

# The KEVICC Swingometer of Change



**Liam Heitman-Rice**  
Year 13  
The Editor

The power of the individual is what serves to unify the strength of the people. To incorporate personal desires within a period of immense change is a right afforded to all. It is this power that every adult in this country will be enabled to exercise this month. And now that I, legally, am an adult myself I shall also express my desire for change. I shall vote in the general election. Never before have I done this, so naturally it is an immensely exciting episode of my life and one that I greatly anticipate. It is a peculiar sensation to be able to make a difference on such an extensive scale, yet we all wish the best for ourselves and it is through the prospective politicians we invest our faith in that this right can be affirmed.

In preparation for the election, KEVICC became the stage for Totnes' political representatives, advocating their manifestos to win the hearts and minds of all in attendance. While I, alas, was absent you are free to see for yourself what proceedings took place in the article here.

Politics may be an area fraught with cynicism and doubt, yet in my naivety I must say that the election, and the promise it holds to usher change, is a source of outstanding excitement.



**Martha Harris-Davey**  
Year 12

## Farewells and New Beginnings

We bid a really fond farewell to Liam Heitman-Rice, who has so ably and entertainingly edited our KEVICC page for the Totnes Times for many months. Liam leaves KEVICC this summer and is returning to Australia for a gap year - but promises to keep in touch and to continue to write articles for us!

The standard of his journalism and commitment will be hard to match but we are delighted that soon we will be able to welcome year 12 student Martha Harris-Davey to take on writing editorials for us. She is studying English Literature and Language, Spanish, Media and Film Studies and will be too thoroughly immersed in exams to take on the role next month, but will become student editor of our College magazine, The Courier, for the Summer edition.

Produced by the Press Team



L to R: Julian Brazil (Liberal Democrats), Gill Coombs (Green Party), Justin Haque (UKIP), Nicky Williams (Labour), Sarah Wollaston (Conservative), Chris Rogers, former BBC correspondent, and students Tom Simpson (Kingsbridge CC), Naomi Chapman (KEVICC), Natasha Ringrose (Churston), Dulcie Fenton (Churston), Polly Rathbone (Kingsbridge) and Sam Black (KEVICC).

## Totnes Hustings

KEVICC has been attempting to encourage youth participation in politics and expand students' knowledge in readiness for voting in this year's elections. KEVICC held a Hustings for the main five candidates in the forthcoming General Election in the Ariel Theatre. This was organised by Trixie Foster and two students from each of the secondary schools based in the constituency. The students developed the questions

beforehand and put them to the candidates on the night, with Sixth Form students from the five schools making up the audience.

Stimulating discussion then took place, with candidates having to justify their positions and real differences of opinion being offered to students. Students gave very positive feedback, feeling that their views were being listened to, and that the event made them more likely to vote and take part in politics wherever possible.

David Troake (Politics teacher KEVICC)

The night kicked off with a question about affordable housing in the South West; then the topic moved on to Education, Environment, post-16 further education and apprenticeships and finally the EU. As people were leaving, I asked how they'd found the evening. There was certainly a buzz in the theatre as people were discussing many of the issues which had arisen from the evening. The students particularly enjoyed the heated debates. There was a general consensus that students were now more aware of their candidates and what their parties stood for, in preparation for voting in the General Election 2015 on 7 May. A big thank you to everybody involved in arranging the evening, with a special thanks to David Troake, who will be leaving KEVICC at the end of this term.

Alice Giorgi, Year 13



Pupils from The Grove Primary School accepting an award from Paul Tiony & Jaqui Hodgson, Totnes Mayor

## Fairtrade Primary Schools' Conference held during Fairtrade Fortnight.

Paul Tiony, tea producer from Kenya, spent a morning at KEVICC explaining to year 5 children from Marldon, St. John's and The Grove Primary Schools both how tea is transformed from a leaf to tea in our cups, and about tea growing worldwide. The children left determined to promote the use of Fairtrade at home and in their schools.

Paul was accompanied by Totnes Mayor, Jaqui Hodgson, who explained to the children that Totnes is a Fairtrade Town. They answered quizzes; made posters; asked Paul searching questions about production; wages and working conditions in his company and entered tea pot designs in a competition.



This year's KEVICC-hosted Fairtrade Primary Schools Conference challenged and evoked thought into Fairtrade practice.  
Fay Cullen, Transition



## We've got a Story to tell

The English department were delighted to welcome former KEVICC Governor Penny Little to the College this month when she ran a writing workshop for twelve talented year 7 English students.

The students spent the time working with Penny on thinking how to write a children's story, and then beginning to put ideas together. Every story had to have the story set in a hole, and the workshop was structured in a most creative way, making monsters from paper and using inspiration from props brought in by Penny. Each student was given a booklet, made in advance by Penny, to write their story in and they took these home to write their stories up in. The booklets will be returned to her and she will give the students feedback, help and encouragement about what they have written.

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