MAGICAL MUSICAL SHOWCASE

Hollingworth had their biggest ever musical showcase on Wednesday 20th November 2019.

There were a staggering twenty-four performances which ranged from Queen to Kodaly to Jimi Hendrix with a special performance of DJ Sammy. Hollingworth continued to showcase its diverse range of talent and skills where we aim to provide as many varied opportunities for our pupils as possible.

In other news, all Year 11 and Year 10 Drama students were treated to a performance of An Inspector Calls (an English and Drama GCSE text).

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ELECTRIC PLANES

Yes that’s right! Are electric planes finally viable? People and companies have been trying to create planes that rely solely on electronic power for about a decade but one agency thinks they have done it.

NASA has teamed up with the airline industry to create electric planes. These will hopefully replace fuel-powered commercial jets with a cost-efficient and environmentally friendly alternative by 2035. With increased awareness and urgency around global warming, it is more imperative than ever that this issue is recognised and actioned.

One electric plane concept created by NASA is the Single-aisle Turbo-electric Aircraft with Aft Boundary-Layer propulsion (STARC-ABL). NASA is best known as a space agency but in the past few years it has been trying to improve the aircraft we travel in (either for pleasure or business). The electric plane was designed by NASA in 2017 to combat the extreme fuel usage we have seen from planes in the past decade.

“We’re at a critical time in the history of aviation because we have an opportunity to develop systems that will reduce cost, energy consumption and noise, while opening up new markets and opportunities for American companies,” said Jim Heidmann, manager of NASA’s Advanced Air Transport Technology Project responsible for the STARC-ABL project.
If STARC-ABL were to be created, NASA has said that it would require enough power to run 2000 homes. Regular electric technologies: generators, power conversion electronics, motors, et cetera were way too big and heavy to fit onto STARC-ABL, not to mention that they might hinder the performance of the plane. NASA has had to come up with a way to shrink these crucial pieces of equipment to make them smaller and lighter for use on their electric plane. NASA has recently announced a $12 million partnership with GE (an American electrical firm) to help speed up the development of the next-gen plane.

NASA is really at the forefront of the electrical flight empire: only time will tell if it pays off.

By: Luke

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**CRIES OF AFRICA**

How does it feel to see me again?
Do you still remember the shine of my pearls?
Before your righteousness beat them to coal

Before you took
My country,
My culture,
And My freedom

But you didn’t take my pride.

I am the shout of the survivors,
The shadow that haunts your guilt
You persecute my animals,
My history – your cruelty-

You burn my forest and suffocate me slowly,
You watch my words die at the hands of buffoons,
Declare yourself civilized yet murder carelessly

You put yourself on a pedestal made of the labour of the commoner.
You kill our words
We will arise in song

Shoot us down with knives and guns if you must,
We’ll fight back with knowledge

We are forgotten
Yet we remember
We are dead
We are alive
We are the children of Africa.

*By: Jasmin*
CHRONICLE REPORTER BECOMES A PART OF THE POLITICAL ELITE

In February 2020, our very own political correspondent Adam became the official Youth Member of Parliament for Rochdale. This continues a rich tradition of Hollingworth pupils occupying this role.

Having campaigned mercilessly, Adam secured his victory on promises to support the opening of a new boxing youth centre in Darnhill and to lobby councillors to expand transport access to Littleborough.

He enthused, “I want the young people of Littleborough to have the same access and transport that the rest of Rochdale enjoys.” He plans to use his role to revitalise youth involvement in politics after a tense few years of politics within the United Kingdom that have left many feeling estranged.

One thing is for sure: this is the advent of a bright future for a fresh and young political career. Adam: the new Rochdale Youth Member of Parliament, Hollingworth Academy student and Hollingworth Chronicle reporter.

This plan came around when the Chiefs of Staff in the Western Allies became increasingly concerned about the amassing of Soviet troops in Germany, Czechoslovakia and Eastern Austria post-VE (Victory in Europe) Day. There was a common fear that the Soviets would ally with Japan - since they had not yet begun their advance into Japanese-occupied Manchuria - against the allies.

The plan was set for the 1st of July, 1945. It assumed a surprise attack of 47 British and American divisions in the urban area of Dresden, in the middle of Soviet lines. These 47 divisions were roughly half of what the allies had amassed in the European theatre, roughly adding up to 100 total divisions available to the British, American and Canadian headquarters at the time. It is reported that up to 10 former German Wehrmacht divisions could have been deployed from former POW status in attempts to bolster allied forces, however, analytics still showed that despite boosts in divisions, the allies would still be outnumbered by 2.5:1 soldiers. This meant an almost thrice Soviet advantage. As such, any offence was considered hazardous by the general staff and so the plan to attack was abandoned.

The plan to defend against a Soviet attack was not really well-structured: Soviet military prowess would have made it easy to defeat the British. With extensive and overwhelming rocket attacks from Soviet rocket artillery vehicles being relatively unstoppable, maintaining an allied supply/front-line would have been difficult at least, impossible at most. This wasn’t helped by the re-allocation of American divisions to the Pacific to face the Japanese in the final stages of World War II either, depleting allied presence in Europe.

The fear of Soviet alignment with Japan was imaginary, as the Soviets did eventually invade Japanese-occupied Manchuria with a force of 1.2 million men and women, defeating the Japanese in Asia and donating the land to Chinese communist revolutionary, Mao Zedong and the Communist Party of China.

Operation Unthinkable - should it have ever been enacted- would have most likely have been a Soviet victory in Europe due to their extensive ability to fight continuously regardless of conditions. Does this mean that Japan would have still surrendered? No, I don’t think so.

Japan surrendered to America when they were on their last legs: they had no allies, no supply lines, no support, and so when the two atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it seemed surrender was the only choice. It was Japanese Imperial custom to die before surrender, with that only being modified when they found themselves in the situation explained above. Yet with likely Soviet victory in Europe and support from the vast Soviet industries, Japan may have been able to re-emerge as a might in the seas (unlikely, yet possible) and fight back against the Americans. I do however think there would either be a white peace or a continuous war much like George Orwell’s 1984: that is the beauty of alternate history. You never know what might have happened and so we can only leave it to individual interpretation and thought.

By: Adam
Hollingworth Academy has launched its very own feminist club.

Designed to subvert some of the mainstream societal notions of feminism being about “man-hating”, the aim is to make feminism more inclusive and to highlight the benefits for all.

Too long has the media been flooded with ideas of feminism “ruining real men” and “women already having equality.” Feminism is important for men as well: the pressure that some men feel to provide for their families, “act hard” or hide their emotions can be very damaging and lead to mental health issues.

The first session established that everyone has a different version of feminism and there isn’t one correct way to be a feminist. Twelve male and female pupils gathered to discuss this. They also discussed some of the myths that exist around feminism and why some people think of it with negativity.

Finally, pupils considered the theory of intersectionality: the idea that feminism needs to be considered in conjunction with gender, race, sexuality, age and disability being just some of the intersections that might affect how “privileged” someone is in society.

By: Katie

Huey Long was one of the most controversial figures in American history and the history of Louisiana State. He was a brute who seized control of the state through tactics of intimidation: a dictatorial figure to say the least – yet the legislation he enforced while in this position of supreme power didn’t resonate with the typical history of dictators.

First, some context: Huey Long was a Democratic Party (Liberal) Governor of Louisiana state in the United States of America between 1928 and 1932, after which he became the Senate representative for Louisiana on a federal level. Before this, he held other positions in Louisiana such as the Louisiana Public Service Commissioner and the Chair of Louisiana Public Service Commission. He grew up in a poor family with Christian values where he strongly believed that all people are equal. He was from a rural area and so his hatred for big businesses set up in the major cities spurred the motivation for his political career.

He ran for governor in 1928, envisioning that necessities such as water and electricity would be provided by the government, not a private company motivated by profit. 60% of the whole state was considered impoverished without access to clean running water or electricity; 75% of the state was illiterate as most families couldn’t even afford school textbooks for their kids and the roads were mediocre at best. Long believed that these problems would not be fixed by the rich company owners and that he must fix these things if nobody else would. It was the way in which he ruthlessly enforced his way to power that became arguably dictatorial.

His victory in 1928 with a 43.9% majority saw him wipe out the entire existing cabinet (as any new leader would) and surround himself with his extremely close allies. He began Huey’s War Chest, meaning that if you worked for him, a part of your salary went towards his personal fund to spend on projects he personally saw as important.
When the Titanic sank in 1912, it shocked the world. The catastrophe of the technically remarkable ship captivated conspiracy theorists for generations. In recent years, people have asked the question: “Was it actually the Titanic that sunk?”

The one thing everyone agreed on: a ship really did sink in the icy waters of North Atlantic on April 15th, 1912 with approximately 1,500 passengers aboard the ship dying. The conspiracy suggests that the ship was not actually the stunning masterpiece that the ship’s company White Star Line had promised. Rather, the White Star Line swapped ships for the voyage from Southampton to New York and the ship billed as the Titanic was actually the Olympic (the sister ship for the Titanic).

The Olympic and the Titanic were both built side by side with another ship called the Britannic. The Olympic crash is where paths diverge, after the crash conspiracy theorists claim the crash was an economic disaster. This meant the repairs would not be covered by insurance. Conspiracy theorists claim therefore that the company made a switch: its newly built second ship would now be called the Olympic while the damaged older ship would be re-purposed to be the Titanic.

The inference is that they had no insurance because they wouldn’t make money and needed money to repair and re-model the destroyed ship.

Other conspiracy theorists claim more nefarious reasoning for the sinking; and so the speculation continues over one hundred years after the sinking.

By: Ava M

It was when he began using intimidation tactics to get his bills passed through into legislature, that his dictatorial side beginning to emerge.

These bills were not for genocide, gulags or political suppression, but to fund the giving of free textbooks to elementary school children. This doesn’t sound like something your typical narcissistic dictator would do, does it? But wait, there’s more. He also used these tactics to pass through other bills such as the bill to give free night literary classes to the illiterate population of the state. But it didn’t stop there, he re-developed the entire road system, building roughly 14,700 miles worth of paved roads and highways, built brand new hospitals, bridges and provided cheap gas (fuel) for the city of New Orleans. The all-the-rage automobile could now drive around the entire state without getting dinged up by poor quality roads or burdened by high gas prices.

In 1930, he announced his interest to run for the US Senate and that if he didn’t win the vote, he would accept that the state did not like his governorship and would resign. However, it was clear that that was never going to happen; he won 57% of the vote in the Senate election. As a result, his deputy governor, Paul Cyr, started a coup against him, claiming that Long couldn’t legally hold both the position of Governor and Senator, announcing himself as the new – unelected – Governor of Louisiana. The coup failed as he had no true backing by virtually anybody within the party. He was removed by the city guard and that was that.

After his term of governor had ended in 1932, Long decided not to run again. Coercing his close political ally, Alvin King, he maintained a foothold in power. King was just a puppet to Long himself.

By: Ava M
Under King, one of his many achievements was the magnificent Louisiana Capitol Building being constructed, the tallest Capitol building in the US to date. This was constructed at the expense of high taxes.

When the Great Depression was severely injuring the American economy, Long supported Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Presidency, yet he went even further than FDR where Louisiana was concerned. He believed FDR didn’t go far enough with his New Deal policy and so he enacted his own policy known as the “Share The Wealth” program, which was to prevent a communist takeover in the United States. He believed this program was the only way to stop a violent communist revolution. It would detail that wealth would be shared amongst Americans so each family may own a $5,000 home ($86,000 adjusted for inflation), an automobile and a radio. He did this by taxing the rich by 1% for each million dollars they earned, in modern times, we might see that tax as very sympathetic and tiny, yet this was major during the Era of The Great Depression. He kept the income cap at $1,000,000 a year and an inheritance cap of $5,000,000 per person ($86,000,000 adjusted for inflation). During this time, Long also made it a priority of his to increase voter registration, increasing it by as much as 76%. 60,000 people wrote letters to him per week, more than the President himself! Long had direct say in policy making too, convincing FDR to implement policies like social security as a part of the “Second New Deal”. FDR was even heard as to saying jokingly that he was “stealing Long’s thunder!”.

Long was just about to run for the Presidency in 1936, yet his enemies had had enough of him. He was gunned down by an assassin on September 10th, 1935, signifying the end of the life of the kind dictator.

By: Adam