

SchoolNews

CEDARS UPPER

Author visits

Cedars was thrilled to welcome local romantic thriller au-

thor and financier, Tony Drury, to run a series of author workshops looking at characterisation and how to create effective story openings with students from Year 9 English classes.

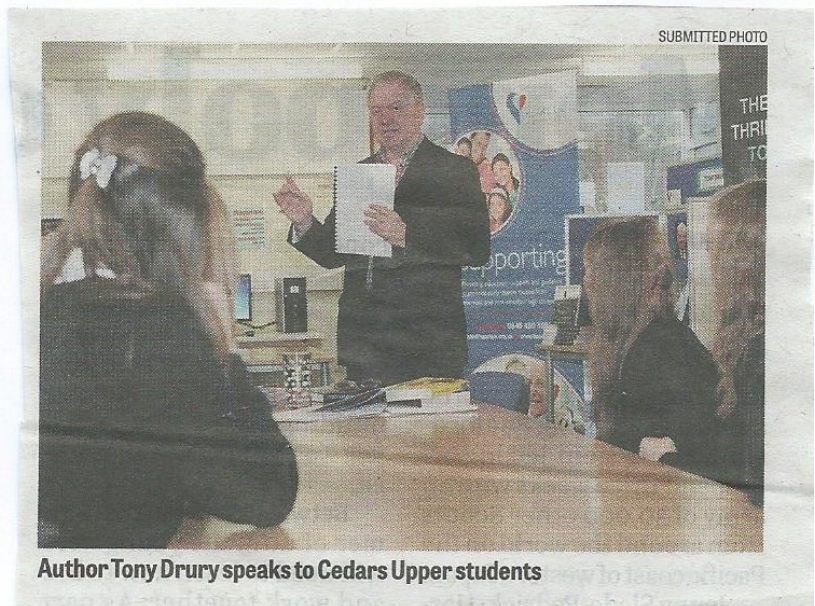
Year 8 students from Gilbert Inglefield and Linslade School were also invited to join in the last workshop of the day, working alongside Year 9s.

The visit was organised by Mrs Morris and Mr Malik in the English department in conjunction with Mrs Perrott and Mrs Thomas in the library at Cedars and Tony generously offered to donate his fee for the workshops to charity. Tony is an ambassador for the charity Heart UK, committed to raising awareness about the risks of high cholesterol. Tony's first book was *Megan's Game*, followed by *The Deal* in October 2012, and then *Cholesterol* in June 2013. The fourth novel, *A Flash of Lightning*, was released in November 2013. *Megan's Game* and *A Flash of Lightning* are set to be made into movies!

Tony spoke to Year 8 and 9 students at length about the importance of developing plot and characterisation when writing stories and students created their own story openings and characters based on the key pointers that Tony gave them.

A Cedars spokesman said: "We certainly saw some very creative imaginations at work! We

are now looking forward to running a writing competition open to both Year 8s and Year 9s with Tony judging the best entries for a prize."



Author Tony Drury speaks to Cedars Upper students