



# Alumni News

Issue 2. June 2019



whitburnsixthform



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Whitburn CofE Academy Sixth Form

## Mr Hardie Moves On

After his support work with them over the last couple of years, Mr Hardie was successfully appointed to the Chief Executive Officer position at Northumberland Church of England Academy. **Mr Crowe has been appointed Head at Whitburn.** Current Year 12 student and Geography Rep, Eve Mouat, asked Mr Hardie a few questions before he left:

**Are you proud of your time here?**

*Yes, absolutely. There is a fantastic community spirit. It is easy to teach here as pupils want to be here and learn.*

**What have you learnt from working at Whitburn?**

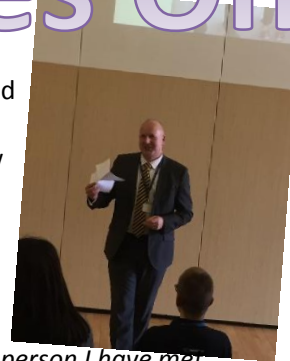
*A huge amount from Miss Williams in particular; she was the most inspirational person I have met.*

**What are your next steps?**

*I'm going to take charge of an Academy Trust made up of three schools – a primary, a secondary and a special school. It has been judged Requires Improvement so I am looking forward to helping them improve.*

**What will you miss the most about Whitburn?**

*The people – both staff and students. I will never work somewhere like this again.*



**UCAS stats** As you can see, below, our students are still willing to travel far and wide to get the best education they can. Local unis and those in other 'big Northern cities' still dominate our applications though! Top courses for 2018: *Psychology 8; Criminology, Geog/Human Geog 5; Medicine 4; Economics, Business Management, Physics 3.*

## UCAS

| HEI                            | 2017 Entry | 2018 Entry | 2019 Entry  | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------|
|                                | Placed     | Placed     | Firm Choice |       |
| Newcastle University           | 7          | 8          | 15          | 30    |
| Sunderland                     | 9          | 11         | 10          | 30    |
| Northumbria                    | 6          | 10         | 12          | 28    |
| Leeds Beckett                  | 7          | 11         | 4           | 22    |
| University of Leeds            | 4          | 5          | 1           | 10    |
| York St John                   | 2          | 7          |             | 9     |
| University of York             | 1          | 4          | 2           | 7     |
| University of Manchester       | 4          | 3          |             | 7     |
| Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh         |            | 2          | 4           | 6     |
| Durham University              | 3          | 1          | 2           | 6     |
| Teesside                       | 1          | 2          | 1           | 4     |
| University of Nottingham       | 2          | 1          | 1           | 4     |
| Lancaster University           | 2          | 2          |             | 4     |
| University of Glasgow          | 2          |            | 1           | 3     |
| Hull                           | 1          | 2          |             | 3     |
| Cumbria                        | 1          |            | 1           | 2     |
| Leeds Trinity                  |            | 1          | 1           | 2     |
| Loughborough                   | 1          |            | 1           | 2     |
| Manchester Metropolitan        | 0          | 1          | 1           | 2     |
| University of Cambridge        |            | 1          | 1           | 2     |
| University of Warwick          |            | 1          | 1           | 2     |
| Nottingham Trent               |            | 2          |             | 2     |
| Sheffield Hallam               | 2          |            |             | 2     |
| University of Sheffield        |            | 2          |             | 2     |
| DeMontford                     |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Edge Hill                      |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Edinburgh Napier               |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Hull-York Medical School       |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Queen's University Belfast     |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Reading                        |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| University of Bristol          |            |            | 1           | 1     |
| Central Lancashire (UCLAN)     | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| Essex                          |            | 1          |             | 1     |
| Imperial College London        |            | 1          |             | 1     |
| Norwich University of the Arts | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| Swansea                        |            | 1          |             | 1     |
| University of Birmingham       | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| University of Edinburgh        | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| University of Liverpool        | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| University of Oxford           | 1          |            |             | 1     |
| Newcastle College              | 1          |            |             | 1     |



### Certificate Presentation Evening

It was great to welcome back Class of 2018 to receive their A Level certificates in December. James Graham passed on the Award for Academic Excellence to James Hardy whilst Sam Carman received 'Academic Progress' from Beth Tweddell.





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Student Stories...

Whitburn CofE Academy Sixth Form

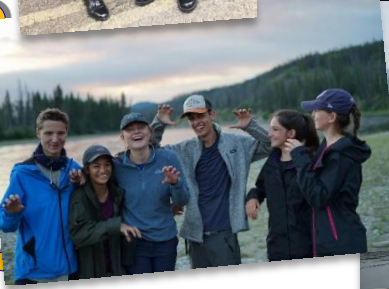


It was great to get these pictures from Dan Smith and Sam Hall as they explored New Zealand in 2018. Looks like an amazing Gap Year experience!

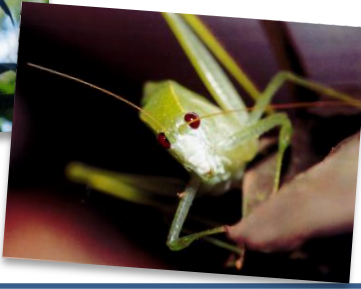


In Hull, Jerin Juby and Lauren Bradford are enjoying many opportunities offered via their involvement with Yorkshire Universities Air Squadron.

Lucy Bell paddled the Yukon River in Canada thanks to our partnership with British Exploring Society.



Col Ainsley conducted wildlife surveys in the Amazon jungle and took these incredible shots, again thanks to our partnership with British Exploring Society.



**Returning Students**

*We are always keen to catch up with any of you and we have been delighted to welcome back the following to deliver talks and take part in careers fayres:*

- Chloe Manuel** – Oxford University
- Lucy Bell** – BES and Cambridge University
- Anna Ball** – World Challenge
- Dom Corr** – Institute of Civil Engineers
- Samantha Brownson** – Womble Bond Dickinson
- Lewis Farish** – RSM Tenon
- David Girdwood** – STEM Ambassador

Contact Mr Moore if you can come and help:  
[amooore@whitburncofeacademy.org](mailto:amooore@whitburncofeacademy.org)

**Please opt-in!** Under data protection rules, we need your permission to store your email address & send you these bulletins. Please update your details at [www.bit.ly/2KLhyf4](http://www.bit.ly/2KLhyf4) and also tell us if you have changed course/programme/uni/job/apprenticeship since you left us.





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Student Stories...



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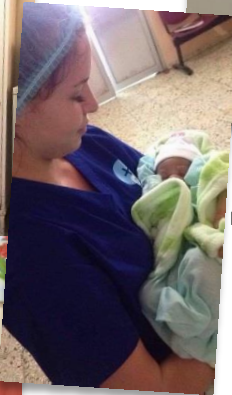
"LIFE HAS NO MEANING. EACH OF US HAS MEANING AND WE BRING IT TO LIFE. IT IS A WASTE TO BE ASKING THE QUESTION WHEN YOU ARE THE ANSWER."  
JOSEPH CAMPBELL



INTUITION  
the ability to understand something instinctively, without the need for conscious reasoning

Student Presidents Eleanor and Sam accompanied Mr Craggs to London for the World Class Schools Symposium in July 2018. Sam & Eleanor networked with other World Class Students & we were inspired by Turner Prize winning artist Grayson Perry who spoke about the importance of creativity and intuition.

Current Presidents Alice and Matthew will be attending this year's event in Sheffield.



Rachel Oren travelled to the Dominican Republic with Gap Medics where she observed midwives at work. Rachel even delivered a baby herself. Her observations led to an excellent EPQ essay.

Since leaving us, [Rachel has been awarded a Cavell Star Award.](#)

More of our Alumni have achieved the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award in the last year. Here are Jerin and Sammy (with Faye) receiving theirs at St James' Palace.



The Young Enterprise scheme at Whitburn continues to see great success under the guidance of Mrs Amin. This year 'Heavenly Handmade' reached the national finals and enjoyed a few days in the capital. Well done!



We continue to work with the Holocaust Education Trust to give two students each year the opportunity to visit the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Part of their commitment is to share their experiences with others on their return. These photos were taken by this years' ambassadors in October 2018.



## HET Ambassadors

- 2016-7 Olivia Gibson & Holly Carmichael
- 2017-8 Hannah Hamilton & Daniel Hunter
- 2018-9 Richard Broughton & Emily Bowles
- 2019-20 Beth Fowler, Thomas Milburn, Ollie Hughes & Jessica Taylor



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## The Back Page!

At the suggestion of our Health and Social Students, we all did a 'memory walk' for the Alzheimer's Society in March. We walked over the Cleadon Hills, across the golf course, and finished at Marsden Grotto. We managed to raise some funds for research into this disease as well as clear the cobwebs and take a break from the books. We aim to repeat this annually.



### Afternoon of Celebration 2019

Once again, our afternoon of celebration saw plenty of cringing at 'letters to self', in-jokes whilst doing timelines and much applause for the winners of the student awards.

You may be interested in who took the staff awards this year (left).



### Staff vs Sixth Form Netball

Staff retained the trophy with another star performance from Miss 'sharp-shooter' Boswell. She scored the 'golden goal' after a 9-9 draw. It is now 2-2 after four years of this tournament.

### Member of staff most likely to win 'The Hunger Games'...

3. Mr Moore
2. Mr Liddle
1. Mr Sheard

### Member of staff you think was most rebellious when they were in Sixth Form...

3. Mrs Amin
2. Mr Moore
1. Mr Craggs

### Favourite member of staff during your time in Sixth Form...

- =5. Miss Boswell, Mr Sheard, Miss Johnson, Dr McDonald
4. Ms Dickenson
  3. Mr Craggs
  2. Mr Moore
  1. Miss Charles



### World Challenge

- 2018 Malawi
- 2019 Swaziland
- 2020 Cambodia
- 2021 Thailand



Watch Callan's amazing video of the group's adventures here:  
<https://youtu.be/nuBBSzfZKtQ>

Our first ever World Challengers returned from an unforgettable, life-changing expedition to Malawi. The students put up with some poor weather whilst helping a community repair water pumps and taking part in educational activities. They ended their trip with a safari during which they saw some of the 'big five' the continent is famous for. Our 2019 expedition to Swaziland departs next month...

### Staff leavers 2019:

- Mr Hardie, Principal (new post)
- Mr Graham, English (retirement)
- Mrs Mack, DT (retirement)
- Mrs Kale, Chemistry (new post)
- Mr Oren, Physics (new post)
- Dr Corrigan, Physics (new post)

### Staff going on maternity leave:

- Ms Dickenson
- Miss Charles



### Hell's Kitchen...

The ever-popular PSHE carousel involving sewing on buttons, polishing shoes and cooking this year saw a cook-off between Mr Liddle and Mr Sheard. Both dishes were described as 'edible' and we are pleased to report both contestants are still alive and well!



### Student Presidents

- 2016-7 Chloe Manuel & Chris Williams
- 2017-8 Dom Corr & Mel Owens
- 2018-9 Sam Johnston & Eleanor Reay
- 2019-20 Alice Casey & Matthew Appleby

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