

School News

A note for your diary....

North Halifax Grammar School Parents' Association are delighted to announce that next year's

Spring Ball

(previously the Parent Prom)

Will be held on

Saturday 14th May 2011

in

**The Crystal Ballroom
at Berties Function Rooms, Elland**

Three course dinner, dancing and complimentary Bucks Fizz on arrival

Tickets £30 - on sale NOW!

For more information contact
Angie Cowton NHGS PA on 07811 169396
or angela.cowton@virgin.net

This is a Parents Association fund-raising event for the All Weather Pitch. Registered charity no. 1097637

CHARITY COMMITTEE

Our Sixth Form Charity Committee has dedicated their time and effort into organising a number of very successful events to raise awareness for the Pakistan floods. The events took place over a period of one week, the first event being Henna designs over 3 days, which were admired by all year groups making it the most popular event.

On Thursday the 14th we organised for some members of the lower sixth to demonstrate their advanced Bollywood skills in the Hall, which gave a cultural insight into Asian traditions, furthermore, it was a fun experience enjoyed by all.

The last of the events was a bun sale ,which was enabled by the helpful members of the Charity Committee who created the fantastic and stunning range of buns and biscuits. This was also a very profitable event.

The North Halifax
Grammar School



NHGS News

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OCTOBER 2010

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The result of these events culminated in a fabulous total of **£297.38** being raised for the Pakistan floods.

We would like to say a big thank you to:

- Mrs Charles for donating cupcakes
- Lower Sixth Bollywood dancers (Aysha Matloob, Sonia Hussain and Aneeka Shoukat)
- Kuruth Kazmi and Helen Parker for volunteering to help out with the Henna
- All the members of the Charity Committee

Henna Khan U6(3) and Beki Kellett U6(2)

The Big Curry Night

To be repeated March 2011

Look out for more details in the December newsletter

DEBATING SOCIETY

This year we have welcomed new members who have joined more seasoned debaters on a Thursday lunchtime for exchanges of ideas and opinions. Our first motion "This house believes that there should be no limits on artistic expression", proposed by Sarah Payne and Lucy Robinson and opposed by Mark Holmes and Jacob Hayes, was a lively debate with well-researched cases being made on both sides. During the questioning, the arguments strayed into issues such as "What is art?" and there was some confusion of "artistic expression" with the "freedom of speech" but strong summaries brought us back to the main issues and the judges considered that Jacob and Mark had the clearer arguments and the motion was successfully opposed.

The following week saw Mark Holmes and Sarah Payne propose that we should limit population growth. Sana Ilyas was ready to oppose the motion but her partner failed to turn up so Jacob Hayes had to step into the breach and deliver an impromptu speech in a debate that taught us all about Malthusian theory. After a heated question and answer session, our guest judge, Mr Jervis, had a difficult decision to make but he felt that Sana and Jacob had the edge.

The following week saw two new debaters give very strong performances against experienced opposition. Silham Shahzad and Joselene Katayama proposed that "religion should stay in the home and not be brought into schools". Mr Bowles, judge of the week, felt that they made a strong case based both on experience and research but were narrowly defeated by Phoebe Hendy and Eve Gregory who argued strongly that if religion was left entirely out of the school syllabus then that would increase prejudice and intolerance through a lack of understanding.

Last week's debate was in preparation for the Debating Matters Competition which we are hosting on the 21st October. Sophie Beverley and Jacob Hayes argued that we should expect a lack of privacy when putting information online (in preparation for taking on Burnley College in the competition). James Harrison and Sana Ilyas were solid opposition for their practice run and made a good case for why we should be entitled to some degree of privacy but the proposition won the debate, judged by Mr Fisher.

Next week, Mr Fisher will be debating, partnering Jacob Hayes against Mark Holmes and David Greenwood (who are also competing in the Debating Matters Competition). They will be debating whether we need to be sceptical in the debate about climate change.

Our last debate of the half term on a Thursday lunchtime will be: "This house would randomly test school children for drugs." The proposition: Rhiannon Barrow and Vanessa White. The opposition: Lucy Hird and Colette Pilsworth. The place: SF1. The time: 12:15. All lively minds and argumentative souls welcome.

ALK

QUIZ NIGHT

The Parents' Association is pleased to announce that a new Quiz Master has been found! Many thanks to Peter Finan, an NHGS Parent, for volunteering.

Date for you diaries:

Thursday 20th January 7.30pm start in the Dining Room.

Tickets on sale after Half term.

Download a booking form from the PA web site.

NETBALL RESULTS

Congratulations to Jade White (Y10), Ellen Campsall (Y9) and Naomi Dyer (Y9) who have been selected for the U15 Calderdale Netball Squad.



The U19 Netball team are Calderdale Champions!

In the group stages, they beat Calderdale College, Brooksbank, Hipperholme & Lightcliffe and Trinity Academy. In the semi-finals they beat Crossleys and they met Hipperholme Grammar in the final. The girls were 2 goals behind at half time but played even better in the second half to pull it back and win 9-8! Well Done to the team: Bridget McHugh, Laura Mills-Whitaker, Sophie Clayton, Amy Campsall (C), Megan Schofield, Katie Shannon, Kate Bullock and Hannah Moran.

The U16 Netball Team reach finals of tournament!

Well done to the U16 netball team for reaching the final of the Calderdale netball tournament. They won all of their group stage matches against Hipperholme Grammar (8-5), Trinity Academy(4-1), Crossley Heath (3-2) and Brooksbank (11-0). They beat Rishworth an impressive 11-3 in the semi-finals and met Crossley Heath in the final. The final was a very close fought match with the girls battling for every ball. The final score finished 5-4 to Crossley's. Well done to the whole team: Ailish Duffy (C), Beth Allen, Ella Davies, Eleanor Heaton, Alice Frost, Rosie Payne, Emma Pearson & Jade White.

League Results so far:

U14 NHGS 11-11 Brighouse,

NHGS 28-1 St Catherine's

U15 NHGS 10-3 St Catherine's

U19 NHGS 22-4 Calder High

KDB

Parents' Association

Meeting dates

The first Wednesday of each month

3rd November 2010

1st December 2010

5th January 2011

Hair & Beauty Charity Evening

Wednesday 17th November 2010

7.30pm – 10.00pm

**Nikki Collins Hair Company,
Square Road, Halifax**

(opposite Eureka car park)

**Tickets £12.50 (includes a glass of wine/soft
drink & canapés)**

NHGS Parents' Association has teamed up with Nikki Collins (Nikki Collins Hair Company)

to put on a wonderful Hair & Beauty Charity Evening. The salon will have exclusive Special NHGS Offers for this *one night only* (check www.nhgs.co.uk <<http://www.nhgs.co.uk>> PA link to find out more).

So come along with your Christmas present list – because there are sure to be lots of interesting and unusual gift ideas. Remember you can treat yourself as well as your friends - but you will need to pay on the night to take advantage of the huge discounts on offer - so bring a cheque book (no facility for cards I'm afraid)! Everyone will get a complimentary 'booty bag' to take home.

Nikki and the salon team will be giving up to date fashion advice and practical demonstrations on various topics. You can even volunteer on the night for some of the treatments!

There will also be a host of lovely gift items on sale including jewellery and cosmetics. We also have some amazing Raffle Prizes on the night.

1st Prize is A Pamper Day for Two at Harvey Nichols Leeds including:

Champagne Nail Bar (get your nails done and relax with a glass of bubbly). Beauty treatments, make -up, and eyebrow threading, plus £25 of beauty products EACH to take home afterwards!

Plus lots of other luxury prizes

This promises to be a great pre-Christmas 'Ladies Night Out' for you and your colleagues and friends.

Students/children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult.

Tickets are on sale now – so if you are interested please get in touch with Angie at NHGS on 07811 169396 or Kelly at Nikki Collins to reserve your place/s.

This is a Parents Association fund-raising event for the All Weather Pitch.
Registered charity no. 1097637



CRISTMAS FAYRE

**Saturday 27th November
10.30am-2.00pm**

**Lots of interesting stalls
including Jewellery, Cakes & Gifts
New for this Year:
Cake Competition!
Look out for a flyer coming soon.**

A great way to support the PA

Christmas Fayre Help Required!

Saturday 27th November

The Parents Association needs help with making the Christmas Fayre a success.

Last year was fabulous but this year we hope it will be even better. We need volunteers to help run stalls and make cakes for the cake stall. Help is also required on the evening of Tuesday 23rd November.

See the attached slip at the end of the newsletter or contact Sue Kneller on HX 365285 or email sue@theknellers.net if you can help.

KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND

On 15th October Kevin Crossley-Holland visited the school to talk about his books to Year 7.

He told us about a new book he is writing "Short Too" which is the second in a series of Short books. He read some of his short stories to us. He also told us about his latest book "Waterslain Angels" which is about a girl and boy who try to solve the mystery of the angels missing from the church roof.

We had to try and solve some riddles. The last one was really hard. The answer was shopping and Grace got the answer right. After lots of people had asked him questions we had the opportunity to buy some of his books and get them signed by him. We could buy "Waterslain Angels", "Gattys Tale", "The Seeing Stone", and "the King of the Middle March". The last two are from his King Arthur trilogy.

Overall I think it was really good.

Rubayka Azam 7(5)

WW1 TRIP

On Friday 1st October a coach full of Year 10 History GCSE students set off to France. We were going to the Chateau D'Ebbingham in the north of France where we would be staying for three nights. We didn't spend long in the chateau, most of our time was spent going around the north of France and Belgium getting a taste of life in the trenches in World War One and visiting memorials and cemeteries.

We visited old trenches that had been uncovered and once occupied by Yorkshire soldiers. I was surprised that we were allowed to walk round the trenches; it was really good to be able to experience the places first hand. We also visited The Flanders Fields Museum, Sheffield Memorial Park, Thiepval and Tyne Cot Memorial; English, French and German cemeteries, and a few town centres and French hypermarkets for shopping

and meals out and lots more. The days out were filled with different activities and places to see.

My three favourite parts of the trip were going to the Thiepval Wood, the Menin Gate Ceremony and the cemeteries in general.

Thiepval Wood was a really detailed tour around original excavated trenches. Tom Howard from 10(1) dressed up in a proper English army uniform! It was a really hands on experience walking around the trenches and hearing the guide's war stories and facts.

The Menin Gate Ceremony at 8 o'clock, is a famous remembrance ceremony, the Last Post is played followed by a moment of silence and then wreaths are laid. This happens every night at the same time, regardless of how big or small an audience there is. Four students from NHGS were proud to lay a memorial wreath. It was very special and amazing how quiet the place fell when the Last Post was played. It was a memorable experience, being one of hundreds of people watching the ceremony on the Saturday we went.

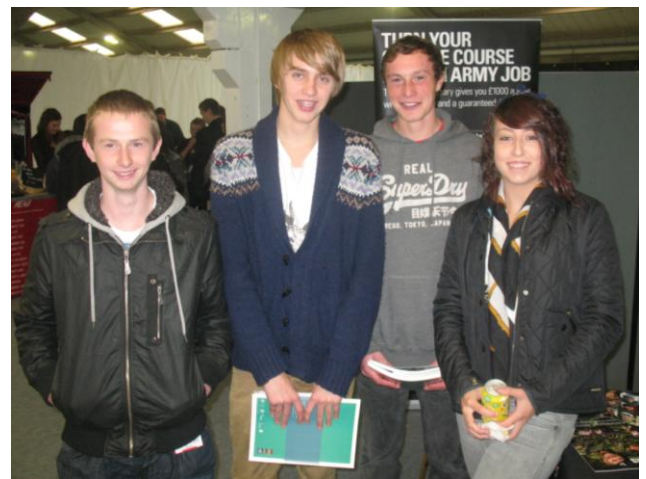
On the trip, we visited lots of memorials and cemeteries. Each place was unique to visit. Lots of students found the graves of relatives. This made the trip much more personal. It was sad at times to see the large number of names on memorials or graves, but I felt proud that I had gone and paid my respects and spared a thought for the men who gave their lives for our country.

Generally, this History trip was really interesting and helped me understand and put into perspective a lot of what we had learnt in class so far this year and last year. I got to see the scale of WW1s effects and now it means a lot more than figures in a text book. It was a very personal and emotional trip. I think all the people who went on it will have benefited in some way and remember parts of it forever. I have been to places I don't think I would have normally had the change to go to.

Hannah Froggett 10(1)

YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL CAREERS CONVENTION

Thirty students from NHGS visited the Yorkshire Agricultural Careers Convention in Harrogate on 12th October to look at the range of potential jobs available in the rural economy. There were a number of exhibits by agricultural and higher educational colleges highlighting courses of further study in subjects like veterinary medicine, equine studies and estate management. There were also workshops that the students participated in such as animal care, dry stone walling, gamekeeping, cheese making, garden designing and many more. The event was an eye opening experience for many and showed the huge numbers of jobs available in the countryside for those students that have an interest in more applied subjects.



NIH

'AS YOU LIKE IT'

On Thursday 14th October, several English Literature Sixth Form students were given the opportunity to see (for free!) a performance of 'As You Like It', a Shakespearean comedy at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds.

The Playhouse was quite an impressive venue with large arena-like stalls and the stage set below the audience, which gave us a good vantage point. The set was very effective, especially the 'Forest of Arden' setting which was quite literally a forest of convincing 'trees' accompanied by a rotating screen which created a leafy canopy. The overall effect was very beautiful and provided a convincing backdrop for the story to unfold.

TECHNICS SX P50 DIGITAL PIANO

- Full size 88 note keyboard
- 64 note polyphony
- 18 sounds
- Brilliance, digital effect and reverb
- Touch sensitive
- Midi
- With AC adaptor, music stand, sustain pedal, and zip case.
- Full instruction manual
(This piano needs an external amplifier)

Offers in the region of £175

Please contact Ms Robbins at the school on 01422 244625

School Blazers Wanted!

Calder Valley Youth Theatre would like to ask parents to kindly donate any old school blazers they may currently hold to help with our costumes in our forthcoming production of 'Our House' at the Halifax Playhouse in November.

Calder Valley Youth Theatre is a not-for-profit organisation which puts on musical theatre performances each year, and we rely heavily on the kindness of sponsors and donations to put on our annual winter production.

If you have any old blazers, please contact Vicky Garrod on 01422 845645 who will be happy to collect them from the school before 12.00 noon on Wednesday 3rd November.

VACANCY FOR A COMMUNITY GOVERNOR POST

If you know of anyone within the local community who meets the criteria for this post then please encourage them to get in touch with Ms Robbins at the school on 01422 244625.

Nomination forms for both types of Governor posts and details of the 'Qualifications and Disqualifications' which apply are available to download at www.nhgs.co.uk/governorposts Alternatively, you can request details by email p.robbins@nhgs.co.uk

Completed nomination forms should be posted to:

**Ms P Robbins, Clerk to the Governing Body, The North Halifax Grammar School,
Moorbottom Road, Illingworth, Halifax, HX2 9SU**

The closing date for nominations is 3.00pm, Friday 26th November 2010.



Christmas Fayre – Baking Volunteers Saturday 27th November 2010

Name:..... Tel. No:

.....

Item(s) to be baked:

.....

Name of student contact: Form:

.....

Please return the completed slip to
Mr P Jervis