

# THE HIGH QUARTERLY

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ISSUE 1

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READ ALL ABOUT IT...! Here it is – the first issue of our school newspaper ‘The High Quarterly’. Earlier this year an opportunity arose to apply for funding from CfBT Education Trust for a Gifted and Talented project in School and we were thrilled when we found out that our bid had been one of the few successful ones from a very large field.

An editorial team, comprising some of our most talented and able pupils, was duly assembled and I am proud to say that, despite being in the midst of one of the busiest years of their school careers, they have worked with excitement, humour and intelligence. It has been a pleasure to work with such enthusiastic young people.

I am delighted to be able to invite you to read and enjoy a variety of articles - many have been written by the chief features editors from the Sixth Form, but there are also many contributions from students in other year groups.

Please read and also recommend ‘The High Quarterly’ to friends and family, colleagues and neighbours, and don’t forget to visit again when Issue Two is released in late March 2011, with yet more exciting features...!

Amanda Rossi  
Gifted and Talented Coordinator



Hello! We're the Editorial Team of the High Quarterly and we're very proud to present to you this first edition of our newspaper. It's grown from the humble beginnings of thirty of us squashed together in Room One every other week discussing formats, articles and timetables in to this: a massive online paper with almost two dozen different subjects included, ranging from the scientific (look inside to find out what makes those classic 'by the sea sounds and smells') to the artistic (we've got an article perfect for any budding Austen fans); from the political (confused about deficit? Don't understand what the Taliban is? We've got articles for you) to some brain-busting riddles and crosswords. It's been a long road and it hasn't always been easy to complete – we've all put in some late nights editing articles and chasing up adverts – and the format of what you're about to read has changed significantly from the beginning, from being conceived initially as a regular printed paper to its final metamorphosis as an online paper. Thanks to Mrs Rossi and our subject editors, we've put together a paper of which we're very proud. We have something for everyone and contributions from almost every year group in the School; they're funny, touching and some just seriously interesting! We hope you enjoy our first edition and we'll be releasing our next edition at the end of March 2011 in a slightly different format (no longer a PDF, instead an interactive website similar to newspapers like the Times and Guardian). Also, don't forget to listen to our interview with BBC Radio Lincolnshire from this morning (launch day!) at 9:40, which will be available on the BBC iPlayer until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December! So, welcome to the first issue of The High Quarterly!

Enjoy it!

## *The Editorial Team*

Clowance Lawton (Editor), Emma Gibbs, Nadine Garland and Georgia Maycock (Sub-editors)

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Hannah Jones	Local News Editor
Katherine Crawt	School News (National and Local) Editor
Chloe Allen	Science Editor
Sam Dudbridge	Technology Editor
Ella Berry	Health Editor
Annabelle Faulkner	Sports Editor
Anne-Marie Richardson	Arts & Culture Editors
Annie van Spyk	Arts & Culture Editors
Eloise Quince	Music Editor
Amber Henry	Theatre Critic
Rebecca Jones	Letters Editor
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Jack Satchell	Video and Web Support



## TUITION FEE RISE: HELP OR HINDERANCE?

Kathryn CRAWT

Belonging to a high-performing grammar school, a large proportion of our students will be aspiring towards a university career, so the current discussions on Lord Browne's Tuition Fees Report are a significant issue within Spalding High School. So is the proposed rise in tuition fees a positive or a negative scheme?

### AGAINST

The general consensus in the sixth form common room is that the potential rise in tuition fees is a bad thing. This may of course be because they are a rather miserly bunch who don't want to give up too much of their own or their parents' money! However their concerns are not unfounded. It is true that many will take out student loans, which have unique conditions allowing them to not pay back any money until they can afford to do so, collect no interest, and which are written off if unpaid after 30 years. This is beside the point, as I'm sure that everybody out there would

rather have £19,000 of debts hanging over their heads than a colossal £36,000! Such a prospect is bound to dissuade a significant proportion of students from pursuing their university dreams. This is likely to be particularly true among poorer families. Such a scheme could conceivably see a return to the traditional system in which only the upper and upper middle classes go to university, with less well-off students missing the golden opportunity, consequently seeing the current class gap growing ever more prominent.

Similarly, with fewer students receiving a university education, the United Kingdom may see a fall in the number of workers qualified for vital graduate jobs which help to fuel our fragile economy. In addition, a lack of diversity in our already much divided country could widen, as students miss out on the chance to mix with individuals of varying class and cultural backgrounds. All these effects are evidently just speculation at the current time, but they hold very real concerns for workers and prospective students alike.

## FOR

There is always a converse argument in such a controversial debate, and of course there must be legitimate reasons for the proposal to have emerged in the first place. England is the home of some of the world's leading higher education institutes, and in order to sustain such high standards, significant finance must be put into them. In the current economic climate, with notable government spending being withdrawn from universities, the clear solution is to draw money from the students they educate.



Courtesy of [www.parentdish.co.uk/2010/10/12/the-bus-thats-also-a-classroom](http://www.parentdish.co.uk/2010/10/12/the-bus-thats-also-a-classroom)

### The children on the bus will learn, learn, and learn!

When a primary school in Cornwall found they could no longer afford the £15,000 extension they had been planning, head teacher Brett Dye decided that buying a double-decker bus to convert into two classrooms was the way forward! The bus will hold a cooking classroom on the top floor and a science lab on the bottom floor. Perhaps these spending cuts will ultimately have a positive effect on encouraging creative alternatives for the classroom!

Some have argued that paying tuition fees is like an 'investment in your future'. While higher education equips its scholars with the skills and qualifications they will need for successful employment upon graduation and beyond, it seems only fair that they pay a fee relative to the benefits they will eventually enjoy. It has also been suggested that a university education is not necessarily required in order to have a positive start to your career. With an increase in apprenticeships available for young school-leavers, particularly in poorer areas, there is often an alternative, perhaps more direct and practical route into employment.

**There is no doubt that have their merits and their complications. It can only be left to the final outcome of discussions on Lord Browne's report in the following weeks to determine which argument will ultimately triumph.**

Courtesy of [telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk)

# 3D FiDnFilms

Sam DUBBRIDGE

The human mind is considered to be the most intelligent mind on this planet; it is the inventor of electricity, of computers and now of films which venture into the confusing world of the third dimension. Yet somehow, a three-dimensional film can confuse this amazing human mind into thinking that what is effectively two images on a screen, is in fact a three-dimensional object. This technology has grown so much so that now it has even

improved to the point of people flinching to avoid being hit by non-existent objects. 3D technology can also be known as stereoscopic projection. This means the projection of two images - this is how the majority of three-dimensional films work. As well as this, glasses are worn to alter the image that each eye sees, therefore confusing the amazing human brain, into seeing a third-dimension that doesn't really exist.

In 2009 a film was released that revolutionised the film industry. Avatar. This is deemed to be the turning point in film industry. No longer would 3D films be seen to be disappointing and second rate. The creator, James Cameron, waited to make Avatar for 15 years because the technology for the quality he wanted for the film just was not available. So after 15 years he invented his own technology, to give Avatar that "never seen before look".



In terms of the history of 3D, it is surprising that the first three-dimensional film was released in the 1950s. Of course, it was not Avatar, and this meant that the 3D industry did not catch on. Then again in the 1980s, many films were released in 3D, and yet again the technology was sub-standard and few people took an interest. It was between 2000 and 2009 when the world became obsessed with 3D.

Courtesy of scifiscoop.com (Avatar)

In the 1950s the 3D technology worked using Anaglyph images. Although this is not an everyday term, you will have all seen how it worked. The glasses seen to the right are probably the most common type that people think of. The technology behind these types of films is quite simple, there are two images. The reason that there are two images is so that each eye sees a different image, introducing depth perception. The image seen below shows what an example image looks like without glasses.



As you can see there are two images. One of them is moved slightly to the right of the other. Also one image is tinted to match the colour of a lens of the glasses and the same with the other lens. Each lens acts as a filter; this causes the red lens to see the red part of the image as white and the blue part of the images as black. This works in the opposite ways for the other lens. The brain perceives the black and white images as the same, therefore the difference confuses the brain into thinking the image has

a third-dimension when really it is just a multi-coloured and blurry picture. Anaglyph images are the cheapest form of three-dimensional technology as all the glasses require are some red and blue filters.



In the light of current technology, the scene of three-dimensional film has much improved. The latest technology is called polarisation systems. Instead of the earlier, simplistic glasses, the glasses are now much more interesting and also much better at impersonating the third dimension. A polarisation filter can be used to project each image on to a screen. This means the light is changed so that only the correctly orientated light waves can pass through the filter. Then when the light is reflected back off the screen and into the viewer's eyes, the glasses have been designed so that each lens lets through a certain type of polarized light. This then means that as each lens is different, each eye "sees" a different image. This again confuses the brain into seeing a 3D image.



Courtesy of istockphoto.com, inkdryerdesign.com, 3d-image.net (3d glasses and 3d image)

Despite all this progress in the world of 3D there are many problems with 3D technology. If the film is enhanced "post-production" it often means that the film is not as good quality and the three-dimensional aspect is not up to standard.

This was the problem with many of the earlier films. In order to combat this lack of quality, when filming, two cameras are used. This means that the quality of the 3D is very high and this is the best method. However this is not without its complications. For example, what if a speck of dust was on one of the camera lenses but not on the other. Well, the

Three-dimensional technology is vastly improving every day; already it is possible to have 3D television in our homes and also 3D DVDs. Within the next year we will see three-dimensional games consoles, with the Nintendo 3DS being released within a matter of months. Ultra-high

human brain would notice this and the illusion of the 3D technology would be lost. Another problem with 3D technology is that of health. If 3D films are watched too much, the brain can become too used to watching in 3D and vision can be affected. Children and teenagers especially can be affected, cases have been seen with children having; vision problems, light-headedness, dizziness, involuntary muscle movements or vomiting. This obviously is not usually a problem in a cinema, but with technology improving it is only a matter of time before every house has a three dimensional television.

tech gadgets such as 3D head-gear will soon enable us to delve into the world of virtual reality and who knows where the technology will go from there. The Nintendo 3DS is a particularly special piece of 3D technology, there is no need for any glasses or any other eyewear. With this being a never seen before option, the world of technology is very excited to see what comes next.



# **Undergraduate Students: An Endangered Species?**

**Phillipa GAMBLE**

When asked what worries them most about university, the majority of people would talk about fees and the resulting debt. The 2010 Push Student Debt Survey of over 2000 students shows that the current average level of debt per year is approximately £5600. This is certainly a big worry and one which weighs heavily upon potential students when making the decision of whether or not to attend university. In most cases, however, this burden is outweighed by the chance to study at degree level and to take that first, wobbly step into adult life.

Following Lord Browne's review, the possibility of sky-high debts is now very real and it's uncertain just how high the average fee per year could rise. According to this review, university fees' current limitation to £3,290 means that the money available for investment in higher education is not sufficient. This is all very well, but when seventeen and eighteen year-olds hear figures such as £12,000 a year for their course, getting to university in the first place may seem impossible. It certainly seems that raising fees to solve the alleged problem of insufficient investment in further education, other issues such as unemployment may be affected. If fees do indeed rise much above the current capped figure, prospective applicants from backgrounds where there isn't limitless money available may be put off applying at all. If the theory that having a degree increases employability is correct, then surely if fewer people go to university, there will be a larger number of people looking for jobs but perhaps not many being successful, not having the qualifications required.

The applicants who decide that studying for a degree is worth the investment, may also doubt whether or not there actually will be a place available for them at all. The main problem here stems from what may seem quite an extreme and illogical idea: the government's threat to fine any oversubscribed university. This seems especially contradictory if we think back to 2007 when the government expressed an enthusiastic target of 50% of school leavers to attend university. This year there were approximately 600,000 applicants out of which it is estimated that 150,000 will not have been awarded a place, despite their hard work to achieve the required grades.



Without much consideration of the implications of this situation, it could be argued that this is a perfectly reasonable measure, when one takes into account

the government's drastic need to save money across many areas. However from a student's point of view, the figure of 150,000 presents a very real danger that all their efforts and dreams could go up in smoke. It isn't just students affected by this: parents also lose a lot of sleep over the future of their children. For people who aspire to a job for which a degree is necessary, the need for a "back-up plan" is now very much a reality.

The process of researching university courses, attending open days, analysing entrance requirements, choosing where to apply, and writing a personal statement is something which requires a certain amount of independence in the student. After putting all this effort in, being knocked back and to not even receive a place would be extremely demoralising. It would certainly be unfair to blame anyone who asked themselves in these circumstances "what more must I do?". Unfortunately it seems that for the

time being, there is nothing more to be done. The saying "you can only do your best" seems especially appropriate here. As a result of these cuts, you just have to put everything you have into your university application, sit back and cross your fingers. However, on a more positive note, it could indeed be said that these uncertain circumstances may encourage young people to look beyond university, possibly to a path better suited to them.

Despite various attempts from Lord Browne to convince us that what he has suggested is a positive thing, the fact remains that if fees rocket and the number of places plummet, very few prospective students are going to be seeing applying to university in quite the same light. It is near impossible to express just how much being deterred from making an application and missing out on the opportunity of going to university could alter the futures of so many people.

# **G**eorge Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, outlined to the House of Commons what spending cuts he is planning at the end of October.

**Holly WALKER**

The Treasury is struggling to lessen the £178 billion deficit and has no choice but to make spending cuts to save the country from falling into a bigger slump later. Our current deficit is double previous records and is 1/8<sup>th</sup> of the GDP.

There has been placed on each department a target to reduce expenditure by 25%-40%, (average 19%) depending on the department. The only department that has escaped such severe cuts is the Ministry of Defence, with only cuts of up to 8%, but this will still have seriously repercussions for the Armed Forces. The Navy is being reduced from a surface fleet of 24 to 19 and is losing 4,000 personnel. The Army will lose up to 7,000 personnel and 100 tanks and heavy artillery.

The BBC licence fee will be frozen for the next 6 years and this may lead to less diversity in the programmes on the Beeb. Schools will be protected from direct funding cuts but spending on school buildings to fall 60% and extra help for students in the form of free school meals and EMA are being either scrapped or greatly reduced, it still doesn't look good for poorer students and schools in more depressed areas.

The Government is apparently considering selling off nature reserves, parts of the Forestry Commission and giving less money



to British Waterways, which manages hundreds of miles of rivers and canals.

The planned investments in green energy especially the Severn estuary tidal barrage have been scrapped, but the Government has committed £200million for wind power development and £1bn for green investment banking.

The NHS in England will see 0.4% rise in its budget over the next four years and extra money should be found for new cancer drugs. But the police are having their funding cut by 4%, which is supposed to be aimed at the bureaucracy of the police. Though many experts claim this will lead to 18,000 police jobs being lost. Also in the Home Office the UK Border Agency and the Counter Intelligence units will have funding cuts – though how this is suppose to help to prevent terrorism, it is not known.

With about 490,000 public sector jobs likely to be cut the future is looking kind of bleak. These job losses will not only affect the people themselves but the areas they live in. The economy is still fragile and is slowing recovering from the recession; many experts are worried that cutting too fast and too soon could permanently damage the UK economy.

## **Why are we in this mess in the first place? And why are we paying for it?**

The Government predicted in June, after it came into power, that it would spent £697bn in the year ending in March 2011. It expected to raise £548bn through taxation, specifically from Income tax, National Insurance and VAT. To make up the difference it had to borrow £149bn. The biggest areas of spending are Health, Education and Social Protection, which include things like job seekers allowance. If big savings are to be made without cutting big areas like health and education, other areas have to be cut

significantly. There also has to be cuts to pay for the interest on the loans the Government originally took out, which this year amount to £44bn.

This leads to the predicament of do you make cuts and borrow less, but risk permanently damaging the economy or

do you spend at the level of the previous Government and at the level of spending before the recession, and risk a high level of debt, interest and then getting the UK's triple A credit status downgraded and therefore damaging it anyway.



## What's going to happen...?

- Child Trust Funds scrapped
- Air passenger duty to rise
- VAT to rise to 20% in Jan 2010
- Health in Pregnancy Grant scrapped in Jan 2011
- Train fares to rise every January until 2014
- Fuel duty rise 0.76p per litre in Jan 2011
- Car and Household insurance cost rise (due to insurance premium in tax) in early 2011
- Sure Start Maternity grant axed after 1<sup>st</sup> child
- Child benefit freeze for 3 years in April 2011
- Public sector pay frozen for all earnings above £21,000

Courtesy of [www.canvas.union.shef.ac.uk](http://www.canvas.union.shef.ac.uk) (Scissors picture)

# Apparently, getting Jane Austen published took some

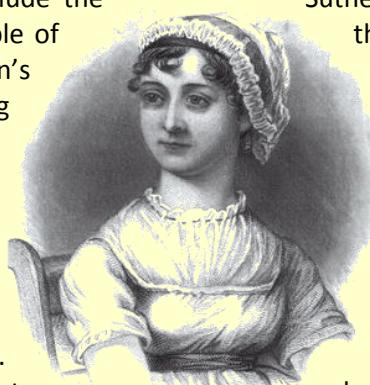
## *Persuasion...*

Ann-Marie RICHARDSON

**It is a truth universally acknowledged that Jane Austen is one of the best English authors – who cares if she couldn't spell?**

From 12<sup>th</sup> November 2010 to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011 the British Library will open an exhibition called 'Evolving English'. This will put on display many manuscripts from various authors; among these will include the original drafts of the first couple of chapters from Jane Austen's 'Persuasion'. An exciting opportunity for any Austen fan, however her writing style failed to impress some. Her crossings out and use of punctuation has shocked those fortunate enough to preview the manuscripts.

"Austen hardly punctuates at all." says Roger Walshe, curator of the exhibition, "There tends to be an awful lot of clauses and sub-clauses. There is the odd comma, but they aren't always in the most rational places. There are no paragraphs." It was not long before newspapers and scholars



everywhere joined in the grammar witch hunt; one person who comes to mind is Professor Kathryn Sutherland of the faculty of English language and literature at Oxford.

Sutherland has studied approximately ten thousand one hundred pages of Austen's handwritten work and was shocked to find that there were many ink blots, untidy scribbles, and several grammar misuses. "I think we have overestimated her as a perfect English stylist at the expense of how experimental she was," Sutherland said. "When you look at the manuscript, you realise

she wasn't writing like that at all. The stuff is written as a complete rush..." It seems to me that Kathryn Sutherland was shocked to find that Jane Austen's manuscripts had been improved slightly before publishing. Let me get this straight: she's disappointed because her editor was doing his job?

**To any Austen fan as devoted as I, this is sacrilege of the acutest kind.**

**Plenty of journalists have devoured this story, apparently appalled by the mistakes discovered in her manuscripts – though the fact that one online newspaper I researched spelt her name "Austin" makes me wonder whether these people have a right to criticise anyone's spelling.**

Austen may not have had the tidied, well-presented thought processes that many literature researchers once believed her to have had, and it is true that her original drafts are not flattering as far as her application of punctuation is concerned which would be a bitter let-down to some. However, this new evidence only increases my admiration for the author. To me the hasty scribbles and the angry crossing outs give us what any manuscript ought to; an insight into the thought processes of one of the most well-known writers. The fact that she was so inspired by her characters that her hand would not write as fast as her brain was processing her witty plotlines only improves my opinion of her. Walshe even redeemed his earlier criticisms by adding; "You can imagine her thinking through a scene and then rushing to write it down. That's possibly why the dialogue works so well and why (film adaptations) are so successful. There is a real sense of urgency – more so than the slightly more restrained form you get from the novels." The chaotic set up of her work lead Walshe to suspect that Austen did not believe her manuscripts were valuable. Oh, if she only knew!

So, Austen may not have had the best writing technique but in no way does this besmirch her as a storyteller and beloved author. Was it her publishers who told her the ideas for some of the world's greatest love stories? Did one day her publishers call her to their offices and say; "We've got a great idea for a hero for you! Let's call him Mr Darcy..." No. No one loves an author for their use of punctuation; I have yet to read a book review that praises where a writer has placed their commas. What we love about Jane Austen is her romantic yet comedic storylines and her characters. None of us have the right to judge the writings of a woman whose novels are still voted at the top of most loved book polls two hundred years after she created them. Anyone can write a story. The commas can be in the correct places and page breaks where suitable, but it takes a true storyteller to make their work live on.



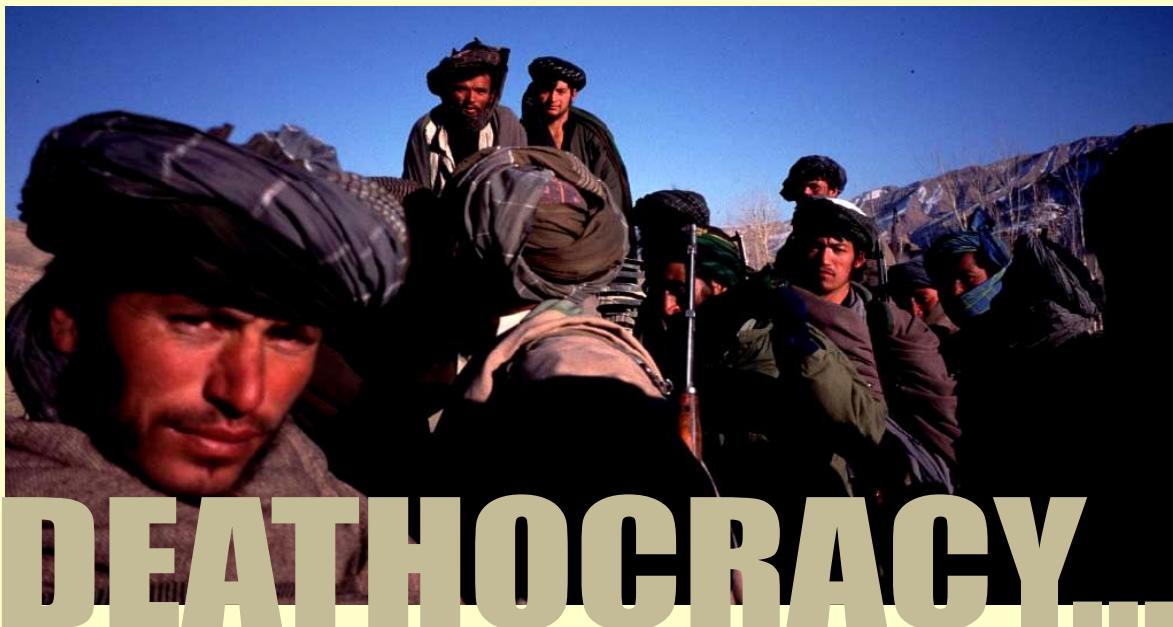
#### It's not only Austen who helped Evolve English....

"One Language, Many Voices" is the slogan for this exhibition and the British Library is certainly not exaggerating. I would like to stress that Jane Austen is not the only author on display at the 'Evolving English' exhibition, despite my ranting. There are also many literary treasures, such as: the only surviving manuscript of 'Beowulf', the King James Bible, and recorded speeches of many great speakers including Winston Churchill, Gandhi and Nelson Mandela.

One of my favourite books exhibited, however, is a cookbook. The authors in Papa New Guinea wrote in what has been described as an "adapted form of English". When researching this I stumbled across a recipe which instructs you to: "Katim tamato liklik, ptum long sospa, putim anian, wara, pepa na sol wantaim." This is in fact a recipe for tomato sauce and has been translated as: "Cut a little tomato, put it in a large saucepan, put in an onion, water, pepper and salt one time."

Now I've told you, it's obvious isn't it?

Step aside from Edward Cullen. No one can beat the original heartthrob. The character that no non-fictional man will ever live up to Mr Fitzwilliam Darcy



Melissa PODRO

**The** Taliban are infamous for their taking power of Afghanistan in 1996 and proceeding to pervert Islamic traditions to make them fit in to their reign of terror, destroying the lives of many. Although they are no longer the dominant force in Afghanistan, their impact can still be seen and it's people still suffer the same injustices.



Women were ruthlessly targeted by the Taliban, and many haven't gained human rights since. Although it is no longer the law, a lot of women still feel forced to wear a burka in certain areas. If not they are given at best dirty looks and at worst viciously beaten or killed by self-righteous Taliban supporters. A burka, the full body veil, is extremely uncomfortable to wear. They are hot, particularly in the Afghanistan climate, and greatly decrease the wearer's field of vision, making the simplest of actions difficult. Not only this, but it is taking away a basic free choice that every person ought to have.

But women's lack of freedom by no means ends there. It is still accepted that women can be beaten by their husbands, fathers or brothers and that it is a man's right to do so. Women are not meant to walk on their own, talk loudly or laugh in public, and aren't even meant to be seen through windows when in their own home. These laws were put in place

by the Taliban but many supporters still attempt to enforce them even though the Taliban are no longer in power. Women are treated as second class citizens, they have no rights they are simply the property of men and if any woman rebels against this then they can be punished the way men see fit.

Furthermore, many young girls have had their futures taken away from them by the Taliban. Under their rule it was illegal for girls to be taught to read and write and so they were no longer allowed to receive an education. This resulted in some women organising secret schools for girls, despite the risk of death if the Taliban found out. For the majority of girls who didn't go to these underground schools, there are now no career opportunities for them. Their illiteracy alone makes them unemployable and adds to this the stigma surrounding working women, and they have no chance of being hired. This means most women have no money and can't live independently, so they must rely on their family or a husband to support them as if not they will be homeless. This again oppresses women and forces choices on them that they may not otherwise have made. The illiteracy alone causes a downward spiral as it reinforces the view that women are less intelligent than men.

The Taliban were responsible for a vast

number of deaths, sometimes whole villages were destroyed for their possessions and houses, Hazara Afghans were killed due to their race and religious beliefs and other Afghanistan people were killed due to violating the unfair laws of the Taliban such as committing

up alone with no one to care for them and with a fragile mental state. Also, the people in Afghanistan are fearful of speaking out against the Taliban in case they take power again because of this, which makes establishing change in Afghanistan even more difficult.



These children are orphans due to the Taliban's reign...

adultery, showing too much flesh or opposing them. This has left Afghanistan in a state of turmoil. Most families in Afghanistan will have suffered a loss due to this, leaving them in deep despair. There are vast amounts of orphans many of whom will have witnessed their parents' death, and so have grown

and justify the Taliban's beliefs, just as the Ku Klux Klan did with Christianity. It is important to remember this so that those outside the faith don't blame Islam, which would only serve to bring the people of Afghanistan more suffering and sadness

The devastation in the once beautiful country is unimaginable. Its people have been victims of totalitarian reigns even before the Taliban, and it will take many new generations for the country to fully recover from this.

As a final note, I would like to emphasise that it is not the religion that is to blame for these atrocities. It is the people who support this Islamic extremism which is a form of Islam twisted to fit



**Melissa Podro, who took part on the Lessons from Auschwitz Project which involved survivor talks, seminars about the holocaust and a visit to the Auschwitz camps shares her experiences.**

**S**tanding in front of the mountains of human hair, shoes and suitcases at Auschwitz I, was one of the most illuminating and terrifying experiences of my life. They had all belonged to victims of the holocaust at the Auschwitz camps who had been stripped of their identity and self-worth before being systematically killed in the gas chambers or going on to be forced into backbreaking hard labour before they met their untimely ends. Auschwitz I, was my second site of the trip, after visiting the abandoned graveyard for the victims in the nearby town of Oświęcim, and it was Auschwitz I that had hit me hardest that day.

It forced me not only to see the holocaust victims as individuals, real people who had had different upbringings, different families and different aspirations and hopes for the future rather than a vast unfathomable statistic, but also to come to terms with the human potential for truly horrific evil. The sadistic torture chambers within Auschwitz I's prison really demonstrated this. People would be punished by death within the torture chambers but in the cruellest, most grotesque ways imaginable.

There were the suffocation cells, in which the victims would slowly use up all the oxygen in the airtight chamber leading to a painful and drawn out death, the starvation cells, another way the Nazis thought of to prolong their victims' agony, and the standing cells, which were less than a square metre in size which the victims would sleep in with five other people so that they had no choice but to remain standing and then returned to work during the day never sitting down. The longest someone survived that particular torture was twenty days.

After Auschwitz I we went on to Birkenau, the most famous camp due to its vast size. The buildings were mainly falling or fallen apart, but the remains were clearly visible. It was far, far larger than I had expected, so large that I simply couldn't process the size or picture the amount of people that had suffered there. The buildings were freezing with painful wooden three level "beds" to sleep on, with several people to a bunk. It was hard to imagine how you could possibly survive there.

What I took away from the Lessons from Auschwitz Project was a reminder that all the people involved in the holocaust were individual human beings which was extremely hard to appreciate previous to the experience. I also have been reminded that we need to make sure people are taught about the holocaust, not only so that they don't forget, but so that this isn't repeated. Although teaching people of the holocaust will become increasingly harder over the years, what with most camps preservation deteriorating, and the sad fact that the holocaust survivors, like Kitty Hart-Moxon who I had the privilege of meeting at one of the seminars, will soon be deceased and no longer act as a living reminder of the atrocities. This will also only make it easier for the deniers, or "revisionist historians" as they wrongly refer to themselves, to claim the holocaust was a hoax or an exaggeration. I think it is important to continue teaching the stories to the younger generations to ensure that this doesn't happen.

Overall, the trip was both emotional and insightful and I would recommend applying to take part in Lower Sixth to any younger pupils.



Courtesy of stbrendanschool.com/WWII/Holocaust

# Local Look



Hannah JONES

Although we live in the Spalding area, how much do we know about the features of it? Spalding and its surrounding area have a long and interesting history with the town itself even being mentioned in the Domesday Book written in 1086. The population has grown hugely over the centuries: in 1801 the census states the population was 3,296 but this has now risen to around thirty thousand. When you live in Spalding it is easy to see features but forget the history and relevance to the town. Although you may walk across High Bridge, how much do you know about the river that runs below it? Although you may have grown up going to Ayscoughfee Hall and gardens, how much do you know about its history? In this article we are going to look at these questions and consider these features' importance to the town.

Ayscoughfee Hall stands back on the bank of the river Welland. It is a splendid feature of Spalding and is believed to have been built in 1451 for a wool merchant, Richard Ailwyn, whose son took over the house and became Lord Mayor of London in 1499. The hall has undergone redevelopment and restoration to become a museum, although it is claimed that it would still be recognisable to someone who saw the house in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The house received its name while it belonged to the Ayscough family in the early part of the sixteenth century. The land was granted to Sir William Ayscough by Henry VIII. In the seventeenth century the Hall passed on to the Johnson family and the second in this family line, Maurice Johnson, founded the Spalding Gentlemen's Society in 1710. This is the second oldest antiquarian society still in existence. Some of the five acre gardens of Ayscoughfee were reputedly laid out by William Sands and these features can still be seen today. It hosts one of the oldest Yew tree walks in the country which dates back to the 1720s. The last occupant

The river Welland is a key feature of Spalding and has been the main waterway across the fen for thousands of years and is even now used by Lincolnshireites via the water taxi service, launched in 2005, which goes from the Welland behind the Civic Centre to Springfields shopping outlet. The taxi runs from Easter to late October as well as doing special Christmas trips. The river itself is 35km long and flows through Stamford, The Deepings, Crowland, Cowbit and Spalding, before flowing out into the wash. The river bisects Spalding from the east and west. Spalding had been blighted by flooding throughout its history but the creation of the Coronation Channel changed that. The channel was built in 1953 and named to commemorate the coronation of our current Queen.

left the Hall in 1896 and Hall were bought Spalding as a Victoria's Diamond given to the town for celebrate the Edward. The war Ayscoughfee Gardens Edward Lutyens, who Cenotaph in London reminder of all of the local men who lost their lives fighting for their country. The Hall gave its name to a primary school which was founded in 1920. This school then moved site in 1993 across to the other side of the river. With Heritage Lottery Fund backing and South Holland District Council help, the Hall closed to be restored in 2003, to then be opened in 2006. It is a great civic amenity and to go into the museum is absolutely free. It is particularly beautiful at Christmas and there will be several displays out just for this season.I hope you may get a chance to look around the features of the Welland, Coronation channel and Ayscoughfee Hall and can enjoy some of the rich heritage that Spalding has to offer.



Photograph of Ayscoughfee Hall courtesy of <http://en.wikipedia.org/>. Photograph of High Bridge courtesy of <http://www.flickr.com/photos/27045884@N05/4095263782/>



# THE SMELLS OF THE SEASIDE

CHLOE ALLEN

Winter may be fast approaching; bringing it with dark, gloomy nights and frightfully cold winds but let's just take a moment to remember the glorious six weeks before term started. Imagine yourself walking down the pier of your favourite seaside resort, taking in the calm warm breeze and the smooth rolls of the ocean waves. You take in a deep breath of that marvellous sea air... and suddenly wonder to yourself: what is it that you are actually smelling? Could it simply be a salt spray tossed up from the shore as the waves crash against the cliffs? Or is there something unbeknown to us hiding beneath those dark waters that can be responsible?

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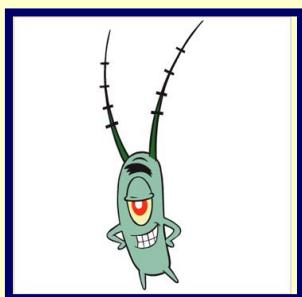
That classic "seaside" aroma is actually a sulphur based compound called Dimethylsulphide (DMS), which is known for its characteristically strong odour. It is produced by

certain species of **phytoplankton**, such as **Phaeocystis**, originally as the molecule dimethylsulphoniopropionate (DMSP). This molecule has many important functions for the organism as it acts as an osmolyte within the cells of the **phytoplankton**. This means that it does not react with the contents of the cells and so it remains neutral inside the body. This prevents the cells drying out and helps them to respond positively when the salt content of the water changes dramatically. It also acts as an antioxidant for the algae as it helps to tolerate stressful conditions such as iron deficient water. When the **phytoplankton** cells are damaged by their predator, the grazing **zooplankton**, they release this molecule into the sea water as a way of defending themselves against the attacking **zooplankton**. Other

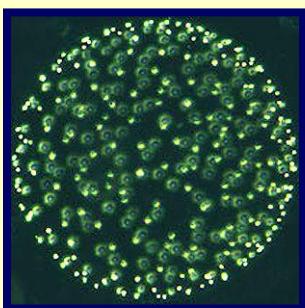
**phytoplankton** and bacteria within the ocean use the enzyme DSMP-lyase to convert DNSP produced by the algae into DMS, whilst other bacteria simply consume the DMSP.

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Some of the DMS diffuses from the saltwater and into the atmosphere, which results in that salty smell. The gas travels to the **troposphere** where it is oxidised into tropospheric sulphate aerosols. These aerosols play a role in the making of clouds, as they act as **cloud condensation nuclei (CNN)** to attract the water droplets in the formation of clouds. This shows that DMS not only allows us to smell that 'by the sea' air but is also very important in maintaining the Earth's temperature and climate, as clouds affect the amount of radiation taken in by the planet.



Phaeocystis



Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton courtesy of [www.chemistrytimes.com](http://www.chemistrytimes.com),  
Phaeocystis courtesy of [www.scooterchronicles.com](http://www.scooterchronicles.com)

## GLOSSARY

**Phytoplankton:** microscopic algae that live in the upper ocean.

**Zooplankton:** the animal version of plankton; this consists mainly of small crustaceans and fish larvae.

**Troposphere:** the lowest region of the Earth's atmosphere, it is the region where clouds form.

**Cloud condensation nuclei:** very small particles that provide a surface upon which water vapour can condense into cloud droplets or form ice crystals.



# THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASIDE



Well the holidays are well and truly over. The sunlight is slowly fading away as the winter chills start to kick in, and all that is left are your fond memories and the hundreds upon thousands of shells that you collected from the beach as personal souvenirs. Maybe you were even lucky enough to find a magnificent conch shell. You press the shell up close to your ear and just listen to the roars of the ocean as you imagine yourself right back on the beach. But why does the shell produce the sound that we hear?

Maybe the sound is the echo of your blood rushing through the blood vessels within your ear? Alas no. This cannot be true as the sound would be of a higher intensity after exercising, as exercise increases heart rate and therefore the rate of blood flow through the blood vessels. Try it for yourself, but it is a known fact that the sound remains the same even after vigorous exercise.

Well then, could it be that the sound is caused simply by the air moving in and out of the shell? The sound is louder when the shell is placed slightly further away from your ear than when you hold it directly against your head. Wrong again. It has been discovered that in a soundproof room, which has air inside it, no sound can be heard when the shell is held against the ear. What could possibly be the cause of this strange phenomenon?

The most likely explanation for this 'wave-like' noise is basically the noise that is already around you. The shell captures this noise and the sound waves that are bouncing around inside the chamber of the shell, before registering on your ear drum as the noise you hear. Forcing the sound waves to bounce repeatedly off of something before they enter your ear changes the mix of frequencies of the sound waves. So the sound waves sound different and sometimes, they can sound like waves at the beach. The

size and shape of the shell also has an effect on the sound waves, as different shells intensify different frequencies. The noise from the outside of the shell changes the intensity of the sound produced from inside the shell, so the louder the noise of the environment, the louder the 'wave-like' noise will be.

You don't even need a conch shell to be able to test out this theory; this sound can be produced by using an empty cup or even placing your hands in a cupped motion over your ear. Try it for yourself and you never know, you may even be able to hear the rolls of the ocean from your own bedroom.

# The Lion King Review

Amber HENRY

Approaching the site of the Lyceum Theatre in London's West End, one can immediately establish just how popular this particular musical is. With the film that it was inspired by winning a total of 22 awards - including 2 Oscars - and the musical itself winning no fewer than six Tony awards. It is not hard to see why The

Lion  
King



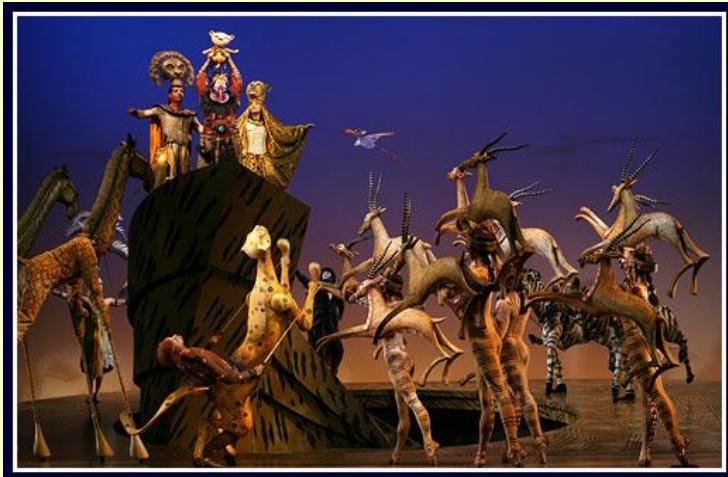
attracts  
audiences in  
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definitely being  
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word here, on  
this particular  
sunny  
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matinee

performance.

Excitedly clutching my ticket, standing at one of the many crowded doors among people more than twice my age and those less than half of it, I can clearly see the appeal of The Lion King – it is fun for the whole family. Not

wishing to judge the show before I have even seen it, however, I try to keep my opinions to myself. Well, at least until the interval, that is.

Based in Africa, The Lion King is the story of Simba, a lion cub born to the King, Mufasa. Mufasa's evil brother, Scar, is desperate to be next on the throne, so upon hearing of the cub's birth, he immediately begins to plot Simba's downfall. Through blaming Simba for his Father's death, Scar gets what he wants... Or so it seems. Many already know the story of The Lion King, so eagerly wait as the curtain goes up on what will be an exciting and memorable adventure for all.



The lights dim and everyone is silent, even the little boy of no older than five sitting a few seats away from me - he's transfixed before the show has even properly begun. The stage is filled with the golden yellow and deep red lights that immediately take the audience on a journey to the Serengeti, as an animated and excited Rafiki the Baboon steps onto the stage, complete with her ostentatious tribal costume and intricate face paint. With full gusto and a voice that could excite even the most sceptical of theatre-goers, she launches whole heartedly into the first notes of the show's most iconic song, The Circle of Life. Immediately the stage becomes a hive of activity, almost a safari, as all species of animal walk, leap and fly onto the stage. The eyes of the audience dart around trying to take in the incredible sight that is before them. Every creature imaginable is brought to life stunningly, with some of the most complex and incredible costumes the West End has ever seen – all animated by the actors that manipulate their puppets and costumes in incredibly lifelike and elegant ways. Cheetahs strut onto the stage, tropical coloured birds circle above the audience's heads and giraffes majestically cross the setting sun that can be seen at the back of the stage. As if the audience weren't stunned enough, gasps can be heard as people begin to turn around and notice the humungous elephant striding down the aisles of the

theatre – the general atmosphere is one of awe, as every person looks in wonder and excitement, just waiting for what the rest of the show has to offer.

This opening scene sets the bar, and expectations of the audience are at the highest of levels, and it does not disappoint.

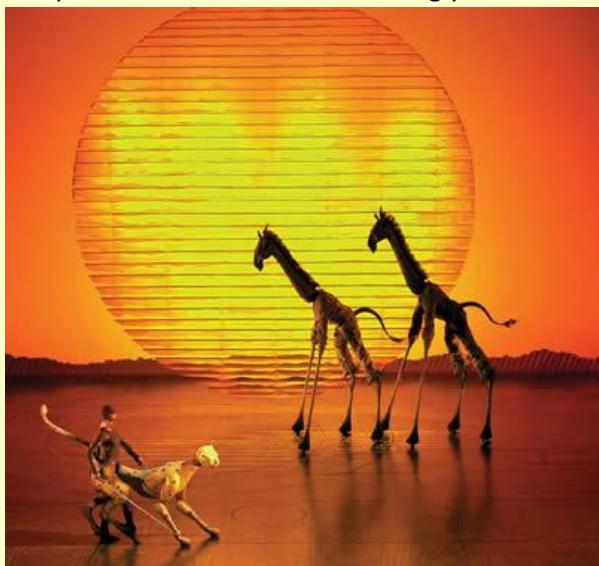
The audience is taken on a whirlwind adventure, all set to the tribal songs that many know and love from

the film. Squeals of laughter and delight come from the small children as they watch the characters Timon and Pumba – a meerkat and a warthog – joke, sing, dance, and occasionally burp their way through a scene. Our breaths are held and tears are in our eyes at the heart wrenchingly sad scenes of the death of Mufasa. We watch as playfulness develops into love with Simba and his childhood playmate, Nala, and a sense of pride is felt as we watch them grow into adults.

The Lion King is an emotional journey, a sensory overload and a whole lot of fun, all set to

stunning music. The acting is superb, but nothing can compare to the incredible costumes and set in this show, which bring everything to life fantastically. The only complaint that can be made of this show is that you just don't know where

to look at times, as there is so much happening around you! This is hardly a problem though, as it merely enhances the audience's feeling of being completely involved with the story. Overall, a thoroughly enjoyable experience for even those hard to impress audience members among you!



Courtesy of [www.jimhillmedia.com](http://www.jimhillmedia.com),  
[www.cb-pr.com](http://www.cb-pr.com), [www.thelionking.co.uk](http://www.thelionking.co.uk)

# **First time Pantomime**

## **Two Directors' guide of what not to do.**

When we first heard news that there was to be a fully sixth form produced pantomime we jumped at the chance to be involved. It's not that either of us especially enjoy acting or, for that matter, are very skilled at it, we were opting for a more behind the scenes role and as such both signed up for the role of director. An initial meeting was called for anyone interested in helping out, at which many other students signed on for lighting, prop, scenery, music and costume roles and that was it, we had our "rag tag" army of upper sixth to set the wheels into motion of the pantomime.

The subject of this panto:

Cinderella... only with a few alterations and updates to inject a little sixth form flair in a script adapted by Jack.

The next port of call, and the part we were perhaps most exited for, was auditions. These were open to the whole of upper sixth and potential actors were asked to perform a short extract from the script as well as a short song if their part required it. During these we set up our chairs X Factor style and took on much more professional personas to legitimise the pantomime in the actor's eyes, and to have a little fun with it. Considering the amount of skilled actors in our year, we expected we were in for a treat, and the auditioned more than delivered on our expectations; making the casting process a lot harder than we anticipated. In the end we managed to find a

place for everyone, this was when things really started to pull together and before we knew it, rehearsals were underway.

To say we were not, initially at least, prepared for rehearsals would be quite an understatement. Arranging for upwards of a dozen people to all be in the same place at the same time would be an easy task in anyone else's hands but we aren't anyone else. Anyone else would have simply set up a rehearsal schedule, but we like to over complicate things and allow the actors to

choose when they rehearsed, this was a mistake. A mistake that our team wasn't afraid to point out and after listening to them, we soon set a rigid schedule. That's not to say rehearsals haven't been exuberant, we always have "a right laugh" and the actors have matched our enthusiasm in excess, often throwing in their own suggestions. The dancing has been a thrill and we often can't resist jumping in there ourselves.



Everyone involved has thrown themselves headfirst into this project and it really shows in the results we've seen so far. We know that this production will be remembered for years to come thanks to its amazing cast and the sheer dedication of everyone involved. "Cinderella: Button's Untold Story" premiers 14th December and it's sure to be a smashing success. Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is, you blinking wind-up merchant, pipe down!

By Jack Satchell & Allan Taylor

Picture courtesy of <http://www.caterpillarproductions.co.uk>



# "A Ruffled Mind Makes A Restless Pillow"

Charlotte Bronte

Ella BERRY

Aren't adolescents constantly told that they "need more sleep" or "an hours sleep before midnight is worth three after" and "Good grief! Go to bed!"

Well it is true, teenagers definitely need more snooze time than they are getting, however it is mighty difficult to get a consistent amount of shut eye when your body clock is all out of tune. Recent studies show that adolescents have different sleeping patterns than adults or children because their *circadian rhythm*, or internal biological clock, is reset. This change seems to be because the brain hormone *melatonin* is produced later at night for teenagers than it is for children and adults. This makes it more difficult to get to sleep in the evening, and a couple of hours missed sleep a night might create something almost like a sleep debt over time. Sometimes the delay in the sleep-wake cycle can be so severe that it affects your daily functioning. This is called *delayed sleep phase syndrome*. This sleep deficit affects whether you can pay attention in class, or even do your best in athletics. Although it doesn't just affect school

work; more than half of teenagers, when surveyed, admitted that they had *driven a car drowsy* in the past year. Young people under the age of 25 are far more likely to be involved in drowsy driving crashes.

Lack of sleep has also been linked with depression, emotional troubles, and becoming unhealthy as we can't re-energise after daily activities without it and after a recent study has shown that when we *do* get enough sleep, it enables us to solve problems more creatively. We will try to address how to make sleeping easier for you in this article. Unfortunately these changes in the body's *circadian rhythm* comes at a time when we are busier than ever, for teenagers, pressure to do well at school and studying is intense, and juggling a social life is also easier said than done, not to mention all the other activities such as sports, clubs and maybe even a job. Somehow through this jumble of new activities that have been sprung upon them, they must stop thinking about it all for long enough to ideally try to acquire 8½ to 9 hours sleep.

But don't try to use these biological facts as an excuse not to go to bed early! Because if you want to do well and actually pass your exams, or even play sports without tripping over your feet, you have to get yourself into a routine. Just because your body is trying to mess up your sleeping patterns, doesn't mean you have to let it. For starters, if you create the right sleeping environment it can help; studies have shown that people sleep best in a dark, cool room so try

Setting a regular bedtime also facilitates your body to know when it is time to go to bed. This goes hand in hand with a consistent wake up time, but you must maintain these times, even at the weekend. If you have this in place you shouldn't need lay-ins anyway. Exercise regularly, but you must stop exercising at least three hours before bedtime as you might not be able to sleep through the pumping adrenaline, and it's a good idea to avoid caffeine like the plague. Drinking alcohol

bed, don't copy their example! Furthermore, you can unwind by keeping the lights in your room dimmed. Light is a signal to the brain that it is time to wake up, so stay away from it. This includes computer screens (sorry to those teenage gamers)! With that said though, it is a good idea to wake up in the morning to a bright light shining in your face. It should wake you up much faster than getting up in darkness. This is why people feel more lethargic in winter, as it's darker in the morning.

With these little tips on remedying your sleeping habits, it has to be mentioned that if you have an exam or test to study for, do not wait until the night before to revise! If you cut back on your sleep the night before you will perform badly. You need to get enough sleep on top of your revision as studies have shown that sleep actually reinforces your memory.

blackout curtains and maybe keep your window open a tiny bit. It's also best to keep noise to a minimum around bedtime, although listening to relaxing music (not rap or heavy metal) can help some people if it is on a low volume from speakers in your room, not earphones. As an individual, you have to experiment and see whether it makes you drowsy or not.

or taking stimulants after 4pm are going to keep you awake. As well as the obvious things, it is also beneficial to try to relax your mind therefore this entails no violent or scary films or anything that might set your heart racing. Even books with active and exciting plot lines may keep you from falling asleep. So when you see people on TV reading before they go to



So what if you're still having problems sleeping? Are you having bad dreams? Most adolescents have nightmares on occasion but if they are frequent they can disrupt your sleeping pattern by waking you during the night. Nightmares appear more likely to happen towards

morning, perhaps due to having been asleep long enough to be deep into our subconscious state. There are many things that can trigger nightmares including medication, drugs and alcohol, as well as other things like emotional stress or anxiety. Ironically sleep deprivation can also be a cause. If nightmares are interfering with your sleep you can try desensitizing yourself to them. Write them down fully, and then

write them down again, this time with a different ending and keep thinking about the happier ending each day until you can integrate it fully into your dream. If you are confident enough, you should be able to change the nightmare altogether. Turn yourself into a superhuman and show the nightmare who is boss! If you're still having problems and it is turning into a long term nightmare fiasco, you might want to talk to a

therapist or doctor about it. They might suggest that you address your emotional problems, or even persuade you to try herbal sleep remedies until you grow out of the phase (I have found this works quite well). So there you have it. The key to a better night's sleep that should increase your performance during the day. Now all you have to do is stick to it.



Courtesy of [www.focus.aps.org](http://www.focus.aps.org) (Sleeping baby) [Malaysia-tomorrow.com](http://Malaysia-tomorrow.com) (man and coffee) [williamdiong.blogspot.com](http://williamdiong.blogspot.com) (Intro image)

Eloise QUINCE

1<sup>st</sup> August

# UNDERAGE FESTIVAL

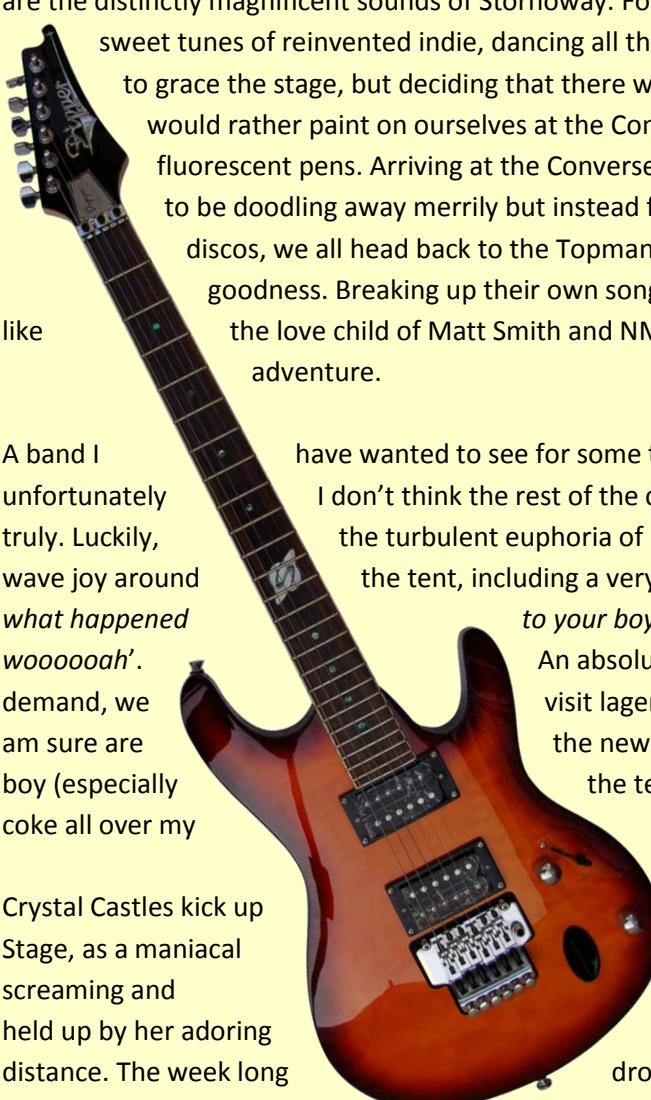
14-18 joyride that is Underage Festival. Entering the gates along with a mass of other eager bodies, unveiled before us all is a Willy Wonka style array kitsch circus tent madness – of which the knitting stall was a particular highlight – along with a giant inflatable igloo that contained many a can of free Tango. Walking amongst this menagerie of wonder, it is almost ludicrous to think we are in central London, in a park that usually provides the scenery for dog walkers and Frisbee. Nevertheless, within ten minutes we were approached by a rather handsome young man asking us if we should care for a Converse bag that we can write on with sparkly pens. Like true eager beavers, we accepted this offer only to find that there was a code on each bag – match the code to the paper a lady ‘over there’ has and you could win some rather swish trainers that can be drawn on by the in-house artists. And low and behold, our beautiful Hannah did. Beaming like the sun on that hot Sunday morning, she held the trainers up high, like Raffiki did Simba in a haze of delight. **[See our Theatre Editor’s article on the Lion King in London!]** After the thrill of Converse, we all took up a seat to draw on our new bags like tiny children; painting, stamping, scribbling and gluing until our masterpieces were fit for the Tate Modern. Feeling peckish following our escapades, we visited a small stall selling delicious freshly baked pizzas where we met a rather jubilant Italian man. Lovely.

First act of the day was Lightspeed Champion. Walking onto the stage in a lacklustre bounce he laid out the frankly, quite poor standards that were to be his set. Heartfelt ballads were stripped of their romance and his quirky sense of rhythm lost all of its magic. Without as much as acknowledging the crowd between songs, Mr

Hynes merely rushed through each song as if he couldn’t wait to leave. Needless to say, we decided to leave early ourselves to bag a good spot to see the brilliant IS TROPICAL. Laying on a feast of detectable DIY electro beats under some slinky bass lines and tantalising synth madness, not to mention the awesome guitar bashing, they could quite possibly be in the running for the best band of the day.

Hot, sweaty and dusty are just three of the ways in which I most like to spend my Sunday. Especially if I happen to be in Victoria Park for the annual





Back to the Tango stage for the small wonder of Los Campesinos!, who are truly quite wonderful, despite the sudden greyness of the London sky. Nevertheless, Sweet Dreams Sweet Cheeks brings out beams of the glorious sunshine, bathing the crowd in a riotous finale as screams of '*one blink for yes/two blinks for no/sweet dreams sweet cheeks/we leave alone*' ripple throughout Victoria Park. After a mooch around in search of a drink, we uncover a crêperie. Yes - an actual real life place that is mobile and sells crêpes. But as we admire this stroke of genius, across the field in a small blue tent are the distinctly magnificent sounds of Stornoway. Forgetting batter mixtures, we trek over to the sweet tunes of reinvented indie, dancing all the way. Yum, yum, yum. Chapel Club are next to grace the stage, but deciding that there wasn't much of an atmosphere and that we would rather paint on ourselves at the Converse tent, we depart for the call of fluorescent pens. Arriving at the Converse area once again, we expect a crowd of artists to be doodling away merrily but instead find a silent disco – 90's style. Talking of discos, we all head back to the Topman tent for some Late of the Pier Soundsystem goodness. Breaking up their own songs with accents of remixed classics, they sound like the love child of Matt Smith and NME's stereo on a whirlwind time travel adventure.

A band I  
unfortunately  
truly. Luckily,  
wave joy around  
*what happened*  
*wooooooh'*.  
demand, we  
am sure are  
boy (especially  
coke all over my

Crystal Castles kick up  
Stage, as a maniacal  
screaming and  
held up by her adoring  
distance. The week long  
frenzied crowd send  
who evens dare enter the pit. Naturally, I wade in as far as I can possibly manage but unfortunately I like my lungs too much to stay for very long. Fighting my way out of the crowd and coughing as if I've caught the plague; clean air is bliss.

have wanted to see for some time are Everything Everything, but I don't think the rest of the crowd were quite as enthusiastic as yours the turbulent euphoria of 'My Kz, Yr Bf' ignites the dancefloor, sending a the tent, including a very merry sing-along to the line, '*And I wonder to your boyfriend/'cause he was looking at me like*' An absolute classic, I am telling you. By popular visit lager loving loudmouths The Courteeners, who I the new Oasis for your average acne ridden teenage the teenage boy who managed to throw a pint of hair from his hysterical pogo-ing).

one hell of dusty party on the Youth Music Alice Glass crawls into the crowd, growling like a dog at the vet's as she is fans as bodies are hurled around in the drought is now becoming apparent as the billowing clouds of dust up into the air, choking anyone

Wanting time to recover, sitting at some picnic tables seems a lovely idea as the sun begins to lower in the sky. Never has Hackney looked so beautiful. After a few minutes we notice that there is no one in the tent on our left, but a fantastic band are playing. So in order to do these groovy tunes justice we all hop in for a dance. Three songs later, the Gold Future Joy Machine leave the stage, the guitarist with blood on his face – goodness knows how – with huge grins stretching from ear to ear. Not wanting to be put through the disappointment fest that is destined to be M.I.A, we leave early for a small excursion to Leicester Square. With beaming faces we stroll through the gates we entered eight hours previously and skip all the way to Mile End tube station.

What a day of splendid sun, extraordinary bands and friendly Italian men. I am proud to say that...

## 'I was underage in 2010'.

Courtesy of urb.com (Underage Festival, Intro Image), made-in-china.com (Guitar)



Aftermath...



Buntings and Stalls...



Converse area...



Everything Everything...



FUN FUN FUN...



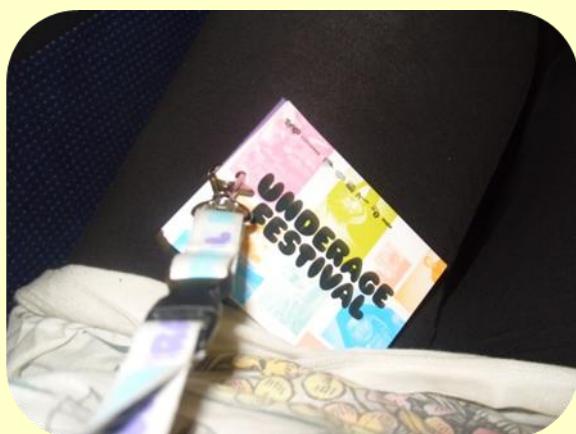
Gary from Is Tropical...



Is Tropical ...



King's Cross...



Underage Festival Badge!!!



Los Campesinos ☺



Topman tent...



Simon from Is Tropical...

*Pictures taken by Eloise Quince*



# Wand

## Wins Week With Baabaas

Annabel FAULKNER

**K**evin Wand, a local rugby fan, won every rugby fanatics' ultimate prize when he entered a MasterCard competition. He received the top prize of being the 23<sup>rd</sup> member of the Barbarians squad in the run up to their match against England.

“ Erm, what have I learnt... How to drink! ”

The prize included Kevin Wand spending a week at Twickenham prior to the match on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2010. He stayed at the same hotel, dined alongside and trained with the team. Wand has been a Spalding rugby man all his life, playing for the Spalding minis when he was 6 or 7 and continuing to play for Spalding throughout his years. He thoroughly enjoyed the experience and here is what he had to say.

**AF:** *How did you find out about the competition?*

**KW:** I get a monthly magazine called Rugby World, which I've been getting for various years - a number of years and it was advertised in there as a double page spread 'Would you like a week living with the Barbarians?', which anyone who's into rugby would die for. So I entered the competition, I don't normally enter any competitions, but I did, and I got shortlisted to the last 16. That's really when it all started to take off. I went down to Twickenham, met up with Will Greenwood and there was the editor of Rugby World and a few other guys as well like Steven Berrick, who's the Barbarians – he owns all the intellectual rights. And from there we had a tour of Twickenham, we basically were shown into the changing rooms, all around and in the afternoon we had a [pause], well I guess it was an interview really and each one of the 16 finalists was interviewed. At the end of the interviews, they took us all down to the changing rooms. There were 16 shirts lined up on the wall and our name plaques above the shirts and we were told, after 3, to turn the shirts round and one of them would have number 23 on the back, which was the 23<sup>rd</sup> squad member of the Barbarians and I was the lucky person!

**AF:** *What qualities were they looking for?*

**KW:** I don't know really, I guess, a passion for rugby, I'd like to think someone who could mix pretty well, you know, in the rugby circle with the players. Yes whatever, I seemed to fit the bill.

**AF:** I know that you do minis coaching so you give something back to the community with rugby in that sense as well.

**KW:** Yeah, well, I do, I've taken a lot out of the game over the years and, you know, had a lot, made a lot of friends, and I get a lot of enjoyment actually coaching and putting a bit back into the game. It was a fantastic prize and anyone who understands rugby would know that a week with the Barbarians is just, priceless is the little catchphrase.

**AF:** When you got into the final few, what did you feel? Could you believe it?

**KW:** Well, yeah, right up to going down to Twickenham and I kept it quiet from my friends because I just still thought there's something not quite right here, so right up to going down to Twickenham and getting into Twickenham, it sort of just started to hit me that this is actually real and I stand a 16 to 1 chance of winning this competition and having a week with the Barbarians. So you know, that really sharpened me up a bit really, I thought well we've got this far, we've got to give it our best shot!

**AF:** What sort of qualities did you think you could bring to the team?

**KW:** Possibly not too many qualities to bring! Well those guys are world class players. I mean it was really, I suppose the social side I could have probably added a bit to. Obviously the Barbarians are quite famous for their off pitch antics let's say. The Barbarians really is just an institution. They play the game on the pitch, when you say Barbarians rugby, it is always associated with free flowing rugby, which they still do but equally there's not the pressures to win at all costs and the flip side of that is that they have still got that amateur ethos

changing room banter it was, they just took me under their wing, we had a really good time. There was no sort of, he's just a town player, they were great.

**AF:** Did you stay with them and train with them?

**KW:** Yeah we had a whole week, we stayed in the Grosvenor Hotel just over by Hyde Park, the training was [pause], we had training four days, although I didn't participate in the training, I was there helping with the water, the balls, all of the kit. So they keep you involved but for obvious reasons you can't just dive in and train – they've got four days to put it together to play against England!

**AF:** Who is your rugby star?

**KW:** There's a couple really, there's Simon Shaw who I think has been an absolute sort of legend really, didn't get as many caps as he probably should have done but he's from the old school. He's a really good ambassador to the game. You've got guys – George Gregan, who's a retired scrum half – another legend but the guys that were there, there was George Smith, Martin Williamson, guys that are just absolutely world class players so there's many really.



where having a beer, having a bit of team bonding is still very important and that's what makes it so magical and that's why everyone wants to be a part of the Barbarians.

**AF:** Did the team make you feel welcomed?

**KW:** Absolutely yeah, I mean rugby is a great leveller and whether you're an international or just a club player; it's the same banter, it's the same

**AF:** What have you learnt from your experience would you say?

**KW:** Erm, what have I learnt... How to drink! No! I shouldn't say that... I think what I've learnt is that, you sort of put these probably before you know some of these guys, you do put them on a bit of a pedestal and think they're sort of a bit aloof but they are absolutely not, they're really good, down-to-earth players, down-to-earth people and I think you can see by the way they are, if you've got a desire and a passion with anything, if you're driven and you keep going, you can achieve your goals and it showed with those guys.

**AF:** Have you got any funny stories or jokes that the team shared with you?

**KW:** What goes on tour stays on tour Annabel! But no, I'll tell you one, we came in one night – or one morning- and the fire alarms had gone off in the hotel, I think at about 3.30, 4 o'clock in the morning to which the boys were quizzed about but our escape route was the fact that we were still out in the town so we couldn't get the blame for that! It was an experience that will live with me forever and yeah I certainly have got a lot of fond memories and still dine out on it quite a bit, as you can imagine!

Kevin Wand still leads a rugby-full life, playing for the Spalding Veterans and also coaching Spalding Minis, which he gets a lot of enjoyment out of and this 'dream come true' experience was indeed 'priceless'.



Courtesy of www.rfu.com (Kevin Wand), guardian.co.uk – Matthew Ashton/Empics (Introductory Image), swansea-edunet.gov.uk (ball)

# WINTER CHILL ARMERS

Sami YUSUF



So, here we are, I finally have your attention. Having spent many a Saturday night flicking through issues of Vogue and watching Ugly Betty (which is currently recording on series link on my sky planner) rather than drinking beer with the lads, I feel that I have veered to a relatively (extremely) metro sexual position. So yes, it may have led to my parents questioning me about my life after finding my new collection of Grazias in all nooks and crannies, but it has all been done for the sake of the readers of this newspaper, for what I would

class as a lighter hearted article. So, me aside, how about we get straight into this!



Number one on my agenda, which is an item that has taken my notice pretty recently, is the aviator hat, also known as the trapper hat. The well known "UGG" brand have been rattling these off for the public, setting you back at £110 a to recommend to anyone. Therefore I've looked elsewhere alternative. Where? Topshop of real bobby dazzler of a faux fur mark (Saving money and animals,

pop - something I largely hesitate (anything over £105 is just rude). and found a much cheaper course! Now, you can pick up a trapper hat for around the £20 surely a win-win).

Excuse the pun, but these aviator jackets are literally flying off the shelves...

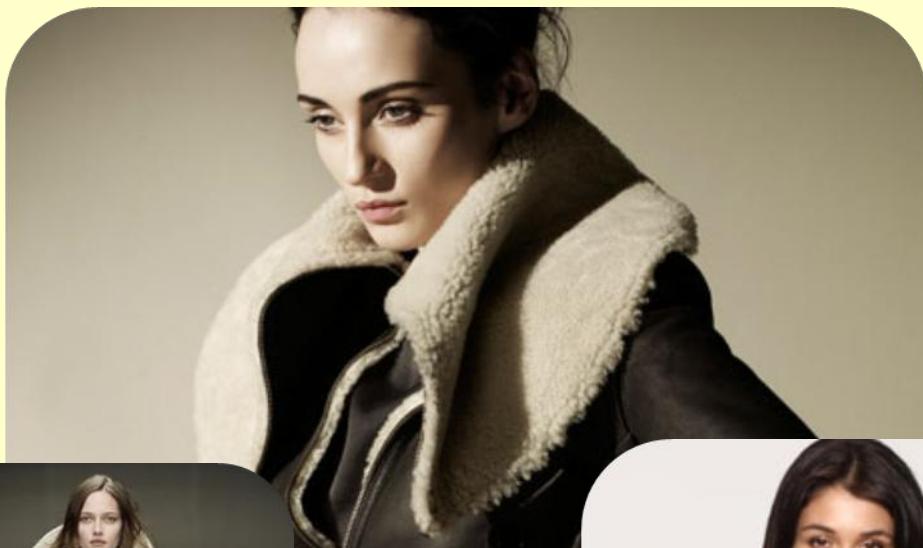
David Dickinson aside and sticking port of call is the aviator jacket. I prides itself on having Amy representing one of the five celebrate than to dress up as the but these aviator jackets are in my eyes, for a good reason. around early autumn (the illogical as the beginning of autumn) yet I that is here to stay for a while.

with the aviator theme, the next know how much our school Johnson as one of its main icons, houses, and what better way to next great thing. Excuse the pun, literally flying off the shelves and. Now, they actually came in world of fashion terming august can safely say this is one item

With **ASOS** providing a wide selection, Buying Director *Caren DOWNIE* reports that they have been selling "and selling in volume", with event their most expensive aviator priced around a head splitting £350 even holding its own waiting list. Fear not - I hear of a far away store which sells them for less than a tenth of that price. It goes by the name of **Matalan**. Yes, you heard it from me - Matalan. To help this look out, you need to show off some jaw definition, so pull up those locks or alternatively whip out the old straighteners. I understand your fears - sheepskin lined jackets, surely this is something that belongs in a rerun of "**Only Fools and Horses**"? Alas the big names in fashion have been discussing the rise of the 1930's *Amelia EARHEART* look to hit big this season, and by the looks of it, it is definitely growing on the public, women's fashion definitely taking the role of independent and strong mindedness. So there we have it for this issue! I look forward to the next, where no doubt the world of fashion would have changed dramatically to suit some kind of Intergalactic zombie queen...

*Until then, it has been a pleasure!*

Flick on for the Winter Warmer Catalogue....



Courtesy of widbox.com, hubpages.com, peacocks.co.uk, asda.co.uk, riverisland.co.uk, dorothyperkins.co.uk, ebay.co.uk, tkmaxx.co.uk (Fashion pictures)

**TOPSHOP**



Sleeveless Flying Jacket  
£195



**Winter Warmers....  
...Wrap ups**



Sheepskin Flying Jacket  
£350



Fur Aviator Gilet by Wal G\*\*  
£55

Courtesy of widbox.com, hubpages.com, peacocks.co.uk, asda.co.uk, riverisland.co.uk, dorothyperkins.co.uk, ebay.co.uk, tkmaxx.co.uk (Fashion pictures)

DOROTHY PERKINS



Chocolate fur trim gilet  
£40

T.K.MAXX



Giacca Pewter Faux Fur  
Collar Aviator Jacket £39.99

eBay.co.uk



PEACOCKS



Ladies Aviator Jacket £35

RIVER ISLAND



Vintage Style Aviator Jacket  
from river Island sold on an  
eBay outlet £12.50

ASDA direct



Petites Aviator Jacket £30

Courtesy of widbox.com, hubpages.com, peacocks.co.uk, asda.co.uk, riverisland.co.uk, dorothyperkins.co.uk, ebay.co.uk, tkmaxx.co.uk (Fashion pictures)

The following pieces  
have been  
commissioned from  
various years through  
the school

# The Bay Leaf

Carys CARTWRIGHT, 9S

I remember the eve my brother choked on a bay leaf,  
I remember the way we were laughing,  
I remember how lovely the night was.  
Jokes flew around the room,  
the atmosphere bright,  
then everything stopped.  
All eyes, all heads, all torsos  
turned in the direction of my brother.

His breaths, tangled gasps,  
the only sound which he broke what was now a deathly quiet.  
A shout from my mother,  
Chair scraping; others rushed to his aid,  
I remember sitting motionless  
Watching, hearing, silent,  
as chaos erupted around me.  
Tears streamed down my face,  
the emotion too much to bear,  
waiting, yet it does not stop.  
A steady rhythm; a drum,  
my father smacking his back repeatedly.

Was this really happening?

While I watched my brother,  
Bent double, struggling, fighting to remain conscious,  
Every second passed becoming more crucial.  
A mobile, thrust into my icy hand,  
And I rushed with fumbling fingers to dial the three numbers that could save his life.  
There was nothing but me,  
And the occasional glimpse of my brother,  
All else fell away.  
Then everything stopped.

A single breath, dragged in by starved, aching lungs,  
Followed by a synchronized sigh from all who had seen.  
He was safe, we were safe,  
And on the floor...

A Bay Leaf

Courtesy of "Chef's Secrets" <http://www.chef-secrets.com/bay-leaves/58/>



# Where I Want To Live

I live in Sutton Bridge and I hate it. If I could live anywhere it would be in London, boarding at Sylvia Young's Theatre School, to be exact. My ambition is to perform and London offers an array of opportunities that Lincolnshire cannot give. London is home to the prestigious West End stages and an assortment of different casting directors, producers, agencies and talent scouts along some of the best stage schools in the country.



London also provides a diverse range of shops! There isn't a single one of my friends that doesn't love the idea of wandering around the bustling streets of our capital, shopping all day long. London is a hive of activity 24/7.

The breath-taking West End shows have never failed to engage my interest and every show I go to see I depart craving my ambition to perform even more. The diversity of the shows also captures my attention and would interest me for a long period of time, from classical shows such as *Oliver!* to new arrivals like Legally Blonde. The technical brilliance of the performances and the spectacular atmosphere are addictive and you leave needing more. London is my personal favourite city, I love it.

Emma-Louise HOWELL, 9S



Pictures taken from <http://backingwinds.blogspot.com/2007/12/london-panorama-from-bridge-street.html> (Panorama of London, Copyright Ryan McGinnis) and photo of the West End taken from <http://www.christopherfowler.co.uk/blog/?p=3202>



# My Favourite Lyric

Article commissioned by Eloise QUINCE

*"I'm not that good at writing, but I thought you should know every song is about you because you're everything I know."*

**Hearts by Alex Day, Taken from the album 'Parrot Stories'.**

This is my favourite lyric because it's sweet and sums up his early music so beautifully. You can also trace so much of Day's work from this quote as he has blossomed in musical and lyrical ability from his debut album, the composition from which this quote is taken.

**Samantha Dudbridge**

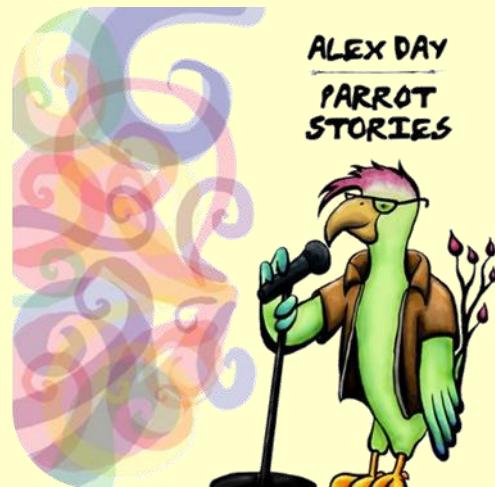
*"More pain and misery in the history of mankind,  
Sometimes it seems more the blind leading the blind,  
It brings upon us more a famine, death and war,  
You know religion has a lot to answer for.  
Please tell me what life is,  
Please tell me what love is,  
Well, tell me now what war is,  
Again, tell me what life is."*

**For the Greater Good of God by Iron Maiden,  
Taken from the album 'The Number of the Beast'.**

This extract tells us about our attitudes to life. The comment about religion is controversial. It says that religion can cause problems, leading to the conclusion that is not as good as humanity has deemed. The chorus explains how we do not value life enough and it asks the audience what they believe to be good about living. The references to war are to remind us that life is not perfect and society is full of mistakes.

**Greg East**

Courtesy of [www.metalmusicarchives.com](http://www.metalmusicarchives.com) ( Parrot Stories, Iron Maiden),  
[alexmusic.com](http://alexmusic.com) (Alex Day) [rockskins.com](http://rockskins.com) (iron maiden)



Alex Day

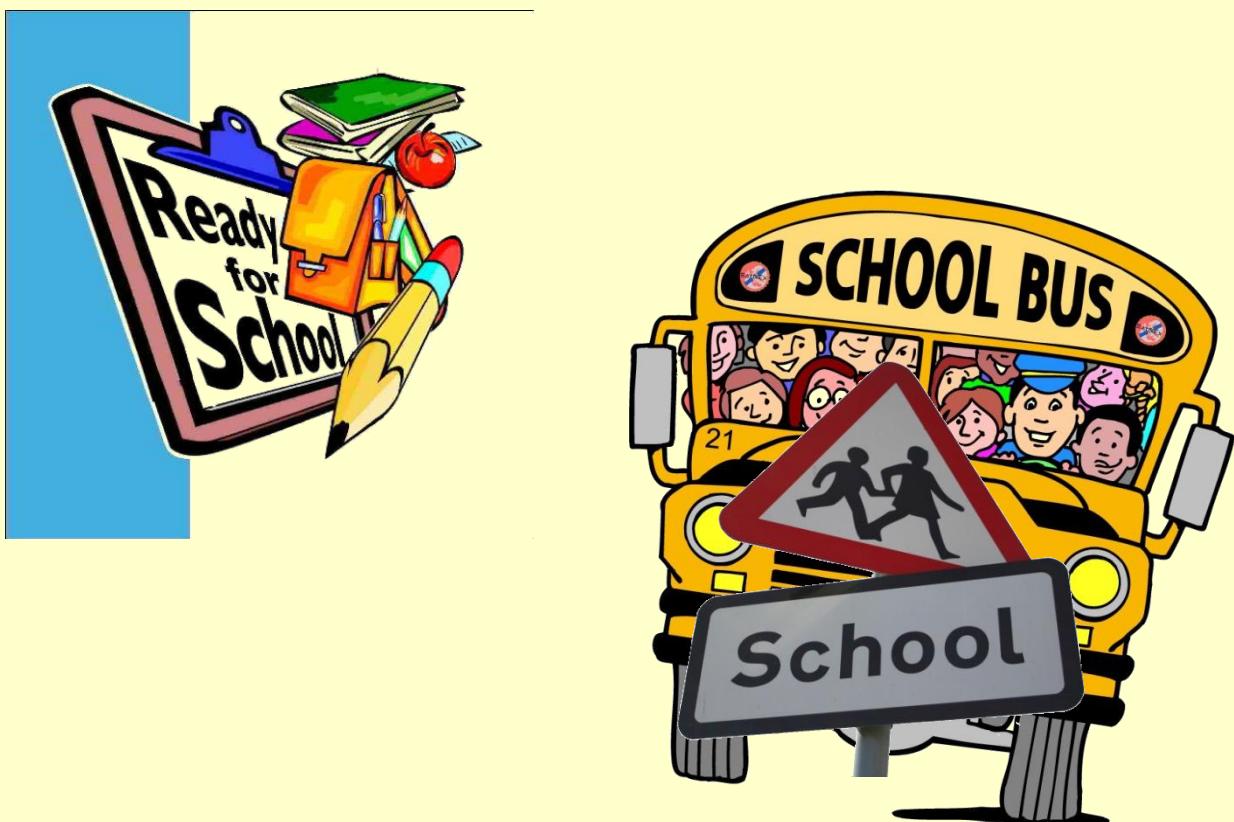
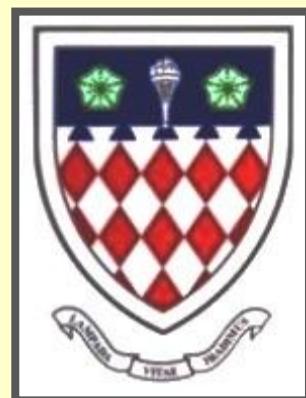


Iron Maiden

# Starting Spalding High

By Rebecca WRIGHT 7J

I was the first up. I had a shower. I was there in body but not in mind. I felt like I was about to go on a great expedition, but I was ready. After all the stress and tension of the 11+, I felt that it was time to move on. Worries spun around my head like a spinning top. What if no-one likes me? What if I do not understand the work? After a forced breakfast and a few tears here and there, we set off. When I arrived at school we all sat in the gym. You could slice the atmosphere with a knife. We then went off with the peer mentors – they really helped us make that big change easier and I would really like to thank them all for doing such a good job. This was just the start of a new chapter in my life.



Courtesy of mgasd.k12.nc.us, greenchiropractic.com, publicpropertyuk.com

# Starting Spalding High

By Rebecca WRIGHT 7J



I did not sleep a wink,  
My face went really pale.  
What if I forget something?  
Will I be hopeless and fail?

My school bag weighs a ton,  
It makes my shoulders hurt.  
What if everyone hates me?  
What if I lose my sweatshirt?

I really can't do this,  
I want to be with you Mummy.  
I miss all my primary school friends,  
And I have butterflies in my tummy.

I cannot leave now Dad,  
I really need a wee.  
Maybe I could sit there,  
Until half past three.

When I arrive at school,  
It is not all that bad.  
I made lots of new friends,  
There was no need to be sad.

I am now very comfortable,  
I could not be any better.  
With amazing peers and teachers,  
And I haven't yet lost my sweater.

# PLTS DAY

**Chloe BYCRAFT 8P**

PLTS is a lesson, in this case a day, that enables you to broaden your minds, meet new people from different forms and interact in different activities involving reading, investigating different cultures and producing a short play, song or chat show. This was not new to us Year Eights as they had PLTS in Year Seven. PTS means Personal Learning and Thinking Skills. It is easy to remember and not very long. Some comments from the Year Eight students included: "I love PLTS, it is fun and gives you a change from tests and essays," "LTS s great; some of the activities really get me thinking".

On PLTS day we experienced a range of different activities, including role play about making the right decisions in life (e.g. if your mum and dad were getting a divorce; who would you live with?). Another situation was being given a sum of money and having to find accommodation for two nights, activities for families (for young and old) and transport to get to the Lake District and back. WE then did a science inspired

activity; making a one minute stop watch using things in a tray (e.g. sand, bottles, candles, paper straws and much more.) Then they did activities involving listening correctly like following instructions that could only be read once. Then they did activities and research about different countries (e.g. short plays, a song, a chat show and a video. I am quite certain everyone loves PLTS.

## A GIFT from Grendon

### A Gifted and Talented Summer School

**Francesca COATES 8P**

Last summer I packed a bag and nervously travelled to Grendon Hall, Northamptonshire. My purpose: to attend a residential summer school called GIFT. Mrs Rossi told me all about it in advance and I anxiously awaited my first GIFT.

As soon as I got there I was introduced to my fellow GIFT-ers. I settled in straight away and loved the activities which included role plays, abstract art and strolls through the majestic grounds. I made loads of friends for life, who I regularly text message or e-mail to keep in touch. I enjoyed plenty of midnight feasts with my roommates, who were all friendly and slightly crazy. I loved the close family that I joined as I walked through that familiar door into Grendon Hall and hopefully I can go again.



I absolutely loved the whole gift experience, including intellectual discussions I had with the facilitators. There was only one downside: washing up duties!

If you've enjoyed our first issue and would like to advertise your company and its services, or would like to place a classified advert to buy or sell an item, then please contact **Amanda Rossi** at Spalding High School on **01775 722110**.

**Mrs Louise A. Layton-Hannam**

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**Becky JONES** (letters editor)



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