

No. 155

£2



A vertical photograph of a stone building's facade. The building features several arched windows with dark frames. A balcony with a stone railing is visible at the top right. The stone has a warm, golden-brown hue.

**Devonport High for Boys
School Magazine 2006**

The Magazine team...

Luke Farley (Editor)
Sean Heveran (Sub-Editor)
Sean Harrison (General Writer)
Joe Price (General Writer)
Manuel Sroka (General Writer)

First and foremost, I would like to thank the two Sean's, Joe and Manuel. These guys have worked exceptionally hard to bring you this year's school magazine – especially as the team was smaller than usual.

I would also like to thank Jude Whitford at Pepper communications, for his tremendous amount of patience with us while we ran around like headless chickens trying to place everything together.

Thanks also to Dr Pettit, who has also demonstrated a considerable amount of patience. It is Sir who has 'kept an eye on us', making sure that we meet the deadlines we should be meeting, despite the usual last minute rush.

The magazine team sincerely hope you enjoy this year's magazine, and we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous and joyful New Year.



Luke Farley (Editor-in-chief)

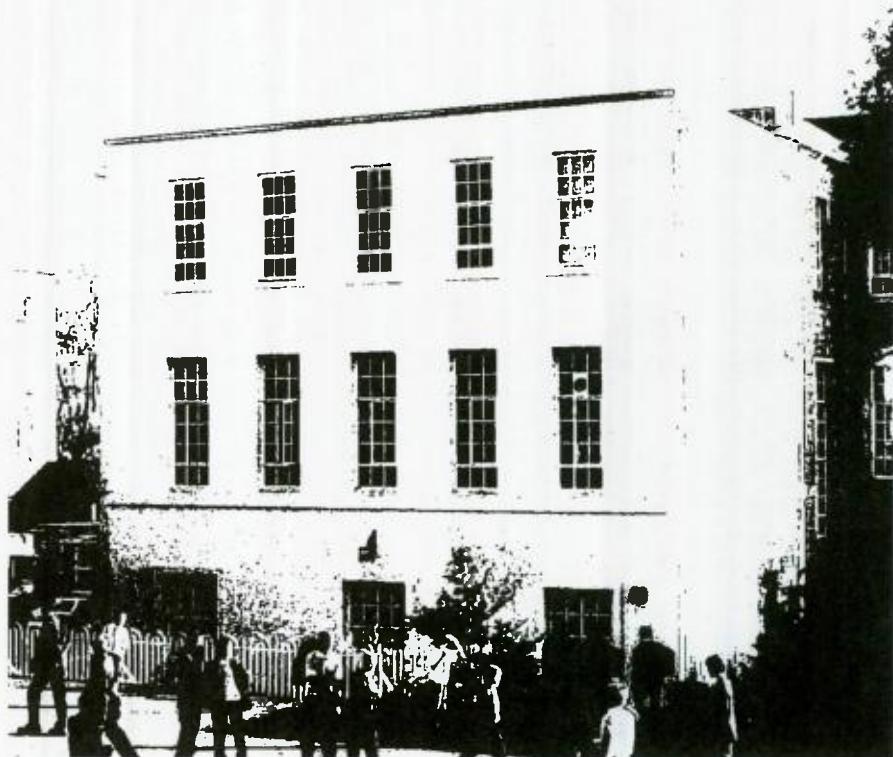
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Devonport High School for Boys



School Magazine 2006

With thanks to:
Pepper Communications ltd.
Dr. N M Pettit
Mrs S Nicholson



**Neon lights galore! A view of
the new sixth form centre**

Headmaster's Report of the year

2007: A good year for DHSB.

One highlight for me this year was the opening of our new Foulston Sixth Form Centre by Professor Sir Martin Harris (old boy) and Linda Gilroy (our local MP) which brought to an end the long, long wait that the sixth form had had to endure until their turn came to have new facilities. When the builders moved in early in the year I was optimistic and assumed that we would have our new Centre my the summer, but that was not to be. Architect Roy McCarty's innovative design, using steel, glass, wood, polycarbonate, neon and glass-reinforced plastic, all perched on 13 piles and with the new stage and 'street' bursting out through the windows to the north and south gave the JNE builders some real challenges that once overcome, gave us a Sixth Form Centre to be proud of. The other major investment in the site this year has been the £180,000 refurbishment of all the external doors and windows and a full external repaint that leaves the school looking immaculate: my thanks to the Plymouth Local Authority for the grant that made this possible, a year after they funded the renewal of all our flat roofing.

Academically the three year groups who faced National benchmark testing all did well: the 14-year-olds performance in the Key Stage 3 SATs was excellent and demonstrated that our care and attention over recent years to prevent the boys plateauing on their arrival at DHSB was working well. GCSE results were impressive, maintaining the high standards set in 2006 with 99% gaining results better than the National standard of 5 or more A* to C grades. Better still was the fact that all our sixth formers gaining at least 2 A-levels and everyone who sought a University place was successful.

I was made very aware of the growing consequence of the increasing costs for University students as we had 28 lads, the largest number in my 14 years at the school, who sought employment after A-levels. Mostly these jobs included training and so I hope that they will be able to build good careers on these foundations. Very interestingly, there is a rise in the number of leavers taking up apprenticeships, an echo of the past when DSHB leavers were prominent with local employers seeking good recruits to train. Whilst we are pleased to celebrate this success, we must ensure that all our pupils who are eligible for



(left) The Learning Resource Centre is one of many major redevelopment works that have taken place over the last few years, and this high quality facility has been well received by pupils and staff alike.

PHOTO:
Mrs Nicholson



grant support in the sixth form (around 30% get an Education Maintenance Allowance of up to £30 per week to help them stay on post-16) know that they can apply for full remission of the fees, generous bursary support from the University and a Local Authority Grant to help them stay on to Higher Education.

I was delighted that the school was judged to be a High Performing Specialist School in the summer and was invited to apply both for redesignation as an Engineering School and a new second specialism. We have chosen Languages which builds on the continuing popularity of languages in the school, our centre in Uzel, Brittany, and our increasing Engineering links across Europe. A part of our bid will be to establish a EU funded Comenius Partnership with schools in France, Germany and Spain. We will know the outcome of our two bids in mid December. Two other opportunities have emerged from the overwhelming tide of education legislation: firstly within the Extended Schools Initiative where we plan to work with the three other schools in Stoke (Stoke Damerel College and Primary School and Stuart Road Primary) to increase our community's access to our facilities, and secondly, the new Specialist Diplomas which will start in 2008 where we are working in partnership with other city schools, initially to make a contribution to the Engineering Diploma at level 3 (the A-level equivalent).

In all these initiatives I am particularly pleased that DHSB is prominent in strong partnerships in the city: it is no longer acceptable to shut the gates and do our own thing. We can demonstrate to the boys that so much more can be achieved by working WITH others. This is not to say that we do not compete as vigorously as possible in all the competitions that we have teams participate in and I am proud of our team sport success, individual sporting success and those fine results in challenges from Jaguar sponsored F1 model car racing (we have the fastest two cars in the Country!) to mock trial participation ...

My thanks to all the staff, my fellow governors, parents and friends who make this on-going story as positive as it is.

Dr N M Pettit
December 2006



Pugilism in the school...

By Sean Heveran 12F

Pugilism is not a very common sport, it's by far one of the toughest sports in the world and requires years of dedication, determinism and a little insanity.

Sean Heveran of form 12F started boxing in the spring of 2005 with the Devonport Amateur Boxing Club. He trained under the supervision of junior coaches Kevin Hay, Raymond Westell and Steve White until his seventeenth birthday when he moved up to the senior training with coaches Shane Radmore and George Stables.

Heveran is currently undertaking his A levels at DHSB and believes that the school holds a part in his success. "I find that the school environment and expectations prepared me for the sport. Belonging to a school like DHS, it is expected of you to apply yourself completely and that is what I try to do in boxing."

He made his fifth appearance in the square ring in as many weeks on the 16th of November in the New Continental hotel, where he fought Simon Matthews of Bodmin ABC in front of 250 spectators. He gained a majority decision and defeated Matthews for the second time. "I had previously fought Simon in Bodmin where I beat him in front of his home crowd; he came to Plymouth to prove a point but so was I!"

"I feel that I can only improve, with more training and experience I am sure that I will achieve much more emphatic wins and hopefully not too many losses."

The welterweight maintains a record of 4 wins and 1 loss, and insists that he will continue to prove himself in the novice championships in 2007. "In order to win the championships, I am going to need to beat better fighters than me; I am confident that I can do it as long as I listen to my coaches, work harder than the rest and remain goal focused."

ATC – The soldiers of the future?

ATC (Air Training Cadets) is an exciting extra curricular activity that has been running at Devonport and of course nationally for many years, now at the relatively new ATC hut situated at the far side of the school, near the old music block. The Devonport section is just one of a few in the city, and not only recognises local sections but keeps in contact with the many others around the country. It involves students taking part in military activities and projects, including marching, navigation and even tactical operation games. The students have to work as part of a team in a totally controlled atmosphere, and experience a much tougher regime than ordinary life, providing a valuable experience to help through the many situations they may come across in their years. It gives the students the chance to explore the military way of performing tasks, and gives them a sense of discipline in working as part of a team, a life skill that is very important as they move through their careers. As well as the students receiving great experience of the military aspect of life, it also teaches them many skills, and a lot of outings are planned for their enjoyment, the experience and furthermore to expand their skills. Flying, the use of firearms safely and experience in military vehicles are just a few of these, with many events planned within the year. One cadet said "We get to go flying and many other amazing activities I wouldn't get the chance in normal life to do...it's a real experience, and I enjoy it!" The feedback received from the students attending the project is very positive, and it is inspiring to see them parading down the streets on special occasions, armed force uniform from head to toe, and to hear of their success in the military field and their achievements. They are a pride of the school and a great asset; berets off to them!

Makeover for DHS school meals

Thursday 7th September 2006 saw the end of unhealthy lunches for school children at Devonport High School for Boys. No more burgers or hot dogs available to gorge upon before period 4, the last curry and chips had been ordered 6 weeks prior and the gentle hum of the vending machine had been silenced for good...well...almost. Due to what can only be popular demand, these un-savoury snacks are still available at break for those pupils who's desire for sugar is enough for them to put up with a 20 minute queue that often meanders the length of the refectory. Burgers and pizza slices can still be bought at break time but the numbers are modest so it is first come first serve in that respect. Despite the availability of this type of food many pupils choose instead to buy the most popular addition to the gibbons refectory, the "pasta king" stall. The pasta served at this franchise (and I speak from experience) is actually very good and the pupils have picked up on this as the queue for the "pasta king" is consistently longer than the vending machine's at break. Pasta is not the only item new to the DHSB menu as there is now an extensive array of sandwiches and rolls ranging from salmon and prawns to a more traditional BLT. Fizzy drinks are a thing of the past and have been replaced by "minute maid" orange juice and a selection of fruit smoothies. Even the deserts have been de-chocolafied and replaced by carrot and fruit cakes or the ever popular, fruit salad. The "meals of the day" have undergone a makeover too as the weekly schedule has been cleansed of unhealthy meals (as seen opposite).



Weekly Menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weal of the Day	Ham & Tuna Pasta	Melzakki	Roast Chicken	Beef Pie	Turkey Hotpot
Vegetarian Meal	Vegetable Lasagne	Spicy Noodles	Vegetable Curry	Vegetable Bolognese	Cheese, Potato and Onion Pie
Pasta	2 Choices	2 Choices	2 Choices	2 Choices	2 Choices
Pizza	Ham and Pineapple Cheese and Tomato	Pepperoni Cheese	Ham and Mushroom Sausage and Bean	Cheese and Pineapple Pepperoni	Cheese Pepperoni
Jacket Potato	Mixed Salad Colelaw	Tuna Mixed Salad	Mixed Salad Curry	Mixed Salad Colelaw	Cheese Beans
Potatoes	Sauté	Mashed	Roast†	Mashed	Garlic and Herb Mashed
Vegetables	Green Beans Swede	Sweetcorn Mixed Vegetables	Carrots Broccoli	Cauliflower Green Beans	Cabbage Carrots
Dessert	Fresh Fruit Fruit Salad Jam Sponge	Fresh Fruit Flapjack Angel Delight	Fresh Fruit Shortbread Coconut Tart	Fresh Fruit Carrot Cake Fruit Trifle	Fresh Fruit Farmhouse Cake Rice Pudding

Although these changes are not very popular with most of the pupils of Devonport High School for Boys, they are certainly for the best. DHSB is just one of many schools in the UK under the Jamie Oliver regime and we have certainly, as he put it, “started the revolution!”

Joseph Price

Snow for Christmas 2006?



It is the same every year; the first flake of snow that hits the ground and everybody is running around the school in jubilance. Buses run early and we all go home early due to the 'difficult' conditions... Who knows... we may yet be in for a white Christmas...

PHOTO: Mrs Nicholson

Edgcumbe Hall Theatre Appeal



The latest project to begin at Devonport High School for Boys is the conversion of the old Edgcumbe hall to a new theatre complex that will allow the school to have top a top class performance area. £40,000 will be needed to help raise the funds for the specialist stage equipment that will make the theatre an exceptional space for the range of performances that the school hosts, including music, drama and dance.

How to Give

There are a number of ways to donate to the Edgcumbe theatre appeal. You can:

- Download a form from the school website (www.dhsb.org) and write on how much you wish to give.
- The school would be delighted to receive single donations. Please make cheques payable to "The DHSB Trust".
- Regular payments by standing order can be made by completing the appropriate section of the form

Gift Aid

Gift Aid allows UK charities to make a 28% tax reclaim from the Inland Revenue at no cost to you, the donor. We therefore ask all of you who are taxpayers to give your details so that we can claim Gift Aid (e.g. for a £50 donation we can claim £14 to make it worth £64 to us). Donations on the JustGiving website will automatically credit the charity with the gift aid tax refund when you confirm that you are a UK taxpayer.

Recognition of your generosity

We will be grateful to receive any donation to our appeal but would like to encourage generosity as you help us achieve our significant target of £40,000.

- i. **Friends:** Everyone who makes a donation will be included in the list of "Friends of the Theatre" to recognise their support. All friends will be given priority booking for our shows for three years.
- ii. **Patrons:** at three levels:
 - Silver Patrons:** Everyone who makes a donation of £25 or more will be a "silver patron". All silver patrons will receive two tickets for the first production in the new theatre.
 - Gold Patrons:** Those who give £100 or more will be "gold patrons" and will receive two tickets for each of the first three productions.
 - Rose Patrons:** Individuals and Companies who donate £400 or more will be recognised as "Rose Patrons". Our Rose Patrons will receive tickets for a party of ten for the first three productions.

All our Patrons will be recognised on a plaque in the theatre.

Engineering; our pupils at DML



Sixth form students teamed up with Engineers from DML have set upon the task of creating prototype products for the national EES (Engineering Education Scheme) competition, a project not to be undertaken lightly. The teams will spend over 100 hours of extra work time designing, manufacturing, testing and evaluating a product to fit the unique specification provided by the Engineers, and will present it in May to an audience at a location in the South West. There are two teams at DHSB working on separate projects; one of which creating a boat guidance thruster system and another a system for the management of fine glass tubing.

The teams must first design the product according the specification given; the teams were given a tour around DML to see inside the factories, viewing how things work, how the engineers achieved certain manufacturing feats and also specific information about their specific project. The students spent a day on the site, and came back not only armed with knowledge for their project, came back with a great overview for a career in Engineering, something a few of them did not consider such seriously before. It was also a great opportunity to ask some of the employees about certain product problems that they have encountered that may be of use in the project; advice from the frontline of engineering.

The manufacturing stage will soon follow or already had began, with a three day residential course coming up at Plymouth University, where the students and the Engineers will spend the time utilising the facilities to aid manufacture, taking advantage of the many things that will be unable normally or in school. The students will also take part in lectures and talks about the project and Engineering, again providing a great insight to a future in this area, and the chance to ask for advice. Then, after product completion, testing and evaluation will follow, soon to be pursued by presentations of their products to the other teams. It will be a great experience for all of the members and hopefully great success will follow; previous years Devonport High has come out on top and produced some amazing products, including an underwater robotic system.

This EES project fits in well with the recently acquired Engineering status of the school, and also allows the students the make use of the great facilities to hand, which are now all available. New workshops, tools and machines are available, along with high-tech processes with the laser cutter and CAD/CAM systems (computer aided design/computer aided manufacture). But with all the extra hours and hard work that is required, have they bitten off more than they can chew? One Engineer said 'The guys will get back what they put in. The more effort applied, the better the end product'. But of course, only time itself will tell how these products will finish, so good luck to both teams!



Sustainable Travel to School improved after Travel Plan Award

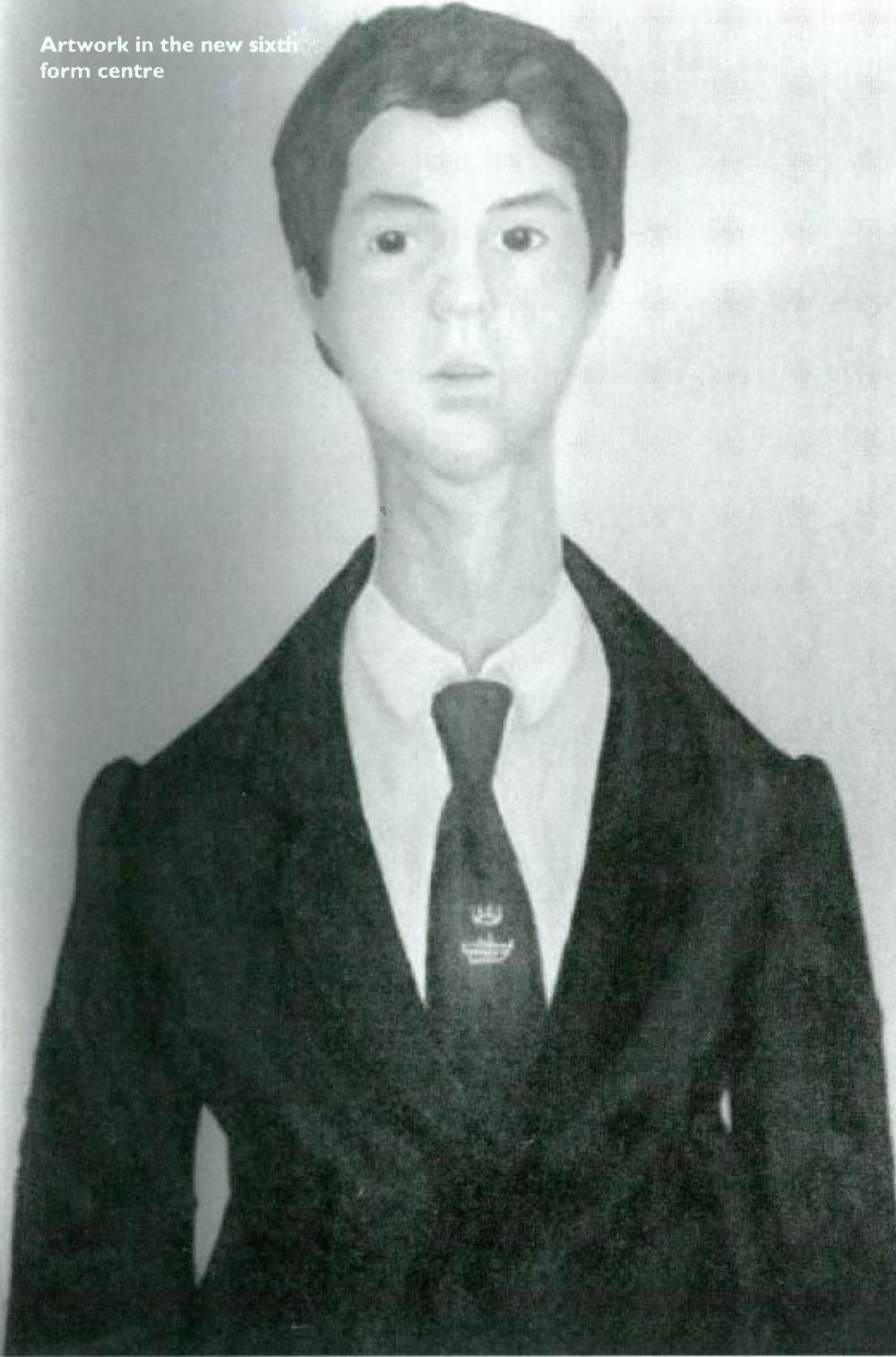
The DHSB school council, along with Mrs Anstee and parent and government supporters reached a milestone in developing a new school travel plan for the 21st century this year. The school was awarded the PASST (Plymouth Area Sustainable School Travel) Level 1 award, along with £10,565 of government money which will be used to improve and develop safer and more sustainable school travel for the school community. Mrs Bowden, Mrs Anstee, James, Jake, the DHSB School Council and everyone who contributed to the scheme should be congratulated for this outstanding success.

Coasts: Mental Students?

Imagine. You are lying on a beach in the tropics, warmth flowing down your body in waves of pleasure, birds chirping in the distance, far above your head. All your worries are gone, and you can feel the warm sand beneath your feet, and the waves gently lap against you toes. You are alone and free, and as happy as you can be, without a worry in the world...does this remind you of school on Wednesdays? Welcome to COASTS.

Pupils at Devonport High School for Boys in year 12 had the opportunity this year to apply for a free 10 week course named COASTS, run by the Plymouth College of Further Education. The course offered to make pupils more aware of their own and others mental health, and how to deal with problems that everyday situations can cause and lead to. Important skills were shown and taught, including relaxation techniques, stress relieving methods, even how to achieve the mind set ready for studying in long periods. These skills can be applied to certain situations in life and in everyday workings, and will help the boys throughout the whole of their life. Such exercises as the relaxation technique, where people can take themselves off to a different place, a different world, a different situation can help people through times of high stress and through hard times. Confrontation can be avoided, and people can be generally happier, and as one participant stated 'I enjoy life more now...situations that would normally be tense and stressful can be avoided. I learnt a lot from the course, and I enjoyed it!' Personally, I would recommend the course to everyone, and everyone can benefit from it, young or old, sceptic or not (the world may have been a happier place!). Hopefully, there should be another chance to take the course at the beginning of the New Year, with students already in a reservation list, so some more happier, stress free students to come!

**Artwork in the new sixth
form centre**



An insight into sixth form life at Devonport High for Boys...

After joining the DHS sixth form at the beginning of this school year, I immediately noticed how different the sixth year was going to be than the previous five.

I was first drawn to the sixth form from my first year at the school. I saw how respected the sixth formers were and I noticed how free they were in their learning and day to day life. I am now a sixth former and I find the new environment very welcoming and much more mature.

For a typical day at DHS I get to school and proceed to registration, and then to my first and second lessons. Since we only have four lessons which we have chosen ourselves, it feels a lot easier and less stressful to get through lessons. At break I will typically head to the new sixth form centre which I find very useful, here I will play pool, chat with friends, revise or I will go to the canteen and abuse my right to jump the queue. (This annoys my friends in the lower years) Or I may even decide to go to the local bakery; which is a relief from eating the school canteen and much more inexpensive. (This also annoys my friends in the lower school as they cannot leave the school premises)

Year 12 is also better than years 7-11 in the sense that there is much more on offer to us. We have already had the chance to undertake the Coast's mental health course, an undergraduate shadowing program, various sporting opportunities and many more. There has also been the opportunity to become a prefect. This I found particularly appealing as I have always wanted to be a prefect. I applied at the beginning of term and have so far found the responsibility and power of being a vice prefect quite enjoyable.

If I had chosen to go to the PCFE or another school to do my A-levels I'm sure that I would have missed out on the experience of a 6th form, and still having the responsibility of being a role model and mentor to some members of the lower school. I would recommend the DHS 6th form to anyone who wishes to carry on with A-levels in a highly respected institution which is geared to work with intelligent people. It's hard work but very rewarding.



(left) There are a wide range of activities that take place out of school for the sixth form to enjoy. A recent visit to the Uzel centre was made by Miss Wilkinson's media studies group – a trip well worth the money, with some impressive work being produced. Joe Price (12A) takes charge of a camera in Uzel whilst filming for a music video.

A view of the new sixth form centre...

By Sean Heveran

It has taken the best part of two years to finish, and it has cost £400,000 to build, but the new Foulston sixth form centre is finally open and the students have settled into their new common room.

The area has transformed from an open, largely wasted space, into a two storey work area, with four new computers, wireless internet access, a very innovative stage, a fully functioning kitchen and even a pool table.

The main impression of the students who are using it is that it is a good investment for the school; it provides the sixth form students with a place to work quietly, play pool, or just sit, talk and play cards. "I think that the centre is a good thing for us, it's a lot better than the old hall, and we can do so much more in here than before". "I'm glad that we have finally got a purpose built place to just relax in, I guess it shows we're important to the school, and it's useful for getting to know everyone better. But I do think we should have had more of a say in the aesthetics as its a bit bare at the moment - and not enough comfy chairs!". There are however, a minority of people who feel that it is not worth the large sum of money that was paid for it. "To be honest, I'm not impressed, it looks like it was bought flat-pack from Ikea".

As a student, I personally feel that the 6th form centre is perhaps a little over ambitious, with the balcony which overlooks a classroom and car park, neither of which are picturesque. The neon lighting, which Dr Pettit claims will look great at night, will rarely be seen in its full effect. There are also two little spaces between the kitchen and stairs which I cannot think of a use for. "Blatantly they are there because the builders wrongly measured the distance between the wall and the stairs, so they just built them to fill space".

To maximise the flexibility for the large sixth form, the internal walls can be folded away to give two larger spaces, both with good views of the stage. Intriguingly, the whole structure does not directly contact the floor or ceiling of the old hall. The plastic that allows light through to effectively light the whole building without having the annoyingly bright bits which can hurt your eyes.

The use of pre-stressed wood, reinforced glass, plastic and steel in the construction give the centre a modern, welcoming feel, which ties in with the design of the new school library and school canteen. The architect's vision was to design a cross between a school and a university junior common room, with a "street" to display artwork and notices. I believe that he was successful in this as the area appears and feels mature and I feel that it will provide a bridge between 6th form and university environments, making the transition between the two more easy.

Photographs of the new sixth form centre can be found throughout this magazine.

**Joseph Price, 12A
working hard on a
recent school visit
to France.**

**Guess who's
filming again...**

A German at DHSB

By Manuel Sroka

My name is Manuel Sroka and I do something that many Germans of my age dream of, but most cannot do, for good marks and the fact that a lot of money is required. I am staying in England for 3 months. I live here with a host family and go to school.

The first thing I saw of this beautiful country was London Heathrow, where I got the first problem. I couldn't understand what the shopkeeper was telling me. Well trained as I was in German English and Scottish it took some time for me to get used to the "proper English" and to really get every sentence, but thanks to my school comrades teaching me I finally managed it. Still, it is hard to remember everything, for example not to use swearwords when talking to a teacher but not missing them out in everyday language. Though German swearing exists it has not got the importance factor of the English.

When I arrived in Plymouth, after a five hour bus ride in a seat certainly not designed for people of more than six foot, I was welcomed by my host family and a positive surprise was awaiting me.

Everyone in Germany fears English food - for no reason that I could tell, after my first Sunday roast! Even so there are always little problems and differences between the countries. The greater part however is the same as we carry the same European heritage. My first two days were incredibly boring; because my host family were out all day I was probably the only student in Plymouth looking forward to going to school!

My first day was a full success. Though I was the only one arriving in school uniform and knew no one I was treated nicely by my fellow students and life soon got more interesting.

And I was lucky, my teachers here really cared for me, I think it is the first time for a long time that I was asked by my tutor if I would get along with everything here nearly every day, but it gives me a positive impression.

At, Devonport High School for Boys, I was first a little afraid of wearing a suit to school and studying only with boys, but in the end I must say one could hardly wish a better school to go to.

Whilst my host family cared well for me, they did not really think of family activities, so school remained important to me. I joined the school magazine, the swing band and a Young Enterprise group. I discovered my ability to gain good results in French (though I only learnt it for two years) and History, but also the fact that Music and Drama are taught on a really high level and that I am quite lucky not to have to do the exams. I even profited a few weeks from the new sixth form centre. And last but not least and probably most important of all I made friends.

I really would like to stay longer, but the school systems make it nearly impossible without doing the year twice. Still I have gained experience I will need and use in the future

So I leave sadly, hope I could give a better picture of my homeland than the one unfortunately still existing in lots of English heads. I know I will remember my stay here and come back. Definitely.

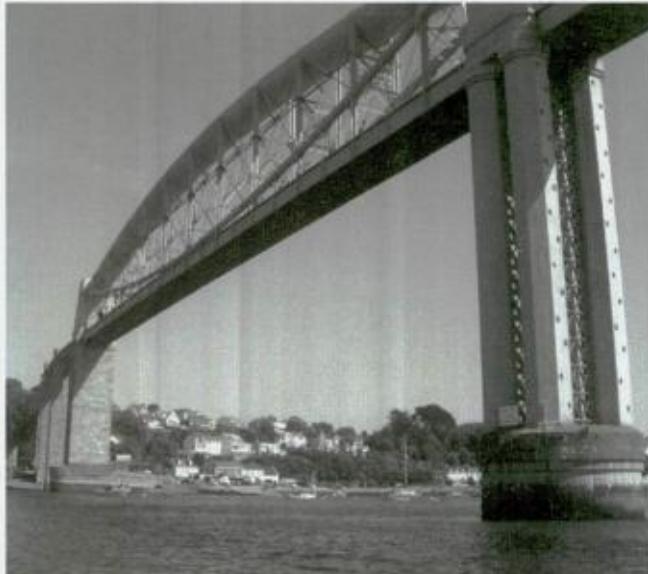
The battle rages on; Cornwall vs. Devon

By Luke Farley

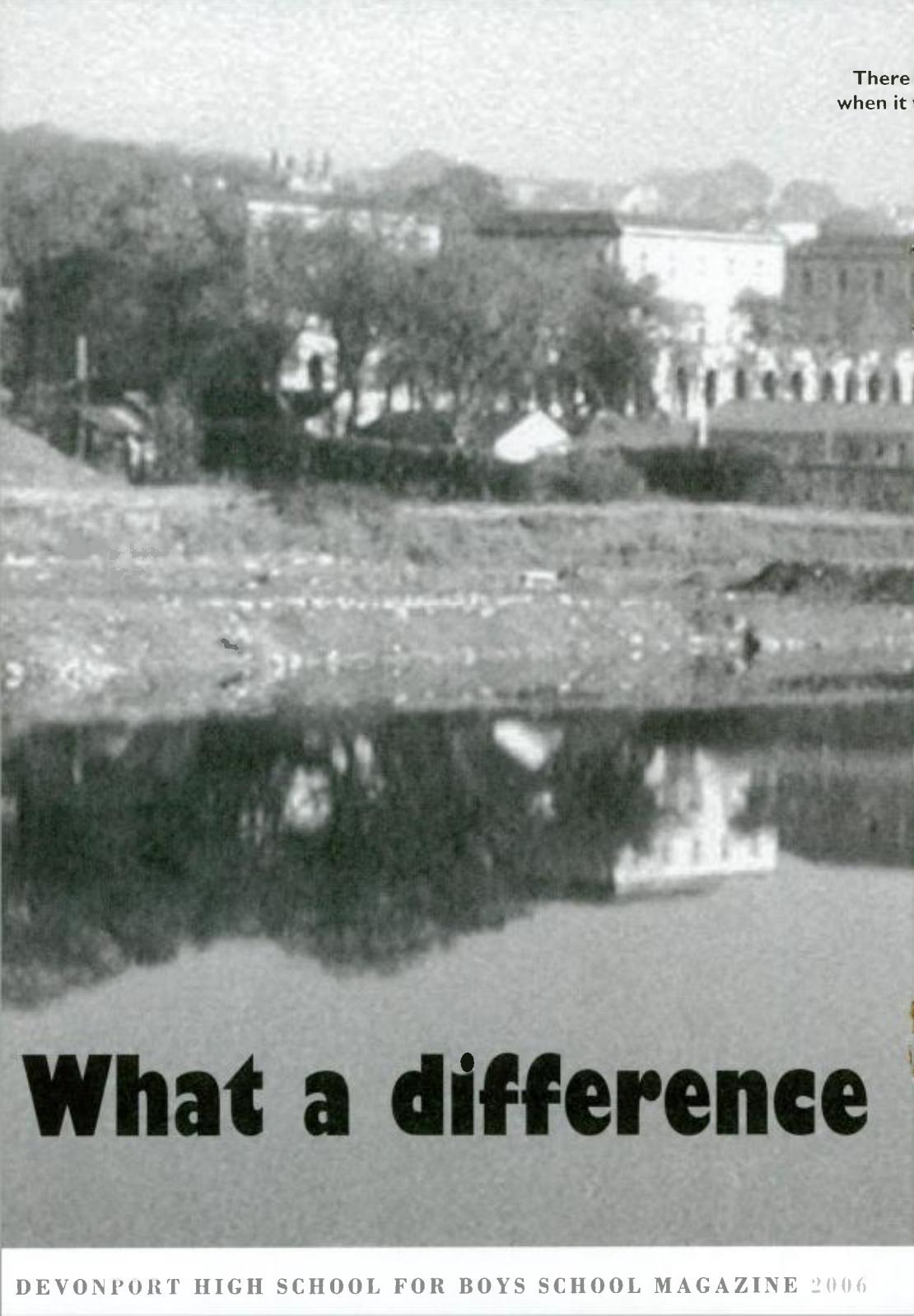
A substantial number of the pupils at DHS are actually from Cornwall. It is tradition for the people of Devon and Cornwall to argue over who is better. The school has however, a strong link with the Duchy. In the Second World War, DHS had 'a place of exile' in Penzance and our headmaster today commutes from the more sophisticated side of the Tamar. I make no hesitation in suggesting that Cornwall is most probably the best county in Great Britain. Think of our inventions; we have the Cornish pasty to our name, as well as the first ever Steam Locomotive (Richard Trevithick) and the first ever live television pictures from America were received at Goonhilly, West Cornwall. It is of mere misfortune that we are not totally isolated from the rest of the country. Had the Tamar continued north for another 200 yards, Cornwall would now be classified as an island.

There is another long-standing debate that continues to rage between the two counties. Devonians and particularly Plymothians will tell you that while it is free to travel from Plymouth to Cornwall on the Torpoint Ferry and Tamar Bridge, the Cornish will then rudely come behind the unsuspecting traveller and charge him to get out again. On the other hand, the Cornish will tell you that while they let you travel for free into their ancient and majestic land, steeped in a rich, diverse history, the rather arrogant people from Devon will actually force you to pay money to access their county – which incidentally has nothing more than a selection of cow fields, a couple of cities and a few wild boar that still seem to be roaming Exmoor.

I'm afraid that I will have to agree with the latter argument; if you think about it, the collection booths for the toll on the bridge are on the Devon side of the water, and the ferrymen on the Torpoint Ferry do not start collecting the fares until the ferry has left Cornwall. Devon also has such things as motorways I tell you. Not a single one to be found on Saint Piran's great land.



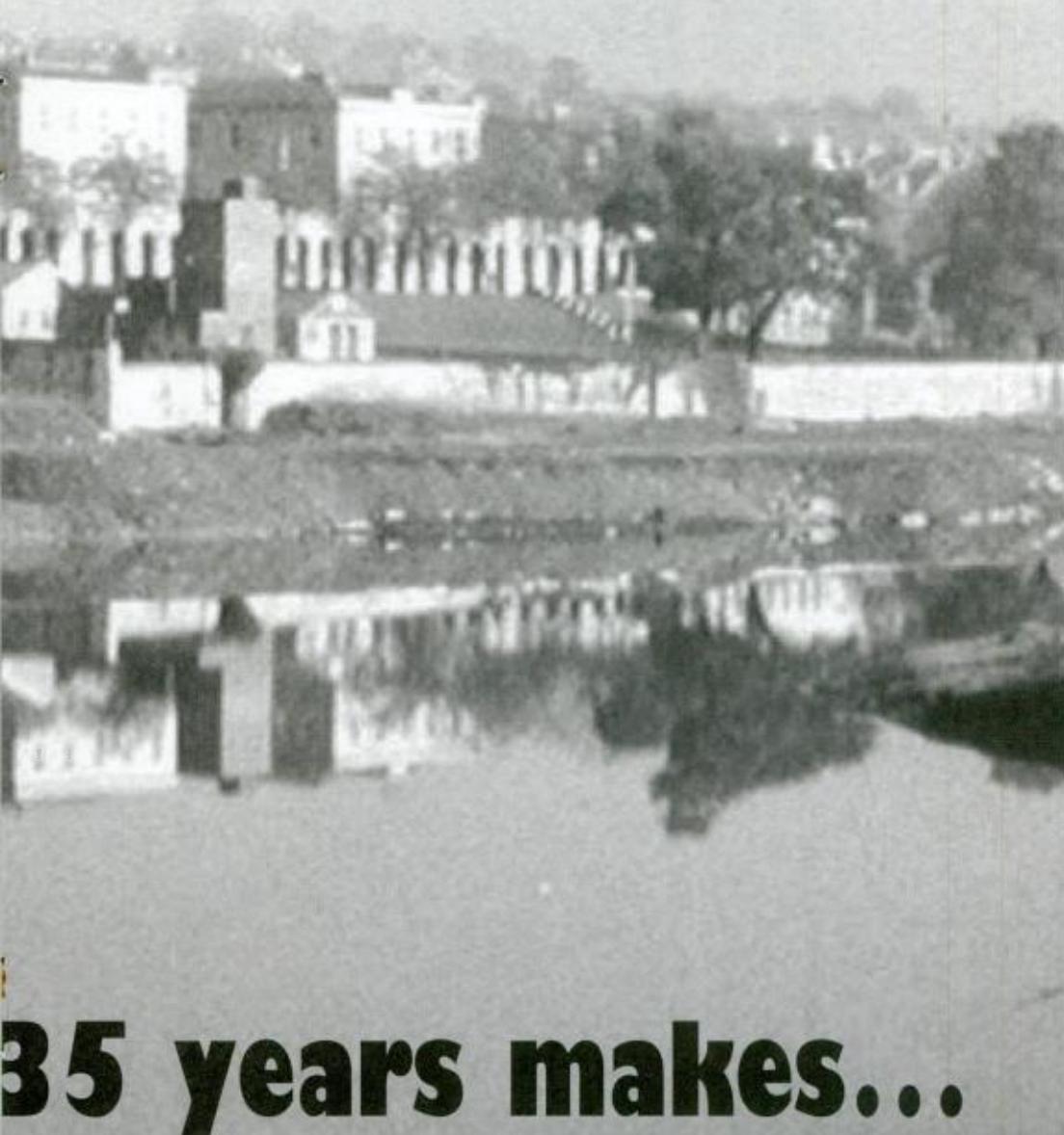
Cornwall 1 – Devon 0



There
when it

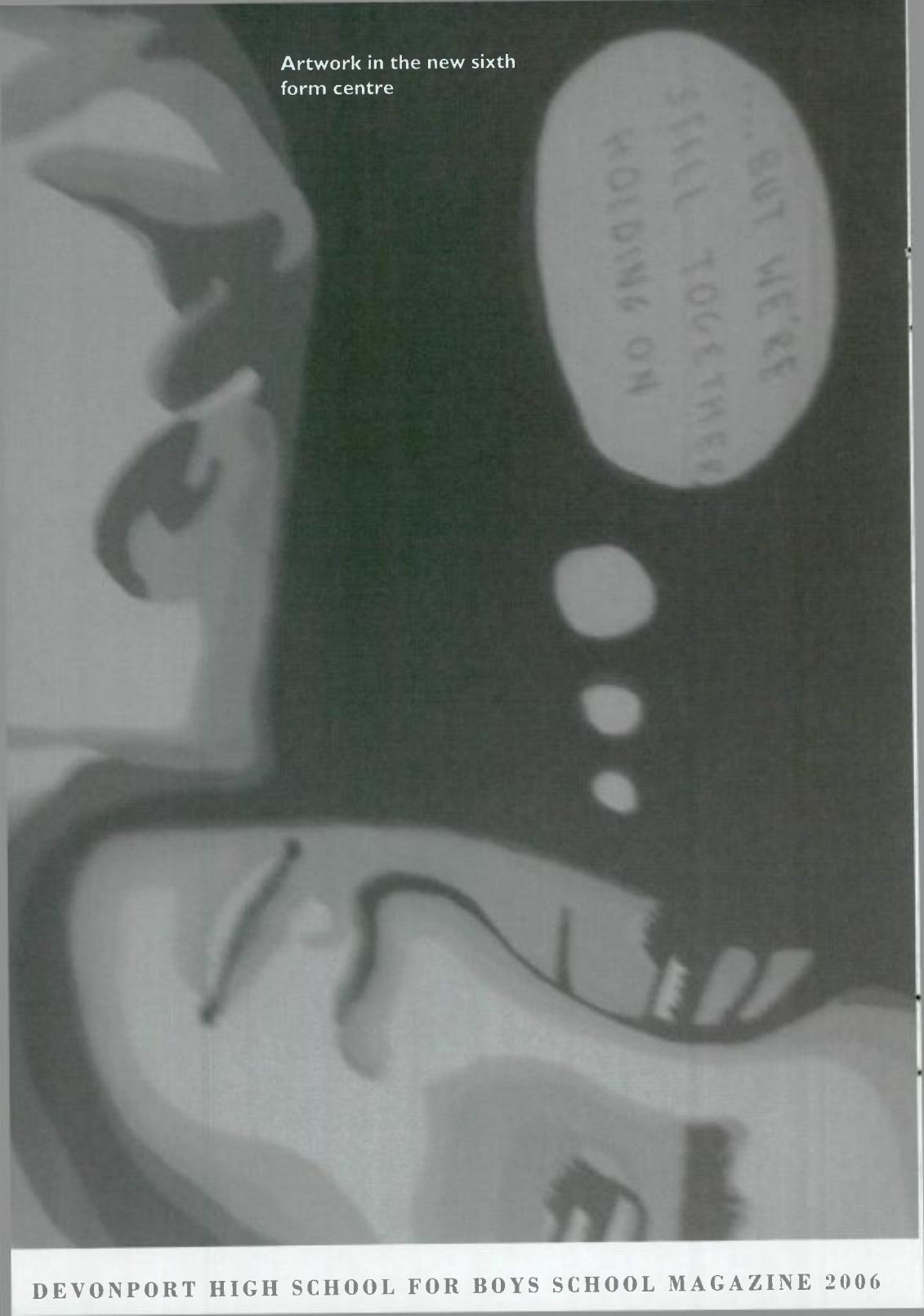
What a difference

will be no pupils, and only a handful of teachers who remember Devonport High for Boys was like this. When this image was taken, around thirty five years ago, Stonehouse Creek had not been filled in. What used to be the old school canteen can also be seen.



35 years makes...

Artwork in the new sixth
form centre



...BUT WE'RE
STILL TOGETHER
HOLDING ON

Aerial view of the
school, taken back in 1987.



GCSE and A-Level results impress

2006 once again saw 99% of all candidates gain five or more A*-C grade GCSEs. 53% gained four or more top grades (A* and A) or better, with 23% gaining four or more A* grades. The top students at GCSE level in 2006 were:

Shaun Evans	10a*	1a
Tom Williams	10a*	
Fred Andrews	9a*	1a
Aaron Barker	8a*	2a
Jamie Edmonds	8a*	2a
James Syrett	8a*	2a
James Eades	7a*	3a
James Henry	7a*	3a
David Pirie	7a*	3a
Henry Taylor	7a*	3a
Stuart West	7a*	3a
Patrick Murray	7a*	2a
Stuart Ramsay	7a*	2a
Alex Marson	7a*	2a
		1b
		1b
		1c

At A-Level, all the Year 13 students passed two or more subjects and are qualified for higher education. 92% of students passed four or more subjects (grades A-E), and 17% gained three or more A grades. Our top eleven student (all of whom got four or more A grades) were:

Giles Smith	6a		Clare College, Cambridge	Architecture
Tao Jiang	5a	1b	Christ's College, Cambridge	Maths with Computing
Neal Kennedy	5a		Peterhouse, Cambridge	Medicine
Ralph Malein	4a	1b	Balliol College, Oxford	Physics & Philosophy
Jonathan Mundy	4a	1b	Merton College, Oxford	M.History & English
Stephen Knight	4a		Leicester University	Medicine
Younis Mahadik	4a		Gap Year	
Jack Palmer	4a		University College, London	English
Edward Taylor	4a		King's College, London	Law
Ross Parker	4a		Swansea University	Civil Engineering
Alan Riddell	4a		Exeter University	Economics

A big well done to all those students – the results are a reward for the hard work they put in during the previous two years.

An update by the Old Boys association

President	The Headmaster, Dr Nic Pettit
Chairman	Michael Bennett
Treasurer	Tom Orchard
Membership & Social Secretary	Peter Fielding
Minute Secretary	Alan Porter

Résumé of the Year

Once again a disappointing number of Old Boys attended the AGM for 2006 in the School Refectory. David Cole, having served for five years as chairman, decided to pass this year. We thank him for his very industrious attentions behind the scenes, and hope that we will see him from time to time at any social event which we might run. Our new chairman is Michael Bennett, who has been in the chair before. We hope he has a happy and enjoyable sojourn in his Office.

Social Events

The proposed reunion to commensurate the 110th anniversary of the founding of the school in 1806 was very poorly supported. Eventually it did take place at a restaurant on the outskirts of Plymouth, and was attended by twenty old boys and their partners. We thank Peter Fielding and David Cole for their work in arranging the event. A good evening was had by all!

It is the ambition of your committee to organise an annual dinner which we will be advertising well in advance. Please try to attend.

Membership

Mrs Sharon Davidson has now taken over as teacher in charge of the Sixth Form. She is a very enthusiastic supporter of the old boys and is a much valued co-opted member of our committee. With her help we hope to increase paid up membership from the sixth form leavers.

DHSOB RFC

The club now operates from the Stonehouse Social Club, a newly built social facility built on Stonehouse Creek behind the school. This facility with its bars etc. has enabled the club to expand. It now runs a junior section as well as three teams. The first team is holding its own in the Devon I League. It is regretted that there is a lack of actual DHSOBs in the club. We hope that with Mrs Davidson's encouragement, rugby players leaving school will go to the OBs club rather than join new rival local clubs.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship of speech day prizes have continued as has sponsorship to the OB RFC.

We have donated £1,000 to the proposed new theatre for the school; building due to commence in 2007.

Obituary

David John Angle 1933 – 2006

David was born in Plymouth and despite the blitz and evacuation he passed the 11+ and first attended the Emergency High School at Sutton Road and then the present School from 1945 – 1950. He enjoyed Maths and Geography and went on an organised cycling trip to France.

He went to St Luke's Teacher Training College, Exeter from 1951 – 1953 where he became involved in the canoeing club. He taught in secondary schools in Hackney Wick, Winchester, and Alderney. He was Headteacher in Alberta and Saskatchewan. David was married to Margaret and they had three children, Stuart, Dawn and Fleur. Although David had been partially sighted for many years he led a very active life including treasurer of the Plymouth VIP and secretary and magazine editor of the St Luke's Club. He had a devastating stroke in 2003 and was cared for in a nursing home until his death in August.

Year 10 engineering conference



In the year of the 200th birthday of what could be considered as the most famous engineer of all time, Devonport High for Boys played host to a year ten engineering conference in November. Among the schools that visited DHSB were St Boniface, Lipson Community College, Plymouth High School for Girls and Devonport High for Girls.

Representatives of Plymouth university, Wrigley's, DML and the army gave presentations regarding the opportunities in engineering that they had to offer.

Engineering companies, including Rolls Royce sent staff to the school to offer advice about careers in engineering.

Mrs A Reeve, director of engineering at DHSB, said: "The evaluation forms showed many students had increased their knowledge and understanding of engineering and want to know more about career opportunities. There was a lot of interaction from pupils and they really enjoyed the activities. They listened attentively in the lectures and were very enthusiastic in asking questions".

After the talks, the second half of the morning allowed students to investigate mock-ups of submarines, courtesy of DML, vacuum-forming with help from staff at Plymouth College of Further Education, along with problem-solving with the Tamar Valley Business Partnership.

More than 150 people attended the event, which has been deemed a tremendous success.

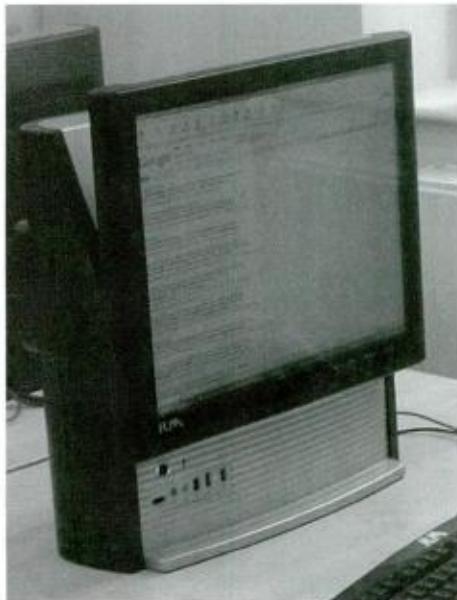


**Tamar Valley
Business
Partnership**

**Artwork in the new sixth
form centre**



Appeal for Ink Cartridges Steps up a Gear



A couple of years ago, we started a scheme in DHS which recycled all your old mobile phones and ink cartridges. In return, we received money which was invested in equipment for the school. Although the recycling has gone out of the limelight at the school in the last couple of years, the team have been working harder than ever, building up our total funds. The next recipient of the funding will be the Edgcumbe Theatre appeal, who will receive £500.00 in the next couple of months. We would really like to repeat this before the end of this school year. Not only are we helping the environment, but we are also helping the school by securing extra cash for this innovative project. For more information, log on to the recycling company's website, at

www.recyclool.org

Luke Farley 12A

Computer Room access at lunchtime

Computers are available for use at break and lunchtime for use by all year groups to help with schoolwork.

Room	Year Group	Opening Time	Booking Procedure
A22 (Mrs Hayman's room)	Year 8 & 9	1.00pm*	First come first served
A25 (Mrs Reeve's room)	Years 11 – 13	1.00pm*	First come first served
C23	Year 7	12.40pm	First come first served
Library	Years 7 – 11	12.35pm	Book prior to use.

*Not Friday Week B.

Use of the school computer system is subject to the school network policy.

2006 sport update

By Mr. Orkney

Under 12 Cricket

This has been an enjoyable term of cricket for year 7. Training has taken place each Thursday with a good number of pupils attending. So far this year we have played five 11 a side games winning three. The school has also taken part in an 8 a side tournament winning two of the three games played. Well done to the many pupils who have represented the school so far.

Under 13 Cricket

A successful season to date with convincing victories over Hele's and Okehampton in the Devon Cup. The team have also reached the final of the Plymouth and District Central Venue tournament – a competition they won last year.

Under 14 Cricket

The under 14s enjoyed a successful season so far winning the Plymouth Schools' Central Venue competition, and reaching the semi-finals of the Devon Cup. Individual successes include Alex Carr representing Devon Schools. The school has also been able to field a B team fixture this season.

Under 15 Cricket

The best year I can remember in the school's history. Devon County Champions beating Blundells and Torquay BGS on way to victory. Represented Devon at Regional Finals losing to Millfield. Plymouth Schools 8 a side cricket champions. Special mention must be given to Jack Dent for his help as captain in organising the team. Tom cross Devon County U15s.

Sports Day

The 2006 sports day, held at the Brickfields Arena on 4 July, proved to be a tremendous success. Again, Bradley's Estate Agents sponsored the event and provided the winners' medals. The guest of honour this year was Danny Thomas, captain of Plymouth Albion RFC. The presentation ceremony was enhanced by the appearance of James Currie who represented England Schools U16 group this season and presented the school with one of his England shirts.

Athletics

The school has attended the various athletic events which have taken place at Brickfields this season. Performances of merit include the year 9 team finishing second in West Devon and the 12 boys who went on to represent Plymouth in the Devon Championships. The school produced three Devon Champions this year including Oliver Frost (200m), Ben Anderson (800m), both from year 9, and David Hollow of year 10 (javelin). Four pupils also went on to represent Devon in the South West of England Championships. We were unable to take part in the year 7 championships as the event this year took place in Enrichment week. Well done to all those boys who represented the school in athletics and who went to training at Brickfields each Wednesday.





Artwork in the new sixth form centre

Ladies and Gentlemen: Anthony James

Sports at Devonport High are somewhat limited to the typical school games, such as football and rugby. However that does not stop individuals from pursuing interests in other sports.

Anthony James is currently in his first year of sixth form, and he is also ranked number 3 in the world for swimming at his age.

Winning contests has become a common thing with Anthony, his most recent achievement was when he competed in the Western Championships and the UK school games a few weeks ago where he set a new British record in the 50m butterfly, finishing in 25.27 seconds.

Since Anthony was seven, he has trained hard, devoting time, money, and a lifestyle to swimming. He won his first national title in 2004 when he broke his first national record. Since then his ambition has grown with his confidence.

When asked where he wants to be in years to come, his answer was simple... the 2012 Olympics. "I would love the opportunity to represent my country in front of a home crowd, it's a possibility for me and I would be proud to compete..." He wakes at 4.30am to make his way to Plymouth College for a training session of weights and an hour swim, when he is finished there he goes to school, and from school he goes home...only to go back to Plymouth College for a two hour swim. Managing his time was always going to be a problem, but he attributes his success in both school and in the pool to the support of his family and friends. "The school has been very supportive and encouraging, especially the sports staff, Mrs Davidson and Dr. Pettit. My friends Matt Cross and Robbie have helped me keep the balance between school, training and fun, since we swim together we offer each other support and I probably wouldn't be here without that."

Slovakian mission for ATC cadets

The Devonport High based 197 squadron air training corps will be flying to Slovakia next year if they can raise the £10,000 needed to fund the mission. The squadron are appealing for corporate sponsorship, as well as other donations. 13 youngsters would like to go to the country in July 2007 so they can install new floors, plumbing,, repair walls, rewire and brighten up the 'Hviezicka centre', which provides support to abused women and children. Cadets of 197 squadron have been picked for the project, and have now been given the massive task of raising £10,000.

The Hviezicka Centre was founded in 2002 by Sidonia Sibikova who was forced to give away her children after health issues. She decided that Slovakia needed somewhere for vulnerable women and children could go and be cared for without having to separate. The centre is set up in a remote village so that the women cannot be traced by ex-partners. Already, it has cared for 130 women and over 300 children.

£10 will buy white paint for a room, with £20 buying two square metres of laminate flooring.

The 197 squadron, which is a registered charity, meets every Friday in the grounds of the school. Through the government's gift aid scheme, the group can claim an extra 28p for every £1 donated.

For further information, telephone civilian instructor Lucy Jones on 07706 464356.

School gains Artsman award

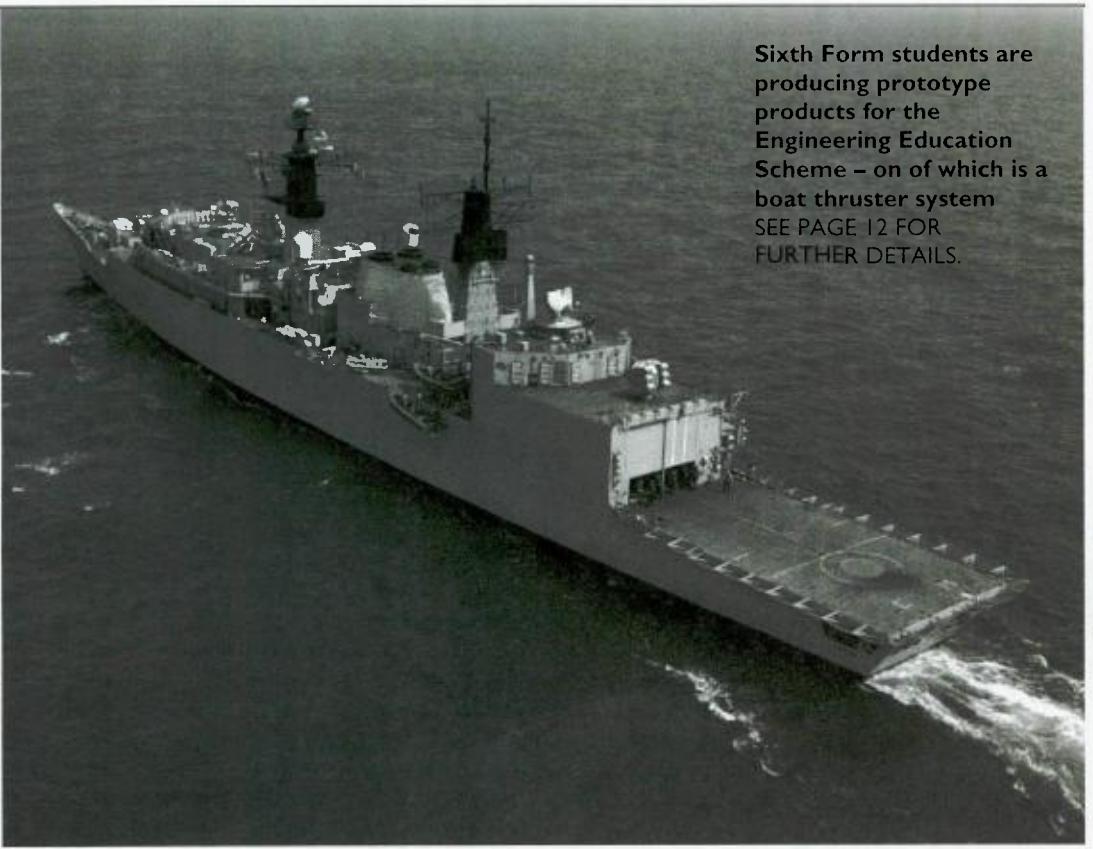


The departments of Art, Music, Drama and Physical Education worked hard this year to complete the lengthy Artsmark application.

In May we were notified that we had successfully been awarded Artsmark for our very good Arts provision. The decision is based on high curricular and extra curricular standards.

On Wednesday 5 July two outstanding students, Jack Sterne and Andrew Morris, and Ms Eldershaw, who instigated and led the project, attended the awards ceremony at the Eden Project. The boys received the certificate from Children's Laureate Jacqueline Wilson (author of the *Tracey Beaker* novels).

On Monday 10 July they attended the Lord Mayor's reception in recognition of this award and there was an opportunity to display some of the final art work produced by our students this year.



Sixth Form students are producing prototype products for the Engineering Education Scheme – one of which is a boat thruster system SEE PAGE 12 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



An example of the large amounts of steelwork that has gone into the new sixth form centre. There are two staircases like this.



The new sixth form centre

What a difference a year makes!





Artwork in the new sixth form centre

Young Enterprise update

This year, like many others, pupils from DHSB and DHSG were invited to join together and form a young enterprise company. These companies are run by the students to produce profit, and experience, for the students, by designing, manufacturing and selling a product. I was the operations director for "fruition enterprises", a company comprised of 20 willing students that meet once a week at the girls school and, like the other 12 or so companies involved, have recently took charge of a stall in the Christmas fair to sell our stock. £290.95 was raised by the team on the one day by selling candles, photo frames, bags and pictures with our very own Santa Claus. All of the products were, of course, home made (except for Santa, who was courageously played by James Eades) and, considering we spent an estimate of £70-80 manufacturing them, sold incredibly well. Not all of the profit goes to the company members however, as, to raise money for the cause, we had to sell shares, costing 50p each, which entitle the holder to a percentage of the gain depending on the number of shares purchased. This money alone, however, was not seen as enough by our ambitious Managing Director, Kim Plummer, who pushed us to raise yet more from collecting sponsors. HSBC gave us a £60 overdraft on our "fruition" bank account but a further £200 was raised from a donation by the New Continental Hotel. This extra money allowed us to indulge ourselves in luxuries such as matching T-shirts with "fruition enterprises" written across the front and New Continental Hotel on the sleeve.

After the success of our company in the Christmas fair Kim Plummer (MD) was asked to write a summery of her experiences so far as managing director and on the overall experience of being in a "young enterprise" company...

"The main problem that I have faced as MD so far has been chairing the meetings; the group is both large – having 20 members – and enthusiastic, so discussing business matters often generates a level of noise that is hard to talk over. I find myself having to shout to keep order and am even considering using a gavel in the meetings! It has been difficult to lead the company democratically when decision making has been hindered by this disruptiveness. However, experience has given me the skills to co-ordinate and control the group effectively, and our understanding of the formal atmosphere of board meetings has been improved by our opportunity to use the facilities at Home Park. Our most recent meeting was a success, with people publicly – as opposed to privately – voicing their views. We have not only overcome this problem, but we have learnt a precious lesson about businesses and board meetings."

This write up was then used as a speech during the meeting at Seymour House, where all of the Y/E companies got together and discussed their successes, ideas and experiences so far. Needless to say it was a very positive afternoon.

Joe Price



Young Enterprise

Learning by Doing



Investment, Investment, Investment.
Two views of the sixth form centre.





The highlight of 2006 was the official opening of the new quarter of a million pounds sixth form centre, in November.