

# WINGS NEWS

## Wings of Hope gathers together 60 young professionals from over 50 top industries for a careers event with a difference

On Sunday 11th November 2012 young professionals, students and teachers from across the country gathered at the Royal College of Surgeons in Holborn for an afternoon of innovative 'speed mentoring'.



Young professionals who's role was to provide mentoring about their respective industries came from top organisations including Topshop, Bank of England, Goldman Sachs, Random House, Barclays, Mckinsey & Co, KPMG, Rothschild, KISSfm, Slaughter & May, Edelman, Picador, HM Treasury, BBC presenter Babita Sharma was also on hand to give careers advice to young mentees.

*"When are you ever going to get a vet in the same room as a BBC news anchor or a landscape gardner and an economist from the Bank of England, or a headline comedian from the Edinburgh Fringe alongside an editor from Picador Publishing, NHS doctors and engineers from MIT all in one room? The breadth and quality of mentors was beyond my wildest dreams and I couldn't of asked for a more qualified group to impart their advice and experience to the students we had attending"*

Smruti Sriram, Head of the Professionals' Network and event organiser.

Popular industries of the afternoon included banking, publishing, pr and medicine. The event received incredibly positive feedback from attendees. One student remarked "I got to meet with a lot of different people and find out what their roles and responsibilities were in their jobs. It was interesting to find out what they do, how they did it and what qualifications you need".

*Dear Colleagues & Students,*

*Christmas is fast approaching, I hope you are all feeling in the festive spirit of giving and sharing. Christmas offers lots of opportunities for fundraising.*

*This years WOHAAs is off to a fantastic start we already have teams over 475 schools signed up. We have now moved back the dates for registration, please get in touch if you would like to book a presentation at your school.*

*I was overwhelmed by the tremendous success of our second speed mentoring event which saw an even more impressive line up of mentors than our last. We are extremely proud to put on such events and are so very grateful to all the mentors who helped to make the afternoon such a success.*

*We have some incredible workshops coming up in January from two of our prestigious corporate partners Barclays and Edelman. Such workshops offer students the unique opportunity to gain an insight into the industry as well as get top tips from top professionals.*

*We are so very grateful for the continued support from the participants, parents, teachers, corporates and professionals. We look forward to receiving your continued support throughout the year.*

*Best wishes,*



*Mrs Rajni Sriram, CEO & Co-founder*

## WOHAA winners Team Aquila invitation to Buckingham Palace:

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012 WOHAA winners Team Aquila took up Her Majesty's kind invitation to attend Buckingham Palace to personally present a Diamond Jubilee card and mementos from their home town of Malvern to celebrate the occasion.

The Sixth Form students, Alice Quinn, Holly Makin, Rebecca Connell, Rebecca Raby-Smith, Jess Coulman and Amy Cooke – collectively known as Team Aquila – are from Malvern College and had been fundraising for the Wings of Hope charity through a fundraising competition, 'The Wings of Hope Achievement Awards' (WOHAA).

Arriving in a Morgan car, team leader Rebecca Raby-Smith who was elected by her team mates to deliver the A3 sized signed card and a unique jeroboam of Hollywell Malvern Spring Water to Her Majesty. Wings of Hope Co-founder, Dr Sri Ram, and Smruti Sriram, the creator of WOHAA, were also in attendance.



*Dr R Sriram, Chief Clerk Christopher Sandamas and Rebecca from Team Aquila*

Team Aquila took part in WOHAA 2011/12 by conducting a range of fund and awareness raising activities. They participated in Santa and mud runs, donated profits from a baby-sitting service and sold Wings of Hope wrist bands, as well as conducting the Diamond Jubilee project. Their Jubilee work involved the students organising for their fellow students and members of the local community to sign a card for Her Majesty, gathering over 2,000 signatures in total. To achieve this they managed to secure a table in a local supermarket foyer, collecting signatures for the card and donations for the Wings of Hope at the same time. They also convinced a designer to help them create the card and a local printing company to sponsor its production.

Most impressive of all, they approached Morgan Motor Company and Holywell Malvern Spring Water – both being institutions synonymous with their hometown of Malvern – who donated a car to be used for the presentation and a specially-designed bottled gift, respectively. The teams' effort and dedication were outstanding and their commitment meant that they won 'Most Awareness Raised' Award through WOHAA.

## PROJECT PROGRESS: India

### Yoga State Competitions

Students from our project school received many prizes for their excellent performances in the Yoga State Competitions which were held in Nanmangalam, Chennai this Summer. Master Vijayakrishna came away with the champion award.

### Project School Alumni Meet

The first alumni meet of the school was held on 2nd October 2012. The guest of honour Sri Jayalakshmi recollected fond memories of the school and expressed her appreciation for the tremendous growth of the school in all aspects. Awards were given to alumni who had taken an active role in school activities. Many of the alumni in attendance are to help with the schools new e-library project - Vidya Vahini.

### Himalaya Trekking Expedition

Seven students from class VIII accompanied with their teacher participated in a trek of the Himalayas from 22nd September to 9th October. Their journey began in New Delhi where they had the opportunity to visit important places like Qutub Minar, The Lotus Temple as well as the India Gate. They spent time in Rishikesh to do trekking training which involved artificial river crossing, sling rippling, building tents and jungle trekking. The trek took them through some beautiful parts of the Himalayan region. Highlights of the trip included the 'river sand competition' by the banks of the River Ganga.



## Wings of Hope Achievement Awards - WOHA!



Participating in WOHA will help to develop and enhance students outside the boundaries of the school curriculum in key areas such as time management, leadership, entrepreneurship and creativity.

Along the way WOHA offers the chance to attend skills workshops with corporate partners that give an insight into different industries. Such events are a really great way to help young people thinking about potential careers. WOHA works with some of the UK's top companies

### New Dates for your WOHA Calendar

The Snapshot Project deadline has now been moved back to 23rd March - which means even more time to fundraise for WOHA!

Registration is open until 31st January - It's not too late if you've not already signed up!

### Mentoring

To make sure students get all the support they need during their WOHA projects we offer mentoring sessions with our highly experienced team. We know that sometimes problems arise and teams can experience many difficulties especially when first starting out.

Whatever questions students may have we are here to offer our expertise and guidance - no question is too small!



We are happy to arrange a time to come out to schools, we can fit in around school commitments. We are now also offering Skype video mentoring sessions.

If you would like to arrange a mentoring session please email [kim.hitchman@thewingsofhope.org](mailto:kim.hitchman@thewingsofhope.org) or call 020 8438 1598  
Skype: **wingsofhopeachievementawards**

### Benefits for WOHA participants -

## Workshops

### **Barclays Money Skills:**

**23rd January, Cheapside Business Centre, London**

Gain a unique insight into Barclays - a world-renowned financial institution and top UK employer. This workshop will provide knowledge about the financial sector, teach how to deal with WOHA and personal finances and develop confidence in approaching financial issues and decisions. Exclusive invitations will be sent via email to WOHA participants.

### **Edelman PR:**

**29th January, London**

Want to know more about the world of Public Relations? Edelman the PR giants will be breaking down the jargon and giving lots of top tips. Presented by top professionals from a world leading PR consultancy who work with big names such as Blackberry, Sony, MTV and Levi's. Exclusive invitations will be sent via email to WOHA participants.

## Barclays raise money for Wings of Hope in Santa Fun Run 2012

On Sunday 9th December 2012 Kwok and Selasi from Barclays ran the annual Santa Fun Run to raise money for Wings of Hope. The run took place in Greenwich Park, one of the largest parks on London area, a beautiful setting for the event.

Spirits were high on the chilly December morning as over 2,000 people gathered in Greenwich Park. Santa costumes were provided by Doitforcharity to all the runners. The annual Santa Run raises money for hundreds of different charities, as well as awareness for special causes. It certainly was a memorable sight watching hundreds of Santas running through the park.

Wings of Hope would like to thank everyone who ran to raise money for poor and underprivileged children in India and Malawi.



*Selasi and Kwok at the Santa Fun Run.*

There are lots of ways you can get involved in fundraising for Wings of Hope whether at school, in the office or at one of our organised events. For full listings please visit our [events page](#).

### Get Involved

#### British 10k London Run, Sunday 14th July 2013

World renowned run held in the heart of Central London which passes many of the capitals most famous landmarks on the way.

#### 3 Cities Cycle, 28th August-2nd September 2013

Cycle from the heart of the UK to Brussels via Amsterdam on this amazing charity bike ride challenge of a lifetime.

### Upcoming Events

**Registration Deadline** - Register online now for WOHA 2012/13 don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity act now! **31st January 2013**

**Barclays Money Skills Workshop** - Workshop held by top financial professionals at Barclays **23rd January 2013**

**Edelman PR Workshop** - Exclusive and unique workshop for WOHA participants held by PR giants Edelman. Limited number of places. **29th January 2013**

### Contact us

If you want to get involved, would like more info or fancy a chat, please get in touch!

Remember to have a look around our website:

[www.thewingsofhope.org](http://www.thewingsofhope.org)

Email us: [info@thewingsofhope.org](mailto:info@thewingsofhope.org)

Phone us: 020 8438 1598

Write to us: Wings of Hope, 12 Iron Bridge Close,  
Great Central Way, London  
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Talk to us on Skype anytime, We are now taking bookings for Skype video mentoring session. [wingsofhopeachievementawards](#)

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