



Christmas? Bah! Humbug! A Christmas Carol, Prospect Theatre, December 2006

Tired of Christmas already? Got that sinking feeling at the thought of seasonal excess? Well Matt Sheppard (Director) and his huge cast of students created the perfect antidote: a cracker of a show which warmed the hearts of the coldest of Christmas skinflints. Gareth Davies and Elliot Smith shared the role of Dickens' most famous curmudgeon, Scrooge, confidently leading the packed house through a chilly Victorian London, beautifully evoked by a clever set. As the ghostly form of the dead Marley rose up in his chains, Scrooge was led by the spirits of Christmas past, present and to come (Sophia Cuell, Vaneesha Short, Abigail Davey) to appreciate the warmth and generosity of teeming town life around him. Here, the delightful abundance of the Fezziwig home; now a frugal meal with the poor Cratchit family as they listen to Tiny Tim's last song; then hilarious parlour games at the home of his nephew. Finally, the miserable old fellow is taken from his bed by a terrifying phantom to experience what is in store for him if he does not reform his grumpy ways. Scrooge's journey is complete. And we are left with the sound of joyous carols, the sight of children playing and the wonder of gentle snow falling, to reflect on the true values of the season. This was fine ensemble playing, performed by a marvellous cast.

College Travel Scholarships

Each year, the College makes available a number of scholarships (maximum £250 each) to support individual students to travel abroad in order to undertake project work or adventurous activity. In the past, examples have included work with charities in Brazil, Nepal, Guyana, Africa and China, expeditions with the Venture Scouts, and even turtle conservation in Mexico. Projects tend to be for the summer duration or for a whole or part gap year.

Application forms for Travel Scholarships for 2007 are available from the Principal's Personal Assistant, Jan Moore. Closing date: Friday 9 February 2007.

First and second year students are welcome to apply.

Result of Parent Governor Election

Following the election earlier in the term, Mr Mike Philippon has been appointed as a Parent Governor until 2008.

The two parent governors are:

Alison Stewart 01189 791960; Mike Philippon 01276 507880

Spring Term Consultation Evenings

The two consultation evenings in March are primarily aimed at first year students and at second year students in difficulty.

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| Thursday | 15 March 2007 | 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm |
| Monday | 19 March 2007 | 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm |

STOP PRESS - Congratulations!!!

Stephanie Twell (Year 2) won the Gold Medal in the European Junior Cross Country Championships in Italy on Sunday 10 December.

**College Rugby Team - Hampshire Birch Plate Champions!
Farnborough SFC 12, South Downs College 5**

College leads way in A level Reforms

Sir Mike Tomlinson, former Chief Inspector of Schools, presented 70 College students with bound dissertations and AQA Certificates to celebrate the completion of the country's first Extended Projects as part of an A level programme.

The second year students had responded to the College's challenge to undertake an extended piece of research linking two of their A level subjects over the summer holidays and to write up a thesis by the October reading week.

"This was about real stretch and challenge, exploring an area that wasn't covered in college text-moderators as "stunning".

books – and not downloadable from the Internet", said Principal Dr John Guy. "We have been astounded by the standard of scholarship and commitment from the students, many of whom juggled their research between holidays, college work and part-time jobs – I am full of admiration for these young people".

Sir Mike Tomlinson said, "There has been a perception that the existing system fails to nurture the skills of analysis, research and presentation in a cognitive way to a lay audience. Tonight represents the reality of an idea which we proposed to government two years ago – at Farnborough you have proved that young people in Britain can measure up to that challenge".



Marie-Claire Thomas shares with Sir Mike Tomlinson her Extended Project, *Lost in Translation*, described by AQA moderators as "stunning".

Full term starts on Monday 8 January. Why is this later than schools?

Preparation for Module Tests

The Christmas holiday is an important time for some rest and relaxation; for most, it is a period to be spent with the family. However, time must be set aside for a period of intensive revision.

For first year students, the AS modules will be the first public examinations taken at advanced level. They are not the same as GCSE examinations and it is foolish to think that one can prepare properly for an advanced level module without serious revision. As a guideline, I would expect students to undertake the equivalent of at least FIVE full College days of revision during the Christmas Vacation. Most Hampshire schools return on Wednesday 3 January; we, however, return on Monday 8 January.

Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 January have been particularly identified as study days for students to spend the whole day working. They should not be used for additional part-time work.

Last year, the AS and A2 results for this College were exceptional compared with the national statistics. I know that parents will encourage and assist students to undertake serious revision during this time.

When do the examinations begin?

The January modules begin on Wednesday morning, 10 January 2007. Module tests are about one hour long. All candidates must be aware of the times of their examinations (see CristalWeb), and their locations in the College.

The College does **NOT** close down for study leave at this time - students must attend all their classes during the module period, except when they have a module test. If the module test is at 1.15pm, students must attend their classes in the morning and, if they have a class at 2.45pm, they must, of course, attend it.

Examination Guidelines

The College publishes a booklet for each student giving essential information about external examinations - a copy is available on CristalWeb. The conduct of examinations is subject to routine external inspection and the College complies with the regulations to the letter. Regulations relating to appeals and enquiries are also given in the booklet.

Mobile Phones - NEVER EVER in the exam hall

Possession of a mobile phone or other electronic device, *even turned off*, in the examination hall **WILL** result in disqualification.

John Guy, Principal

Careers and Future Events 2007

Tuesday 6 March (Evening)

Higher Education Finance Talk for the parents of year two students

Tuesday 13 March

Brunel University - Scholarships and Bursaries

Thursday 29 March (Afternoon)

Oxbridge Admissions Tutors will visit the College to discuss Oxford and Cambridge admissions with students and parents.

Tuesday 17 April

Hampshire *Student Finance Direct* on site to collect Year 2 H.E. Finance **Non Means Tested** application forms.

Friday 20 April

UCAS H.E. Convention to be held at the University of Surrey. A visit for most of first year students.

Tuesday 24 April (Evening)

Higher Education talk for the parents of first year students.

Thursday 26 April (All day)

Job Scene Exhibition visit for one year students at Reading.

Tuesday 1 May

Pam Hardy Business School at Farnborough College of Technology, Managing Personal Finances

Thursday 24 May

Hampshire *Student Finance Direct* on site to collect Year 2 H.E. Finance **Means Tested** application forms.

Friday July 6 (All day)

Moving on Day. A Day of Careers seminars and Exhibition for all first year students.

Wednesday 19 September

College deadline for medicine, vet and Oxbridge UCAS forms.

Sports Report, Autumn 2006

The College teams continue to perform in a number of county and national competitions. The three men's football teams are performing well. The 2nd XI are threatening a county league and cup double with a run of seven straight victories. Both



the Men's and Ladies' College Badminton Squad ... unbeaten swimming teams finished second in the recent Schools' and Colleges' County Gala. The Men's rugby squad won the County plate on Wednesday 6 December, beating South Downs College 12-5 in a very hard fought game. The badminton squad is unbeaten all year and has produced some remarkable results to top the league table comfortably, going in to the Christmas break. The College netball squad will compete in the regional finals of the National Colleges' Cup. If successful this would be the third consecutive season that the girls reach the national finals in Manchester.

Finally, the women's rugby and basketball teams have gone from strength to strength this term. Both squads have played numerous fixtures and also look likely challengers for County honours this winter. This success and development is a reflection of the passion and dedication that the girls have for their sport.



Netball Team - regional finals again

Congratulations to...

The following students who gave solo performances at the recent Rushmoor Oddfellows Male Voice Choir Concert attended by the Mayor of Rushmoor. They demonstrated great musicianship and brought much credit to the College.

Max Welford, Kate Holloway, Aimee Sheppard,
Jason Chowdhury, Helen Lewis, Sarah Crabtree.

The following students whose work has been selected for the 2007 College Calendar:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Neil Kempston | Charlotte Willingham | Louise Marshall |
| Louise Hiscock | Yasmin Forsyth | Laura Powell |
| Thomas Littlewood | Katie Ward | Suzie Kemp |
| Stephanie Broom | Jo Cockle | Vicky Homewood |
| Rebecca Ball | | |

Applied to the University of Bristol?

Vice Chancellor's Scholarships

We have been notified that the University is offering 12 scholarships, each worth £3000 pa, to undergraduates with exceptional musical, dramatic or sporting talent. They are intended for students who are not studying these subject at degree level. Closing date 15 January each year. Details: www.bris.ac.uk/studentfinance/home_ug/burs_schols/vc_burs.html

Feedback

It is always very helpful to receive feedback on your perception of the College - if you have any comments concerning the quality of education, we would be very pleased to hear them. In particular, please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any concerns.

The Learning Resource Centre will be OPEN
10am - 4pm Wednesday 3 January
to Friday 5 January 2007

If you are coming from a long way, phone first to check that the network has no glitches (01252 688 271)

**A VERY HAPPY AND RESTFUL
CHRISTMAS TO ALL STUDENTS
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

