

Stars come out

For thousands of students at schools and colleges in York, North and East Yorkshire the anxious wait for their exam results is over.

Bootham School saw 30 per cent of its students gaining 4 or more A/A* grades.

Commenting on the new A*, head teacher, Jonathan Taylor, said: "The A* grade awarded for the first time this year is an inevitable consequence of the rise in examination results in recent years – itself a consequence of a more competitive, focused approach to public examinations.

"They don't in themselves mean that people are nicer, or happier, or that we're nearer to solving the real problems in the world. I want to say – as I say every year at this time – education is about more than just examination results, and schools need as much space as possible to nurture other qualities in their students."

Among the very best of Bootham's crop was Oliver Meacock, who notched up a total of six subjects, five at A* and one A grade – Oliver plans to study natural sciences at St John's College, Cambridge.



21st August 2010

Results day at Bootham School, York, as students celebrate their A-Level results with friends.

Bootham School A-levels

J Acton (4), O Alderson-Tuck (4+1AS), J Andrews (4+1AS), E Ashby (4+1AS), T Ashton (4+1AS), D Bedford (3), L Berry (4), E Blackledge (4+1AS), J Bolton (3), C Botterell (4+1AS), O Box (4+1AS), M Buari (4), L Buck (4+1AS), J Catchpole (4+1AS), G Chambers (4+1AS), S Cheuk (4+2AS), E Cooper (4+1AS), E De Nunzio (5), M Denison

(4+1AS), C Dodsworth (4+1AS), H Gardner (4), M Glavina (3+1AS), P Good (4+1AS), I Hanson (4+1AS), A Heald (4+1AS), C Henwood (4+1AS), L Hung (4), A Hutchinson (5), E Jacobs (3), J Lam (5), S Leung (5+1AS), C Levesley (4+1AS), K Lewis (3+1AS), G Lin (3), B Lister (4+1AS), K Lo (4), P Lumley-Holmes (3+1AS), J Marshall (5), W McEvoy (4), C McKenna (4), O Meacock (6), A Metcalfe (4), J Mitchell (4+2AS), E Moran (4+1AS), A Morrice (5), S Myers (4+2AS), E Nichol (4+1AS), A Odagiu (6+1AS), R Pearce

(4+1AS), W Perkins (3), T Pick (4), D Piercy (4), S Rack (4), A Raynar (4+1AS), J Reeder (4+1AS), D Robertson (2), T Ruane (4), J Scott (3), J Shen (5+1AS), F Shepherd (5), J Shepherd (3), S Slater (4+2AS), J Southern (4+1AS), W Staunton Sykes (4), T Stephenson (3+1AS), K Stuart (3+1AS), J Tang (5+1AS), K Thompson (1+1AS), J Tindale (4+2AS), S Todd (4+1AS), T Waller (4), A Warnock (5), C Watkins (4+1AS), A Williams (4+1AS), B Wong (5+1AS), S Woodman (4+1AS), T Wu (5+1AS), R Wu (5+1AS), C Yeldon (5), D Yodaiken (4+1AS), S Zheng (5+1AS).



A PRIVATE school in York has opened its doors to the public after winning the 2010 York Design Award.

Bootham School, which won the award for restoration work undertaken on the front of one of its town house mansions, is featuring in an English Heritage's Open Doors event this weekend.

The nationwide event offers free access to buildings which are not normally open to members of the public or usually charge for admission.

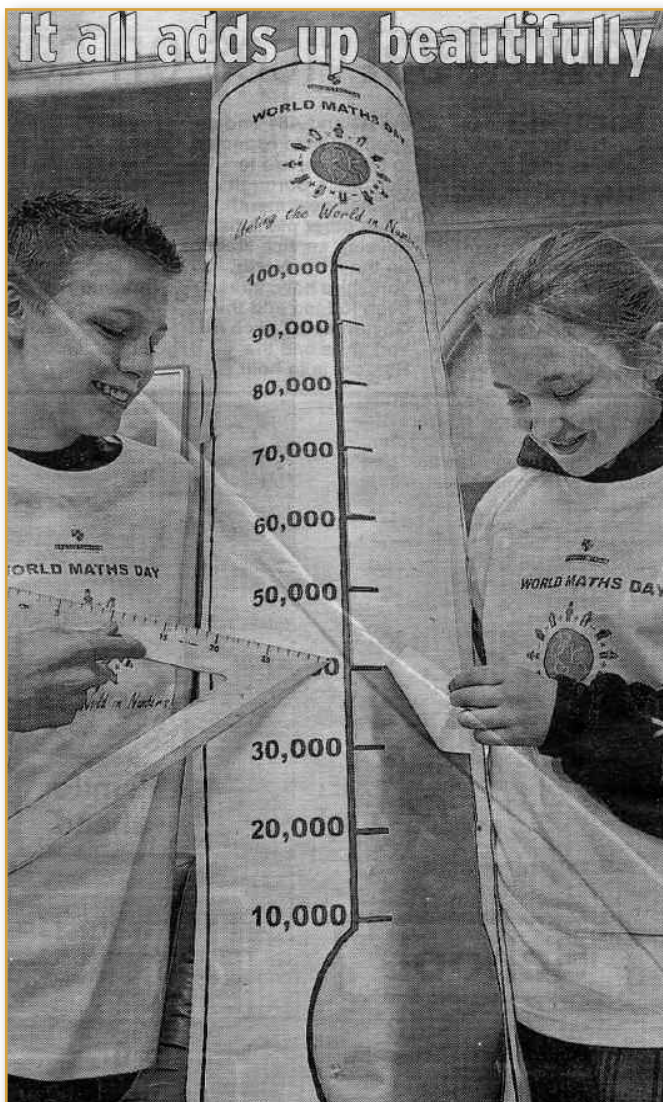
The school has been engaged in a major restoration and development programme over the last two years and this summer has seen a total refurbishment of the girls' boarding house, Rowntree House.

The students returned on Monday to find a complete transformation had taken place, seeing each bedroom individually decorated and a whole new floor of bedrooms created in order to accommodate the growing number of sixth form boarders.

Housemistress Carol Campbell said the school was "delighted with the improvements".



REVAMP REVEALED: With head teacher Jonathan Taylor are, from left, pupils William Dean, Imogen Mann, Emma Gandy, Freya Anderson, Oliver McGregor, and James Alderson Edwards
Picture: David Harrison



8th September 2010

MATHS eggheads from Bootham School in York joined in a worldwide celebration of numbers, as students from across the globe tried to set a world record in answering mental arithmetic questions.

James Ratcliffe, the school's head of maths, said: "This is a great educational event, involving more than two million students from around the world."

"We started at 11am and by 12.30pm - only an hour and a half into it, we had already topped 30,000 correct answers from Bootham.

"I made a countdown thermometer going up to 100,000 - but at this rate I'm going to have to extend it quite considerably."

"Looking on the website, Bootham was, at that point, in the top 30 schools in the world - and that certainly gave us all a buzz of excitement."

Yorkshire's National Newspaper
YORKSHIRE POST

4th May 2010

TOTAL POLE: Philip Mitchel, aged 16, and Holly Campbell, 12, pupils at Bootham School, take another step on the chart as part of the 24-hour maths marathon
Picture: David Harrison





Pupils and teachers have rolled up their sleeves to help lay the foundations for a new nursery and library at their school.

Headteacher Sue Ratcliffe was joined by Annabelle Johnson, nine, and Ben Sinclair-Shaw, seven, at Bootham Junior School in Clifton, York, as they helped start building work due to take place over the summer holidays. It will provide the independent school with a new nursery, library and arts and craft area. There will also be more space for an expanding music department.

The school does not plan to increase its pupil numbers.

Ms Ratcliffe said: "Bootham has at its heart a Quaker ethos which puts great emphasis on really getting to know each child and creating an atmosphere of positivity and optimism. The children do so well, because we know them so well."

This school year has also seen the opening of a new recital room – based in a 200-year-old ballroom that was found by workers who refurbishing Bootham's Georgian townhouses.

Digging in to Help

Yorkshire's National Newspaper
YORKSHIRE POST

26th May 2010



BOOTHAM



Penn Friends



by **SAMANTHA BERROW**

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THE former home of Joseph Rowntree in York is to be opened to the public for the first time for one day only today.

Penn House on the corner of St Mary's and Bootham was built in 1852 for Joseph Rowntree Senior and is now owned by Bootham School.

The historic house was donated to Bootham School by Joseph Rowntree in 1920 and Seebohm Rowntree wrote *Poverty, A Study of Town Life* in the upstairs rooms of the house.

The building is considered to be of extremely important historic value to York as a

key residence for the Rowntree family for nearly 70 years. It had previously been used as a dormitory up until last year, but was left empty following the opening of a new boarding accommodation block on the main school site.

Now an art exhibition has been set up by the artist-in-residence at Bootham, Suzi Tibbetts as a celebration of the building's history including photos of what it looked like as a dormitory.

Ms Tibbetts said: "This is a fascinating house, full of nooks and crannies, cellars and architectural grandeur".

The exhibition is only open today from 10.30am - 4.30pm and admission is free.

Above and below: The images are all from diaries written between 1921 and 1939 by various Bootham Boys.

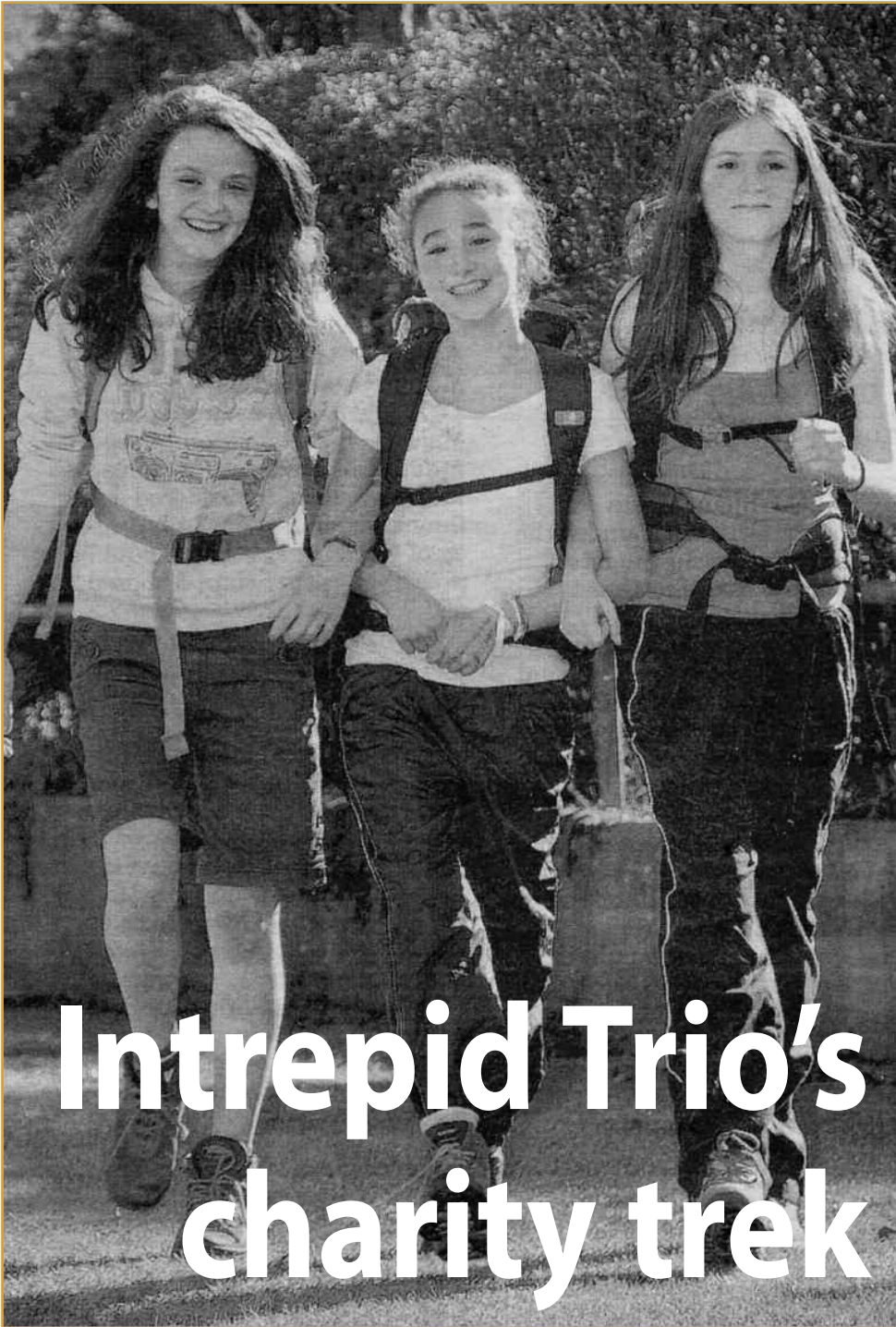


THE Press

12th June 2010



BOOTHAM



Intrepid Trio's charity trek

BEST FEET FORWARD:

Bootham School charity walkers, from left, Mimi Evagora-Campbell, Emma Medio and Caitlin Thomas, who raised £600 for the World Cup Legacy Fund by walking the Cleveland Way.

Picture: David Harrison



5th March 2009

THREE pupils from Bootham School in York donned their backpacks for a 35km hike to help people in some of the most disadvantaged parts of the world.

The girls, accompanied by their dads, completed the hike in only two-and-a-half days.

They raised £600 for the World

Cup Legacy Fund, part of Coaching For Hope. They overcame holiday tourists and heavy backpacks as they hiked the Cleveland Way.

York-based charity Coaching For Hope helps communities in areas such as South Africa, Mali and Burkina Faso with football training programmes and social education.



Ballroom is music to sixth-formers ears



Hidden Gem: Bootham School pupils Joe Tindale, seated, and Jacky Lam at the piano in the newly discovered and renovated ballroom, now called the Recital Room. Picture: Mike Cowling

John Roberts

RENOVATION work at a private Yorkshire school has allowed it to open up state-of-the-art facilities – from the 19th century – with the discovery of a hidden ballroom that staff never knew existed.

The room at Bootham School, in York, dates back to about 1800 and was in use for around a century in a private home before it became lost between partition walls and false ceilings that were installed to turn the building into flats.

The school originally bought the house as staff accommodation in the 1940s but as teachers moved into their own homes the property became empty.

Now it has been restored to its former glory and officially

opened as the Bootham Recital Room.

The school's bursar, Andy Woodland: "Other than the people who lived in the flats, no-one really went in the building; consequently we didn't have a full picture of what was there."

"It was only when the building was vacated that the scale of its potential was realised, and even then we could not be sure how much damage had been caused to the original plaster work and decorated ceiling. It has been a great joy to bring this room back to life."

Headmaster Jonathan Taylor said: "This is something we are keen to share with the community. We are planning a series of recitals, lectures and other similar events to which local people will be most welcome."

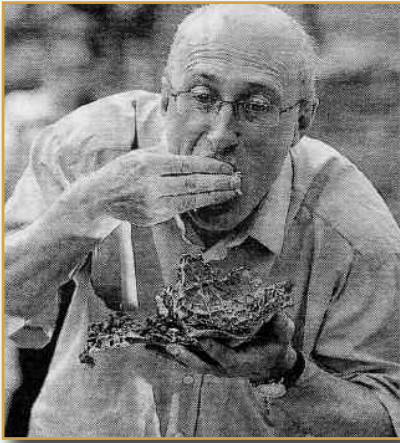
The refurbishment of the property has also allowed the school to provide new sixth-form boarding accommodation.

Mr Taylor added: "The only fear is that when our students leave for university, they might be disappointed by the functionality of most student accommodation – there really is nothing quite like living in these Georgian buildings."

Yorkshire's National Newspaper
YORKSHIRE POST

24th March
2010





Everybody wants to rule the world..?



30th June 2010

WORLD tensions were brought to life for students at a York Quaker school when they were invited to run the planet for a day – and feel the consequences.

The role-play event for Globe Day, which involved the whole of Bootham School, created a simulated world in which the students could have luxuries if things went well, but end up in the refugee tent with only rice to eat if their actions, or those of other participants, led to ruin.

The concept of A Dangerous Game was the brainchild of Bootham's head of chemistry, Mark Robinson, who said: "To sum it up, our students operate in a simulated world and feel the consequences of economic decisions and climate change." He said he would set up a link from the school's website, boothamschool.com, for people to download details of the event.



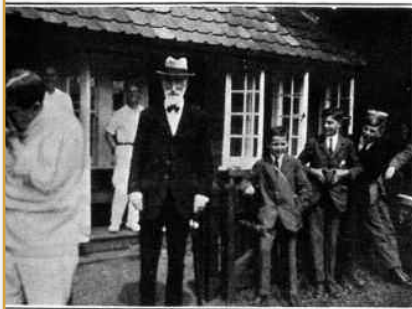
CABBAGES AND CONSEQUENCES: Left, Mark Robinson, creator of A Dangerous Game, and, above, Cathy Besch, 15, left, and Rosie Popka, 15, students at Bootham School, eat the refugee lunch, a bowl of rice in cabbage leaf

Pictures: Robert Nemeti

Bootham opinion

Competition: friend or foe?

Charlotte Yeldon, a College II (yr13) student at Bootham School, examines the place of competition in the Quaker context taking as her theme the life of Joseph Rowntree – Bootham Old Scholar and social reformer



Joseph Rowntree by the Bootham School cricket pavilion in 1919, his last year as a member of the school's committee of management.

We are always told to more work quickly, reflect less and produce more, but at what expense? Our society has become controlled by competition and the ruthless need for success. But honest hard work is no longer sufficient, celebrity culture monopolises our society and TV screens, when news of Jordan's latest marriage is more important than the economy's positive economic growth, you have to wonder what is valuable. People are valued less, but exploited more. Competition has embedded itself into the fabric of everyday life. Pride and self-respect have been lost as we have become shameless in the pursuit of fame and media attention.

You may think that this gives little hope for our society; but I have found a hermitage, where people flourish without becoming cruel and merciless. Quaker values teach respect, humility modesty and equality. Even when the Victorians were oppressing factory workers, Quakers were creating equivalent opportunities and developing communities.

This does not mean, however, that Quakers lack competition or fail to succeed, not at all! They just don't believe in trampling on others or failing to recognise people as individuals along the way.

I recently entered the Historical Association Debate where I was required to champion a local hero. I chose Joseph Rowntree. He lacked neither ambition nor success, but he was a Quaker, educated at my school, Bootham. On his retirement in 1923 Rowntree's Cocoa Works had a turnover of £3 million and a workforce of over 7000. Rowntree's chocolate was one of the most recognised brands in the country. Yet he knew that this gave him responsibility. He remained close to the factory and the staff, visiting daily to talk to workers and setting up a work's newsletter, when the workforce became too large to know them all by name. He created a staff suggestion system and paid workers for good ideas that would improve efficiency, quality or morale.

When Joseph died he was universally mourned as a great

benefactor and far-sighted social reformer, driven by his personal convictions and Quaker beliefs. He introduced measures to protect the welfare of his workers. He set up a pension scheme, years before the government and introduced free health care. He left a legacy by creating four significant charitable trusts to which he gave half of his wealth. He showed it was possible to be personally successful, without exploitation and general lack of care for workers. This is a lesson that still needs to be learned today. Those businesses that abuse underage workers, immigrants or poor communities could learn from him. He was revolutionary and his faith created some of the most prominent suggestions and consequential proposals our society has seen.

We all, instinctively, need competition, yet we have to be responsible enough not to let it destroy lives or tear society apart. Quakerism has shown me that this is possible. I hope Kraft can learn something positive from Cadbury's heritage.

the Friend

26th February 2010



CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations

Bootham School Midsummer Ball

York Racecourse

Pictures: Garry Atkinson



From left, Josh Ramsey, Emma Simms and Georgie Miller



From left, Lucie Berry, Daisy Bedford, Alison Bolton of the Bootham School Association, Livvi Alderson-Tuck and Clare Henwood



Lindsay Rose, Georgie Coope, Charlotte Goody, Sophie Kennedy and Dom Walker



From left, Miles Murkett and Nina Anderson



From left, Joe Rogers, Dom McGregor, Francesca Digby, James Aubrey, Jess Jeans, Nik Gunson, Ash McVicker and Dom Parker



The day we went to war

TEENAGERS at a York school have been getting a valuable lesson in wartime history.

Pupils at Bootham School in York, took a trip back in time when they met historian Richard Gardiner for his workshop called *An Interview With Tommy Atkins*.

Mr Gardiner based the lesson yesterday on the experiences of his great-uncle who served with the King's Liverpool Regiment during the First World War.

He said: "My great-uncle Thomas Edwin Bebbington was a man who felt the excitement of 1914, left his job as a postman and joined the local battalion with his mates."

"The performance is as historically accurate as possible. All of the characters mentioned were real people who were caught up in momentous times and the show hopes to portray these people as vibrant and alive."

Elizabeth McCulloch, head of history at Bootham, said: "We first met Richard when he acted as our tour guide for Bootham's Battlefields Tour. As a Quaker School, our students take a keen interest in the way conflicts can be resolved, and this is a good opportunity to increase our understanding of the First World War and the way lives were affected."

Take Aim: Richard Gardiner shows Bootham pupil Chayter Aldred, 14, how to aim a rifle.