



A new, updated publication led by a team of dedicated student journalists

## **BGS student in the Olympic Torch Relay** *by Tom Ashton*

My mum nominated me to be one of the torch bearers carrying the Olympic flame for London 2012 Olympic Relay all the way back in May 2011 along with tens of thousands of other people.



In August I received an e-mail saying I had been short listed and I would find out in December if I had a conditional offer. I was surprised that I

had made it that far but really thought the e-mail in December would say I was unlucky.

None of us thought I would get through including me, so you can imagine my surprise when on the 8th of December 2011 I received an e-mail with a conditional offer to be one of just 8,000 Torchbearers who will carry the Olympic Flame. I couldn't believe it that out of tens of thousands of nominations I had been shortlisted.

The e-mail said there were still a few important final steps I must take before I was assured of being a London 2012 Torchbearer. I was issued with my own unique Olympic nomination ID number and a long form that my mum had to fill in and send back to the Olympic torch relay team. The form had security questions as well as what size uniform I needed. We also had to send a copy of

my passport with a separate form to the London headquarters to prove who I was.

The e-mail said my place will not be confirmed until March 2012 and advised me not to tell many people until then. The only people I told was a few of my close friends at school, some of them said I was making it up.



Then on the 16th March I received another e-mail saying the Olympic torch relay team were delighted to confirm my place on the Olympic Torch Relay. I had made it through the selection process and had passed the background and security checks, and I



would be one of 8000 Torchbearer carrying the Olympic Flame!

I am carrying in the flame along Boothferry road in Goole on the 19th of June 2012 along

with 4 other runners. When the day arrives I will go with my family to a special pick up point and we will be taken by coach to the part of the route I am running. When I run with the Olympic flame I have

been told I will have escort runners running either side of me.

I cannot believe how lucky I have been and feel honored and privileged to have been chosen to be a torch bearer for the 2012 Olympic games and I know the memory of the day will be with my family and myself for the rest of our lives.

*Tom Ashton*

## A Headteacher's Welcome...



Welcome to the Spring Term edition of the new style Beverlonian. It has been another very busy term with lots of really exciting events to report back on and you will find more detail contained within these pages.

At the end of such a busy term it was a pleasure to be in the audience at the Spring music concert last Tuesday. The boys excelled and their talent shone through and I would like to thank them for their time and commitment in producing such a wonderful show but

also the many staff who ensure that it runs so smoothly and in particular Louise Turner whose drive, enthusiasm and energy was astounding.

When the success in music is added to sporting success in football – many of our football teams have recently won through to East Riding cup finals, regional winners at senior and intermediate mathematics competitions, two year 12 boys winning a regional speaking competition it is clear to see that Beverley Grammar School is continuing to be at forefront of achievement across such a wide variety of different areas.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to seeing you all in the summer term which is always a tough one for the many boys taking external examinations at GCSE and A level. I hope they are all working hard to achieve their very best.



*Grahame Hodson (Headteacher)*



# Promoting Literacy

Beverley Grammar School is committed to raising the standards of literacy of all of its students, so that they develop the ability to use transferable skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum. This will enable them to use it as a platform to cope confidently with the demands of further education, employment and adult life. Paired reading is just one of the ways we are working to achieve this. Here are some thoughts on the programme from our students.

## Frazer



"I think that paired reading was a lot of fun and it helped me be a better reader and improved my spelling too. As well as being educational, it has also been enjoyable, especially the Christmas party we had, where we gave each other presents. I enjoy reading now more than before I read with Will and Zoe and it has helped me read more fluently. I got to find out that Will and Zoe are scared of different animals so I found books to scare them!"

## Will & Zoe



"As well as being part of our enrichment programme we enjoyed reading with Frazer every week and it was rewarding to see the vast improvement he made over such a short period of time. What's more he even enjoyed reading with us! We did our best to appear as role models for Frazer and build a positive relationship with him. We saw him become more confident as he got to know us both better. The programme is well organized and it is clear that both Year 7's and 6th formers get a lot out of it, we would recommend the Year 12's next year to sign up because its only 15 minutes a week but it is worthwhile and a good experience."

## Mrs Fairless



What can I say! Another fantastic year.

I personally would like to say a massive thankyou to everyone involved in the Paired Partner Programme for making it a great success once again.

## Read all about it! by Alfi Gozacan

Reading – you need it in every single subject. Ok, so maybe not Games or PE that much. Reading is such an important skill that it is probably the first thing you learn to do when you go to school.

From Tuesday 28th February, students all across the school enjoyed ten minutes of silent reading at the beginning of every lesson from their chosen book. This was a great way to get everyone settled down and quiet, however there was a deeper meaning to this scheme. One of the main reasons was getting pupils to improve their vocabulary and spelling, something vital across the whole curriculum.



Whether you like magazines, comics, books or the Beverlonian, everyone reads even if you don't realise it.

- Five – six year-olds have an average of 2500 to 5000 words in their vocabulary
- You learn about 3000 words a year in your early school years (eight words per day)
- About 50% of students say they have read ten books or more in the past year
- There are more than 500,000 words in the English language, however a third of all our writing consists of only twenty-two words.

READ THESE: If you are totally confused by this and do not have a clue what you are supposed to do, just carry on.

### Only *great minds* can read this

*This is weird, but interesting!*

*fi yuo cna raed tihs, yuo hvae a sgtrane  
mnid too  
Cna yuo rged tihs? Olny 55 plepoe out of  
100 can..*

*i cdnuolt blvelee taht I cluod aulacly  
uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The  
phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid,  
aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde  
Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr  
the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt  
tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in  
the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl  
mse and you can sitll raed it whotuit a  
pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid  
deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the  
wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I  
awlyas tghuhot speling was ipmorantt! if  
you can raed tihs forwrad it*

Good example of a Brain Study: If you can read this you have  
a strong mind.

7H15 M3554G3  
53RV35 7O PR0V3  
H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N  
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!  
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!  
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG  
17 WA5 H4RD BU7  
N0W, 0N 7H15 LIN3  
Y0UR M1ND 1S  
R34D1NG 17  
4U70M471C4LLY  
W17H 0U7 3V3N  
7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,  
B3 PROUD! ONLY  
C3R741N P30PL3 C4N  
R3AD 7H15.  
PL3453 F0RW4RD 1F  
U C4N R34D 7H15.

## Upcoming Visit from author Will Hill

On the 23rd of April the author Will Hill is coming to our school as Mrs Hambleton asked him to help us to promote reading and writing. Mrs. Hamilton said “If an author comes to our school it makes people realise that a proper person is the writer of books and not just a ‘monkey’!”

To prepare for Will Hill’s visit, the first book he published, Department 19, is on sale in the library for £3.50 instead of the book’s normal price of £8.00. Furthermore, the library has put up posters with questions on it and if you answer them right you have a chance to win signed posters, badges and cards. There is second book that Will Hill published, called The Rising.



The questions on the posters are all about the books he has published, they are:

Name the girl found at Linisfarne?

What does ‘Lux E Tenebris’ mean?

What is the designation number of Larissa Kinley?

*Ryan Dale (Y8)*

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## News in Brief



The picture on the left shows our Connect 4 School winner Nathan Fish (7S) with Michael Woodmansey, the Year 9 winner.

Nathan did not even have time to take his coat off! He managed to beat stiff opposition from the other year group winners.

Corey Rose won the ‘Character Badge’ competition, in which students had to locate the secret badges worn by various members of staff! Conor O’Hara won the Bookmark competition, and Macsen Sherer won the Book quiz.

## Public Speaking Success

Will Clay and Joe Bailey (Year 12) represented the school in the Beverley Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition on Tuesday, 20th March and performed at a high standard.

Will spoke about the subject of whether the power of the Internet is making us less intelligent, and Joe about the Monarchy and the Queen's Jubilee. Following the traditional success of our students, Will came first! Congratulations to both boys.



*Mrs Wedgwood*



## Going Digital '@bevgrammar'

As a forward-thinking school, the idea of our huge wealth of resources languishing in cupboards on paper worksheets, printed photographs and video tapes was starting to feel rather antiquated!

We are delighted to now be in a position where subjects across the whole school are digitizing their existing resources, and in addition to new ones such as current TV programming and film, making them available to students at home through our VLE.



This means that our students have access to the same resources at home as they do at school (no more excuses for lost worksheets!), and we hope they will enjoy the greater access to multimedia resources when completing their homeworks, and, for older students, performing research. We are hoping to expand this feature so that students can go one step further and browse our entire library of educational video – watch this space!

The web certainly moves at pace, and we are consistently reminded by our tech-savvy students that if we're standing still, we're moving backwards! With this in mind, by the next edition of this newspaper we hope to have launched a

brand new website. It will always be up-to-date, based around the very latest goings-on at Beverley Grammar School. With cues taken from the new Beverlonian, we hope it will be a fantastic online platform for our talented student journalists.

A preview page can be viewed at [www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news](http://www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news). Please use the tools there to comment on any one of our articles, and let us know what you think! You can also get in touch via our Facebook page ([facebook.com/beverleygrammar](https://facebook.com/beverleygrammar)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/bevgrammar](https://twitter.com/bevgrammar) or tweet [@bevgrammar](https://twitter.com/bevgrammar)). Never before have students, parents & alumni been able to communicate with us so easily, and we think this is fantastic!

Don't forget that parents can also view their son's reports online via the Parent Zone from our homepage (Year 7 access coming soon!), and we hope you find this service useful.

And hopefully by the next edition of The Beverlonian we'll have developed the technology to have articles like these write themselves!



*Mr. Clifton (IT Support Department)*

# History Needs YOU!

The History department at Beverley Grammar School is looking to build up a bank of resources for our local history projects and in doing so build stronger links with the local community and collect a priceless resource and record for future generations.



We are therefore asking if any grandparents, great grandparents and indeed other relatives and friends of our students families would mind if they were interviewed by the students about any aspect of Beverley and the surrounding area's past.

We would be particularly interested in hearing the recollections of local people concerning the Second World War as well as industries such as shipbuilding on the River Hull but anything of interest would be welcomed. Regarding the Second World War, the memories of people who served in the forces or whose war work took them away from the area would of course be of great interest.

If anybody has any interesting documents that could be scanned into a computer those would be welcome too. Tom Elvidge in 8F is completing a local history project and he and his mother interviewed his grandad Peter Mendham about Beverley in the past. You can view some of the resulting footage at [www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news](http://www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news) and this will give some idea of the sort of things that could be contributed. If you would like to take part in this project please contact Peter Morgan at school on 881531 or [p.morgan@beverleygrammar.co.uk](mailto:p.morgan@beverleygrammar.co.uk)

## BGS in Fundraising Success!

Before Christmas, the pupils of Beverley Grammar School raised two hundred pounds for Dove House Hospice, a charity that provides help for people with terminal illnesses such as cancer and dementia.

The money we raised will go towards the costs of running the hospice that needs five million pounds a year to function! Once entered in to the hospice everything patients will receive will be completely free.

The hospice is designed to act like a home away from home, and they have constructed high



quality flats for friends and family to stay in so that they can stay with loved ones overnight.

People also visit group therapy sessions on a weekly basis, there are also music therapy sessions.

This means that our money will go to a great cause.

*Josh Howlett & James Mason*





# ART WORKSHOP



## **GCSE Art weekend workshop a great success!**

10 year 11 boys from the Fine Art and Commercial Art GCSEs created artworks at a Saturday workshop.

The boys were encouraged to work on a large scale and take an experimental approach to their artwork.

The day was a great success and students produced work that will be exhibited at the end of the course.

*Miss Parker*



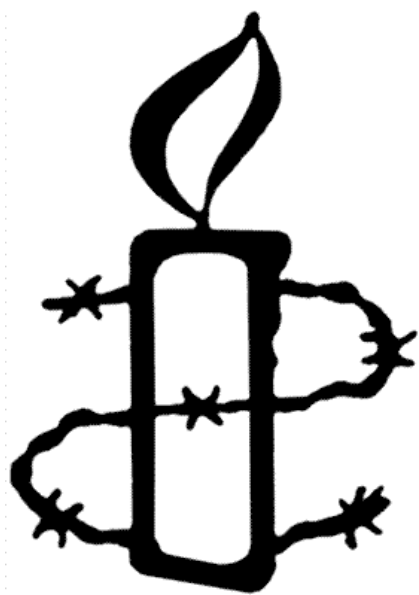


# Human Rights

This year has seen Grammar School boys take a positive step towards protecting the human rights of people around the world with the establishment of a Beverley Grammar School Amnesty International group.

## Write for Rights

Before Christmas pupils participated in the Write for Rights campaign, sending letters to world leaders petitioning them to change their policy towards groups or individuals suffering human rights abuses. One person who received letters from our pupils was the President of Azerbaijan who was asked to release the 'facebook activist' Jabbar Savalan who had been imprisoned for using Facebook to call for a protest against the government.



As we returned from our Christmas holidays we were delighted to hear that pressure from Amnesty had helped secure the release of Jabbar on

Boxing Day. Jabbar Savalan spoke to Amnesty saying "Amnesty International is a symbol of human rights and freedom, not just in Azerbaijan, but everywhere in the world... They may arrest us, but they can't break us. Freedom of speech is our right."

## Prisoners of Conscience

Pupils also sent Christmas Cards to prisoners of conscience such as Patrick Okoroafor in Nigeria. In May 1995 at the age of 14, Patrick was arrested and charged with robbery. He was 16 when he was convicted and sentenced to death in 1997, following an unfair trial. In 2001 his sentence was pronounced illegal by the Nigerian High Court, but despite that he remains in jail. He has been severely mistreated during his 17 years in prison, but in a message to Amnesty he told them that the 1,000 solidarity cards he received this year gave him the chance to feel like a human once again and he now receives special treatment and his cell conditions have improved.

## International Arms Trade

This term saw the group turn its attention to the international arms trade. It came as a surprise to many people that there are trade treaties and regulations covering the international trade of virtually every form of commodity, from bananas to dinosaur bones, but there is no international Arms Trade Treaty. That is about to change however as world leaders are due to meet at the UN this summer to agree the first every Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). As part of the delegation, Britain has an important role to play in calling for a strong treaty without exemptions or loopholes and pupils at BGS signed petitions last month calling on David Cameron to press for a robust treaty during preliminary negotiations that took place over half term.

Pupils were told that every year, enough bullets are manufactured to kill every person on the planet twice and that at least 1500 people are killed every day due to armed conflict. The vast majority of these deaths are innocent civilians caught up in conflicts fueled by an unregulated arms trade.

## Response from No. 10

Last week we were delighted to receive letters from 10 Downing Street and the Foreign Office, thanking pupils for their petitions and assuring us that 'The UK wants an Arms Trade Treaty that includes all conventional weapons, including small arms, light weapons, and ammunition. We also want to see a treaty that

contains strong provisions on human rights'

It is nice to see positive outcomes from the work this new group is already doing, and it is important that pupils realize that they are not simply bystanders and witnesses to world event, but have the power to be a part of them as well.

We look forward to the group growing and expanding the work

it does and always welcome new members. Please see Mr Cutler for more details.

*Mr Cutler*



## Spring update from Student Voice



Over the past few months the Beverley Grammar School Student Voice has been working hard to bring topics that matter to you to the forefront of conversation within the school. The members of the Student Voice, who you elected as your representatives, have been rapidly trying to improve BGS for you and future Beverley Grammar School boys.

Recent Topics within the Student Voice have included the schools issues with litter, the school participating in Green Schools Revolution and reviewing a charter for SPACE lessons. All of these issues have been brought to the Student Voice by pupils or staff, who like us, wish to help push BGS further. As well as this the Student Voice have already begun sorting issues like lost property and organising a school audit.

The Student Voice's five sub-groups; Sports, Eco/Fair-trade, Charities, Beverlonian and Anti-Bullying have begun working on their own individual projects to push the school forward and make it a better environment for you. The Sports Council has been organising

the 'BGS Olympics' as well as looking at the issue of the surface behind the Sports Hall.

Meanwhile, the Charity group has been doing a fantastic job in organising a very successful 'Sport Relief 2012 @ BGS' week. This wonderful event consisted of some exciting form volleyball competitions, a highly competitive and 'skilled' staff basketball match and a brilliant sports themed non-uniform day which all helped to raise a lot of money for an extremely worthwhile cause. Also, Mrs Chisholm's Anti-Bullying group have been working hard trying to eradicate all forms of bullying at BGS, something which we would all love to see.

In conclusion, the past term has been a hectic but exciting time for all members of the Student Voice. The last couple of meetings have produced some great ideas upon which the Student Voice can build and move forward. The Student Voice would like to thank all the staff who have contributed to group and the school throughout the past term and also the pupils who help us and the staff to drive Beverley Grammar School forward. We at the Student Voice are raring to continue are work in aiding the school to build strongly and to take great strides in the summer term and in the following years.

*Connor Lynn (Year 10)*



# The Culture Corner

“The ‘Woman in Black’ film is very different to the book; films adaptations are generally different to the book they are based on, but the director could have at least have followed the book’s story!”

On the 7th March this year we, as a class, went to Cineworld cinemas to view a film, The Woman in Black. At the time we had recently finished reading

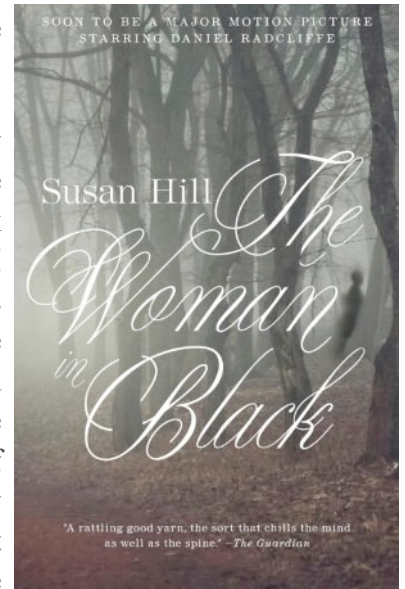


the original book form of the film written by Susan Hill. The story of the book is based around a main character, a man named Arthur Kipps. The first chapter introduces us to him, and his family; his wife Esmé, her children, and grandchildren from a previous marriage. The Naming of this first chapter helps to set the scene: ‘Christmas Eve’. This seems traditional at this time in their family, the younger children tell ghost stories to each other, a seemingly silly and immature gesture, attempting to lighten the mood, and take away the tension building towards the next day’s events.

The film we saw was considerably different; scenes that were deemed as essential to the plot of the

book have been radically altered, for example, in contrast to the book’s first chapter, the film’s first scene shows us an attic playroom occupied by three young girls, after a short period all of them stop their actions, drop the dolls they are playing with and walk over to a window that at the time seems to take precedent over all other features of the room. The three girls walk towards this window, completely oblivious to the fact they are stepping on the dolls they had previously been holding. Then a mother’s worst nightmare begins unfold...

There are many differences to the film and the book but personally, I feel that this does not matter! The book is a good read and is more recommended if you don’t like scary or jumpy films. But if you can brave the film you should watch it, as it is amazing. The film has many good scenes in it and I think the film crew have done a marvellous job.



*Jack Ainsworth & Matthew Neilson (Y11)*

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## A reminder from Mrs Chisholm...

Jacky Kruger, the school nurse is available each Tuesday lunch-time in Mrs. Chisholm's office. Her pop-in includes the sexual health clinic.

Anti-Bullying - pupils please talk to a member of staff as soon as possible so that it can be investigated and dealt with immediately. REMEMBER - the 'communication box' is available near the front office.

## Maths Department Challenge Success!



The Fourteenth of March (3rd month, 14th day) was Pi day, and the Maths Department had Pi-themed lessons with all years all day. Using the power of the web, more photos can be seen online at [www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news](http://www.beverleygrammar.co.uk/news) - just click the Beverlonian link!

## Intermediate Individual Challenge

Following on from the Senior UKMT Mathematics Challenge successes, the Intermediate individual round was just as successful. The competition is for year 9 to 11 students and Beverley Grammar School achieved 12 gold, 21 silver and 30 bronze certificates.

Oliver Hulme (year 10) achieved Best in school certificate and 9 students went on to complete additional rounds. Sam Coles, Simon Choules and Angus Lamb in year 11 and Edward Prew, Ruairi Sinkler, James Turner in year 9 were all invited to participate in the Kangaroo round, whilst Jake Field, Dominic Judd and Oliver Hulme sat the 2 hour written Hamilton paper putting them in the top 500 mathematicians in Year 10 nationally taking part in this event.

## Junior Team Maths Challenge

The Beverley Grammar School Junior Maths Challenge Team took part in the Hull regional final in March and achieved 4th place. The team consisted of Ruairi Sinkler and James Turner (year 9) and George Brown and Jack Castle (year 8).

## Year 10 Team Maths Challenge

The Further Mathematics Support Network, who run the Senior UKMT Mathematics Challenge with UKMT, have run the first ever Year 10 team competition this year and regional events took place in March. A year 10 team of Charlie Bough, Cameron Drummond, Oliver Hulme and Dominic Judd won the Hull regional final and will represent the school and the region at the Yorkshire final at York University on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

*Mrs Field*

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## BGS Rugby Victory

### School teams maintain the Beverley / Longcroft Cup

In March, our rugby teams retained the Beverley/ Longcroft Cup, an annual fixture set up by the rugby club to promote rugby in the town. Our boys won the fixture 2 games to 1. Year 7 Won 44 - 21, Year 8 Lost 20 - 45, Year 9 Won 33 - 7.

It was a fantastic night of rugby from both schools. We would like to congratulate our boys on their skills and the fair play & respect they showed towards Longcroft students. Thanks to the PE Department, Lester and Beverley Rugby Club for their hard work this season. Photograph courtesy of HU17.net



*Mr Caddell*

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