

# Newsletter



No: 1234 [www.yarmschool.org](http://www.yarmschool.org) | 24th January 2020

## Headmaster's Welcome

As another week flies by, this Newsletter gives a flavour of the events and activities going on across the school. Of particular note are the fascinating lectures and talks given by an impressive range of external speakers; this week from Nigeria and Afghanistan. Do encourage your children to look out for such opportunities and to make the most of these. Our sports teams have given a very strong account of themselves in recent matches, and individual successes at regional and national level continue to impress in cross country, rugby, hockey and netball. The call for entries into the recycled garment competition is described within and entries will need to be 'out of this world' to win; good luck to those who take on the challenge!

I would politely request that all parents switch off the engines of their cars when parked on the school site waiting for pupils, or while sports fixtures are ongoing. Idling engines produce emissions which have local effects on the school site in terms of air quality, but also run counter to our focus on the School's environmental credentials, of which we are very proud. Thank you for your support and action in this area.

Dr Huw Williams

## Classics Trip to London

Sixteen enthusiastic students of Classics and Latin undertook their own personal Odyssey down to London last weekend, though without some of the obstacles Odysseus faced. No monstrous Cyclopes or witches turning people into pigs for them; the worst they faced were engineering works and a slightly extended train ride.

Leaving Eaglescliffe on Saturday morning, by early afternoon we had made it to the Museum of London, where pupils were introduced to some Bronze Age archaeology — and an opportunity to compare what was happening in this country at the same time as the treasures of "Mycenae, rich in gold" and of "mighty walled Tiryns" were being fashioned in Greece. On from there to the Roman London galleries, where they got a chance to see what the Romans had done for us: amphitheatres and bath houses, roads and villas, sewers and central heating.

The evening featured a walking tour of the sights of London, from St Paul's Cathedral to the Houses of Parliament (we waved to Boudicca as we passed), and on to Trafalgar Square — a great opportunity to think about public art and what people choose to put up on plinths, in advance of a day of looking at a lot of much, much older statues.

Sunday took us to the British Museum and the excellent exhibition 'Troy: Myth and Reality'. The Latin pupils were able to dig into the question of the myth, and the way the story of the Trojan War has been told and retold over and over again by different writers and artists — as they have seen in their studies of Virgil's account of the fall of Troy in the Aeneid. The Classics pupils were able to learn more about the reality, and the controversial archaeology of Heinrich Schliemann, his wild assumptions and liberal use of dynamite.

From there we were able to look at some of the Museum's permanent collections, most importantly of all the Parthenon Marbles (aka the Elgin Marbles). They were able to see the sculptures taken from Athena's grandest temple in Athens, the Parthenon, and look at the stories they tell: the war by the Lapiths to recover their women, drunkenly abducted by a group of Centaurs who must count as the worst wedding guests of all time; the birth of Athena fully-formed and clad in armour out the head of her father Zeus; and the real-life annual procession by the people of Athens to present Athena with their birthday present for her — a beautifully embroidered dress. Those who had come on the trip to Greece last Easter were able finally to see some of the items they'd heard so often mentioned, and really complete the set.

After a bit of time to explore Covent Garden and bid goodbye to the big city, it was time to jump aboard the train, where it was all steam ahead back up north. Well done to the pupils for their conduct on this trip, and for some great thoughts about the things we saw, both ancient and modern and everything in between.

Mr J Hall



**Career Cluster event: Degree/Elite Apprenticeships**  
**Wednesday 12th February, 6pm - PAA**

## Nigerian charity CEO and journalist discusses rights of children with Politics Society

Betty Abah did not attend school until the age of nine; growing up in a somewhat traditional family in Nigeria in many ways it just did not occur to her parents that schooling was important let alone a right. Betty now works as one of Nigeria's leading campaigners for the rights of children, as well as being a prominent journalist, author and published poet.

Nigeria has a reputation globally for its go-getting, super ambitious and high achieving citizens. The Nigerian diaspora is significant and prominent in many fields including literature, fashion, design and commerce. But this image too easily occludes the many marginalised communities working

against more narrow social expectations and limitations, and it is these communities that are the focus of Betty's work. She operates a Non-Government Organisation in Lagos, with an outreach across the country that assists in the empowerment, education and training of young girls. Betty has also been a powerful voice in advocating for the continued efforts to free the Chibok school girls captured in 2014 by the northern Islamist group, Boko Haram. The challenges are many from forced and early marriages, a lack of disclosure over issues of sexual abuse, as well as restrictive educational opportunities. Betty shared numerous success stories of her work, demonstrating that innate capacity for individuals to resist their oppression and seek that better life.

This half term the Politics Society is exploring more broadly the theme of the marginalisation of children and women through a range of guest speakers; this week they will also hear from a former Chief Medical Officer from Afghanistan who devised programmes for the betterment of women and girls, two Palestinian postgraduate students looking to build stronger communities in Israel-Palestine, as well as a Pakistani-based journalist campaigning for children's rights.

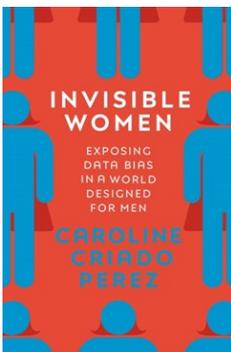
Mr S Edwards



## Book Review

### Invisible women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men

- Caroline Criado Perez -



Through the book 'Invisible women' Caroline Criado Perez unravels what she describes as the 'gender data gap' - the use of male normative data to build the modern world that facilitates for perpetual discrimination of women through pervasive but invisible bias. In a world where the feminist conversation might have disengaged some, it seems refreshing to view the topic through the lens of hard-hitting data, exposing the areas in which inequality remains inherent.

There are facts that Perez states that won't necessarily shock, women are already aware that they, on the whole, are paid less than their male counterparts, that they're less likely to participate in academic fields where 'brilliance' is required to excel (think philosophy, maths, science, musical composition), that they face disproportionate levels of domestic abuse and that they're expected to do far more unpaid labour in the household. The sobering reinforcement of these facts, however, comes alongside a great wave of fresh pockets of society in which considering the male as the 'norm' and the female as the 'other' has led to discrete imbalance. Some of these may initially appear trivial - most offices, for example, are set at a temperature 5 degrees too cold for women as the norm temperature was based around the needs of a 70KG, 40 year old male, despite the fact that women are far more likely to use public transport, it's laid out in a radial form that most benefits those travelling to and from work at peak times (most likely men) making journeys more likely to be embarked on by

women (picking children up from school, visiting elderly relatives etc.) much more difficult to achieve. Similarly, the size of phones have been designed to fit comfortably within the hand of a man, speech recognition is designed using recordings of male voices, leading to Google's version being 70% more likely to recognise the voice of a man. While, in these cases gender bias is unlikely to be an issue of life or death, it's also revealed that women are 47% more likely to be seriously injured when involved in a car accident due to the use of a male normative body size when designing safety measures, that in medicine the male is often accepted as 'the' human body, so women are more likely to be prescribed the wrong dosage of drugs, or more likely to be misdiagnosed following a heart attack.

There is sheer abundance of examples in this book that demonstrate the ways in which a lack of female presence in board rooms, in parliaments, in decision making bodies has built a world that is systematically blind to the preference and needs of the female as equal to those of the male. Put simply, we're living in a world that is, on the whole, designed by men for men. The torrent of factual evidence presented to us in 'Invisible women' is a call for change. The design of society is increasingly reliant upon data, and if that data considered only the male, inequality will continue to deepen. An equal world will come with a change in mind set, when female presence makes its way (equally) into the rooms where decisions are being made, and society is being designed, to combat the current acceptance of the male experience of the world being the 'norm'. With this change in mind set and inclusion of a female perspective, perhaps, will we not only have thought about issues such as increased street lighting so sexual predators aren't as much of a threat for women alone on the dark, but we also won't accept a world that needs to be built around the assumption that sexual predators will always exist.

Catherine Arrol

(Upper Sixth Politics student)

## Understanding the route to an elite apprenticeship



Daniel Orlopp in the Upper Sixth has recently secured a prestigious apprenticeship with EY – one of the big four professional services firms. Elite/degree apprenticeships are an increasingly more available and sought after post-18 route. I caught up with Daniel to ask him questions about the application and selection process and his views on apprenticeships. And don't forget to book

your place at the Career Cluster event on Apprenticeships happening on the evening of 12th February, where EY will be just one of the organisations represented!

Mr S Edwards

### What made you first think about doing an apprenticeship?

My mum first introduced me to apprenticeships as she helps young people into employment and training. Personally, it seemed like the perfect idea for me as I could earn, get valuable experience in a respected company, whilst working towards a degree without building debt.

### What for you are the major advantages of this approach?

The biggest advantage is that you begin working straight away. This means you are employed and can start building your CV and other skills. You benefit from training from top companies who offer the apprenticeship programmes.

### What do you say to those who might think this means 'missing out' on life at university?

You aren't missing out at all! On my specific programme I go to University one day a week and then work the other four days. This means I get the best of both worlds!

### What was the nature of the process for this apprenticeship? What advice would you offer?

Firstly, you need to find the programme that is right for you - this is one of the most important parts of the process as you will be in the programme for three years. Do lots of research as this will help you make your decision and will be valuable in the future when it comes to later on in the process. After the application I was asked to complete online strengths assessments, this included situational, numerical, and verbal assessments. When I found out I was successful, I was invited to an experience day in London. All of my travel was paid for and it was a fun and extremely useful day. It was filled with team exercises and a few more assessments. Finally, I was invited to a face-to-face interview at my chosen location which was Newcastle. Other companies may structure their application process differently, however they all tend to use a similar format.

### How competitive do you feel the process is?

The process is very competitive. I was told at the assessment centre that this year, student recruitment received around 30,000 applications. However, don't be put off by this - see it as a challenge and remember to remain confident in your abilities.

### So where will you be working when you start?

As I mentioned my chosen location is Newcastle, so I will be working in the Newcastle office, but I could have chosen other

cities such as Manchester, London or Leeds.

### And can you tell us something about the starting salary and your future prospects?

My starting salary will be around £17,500, but I also get other benefits such as a pension, and as I mentioned my university fees are covered. EY also has a fantastic rewards and benefits system which means I will also be able to benefit from things like free eyesight tests and free tickets to sought after exhibitions. After the three year apprenticeship I will hopefully be able to stay on with EY and grow and develop my career with them.

### How did you feel when you found out the news?

To be honest, I don't think it has quite sunk in yet, and it's been a month since I received the phone call! I was on the train the other day and spotted an advert for EY, and I just couldn't believe that I have a position with them. I am so excited to get started and to be part of an amazing organisation.

## Did Impact make a hit or did Fromage smell victory?

After a break over Christmas, the Yarm Apprentices were back in the Board Room to pitch to Andrew Craddock, CEO of Darlington Building Society (in his role as Lord Sugar), for £500 for a charity of their choice. The teams had been asked to identify a good cause, explain what difference the money would make and detail what they would do to supplement the money themselves. In a commendable and emotive pitch, team "Impact", Project Managed by Jamie, advocated Butterwick Hospice as a good cause and coped admirably with a deluge of questions about their plans to run a sweet stall, Fifa tournament and sponge teachers. Next to pitch were Will's "Fromage", who were keen to support a Darlington Food Bank called "King's Foodbank". They offered to volunteer at the bank whether or not they won the pitch, and were keen to secure donations of food and promote the charity in school, whilst raising additional money through again selling sweets and throwing sponges at staff.

After much deliberation, Mr Craddock announced that "Fromage" were victorious, but nevertheless he commended "Impact" on their slick presentation. He explained that the Food Bank fitted with their aims of supporting the local community.

Whilst Will's team enjoyed sparkling drinks and Yum-Yums, Jamie was forced to bring Hugh and Raph back into the Boardroom and, after intense questioning, Hugh was fired.

Bonus points were awarded to Will as winning PM, whilst the teams themselves commended Pranav and Faye as their outstanding Apprentices. Miss Rhodes and Mr Menzies also commended Pranav (on the suggestion of DBS) for the quality of his pitching and Jamie for his determination and calm manner throughout the task.

Only two tasks remain... Who will be crowned Yarm Apprentice 2020?..... See the Board outside B1 for the latest version of the League Board and watch out for further information about King's Food Bank and what you can do to further help this cause.

Miss C E Rhodes

## Scottish Mountain Weekend

Our Scottish Mountain weekend (open to Fifth Year and Sixth Form) still has places available! It is a three day weekend trip based in the Cairngorm National Park, giving pupils the opportunity to learn skills to explore the mountains in winter. Summiting peaks, ridge scrambles, digging snowholes, winter climbing; these are just some of the activities on offer!



Dates: 6-9 Feb 2020. Price: £175. Further details and application/consent forms available from the School Office.  
Mr A Mathers

## Moving on Up... Moving on Up...

This week the Economics and Business Department welcomed back Former Pupil Ben Bradley (Class of 2012) who, after A-Level Business at Yarm, went on to study for a degree in Business Leadership and Corporate Management at Northumbria University (a 3 year degree, where unusually both years 2 and 3 are placement based).

Ben enthusiastically described his subsequent career path with GSK, which saw him begin as a supply management placement student, developing the data set up process for the Barnard Castle site. Before he progressed to being an end-to-end planner for a drug called Arzerra, and then a Site Lead Planner. His most recent promotion saw him become a GPS Practitioner, having an advisory role on improvement projects, leading projects and developing teams on how to use the GPS tools. Ben spoke about the importance of seizing opportunities, whilst also discussing the importance of direct one-to-one communication and valuing team members and employees within a large global corporate environment. Ben happily answered a wide range of questions from an audience which filled the Meeting Room.

Miss C E Rhodes

## Book Review: The Poet X

The Poet X is an award-winning novel about the journey of Xiomara, a teenager growing up in Harlem. Due to her strict Christian family, Xiomara finds it very hard to express herself and feels like her twin brother (Xavier) is the family favourite. Frustrated, she pours all her feelings and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook. One day, she agrees to attend her English teacher's poetry group. It, however, clashes with her church class. Which should she choose?

This is a moving and uplifting novel and we would absolutely recommend it!

Grace Nicholas and Naeha Rajaram



## News from the Library

As well as an extensive collection of over 21,000 books in the library we also have a number of excellent online resources. One of these is Britannica School. This is an award winning resource from Encyclopaedia Britannica and is available for children to access at school, or from home, and can be used on any device including computers, laptops and tablets.

Please encourage your child to use Britannica School (rather than Wikipedia!) as a starting point when they're searching for information to help them with homework, projects and research papers. You can be confident that they will be exploring safe material from a trusted, non-biased, and reliable source with access to articles, videos, images and educational games in all subject areas. There is a choice of three levels – Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced – so it is easy to select the most appropriate level for each user's reading ability and age. There is also a Read Aloud feature. To access Britannica, please ask your child to contact the school library for the link and for their ID.

Please do contact us if you would like further information about the library and its online services. We value your support in encouraging your child to access the superb range of resources we have to help them with their education.

Mrs D Mason

## Kids' Lit Quiz

A group of nine pupils from the First and Second Year travelled to Gosforth Central Middle School in Newcastle to take part in the North East region's Kids' Lit Quiz. The Kids' Lit Quiz is an annual literature quiz for students aged 10 - 13 years. Quizzes are held in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Indonesia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, United Kingdom, and USA. The winning team from each regional heat competes in a National Final. National champions then compete in the World Final.



We have been entering teams for over 16 years and the competition this year was formidable - there was only 3 points separating the first three teams – the winner was Durham Johnston School. Our teams performed well and were in the top ten – 36 teams took part altogether!

Yarm A Team (Second Years – Isra Ali, Thomas Hardy, Ishita Pathare, and Jack Van Niekerk) came 7th equal with 76 points, and the B Team (First Years – Jenny Atkinson, Oscar Burns, Mae Kempster, and Dhruv Wadehra) were 9th with 74.5. In terms of positions, they could barely have been closer!

Mrs D Mason

## Riddles

### Last riddle winners:

Danny Scott, Kaavya Venkatesh, Tegan Addison, Yumna Ellidir – Fourth Year  
Congratulations to you all!

### This week's riddle: Doors & Windows

#### Rating: Out of the box

I have a little house in which I live all alone. It has no doors or windows, and if I want to go out I must break through the wall. What am I?

Please send any answers in to 16SinhaP@yarmschool.org, remember to add your year group (or initials for teachers) and those with the quickest correct answers will get announced in the next issue. Good Luck!

Parul Sinha & Aishani Paul

## Afghanistan 'Public Health Hero' delivers lecture

Dr Mohammad Haqmal could grip an audience with all manner of opening lines: 'whilst selling water on the streets of Kabul as a young boy', 'when I was kidnapped by the Taliban' or 'in March I will be interviewed to be the next Minister of Public Health for Afghanistan', and they would all be true, but each only a small jigsaw piece of the complex story of this fascinating public servant.

Dr Mohammad, a qualified doctor, holder of an MBA and a Masters in Global Health, is more than a decorated, highly qualified civil servant.

He retains and celebrates his connection to every last individual of the many communities whose lives he seeks to improve. He worked for eleven years as the Director of Ministry of Public Health in Afghanistan and in that time developed the first successful health district officer programme across 250 districts, managing multi-million pound health programmes across the entirety of this vast and geographically challenging country. He has twice been the recipient of the Public Health National Hero award in Afghanistan, and in a country noted for its corruption within government and officialdom, has a reputation for results alongside the mass support of the citizenry. Much of his work has focused on the development of children's and women's health care initiatives, all built with considerable community consultation and involvement. In a state where international donor funding forms the majority of spending resources, this counterweight of a grassroots development has been critical.

Dr Haqmal presented a dizzying array of challenges and obstacles to development with Afghanistan, with the potential of a coalition with the Taliban being a mere throwaway concern. But it was his self-belief, rugged persistence and creative thinking that left an audience with a sense of the stoical endurance and faith in the capacity to improve and develop against all odds.

Mr S Edwards



## History Society

This week at the History Society meeting, we had a presentation following on from the previous talks on; A House Through Time. Adil Arshad (AB2 TJC) talked to us about the history of his home. Adil has written a brief summary below of what he discovered when researching the origins of his home.

I live in a highly fascinating house in Acklam, an area that was previously conquered by the Vikings in 600 AD. After this, it was then, along with all of Teesside, invaded by Normans. In the Magna Carta the area is known as "Aclun" which means place of oaks. Surrounding my house is an abandoned blacksmith and a collection of Victorian style houses from the late 1920s.

The History Society meets at 1pm every Tuesday. Next week we will hear from Sai Sidaginamale (02PC), presenting on samurai warriors.

Mr Morrison and Adil Arsha

## Tennis Success

Congratulations to 4 of our tennis team members who were presented their award as the Durham and Cleveland LTA Under 14 David Lloyd Dynamos winter 18/19 North East league winners; Caspar G, Johnny C, Theo G & Noah B (not at presentation).



## 2020 Outer Space Recycled Garment Competition

Garments must be constructed from unwanted materials, including plastic, paper, old textiles...  
Judging Criteria:  
•Use of the Space theme  
•Quality of the product  
•Originality of the design

Products will be judged and worn at the:  
Technology Product and Fashion Show  
Senior School  
6:00pm – 7:00pm  
**28th April 2020**  
Tickets not required.

See Mrs Jackson for an entry form and further details.





YARM SCHOOL PRESENTS

# MISS Saigon

School Edition

Wednesday 5th February

Thursday 6th February

Friday 7th February

Saturday 8th February

7.30pm



Adults £12 Children £8

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM, YARM

TO BOOK TICKETS CALL 01642 792587 OR VISIT [WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG)

MISS SAIGON\* SCHOOL EDITION Performed entirely by students  
Music by CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG Lyrics by RICHARD MALTBY JR and ALAIN BOUBLIL  
Adapted from the original French lyrics by ALAIN BOUBLIL Additional material by RICHARD MALTBY JR  
Orchestrations by WILLIAM DAVID BROHN Original Stage Production by CAMERON MACKINTOSH  
School Edition special adaptation licensed by MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MACKINTOSH LIMITED

KINDLY SPONSORED BY  
ACTIVE CHARTERED FINANCIAL PLANNERS AND CLS SPORTS, A DIVISION OF CLEVELAND LAND SERVICES





YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

# LOUNGE BAR NIGHT



***BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND***

*LIVE MUSIC FROM*

**DAVID ARYN**

PULLED PORK / BRISKET  
BUN / MARINATED TOFU  
BURGER



**FRIDAY 13TH MARCH**  
**7.30PM**  
**TICKETS: £15**



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
THE SENIOR SCHOOL OFFICE



## Sport Scoreboard

### Boys' Hockey

U18A v Hall Cross Academy	Won 10-0
U18B v Barnard Castle School	Drew 1-1
U18B v Barnard Castle School	Drew 1-1
U16A v County Tournament- Various	Lost 2-3
U18A v Pocklington School	Drew 3-3
U18B v Pocklington School	Won 8-0
U15A v Pocklington School	Won 1-0
U14A v Pocklington School	Won 11-0
U13A v Pocklington School	Won 11-0
U13B v Pocklington School	Won 12-0
U12A v Pocklington School	Won 13-0
U12B v Pocklington School	Lost 1-4

### Netball

U18A v Durham High School for Girls	Won 38-35
U12C v Ian Ramsey CofE Academy Girls-U12A	Lost 2-5
U12C v Ian Ramsey CofE Academy Girls-U12B	Won 8-2

## Boys' Hockey

### 1st XI-Yarm 3 v 3 Pocklington

### 2nd XI- Yarm 8 v 0 Pocklington

It was another encouraging day for boys hockey in our block fixture against Pocklington School. In the senior matches we were missing some key players but our 1st XI drew 3-3 in a well contested game whilst the 2nd XI pulled off a very convincing victory with an 8-0 win.

### U15- Pocklington 0 v 1 Yarm

### U14- Pocklington 0 v 11 Yarm

In the away fixture, the U15 side dominated the vast majority of their game but could only convert one chance to win 1-0. The U14s won convincingly with brilliant displays from the likes of Nathan Muzawazi, Tom Graham, Jacob Rutter and the ever improving Fergal Deane. They played some outstanding hockey to win the game 11-0.

### Under 13B- Pocklington 0 v 12 Yarm

In the U13B team game against Pocklington School, we dominated the game only allowing Pocklington to have three shots on target and Ben Dempsey made some great saves keeping a clean sheet. Our attacking players totalled an impressive 12 goals with two from Yaseen, two from Oscar Studholme one from Austin Bridle, one from Mathew Parker and six from Henry Parker. A special mention for Jack Stoddart for some amazing assists- well done Yarm!

### Under 12A- Pocklington 0 v 13 Yarm

The U12As are starting to progress nicely - they managed to score 13 goals against Pocklington with outstanding performances from Jake Leader, Cameron Morrison and James Graham. After a great performance in the first half which saw Graham slot home an argie shot and Morrison roof a fierce drive into the top corner, the boys allowed the opposition to field more players in the second half to make for a tougher game. Both teams played with real spirit!

### U12 A- St Olaves 2 v 2 Yarm

### U12B- St Olaves 2 v 4 Yarm

The U12s travelled to St Olave's and came up against some tough opposition. At half-time we were 2 goals down but

rallied superbly well with two goals from James Graham goals to bring the game back to 2-2 which is how it finished. The B team did well to come out as victors with a strong 4-2 winning performance!

### U16 National Schools Cup Round 1

#### Yarm 2 v 3 Egglecliffe

Our U16 team squandered a half-time 2-0 lead against local rivals Egglecliffe through poor decision making and some indiscipline. They eventually lost the tie 3-2 which is frustrating when they had been dominant for much of the game. We will stay in the cup but and will battle through to the next round against the Yorkshire Champions.

## Girls' Hockey

After the U13 team's first 11-a-side match before Christmas was cancelled we quickly organised a friendly against some strong local opposition in Egglecliffe's U14 team. We travelled to Egglecliffe last Friday evening with an excited squad of 16 all eagerly awaiting their first taste of the 11-a-side format of the game. The girls were excellent, they dominated possession, rotated positions and tried out a new formation and press. This team performance led to the girls winning 3-0 with some lovely individual performances from Harriet J dominating the midfield, Lexie T in both her forward and midfield role, Pearl L learning 3 different positions on the night and Cara M coming back from injury to put in an excellent performance in the midfield. Well done girls.



## County Rugby

Sol Kench played for Durham County U18's team against Lancashire and Cumbria where Mr Webb was also there as the lead coach.

Mark Probeta and Sam Dunkin both played for Durham County U16's yesterday against Northumberland.

