

The Ramsey Ram



16th edition

Ypres Trip



Diversity
Charity Week

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Editors' Notes

Hello, my name is Tazmin Sloat and I am in Year 10. I have been a member of the Ramsey Ram since it first started when I was in Year 7. One of the things I like the most about the Ramsey Ram is the variety of ideas that are expressed in different ways.

In this issue.....



And much more.....

Titanic

After just three years, Titanic was finished - a floating city, ready to set sail on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York. On board was a collection of passengers comprising millionaires, silent movie stars, school teachers and emigrants, in search of a better life in the United States.

Titanic is perhaps the most iconic ship in history, its tragic story known the world over.

The most celebrated ocean liner of its time even before it first sailed, Titanic was an incredible feat of engineering and ambition. Its maiden voyage ended in tragedy when it struck an iceberg and sank, killing more than 1,500 passengers and crew.

By the fifth day of the Titanic's journey, it was making swift progress across the Atlantic. The captain of the Titanic Edward Smith had plotted a new course because he had heard about ice on the path he had already plotted to go on.

On the night of Sunday 14 April 1912, the sea was flat calm, the sky clear and moonless, and the temperature was dropping towards freezing. In such conditions, sea ice is very hard to spot.

At 11.40pm the lookout sounded the alarm and telephoned the bridge saying "Iceberg, right ahead." The warning came too late to avoid the iceberg and Titanic struck it less than 40 seconds later, tearing a series of holes along the side of the hull. Upon inspecting the damage, Titanic's chief naval architect Thomas Andrews said to Captain Smith that the ship would certainly sink. Six of the watertight compartments at the front of the ship's hull were breached, five of them flooding within the hour. Titanic was designed to stay afloat with only four compartments flooded.

Less than three hours later Titanic lay at the bottom of the Atlantic ocean, nearly four kilometres down. The sinking of Titanic claimed more than 1,500 lives. For many, the tragic fate that befell Titanic would come to mark the passing of the opulence of the Edwardian era and foreshadowed the global tragedy of World War One. The story captured the public imagination across the world, spawning countless books, films, plays, memorials, museums and exhibitions. The discovery of the wreck by oceanographer Robert Ballard on a Franco-American expedition in 1985 gave rise to a fresh wave of interest that continues to this day.

~Rosie H (8E2)



Essex Youth Assembly

On the 10th October 2018 I was invited to the Youth Essex Assembly. Ten students were chosen between years seven to nine to go on this trip.

We visited the Chelmsford Race course and spent a whole day talking about politics and how things were running and what we would do in their shoes. We were separated into small groups with some of the other schools. We started the day with an introduction, then we were given a sheet of paper which showed us what the Government pay for and they we had to say how much money we would give to each topic if we were running the country.

Throughout the day we learnt more about politics and how having a young voice can make a difference in how the country and even the world is running today.

Towards the end of the day we got to talk to some of the people who ran the whole Youth Essex Assembly and some politicians and a girl, aged thirteen, who have been in the Youth Essex Assembly for a two years.

At the end we all got a certificate and a goody bag. All in all it was a very good trip I have taken a lot back from it.

By Courtney Sloat



Ramsey's very own Romeo & Juliet

After last year's stunning success, the Ramsey Academy decided to continue to take part in the Shakespeare School Foundation's Shakespeare Schools Festival, a nation-wide event that annually inspires thousands of young people and allows them to experience performing on a public stage in front of relatives, friends and members of the public alike. For this year's event, the Ramsey Academy's performance did yet again take place upon the Civic Theatre stage in Chelmsford, but the Drama Club cast this time performed a half-hour rendition of 'Romeo and Juliet'.

The Ramsey Academy's cast not only included an amazing array of actors and their motivating director, but also had their own tech students, sometimes referred to as stage managers. This innovative touch made the cast stand out from the other companies' crew that night, but also gave students the chance to get involved with a big project even if their heart wasn't set on the stage.


Nevertheless, as the day of the performance dawned, everyone was filled with some form of nervousness, as like a wise Mark Twain once said: "There are two types of speakers: Those who get nervous and those who are liars." Of course, this quote was referring to the idea of public speaking, but it can be used in various other contexts and besides, actors must publicly act and therefore are involved with public speaking in one form or another. However, no one needed to worry!


The day began with two rehearsals: one cue-to-cue rehearsal that tested the music and lighting that would be needed to enhance the performance slightly as it came to life on stage and the dress rehearsal, which was the chance for the cast to practise their rendition on the stage in order to position themselves as best as possible for both their benefit and the audience's, of whom they were enacting the narrative for. The rehearsals did appear to drag on for both the actors on stage and the assistants in the crowd/in the wings, but minus a few minimal errors, the rehearsals went rather smoothly. Everyone seemed more content with their position and any few last-minute adjustments deemed necessary were made.

After the rehearsals had finished, lunch and dinner had been eaten and the afternoon spent at the Chelmsford museum had fully passed, it was back to the theatre for final warm-ups before showtime. The performance evening started with a spectacular rendition of 'The Tempest' performed by Columbus School and College, which was followed by a short break to allow staging to be rearranged in time for the second performance, which was a witty and comical performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The interval was held after this performance, and then, the lights dimmed: it was time for the Ramsey Cast to shine!

In honour of their amazing performance which reflected the hard work, effort and time spent on this project, I would like to congratulate my fellow actors who in no particular order were: Niamh Tyrell, Ashton Sinclair, Courtney Sloat, Jack Underwood, Megan Sheppard, Martine Parker-Stone, Hannah Slater, Lois Cheeney, Lenay Vanstone, Gracie Hughes, Marty Sinclair, Yasmine Hague, Anda-Andreea Ghencea, Holly Sedgwick, Tom Bell, Izzy peters, Isla Harris, Amelia Bell and Kiara Cohen. I would also like to congratulate Alfie Whitby on his stunning work with light and sounds effects; and Willow Hunter, for her amazing organisation working as a Stage Manager and preparing everyone's costumes for the big day. Of course, a fabulous cast needs a fabulous director, so I would also like to thank Mrs Barnes for the time and work she put into this piece, as well as Mrs Fisher who equally helped to ensure the performance was the best it could be!

- Tazmin Sloat (Year 10)





"DID MY HEART LOVE 'TILL NOW?"

Romeo & Juliet
by The Ramsey Academy
at The Civic Theatre, Chelmsford, 12/11/2018
appraised by Lindsay Lloyd

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to The Ramsey Academy for your fantastic production of Romeo & Juliet as part of the 2018 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a brilliant night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight just a few elements that really stood out.

What a delightful piece of ensemble acting. Everyone was focused and reacted to events on stage. I particularly enjoyed the moments of choral speaking especially in the Prologue. I worked the times when you repeated key words to emphasise their importance to the audience worked very well too. I loved the physicality of your performance with some excellent choreography throughout. I also thought your choice of music was very effective and helped the atmosphere of the piece - particularly with the party scene and the poignant final scene when the two lovers die. I really enjoyed the music and sounds you created on stage e.g. when we were in Friar Lawrence's cell or when the bells rang for Romeo and Juliet's marriage.

You told the story very clearly, particularly with your use of frozen stage pictures - whether it be Juliet's balcony, Friar Lawrence's cell or the orchard wall - you quickly and efficiently got into position and remained frozen. Your stillness was commendable because it didn't detract from the main action on stage, it enhanced it.


There were some lovely characterisations and I particularly enjoyed your inventiveness when you physically became characters in Mercutio's Queen Mab speech. The whole cast remained focused throughout and really listened which helped the audience focus on the action.

This was a creative, atmospheric and very poignant production of Romeo and Juliet from a focused cast.

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes courage, resilience, and imagination. You and your teachers should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved.

I hope to see The Ramsey Academy in the Festival again next year!
Lindsay Lloyd

"THIS WAS A CREATIVE, ATMOSPHERIC AND VERY POIGNANT PRODUCTION OF ROMEO AND JULIET FROM A FOCUSED CAST."



Harry Potter D.I.Y's

HARRY POTTER D.I.Ys

1. Hanging key decorations

Simply draw wings on white paper then glue or tape onto old keys (many discount stores will have tubs of keys you can dig through, or you can order cheap fake keys through Etsy or Amazon). You'll then need to attach fishing wire or thread then hang from the ceiling. Make sure to make one with a broken wing for accuracy.

2. A magical quote decoration

All you need is a picture frame (you can buy these from places like The Range, or any supermarket) and printing out a Harry Potter quote, and hang it up on the wall, or if you are feeling very artistic, you can write one out and hang it up.

3. Turn any old books into Hogwarts textbooks

This is one of the easiest ones on the list, simply go online and print a template of a Hogwarts school book, grab a chunky book of your choice and wrap it up, it's free and a good way to pass time.

4. Harry Potter light switch.

You can go on Amazon, wish or Etsy for this. All you need is a plastic cover for your light switch, (or paint it straight on) and get any colour paints, and paint the light switch. Once it's dry write or paint 'Lumos' on the on side and 'nox' on the off. And there you have it a Harry Potter light switch.

-Scarlet Cheffins



Teacher Talk – Mr Hendry

Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

I have not always wanted to be a teacher I actually wanted to be a forensic pathologist.

What has been your biggest achievement so far in life?

Well in education would probably be surviving teacher training and in every day life it was definitely be having my three amazing children.

Did you ever get in detention in school?

No, I never got in detention in school when I was younger.

What were you like at school?

I was quite lazy and I could have done better. I used to mess around a lot but not enough to get caught, I was naughty but I knew when to draw the line (when to stop).

Why did you decide to teach Science and were you good at Science when you went to school?

I decided to teach Science because I thought it was interesting and I found it fun and I was actually quite good at Science when I was at school.

Bonus Questions

What is your favourite book and why?

Hard question, probably any book by John Grisham.

What hobbies do you have?

I don't have many really but I used to play football.

By Courtney Sloat and Olivia Burlong .



Diversity Charity Week

During the charity week this year, some really exciting things happened.

On Monday and Tuesday, the movie Tron was showing and one of our writers said that at the start there were over twenty people in the hall. Overall the students really enjoyed it. In the end there were nearly seventy students watching it.

There was a cake sale Monday to Friday which got good reviews. We spoke to Alesha S who found the cakes tasty and Brooke S found the fundraiser went really well. When we spoke to Miss. Head she said the year sevens and eights are working really hard.

On Friday we had the rapid rounders and we interviewed Mr. Lugton about the entire week, he said "it's really successful because all years and houses have brought in money to help. I give a huge thanks to any parents who brought in any cakes. I think the cake sale went well and everyone enjoyed both movies. Another thanks to the fifteen people that took part in the No Tech for Breck."

Some people who watched the rounders gave their opinions on the event...

Thomas N, Jamie H and James R (year 8), said that "it was a good way to raise money, next year we should do football." Diversity house are proud to announce they raised a grand total of £1,435.34!

Scarlett Cheffins

THE BRECK FOUNDATION

B • BE AWARE
Opening files, accepting emails, IM messages, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems - they may contain viruses or nasty messages.

R • REPORT IT
Tell your parent, or trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied.

E • EDUCATE
Someone online might lie about who they are and information on the internet may not be true. Always check info with other websites, books or someone who knows. If you like chatting online it's best to only chat to your real friends & family.

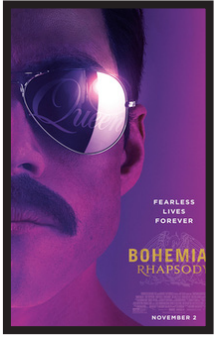
C • COMMUNICATE
Meeting someone you have met online can be dangerous. Remember online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time. Never meet up with them alone and always speak to a parent or carer beforehand.

K • KEEP SAFE
Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you are chatting or posting online. This includes your email, phone number, password, school, college and location.

The Breck Foundation is raising awareness for playing safe whilst using the internet. Breck Bednar was a 14 year old boy, from Caterham, Surrey, who loved technology and online gaming. He was groomed via the internet and sadly murdered on February 17th 2014 by someone he met online. This Foundation has been set up in his memory to help other young people to enjoy playing online, but be aware that the friends you make online are not like your real friends. "Play Virtual / Live Real"

breckfoundation.org [@thebreckfound](https://twitter.com/thebreckfound) #playvirtuallivereal [thebreckfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/thebreckfoundation)

Reviews



Bohemian Rhapsody Review

The new film, *Bohemian Rhapsody*, is by far one of my favourite films of the year. It follows the life of Queen's lead singer Freddie Mercury. It shows the start of the famous rock band "Queen" and plays multiple songs performed by the band, each song bringing watchers from the previous generations some of the best memories. The movie features an amazing cast that plays each character to the best of their abilities. The movie creators should be proud of themselves for making a true masterpiece that I believe every individual should go to experience.

The movie has a run time of two hours and thirteen minutes, this amount of time is perfect for showing the almost full life time of Freddie Mercury, and other members of the band. This movie was able to replicate multiple performances produced by the band, including the performance at 'Live Aid'. This performance is best known for a call and repeat song that interacted with the crowd. The movie covers every great success that the band had, however it also covers the heart-breaking moments that the band had to endure. This movie shall always be a reminder to the life and events that happened since 1970 to Freddie's final moments.

Max Felton



Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets Book Review

This is the second book in the Harry Potter series and in this edition, Harry finds out Dobby has been hiding something of his, and something odd is happening within the walls of Hogwarts.

I really liked the part when Harry got a visit from Dobby telling him that bad things will happen if he goes back to Hogwarts. I like this because it is the first appearance of the house elf and he is one of my favourite characters in the book.

I disliked the part when Harry got sent back in time through Tom Riddle's diary. I disliked this because I found it quite boring in the book; it was better portrayed in the film. Overall, I really liked the book and I would recommend it to everyone.

-Scarlet Cheffins

Ypres Trip

On the 1st November 2018 40 year nines went to Ypres, Belgium and we had to take a coach to get us there. The drive was about six hours and it was one of the funniest journeys ever. Matt was just making everyone laugh even though we were very tired.

The first thing we did when we arrived was a trip to look at the trenches. They were really old but had to be rebuilt so people could walk through them. Then we also went to the grave stones we did a lot of walking until we found a 14 year old's grave.

We then settled into our accommodation; it was such a great time and most of us stayed up really late because we were so excited.

The funniest part of the trip was when we played music on the Ferris wheel.

We learnt a lot on the trip and have a better understanding of the effects of the World War One. What made the trip so special was the fact that it was the one hundredth centenary since the end of the First World War.

- Bradley Knights 9E2



Aboard the Pirate Ship – A description inspired by Treasure Island

The sharp, salty stench of the sea air brutally attacks the old, creaky timbers of the ancient Spanish galleon. The bland smell of gruel fills the lower decks along with the sweaty stench of thirty men. The salty sea air leaves a bitter taste in your mouth. The wind makes the boat creak and groan and the faint, gentle lapping of waves against the hull lulls the voices of thirty men into a rum-fuelled sleep. The rough, rotten wood will leave hundreds of tiny splinters embedded into your hand as you run your hand down the banisters. The thick rope is slimy from the continuous hours of sea spray lashing against the deck and will leave your hands feeling like they have been plunged in a half-set vat of jelly. The elegant, gold trimmed galleon looks like a small star in the beauty of the midnight moonlight that reflects off the glimmering sea is enough to make one fall in love with the beauty of the view.

Cameron McKean (Year 8)

