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REPTON SCHOOL'S *newsletter*



Autumn/Winter 2007

Son et Lumière



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Listed With The Best

For the first time, Repton has been included in the list of the country's top 200 public and prep schools produced by society magazine Tatler.

The School was invited to submit a range of information that included A level and GCSE results, the percentage of students going on to Oxbridge, class size and admission requirements. We did not know, however, until the list was published in November, if we had been included.

Mr Holroyd – described in the Guide as “colourful and popular” – says: “We are delighted to have been included in the Guide for the first time.

The publication recognises schools that provide young people with education in its broadest sense, preparing them for the world beyond their classrooms, and this is very much our approach.”



Remembrance and Reflection

Remembrance Day, when we remember ORs who have fallen in battle, remains one of the most important services in our Chapel Calendar. We were fortunate this year to have with us Captain Nick Rendall (B/S 93) of the Coldstream Guards who gave us a most memorable address.

After graduating from Goldsmith's College, University of London he progressed to Sandhurst.



During his sermon he drew on his memories of past Remembrance Days at Repton and from moments in his active service which have included postings in Northern Ireland and Iraq.

He talked on the theme of “Sacrifice”, emphasising the commitment of those who have experienced the realities of war, and expressed the meaning of past sacrifice in the present day.

Royal Visit

HRH The Earl of Wessex visited the School at the end of November, a fitting climax to our year of anniversary celebrations.

During the visit he toured New Court Gallery, which has provided working space for Artists-in-Residence together with two textiles studios. As a result Fine Art Textiles has been added to the Art Department curriculum for next year.

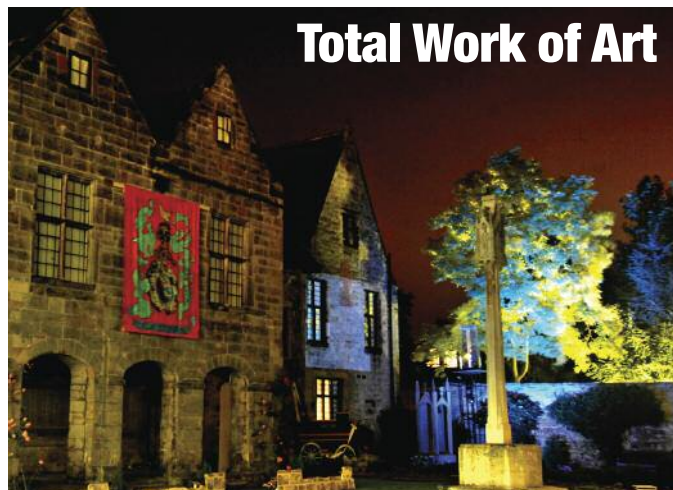
The Earl also watched a drama display and a demonstration of Duke of Edinburgh Award activities. Headmaster Robert Holroyd said: “We were honoured to receive The Earl's visit and thoroughly enjoyed giving him a glimpse of life at Repton School in the 21st Century.”



One of the highlights of our anniversary celebrations was the spectacular *Son et Lumière*, a performance featuring sound, light and live action drama. It was staged over four nights in the Garth and was a complete sell-out.

The show, which was the brainchild of Director of Art Jeremy Bournon, covered a much greater expanse of time than the last 450 years, stretching from the year 600 AD right through to the creation and development of the School.

Original music for the show was created by staff members Nic Firth and Jeremy Rouse, while the research and writing of the narrative was by Head of English Ian McClary and School Librarian and Archivist Paul Stevens.



Total Work of Art

Commenting on the *Son et Lumière*, Headmaster Robert Holroyd said: “This was a total work of art. Everything that the School stands for was included and we are very proud to have been able to stage such a forward-thinking project.”

Hong Kong Visit

Headmaster Robert Holroyd was Guest of Honour at a gala dinner at the Hong Kong Club in October as part of our 450th anniversary celebration events.

Mr Holroyd was joined by eminent Old Reptonians, current pupils and past and current parents for the prestigious event. Hong Kong Old Reptonians maintain strong links with the School and continue to make important



contributions to it. In 2001 they donated a significant proportion of the £1m used to build the School's state-of-the-art drama studio. The event was a tremendous success and Mr Holroyd said he very much enjoyed meeting friends old and new during his visit.

Record Results

The School's already impressive A-level result record has been broken again this year, with 86.2% achieving A/B grades. This exceeds last year's 79.1% by a considerable margin.

With 58.3% of the entries achieving an A grade, the 2003 previous record of 50% was also surpassed.

Next year looks promising too, with our Lower Sixth students achieving 44.7% A grades and 70.6% A/B grades in their AS exams.

At GCSE our candidates achieved 29.4% A* grades and 64.4% A*/A grades. Among the top performers were Emily Chadwick, Saskia Matthews, Aaron Paxton, Pavel Shaynoga and Hannah Watson who each have ten A* grades at GCSE.

Hannah Watson, together with Anna Borup, were among the group of candidates who scored one of the top five marks in English Literature nationally.

For a detailed breakdown of all this year's results, visit the school website at www.repton.org.uk



New Look For Abbey

The newly refurbished Abbey was proudly opened at the start of the Michaelmas Term after a huge amount was done both structurally and in terms of décor.

Contractors came on site in February and, with all exterior work completed by Speech Day, the interior marking for fixtures, fittings and wall demolition began in earnest at the start of the summer holidays.

August Bank Holiday weekend saw finishing touches made to turn the house back into a home. Everyone played a part to get the job finished, with Mrs Checketts buying furniture at Ikea, Housemistress Mrs Goodhead and her family hanging mirrors, labelling rooms and organising over 300 keys and Miss Horne sorting out the Link and the library books. Builders returned briefly at Half-Term to make final adjustments.

The girls have really appreciated the changes the refurbishment has afforded them and are all extremely proud of their new buildings.

Eggciting Challenge

Designing and building an Egg Tower, an Egg Drop Package and an Egg Catapult were the tasks set for the eight prep school teams that entered this year's Repton Challenge.

The teams of six tackled the three parts of the test by devising some ingenious and imaginative solutions.



All but one of the egg towers built supported an egg and what looked like highly technical catapult designs were quickly turned into reality.

The afternoon saw everyone gather in Pears School to witness the creations in action. Students and teachers cheered on the Egg Drop teams who had to peer rather nervously over the balcony to drop their egg. Only one survived according to judge Ian Settington who spotted the tiniest of cracks in the fallen foodstuff! Catapults were then fired to much cheering as eggs splattered the floor.

Congratulations to the winners of each of the challenges, and in particular to Ranby House, crowned overall champions for their fantastic attitude, hard work and very successful designs.



Enthusiastic Tales

The *Canterbury Tales* – a joint Mitre and School House venture – was faithful to Chaucer's original concept of spontaneous story-telling, and kept audiences thoroughly entertained.

The play features a disparate group of travellers who entertain each other by telling a varied range of stories.

Elliot Sheasby (L6S) as Geoffrey Chaucer was a personable narrator, whilst Josh Benn (4S) as The Knight told his story with aplomb. The Mitre contribution was spearheaded by Swantje Green (U6M) as the brassy Wife of Bath, complemented by Rachel Bray's (L6M) prudish Prioress.

The whole cast poured energy and enthusiasm into the production. Director Jonathan Hill hopes that no one was offended by the raunchier elements but, as Chaucer himself said, 'It's just a bit of harmless fun!'



Arkwright Scholars

Lee Bilson (L) and Harriette Doxey (G), two GCSE Design and Technology pupils, were each awarded a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship during October in a ceremony at the Institute of Engineering Technology in London.

From an initial field of 743 candidates, Lee and Harriette gained the award following a two hour elimination paper and a day of interviews and activities at Sheffield University. This year, 202 scholarships have been awarded with sponsorship from major UK companies and organisations.

Michael Franklin, Director of Lloyd's Register Education Trust, who presented the awards, commented that "The young people who receive scholarships have already demonstrated their considerable academic prowess and interest in engineering and now have the opportunity to develop that interest and, in due course, to become the leading problem solvers of their generation".



Duke of Edinburgh Award

It has been a busy start to the year for those involved in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. 44 O Blockers began their silver award at the start of the term and went on their first expedition in September. Highlights of this included learning how to pitch tents and cook food, as well as a 17km hike carrying their kit. Despite having maps one or two groups managed to lose their way but Mr Stones guided them to a bakery for cookies and cakes before they found their way again.

While the O Block are beginning their D of E career, 22 Lower Sixth pupils have just completed the Silver Award. The groups walked during October Half-Term between three campsites in the Yorkshire Dales, coping well with the low cloud and drizzle, and completing their journeys in good spirits. This expedition was postponed in July due to bad weather.

A large group of Lower Sixth pupils has opted to take the Gold Award this year, and their training began in earnest in November.

It takes a minimum of 12 months to complete the Award, but most people take longer. Sophie Griffiths (U6F), however, has already met all of the Award's requirements, making her one of the fastest finishers in recent Repton history. She will get an invitation to St James' Palace in the near future to celebrate her success.

Future Leader

Lower Sixth pupil Saskia Matthews (G) has been selected to represent the UK on the prestigious *People to People Programme* in August 2008, a scheme originally set up by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Currently studying for her A Levels at Repton, Saskia will spend a week at Stanford University in the "Sunshine State" California where she will join a Future Leaders Summit focusing on Law.

Flying High

Lower Sixth student Dominic Neill (O) has been awarded his 'silver wings' after taking part in a week-long gliding scholarship course with the RAF during the summer holidays.

The gliders used were Vigilant motor gliders, similar to powered light aircraft. As well as the actual flying, Dominic was also acting as ground crew which involved fun jobs like signalling and refuelling - and slightly less desirable tasks such as pushing the aircraft back to the hangar and cleaning dead flies off the gliders at the end of the day! Dominic said: "Overall, it was an intensive but thoroughly enjoyable week. I am very pleased to have had



the opportunity to do something so unusual and exciting and have made new friends from all over the UK."

With the 10 hours-plus of powered gliding experience gained, Dominic is now eligible to apply for Advanced Gliding Training which could lead to 'gold wings'.

Gifted and Talented Awards

Congratulations to five members of the Upper Sixth and one member of the Lower Sixth who have won places on Villiers Park Educational Trust courses.

From the Upper Sixth, Rebecca Parrish (Words for Music); Melanie Harrison (English Literature); Charlotte Aston (The World in Crisis?); Roanna Mottershead (History of Urban Britain) and Gemma Beardsall (Classical Studies: New Approaches to Old Ideas) all won awards after being nominated by School. Aaron Burgess-Smith (Religion and Philosophy: What is Truth?) from the Lower Sixth also recently won an award.

Villiers Park is a national charity providing courses for the gifted and talented and competition for places is extremely tough.



Lower 6th World Trade Game

As with all of the House-based events at Repton, the annual L6th World Trade Game was, as always, a great evening, which highlighted the competitive spirit of Reptonians.

The aim of the game is for each country to satisfy their consumption needs through trading their natural resources with other countries; with points awarded for reaching country specific targets. The game encourages players to adopt a team based approach, but to be truly successful negotiation skills and forceful bargaining are also vital!

The standard of trading was very high and it was great to see such enthusiasm from all teams. With the fifth and final round left to play, a number of the houses were well placed to win the game: after a frenetic spell of trading, it was Field House - playing as Pakistan - who were the eventual winners. Well done!

The programme is designed to develop leadership skills and also offers those taking part a chance to visit local sites of cultural and historical significance.





Girls Hit Top Notes

Two Reptonians have recently been selected to sing with The National Youth Choir in their respective age categories – a fantastic achievement in the face of stiff competition.

With the membership of the National Youth Choir being restricted to 16-22 year olds, Eleanor Holroyd (F) has been invited to sing for The National Youth Training Choir, an intermediary choir for 13-17 year olds before graduating to the full National Youth Choir. Eleanor has performed in Tewkesbury Abbey (twice) and Coventry Cathedral and is now lucky enough to be having lessons with Director of Music John Bowley.

B Blocker Amelia Anderson (F) has also been invited to sing for the National Youth Girls' Choir (ages 11-15), another great achievement as competition for places is tough, particularly for sopranos.

Diva Fever!

From humble beginnings two years ago Repton's Opera Society is continuing to grow and flourish. The latest release of tickets (for Opera North's highly praised production of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*) sold out within a day, many to pupils whose first outing this will be with the Society. Whilst *Butterfly* is scheduled for after Christmas, during Michaelmas term there has been more Italian produce on the menu, in the shape of Glyndebourne Touring Opera's staging of Donizetti's comedy *L'Elisir d'Amore*. A summer excursion to Birmingham for the Welsh National Opera's interpretation of Verdi's Egyptian epic *Aida* is also planned. The opening of the new Eurostar rail-link from London St Pancras to Paris has also raised the intriguing possibility of an inaugural Society trip to the magnificent Opéra Bastille in Paris, a project which is currently being enthusiastically investigated for the future.

Sunshine for Shakespeare

Shakespeare's most enduring comedy *Twelfth Night* was staged in-the-round as this year's School play and set in the Mediterranean holiday resort of Illyria! Director Mr Levesley used a holiday in Majorca at Easter as part of his research and says he thinks the idea worked perfectly, surprising and delighting audiences over three nights in November.

The imaginative setting and format offered huge challenges to the 40 students involved as actors, technicians and stage crew. *Twelfth Night* was staged in Pears School, further adding to the challenge for those involved but also as an anniversary year gesture. It was the first time the annual play has been performed here since the opening of the 400 Hall 50 years ago.



Garlic and Lavender

On October 5th and 6th Field House and the Cross presented *Garlic and Lavender*, a play by Nick Warburton. The Dracula spoof was brought to life by the hilarious performances of Rosanna Harding and Sophie Casha as two wealthy women from Tunbridge Wells who go away on holiday to a Gothic castle. Instead of meeting a cheerful holiday rep, they encountered the sinister Count Drackenbergh, played by Freddie Haydn-Slater, who is intent on sucking their blood. Surly servants, poisonous stew, a French ghost (Katherine Guest) and local peasants all contributed to the humour and the suspense; will the girls survive? Will Dr. Lutz, the famous vampire expert, (Tom Coe), deal with the Count? At last, to the girls' great relief, help arrives in the shape of Roger, "the English fop" (Ed Simmonds). All ends happily as the Count and his henchmen are defeated, and the villagers return to safety. Or is that really the end...?

Refreshingly devoid of Repton in-jokes, this was an evening of farcical entertainment suitable for all ages – a roaring success for both houses.

Harmonious Day

More than 80 prep school students with particular talent in singing had a busy but unforgettable day at Repton in November with one of the world's most popular vocal groups, The King's Singers.

The group, famed for singing without instrumental accompaniment, ran a workshop for singers selected from schools that included Lichfield Cathedral, The Ryleys, Terra Nova in Cheshire and Town Close in Norwich.

The Reptiles, Repton's close harmony group, also prepared pieces from their repertoire for the workshop, and benefited enormously from the advice and expertise of The King's Singers.

The day of work with the students preceded a concert in Pears School where the audience enjoyed a programme including music from the English and Spanish Renaissance, Tormis, Kodaly and close harmony music.



Wear What You Dare Day

The annual Wear What You Dare Day got off to a noisy start with Mitre Upper Sixth running through the village dressed as the 1st XV rugby team urged on by a trainer with a very loud whistle.



Not to be outdone, Field Upper Sixth 'clubbed' together as the most stylish of cavegirls. Superheroes on scooters and bicycles were seen speeding through the village from lesson to lesson and the Garden lifeguards, who originally were going to be Baywatch Babes, didn't need to put a toe in water.

A surreal moment has to be two prospective parents being shown around by Kermit the Frog during Break. Special mention must go to the School House Spice Girls, in practice for their forthcoming tour and, star of the Common Room, John Plowright, looked a very realistic Mrs Mop. A vintage Wear What You Dare Day.



Chess Champ Heads for Croatia



New B Blocker Craig Whitfield (0) was selected to represent England in the 2007 European Youth Chess Championships held in Croatia during September. He was nominated ahead of four other players from the shortlist to play for England U12s at this prestigious tournament.

Having played chess since the age of 5, Craig has previously won the UK Chess Championship title at U8, U9, U10, U11

and U12 levels. He was awarded a Chess Scholarship at Foremarke Hall, Repton's prep School, after impressing staff there with his chess-playing prowess following his selection to represent England for the 2004 and 2005 World Youth Championships. He then underlined his development by competing in the 6th International Dubai Junior Chess Tournament in July 2007.

Craig regularly hones his skills through the online coaching of grand master Peter Wells and the weekly coaching from international chess master Robert Bellin, provided as part of his Chess Scholarship at Repton. Craig regularly competes in national tournaments to improve his ranking and now even contests open tournaments such as the Hull Chess Congress in November, where, although being the lowest graded player entered, he finished 3rd against an adult field, a remarkable achievement for a 12 year old!

Girls Make it Six Years in a Row

The 1st XI Girls' Hockey team have been crowned Midlands Champions for an incredible sixth consecutive year and now go through to the Nationals Finals where they will defend the national title they have won for the past three years.

The girls got off to a blistering start, beating King Edward's of Birmingham 6-0, scoring the first goal within seven seconds of the push back. Full of confidence, a decisive 2-0 victory early in the tournament followed against eventual semi-finalists Oundle. A goalless draw against Dame Alice Harpur and a 1-0 victory over Denstone College guaranteed

qualification for the semi-finals, where another 1-0 victory, this time over Bromsgrove, set up a final against Bablake.

Repton upped their game for the final against opponents of England stature and their class shone through as they matched and outplayed their opponents to secure a comfortable 1-0 victory and retain the shield. This will no doubt breed optimism for the national finals which will be held on 2nd March at St George's College, Surrey.



U14s and U16s Net Success

Both the U14 and U16 netball teams have become County Champions and now progress through to the Midlands Finals in the New Year.



The U16s eased through the group stages but encountered a tough semi-final against Trent College. Having won this battle, they overcame Derby High in the final with a combination of accuracy, close marking and timely interceptions. The U14s also won through to the final by scoring an incredible 70 goals in their matches and only conceding 18. In the final they finished runners-up to a formidable Tupton side but both teams go through to the regional round – a phenomenal achievement for a team that had never played together before this term!

Hockey Highs

Two Reptonians are celebrating their places in the Great Britain Olympic Training Squad. Susie Gilbert (F), who left in the summer, and Charlotte Craddock (A), currently in Lower Sixth, both received their first caps for Great Britain in November when they travelled to Salta in Argentina for five Test Matches.

This follows on from them becoming European champions as members of the England U18 hockey team. Susie and Charlotte, together with Georgie Twigg (F), won gold medals at the European Youth Championships, held in Edinburgh in July.

During an intense week of hockey the U18 England girls became the first team since 2002 to defeat the Netherlands in the finals. They also defeated Scotland and Ireland and drew with Spain and Germany to finish as the only undefeated team in the tournament.

Tim Gilbert (O), playing for the England U18 boys, just missed out on a bronze medal to Belgium who won on goal difference.



Bridge to Bridge

The senior boys were crowned champions in this year's annual Burton 'Bridge to Bridge' swimming race whilst the senior girls finished as commendable runners up in their event.

Commemorating the historic early 20th century swim between Burton Bridge and the Ferry Bridge along the River Derwent, the race is now swum each year as a relay in Meadowside Leisure Centre swimming pool.

This year's race saw 35 pupils represent Repton, and both Lauren Brain (U6G, Girls' Captain) and James Dickinson (U6O) won the individual competitions in the open age group.

Miles Better

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term, Jonathan Hendrickx and Dominic Hills



(L6N) decided to embrace the Sale of Work ethos by running 1500 miles in 10 weeks. They have amassed nearly £2000 in aid of their chosen charity, the Derbyshire Premature Baby Ward, having completed their mammoth task on schedule. This has been a truly remarkable achievement for both boys who regularly ran before and after school.

Danny's Home Run

After England scouts had visited numerous schools, Danny Cross (3G) was selected as one of 12 girls to represent England at Rounders at U14 level. She previously represented England at U13 level after being selected ahead of 111 other hopefuls. Playing outfield, she went on to cap this achievement by scoring 12 rounders. Danny now holds three England caps, which she has won against Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Enterprising Times

What links a rifle club, 'Soccer Stars' football coaching, weddings and residential French language classes? Repton Enterprises of course!

Repton Enterprises Ltd. is responsible for the letting of the facilities of both Repton School and Foremarke Hall outside term-time, including boarding houses, classrooms, 400 Hall, Pears School, as well as music and sports facilities.

One of this year's most entertaining events was 'Circus Skills', by *Shooting Stars*, for 6-14 year olds. Children learnt a range of skills, such as juggling, spinning tops, tightrope walking and unicycle riding. They then capped the week with a performance to parents under the large indoor tent that been erected to create that 'Big Top' arena experience.

There is a wealth of variety on offer, from day courses in crafts, drama, hockey, cricket, or swimming to residential events such as classical courses or the ever popular U16s football festival run by Manchester United Youth Team Coach Tom Statham.

Wedding bookings are constantly oversubscribed – be it inside the 19th century Pears School or marquee weddings at Foremarke Hall.

Anyone interested in what Repton Enterprises Ltd has to offer is invited to contact Mrs Jan Cobb on 01283 559322 or enterprise@repton.org.uk

Expectations Exceeded

Twenty20 cricket with its white balls, coloured clothes and music, is not everybody's idea of what the game should be, but it has certainly galvanised interest in cricket at Repton as elsewhere.

This year's campaign began at home against Nottingham HS and continued with wins against Stamford and Solihull, before reaching the quarter-final. Yet another home draw saw them up against a very powerful side from Huddersfield New



College, who were dismissed for only 86. In reply Repton struggled and at the last over required 7 to win from a bowler whose previous three overs had cost only 6 runs. However, Tom Poynton struck the only six of the game to take the team through to the semi-final!

The Finals Day, which sees both semis and the final played, was delayed by the weather until September and took place at JP Getty's magnificent private ground. Repton faced Sherborne in the semis and built a competitive score of 148-6 (Whiteley 56 off 50 balls, Poynton 33 off 31). Sherborne blasted the early overs and were 56-0 after just 5! The Repton total was passed with three overs to spare.

Master in charge of Cricket, Frank Watson said "The Finals Day was nevertheless a magnificent experience and the whole tournament exceeded expectations."



Repton Dubai: Thoughts From Abroad



'Far away, there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them and try to follow them.'

(Louisa May Alcott
American Novelist)

Sunday 9th September, was a red letter day in 450 years of Repton history as, far away from its spiritual home in Derbyshire, Repton Dubai, opened – on time! Through the doors that sunny morning came 340 wonderfully eager and enthusiastic children together with the most

talented staff it has been my privilege to work with. On that day, the seed of an idea planted over dinner three years previously, came to fruition.

Since that historic first morning, Repton Dubai has grown in every way. The school now consists of two buildings: an Early Years Centre and a Junior School. In addition, we have excellent facilities for Art, ICT, Science and Languages. The spacious corridors are now blooming with colour and life; the buzz of purposeful activity surrounds us.

The children have settled quickly into life at Repton and are thoroughly enjoying their new-found status as fledgling-Reptonians. The school day, which already comprises a mind-boggling array of extra-curricular activities together with Prep, is more rounded than any in the Middle East, and the quality of the teaching and learning is already the 'talk of town'.

As with our illustrious partner in Derbyshire, the staff are exceptional. Their commitment to make Repton Dubai world-renowned is absolute. Ties with Repton are strong, from the staff to the uniform, from the houses to Arch. Make no mistake, this is Repton and everyone here in the desert aspires to be worthy of the name.

*Mark Atkins, Head of Junior School
November 2007*



Wealth of Experiences

Michaelmas Term's Sixth Form lecture series has provided an impressive array of passionate speakers with some fascinating life experiences to share.

Among them were TV producer Dr Martha Holmes who shed light on filming for well known series such as *Wildlife on One* and *Blue Planet*.

For adventurous Reptonians, the lectures from Chris Bradley (author of guidebooks to Yemen and Libya) and mountaineer Paul Deegan (who conquered Everest eight years after surviving the worst disaster in its history when 11 climbers died) proved fascinating.

85 year old Austrian Freddie Knoller was once again welcomed back to Repton

and proved to be a most moving lecturer as he explained the horrors he personally witnessed and endured in surviving the Holocaust.

Old Reptonian Rt Hon. Nick Raynsford, MP shared his wealth of experience in politics as well as construction and town planning, while budding business professionals learned from Andrew Williamson's detailed insight into world markets and about the potential of entrepreneurship from Rachel Elnaugh, creator of Red Letter Day and star of BBC's *Dragon's Den*.

David Sneath completed the diverse spectrum of speakers by describing his distinguished military and legal career spanning over 30 years.



Beyond The Arch

It's been a busy term so far for Repton's Careers Department, with a wide variety of activities on offer. Steve Ball, Associate Director of the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, visited early in September to address the School's aspiring actors, costume designers, producers and directors. His amusing anecdotes and realistic advice provided invaluable insight into opportunities in the theatre and performing arts.

Another visitor was Sergeant Bob Bralee from the RAF Motivational Outreach Team. Participating pupils were put through their paces in a programme of physical activities and challenges demonstrating the importance of communication, teamwork, problem solving and leadership. The two mixed age group sessions proved highly entertaining and, in true Repton spirit, sharply competitive. Further "MOT" activities are anticipated for the future.

Other events this term have included Morrisby career profiling for new Lower Sixth pupils, practice university interviews with an ISCO adviser, visits from Army and RAF Schools Liaison Officers, and a stimulating presentation on communication and presentational skills by Lizzie Wright.

Hair Raiser

Teenager Tamsin Francis decided to put herself through a "hair-raising" experience in June to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research UK.

Fifteen-year-old Tamsin asked for her shoulder-length dark brown hair to be shaved off for charity at Revival Hair & Beauty salon in Burton at the end of the Summer Term, much to the trepidation of her stylist. Tamsin, however, explained:

"When I participated in the Race for Life last year, I was stunned by the number of people who had lost someone close to them due to breast cancer. I felt compelled to do something to help. I needed to find a way to attract as much attention to this hidden monster as possible."

Sponsorship from friends and relations ensured her 'close shave' raised several hundred pounds for the Breast Cancer Campaign.