

The Ramsey Ram



14th edition

First Give Final

**Marine Engineering
Visit**

Ramsey Ronald

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Editors' Notes



Hello, my name is Tazmin Sloat and I am in Year 9. 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.

Hi, I am Amelia Slack and I am in Year 9. I have been with the Ramsey Ram since it started too. I like Science and like to use my knowledge and logic in my articles. I also have an interest in photography, and will be taking photos for the Ram.



Hi, I am Hannah Birch and I am in Year 10. Like the other editors, I have played a role in the Ramsey Ram since it started. I like to take an interest in a variety of different topics and think this is portrayed through my articles.

Ramsey's Archaeology Trip

On Wednesday 6 June, a small number of Year 9 students began their three-day trip with Independent Learning Archaeology Field School to learn more about Archaeology and the University of Cambridge. The first two days were based in Foxearth, a small village on the border between Essex and Suffolk, not too far from Sudbury, where we carried out excavations of small one metre x one meter test pits in different locations around the village. We were located in some of the most peculiar but interesting places, such as in the surrounding area of an old brewery and the back garden of a farmer's cottage.

On the first day, after arrival and registration, we were introduced to the work of ILAFS and Access Cambridge Archaeology - these organisations aim to reach as many young people as possible and educate them about the work of communities and universities. We were then given basic instructions of how to excavate a test pit, before being split into groups of four, each group had members from each of the three different schools that took part in the event. Then, either via minibus or by walking, we made our way to our test pit sites and set to work on uncovering any archaeological finds we could. The excavation process is time-consuming and requires absolute concentration and caution, as it involves recording everything in a booklet, as well as the use of potentially harmful equipment, such as shovels, spades and mattocks.

The second day was very much the same - we returned to our excavation sites and continued to do as much work as possible. The weather made this difficult - the heat meant we had frequent breaks to sit in the shade, and the ground was so dry that in some cases, we had to wet it in order to be able to dig it up properly. Around two thirty p.m. we all had to back-fill our test pits - this is when any soil that has been removed from the area is placed back and the turf is layered back on top carefully, ideally so the ground looks almost untouched.

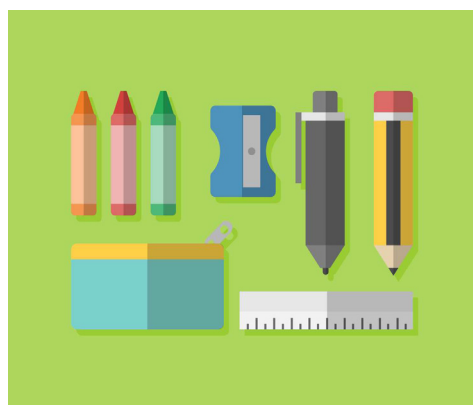
Finally, on Friday 8 June, we travelled all the way to Cambridge so we could have a tour of the Archaeology and Anthropology campus at the University. While we were at the University, we were lucky enough to have a taster lecture that related to the work we had been doing previously, and a tour of a small museum/display area nearby. Before heading home, we also had a talk with the School Liaison Officer about potentially applying for university and the benefits of doing so.

The trip was absolutely excellent, and despite the fact that the majority of us don't think that we will pursue archaeology in the future, the skills we have learnt from completing the exercise can be transferred anywhere. Also, the day at the university was a really useful insight to anyone who is considering that pathway in life. If this trip is offered again, and it is offered to you, please do take up the offer - it is an amazing, worthwhile opportunity.

- Tazmin Sloat (Year 9)



Equipment



Understandably it isn't always easy to have the right equipment, if you've got a black pen you'll be fine right? In fact as long as you've got any pen you'll scrape through the day. Perhaps you needn't even bring a pen to school, you could just borrow one from a teacher! Saves you bringing a pencil case, right?

Wrong! Hours are wasted a year simply due to asking: 'Miss, please can I have a ruler?' or 'I don't suppose you have a spare pen do you, Miss? It's unnecessary!'

Organisation is the key to life; you bring in equipment, you have more time, therefore you will learn more. It really is as simple as that.

My challenge to you, is to dedicate two minutes of your life the night before you come to school ensuring you have everything you could possibly need for the day ahead. We're the next generation- we have way more to worry about than not having a pen!

- Hannah Birch (Year10)

First Give Project Final

I remember sitting in class when we were deciding who was going to win and go through to the First Give Project Finals and give £1000 to our chosen charity the Essex Air Ambulance. I remember voting in our little booklet about the best presentation and then our names being called out. Then we got a note in tutor time saying, "Well done for achieving the First Give programme presentation" and then later in the day we went to TT3 to practise it.

After we were given our feedback I was so scared when we had to present it in front of other people and the judges. When it came to the day, we were one person down and we needed them for a personal story, so I had to read his lines out for him. When all the parents and judges arrived, it was time to start; it was very nerve-wracking but fortunately we were able to watch other groups first, so we had time to get ready. I remember when we stood up in front of everyone and my hands were shaking and sweating; I was so scared that I was going to say something wrong or completely pause while we were presenting. I had all types of emotion going through me I was happy for getting this far. Fortunately, we had another group supporting the Essex Air Ambulance, so we had more of a chance of raising money and all the money that we raised went to them as well. When everyone was talking all I remember was looking round at people to see what their expressions were. When we had finished, we all had to answer a question from the judges and our question was "What was something fascinating that you have learnt from your experience?" so we answered with "We have realised how important the Essex Air Ambulance is, to not just us, but the whole of Essex. How it helps people from any age and any injury. But also, we have learnt how well we all are with helping and working with each other and how supportive all the other groups were."

When the judges came to announce the winner, everyone was wishing each other good luck or well done and when they announced Essex Air Ambulance and our class name I was overjoyed as the Essex Air Ambulance was going to get £1000 and plus the money we raised, and a kind man decided to give all the charities an extra £75 and we were so grateful. I am so happy that we were able to give a lot of money to the charity. My mother and I have decided to give £10 a month to the charity so hopefully by the end of this year, they should be able to get another helicopter.

- Ellie Chatten (Year 7)



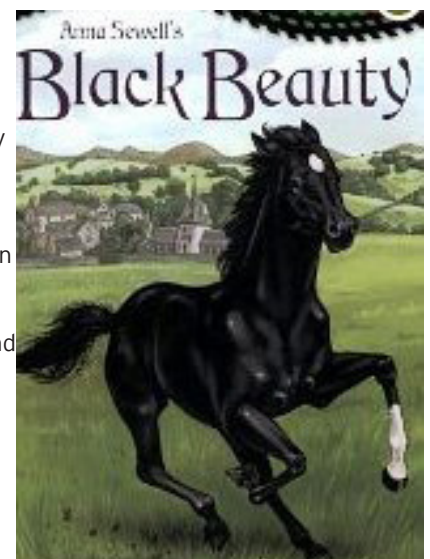
Black Beauty Book Review

Classics. They aren't always the easiest books to read: *Alice and Her Adventures in Wonderland*, *What Katy Did*, *The Famous Five* - I've read them all. Full of charm; they transport you to a world full of enchantment... yet I wasn't sure *Black Beauty* would have the same effect on me.

Although designed for younger children, I felt it would benefit me to read a book that I may not enjoy, to improve my perseverance. Don't get me wrong, animals are fine but I'm not the kind of girl that enjoys gazing longingly at cute puppies or adorable kittens for hours on end: they're just animals. Reading a book solely based on a horse didn't seem appealing initially. Within the first page though, *Black Beauty* captivated me and made my imagination burst with dreams of running alongside him, to carefully treat *Ginger* with kindness due to her sensitivity but most of all to continue reading!

Admittedly it didn't appeal to me at first, I fell in love with the obedient and loving horse and his humbling journey, it honestly deserves its reputation as a classic.

- Hannah Birch (year 10)



Eurovision Song Contest

This year the Eurovision Song Contest was held on Saturday 12 May 2018. It was hosted in Lisbon in Portugal and there were around twenty songs throughout the competition. The British entry was from Surie and she sung her song called '*Storm*' but unfortunately during her performance a man invaded the stage and took her microphone. She carried on and clapped in a brave attempt to continue her performance. She was given a second chance to perform, but she declined it. As the contest came to the end and we thought the songs couldn't get any cheesier, Israel came onto the stage represented by Netta with her song '*Toy*'. It was fine until she started to make chicken noises and pretended to flap her wings as part of her song.

As the votes came in we all thought Austria had won but then one more country had to vote and they voted for Israel so Netta had won and as she went to collect her award she was making chicken noises again and now next year's contest will be held in Israel.

- Hannah Salter (Year 7)



How Did Meghan Markle and Prince Harry Meet?

The world witnessed Prince Harry and Meghan Markle marriage in Windsor's St. George's Chapel on Saturday 19 May 2018. Lets find out how this whirlwind romance all started.

Meghan and Harry's relationship started off as a secret.

Meghan and Harry were actually set up on a blind date by a mutual friend in early July 2016. Sparks were flying immediately and after their date they made plans to meet the very next day.

Harry, when asked, immediately knew that Meghan was the one.

Things moved quickly from that and they went on a second date and Prince Harry invited Meghan on a trip to Africa just weeks later. How Romantic!

- Megan Sheppard (Year 7)



Summer Fetes

Summer fetes are full of stalls, activities and fun. Many fetes have bouncy castles and face paints. Fetes usually take place outdoors and are used to fundraise for charities. Fetes are traditionally family friendly celebrations that are very common in English culture.

In Wiltshire, west of Amesbury, Stonehenge is visited by nearly 37,000 people a year in summer to look at the Summer Solstice- when the sun appears to reach mostly north or south.

Fetes can also be seen in former British colonies. In Australia, fetes are often held yearly by schools and sometimes churches, to raise funds

Usual activities

- Bouncy castles
- Raffles
- Food and drink stalls
- Face painting

- Joy Mpepi (Year 7)



Holiday in Wales

No offence to anyone Welsh, but when my parents said they were taking us to Wales this year, I wasn't overjoyed at the prospect. More rain? I'm alright thanks.

Yet as we drove, we eventually came to the most picturesque cascading hills with luscious greenery, and a comforting mist surrounded us- oh and how could I possibly forget the sheep? Just entering North Wales provided the most beautiful views, I couldn't wait to actually get to where we were staying!

Llandudno sounded familiar when Mum and Dad mentioned it initially, this was due to the fact that I'd studied it in Year 7 Geography, particularly it's iconic coastline. Not only did it have a Primark (always a bonus!), Llandudno had a modern charm to it with amusements the whole way along the pier, yet its famous Great Orme reflects its role in Wales' history. In fact, Llandudno is so old that when my grandparents visited in the 50's, they went up the Great Orme just like we did.

So what is so special about the Great Orme? For me it was the personal connection; just the thought that I was standing where my grandparents had all those years earlier was quite humbling, however the Great Orme itself was filled with character! With its quirky tramway, terrifying cable cars and ultimately, it's Randolph Turpin Museum, the Great Orme wasn't just a hill with views! The Great Orme was only part of my stay in Llandudno, but a part I'll never forget. Just for the record, we had glorious sunshine all week!

- Hannah Birch (Year 10)



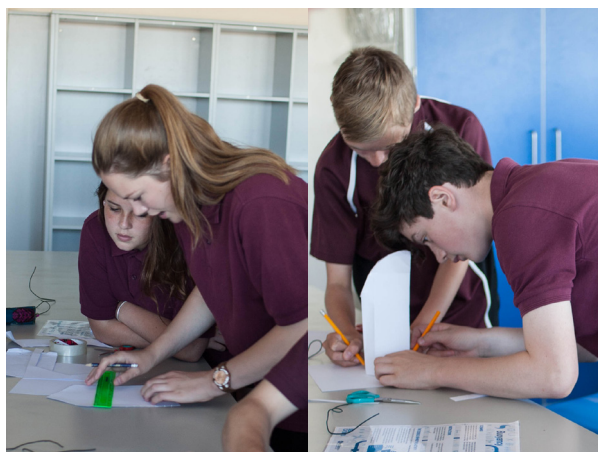
Marine Engineering Visit

On Tuesday 3 July, two groups of students from Year 9 took part in a Marine Engineering workshop that was held in one of the Science rooms - one group had the two-hour workshop before break, the other group had their workshop after break. The workshop consisted of a talk and a mini-competition which relied on teamwork to get the best outcome.

The first talk mainly focused on statistics, problems and how to resolve them - hence revealing the appeal of becoming a marine engineer. It was revealed that the UK needs 2 million more engineers by 2020, and that only nine percent of the UK's engineers are female, and only six percent of the UK's engineers aren't white. These statistics then led onto the appeals of becoming a marine engineer, which include a nice, tax-free starting salary of £30,000 and the fact that where you work can vary immensely. For example, one common misconception is that marine engineers work in boring places such as oil rigs. This is correct, but marine engineers can also work in rather interesting places, for example, on a nuclear-powered submarine, a super yacht or on a cruise ship.

After this talk had finished, it was then onto the competition - we were split into groups and were given a seemingly simple task - use two pieces of A4 card to create a boat that would float (once wrapped in tin foil) and hold the largest amount of marbles as possible before sinking. This task was made a lot more difficult, however, as timings were given in seconds (meaning things often got confusing), Sellotape often refused to cooperate, and the activity required immense concentration. However, all groups managed to successfully test their boat's in time - one even beating the record number for the area! Not only did this visit open up our minds to the world of engineering and marine engineering, it also encouraged us to use precious skills such as teamwork and communication skills. Overall, the visit was quite a poignant and thought-provoking one- I would highly recommend this experience.

- Tazmin Sloat (Year 9)



Medical Mavericks Visit

On Monday 9 July, a group of students from Years 9 and 10 were able to participate in a scientific workshop on the topic of medicine and medical practice, thanks to the Medical Mavericks, who came to join us in the Hall.

The session started with a brief explanation of the tasks we could do and how we would perform said tasks. These activities included some more obvious and less-time consuming ones, such as using a thermometer to measure temperature, using a chart to measure height, and using a stethoscope to listen to heart rates and breathing patterns. However, also included were some more unusual and exciting tasks, such as viewing the world in different vision types – this was done by wearing pathology goggles which had been designed to show what vision can look like when people have a stroke, or have double vision, for example.

Another task was to perform keyhole surgery – moving a rubber band around to represent challenges faced in keyhole surgery, and a third was to use an infra-red scanner to reveal the veins in different parts of the body, such as the forearm. My favourite activity was using ultrasound to determine whether or not we would grow any taller by searching for growth plates.

The session was very unusual but actually quite engaging and fun to participate in. It combined curiosity and expertise perfectly, and allowed a further look into careers in medical science through the inclusion of different types of activities which suited everyone in one way or another.

- Tazmin Sloat (Year 9)



Teacher Talk: Mrs Barnes

Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

No, I was good at Science and I wanted to be a vet and I started to work on TV but I was never in front on TV I was helping behind. But then I just fell in love with Drama, so I retrained as a Drama teacher at 25.

What has been your biggest achievement so far?

We all have a lot of achievements all the time but personally I find seeing students finding the courage to perform and show positivity. Also having my daughter was also a big achievement.

Did you ever get a detention in school?

No, I don't remember getting one, but I did bring things like homework in late but because I was a good student I got away with it.

What were you like at school?

I was good at sport and was sports captain, also I was quite rebellious, and I wore punk clothes.

Why did you decide to teach Drama and how good were you at Drama in school?

I fell in love with performance and other's need to express themselves. I also believe theatre can change the world. I prefer singing to acting and I do little gigs here and there.

Bonus Questions:

Favourite country and why?

England because of the variety of climate and the beauty of the countryside and mountains.

World Cup or Summer Olympics and why?

Summer Olympics because it has a variety of men and women also and I find the Summer Olympics is more interesting.

- Courtney Sloat (Year 7)



Moving Up From Year 6 To Year 7

Does any one remember being in Year 6 and after you had finished your SATs, rehearsing for a play in school and thinking about what it would be like to be in Year 7? That was me about this time last year. I was so sad to be leaving my primary school but excited and nervous to go in to Year 7.

"You will be fine, there is nothing to worry about." was stuck in my head thanks to my mum, but I remember feeling like I wasn't going to fit in or find any new friends and just be alone. Now I forget why I worried so much - I mean I am not alone, I have made so many friends being here at Ramsey and I wish I could go back in time and tell myself that.

In my first day here, I got to know my tutor group well and became friends with a lot of them, I also remember I had History, English and Science later that day (which I was worried about). I was also scared about lunch and break because I didn't really know anyone. But when you have been doing the same sort of rota for a few weeks you get used to everything and then you feel you start to fit in. I am also lucky to have my sister here at Ramsey so if I couldn't find anyone to hang out with or I needed help with something I could go and ask to her or hang out with me.

I think you just must do things to be able to like them. I believe moving up from Year 6 into Year 7 has be one of the best things I have done and all that worrying was for nothing. In Year 7 I feel I have learnt a lot and have grown a lot (me =tall) and I feel I have really come out my comfort zone.

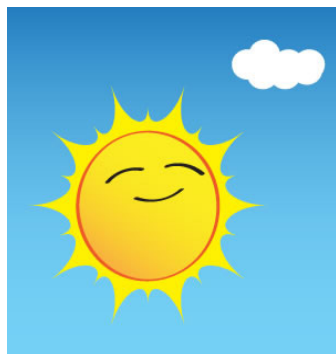
- Courtney Sloat (Year 7)



Ramsey Ronald

Dear Ramsey Ronald,

This hot weather is absolutely killing me! I have no motivation to do anything and just the very thought of getting up makes me feel exhausted! Walking to school feels like I'm climbing a mountain in the middle of the desert- I'm not even exaggerating. Admittedly, I'm probably being quite ungrateful considering I moaned the whole of winter because I was so cold but still! I get through the school day then I get home and just dive on to my bed in a frenzy of tiredness. Not only does the heat drain all of my energy, it also drains my fluids meaning I have to make a million trips to the kitchen to get some water. How is the rest of the country coping? Please help!



Hello,

The weather really isn't quite that bad! Have you tried having a cool shower and changing when you get in? Freezing your water bottle for the next day? Getting a fan? Opening some windows? There isn't a huge amount I can suggest only that you should probably keep to the shade! Before you know it, it will be Winter again. One thing we can't change is the weather so just try and have fun in the sun and who knows, you may surprise yourself with how much you enjoy it! Life's too short to worry about the weather.

I've heard there's some exciting new ice lollies out this year too

The Ramsey Ronald

Dear Ramsey Ronald,

All of my friends are going to festivals this summer; Latitude, V Fest, you name it, someone's going! Mum says it's far too dangerous with all the drug incidents happening, let alone the risk of violence. I've told her that actually these things are really rare and the majority of people that go to festivals are simply there to have a good time. My worst mistake! Yes, she says, a good time with alcohol and absolutely no cares in the world. I daren't say anymore.

Honestly though, I really enjoy music, the idea of doing my make-up glitter-based sounds so thrilling, the hairstyles for festivals are adorable and that's without a weekend camping with my mates! I know there are dangers but I'm usually very sensible and Mum knows I'd be careful. How can I ease her worrying?

Hello,

I can completely understand your Mum's concern; however you have made some good points. Specifically ask your Mum what you could do to make her feel reassured about these issues, chances are just taking simple precautions could make her feel more comfortable.

Have you tried asking your Mum about attending a more local, low-key festival as if you do this then you can gradually build her trust? By proving to her that in a safe environment you're demonstrating your best, most responsible qualities she'll soon feel comfortable about you attending one of the bigger festivals. Alternatively, lots of venues are hosting out door cinemas this year- there's guaranteed singing and dancing and you'll be chilling with your mates! Whatever you do choose to do, remember you are young and that you can have fun whilst staying safe!

The Ramsey Ronald

