



Ulverston Victoria High School Autumn Term Review 2022

Mr Hardwick Writes

A sense of optimism and energy as we start the new term!

UVHS Remembers

For this Nov 11th service we chose to focus on four local men.

Also in this edition:

- UVHS Careers Fair
- Xmas Music Concert
- Class of '22 Prize Giving

MR HARDWICK WRITES...

The glimpse of the sun illuminating the reds and gold of Cumbria's fells on Bank Holiday Monday has imbued me with a sense of optimism and energy as we start the new term. I'm hoping that the forecast storms disappear quickly and reflect the calm purposeful atmosphere in school as we move towards Year 11 and 13 practice exams.

The end of last half term was a glorious return to the warmth that makes this school what it is, with Christmas treats, the Christmas Fayre, and the Christmas concert: with even Mr Butler admitting that there was a return to top form, which is a testament to his dedication.

Any teacher will tell you that the Autumn term always seems the longest, that word speaking volumes. This year's dark nights, enhanced by higher than normal levels of illness and varied, somewhat odd, weather. It is amazing how much is packed into this term, not only is the most curriculum covered, but there are lots of extra-curricular activities, trips and enrichment. Year 6s become Year 7s and gain in confidence, and Year 11s begin to realise just how important this year is.

Coupled with this are new initiatives, aimed at the wellbeing and mental health of the students. We are working this year to become an "Anti racism school"; working with Leeds Beckett University. Several year groups are also working with Every Life Matters to tackle some of the Mental Health challenges our young people are facing in the current world.

I have written previously that we are getting back to normal, and we are, but that normal is different. Schools are picking up more and more support responsibilities and the definition of the word "education" is constantly broadening as the complexity of the modern world increases. So, the definition of what a school is, and what our roles are, is developing at an exponential rate. But we are a community school, here to support our community; to prepare all our children for the world they are going to live in. It is an exciting time to work in a school, particularly such a great one as UVHS.

Happy New Year

Matt Hardwick



Our Day Out - A Play for our times?

By Mr Vogler

Aside from 4 or 5 professional theatre companies who specialise in Mask, British theatre – indeed western European theatre – doesn't have a strong mask tradition. Despite this, Mask theatre is probably the oldest form of theatre on the planet and features strongly in all other cultures across the globe from Polynesian communities in Oceania, to the rainforests of the South American continent, to the highest mountain communities of the Himalaya. Rooted in ritual and shamanic origins, the Mask is a fundamental aspect to theatre around the world and yet somewhat enigmatic to British Theatre, which is shame as Mask theatre is strangely beguiling to watch. It was based on this point that the students and I decided to take the challenge of turning a scripted play into a piece of theatre where communication had to be conveyed through action and gesture alone.

Our Day Out, Willy Russell's much-loved play about poor children from Liverpool, proved so popular after being shown on TV in 1977 that it was converted into a full-length stage play. Its themes of living with a lack of education and opportunity and suffering social deprivation are as pertinent today as when it was written. When Mrs Kay's 'Progress Class' are unleashed for a much-anticipated day's coach trip to Conwy Castle in Wales, the class can't wait to get away from the confines of school for a day of mucking about with mates. But sometimes the beauty of a place far removed from the reality of a life lived on the edge of poverty, only acts as a reminder of the empty future that awaits back home.

During the performances of our production it was noticeable how the masked actors were able to work their magic on the audience, projecting their inner monologues through movement, gesture and stillness in spite of the fact there were no words spoken! After all, it was Professor Albert Mehrabian who stated that 55% of what we take in through communication is the physical movement of the other person. Actions really do speak louder than words...

The students involved had to learn a whole new skill set of theatre techniques and as ever I am immensely proud of them for they have so successfully achieved.



Year 11 Mock Interviews and Careers Fair November 2022

On Tuesday 1st November we were delighted to host our Year 11 Mock Interview Day and Careers Fair here in school.

With the kind support of 26 of our link business partners and education providers, our Year 11 cohort was engaged in individual Mock Interviews during the day where each student was allocated a ten-minute interview with a local employer/recruiter with a five-minute personal de-brief thereafter.

Many of those supporting us with the interviews were the recruiters/employers that the students will be meeting in the future, so it was imperative that they made the best impression. Students had been preparing their CVs, cover letters and interview questions earlier in the term as they needed to ensure they made the most of this invaluable opportunity. We should not underestimate the impact the students' performance would have and I am delighted to say that they all rose to this challenge. The feedback received from the employers and providers was amazing with all stating that they would have little hesitation in offering placements/roles in their organisations in the future. Although a daunting task for many, it was such a valuable experience for all concerned. I am hugely proud of their achievements.

The annual Year 11 Careers Fair was held that same evening and students had the chance to find out more about possible future career options and an opportunity to meet potential employers and college tutors. Throughout the evening students and parents/carers were able to get in-depth information about specific courses, apprenticeships, careers and other Post-16 options available to them when they leave next summer.

Both events were a huge success and employers and providers have commented on the calibre of students UVHS has to offer and all would welcome our students as prospective employees of the future!

I would like to extend a thank you to all who supported us for these important events. - Mrs Adams



Y11 Sedbergh Geography Field Trip

It was a real pleasure for the Geography department to take Year 11 out on the first GCSE fieldtrip since before the Covid pandemic...and we were treated to some late October sunshine too!

Our Year 11 pupils visited the town of Sedbergh where they collected data on how the town has been impacted by tourism and whether this has changed its identity. They also walked to nearby Settlebeck Gill and collected data to see how the river's characteristics change as it flows from source to mouth.

Our Year 11 pupils will now use this data to analyse the information collected, evaluate the methods used in the field and draw conclusions in preparation for their Paper 3 exam in the summer.



UVHS Remembers

‘All pupils spoke with great clarity and confidence’

Remembrance Service 2022
By Mrs Lomas

UVHS has a long-standing tradition of honouring the sacrifice of many men and women from the local community, who have sadly died in war. For this year's service we chose to focus on four local men, three of whom died in 1942 during the Second World War and a fourth, who died in 1982 during the Falklands Conflict. The pieces were read by pupils from Years 8 to 12 and we also listened to a reading of 'In Flanders Field' by John McCrae. All pupils spoke with great clarity and confidence.

Just before 11am, senior students from Year 11 and Year 13 read out the names of ex-pupils from our school who died in the Great War and World War Two and then in the hall, and around the school, we stood and observed the two-minute silence, marked by buglers playing the Last Post and the Reveille.



THE UPPER SCHOOL

Peter Hague

Peter Hague attended Ulverston Grammar School from 1927 to 1935. He was commissioned into the Royal Navy and served on HMS Kingston. On the 4th of April 1942, whilst the destroyer was in dock at Malta repairing damage, a bomb fell directly at the entrance of the Corradino tunnel, where part of her crew had taken shelter. 14 crewmen were killed by the blast including Lieutenant Peter Hague, who had been directing the men into the safety of the Corradino tunnel. Peter was 25 years old. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) in the King's Birthday Honours of 1942.

In Memoriam (a German Song)

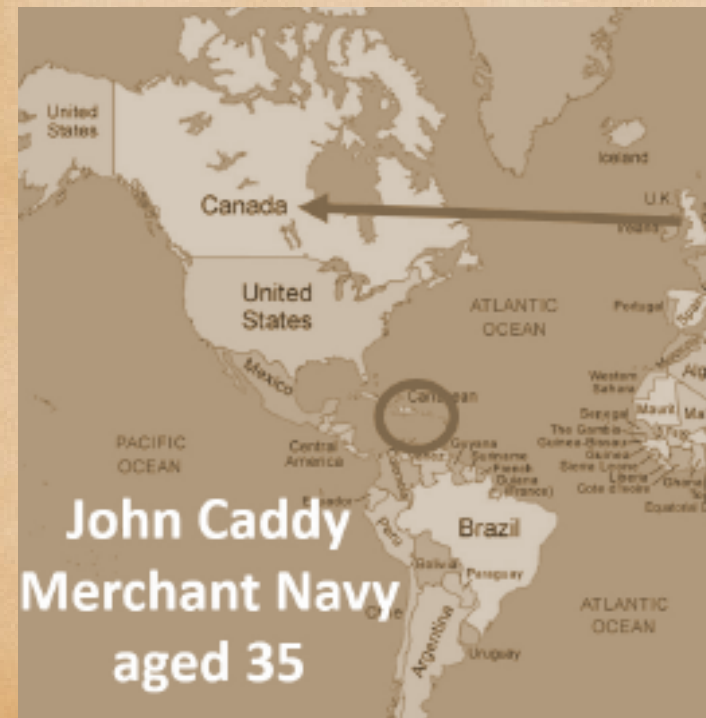
There are no roses on a sailor's grave, no lilies on an ocean wave. The only tribute is the seagull's sweeps, and the teardrops that a sweetheart weeps.



Pictured: Peter Hague



Four Local Heros!



Pictured: John Caddy's emigration journey

John Caddy

John Caddy was born in Ulverston but then emigrated to Canada in 1930. By March 1942, he was serving on the MV British Resource Master James Kennedy. This ship was about 230 miles north of Bermuda when she was hit by two torpedoes from a German submarine. A little later a third torpedo hit near the engine room and set the tanker completely on fire. She sank the next day. John Caddy went down with the ship, aged 35.



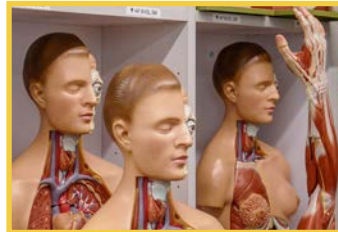
Pictured: Richard Hurst's Grave

Richard Hurst

Richard was also born in Ulverston. He later served as a Private in the 1st King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster), which was sent to Cyprus on garrison duty. His ship was HMT Princess Marguerite. She left Port Said in August 1942, and at that point was torpedoed by an enemy submarine. One of the oil tanks exploded and caught fire in a few seconds and the ship rapidly started to sink. The submarine was never seen again. Private Richard Edward Hurst was on board. He drowned that afternoon, aged 25.

Sean Haywood

Sean was born in Barrow in 1963. He was an Able Seaman who served on HMS Ardent. In April 1982 Ardent was attacked by at least three waves of Argentine aircraft. Ardent stopped in shallow waters, the fires in her stern now out of control. With the ship listing heavily, Commander Alan West gave the order to abandon the ship. Ardent continued to burn throughout the night, accompanied by the occasional explosion, until she sank the next day. Sean Haywood died that day when his ship was bombed & sunk. He was 18 years old.



University of Lancaster trip

A group of Year 10 students attended the University of Lancaster to participate in numerous activities. The students completed tasks in Sports Science, Human Physiology and immunoassay techniques.

The Sports Science section included a variety of different machines the Optojump performance assessment system, Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (that measured muscle strength), BMI and blood pressure.

The Human Physiology was broken down into the structure of the lungs and then showed the students x-rays of different problems or conditions associated with the lungs and asked them to suggest what was wrong.

The students then finished off in one of the Universities biochemistry labs and carried out immunoassay techniques including ELISA testing.



2022 UVHS Christmas Music Festival

On Wednesday 14th December, a sell-out audience at The Coro saw a triumphant return of the ever-popular UVHS Christmas Festival after two years of cancellations due to Covid. Led by the UVHS Wind Band (who are planning to return to European concert tours in July 2023) the audience were treated to a feast of festive music and audience carols, including a very entertaining performance of 'The Nightmare Before Christmas' with the original poem by Tim Burton being expertly read by 3 drama students to the accompaniment of Danny

Elfman's magical musical score performed by the Band under the baton of Head of Performing Arts, Richard Butler MBE.

Also onstage were performances from the Junior Band, String Ensemble, Flute Choir, Brass Ensemble, Clarinet Choir and, with some audience participation, the Saxophone Ensemble, Playing jazz arrangements of 'Jingle Bells' and '(Not So) Silent Night'. Two other highlights of the evening were the school Choir whose 4-part rendition of Kate Rusby's 'Underneath The Stars' was truly magical, especially with the addition of a solo violin (played by Bethany yr12) and vocal solo (from Martha yr11), and the Wind Band accompanying Caitlin (yr13) with a performance of the hit song 'Let It Go' from the film 'Frozen'.

The audience left The Coro full of the Christmas spirit and also in awe of the musical talent on display from UVHS students. Everyone is now looking forward to the Wind Band's joint concert with the Royal Marines on Saturday 4th February (tickets for which are available through www.thecoro.co.uk).





Christmas Fayre

The annual UVHS Christmas Fayre returned this December, with great success! It was wonderful to welcome parents, students, ex-students and other members of the school community back to UVHS for an evening of festive fun. Huge thanks must go to our student helpers and supporting staff for running a brilliant range of stalls - hot drinks, homemade cakes, crafts and cards as well as numerous Christmas themed games. Local businesses and staff also showed their generous support for the school by donating raffle prizes, for which we are very grateful. Thanks to the fantastic efforts of everyone involved, an incredible **£1132.65** was raised to be split between Cancer Research and school funds. Thank you to all who made the evening a wonderful event!

UVHS Food Bank Collection

Once again UVHS were delighted to support the Foodbank collection for our local area this Christmas, ensuring residents could access food from the centres in Barrow, Ulverston and Millom over the festive break.

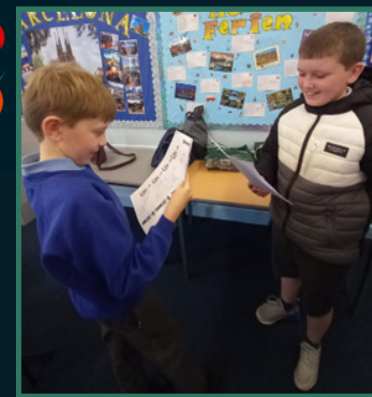
As a school, we have supported the Trussel Trust since 2015 by donating: £1233.34, hundreds of mince pies and approximately 422 family size, 3-day Christmas hampers to show our dedication to helping those in the community. Even though the cost of living and price rises in food are very much on everyone's mind, the generosity shown by both staff and students in December to support our campaign was as unwavering as ever.

Thank you to Stollers who very kindly collect our donation in their van free of charge every year to take to the Foodbank distribution centre, and especially to the students of 8.7 who carried the heavy bags and boxes out to the van!

A wonderful way to end the Christmas term!



This term, Year 5 and 6 pupils from our local primary schools have been enjoying taking part in Spanish lessons with Miss Beardsley. They have been learning how to introduce themselves and how to describe different animals and colours. We have also been learning about the Spanish culture, including the Flamenco dance, bull fighting, paella and traditional Spanish guitar music.



Given its rising popularity, all Year 7 pupils at UVHS now learn Spanish for three lessons a week. Some Year 10 students are also looking forward to visiting Barcelona in July, where they will have the chance to practise their Spanish for real!

UVHS Celebrates with the Class of 2022

On Thursday 5th January, UVHS's 'Class of 22' gathered together at The Coronation Hall for the school's annual Senior Celebration of Achievement event. All of last year's yr11 and yr13 students were invited to come and be formally presented with their hard-earned GCSE and A Level certificates along with any subject prizes or special awards that they may have been nominated for, ranging from school 'colours' for commitment to sports and/or the performing arts at school, to a series of £1500 bursaries awarded to 8 former yr13 students by Orcina (to reward phenomenal achievement in Maths and/or Science). Indeed the whole school was also celebrating the best A Level results the school has ever seen.

Countless other 'special' awards were also given out to recognise such things as tenacity, contributions to the life of the school, progress and involvement in STEM subjects, to name but a few. There were also big awards for the students attaining the highest academic success at both levels, going to Anna and Lucy at GCSE and Lilian and Charlie at A Level.

Throughout the evening there were mesmerising dance performances from GCSE and yr12 students, a very entertaining excerpt from Jim Cartwright's play, 'Two', performed brilliantly by A Level drama students Caitlin and Joe and incidental music from UVHS's ever-popular Little Big Band.

The special guest and speaker for the evening was former UVHS Head Girl and now co-owner and HR Director for Forge Europa, Mrs Julie Barton. Mrs Barton talked about her work as the High Sheriff of Cumbria during the 'Covid years' and her position now as Deputy Lieutenant of Cumbria stressing that to be successful in the future, her advice to all the students and former students present was to not only strive to achieve their dreams or goals but, more importantly, to learn to be as adaptable as possible in doing so.

Headteacher, Matt Hardwick, spoke warmly about how privileged he felt being the Headteacher of UVHS, with its rich history and place in the town, and also being able to celebrate the achievements of all the students present, whether inside or outside the classroom. He wished all of the students and former students present a successful 2023 as the school looks forward to another year of high achievement with the current yr11 & 13.



Rugby News

Year 8 Rugby League

The UVHS Year 8 Rugby League team made it through to the Barrow Schools final in late November having played and won all their games at the Year 8 Festival held in October. They then moved on to play and beat a very good Dowdales Year 8 team 32-12 in the quarter final match played at UVHS, before having their semi-final conceded by St Bernards. The Year 8 boys have trained consistently from September with a number of the boys showing real promise with some outstanding Rugby League being played across our games. Jaiden, Charlie, Ben, Mason,

Isaac & Oliver have all been the stand-out performers so far this year. Unfortunately, we lost the final against Furness Academy and the score line of 30-0, this however was not a reflection of the effort the boys put into that game. As runners up in the Barrow Schools final, this qualifies the team to play the winner of Cumbria North section, with the winner playing in the county final sometime in the new year.

Year 10 Rugby league

The UVHS Year 10 team performed fantastically well across this term. Playing in the Year 10 festival at St Bernards, we were very much the smallest of all schools who participated in the 9 a side festival. However, you can never judge a book by its cover and the UVHS team performed great to beat Furness Academy, along with both Dowdales teams before losing a very close game to St Bernards (eventual winners of the Barrow Schools Yr 10 Comp). Being drawn against Furness Academy in the Barrow Schools comp, we put in a real good performance beating them 32 - 6, before coming up against a good Dowdales team in our semi-final losing to them 34-10.

Netball News

It has been a busy term in regards to netball at UVHS! The U12,U14,U16 and U19 teams all played in the Furness schools tournament. The U12 netball team won the Furness tournament and are therefore the Furness schools netball champions. We will see how they get on next year when they can qualify for the county round...watch this space! All teams came first or second in the event so qualified for the County Netball final at Sedbergh!

The U19 netball team played brilliantly at the county round coming up against some very tough competition including England players! The team won two of their games and lost one at the group stage. This then went to goal difference resulting in the U19 just missing out on the final round. Massive well done to the team on a fantastic effort!

The U16 team were AMAZING! They trained hard in preparation for the county round and they played the best netball I have seen them play. Some stand out performances from Theadora, Brooke and Molly. The team won both games and lost one which again lead to goal difference. Unfortunately we did not go through to the next round but this team is one to watch!

All in all we have some amazing netball talent at UVHS with the U19, U12 teams holding the title of Furness Schools Netball Champions with all teams qualifying for the county finals. Fantastic effort girls well done!

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

BEYOND FIZZBUZZ

Count incrementally, replacing any number divisible by three with the word "Fizz", and any number divisible by five with the word "Buzz". Can you picture how to solve the FizzBuzz problem? This club is on every Wednesday @ 3:30 to 4:30 in N7.

Extend your programming skills

Starting with:

- Websites in Flask & Python
- Game development in Unity & C#
- Game development in Pygame & Python
- Working with remote APIs in Python (query Twitter or YouTube)

POSITIVE NEWSPAPER CLUB

Come and have your say at The UVHS Press: the school's ONLY official Newspaper Club. We meet every Wednesday at 1pm in C4 and cover all things positive; from local events, to in-school news; from TV reviews, to quizzes, games and competitions.

Over the past year we have covered a variety of stories, and with an edition being published each term, we are always on the hunt for avid writers, budding journalists, keen puzzle-makers, talented illustrators and incredible editors. Why not come and see if it is for you?

TABLE TENNIS

Team A:	Team B:	Team C:
Theo	Joss	Jake
Zack	Charlie	Woody
Euan	Luke	Sam
Joseph	Tahan	Sam

Following our successful bid with Barrow Table Tennis, Sport England and Table Tennis England that saw UVHS receive some new Table Tennis equipment, along with coaching from league chairman Keith Dymond, UVHS was invited to enter the Cumbria Schools Table Tennis Competition on the 1st December.

5 other schools took part with 3 UVHS teams comprised of students from Year 7-11 all entered into the U16 games. No other school entered as many teams as Ulverston did, and each player was outstanding!

Special mention to Sam in Year 7 who played the 4th ranked Cumbrian Junior, and narrowly lost 2-1. He then went on to beat a year 10 in his second game, a result which received thunderous applause by the UVHS team.

But, it's the UVHS B squad who stole the show, as they were crowned winners of the tournament! They will now represent Cumbrian in the next round of the national competition which takes place on the 15th January.

Congratulations to all the players, from all the schools, the event was really fantastic, and it was wonderful to see so much interest for Table Tennis. Thank you to Keith Dymond as well for his time and efforts coming into school to help with coaching. Table Tennis is on each Friday from 3:30-4:30, all year groups welcome.