

# British Times

10 - 15 June 2012 | No 3 £3.10

*A memorable trip  
to England*



British Times  
Karl-Sieben-Str. 39  
55268 Nieder-Olm

British Times is published  
by 10 g  
Impression: 40

Printed by  
[www.wir-machen-druck.de](http://www.wir-machen-druck.de)

Layout: Ibrahim Bilen  
Endredaktion: Mathias Brug

# Our trip to England

by Samet Sahan



**A**t 6.30 am, we met with the other ninth graders at the parking area of the Nieder-Olm swimming pool. Everyone was very excited and fully awake, despite the early meeting time. When all of us were there, we said goodbye to our parents and got on the bus. We - the 28 students of Form 9g and our teachers Mr. Rudzcek and Mr. Brug - shared our bus with Mr. Rey and his Form 9a. In order not to get bored on the bus, we listened to music, played games on our smartphones, read books or ate something. After a while, some of us fell asleep, while others were still joking around with their neighbours. The ride

was okay because of the breaks and our funny bus driver Andy. After several hours of bus ride, we arrived in Calais at the ferry, which was delayed for a few minutes. When we had finally boarded the ferry, we left the bus and had a look at the upper decks. On the ferry, some students ate something, others spent their money on expensive souvenirs in the duty-free shops and a few of us played the slot machines. There were also students who had forgotten their money in the bus and who just enjoyed the view on the sea. Before we got off the ferry, we saw the wonderful White Cliffs of Dover. After we had got on the bus again, it did not take long until we arrived in Hastings.

As it had started to rain during this bus ride, we were welcomed by typical British weather. In Hastings we were met by our host families and taken to their houses. I was in a host family together with Nils, Adrian and Marius and we were taken there by car or taxi. In our host family, we were welcomed and after talking a bit with our host parents, they showed us our rooms and we brought our luggage there. Then we had dinner - pizza which we liked a lot. After dinner, we gave some presents to our host family. They were very happy about that. A little later, we went to bed and fell asleep almost immediately. It had been a long and tiring day for us.



# Day one: Hastings

by Nils Itjeshorst

After a long and exciting journey and a warm welcome by our host families, we went to bed but had to get up early the next morning to get the bus which took us to our meeting-point: the Boating Lake. We discussed shortly what we're going to do this day and got a handout with questions for a city-rally. Then we hiked up the green hills which surround Hastings. On foot of the castle ruins of Hastings castle, with ocean view ahead, Max gave us some information about the Battle of 1066. After that we continued hiking into Hastings' centre which is very nice: some streets look very modern but in contrast to that some back roads look like the "Winkelgasse" in the Harry Potter films with small crooked pubs and shops built of black-painted wood with thickly coloured windows. We hiked back along the stone beach to the Boating Lake. After that we went to the East Hill Lift, a very steep-slanted elevator and hiked along the high steep cliffs to the East Hill. When we arrived at a meadow, it was time for the first class photo with the East Hill in the background. After that we took the stairs up to the East Hill. The path was wet, dirty and muddy but nevertheless it was very funny and the view of the sea from the top of the East Hill was just amazing! We stayed some time on the East Hill, at

our lunch and just had some fun. Then we hiked back the same way to the East Hill Lift, through meadows, the abyss of the steep cliffs next to us. When we arrived at the East Hill Lift again, some of us decided to take the stairs down to the beach because they had enjoyed the walk so much. But most of us took the lift down to the old town. Back in the old town, we walked again to the Boating Lake passing by several Net Shops (small but up to 10 metres high sheds where fishermen dry their nets, store and repair their equipment). Back at our meeting-point we had a short break. After that we hiked up the green hills again to go to The Smugglers Caves. Deep in the caves, we learned a lot about smugglers and their ways of smuggling goods. It was dark and a bit scary but very interesting. Back again at the surface, we went down the hill to the Blue Reef Aquarium. There we saw many different species of fishes: devilfish, sharks, clownfish ("Nemo"), seahorses, an octopus... etc. After our visit at the aquarium we had much free time: some of us went shopping, some went to the funfair while others went to the beach and even took a swim in the cold water - brrrr!! It was a great first day in England but there was more to come!



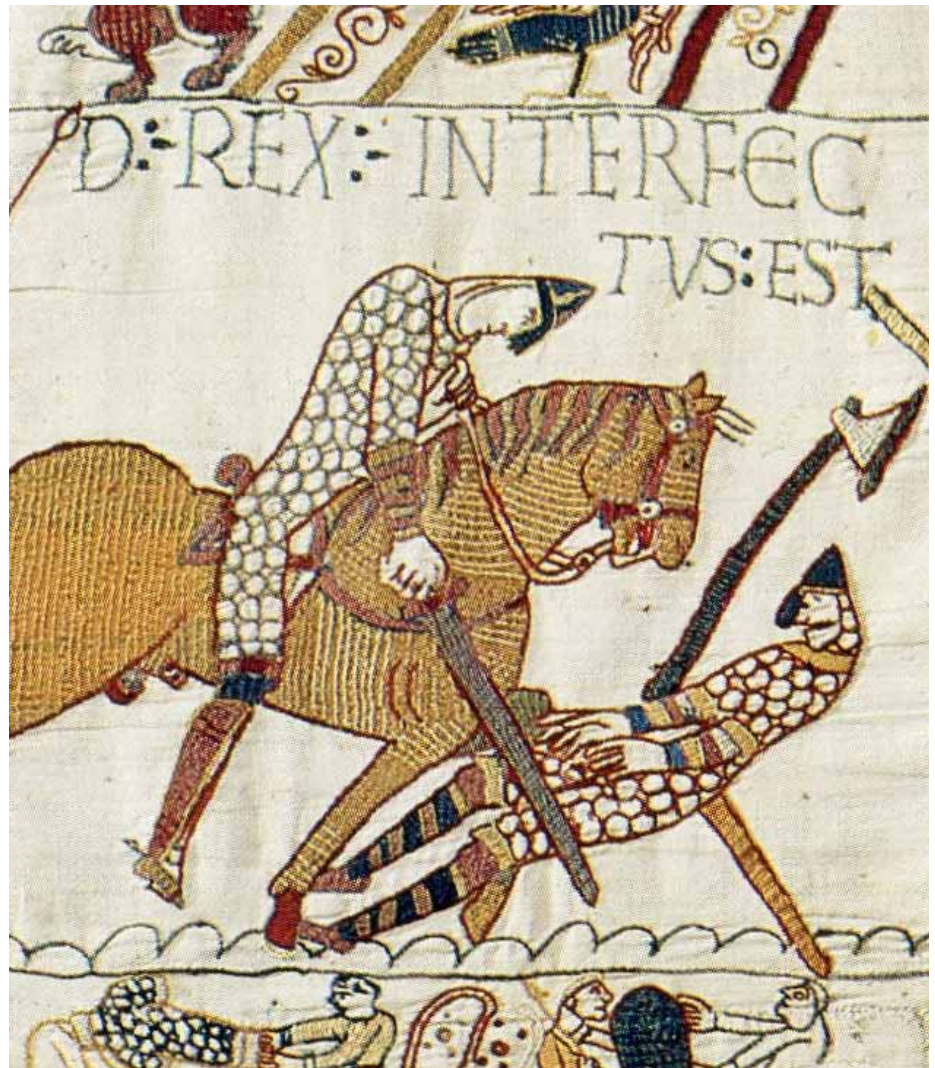
# The Battle of Hastings

by Maxi Heinze

In 1066 the Duke of Normandy, later called "William the Conqueror", invaded England. William was the illegitimate son of the Duke of Normandy. After his father had died on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, William became the Duke of Normandy. Many aristocrats swore him loyalty, but most of his protectors were killed. It took years of unrest and fighting before young William was able to secure control of his dukedom.

When the English King Edward the Confessor, who was a relative of William, died childless in 1066, William claimed the English throne for himself. He built a strong fleet and shipped to England with his army. On 28th October 1066, William landed unhindered on the coast of South-England without meeting any resistance. When Harold II, who had been the English king since the death of Edward the Confessor, heard this, he went with his army southbound. But his army had a big disadvantage because they had already had a battle against his brother's and the king of Denmark's army. William went with his army to Hastings but Harold also went to Hastings. On 13th October 1066, King Harold placed his army on Senlac-Hill. William placed his army in front of the hill, attacked King Harold's army and won the battle.

It was his first victory on English ground and it was a very important victory for his conquest of England which he completed in 1071. As king of England, William was not very nice, in fact he was very brutal to the population, his enemies and sometimes even his own allies. But he also built several important castles and fortresses, among them the Tower of London.



Scene from the Bayeux Tapestry depicting the Battle of Hastings and King Harold's death.

## Our trip to London

by Frederik Nolte

On our trip to England, we also travelled to the capital of Great Britain, London. First we went to Greenwich to the Royal Observatory, which is a place where scientists research the stars. There you can see the prime line but it was too expensive for us to go in. Instead, we walked down the hill to Greenwich Pier. On the way we passed the Cutty Sark, an old sailing ship from the 19th century which is now a museum, and watched the construction workers build the site for the horse riding competition of the 2012 London Olympics. From Greenwich Pier we started our boat

tour on the river Thames where we could see many interesting sights. We saw the Tower Bridge, the most famous bridge in London and the Shard, the highest building in London. We also saw the Houses of Parliament and the St. Stephan's Clock Tower with its world famous bell, Big Ben. It was very impressive. After that we made a guided city tour through London. On that tour we saw the Buckingham Palace, home of Queen Elizabeth II. when she is in London, which was very small in my opinion, and Clarence House, home of Prince Charles and Camilla. We also visited some museums

like the National Gallery, the Science Museum or the British Museum. Then we had some free time to go to Madame Tussaud's wax museum, to go shopping (what most of us did) or just to buy some burgers at McDonald's. In small groups of three to five pupils, we had the chance to discover London on our own. Our group went to the London Eye, the highest Ferris wheel in Europe, but we did not go on it because it was too expensive. But we watched some of our teachers do the ride. In the evening, we went back by bus to meet our host families in Hastings.





# The Royal Observatory

by Jan Glück and Marius Kunkel

The Royal Observatory was founded by the English King Charles II and built in 1675. It is situated on a hill in Greenwich and is today best known today as the location of the prime meridian. The prime meridian is the line of longitude defined to be 0°. Since 1999 a green laser lights a line northbound up into the sky at night to show the prime meridian. The telescopes in the observatory were once very important instruments for astronomy and navigation. The observa-

tions made with these telescopes were also used to calculate the exact time. That time became known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). In 1833, a time ball was installed on the roof of the Royal Observatory to help people synchronise their clocks to GMT. It still drops daily to mark the exact moment of 1 pm (13:00). Visitors from around the world come to see this event year round. Today the Royal Observatory is a museum. It is home to London's only planetarium,

the Harrison timekeepers and the UK's largest refracting telescope. The 28-inch Greenwich refracting telescope is the largest of its kind in the UK and the seventh largest in the world. Completed in 1893, it was designed to keep the Royal Observatory at the forefront of contemporary astronomy. If you stand in front of the observatory you have a great view of the River Thames and London.



## Boat tour on the River Thames

by Pascal Bayer

The boat tour on the River Thames took about an hour. The cloudy and rainy weather was really „English“, as everybody imagines the English weather to be. We got on the boat at Greenwich Pier. On the first part of our river cruise, we passed by the Docklands, an area which used to be a poor part of London. Nowadays, the old docks and wharves have been turned into fancy residential buildings. On our river cruise we could only see the tip of the Gherkin and the roof of St. Paul's Cathedral. The Gherkin is a new building in London which is very modern. It has its funny name because of its look - it looks like a gherkin (Gurke). There were also some new skyscrapers which had not been finished. At the first stop, some people gated onto the little ship. During the last part of the little tour we saw the famous

Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, the Houses of Parliament and ,of course, Big Ben. It was a very nice view and there were a lot of pupils from our school and our class who walked to the front of the boat to take photos of these nice tourist attractions. There were a lot of bridges in London - the Millennium Bridge being one of the nicest bridges. Of course, there was the Tower Bridge, the most famous bridge of London. Finally we got off at Westminster Pier. During the whole tour, we weren't told anything by the captain about the historical buildings we were passing by which really was a shame. But at least we had read about them in our English lessons while preparing our trip to England. All in all, it was a very nice boat tour on the River Thames, even though the weather could have been nicer.





# London

by Katharina Kral

On Tuesday, the third day of our trip to England, we visited London. For many of us, it was the first time to go to London, so we had been looking forward to that day. We went to Greenwich by bus and the atmosphere was great. Having arrived in Greenwich, we wanted to visit the Royal Observatory, but it was quite expensive and we didn't have a lot of time, because about one hour after our arrival, we had to get on board of a boat which brought us to the inner city of London. From the boat, we had a great view of London and took many photos of the various sights, e.g. the Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, the Globe Theatre, the Shard (London's highest skyscraper!), the London Eye (a giant Ferris wheel, from which you have a great view on the city) and, of course, Big Ben, the famous bell tower of the Houses of

Parliament. After having left the boat at Westminster Pier, we formed groups and started a guided walking tour. Of course, the guides spoke English, but we understood almost everything they told us. It was a very interesting tour, where we saw the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, the changing of the guards at the Horse Guards Parade and much more. In St. James's Park, there were many squirrels. We fed them with bread out of our hands. Everybody loved the squirrels because they're very, very cute. While we were walking through London, our guide told us a lot about London's history, for example about the Gunpowder Plot and Guy Fawkes' rebellion, the Black Death and how traitors were tortured in the Tower of London (for example, their abdominal walls were cut open and they had to watch their in-

testines being taken out, ughh!). At the end of our walking tour, our guide led us to the Embankment Gardens, where we met the other groups again. At Covent Garden, nearby our meeting point, there are many street performers, but you can also go shopping or eat something there. We had free time in small groups of three or more students and enjoyed the great atmosphere at Covent Garden. Near that, there was a public park, Embankment Gardens, where we could relax on several benches and canvas chairs and watched the boys play table tennis. In the evening, we met at a quarter to seven and went back to Hastings to our host families. It was a very nice but also tiring day in London. We had lots of fun and saw many interesting things and took many great pictures. It was a trip to remember!





# Impressions









# The Tower of London

by Pascal Bayer

The Tower of London a historic castle on the north bank of the River Thames in central London. It used to be a prison where enemies of the state and dangerous criminals were imprisoned. It was a big fortress with many guards.

Several people, including William Hastings (he was the first Baron of Hastings), Anne Boleyn (one of the six wives of Henry VIII) and two young princes, were executed or otherwise murdered in the Tower.

There is also a story about the ravens which fly above the Tower and the Tower Hill. The presence of the ravens is traditionally believed to protect the Crown and the Tower. It is said that if the ravens are lost or fly away, the Crown will fall and Britain with it.

Today you can visit the Tower and see the Crown Jewels (e.g. the crown and scepter of the Queen) which are exhibited there.



# Big Ben & the Houses of Parliament

by Beatrice Schuch

Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament are both very famous symbols of London and Great Britain. Big Ben is the nickname for the biggest of the five bells in the clock tower at the north end of the Palace of Westminster in London. The bell weighs 13.5 tons and is one of the largest bells in the world and one of the most famous symbols of Britain. A lot of people think that the whole clock tower is called "Big Ben" but that's not correct. The clock tower is 96.3 meters high, the diameter of the four clock dials is eight meters, the minute hand is more than four meters long and the hour hand is almost three meters long. In 1848, the clockwork was developed by Sir George Airy and Edmund Denison and made by clockmaker Edward John Dent. Not only the look of the clock tower is famous, but also the chimes: Everyone in London knows the sound of these bells because they sound so beautiful. In 1859 there was a big problem, because the bell broke at the rehearsal due to its weight. Finally, they built a new bell and everything went well.

The Palace of Westminster is the meeting place of the two Houses of Parliament. The British parliament consists of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The English king lived in Westminster but in 1834, the palace burned down in a big fire. After that, a new gothic style building was built. This new building also included the clock tower. Inside the Houses of Parliament there are more than 1100 rooms, for example the Westminster Hall, the Robing Room, the Prince's Chamber, the Royal Gallery and many more. In addition, the Houses of Parliament were declared part of UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage.



# The

by Thais Adam





# Political system in the UK

by Miriam Alkemper

The United Kingdom is a parliamentary monarchy. The monarch, at the moment Queen Elisabeth II, is head of state and therefore representing the United Kingdom, but the prime minister is head of the government. He is appointed by the queen. The parliament consists of two houses: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords is the upper house of the parliament and its members are not elected but appointed by the queen. Their responsibility is to make laws and to check on the government. The House of Commons is the lower house of parliament and its 650 representatives are democratically elected in general elections. They decide on laws and the national budget. The prime minister is usually the leader of the largest party in the House of Commons. In the UK, there is no codified constitution. The UK is part of the United Nation's Security Council, the NATO, the Commonwealth of Nations and the EU. Queen Elisabeth II is also the head of state of 15 other countries.



Foto: flickr / UK Parliament

# Buckingham Palace



Buckingham Palace is the official London residence of the British monarch. It is used as setting for state occasions and royal hospitality. The Queen receives guests, for example, heads of state from other countries in Buckingham Palace. Moreover it has been an important point of reference for the British people at times of national unrest and crisis. Today Buckingham Palace is the main residence of Queen Elisabeth II and Prince Philipe and a major attraction for tourists.

Originally Buckingham Palace was a large townhouse known as "Buckingham House", which was built by John Nash and Edward Blore for John Sheffield, the Duke of Buckingham, in 1705. In 1761 George III acquired "Buckingham House" as a private residence for Queen Charlotte. The palace was enlarged during the 19th century by three wings around the central courtyard. After Queen Victoria's accession to the throne in 1837, "Buckingham House" finally became the official royal palace of the British monarch. She reigned about 63 years. The last major structural additions were made in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries, including the well-known balcony on which the Royal Family and mainly the Queen traditionally congregate to greet crowds outside.

Every year 50.000 invited guests are entertained at garden parties, receptions, audiences and banquets in Buckingham Palace. The forecourt of Buckingham Palace is used for the "Changing of the Guard", a major ceremony and tourist attraction. Every summer from August to September, the west wing of the palace is open to the public. Not only has the Palace a lot of valuable paintings, furniture or other precious objects, which are part of the royal collection - but also the biggest private garden of London behind the Palace building with, for example, the famous Waterloo-Vase or the little belvedere. It was built in 1740. Almost all of the horses are placed in "The Royal Mews", where also the royal carriages are parked.

# The Royal Family

by Katharina Kral

## History of the family's name:

In 1917, the name Windsor was adopted as the Royal Family's name. It was the idea of King George V because he did not like the original name 'Saxe-Coburg-Gotha'. Britain was at war with Germany at that time and he thought the name sounded too German.

## Queen Elizabeth II:

In addition to the UK, Queen Elizabeth II is head of state of 15 countries (e.g. Australia, Canada, Cameroon and Antigua) and head of the Commonwealth of Nations. She only has a symbolic and unifying role. She reinforces the cultural, political and economic links between Britain and the other members of the Commonwealth by visiting them. Her main residence is Buckingham Palace in London. On Sunday, June 3rd 2012, Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Diamond Crown Jubilee - she has reigned Britain for more than 60 years.

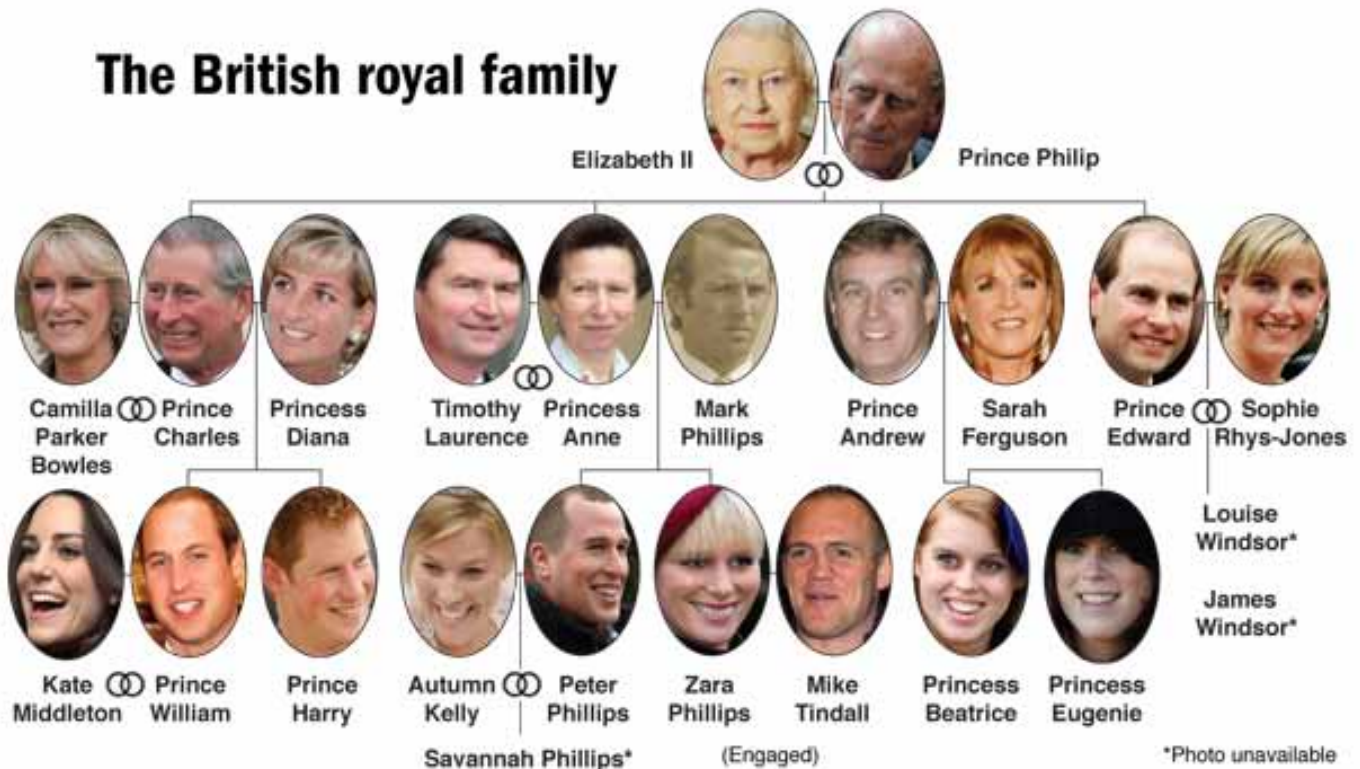
## Prince Charles, Diana and Camilla:

Prince Charles, also called Prince of Wales, is the Queen's oldest son. He will become King when the Queen dies. His oldest son William will be his successor. Prince Charles was married to Lady Diana but she died in a car accident in Paris in 1997. Now he is married to his childhood sweetheart, Camilla Parker Bowles.

## William, Kate and Harry:

Charles and Diana have two sons: Prince William, married to Catherine Middleton and Prince Harry. Both sons have joined the British army and have been working on a military career.

## Family Tree



Sources:

- <http://www.royal.gov.uk/>
- Brockhaus Enzyklopädie
- Encarta Enzyklopädie



# Hiking in Eastbourne

by Josephine Gabler, Naomi Rodriguez and Gesina Schalenberg

We started our trip to Eastbourne early in the morning. So, we were all a bit tired but our bus driver Andy didn't let us sleep. He turned up the music - but not the music we usually listened to in our free time. Instead he played songs like "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple, songs of AC/DC and other bands from the 70s and 80s. But some of the songs were so famous that all of us knew them. We sang and laughed a lot and also waved our arms.

So when we arrived at Beachy Head, the highest chalk sea cliff in Britain (162 m above sea level) we were all in a good mood. We were surprised and impressed by the amazing view. After our teachers had given us a few instructions, we walked down some stairs to a beautiful pebble beach. Some of us threw stones into the wonderful blue water, others took photos with friends or the class in front of the white cliffs. Then our group started hiking along the rolling hills. On the left we could see endless meadows and some sheep, on the right the lovely water.

The weather was better than the days before and the sun was shining while seagulls screamed. Because they took so many photos and enjoyed the breath-taking view, some of our classmates arrived late at our meeting point at Beachy Head. There we wanted to have a picnic but two girls had problems with asthma. One of them broke down and we had to call an ambulance. We had to wait till Andy, our bus driver, had discussed everything with the ambulance men because we had left our lunch packages in the bus. We were glad when our teachers told us that the girl, who had to be taken to a local hospital, was feeling better. After this unexpected pause, we went on hiking.

After a few minutes we got to a steep hill. Most of our class ran down the hill, some even rolled down. Fortunately, no one got injured. Behind the hills we could see Eastbourne with its bays. This view made some of us, who had been to the USA before, think of the beaches in California. The walk to the city was longer than we had thought. After arriving at the "Eastbourne Pier" we had a lot of free time. Many of us went shopping but we stayed at the beach and played ballgames. The water was still cold but we quickly got ourselves wet so that in the end everyone was soaking wet. Then we walked to "Kentucky Fried Chicken" to eat something. On the bus drive back to Hastings, it was very calm because we were all tired of the long tour. But it was a nice day that we will never forget!







# Our day at the National Gallery in London

by Beatrice Schuch and Samet Sahar

On the last day of our trip, we went to London again. There we met the other ninth graders from our school at a parking space. Our class was divided into different groups of interest: Most of us went to the Globe Theatre to attend a theatre workshop but we chose to go to the National Gallery, one of the biggest and most famous art galleries in the world. At first we walked with Mr. Brug and Mrs. Chibuzor to the underground station Canada Waters. There we took the train to Charing Cross which was the station closest to the National Gallery. After having a little break at Trafalgar Square and eating something, we went into the museum. We used the impressive front entrance which looked a bit like the ancient Parthenon in Greece. We had two hours to see the exhibitions. There were many different exhibitions with pictures of different styles and epochs, from medieval times to the 19th century, so it was difficult to choose where to go. All in all, there were 67 rooms. Some of the pictures looked like photos, in others you could clearly see the brush strokes. Furthermore, there were realistic pictures and pictures which showed fantasy worlds. For us, the National Gallery was not very interesting because we did not know enough about the pictures and why they were painted and so on. Finally, we met our teachers in the foyer and together we went to the Embankment Gardens where we met our classmates again.



## The Globe Theatre

*An essay based on personal experience*

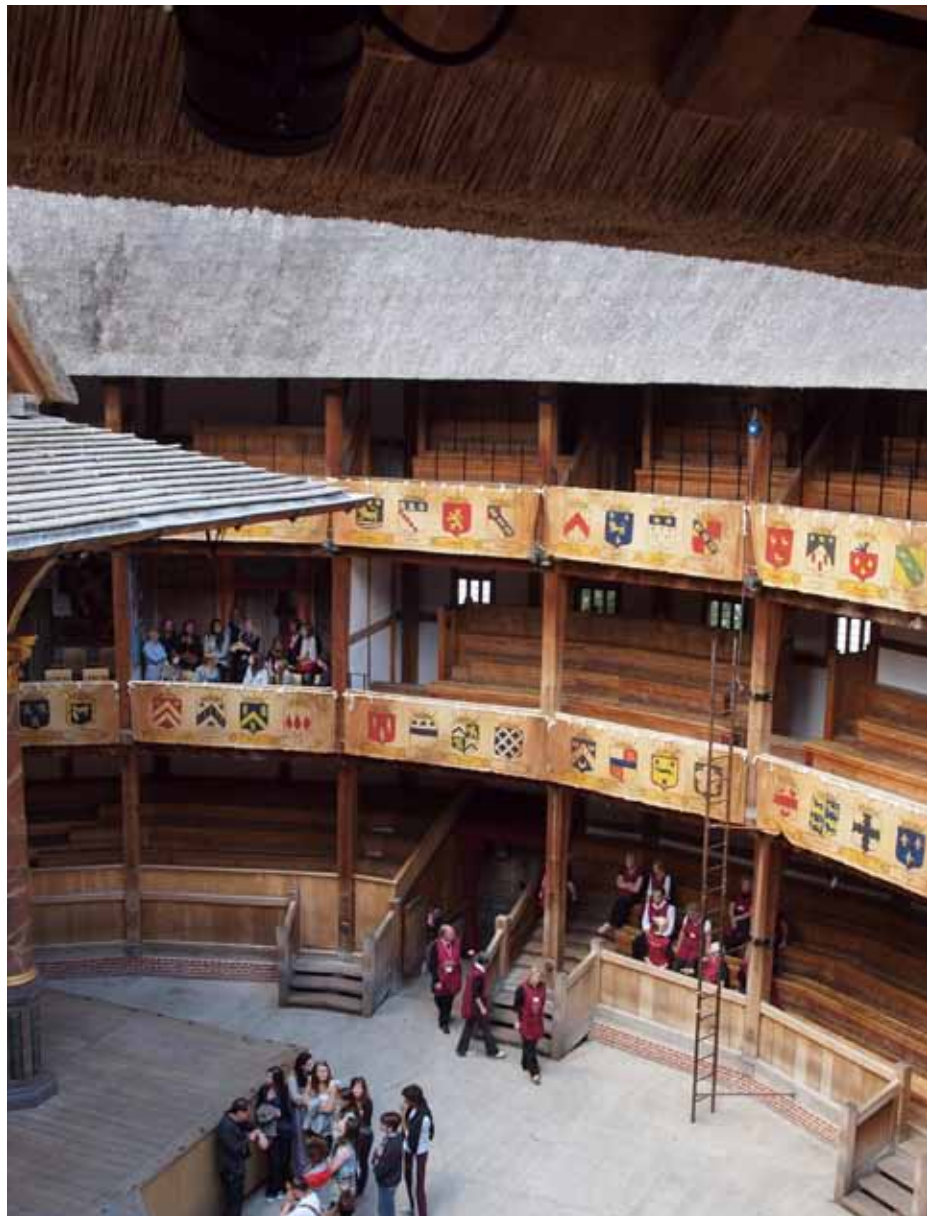
by Renata Delgado Gongora, Johanna Magdalena Keim and Clara Tillmann

It was our last day in Britain. In the morning, we said goodbye to our host families, then we went to London again. When we got there, we were separated into four groups. We (our group) had the pleasure to go to the Globe Theatre. As expected, the vast majority of our group members were girls. We went to the Globe Theatre, first on foot, then by using the underground. We arrived a bit early, so we still had time to go to Starbucks or just to relax and admire the beautiful river Thames and the Millennium Bridge that we knew from the film "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince". We were also allowed to go to a shop inside the building. There were many interesting and beautiful things, for example various plays of Shakespeare printed in little books. They were so cute, especially the famous and very dramatic play "Romeo and Juliet". There were also many other Shakespeare souvenirs, for

example a pen, a T-shirt or even a pillow and much more. After a while, our guide came to show us the Globe Theatre and to do the workshop with us. Because we were so many students, our big group had to be separated into two smaller groups. Our guide was a very friendly and funny man whose English pronunciation was very amusing. While showing us around, he told us many stories and facts about the Globe Theatre and William Shakespeare. When he asked us how old the Globe Theatre was, one of our students said, that she believed that the theatre was about 200 years old. Everyone laughed a lot because it was so funny. Then, finally we went into the Globe Theatre. When we entered the Globe Theatre, we were surprised that it was so small. But it was beautiful and looked like in the old days. We sat down on a bench in the gallery from where we had a great view on the

stage. There were many actors on stage who were preparing for a performance. They did many strange and amusing things like shouting, singing and talking incoherent things. While we sat there watching the actors, our guide told us more facts and stories about the theatre, for example what it was like in the old days and how people at that time felt about theatres. After that, we went outside again and our guide led us to the building where our workshop took place. Everyone was very excited about the workshop. We went upstairs into a room with a facade made of honey-colored wood. One of the walls was round just like in an amphitheatre and we sat down there. Our guide played a game with us „to wake us up“. We had to stand up first. Then we were told to walk through the room. Doing that, we were not allowed to touch each other or to talk to each other. Moreover, we should often

change our walking direction. Suddenly he shouted „stop“, so we stopped appalled and he told us that if he said „stop“ we would have to stop and if he said „go“ we had to keep on walking. That seemed to be easy to do, but he often teased us by saying „stop“ or „go“ two times. When we got better, he raised the level of difficulty. If he said „clap“, we should clap, and if he said „jump“ we should jump. And just at the moment, everyone got what to do and when to do it, he changed the rules again: „stop“ would be „go“, „go“ „stop“, „clap“ would mean „jump“ and so on. After some time he shouted: „Form a square! You have got ten seconds to show me a square!“. Well, our square looked like an egg and our tutor was a bit disappointed. Our triangle was a quad, but our circle was quite perfect! Then the workshop began. We all got abridged excerpts from Shakespeare’s play „Romeo and Juliet“, but before we started „acting“, our tutor told us that in Shakespeare’s time women were not allowed to act, so Juliet was acted by a young boy. And he told us funny and interesting facts, for example that Juliet was only fourteen. Then he divided the group, so that everyone had a partner. At first we just read out to our partner the scene in which Romeo and Juliet are talking about the nightingale and the lark. Then we talked about the meaning of the scene and he told us just to pick out one word of every passage to understand better what the scene is about. And it worked! We talked about the importance of facial expressions in acting. Then we finally started acting: we had to pull our partner through the whole room and to perform our dialogues. That was difficult, but funny and when everyone shouted at his or her partner it got very loud. All in all, it was a great, informative and amusing day, which was much better than we had expected.



## William Shakespeare’s life

by Renata Delgado Gongora

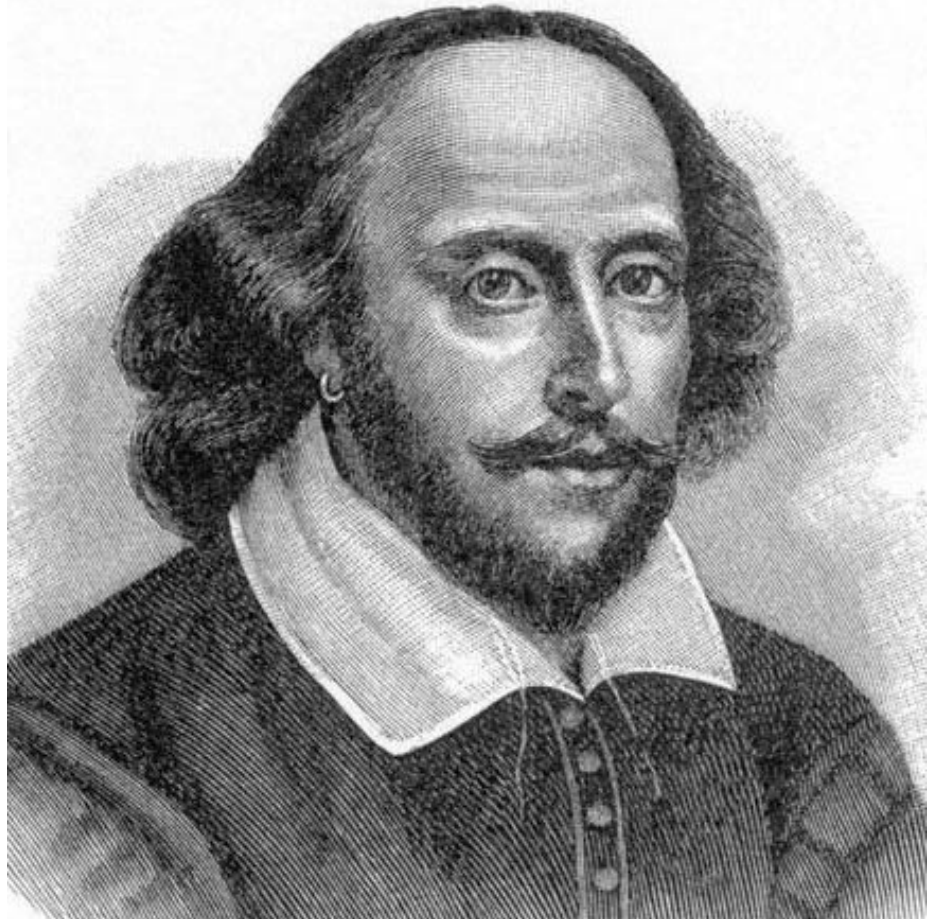
William Shakespeare is known as one of the most important and famous dramatists of world literature, but not a single manuscript of him is preserved. So there are various speculations about him. Moreover, there are several facts about his life which are not known or which are not handed down. For example, his exact date of birth. It is just known that William Shakespeare was born in 1564. We are aware of that fact from the earliest record of his life: his baptism. According to the church register of the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-upon-Avon, he was baptized on 26th April 1564. But since the 19th century, the 23rd April is indicated as the alleged birthday of William Shakespeare. Concerning his family, we know that he had a father called John Shakespeare and a mother called Mary Arden. His father was a town official of Stratford-upon-Avon and a local businessman. His mother, Mary Arden, came from a wealthy fa-

mily and she inherited land which she later on bequeathed William. William had 7 brothers and sisters, but most of them died and didn’t survive to adulthood. William Shakespeare was probably educated at the King’s New School in Stratford-upon-Avon. He probably studied Latin, Greek, History, Ethics and Poetry. But he did not go to university - the reason why is unknown. As an 18-year-old juvenile, he married Anne Hathaway on 27th November 1582. Six months later, they had their first child called Susanna. The twins Hamnet and Judith were born two years after Susanna’s birth. His only son Hamnet died when he was still a child. He also lost his daughter Judith, but his first child Susanna survived and married a doctor, John Hall. Today their home “Hall’s Croft” is preserved as one of the Shakespeare properties and administered by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. The following eight years, from 1584/1585 to 1592, are

known as “the lost years” because we know very few facts about his activities during that time. But we do know that he left Stratford-upon-Avon and moved to London. In 1592, Shakespeare appeared as author of the “Henry VI trilogy” in London. At that time he also started writing poems. In 1593, he worked at the Globe Theater and there he appeared in many small parts. But as poet he made his first appearance in public with his poem “Venus and Adonis”. He was soon recognized as a successful author and poet. That is also the reason why he had many enviers. In 1594, he became a member of the leading play troops of London, the “Lord Chamberlain’s Men”. Later on, when they were very successful, they were called the “King’s Men”. At that time, he did not write any plays. But finally in 1595, he started writing plays. Of the 38 plays that comprise the Shakespeare Canon, 36 were published in the first Folio in 1623, among



them 18 which had already been published in his lifetime. Shakespeare became more successful than ever. The allowance of a family crest in 1596 was proof for his increasing success and prosperity. In 1587, William Shakespeare bought the second-largest house in his native town. From 1599 on, the well-known and successful play troop the "King's Men" acted in the Globe Theatre. Additionally, William Shakespeare became a co-partner of the Globe Theatre and he also had an interest in the Black Friars Theatre. So he was well known both as actor and businessman. In 1611, when he retired from writing and acting, he returned to Stratford-upon-Avon to live in a house which he had built for his family. There he composed his last will on 25th March 1616. He passed the biggest part of his property on to the son of his daughter Susanna. The other part was divided and bequeathed to his daughter and his wife, Anne Hathaway. At that time, William Shakespeare was already severely ill. On 23rd April 1616, he died. He was buried in the Holy Trinity Church, the same church where he had been baptized. William Shakespeare wrote 36 plays as well as many sonnets and other poems. He revolutionized the English stage with his dramatic and poetic genius. The most famous plays written by William Shakespeare are "Romeo and Juliet", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Macbeth", "Hamlet" and "Julius Caesar".



# Shakespeare's plays and diction

by Clara Tillmann

Historians think that William Shakespeare wrote 38 plays - tragedies, comedies and histories. Here are some examples for these three genres: „Romeo and Juliet“, a classical tragedy, „A Midsummer Night's Dream“, a comedy, and „Richard III“, a history.

## Romeo and Juliet

This tragedy takes place in Verona, a town in the northern Italy. It is about the Capulets and Montagues, two families that fight against each other because of a broken promise. The protagonists are Juliet, the daughter of the old Capulet, and Romeo, who is a son of the old Montague. Additionally there are Tybalt, a nephew of Capulet and Romeos cousin and friend Benvolio. And last but not least, Count Paris, who wants to marry Juliet and Pater Lorenzo, a monk of Verona.

The first act of the play starts with a battle on the streets of Verona between the Montagues and the Capulets. At the same time Count Paris asks the old Capulet, if he can marry Juliet. To get to know Paris, Capulet organises a ball. A servant of Lord Capulet shall invite the guests, but because he cannot read, he asks

Romeo for help, who decides to go to the ball with a mask. Later on the ball Romeo and Juliet meet and fall in love.

The second act starts with a meeting between Romeo and Juliet at a rose garden. The next scene is the famous „balcony-scene“ in which Romeo confesses his love to Juliet and they decide to marry. Therefore Romeo asks Pater Lorenzo for help. The Monk hopes to reconcile the two families. And at the end of the act, Romeo marries Juliet.

At the beginning of the third act, Tybalt kills Benvolio and Romeo revenges him by killing Tybalt. Because of that Romeo gets banished from Verona. Juliet finds out, what he has done, but she still loves him. There is a farewell scene with Juliet before Romeo flees to Mantua. The Countess Capulet tells Juliet that she has to marry Paris.

So, in the fourth act Juliet asks Pater Lorenzo for not marrying Paris. He knows the answer: she should take a drink that makes her look like she was dead. While everyone is busy preparing the marriage, Juliet takes the drink, so on the day of the marriage she seems to be dead. Pater Lorenzo takes her to the family grave

In the fifth act Romeo finds out about Juliet's „death“. Being sad he buys poison to kill himself and to get to Juliet again. Lorenzo gets to know about Romeos plan and he wants to warn him not to kill himself, but Romeo does not get the message. Before killing himself,

Romeo fights against Paris, a battle in which Paris dies. Romeo kills himself with the poison and when Juliet wakes up she sees the dead Romeo. She knifes herself. On their graves, the families reconcile. At the end of the play, there are the famous words „For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.“

## Shakespeare's diction

William Shakespeare had a great vocabulary – 17750 different words are counted in his plays. Shakespeare knew about the lowest gutter language and the language spoken by aristocrats at the royal court and he used both jargons perfect in his plays. He invented many words which are still used today, for example the word „accommodation“.

# Shakespeare's Globe today

by Johanna Magdalena Keim

When Sam Wanamaker, an American actor, author and producer, came to London in 1949 he wanted to visit the famous Globe Theatre. He was shocked about the fact that it was nowhere to find anymore. So he decided to rebuild the most famous theatre of England and to dedicate his life to the project.

The new Globe Theatre was opened in 1997 but Sam Wanamaker died of cancer in 1993, so he didn't witness the success of his project. Since 1997 many of William Shakespeare's masterpieces have been performed in the theatre. The theatre is only open during the summer, from May to September, because the Globe Theatre doesn't have a closed roof. There are some differences between the original Shakespeare Globe Theatre and the new theatre: The new Globe Theatre wasn't exactly built at the same site as the original. It was built about 230 metres away from the original place because there are houses from the 18th century which are called 'Anchor Terrace' and which couldn't be torn down because of monument conservation.

Another difference is that there are only 1500 people allowed to visit the theatre at once. The old theatre could be visited by 4000 people at once. Today it's due to safety regulations and modern standards of comfort that the number of theatre-goers is limited.



## From my point of view...

by Pascal Bayer

During the week from 10th to 15th June 2012 our class stayed in English host families. There was a problem because in my first host family there was a man who smoked and because of my asthma I couldn't stay with them. So I changed families.

My new host family was very nice. The house was very big and they had a garden. Our host mother was a very good cook so it was nice to eat with them.

The trips to London were really interesting and we saw a lot of the city. On our first trip to London, we had a very nice and funny guide who told us many historical facts and things which happened in England. We could ask him everything we wanted to know about London. On the last day of our trip to England, we were in London again. First we went into different museums and theatres - I was at the Globe Theatre. It was a workshop I had never experienced before.

We did some funny things, for example

performing what the man told us to do - like clapping our hands while walking through a room. We also had to read a text by Shakespeare which was written in 16th century English. After the workshop, we had free time again. We went shopping and after that we met at our meeting point at Embankment Gardens. The day in Hastings wasn't really good because of the bad weather and our hike in the mud.

The 'Smugglers Cave' museum wasn't good either because it was for little children but not for teenagers like us. But the Blue Reef Aquarium was very interesting. There were many sorts of fish and some of them were really exciting. The Eastbourne hike was wonderful. The sun was shining and it was funny.

All in all, I can really say our trip was very nice and it was an experience for life. We spoke a lot of English with our host family so we learned some new words and expressions and our pronunciation got better.





# Music Scene in London

by Lea Engel

London is one of the big music capitals in the world. Many well-known artists were born in London or grew up there and even more came to London to start their career.

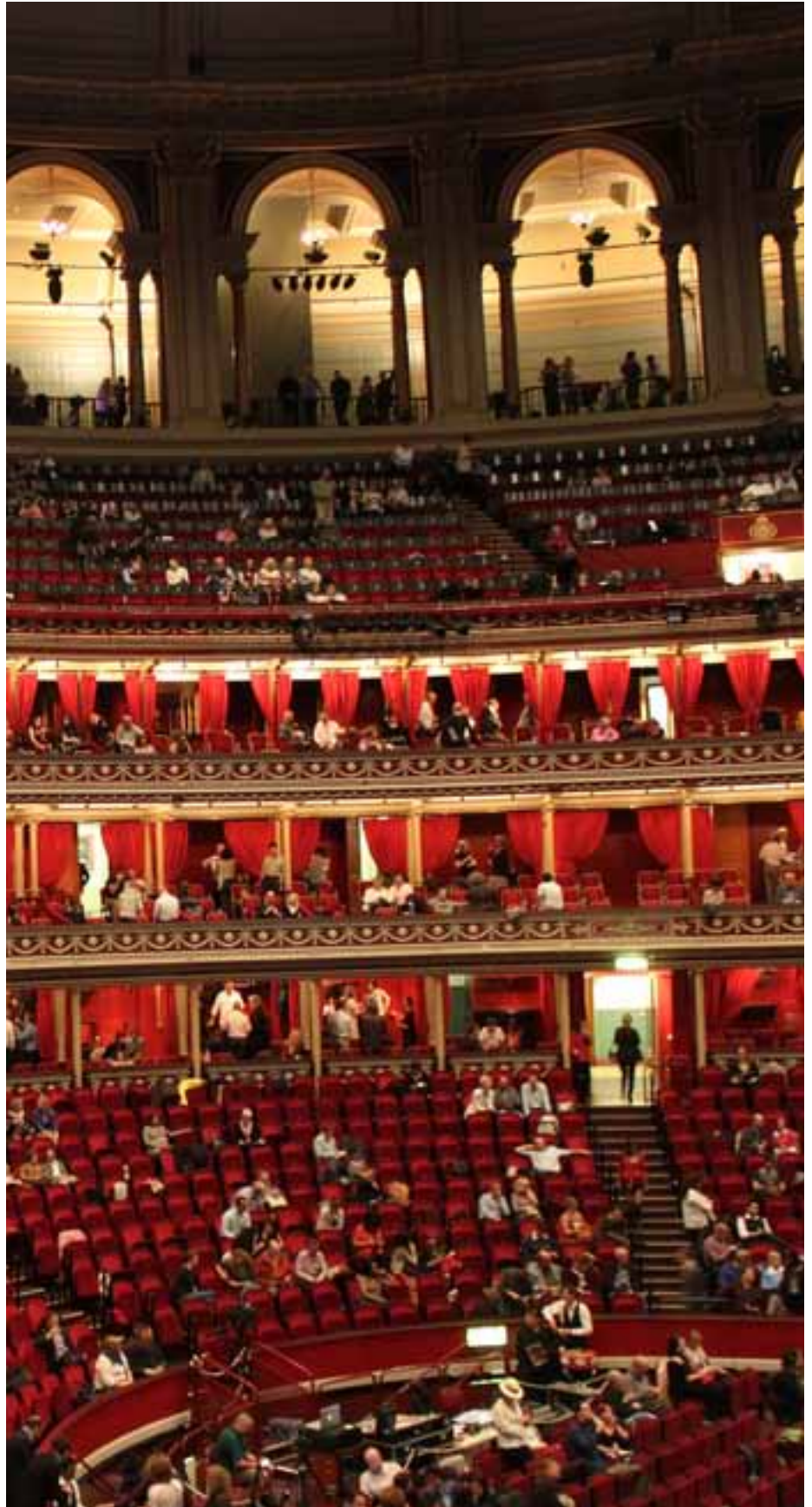
Among the most famous artists from London are, for example, are The Rolling Stones, Queen, Coldplay, the Pet Shop Boys, the Sex Pistols, Status Quo, Iron Maiden, Jamiroquai, Cat Stevens and David Bowie. Even The Beatles also came to London to record many of their big hits at the Abbey Road Studios in Westminster.

London is also the home of many big music corporations like EMI and the Virgin Group. Moreover, the first Hard Rock Cafe opened on 14th June 1971 in London. It's a chain of theme restaurants which displays rock & roll memorabilia. You can find them all over the world.

In London not only „modern“ Music is represented. There are several concert halls with their own orchestras, like e.g. the Barbican Arts Centre, where the London Symphony Orchestra has its base. In addition there's the Cadogan Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Albert Hall, where the largest pipe organ can be found and the 'Last Night Of The Proms' take place. The TV and radio station BBC also has its own orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra. For classical music fans, there are two major opera houses, the Royal Opera House „Covent Garden“ and the Coliseum Theatre.

If you want to study music, you can go, for example, to the Royal Academy of Music, attend the Royal College of Music and the Guildhall School of Music. In London there are also many concerts throughout the year. Big Stadiums like the O2 Arena and the Wembley Arena are good places for such events. Every year there's a big festival in Hyde Park called "Wireless Festival" with artists like James Blunt, Jay Z or P!nk. In the 1970s and 1980s, London was also the 'capital' of punk music. Bands like the Sex Pistols and The Clash established punk music and helped to make it popular around the world.

But not only punk music evolved in London, also genres like drum and bass or dubstep have been played there first. Well-known and award-winning films have been set to music in London, like Lord of the Rings or Harry Potter. The St Paul's Cathedral is renowned for its outstanding acoustics. In the church, at the "Whispering Gallery", you can even hear the whispering of people who sit far away.



The Royal Albert Hall

# Adele

by Hannah Truxa

Adele is a very popular British singer and songwriter who was born on 5th May 1988 in Tottenham (north London). Her birth name is Adele Laurie Blue Adkins. In her early life, she grew up with her English mother and her Welsh father Mark Evans, but he separated from Adele's mother when she was just three years old. When Adele was four years old, she began singing. The Spice Girls were her idols, she once told in an interview. In 2006, Adele graduated from the "London School for Performing Arts & Technology" where she was a classmate of Leona Lewis and Jessie J. There she recorded two songs for a class project and gave them to a friend who published them on Myspace four months after her graduation. The Music label XL Recordings got interested in her and in June 2006, Jonathan Dickins became her official representative. In October 2007, her breakthrough song „Hometown Glory“ was released. Adele became the first recipient of the BRIT Awards Critics' Choice and was named the number-one predicted breakthrough act of 2008. „19“, her first album named for her age at the time she started recording, reached the British charts at number one. In the same month, she began a short North American tour which

ended in June 2009. In July 2009, Adele paid £ 8000 for a commissioned painting by Stella Vine in a charity for helping African children and their families living with AIDS. Some of her hits like „My Same“, „Chasing Pavements“ or her version of Bob Dylan's „Make You Feel My Love“ reached number two in Britain and the German Single charts. „21“ was her second album and it hit number one in more than 26 countries, e.g. Germany, USA and Britain. Her singles „Rolling in the Deep“, „Someone Like You“ and „Set Fire To The Rain“ were also very successful in many countries and the sales figures are comparable to some of the Beatles' hits!

All in all, Adele has won over 77 awards to date, including 8 Grammy Awards, 3 Brit Awards and 3 American Music Awards. Moreover, she was the first female ever to top all three categories (artist, album and song of the year) overtaking Amy Winehouse' „Back To Black“! That's the reason why many critics often call her the new Amy Winehouse. Besides, international stars like Beyoncé Knowles and Madonna compliment her talent and want to work together with her.



## The London Underground

by Peer Wagner and Fabian Scharf

The London Underground is the fastest transportation system in London. The Londoners call it ‚the underground‘ or ‚the Tube‘. There are 275 stations in London, (63 of them in the centre of town). So, a subway station is always nearby. Most people in London use the tube. The London Underground is the oldest underground of the world. On January 1st 1863, the first section between Paddington and Farringdon Street opened. There are 11 subway lines operating in London. Between 5.30 in the morning and 12.30 at night, from Monday to Saturday, and from 7.30 in the morning to 11.30 in the evening on Sundays, the lines run every few minutes. Furthermore, there is the DLR, the Docklands Light Railway. These automated trains serve the Dockland area and Greenwich. There are plans of the lines in all ticket offices available free of charge. The entire underground is a non smoking area. This applies to the trains and the stations as well. In order to find your way in the tube, it is important to know which direction the train is bound to. The following terms are impor-

tant: eastbound, westbound, northbound or southbound. This means that you have to remember the direction the train is heading to. The railcars as well as the destination boards in the station usually show the last stop on the line. Since some lines only run to the last stop during peak time, it is important to have a look at the travel times. If the station you want to go is not on the same line, then you have to change lines. At a shift station, there are multiple lines crossing. You should be informed about the change of direction and the final stop of the new line. Otherwise it may happen that you are going in the wrong direction. But on the Circle Line – the yellow line – that doesn't matter. Just stay seated, because this line runs in a circle. Each underground line has its own colour. So finding your way is very easy. A special offer for tourists is the travel card, which is available in travel agencies in Germany and quite cheap. With the travel card, it is possible to use the tube for free for a day (or several) and with the London buses you only have to pay a little extra money.





## Chelsea F.C. - „The Blues“

by Tobias Schneider

Chelsea F.C. is a London football club which was founded in 1905. „The Blues“, thus their nickname, play their home games at Stamford Bridge stadium in West London. This stadium is very nice and although the capacity of the stadium is only about 42.000, the atmosphere is always very good. On 1st July 2003, Roman Abramovich, a Russian oil billionaire, bought the club. Since 2003 he has invested more than 600 million euros in new players and other important things. The colour of the homeshirts is blue, the away team is wearing black. In 1955, 2005, 2006 and 2010 Chelsea won the English Championship. In the 2011/2012 season, the club won the UEFA Champions League against FC Bayern Munich. The coach of „The Blues „, is Roberto Di Matteo. He is a very good coach and his focus is on the defence.



## The Olympic Games in London

by Malte Baum and Jonas Schubert

London has hosted the games in 1908 and 1948 and now too in 2012. The 1908 London Olympics were the fourth modern Olympic Games outside of Athen. 22 nations of the world participated in 110 events. In 2012 the summer Olympics and Paralympics were held in the UK. The summer Paralympics were held after the summer Olympics. The opening

ceremony of the Olympic Games was at the 27th July 2012. There are many sport activities for example: Aquatics, Canoeing, Fencing, Shooting etc... The opening ceremony was also called, „The Isles of Wonder“. The closing ceremony was on 12 August 2012. To sum it up, the Olympic Games cost 2 billion pound.

## Arsenal London F.C. – “The Gunners”

by Adrian Zander

Arsenal London is one of the most successful football teams in Great Britain. They were founded in 1886 and their traditional colours are red and white. The Gunners, thus their nickname, play their matches in the Emirates Stadium. The stadium is named after Arsenal’s main sponsor, the airline company Emirates, and has got over 60.000 seats.

Since 1982 Peter Hill-Wood has been the chairman of Arsenal. He is the third chairman of the Gunners in his family and has been serving Arsenal ever since his father died in 1982.

The manager of Arsenal is Arsène Wenger. He is the club’s longest serving manager and, until now, also its most successful, winning 11 individual honours since 1996.

Overall, Arsenal has won 13 First Division and Premier League titles as well as 10 FA Cups. The Gunners have got a long rivalry with their neighbour Tottenham Hotspurs. Their matches are called “North London derbies”, because both teams are residents in north London.

## „The Spurs“

by Nico Dannenberg

The famous London football club (“Audere est Facere” → „Es zu wagen, ist es zu tun.” )

Tottenham Hotspur FC was founded in 1882. Their current President is called Daniel Levy and their coach is called Harry Redknapp. Since 2001 Joe Lewis has been main share holder of the club.

The stadium of “The Spurs” is located in Tottenham, East London. It’s called “White Hart Lane” and it’s spectator capacity is about 36230.

In 1960/61 Tottenham was the first club in the twentieth century to win the championship and the FA Cup in one season. Two years later “The Spurs” were the first British team to win the “European Cup Winners’ Cup”.

The list of their successes is quite long, here are just the most important ones:

- English Championship winner in 1950/51 and 1960/61

- Winner of “European Cup ‘Winners’ Cup” in 1963

- UEFA Cup winner in 1972 and 1984

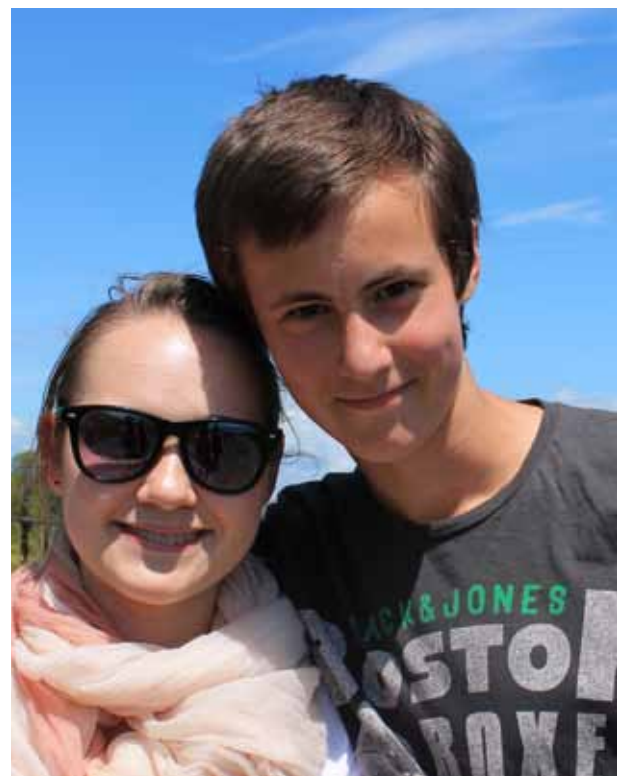
In 1997/98 Jürgen Klinsmann, who later on became coach of the German national football team, played for ‘The Spurs’ as striker. In this season he was the most effective goal getter of the team. Nowadays he’s still famous and popular for this great number of goals.

The squad of Tottenham Hotspur FC consists of 3 goal keepers, 8 defenders, 11 midfielders and 4 strikers. Currently, the best members of the team are Gareth Bale (number 3, defender and midfield), Luka Modric (number 14, midfield) and Rafael van der Vaart (number 11, midfield).



Sources:  
[http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tottenham\\_Hotspur](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tottenham_Hotspur)  
<http://www.tottenhamhotspur.com/spurs/index.page>

# Impressions









# Impressions

