

Trips

Junior School Ski Trip

During the first week of the Easter holidays 40 boys and 5 staff travelled to Alpe d'Huez for the Junior School Ski Trip. The boys spent 5 hours each day in lessons and the evenings were spent doing various activities such as town trail, quizzes and film night. Prizes were awarded each evening for 'Best Tourist', 'Most Improved' and 'Biggest Wipe Out'. Big thanks to Mr Cucknall for organising such a fun and well-run trip.



Lanzarote Trip



On a cold, wet Thursday morning in April, a group of elite athletes made the 12-hour trip to the sunny Club La Santa in Lanzarote. Rigorous and effective training sessions occurred both morning and evening with many personal bests being set throughout the week. During off-time, the boys made ample use of the fantastic resources the resort had to offer and also made lasting friendships with the girls from the accompanying Princess Helena College, Hitchin.

Stuttgart Exchange

The 12th exchange trip to Stuttgart was an incredible experience full of excitement, kindness and friendship. Twenty nine boys were greeted by sunny weather in Stuttgart where they were given a warm welcome by their host families. The exchange gave them the opportunity not only to develop their language skills but also enjoy an action-packed programme. They spent a day at the exchange partners' school, visited the beautiful university towns of Heidelberg and Tübingen, toured the Mercedes-Benz Museum, Wilhelma Zoo, and the world famous Ritter Sport Chocolate Factory and spent a morning at the Aquatoll swimming complex. They returned from Germany with great memories as it was truly a holiday to remember. Thanks to Mr Donaghey and Mr Holmes for accompanying the group and Herr Metzger for organising the trips in Stuttgart.



Prep and Pre-Prep

Prep Football complete the 'Double'

Having won the Wix shield (County Cup) at the end of April, the Prep school U11 team completed the double in May by winning the 7-a-side Centenary shield. Well done to all the boys who have made up this squad. They have worked hard for each other and their desire and commitment has been the key to their success.



Prep Art Club Banner - 50 Years at Elstree

In May, the Prep Senior Art Club finished the banner they had been working on since September - a visual commemoration of 50 Years of Haberdashers at Elstree, cut and stitched by hand using felt and coloured threads to make individual squares designed by the boys to reflect their experience of life on our campus. In all, around 30 boys contributed, with a core of 10 who were with the project from start to finish. Images feature nearly 40 aspects of life at HABS, being as varied as a Mondrian-painted cow, lunch in the Bates, the Library, the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Hopefully their historic piece of work will remain in the school for a long time - at least another 50 years!

Pre-Prep Diamond Jubilee celebrations

The Pre-Prep boys came to school on Friday 1st June dressed in red, white and blue for the Diamond Jubilee and celebrated with a picnic lunch, ice-cream and lots of balloons.



Year 4 Trip

When the whole of Year 4 went to Kingswood there was great excitement amongst the boys and staff. When they arrived, it was extremely hot, but that didn't put them off the activities. The accommodation was brilliant and the food was delicious. Activities included the zip wire, quad biking and 3G swing and everyone pushed themselves to the limit.



Sport

Water polo

The senior team have sailed through the schools league to emerge as champions and qualified as 1st seeds for the national finals. This was a tough tournament and after winning the pool and the semi-final, they came face with Manchester Grammar. Despite playing some very good polo, especially in the first half, Manchester proved too strong and we ended as runners up, still a fantastic achievement. The U14 side, having already come 3rd in the U15 schools league, won their own age group comfortably finishing with a record of played 9, won 9! Then again they were on to the national finals and after some successful preliminary matches they earned a place against Bolton School in the final. In a closely fought match the game finished 8-5 to HABS; they had won the National Championships.



Tennis

There have been a number of outstanding performances from our tennis players at all levels so far this season. The senior 1st pair Rishi Chotai (U6S2) and Joe Gold (L6H2) finished runners up at the Herts County Doubles Championships and, together with Oliver Rutherford (U6M1) and Will Dunnigan (L6C2), they have made up our strongest senior team for a number of years. Lower down the school, HABS have qualified for the semi-finals of the Aegon County competition in both age groups for the first time in a number of years. At Under 15 level, captain Andrew Gilbert (10R1), Krish Majithia (10S1), Justin Mullem (10S1) and Irfan Allana (10S1) have now played as a team for three years and are finally getting the success their considerable efforts deserve. The Under 13 team of captain James O'Brien (8R), Adam Vaughan (8H), Vishaal Patel (8S) and Josh Sassoon (8C) remain unbeaten as we go to print and there is real depth in that particular year group.



Athletics

In May, HABS Under 14 and Under 16 athletes competed in the Herts County round of the ESAA Track and Field Cup at Woodside stadium in Watford. Both squads came away with impressive team wins (becoming ESAA Herts County Champions) and ensuring their progress into the next round. HABS had similar success in The South East England Aquathlon Championships winning the Year 4, Year 6 and Year 8 team title. Special congratulations to Ashvin Kuri (8M) who was awarded the Individual Year 8 title and Jamie Harper (6NB) who was awarded the Individual Year 6 title. This term has seen several school athletics records being broken. Dylan Kaye (9M2) has improved his standings in the Power of Ten National Athletics rankings by recording a time of 2mins 08.6 secs for the 800m in the second of the Herts League fixtures this term. Dylan broke the school U15 800m record which has stood since 1981. Dylan currently holds the second fastest 1500m time in the UK for his age at 4mins 15 secs set in the first round of the Herts league and his 800m time places him just inside the top 20 in the UK. Max Marmor (9H1) had similar success in this round and set a new school record in his 400m race.



Cricket

The start of the 2012 Cricket Season will be remembered as the wettest in living memory. In somewhat adverse conditions the 1st XI, captained by Nishanth Selvakumar (U6M2), endured a rather boring draw against Merchant Taylors', a fine innings of 60 from Sahil Agarwal (U6C2) being one of the few highlights. Matters improved against MCS where we enjoyed a comfortable seven wicket victory. Recovering from 48 for 4, HABS eventually posted a competitive total of 172 for 5 in 40 overs, thanks to a superb partnership between Tom Colverd (11C1) 60\* and Karan Setia (U6M1) 48, before dismissing St Albans for 157. Unfortunately the final game before the half term break saw HABS throw away a winning position against a good Abingdon side to lose by 37 runs. Other highlights of the season so far include Ian Harris's century for the U14As against Abingdon and an opening partnership of 156 between Daniel Paul (U6H2) 92 and Rohit Bhatia (U6H2) 74\* followed by Mudrit Taldar's (11M1) match-winning spell of 5 for 14 for the 3rd XI against the same opposition. James Lawrence (L6H2), with two half centuries to his name, has been in excellent form for the 2nd XI, who have won all three of their games, while his brother George (8H) has featured strongly for the U13As. At the other end of the school the U12As are also unbeaten, having recorded six straight wins to date with Freddie Wright frequently involved. The U15As, meanwhile,



Golf

HABS team of Aidan Kovenklioglu (10J2), Amar Vaghela (L6C2) and William Aldred (11S2) travelled to Scotland at the start of the summer term for their second consecutive ISGA National finals. The competition was held in blustery conditions over the Burnside course at Carnoustie, and Will Aldred's 73 saw him lay 19th overall, while rounds of 80 and 81 from Aidan and Amar respectively saw them back in the pack. Although the second and final round over the Championship course was a sterner test, with William shooting 79, Amar 80 and Aidan 81, these scores enabled the team to rise to 12th position overall. All the boys won medals for their performances, as well as a team trophy to mark their victory in area 4 for the second year running. In the HMC foursomes, HABS narrowly missed out on reaching a second National final by falling to a 2-1 defeat to Reed's School at Burhill Golf Club. It has nevertheless been the most successful season so far since first entering National competitions in 2004-5.



The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School





## Events

### Battle of the Bands

At the start of May the Bourne Hall was turned from a formal assembly hall into a rock venue. The lights darkened, the sound was pumped up and the crowds descended to savour the best of HABS' rock talent. The annual event is in aid of three charities - KidzCare Tanzania, Third Hope and Barnados' Meadow Charity. Money was raised from the school mufti day and selling a huge array of sweets, cakes, drinks and popcorn. The event raised in excess of £2,000 which will make a big difference to all three charities.



### Art Private View

The annual GCSE & A Level Art and Ceramics Private View was held at the end of May with a large audience of proud parents, students, staff and a very special guest. We were very lucky to be joined by David Mach, one of the UK's leading contemporary sculptors and installation artists. David judged the 49 individual displays of work and awarded 10 prizes in various categories. Both Mr Keenleyside and David made brilliant speeches praising the students for their fantastic efforts in the work on display and highlighting how promising it is having such a large group of Year 11 furthering their art studies to AS Level next year.



### Afghanistan Exhibition

This year's Spring exhibition featured a study of the situation in Afghanistan. It described the experience of ordinary Afghans during the last 30 years, with particular focus on children, and (within this) on girls, and it also looked forward to how Afghanistan might develop in the future. The exhibition ran from 23rd April until 18th May, in the Bourne Building, and it was used by the Year 9 tutors to deliver the Global Perspectives component of PSHE. The exhibition was then sent out to other schools. This initiative was the latest in the Phoenix series which previously featured the 'Theresienstadt' exhibition and the 'Child Soldiers' exhibition.

## Music and Drama

### Summer Music

This term saw the return of the guitar ensembles in fine form, and twice the size of last year's groups. Our guitar teacher, Urszula Galuszka has brought her great enthusiasm and tireless work together with the boys' talent, which made for a tremendous concert of entirely guitar music. The Summer Concert was particularly special as it was the final music event for our upper sixth boys and the Headmaster thanked them for having given so much to the musical life of the school over the years.



After the passing of Jim Beryl, our late percussion teacher, last term, it was decided that an extra concert be held in his honour. Many current and former pupils, from the Boys' and Girls' schools arrived on the day, some having left the school over 20 years ago, and still remembered well the pieces that Jim had taught them. With help from Alasdair Malloy, percussionist at the BBC Symphony Orchestra, this music was performed as a special tribute to Jim, and as memories were shared it was clear how much the time spent with Jim really impacted on the lives of his pupils.

### Southbound release CD

Southbound are a contemporary jazz quartet which includes two members of HABS' instrumental teaching staff, Tom Taylor (Piano) and Jon Ormston (Drums/Perussion). The music draws on their collective training in both the classical and jazz genres with influences ranging from Tim Berne/Dave Douglas to Ligeti and Bartok. The album is called Southbound and is available on iTunes/Amazon/HMV online.



### Bugsy Malone

During the last week of term, the Bourne Hall was transformed into 1930's New York for "Bugsy Malone", this year's joint Junior and Middle School production. Over 60 boys and girls formed the band, stage crew and cast of hoodlums and show girls and treated packed houses over three nights to a slick, energetic and splurge-filled show!



## The HABS Community

### 50th Anniversary Celebrations

The 50th Anniversary Celebrations came to a wonderful and fitting close at a drinks reception at the House of Commons hosted by the Rt. Hon. Keith Vaz MP. Parents, staff and alumni came together in a spectacular venue for this social occasion. With speeches from Mr Vaz and our special guest Mr John Bercow, Speaker of the House and the Headmaster, guests were able to briefly reflect on the last 50 years of success at HABS and more importantly to look forward to the next 50 years. Mr Vaz also treated the guests to a tour of both Houses including an excellent exchange between Mr Hamilton at the dispatch box as Prime Minister, Dr Spence as Mr Speaker and Dr Pyburn as the Leader of the Opposition. Appropriate heckling was also provided by other guests. We extend our gratitude to Mr Vaz for his hospitality and generosity with this event.



This last academic year has seen HABS celebrate the 50th Anniversary in a variety of ways involving the whole Habs community. The banners along the North Drive have created an element of grandeur for those visiting the school whilst those in the Bourne Hall have brightened it, reminding the boys of the history they encounter every day.

In October 2011, a series of events was held to commemorate the actual day the school opened at Elstree. A dinner held at Haberdashers' Hall hosted by the Master of the Company, Mr Bruce Powell, with special guests Lord Brittan and Mrs Margaret Taylor started the celebrations. All those who had made a significant contribution to the school during the last 50 years were invited including many former and current staff, parents and friends of the school.

The 50th Anniversary Autumn Concert fell on the Anniversary itself, 11th October, and guests of the Headmaster marked the occasion with a toast and cake before the magnificent concert. As ever, the boys and the HABS Music Department performed with great skill and gusto, especially the brand new Year 7 choir who had only been singing together for less than a month.

More than 150 Old Haberdashers and former members of staff returned to the school for a day of nostalgia and reunion on 12th October. During a short concert given by our current musicians, guests heard from Margaret Taylor about her husband's plans to move the school back in 1961. Doug Yeabsley also spoke about his extensive years at HABS, recalling memories that many of the guests could relate to. After a 'much improved from the 60's' school lunch, guests were given tours of the school by the prefects and joined some lessons. It was a splendid occasion surpassing many guests' expectations.

The Headmaster's Dinner Dance in February 2012 gave the HABS Community the opportunity to let its hair down and fundraise for the HABS Foundation. With excellent music from the HABS Big Band and The New Honeycombs and amazing food and wine at Forman's Fish Island, the evening went with a swing raising over £13,000 with the help of Mr Hugh Edmeades from Christies.

The school would like to thank all those who have supported the 50th Anniversary celebrations and we look forward to the HABS Community's involvement in the school over the next 50 years.

Don't forget to stay in touch with us through HABS Online, Facebook and Twitter. We would love to hear your news!



## Awards and Achievements

### Inter-School University Challenge



This year HABS entered a team of four for the Inter-School University Challenge competition for the first time. They had an extremely able team of Edward Allchorne (U6S2), Joshua Parikh (11C2), David Verghese (10S2) and Jacob Whitehead (9J2). After successfully getting through the preliminary rounds, they played Guildford School for Girls in the semi-finals and won again, thanks to some excellent buzzing from David. In the final eight they swash buckled their way to the final defeating St John's Newry and Westminster School. In the Grand Final itself it came down to the last question but alas, it didn't go their way. Nonetheless, second in the country is a remarkable achievement and thank you to Mr Thackrey for helping them get there.

### ESU England Finals

In May Year 11 Public Speaking Team comprising Eloka Agu (11C2), Josh Zietcer (11M2) and Jack Levy (11M2) took part in the ESU's England Final round at Goodenough College in London. Competing against very strong teams representing regions from all over the country, the HABS team was awarded 'Runners Up' with Josh Zietcer also winning 'Best Chair' and Eloka Agu winning 'Best Personality' of the competition. Reaching the England Finals round was a terrific achievement and we wish the team continued success in the Sixth Form.



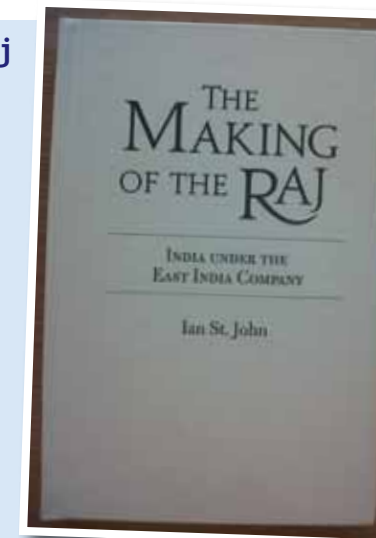
### Ben Lockwood

Sergeant Ben Lockwood (L6M2) has been selected for one of two places allocated to cadets in the London area to attend a 6 week Summer camp in the Canadian Rockies. This represents both a tremendous accomplishment and a fabulous opportunity, both to enjoy the delights of the great outdoors and to meet and work with a group of Canadian cadets. We wish Ben well and look forward to hearing of his exploits on his return.



### The Making of the Raj

The Headmaster sends his congratulations to Dr St John, teacher of History at HABS, upon the recent publication of his fourth book, *The Making of the Raj: India under the East India Company*. "It is rare even for University lecturers to have published academic studies in such quantity and on such a wide range of topics.", notes Mr Hamilton, adding, "Dr St John's achievement - as a scholar and as a teacher - brings great distinction to our school and is of enormous benefit to our pupils."



### Let's (Arm) Wrestle with Poverty

At precisely 1.40pm on Friday 23rd March, over 1000 boys and staff sat down in various venues across the school site to arm wrestle each other. Why? They were making an attempt on a Guinness World Record in order to raise funds for our school charity, KidzCare Tanzania. The highlight of the day was when the whole school gathered on the Quad to watch Mr Ward battle with Tiny Iron, that well-known body builder, actor and friend of the school. The victory went to Tiny Iron, but Mr Ward put up a good fight. There was a tremendous atmosphere, with both Tiny Iron and Councillor Sandra Parnell, the Mayor of Elstree and Borehamwood, addressing the school in a powerful and inspiring manner. The school is still waiting to hear whether or not the Guinness World Record attempt, for the greatest number of people arm wrestling in a single venue, will be validated. Whatever the outcome, nothing can detract from the success of the day in raising over £13,000 for KidzCare Tanzania. A group of 10 boys from HABS will be visiting the project again this summer, working with children in the project's nursery schools and Children's Home. They will take with them over £22,000, the product of the fundraising done this year.



### UK Biology Challenge Awards

Year 9 and 10 pupils took part in the UK Biology Challenge Awards and many were awarded medals. Special congratulations to Viraj Alimanchandani (10H1), Noah Halberstam (10H2), Stephen Kenny (10M2), Piers Seal (9H1) and Daniel Uri (10R1) who were awarded Gold Medals. The Award is an exam-based competition concerning the depth and breadth of their biological knowledge and is run by the Society of Biology.