

HAZELWOOD INTEGRATED COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



January 2004

Holocaust Memorial Lecture

No. 149

Drew McFall

Holocaust Memorial Day is on 27th January each year, the date the Allied armies liberated the Auschwitz extermination camp in 1945 at the end of World War 2. For the first time Belfast hosted a series of events to remember the awful things done to the Jewish people of Europe between 1942 and the end of the war in 1945. Nazi racial policy resulted in their 'Final Solution' to the Jewish problem—the attempted killing of every Jew in Europe either by working them to death or murdering them in extermination camps in remote areas of Poland. In 1942 there were 11 million Jews in Europe: by the end of the war 6 million had perished, gassed and cremated in the death camps.

The College was privileged and honoured to be asked by NICIE and the Holocaust Memorial Trust to host this year's event for schools in the Belfast area, and a moving and memorial morning it proved to be. An invited audience of over 150 Year 12, 13 and 14 students and their teachers from Belfast High School, Bloomfield Collegiate, Fleming Fulton, Girls Model, BRA, Campbell College, Glengormley High, Newtownabbey High and Malone College joined our own Senior School pupils and all Year 12 History students and many invited guests to hear Rudi Oppenheimer speak. By the time everyone was seated there was standing room only at the back of the hall.

A brave and remarkable man, now in his mid-seventies, Mr Oppenheimer, a survivor of Belsen concentration camp, spoke for over two hours about his experience as a Jewish child who suffered under the Nazis both in Berlin, where he was born, in Holland where his father moved the family when Hitler came to power in Germany in the hope of avoiding persecution, and in the 'Exchange Camp' where he and his family were imprisoned before being transported in open cattle trucks across Europe for fifteen days to the infamous Bergen-Belsen camp. His testimony of the conditions and suffering in Belsen held a fascinated



Jewish boys being taken from their homes to an extermination camp.

and horrified audience rapt. His words were accompanied by images of his family, the camp, and the scenes which greeted the Allied soldiers who found and liberated the camp.

It was fascinating to hear a survivor talk about the transport train, so tightly packed that there was standing room only, with one bucket of water for drinking and a second for a toilet. Mr Oppenheimer talked about the horrors of his existence in the camp as a child separated with his brother Paul from the rest of his family. He explained that they stole food regularly to survive, would have been shot by the camp guards if they tried to talk to other members of their family on the rare occasion they glimpsed them through the wire in the girls or adult camp, and were responsible for counting the numbers of dead each morning.

One final haunting image will stay with me for some time—the huge pits filled with naked, dead Jews dug by British bulldozers to bury the thousands of bodies that littered the camp. In those massive pits lie the remains of Mr Oppenheimer's family, who unlike him

did not survive the camp.

A truly memorable morning ended with Mr Oppenheimer answering questions and with refreshments in the Cafeteria for all our appreciative guests.

**First they came for the Jews
and I did not speak out
because I was not a Jew.**

**Then they came for the
Communists
and I did not speak out
because I was not a Com-
munist.**

**Then they came for the trade
unionists
and I did not speak out
because I was not a trade
unionist.**

**Then they came for me
and there was no one left
to speak out for me.**

Pastor Martin Niemöller

Pupils of the Month – December 2003

8D Lee Smith

8E Kirsty Houston

8G Harminder Singh

8J Hazel Martin

8R Kerrie Martin

8S Chris McKelvey

9B Azaria Love

9F Robyn McQuade

9J Daniel McDowell

9T Shauna McAleenan

9V Sian McClean

10B Andrew Smyth

10C Gemma O'Kane

10M Emma Boydé

10P Sarah-Jayne Quigg

10T Sarah Finlay

Classes of the Month – December 2003

8R; 9T; 10M

Year 8 trip to Belfast Mosque

Year 8 Pathways Group

On Thursday, 18th December, we visited the Belfast Mosque. This gave us a chance to learn a bit more about the Muslim faith. We are reading a book called *The Rainbow Quilt*, which is about two friends—a Christian and a Muslim girl.

Arfawn, our guide, helped us to understand this book better by explaining the key words in the book. We learned that Eid was like Christmas: and it happened twice a year! We learned that Ramadan was a fast lasting a whole month—we wouldn't be able to last until lunchtime without a break!

We also discovered that Muslims believe in Jesus and Mary. There are two chapters in the Koran (the Muslim Bible) about Jesus and Mary.

We really enjoyed our visit. This is what we had to say:

"I found it interesting that there was a shower in the toilet area." Brendan Bateson.

"I thought that they were the cleanest religion because they have to clean before they pray and they pray five times a day." Christian Johnston.

"It was interesting to learn about the five pillars of Islam." Stuart Costello.

"I thought the prayer room was cool, it was fun learning about Muslims." Aodhan Thorpe.

"I thought it was interesting that they prayed five times a day." Aiden Speight.

"We loved the special biscuits and coke!" Ryan Quigley.

"The thing I found interesting was that

you had to take your shoes off at the front door of the Mosque and that you fast for a month."

Cassandra Beattie.

xl Update

Frances Shannon

This month the xl groups have been busy completing their different modules. Some Year 11 xl pupils have been helping to promote the school on primary school visits and doing presentations with the laptop and projectors. This is towards their World of Work module. The Year 11 group took part in the Challenge for Youth team building exercise of Wall Climbing—luckily there were no breaks and we all completed it.

The Year 12 xl group are starting their business venture of selling 'Cream Eggs'. So go to work on an egg and keep an eye out for the Year 12 xl Easter Egg Promotion!

Dean D'Arco, 11H

I was asked to help Frances on her trip to St Mary's on the Hill Primary School. I literally had five minutes to learn how to set up the laptop and projector. The aim of our trip was to tell P7 pupils all about our school, so it was vital that nothing went wrong. Thankfully it went according to plan, and I even got a round of applause from the kids! So both Frances and I were very pleased.

Lisa Murphy 11H

I went with Frances to three different primary schools, St Therese of Liseux, Black Mountain and Forthriver. I had five minutes training to do a presentation for the P7 pupils. It was for promoting our Open Evening. I

Congratulations

to Stuart Hamill and 8G who won Citybeat's School of the Week and were presented with their goody bags by Mark Mallet on Tuesday 13th January.

No Atomic Kitten for Gavin, just a Citybeat mug!

had to set up the laptop and project the image on to a white screen. In one of the schools they didn't have a screen to project on to, so I had to use a white wall. This worked out quite well as I used the laptop case to hold it up.

Christopher Patterson, 11J

Frances asked me if I would like to take a visit to my old primary school, St Mary's. I hadn't been back to there since I'd left it. When we got there we brought in the equipment we needed, then we went in and I got it ready. Just as we were about to start the computer wouldn't work. We sorted it out and showed the pupils the video and told them a little about Hazelwood. I helped with some of the answers.

School Uniform

I know that parents support our uniform policy and understand the importance of good uniform both for our College reputation as well as the appearance of the individual student.

It is essential that all students wear full school uniform including blazer and black shoes. Fashion items, and this includes fashion trousers and jackets for girls, are not allowed. Excessive and showy jewellery is also not allowed. Girls may wear one pair of discreet earrings.

We will be bringing home those students not wearing full uniform first thing each morning. Parents are requested to ensure that their son/daughter is properly turned out for school.

A full uniform list is available on request if you have any queries about this.

Letter to parents from the Principal

Dear Parents

I am pleased to report that I am back in post after my term out on Fellowship. It was an enormous privilege for me to be able to avail of this. During my time I researched the area of school improvement and I had the opportunity to visit other integrated schools. I really enjoyed my time out and benefited from it; I can recommend further study to all of our students. However, I am delighted to be back; I missed all of our school community.

I want to thank Eileen Lenehan and Senior Management Team for doing an excellent job in my absence and the Board of Governors for allowing me to take up this Fellowship.

I have started my Evening Parents' Surgery session on a Monday evening 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

If you have any concerns or wish to speak to me, phone Bernie on 90372550 and make an appointment.

Yours faithfully



Noreen Campbell

The Irish in Conflict at the Ulster Museum

Brendan O'Loan

On Thursday, 27th November, some Year 11s went to the Ulster Museum to take part in a unique experience: to view an exhibition before it goes on public display and to record their comments about what they had experienced. The theme of the exhibition was the Irish at conflict. Marion Ferguson, our guide, brought us around the exhibition. Starting at the Stone Age and moving quickly through the troubled centuries of our island history the students marvelled at Stone Age clubs, beheaded skeletons, and different types of weaponry and instruments of conflict. The students were then asked to record their own thoughts on what they felt moved them.

Laura Gibson spoke about the Waterloo quilt, which was made up from scraps of uniform of each of the different nationalities involved in that conflict. She said she found it difficult to get her head around the fact that in one day over 65,000 soldiers were killed.

Colin McCrory spoke about his reaction to Ken Howard's painting *Irish Crucifixion*. The painting is in the form of a triptych and has as a background a typical Belfast wall covered in slogans. In the foreground of the painting is an old gas light and hanging from it a small child in imitation of the way Christ hung on the cross. Colin felt that this one exhibit showed that children are as much victims of the violence as are adults.

Christopher Sweeney commented on the headless skeleton. Beside the skeleton was an illustrated description of the man's injuries as well as a replica of the type of spear that probably would have killed him. Christopher found that the man's head had most likely been taken as a trophy.

I personally was moved by parts of the exhibit, like the section on Northern Ireland's Troubles; the juxtaposition of Omagh surgeon Dominic Pinto's award with an arm surgeon's field kit brought home the stark reality of the futility of conflict.

The students all felt the exhibition was excellent from the point of view that they were adding to it. The exhibition will run all year, and if you do get the opportunity to see it, listen closely to those commenting on the different artefacts and see if you can pick out the voices from Hazelwood.

Sports News

Year 12 Netball

Hazelwood vs. Belfast High (Home)

TEAM: GS - Leanne Keating, GA - Sarah Watson, WA - Victoria Martin, C - Janine Stevenson, WD - Lorraine Bouzan, GD - Tammy Power/Clare Simpson, GK - Jennifer McPeake/Christine Lismore

RESULT: Won 17 - 8

OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Tammy Power was an extremely key player in the result.

GAME: A match in which Hazelwood dominated for the greater part. A special thanks to the Year 11 girls who were a great asset.

Hazelwood vs. Wellington College (Away)

TEAM: GS - Leanne Keating, GA - Sarah Melville-Watson, WA - Victoria Martin (C), C - Janine Stevenson, WD - Aisha Bouzan, GD - Tammy Power, GK - Clare Simpson/ Jennifer McPeake

RESULT: Won 23 - 11

OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Janine Stevenson played extremely well.

GAME: The girls played a strong match. They worked hard as a team and achieved a very well deserved win. A special thanks to the Year 11 girls who were a great asset.

Well Done Girls!

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 10th February
Year 12 Interview Skills Day.

Monday 16th —
Monday 23rd February:
Mid-term Break. Back on
Tuesday 24th February.

Thursday 26th February
Year 12 and Post 16
Parents' Evening.

Cleaners Required

at
Hazelwood College

3:00 pm — 6:30 pm
Monday to Thursday

3:30 pm — 5:45 pm
Friday

(Total 16 ¼ hours)

Rate of pay — £5.20 per hour

Telephone 9077 4202
for further information

Adult Education with BIFIE at Hazelwood

Introduction to Computers
Wednesday 4:00—6:00 pm

Driving Theory or
Irish Level 1

Monday 7:00—9:00 pm

For further information contact Paul O'Brien either by phone or on Monday, 9th February, in the School Library. Telephone 9077 4202

Hazelwood College Careers Department in association with Sentinus

Year 12 Mock Interview Skills Day

Tuesday 10th February 2004



Building links between schools and industry to help Year 12 students at the stage between school and future courses or jobs.

Checklist

- I have filled in my application form and handed it to my PSE teacher.
- I have researched the job or course for which I will be interviewed.
- I have read over points 1–5: Preparing for a Mock Interview — Students' Guide.
- I have read over: Performing Effectively at the Interview — Students' Guide.
- I have read the Marketing Yourself guide to the dos and don'ts of interview technique.
- I have read over and prepared answers to the typical questions that might be asked.
- I will consider carefully what I will wear on Tuesday, 10th February.