



# soundwave

The Mary Hare Magazine



April 2007

Ali Halil



Katy McWiggan



Andrew Large



*Pictures on the inside covers were taken by Mary Hare students on a recent trip to New York*

CELEBRATING SUCCESS	page 4
SPECIAL EVENTS	page 5
SPORTS NEWS	page 12
ENGLISH	page 14
TRIPS & OUTINGS	page 16
CHARITY NEWS	page 20
SPECIAL FEATURE	page 22
MARY HARE PRIMARY	page 23
WORLD OF WORK	page 24
OVERSEAS VISITS	page 26
SHORT CUTS	page 28
MARY HARE FOUNDATION	page 34
MARY HARE ALUMNI	page 36
SPECIAL FEATURE	page 38

The Editorial Team would like to thank all those who have contributed to this edition of 'Soundwave'.  
If you would like to submit an item for inclusion in the next publication, please send your material to:  
Sally Beckett or Deborah Buckland at Mary Hare School.

Tel: 01635 244233 (voice) 01635 244260 (minicom) Email: [marketing@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:marketing@maryhare.org.uk)

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED, SO START WRITING, DRAWING, PAINTING, CREATING NOW!

In 2005/6, Mary Hare School **came top in the country** for contextual Value Added results, which reflect progress made by pupils between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4. This is not the first time we have had value added success - in fact we have come top **FOUR TIMES** since this measure was first introduced in 1999!



Our unique Group Hearing Aid system enables pupils to participate fully in the classroom

This year, the government introduced *contextual* value added measurement for the first time, which takes into consideration background information about pupils and, as a result, is the fairest way of comparing pupils' attainment in schools.

As Principal of Mary Hare Schools, I am absolutely delighted with this outstanding achievement and I would like to thank and congratulate all my staff and pupils for their hard work and perseverance.

This remarkable consistency is due to our approach to teaching and learning. The pupils at Mary Hare School benefit from a well-disciplined environment, conducive to learning, where state-of-the-art audiological and other teaching resources are used and hardworking qualified teachers of the deaf enable the pupils to make outstanding progress.

	2004 %	2005 %	2006 %
National Average KS2 - KS4	1000	1000	1000
Mary Hare School KS2 - KS4	1269.1	1277.1	1223.4
National Average KS3 - KS4	1000	1000	1000
Mary Hare School KS3 - KS4	1238.2	1251.1	1185.2

The Government Department for Education and Science (DfES) has written to us to acknowledge this remarkable achievement and we are delighted and proud to receive this honour. We will never become complacent; we will continue to work hard and look for innovative ways to improve further. During 2007 we will be inspected by OFSTED and we are hoping to get similar reports to the previous two inspections, which placed us on Her Majesty's list of outstanding schools in the country.

Tony Shaw, Principal Mary Hare Schools

# HRH Countess of Wessex

Mary Hare School fondly remembered Con Powell during a visit by HRH The Countess of Wessex in January. Amongst his very many roles in the field of deaf education, Con was a Governor of Mary Hare School, later becoming Vice-President. He was a major contributor to the development of Mary Hare's group hearing aid system and a visionary leader in the field of deaf education, so it was only right that the organisation should honour and remember him in a special way.

The Countess of Wessex visited Mary Hare School accompanied by Mr Philip Wroughton, Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire. Mr Wroughton is also a Trustee of the Mary Hare Foundation. The Countess was greeted by Dr Ivan Tucker OBE, Chief Executive, and the School Principal Mr Tony Shaw, along with a group of local councillors.

During her visit, the Countess saw pupils in the classroom being taught a range of subjects, including Music and French. She spoke to many of the pupils to understand, from their perspective, how they are supported in their education by the staff at Mary Hare School. During her visit, the Countess watched pupils perform in Arlington Arts Centre and at the end of the performance she thanked the school for hosting her visit.

She then unveiled a specially commissioned bronze sculpture of Con Powell, which has now found its permanent home in the foyer of the new building and to whose memory the Music Centre has been dedicated. Her Royal Highness also had the opportunity to meet pupils, staff and supporters of Mary Hare during an informal lunch. Before leaving the school, the Countess was presented with a bouquet of flowers by pupils from Mary Hare Primary School.



The bust is unveiled by Her Royal Highness



Chief Executive Dr Tucker and the Countess of Wessex observe a French lesson during the tour

Dr Tucker commented after the visit, "We were delighted to welcome the Countess of Wessex to Mary Hare.

As a trustee of the RNID, we know of Her Royal Highness' interest in the needs of deaf people and it was good to be able to show her what young deaf people are capable of, when given the opportunity to excel."

# Christmas

Although the excitement of preparations for Christmas is now behind us, we wanted to take the opportunity to congratulate those who took part in and supported our annual school productions . They were, as always, excellent entertainment and were warmly received by family and friends.

Parents and friends were delighted by this year's Primary School Christmas Production of 'The Nutcracker'. The pupils rose splendidly to the occasion, showing how hard they had worked to learn their lines, follow their cues and remember their dance moves.

Joseph Grigg, in the title role, carried 'method' acting to the extreme by breaking his arm shortly before the performance. However, in the true spirit that the show must go on, he took to the stage and enchanted the audience despite the plaster cast hidden under his costume!

The story was told in three acts, following the adventures of two children, Clara and Fritz as they journeyed to the Kingdom of Sweets and celebrated at a party of music and dancing with the Sugar Plum Fairy.

The whole ensemble received a well-deserved round of applause at the end of another wonderful production, with special thanks going to the staff and support team working behind the scenes!



“ I was the father and a soldier. I enjoyed the play, it was so good dancing and singing.! Folarin ”

# Productions



**T**he newly opened Arlington Arts Centre celebrated its first Christmas with a show that was truly *Electrifying!* The show, based on a high school reunion theme, played to packed houses and featured all of Years 7, 8 and 9, plus seasoned veterans from the Upper School.

Parents and friends were thrilled by the infectious energy of the students, who worked together with tremendous team spirit to produce a polished performance.

It is difficult to mention individual performances when the production was such a combined group effort by staff and students. Nevertheless, we would like to highlight the following for special mention in view of their contributions over the last five, six or seven productions:

Justine Durno, for her graceful dancing, Inderjit Johal, for her contribution to the Performing Arts, especially this time for her tongue-in-cheek subjugation of men in 'Hit The Road, Jack', Oliver Richardson, for his long-serving expertise in the (now computerised) lighting control room, Hattie Bowden, for her dance, drama and never-failing good humour, Georgia Dalton, for her sultry singing over the years, which this time included an upbeat opener to the show, 'Don't Stop Me Now', James Alexander (the new Bill Wyman?) and Jason Mycroft Ashun – just give him a theme and he comes up with a fully choreographed rap.

Special mention must also be made of Fatima Niemogha, lead singer with 'The Deafness', who simply stunned audiences with a mesmerising rendition of the Nina Simone classic, 'Ain't Got No – I Got Life'.

# Special Events

## Open Days for Professionals

Despite the thunder, lightning and torrential rain, our Primary School Open Day for Professionals went ahead as scheduled in October, with only a few last minute changes of venue, following a sudden power failure during the morning. Delegates included teachers of the deaf, communication support workers and audiologists, who were keen to find out more about our work with younger pupils at Mary Hare Primary School.

After a welcome by School Principal Tony Shaw, Sue Lewis (Director of Educational Development & Inclusion) spoke about the opportunities for staff development and training offered by Mary Hare Training Services. This was followed by a tour of the Primary School, Burwood Assessment Centre and Arlington Laboratories.

During the tour, our guests were able to observe lessons (much to the delight of our Primary pupils!) and talk to teachers, audiologists and speech and language therapists, who were able to answer questions from the visitors. After lunch, Christine Rocca gave an inspiring presentation on using music with primary aged pupils. Feedback from the day was very positive and delegates commented on how valuable the experience had been, giving them lots of ideas to take back to the workplace.



Visitors observe a Primary School lesson

A Secondary School Open Day for Professionals was held in December and this, too, was attended by a broad range of professionals working with children who are deaf. We were also delighted to welcome a group of colleagues from Briskeby School, Oslo, who were spending a few days with us at Mary Hare, following the visit to Norway by Tony Shaw and Peter Gale earlier in the year.

Visitors were given a guided tour of the school by senior members of staff; this included an opportunity to find out

more about our unique Group Hearing Aid system. The afternoon programme featured presentations by teaching staff on the delivery of English, Drama and Modern Foreign Languages at Mary Hare School. The day was very well received.

One visitor commented, "My group learned so much! It also changed some conceptions about teaching using an oral method - they now realise that for many children, it does work."

# SPEECH DAY 2006



School Principal Tony Shaw and Mr Benyon with some of the prizewinners

**M**ary Hare School hosted its annual Speech Day in November. In a joint opening address, Chairman of Governors, Mr Hugh Ogus and School Principal, Mr Tony Shaw looked back over a year of achievements. The audience enjoyed some video clips of previous Christmas productions at the school and a slide show recalling the events of the past school year.

Guest of Honour was Mr Richard Benyon MP, who presented prizes to this year's high achievers, whilst Deputy Principal, Mr Peter Gale gave an interesting resumé of each student's achievements. Top honours went to Sam Calder, who gained an impressive 3 As at A level in Chemistry, French and Mathematics and to Aliya Gulamani, who achieved a grade B in English at A level and A grades in Psychology and Media Studies. It was another outstanding year for the school at GCSE level, with 83.3% of students gaining 5 or more grades A\* to C. Top performers this year were Adam Watson and Lauren Austin with 18 grades at A and A\* between them.

Following the prize giving, Richard Benyon commiserated with those students who had not won prizes this time and joked that he, too, was still waiting for his school prize! Mr Benyon commented on the spirit and strong sense of community at Mary Hare and praised the inspirational leadership of Tony Shaw and Chief Executive Dr Ivan Tucker. Mr Benyon highlighted Mary Hare's status as a Centre of Excellence, committed to sharing the ethos of the school across the country.

Speaking of his own role in the House of Commons, Mr Benyon said it was not all as exciting as television footage of Prime Minister's Question Time would have us believe. He explained that he had recently sat for six hours in the Commons waiting to put a question to the House. On a more serious note, Mr Benyon asked how much better our world might be today if every leader of every country was accountable to its parliament for just half an hour of questioning a week.

In his closing comments, Mr Benyon recalled a conversation he once had, whilst still an aspiring politician, with local industrialist Sir Ernie Harrison, who had asked him what he was passionate about. In turn Mr Benyon advised students, "Be passionate about what you want to do – whatever it is. If you are passionate, you will succeed!"

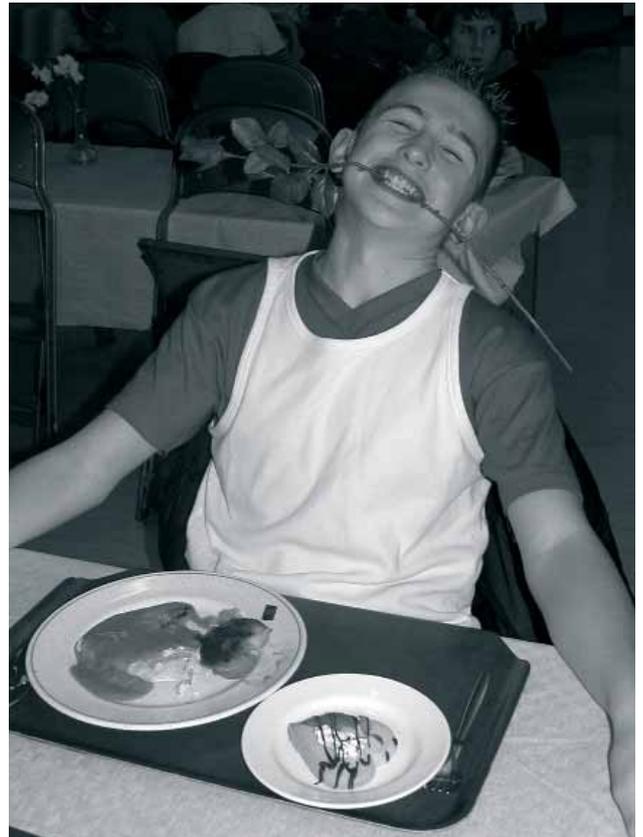
# BE MY VALENTINE!



By Hattie Bowden

Year 7 were very impressed with their first Valentine's Day at Mary Hare – for a start it came early, on 5<sup>th</sup> February, due to the impending half-term holiday! Everyone dressed up for the evening before sitting down to a three course supper.

The meal followed the evening's themed colours of red and pink - there was tomato soup, chicken with a red pepper sauce or seafood with a tomato sauce, followed by delicious shortbread with cream, strawberries and chocolate!



There were Valentine's cakes with iced messages, pink lemonade, marshmallows and chocolate fondue, glow sticks, balloons in pink and red and white and even single roses – what more could be needed for an evening of romance?

Apart from music, of course, which was provided by star DJs Ken Emezie and Jason Mycroft Ashun. Daniel and I also organised some games throughout the evening, all with a 'Valentine' theme. In the words of Kaia Meers – "It was wicked!"

The whole event was organised by the prefects, so our thanks go them for all their efforts.

After supper, **Daniel Wheeler** and I organised a game of bingo in Blount Hall, which went down particularly well with Years 8 and 9. The idea was to bring everyone into the mood for love, so the bingo was held using 'Love Hearts' as the tokens to put over the numbers.

Graham, from the Manor care staff, was asked to call out the numbers due to him turning up in a tuxedo! Prizes were heart-shaped lollipops with messages on them, much to everyone's delight!

Afterwards it was over to Dulverton Hall to enjoy the disco party. In the entrance to the hall there was a hugely popular 'Love Heart Post It' board filled with romantic (and some less so) messages!



# It's Official!

Over 200 guests enjoyed a dazzling performance

by Mary Hare musicians as the new Arlington Arts Centre was officially opened by singer-songwriter KT Tunstall, in October.

The Mary Hare School Band and Dance Ensemble, as well as in-house rock group, 'The Deafness' received enthusiastic congratulations from KT Tunstall, who officially announced the opening of the centre at the end of the formal proceedings.

Miss Tunstall was 'blown away' by the Mary Hare musicians and encouraged them to continue enjoying their music throughout and beyond their school careers. KT said, "I'm so impressed, they were wicked! It's really great that they're writing their own stuff, because that's so important. They are really doing such a great job!"



Before her official duties began, KT was given a tour of Mary Hare School, observing a number of lessons, much to the delight of the pupils. After the formalities were over, guests were invited to have a walk around the new centre to take a closer look at the venue's exciting new facilities.

THE PACE APPEAL  
Performing Arts, Conference and Education Centre  
WE DID IT!

The Mary Hare Foundation is delighted to report that the target of £2,500,000 towards the PACE project - now known as Arlington Arts Centre - was achieved at the end of 2006.

The two final events in support of the Appeal were hugely successful: The Hurlingham Ball, organised by Judith Roberts, raised £75,000 and the 'Sponsor a Granny' Walk, organised by Prue Lane Fox, raised £70,000.

Prue has since retired as a Trustee of the Mary Hare Foundation and we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all her hard work to support the fundraising for the organisation over the past 15 years.

We would also like to thank Lady (Caro) Wilson who has retired as a Trustee of the Foundation after serving the Board of Trustees since 1999.

The PACE Appeal was originally launched to raise £1,000,000 towards the PACE project. When the final costs increased, the Foundation rose to the challenge and agreed to more than double its original target.

It is wonderful to see the real benefits to the students of Mary Hare, those people accessing our training events, the children in the Music Therapy Unit and the many audiences who are enjoying a new and varied programme of events in the Centre.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE APPEAL - THE BIGGEST IN MARY HARE'S HISTORY!**

# Sports

## NEWS

### TENNIS

#### Deaf Awareness Tennis Day

By Max Thorne

At the end of September, twelve lucky pupils went to Abingdon Tennis Centre to get some specialist tennis coaching. The aim of the afternoon was for qualified LTA coaches to gain experience coaching children with different disabilities. Personally, I was very lucky to have three coaches helping just me. Most of the others were in groups of two or three.

We did a number of drills and towards the end did some competition tennis. I found it great fun to play free tennis, funded by the LTA. I'm pretty sure that the younger ones enjoyed it as much as I did. I would like to thank Mr Gill for organising the trip.

#### Tennis Talent Spotting Day

By Andrew Kenward

In October we joined Tennis Talent Day with coaches from the Great Britain Deaflympics Tennis Squad. We had a long warm-up to ensure that we wouldn't get injured and then got into pairs for a short tennis game. After this, we were split into two groups - one group worked on their backhand while the other group were doing the forehand and then we swapped halfway through the exercise. The coaches helped us to improve our serving - they taught me how to hit with the right area of the racquet when serving. I learned plenty of new tips for my serve so I will be able to improve in my forthcoming tennis matches.



Some of the players from this session, including me, were invited to attend the National Deaf Tennis Training weekend in November.

Hopefully one day I will follow in Anthony Sinclair's footsteps; he reached the final of the 2006 Deaf Olympics Tennis event in Australia. He is currently number two in the world in deaf tennis ranking and he used to be a pupil at Mary Hare School.

We would like to say thank you to the coaches for teaching us on that day and thank you to Mr Gill for taking us. We all had a good time!

# Snowballs and Swimsuits

In February, the much predicted snow finally arrived. Pupils were allowed to play in the snow until break and staff enthusiastically joined in the snowball fighting on the field! At least two giant snowmen were quickly made, as well as a monster snowball, which was rolled around the field, under the keen supervision and guidance of Ken Emezie. When the snowball had reached the size of a small car, the groundsman were called in to assist!

Lessons began again after break and classroom radiators steamed gently under a collection of wet gloves and socks. The swimming gala went ahead as scheduled later in the day. The pool seemed an especially warm and steamy place after the snowy outdoors...



## Junior Gala Champions

Medley House Relay Beverley / Beverley  
Backstroke Saffron Lilley / George Stockton  
Individual Medley Ruth Kelly / Mitchell Graham  
Breaststroke Alessia Pointer / Mikhail Novak  
Butterfly Ruth Kelly / Simon Thursz  
Freestyle Chloe Norton / Thomas Paull  
Freestyle House Relay Braidwood / Beverley  
**OVERALL WINNER: BEVERLEY**

## Senior Gala Champions

Medley House Relay Arnold / Beverley  
Backstroke Kirsty Day / James Sorohan  
Individual Medley Emily Troddyn / Hamish Roberts  
Breaststroke Camilla Willis / Thomas Rowley  
Butterfly Lizzie Pearson / Hamish Roberts  
Freestyle Sophie Goodacre / Hamish Roberts  
Freestyle House Relay Arnold / Braidwood  
**OVERALL WINNER : ARNOLD**

## Individual Prize Winners

Junior Girls  
Ruth Kelly  
Junior Boys  
Mitchell Graham  
Senior Girls  
Kirsty Day, Sophie Goodacre, Emily Troddyn  
Senior Boys  
Hamish Roberts, Alex Kemp, Carl Lofthouse

# Poets Corner

## *Classroom - How the imagination roams*

By Helen Willis (Year 11)

I sit in the classroom,  
Listening to the monotonous whirring  
Of the computer.  
Eyes aching at the glare  
Of the display board.  
Wondering if there is a better place  
Somewhere.

My imagination starts to become restless  
Fidgeting impatiently.  
I unlock the cage of concentration  
To let my imagination go free  
To roam the dark realms of my  
Aching brain,  
To let it invent and discover.

Suddenly, I am launched  
Onto an extraordinary journey, half in fear,  
Half in excitement.  
I stride tirelessly across red hot  
And sparse deserts.  
I step tentatively in the infested  
And exotic rainforests.



## *Sleeping*

By Joseph Grigg (Mary Hare Primary)

Jump on your bed  
Snuggle your duvet  
Cuddle, squeeze your  
teddy  
Close your eyes  
Sweet, sweet dreams...  
...and it was a nightmare  
the Dark Knight with red eyes  
Running right in front of you  
with his sword  
Wake Up! Wake Up!



It's morning.

I soar in the world's many oceans,  
With the dolphins at my beck and call,  
I tickle giggly octopuses and pull faces at  
The moody sharks.  
I fly in the boundless skies,  
Going higher than the most adventurous birds,  
Laughing in absolute delight.

Out of nowhere, a voice rings out,  
"Pay attention!"  
Suddenly I am brought back to Earth,  
Anxiously locking my untamed imagination,  
To lead my mind,  
On another journey only in the classroom,  
The amazing journey of knowledge.

*See back cover for Helen's illustration*

# ESB EXAMS By Year 7

English Speaking Board preparations kept all of us in Year 7 busy from Christmas onwards. We had to find pictures for a poster board to support our talk, learn a poem and choose a reading from a favourite book. We worked on this in nearly every English lesson.

We were all really happy when the two days of exams were over and we could relax! A few people from Year 8 did it as well because they got Distinctions last year. We hoped that some of us would get Distinctions and some of us have even started planning next year's talk!

“ **Chloe D:** My heart was beating fast and I had butterflies in my stomach. At the end I felt relieved because it was over. I wish I could do it all the time in English!

**Kaia:** My talk on Jacqueline Wilson was too short but on the day before the exam I finally managed to get it to 3 minutes! I was really nervous on the day but I enjoyed it!

**Stephen:** It was tough and I was a bit nervous but when it was my turn, I felt great and enjoyed it!

**Jonathan:** I practised lots because I wanted to do well. When it was over, I felt happy and started looking forward to the results.

**Asher Ben:** I decided to talk about my Jewish grandfather because I wanted to learn more about my family. I was really worried about messing it up on the day, but it went smoothly!

**Chelsea:** I drove my teacher mad because I couldn't find any pictures for my talk on Robin Hood! I was panicking because a few days before the exam I still didn't know my talk but I practised it a lot and on the day I did quite well. My heart was pounding!

**Cameron:** I didn't enjoy writing my talk much but I liked making my board – that was great! I felt nervous before the exam but as soon as I started it got easier.

**Sol:** I felt as if I couldn't breathe or move. When it was over, I felt like I wanted to do more.

**Georgina:** My talk was about dolphins - ” I felt nervous in my head and heart and my hands shook!



Sonia Choudhury talks on the Muslim Community

RESULTS Out of 30 entries this year, 27 were 'Merit', 'Merit Plus' or 'Distinction'. The much anticipated Distinctions went to Alex Mercier, Asher-Ben Pearl, Leon Du Plessis as well as Russell Yeo and Rolf Choutan in Year 8. Well done to everyone who took part.



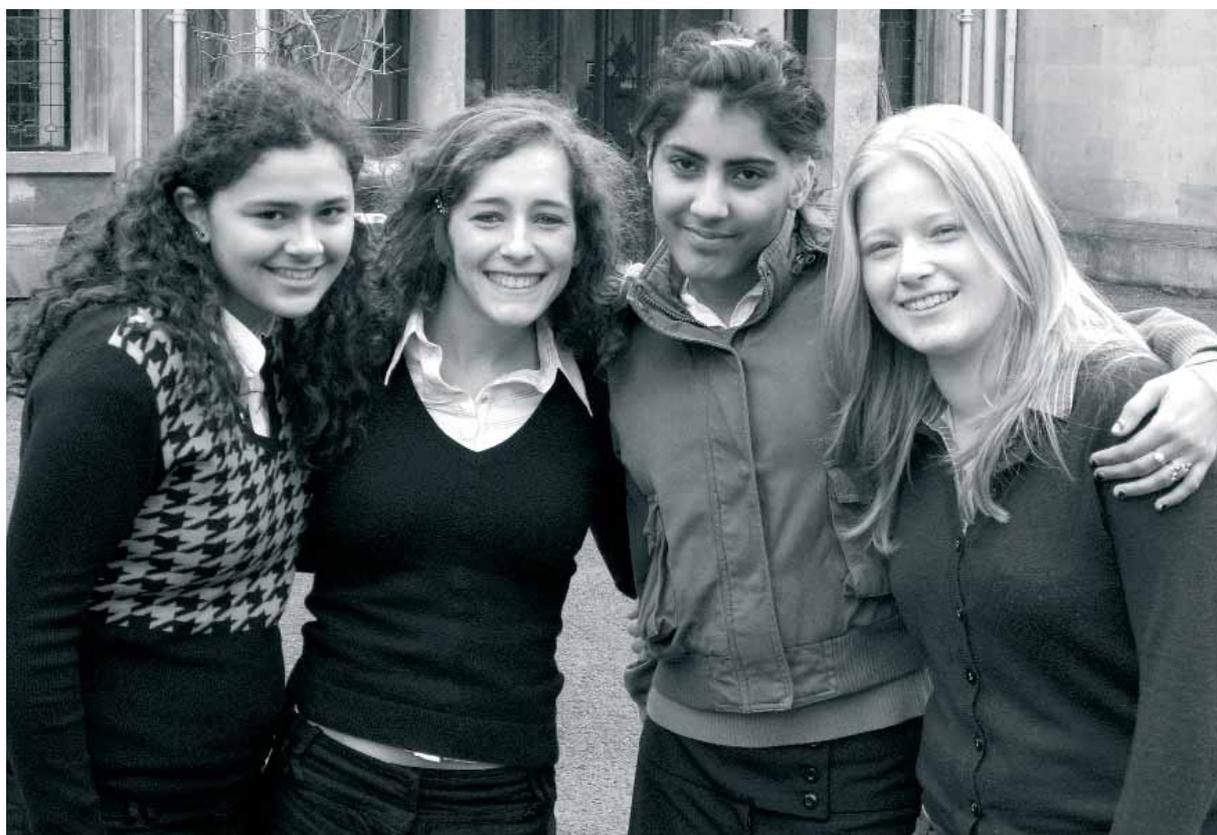
Thomas Paull talks about Rugby

# TRIPS & OUTINGS

## Delegates for the day

By Amelia Lewis

In December, Naomi, Shari, Camilla and I, along with Mr Bennett, went on a wonderful trip to London to help us with our Religious Studies AS Level course. We attended a conference organised through Philip Allan Publishers which was going to be an intensive one-day revision session on topics that appear in our exam paper. The day was led by senior examiners and subject specialists. The venue was the Friend's Meeting House in Euston and we joined other students from schools in London and the surrounding area. We are the first year to do this A Level at Mary Hare so it was a bit of a new experience for all of us.



When we finally got inside the building, there were hundreds of students there for the conference. It was actually quite overwhelming to see so many people. We were seated right at the front as we would have been unable to hear if we had been placed at the back.

The lectures then started and people were introduced to speak about different topics. We were able to hear most of the speakers, but it did help when they had a PowerPoint presentation. We all jotted down as many notes as we could so that we could take them back to Mary Hare to help us with our coursework. The topics included 'Utilitarianism', 'Situation Ethics', 'Miracles' and 'The Problem of Evil'. Some of these subjects we had already covered at school but others we hadn't, so it was interesting to hear about what

we would be doing at some point later in the year. All the speakers were interesting but the last speaker in particular was fun, lively and helpful. He used modern examples to explain his topic and he was very funny, so he was by far the best speaker.

After the talks had finished we decided we deserved a little treat after listening to lots of quite intense lectures. So we went for a quick look around Oxford Street. The Christmas lights there were amazing and it was extremely busy. People were obviously out doing some last minute Christmas shopping. We then sadly had to head back as it was getting late. Mr Bennett dropped us off at Mary Hare - it had been a fantastic day. We had fun and we got lots of useful notes so all in all it was a very successful trip.

# Newbury Rugby Club

In September, Year 12 visited the club as part of their ICT & Business Studies BTEC course.

The visit was to help them understand how these courses differ from more traditional A Levels. Students explored the skills they need to develop in order to satisfy future employers: initiative, research, team-work, communication, problem-solving and presentations.



By Olivia Hills

Inspecting the venue

When we arrived, we were shown around by the manager, who worked for Blues Leisure, the company which runs the club. They have a gym, three bars and a balcony. We then got our plan for the day. First of all, Mr Thompson divided us into three teams for an egg race, where we had to design and make containers out of plastic straws to protect an egg as we threw it over the balcony! The one that did not crack was declared the winner - the winning team was David Hough, Daniel Waller and Scott MacDougall.

After that, each team had to put together and deliver a presentation about a pop festival to be held at the Rugby Club. Mr Chandler helped us with this - we had already done some research into the rugby club and looked at Blues Leisure's website. We spent two hours working in teams on the presentation and then we had lunch. It was lovely to have a nice buffet lunch in a different environment. Then it was time to show the presentations to the judges: the top score was 36 out of 40 – the same team won again!

Mrs Hansen then talked to us about BTEC courses and how to get the most out of the course. Finally, Mr Wright sang us a song, 'All I Have to do is Dream' and then we spent some time individually, thinking and writing about our own dreams and short-term targets. We had a great time and thank you to Mrs Hansen for arranging a day out for us all.



Preparing the presentations

# Marwell Zoo

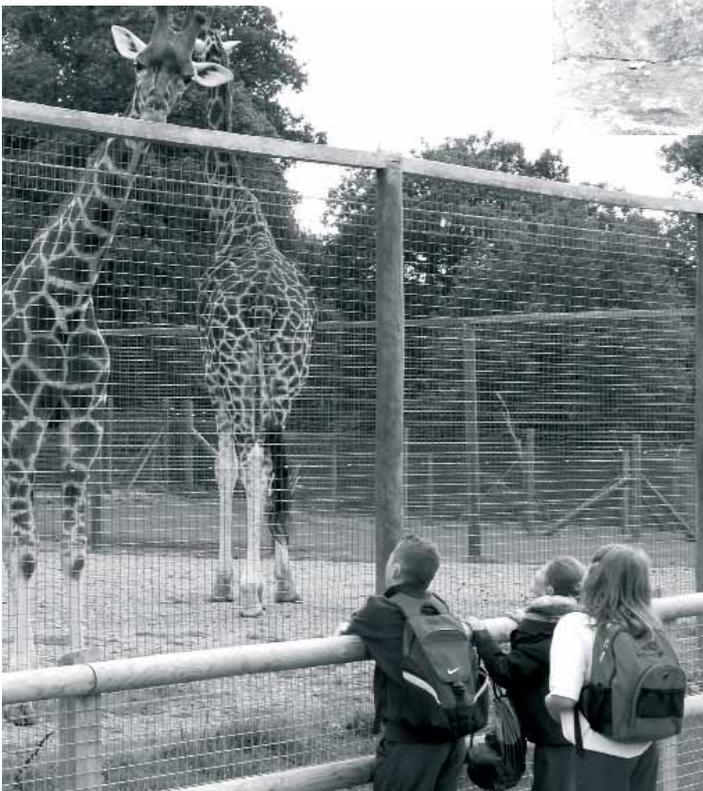
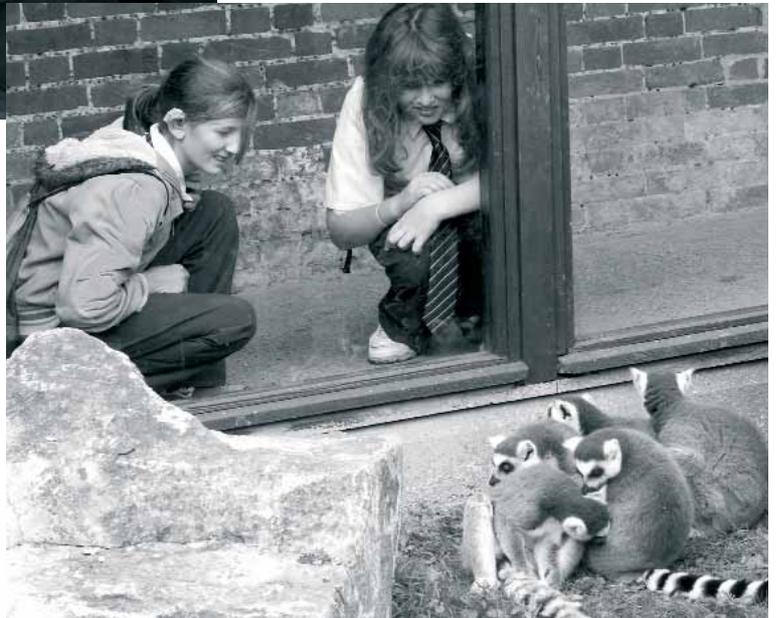
By Kaia Meers



Our Year 7 visit to Marwell Zoo was not exactly what I expected – it was dead quiet with only a few people there – can you believe it?! I loved the snow leopard, she was lovely, I wished I could stroke her! After we had looked at some animals we went to see some monkeys who were SO LOUD! I told them to be quiet five times but still they carried on screeching.

I went over to a bench that was nearby which had a 'monkey bar' (a bar to grab on to so you can swing all the way round). I had a go, it was wicked - although my hands were red raw I still didn't care!

Next we went to the Education Centre and we looked at some pictures, animal models and some fur, but a bad thing happened, can you guess? I broke a toy fish's tail - Mrs Flannery gave me the evil eye and told me off! Oopsie! Anyway I said sorry to the lady and she didn't mind, phew, so I tried to forget about the whole fish thing!



We caught a ride to the giraffes, I loved them, they all looked beautiful! We looked at some more animals and then we went into the gift shop which I had looked forward to all day! It was massive with lots of cool stuff. I bought a cute, cuddly, lion teddy, two face masks, a chocolate bar, a tea towel and a little postcard book.

When we got back I was happy and I had enjoyed myself. Thank you to all the teachers especially Liesl from the care staff who came. Thank you for organising this great trip!

In January, a group of Year 11 Business Studies students visited a local food production company, to investigate the workings of the business and to develop their understanding of production issues.



## English Provender

By Laila Doobeh

To be honest, I thought it was going to be a brief trip to a small company, but when we arrived, we saw how big the company was. If the front looked impressive, what was it going to be like inside?

At reception, we were immediately asked for our shoe size (for protective footwear) - we sheepishly told them! We signed in and were given visitor badges and then answered a list of health check questions.

When we were given the all clear, a man called Andy introduced himself and the business to us and explained what they do, the principles they work by, how

many products they make in a day, etc. After this introduction, I felt like I'd worked there in my past life because I knew so much about it!

We were given boots and green overalls and hairnets to keep our hair in (which were for safety and hygiene purposes). We all looked the part, with the word 'visitor' imprinted on our outfits.

We moved on to the 'imported goods' area - I thought the cargo would fall onto me because it was so high. Andy told us that it was his job to make sure the ingredients are used before their 'sell by' date. It was fascinating to see what they are doing every day while I am at school.

Next was the area where they stored the finished goods. There were so many types of sauces, relishes and spreads! We saw the area where they stored their best-selling mayonnaise. The room was so cold it was more like a gigantic fridge.

During the tour, Andy went through all the stages of production and explained the reasons why they work they way they do.

Our favourite bit was seeing how the sauces and mayonnaise were made. We saw the mayonnaise being stirred in big tanks and learned how it was then transferred to a machine which squirted it out into containers.

They make huge amounts of this mayonnaise for different firms all over the country. It's amazing how a small company can be so successful.

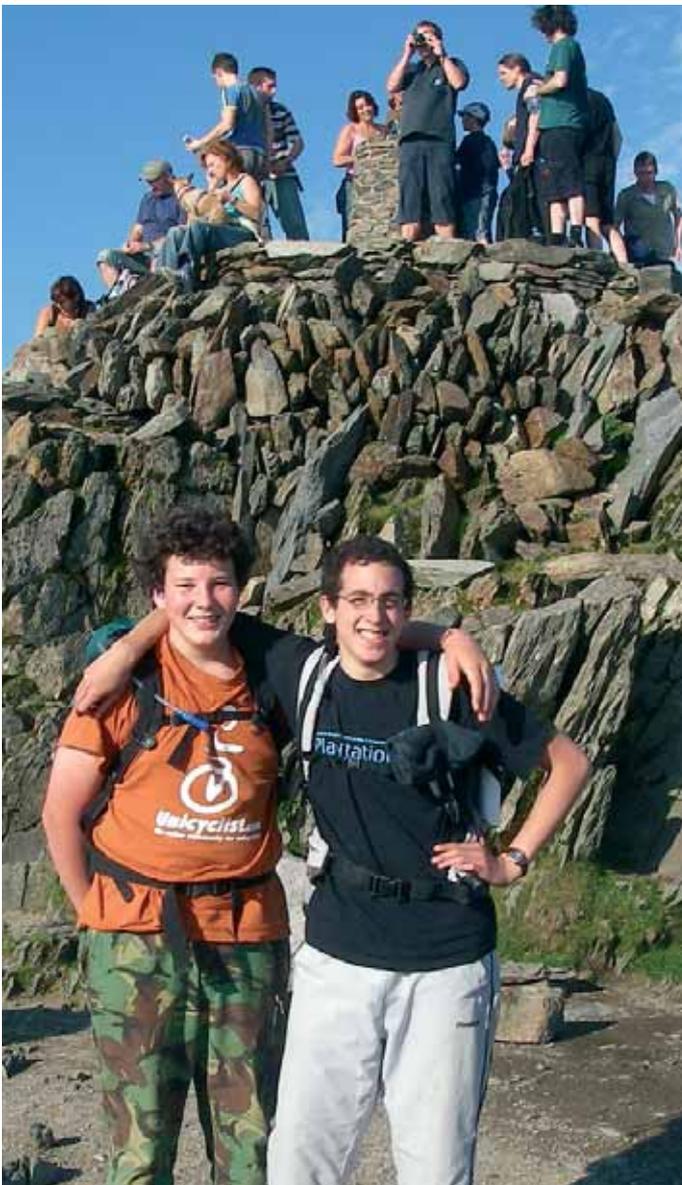
It was an insightful trip and we now understand a lot more about factors of production and what to consider when running your own production company. This trip will help us all with exam questions about production. Thank you, Mr Lee, for taking us all out on behalf of the group! When's the next one?

# Charity News

## All in a good cause

The final stages of the fundraising appeal to refurbish the School Youth Club are now in sight. In order to contribute to the funds still needed to complete the project, staff and students bravely set out in September to walk **SIX** mountains, including Snowdon.

By Daniel Clements and Roger Watson



Roger (left) and Daniel take a well-earned breather

On the day we climbed Snowdon, we arrived with rucksacks heavy with lunch and water. After pouring out of the minibus excitedly, we grabbed our rucksacks and set off. The first 300 metres were very quick, we were all so excited, and the pace began to alter as the terrain grew rugged. There were plumes of people taking our destined route, so we decided to change our plans and take a quieter, less busy route.

In fact, there was nobody doing our chosen route and we were not slowed down by any 'tourists'. Unfortunately, we had to ascend a technical bit, which took a long time to complete as we climbed one at a time. Oliver managed to tear his trousers beforehand, so his thermals were exposed to the poor fellows underneath for the whole climb!

Next we faced a steep wall face. We decided to avoid it and go further round, to encounter the equivalent of a staircase. We reached the top of the first mountain and caught our first proper sights of Snowdon, and gasped in its presence. We felt dwarfed by its natural grandeur - but the call of lunch soon brought us to ourselves.

We were growing weary by now, and every obstacle seemed bigger than the last. The terrain was starting to level off and the walk got easier. One of things I remember best is the legendary ridge of Crib Goch. It was steep on both sides and was a thrill just to look at. Climbing it was amazing.

As a team, we had to move slowly and systematically to avoid falling off. As we crawled along on all fours, cloud came over fast - one minute we were admiring the crystal clear view and the next we were smothered with mist. It was quite frightening at first, because we didn't know what was happening.

**A**fter tackling Crib Goch, we were faced with a relatively steep rock scramble. This was great fun, but the frustration of not being able to climb swiftly was immense. Eventually we reached the shoulder of Snowdon. We had a fine view of its central lakes and a short 200 metre march to the top. On reaching the top we stood back to take in the view. At the top there is a brass disc embedded into rock, which pointed to and labelled every mountain in Wales. In front of us was a beautiful scene with lakes and ridges in a crisp, clear atmosphere and behind us was an astonishing view over the clouds themselves. It was unlike anything I had seen before; we were all taking photos, trying to capture the natural beauty of it. Once again, the call of lunch soon brought us to ourselves!

After the descent, hot showers beckoned and we prepared some tasty pasta with the stoves, alongside some lovely pudding with the best custard of all time! We were all savouring every spoonful and slobbering like pigs. This was acceptable to the leaders because we had all just climbed the highest mountain in Wales! We did this challenging sponsored ascent to raise money for the renovation of the youth club and doing so raised us £1035.50 Thank you to all who kindly sponsored us, especially the owner of the Cae Du campsite in Beddgelert where we camped, who donated £44. The climb has been of great benefit to us as a group as well as for the youth club.

## Other fundraising totals...



Red Nose Day March 2007

January 2007

RNLI - SOS : £118.30

February 2007

Food Aid Charity Lunch : £230

March 2007

Comic Relief : £411.27

October 2006

Jeans for Genes : £162

November 2006

Children in Need: £220

December 2006 :

KWA Thintwa School: £1196.34



Children In Need November 2006

# Deaf in a hearing world

By Fatima Niemogha

**M**y mother claims that my interest in music all started when I was a little baby. She'd sing me lullabies even when she was pregnant with me and my response was a kick! When I was still at primary school, I went to visit my cousins and we were bored so we decided to do a contest. We each sang a song and the adults were judges and I won! From that day on I kept in mind that almost anything is possible, if you want it enough.

For the first three years at Mary Hare I went through a rough patch and felt more comfortable expressing myself through music and writing lyrics. In Year Nine I joined the Mary Hare School band. That was when I started taking singing more seriously - there were always opportunities to get involved. Taking part in the school play gave me a great boost of confidence. I was given opportunities I thought I couldn't have because of being deaf - Mary Hare changed my life.

My first major event was a trip with the school band to Vienna. It was a great experience and I loved it. On our second day we performed at a great big palace, which was enchanting.



Fatima with School Principal Tony Shaw at the official opening of Arlington Arts Centre

I remember very clearly being outside for break-time at school one day and William (the founder of our group) stopped me and asked whether I'd like to be part of 'The Deafness' and I accepted. My social skills improved being with the boys (William, James and Jamie) and I learned to open up, especially when I sang out of tune. It was hard for me to accept that I was making mistakes but then I thought to myself that you cannot be perfect and in fact 'practice makes perfect'. I learned to be more confident singing with the band and allowing mistakes to happen and because they were also my friends, they supported me and assured me that I was doing fine and that all the events we performed at were practice for the big time! Being involved with music at Mary Hare has changed my attitude towards the future. It has made me keep an open mind about what could be out there, whereas before I would have thought that being deaf would get in the way of doing great things. Even if it does, I've now learned that if you take risks and fight for what you want, there is a big chance that you will achieve something.



Fatima performs to the invited audience at Speech Day 2006

**T**he support from my parents and my school has given me hope for the future, so I am happy to say that I feel prepared for the hearing world. Recently I was in hospital and I couldn't understand what the nurse was saying so I told her very eagerly that I was deaf. I am much more at ease when communicating with hearing people than I was when I started at Mary Hare. I am proud to be me. All that I have gone through was a phase. Now I ask myself "What if I wasn't deaf? Would my life have been any different from how it is now?" I would have been attending another school with fewer opportunities and less encouragement to follow dreams leading to a successful future.

Being deaf has been an experience for me. I must thank my parents for sending me to Mary Hare. I have been given opportunities and memories to cherish. In a way, attending Mary Hare has made the bond between my parents and me stronger than it was in the beginning. My mother and father have had to work together as a team with me to ensure that I got the best from being here.

# Primary NEWS

Representatives from Starkey Laboratories arrived at school in December bearing gifts for all the children. Primary pupils had taken part in the annual competition to design a company Christmas Card and the winners were announced amid great excitement. Every pupil received a certificate and a prize for their effort and the winning design came from pupil Annabelle Sonmez (pictured below).



Annabelle with School Principal Tony Shaw and Roger Lewin, Managing Director of Starkey Laboratories

“ I liked the Scooby Doo shoes. They were brown and blue. I measured feet. Alex ”



To support the pupils' Maths topic work, Class One visited a local shoe shop in February.

At the beginning of February, Mary Hare Primary School was delighted to receive a donation of £5000 from the proceeds of the 2006 Sir Henry Cooper and Mike Reid Charity Golf Classic. The funds have enabled a range of items to be purchased, including a selection of reading and library books, goalposts and nets for the football pitch, a digital camera and a DVD player.

Our thanks go to Mary Hare parent Sarah Grigg (pictured right) for her continuing support and fundraising efforts. Watch out for news of the next 'Bunny Ball' in September 2007, raising more funds for the school.



Head of Centre Karen Smith (left) and Sarah Grigg accepting the donation

# W O R L D C

## Year 11 Work Experience

By Lizzie Pearson

**A**t the beginning of November, Year 11 discover the world of work! Getting ready for my first day at the Donnington Valley Hotel in Newbury, I was a bag full of nerves. I felt sick with the fear of doing something wrong and not being able to understand some of the staff, as many of them had strong accents.

On arrival I was taken to the store room and given a fitted shirt and an apron. I was working in the restaurant for the first three days and I certainly looked the part in my uniform.

I was shown where everything was stored and given easy tasks to do - the bravest thing I did was serve a hot plate to someone. I did not do too well on that because I was not used to carrying something so hot and heavy; placing it perfectly on the table proved to be difficult!

I met two very nice people there, one was 18 and the other 16. I found it easy to talk to them and found myself beginning to tune in to all the foreign accents amongst the staff. I was looked after so I felt quite comfortable. At the end of my first day I was looking forward to the next one, but disappointed that the same people were not working with me again.

Throughout the week, I did lots of tasks, such as serving food, setting up tables for lunch and dinner, clearing away plates, putting out the correct glasses, preparing the lunch buffet, making tea and coffee for conferences, checking if meetings and conferences required anything else and carrying trays of food to the kitchen and back. It sounds like easy work but it was very tiring, rushing around making sure guests were happy and preparing everything to perfection.

During my work experience week, only a few things went wrong: I broke a wine glass, spilt water on a table I was clearing and when I served food I ruined the presentation! Luckily there were no guests around at the time to see me slip up.

I found talking to colleagues quite easy because we both had to repeat what we said; I was not the only person who had difficulty in understanding. I only really spoke to guests during my time as a porter. I enjoyed talking to the guests and had no trouble understanding what they had to say. Overall, I had a fantastic time and I wish that I could have stayed longer.



# D F W O R K

## National Enterprise Challenge 2006



Teambuilding exercises get the creative juices flowing!

The winning product idea was 'Robo-Ted', designed by Hannah Everett, Oliver Harper, Zoe Harris, Lewis Martin, Ammad Rehman, Christian SInn and Leigh Williams. Everyone in the team contributed design ideas and carried out research about competitors, finance and product features.

Robo-Ted was an interactive teddy bear, which could walk, talk, jump, sing and show emotions. It also had a text display for deaf children. It could be programmed to remember names and birthdays and could even help locate a lost child! The team worked hard to improve on their original presentation before the regional finals as they knew they would be up against some tough competition.

Only the top 20 schools were chosen to attend the regional final and our team were quite nervous when they arrived and saw the huge auditorium. They managed to keep within the strict time limit and made their presentation to the judges and audience with confidence. After a buffet lunch and a chance to try out some of the hands-on scientific 'games' at INTECH it was back to the auditorium for the judges' decision.



The finalists anxiously prepare for their presentation

The judges singled out the four best teams and gave them feedback and praise - this included Mary Hare's Robo-Ted! The judges praised the original idea and the realistic financial estimates. They loved the humour the team used with their 'rules' for teddies and said it was a very good presentation that made them all want to buy one.

Staff who accompanied Mary Hare's team to Winchester were very impressed, not only with the wonderful presentation, but also with the very high standard of behaviour throughout the day. It was not always easy for the students to follow the proceedings as the poor light in the auditorium made lip-reading difficult and there were times when people were speaking without any text. The students were polite and attentive at all times; they were a credit to the school and deserve our congratulations. It was a real pleasure to work with such a good team. Well Done!

By Mrs Nita Hansen

At the end of November, the winning Mary Hare team travelled to the INTECH building in Winchester to compete with other schools in the South East Regional Final of the Enterprise Challenge.

The team had already beaten three other groups at Mary Hare with their response to the challenge of designing a new 'FUN' product that could be capable of earning a lot of money. Everyone had enjoyed spending a whole day on such a creative activity and all four teams had presented their ideas very clearly and imaginatively, but the judges had to choose one team.

# OVERSEAS VISITS OVERSEAS VISITS OVERSEAS

In November, a group of students from Mary Hare and Kennet Schools joined up for an action stimulating experiences to enhance their photographic, art and textiles coursework as well as

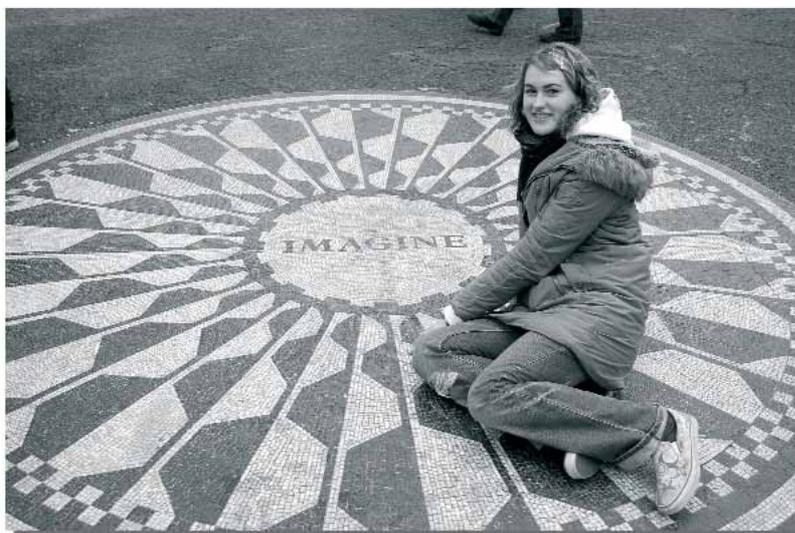
By Andrew Large and Katy McWiggan

After an hour of last-minute money changes and cruising around the duty free shops at Heathrow, we finally boarded our plane. We met up with the group from Kennet School and were all rather shy at first, but as the week progressed, we grew to know each other and made some good friends.

During the eight hour flight, we passed the time watching films, playing games and sleeping. We arrived in New York at 5pm local time and it was raining like there was no tomorrow! We were forced to leave our trip to the Empire State Building and Times Square to the next day, due to the bad weather - major disappointment to the group! Instead we had a wander round to get a feel for the city at night - so many yellow cabs!

The next morning we travelled by subway to lower Manhattan to board a ferry to Liberty Island, where we were given two free hours. Most of us opted to go up the Statue of Liberty, walking up all 150 steps to the top where we got some good photographs of Lady Liberty herself as well as the surroundings. The time went by very quickly and we were suddenly back on the boat heading towards Manhattan.

After a tour of Battery Park, we made our way to the World Trade Center site, otherwise known as 'Ground Zero', which was sombre and sad - the ground where the twin towers once stood took up a lot of the area where we were standing. After a few minutes silence and taking a few photographs, we headed towards Brooklyn Bridge.



Holly at the Strawberry Fields memorial in Central Park

A long walk across the bridge took us to the Rockefeller Center where we could go ice skating. Afterwards we had a short tour of Times Square and then on to the Empire State Building. It was freezing and many of us quickly went inside, after spending a short time observing the New York City skyline at night.

The next day we woke up early and caught the subway to the Yankee Stadium. We were given a tour of the stadium and were taken onto the pitch where we saw the memorials of Yankees legends, such as 'Babe' Ruth and Joe Di Maggio. Later we returned to the Rockefeller Center for an NBC studio tour, observing the sets for some well known shows.

# AS VISITS OVERSEAS VISITS OVERSEAS VISITS

n-packed trip to the 'Big Apple'. The trip exposed the group to a variety of exciting and as giving the Mary Hare students the chance to work with their hearing peers and vice versa.



Then it was back to Times Square again for those who had missed out the day before. There were so many people and so much noise, it overwhelmed our senses! From Pier 97 we took a 'harbour lights' boat trip that went all the way round Manhattan and back again. At the end of the evening most of us opted to go home by cab, not realising how long it would take to catch one and how often we would have to scream 'TAXI!'

The day we went to Central Park was on the coldest day of our entire trip and we nearly froze to death! We saw John Lennon's Strawberry Fields memorial and had a couple of hours to wander round the park. Not everyone used the time to take photographs, many went shopping! We then headed for the 'Met' - the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

We spent the afternoon making the most of our photographic opportunities as well as getting a bite to eat. By the end of the day, most of us had also managed to fit in some shopping in Times Square.

On our last day, we were given tickets to go up the Empire State Building again during the day. We did this fairly quickly so that we could return to the shops, especially Macey's! Many of us had been saving our dollars for this moment and emptied our purses and wallets very easily. Before we knew it, it was time to meet up again for the coach back to JFK International Airport and the flight home. We mourned the fact that we couldn't stay longer in New York but had an absolutely fantastic time!

## Zones

An exhibition of the students' work can be viewed at the **Corn Exchange, Newbury** until **Thursday 26th April 2007**. Why not go along and enjoy the amazing work produced by our photographers.



Students enjoy a special preview evening at the Corn Exchange exhibition

# Sho

## Making the difference

By Holly Lane

Receiving the Princess Diana Award was totally unexpected. I am very proud to be associated with this award as it was set up in memory of Princess Diana to recognise students who give their time and effort to help other students in their school.

I remember Princess Diana visiting Nottingham Deaf Club when I was 8 years old and I was introduced to her. To win this award ten years later is very special.



Holly (second from left) with her fellow award winners and Assistant Principal Sandra Wylie

I began to think about why I had been chosen and can only think that it is because of the work I do in mentoring my peers and younger students in school. I listen to their problems and help them to sort them. I think I am good at it because in the past at my old school there were a lot of hearing people and only a few students who were deaf. It made life very difficult for me. I tried to make friends but they made fun of my speech and left me out of their social groups, I felt very alone.

Since coming to Mary Hare, this all changed because I did not feel the odd one out and am always included. It helped me to become a stronger person and more confident. This has helped me to empathise with people at school when they experience problems. My family are very proud of this achievement but were not so surprised because they know the work I do is recognised here. This award will be important to me as I move on to life after Mary Hare and I hope I will continue to help people.

## Music Exam Results

Congratulations to all of the students who received their music exam certificates at the start of the year. It has been another successful year for the Mary Hare Music Department and our thanks go to stu

Grace Lecznar  
Grade 2 Singing (Distinction)  
& Grade 3 Flute (Merit)  
Kirsty Day  
Grade 5 Piano

Helen Willis  
Grade 4 Piano  
Mikhail Novak  
Grade 2 Saxophone (Merit)  
Alessia Pointer  
Grade 2 Saxophone (Merit)



Grace Lecznar

# cuts

## NCDC

Newbury Contemporary Dance Company is a professional company who perform for audiences and run dance classes for all age groups. Contemporary dance mixes lots of different dance styles together, including modern ballet, jazz and hip-hop.

Every year they hold auditions to choose the best new talented dancers to join them and two Mary Hare students, Justine Durno and Emily Troddyn were accepted into the apprentice company. They attend weekly classes at a dance studio in Newbury and have developed their skills in a wide range of dance, as well as successfully integrating with other local dancers of their own age.

The company recently put on a show at the Corn Exchange, Newbury, which featured 22 different dance numbers and 130 young dancers. Justine and Emily both rehearsed very hard for this show and were in three of the dance numbers; they are both to be congratulated for their dedication and talent. They were subsequently promoted from the apprentice group to the main Youth Company, many of whom go on to study dance at university and become professional dancers.



Justine (left) and Emily

of the Spring term from School Principal Tony Shaw and Vice Principal Dr Nick Papas. It has dents and staff who have all worked so hard to achieve another set of fantastic results.



Kirsty Day



Helen Willis



Alessia Pointer

# Caro Wilson

It is strange to think that when my son first came to Mary Hare some sixteen years ago there was no Howard House, no Sixth Form centre or Art Department, no Primary School or Arlington Arts.

He went to Mansell House and was cared for by people like Chris Gwynn, Louise, Hazel and Pauline, and I joined the PTA. Eventually I became its Chair, succeeding Max Burgess and the thing I'm most pleased about now is helping to establish the Leavers' Lunch.

As chair of the PTA, I got to sit on the Governing Body and I just stayed and stayed, really because all the Governors are such lovely people and the issues are so interesting and the dreams so well worth pursuing.

I'm only retiring now because our move to Cambridge makes the journey impractical, but I'm delighted to have been made a Vice-President, which means I can visit whenever I like without having to do any of the work of a Governor. What could be luckier! My thanks to everyone for the great time I've had and my love and best wishes to you all for the future.



Professor Davis with his students in the Manor House

## US Visitors

In January, we were delighted to welcome visitors from the College of Notre Dame, Maryland, USA to Mary Hare School. Professor William Davis and his students had been studying two Victorian figures, Sir Francis and Lady Mary Jeune (also known as Lord and Lady St Helier), one-time owners of Arlington Manor, as their private country home.

They brought with them a copy of an illustrated interview in the Strand magazine, dated 1894, which showed pictures of the house and its interior. They were keen to see how much the Manor house had changed over the years!

The group were given a tour of the school by Development Director, Jane McMillan and were interested to find out more about the history of the house and how its use has changed over the years. 'We've had a most enjoyable visit', commented Professor Davis, 'and we were delighted to see how Mary Hare School has made such good use of these wonderful surroundings.'

# SLT Award

SLT is not really 'cool' is it? You don't get A-C grades, people don't take your photograph to appear in Soundwave and you have to come at lunchtime or after school, so that you don't miss lessons.

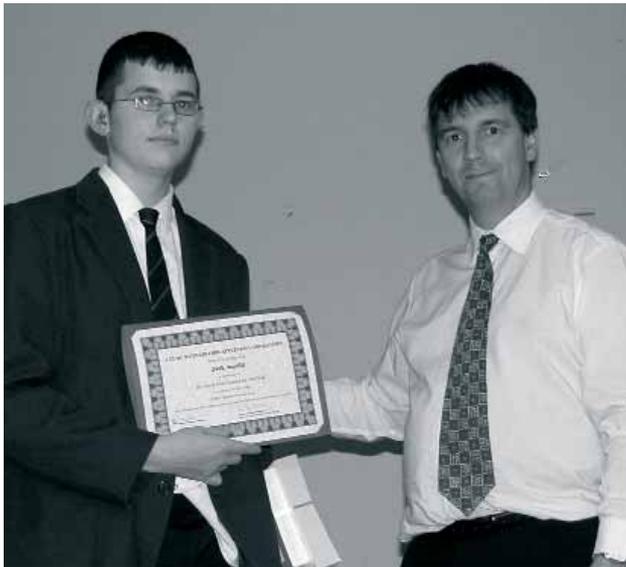
Currently 96 pupils attend sessions at least once every week with a member of the SLT team, and a mature attitude is needed to work on speech and language over a long period of time. Students need to be able to see that this work will help them in their future life, when they leave Mary Hare and move on.

It's tough - and to recognise this, the SLT team have launched an award scheme, which will go to one boy and girl each term who cheerfully attend every week and work hard.

The first of these (an HMV voucher) was recently presented to students Emily Galton and Andrew Tolmie - well done to both of them!



Emily and Andrew receive their award from School Principal Tony Shaw



Jack receives his certificate from Mr Davies

# School Science Prize

The CCLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory awards a prize each year to celebrate outstanding achievement in Science. The prize is awarded for achievement in Year 9 Science and previous Mary Hare School winners have included Justine Durno, Adam Watson and Helen Willis.

The winner this year was Jack Arnold, who received his prize from Head of Science, Mr Davies, at the end of term assembly, as unfortunately he was unable to attend the official ceremony at Rutherford Laboratories. Congratulations, Jack!

# Battersea Boxes

Year 9 students have been involved in a competition to design collection money boxes for Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. Their education officer judged the finished boxes and commented that all of the students should be proud of their efforts.

The top three designs came from: Alessia Pointer, Hassan Sheikh and Charlotte Havering, who all received a prize at the end of term assembly.



Alessia (left), Hassan and Charlotte



# Jaco

We sadly said goodbye to gap year student Jasper Jacobus (Jaco) Roussow at the end of the Winter term. Jaco had worked with us for a year and was really exceptional as a member of the care staff team.

One of his key roles was working with Year 8 boys - settling them down at bedtime, taking them out to play football, helping with prep, going on school trips - nothing was too much trouble and he proved to be efficient and very popular with staff and students alike.

We wish him happiness and success in his future life as he returns to the University of Stellenbosch (South Africa) to study civil engineering. He will be hugely missed.

# Heartstart

At the start of the Spring term, teaching staff took part in the Heartstart Training Programme, co-ordinated by the British Heart Foundation to promote and develop emergency life support training throughout the UK. Working in partnership with a wide range of agencies, the British Heart Foundation aims to save lives by providing opportunities to learn the skills of emergency life support.

The Heartstart programme is currently delivered to Years 7,8 and 9 and is updated every year. It also plays an important role in the PSHE programme at Mary Hare Primary School, where it is delivered to all staff and pupils.

As a result of a successful grant application, we now have eight resuscitation mannequins with which to perform chest compressions and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. After an informative morning, the staff completed the course and all are now recognised as trained instructors.



# Bowling

By Kristina Elkins

In January, Mr Bennett, our new teacher, took me and my form bowling. It was fantastic and great fun! It was the first time I had been out with my form. I was surprised to find out that Mr Bennett used to teach my brother Callum at school in Abingdon. He was really surprised that I am Callum's sister!

We would like to thank Mr Bennett and the care staff for a great night! We would love to do it again!

By Sophie Goodacre

## Crag Rats



In November, Year 11 students were invited to watch a presentation by 'Cragrats'. It was a play about possible choices and decisions about sixth form, college, A Levels, further education and apprenticeships.

There were four actors who were very nice and funny. They were very clear and easy to lipread; we also had STAGETEXT on the screen so that was helpful. They were acting like teenagers in Year 11, talking about their future. It wasn't boring for us because the actors made it really funny, so we enjoyed the show and learned new things about our future and the choices we would have to make. It was clever how they made a play from this and I learned a lot of new things.

It made me think more about my future and about how I need to start planning what I want to do for my A Levels. At the end of the play, they gave us a questionnaire to ask if we had learned anything, had we enjoyed it and was it useful? The answer was 'Yes' to all three questions!

## Tuck Shop

The school tuck shop has once more been opened as part of a GCSE business studies project. Students will be analysing their own performance during the project and working to maintain high levels of enthusiasm and competitiveness.

The group have formed a small Partnership and named the shop 'Supreme Sweets'. Ultimately, this alliance will teach them about the various facets of running a small business for a short period.



Hugh Mulloy tries out his sales technique



There's clearly a gap in the market...

They will experience the challenge of organising their own roles, running accounts and having clear marketing objectives. All this will assist with their coursework for the Summer of 2007. We wish them the best of luck and a healthy profit!

# Mary Hare

## We Need You!

Ever thought of doing something outrageous but not sure how to go about it? For example, running a marathon, doing a sponsored swim, cycling from London to Paris or doing a parachute jump. We can help you to fulfil this ambition....



Imagine standing at the edge of an open doorway of an aircraft flying at 10,000 feet - with only the outline of distant fields below.

Now imagine leaning forward out of that doorway and letting go - falling forward into the clouds, diving down through the air as you start freefalling at over 120mph!

Then imagine as the canopy opens, the steering toggles come down either side of you and you begin a tranquil parachute descent from a mile up in the air, steering yourself back down to the centre of the drop zone below.

Well, you can stop imagining because it's real and you can do it at an airfield near you by reserving a place on a 10,000ft freefall sponsored tandem skydive.

Why not experience that once-in-a-lifetime exhilaration and raise money for Mary Hare at the same time? No experience is required and if you raise the minimum amount of sponsorship, you will get to jump for FREE!

### Supporter John Ward is raising funds for Mary Hare with a sponsored cycle ride from London to Paris

His employer, BUPA, has generously agreed to match the funds he raises, doubling his total in one easy move! The route he will travel is one of the best cycling routes in Europe and John will be joined by some of his BUPA colleagues for the journey.

Cycling through English rural villages into the stunning countryside of France, John and his colleagues will pass many historical landmarks and areas, arriving in Paris on 17th June. We look forward to finding out the final fundraising results!

If you would like to sponsor him, visit our website:  
[www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk) (just click on the 'Donations and Fundraising' link)

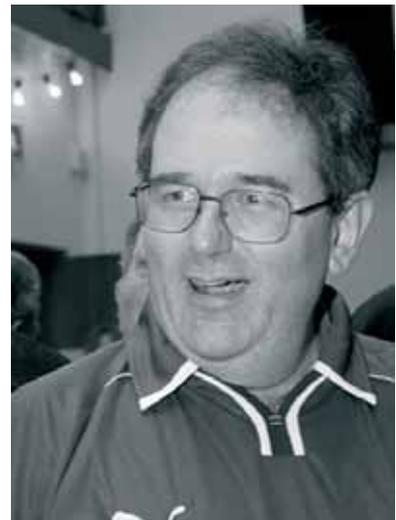


# are Foundation

## Our thanks go to ...

... Former pupil **Richard Cole and friends**, who recently organised 'A Bit of a Mary Hare Do', raising a staggering £3,000 through ticket sales, raffles and donations. This money will make a huge contribution to the appeal for the refurbishment of the Mary Hare School Youth Club.

For more information about his event and where the money is going to, please see the Alumni News pages in this magazine.



Richard Cole



Ian Allchin - tired but happy!

... **Ian Allchin**, another former pupil, who recently completed a sponsored swim to support his classmate Richard Cole in his fundraising efforts. Ian successfully raised just over £700, which was a fantastic achievement.



... Former pupil **Mark Gill**, who is currently on a teaching placement in the PE Department at Mary Hare School. At the time of going to print, Mark is about to run in the 2007 Flora London Marathon on Sunday 22nd April 2007.

He is running to raise funds for the Burwood Family Advice Centre, with a contribution going to the PE Department at school. You can still support him by donating online: [www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk). Watch out for news on the website and in our next magazine, on how much he raised.

If you would like to fundraise by doing something 'different' then we'd love to hear from you. Just contact Anne Munby in the Development Office at Mary Hare School.

Tel 01635 244204 / email: [foundation@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:foundation@maryhare.org.uk) THANK YOU!

# Alumni News

## A Bit of a 'Mary Hare' Do!

Richard Cole attended Mary Hare from 1971 - 1977, serving as House Captain, Chairman of many clubs and a member of the popular music group, 'Lumpy Custard'! He was recently diagnosed terminally ill with a form of Motor Neurone Disease and once the diagnosis had been confirmed, he expressed a wish for a Mary Hare get-together, which took the form of a private party earlier this year. Richard takes up the story...

**A**s all of my friends know, I am absolutely passionate about Mary Hare and everything associated with it! I served on the committee of the Mary Hare Old Pupils Association for nine years - firstly as Social Secretary, then Treasurer and finally as Chairman. I have only ever missed one reunion at the school since leaving the school and I am currently a moderator of one of the on-line forums for former pupils.



Robert Nolan with the Big Red Book

We spent many busy few weeks arranging this party and decided to turn the event into a fundraiser in aid of the Mary Hare Foundation, asking the invited guests to add a voluntary donation to the Foundation when applying for their tickets! The response was absolutely fantastic and the event was attended by many former pupils and teaching staff from the 60s and 70s.

My wife Jane and I have been very touched by the many kind messages that we have received from numerous Mary Hare friends and contacts since news of my illness was made known. I was also very touched that various past (plus one present!) members of the teaching staff came to the party - including Mike Kell and Jim Wright as well as Chris Gwynn. We all had a great night - I was exhausted afterwards!



Richard (seated front row, centre) with

Additional teddy bears are for sale at £18 each - this includes postage, packing and a donation to Mary Hare. To order, please e-mail [frances558@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:frances558@hotmail.co.uk) or [v.gee1@ntlworld.com](mailto:v.gee1@ntlworld.com). Former pupil Jane Atkinson was busy at the party taking photographs. These are available for purchase and can be viewed at [www.janeatkinsonphotography.co.uk](http://www.janeatkinsonphotography.co.uk). Do have a look - see how many faces and names you recognise!

During the evening I was given a wonderful surprise - 'This is your Life' treatment, hosted by Robert 'Michael Aspel' Nolan. Robert was only able to talk upon a few stories from my Mary Hare days - the actual book, however, covered numerous stories that were contributed by a whole host of my extended Mary Hare family. This had been painstakingly compiled by a number of people and was accompanied by a whole host of personal photos from my childhood years that had been forwarded by many former pupils and collated by Jon Brown.

Frances Ewing, Vanessa Gee (Barrow) and Gillian Frazer (Spence) also presented me with a teddy bear wearing a white shirt and an embroidered school tie in the same green design with coloured stripes that we all wore at Mary Hare in the 1960s & 1970s.

My fellow year group member, Ian Allchin literally went the extra mile by completing a sponsored swim a few days after the party, with the proceeds being shared between the Mary Hare Foundation and my local branch of the MND Association, the latter of which has been assisting me greatly with the much needed adaptations to my home.

The money raised by Richard and friends will help the refurbishment of Mary Hare School's Youth Club, which is being created in the style of an American 50s Diner. This donation will provide some of the 'white' goods including a fridge and oven plus bar stools and bean bags.

many names to mention, but you really did a grand job! *You can read more about Richard on his blog ([www.linketty.zoomshare.com](http://www.linketty.zoomshare.com)) which he tries to update fairly regularly.*

## It all went swimmingly!

Former pupil Ian Allchin completed a sponsored swim in February, raising funds for the Mary Hare Foundation and the Milton Keynes branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MND). Ian had decided to help his former classmate Richard Cole by doing the swim as part of the British Long Distance Swimming Association's 'One Hour Postal Swim'. The aim of this annual event is for BLDSA members to swim as far as they can, in their own pool, in one hour.

Ian, who is a Level 1 swimming teacher and a British Swimming Official, hadn't swum for over a year, due to ear infections, but was determined to raise funds for both the Foundation and the MND Association. With the aid of swim moulds (manufactured by Arlington Laboratories) Ian started swimming for 25 minutes twice a week before the actual event. He is pleased to say that he has not suffered any ear infections since then, so well done Arlington Labs!

Ian set about obtaining sponsorship from work, his swimming club and the brass band he plays for. Ian's employers had a scheme where employees request a set amount to be deducted from their salaries into a fund that is distributed to charities. Ian asked the fund committee for a donation and secured a generous donation of £250.

He also saw many former Mary Hare pupils at Richard's party who were all very generous with their sponsorship. By the day of the swim, Ian already had £1,100 in donations. Ian's target for the hour was 64 lengths of the 25m pool in Sittingbourne, Kent and he actually swam 88 lengths in one hour - 2.2km / 1.375 miles! He announced the results on the Mary Hare History Forum and at work and was soon offered further donations, bringing his final fundraising total to a fabulous £1,450! Our thanks go to Ian for his efforts and his support for our work at Mary Hare.



family and friends

The appeal for donations has exceeded all my initial expectations and I am absolutely delighted that a total of £3,000 was raised through the 'Mary Hare Bit of a Do'. When I was making initial plans for the party, I hoped that we would be able to raise perhaps £500 so I really can't thank everyone enough for their very kind generosity.

Many, many thanks to you all for making the party such a memorable event and for helping us all to raise funds for our beloved school. Many thanks, too, to all of the volunteers who helped to ensure that the weekend went well - there are far too

# Mary Hare Hearing Centre



Centre Manager Kevin Howlett (left) and Chief Executive Dr Ivan Tucker (right) invite Richard Benyon MP to cut the ceremonial opening ribbon

In December, Richard Benyon MP officially opened Mary Hare's first high street shop offering hearing support services for adults, in Newbury. The Mary Hare Hearing Centre welcomes anyone requiring help with all aspects of their hearing, from people who have all levels of hearing loss to those who work in a noisy environment.

Mr Benyon commented, "This is a fantastic resource for the area. By coming to the centre, you can benefit from the latest technology at a competitive price, while supporting an organisation that does so much for the deaf young people from all over the UK - a triple win."

By using the services at a Mary Hare Hearing Centre, customers will be directly benefiting the profoundly deaf children that we support, as half of the profits from the new Hearing Centre will go directly to the work of the Mary Hare charity. "We want people to have the confidence to look after their hearing in the same way as they would routinely visit their opticians," says Kevin Howlett, Manager of Mary Hare Hearing Centres. "We'll be offering all the back-up and expertise you would expect from an organisation with over 100 years of experience in this field." The Centre will offer:

**Independent assessments of your hearing needs**

**Educational demonstrations of hearing ability**

**A full report on your hearing thresholds and dynamic ability to hear to take away with you**

**Advice on the supply of hearing instruments and the appropriate technology for your budget and life style needs**

**Products for hearing protection and advice for those working in a noisy environment**

**Efficient and cost-effective maintenance services regardless of where you bought your hearing instruments.**

**Hearing aid batteries at cost price - 99p for a pack of six**

**An individual full time service designed for you and your needs six days per week**



All options are discussed before a decision on the right hearing instrument is made

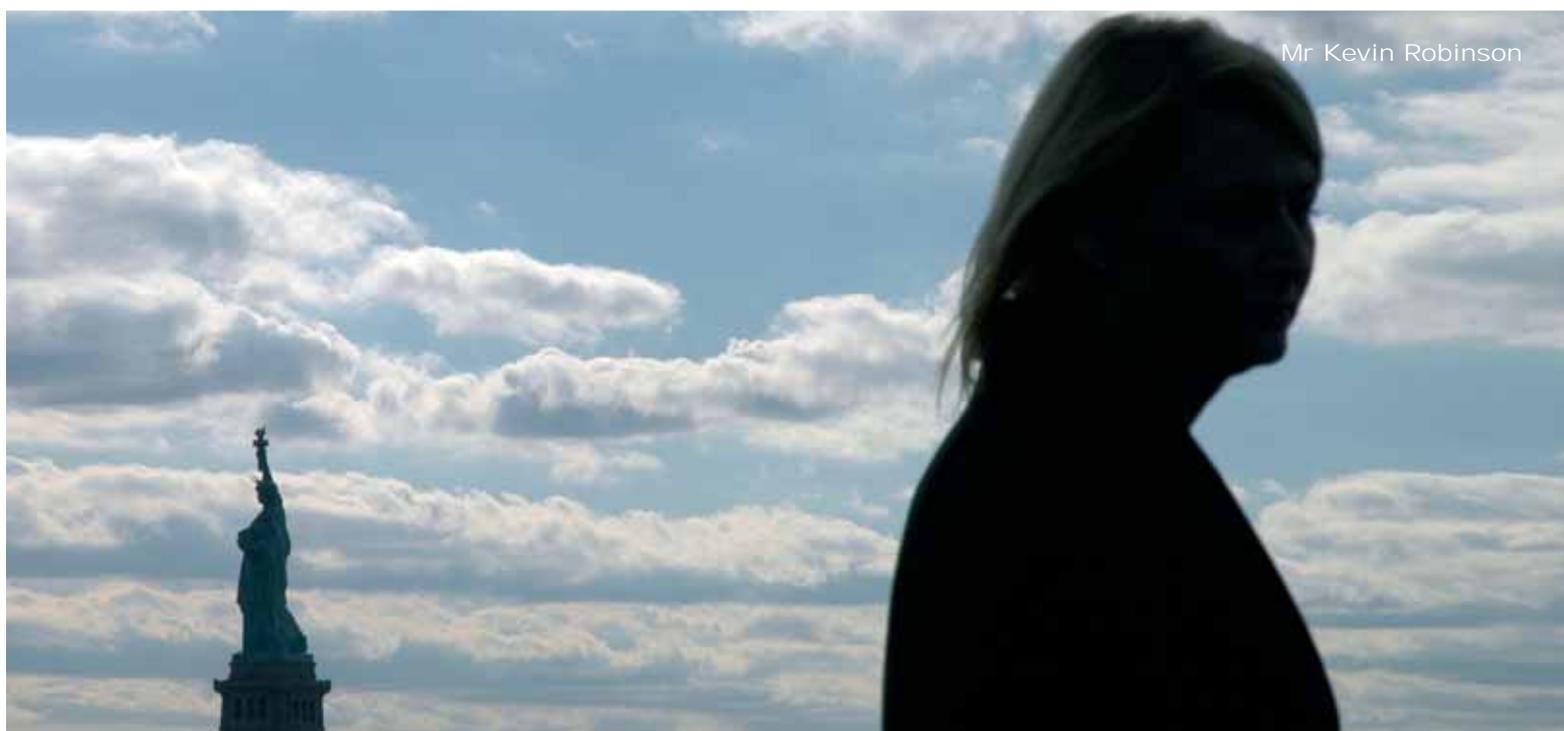
Simon Brooks

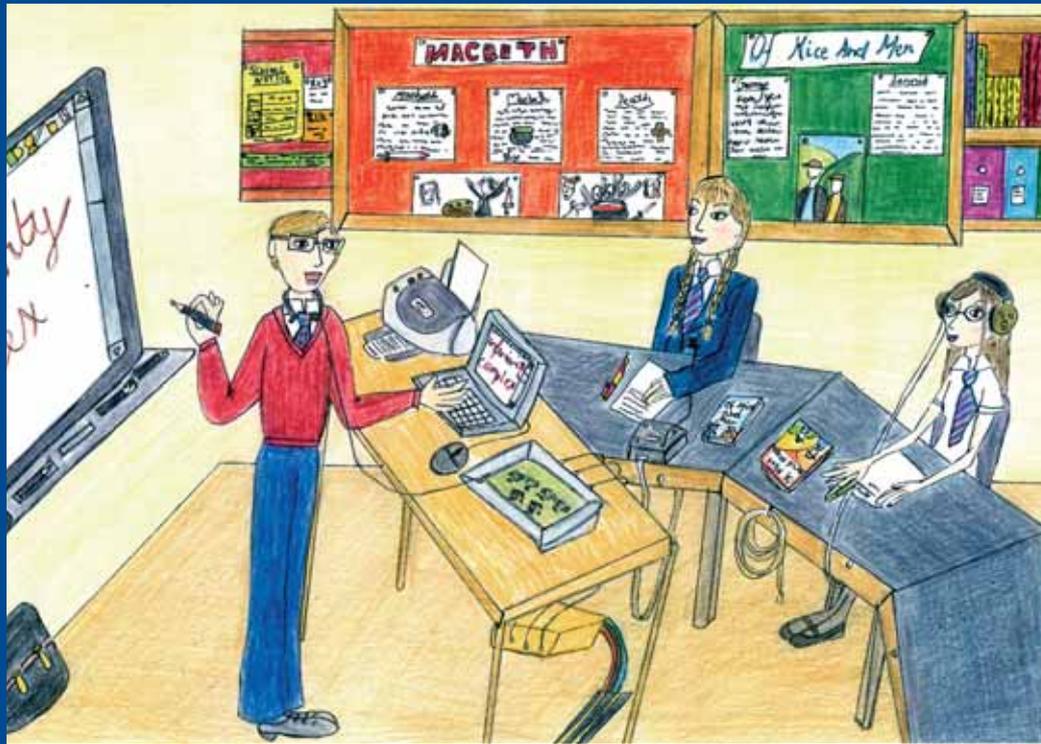


Louis Francis



Mr Kevin Robinson





Classroom: How the imagination roams (See Page 14) illustration by Helen Willis

For further information about Mary Hare, please visit our website: [www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk)



### Mary Hare Primary School

Registered Charity No: 1048386  
 Mill Hall, Pigeons Farm Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG18 8XA  
 Tel (voice / minicom): 01635 573800  
 Fax: 01635 524999 / email: [primary@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:primary@maryhare.org.uk)



### Mary Hare School / Mary Hare Sixth Form

Registered Charity No: 1048386  
 Arlington Manor, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 3BQ  
 Tel: 01635 244200 Minicom: 01635 244260  
 Fax: 01635 248019 / email: [school@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:school@maryhare.org.uk)



### Mary Hare Foundation / Mary Hare Alumni Association

Arlington Manor, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 3BQ  
 Tel: 01635 244233 Fax: 01635 248019  
 email: [foundation@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:foundation@maryhare.org.uk)  
 Registered Charity No: 1002680



### Arlington Arts Centre

Mary Hare, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 3BQ  
 Tel: 01635 244231 Box Office: 01635 244256  
 Minicom: 01635 244260 Fax: 01635 248019  
 email: [admin@arlingtonarts.co.uk](mailto:admin@arlingtonarts.co.uk) / web: [www.arlingtonarts.co.uk](http://www.arlingtonarts.co.uk)

### For information on our associated services

(hearing assessments, training, earmould and hearing aid services) please contact our Marketing Office: 01635 244233 / [marketing@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:marketing@maryhare.org.uk)