

## Newsletter - Week ending 25 April 2008



**Stirred & Shaken:** Year 12 AS Theatre Studies students performed two plays with a cutting edge this week before a stunned, absorbed and delighted audience. *'Attempts on Her life'* by Martin Crimp took the audience on a post modern journey exploring the "basic ingredients" of social terrorism and political manipulation. This sounds like tough stuff, and it was, but it was performed in a wonderful variety of styles including song, dance and verbal dexterity. *'Princess Ivona'* by Witold Gombrowicz told the absurd but dark story of a Prince who inexplicably becomes engaged to a girl who is seen as "the universal irritant". Her presence at court infuriates the Royal Family, impelling them into a bizarre sequence of machinations culminating in her death. As the astonished audience watched, the Queen served pike (in a cream sauce) and Ivona 'choked on a bone'.

**Win/Win:** The Friends' Quiz Night on Friday raised more than £1000, with well over 100 participants, including teams of Old Girls, parents, teaching and office staff. The pedagogic erudition of the Senior School staff team was just sufficient to secure a victory by a single point. Quizmaster Richard Lyddon pointed out the value for parents of such scholarly minds at the Royal High School. The Friends would like to thank everyone who took part, especially to those who helped with the cooking, cleaning, setting up, taking down and question-setting.

**Anyone For Tennis?** The Lansdown Club (tennis, squash & croquet) are holding an open day for new members on Saturday 26 April. For more information, telephone 01225 425763. If you need a racquet, our uniform shop has a good supply of quality used ones, from £4 upwards.

**Rock On:** Our home grown talent will be joined by some of their teachers next Wednesday in a feast of contemporary music featuring rock, jazz, blues, soul and funk funk. The £2 ticket price (on the door) includes free light refreshments to accompany a great night's entertainment. Moshing is optional, but no crowd surfing please. The fun starts at 7.30 p.m. In the Memorial Hall.

**Race For The White House:** Whatever you may have heard about the U.S. election primaries, voters at The Royal High School have delivered their own verdict on who they think most fit to be the next leader of the world's most powerful country. In Monday's assembly five presidential hopefuls from Year 10 gave their election addresses to try to rally voters to their cause. All the candidates showed a very sound grasp of the issues facing the nation and spoke with eloquence and passion. The surprising winner turned out to be Mike Huckabee (aka *Anna-Fleur Rawlinson*) whose appeal to traditional family values struck a chord with the electorate.



**Getting There:** One of our parents who lives in North Wraxall is interested in arranging lift shares for students to and from school. She has room for up to three more. If you live in the area (Marshfield, Ford, West Kington, or Cold Ashton), why not save some time, money and the planet? Contact Mrs Vicky Osborne at [osborne@delomosne.co.uk](mailto:osborne@delomosne.co.uk) if interested.

Those of you who are affected by the closure of the A36 may be unaware that the B3108 from Bradford-on-Avon/Winsley Hill has now re-opened (from 7am - 7pm for light vehicles) along the A36 towards Claverton/Bathampton and Bath, and you can also travel up and down Brassknocker Hill.

## Calendar

<b>Mon 28 April</b>	09.00 - 13.00	Higher Education Fair at University of Bath for Year 12 students	
	16.00 - 18.15	1st, 2nd & 3rd IV Tennis v Prior Park College	away
<b>Tue 29</b>	16.00 - 17.15	Y8/10 Nestle Tennis v Clifton High School	home
<b>Wed 30</b>	16.00 - 17.30	1st, 2nd & U15 IV Tennis v King Edward's School	home
	17.00	French Exchange meeting for Y8/9 students and parents	Hudson Centre
	19.30	Rock Bands Gig Night	Memorial Hall
<b>Thu 1 May</b>	p.m.	Junior Maths challenge for Years 7/8	
<b>Fri 2 May</b>	16.00	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition departs (return Monday)	

**Don't Put Your Daughter On The Stage:** Our Careers Department has welcomed a number of former students back to school over the last fortnight, to give some interesting and well attended careers talks. Actress Annie Hemingway (see *last week's newsletter*) is currently appearing at the Theatre Royal. She brought along her co-star Matthew Burgess to give the students a fascinating insight to the highs (and some of the lows) of working in the theatre.

Also returning to the *alma mater* was a group of students who left us in 2003. They came to talk on the theme '*What you should know before starting university*.' They are all now in the early stages of their very different career paths, which include aeronautical engineering, chiropractic, website design and journalism. Their former teachers were also pleased to welcome them back and see how their former proteges were getting on.

**You're Hired:** Our prize winning Young Enterprise company, Treehuggers and Cake Lovers, went to the Chairman's Business Awards at the Guildhall on Tuesday, to receive their Business Award from Councillor Ian Dewey, the Chairman of Bath & North East Somerset Council. Each member of the company received a certificate and a book token for their enterprising success with their eco-friendly bags.



**Send In The Clowns:** You will be receiving a letter from the Friends of the Royal High School Committee about a special event to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the school. This is taking place at the Senior School on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September and is being performed by *Happy's Circus*. This is a small circus that specialises in touring around schools. They offer a varied programme including magic, illusions, fire, lots of clowning around, music, comedy and song, juggling, costume characters, aerialists and lots of audience participation. It promises to be a great day out for your family and friends. We do hope you will come and join us.

**Web Doctor:** The school Medical Centre would like to draw your attention to the vaccination programme for *Human Papillomavirus* that is being launched in September this year. Starting with Year 8, it will eventually be offered to all children and young people from age 9 to 25. There is an excellent website, [www.tellher.com](http://www.tellher.com) where you can find out more information. You can also ring Sister Greene on 01225 731007.

**For Gardeners & Gourmets;** Don't miss the *Plant and Cake Sale* on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 2.30-4.00 p.m. Get your herbaceous borders ready for summer and ruin your chance of squeezing into last year's sun dress. Everyone welcome. It will be held at the front of school (weather permitting) and in the Hudson Centre. Proceeds will go towards next year's Barbados Sports tour. Donations of plants and cakes will be appreciated.

**Athletics News:** The Bath & North East Somerset Athletics Championships are on Thursday 15 May (1.30 - 5.00 p.m.) at the University of Bath. Selection will be made from girls attending Athletics Club and a list will be put on the P.E. notice board shortly.

## Dates for your diary

Monday 5 May	Bank Holiday
Thursday 8 May	Sports Dinner <i>Our annual celebration of sporting achievement.</i>
Friday 9 May	Year 11 Ball <i>Bath Hilton Hotel</i>