



# Thomas Telford School

## Newsletter

Issue 9

Spring 1994

### Mid-Wales Opera Visit

Members of the Mid-Wales Opera Company took time off from their rehearsals for Don Giovanni at the end of September to run a number of workshops with both Year 9 and Sixth Form students on their GNVQ and A Level Performing Arts courses.

The students enjoyed themselves immensely and followed up the day with a visit to Oakengates Theatre to watch a performance of Don Giovanni that evening.

Performing Arts teacher, Nigel Griffiths, said, 'The students were delighted to have the opportunity to work with real professionals. Workshops of this type help provide the students with a clearer understanding of today's theatre industry and we have many similar ventures planned for the not too distant future.'

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### Birmingham Royal Ballet Mega Workshops

Making a welcome return visit to the School this term was the staff of the Birmingham Royal Ballet to take part in the largest scale series of workshops they had ever attempted.

Over four hundred students took part in the six workshops which included dance, drama, make-up, theatre design and a debate on the funding of the Arts in the UK.

English teacher, Deborah Mundy, who organised the event said, 'Thomas Telford students were given a marvellous opportunity to gain an insight into the world of ballet and theatre. We hope to see them back again next year.'



*Sixth Form student, Katie Broughton, puts the finishing touches to her portrait*

### Complete Success

Congratulations to all our Sixth Form students who contributed to the 100% success rate at BTEC National and A level examinations last August.

The eagerly awaited results which were confirmed in August represented a formidable achievement and far surpassed the current national average of 89.9%.

University courses have proved the most popular destinations for our first cohort of Sixth Form leavers. Many earned distinctions and merits following the BTEC vocational route into Higher Education.

Notable successes include Kuldip Clair who found his distinctions in Business and Finance earned him a place at Loughborough University. Jonathan Williams gained distinctions for a major design technology project. He was the first student to gain an unconditional offer at the University of Wolverhampton where he is now studying Computer Aided Design.

Danuta Tiebel a BTEC Science student is training with Queen Alexandra's Royal Nursing Corps and Rebecca Davies begins an RGN course at New Cross Hospital in January.

Mr Satchwell said, "The outstanding achievement of our students from all courses, has established a firm foundation of excellence on which we can build."





# A Message From The Head

I devote my column in this term's Newsletter entirely to our first Sixth Form leavers of whom I am extremely proud.

Please accept my invitation to visit us at any time. We are very interested in supporting you throughout your future careers.

Christopher Care  
William Davies  
Timothy Davies  
Natalie Ellis  
Surjit Kooner  
Nirinder Purawal  
Danuta Tiebel  
Sahajdeep Uppal  
Matthew Watkins  
Nicholas Andrews  
Amanda Arnold  
Emma Birkett  
Richard Cadman  
Kuldip Clair  
Carl Foulkes  
Richard Herrington  
David Hutton  
Emma Leigh  
Richard Millington  
Sharonjit Sandhu  
Cameron Styles  
Sonja Tattersall  
Andrea Tudor  
Natalie Davies  
Katrina Hale  
Timothy Hedges  
Darren Johnson  
Juliette Smithers  
Mark Swanson  
Richard Tildesley  
Jonathan Williams  
Esther Yarnall  
Angela Clancy  
Clare Cox  
Toni Ellis  
Nicklaus Houlston  
Julie Howell  
Helen Jones  
Harpal Randhawa  
Owen O'Donnell  
Lee Tanner  
Jonathan Bolam  
Richard Chellumbrun  
Kevin Crawford  
Rebecca Davies  
Mokshudur Lais  
Amy Onions

Cardiff University - Applied Chemistry  
Birmingham University - Mechanical Engineering  
Sheffield University - Information Technology  
Birmingham University - Biology  
Brunel University - Economics and Business  
Birmingham University - Banking  
Navy - QUARNS Nursing  
De Montford University - Pharmacy  
Birmingham University - Retail Management  
Wolverhampton University - Business Admin  
Deferred University Entry  
Deferred University Entry  
Wolverhampton University - Business Admin  
Loughborough University - Economics & Finance  
Lancaster University - Marketing  
Sheffield Hallam University - Computing/Maths  
Sheffield University - Urban Land Economics  
Aston University - Management Studies  
Full-Time Employment - Mitac Telford  
Wolverhampton University - Law  
Aberdeen University - Economics  
Pontypridd University - Accounts and Finance  
W'ton University - European Business Admin  
Bridgnorth College - Arts Foundation  
Shrewsbury College - Arts Foundation  
Thomas Telford School - I T Technician  
Apprenticeship - GKN Sankey  
Shrewsbury College - Arts Foundation  
Shrewsbury College - Arts Foundation  
Birmingham University - Design  
W'ton University - Computer Aided Design  
Wolverhampton University - Law  
Sheffield University - Hotel Management  
Essex University - Sociology  
Bedford College of H.E. - Education/Sports Studies  
West London Inst. of H.E. - Sports Science  
Staffordshire University - Hotel Management  
Deferred University Entry  
Plymouth University - Education/Sports Studies  
Cheltenham & Gloucester - Sports Studies  
Bedford College of H.E. - Leisure & Rec Studies  
Liverpool University - Computer Science  
Cranfield University - Computer Science  
Brighton University - Bio-Medical Science  
RGN New Cross Hospital Wolverhampton  
Loughborough University - Electronic Eng  
Imperial College - Applied Biology

# Advisory Council News

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new staff, students and parents and, as always, wish you a long and happy association with Thomas Telford School.

We had great pleasure in meeting many parents at the recent Bavarian Evening during which we had the official handing over of the School minibus trailer. The trailer was built with money raised by the Development Committee at various School events for which we would like to thank everyone for their continued support. We would, however, like to say a very special thank you to Roy and Sandra Driver for their extremely hard work in actually constructing the trailer.

Mrs Jenny Shaw, a member of the School's Advisory Council, will shortly be opening a 'School Shop' for buying and selling of School uniform. Hopefully, we will have more information available shortly.

Dates of future events will be announced in the next newsletter, but in the meantime may I remind you that we would welcome your views on any and all aspects of School life.

The outcome of the recent ballot for parental membership of the School's Advisory Council resulted in the following persons from Telford being elected:

Mrs D Adams  
Mr S Bevan  
Mrs S Driver  
Mrs E Young  
Mr C Plant  
Mrs J Shaw

Only three parents were nominated from Wolverhampton which meant that they were automatically elected. They are:

Mr J Roche  
Mrs S Cockhill  
Miss S Senior

# Dates For Your Diary

1994 Spring Term 4 January to 31 March (Half Term 14 and 15 February)  
Induction evening for new Year 7 students 2 February or 8 February  
Induction for new Sixth Form students starting in September '94 14 March  
Staff Training Days 17 and 18 March  
School Production Sheerluck Holmes 23-24 March





## Student Leave of Absence

High attendance is a priority at Thomas Telford School. Any application by a student for leave of absence must be sent to their Personal Tutor with at least six weeks prior notice. The Headmaster will only grant permission where the proposed absence proves to be unavoidable due to exceptional circumstances. Parents should also note that even when permission is granted, holidays taken in term time will count as absence. We thank you for your understanding and look forward to your continued support on this issue.

## Symbol of Hope

A group of twenty-five Year 9 Thomas Telford students were busy recently as they planted hundreds of daffodil bulbs on one of the town centre's main traffic islands.

The aim of all this activity is to plant a 'Field of Hope' in response to an invitation from the local branch of the Marie Curie Cancer Care Organisation which, in the Spring, will serve as a reminder to passers-by of their tremendous work.



*Year 9 Students Natalie Williams and Tim Oakley plant symbol of hope*

## Cinderella on Tour

During December, Sixth Form Performing Arts students toured a number of the local schools, residential homes and hospitals with their festive production of the pantomime, Cinderella.

The students wrote the script themselves and sang, danced and made their own props and costumes as part of their BTEC and A Level Performing Arts Course.

Cinderella was played by Erica Deakin, the Wicked Step-mother by Angela Jones and Buttons by Clare O'Connell. The thigh slapping was done by Rebecca Nixon who played both Prince Charming and the Fairy Godmother and the glamour was provided by Amanda Free, Laura Cannon and Nigel Griffiths who played the three Ugly Sisters.

Drama Teacher Nigel Griffiths said 'The response from the local community was excellent with over fourteen performances booked. This proved to be a severe test of the students' organisational and acting skills'.

## School Bookshop opens

The School has just opened a bookshop at lunchtime and between 4.00 and 5.00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Run in conjunction with Vision Books of Wellington, orders can be made on receipt of cash or cheques with any profits being ploughed back into the library.

## Community Education News

The new academic year has seen a significant expansion in the Community Education activities of the School.

The new all-weather floodlit pitch is being extensively used by local soccer and hockey clubs. It is available till 9.30 pm during the week and 5.30 pm at week-ends.

In October the School also began its first classes in Information Technology, Keyboarding and Desk-Top Publishing. These classes, held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, have been enthusiastically received by the parents who attend them. There are still places available and interested parents should contact Mike Danvers at the School.

In March 1993 the School, along with all other schools, was invited to bid for a national award for its after school activities.

These awards were made by 'Education Extra', a national body. We were delighted to hear in October that the School had been awarded a Certificate of Recognition for its achievements to date. Thomas Telford School is only one of three schools in Shropshire to receive such an award, something for which we are justly proud. We hope to continue to receive such recognition as our Community Programme continues to develop.





## **Interested in sport?**

Would you like to start your own club? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then we may be able to help you! For further information please contact Gordon Smith, the School's Recreation and Leisure Manager on Telford 200000.

### *Community Sport and Recreation Classes*

*Monday 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.*  
*Adult Dance Club*

*Tuesday 7.30 - 8.30 p.m.*  
*Step Aerobics*

*Wednesday 7.00 - 8.00 p.m.*  
*Ladies Table Tennis*

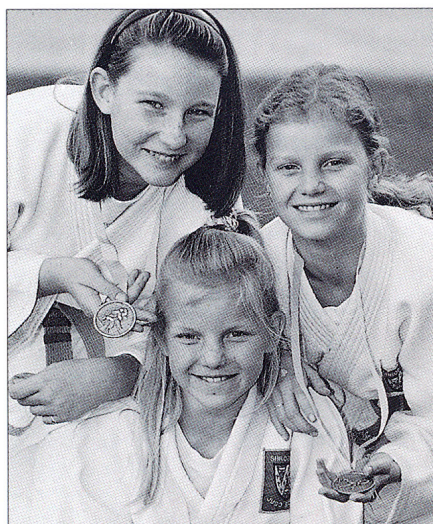
If you are interested in any of the above classes please contact Gordon Smith on Telford 200000.

## **Downhill Racer**

Congratulations go to skier, Victoria Harper, who became the third fastest girl in England last year in the under 11 age group.

Victoria, who skis for the Telford Skiing Club and has been skiing since the age of four, raced in the Irish National Championships in Dublin at the end of October where she was first in both the Slalom and the Giant Slalom. This remarkable achievement placed her as the top girl in the competition in her age group and fifth overall in the competition.

Unfortunately, she chipped a bone in her arm during a recent training session and will be out of action for a few weeks, but we wish her a speedy recovery and more success in the near future.



*Rebecca, Joanne and Donna show off their medals*

## **Judo Triple Haul**

Congratulations go to three judo-mad Thomas Telford students who returned from the Midland Area Championships at Cannock with a triple haul of medals. Rebecca Kane and Donna Wilkinson, aged 12, both won bronze awards while 11 year-old Joanne Wilkinson claimed the top spot with a gold medal.

## **Top Notch Dunkers**

Thomas Telford School play host to the England Under 14 girls basketball squad on a number of weekend training sessions until Easter 1995.

The eighteen girls were selected after an inter-area tournament at the Lilleshall National Sports Centre. Coached by Helen Barnett, the squad will be training and playing a number of local games in preparation for the qualifying tournament of the Cadette Women's European Basketball Championships in 1995.

The School's sports staff and Sixth Form Leisure Studies students put the girls through their paces with a specially designed series of personal fitness tests. The squad beat Ercall Wood 103 - 100 but lost to a mixed Thomas Telford team 56 - 62.

Deputy Head and Leisure Studies Manager, Mike Douch, said, 'This was a great opportunity to support our national team and a unique chance for our students to meet and work with such a committed group of players.'

## **Gymnastics Judges**

Humanities teacher Mrs Gail Comerford and Sixth form students Julie Marriott and Claire Lomas completed a club gymnastics judging course at the end of October which took place at Newman's College, Birmingham.

During the course they were taught to score on the beam, vault, bar and floor and all passed with flying colours.

They are now qualified to judge at regional competitions and both Julie and Claire will be judging at the Shropshire Schools competition on the 19th of March. In addition, Mrs Comerford will be participating in the judging of the Shropshire County gymnastics competition later in the year.

## **Inter School Champions**

Well done to the students of 7L who won the inter-year netball tournament and who prevented a clean sweep by 7, 8 and 9E who grabbed the soccer, basketball and hockey trophies respectively.

Further up the School the Second Year Sixth beat the First Year Sixth in a combined football and hockey tournament which was decided by the aggregate scores of the two matches.

The trophies were presented after the game by Chairman of the Governors, Jack Mawdsley.

## **Face Off In Canada**

Year 9 student, Daniel Mackriell has once again been selected to represent his country at ice-hockey.

Daniel, who will play for the England under-14s, will be flying off to Canada in February to play in an international tournament. In the meantime, he has also been picked to play for the Midlands under-14s hockey team. Playing leading international nations such as Canada will enable Daniel to compete at the highest level in his chosen sport. We take this opportunity to wish him continued success.

