



# REDHILL NEWS

November 2018



Once again, our incredibly talented Music department excelled themselves when it came to this year's production of "Curtains". Our cast, as always, encompassed stars from all years and every aspect of the school so the real question was: did you take the opportunity to come and see it? If not, then you missed three absolutely fantastic nights and one of the highlights of the school year with the Colonial Theatre (opening at Redhill) giving a week of murder, madness and musical brilliance whilst fixing a show, and a few relationships along the way.

Curtains is set in 1950's Boston in the high flying and lavish Colonial Theatre. When the 'show within a show' "Robbin Hood" opens to its leading lady's murder, it seems that the show will end quicker than it began; until Lieutenant Frank Cioffi turns up. This Boston Police Lieutenant is both a lover of everything musical theatre and of justice and so, working together, the show MUST go on.

This year, our leading man was played by James Jackson (Year 11) in the role of Cioffi. Alongside him and playing his leading lady was Eve Banks (Year 10). Her amazing voice and acting helped her to play her part to perfection as the young talent within the show – Niki Harris. Even with the possibility of being arrested on suspicion of homicide, her natural charms helped her to steal the show in the play and in reality, as well as the heart of our detective.



Our show within a show's producer, Carmen Bernstein, was played this year by Lily Ray (Year 10). No matter how hard the other members of the 'cast' tried to dissuade her from continuing with the show's march towards Broadway, her portrayal of the character always managed to get her way and with the strength of her acting and singing, it was clear to see how. Alongside her was her husband, Sidney Bernstein, played by George Westley-Smith (Year 9). Their partnership was never quite harmonious in the story and they both played off each other incredibly well, managing to portray the wife who ended her unfaithful husband's run after the show's position was jeopardised.

Our ex-partners in marriage and music this year were fulfilled by Emma Liles (Georgia Hendricks) and Aaron Grainger (Aaron Fox). Despite no longer working in harmony, after the show's leading lady was murdered, it was Georgia who had to step into the part and this in turn was filled so well by Emma. She fitted the part so well and alongside Aaron and his talents in both singing and acting, they made for the ultimate happy reunion after our composer finally won back his lady. Both played the parts to perfection and, although this is both of their last productions, threw themselves head first into the roles.

Harry Fox (Year 10) this year played our camp, but brilliant English director Christopher Belling. No matter what, he fitted into the character so well and made it his own, allowing him to showcase his skills in the production and meaning the audience loved his portrayal as the eccentric director.

In our show, Robbin Hood or Alan O'Dell was played by Wesley Treasure (Year 9) in the part of Bobby. Although this was only his second performance he managed to put together the perfect character to represent the part and his work in the dances and from his GCSE Drama choice certainly paid off in this brilliantly lovable character. Alongside him was Lauren Reeves (Year 10) who played Bambi Bernet. Her character was the highly talented daughter of Carmen who (despite being shunned by her mother to allow her to achieve greatness on her own) showed all who came to watch the true talent in the part. Lauren's dancing gave everyone involved things to admire greatly and she showed her character, playing off all others, in such a brilliant way.



Despite playing our murderer and bad guy, Daryl Grady, Charlie Walker (Year 9) put on a brilliantly convincing performance modelled so well on his character – and no, that is nothing to do with his criminal master plans. He pulled off the envious reporter, determined to bring down the curtain on the show to stop his one love – Miss Harris, from going to Broadway and leaving him forever. No one could stand up to his cunning and throughout, he showed so well, the duality of his character through his flawless acting ability and comic timing.

Our show's original leading lady (Jessica Cranshaw) was this year played by Holly Hammond (Year 9). Quite apart from her character's dreadful acting, singing and dancing abilities (leading to her untimely



murder) she excelled in the part and showed what skills she has in all three of the areas of performance.



We also had a further star studded set of taking part who, without them, we could not have made the show the success it was. Lucy Parsons took the part of Randy – the show's dance caller and one of the front men, her part was played extremely well and due to her extensive previous experience, this showed through. Bethan Bond also took up the place of Sasha, the shows conductor and musical coordinator and through the use of her own musical talent, managed to bring reality and professionalism to the

role. Edie Clarke played Harv, continual cast member and star of all bouquets, whose work in all three areas of performance paid dividends whenever she was on. As well as the Detective, his trusty second in command, Detective O'Farrell was played by Max Dyas whose comedy one liners and brilliant timing helped the story massively. Saffron Knight continued her run as one of our top dancers this year with her part as Mona Page and Teigan Adams played Roberta. Both excelled in the dance numbers especially and were vital parts to the play throughout.



The main cast were supported by our amazing chorus who, without, the show would not have been the same. This year we had everything from cowboys and cowgirls to stagehands and cast members, everyone involved threw themselves right down the performance slide and helped to put on the show to the standard they had all worked so hard to pull off.

As well as all of these amazing onstage performers, we must also raise a massive cheer for our unrivalled backstage, sound and lighting crews who coordinated everything for the whole production for us. Thanks to all of you. You provided illumination in the darkness and clarity in the times of confusion and without our amazing crew behind the scenes, who knows what chaos we could have created. Thank you also to Mrs Ashman our brilliant choreographer and to both Beth and Miss Van-Den-Akker for photography and backstage assistance.



Finally, there is one person we owe more than anything to, our amazing Head of Music – Mrs Hastings. Your directing and help over the last nine months made this production the success it was and so without you, none of this would even have been possible. Thank you from all involved to you, a true

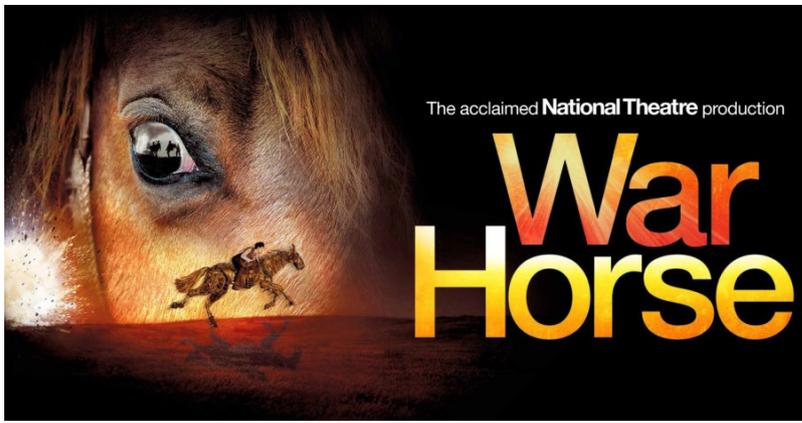
show person – what an amazing director you are.



To all involved, what amazing nights of entertainment, fun and musical talent and such a massive well done and thank you from start to finish!

Well done to all the "Curtains" cast and crew and just remember – you are ALL Show People!

James Jackson



On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October, some of Redhill's Year 9, 10 and 11 GCSE drama students went on a trip to see the National Theatre's performance of "War Horse". This evening was both a brilliant opportunity for the pupils to appreciate a fantastic piece of live theatre but was also needed as an integral part to their GCSE written exam.

The group left school at 6:00pm and travelled to Birmingham Hippodrome. Once there they were treated to some of the best seats in the house in the upper circle, which allowed them to be able to take in all the techniques and characteristics used to put on this world famous performance.

Throughout the night, the group were able to take time to delve into their qualification's notes to discuss the different things they were thinking and the ways in which the whole performance was put on, but overall it was to be a night of enjoyment. Fitting with the reviews we had heard, everyone was suitably impressed with the wide variety of techniques it involved and all found parts on which they could talk passionately about after.

The fifteen minute interval allowed us to take on board all of the things we had just seen and to process the effects of the action that both moved and inspired many in the audience. We were treated to an all-star cast, along with the puppetry horses, so famously associated with the company. It was such a brilliant evening.

A massive thank you to all involved, especially Mrs Wakefield for all her hard work in organising the trip.

James Jackson

### LOCAL COUNCILLOR VISITS REDHILL



On 17<sup>th</sup> October our Local Councillor for Lye and Stourbridge North, Councillor Mohammed Hanif visited Redhill. He was taken on a tour of the school by Miss McGrail and then met with Mrs Wooldridge (Head of Year 11) and Ms Gonderton (Pastoral Support) to discuss community issues that could affect our pupils. Councillor Hanif then visited the Science Department to see the work that Year 11's are currently doing leading up to mock exams.

The morning concluded with lunch with Head Boy, Head Girl and the Community and Environment Prefects. Councillor Hanif spoke to the group about his work as a councillor and pupils were encouraged to ask questions. We hope to see Councillor Hanif again in the near future.

Ms P Gonderton

### HARRY POTTER HALLOWEEN COMPETITION WINNERS

Pupils designed pumpkins based on characters from books. The best four were carved out of pumpkins for display in the Library. In addition to this pupils could enter the competition by borrowing extra Library books and by completing a Horcrux Hunt around A Block. Winners were able to choose from a variety of Harry Potter themed prizes.

The winners were:  
Paige Clarke 7L  
Noah Wright 7K  
Elizabeth Prosser 7L  
Morgan Wheelwright 8L  
Sophie Smith 7D  
Lily Blackwell 8J



Elizabeth Prosser



Paige Clark



Noah Wright

### CHRISTMAS EVENTS

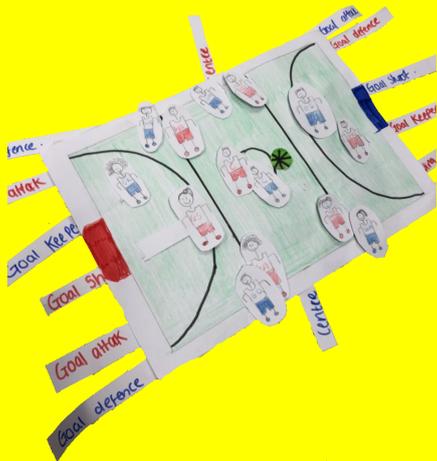
The Library will host Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Fayre. Pupils can enter the Elf on The Shelf Library competition.

Look out for details

Before October half term the girls from Miss Allen's year 8 netball groups were set a challenge. The challenge was 'Find an interesting way of showing the different netball positions', Oh boy did they take on the challenge, from posters and footballs to videos, the entries were outstanding!

But there had to be a winner. So after much deliberation...

In third place was Hania for her interactive poster, which allowed you to move the players around the court.



In joint second place was Annaliese, Teigan, Isabel and Ruby, who not only baked cupcakes for each position but one for everyone in the whole class!!



And Sienna, Sophie and Bethan who's 'how to bake a netball game' cake and video, showed a huge amount of time and effort.

But in first place was.... Molly, Amy, Leah and Lily!



These girls created this fantastic cake and posters to go with it! There's no chance they will forget the positions now!!

Thank you to everyone that took part, every single entry was brilliant.

Well done again!

Miss E Allen

## REDHILL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE FRIDAY 30TH NOVEMBER - 6:00-8:00 PM



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