

News from Burford School

Rugby

The Under 15's (shown here) capped a fantastic season by beating Cokethorpe School 15-12 to win the Oxfordshire



County Cup. Callum Godfrey scored two tries and Ted Landray got a conversion. The Under 14s rounded off their season on a high by triumphing in the County Vase Final beating King Alfred's Community and Sports College by 15-12. Dan Crook, James Reynolds and Chris Godfrey all scoring tries.

The Under 12s shared the West Oxfordshire District Trophy by drawing 5-all in the final with Ben Moss scoring Burford's try.

Short Story Competition

Congratulations to Alice Landray (Year 8) who has won the Burford Short Story Competition with a fantastic outer space themed story *The Head Arrives!* Alice won a signed copy of senior Judge, Nick Lake's book *Blood Ninja* and a book-token courtesy of the Red Lion Bookshop. In addition, three runners up, Keith Collister (Year 8), Isobel Haig and Wilf Holdcroft (both Year 9) won Parker pens.

All the winners won free CD/DVD hire from Burford Library. Winners and their families attended a prize-giving presentation at Burford Library in the presence of Mr David Cohen, the Town Mayor. The competition was a joint venture between Burford Library and the School Library and it is hoped it will become an annual event.

Debating Competition

On Wednesday 2nd February, eight Year 11, 12 and 13 students went to the regional round of the Oxford

University Schools Debating Competition, held at Magdalen College School. This is the largest schools debating competition for British Parliamentary Debating in the world. The students were Emma Bailey, Abi Dickson, Charlotte Allcock, Natalie Hogg, Amber Wagstaffe, Ann Tivey, Jon Stacey and Ed Brook. Everyone took part in two debates, on the motions 'This House would allow soldiers to choose not to fight in certain wars', and 'This House would use financial incentives to encourage leading sportsmen and women to come out as homosexual.'

These interesting issues led to some exciting and stimulating debates in which all Burford students acquitted themselves admirably. For some it was their first experience of competitive debating but all rose to the challenge. The Burford team of Ann Tivey and Charlotte Allcock were selected to go through to the National final, which is a tremendous achievement, especially considering that they beat teams from schools such as Pates, St Edwards, and Cheltenham Ladies College. Ann and Charlotte will now compete against over 80 teams from the UK and abroad when the finals are held in the home of debating, The Oxford Union, in March.

Jane Edwards

Jedw3723@burford.oxon.sch.uk