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Message from the Acting Headteacher

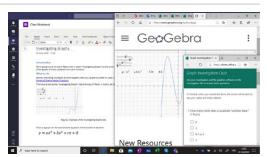
Sarah Pearson



Welcome to the Lent Term 2020 newsletter. When we started the College academic year, I don't think any of us envisaged that we would be finishing the term with online learning in place and with our community working in a very different way. I am immensely proud of the way that the whole

College has pulled together at this time. We have received so many positive comments from parents about the quality of the learning that is being provided for our students. We will continue to provide online lessons after the Easter holiday and will also be sending out some suggested activities for the holiday itself.

As I write, we are in the process of providing the IBO with all the information they need in order to award grades to our Year 13 students. We will shortly begin a similar process for Year 11 students once the exact procedure has been set out by the exam boards. Students should feel reassured that they will not be disadvantaged by this process. It is a stressful time for these young people, but please know that staff are doing everything to ensure that they all get the grades they are capable of and that they deserve. We hope to be able to celebrate the achievements



of both year groups once the current arrangements are lifted

As you will see from this newsletter, a great deal has happened this term and it is wonderful to be able to share this news with you. We all need some good news stories at the moment! There are even some examples of online learning that showcase some of the amazing work that is currently going on. We are busy planning for the Summer Term and looking into how some events can be organised remotely if we have not returned to College.

Please have a safe Easter break. I am sure that for all of us it is not going to be the holiday we envisioned. However, there are silver linings to even the darkest of clouds, and we should all make the most of spending time with loved ones whether that is in our homes or through online get togethers.

I look forwards to seeing you all back at College as soon as it is possible.

Warm regards,

Sarah Pearson, Acting Headteacher

University offer successes

Mrs A Winship

This year one hundred and twenty five students (including some of last year's Year 13 who are currently on gap years) submitted applications to universities via the UCAS system; because of the current situation universities have been given longer to respond to applicants but currently ninety six students have heard back from all of the universities they applied to and are busy making their decisions.

We have had a huge range of subjects applied for from Biomedical Engineering, Geography with Transport Studies, through Law, Arabic and Social Anthropology to Architecture and Product and Furniture Design by way of Neuroscience, Physiotherapy, Mathematics, and Medicine. Well done to all of those students who have received offers and good luck to those still waiting to hear from some universities.

Of particular note we are once again delighted at the number of students who have been offered conditional places to study at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Oxford has made offers to Giulia Argante and Adam Wilson to read Classics at Balliol and Jesus respectively; Felicity Henry to read Music at St Peter's; and Hannah Manderson to read Human Sciences at Wadham.

Cambridge has made offers to Stanley Hinton to read History at Magdalene, and Dewi Chappel to read Mathematics at St John's. Huge congratulations to all of them.

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The Nesta Prize

Ms S Davids

The College has been selected by Nesta, The Innovation Foundation, to receive a cheque for £5000 to spend on the future development of steam+: This is in recognition of the steamplus programme which Mr Edward Vine has been working on for many years with Prof Adrian Oldknow and which has been incorporated here at Hockerill Anglo-European.

Nesta reviewed the work we have done, including the work on Mission X to complement the Yr7 iSTEM course, and contacted some of the distinguished guest speakers we have had visiting here on our Mission X and other enrichment activity days, as well as those who are involved with the UK iSTEM group of which Mr Vine is a member. This is fantastic news for the College and a recognition of all the work Mr Vine does.

Durham House Refurbishment

Mrs C Faiers

We are delighted to report that after extensive renovation work the Durham Common room finally opened in January. The room offers a fantastic open plan kitchen which the boys seem to be really enjoying using. All we need to do now is publish directions for how to put the dirty items in the dishwasher!! There is more space for both those who want to play on the PS4 and those who just want to sit and relax. The new entrance is far more salubrious and we hope, in the future, to have a boot room downstairs which will significantly improve both the house and the space the boys have available in their bedrooms. The new entrance has also given us a new and improved office where boys can come and chat in a less cramped environment. Staff have worked with the students to talk about things that they would like to see in the room in the future and derived a "wish list" which we will endeavour to work our way through as and when we are able to.





Some good news!

Ms A McCulloch

Our first results for Year 11 are out - Izzy Rnjak, Harry Shanahan, Ali Fathi, Jessi Wong, Molly Piper, Man Kit Chen, Sanooy Musthafa and Vincent Davall all have L2 CoPE qualification.



Münster Work Experience February 2020

Ms T Stege

This year Ms Humphris and myself took no less than 17 students over to Münster on the Work Experience Exchange and had a very relaxing week cycling around Münster while the brave youngsters had a busy time working in various placements ranging from schools and kindergartens to libraries, book-shops, big companies and even a dental and a veterinary surgery. For the weekend the students could relax in their host families and were taken to places in and around Münster, a few even to Cologne to visit one of the most popular attractions in German, Cologne Cathedral. As always it was a pleasure for us to visit the students at their destinations as we received the most positive feedback about their language skills and general performance, as also stated in the feedback forms the employers were asked to fill in. It was all rounded off by a lovely meal, English and German students together, in an Italian restaurant, shortly before it was time to say goodbye again, for some maybe the starting point of a longer lasting friendship.



Year 10 and 11 trip to Body Worlds

Miss J Perry

The whole of Year 10 and the Year 11 GCSE PE students visited Body Worlds in London during IB Enrichment Day 2. The exhibition features plastinets that have been created from real human bodies. The tour of the exhibition really brought to life the human anatomy, and students were able to see the inner workings of the human body, the effects that a poor lifestyle can have on the body, as well as many other exhibits.



Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition class trip to Gü.

Mrs F Whiteley

The Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition class enjoyed an exciting morning's trip to the local Gu factory, on the Rainham Road Industrial Estate in Bishop's Stortford, during our recent IB day. Removing all jewellery, outdoor wear, leaving phones behind and thorough hand cleaning was a good introduction to the world of work and highlighted measures taken by Gu to minimise contamination. After an initial health and safety briefing we were introduced to Fred Ponnavoy who is the head chef and has the enviable task of new product development within Gu. He talked to us about how to design a new product and focussed on simplicity linked with giving a twist to something already familiar to consumers. Tasting Indonesian sugar was a new experience for us all and the tale of importing and issues with customs brought to life the struggles that companies may face when sourcing raw ingredients. Then on to the factory tour. We were shown round all areas of the factory whilst wearing PPE which comprised of a dashing white overall, shoes and ear plugs all topped off with a red hairnet. The company were producing their famous Lemon Cheesecake and as well as delicious aromas we had first hand experience of all the stringent health and safety regulations as well as quality checks when we were guided through the production line. At the end of the visit we were presented with individual Gu chill bags, each filled with a range of different Gu products as well as a large box of a variety of ingredients that are used to make Gu desserts. This was a very generous gift from the company and was highly appreciated by all. I can fully understand why the students were voting it as 'best trip ever'! The chatter on the way back to College was non stop and it was clear that the students were ready for their own Gu making experience. In the afternoon the students worked in our Food Technology room in teams of 2 to create their own Gu style products such as Lemon and Blueberry Cheesecake and Salted Caramel Millionaires Cheesecake. Niamh and Ruby are showing examples of some of the cheesecakes that we produced.



Ms A Morrow

Congratulations to Emily Isaacs who recently won the Challenge Cup for Grade 7-8 Woodwind Category at the Saffron Walden Music Festival this year. She performed against 5 other students who were all grade 7-8 and did very well to come out on top, the competition was adjudicated by a professional flautist, Emma Halnan.







Jazz Night

Mr C Bates

Earlier this month, a packed out St Albans Hall gave a standing ovation to our talented Hockerill students after the annual Jazz Night, in what turned out to be the last concert of the term. In a varied programme of big band classics performed by the college jazz orchestra, to entirely student led projects performing their own compositions, 24 of Hockerill's top instrumentalists and singers left the audience in no doubt of their exceptionally high-levels of musicianship. While all students did themselves proud, a special mention must go to senior students Guy Dempsey (Bass) and David Harkness (Drums) for playing in nearly every song.



GCSE RE Trip to Ilford Islamic centre

Mrs N Ashlee-McCrae

GCSE RE students have been studying beliefs and practices within Islam as part of their GCSE course. What better place to learn than in a Mosque and from an Imam. We were delighted to be able to visit the Ilford Islamic centre and learn more about the faith. Students were in awe of the building and the decoration inside along with the wonderful Q and A session with the Imam. It was a great trip and thank you to Mr Riley for driving the College minibus and being our chauffeur for the day.



Senior Football

Mr S Clark

The Senior Football Team have had another very successful season with both the A and B team losing only once throughout the season. We also entered two teams in the District Football competition which was made up of 12 teams. After the pool games, both teams made it through to the semifinal were they faced each other in the knockout stages. The A team were victorious and then went on to beat The Bishop's Stortford High School in the final 2 - 0 to once again become District Champions. Congratulations to all those boys involved.



PE News

Netball Districts 2020

Miss J Perry

Despite challenging weather in all year groups this year ranging from wind so strong it was hard for any team to get the ball in the net and score, to complete downpours, our netballers have had an excellent set of districts. Picture is of a very wet Year 11 netball team.



Cross Country

Mr W Conolly

On Saturday 1st February a group of 6 students competed in the Hertfordshire Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Championships with a chance to represent Hertfordshire at the New Balance English Schools' Cross Country Championship which was scheduled for Saturday 14th March in Liverpool. Brett and Fynn Rushman and Clare and Grace Malcolm were selected for the Hertfordshire team after finishing in the top 10 of their races at county level, this is a huge achievement in itself. The four students competed admirably on the day in difficult conditions. Brett Rushman must be congratulated for his impressive performance, finishing 14th in the Senior Boys race.



Hockerill CCF News

Captain N Ashlee-McCrae, Contingent Commander and WO2 D Riley, SSI

Senior Cadet Instructors Course (SCIC)

Three Cadets from Hockerill College CCF attended the highly prestigious Senior Cadet Instructors Course held at Beckingham Training Camp Lincolnshire over the week 14th- 21st February. All cadets are introduced to CFIT (Cadet Force Instructional Techniques) in order to plan and produce a series of lessons varying from Rifle, Navigation, Drill, and Fieldcraft. During the week the cadets prepared and delivered a minimum of four lessons. This is a high intensity week with cadets being tested throughout. At the end of the week cadets take turns to deliver a lesson during an exercise phase under pressure on the local training area. The three Cadets from Hockerill College CCF; Cpl David Bintley, Cpl Oliver Cashman and Cpl Toby McCrae all passed the course with two receiving Highly Competent passes and received their SCIC badge on their return to college. This is an incredible achievement by the cadets.



CCF Annual Dinner

On the evening of Wednesday 29th January Hockerill CCF celebrated their Annual Dinner in the College Chapel. It was a privilege to have Ms Sarah Pearson our acting Headteacher, two College Governors as well as representatives from the Army and RAF in attendance. The dinner was an opportunity for all the staff and cadets to celebrate the successes of the year and say goodbye to some cadets leaving at the end of the academic year. During the dinner the Officer Commander Captain Nicola Ashlee McCrae of Hockerill College CCF was able to reward four cadets with awards for their loyalty and commitment to the CCF. The four cadets were CSqt Theo Clark, CSqt Max Balestra O'Dare, LCpl Rex Chesters and LCpl Joseph Donovan. At the end of the evening Captain Ashlee-McCrae gave a speech commending all the cadets and staff for their hard work and commitment to the CCF.





RAF Gliding

On Sunday March 8th, two cadets from Hockerill College CCF, Cpl Grose and LCpl González-Upadhyay attended a gliding course at RAF Syerston near Newark, organised by 644 Voluntary Gliding Squadron. The morning was spent completing ground training and revision, this included the principles of basic airmanship. The afternoon was spent on the runway and cadets took turns to have two launches each in an Air Cadet Vigilant glider. Once in the air cadets spent some time flying a circuit of the airfield, practicing level flight, turning and diving, before lining up the aircraft ready for the instructor to land it.

The day culminated with both cadets being awarded their blue gliding wings which is an outstanding achievement, the first Hockerill cadets to have achieved gliding wings for several years.

Range & Obstacle Course

On Saturday 29th February Hockerill CCF attended a Range day at Merville Barracks in Colchester. Twenty-eight cadets were given the opportunity to conduct live firing using the SA80 A2 assault rifle. For the first part of the day the conditions were terrible with howling winds and horizontal rain, however in true form this did not deter the cadets or staff who demonstrated their resilience. Training was delivered by four members of staff from Hockerill CCF as well as two regular soldiers. For many of the cadets this was an incredible achievement bearing in mind the short time some of the cadets have been part of the CCF. The shooting overall was good with every cadet achieved their basic shooting qualification. The cadets were also given the opportunity to practice and learn new skills running over an obstacle course used by regular soldiers. The cadets, once again, showed their resilience with many putting their fears of heights to one side and tackling over twenty-five different obstacles. Lastly the cadets were shown many different types of weapons by Sqt Kilbride a member of the Cadet Training Support Team with an affiliation to Hockerill CCF. The day was a great success because of the combined effort of staff and cadets.



Hockerill pupil's language skills win national Mandarin competition

Congratulations to Year 12's Gayathri Gajeepan who won first prize at the final of the British Council Mandarin Speaking competition in London. Now in its seventeenth year, the Mandarin Speaking Competition is organised by the British Council and aims to build interest in Chinese language and culture. Pupils from 43 UK secondary schools participated in the final round at the Victory Services Club.

The competition, which took place on 5 February, was attended by the Schools Standards Minister Nick Gibb, the Chief Executive of the British Council Sir Ciarán Devane and representatives of the Chinese Embassy: Xia Jianhui, Minister Counsellor of Education and LI Guoqianq, First Secretary.

Pupils competed in either the Individual Language Ability or Group Performance section. Gaya won the Advanced Group category, giving a twominute speech in Mandarin and answering some additional questions in the language in Mandarin on the topic of environmental issue.

Sir Ciaran Devane, Chief Executive of the British Council, said: "Gayathri impressed the judging panels in regional heats and now the final with her skilled Mandarin speaking ability. The winner's prize of a trip to China is testament to the huge amount of effort they put in.

"Language learning is an essential part of understanding and collaborating with other countries and cultures. With more than one billion Mandarin speakers in the world, it's important that more young people in the UK learn the language — those that do will find it opens up exciting study and work opportunities in our increasingly interconnected world."



Library News

Mrs S Bruce

World Book Day:

On 5th March, the Library distributed World Book Day tokens to every student in the College and also provided the venue for the English Department's fundraising readathon, 'Read for Good', organised by Miss Butler. It was wonderful to see so many students taking an interest and signing up, and I look forward to seeing how much sponsorship money is raised for this excellent cause. More information can be accessed via the Team that Miss Butler has set up.

Juniper Book Awards:

The Library has also supported the English Department in shadowing this year's Juniper Book Awards (formerly Essex Book Awards), with each of the Year 7 English groups, along with the Library's Books & Biscuits Club, shadowing one of the shortlisted titles. With the help of Ms Spirli, we were also able to enlist staff to read and help promote one book, and thanks go to this year's 'Champions': Mr Barnes, Miss Dambatta, Mr Coleman, Mr Irish, Ms Spirli and members of the Refectory staff.

Books & Biscuits Club:

The club's members have been busy with two ventures this term, the first of which was film making, in order to get their entry for the Juniper Book Awards

Bar Mock Trial Competition

Archie Fraser

Having come out of our last mock trial competition in November pleased with our performance, we were all slightly disappointed when we didn't make it through to the final round after putting so much effort into our preparations. However, upon our return to school in January, we received some good news. After a previous misunderstanding with the scoring, we had been allocated a place in the National Final at the Old Bailey. It was an exciting Wednesday afternoon for everyone involved to say the least! Over the rest of the term, we spent our CAS sessions and weekly club preparing for the approaching competition, really getting a feel for the layout and running of a trial. We were fortunate to have two barristers from East Anglian Chambers, Matthew Edwards and Eve Robinson very kindly spend an afternoon with us, helping our team to refine our work and give us a more detailed insight into life working as lawyers. They really helped us understand how they would approach the cases we were preparing if they were prosecuting or defending them, and ensured we felt much better prepared so we were very grateful to them for giving their time to help.

While unfortunately the competition at the Old Bailey was cancelled, our experience this year has been incredibly interesting and really given us the chance to understand the fascinating world of criminal law.



book trailer competition ready by the deadline. They were delighted to be able to use the new Rode microphone which they selected as their prize for winning last year's competition, and this has certainly made a difference! Unfortunately, the awards ceremony has had to be postponed until later in the year, but you can still take a look at the film they made, using this

link: https://tinyurl.com/vxyh7lh When not being budding Spielbergs,

the students have been involved in their ongoing eTwinning project, 'Super'euro'heroes to the Rescue' with

their partner schools in Italy, Spain and

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

We have the champions!

Notice the champions of the

Poland. Each school selected one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and created a superhero character to tackle their chosen SDG. They have been busy working on a collaborative comic book, called 'The Four Elementals', and I look forward to sharing this when the project is complete. Now, more than ever, it is fantastic to work with these other schools, and support one another through challenging times.

Thursday Thought

Each week Mr Kaufman provides a Thursday Thought to be discussed during form time, this is usually topical, often very thought provoking and occasionally provided just for light relief. For our first Thursday of virtual schooling he gave us Lynn Ungar's poem, Pandemic:

Know that our lives are in one another's hands. (Surely, that has come clear.) Do not reach out your hands. Reach out your heart. Reach out your words. Reach out all the tendrils of compassion that move, invisibly, where we cannot touch.

From "Pandemic" by Lynn Ungar

Ms Spencer then chose to use it as the basis of her Year 9 English Lesson and we thought we would share some of the students' reflections:

We're all one thing, and our lives are in one another's hands, as Lynn's poem says. Is our ability to grasp that truth part of some deeper meaning about what's happening here — a test of our ability to demonstrate selflessness. — Edward

Like the tendrils, we need to support and provide stability for as many people possible, even if it won't impact us directly, we always have an opportunity to help. Although this pandemic is devastating, it has brought all of us together by connecting and helping each other, bringing hope for humanity. — Samaira

This means that we should still talk to each other and to raise spirits even if you can't be near anyone. And that we need to trust each other in situations like the one we are in now — *Paul*

This extract is true, we can only beat this pandemic if everyone makes an effort and practises social distancing If we all do the right thing, we will get through this sooner rather than later. — *Jazz*

What this quote says to me is that in time of great struggle, the outcome is up to us. – *Jola*

This poem is discussing Covid19. But I think it is also trying to talk about life generally. This poem is saying that life will always be better if we 'reach out'.— Benedek

Hockerill Brownies

The brownies that Dana, Wayne and the Holroyd Howe team provide for occasions such as Cake Breaks, or if we are very lucky even just for everyday lunches, have long been a firm favourite of both staff and students. Mrs Whiteley and her Year 8 class were busy baking on the first morning of virtual school and Katie Billinton decided to ask for the closely guarded recipe to try at home, which she did with much success — they were reportedly very yummy and she is planning on making them again soon. So, after a number of requests on twitter, Dana has kindly provided the recipe to keep you all going until you can have them in the Refectory again.

Ingredients:

750g chocolate 750g margarine 1375g sugar 500g self-raising flour 12eggs

Method:

Melt marg and choc together Whisk eggs and sugar together Fold in flour Then add the melted marg and choc to egg mix Cook for 45 mins 160c

When Katie made these she divided the recipe by 4 and had great results — Happy Baking!

Project Josie

Josie Hofer



Project Josie started when I was in year 10; we had been given the brief for our DT coursework which was to design a product for developing countries. I chose to focus on human trafficking.

The idea was inspired by #AskForAngela and the Metal Spoon Campaign. #AskForAngela, started in 2016, is used in bars and pubs across the UK to help save people from sexual assault by asking a bartender for "Angela"; the bartender can then call a taxi or help the person make a discreet exit. The idea behind the metal spoon campaign was to put a metal spoon in your underwear if you are in an airport and are a victim of human trafficking, FGM, forced marriage, or any other dangerous situation. When the user goes through the metal detectors in security the detectors will go off and because the spoon is in the underwear which is a sensitive area, the user gets taken away to be searched privately, at which point they can ask for help. However, there are many problems with the metal spoon campaign as it is unhygienic, and the user might not be able to get a hold of a metal spoon. So, I combined these products, I took the poster idea from #AskForAngela and the metal detectors/metal object idea from the metal spoon campaign.

Project Josie consists of a small dispenser that holds about 7 concave discs and poster with the phrase "are you in danger" in many different languages. The dispenser sits next to a toilet roll dispenser in the airport toilets before security and the poster is hung on the back of the toilet cubicle door. The idea is that a person can go to the toilet, see the poster and put the disc in their waistband or pocket and then go through airport security and be identified as a victim of human trafficking. It can also be used by victims of FGM or forced marriage etc.



New Principal Appointment



The governors are delighted to announce that Mr David Woods has been appointed as Principal, with effect from September 2020. He is currently Campus and Secondary Principal at the International School of Geneva, a post he has held for 10 years. The school is non-selective, has an exceptional reputation and is the home of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Mr Woods' achievements during this time have been many and include outstanding academic results comparable with the best selective schools, the development of a bilingual programme

for all students aged 11-14 and the delivery of an ambitious redevelopment programme. He is particularly proud that they are now a 'Single Use Plastic Free' school.

Prior to this, Mr Woods was Head of Senior School at Tanglin Trust School in Singapore following a successful career which included positions as

Assistant Principal, Head of 6th form and teacher roles in a number of English state schools.

Joint Chair of Governors, Dr Judith Braeckman said "We feel very lucky to have found an ideal candidate for the post who shares the College's commitment to the International Baccalaureate, bilingual teaching and developing well rounded individuals".

Mr David Woods, added "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to join Hockerill. It is an outstanding school that offers a unique and special experience that it will be an honour to lead and represent".

Mr Woods holds a BSc in Geography from the University of Liverpool and an MSc in Rural Resources and Environmental Policy from the University of London. He was a boarder himself, having attended Wymondham College, a state boarding school in Norfolk. He is married with two children at university in the UK. He enjoys all sport, most notably cycling, table tennis and skiing.

Peter Cane Legal Reasoning Prize

Toyin Odusan

Earlier this year, I came across an essay competition that really intrigued me. Law has always been an area of interest for me and so, in early February, I submitted an entry to the Corpus Christi Peter Cane Legal Reasoning Prize: a competition for Year 12 and 13 students. For this competition, I was tasked with writing an essay of around 2000 words, exploring Section 14 of the Public Order Act of 1986. In my essay, I explored the 'powers and offences'

created by this Act and in particular, whether this contentious provision adequately balances freedom of assembly with public order. To my surprise and delight, my entry won the competition!

Editor's note: Congratulations also go to Toyin's classmate, Caitlin Tyacke, who was also shortlisted in the competition — very well done to both of you.

From the Joint Chairs of Governors

Marie Roberts and Judith Braeckman

The last few weeks have made us question our lives and think about what is really important to us.

As a school those thoughts have centred round the well-being of our students, staff and the wider Hockerill community. Through the highs and lows of the last few weeks the key things that have shone through are the strength of community on which Hockerill is built and how positively everyone has responded to the daily challenges thrown at them.

This can be demonstrated in so many ways but here are a few highlights we'd like to share with you:

The speed and professionalism of all staff in the way they have adapted and delivered teaching to an online and virtual environment and how this is supporting students through this difficult time;

The staff actions in monitoring the potential impacts of Coronavirus and keeping everyone informed as the situation progressed in uncertain times;

The maturity with which students have adapted their routines and how they are supporting each other with this new way of learning;

The action needed to keep the school open for those pupils that need to be there – supporting key workers and boarders unable to return home;

The initiatives being thought up by students and staff to help the NHS and wider community – including a donation of our science personal protective equipment and cleaning products to the NHS;

The appointment of our new Principal David Woods — using video technology the selection panels interviewed all candidates remotely during the final stages of the recruitment process ¬enabling us to keep to our original timeline; and

The dedication and commitment from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and all of Hockerill's staff ensuring that the well-being of our students is the number one priority.

The Board of Governors are in daily contact with each other and the SLT monitoring the situation and will continue to do so over the holidays. If anyone has any questions or would like to speak to any of the Governors please email us at **Chairofgovernors@hockerill.com**. We are here to support you and the school through these unprecedented times and we hugely appreciate the support of all parents for the College now as always.

So as we head into the Easter holidays we hope you can take some time to rest and gather your thoughts and we look forward to seeing you all again in better times to come.