

PTA News

Number 5 November 2011

Chichester
High School
For Girls



Together we aspire
Together we achieve

Entertaining words

Three local authors with connections to the school gave a fascinating insight into the process of writing a novel and getting it published at the PTA's latest fundraising event in October.

The school's Library Manager Kate Angus began the evening by introducing the authors and inviting them to read from, and comment on, their novels. This was followed by a question and answer session on writing and publishing in general. Finally, there was an opportunity to meet the authors individually and ask them to sign copies of their books.

Isabel Ashdown's latest novel *Hurry Up and Wait* was inspired by her time at CHSG in the 1980s. It is a coming-of-age story that takes place in a town on the south coast. Gabrielle Kimm read from her first book, *His Last Duchess*, a historical novel set in Italy, the idea for which was triggered by a poem by Robert Browning. Gabrielle, who is now working on her third novel, has taught at many local schools including CHSG and, like Isabel, currently has a daughter at the school. Jane Rusbridge took four years to write *The Devil's Music* and in the course of doing so became quite an expert on knots! The story, set in the 1950s and thirty years later, is about family secrets and betrayal.

Many different aspects of writing novels were discussed during the Q&A session, from how to become a writer and being rejected by agents and publishers, to book jacket design and the expertise offered by publishing companies.

The PTA would like to thank Isabel Ashdown, Gabrielle Kimm, and Jane Rusbridge for giving their time; Kate Angus for organising the event; and Waterstone's bookshop who attended and provided a raffle prize.

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Successful year

2010-11 was an extremely successful year for the PTA in terms of fundraising, and we're hoping the momentum will continue with the active involvement of 'new' parents.

Parents attending the PTA's AGM on 8th November heard that, despite having to cancel the Christmas Fayre due to snow, significant sums had been raised during the year, enabling the PTA to donate £1,000 to the school to initiate the purchase of modern outdoor seating for the girls.

The bulk of the funds raised came from two new events: last October's *Gardeners' Questions & Answers with Garden Market*, and the *Travelling Trends Fashion Show* held in the Spring, which produced net profits of £745 and £928 respectively. The second *Chi High Has Talent* show also proved an enormous success with 24 acts performing in the final to a sell-out audience, raising around £350 for PTA funds in the process.

The committee is pleased to welcome two new faces to the Executive: Giselle Peers takes over as Treasurer following Julie Brombley's move to Chair, and Claire Nutbrown assumes the role of Secretary. The volunteers undertaking various support roles have agreed to continue, but there is a new vacancy for someone to have oversight of the PTA web page. Now that we have our own page(s) we need someone to make sure the content is relevant and up-to-date, and to liaise with the school staff member who edits the page on our behalf. If you might be interested in this role, please contact the PTA at pta@chichesterhighschoolforgirls.co.uk.

Recycle rubbish into money

Will you, or someone you know, be getting a new mobile for Christmas? Do you replace the ink cartridges in the printer at home or work? If the answer to either question is Yes, read on to find out how you can support our recycling initiatives...

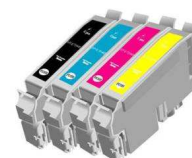


Instead of throwing away your old mobile phones and printer ink cartridges, please help raise funds by asking your daughter to drop them into the collection bins at Pupil Reception.



CHSG is working alongside a company called Fonebank on a mobile phone recycling initiative. As well as raising funds - Fonebank pay us their current website prices for every handset we collect - we are also helping to protect the environment as all the broken and obsolete models are recycled.

The ink cartridges are recycled as part of Recycle It, a printer cartridge recycling scheme run by Cartridge World. Cartridge World gives us 50p for every cartridge we collect and £1 for every cartridge parents have refilled in their store. Our local Cartridge World shop is at 13The Hornet, Chichester. When you take your cartridges there to be refilled, ask for a card which they will stamp once for each cartridge refilled. When the card is full (four stamps), hand it in at Pupil Reception so that we can redeem it - for £4!



(A lot of) Something for nothing!

Doing your Christmas shopping on-line? You can help raise funds for the school by accessing your favourite on-line stores via TheGivingMachine.co.uk.



Parents, staff and friends of the school have already raised over £200 by doing their on-line shopping via thegivingmachine.co.uk. This is a web-based shopping portal with links to hundreds of retailers, including all the big names: Argos, Amazon, Boden, Currys, Ebay, Halfords, John Lewis, Next, Toys R Us, Tesco and Vodaphone, to name a few. Every time one of our registered givers shops on-line via thegivingmachine.co.uk's website, the retailer pays a commission, most of which is passed on to CHSG.

For example, for every £50 you spend at Amazon.co.uk the PTA will receive a donation of £1.55* - at no extra cost to yourself.

To become a registered giver is easy - just sign up at thegivingmachine.co.uk and nominate Chichester High School for Girls as your beneficiary. Then the next time you want to shop on-line, be it for books, music, furniture, clothes, kitchen appliances or whatever, go to thegivingmachine.co.uk and check if the retailer you want to use is listed; if it is, click on their logo to go directly to the retailer's site.

Want to know more? Come along to the PTA stand at the Christmas Fayre. We'll show you how easy it is to use thegivingmachine.co.uk, and can help you register as a giver.

* Current commission paid by Amazon.co.uk is 4.13%. TheGivingMachine.co.uk retain 25% of the commission to cover running costs and pass the remaining 75% to us.



John Lewis



Boden

Lucky winners!

The winners of October's Pledge 10 draw were Mr & Mrs Beaves.

If you would like the chance to win the monthly prize of £25 (October to June) or July's bonus prize of £75, all for an initial outlay of only £10, send a completed application form, together with your payment, to PTA Pledge 10 c/o Finance Office, CHSG, Kingsham Road, Chichester PO19 8EB. Forms can be downloaded from the PTA's web page.

PTA on the web

Have you seen the PTA's new web page? As part of the school's revamped website, the PTA now has its own page, which can be accessed from the bar across the top of the school's home page. Please let us know what else you'd like to see on our page - send your comments to us at our new address:

pta@chichesterhighschoolforgirls.co.uk

Christmas is nearly here...



We're keeping our fingers crossed it won't snow on Friday 25th November - last year's Christmas Fayre was cancelled due to snow, hopefully we can more than make up for that with this year's evening of festive fun.

Are you constantly pestered by a daughter wanting the latest fashions? Why not buy some raffle tickets to be in with a chance of winning one of the fantastic prizes which include a **£50 Boden voucher** and a boxed set of **Cath Kidston mugs**. For the adults, there will be opportunities throughout the evening to win some festive fizz in our **Champagne Raffle** which will be drawn every half hour.

With six professional vendors selling jewellery, candles, cards, cup cakes and plants, there will be plenty of scope for Christmas shopping. The Year 7 and Year 8 girls will be running 16 stalls to delight and entertain younger fayre goers. And of course, there will be lots of delicious refreshments including mulled wine, mince pies and hot dogs.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friday 25th November

6.00—8.00 pm

Raffle	Books		Name the teddy
	Toiletries	Jewellery	Make-up
Refreshments		Cards	Gifts
Kids Tombola	Accessories	CDS & DVDs	Champagne raffle

Come along to the main school hall and relax with
a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.

Entry: Adults 50p Children Free

Dates for your Diary	
Friday 25 th November	Christmas Fayre 6.00-8.00 pm (Main Hall)
Tuesday 10 th January	PTA Committee Meeting 7.00 pm (School Library)
Friday 20 th January	Chi High Has Talent 6.30-9.00 pm (Centenary Theatre)
Tuesday 20 th March	PTA Committee Meeting 7.00 pm (School Library)