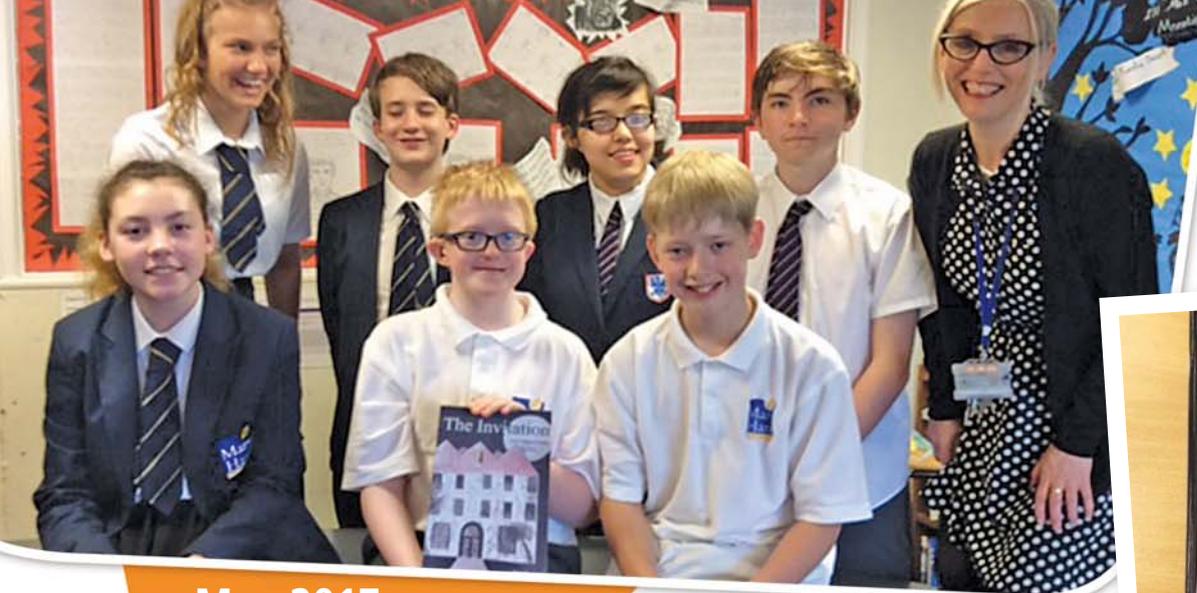


Ex-pupil Mark Gill



Year 7 learn about online safety





May 2017



Our book!



The Mary Hare Year

Year 9 Gothic Authors!

As part of their English studies this year, seven students in year nine have written and published their own anthology of gothic stories. Rebecca Hegadus, Benedict Morgan, Alex Moorhead, Rebecca Dakin, Sydney Wilkinson, Jack Swabey and Josh Buxton spent several weeks working with their Year 9 teacher, Ms Walsh, and Helen Adlam from Budding Authors. During this time, they were developing their creative writing skills before planning and writing their dark tales of supernatural adventure. Their fantastical ideas were so thrillingly hair-raising they are now being published in hardback and paperback editions.

When asked how they feel about being published authors they were quite rightly proud and excited. Sydney 'really enjoyed it!'. Jack said he 'it was exciting to see my work in a book'. Benedict however, is keeping his feet firmly on the ground, stating that while he had fun, 'It's not that life changing really, I'm not like JK Rowling!' Not yet maybe, but who knows where their talent may take them in the future?

The book will be available on loan from the school library for pupils and staff who would like to read it.

Year 7 Maths Team Challenge

Every summer term the Maths Department run a Year 7 Team Challenge in Dulverton Hall. The students are put into mixed ability groups and their challenge is to raise as much money as possible (we use Bank of Mary Hare notes) by creating triangles.

Sounds simple but it's not and the rules keep changing. The students absolutely love it and by the end there is a mad frenzy as the final triangles are produced. Awards are given for the highest overall amount of money and for best team work.



Have we made it?



Everyone hard at work



Mr Allum checks the money



Creating the triangles



May 2017



The Mary Hare Year

Land Based Studies trip to Warriner Farm School

A group of Sixth Form students visited Warriner Farm School this term as part of their Land-Based Studies course.

They had an exciting day working with the Farm Manager weighing new lambs, mixing up milk and feeding orphaned lambs and putting ewes and lambs out into the field.

They also did an excellent job of cleaning out pens ready for more births, feeding and watering the sheep and helping to give medication to some of the ewes.



Sorting out the hay



Lauren feeds the sheep



Feeding the lambs!



Working on the farm is hard work!



Getting Active Cross Country 2017

On Tuesday 28th March, students and staff took part in the annual cross country event. Well done to everyone who took part!

Individual Winners: Senior Boys

1st Andre Preston-Morley	19.54
2nd Fayed Ahmed	20.04
3rd George Dowsett	20.08

Individual Winners: Junior Girls

1st Madison Donohoe	15.17
2nd Lili Mondiere-Carter	15.17
3rd Katie Denning	15.17

Individual Winners: Junior Boys

1st Joshua Macdonald	11.24
2nd Luke Bannister	11.43
3rd Joshua Austen	11.52

Individual Winners: Senior Girls

1st Claudia Davies	13.45
2nd Maddie Hawes	14.21
3rd Alliyah Evans	14.27

Overall Results:

1st	Arnold
Joint 2nd	Beverley and Braidwood
4th	Mary Hare



Photo finish?



Senior Girls Winner

Park Run

On Saturday 13th May, students and staff took part in the Park Run at Greenham Common in Newbury. For some it was their first time entering the event and for others it was a chance to beat their personal records. Lee from Care was running his 140th Park Run race! Well done to everyone for your achievements.

Name	Run Time	Gender Finish Position	Personal Best Time	Total Runs
Lee Gollop (staff)	18:39	6	17:55	140
George Kirimkiroglou (staff)	26:04	127	New PB	5
Tony Demian	28:16	162	First Timer	1
Imogen Gibbons	31:16	92	27:36	18
Toni Allen (staff)	33:50	128	First Timer	1
Rebecca McAllister	38:21	166	New PB	2



Sports Day 2017

On Friday 26th May, we held our annual Mary Hare Sports Day.

The weather was glorious and students took part in a variety of field and track events. A delicious BBQ was cooked by the PTA who also provided a beautiful hamper for the raffle. There was a great atmosphere with students, staff and parents cheering on the competitors.

We were delighted to have Mr and Mrs Podger as our guests of honour who did a great job of presenting the medals and trophies.

Individual winners on the afternoon were:

Best Junior Boy - **Tristan Duffy**

Best Junior Girl - **Catherine Dening**

Best Senior Boy - **Jeremy Weekes**

Best Senior Girl - **Isabella Stone**

Congratulations to Beverley who were the overall house winners!

Mr Gale ended the afternoon by thanking staff, pupils, PTA and of course, the PE department for, once again, organising a very successful event.



House parade



Senior Boys
100m competitors



Mr Podger presents
House trophy to Beverley



Sports Day (continued)



Houses wait for prize giving



Boys long distance race



Photo finish!



Senior Boys race



Girls 200m race

Success in the Reading FC Tournament

On Tuesday 25th April and Monday 8th May, two teams of our pupils took part in the 6-side Reading FC Community Trust SEN Competition.

Tuesday 25th April saw our boys team take part in the competition. We entered two teams (Jayden, Josh A, Cameron, Lucas, Daniel and Alex M) and (Jack S, Joel, Alfie, Johnny, Charlie and Aiden).

Congratulations to our first team for winning the competition!

On 8th May, we entered two teams into the girls only tournament. A senior team (Katie D, Grace, April, Rebecca, Hannah, Alliyah and Annalise). They won all their games without conceding a goal and won the tournament! Our junior team (Opal, Ruby S, Lilly-Mae, Rosie, Milly, Maddie and Charlotte) came third overall.

The level of sportsmanship that we showed in both tournaments was more important than the results. All teams represented Mary Hare well and we look forward to retaining the trophy next year.



Boys team



Girls team



Arts News

Boys dance club goes from strength to strength

The Performing Arts Department has been delighted to see the growth of a new dance club which is just for boys. Under the guidance of Miss Guei, a visiting dance teacher, the group started by working on a piece for a show involving a number of schools from the local area which was sadly cancelled. They went on to perform on stage in Arlington Arts Centre to a public audience as part of a Manmade Dance Show alongside pupils from other local schools. The dance company they worked with, Zoelogic, were impressed by their talent and their commitment to getting it right.

Since then they have gone from strength to strength, first working with newly appointed dance teacher Miss McAuley on a piece she choreographed for the Spring Equinox Festival at the Corn Exchange in Newbury. Jayden, Tom G, Razzaq, Lucas, Kyon, Jack P, Jack B and Jeremy performed for the first time in public outside of school on the 21st March and really impressed both the audience and the other dancers at the festival. They have been invited to audition in the summer for ACE Dance Company, a semi-professional dance company in Newbury. Miss McAuley said 'it was great to see them working outside of their comfort zones and to perform at such a high standard publicly'.

The boys performed in Arlington Arts on Friday 12th May to the whole school. They performed three dances, one of which was choreographed by Kyon Djan, Year 13, as part of his BTEC exam. The second was a piece by Mrs Barker, who called her dance *Insomnia* after working with teenage boys who never seem to have enough sleep! The boys also showed the school the piece that they had performed at the Corn Exchange. They have improved so much since the group started and Mrs Barker and Miss McAuley can't wait to see what they do next and are delighted to have such a strong group of talented boys who want to dance. They hope that the performance in Arlington Arts will encourage other boys to join the group.



Kyon's final piece



Insomnia



Kyon in the spotlight



Corn Exchange routine



Duologue

By Benedict Morgan

Duologue is a drama project set up by The Watermill Theatre in Newbury, which is for people of all ages and it meets at Arlington Arts on Tuesday nights.

I've been going to Duologue for almost two years now, the first thing we did was a play that combined fairytales. It was exciting and fun because we were working on everything together, playing lots of different characters. It was very fast paced, with quick transitions and ended with a big mess.

It's great that it brings together people from all different backgrounds (hearing and deaf) to make something amazing. I like it when everything fits together really well in the end.

My favourite project was our production of John William Polidori's *The Vampyre*. It is a story that was originally written in the same house, on the same night that Mary Shelley wrote *Frankenstein* and it is in a similar gothic horror style.

It was most exciting as we performed this one on the main stage at The Watermill. I loved having everyone watching us perform something we had worked so hard on for a few months and it turned out really well. It was part of a festival, celebrating gothic horror, because it was the 200th anniversary of *Frankenstein*.

Now we are working on a *Commedia Del 'Arte* play which has lots of characters in a very traditional story line.

I would recommend Duologue to anyone who likes working with other people, exploring interesting stories and presenting them to other people - it's also great fun making new friends.



Benedict Morgan

Year 11 Glass Workshop

By Miss McKenna

In October, our Year 11 art students attended a glass-making workshop with the artist Shirley Eccles, who specialises in making glass sculptures, and her daughter Thalia.

The very first thing we did was to make our terracotta wax relief models. The wax is a bit like clay but much finer and softer. It is lovely to work with and you can get great detail.

Shirley started by showing us how we had to build a wall around our wax pieces to hold the plaster. We used Vaseline to make sure the plaster did not stick to the table.

We had to use a special mix of plaster and quartz so that it could be put into the kiln to fire to a temperature of over 1,000 degrees Celsius. To do this we had to do some complicated calculations - the Maths teachers would have been proud of us!

Then we had to turn our work upside down and gently remove the wax from the plaster.

Now we were ready to put small pieces of glass into the plaster mould where the wax used to be. We had to cut pieces of glass and frits (small pieces of glass) to fill up the hollows and build up layers.

The plaster mould had to dry out for more than a month before it could go in the kiln to be fired. This means the glass was heated up so it would melt and take up the shape created by the wax.

Shirley and Thalia said "it was such a wonderful and inspiring day. We were very impressed by both the detail and engagement of the students, in the making of their designs and their focus and enthusiasm during the mould making sessions. They were a pleasure to work with."



Christian working hard



Instrumental Lessons

By Emma Kennett



Arts News



Angel plays the cello

At the start of September every pupil in Year 7-9 had the opportunity to have a go on the different instruments that we offer as one to one instrumental lessons. Pupils blew on flutes, clarinets and saxophones, played drums, bass guitar and electric guitar, tried out their voices with our singing teacher and tinkled the keys with our piano teacher.

There was a great uptake from these sessions of pupils starting to learn an instrument. Miss Kennett said 'I am delighted that so many children are having a go at so many different instruments.

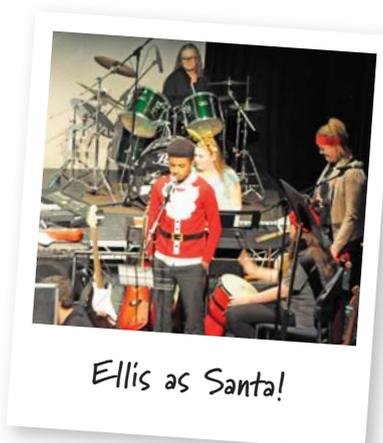
Playing an instrument builds on so many skills and the pupils who are having lessons have developed confidence in themselves. The music department is never quiet!' If your son or daughter is interested in taking up an instrument, please email Miss Kennett for more information and a trial. We can now also offer Violin and Cello lessons.

Christmas Cracker

Parents were invited to a festive concert in December to celebrate Christmas and were delighted by performances from students in the Performing Arts Department. Highlights included a version of 'A Christmas Carol', a song from the musical Matilda, as well as piano duets from students undertaking private tuition, a number of performances from the school band and the Year 7 students performing on stage for the first time in a heart warming dance to Merry Christmas Everyone.

One parent said 'It is very moving to see that pupils have the courage to perform no matter whether they are complete beginners or got Grade 9 in music/dance/acting exams. I hope this atmosphere will continue.'

Everyone was encouraged to join in with singing a Christmas carol or two and there were mince pies for everyone at the end. A lovely way to finish the term.



Ellis as Santa!



GCSE and A Level Design and Technology

This year our GCSE and A Level students worked tirelessly on a number of Design Briefs for the Coursework element.

We were proud of the final outcomes which were a result of much hard work from both pupils and staff. Pupils also have detailed folders of work documenting the design process.

We would particularly like to congratulate Samuel Georges for his commitment and inspirational design that reflected his consistent hard work both in lessons and his free time.



Thomas Keer



Shalini Pereira



Ella Mackay



Samuel Georges



Ivanka Pritchard

Set Your Sights High

When I took over as Principal, I wanted to find ways to work on resilience and personal ambition as well as trying to instil high personal and moral standards. I could not have imagined how much the pupils would have embraced the concept. Whether it is in striving to get the weekly 'Set Your Sights High Award' (thanks to the PTA for the generous donation of lovely stationery sets), the posters of former pupils around the school, or the use of former pupils as guests at Speech Day, all pupils know the phrase and use it to visitors and staff alike.

Parents should feel free to adopt it in the home!



Mayowa Dejiijide



Annie Alexander



Joshua Buxton



Joshua MacDonald and Millie McCarthy



Georgie Ellis



Matthew Culver

Principal's Set Your Sights High Award 2016-17

Aaron H, Jess C, Hannah A, Thomas K - 2nd September 2016

Tobias Hester - 9th September 2016

Ethan Mount-Jones - 16th September 2016

Chloe Burton - 23rd September 2016

Alana Taming - 30th September 2016

Mayowa Dejiijide - 30th September 2016

Joshua Buxton - 4th November 2016

Benedict Morgan - 11th November 2016

Joshua MacDonald & Milly McCarthy - 18th November 2016

Annie Alexander - 9th December 2016

Caitlin Greenfield & Jessica Hungbeme - 20th January 2017

Matthew Culver - 3rd February 2017

April Platt - 24th February 2017

Shalini Pereira - 24th February 2017

Layla Fitzgerald-Wolfe - 10th March 2017

Razzaq Ahmed - 24th March 2017

George Ellis - 31st March 2017

Polly-Anna Begbie - 28th April 2017

Opal Lycett - 5th May 2017

Kyle Henry & Dillon Palmer - 12th May 2017



Beth Kelly and Jessica Hungbeme



Aaron, Jess, Hannah and Tom



Norika's Dance Competition

On 2nd October, Norika (Year 9) travelled up to Blackpool to take part in a Ballroom Dancing competition. She has been learning to dance for nearly 11 years!

Norika was feeling very excited and also very nervous, especially when she saw the huge hall where she was going to dance. She had to put bold make-up on and have her hair done really tightly with wax.

First up was the Quickstep but unfortunately she did not get through to the next round and was a bit disappointed.

She then danced her favourite dance, the Jive, and she did really well and got through to the next stage! This means that Norika will take part in another competition next year. Good luck Norika!



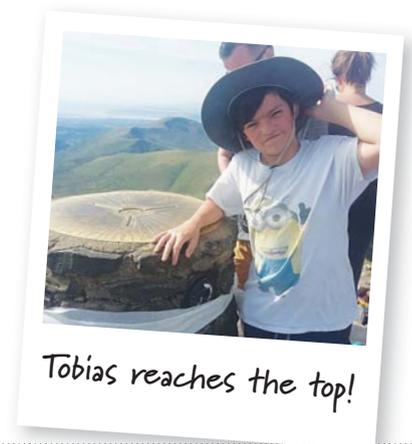
Norika with her medal

Tobias and Sileas Hester

Tobias in Year 10 completed a remarkable achievement over the summer holidays.

Tobias walked up Sca Fell, Snowdonia and Ben Nevis over three days and then went on to complete the 3 Yorkshire Dales peak in August. Mr Gale was so impressed he awarded him with a Set Your Sights High Award in September for his achievement.

Sileas in Year 4 joined her brother Tobias taking part in the IronKid race in Florida over the Easter holidays. They raised £150 for Coles Diner! Well done!



Tobias reaches the top!

Do Good, Feel Good Club

By Charlie Hadley

'Do Good, Feel Good' is a club that happens every Tuesday lunchtime. Any students are welcome to come along and do good deeds around the school and for charities. The idea is based on micro-volunteering and allows the pupils to do something kind and helpful to others, resulting in them feeling good about themselves too.

This year we have done a huge variety of good deeds including decorating noticeboards and Christmas trees, collecting over 50 shoeboxes filled with presents to send to children who live in poverty, helping with the new kitchen garden, sorting out wellies for the Geography and stamping books in the library. Thank you to all the students who come along and are such a help.



The Do Good, Feel Good Club





William Ryan

Our very own Cycling Star

William, Year 8, discovered his love for cycling soon after his 9th birthday whilst studying at Mary Hare Primary. William's first experience of racing was on 6 June 2013 in the Banjo Cycles Summer Cyclocross series held on Goldwell Park, Newbury - he finished first in the Under 10 Short Course event on a school mountain bike.

Since then, William has competed in many cycling competitions all over the UK. Below are just some of his achievements:

2014

West Midlands Cyclocross League - 13th
 South West Cyclocross League U10s - 6th
 Coventry RC Boxing Day U10s - 1st

2015

West Midlands Youth Circuit U10s - 8th
 National Youth Track Omnium - 4th, 3rd and 3rd
 Banjo Cycles Summer CX U12s - 3rd, 3rd, 2nd
 Coventry RC Boxing Day Cross U12s - 7th

2016

West Midlands Cyclocross League - 3rd, 4th, 4th, 4th
 West Midlands Youth Circuit Series - 6th
 National Youth Track Omniums U12s - 5th, 4th, 4th

William is currently competing as a first year under 14 in the WMCLL where he is ranked 17th after eight events with seven to go in the series.

Mary Hare School is very proud of William and can't wait to hear more about his next cycling achievements!



Ready to race!



William with his bike

Cole's Diner

Our Tanzanian Adventure

By Kirilynn Gardner

During October half term, we embarked on our trip to Tanzania. It took a year to plan, from setting a date, to fundraising for the whole experience. We had difficulties getting to Africa with flight delays and cancellations, but eventually a day late we arrived in the middle of the night. The heat was unbearable at times and it was just so very dusty. The noises, the smells and the heat were all so different.

Once we were at the school, it was amazing. Watching our students - Claudia, Cameron and Max - interact and play with their children was the highlight for me. It was amazing and inspirational to watch. It was lovely to see our Nurse, Paula and their school nurse work together with eagerness to learn from each other. Mrs Barton and Miss Flannery were in their element teaching the children textiles. It was lovely to see Alisa do what she does best and help care for the children. We were also joined by Max's Dad who shared his football skills with everyone.

"It was an amazing trip and life changing as I got to see for myself the extremely poor conditions that people in LDCs live in. I will never view the world in the same way. It also made me realise how lucky I am to be surrounded by people who are aware of the requirements of a deaf person to enable them to succeed in life. It was really rewarding to see the joy in the children's eyes as we presented them with gifts that we would just take for granted. This trip taught me an important lesson - be grateful for what you have." Claudia

"The best part for me was spending time with Max and Claudia and enjoying the trip. I had a good experience in Tanzania, the children at the school were nice and it was good helping them learn new things. I really liked doing the finger knitting with Mrs Barton and Miss Flannery teaching the children a skill. I have learnt from the trip that you can help others by being a friendly face and doing simple games and by just being there." Cameron

"I really enjoyed the way people cooked. It was hard because the food and the equipment is so different, they do many things by hand and everything is cooked on an open fire in big pots. I was surprised and shocked by how other people live, and that they are happy with very little things. I enjoyed spending time with the children, the staff at the school and the nuns at the convent. I enjoyed filming the adventure so I could document the experiences to remember forever, as it was a trip of a lifetime." Max

Thank you to everyone that took the time to send gifts and donations as well as support the fundraising over the last year. This meant we could take over activities and gifts for the school as well as provide ten full days of food and a donation of £2000 to the school.



Exploring the village



Miss Flannery meets the children



Selfie!



We love a football match!



Max helps out



Making dinner



Cole's Diner celebrates 15th anniversary

By KiriLynn Gardner

The Youth Club is in its 15th year. It has been a huge part of my life and has been the driving force behind my work and I couldn't imagine life without it now! It has been a labour of love, sweat and tears at times but worth every moment. It is a place for the young people at Mary Hare to be themselves.

In March the Youth Club needed to be closed to have some work done. Once the pipes were fixed, I picked up a paintbrush and with a few helpers we redecorated the diner, making it fresh once again. It took 45 hours to complete, but it was worth it - hopefully you will agree!

Once opened I celebrated with a reunion of past pupils. Some came over from Ireland to meet up and it was lovely seeing past workers. We celebrated with Coles Diner specials of wraps and mud pie!



Joseph celebrates his birthday



The refurbished kitchen



Hard at work



Reunited!

Spring Fayre and Fun Run

We held a fun run in April to raise money for the Happy Days club. It is a club where children and their families can mix with other children in a safe place socially and hopefully make friends who have similar interests and understandings.

The fun run kicked off a week long schedule of events. We had 31 runners and over 20 stalls. It was a lovely sunny day and the 5km course was all over the school and up the killer hill! It zigzagged past the manor, down the playground and around the tennis courts. It was lovely to have a mix of public supporting the event as well as pupils and families from Mary Hare and Happy Days.

It was a fully inclusive event which I am hoping to run again. Over the week I raised over £1000 that was split between the National Autistic Society and Happy Days.



And they're off!



Life Skills

This year we have seen our 22nd young person achieve an 'Introduction to Leadership Skills' in connection with Ambitions and Berkshire Youth. The course is an evening club and the young people sign up to take part. They have to learn young leadership skills and how they can support others by working as a team.

It is so lovely to watch the young people grow and achieve this qualification in their own time. I am very proud of each and every one of them and it was lovely having a tea party to celebrate their achievements. Ten young people passed this year from Year 7 to Year 11.



Well done!



Oskar and Sam are tired out already



The Red Team!



Medieval Banquet

Castle Walk

On Sunday 5th May, we took part in one of our biggest challenges yet!

38 children from years 8 -13 and 14 members of staff stayed the weekend in Briavels Castle in Gloucestershire. We had the castle all to ourselves and it was beautiful.

The Year 13's stayed in the prison room and some staff stayed in the oubliette! It wasn't scary, it felt a bit like Harry Potter!

Four teams took on the 12 challenges which were castle themed including archery, moat crossing and we even had a medieval banquet.

We raised over £4000 with the orange team being crowned the overall winners! It was a lovely weekend and we can't wait to think of ideas for next year!

A note from KiriLynn

Thank you to all the young people, parents, families of Mary Hare for the support with all the fundraising events that Coles Diner offers. It helps keep the Youth Club running smoothly as a non-profit making club with all the money going back into it to create new events, fun evenings and weekends!





Mary Hare Primary School

Gold for Mary Hare Primary



We were delighted to announce that Mary Hare Primary School was awarded a gold mark in the Sainsbury's School Games Awards in September.

Pam Robinson, Head Teacher, said 'We are very proud of our award and look forward to another great year of sport and fun. Sarah Harris has led the school in this area for many years. Although she has now retired she is kindly continuing to support us to ensure we maintain this standard. Coaches have been booked for the year ahead and the term has already started with golf tuition on Wednesday afternoons and a new after-school football club on Mondays.'

This year we have enjoyed regular sports coaching; golf, tag rugby, swimming and cricket. Before Easter we were delighted that our tag rugby team were selected to go to Bisham Abbey, representing West Berks with one other school team. The coach commented how far they had come as a team.

The football team has had several successful after-school matches. They continue to have training every Monday evening. Other sporting events have included cross country, cheerleading, cycling and inter-schools bowling. Year 5 pupils continue to integrate with Falkland Primary for PE on Tuesday afternoons. Dance is taught every week and the Year 6 have a dance workshop planned for later this term with Thorngrove school; a local independent school.



The bowling team



Winners!



Samuel has a go



Anthony leads the way!



The cyclo-cross team



We love tag rugby too!

Competitions

The pupils at the primary enjoyed many competitions this year. Eleanor Davis won the Starkey Christmas card competition and has gone on to make other cards for the school. Everyone joined in the special school agricultural challenge and we were awarded 3rd place. Beech class won joint first with their collage of the seaside!



Showing off our work!



Eleanor's design

Helping Others

We have held several events for charity. Ramneek Khan took the lead in organising a MacMillan cake and coffee morning and raised over £70. We also transformed our school into an animal farm and dressed up for Comic Relief raising over £100!

During May, we were very excited to help with the Fundraising department's 'Wear IT Loud' day in Newbury Town Centre and had great fun singing, dancing and performing our 'wake up and shake up' routine to members of the public.



Ramneek's cake sale

Trips and Outings

Apart all our sports trips, we have also enjoyed lots of other trips to help with our learning. In November we enjoyed a visit to Newbury Racecourse where we were lucky enough to go behind the scenes, watch the horses in the parade ring and wear jockey silks for the day. We enjoyed measuring and weighing activities and of course watching the races and trying to guess which horse would win!

We also enjoyed two trips in January. The first was to the Living Rainforest. We were fascinated by the monkeys, turtles and the more dangerous creatures such as the frogs. The highlight was watching the sloth being fed! We also visited Millers Ark Farm Park. The children were able to feed baby lambs, cuddle donkeys and hold some guinea pigs. They had a wonderful time and they enjoyed seeing the baby animals!



Treats!



The living Rain Forest



Place your bets!



Behind the scenes at Newbury Racecourse





Voice Box Final for Chloe

In November, the Speech and Language Therapy team at Mary Hare ran the Voice box competition at the secondary school. This is a nation-wide joke telling competition set up by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT), where schools are invited to find their pupils' funniest joke and send it to the RCSLT. A judging panel chooses the best jokes, and shortlists pupils to attend a grand final in London at the Speaker House.

We received over 70 joke entries from a variety of year groups, and following judging by our Principal, Mr Gale, sent off Chloe Burton's joke as the overall winner from Mary Hare. Her joke, was shortlisted and she was invited along with her Speech Therapist and family to attend the grand final!

On the 29th March, Chloe, Mrs Clements and Mrs Burton travelled up to London to attend the grand finale at the Speakers House in Westminster. We were treated to a lovely lunch with views over the Thames and a tour of Westminster Palace. After lunch the competition took place. 20 children from across the country competed in the final competition. Chloe did extremely well, telling her joke to the audience:

What do tennis players drink at Wimbledon? (DEUCE!)

We are very proud that Chloe made the top twenty and that she represented Mary Hare at this prestigious event. She even met her local MP (Jeff Smith) who had popped over from the House of Commons to meet her!



Chloe with her mum and Mrs Clements



Meeting her local MP



Sightseeing!



Creating Links on the other side of the world

By Claire Whittaker, Speech and Language Therapist

On 1st November 2016 I had the wonderful opportunity of visiting one of three deaf schools in Singapore. One of these schools, Canossian School, is a Catholic school that uses the Natural Auditory Oral Approach (NAO) in the education of children with hearing impairment (HI). This approach emphasises maximising the residual hearing of children through a comprehensive listening programme, and the development of spoken language. The school shares the same aims as Mary Hare: to help pupils reach their full potential linguistically and academically through oral education.

There are 25 children in the preschool and a further 88 children attend the primary school. Their ages range from 2 ½ to 14 years. For those children who are local residents of Singapore, the government will subsidise a majority of the tuition fees, and the parents are asked for \$20 a month. However, children from international families pay \$3579 a month.

Canossian School is run by a very inspirational lady called Terry Theseira. Within five minutes of meeting her I could sense her passion for deaf education and her commitment to the school. Having emailed her earlier in the year, she welcomed me very warmly and explained how she knew of Mary Hare and of our "exceptional training".

At Canossian school they educate a range of children who display additional difficulties including ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder), global delay, cerebral palsy, syndromes and ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

Canossian school are very fortunate to have a mainstream school next door and this enables the children to follow two programs. Firstly, the 'Partial inclusion Program', in which children with HI join the hearing children for games, drama, dance and lunch, but all structured topics are taught back at Canossian school with teachers of the deaf. Or alternatively, the school also run a 'Full inclusion Programme' where they HI children attend all classes at the mainstream school apart from their 'mother tongue' which is taught back at Canossian school. This opportunity allows the HI children to develop their language as well as their social emotional learning.

By the end of my visit to Canossian school, I was very proud of being a member of staff at Mary Hare. Even in this remote town on the edge of Singapore, the staff had heard of Mary Hare, the school and 'exceptional training' that we offer. It is easy to forget the influence that our community in Newbury can have over the education of deaf children all over the world.

My experience of Canossian school taught me:

- The value of providing opportunities for deaf children to have time to integrate with hearing children of their own age.
- The importance of supporting pupils to maximise their level of residual hearing.
- Using music and dance can be an effective tool for supporting communication.
- How important it is to use our facial expressions and body language appropriately.
- Teaching is most effective when delivered in a fun and imaginative way!



Claire meets the pupils



Canossian School

Smile Therapy

Our Speech and Language Therapy department have been looking at developing social skills in hearing impaired pupils and the benefits of smiLE therapy.

Hearing impairment and Social skills

Research indicates that deaf children can have marked social difficulties compared with their hearing peers. We notice that some of our pupils at Mary Hare are not aware of the behaviour which is expected when interacting with hearing people. For example, they may touch or tap a person to attract their attention rather than saying 'excuse me'. Additionally, they are not always fully aware of how their behaviours may be interpreted as rude. Some of our pupils find it challenging to incidentally learn about social behaviour through observation, and therefore need much more explicit teaching to understand and develop socially acceptable behaviour.

SmiLE therapy

At Mary Hare we have been supporting our students to improve their social communication skills by introducing them to the smiLE Therapy programme.

SmiLE stands for 'Strategies and Measurable Interaction in Live English' and is a structured therapy programme developed especially for children and young adults who are deaf. smiLE Therapy focuses on the 'live' face-to-face interaction between our students and people unfamiliar with their needs, in everyday life situations. It teaches specific communication strategies to manage real situations, such as at the newsagent, in an office, cafe, train station, asking for directions etc. with confidence. It originates from the work of Karin Schamroth and Laura Threadgill, Specialist Speech and Language Therapists in 2002, and its benefits have been recognised across the country.

How smiLE therapy fits in at Mary Hare

This year, some of our Year 8 classes have been completing a series of English/Speech Therapy lessons based on 'smiLE' therapy. More specifically, developing their confidence to independently buy items from a shop.

The pupils began and ended the series of lessons by being filmed buying something to eat or drink from an onsite shop. Between the filmed sessions, lessons were spent discussing and role playing to determine 13 points that make a successful independent shopping experience. For example, saying hello and smiling, ensuring you have the right item, checking the change, getting a receipt, repairing conversation breakdowns (e.g. can you say it again, can you say that louder) and pointing out mistakes politely.

Our pupils then rated how they did in the first video based on the 13 points, and identified things they wanted to improve. They then rated their second video on the 13 points. All pupils had made progress on the second video, which was really great to see.

It sounds a simple task, but it is surprising how many pupils do not have the skills, opportunities or confidence to buy an item from a shop independently, including noticing any mistakes or repairing any communication difficulties they may experience. Therefore, it is essential that they have opportunities to practice these skills in other environments.

How you can support your child's social communication skills:

- Provide opportunities for your son/daughter to independently buy items from a shop, order food/drink at a café or buy a bus ticket.
- Although it can be difficult to resist, encourage them to not use you as their interpreter or look to you if they experience a problem, but rather to use their skills to problem solve.
- Talk about strategies they can use when they experience a conversation break down for example: repeating what they have said, speaking more slowly, rephrasing their question/request, using gesture (i.e. pointing at item), writing down what they have said (if possible).
- If they have an unsuccessful or negative experience discuss with them why this might have happened and work out what they can do if it were to happen again.
- Encourage them to be persistent at getting their message across, not to give up if they are miss understood or are not given the correct item.
- Remind them of the importance of using 'please' and 'thank you'.
- Praise them for any successful experiences, it's easy to overlook how challenging and nerve-wracking some of our pupils find these tasks.



Year 8



8R's Press Release Challenge

In English, 8BR have been working on writing news articles. They all did a great job and the two winning articles are below.

Mrs Papas plans practical maths lesson **By Luke Bannister**

On 22nd February 2017, Mary Hare deaf children were happy to see Mrs Papas back for 6 weeks. Luke screamed "Mrs Papas is Back!"

She was here for 6 weeks because another Maths teacher, Madame Kervella was having an operation.

She was the Head of Maths before she retired and she is working with top set Maths in room 7, learning about angles (e.g corresponding, alternate).

"I think Mrs Papas was looking forward to her old form group and teaching the top set Maths group"

"I think Mrs Papas was one the best Maths teacher ever and a brilliant colleague!" Mrs Howe.

Organised Oscars **By James Keer**

In Arlington Arts, there is a charity event called 'The Oscars'. The Oscars is when Prizes are given to people who deserve it. The Oscars is for charity and entertainment purposes.

The event was on 28th March 2017 in Arlington Arts, Mary Hare Secondary, Newbury, Berkshire, England. Lots of people who came to the Oscars were wearing smart clothes, they had to pay £1 for Ticket, £2 for Advance and £3 for V.I.P. But there were limited seats in V.I.P.

Mr Gale won an Oscar for a celebrity look alike.

Tristan Said *"I find Oscars fun, watching people, getting awards"*.



Fundraising

In 2017 we saw the culmination of the 'Sink or Swim' appeal. We cannot thank our supporters enough for their generous support - it is appreciated by everyone at the school, especially the pupils who are enjoying the much improved swimming pool. It is also a year for making new plans and we are all very excited at the prospect of building a new Primary School on the same site as the Secondary School. The fundraising appeal for this project will be launched this summer. Although these major appeals occupy most of our time, we also try to find funds for smaller projects in school. This year we were grateful for a donation of £8,500 from the Carmen Butler-Charteris Trust towards equipment for the pupils who have a visual impairment.

Ping Pong!

We were delighted to receive a donation of a table tennis table from Fish Brother Nissan Swindon.

When Ramon Woolfe, parent of two pupils at Mary Hare School, was buying a car from Fish Brothers Nissan, he spotted a large table tennis table in the showroom. It had been acquired as part of Nissan's sponsorship initiative with Team GB and the 2016 Rio Olympics, he persuaded the Sales Manager with an initiative that the table may be donated to the school when it was no longer needed.

Simon Dando Sales Manager at Fish Brothers Nissan said "We were delighted for the table tennis table to be donated to the Year 8, 9 and 10 boys at the school and I really hope it gives many hours of enjoyment to them all. Many close fought battles happened on that table with staff and customers and I'm sure that will continue!"

Ramon who also attended the handover said "It was an absolute pleasure to witness the reactions of delight among the boys as they came back to the common room and were surprised to see the table. They were soon lining up to all have a turn and had great fun!"



The boys see the new table tennis table



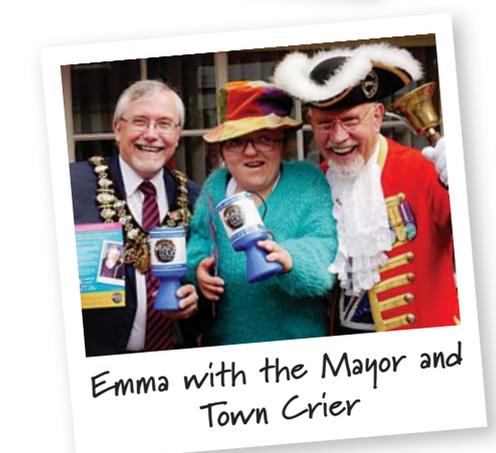
Trying it out!

Wear IT Loud

Pupils and staff once again celebrated Deaf Awareness Week in May. This year Emma Jackson, Year 12, helped to organise the event as part of her Events and Hospitality course. She did a brilliant job of creating and putting up posters, writing press releases and helping to promote and raise awareness of the event.

Thursday 4th May saw students and staff gather in Newbury Town Centre to take part in a street collection to raise money and awareness. Our Hearing Centre also offered free professional hearing advice and our Primary School pupils did their 'wake up, shake up'! On the Friday, students and staff at the Secondary paid £1 to dress up in their brightest clothes.

Overall the whole event raised over £500 for the school!



Emma with the Mayor and Town Crier





Claire Whittaker



The Ridge House Runners



Rupert Mann

Challenges and Events

We are very proud of our parents, staff and supporters who are going that extra mile by undertaking events and challenges to raise funds for Mary Hare. We want to thank you all for your efforts and generosity.

Ramon Woolfe and Derek Rowley

Ramon and Derek, both parents of children at Mary Hare School, raised over £500 by doing a sponsored skydive back in September.

The Ridge House Runners

The Ridge House Runners took part in the gruelling Tough Mudder Run and raised over £900 for two charities - one of which was the Mary Hare Foundation.

Olivia, a Primary School Parent, said "We ran 5 miles and had to conquer 14 obstacles from crawling through pipes to climbing high walls. None of this would have been possible if we hadn't worked as a team."

Rupert Mann

Rupert Mann, a Primary School Parent ran the London Marathon in April and raised over £4000.

Geoff Weeks

Geoff Weeks, also a Primary School Parent, ran the Paris Marathon in April and raised over £1000.

Heather Fowler

Heather Fowler, a Secondary School Parent, ran the Reading Half Marathon and Southampton Marathon and has raised over £800

Claire Whittaker

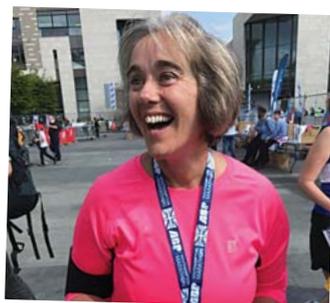
Claire Whittaker, a Speech and Language Therapist at Mary Hare Primary, conquered her fear of heights and raised over £2000 by doing a sponsored skydive.

Brian Davis

Brian Davis, a Grandparent of one of our Primary School pupils, raised £1000 for our new appeal. Brian has a passion for singing and decided to record an album of 11 songs featuring several vocal styles to sell and the profits raised would be given to the school.



Geoff Weeks



Heather Fowler



Brian Davies





Swimming Pool Opening



Imogen and Martha

On Wednesday 8th March, after a long fundraising appeal, we celebrated the opening of our refurbished swimming pool. Pupils, staff and supporters gathered in Arlington Arts Centre for lunch and presentations before heading down to the pool for the official opening. Guests included former Olympic swimming champion, Duncan Goodhew MBE.

Duncan gave an inspiring talk to guests about his swimming career and why it is so important for young people to learn to swim. Martha Ryan, a Year 11 student who is a competitive swimmer, also spoke to guests and said *"I have really missed my swimming while the work was being done on the pool. I can't wait to get back in the water! On behalf of all the students of Mary Hare, thank you to all who donated and made this possible."*

Duncan then dived into the pool with a group of pupils and offered some tips and advice and showed them some fun pool games!

We are very grateful to all those who donated and made this possible, including many charitable trusts and foundations, companies and our dedicated supporters who have taken part in amazing events to help fundraise e.g. a 24 hour swim, open water events, parachute jumps and marathon runs. The Sink or Swim appeal raised a total of £423,000.

One of the new features of the swimming pool is The Pool Pod. This is an excellent piece of equipment that helps individuals with reduced mobility to get in and out of the pool with ease. The Pool Pod will be a great advantage to some of Mare Hare students and other community users.



The swimming pool



The new pool pod



Making a splash!



Glad to have our pool back!



Group photo with Duncan

People News

Tricia Weaver

By Pam Robinson

After 22 years of working for Mary Hare, the Primary School said a sad farewell to their lovely Administrator, Tricia Weaver. Tricia was so much more than a school Administrator; she was the first contact many people had with Mary Hare Primary. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years. We will miss Tricia ever such a lot, but we wish her all the very best and a very happy retirement!

Tricia said "It's been a huge pleasure and privilege to have worked at Mary Hare for 22 years. I have especially enjoyed working with families during their Mary Hare journey - from arranging the initial visit to gaining a place for their child and during their time at Mary Hare. Watching the children develop in confidence, self-esteem and become happy has been especially rewarding. I have many special memories."

The primary school gave her a send off to remember with a special lunch party complete with tributes, singing from the children and a poem written specially for her. Here is an extract from that poem:

Tricia's knowledge of our school is second to none.
How will we cope when she has gone?
Mary Hare Primary will never be the same
Without everyone calling out her name.

"Tricia where's the paperwork, where's a master key? "
Susan shouting Tricia, "do you want a cup of tea?"
"Tricia can I use the copier, where's the annual review?
Can you make a phone call and do the typing too?"

Tricia, Teddie wants his laptop and Jake his Nintendo."
Mandy's already pleading, "Tricia please please don't go!"
The DBS need completing, Ruth is getting cross.
The primary without Tricia-it's truly a significant loss!



Tricia Weaver

Paula Bartlett

By Peter Gale

We said goodbye to our fantastic school nurse Paula Bartlett in January. Paula left us to embark on a new life in Baltimore! Paula's role goes beyond coughs and colds as she has supported pupils past and present through serious medical matters as well as giving many of you moral support when you were unhappy.

Paula, has been an inspirational member of staff and embraced all aspects of the Mary Hare community. It has been a pleasure to work with Paula and she will be missed. Paula leaves a considerable legacy - a lovely medical department and two full time nurses and a happy OFSTED.



Paula Bartlett



Rachel Coles

By Rachel Leach

We said goodbye to Rachel Coles, Rachel has worked with 8HK for the past two years and I know that they are going to miss her greatly. I want to thank Rachel for all the hard work and support she has given many students over the past two years. She will be missed by staff and students. Rachel we wish you well in your new job and hope that you will come back and visit from time to time and who knows maybe you could do another hula hooping club!



Rachel Coles

Michael Brown

By Patricia McKenna

Michael Brown has worked part time with us in the Art & Design department for the last three years. He has inspired our pupils as a very talented artist in residence and supported staff and pupils as a specialist Art Technician.

Michael joined Mary Hare as a student in Year 10 - he went on to study at Edinburgh College of Art to gain a degree in Sculpture. We were blessed when Michael returned to the area and joined us again supporting the teaching of Art & Design in the school. He has helped us enormously and always with tremendous patience and kindness.

Michael is leaving to take up further training and we wish him great success. We will be following his career and hope that he still stays engaged with his own art practice.



Michael Brown



Kath Coventry celebrates 40th Anniversary



Kath Coventry

In April, Kath celebrated 40 years of working at Mary Hare School. Kath began working in Blount Hall in April 1977 just before it had its grand opening in the August.

The school organised a tea party in Blount Hall to celebrate and presented Kath with a gift. Mr Gale said "What I love about Kath is her values; she is loyal and kind. And we can't wait to celebrate your 50th anniversary!"

Kath explained that when she started the whole team was female and her boss was very strict! She also said that the students now have much more choice of food than they used to. "My favourite part of working at Mary Hare School is getting to know the children and seeing them come back to visit as alumni years later".

News from our Alumni

Ben Glover

I received my master's degree in digital theatre from Wimbledon College of Arts (University of the Arts London) with distinction in 2016. After graduating I found out about a fellowship that the University were offering recent graduates designed to help you develop your creative practice. I proposed to create a project relating to deafness and I was lucky enough to have been selected to receive the award.

The project I proposed, Simple Misunderstanding, is an artistic installation that uses virtual reality that examines the issues and struggles faced by deaf people in a hearing world and how the hearing world responds. Audiences are invited to experience a virtual setting where images and sounds are manipulated to replicate the struggles and difficulties that deaf people face every day. Through this experience, I hope to provoke thinking about deafness and generate an increased awareness of how deafness has an impact in day to day life. I have designed an installation to house the virtual reality equipment which I am taking to various festivals in the summer including Latitude Festival in July.

You can follow updates on the project at www.simplemisunderstanding.com.



Ben Glover



Ruaridh Lever-Hogg

Ruaridh Lever-Hogg

Congratulations to Ruaridh who took part in BBC One's Big Painting Challenge in February. Ruaridh left Mary Hare in 2011 and went on to study a pre-Art Foundation course and then a Foundation course before completing a Degree in Fine Art. He now has a place to start on a Masters course.

"It was incredible experience and I felt really lucky to be involved. When you find the opportunity, just go for it. Don't let something stop you".

William Grint

Since leaving Mary Hare in 2015, William has gone on to excel in his acting career. William started training at Deafinitely Youth Theatre and has gone onto perform in a number of plays and films.

Theatre credits include: The Beauty Manifesto (2012); The Ritual (2013); The Mobile Phone Show (2014) and Blackout (2016) as part of the National Theatre Connections; A Midsummer Night's Dream: An Adaptation (2014) with Deafinitely Youth Theatre and Imogen (2016) at Shakespeare's Globe.

Film credits include: Chasing Cotton Clouds (2012), Strangers (2013) and The Quiet Ones (2015).

William also won the Best Actor award for Strangers at Clin D'Oeil International Festival for Deaf Culture in 2013.

Recently, William has been touring the country in a fully accessible production of Tommy the Musical and playing the main role of Tommy.

It's great to hear that William's acting career is going from strength to strength.



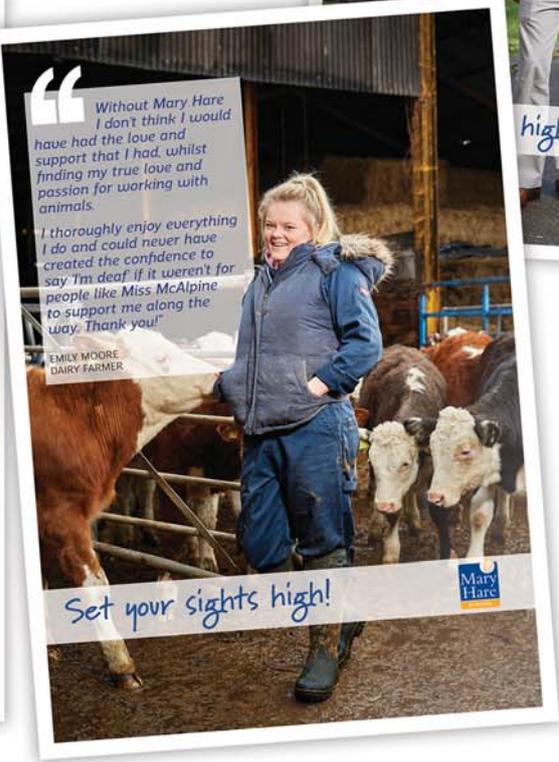
William Grint



Alumni

Set your Sights High

We have enjoyed visiting our alumni who took part in our new 'Set your Sights High' poster campaign. We are very proud of our alumni and the diverse range of careers that they go into. Here are a few of the finished posters, you can see them all on our website!





Special Features

Special Features

Double anniversary for Mary Hare Hearing Services



ARLINGTON LABORATORIES

2017 is a very important year for two of the businesses within Mary Hare Hearing Services, as they're both celebrating significant anniversaries.

Mary Hare Hearing Services comprises of **Mary Hare Hearing Centre** (which is located in Newbury town centre), **Arlington Laboratories** and the **Hearing Aid Repair Shop (HARS)** - both of which are based at Mary Hare Primary School.

All three businesses support Mary Hare School for Deaf Children, as 50% of their profits go to the school which was founded over 70 years ago.

This year Arlington Laboratories and HARS are commemorating their respective 20th and 15th anniversaries.

Arlington Laboratories was originally set up, in 1997, to make earmoulds for the pupils of Mary Hare School by its former Principal - Dr Ivan Tucker. It quickly grew to the thriving business it is today, and is now one of the largest earmould manufacturers in the UK - supplying both the NHS and the private sector. Arlington Laboratories offer the most extensive product range available on the market today. And the development of new technology has seen the introduction of 3D printing to Arlington's portfolio of production techniques.

HARS has repaired thousands of hearing aids, of all makes and models, since it launched in 2002. It has customers not just in the UK, but across Europe and as far afield as the USA, Canada and Australia. Supporting both private clients and hearing aid dispensers, the HARS team regularly receive 5 star customer feedback for their exceptional customer service and technical expertise.

Jo Revell, General Manager of Arlington Laboratories and HARS, said, *"This special double anniversary year is a chance for both businesses to celebrate their achievements and to look ahead to the future. It's also a time to recognise the immense contribution they've made to the school"*



Hard at work!



Arlington Laboratories

A Story of Kindness

Viv Ogg, Head of Audiology, writes about the incredible story behind her recent visit to a school for the deaf in Mandalay, Burma.

In the early 1960's a young British couple in their 20's arrived in Mandalay, Burma. While David Blakeway-Smith began a teaching job in a college, his wife Sandy who had trained to be a Teacher of the Deaf, set about fulfilling her mission, providing a form of support and education for deaf and hard of hearing children in Mandalay. In the whole of Burma, the only school for the deaf was in Rangoon some 450 miles away from Mandalay. The first thing Sandy did was to have 300 small pamphlets printed in Burmese.

She duly set off on her bicycle, cycling around Mandalay to distribute pamphlets to all and sundry. Within just a fortnight a Burmese lady with her two little deaf children, aged 6 or 7, appeared at David and Sandy's house. These were to be Sandra's first pupils, she began teaching them on the veranda, and very quickly, more deaf children came.

By 1964 the school had grown and 27 deaf children were being taught in the one classroom. The ages of the children ranged from two years old to eighteen and there were three Burmese teachers whom Sandra was also training.

Then the blow struck. After just two and a half years in this magical, wonderful country, the Burmese Military Government forced all foreigners, including David and Sandy to leave. On a sad day in October 1964, the couple left Mandalay and Burma - hoping that the little school would continue but fearing for its future under the new regime.

On arrival back in England, the couple who had made many friends in Burma were unable to even write to them. The secret police intercepted all mail, and would arrest those who had been in contact with someone from the West. Sadly, on May 7th 2013, Sandra died from cancer. It was just two days later, on May 9th 2013, that a miracle happened.

Chris, David and Sandra's son in law, typed 'School for the Deaf - Mandalay' into Google. Much to his surprise, a magnificent two-storey building appeared - Mandalay School for the Deaf was alive and well. This overwhelming news, just after Sandra's death, meant that sadly, she died without knowing about it.

The website made no mention at all of Sandra, who was the real Founder, and despite his passport having been stamped 'Leaving Burma for good', David decided he must try to return to the country to honour Sandra, her memory and achievements.

On December 9th 2013 David set off on a pilgrimage to Mandalay. He remembers it vividly, "As the plane from Bangkok flew lower and lower, the great Irrawaddy River came into view - I had forgotten how huge it is - one of the great rivers of Asia - over a mile wide yet some 400 miles

from the sea. And there below me lay the familiar outline of the city of Mandalay, as beautiful and exotic as ever with its majestic Buddhist temples glistening in gold and white in the sun."

On arrival, the Director General of Social Welfare, who now runs the Mandalay School for the Deaf, gave permission for David to visit the fine new school.

A few days later, on another visit to the school, five Burmese people - four men and a lady were stood in the entrance hall of the school. They had all been deaf pupils in Sandra's first school in 1962! Now, aged 58 to 71, they had all had jobs and were retired.

The Headmistress took great pleasure in showing David around the school, I will let him tell you the story of 'the little boy in blue'.

The Little Boy in Blue

"In one classroom, I noticed that a boy was wearing hearing aids and I commented on this to his teacher.

"Yes, *he is a rich kid*," his teacher immediately replied. Apparently, he was the only child in the school who had any hearing aids which are hugely expensive there and well beyond the means of most families.

"Are there are any other children in the school who have some hearing and who would benefit from having hearing aids?" I asked.

"Yes, *lots - for example, this boy here*", she replied and pointed out a little chap in a blue jumper.

"Well, I wear hearing aids" I began tentatively, removing one. "Can I try them on him to see if it makes any difference to his hearing, please?" I asked.

"Of course", she said.

I gently placed first, one, and, then, the other hearing aid on the little boy's ears. Immediately, he smiled broadly and, to our amazement, began chattering away in Burmese to his teacher. He looked so very happy, absolutely delighted. The transformation was quite remarkable.

It was then that I realized that I had a problem, a dilemma. 'What do I do now? Do I leave my hearing aids with the boy or, do I take them back from him?!'

I just stood by as everyone waited and watched. I honestly did not know what to do.

Clearly, he would benefit enormously if I left my hearing aids with him. However, gradually, I reasoned with myself;



His hearing loss almost certainly will be different from mine. Also, my moulds have been fitted to my ears and any moulds for him will not be the same. He needs his own Hearing Test to give him the correct aids and moulds. In any case, I am going deaf and need the hearing aids myself.

With great reluctance, I gently took them back from him. When this happened, his face changed instantly - he looked totally bereft, shattered - I will never forget the sadness in his eyes when I did this. It seemed as if I had given him a taste of heaven and, then, immediately, snatched it away from him. At that moment I determined that, whatever else I did, I MUST help him and the other children in the school. In January 2014, on the plane flying back to England I could not take the little boy's face from my mind."

The Plan

Later, many weeks of enquiries, searching and the help of friends, eventually led David to meet Dr Robin Youngs, an ENT Surgeon at Gloucester Hospital, in June 2014. For the past 12 years, each year he has visited Burma where, in a Rangoon Hospital, he has carried out operations to show Burmese doctors various techniques.

Together, Dr Youngs and David decided that they must help the children in the Mandalay School for the Deaf.

The plan is to establish an Equal Partnership between Republic of Myanmar, (the Mandalay School for the Deaf), and the UK Government (the Gloucester NHS Hospital). The aim is to raise the standard the health and education of deaf children in Myanmar and in the Mandalay School for the Deaf.

On March 24th 2015, David and two senior audiologists from Gloucester NHS Hospital visited Mandalay School for the Deaf. 64 children were given hearing aids and 21 children had a fitting session.

On January 8th 2016, there was a second visit to Burma. Dr Robin Youngs and three other ENT Surgeons, an Audiologist and a Teacher of the Deaf visited the Mandalay School for the Deaf and the Yangon Training School for Children with Hearing Disabilities.

149 deaf children were tested and 64 were given hearing aids. Operations were carried out and training was given to the Burmese Teachers of the Deaf. The benefits of earlier diagnosis and treatment for deaf children were shared with Burmese medical staff.

In October 2016, I visited Myanmar for three weeks with a team of experts. We worked with the Yangon Training School for Children with Hearing disabilities followed by a week at the Mandalay School for the Deaf. We re-assessed the new intake of deaf children who have already been assessed by Burmese ENT Surgeons, and gave further training for Audiologists and Teachers of the Deaf.

Following the visit, A Burmese ENT Doctor, Audiologist and Teacher of the Deaf from Yangon School for the Deaf were invited to travel to the UK for training and visited Mary Hare School. We did a short interview with them:

What will you take away from your visit to Mary Hare School?

We have seen so many things that we can do to help the children back in Myanmar. Audiology, speech and language therapy and health care. What we really noticed was the teamwork involved for each child. All teams work together and the cooperation of so many teams helps to give the best service to the children and we would hope to be able to do the same in our school in the future.

Is there any training for Professionals in Myanmar?

There is a well-established training programme for ENT Surgeons that is over 50 years old. There is little training for Audiologists and Teachers of the Deaf have to learn on the job. There are plans hopefully for specialist courses in the future.

What is life like for a family with a deaf child in Myanmar?

Children start school at the age of five in Myanmar and if you are a hearing child, education is free. However, families must pay if their child needs more support. Unfortunately, some deaf children may go to school but most just stay at home. A CI programme has just started but is privately funded by families and most can't afford them. Many can't afford hearing aids either. Our charity has provided hearing aids for 25 children so far and our school, Yangon School for the Deaf, is a charity and therefore offers free education for deaf children.

What is Yangon School for the Deaf like?

Yangon School for the Deaf offers free education for over 300 deaf children in a specialist environment. We are at the starting stage and we want to learn how to develop our school.

Did you visit anywhere else on your trip?

We have visited lots of places in the UK including Leicester Hospital and Gloucester Hospital and York University. We have learnt so much and seen how the audiology departments are set up and ran in these places. We also learnt a lot about are very interested in the Newborn Hearing Screening.



Sandra Smith
Founder (1962)



Viv with the pupils



Viv presents a gift

Mary Hare School 2016/17 in pictures



Maths Challenge - We're out of time!



Cheeky Charlie



Walking 5 mins and already resting



Ollie and Victor wire moulding



All fired up and ready for xmas lunch



3 seconds to go!



Frozen, but the sprouts are fresh!



Can't stop the feeling - Omar



Hare repair

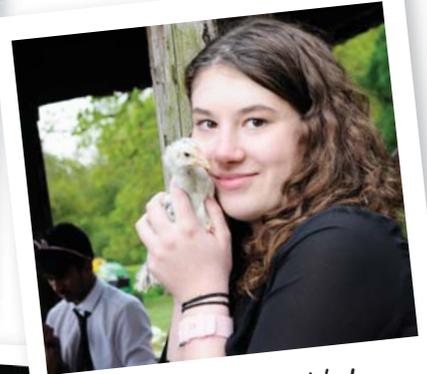




Claudia gets the drinks in



Would you like some pancake with that sauce?



chick, chick, chick, lay a little egg for me



Dr Rocca at the museum



Youth Speaks - well done!



Our first year



Yay..!



Mr Gale plays Easter Bunny



You're supposed to walk the dogs Joseph



Off to the Antiques Roadshow



Cross Country - Not far to go!!!





Thankyou for inspiring us Andrew



Having fun at the Elizabeth Foundation



Best of friends



All aboard!



Charlotte in Midsummer Nights Dream



We have done ours, Mrs Hollox, you can plant the rest



Where's the middle of my pizza?



We had more fun than the kids



Don't worry! We have this under control



Aren't we lucky



Who invited Tarzan?



Mary Hare Primary School Appeal



We're moving to secure an even brighter future for deaf children, and we need your help



www.maryhare.org.uk/primary