

QEH NEWS



Celebrating...
420 years

Record breaking examination results
at both A-level and GCSE this year

See page 2 inside for more details

From the Headmaster



We start the new school year celebrating record public examination results. At A-level over 90% of grades were at A to B and the overall pass rate was 100%. At GCSE 70% of grades were A* or A. This success is due to the hard work of boys and teachers and means that QEH ranks highly in League Tables – not just locally but nationally as well. Of course there is far more to a good school than just academic success and this edition of QEH News shows some of the exciting things that have happened over the past few months.*

September always brings fresh faces to the school and we are delighted to be more than full of pupils and to welcome some new staff. I'm sure they will all soon settle and feel part of our community.

The term ahead looks very busy and I encourage current and prospective parents to enjoy watching our games at Failand and our concerts and plays in school. That invitation extends to our former pupils as well, and I'm pleased that the school continues to enjoy excellent links with the Old Boys' Society. Indeed our guest of honour at Prizegiving in October is Old Elizabethan, Ashley Pharoah, who recently won a BAFTA for his scriptwriting and wrote the award winning series 'Life on Mars'.

I hope you enjoy QEH News – our 25th Edition – and look forward to meeting many of you during the term ahead.

S W HOLLIDAY HEADMASTER

25 issues of the QEH News since 1995 – first edition



We welcome Mr Rod Cook as our new Bursar at QEH



He is a Chartered Accountant with much experience in the education sector having previously been Director of Finance & Administration at Cabot Learning Federation, a group of 3 academies. Prior to that he was Bursar at Redland High School for Girls and Badminton School.

Before moving to the education sector Mr Cook worked for five years in commerce at Nisbets PLC having previously been a partner in practice in two firms of Chartered Accountants.

Away from work and family, Mr Cook is a national league hockey umpire and for many years was involved with County junior hockey. He is currently a West hockey umpire selector.



WARM WELCOME...

Pictured: Year 7 new boys taking their first steps towards a glittering future at QEH!



BEST EVER!

Congratulations to those who achieved record GCSE and A-level results!

*Pictured above: Some of the 24 boys who achieved straight A*s or As in all their A-levels this year. Below: Some of GCSE boys who achieved 9 or more straight A*s or As in all their GCSEs (30% of QEH cohort).*





*Pictured above: End of an era.
Mr Richard Jones directs his choir on
Charter Day, Friday 26th March.*



Charter Day

420 YEARS OF HISTORY . . . continued from cover

The annual Charter Day Service at Bristol Cathedral not only marked our 420 years but also the last 'set piece' event for Mr Richard Jones, after 36 years as Director of Music, before he retired this summer.

Going Green...

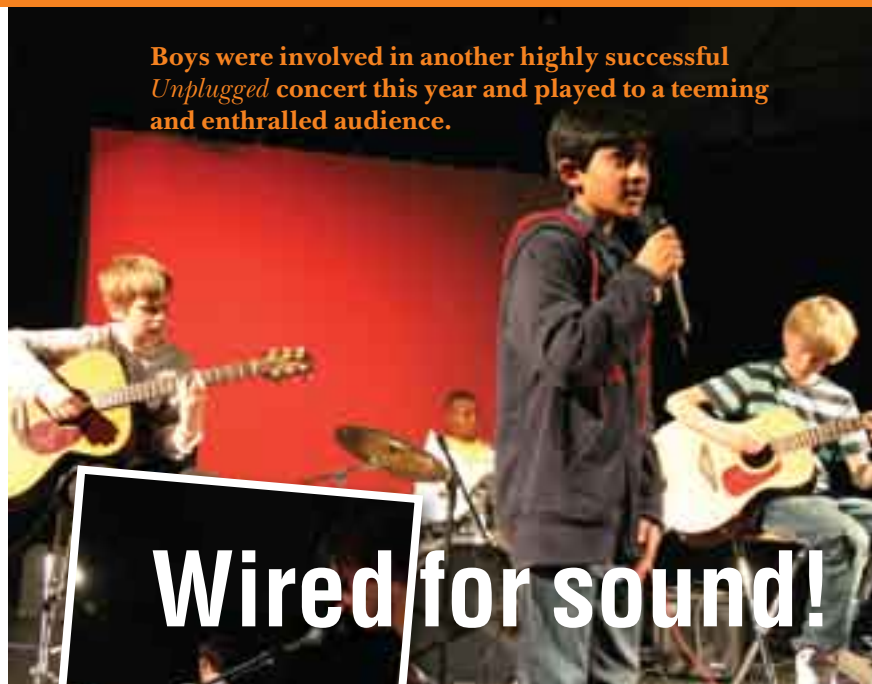
The 2010 election campaign gripped the constituency of QEH with seismic swings in this little backwater of Jacob's Wells.

All the leaders showed a competitive spirit as well as some inventive campaign strategies. With hustings, debates and flying, the hysteria went down to the wire.



The 2005 winning party (Conservatives) lost to George Bamber's Green Party by only two votes with the Green's recording a massive 17.9% swing.

Congratulations to all the candidates and their election entourage, and Year 8 which was instrumental in the smooth running of the election and in helping Mr Murray on polling day.



Boys were involved in another highly successful *Unplugged* concert this year and played to a teeming and enthralled audience.



Wired for sound!



Friends' news...

[1] Spring Ball Sell Out

Guests were welcomed with Champagne before enjoying a superb sit-down meal with waitress service, whilst being entertained by two fabulous magicians. To avoid disappointment make sure you book your tickets early when they go on sale next year, and put Saturday 7 May 2011 in your diary!

[2] Short Film Festival – The Lizzies

The Lizzies took place in the QEH Theatre with our young film makers entering their films and having the chance to meet Ashley Pharoah, former QEH Pupil and successful creator and writer of *Ashes to Ashes* & *Life on Mars*. Other judges on the panel were Ollie Barbieri – best known for his role as JJ Jones in the TV Drama *Skins* – and film maker and documentary writer Ann-Marie McCormack. Overall winner on the night was Cameron Matthews.

Together with our amateur films, we were shown an amazing selection of professional films put together for us especially for the evening by *Aardman Animation* and *Shorts International*.

[3] New Traversing Wall

Many of you will have heard reports from excited boys that our new Traversing Wall is now 'in situ' in the Juniors' play area, and the younger boys 'tried' it before the official opening last term. The boys love it and it will be the envy of many schools!

[4] Junior Friends BBQ

The Junior Friends' barbecue took place on a glorious late June evening at Failand where we welcomed all the new boys (who have now joined us).

Taste of success

QEH's winning team (left to right): Luke Parker, Hammad Aslam, Louis Irvine, HM, Moosa Khan and Mohammad Amjad (front row) George Dilloway, Miss Pugh and Simon Angelini.

Seven Year 10 pupils cooked up a tasty tribute to Bristol in the form a new flavour of sandwich for the Subway food chain after winning a Bristol-wide schools' competition. Their 'Sub', named The Proper Job, was served up for several weeks at the Queen's Road Subway to celebrate the chain's 10th anniversary.

The new flavour combines bacon, sausage, tomato, onions and lettuce, topped with ranch sauce in an Italian bread sub roll. The initials can be rearranged to spell out 'BRISTOL'. And the sandwich is named after the popular Bristolian lingo that summed up the tasty combination.



Chess Winners

Nathan Day became County Champion in his age group for the second year running at this year's *UK Chess Challenge*, while his brother Adam took over from Henry Malcolm by winning the age group above that, with Henry this year taking second place to go with the distinction of winning the annual *QEH House Tournament*.

Over 60 players took part in the tournament or the *UK Challenge* or just in casual games at Chess Club.



Boys Blossom

A growing number of green-fingered boy and staff gardeners are planting, amongst other things, a variety of different vegetables – early potatoes, rainbow chard, beetroot, lettuce, tomatoes and radish – in the Art Garden and are already eating the produce of their labours.

The Telegraph recently reported NFER research which states that when gardening was part of children's education they, "displayed more independence and were better at solving problems and had an impact on other subjects, including literacy and numeracy"!

NEWS SNIPPETS...

Expeditioners practising for Ten Tors



Andrew Warn teaching Gamelan in a workshop session for Year 10



Matthew Marrs won the Senior Modern Dance at Bristol Eisteddfod with partner Siobhan Diffin.



QEH joined forces with The Red Maids' in a half-day of activities and Salsa

Dodging Ash



In April 52 QEH boys and their Spanish teachers returned to school in the early hours by coach after a 32-hour journey from Spain when their flight was cancelled due to the volcanic ash from Eyjafjallajökull.

The boys had spent a week with families in Madrid and Cordoba improving their Spanish language skills. Fortunately, the tour leader Mr Chris Brotherton was able to arrange for a coach to make the long journey back to Bristol and the boys arrived back safely.



Firenze. Bellissimo!

Boys in Dr Dutton's Sixth Form extra-curricular Italian course enjoyed a three-day whirlwind trip to Florence at the start of the Easter holidays.

Highlights included climbing to the top of Florence's famous Duomo cathedral (a lesson in the impossible architecture of Brunelleschi); visits to the Bargello museum and the Accademia gallery (allowing a comparison of world most famous sculptures, *Donatello's David* and *Michelangelo's David*); an afternoon climbing up to the chapel of San Miniato del Monte, and a chance to appreciate Italian food (especially the daily quest for the best scoop of ice cream and the best shot of espresso).

Henrietta bear— she even has her own passport!



Fire and Ice

The QEH Teddy was accompanied by 61 QEH and RMS geographers and six staff. Just four hours after leaving London, with face packs on, they were bathing in naturally hot water of The Blue Lagoon. Geysers, bubbling springs and mud pools were just some of the highlights of the tour which included five days travelling from Reykjavik, seeing: the Rift Valley at Thingvellir, the Gullfoss waterfall, the Black Glacier, Puffin Island by boat and shopping time in Reykjavik.



Matterhorn highs

This year's QEH summer expedition saw four staff accompany 15 pupils to the majestic Swiss Alps. The scenery was fabulous with clear mountain views for the whole week.

The accommodation was in mountain cabins and hostels, allowing the intrepid team to travel light and cover over 100 kilometres from Zermatt to Sierre. Many of the days involved tortuous climbs to 3000 metre mountain passes in hot and dusty conditions.

The high point of the expedition was the scaling of the Becs des Bosson (3150 metres) which involved scrambling and climbing up the final 200 metres with sheer cliffs on every side.



England 1 USA 0

At least one team was able to pull off a world class victory this summer!

Twenty boys in the *QEH Future Problem Solving Team* returned from the World Finals at La Crosse University, Wisconsin laden with silverware. The school was representing the UK and Europe for the second year running, with the focus being on green issues in the 21st century.



Battlefields Commemoration

This year marked a special occasion for QEH Year 9 boys making their annual pilgrimage to the Battlefields of Flanders and the Somme, as the school had a plaque unveiled in St. George's Chapel commemorating the 39 OEs who died on the Western Front, 1914–18.

Two boys, alongside the President of the Old Elizabethans' Society, took part in the famous wreath-laying and Last Post ceremonies at the Menin Gate war memorial dressed in the school's traditional Tudor Bluecoats.

As well as visiting the mass cemeteries of Tyne Cot and Langemarck, boys visited old trench systems at Bayernwald and Hill 62, and the Ulster Tower and Thiepval on the Somme.

The Chaplain led a Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for his great-uncle who died on the Somme aged 23 at the Flers cemetery.



Ardèche Activity Holiday

Club Mimosa France could not escape 84 adventurous QEH boys this summer.

Kayak-surfing, catamaraning, windsurfing, snorkelling, bodyboarding, tanning, fluming at Aqualand and banana boating were but a few of the activities! The highlight was canoeing down the mighty Ardèche river – the biggest danger being Mr Brotherton's splashing capabilities, counteracted by Mr Murray's ability to get splashed! The trip could not have gone ahead without brilliant organisation by these two intrepid leaders!

Almost undefeated!

The QEH Under-15 cricket team remained undefeated until their final Cup match:

The results were:

- 1st round versus KES Bath – we put the opposition in to bat and bowled them all out for just 72 runs
- 2nd round versus Kingswood – we drew last year's finalists and wreaked our revenge, winning by a convincing 10 wickets
- Quarter-final versus Priory – this produced another exceptional performance with our opponents out after just 6 overs
- Semi-final versus Beechen Cliff – this was a close, edgy affair though we sealed a win with 2 overs to spare
- Final versus Colston's – our unbeaten run ended in a loss, by 28 runs.



Pictured above: Zak way out in front in the House Cross-Country

Zak Tobias, Year 11, represented Avon in the English Schools Athletics Championship on 10 July after winning the South West Athletics Championship in the Under 17, 3000 metres.

The Bristol & West AC runner, and England hopeful, has already won numerous running awards and is giving every sign that he has the talent and aptitude to go a long way in the sport.

Zak started running in the autumn of 2008 and, since linking up with coach Dave Bedwell (a QEH parent) and his group of young athletes in north Somerset, has made huge strides forward!



School finished early for boys to watch the World Cup, where England beat Slovenia 1-0.

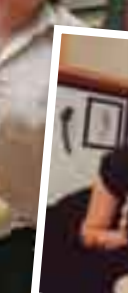
Images of the boys were captured in the pages of no less than five national newspapers on Thursday 24 June: *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Daily Mail*, *The Mirror* and *The Sun*! (see above)



Match being played against Clifton College by one of our thriving tennis teams



House Cross Country competitors starting out





Sports Day activities and Friends' cuisine



Readathon

Year 7 took part in Readathon this year and managed to raise over £500 through Sponsorship for reading lots of different books. The money raised will support children and young people in the region with cancer and other serious illnesses.

Pictured: Ben Hamilton (most books), Rajan Sahota (most sponsors) and Nick Lay (most money)

Ticket to dine...

Thanks to James Bailey's (Year 13) determination, QEH hosted a Charity Auction in the Dining Hall to raise money for *Cardiac Risk in the Young*.



There were 'lots' appealing to everybody: A moment of hilarity was caused when a QEH dinner ticket, giving a boy first place in the lunch queue for the year, went for £125! Usain Bolt's signed tee-shirt went for £330, a Manchester United football signed by the squad, £160, and shoes worn by *Strictly* dancer Flavia Cacace which reached £85, bought by QEH Head of Drama Miss Pip Cawte (aka Imelda Marcos).

It was a vibrant evening of entertainment and the incredible sum of £4108.99 was raised for *CRY* which aims to raise awareness of conditions that can lead to sudden cardiac death in young people.

Barnardo's Challenge

Year 9s raised over £2000 for *Barnardo's* at the end of the Summer term.

The Adventure Challenge involved four different events over the course of a morning. By lunchtime the boys had climbed the equivalent of the height of Everest, theoretically rowed across the Channel (and back again) eight times, navigated across an invisible maze and ran four virtual marathons. The aim was to raise money by covering the greatest distance in the shortest time.



Running Raise...

Fifteen pupils and 8 staff will be among participants in the 5km *Run for the Future* on the Downs on 19th September in support of research into prostate cancer. Proceeds go to the Urological Institute's (BUI) *Prostate Cancer Appeal*.



House competitors 'sailing close to the wind' in Baltic Wharf 



Sports Day

Sports Day took place in wonderful sunshine (in the afternoon, at least).

Carr House was the overall winner, closely followed by Hartnell's. At one point all four Houses were within 20 points of each other, making for a tense and close contest right up until the end of the afternoon.

Thanks especially to the Friends who were overwhelmed with takers for the barbecue, clothing cupboard, sweet stall, coconut shy and, of course, the Pimms stall. All the burgers and sausages, as well as 300 glasses of Pimms, were sold in record time by the enthusiastic team of parents with eager queues for them all afternoon. There were brilliant sales of ice creams with over 320 sold!

There was also a record turnout from parents at the event and congratulations to Harry Coppock who broke the Under-14 Javelin record.



Junior School Residentials

Year 3 – Kilve Court, Somerset: A fabulous three days was had by all and activities, ranged from pond dipping to grass sledging. ☒

Year 4 – PGL Camp, Liddington: Boys took part in: raft building, archery, fencing, climbing and orienteering as well as physical and mental teamwork challenges. They showed courage, skill, teamwork and resilience throughout their three day stay. ☒

Year 5 – Skern Lodge, Devon: Canoeing, climbing, abseiling, using high ropes and many more activities were on the daily schedule. ☒

Year 6 – New Barn Field Centre: At a gloriously remote rural location in Dorset the boys learnt all about local farming and wildlife. An added bonus was that, for the first three days, the sun never stopped shining! ☒

QEH/Red Maids Junior Ski Trip



A party of 49 students – from both QEH Juniors and Red Maids' Juniors and staff, joined forces for a skiing trip to Axamer Lizum, Austria.

With over a foot of fresh snow, skiing was fantastic and scenery stunning. It was so successful that plans are being made for a repeat trip in 2012.

Speech and drama

The boys performed with distinction at the recent Bath Festival, the country's largest and most prestigious festival. ☒

Congratulations to everyone who took part and represented QEH Juniors with such a confident and professional attitude.

We entered 23 boys who presented 29 individual pieces of work, poetry, prose and reading aloud. An impressive one third of boys won 1st place in their category.



QE Award goes outward bound...

Nineteen Year 6 boys and five members of staff came back from Exmoor after the final outward bound expedition of the QE Award scheme. The boys camped out at Horner Mill scout campsite, a glorious spot in the Exmoor National Park which is also regularly visited by Senior School groups.



☒ The Juniors performed *The Wind in the Willows* to packed audiences. The actors performed brilliantly and the comic Mr Toad was hilarious as he poop poop-ed his way through the play, leaving the audience in stitches! Congratulations to all who took part; it was a wonderful performance enjoyed by all and a fitting swan song for Year 6.



Year 4 at the Living Rainforest near Reading during a fundraising week for The Children's Enchanted Rainforest in Costa Rica.

Body Percussion

☒ Junior School boys enjoyed body percussion workshops in the QEH Theatre with Red Maids' girls. Led by *Stomp* theatre show performer, Oliver, they were challenged with increasingly complex rhythms using hands, feet, heads, mouths and even backsides!

Development Director's Report

The most gratifying part of Development work is to see how the support for our efforts is translated into providing opportunities and improvements for the boys. In the present economic climate bursary funding becomes even more relevant and we are very grateful for all the financial support which so many of our Old Boys and friends give.

The Ogden Scholarship scheme for science orientated sixth formers is increasing in popularity with several boys receiving aid. The Trust will match fund whatever we can give. We are very keen to enhance this scheme and we have at least one place for September which needs to be covered. This requires a commitment of several thousand pounds over two years and we have individuals and groups of Old Boys helping in this way.

The Annual Appeal was also well supported and we were able to provide music equipment and cricket covers as a result. We are still striving to provide the funding for the off road vehicle, so valuable to our ever growing outward bound fraternity.

The Dinners in Cambridge, Leeds and London last term were very successful and we teamed up with The Red Maids' at the East India Club. Next up is the Old Boys' Dinner on Saturday 13th November.

Many thanks to all OEs and Ex-Parents who have supported us so far and to those of you who are keen to support us in the future! If you need further information please contact John Colley in the Development Office.



S P RYAN DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

2010 Northern Dinner

The second Northern Dinner was held on Friday 21st May 2010, once again at the Queens Hotel, Leeds. Despite the small number of OEs in attendance a great evening was had by all. It is hoped that we can attract more to Leeds next year to add to this occasion.

The QEH magazine *The Elizabethan* is published in September. If you would like a copy, then please send your subscription of £10 (cheques made payable to 'QEH') to the Development Office. To book advertising space please contact marketing@qehbristol.co.uk

Cambridge Dinner

QEH visited Jesus College on 23rd April for our annual Cambridge Dinner.

Once again our Annual Cambridge Dinner proved to be a huge success and was a great event enjoyed by all. With attendees ranging from 1932 Starter Bryan Howell to four current University Undergraduates it was a great chance to share stories and memories from different times at QEH.

The OBS President, Robert Hutchings, was in attendance and gave an interesting speech followed by Headmaster, Stephen Holliday, who informed the gathering of current issues at the School, followed by a Q&A session.

Many thanks to Brian Hanling for once again helping to arrange.

We look forward to seeing everyone once again next year, with a likely new venue of Pembroke College.

London Dinner

The Annual London Dinner was at the East India Club, St James's in Central London on Friday 25th June.

This was the second time that QEH has jointly hosted the London Dinner with Red Maids'. A gathering of 25 met in the Luncheon Room for what proved to be a very enjoyable evening. With some current QEH and Red Maids' undergraduates in attendance, many stories and experiences were shared, showing a contrast of life in the School over the decades.

We are already starting to make plans for next year's Dinner, when we are likely to move to The Lansdowne Club. Should you be interested in receiving the arrangements when they are made, please contact the Development Office.



Starters and Leavers

On 10th July, the 1965 starters and 1985 leavers re-visited QEH for 45 and 25 year reunions. Over 30 QEH OEs were joined by 6 current and former staff for a tour of

School. Many had not been back to School since they had left and enjoyed seeing the changes the School had made as well as a quick game of 'Yard cricket'.

With 1950 and 1960 Starters as well as 1975 and 1995 Leavers reunions planned for Saturday 13th November, in conjunction with the OBS Dinner in the evening, many OEs will again be able to visit QEH. If you are a member of these Year groups you should have already had letters about the day but, if not, please do contact us.

If you would be interested in helping to arrange a future reunion, please contact us.



Development Office: Please contact Steve Ryan or John Colley at development@qehbristol.co.uk or 0117 9303086. Or in writing to Development Office, QEH, Berkeley Place, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 1JX.

Please check the Development section on the School website.

If you are on Facebook please join the 'QEH Bristol Alumni' group where we can keep you up to date with future events and hopefully you can find former classmates you may not have seen in years!



Retiring in style...

All the QEH fraternity was invited to a special concert at St George's, Brandon Hill to mark the retirement of Mr Richard Jones, QEH Director of Music, after 36 years of distinguished service at the School. The concert featured a wide variety of music played and sung by boys of QEH and girls of The Red Maids' School.

Little Shop, Big Talent!

QEH and The Red Maids' joined forces to perform the thrilling musical, *Little Shop of Horrors* at the end of June. The talented cast, comprising over thirty members of Year 9 and 10, ensured an evening of top quality singing, acting and dancing.

Miss Pip Cawte, Director of Drama at QEH said: "If you had ever wished to go to the theatre and see a gigantic, singing, man-eating plant or a dastardly Elvis-wannabe dentist – this was the show to see!"

The cast transported the audience to the sleazy underworld of 1950's America, where a host of wonderfully lively and undesirable characters inhabit Skid Row. They were charmed by the hapless, loveable Audrey and Seymour, terrified by the deep-voiced, rapidly-expanding plant 'Audrey II' and left the theatre singing a host of memorable songs, inspired by the cast and band.



Pictured above: GCSE drama workshop.



Picture above: Owain Park and Alexander Campkin. Owain recently won a prestigious competition for young composers.

Top Jazz Evening

The Jazz Band was on top form, playing a mixture of swing and modern pieces that had the audience singing along! The Soul Band sounded better than ever before and the Saxophone Group also performed its quality pieces. Highlights were the Acapella Choir, comprising 13 members of staff and several pupils and the maiden outing for QEH's first Barbershop Quartet which charmed the audience with some excellent close harmony arrangements.

Diary Dates...

Autumn Term Starts

Friends' AGM

QEH OPEN MORNING

FOR SENIOR & JUNIOR SCHOOLS

Year 7 Parents' Social Evening

Year 11 Parents' Evening (6th Form)

Prizegiving then Half Term starts

Half-Term

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Friends' Fireworks at Failand

Year 12 Parents' Evening

Cabaret Evening with The Red Maids'

Remembrance Service in School

Old Boys' Annual Dinner

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Sixth Form Production

CAROL SERVICE Term ends

Tuesday 7 September

Monday 20 September (7.00pm)

Saturday 9 October (10.00am)

Wednesday 13 October (7.30pm)

Wednesday 20 October (7.30pm)

Friday 22 October (10.30am)

Friday 22 October – Monday 1 November

Wednesday 3 November (5.00pm)

Saturday 6 November (5.30pm)

Tuesday 9 November (5.00pm)

Wednesday 10 November (7.30pm)

Friday 12 November (11.00am)

Saturday 13 November (7.00pm)

Tuesday 30 November (5.00pm)

Thursday 2 and Friday 3 December (7.30pm)

Friday 10 December (2.30pm Bristol Cathedral)

Theatre in motion

At the end of the Easter term, Years 7 & 8 performed *The Passion* – a play with a difference!

It comprised a promenade all around the school, starting on the drive, while an audience of 120 people followed the action, ending up with the crucifixion scene in the Yard.

