

# NEWS

LINK

The Landau Forte College Newsletter

Summer 2002

## Farewell

I have been trying to put off the fateful day when I will have to say my final goodbyes and leave Landau Forte College. Earlier this year, I was appointed to a Headship in North Yorkshire. Although excited by my promotion, my feelings were tempered by the thought of leaving. The College has become my second home over the past 10 years and the staff and students have become part of my extended family. Although I was pleased to be taking on a new challenge, I have spent the last few months reflecting on the happy memories I have collected over the years and the people that I will miss!

September 1st, 1991 was my first day at Landau Forte College. Back then we were based in a small project office above the Queen's swimming baths on Cathedral Road. I joined a small team of staff, which consisted of the Principal, Mr Peter Shackleton, and the Project Director, Mr Alan Cowan. Also starting on the same day was Mrs Hazel Coleman, the Principal's PA.



Mrs Renou with her first tutor group

At that time, Landau Forte College did not exist. The area of ground where the College was to be built was just derelict wasteland. The architect's drawings were the only information we had on what the College might eventually look like. Armed with these, our first challenge was to recruit 150 students for our first Year 7 intake and 75 students for our first Year 12.

Of the early pioneers in this new venture,



The time has come to say goodbye!

those still with us are: Mr Whiteley, Mr Collins, Mrs Joyner, Mrs Holland, Mr Stevenson, Mr Bugg, Mr Holmes and Mrs Hacking. Some of those names may be familiar to some of you! Of course, all the students and staff that followed us in those early days were also taking a calculated risk on their futures in joining us in this, as yet, unproven venture.

Some of the earliest memories I have are of us interviewing our first cohort of students in a tumbled-down, old building in Chapel Street, in the depths of winter. This building has now become the Derby Dance Centre. I have also found photographs of a group of youngsters, Mr Shackleton with Mrs Joyner and Mrs Holland, waving out of our Project Office window in Cathedral Road as they joined in the celebrations of the Queen's visit to Derby's new Queen's Leisure Centre.

Another fond memory was in setting up the Art & Design area. I doubt many of you will remember me teaching Art when I first joined the College. I have also found a photograph of my first tutor group and myself, but it all seems a long time ago now. The College has changed as it has grown; no longer do we rattle around inside our new building.

Over the many years I have spent at the College, it has been a great privilege to work with such a motivated and committed set of staff and students. I will leave with a sad heart but will keep in touch. I look forward to hearing about the College's further developments and wish you all every success in the future.

J Renou



LANDAU FORTE

# Principal's Message



We have reached the end of another academic year, one which began with the highly successful Ofsted inspection and then, shortly afterwards, the completion, on time and within budget, of our new Library and Information Centre, College Restaurant and Conference Facilities.

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 by everyone.

I would like to offer my thanks to the students, staff and parents who have worked so productively together to ensure that continued success. The effort and preparation that has gone into the public examinations will hopefully be reflected in the results.

For those students who are leaving this summer, please accept my good wishes for the future and my sincere thanks for your contribution to the growth of the College. I hope your time at Landau Forte College has been enjoyable and rewarding and that you will have many memories of your time here.

We also have a number of teaching staff leaving us. Many of these staff began their teaching career at the College and are now

moving to promotion. We wish all of them every success in their careers and I offer my sincere thanks for their valuable contributions in shaping the College.

I must make special mention of two colleagues. Firstly, Mrs Janet Renou, Vice Principal, who is our longest serving member of staff and is leaving after 11 years of excellent service. She joined the original project management team and has made a major contribution to the growth and establishment of Landau Forte College. We wish her well in her new appointment as Headteacher of Skipton Girls' High School.

Secondly, Mrs Gillian Joyner, Director of Science, is retiring from the College at the end of this academic year after more than 10 years of valuable service. Although giving up working full time, she intends to remain involved within education in some capacity. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to both colleagues with whom I have had the privilege of working closely.

As the College continues to move forward and develop, I would also like to welcome our new colleagues. They join us from a wide range of backgrounds, several of them having other school or industrial experience. The changes are summarised below.

## Staffing Changes Summary

Tutor	Subject	Years at the College	
Person appointed			
Janet Renou	Vice Principal	11	Elizabeth Coffey*
Gillian Joyner	Director of Science	10	James Robson*
Judith Stafford	Science	6	Julia Priestnall
Daniel Bloomfield	Science	5	Chris O'Connell
Elizabeth Woolley	Science	3	Tony Sangha
Shelley Tokelov	English	1	Joanne Bolton
Georgina Sharples	Physical Education	1	Patrina Holland
David Unwin	Physical Education	6	Martin Rowe
Alison Spencer	Performing Arts	3	Sarah Aherne
Victoria Grogan	Business Studies	6	Katherine Marriott
Kevin Gilbert	Technology	2	Jonathan Walker

*\*Internal appointment following national advertising and selection process*

I would like to congratulate Elizabeth Coffey on her promotion to the appointment of Vice Principal; as a consequence of this we have appointed Alison Mansfield to join the Humanities team. In addition, Wendy Brewer will join the English team.

As we move into the second decade of operation, we are faced with the challenge of

continuing to build upon our strong record of success whilst retaining our distinctive ethos and culture. We can look forward to the future with justifiable confidence. With every good wish for the summer!

Stephen Whiteley  
Principal



## Gold Blend



Success: Paul James, Ruth Lucas, Robert Lucas, Chris Manning and Nathan Gunn

The successes of Paul James, Chris Manning, Nathan Gunn, and twins, Rob and Ruth Lucas, at Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award level have been well-documented over the last two years in Newslink. It was a pleasure to be in attendance with them to receive their awards from His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, at St James' Palace on May 13th.

Determined to make a very special day out of what was to be a special day anyway, students and parents met Baroness Brigstocke in London for a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament. Awash with tradition and heritage, the party moved on to St James' Palace

where we were expertly marshalled to our seats for the ceremony.

Prince Philip made his appearance, as he has done at every Gold Award ceremony since the first back in 1956, and chatted amiably with the groups of winners. Before departing he invited the celebrity, Tony Head, to present the certificates on his behalf. Tony, best known to the youth present as the librarian in 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer', and to the oldies as the Gold Blend man, duly performed the duty with great dignity. As anticipated, there was a long wait afterwards for parents and friends - not, however, for official photographs, but for a celebrity signature!

The day was a fitting culmination to a journey which has made a great impact on the young lives of those receiving their award. Congratulations.

J Holmes

## Students' Movie Magic



Award winners: David Lawson, Oliver Bates and John Cheesman

Earlier in the year, several students from Landau Forte College produced a short film for the Lego Movie Maker Competition, including David Lawson, Oliver Bates and John Cheesman. They were also joined by two students from outside the College, Samuel Roelich and Richard James, who now collectively refer to themselves as the 'Three Flying Bananas'.

The gist of this competition was that budding film makers were to make films that lasted five minutes and must somehow get Lego elements into their movie. The team decided to create an animated news show, entitled 'TBC News', which was presented by - you guessed it - Lego characters. To make this a

particularly spectacular and unique film, they added special effects using computer video editing software to create an award-winning and polished short film.

The bulk of the script writing for the film was produced by Samuel Roelich, after the entire team brainstormed a multitude of ideas; the editing and special effects creation was by David Lawson, which gave it that 'magic

touch'; the rest of the team animated and provided the voices for the numerous characters in the production.

However, the animation for this film was no easy process, as the Lego characters had to be manipulated by hand. Although this was a difficult and time-consuming process, the team overcame it through perseverance and outstanding effort, to produce the Lego film.

They felt that, "The animation was particularly hard, but rewarding when you see the end results." This is a statement that can only be understood when watching what can only be described as a vivid and colourful multimedia show.

The prize for this competition was the Steven Spielberg endorsed Movie Maker Set, which consists of a PC movie camera, editing software, an earthquake model, T-Rex backdrops, director's handbooks and a tutorial.

Of course, they don't intend to stop there, as further projects are planned. The scripts and storyboards are in the works, so we will be expecting to see more stunning films from the 'Three Flying Bananas' in the near future and we await their future success.

Simon Davis, Year 12

# Curriculum

# Trading



Preparation underway

Being only ten years old, there aren't many things that can claim to be a tradition at Landau Forte College, but one such event vying for that title is the annual Trade Fair. Students of Year 8, organised into 36 teams, worked for a term and more to prepare for Wednesday 8th May, when the College was transformed to stage an event to rival the Chelsea Flower Show. The theme was 'gardens' and the students produced wind chimes, bird scarers and garden lights, along with tempting barbecue-style food, to entice visitors to place virtual orders and help them win the competition.



The teams present their wares

Over forty businesses from across the city sent representatives to help add that vital touch of reality from the business world – companies ranging from Rolls-Royce and the Inland Revenue, to Locko Nurseries, Spondon Post Office and newcomers, uDate.com.

As usual, the day was a resounding success and all students gained credits and certificates for their team performances. The teams that did best, however, were those who produced the best portfolio of work for the term and who were awarded the largest percentage of orders on the day. These were:

**OFG**  
(David Brooksby, Faizanul Malooq and Robyn Jeffrey)



A team secures an order

## Gorgeous Gardens

(Heather Saul, Jade Fowler, Daniel Hancock, Paul Donald, Hailey Williamson)

## Dynamite

(Sophie Evans, Sade Lynch, Chris Woods, Joseph Gray, Tanzil Asghar)

## Delish

(Stuart Parker, Caroline Jones, Marcus Gayle, Tayyaba Awan, Sabrina Mahmood)

## Chillitos

(Rebecca Hankin, Holly Moore, Claire McNulty, Nathan Waters)

The overall winners for outstanding team effort were Gorgeous Gardens (Forte) and Dynamite (Landau). Congratulations.

Year 7, having been given a taste of the event, are already asking when they can start on their Trade Fair. With the continued hard work and support of staff, parents and the business community of Derby, one expects next year to be every bit as successful as this.

**J Holmes**

## WINNING WORDS!

"It felt wonderful to win the Trade Fair. I am sure, like me, all members of our group were delighted. The great amount of effort and hard work invested by everyone was well rewarded by winning. Friendly rivalries between groups were at last at an end."

**Chris Woods**, Dynamite

"In my experience, Trade Fair was one of the most exciting, yet nail-biting, events of the activities offered in Years 7 and 8. My group and I were given twelve weeks to create and promote a garden product that would attract as many customers as possible, along with producing a good portfolio to support it. The whole experience was really enjoyable, and I was really lucky to be put in a great group who all put in an equal amount of effort."

**Heather Saul**, Gorgeous Gardens

# Curriculum

## g Up



The Landau winners' prizes being presented by Richard Lewis of RHL Associates



The Forte winners also received their awards from Richard Lewis



Everyone's a winner: the full line-up of winners

## Tips for success:

- Make sure your portfolio is of a high standard.
- Choose the most confident person as PR.
- If you see business people alone, go straight up to them and introduce yourself. They could buy from your stall!
- Present your products so that they are as eye-catching as possible.  
**Try your hardest!**
- When making your product in Technology, do not waste time and make sure that you finish your product. An unfinished product does not show professionalism.
- Team effort is essential in any group, team or organisation in the real world. It is no different here.
- Team effort will help to produce a decent portfolio. This can easily impress the business clientele. The hard work is definitely worth it!
- PR skills are essential on the day. You have to be confident, and escort the visitors to your stall. Practice makes perfect!
- When choosing your logo, do not rush. Make sure it is easy to draw on computer by hand. Remember to make it bright and noticeable.
- Advertising is very effective. Think about new ways to draw people to your stall and then impress them.

# Curriculum

## European Evening 2002



Live music, exciting adverts, a classy 'Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?' special and a spectacular version of the Eurovision Song Contest? No, you were not at an ITV studio, watching highly-paid professionals perform, you were at one of the best celebration evenings the college has ever experienced!

February 6, 2002: what was so special about this date? This was the date when over 130 students from Landau

'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' hosts Michael Siviter and James Hassall, Year 10

Forte College, with help from Mrs. John and the rest of the language tutors, put something back into the college, and performed for The European Evening 2002.

When I was first approached and was asked to play the part of Chris Tarrant in a 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' special, where all the questions were on a European theme, I agreed to do it spontaneously, not really understanding the full concept of the role. The weeks went by, the evening drew closer and I hadn't really given it much thought. It was when I went to a meeting that I realised just how important my role was.



Dancers in the interval, Year 9 Spain

My spot would be taking up the whole of the first half of the show, and when I was up on that stage I had to be in control. I hadn't realised what I was letting myself into: I thought that my part would just be small, and I would be on and off that stage, faster than you can say 'phone a friend'. I relieved some of the pressure by nominating James Hassall to share the role of Chris Tarrant with me.

Together, we recorded shows of 'Who Wants to be Millionaire?', and tried to pick up phrases and mannerisms from Chris Tarrant. We practiced the way he sat, the way he laughed, but mainly the way he keeps the contestants in suspense.

At the dress rehearsal we got to see the other performances for the first time. I was very impressed with the adverts that Key Stage 3 students had produced in their language lessons. A firm favourite of mine were the Year 9 boys, who created a comical scene from the Budweiser advert, with the infamous phrase, 'WHASSSSUP?', translated into Spanish as ¿Qué pasa?, and had me in hysterics every time I saw it. It was also a chance for us to see the Eurovision Song Contest presenters, with their excellent pronunciations.

When we entered on the night, before the audience had arrived, the room looked superb. Everything just looked perfect, from the candles on the tables,

to the pictures on the walls. The audience began to enter, and this was the point when I got that nervous feeling in my throat.

The lights beamed down, the curtains opened, and it was time to go on. James welcomed them, and began with a 'fastest finger' question, before he brought the first contestant up. I familiarized myself with the contestant, asking them questions about themselves, asking them what they'd do with the money. We were given cheques, to give out and tear up like on the show. The rules were exactly the same, but the prize money was, of course, in euros. At first, I was nervous, but I became far more lively and looked around to see the audience laughing and enjoying themselves.



'Eurovision' winners Year 7 Germany

In true Chris Tarrant style, when the contestant was on the brink of winning 16,000 euros, I shot straight into a break without confirming the answer, leaving everyone in suspense. Everybody in the audience sighed, as the adverts came on. They all looked highly amused, and Mrs John gave me a huge smile, as if to say, 'Well Done!'

It was James's turn next, and he kept the audience enthralled with his wild sense of humour and his hilarious antics on stage. Sadly, nobody won 1,000,000 euros, but I don't think the contestants and the audience minded too much, as they looked as though they thoroughly enjoyed it, anyway.

The remaining acts did an absolutely amazing job, and I was proud to say that I was a student at Landau Forte College that night. I think all the students and staff that were involved deserve great thanks, especially the team who provided the buffet in the interval.

Did I enjoy European Evening 2002? Would I like to be involved again next time? Do I think it was a huge success? Yes, and that really is my final answer.

Michael Siviter, Year 10

# Curriculum

## Eurovision 2002



'Eurovision' international hosts left to right: Robyn Addison, Rusi Jaspal and Gemma Avey

Bonjour!  
Guten Tag!  
¡Buenos Dias!  
Hejsan Svejsan!

The evening commenced with a tribute to the popular TV show, 'Who wants to be a Millionaire?'. Whilst on-stage excitement revealed the audience's extensive knowledge (or lack of!) all things European, backstage, the co-hosts for the 2nd half of the evening, Robyn, Gemma, Rusi and Helen, were a bundle of nerves.

After a brief interval, the Landau Forte Eurovision Song Contest began with entries

from Austria, Switzerland, France, Germany and Spain. Each act was expertly introduced in the native language (followed by a translation into English by Helen) and the entertainment continued whilst voting took place.

In typical Eurovision style, the voting was announced in a variety of languages including French, German, Spanish and Swedish, whilst a high-tech scoreboard revealed the leader throughout the contest.

The eventual winner was Germany and everyone revelled in the reprise of the performance by the triumphant Year 7 group, which was led by Miss Watson.

**Robyn Addison and Rusi Jaspal, Year 12**

## Granada Work Placement



Rusi Jaspal and Jane Hamilton are welcomed to Granada College

In February, as part of our Year 12 work placement, we spent two weeks in Granada working in an independent bilingual school. As well as gaining valuable work experience, it gave us a chance to use our Spanish, which we have been studying at AS Level.

Our journey got off to a humorous start on the 12th of February, with a misunderstanding of what date the flight left! This resulted in me having to wake up Rusi at 3am in the morning in order to catch the flight. Apart from this small hiccup, the journey went according to plan and 12 hours later we were at the school.

The next two weeks were spent working at the school and living with our host family. Virtually all subjects were taught in English, with the exception of Spanish. Rusi and I worked in separate classes, with students aged between 7 and 12 years old.

I helped in science classes, where I couldn't believe the depth that the subject was taught

in, especially as it was being delivered in English. Some of the tests for 12 year olds were at GCSE standard! I assisted the teacher by asking the children questions about the topic they were studying. This was important for the children because, even though they attended a bilingual school, many of them had never spoken to a native English speaker.

We spent the weekends and night-times practising our Spanish with our host families. At times this was quite hard-going and was extremely tiring, but at the same time extremely useful.

One of the highlights of the visit was the weekend I was taken to the Alhambra Palace. The weather was great and both the views and building's interior were spectacular. I also spent a weekend on the coast staying with relatives of my host family, sampling the delights of Spanish cuisine!

The time we spent in Spain was invaluable with some unforgettable moments, and I strongly recommend the experience to anyone wanting to enhance their linguistic skills.

**Jane Hamilton, Year 12**



# Curriculum

## Brussels Work Placement



Year 12 French students soak up local Belgian culture...

When I arrived in Brussels, I was really filled with mixed emotions: I was extremely excited but also slightly frightened, as we were about to spend a fortnight away from all responsible adults!

The youth hostel was 'cosy' (really small) and 'warm' (absolutely boiling), but it was clean and had lots of storage space for the deluge of make-up that we all brought with us.

The first day of the placement was a bit daunting. I was

working at a play scheme for under-privileged children during school holidays. The children were little monsters but seemed to enjoy themselves, and I think that my French imperatives improved (sit down, stop that, and so on), as did my accent. By the time we met Mrs John for lunch at the weekend, we all had a range of stories to tell.

By the second week, we had got used to finding

our way about the Brussels Metro system and so we were less worried about getting lost 'en route'. As the new school term had begun, we were all now working at schools.

My children were aged between 2 and 4 and were little angels. They were learning about secondary colours (blue + yellow = green, etc.) and so we had lots of messy paint sessions. Most of the children had a nap in the afternoon, so we played games with the rest.

After the fortnight was over and we were waiting (forever) for a plane at Brussels Airport, I was amazed that we had survived so long without our parents – we even did our own washing! I was still quite glad to be going home to my own bed, but was glad to have had such a varied and challenging experience.

Lorraine Stacey, Year 12



...and sample the local fayre

## Osnabrück Work Placement



German students take a break from work placement

The long trek across half of Europe began on Saturday 9th February, 2002. 24 hours later, and after much confusion, arguments and disputes over seats, we eventually reached our destination: Osnabrück.

We had all been excited during the trip, but as the coach pulled into Osnabrück station and we came face to face with our exchange partners with whom we would be sharing the next 10 days, things seemed to be a bit more scary! We all quickly dispersed to our surrogate families and, with the help of a few text messages, we all let each other know how homesick we were feeling. I was staying with a boy called Tobias and he and his family soon made me feel very welcome, though.

As well as having the ordeal of travelling to a foreign country on our own and staying with an exchange family, we were also expected to go to work! We all got placements in and around Osnabrück, and relatively near to where we all lived, but it was still very nerve-racking on the first day.

Stephen worked at a primary school where he was the target of much female adoration from the under 7's; Vicky, due to her great talents for the performing arts, was placed at the town's theatre, and I worked at a dance school run by Patsy and

Michael Hull (who are English and very famous, to those in the know!). Lynsey and Woody worked together at 'OK Radio', producing their own live show, "Guten Morgan Osnabrück from Lynsey Kömisch und Matthew Holzholz", and wandered the streets interviewing people on Valentine's Day. Alarna and Kelly seemed pretty happy with their jobs, also working in a primary school.

With our varied working hours, it was difficult for us to meet up, but we managed it most days, going to Café Spitze (our regular) or Pizza Hut. We all agreed that German food was gorgeous; Lynsey even liked the sauerkraut!

And soon the 10 days we had dreaded had flown by and we were on our way home. So was it as scary as we had first thought? No, we all loved it and some of us are going back soon; I've even been offered a job after my A Levels. Staying with a family who didn't speak any English really helped our German and we've all come back feeling much more confident, not just with the language, but also generally, and we feel proud that we managed to do it all on our own. So we learnt a lot, saw another country's culture AND had a brilliant laugh; quite a 'jammy' work placement, we reckon!

Louise Betts, Year 12

# Curriculum

## Sun, Sea...and Hornsea



Miss Atkinson saves a crab

There we were, twenty of us, anticipating sun, sea and surf, waiting with bated breath to discover the destination of our field study. After several months of being confined to the classroom, we were to be let loose. Would it be the Caribbean or the Mediterranean? Or even the Canaries? We discovered that our destination was to be the much-talked-about coastal resort of Hornsea.

For those of you unfamiliar with Hornsea, it is a small town somewhere off the East Coast. 'But why go there?' we hear you ask. Well, we, as individuals, had each planned unique and innovative investigations, which would examine and explore the dynamics of this colourful location, along the Holderness coast.



Year 12 geographers prepare for their mission!

The only thing now standing between us, the intrepid group of geographers, and our destination, was the journey: the illustrious excursion between one place and another, which hardly ever runs

according to plan. However, surprisingly for us, this was not the case. The journey ran smoothly and after two and a half hours we arrived safely in Hornsea.

Armed with quadrats (wooden squares), clinometers (angle measurers) and metre rules, we were now ready to split into groups

to collect our data on pebble size, longshore drift and a variety of other experiments. However, the elements were not on our side; papers were blowing everywhere, equipment was strewn across the beach and then it began to rain.

Fortunately for us, we managed to escape the rain, as we dashed onto the bus and departed north for Flamborough Head, our second expedition of the day. Worlds apart from Hornsea, Flamborough Head epitomised all that would be expected of quaint English cove. Aside from our primary task of data collection, a new goal presented itself:

'Mission: Save the Crabs'. These poor creatures had been carried to the top of the beach by the sea and were stranded, helpless, as life was draining from them. To do our part for wildlife, we tried to save them and fortunately for the crabs, we were triumphant, however it did prove troublesome at times!

After the tasks at hand were completed, we collected our equipment, and climbed up the cliff at Flamborough Head. We were all exhausted by such a feat, only to find that half the equipment had been left on the beach, and so a brave few had to trek all the way back down and up again!

Finally, after such an eventful day, we mounted the bus and began our journey back to Derby, dreaming of statistical tests, report writing and diagram drawing. At the end of the day, it all boiled down to a single exam, and hopefully for us, success.

James Burke and Simon Davis, Year 12

## GCSE Geography Visit to Derby

As part of their coursework, Year 10 conducted their fieldwork at 3 different shopping sites in Derby. Unfortunately, the weather was not kind to us and Mr Holmes' group got very, very wet. Still, the other days were fine and we managed to visit all three sites: Kingsway, Littleover and Derby city centre.

Students were asked to draw maps of the shopping areas, count the number of people using the different sites and conduct questionnaires to find out why people shop at those locations.

S Atkinson

"It was an interesting experience and made me think about things that I had never considered."

David Servante

"The visit was very informative and useful for our coursework. It was also a very enjoyable day."

Jamie Burkin, Zakir Karim, Rebecca Drew

# Curriculum

## We're Going to the Zoo...



A new arrival at Twycross Zoo

In term 4, all Year 7 students embarked on a nine-week study, culminating in a design for a new zoo. The students spent the first five weeks studying scientific concepts such as food webs, pyramids of biomass, adaptation and habitats. Following this, the students visited Twycross Zoo, to see, at first hand, how a real zoo resolves the issues of space, housing, feeding and health. Armed with this knowledge and experience, the students set about designing their own zoo. The problems that they faced included: stocking it with animals that can coexist;

providing suitable environments; closely matching the animals' natural habitat and resolving problems of classification. They also had to write a mission statement to explain the aims of their zoo, and produce a detailed case study on one of the animals.

Work was not limited to science lessons. Other curriculum areas made their own contribution, including:

- Producing an article to be sold in the zoo gift shop in Technology
- Using vectors and co-ordinates to navigate around the zoo in Maths



The Reptile House

- In Languages, they interacted with a German speaking web-site, describing animals in a Namibian habitat
- In Geography, they studied climates and how this affects the distribution of species
- In Art, the students made animal masks

The high quality of the students' work reflected the energy and enthusiasm with which they tackled the project.

D Bloomfield and J Robson

### Twycross Zoo

*When we went to Twycross  
We went in quite a bunch;  
Adam took ten sandwiches  
In his big packed lunch.*

*When we got to Twycross  
We all got off the bus;  
We wanted to stay with our friends  
But we were told not to fuss.*

*We went to see the tigers,  
Asleep in the heat of the day.  
The tiger roared and stuck up his claws  
Until we ran away.*

*We went to see the monkeys  
They jumped around in play,  
Although we did a lot of work  
We had a fabulous day.*

Elliot Hawker, Year 7

# Curriculum

## Engineering Pioneers

The Engineering Education scheme was launched at college during the month of November, when a group of four enthusiastic students were targeted for selection to undergo a national engineering-based project. The team consisted of David Allcock, Jane Hamilton,

Steven Marsh and myself, who all specialised in different subject areas, including Maths, Physics and Design Technology.

We were allocated an engineering company, AEA Technology Rail, to work with throughout the project. They provided us with the essential equipment and assistance, and the occasional bad joke, to help us succeed with our task. We were

required to design and make a suitable device to measure certain parameters of rail track geometry.

The design stage was without a doubt the most challenging time for us. We found that devising a practical scheme was not as easy as it first appeared. Being thrown into the deep end, initially, we managed to overcome our 'inventor's block' and come up with a

suitable design. Of course, only having a maximum of four weeks preparation time meant a tight schedule and a high level of commitment was needed.

The day came to leave for Loughborough with great enthusiasm and back-of-envelope sketches. The phrase "it will work" was a constant reminder of the amount of work needed to be done in the workshops. The three days were very intense and craved high levels of teamwork and patience, if the device was going to be a success. The help of Jane's milling expertise and the copious amounts of caffeine consumption got us through each day. Our time at Loughborough gave us all an insight into the engineering industry and developed our communication skills individually.

On leaving Loughborough, our nearly-working device was an indication of all our hard work during the project. Several months of frayed nerves were to follow, as we put together a report and prepared for the presentation and celebration day at Ford College. The presentation day was a great success and very enjoyable, notably the fantastic buffet! We were approached by a number of engineers who found our design intriguing.

As part of the achievement and recognition for the project, each of us received a Gold Crest Award for the project, which rewarded us individually for the work contributed. This award has been a great achievement for all of the team and the College. As a member of the team, I felt we represented the College well and set an encouraging example for those students that are considering the Engineering Education Scheme. It was a highly enjoyable and memorable experience.

Rachael Allen, Year 12



The team display their project



Team and advisors receive their certificates

### Junior Maths Challenge

What is 40% of 50% of £60?

A £7    B £8    C £12    D £15    E £20

## Poetry Corner

This edition, we present a submission from a post-16 student, which fuses the poetic art form with astronomical reflection. The editor welcomes submissions of original work from students of all ages, for publication in future editions.

J Grant

*Here we stand in the middle of infinity,  
Looking straight at it, but seeing nothing.  
To say that Outer Space is huge is an understatement;  
The man who fully realises its size would need a rather large mind.*

*But the key to the door of infinity is our own imagination;  
Even before we could see into the heavens,  
Men were dreaming.*

*For generations, we have been conjuring images of strange beasts.*

*New worlds, different lives.  
Culture has been a refuge for much folklore,  
Stories have sprung from the most miniscule of facts.  
I say to you, the vastness of space is nothing,  
Compared to the dreams you have.*

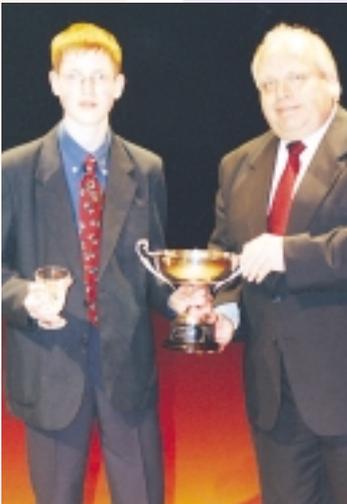
David Taylor, Year 12



## Going Solo



Junior Dramatic Monologue winner: Esther Gunn



Senior Dramatic Monologue winner: Andrew Manning



Junior Musical Performer of the Year: Jasdeep Sidhu

The Musical Performer of the Year and Dramatic Monologue Competition was once again a powerful evening, with Oscar-winning performances across the board. The Dance Band, Singers and Dance Club supported the evening with Chris Manning presiding as Master of Ceremonies. Judges were Emma Archer, tutor of RE and Drama; Janet Renou, Vice Principal and returning students Sarah-Jayne Halls and Louise Harris.

So how did the evening feel for the performers? Some of them have summed it up in their own words:

"After finding out who had got through to the finals of the Dramatic Monologue Competition, I had not really expected to win anything or even come second. My greatest hope was to enjoy the evening and not to forget most of my monologue. The night before was mostly spent making last-minute changes to my piece and getting my costume ready.

Most of the performance day was spent worrying about what was going to happen: did I know my monologue well enough? Suddenly, there was less than an hour to go and I still needed to get changed, get my props ready and tune up with the Dance Band. I completed these tasks just as the audience was beginning to enter the College.

The first half went well, with me just simply playing with the Dance Band, and watching the junior entries of the Musical Performer and the Dramatic Monologue Competition. During the second half I watched the other performers in the senior section with growing worry, and dread, and I began to wonder how I had even got through to the finals.

Then, at last, it was my turn to perform. During the performance, however, my nerves settled and I began to enjoy myself. After a long wait, the results came back, and I found out that I had won! I was totally amazed, and I would recommend entering the event to anyone, because, above all, it gives you a great boost to your confidence."

**Andrew Manning, Year 10**

"As my name was announced I rose from where I was seated and walked towards the stage. I didn't think I would be nervous, as I have been involved in many performances since I joined LFC. But this was different, because I didn't have anyone else to support me on stage; it was just myself and the audience. I started my piece and about half way through my second sentence my left leg started to shake, my nerves were finally catching up on me! But I carried on and hoped it added to the dramatic effect of Macbeth slowly going mad!

I did not realise the effect that being on stage alone can have upon you, but it was a brilliant experience."

**Steven Kew, Year 9**

"It was my first dramatic monologue and I really enjoyed the whole experience. Everyone was very excited and it got a bit frantic backstage before the performances. I was really nervous before my performance but everyone said it was good. The audience was really supportive and I would really like to have another go next year."

**Catherine Bathurst, Year 8**

"The whole evening was an enjoyable experience, and it was incredibly tense. I felt I really built up my confidence by performing. Nothing can prepare you for the night, no matter what you tell yourself. But it was very successful and I would hope to try again next year. One top tip to make it a perfect evening is to bring lots of water to drink!"

**Caroline Jones, Year 8**



Senior Musical Performer of the Year: Simon Smith with Mr Whiteley and judges Sarah-Jayne Halls and Louise Harris.

**Congratulations to all of the finalists:**

**Musical Performer of the Year:**

Michael Hertz, Caroline Jones, Emma Ryde, John Ryde, Jasdeep Sidhu, Simon Smith, Claire Vasey and Christopher Wragg.

**Dramatic Monologue Competition:**

Catherine Bathurst, Daniel Farrar, Esther Gunn, Caroline Jones, Steven Kew, Andrew Manning, Lorraine Stacey, Sarah Stephenson and Joe Tansley.

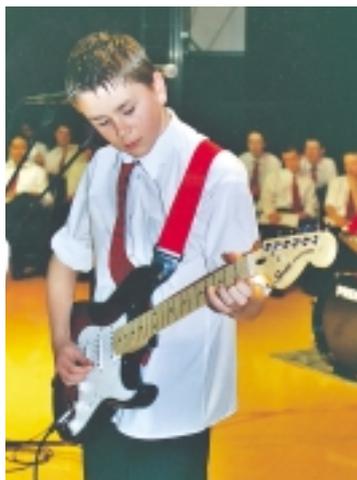
**A Spencer**

**Answer to Junior Maths Challenge**

Answer: C

# Arts

## Never a Dull Moment!



Year 9 get the Blues!

There's never a dull moment in Performing Arts. So what's been happening since the last Newslink?

### ACROSS THE CURRICULUM...

Whilst Years 10,11 and 12 were engrossed in devising and performing outstanding practical examination work, Key Stage 3 showed that they too had much to offer!

Amongst many other things, Year 7 created Greek Theatre and devised dances using Greek mythological figures: Year 8 explored 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and Year 9 quite literally 'got the blues' as they performed their own blues songs as part of their end of Key Stage assessments.

### THE PROFESSIONALS...

Week 2 was an exciting week, with two professional companies working with our students. Rambert Dance Company challenged students from Years 9,10 and 12 with stimulating practical workshops based on the repertoire from Swansong and Ghost Dances. The students were guided through an exciting dance technique class, taken by Claire Morris, before embarking on inspirational choreographic tasks. The result was a student performance which exceeded all expectations.

8 Forte met Riding Lights Roughshod Theatre Company the following day, who performed their latest piece, "Science Friction", as well as treating them to a thought-provoking drama workshop.



8 Forte experience "Science Friction" with the Riding Lights Theatre Company

### DANCE CLUB EXCELS ONCE MORE...

Not content with simply performing at Sudbury Hall this year, Landau Forte Youth Dance will also be performing in Derby Cathedral.

### BRASSED OFF?

Brass workshops continue for Year 7, with many students taking the plunge.

### JOSEFINA!

LFYT, the Singers and Dance Club are combining their talents again to produce a stunning evening of entertainment at Derby Cathedral in aid of World Vision. Rehearsals are underway: prepare to be astounded once more!



Rambert Dance Company and Year 10 Performing Arts make contact!

## Bully for You

The Junior Youth Theatre's latest hard-hitting piece deals with bullying in school, of the home and in the workplace. A lively combination of chorus work, improvisation and monologue, "Bully for You" is being performed in Gatherings and out in the community. The message is clear: there's NEVER a reason to bully, so stop it! NOW!



There's never a reason to bully  
Nor an excuse for why  
It's only the weak that bully  
And often the strong that cry

A Spencer

# Sports Report

## Term 5 Round Up

### JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Ben Lee, Year13, Matthew Jones, Year 12 and David Clemens, Year 8, participated in the annual Junior Golf Championships, held at Kedleston Golf Course, in Derbyshire. Overall, the team came in 6th place and raised over £100 for the British Heart Foundation. Well done, lads!

### SPORT RELIEF AT LANDAU FORTE COLLEGE

Landau Forte College is taking part in the nationwide fund-raising event, Sport Relief, which is supported by TV personalities and athletes such as Gary Lineker, Tim Henman, Alan Hansen, Michael Owen, Nasser Hussain, Johnny Wilkinson and Denise Lewis. It's similar to Comic Relief, but money is raised through sporting activities, with the emphasis on fun and getting active. We have organised events such as the tutor base World Cup sweepstake, sponsored football and tennis matches, aerobics sessions and many more activities. All money raised goes towards disadvantaged children in the UK and around the World.

### SUMMER FIXTURES

Landau Forte College has entered teams in the local cricket and rounders leagues, as well as participating in County and District Athletics meetings. Results will be included in the next Newslink.

### WORK PLACEMENTS WITH THE PE TEAM

The PE Team has provided opportunities for a number of students on their Year 12 and Year 10 work placements, both from within the College and from other schools. Those from

the College include Steve Chohan, Mo Ali, Ryan Mozley and Louise Roome, all in year 12, and Nathan Croot and Amy Spencer, from Year 10. In addition, Tom Collis from Merrill and Laura Glanowski from Murray Park, both Year 10, have also attended, not to mention a past student, Indijit Chera, who completed her 6 week placement from Mackworth College.

### INTER-DIVISION SPORTS SHIELD

The competition is nearing its climax for this year; at present the score is Landau 7 – Forte 14. However, there are plenty of opportunities for Landau to make a late comeback and steal it from the jaws of victory!

### NOTTINGHAM SAMSUNG TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP VISIT

Over thirty students attended the Nottingham Tennis Championships on Tuesday 18th June. They watched some of the World's top players competing and then participated in a coaching clinic, which was led by professional coaches.

### 'UP AND UNDER'

Landau Forte College's balls are famous! Derby Playhouse borrowed some of our rugby balls as props for their production of 'Up and Under', which has been showing over the last two months. In return, the PE staff were awarded free tickets to watch the show and have received a ball signed by the cast.

N Maddock

# Sports Report

## Sportsperson of the Month Award

The following students were awarded their Sportsperson of the Month shield for outstanding achievement and contribution towards their sport:

*February* Mitchell Coventry  
Year 7 Basketball



*March* Robbie Davy-Cripwell  
Year 10 Tennis



*April* Suzie Cunningham  
Year 9 Football



*May* Hannah Collar  
Year 10 Karate



# Sports Report

## Ski Visit to the Pila and Aosta Valley

In March, Mrs Holland, Miss Fawcett and Mr Doody took twenty-four students, from Years 7 to 10, skiing in Italy. Our coach drivers were funny and we had to make sure that we did as Bob said!

We skied each day for four hours with our instructors and had lunch at one of the many

restaurants on the mountain. Suzie took the intermediate group and Craig and Elliot taught the beginner's group. Suzie took us over lots of jumps, most of which ended up in wipe-outs! Sometimes our groups would meet up and we would have snowball fights in the deep snow.

Our hotel was good and they were very fond of cooking pasta, which we had every night. After dinner each night, we would take part in different activities such as ice skating, bowling, a disco or a pizza night. All of the staff joined in the activities and it was great fun.

Pila and the town of Aosta were beautiful places. We had a great time and enjoyed meeting the locals. The Interski reps and the drivers were really helpful. Finally, we would like to thank the tutors who made the visit possible.

Emma Howe, Year 8, and Leanne Duffin, Year 9



Prepared for the pistes

## Student Profile

Name: Mitchell Coventry

Year: 7

Age: 12

Sport: Basketball

I started playing basketball at the age of six, at Derby Storm, then went on to play for the Derby Trailblazers, who are based at Chellaston. I have played for them at various levels. This season I helped the Minis team finish second in the Nottingham Open League. In the final, we met Stoke, who had not lost a final for three years. It was a very close game; we were winning by one point, with three seconds to go, and then someone committed a foul, which gave them a chance of three free throws.

Unfortunately they scored all of them and we lost by one point – very exciting for the people who were watching, but upsetting for those who were playing. I finished as the top points scorer for the Minis this season.

At Passerelle under-thirteen level, we finished third in the national finals; a good result because the team had only been together for six months. That was when I was told that I had been selected for the East Midlands squad, so I was very pleased that day.

This season, I have trained with the under-sixteens and eighteens, as well as with the under-thirteens. I was given the chance to play in some of the local Nottingham League games, where I enjoyed playing against some of the more experienced players. In addition, I have been training with the East Midlands squad and have developed into a better player for it.

Awards:

Derby Trailblazers Minis Best Hustler Award 2000-2001.

Nottingham School of Basketball Camp Best Team Player, 2001.

Landau Forte Sports person of the Month, February 2002.

Derby Trailblazers Minis MVP Award, 2001-2002.



Mitchell Coventry

# Sports Report

## College Staff on a Race For Life



The team before...

At 11.00am on Sunday 12th May, ten highly-trained athletes, all women from Landau Forte College, prepared to take part in Race for Life, a 5km walk, run, jog or crawl(!) in aid of Cancer Research UK. I was one of these athletes.

We trained very hard for the gruelling event (well, we did Ram FM's 5 minute warm up). We lined up at the start with 3,000 other women, ready and raring to go – and we were off. We took off at a tremendous speed; I estimate our speed to be approximately 'snails pace'. We did, however, speed up towards the end – well, it looked good to cross the finishing line actually running! First over the line from our group was Sheena Kelsey – well done Sheena!

We all thoroughly enjoyed the morning and we were cheered on by our friends and families. We collected over £350 in sponsorship money so a big



...and after

thank you to all those who kindly offered their support.

S Reading on behalf of the team:  
A Back, H Coleman, L Cundy, J Holmes,  
S Kelsey, H Kirk, M Lound, R Pioli and  
S Rayson

## Tiptoeing Over Hot Coals



John Cox

We all like to try something different, so when asked if I would like to walk barefoot over red-hot barbecue coals for charity, I agreed. It was only later, after I had visions of hobbling into College with bandaged feet, that second thoughts set in.

The event was held on a Saturday night at the Tudor Court in Draycott.

We band of firewalkers arrived at 6.30 for training, whilst serious men outside began to prepare the 10 feet long fire pit by lighting a large fire to heat the embers.

Training lasted two hours. The physics are that though the coals are red hot, they are made of wood, which is a poor conductor of heat to your feet. The sweat from your feet is supposed to evaporate creating a barrier against the heat. This all works as long as you stride confidently out and do not waver, slow or even stop. Such pauses cause you to be burnt.

So we were taught positive mental techniques, which basically centre on the idea that when going

into an exam, you automatically tell your subconscious that you are nervous, so your body becomes nervous. If you approach the exam by saying, "I will succeed, I'm good at this," then your body will relax and your fears depart. That was the theory, anyway, but maybe the instructor just hypnotised us.

At the allotted time, we stormed confidently out, full of positive thoughts, right up to the pit, where the sight of all that glowing fire in the dark of the night was rather distracting. I waited for my turn, then stepped out and walked tall to the end.

The result? I can say I felt no more than a smarting in my soles like walking barefoot on hot stone, and I acquired no blisters. I also raised three hundred pounds for charity, which made it all worthwhile.

The instructor finished by suggesting we may like to consider his other training course, walking barefoot on broken wine bottles, now that would be just stupid, wouldn't it?

J Cox

## Life After Landau

Michael Harrison arrived at Landau Forte College with our first post-16 cohort of students, in 1992. After studying A-Levels in Art, Mathematics and Physics, he went on to study Architecture at the University of Newcastle.

Perseverance and determination are obviously essential qualities for anyone wanting to follow a similar career path: Michael has notched up two degrees, which took 5 years to complete, and has been working as an architect for nearly 3 years, but has yet to finally qualify!

Since graduation, Michael has been working for Allan Joyce Architects, who are based in Nottingham. He says: "They're not the most famous firm in the world, but it is a really nice working environment, which goes some way to make up for architects' wages!"

His diligence has been rewarded, however. He was responsible for the overall 'look' of the new Mickleover Methodist Church, on Station Road, in Derby: "In particular, the strange triangular bit of roof that sticks out at the front!"

It would seem that Michael is being too modest about his abilities, as the design



Architecture: building the future won his company the Civic Trust Award for the Best New Building in Derby, in 2001.

**We wish Michael continued success in the future.**

J Grant

## Adult Education

Our ever-expanding adult education classes go from strength to strength. The following are just some of the classes on offer at Landau Forte College.

Courses are available from September 2002. Some day-time I.T. courses are available during our Summer College in July. Please ask for details.

New CLAIT  
New CLAIT - Art  
Psychology - 'A'/'AS'/'A2' Levels  
Sociology - 'A'/'AS'/'A2' Levels  
English Literature 'A'/'AS'/'A2' Levels  
Law - 'A'/'AS' Levels  
GCSE Maths, English, Art  
Book-Keeping Level 1 Cert/Diploma  
Accounts Level 2 Cert/Diploma  
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All classes are taught - not 'teach yourself by manual'!

For further information, or to request a Prospectus, please contact Andrea Back or Sheena Kelsey.

Andrea Back

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