

CHATTERBOX

THE MARY HARE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 1990

OUT AND ABOUT

At the beginning of November the whole fifth form took a week off school - but it was no holiday. In fact many of them discovered how hard life can be in the working world. Helen Mitchell (Plymouth) and Melanie Pitts (Ealing) helped at veterinary practices, while Callum McCulloch (Annan) and Sara Murray (Bristol) worked at the Canine Defence League.

Local trout farms were kind enough to host Andrew Burgess (Lowestoft) and David Prince (Hull). This year though there were some more unusual ambitions - Genny Fillery (Derby), Tanya Spalton (East Molesey) and Louise Dexter (Swanley) spent a week with advertising and publicity companies.

Many companies regularly welcome our students and pupils again were seconded to Marks & Spencer, Quantel and local banks. We are deeply indebted to all companies who help out and who write reports on the progress of the students - comments this year were most favourable:-

"It has been a pleasure having her to work with us."

"Showed a keen interest in everything.

Her ability to mix with members of staff was particularly noticeable."

"Her ability to pick up ideas was most impressive".

"He was very keen to fit in and learn about the job. He did not need telling twice."



Justin Moule grinding teeth at Broughton & Tyrrell, dental technicians.

CARING

It has become traditional at Mary Hare to maintain a high level of awareness of the needs of others. Recent pupil efforts for charity have included £86 raised for ACTION AID, by a soup and rolls lunch in October. In November over £180 was sent to the N.S.P.C.C. following so much publicity about child neglect and abuse. This sum was raised largely by three forms . . . 2EF held a raffle (£44), 1BP sold cakes (£28) and 4S also sold cakes and topped £52 in 15 minutes!

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PROFICIENT CYCLISTS

Congratulations to the following fourth years, who have recently passed their cycling proficiency test after several weeks' training:-

Sarah Herriott (Wolverhampton), Jonathan Balingier (Maldon), Tony Curtis (Ealing), Simon Bull (Chelmsford), Suzanne Clubley (Reading), Barry Campbell (Newtownards).

The examiner commented on the standard of riding, especially Barry, who rode "exceptionally well".

LENGTHS AHEAD

Head Boy, David Whitmore (Hitchin) recently swam 135 lengths of the school pool in 1 hour in a mammoth effort raising money for equipment for the snorkelling club. He raised over £120. Well done, David!

FOLLOWERS OF FASHION

The Clothes Show annual exhibition is one of the biggest fashion events of the year. Our fifth year textiles group with their teacher, Mrs. Ansell, spent a day looking at the work of the top designers at the N.E.C. in December. They were also delighted to see contributions by fashion and textile students and fascinated by the predicted return of the bee-hive hairdo!

NOT MY SLINKEE!

(I couldn't think of anything interesting about Milton Keynes, so opted for an anagram as a title to grab your attention! - KJW)

As a new town the attraction of Milton Keynes for geographers goes without saying. Fourth and sixth formers spent a valuable day there at a field study centre listening to a talk and watching slides on the town's development.

DOWN UNDER

During 1991 many pupils will hear the familiar accent from "Neighbours" on our teaching staff. Mr. Bob Warren will be joining us from Australia for the whole year. In exchange Miss V. Ogg will be flying off straight after

Christmas to take his place in a High School at Forster in New South Wales. It is a venture that will give these geography teachers "hands-on" experience in other countries. As Mr. Warren arrives from the Australian summer he can be assured of a warm welcome, despite our climate. We wish Miss Ogg an enjoyable and successful year upside down.

SPORTSDESK

In the net!

The House netball competition was fiercely fought this year. It is run in two sections, junior (1st, 2nd, 3rd years) and senior (4th, 5th and 6th) and the results are combined. The overall result was a triumph for Mary Hare followed closely by Braidwood with Arnold and Beverley in third and fourth places.

The area netball tournaments were entered at all levels (U14 - U18). All of our teams put up good performances against the much bigger local schools and the U15 reached the semi-final - only losing to the eventual tournament winners. Well done!

The overall record of the netball teams in local fixtures is looking very good:

	WON	LOST	DREW
1st year	1	1	0
2nd year	3	2	0
3rd year	2	1	1
4th year	1	1	1
5th year	1	3	0
6th year	0	2	0

Quite a Splash!

The school swimming team has competed twice in fixtures against other schools and won both times. The first win was against Licensed Victuallers School. It is always a close competitive match and the Mary Hare team triumphed this time by 2 points. The second success was a resounding 52 point win over Newbury's Shaw House School. The swimming teams train very hard and attend swimming classes regularly - they deserve success.

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In the field!

Most local schools play rugby up until Christmas so the school football teams have not yet had many games.

	WON	LOST	DREW
1st X1	1	4	0
Combined U14/15/16	2	2	1
U13	1	4	0

The U13 six-a-side team also reached the finals in a local tournament.

So far the results have not gone our way, but the junior teams are showing promise and Mr. Galbraith confidently expects more success next term.

CHECKMATE!

Although the team won only one of their four matches this term against Bulmershe School, there have been some very good individual performances. Tim Blackwell and Gareth Snelling were never overawed on the top boards and were well supported by Mark Stocks, who scored an excellent victory against Eton College.

The first team are now entirely upper and lower sixth, so we are hoping to see a new generation emerging soon from the lower forms.



A circle of musical unity. (Clockwise from centre bottom): Daniel Biriles, Lisa Jones, David Whitmore, Melanie Pitts, Stefan Kodjie, Sara Murray, Kevin Torbuck, Natalie Veale, Jason Gowman, Sandra Wood.

JINGLE BELL ROCK

The above photograph appeared in the September 1990 issue of the Canadian Hearing Society publication "Vibrations".

The busy school band delighted local people recently when they performed "Jingle Bell Rock" in a Carol Service for many local schools in St. Nicholas' Church, Newbury. Featuring Natalie Veale (Yeovil) on vocals the ensemble received a very warm reception.

The music department is venturing out into a new area with the arrival of a saxophone and also has an extra drum kit, which was kindly donated by the parents of Samantha and Melanie Pitts. An increasing number of first and second formers regularly meet and practise in the music suite - many of them are experimenting with their own compositions.

OVER TO YOU

If you have comments or would like more copies of our newsletter, please contact Kevin Wright (Editor) or Mrs. C. Ward at the school.