

NEWS LINK

The Landau Forte College Newsletter

Summer 2000

Designs on the Web

Two Year 10 students have been rewarded for their skills in web design after creating a company website last year.

Martin Simpson and Dalbir Burhm successfully designed and created the site for Jencol Employment Agency in Castle Donington, after being hand-picked for the task when the company approached the College in November 1999.

Jenny Collins of Jencol Employment Agency approached the College after hearing of the success of other websites the boys had designed: "I thought it would be a good chance for pupils to gain valuable experience in designing a professional website," she said. Mrs Collins told us customers had been very impressed with the site which is "...simple to use and downloads very quickly."

The two boys who are currently studying GNVQ Information Technology, received a total of £100 in vouchers from Jencol to thank them for their efforts and have since begun their own small business, improving other company websites and advertising their services on the Internet. Both boys were pleased with the result of their project. Dalbir said: "We went into it blind but now we would like to carry on with it in the future."

Mrs Collins certainly thinks Martin and Dalbir have got a "very good career" ahead of them in web design if they wish.

Their own websites can be found at:
<http://www.dal-artworks.org.uk> and
<http://www.web-dynamics.org.uk>

James Cheyne, Year 12



JENCOL web-page designers Martin Simpson and Dalbir Burhm

Message From The Principal



During the year we have witnessed many excellent achievements. Please accept my congratulations on those achievements and sincere thanks for the tremendous efforts that have been made.

We are now looking towards the examination results in August. Irrespective of the outcome, I should like to acknowledge the outstanding effort that has been made by many students who have been tirelessly supported by staff and parents and I hope they gain what they have worked so hard to achieve.

A number of students from Years 13 and 11 will leave us this summer. Please take our good wishes with you; I hope that you have enjoyed your time at Landau Forte College and that you will have positive memories of your time here.

We also have a number of staff leaving us: Nick Watson (Technology) will move into a school supporting students with emotional and behavioural difficulties; Sharon Thompson (Technology) will move into a further education college in Stoke on Trent; Geri Robinson (Curriculum Leader for PE) will similarly move into further education at a college in Hampshire; Karen Gypps (Performing Arts) will become Co-ordinator of Dance at a school in Bournemouth, and Matthew Oxley (English) will become Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator for English at a school in Nottingham. I would like to thank all of those staff for their

contributions to the College and offer my good wishes to them in their new appointments.

In August we shall welcome new staff to the College: Nigel Maddock (Curriculum Leader for Physical Education), Christopher Doody and Kevin Gilbert (Technology), Charlene Thackrah (Performing Arts) and Keely Smith (Physical Education).

On a personal note, I would like to wish all of those people who have given me their unstinting support over the year - have a good summer, let us hope that the sun eventually shines!

Stephen Whiteley
Principal

JENCOL

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
67 BOROUGH STREET
CASTLE DONINGTON
DERBY
DE74 2LB

Recruitment for Temporary & Permanent Office/LID Vacancies

FREE REGISTRATION

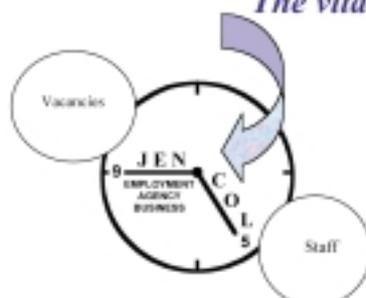
APPOINTMENT SERVICE

TEL: 01332 812423

FAX: 01332 811290

E-mail: jenny@jencol.co.uk

The vital link!



Surf the net
to find our new website at
www.jencol.co.uk

Bitten By The Bookbug!



On Thursday 22 June 2000 the English Department was pleased to host 50 Year 2 visitors and their teachers, Mary Dennis, Cath O'Connor and parent support Anne Cupit from St Mary's RC Primary School.

The visit was part of

Derby City Council's Bookbug Celebration promoting the enjoyment of reading through storytelling activities, followed by the opportunity to contribute to a story-writing project by logging onto the Derby Intranet in the afternoon.

After their arrival, the children were taken into the Information Centre at the College and welcomed by



English staff before being treated to a story read by Glenys Stevens, visiting storyteller, in which a fat sultan was outwitted by a jewel-stealing rooster... all good fun!

After a brief snack in the Restaurant the students returned to the Information Centre where Year 7 volunteers from the College waited to share some of their own favourite stories with the youngsters. The reading groups soon lost their initial formality, becoming more animated and lively as firstly both readers and audience

became more involved in sharing the stories and pictures, and finally the audience demanded possession of the books and took over the reading process!

As the St Mary's students left, our own Year 7 students were equally reluctant to return to their classrooms having thoroughly enjoyed the experience – not least the nostalgia of re-reading old favourites!

We all love stories, and sharing them in such a way rewarded that pleasure.

J. Naylor

The European Evening

A competition was held to produce posters to advertise the event and the two winning entries were used as programme covers – congratulations to Lee Walker and Costas Millas.

The College held its first European Evening in February before a large audience in the theatre. The celebration of the work done in Language Classes involved more than one hundred students from every year group in College. Read on to find out what they said about the evening; Michael Siviter takes up the story...

It was February 9; the night the whole College had been looking forward to; the night the students and staff had put so much effort into: it was the European Evening 2000.



Living' la vida Loca

This was a night when friends and families of students could come to College and have a chance to see what we had been doing in Languages. The atmosphere was great. There were some excellent

acts from food-tasting to live singing. Simon Smith and Bima Herz performed a version of *Living' la Vida Loca* by Ricky Martin, which got everybody off their chairs.

Our class 8F3 really wanted to do something different. With a little help from our German teacher, Mrs. Smith, we decided to perform a fashion show. But this was no ordinary fashion show, the models were wearing night clothes. It was the reporters who had the hardest job. They had to describe what the models were wearing. It was no

easy task. The whole act had to be in German.

After weeks of practising hard and staying behind after school, we thought we were ready to show our class. They thought it was very amusing seeing the models dressed up in pyjamas and dressing gowns. After we had been through the act several times without any mistakes we were ready for the big night.

The evening soon came and it did not seem long before we had to show our piece on stage. This was when the nerves were really showing. The song *You Sexy Thing* was our cue to come on. The music started and my group walked out from behind the curtain. The light beamed in our faces. Emma Greaves, Kelly Morgan and myself all danced our way on to the stage. When we were there all our nerves disappeared. Our piece finished and we left the stage. I realised then that there was nothing to worry about at all.

Other acts during the evening included a short *Casualty* scene, a German poem instructing children to brush their teeth and some fantastic live music. Spanish students danced to the *Macarena*. After they had finished we all got a huge round of applause. We felt very proud of ourselves.

The European Evening was a great success. I hope it was the first of many to come

Michael Siviter, Year 8



The Fashion Show



Zehn Finger

Curriculum



Mr and Mrs James: winners of the European Quiz

COMPETITIONS ADDED FLAVOUR TO THE EVENING!

Mrs Hacking and her team worked very hard in advance of the occasion to produce trays of food and drink to be identified during the interval. There were some very interesting guesses, and if you are still not sure what you ate on the evening the answers are below. The winning team was the Mitchell family with a stunning 19 out of 20 correct replies. Their prize was a big box of chocolates to help take away the taste of the items they did not enjoy!

EUROPEAN EVENING FOOD TASTING QUIZ

Bon appétit! ¡Qué aproveche! Guten Appetit!

Item Name of item Country it comes from

| | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| A | Mateus Rosé wine | Portugal |
| B | Salami | Denmark |
| C | Omelette | Spain |
| D | Humous | Greece |
| E | Pâté | France/Belgium |
| F | Emmental Cheese | Switzerland |
| G | Sauerkraut | Germany |
| H | Goulasch | Hungary |
| I | Guinness | Ireland |
| J | Apfelstrudel | Austria |

The second quiz, on tables throughout the first part of the evening, was very testing. Fiendishly difficult questions about Europe had been put together by a team of staff including Mr Holmes and Mr Knibbs. The winning team, Mr and Mrs James, received their prize from the Principal at the end of the evening.

Teams of staff and students worked very hard to make everything go with a swing and a special mention must go to Jim Rolley-Parnell and his wonderful team of technicians, who coped brilliantly with a very demanding programme. The atmosphere was fun and festive and focussed on the great achievements of all those who learn languages at the College.

J. John



Mr Rolley Parnell and the technicians

There was a serious side to the evening. Between each performance the four compères had to give the audience information about the history and culture of Europe, or set the context of each performance to give the audience a better chance of understanding the foreign languages used by the students.

Towards the end of the evening we presented some information about the Berlin Wall and the effects it had on life in Germany. As part of my A Level course in German I had researched the reunification of Germany and produced a display board of information to be exhibited on the evening, as well as introducing performances by Year 8 students.

Matthew Harris, Year 12

One of the most funniest moments was when Simon and Bima sang 'Livin' la Vida Loca' in Spanish. Every one got up and started dancing. Another good moment was at the end when everyone joined in to bring a real party atmosphere to the evening.

Stacy Iqbal, Year 8

There was also a catwalk where students dressed up in anything from pyjamas to Red Indian suits and wedding dresses. A lot of preparation and hard work went into the evening. Students practised in their language classes and had meetings and rehearsals after school. There was a big turnout on the night and the parents even joined in with a quiz and singing. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and the evening was a great success.

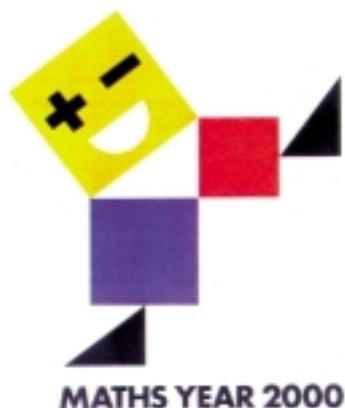
Camilla Mirza, Year 8

In German lessons we learned a song called 'Zehn Finger'. This was about the names of different body bits in German. Before the European Evening we had to practise to get everything right and had to learn a lot of moves in the dance. We think the best part of the dance was when we had to clap and turn, also when the boys who were singing at the back were singing a line and the girls who were at the front would sing the same line in a higher voice. We really enjoyed performing and we hope that there will be many more European Evenings to come.

Gursher Dard, Gemma Davis and Adrian Bradley, Year 8

Curriculum

Maths Year 2000



What is this all about?

We all know the year started with a lot of celebrations whether we agree it is the start of the new millennium or not! As the number of the year is so special we want to celebrate it along with the government initiative of raising Numeracy standards in Britain.

What have we done in College?

We have participated in the Fantasy League football competition. We had 81 teams that entered and I hope students (and staff!) have had fun watching their score accumulate as players did their part on the pitch throughout the football league season.

Landau Forte College was placed 28th out of 276 schools, so congratulations to everyone! The college champion is Vikas



Year 8 and spatial awareness!

Sidhu in Year 9 who amassed 345 points. Well done also to John Fyall and Luke Inger who came second with 338 and Ifza Khushnud, third, with 332. All students are in Year 8.

A special mention also goes to Sanjay Jalporte who won the Manager's accolade for Year 13, Daniel Redfern for Year 12, Thomas Hassel for Year 11, Surinder Rai for Year 10, Tim Coe for Year 7 and finally, but not least, Mr John Cox for the staff.

This was a closely fought battle but the Director of Finance just squeezed the extra points in the last week to win!

For all of you who missed out this year you can join in next season for the same cost: £3.50. Remember 20p goes to the Banardo's charity. Thanks to Mr Bellamy for the weekly updates.

Moving away from football we have had our inter-college Puzzle of the Week competition thanks to Mr Gamblen. The lateral thinking questions have caused a lot of discussion and debate, and good luck to the tutor bases in the final. Many of these puzzles are from the Sunday newspapers – have you seen them?

We launched Numeracy time in tutor bases on a rotational basis. The zippy packs of numeracy equipment in tutor time have been useful and I know tutor bases have been keenly trying their wits in *Countdown* and *Zone Capture* games.

Another more familiar dimension of our involvement in Maths Year 2000 has been the great success in the UK Mathematical Challenges. The Intermediate Mathematics Challenge results were 7 gold, 13 silver, and 22 bronze; the Junior Mathematics Challenge results were 4 gold, 15 silver, and 20 bronze. Well done to all who participated.

For those of you who feel you can hold your own, here's the challenge:

Three-quarters of the junior members of a tennis club are boys and the rest are girls. What is the ratio of boys to girls among these members?

A) 3:4 B) 4:3 C) 3:7 D) 4:7 E) 3:1

The answer can be found on page 24.

Meanwhile, 19 students attended the Pop Maths Quiz at Derby University on Saturday 19 June. All students had great fun and had to solve 20 problems posed at varying degrees of difficulty. Congratulations go to Michael Siviter, Alex Fletcher, Punjeet Bola

Humber Leap

and Robert Petrie who won their 11-13 age category against 14 other schools.

Parents: it's now time for your involvement! The Maths Year 2000 website is excellent and is continually being developed. Try the 'space invader' type game at: www.mathsyear2000.org, and follow these themes with your child at home:

January- February
Maths on time

March- April
Maths takes shape

May- June
Maths at work

July - August
Maths in play

September - October
Maths and people

November- December
Maths and money

Finally, don't forget to collect the tokens from the crisps and biscuit packets for Maths Year 2000: we can exchange them for equipment; perhaps you can enter the competition to write a verse for the S Club 7 song *Count on Me*?

So keep talking numbers and looking for the opportunity to do NUMBERS, NUMBERS, NUMBERS!!! You should have fun.

R. Pioli

On a glorious Sunday at the end of April this year I looked over the edge of the Humber Bridge and prepared for an unorthodox way of getting off the structure - a free abseil! The day had been organised by the Cystic Fibrosis Charity in order to raise sponsor money for their valuable research.

As each intrepid adventurer prepared to 'go over the side' tension was palpable,

face." These were the instructions from the rather young-looking anchor man. Once under the bridge, I descended slowly, in control of my speed and enjoying the view.

Although it was soon over, I enjoyed the experience, got the certificate and raised £115.00 from Landau Forte staff and students. I thank them for their support.

C. Holme

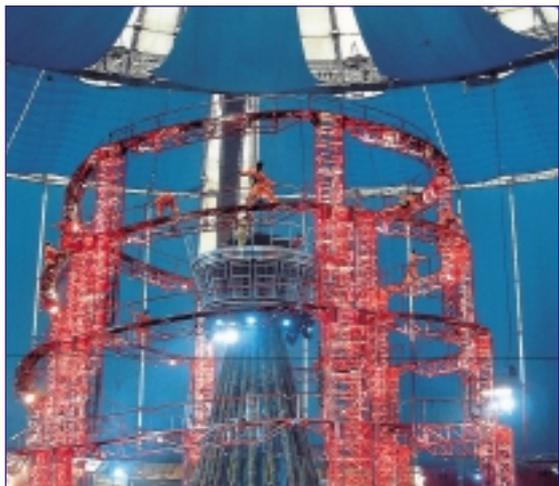


Enjoying the descent!

adrenaline was racing and one or two volunteers were even nervous. Not me though, I decided that a mere 100 feet was 'easy peasy' and asked to go down the tower instead!

Even though the drop was not as terrifying as first expected, climbing over the railings and balancing on a three-inch ledge was quite exciting! "Lean out backwards, walk a few steps then jump to swing under the bridge or you'll hit your

Dome gets "thumbs-up"



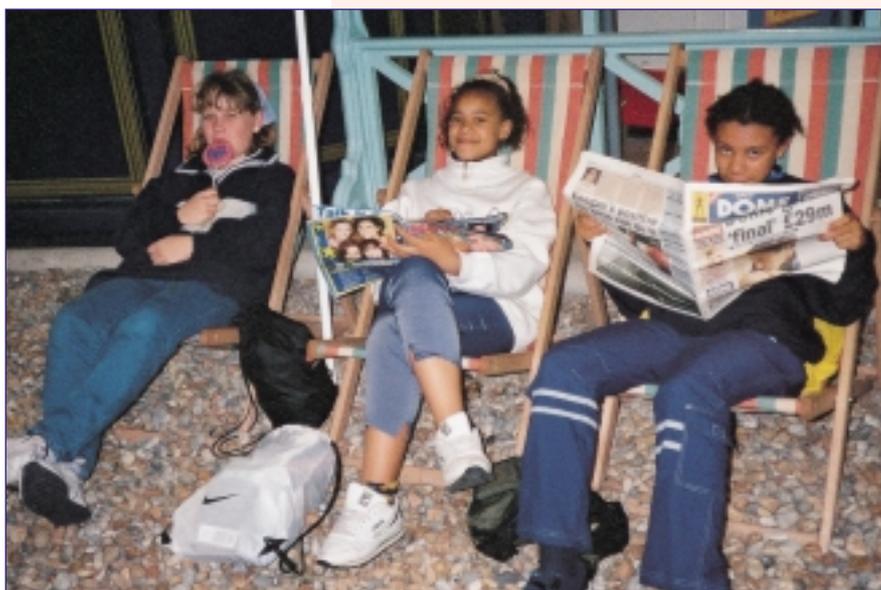
The Millennium Show:
"Don't look down!"

At 6.30 am on Tuesday 23 May, 71 excited students and 7 bleary-eyed staff set off from College, full of expectations for their day at the Dome.

On arrival our party entered the Skyscape to watch a specially recorded episode of *Blackadder* - a hilarious time-travelling

adventure featuring characters and events from the past 100 years and beyond. This kept both students and staff in stitches.

Following this we entered the Dome itself where our day really started. From the outside the Dome looks huge and once inside, faced with the 15 zones it was hard not to feel a little



"Livin' it up" in the Living Island Zone

overwhelmed by it all. However, in our eagerness to visit as many zones as possible we soon forgot about worrying about getting lost, or when we could have lunch!

The *Money* zone was greatly enjoyed, where students had the opportunity to try to spend a million pounds in a minute. (Not surprisingly most of them managed it with the greatest of ease!) Another favourite zone was *Play*, an area filled with a multitude of interactive games for all ages.

The much talked-about *Body* zone impressed all the students, with its intricate detail and life-like qualities. Student observations included: "It really looked like it was working like a human being," Kylie Morris, Year 7, and "...it was the best zone because some of the stuff was disgusting!" Kelly Ann Blurton, Year 7.

A highlight of the day for many was the Millennium show. This dazzling display of acrobatic ability, spectacular special effects and magnificent music combined to produce a well-polished show that was truly stunning. The story behind it was a little hard to follow but despite its rather extended length the students were transfixed right until the final bow. With so much of the show taking place above and around them, students found plenty to fascinate them. Lucy Baldwin, Year 7 stated: "It was the best show I have ever seen! I sat with my mouth open the whole time!" while Tom Murfin, Year 8 somewhat daringly commented: "It was great, not even Mr Coffey could have done better!"

As a thoroughly exhausted group returned home the general consensus was that they'd all had an enlivening, educational and unforgettable day out. And would they recommend the Dome to others? A resounding YES - but don't forget to wear your comfy shoes!

Susie Jackson, Year 12

Curriculum

Watch this space! - or rather the Internet

Exciting things are happening with our intranet and website at the College.

New pages have a habit of appearing on this site just when you thought it was stale and uninviting. So watch out: nothing stays the same for long.

New to the site since February have been most of Key Stage 3 Student Guides in various subject areas. This enables students to check on their progress and they can print out an extra guide if needed. The exam timetable for this year went onto the intranet and was hopefully useful for students wishing to check examination times and places. *College Events* is also a recent inclusion, which with ongoing development will bring details of a range of events.

The latest addition are the *Trade Fair* pages displaying this year's event through pictures and videos. A first for the intranet.

What about the college website?

A counter has been incorporated into

the site so we can monitor visits to the site: how many, when and where. The results so far tell us we have hosted international visitors on a truly global scale: Canada, Germany, France, Mexico, Brazil, Thailand, Australia, Malaysia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Greece, Singapore, Denmark, Poland, Hungary, United Arab Emirates, Spain and Italy!

Please feel encouraged to visit our website: you are sure to find something of interest concerning the College and your child's education. The Ofsted report is going to be available too enabling prospective students and their parents and any other interested parties to see how well we did.

Moves are being made to further develop the whole look of the site and to display more current projects. Navigation of the site has been improved too, hopefully making finding your way around easier!

C. Wood

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20
YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE

Colour Printers

Curriculum

Trade Fair 2000



The Trade Fair is an annual event for Year 8 students which started a few years ago. The idea is that we have to make and market a product, which we have to try and sell. We are helped to prepare for this event through most of

our subject area studies.

On the day, visitors from industry and business come in and we have to compete to get the most orders. The products this year were radios and food.

We had to get visitors to our

stalls and get them interested in our products. We did this by showing them our portfolios, consisting of all our work for the Trade Fair, containing for example company mission statements and history, job descriptions and



financial information.

To start with most of us felt nervous talking to the visitors, but once we had spoken to one person, it became easier. We spoke to lots of people throughout the day, showing off our products. By the time the end came, we were all hot and tired, but it was worth it for a great day.

Jonathan Bunce, Year 8

Historical Bureau of Investigation

HBI is a club for people who are interested in investigating and discussing historical problems and mysteries. Over the last two terms we have tackled questions such as 'Who shot JFK?' 'How historical are videos like *The Eagle has Landed?*' and 'Why do people deny the Holocaust?' We also play historical games such as *The Cuban Missile Crisis* game, and a

'Battle of Waterloo' version of *Risk*.

All topics are decided by members of the group, so if you have something you'd like to find out about, just come along and ask! The club meets in H8 on Tuesdays: 4.00-4.45pm.

C. Brett

Curriculum

The Magic of Science!



Sarah Tustain and Chipmunk

We, that is six enthusiastic members of staff, and 66 Year 10 students, set off for an imaginative and worthwhile opportunity to broaden our knowledge and understanding of the practical applications of science. This experience took place at Disneyland Paris over three days in January. A holiday I hear you say? Definitely not!

Students completed assignments based on their experiences while there. Did you

know that *The Space Mountain* ride is 450 metres long and takes 30 seconds? This means we travelled at an average speed of 15 metres per second, or 50 miles per hour! We then worked out our acceleration. We also learnt about changes in energy and what it feels like

Sam Vasey, Sarah Tustain and Pluto



to be weightless. All good solid science. Another interesting area we looked at was the environmental implications of a project such as Disneyland Paris. How many litres of water are consumed each year? Where does it come from and where does it go? Our findings during the day in the park were backed up by lectures in the evenings.

Not only did students see Science from an exciting and hopefully motivating



Disneyland Paris: Main Street

angle; they experienced trying to communicate in a foreign language as they purchased items in francs and converted the values to sterling. Lastly students learnt the art of team work: four sharing a room certainly made things quite cosy!

The experience: exhausting, educational and inspirational, was enjoyed by staff and students alike. The students deserve to be congratulated on their excellent behaviour: they were a real credit to the College.

J. Boothroyd

Cliffhanger!

You may remember that in the last issue of *Newslink* a Geography competition promised a camera to the writer of the winning essay. The winning essay, by David Holmes, follows. David receives a camera at the end of term: congratulations!

E. Meredith

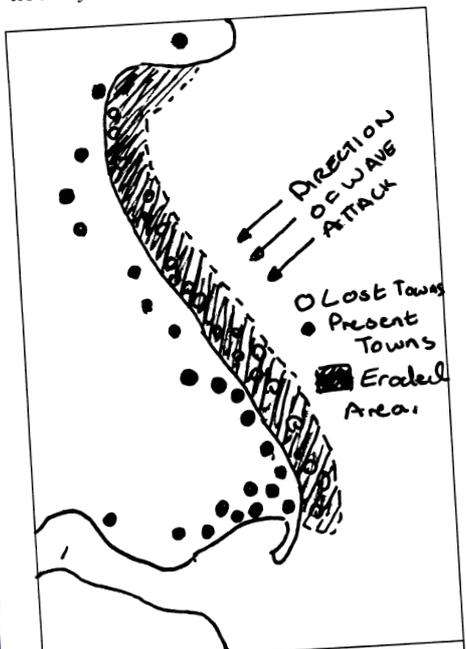
CLIFFHANGER!

David Holmes

19 March 2000

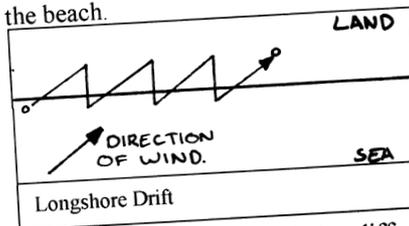
It's official! Britain is getting smaller! Due to coastal erosion many of Britain's towns and villages have fallen into the sea, never to be seen again. Millions of pounds have been spent on slowing this rate down.

Seven years ago, on 5th June 1993, Holbeck Hall Hotel, Scarborough dropped into the sea at a rate of 10 ft an hour. Later cracks appeared in the hotel and car park and the area was declared unsafe. It was later realised that a half-mile stretch of 150 ft of cliff top had collapsed. Fortunately, there was no one on the beach at the time, so nobody was injured.



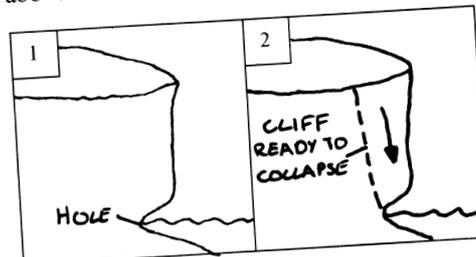
The Humberside Area. The Blue Area is the land, which has been lost and the hollow circles are the lost towns

The erosion is mainly caused by Longshore Drift, which is the gradual movement of sediments along the beach. The tide moving up the beach travels at an angle due to the prevailing wind. The tide that travels back down the beach takes the shortest route. Because of this materials move along the beach.



As the materials are moved, the cliffs are bare and are vulnerable to destructive waves. The waves can cause erosion in many ways. Small pieces of rock can smash against the cliffs (Corrasion) and the air in small cracks weakens the cliff as they rush out (Hydraulic Action).

Between the high-water mark and the low-water mark a hole is eroded into the cliff (1). This weakens the cliff above which collapses into the sea (2).



If more protection isn't made for Britains coasts, then a lot more of Britains countryside will plunge into the sea; People will lose their homes, and worse, their lives.

Web Design at Landau Forte College

The Internet has become a daily part of our lives and it seems that anybody who's 'anE-body' has their own website. Students from Landau Forte are no exception, embracing the web revolution with a whole range of personal and professional web pages.



Jane Hamilton's website design

"People are learning to design websites because the Internet is the marketing platform of the future," I am told by A Level IT student Phillip Upson: "People are going to make a lot of money out of it, and to keep up with the times is to ensure future success; after all we're no longer restricted to advertising on telegraph poles!"

Phil enjoyed the financial benefits of designing a website for Oakwood Eyecare Centre and has since secured a part-time job there, certainly one good reason for students within the College to learn how to actually design and publish the web pages most of us see on our screens every day.

However it's not just the cash or the credibility that drives Landau Forte students to learn about web design. Year 10 students are using the skills they have learnt to design their own personal pages. Lisa Mattocks designed her own personal page, using skills she learned in Year 10 GCSE IT classes and from programs such as *DreamWeaver* and *Microsoft Front Page*. "When we

went on work placement, we spoke to companies and asked them about designing a website to get them more customers," Lisa told me. "At the moment we are learning to use *Front Page Express* in class."

Another Year 10 student who learned how to design web pages through her IT classes is Jane Hamilton. She designed a website for Carsington Sailing Club as part of her GCSE IT coursework and is currently designing another site for a swimming club. Jane finds it a very rewarding experience: "I have really enjoyed the challenge and I would encourage anyone who is interested to have a go." She continues: "To see your website on the internet is to know that people from all over the world can visit it."

IT guru Barry Thomas, whose own site: <http://www.histman.demon.co.uk> has been in heavy demand from A Level IT students, is pleased that his Year 10 students have been putting their new skills to good use. "I am glad to see that the many talented web designers in the College are being celebrated in this article," Mr Thomas said. "I think it is a good experience for students to produce personal websites because it gives them skills they can use later to produce commercial websites.

Well Mr Thomas should be pleased that Landau Forte students have taken such an enthusiastic approach to having their own pages on the net. Maybe we even have some potential Internet millionaires in our midst!

James Cheyne, Year 12

Curriculum

Courses for the Adult Community

Courses for the adult community are going from strength to strength. Our course programme, in partnership with Broxtowe College, is in its fifth successful year and offers anything from *Counselling Skills* to *Computers*; from *Home Interior Design* to *Book-Keeping*. Each year we expand and develop the courses on offer to widen participation within the community... there really is something for everyone!

600 people have already registered for this year's classes, no surprise given our achievement rate: in excess of 80% for both assessment and examination-based courses. This is further proof that our teacher-led classes help people get where they want to go. But don't just take our word for it, here are just a few of the positive comments we've received through course evaluations:

"Brilliant! One of the most helpful and informative tutors I've ever met."

"I am very impressed with the level of teaching and ease of environment."

"Relaxed atmosphere helped to boost my confidence."

"Very pleased to be able to attend a class on Saturday mornings – more convenient."

It's never too late to learn – ages of

our students range from 16 to 79!

We have exciting new courses commencing September 2000; we can also give you the opportunity to attend a free 'taster' session. For more information collect a prospectus or telephone Mrs. Back for advice or assistance, without obligation. You've no excuse now...

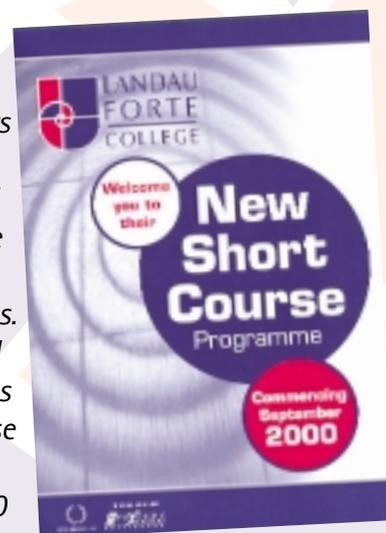
A. Back

'Computers for Beginners' classes are free of tuition fees. If you paid tuition fees for a course with us in 1999/2000 you can

enrol for a course at half-price tuition fees (£8 admin. Fee and qualification fees to be paid).

Family Courses: minimum age of child 6 years. Children will not be admitted to classes without at least one enrolled adult family member.

ALL CLASSES ARE TAUGHT – not 'teach yourself by manual'!



Performers of the Year



On 18 May earlier this year, the 2000 Finals for the Landau Forte Dramatic Monologue and Musical Performer of the year took place. We thought you might like to hear about it from two of the worthy winners themselves...

Tension was high between all the performers competing for the title of Musician of the Year, however the atmosphere between competitors was friendly and each entrant had the support of friends and family all eagerly awaiting those few minutes of fame.

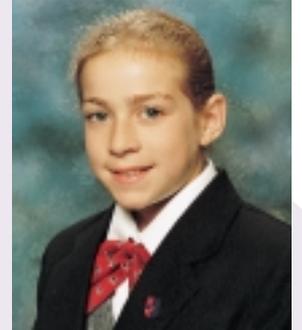
I'm not sure whether I prefer to perform first, last or somewhere in the middle. All are equally nerve-racking, but whether I liked it or not I was on last. Each piece was as good as the one before, with incredibly high standards of performing, and as the evening went on I got more and more nervous.

Finally, it was my turn to take the stage. Trembling slightly, I waited...and waited...and waited for the CD backing track to start. As the audience started to fidget a little I turned slightly to see the "techies" at the side of the stage communicating frantically on their radio mikes trying to sort out the mix up. Apparently the CD player wouldn't accept the CD (you should never rely completely on technology - there is always something that can go wrong!) and so I sat down for a few minutes whilst a portable CD player was fetched. Although embarrassing, the slight delay gave me time to pull myself together and I think I performed better because of it. I love the buzz I get from playing a piece of music that I enjoy and seeing the audience enjoy it too!

The judging seemed a painfully long process. However, the look on my little sister's face when the judges called out the winner summed everything up. As she sat on the edge of her seat, face beaming, I knew as I collected my trophy that it was a perfect ending to a very enjoyable, albeit nerve-racking evening.

Sarah-Jayne Halls, Year 10

Interspersed with the musical performers were the Dramatic Monologues, which gave the audience a range of imaginative and capturing performances.



First on stage for the Junior competition, Katie Appleby gave an emotive insight into Greek theatre in her performance as Hecabe from *The Theban Plays*. Debbie Hill delivered her narrative poem about the last fight of a Viking king with enthusiasm and courage; Laurissa Hamilton gave an imaginative, fearful and alarming monologue about a close encounter of an alien kind. The winner of the Junior Dramatic Monologue competition was Stacey Bateman who gave us an adaptation of *The Three Little Pigs*. The pitch and tone of her voice made the piece unique, she delivered the poem with good understanding and was definitely a worthy winner!

In the Senior competition, Simon Davis began with his frightful experience of being abducted by his own school - Landau Forte College, surely not! The humour made his piece an unforgettable and memorable performance. Second on was Michael Smith. His piece, *A Day Off*, was written by himself and he captured our attention with the originality and humour of the piece in which his character prepared himself for an interview with one of his staff who wanted 'a day off'! My monologue was the final piece: I had adapted Alan Bennett's *Her Last Chance* to portray a tawdry actress who exerts her 'charms' to mask a lack of talent. (I'm not like that really-honestly!) I was both pleased and surprised to win the Senior Monologue section! However, every competitor was a winner as they each were what made the night such an unforgettable event. Congratulations to every performer!

Alarna Hadden, Year 10

Senior Drama Group

Although Senior Drama Group hasn't been running long, there is already a lot of talent, commitment and hard work going into the production of our first piece. *The Laundry Girls* by Bill Owen has provided an opportunity for the group to develop and show off a wide range of drama and performance skills.

The experience of performing a scripted piece has been a first for many of the students. A different experience from Landau Forte Youth Theatre, Senior Drama Group is an outlet for those who love drama but are less 'into' music.

The wide range of talent and experience of the performers make the group a live and dynamic one with never a dull moment, offering great experience in teamwork skills. The group meet on Thursdays between 4.00-5.30 pm.

Our first performance of *The Laundry Girls* will be on Thursday 20 July 2000 as part of the Drama Evening.

Sarah Davidson, Year 10

The Bard Revisited

"Stir up the Athenian youth to merriments,

Awake the pert and nimble spirit of mirth."

Swap Athenian youth for students of Landau Forte College and 'merriments and mirth' for some good fun and laughs and basically you have what the Shakespeare Evening was all about. For those moved by titles, our evening's entertainment also made us part of 'The National Shakespeare Centre Millennium Link Project'; video footage and all paper records of the evening becoming part of a national record of Shakespeare events.

Anyway, the college theatre became the Globe for three hours as the 200 plus audience was treated to twelve interpretations of Shakespeare's art. *Macbeth's* 'weird sisters' cast spells to the beat of the *Backstreet Boys*, Bottom strutted his stuff, and his belly, in the mystical *Midsummer Night's Dream* and Romeo was raised from the grave to face Jerry Springer! Such performances represent merely a taste of what was seen and all 96 performers from across all Key Stages displayed remarkable originality in their 'Bardaptations'.

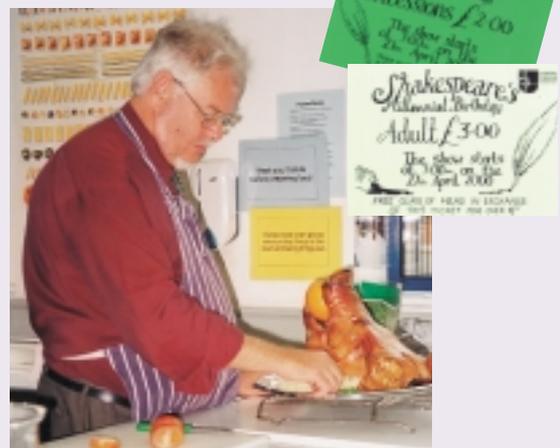
The students clearly enjoyed modernising the plays whilst still revealing terrific understanding of Shakespeare's drama: Tom Porter as the reincarnated Tybalt sips moodily from a bottle of brown ale recounting his murder of 'Romeo's big-eared mate Mercutio', having just perfectly captured his character's astonishment at Romeo's claims that he 'loves him'!

Whilst the performances tended towards the modern, the audience had the chance to enjoy some genuinely Elizabethan cuisine. During the interval the rustic recipes devoured included *Lombard Slices, Roast Suckling Pig* and *Pine-Nut Candy*; all which could be washed down with either Elizabethan Ale or mead.

The English Department would like to express an enormous 'thank you' to a number of people: the many students who performed on the evening and the many who played vital back-stage roles; Karen Hacking and Morris Webb for their culinary expertise; Allie Spencer and Tony Coffey for their dramatic input and Jim Rolley-Parnell for his superb technical support.

The 'spirit of mirth' was certainly felt by all. Whether it was 'pert and nimble', we can only wonder.

M. Oxley



Head to head: Mr Webb and the pig are star performers on the culinary stage!

Junior Drama Club

Junior Drama Club is an after-College piece of inspiration for budding stars. It's on every Wednesday from 4.00-5.15 pm. At the minute we are rehearsing a play called *A Fistful of Cactus*. It's a lot of hard work and sometimes it gets you down waiting for people to do their lines, but once you've performed it's well worth all the effort and hard work.

The time we've spent at Junior Drama Club has been very fulfilling and everyone has improved their drama skills in their own way.

Junior Drama Group will perform *A Fistful of Cactus*, a spoof Western, on Thursday 20 July at the Drama Evening.

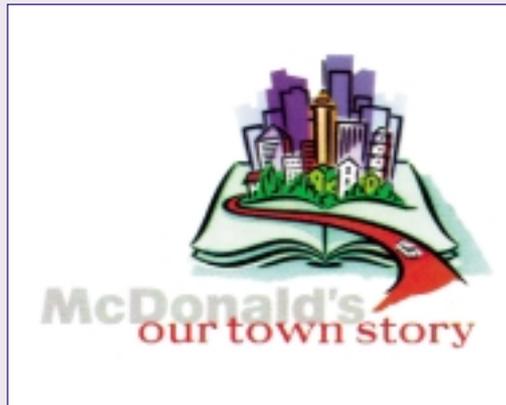
Grace Pearce and Anna Carter, Year 8

Derby in the Dome

Twelve of our young performers have teamed up with sixty students from other Derby city schools to work with **Tony Coffey** in creating Derby's 'Our Town' story. He was invited by Derby City Council to be the Artistic Director for Derby's performance in the McDonalds' 'Our Town Story' theatre on July 13. Perhaps we will have seen you there!

The following article was written prior to the performance, by one of the participants.

For ten weeks now a group of young



performers have been rehearsing for a brilliant and stunning day in the Dome showing what they think of Derby, past and present. Over 60 students are taking part in this spectacular performance and all have surprised the Derby Evening Telegraph and the Millennium Dome East Midlands' Representative with their professional and committed attitude.

It has not been easy and there are a lot of young students who have not

been able to withstand the pressure. On the other hand there is a lot of young talent in the group which has pulled together through the hard ten weeks working for that one day to leave Derby's mark on the Millennium Dome.

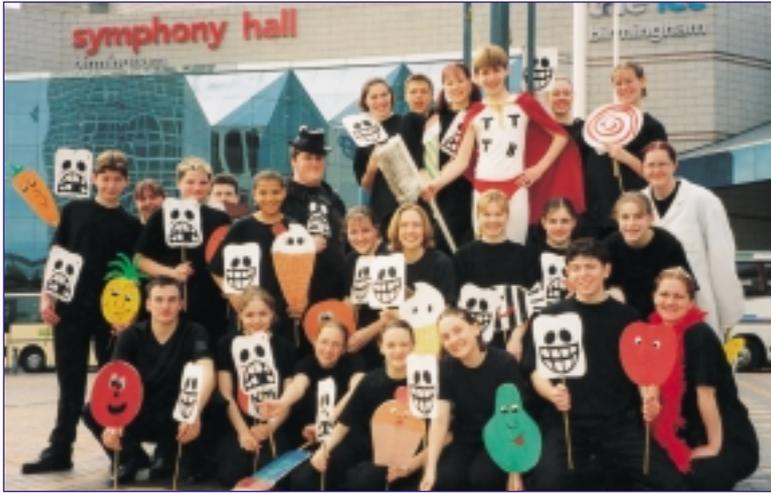
The performance is telling the story of Derby's past and Derby's present. There is a piece in the performance in which the adults show their views of the children of today as mobile 'phone-mad: doing all our talking on the mobile 'phone (maybe you will agree). The performance is accompanied by a live band who create the theme for half-time at a football match: they are accompanying half-time entertainer, Bradley Thomson, who is leading a ram (played by a member of the cast) on to the pitch.

I think the performance is a thrilling, professional experience and I am sure we will be proud.

William Goring, Year 9

Arts

Youth Theatre 2000



Tufty Tufty Toothbrush and crew outside The Symphony Hall

During March 2000 Landau Forte Youth Theatre performed at The Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham in the JC2000 Festival, and the following week they performed in *The Lollipop Proms* at The Birmingham Symphony Hall: two more prestigious venues under their belts! Congratulations to all.

On stage at The Royal Concert Hall performing *Basement Club*



Keeping Dance Traditions Alive

Once again Landau Forte Youth Dance was invited to perform at Sudbury Hall near Burton upon Trent on July 1st. This yearly event, organised by the National Trust, featured dance groups representing a wide cross-section of cultural and historical traditions. A mixture of professional, amateur and student dancers were brought together on the day using dance as a universal language in the 17th century setting of Sudbury Hall.

Our first piece of choreography was a piece entitled *Eastern Reflections* and was inspired by movements from Tai

Chi and contemporary dance. The second performance *Manifesto* was a fast and furious mix of Jazz, Street Dance and Release work. Both pieces were professionally executed and the commitment and enthusiasm of the performers was evident throughout.

It was a great pleasure to see Landau Forte Youth Dance perform for the final time under the direction of Miss Gypps, who hopes that the company will continue to flourish under the supervision of Miss Thackerey from August 2000.

K. Gypps

MGI Photosuite



Hannah Reynold's cover design

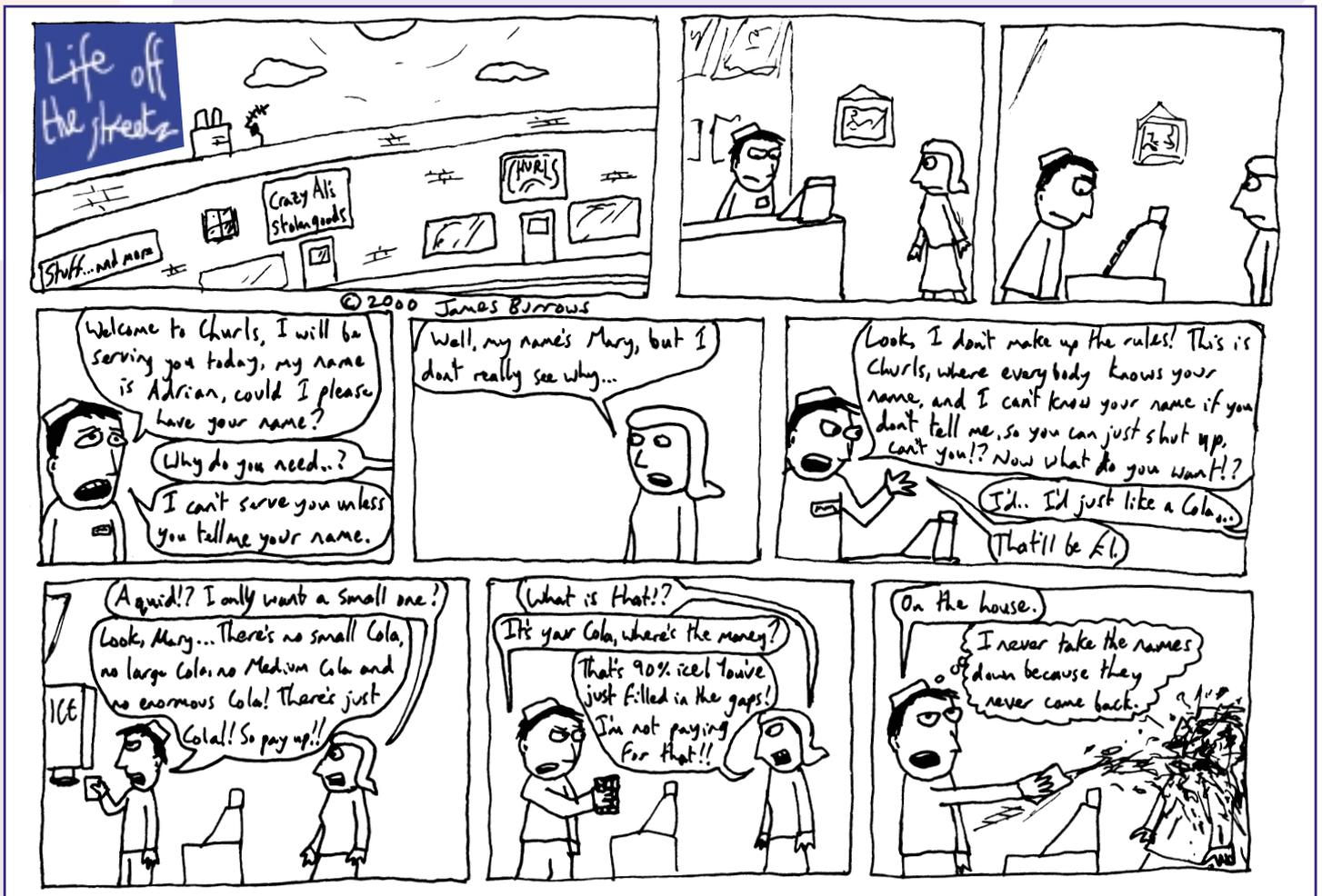
As part of the 'ICT into Art' initiative we have been working with Year 7 students on a photo' manipulation project. Students have produced a range of images using *MGI Photosuite*. They have worked with special effects; cloned and distorted images; used inverted type and words set at angles; copied images from the Internet into their own designs and manipulated

scanned images. Their final project was to design a magazine cover incorporating all of the skills they have learnt throughout the term. The results were a great success with lots of exciting and original designs.

Our thanks go to Nicola Bookless from MGI for training myself and Mr Wilson on *MGI Photosuite*, and a big 'thank you' goes to the Canadian software company MGI for providing this excellent software for the whole College to use.

The Art Department will continue to work with *MGI Photosuite* and all students to produce innovative, creative artwork as part of our students' continued learning.

L. Shipley



Poetry Corner

The following outstanding poems were written in History in response to studying The Battle of Hastings.

THE SCENE AT THE BATTLE

Harold has died
Although I had sworn to protect him
My heavy sword, hanging at my side, feels warm to the touch
And every time I breathe in, I smell the sweat and blood.
On my lips still lies the taste of sea salt.
Now I can hear shouting and arrows flying,
People still screaming and crying,
Horses and bodies are scattered around.

David Lawson

MY KING IS DEAD

As I stand upon that hill,
The sea birds screech
The grass stained scarlet red.
The heavy weapons at my side, pull me down.
The bodies, once my friends,
Screaming, wailing, shouting,
Echoing in my head.
The aroma of death is putrid,
Sickening at every sniff;

I've failed my duty.
My King is dead.

Emily Sharpe

VICTORY IS OURS

It wasn't a pretty sight
Bodies flung here and there
In all the gloom you couldn't notice
The blue sky, the silky sea, the twinkling river
Weapons gleaming...

Then we hear victory is ours,
Bodies now look alive;
The sky, sea, rivers, trees – all seemed alive
The weapons gleaming with joy.

The bloody smell
Turned to gold,
The air broke through,
The armour kept me awake.

I hear shouts and screams
As people hunt down
The runaways,
The wind whistles a wonderful tune.

The marshy grass
Turning to silver,
The wounds don't hurt.
The sweat trickling down my face.
The world is rising around me.

Sarwar Ahmed

Sports Report

Football Round-up

Another successful season at Landau Forte for the world's most popular game. The Year 11 side continued their good form in the cup. The quarter final was against Ecclesbourne, a team we had lost to in the league, however with a full-strength side they were no match for us and we won 2-0. A tight defensive game in the semi-finals



Aidey Evans turns his defender

against West Park was won in the dying seconds of normal time by a deft chip from Aidey Evans.

The final was played after two days' torrential rain which turned the pitch into a quagmire. The team played well but were unable to overcome a physical and talented St Benedict's side losing 5-2. Congratulations to the whole squad who have represented the team during the season. Their behaviour, attitude and sportsmanship were complimented by the neutral referees in both the semis and final: they would be excellent role models for the professionals to follow! I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the teams in Years 7, 9 and 11.

G. Robinson



A long throw from Matt Pearce

In Focus

This is the first in a series of profiles of students who have found enjoyment in competitive sport.

Name: Richard Mills

Year: 9

Age: 14

Sport: Rugby

Profile:

I have always been interested in Rugby and I remember watching Nottingham RFC in the days when Rob Andrew was playing there.

I was involved with the game through my Dad's club at Ashby De La Zouch and started playing for the Old Ashbeians RUFC, aged 5. I played with that team for two years.

I remember my first tournament was with the under-8's, where we finished runners up.

At under-9 level positions are introduced. That is when I was put in the scrum.

At under-11 level the team was often short of players so until

recently I played as a fly-half.

Since reverting back to my original position in the scrum of hooker, I have played Rugby League for Leicester Phoenix and played in a curtain-raiser game prior to the London Bronco's v Bradford Bulls game. I scored a try at Welford Road!!

This year I was one of seven players from my club to be forwarded for the first ever Leicester Tigers under-15 academy squad trials. The trial took place over a full day with observed training in the morning and competitive selection games in the afternoon. My coach for the day was Troy Thacker, a former Tigers' hooker himself.

I finally received confirmation that I was one of only twenty lads to be selected for the Tigers squad 2000-2001 season.

Well done to Richard, we look forward to following his progress with the Tigers.

D. Unwin

Sports Report

A Level PE

I have always known that Physical Education was a subject I enjoyed, to be able to study it at A level was an opportunity welcomed by the other seven members of the group and myself. The course consists of four main areas: Contemporary Studies in Physical Education and Sport; Acquisition of Skill, and Anatomy and Physiology: Applied and Practical.

Contemporary Studies in Physical Education and Sport, taken by Mrs. Holland and Miss Calcutt, allows us to look at historical and social influences in sport. We study everything from why the Kenyans are so good at middle and long distance running, to discrimination in sport and the need and benefits of a National Institute for Sport.

Acquisition of Skill, taught by Mr. Robinson, is an in-depth study of how we learn motor skills. The most challenging aspect is using all the complex terminology. It is interesting to see just how much your brain does even to perform the simplest of movements.

Anatomy and Physiology Applied is possibly the most difficult section of the course. Not only do you have to know where the muscles are but how they contract to provide different movements. The structure

and function of the heart and the respiratory system are also looked at in detail. CD ROMS help us to acquire the wide range of knowledge we need and this is greatly welcomed. To help us understand how muscles work it is quite amusing to see Mr. Unwin leaping around the room, using different pieces of elastic attached to his body to show the different types of muscular contraction.

The Practical area of the course involves participation in different sporting activities. We must describe "technical models" for individual skills and can adapt this for one of the two sports we wish to be assessed in. Both our ability to play the sport and our ability to coach and inform others are examined. Scott Swarbrook and Matt Woodings are keen basketball players and are therefore able to produce excellent "technical models" for lay-up and jump shots. We participate in Mountain Activities, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Tennis, Badminton, and Fitness.

Our group members' experience and expertise are varied: Simon Holt has chosen to specialise in Rugby, a sport we don't do in lessons, but he is a very experienced coach and player. He is able to design technical models, coach and play to a standard which will gain him a good result. Laura Walsh's expertise on the other hand is on a netball court. This is another area we do not do in lesson time but her technical contributions will help us all expand our technical vocabulary and knowledge, enabling us to give examples in as many sports as possible. Mark Siviter and Tom McNulty offer advice on Football as this is an area in which they have particular knowledge. Oliver Ball is able to help teach with regard to Canoeing, Climbing and Badminton.

I would strongly recommend A level P.E. to anyone who loves P.E. and wants to learn all about it. It is not, despite many people's beliefs, just playing sport. Like all A Levels it's a lot of hard work, but at the same time it is interesting and good fun.

Rebecca Peake, Year 12

Farewell

In my last Newslink contribution I would like to thank all the students who have contributed to the success of the PE department over the last five years. I am sure there will be good years ahead under the guidance of Mr Maddock and the rest of the team, including newcomer Miss Smith. I hope that many of you have found an activity that you would like to pursue when you leave and have the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to make it happen. If any of you make it to the big time, remember me on the guest list for

This is Your Life!

G. Robinson

Gerri Robinson in solitary splendour



Gerri, Karen Gypps (also leaving) and other members of the P.E Department and friends; happy days!

IT Masterclass at Landau Forte

Twenty primary school students and teachers from across Derby have successfully completed an Internet Technologies course within the College.

The fifteen students and five teachers attended two-hour long classes over twelve weeks, in order to learn and practise skills in email use, web-browsing and simple website design. The course,

which was organised by Mr Holmes and taught by Mr Stammers, finished with three OCR examinations in Internet Technologies Stage 1 at the end of last term. Participants were assessed in each of the three disciplines and will receive certificates for each one they pass.

A student about to take his test in web page design



Dean Ward from Breadsall Primary School who attended with two of his Year 6 students spoke of its success, saying they "...couldn't wait to go each week." He added: "It's good for students of their age to learn how to use the Internet properly before they go on to secondary school."

Also pleased with the young students' progress, Mr Stammers said: "The scheme has been a success because the students enjoyed it and got a lot out of it." He added: "Hopefully the new skills they have learned will assist them in the future."

Other members of staff will now be helping him run a second course which should attract twice as many students and will hopefully build on the success of the first.

James Cheyne, Year 12

Double Success for Young Enterprise Companies

This year saw the formation of two new Young Enterprise companies. *Flashback* used their creative skills to produce an innovative range of photo frames, with the 'Liquorice Allsort' design selling particularly well. Excellent marketing techniques saw them sell out of stock during the College's Millennium celebrations. The other company, *Zodiak*, designed and manufactured bracelets and mouse mats with an astrological theme. The hours spent making these products all seemed worthwhile when they couldn't stop selling them at the Young Enterprise Trade Fair held at the Eagle Centre.

Eighteen companies started out in the Southern Derbyshire region and it was an excellent achievement for both companies to be selected in the final five to present their achievements at Pride Park. *Zodiak* won three awards at this competition, including the Best Company, and went on

to win the County Final held at Derby University. As well as substantial cash prizes, they won the opportunity to compete in the East Midlands Final in Northampton.

On June 21 the five county champions came together head to head from the initial 200 starting out. *Zodiak* put together a stunning trade stand and after a rigorous 60-minute interview with the judges and an innovative 10-minute presentation it was time for the awards. The team's performance was excellent and they won awards for 'Best Administered Company' and 'Best Personnel'.

Congratulations to both companies for the way that they have managed and administered their business. The shareholders now look forward to their dividend!

C. Knibbs

Meet The Governor

In 1997 the Governors were delighted when Mr John Kirkland accepted their invitation to join the Board of Landau Forte College. He is a great supporter of the College, bringing both experience and incisiveness to the Board. His relationship with the College has been long-standing; Bowmer & Kirkland were commissioned to construct the original College building which opened in 1992 and then to add an extension in 1997.

Mr Kirkland was educated at Repton School and the University of Leeds from where he graduated with a BSc Degree in Civil Engineering. Before joining Bowmer & Kirkland Ltd in 1967 he spent eight years working for the international construction company John Laing. In 1970 he was appointed as a Director of Bowmer & Kirkland and became Managing Director in 1972, taking full responsibility as Group Chairman in 1976.

Under his leadership the Bowmer & Kirkland Group is now made up of a number of autonomous flourishing complementary companies. Each of the companies offers a specialist service ranging from civil engineering to steel fabrication, design and build to bespoke joinery and electrical works to building maintenance. The Head Office is based at Heage with regional offices in London, Derby and Sunderland. The company employs over 1200 people and the turnover for Year 2000 is expected to exceed £300 million.

Mr Kirkland is a well-known figure in Derby and Derbyshire. In addition to the huge task of being Chairman of one of the largest UK privately owned construction, engineering and development groups, Mr Kirkland is committed to the region and his contributions to the community have been far-reaching.

He is the longest serving Director of



Derby County Football Club. A lifelong supporter, he became a Director in 1982. He is also Vice Chairman of Derbyshire First Investments Ltd: an organisation which provides investment funds for industry with the purpose of creating and preserving employment in the Derbyshire area. From 1993 he was Chairman of the Derbyshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust until its amalgamation in 1999 with the Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire Services which then formed the new East Midlands Ambulance Service. He was appointed as Director of Southern Derbyshire Chamber of Commerce, Training and Enterprise Board in 1997.

In 1999 Mr Kirkland's services to the community and in particular to Derbyshire Ambulance Service were formally recognised through the Queen's New Years Honours list when he was awarded the accolade of the OBE.

When he has time Mr Kirkland is a keen golfer, his other interests include travelling, Bridge and of course supporting Derby County!

Credits

EDITOR:

J D Naylor

PRINCIPAL:

S Whiteley

STUDENT JOURNALISTS IN THIS ISSUE:

J Cheyne

S Jackson

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS: STUDENTS:

Adrian Bradley, Year 8

Jonathan Bunce, Year 8

Anna Carter, Year 8

Gursher Dard, Year 8

Sarah Davidson, Year 10

Gemma Davis, Year 8

William Goring, Year 9

Alarna Hadden

Sarah-Jayne Halls, Year 10

Matthew Harris, Year 12

Stacy Iqbal, Year 8

Camilla Mirza, Year 8

Rebecca Peake, Year 12

Grace Pearce, Year 8

Michael Siviter, Year 8

STAFF:

A Back

J Boothroyd

C Brett

A Coffey

K Gypps

C Holme

J Johnson

C Knibbs

E Meredith

J Naylor

M Oxley

R Pioli

G Robinson

L Shipley

A Spencer

D Unwin

S Whiteley

C Wood

ADDRESS FOR LETTERS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND ENQUIRIES

The Editor

Newslink

c/o J. Wright

Landau Forte College

Fox Street

Derby

DE1 2LF

Telephone:

01332 204040

Facsimile:

01332 371867

OUR PUBLISHERS:

Impress (Leicester) Ltd

8 Morris Road

Leicester

Telephone:

0116 270 0999

Facsimile:

0116 270 2172

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