

# THE STRATHALLIAN

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## Editorial

WITH so many events of national interest and importance crowding upon us, the composition of this editorial should have been an easy and pleasant task. By the time this appears in print, in July, the Coronation will remain to most of us only in the form of a few souvenirs and the memory of a welcome holiday at the beginning of June. However, to us, writing a few days after the great event, it has a deeper meaning, and, although it is not our intention to draw any symbolic comparisons between the two Elizabethan eras, we are sure that all Strathallians will fervently join with us in wishing Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh a long, prosperous, and happy reign.

As in world events there have been many triumphs, culminating in the conquest of Everest, so also, at Strathallan, we have not been without our own lesser achievements.

Work on the new building has shown steady progress, and, owing to the magnanimity of Mr. F. J. P. Lilley, we have been able to increase the number of our playing fields. Mr. Lilley placed at the disposal of the school a bulldozer which has levelled a large area of waste ground beside the Soccer pitch and the field beyond the Paddock. Its work has provided the school with new rugby and cricket pitches, and a 440 yards running track. This is indeed a most valuable contribution at a time when more playing field space is so urgently required. The acquisition of new pitches was perhaps, we fear, less surprising to the School than the realisation that there were so many stones in such a comparatively small area!

Our congratulations are due to two further members of the outdoor staff—Mr. Boag and Mr. Doig—who, having completed twenty-five years' service, have been presented with wrist watches by the Governors.

It was with regret that the School learned of the death of Miss May Riley on 16th June. She was a sister of the Founder, Mr. H. Riley, and acted as School Matron and Housekeeper during his lifetime and for a short period after he died. Since her retirement she lived at The Airds and latterly at The West Lodge and continued to take a keen interest in the School and its activities. Miss Riley will be particularly missed by many Old Boys who came under her care.

It is with profound regret that we have to record the death of Mr. McIntyre. Ever since 1927 "Mac" had been a true friend to all boys at Strathallan. He had performed a variety of tasks, not the least among them being his loving and jealous care of the cricket square and his work as School Umpire. Since Mr. Roy's retirement several years ago he had also supervised the Strip Rooms, and many a worried junior who had mislaid his jersey has been set at his ease by Mr. McIntyre's production of the missing article from his pile of strayed belongings and sent on his way with a kindly slap on the back.

He died on June 9th, after a short illness, and will be remembered with affection by countless Strathallians who looked upon him as a good and loyal friend.

## School Notes and Notices

It is with great regret that we say goodbye to three masters at the end of this term. Mr. E. A. Potts is leaving to go to Wrekin College. He came here in 1948 and has been in charge of the History Department and the C.C.F., in which he has shown great interest in the Pipe Band; he has also been a most enthusiastic rugby coach. We shall miss him and Mrs. Potts very much.

Mr. A. J. S. Greig is going to Gordonstoun. Since he came in 1949 he has shown a very active interest in most sides of the school's life and, as Senior House Tutor, has been responsible for much of the internal administration. His work in the classroom and on the playing field will be much missed, especially in Freeland House.

Mr. J. A. Gibbs goes to Monmouth School. During his three years here he has been House Tutor of Nicol House and has taught Physics. He has also looked after many activities, including swimming, country dancing, aeromodelling and radio clubs. His infectious enthusiasm will be much missed.

Our best wishes go with these masters for the future.

Miss B. M. H. Ross, the Senior School Matron, who had only been with us for two terms, left at the end of the Easter term; we wish her all success in her new post. Miss Ross is succeeded by Miss Lowe, who was previously Assistant Matron, and this post is now taken by Miss M. C. Boddie, to whom we extend a very cordial welcome.

The roof of the new wing, which is being built in the garden between the Simpson Wing and the Scout Wood, was completed last term, and the opening date will be September.

The two hockey pitches on the Lawn and Paddock have now been replaced by Little Acre and a section of Big Acre, which have been marked out for hockey.

Sports Day this year was brought forward a fortnight, owing to the Coronation celebrations, and Speech Day a week to May 30th. In common with other schools, a holiday was granted from Saturday until Wednesday night.

A new summer games system was introduced this term whereby those not wishing to play cricket play hockey and two or three other sports, swimming, tennis and athletics. Athletics has thus become a regular afternoon sport, which has not been the case for some time now.

By the time of going to press, Freeland are well ahead in the House Championship; Nicol are second by one point from Ruthven, with Simpson last. The swimming, tennis and cricket results are, however, still to come.

Unfortunately the hard shale tennis courts are only in very limited use this term owing to their bad condition. Three grass courts have, however, been laid out in the quadrangle.

The four concrete practice wickets on the Paddock have been covered with a rubber compound. This is a vast improvement, for these wickets are now as near perfect as can be hoped for.

Two new societies have been formed since our last issue. A play-reading section of the Dramatic and Operatic Society has been revived, and Mr. Haines has gathered a number of seniors into a climbing party which has been out on the Grampians and Ochils on a number of occasions. Further information regarding these two societies will be found on later pages.

All contributions for the next number of *The Strathallian* should be in the hands of the Editors by 31st October.

## Speech Day

SPEECH Day, brought forward a week on account of the Coronation, was held this year on Saturday, 30th May, and despite a somewhat gloomy weather forecast turned out to be, if not a perfect Perthshire day, nevertheless quite fair.

Following the usual programme, events began at 11 o'clock, when, following the Headmaster's speech, Sir William Christie, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., M.C., presented the School prizes.

In his review of the past year, the Headmaster, dealing first with scholastic achievements, stated that the entry for the General Certificate of Education last July was as large as it had



*The Harbour, St. Andrews*

[C. McCreadie

ever been, and more boys had passed in five or more subjects than ever before; and although results in the Scottish Leaving Certificate were not yet officially known, they appeared to be much better than usual.

As far as games were concerned, a very light rugby side played pluckily, and although results were not good, the junior sides showed promise and future prospects were bright. A poor cricket season last year, went on the Headmaster, had been redeemed by the achievements of the eleven to date. He also referred to progress made by the School Orchestra, Pipe Band and other organisations.

Besides the report on the past year he also made an appeal to parents to leave their boys longer at school if they were advised to do so.

"There is", he said, "an alarming tendency at the moment in all schools for boys to leave when they are too young, at 16 or 17, as soon as the minimum external examination requirements for university entrance or apprenticeship have been acquired. Thus they miss the last year or two, which are the most valuable in their school life. With his most important work behind him, the boy can concentrate on education in its widest sense, unworried by the question of examinations, and learn to develop responsibility and leadership. His personality begins to become apparent, and we can help to develop and strengthen it. The boy

then helps to contribute something to the school, and gains the idea of service. In the long run these things are more important than starting to earn at the earliest possible age”.

Sir William spoke of the many different careers open to boys leaving school. He compared these openings to trees in a wood, some of which were easier to climb than others. But they all needed courage and determination, and Sir William suggested that one thing which a boy choosing a career would find most helpful was a sense of loyalty—loyalty to his Queen and Country, loyalty to his School, loyalty to his parents and loyalty to God. And what started as loyalty had a way of developing into devotion.

Earlier in his speech he had referred to a previous connection with the School, when after the Great War he had received private tuition from Mr. Riley and the masters of Strathallan in 1919. He declared that his presence as Chief Guest allowed him to repay in some way the debt he owed the School.

In the afternoon there were the usual attractions for the visitors, with the addition this year of a flying demonstration on Little Acre with the glider, and an agility display by the juniors. At four o'clock Lady Christie presented the Sports prizes, and after tea, served in the Dining Hall and on the Lawn, boys were allowed home for the Coronation holiday.

## Chapel Notes

DURING the last two terms the Choir has increased considerably in size and there has been a noticeable improvement in their standard of singing; the standard has indeed risen throughout the School.

Since last October the Choir has sung the following anthems in Chapel: “Turn Thy face from our Sins” (Attwood), “Ave verum corpus” (Mozart), “All glory laud and honour” (Teschner, arr. Bach), “Let us now praise famous men” (Vaughan Williams), “Lord for Thy tender mercy’s sake” (Anon—16th Cent.), “Let Thy merciful ears, O Lord, be opened” (Weelkes), “Rejoice in the Lord alway” (Bell anthem, Purcell), “Grant us Thy peace, Almighty Lord” (Mendelssohn), “Zadok the Priest” (Handel), The 23rd Psalm, Brother James’ Air (arr. Gordon Jacob).

“Zadok the Priest” was also sung by the Choir on Speech Day as their Coronation anthem.

In addition to this the Choir and the whole School have sung: “Te Deum”, “Magnificat”, “Nunc Dimittis”, all by Stanford.

The Carol Service took place on Sunday, December 14th. It took the form of nine lessons—read by different boys throughout the School—and carols were sung between each of these readings. As well as a number of well-known ones the following carols were sung: “Sussex Carol” (arr. Vaughan Williams), “Unto us a child is born” (15th Cent.), “Jesu, Thou the Virgin born” and “A babe is born” (Holst), “O leave your sheep” (arr. Kitson), “Ding, Dong! Merrily on high” (16th Cent.), “Oxen cribbed in barn and byre” (Armstrong Gibbs).

Altogether, the birth of the Saviour of Mankind could hardly have been commemorated in a more enjoyable yet solemn manner.

Once again we do thank all those who have come to take our services on Sundays and we do assure them that their kindness is much appreciated.

J.A.G.

## Scripture Union

THE School branch of the Union still meets each week, and the total School membership is over sixty. The Intermediate and Senior members, who meet separately on a Sunday evening after Chapel, have this term been considering the essential and important texts of the creed, whilst the Juniors have been reading the Old Testament and learning about the Israelites' first knowledge of God.

We were very glad to welcome Rev. M. Ritchie on his visit to the School last term. Mr. Ritchie is the Scripture Union Secretary for Eastern Scotland and we look forward to his next visit.

J.A.G.

## Scout Notes

CORONATION Year has provided the 73rd with a crowning achievement—T./L. R. A. Shaw was awarded the Queen's Scout Badge, in Coronation Week as it happened. We are proud of him and congratulate him warmly on his success, the just reward of his perseverance and hard work.

Two others—H. A. McMillan and E. C. F. Gilmour—are also well on the way to this Scouting “peak” and may reach it before the next issue of “The Strathallian”.

The Troop has also been honoured in the selection of D. W. N. Forgan and D. A. Laird as members of a representative Scottish party going to Norway in July. They earned their places by the impression they made on the International Commissioner, who set their First Class Journey test last summer; they passed with flying colours.

Nor have the junior members been idle. The Hut is in a very good state of repair thanks to the efforts of M. Thom and N. S. Shaw with the paint brush.

L.G.





*Portencross*

[C. McCreadie

## Film and Film Strip Society

THIS society was initiated two years ago but it is only in the last two terms that it has flourished. It might be appropriate to explain the aim of the society. This is to provide its 100 members with a programme of films and film strips, primarily for their entertainment, but to inject a leavening of education at the same time. As membership numbers are so high, at some popular showings seating space has been a big problem, as a classroom has been used for the society "cinema". Mr. Greig, our Honorary President, kindly lent us his projector and operated it himself. Numerous film agencies have kindly supplied us with many sound films and film strips, and a number of interesting showings were attended very well.

Mr. Greig's departure at the end of this term will leave us rather uncertain of the future, and we would like to thank him for his hard work and excellent organisation.

The committee this year was: Honorary President, Mr. A. J. S. Greig; President, R. A. Gray; Treasurer, N. E. H. Crosby; Secretary, R. C. H. Mackay; Junior Members, W. M. Thom and A. J. Durie.

R.C.H.M.

## Music Notes

IN the Christmas Term we were privileged to hear two recitals by artists, each distinguished in their own sphere.

On 28th November, Georgina Dobrée gave a polished performance of works, both classical and modern, for clarinet. To most of the audience the clarinet was a novelty, and consequently a greater interest was aroused from the beginning.

For the first half of her programme Miss Dobrée played Lefevre's Sonata in B flat, Weber's Concertino and three delightful pieces by Schumann. While one felt that the Sonata was interpreted rather unfeelingly, the latter were performed most musically and gained the applause they merited.

The main work in the second half of the programme was the 1st Movement of Mozart's clarinet concerto—surely one of the most beautiful pieces ever written for the instrument. Miss Dobrée showed an obvious understanding and true musical conception of the master's work. The rather trite Sonatina by the contemporary Malcolm Arnold concluded the programme. The riotous applause proclaimed that the one "jazzy" piece of the evening was more than acceptable to the school audience.

At the end of term Miss Beryl Kimber gave a delightful and extremely popular violin recital. It would be presumptuous to attempt to criticise any of Miss Kimber's fine interpretations; a résumé of her programme is more appropriate. The outstanding items in the first or classical half of the programme were Tartini's Sonata in G minor, Mozart's Rondo in G and Bach's Air on the G-string; all of which were performed in a most beautiful and artistically pleasing manner. The latter half of Miss Kimber's recital included Paganini's breathtaking Moto Perpetuo, the ever-popular Jamaican Rumba by Arthur Benjamin, Kreisler's Caprice Viennois. These Miss Kimber executed with a verve which was exhilarating, besides being wholly satisfying.

The tumultuous applause at the end of the programme showed the school's appreciation for a very fine artist.

For both these evenings Mr. Cutforth provided the accompaniment.

In the Easter term we again heard two recitals, which, however, probably did not meet with as much appreciation as the former two. On 23rd January Miss Eileen Croxford and Mr. David Parkhouse gave a 'cello and piano recital, which included Bach's Arioso for 'Cello, two short sonatas for piano by Scarlatti, Beethoven's Scherzo from the A major 'Cello Sonata, Schubert's Impromptu in E flat and Ravel's Habanera for 'Cello. While Miss Croxford and Mr. Parkhouse performed these works musically and accurately, their choice of programme was perhaps



more suited to serious students of music than to a school audience.

Finally, in February, Mr. Norman Tattersall, baritone, gave a short performance of songs and operatic arias. Although the acoustics of the music room are not exactly suited to a singer, Mr. Tattersall's pleasing voice partially overcame this difficulty and provided us with an enjoyable recital, which included the popular "Toreador's Song" from Bizet's "Carmen" and Figaro's well-known aria from Rossini's "Barber of Seville".

Mr. Cutforth again supplied the accompaniment.

Small parties have attended concerts in Perth given by the Barylli String Quartet, the London Czech Trio, and the Colovaria Wind Ensemble. In May a large party of about 80 heard a concert given by The Vienna Boys' Choir. The performance of the choir was not up to the superb standard of their previous visit to Perth, the operetta being woefully under-rehearsed, but some of the a capella singing was very fine.

In a short concert given to parents and visitors on Speech Day, the following items were performed:

1. Orchestra: Gavotte (from Ottone) ..... Handel  
Prelude to Act III (Carmen) ..... Bizet
2. Flute Solos: Minuet and Trio ..... Mozart  
Sonata in G ..... Godfrey Finger  
Serenade ..... Haydn  
A. C. I. Duncan.
3. Trio: Trio in E flat for 2 Clarinets and Piano ..... Mozart  
First movement: Andante.  
Clarinets: L. M. Urquhart, D. M. Stuart.  
Piano: J. D. Hood.
4. Violin Class: Ceremonial  
Pizzicato  
Day long Idleness } ..... James Brown  
Village Dance }
5. Quintet: Divertimento in B flat ..... Haydn  
Andante (St. Anthony's Chorale)—Minuet—Rondo.  
Flute: A. C. I. Duncan.  
Clarinets: L. M. Urquhart, D. M. Stuart, D. M. A. Dillon.  
Horn: K. Leishman.
6. Clarinet Solos: Melody ..... Adam Carse  
Jamaican Rumba ..... Arthur Benjamin  
L. M. Urquhart.
7. Orchestra: Symphony No. 94 in G (The Surprise) ..... Haydn  
Second movement: Andante. L.M.U.

In the Associated Board Examinations R. S. Hamilton passed the theory in Grade V and the pianoforte in Grade III; R. J. M. Philip passed in Grade I for pianoforte.

## Mountaineering

THIS year has seen a start made in this sport and four meets have carried the faithful few as far afield as Drummochter



*"The Mikado"—"So please you, sir, we much regret . . ."*

[By courtesy of P. K. McLaren

Summit and Crianlarich, while a small party will journey to Norway in the summer holidays. Next year it is hoped to regularise the proceedings by forming a club, which will justify its existence by holding evening meetings with occasional visiting speakers—for the many—and one or two meets for the few who are old enough, since an age-limit must be fixed for actual participation in these expeditions. It is unfortunately a relatively expensive game, but the eighteen or so "regulars" seem to have found it worthwhile.

## Dramatic and Operatic Society

### **"The Mikado"**

ON 31st March and 1st April the School gave a performance of "The Mikado". This was a much more ambitious venture than "H.M.S. Pinafore", both dramatically and musically; but we were fortunate in retaining so many performers from the earlier Gilbert and Sullivan production. This leavening of experienced players helped the novices considerably, and rendered the earlier rehearsal work much less arduous than it would otherwise have been.

Of the principals, perhaps the most impressive was Robertson as Pooh-Bah, since in addition to possessing the necessary physique, he had so immersed himself in his part that he even looked as if "he had been born sneering". He was at his funniest when grovelling in company with Pitti-Sing and Ko-Ko, for here, as throughout, his timing was excellent.

Marshall was once more called upon to undertake the most difficult role in the play, and was very successful as Ko-Ko. One heard the criticism that only Martyn Green could sustain three encores, but apart from the fact that three encores are an integral part of the tradition, such a comparison is surely unfair. His performance was far above the level of most schoolboy actors, and one cannot picture any other available boy doing half as well. His rendering of the "Tit-Willow" song was particularly successful, conveying as it did a fine sense of "the tears of things".

R. S. Hamilton as Katisha was confronted with a formidable task, not only because of his lack of inches and the heavy vocal demands made by the part, but also because unsympathetic parts can be difficult for boys to play. It says much for him that by



*"The Mikado"—Trio, Act I* [R. A. Shaw

intelligent acting he went far towards surmounting the difficulties and certainly made them less apparent to the audience than they might have been.

I. W. G. Taylor was well cast as Nanki-Poo, for his singing was pleasant and clear and his acting good. One tends to forget that this is very much a key part in the production, making considerable demands upon the player, since he is concerned in all the major developments of the plot.

Hood, with the assistance of good costume and make-up, was an impressive Mikado, and his singing and dancing of "My object all sublime . . ." provided one highlight of the performance.

Urquhart, as Pish-Tush, was once again at ease in a difficult singing part. His solo "Our great Mikado, virtuous man . . ." was particularly effective, and he, Robertson and Marshall made

the Trio seem far less difficult than it is. Their timing had to be, and was, perfect.

Dinsmore, McLean and McEachran made a charming trio of little maids. Yum-Yum is by no means an easy part, and though there were moments, particularly at the beginning of the Second Act, when Dinsmore's movements were a little stiff, his spoken lines were always confident and clear (as indeed was all the dialogue by comparison with "Pinafore"). McLean was suitably impish as Pitti-Sing, and one recalls with special pleasure his little bounce accompanied by a flutter of the fan as he entered triumphantly upon "For he's going to marry Yum-Yum". McEachran made the most of his rather less spectacular material. As a trio they were at their most amusing when encountering Pooh-Bah, and their rendering of "So please you, Sir, we much regret . . ." was delightful.

These principals were well supported by the Gentlemen and the Young Ladies of Japan. Such parts always involve much tedious work, and their contribution is too often under-estimated when a production is being reviewed. Suffice it to say that their value as an effective background for the principals cannot be over-stressed. One would have liked to see a well-earned encore being received by them, but apart from the break from tradition such a large group is too unwieldy to return to previous positions without considerably interrupting the smooth running of the production.

Thanks are again due to the many essential people whose contribution off-stage receives at the most a mention in the excerpts from the programme printed at the end of this review. Finally, we renew our thanks to all outside members of the orchestra for giving so much of their valuable time, and to Mr. D. Stratton Watt for his work in designing and painting the scenery.

R.A.L.B.

#### CAST

CAST

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The Mikado of Japan .....   | J. D. Hood  |
| Nanki-Poo (His Son, disguised as a wandering<br>minstrel, and in love with Yum-Yum) ..... | I. W. G. Taylor   |
| Ko-Ko (Lord High Executioner of Titipu) .....   | L. D. Marshall  |
| Pooh-Bah (Lord High Everything Else) .....  | I. A. Robertson   |
| Pish-Tush (A Noble Lord) .....  | L. M. Urquhart  |
| Yum-Yum   | { ..... J. W. Dinsmore<br>..... A. C. J. McLean<br>..... D. McEachran |
| Pitti-Sing  |   |
| Peep-Bo   |   |
| (Three Sisters, Wards of Ko-Ko)   |   |
| Katisha (An Elderly Lady, in love with Nanki-Poo) .....                                   | R. S. Hamilton  |

#### Chorus of Schoolgirls

A. R. M. Adams, A. W. Beattie, J. A. Brough, G. L. Clark, W. G. Drybrough, J. M. Duncan, S. W. Grierson, C. D. Haddow, H. M. E. Hopperton, A. S. Macdonald, W. S. T. Pottinger, R. V. Singleton, D. H. Smith, S. H. Solley, D. M. Robertson, H. Willcox, N. F. Maguire.

#### Chorus of Nobles

C. D. A. Adams, F. M. Allardice, J. W. Durie, W. M. Edwards, E. C. F. Gilmour, J. D. Hood, K. F. L. Leishman, P. I. Prophet, J. H. Sinclair.

**Coolies**

R. M. Benson, N. H. Morrison, R. C. H. Mackay, A. I. Robertson.

Ko-Ko's Boy Attendant - R. M. Bathgate.

Act I - - Courtyard of Ko-Ko's official residence

Act II - - Ko-Ko's garden

Producer: A. M. Appleby. Musical Director: D. E. Cutforth. Stage Manager: A. C. Millar. Stage Assistants: A. A. Arneil, M. D. Dawson, R. A. Paterson and I. O. Stewart. Electricians: H. L. Stuart and J. P. Stirrat. Make-up Assistants: J. M. Paterson, J. C. Menzies, and R. A. Gray. Properties: E. J. E. Smith. Prompt: K. C. L. Orr. School Members of the Orchestra: D. M. A. Dillon (clarinet), A. C. I. Duncan (flute), H. A. Macmillan (violin), C. W. Ross (percussion), D. M. Stuart (clarinet), J. D. Thompson (trombone).

**Playreading Section**

A Playreading section of the Dramatic Society was revived, after several fruitless attempts, at the beginning of the Spring term, and a party of eight met on Sunday evenings at the Airds. Amongst the plays that were read were Othello, Pygmalion, Loyalties, While the Sun Shines, and also a number of one-act plays.

Our thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. McCallum for their hospitality.

## **Workshop Notes**

SINCE our last report we have extended the workshop by taking over an adjoining room. This has given us extra bench space and has relieved the congestion caused by large numbers of enthusiasts.

The standard of work continues to improve, although the design of many of the articles made suggests that much more attention should be paid to this important aspect of production.

Following the successful launching of a small punt last year, a craze for building canoes is in full swing. Six craft varying from 13 ft. 6 ins. to 17 ft. 6 ins. in length are in the course of construction—the size being limited by our dry-dock accommodation. The new lathe is in constant use and we are hoping to be able to purchase a power drill before the beginning of next term.

As usual we are most grateful to Messrs. Bain and Boag for their interest and help in any matter dealing with the boys' workshops.

A.J.T.

## **Stamp Club**

THE Stamp Club continues to mount small exhibitions in the winter terms. Last term a competition was held for the best chosen and arranged display. R. I. M. Kerr won it, and I. D. E. Sim's entry was judged best in Riley House. The standard of these two was very high and it is hoped to hold this competition annually.

D.E.Y.





*"The Mikado"—Finale, Act II*



## Aeromodelling Notes

THE Aeromodelling Society has started off very well this term. Several of the former members, now released from examination pressure, have once again taken up the razor blade and settled down to the building of their favourite models.

J. Hofstetter has started on a more difficult sphere of aeromodelling, namely the art of designing. His first creation is a high aspect-ratio glider with an experimental wing-section and we are all looking forward to its first flights.

A wide variety of scale-model aircraft have made their appearance. Jetex scale models are the favourite and such famous planes as the Hunter, Javelin and Valiant are represented. A gull-winged Minimoa and a graceful Slingsby Gull IV offset the speed of jet flight by lazily floating through the calm evening air with admirable ease and grace.

E.J.E.S.

## Scottish and Inter-Command C.C.F./A.C.F. Wireless Net

MANY people have developed a keen interest in the twelve set during the last two terms and are now able to operate the set competently. Unfortunately, the Scottish Command Net has been reorganised on a geographical basis, with the result that we are now only allowed to speak to people in our own area, for instance Glenalmond, 1st and 2nd Argyll Battalions, Dollar Academy, City of Aberdeen Training Corps and Highland District. Most of the out-stations in this net are, however, inoperative, but the matter is being investigated by Highland District. Meanwhile we must wait and hope.

The Inter-Command Net remains unaltered.

D.M.M.

## Combined Cadet Force

### Army and Basic Sections

THE Certificate "A" results last November were satisfactory. Ten cadets passed the Part II examination and twenty-six gained Part I. Normally at this stage in the past we have lost a large number of cadets who have transferred to the Air Section. This session, however, there has been a change in policy. Boys are now required to obtain Certificate "A" Part II before they are eligible for transfer to the Air Section. This has been done in an

endeavour roughly to equalise the number of potential N.C.O.s in both sections.

The usual training continued throughout the Winter and Spring terms. Our increased numbers have kept the N.C.O.s fairly busy. The task of running the Signals Section has devolved almost entirely on C./Sgt. Morrison, who is now quite an experienced signaller. Sgt. Millar has put in many valuable hours in the training of recruits. Tribute must also be paid to Sgt. Padkin. All three of these N.C.O.s have been hard-worked and have occasionally had to undertake tasks at rather short notice. We are grateful for their efforts. The successful running of any corps depends so much on the co-operation and initiative of the N.C.O.s.

The standard of drill in the Basic Section is rather better than usual, especially in Recruit "C" Platoon. Arms Drill in the Army Section, however, lacks the necessary "snap". We must concentrate on this rather more and not allow ourselves to be beaten by the older members of the R.A.F. Section.

A great improvement in the band was noticeable on Speech Day. Three marches, including the perennial "Highland Laddie", a Strathspey and a Reel have now been mastered. The drill is good and the general smartness of the band has been increased by the introduction of Black Watch kilts. We should like to acknowledge once again the assistance of Pipe-Major Sinclair and Drum-Major Brogan of the Scottish Horse, who continue to give regular instruction.

Camp this year is to be held at Barry, where we anticipate being more than a hundred strong. It is hoped that, in addition to the usual training, several cadets will sit their Signals Classification Test.

General enthusiasm this term has been most encouraging, so we are hoping for a good performance at the Annual Inspection—the climax to our training year.

E.A.P.

### **R.A.F. Section**

The squadron has been well represented in the Scottish A.T.C. Rugby XV for the season 1952-53. Cadet I. M. Lochtie captained the Scottish side and cadets F. M. Allardice, D. W. McIntosh and W. P. Roger played in all the matches with distinction and were awarded Rugby "blues".

For the third time in four years a Strathallan cadet has been selected to visit Canada under the Reciprocal Visits Scheme of the R.A.F. Cpl. D. H. Scott will fly to Canada at the end of July and will remain there for some three weeks. This, coming immediately after Flt./Sgt. E. J. E. Smith's trip round the world, emphasises the excellence of Cpl. Scott's performance.

We must also congratulate Cpl. Scott on gaining a Flying Scholarship. He will commence his flying training at Scone next term.

Four cadets, Flt./Sgt. E. J. E. Smith, Cpl. D. H. Scott, C. McCreadie and C. W. Ross, under the charge of P.O. J. A. Gibbs, visited R.A.F. Cranwell in April. They made the trip by an Anson aircraft of the Communications Flight of R.A.F. Turnhouse. An account of their visit is given on another page.

The large number of twenty candidates will sit the Advanced Proficiency Examination on the 13th July. Apart from being his final examination in all aircrew subjects, each candidate must have done at least four launches in the Primary Glider. For this reason, "Icarus", the glider, is being overworked but is still holding together after many rather bumpy landings.

Air-Commodore P. D. Cracroft, A.F.C., O.C. 66 Group, inspected the Unit on 19th June. The Inspection included, as usual, the March Past, shooting, aeromodelling, lectures, gliding and drill.

The Annual Camp this year will be held at R.A.F. Moreton-in-the-Marsh, which lies near Oxford and Stratford-on-Avon.

W.S.H.

## A Visit to Cranwell

It has long been hoped that a party from the Strathallan C.C.F./R.A.F. Section would be able to travel to Cranwell on one of the weekly communication flights from Scone. After the visit had twice been postponed owing to bad weather, the party, which consisted of Flt./Sgt. Smith, Cpl. McCreadie, Cpl. Scott and Cdt. Ross, under the charge of P.O. Gibbs, eventually set out in bright sunshine on 2nd April. As the Anson from Turnhouse arrived at Scone rather more than an hour late, the carefully planned schedule was somewhat upset and we eventually took off at the time we should have been arriving at Cranwell.

In spite of the pleasant weather conditions north of the Border, there was low cloud and a persistent drizzle at Cranwell. We were met by a Flt./Lt. who was to be in charge of our visit, and we were conducted to the main building, where we were shown a typical cadet's bedroom and told much of the general management of the institution. We were then introduced to two flight cadets who took us to the dining-hall for lunch. We were very impressed by the beauty and architectural magnificence of the college building—especially the dining-hall, the library and the oak-panelled chapel.

After this close inspection of the main building, we were shown the museum, in which there were various aircraft and missiles used by the German and Japanese forces during the last war. We were allowed only a short time in the museum, as there was still very much to see before the Anson left again for Scone.

After a visit to an armaments display, and a glimpse of ultra-complicated bombsights and other instruments, we were shown

the quarters allotted to the intermediate and recruit sections of the cadets. In the recruit huts, the neatness and precision in displaying the equipment was almost overpowering.

Having completed our inspection, we took off in pouring rain and, after an hour or so, landed at Scone in bright sunshine.

E.J.E.S. and C.McC.

## Flight Round the World

"WELL, I've chosen Smith and Pearce". I was so amazed that for a couple of minutes I could only gasp, trying to visualise what the trip held in store for me.

I spent the intervening period between receiving this breath-taking news and embarking on the trip itself in imagining such an adventure from start to finish, but of course reality proved more exciting than I had ever dreamt.

After a six-week tour of many parts of the globe, it is obviously impossible to deal adequately with all the interesting incidents in an account of this scope, so I propose to limit myself to one or two highlights of the trip and elaborate upon them.

Air Chief-Marshall Sir William F. Dickson, with at least two of his retinue in a near-coma with excitement, left Heath Row in a Hastings on 9th October, with Fayid as his first port of call. We then proceeded through Mauripur (Karachi) to Delhi, an excellent example of the old and the new ways of life that exist side by side in India.

From the mass of interesting architectural detail in this beautiful city, I have only space to mention the Taj Mahal at Agra. Built by an emperor as a tomb for himself and his wife in 1653, its most notable feature is, of course, the huge cupola, gleaming white in the sunlight. The mosaic designs must be seen before any adequate idea can be formed of their colour and beauty. None of the many photographs came near to doing it justice. Cheek by jowl with this magnificence were repulsive scenes of squalor, indicating the huge gulf which lies between the poor and the rich in this extraordinary country. As usual in such a situation the food shops were crammed, giving an air of prosperity; but the starving wretches who begged for bread belied this impression.

Our next main stop was at Singapore, where we had a very exciting time, aided and abetted by Wing-Commander Blacklock, who organised a Meteor flight at Seletor. (Here I met a Montrose sergeant, who entertained us royally.) This was my first flight in a jet aircraft, and I was immediately struck by its manoeuvrability and speed. In no time at all we were at 8000 feet and levelling out of a vertical climb. When, later, we had a trip in a helicopter, we experienced a similar vertical climb but at less speed and with no necessity for levelling out. And of course it is a highly unusual experience to taxi backwards.

Our stay at Singapore was concluded with a visit to the harbour, which was crammed with shipping of all types from ocean liners to sampans. I had flown over it earlier, and at that time had noticed some curious poles sticking out of the water round the coast. Apparently they are used as a primitive method of fishing. The fish swim into them, and so are diverted into a waiting net.

From Singapore our route lay through Djakarta to Australia, where we landed at Melbourne, after passing through Perth, the amazing rocket station of Woomera, and Adelaide. Our stay in Melbourne was, I feel, the most enjoyable of the whole trip, for we were billeted with Australian cadets, Graeme Hunt and Graham McNicol, who planned sight-seeing car tours with commendable efficiency. In this way we acquired an intimate knowledge of Australian countryside, parts of which were not unlike some Scottish districts. The next day we spent on seeing some of Melbourne's main attractions: the Shrine of Remembrance, the beaches, the racecourse, and cricket ground. That evening I went to see Mrs. Ray, an old Montrose lady, who now lived in the city, and had heard of my arrival on the wireless. On the last morning of our visit, Noel Pearce and I made a radio recording before going to Point Cook, Australia's Cranwell. On the whole it is on a smaller scale than our own college. After we had been on a very interestingly conducted tour we were given a delightful dual trip in a Tiger Moth, in the course of which I found that the training given me by Mr. Kay of the Strathtay Aero-Club stood me in good stead. We then returned to Laverton for an early take-off next day.

Canberra, the most modern capital in the world, and Sydney with its famous bridge, and Auckland, New Zealand, were all stepping-stones on our journey to Ohakea, a hundred miles north of Wellington. If I ever have to emigrate, it will be to New Zealand's capital, situated so snugly in the corner of a bay and natural harbour. A wonderful view can be obtained from the Botanical Gardens, situated on the top of a hill, and easily reached by cable-car. Indeed, I was so taken with Wellington that I was very sorry to have to leave it after such a short visit. From there our route lay through Brisbane, Darwin and Manila, until we eventually made a hair-raising landing on the mountain-bound aerodrome of Kai-Tak-Hong-Kong. This was to be a memorable stay, since the guide assigned to us, Sergeant Herd, did everything possible to make our visit enjoyable, showing us round the station and the local district. But the "pièce de resistance" was to be a flight in a Sunderland flying-boat, which was taking part in a bombing and machine-gun exercise. A small island and its immediate vicinity, somewhere off the Chinese Coast, was the objective. First a smoke bomb was dropped, providing a target for numerous flash bombs which we dropped from various altitudes. Then, to our delight, we were allowed to



use the guns. I can still feel the gun thudding under my hands as I watched the spurts of earth, and occasional spouts of water when we missed.

The final stage of our outward journey took us to Okinawa, and thence to Tokyo. It was here in this thoroughly Americanised capital, the producer of so many inferior goods, that we regretfully took our leave and set off for home. This took us five days, with stops at Changi, Negembo, Aden and Malta, before we finally arrived home.

E.J.E.S.

## Rugby Football, 1952-53

QUITE part from results, this has been in several respects a season of frustration. The frost came unusually early, and from the middle of November until the end of the Christmas term the grounds were seldom, if ever, fit for play; while in the Easter term, although there was no serious epidemic we suffered sufficiently from influenza to be unable to commence the proposed second round of the Junior House League, and all teams suffered from the absence of one or two players in their matches.

On the face of it, taking the results of matches played by all teams as a whole, the School has fared badly, but without trying to make excuses for the small number of wins, there are certain factors which must be taken into account. In the School this year there were only just forty-five boys over the age of 15½, and from these we had to find three fifteens—just possible if every boy was available. The 3rd XV, therefore, had virtually to be disbanded, and there was insufficient competition for places in the 2nd XV—one of the most important things in raising the standard of play. Secondly, the 1st XV was an abnormally light and young side. The average weight was just under ten stone, and it is fair to say that in many of the school matches we must have been giving away one-and-a-half stones per man. The result was that the three-quarters saw very little of the ball from the set scrums in any game, being thrown largely on the defensive, and had to rely for their scoring chances on pouncing on and making capital out of their opponents' mistakes. In addition there was a sad lack of real pace outside the scrum. There is no doubt that playing this type of game over a period of time is bound to have a psychological effect on a side, resulting in both mental and physical staleness; and it was very noticeable that the side played best when they had had a long break and little practice—as for example in the Old Boys match when the side had had no rugger for a fortnight. In several matches the side showed real determination and fire, and Lochtie is to be congratulated on his own personal example in this respect throughout the season. One remembers particularly their plucky



1st XV, 1952-53



*Top Row*—H. L. Stuart, J. A. D. McIntyre, R. B. Leishman, I. G. Macintyre, M. D. Dawson, R. A. Paterson, D. W. McIntosh, D. M. A. Dillon, *Centre Row*—J. W. Durie, W. P. Roger, I. M. Lochtie (capt.), R. M. Barbour, F. M. Allardice. *Bottom Row*—A. A. Arneil, H. R. Levick.

play in the match against Edinburgh Academy, and in the first half of the Glenalmond match, when playing against a strong wind, they held, and, if anything, outplayed a much heavier side.

There are encouraging signs for the future. The junior teams, particularly the Under 14½ XV, with much stronger fixture lists than hitherto, made a very reasonable showing, and there is plenty of sound material here, but it will be two seasons before this is seen in the 1st XV. Perhaps the most satisfying feature was the vast improvement in the standard of play in the Junior House League. The games were much more evenly contested, play was altogether more robust, and the tackling and falling and general knowledge of the game showed a great advance on last year, and show credit for the House coaching. Simpson were worthy winners, as were Freeland in the "Sevens", which were once again played in glorious weather.

The main criticism of rugby in the School this year is an old one—the need for individual practice. It is only by the determination of each individual member of a team to make the best of himself, and to master what he has been taught, that the general level of the team's play will be raised; for example the standard of place-kicking in the senior XVs is unnecessarily low and could easily be raised by practice. The few minutes before a practice game should always be used profitably, and not spent in aimless punting about, or even gossip.

A.D.D.M.

#### **Strathallan v. Dollar Academy**

Played at Dollar on 17th January, 1953. Result: Dollar Academy 42, Strathallan nil.

Owing to the impossibility of finding an alternative date, this match had to be played on the day after the return from the holidays and, although the team had had one day's practice, they were not ready to tackle so strong a side as this. The forwards were quite successful, both in the tight and the line-out, and had one or two good rushes, but generally speaking the whole side appeared to suffer from an inferiority complex, and surrendered the initiative almost entirely to their opponents. Admittedly Dollar were "man for man" much faster and their combined play was excellent; in fact, their combined movements between forwards and three-quarters should have been an object lesson to us, with each man determined to get rid of the ball to a player in support before he was tackled; but at the same time Strathallan played right into their hands by weak defence generally. Dummies were bought with unflinching regularity, and there was far too much hesitation to go for the man with the ball; this applied to both three-quarters and forwards. In addition, the three-quarters' positioning was at fault, and this left great gaps in the defence, while the scrum-half was given far too much latitude. Lochtie had an "off day" for him and was not his usual self, neither in attack nor defence.

Territorially, the game was more even than the score would suggest, many successful moves starting from well in their own half, and one remembers some excellent tackling by Allardice, McIntosh and Paterson, but with Lochtie and Roger not combining well, the Strathallan three-quarters were seldom on the offensive. It is not possible to record the exact sequence of the scoring; suffice it to say that 21 points exactly were scored in each half—all from tries—and that the nails were well driven

into the Strathallan coffin by some excellent goal kicking by Hall, their fly-half and one of the outstanding players on the field.

Team: A. A. Arneil, D. H. Scott, \*R. M. Barbour, R. B. Leishman, M. D. Dawson, \*W. P. Roger, \*I. M. Lochtie (Capt.), \*F. M. Allardice, D. W. McIntosh, H. L. Stuart, R. A. Paterson, D. M. A. Dillon, \*M. N. Bendell, H. R. Levick, J. A. D. McIntyre.

\* Cap.

### Strathallan v. Glenalmond

Played at Forgandenny on 28th February. A heavier Glenalmond XV defeated the School by 12 points to 3.

The game began in a most promising fashion, the School having a fair share of the ball in both the line-outs and the set scrums. Glenalmond handling was rather uncertain. The School were awarded three penalty kicks within the first twenty minutes, but none resulted in a score. Although the Glenalmond forwards gradually began to win more of the ball from the set, the School pack fought keenly, and the backs played more fluent football than in previous games. Durie made one determined run, but was brought down just short of the line. Neither side had scored by half-time.

Shortly after the interval, a quick heel resulted in a fine drop goal for Glenalmond. This was soon after followed by a break-away try in the corner. The School fought back but seldom won enough of the ball in the tight to send the backs away. A score, however, resulted on the first occasion that this happened, when a three-quarter movement left Dawson to beat the full-back and score between the posts. An easy kick was missed, and the score remained at 6-3 in favour of Glenalmond.

Two further tries were added to the visitors' score in the closing minutes of the game. All in all, the School played keenly; in no way were they outplayed, and the score fairly represented their defeat by a heavier XV.

The team was: A. A. Arneil, \*J. W. Durie, M. D. Dawson, \*R. M. Barbour, R. B. Leishman, \*W. P. Roger, \*I. M. Lochtie (Capt.), \*F. M. Allardice, D. W. McIntosh, H. L. Stuart, I. G. Macintyre, D. M. A. Dillon, R. A. Paterson, H. R. Levick, J. A. D. McIntyre.

\* Cap.

Full Colours were awarded to:

\*I. M. Lochtie, \*W. P. Roger, \*R. M. Barbour, \*M. N. Bendell, \*J. W. Durie, \*F. M. Allardice, R. B. Leishman, H. L. Stuart, J. A. D. McIntyre, H. R. Levick and A. A. Arneil.

Half Colours were awarded to:

D. H. Scott, D. W. McIntosh, I. G. Macintyre, D. M. A. Dillon, R. A. Paterson, \*J. Hofstetter and J. F. Padkin.

\* Re-date.

### Summary

|              | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Points |         |
|--------------|--------|-----|------|-------|--------|---------|
|              |        |     |      |       | For    | Against |
| 1st XV       | -      | 12  | 2    | 10    | —      | 75 238  |
| 2nd XV       | -      | 7   | 0    | 7     | —      | 22 216  |
| Under 15½ XV | 8      | 1   | 6    | 1     | 23     | 143     |
| Under 14½ XV | 7      | 4   | 2    | 1     | 62     | 42      |
| Under 13½ XV | 8      | 3   | 3    | 2     | 29     | 25      |

| 1st XV Record |    |                                |   |    |    | Points |         |
|---------------|----|--------------------------------|---|----|----|--------|---------|
|               |    |                                |   |    |    | For    | Against |
| Oct.          | 8  | Glasgow Academy ... ..         | H | 11 | 34 |        |         |
| "             | 11 | Perthshire XV ... ..           | H | 14 | 13 |        |         |
| "             | 18 | Edinburgh Academy ... ..       | A | 0  | 14 |        |         |
| "             | 25 | Edinburgh U. Variables ... ..  | H | 27 | 3  |        |         |
| "             | 29 | Panmure R.F.C. ... ..          | H | 0  | 19 |        |         |
| Nov.          | 8  | Morrison's Academy ... ..      | A | 0  | 21 |        |         |
| "             | 11 | George Watson's ... ..         | A | 6  | 19 |        |         |
| Jan.          | 17 | Dollar Academy ... ..          | A | 0  | 42 |        |         |
| "             | 28 | U.C. St. Andrews 2nd XV ... .. | A | 3  | 12 |        |         |
| Feb.          | 18 | Glasgow University XV ... ..   | H | 8  | 21 |        |         |
| "             | 28 | Glenalmond ... ..              | H | 3  | 12 |        |         |
| Mar.          | 25 | Strathallian XV ... ..         | H | 3  | 28 |        |         |

### HOUSE MATCHES, 1952-53

#### Sevens

Freeland beat Nicol 5-3, Ruthven 10-0, Simpson 8-3.

Ruthven beat Nicol 3-0, drew with Simpson 0-0.

Nicol beat Simpson 6-0.

#### Junior

Simpson beat Nicol 9-3, Ruthven 12-0, Freeland 17-3.

Nicol beat Freeland 9-3, Ruthven 9-0.

Ruthven drew with Freeland 0-0.

1st Freeland, 2nd Ruthven, 3rd Nicol.

## Athletics

THIS year a growing interest has resulted in the forming of a field events group, and it is hoped that such events as putting the shot and javelin and hurdles will be included in both Sports and Inter-School Athletics next year.

Sports Day this year was brought forward a week to Saturday, 30th May. The day developed interest towards the end, when it became apparent that the House Championship lay within the possible grasp of two Houses. Freeland and Nicol raced neck and neck as it were, during the last two events of the day—the half-mile and the inter-house relay. It was ironic that Simpson, who were well out of the running at this point, won the relay and not one of the other two Houses. Freeland eventually emerged the victors, Nicol being second, Ruthven and Simpson 3rd and 4th.

The first two events, unfortunately, were run off in a shower of rain, but the weather was kind to us thereafter. Although no records were broken and no spectacular performances were put up, the general standard of last year was upheld. R. A. Paterson, by winning all the races of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile or more, became Senior Victor Ludorum, and R. D. Houston won the Junior Cup. Both these runners did themselves great credit at the Scottish Schools Sports at Edinburgh on 20th June.

The Sports Prizes were very kindly presented by Lady Christie on Speech Day a week later; we are very grateful to her for performing this task so graciously.

J.D.H. and R.H.

# SPORTS RECORDS

| EVENT             | RECORD           | HOLDER           | YEAR |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------|
| 100 Yards         | 10.00 secs.      | I. B. Petrie     | 1944 |
| 220 Yards         | 24.00 secs.      | I. F. B. Stewart | 1952 |
| 440 Yards         | 55.00 secs.      | I. B. Petrie     | 1944 |
| 880 Yards         | 2 mins. 7 secs.  | J. P. Allardyce  | 1948 |
| 1 Mile            | 4 mins. 39 secs. | J. A. Chalmers   | 1950 |
| 120 Yards Hurdles | 15.80 secs.      | J. G. S. Forrest | 1936 |
| High Jump         | 5 ft. 4½ ins.    | M. S. Wyllie     | 1948 |
| Long Jump         | 20 ft. 5 ins.    | J. G. S. Forrest | 1936 |

# Swimming

ONCE again the pond is in full use, with early morning dip, House ponds during Activities and life-saving instruction. In addition a number of selected boys are receiving coaching during the afternoon games period, instead of cricket. Hence it is hoped that in the swimming match against Morrison's Academy later in the term we shall do much better than last year. Also the usual race and water polo match will take place against the Old Boys on June 27th.

Since life-saving instruction has been given by the School the following awards of the Royal Life Saving Society have been obtained:

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Award of Merit .....           | Seven       |
| Bronze Cross .....             | Five        |
| Bronze Medallion .....         | Thirty      |
| Intermediate Certificate ..... | Forty-three |
| Instructor's Certificate ..... | Two         |

J.A.G.

# Badminton

BADMINTON lapsed a great deal during the Easter term. This was primarily due to the production of "The Mikado", which made use of the Gym. for most of the term. Nevertheless most of the club members managed to practise during wet afternoons or after prep. The annual tournament was played during the Christmas term and was won by J. M. Paterson.

R.G.M.P.



# Sports Results, 1953

## OPEN

- Cross Country: 1, R. A. Paterson (S.); 2, M. D. Dawson (F.); 3, F. M. Allardice (F.). 18 mins. 2 secs.  
 Mile: 1, R. A. Paterson (S.); 2, D. Houston (N.); 3, M. D. Dawson (F.). 4 mins. 51 secs. (record 4 mins. 39 secs.).  
 880 yards: 1, R. A. Paterson (S.); 2, M. D. Dawson (F.); 3, D. M. Morrison (R.). 2 mins. 10.4 secs. (record 2 mins. 7 secs.).  
 440 yards: 1, R. A. Paterson (S.); 2, P. Davidson (R.); 3, E. C. F. Gilmour (R.). 55.2 secs. (record 55 secs.).  
 220 yards: 1, L. M. Urquhart (N.); 2, E. C. F. Gilmour (R.); 3, R. M. Barbour (N.). 25 secs. (record 24 secs.).  
 100 yards: 1, L. M. Urquhart (N.); 2, E. C. F. Gilmour (R.); 3, J. D. Hood (S.). 11.3 secs. (record 10 secs.).  
 High Jump: 1, M. D. Dawson (F.); 2, J. F. Padkin (F.); 3, P. Davidson (R.). 5 ft.  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (record 5 ft.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ins.).  
 Long Jump: 1, R. M. Barbour (N.); 2, D. H. Scott (N.); 3, D. W. McIntosh (F.). 17 ft. 5 ins. (record 20 ft. 5 ins.).  
 80 yards Hurdles: 1, R. B. Leishman (F.); 2, R. A. Paterson (S.); 3, J. F. Padkin (F.). 13 secs.

## MIDDLE

- Cross Country: 1, D. Houston (N.); 2, C. MacRae (N.); 3, J. C. Kenneth (N.). 15 mins. 50 secs.  
 880 yards: 1, D. Houston (N.); 2, A. J. Durie (N.); 3, G. I. J. Anderson (F.). 2 mins. 22.4 secs.  
 440 yards: 1, D. Houston (N.); 2, G. I. J. Anderson (F.); 3, J. C. Kenneth (N.). 58.6 secs.  
 220 yards: 1, D. M. Stuart (F.); 2, J. W. McInnes (R.); 3, D. Houston (N.). 26.6 secs.  
 100 yards: 1, J. W. McInnes (R.); 2, D. M. Stuart (F.); 3, D. Houston (N.). 12 secs.  
 High Jump: 1, D. M. Stuart (F.); 2, J. G. Clark (R.); 3, C. I. R. MacRae (N.). 4 ft.  $11\frac{1}{4}$  ins.  
 Long Jump: 1, D. M. Stuart (F.); 2, A. J. Durie (N.); 3, G. C. Baxter (R.). 16 ft.  
 80 yards Hurdles: 1, D. Houston (N.); 2, J. G. Clark (R.); 3, G. I. J. Anderson (F.).

## JUNIOR

- Cross Country: 1, N. S. Shaw (S.); 2, D. I. C. Crabb (F.); 3, H. R. Brown (R.). 12 mins. 9 secs.  
 440 yards: 1, N. S. Shaw (S.); 2, D. I. C. Crabb (F.); 3, H. R. Brown (R.). 62.3 secs.  
 220 yards: 1, A. G. McMurray (F.); 2, A. B. B. Gilmour (R.); 3, H. R. Brown (R.). 27.8 secs.  
 100 yards: 1, A. G. McMurray (F.); 2, A. I. Robertson (R.); 3, A. B. B. Gilmour (R.). 12.2 secs.  
 High Jump: 1, J. M. Low (N.); 2, D. B. Pirrie (R.); 3, A. I. Robertson (R.). 4 ft.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  
 Long Jump: 1, A. G. McMurray (F.); 2, A. B. B. Gilmour (R.); 3, A. I. Robertson (R.). 14 ft.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

House Relay Race (220 × 110 × 110 × 440 yards): 1, Simpson; 2, Freeland; 3, Ruthven. 1 min. 48.4 secs.

**Result:** 1, FREELAND; 2, NICOL; 3, RUTHVEN; 4, SIMPSON.

Sports Champions: Senior, R. A. Paterson (S.); Middle, D. Houston (N.).



## Hockey

THIS year hockey has become a regular afternoon sport played by all save members of School rugby and cricket teams. Even these have been swept into the net, and latterly, after the close of the rugby season, transformed themselves into hockey players. There is considerable talent in the School and although at present marred by an excess of violence—acquired on the rugby field—another year's experience should replace “hard” play with a skill at the game which is more economical of energy. Within two years' time the School should be able to play against other schools with a very great degree of confidence.

The highlight of the season was the match against the Masters. Here the criticism made earlier in this note was borne out, for energy alone could not beat the experience of a few masters who, though older than the remainder of their team, walked off the field afterwards with a lesser appearance of exhaustion.

M.H.

## Fives

IN the Easter term the School lost a match against Glasgow University at Glasgow. All our team except J. M. Paterson were outclassed, but they learnt from the experience and were grateful to their opponents for the lesson.

The House Fives cup was won by Ruthven House, none of their three pairs losing a match. Since half their Seniors were Juniors in age, they are likely to have a formidable team in the future.

D.E.Y.

## Old Boys' News

A REPORT of the Annual Dinner is given elsewhere, and since the publication of the last magazine the Dinner Dance referred to has been held in the Marlborough House on Thursday, 19th March. It was well attended by members and their guests, although some of the older generation were conspicuous by their absence. Perhaps it is that they are no longer able to stand up to an evening's dancing, in which case, for the benefit of their company, it might be possible to arrange a few quiet tables of Whist. At all events this function can be highly recommended to Strathallians as an opportunity of renewing old friendships under most congenial circumstances.

The Spring Golf Meeting was held over the Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, 21st April, 1953. The outing was favoured by glorious weather and was very much enjoyed by those taking part. Twelve members competed for the Bogie Competition over 18 holes, and the result was a tie between E. D. Henderson and J. M. McGregor, who shared the first prize of golf balls which had been kindly donated.

News of Strathallians comes from far and wide. You will be glad to read in another section of the birth of a son to Ian McBride, who lives in Port of Spain, Trinidad. He does not give much news of himself, but reports that amongst other Strathallians living on the island are Sandy Grey, Peter McGlade, Nelson Smith, Pye Wilson, J. and H. Bushe.

Dr. George Balfour (1926-34) has written to the Secretary from Glenfriars, Jedburgh, and reports on a recent visit to the Argentine, where he had been delighted to meet J. Bruce F. Taylor, a contemporary Strathallian, who was returning to his job in the Argentine after visiting his home in Arbroath. George reports on finding his brother John very fit despite a broken leg received while playing polo.

Dr. Ian W. Fingland (1944-45) recently returned to the U.K. after serving in the Suez Canal Zone as Regimental Medical Officer to the 1st Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment, reports having met Surgeon-Lieutenant D. M. Hasting of H.M. "Daring" and Sub-Lieutenant Donald Mason of H.M.S. "Rifleman".

Strathallians can now take a personal interest in the Comet Fleet since those who were at school around 1932/37 will remember J. C. F. Ritchie, who was appointed in January of this year Check Navigation Officer of B.O.A.C.'s Comet Fleet. That puts him in charge of all Comet Navigation training, and responsible for the maintenance and raising of the standard of navigation throughout the Comet Fleet. Thus Strathallians who tried to navigate slower moving mode of transport will realise the implications of this responsible position.

M. J. Williams gained the Murdie Medal for Pathology at Aberdeen University.

D. Neil Paterson (1943-47) has graduated B.Sc. Forestry and since September has been serving and conducting research for the Forestry Commission. He left for Canada on 13th May. John J. Blanche (1944-47) qualified as a C.A. in July last and has been called up for National Service. When last heard from he was stationed at Mons Officer Cadet School training for a commission in the Royal Signals, but was due for a posting to the Officer Cadet Wing at Catterick and would be very pleased to hear from any Strathallians at that camp or in the district. John reports having met Frank Reid in Aldershot, who was waiting for a posting to Germany with the R.A.S.C.

News has at last reached us through John H. Steele (1930-37) of brother William (1929-36), who is now living permanently in Geneva and is married with two sons. R. H. Wallace (1933-37) is at Accra on the Gold Coast with the West African Airways Corporation and so far has not met any Strathallians in the Gold Coast or Nigeria, but would be most interested to hear from any who are in the area.

There is commendable modesty amongst Strathallians in reporting business promotions or appointments. It has been suggested that individuals should not report upon their own activities, but rather leave this to interested friends. This is quite the wrong attitude. *The Strathallian* is anxiously looked for by many Old Boys abroad thirsting for news of friends at home, and you are asked therefore to respond whenever possible to the Magazine Questionnaire sent out by the Secretary.

Amongst news of appointments and promotion which have been obtained from varying sources are the following:

J. D. Mollison (1932-40) has given up his appointment with Keir & Cawder, Quarrymasters, Glasgow, and is now farming in the Newcastle area.

R. C. McKenzie has now become a Director in the firm of Murdo McKenzie Ltd.

John Anderson (1941-46) is House Physician to the Ashford Hospital, Kent, and would welcome any news of Strathallians in the area.

David Mason (1937-42) has been appointed a Director in G. J. Mason & Co. Ltd.

J. S. Lowden (1935-42) commenced employment with Thomas Hedley & Co. Ltd. in August, 1952, and is now working with the Company near London.

Ian N. Boyd (1945-48) has been assumed a Partner in the firm of Thomas Galt.

Archibald Morrison (1925-30) is a member of Darlington Executive Council and of Darlington Hospital Management Committee.

Ian R. Birss (1946-49) graduated B.Sc. at St. Andrews in July, 1952, and has been appointed Secretary of the St. Andrews Committee Students Representative Council 1952/53.

Ian J. S. Hepburn (1946-50) joined the staff of the Standard Life Assurance Company in Montreal on 15th September, 1952, and reports that John Peden (1929-37) joined the Standard Life also in Montreal in August, 1952.

L. M. Frazer (1919-26) has been appointed a Director of "Old Bleach" Linen Co. Ltd., and once again writes deploring the lack of news of Strathallan rugby and cricket in such papers as the "Observer" or "Sunday Times".

We are indebted to Ian Hargrove for a most valuable news letter from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, where he is now farming. In the same area Jimmy Drummond is now in practice. We were very distressed to hear of the death of his youngest child. Fraser Ross is attached to the Southern Rhodesian Government Medical Service and has been home on a course during the past year. Any other Strathallians in the area are

requested to make contact with Ian Hargrove through Post Bag 5 A, Salisbury, S.R.

Donald Hargrove is now the Manager of the Japanese Branch of the National Cash Register Company and appears to be enjoying life in Japan.

Captain A. N. Jordan (1941-43) has now left the Parachute Regiment on completion of a three years' tour. He served in Korea from September to April, 1951, with the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, then returned to his own regiment in Hong-Kong, came home in November, 1951, and went out to Austria early this year. He would be very glad to hear any news of Ninian Sanderson; his present address is "First Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, B.A.P.O.I., Hong-Kong".

[Ed. Note.—Ninian Sanderson is making quite a name for himself in the world of motor racing.]

F. Blacklaws, L.T.C.L. (1944-47), has completed the Chapter VI (Music) course at Dundee Training College and has been appointed Music Master at Lockerbie Academy (Dumfriesshire). He commenced on Tuesday, 21st April. His address during the school term is 2 Harcourt Place, Lockerbie, and during the holidays 4 Pitcullen Terrace, Perth.

The following Old Boys have been playing rugger with their respective clubs' 1st XV's in the season 1952-53:

Scotland—J. C. Dawson.

Scottish Trial—A. Stephen.

Inter-City (Glasgow)—A. Stephen.

Scottish Universities—W. A. McMillan.

Glasgow Academicals—A. S. Headrick (Capt.), J. C. Dawson, A. Stephen, G. K. Rome, J. Hall and R. Brechin.

Glasgow High School F.P.—G. A. W. Marshall, I. W. M. Hendry.

Glasgow University—A. R. Pate, L. J. McCarroll, K. A. C. Brown and W. A. McMillan.

St. Andrews University—N. H. Mitchell.

Melrose—J. Todd.

Greenock Wanderers—J. M. Hart and K. A. Baird.

Other demands on space do not permit the printing of a full list of all those playing for minor clubs.

## Annual Dinner

THE Nineteenth Annual Dinner of the Strathallian Club was held in the Marlborough House, Glasgow, on Saturday, 6th December, 1952, and was well attended by Strathallians and their friends, representing a wide range of succeeding

“generations” of Strathallians, from the cluster of past presidents to those who had recently left school and were making their first appearance. All were made equally welcome, and it was hoped that the younger members would convey to their colleagues how eagerly the club sought their attendance and relied upon their influx to maintain the youthful enthusiasm which distinguishes this old boys’ club.

From the outset the tone of the evening was right. The menu was only surpassed by the accompanying toast list as a herald of good things in store. Sufficient to say of the table that it was all that we have come to expect of this house, plus that little something for good measure. The speakers, unlike their counter attraction, were hitherto untried by the club. That is with the exception of the Headmaster, whose ability to perform his annual task of reviewing the school’s activities with wit and charm leads one to suggest that from time to time he should be allowed, indeed compelled, to address us on a lighter subject of his own choosing. Albeit their first appearance before this meeting, the speakers blended themselves into an evening’s entertainment which earned the praise and thanks of all present.

Douglas Macnaughton, M.C., D.L., is well known to a wide range of Strathallians, to whom it was no surprise to find the main fabric of Mr. Macnaughton’s speech should be his own appreciation of Strathallan and his sincere interest in the well-being of Strathallians. On this fabric he painted many fine cameos, showing a surprising grasp of the detail of the misdemeanours of one particular band of ice-rink hunters and larder robbers, a deftness of brushwork in sketching in the prize skeleton in the cupboard and erasing it without even offending the skeleton itself, an atmosphere of lost causes in the cry for a club rugby fifteen, and a challenge in his flattering reference to the club as the breeding ground of potential leaders in civic and national life.

The President, J. Alistair Dow, B.A., replying to the toast of the club, stressed the importance of the relationship between the club and the school and emphasised the importance to the club of a steady influx of young members, if it were to perform its duty properly. It was now apparent by whom the tone of the evening had been set. He emphasised that it was not for their subscriptions that they were welcome but for their contribution to the enthusiastic support of the functions of the club. He indicated in doggerel that they would dilute the preponderance of middle-aged spread. This remark was regarded as being in poor taste, coming as it did from the chair. The President then paid tribute to Guthrie Reid, who, as a founder member of the club, President in 1934, and retiring representative on the Board of Governors, had a record of service which it would be hard to equal. The warm acclamation of all present must have assured

Guthrie of the appreciation of the club and the esteem in which he is held. This speech was concluded by the President thanking Mr. Macnaughton, and was roundly applauded.

In introducing Mr. W. R. Tattersall, J.P., the President remarked that he was better known to the war-time generation of Strathallians. This may have been true at the early stage of the evening, but by his toast to the school Mr. Tattersall made his mark on a much wider field and many more Strathallians would wish to make his acquaintance. In a speech full of good humour we were made to feel that we had actually been chatting with an interesting character for far too short a time. His tolerance of this neighbouring institution which shared water rights was not the least forbearing, and left one with the feeling that he shared our admiration for our founder though perhaps not for all the characters for whom he had been responsible. His general understanding of the problems of growing up left one in no doubt that Strathallan is very fortunate in having such a good neighbour.

It is to be hoped that the Headmaster rose to his feet fortified in the knowledge that he was amongst friends. Albeit friends whose enthusiasm for the subject matter of his speech made them ever watchful, sometimes critical. By now he had had an opportunity of assessing this finely balanced relationship between the club and the school to which the President had made earlier reference, and by extending to us the privilege of sharing with him in a modest appraisal of achievement, coupled with an awareness of things yet to be done, we were left in no doubt that he had indeed put the club into its true perspective in his picture for the future. We appreciate his confidences. We cannot hear from him too much of Strathallan, and we can repay him only by giving our just and frank reaction to Strathallan as it grows from strength to strength. Neither he nor the Board of Governors need listen to us, let alone respond to our suggestions, but the fact that we exist and our interest remains very much alive will always aid them in checking progress. We were convinced that with the strong and active Board of Governors, to which the Headmaster paid tribute, and the Headmaster himself, whose tribute lay in his calculated appraisal of the situation—present and future—Strathallan was in good hands.

David C. Fulton, M.C., W.S., in proposing the Guests, distinguished himself by his choice of material and the manner in which he chose to present it. By his wit he kept the audience very much on the alert and at the same time paid full tribute to the guests without appearing to do so in an obvious manner. He thus fulfilled admirably his duty to the club by expressing their appreciation of the guests' presence, and at the same time thoroughly entertained his audience, and enhanced his own reputation as a speaker.



W. R. Morton Murdoch, D.S.C., LL.B., provided the follow on, and replying for the guests, showed that he too could forget his legal training and make an unqualified statement. The atmosphere of good fellowship and good humour was so well maintained that the mere words by which this object was achieved escape your reporter. Both speeches had been carefully prepared and were consequently delivered with a quiet assurance. At their conclusion there was no doubt that the members welcomed their guests and the guests were delighted to be present.

Professor Fordyce then found himself in the position which any top-table guest must have at one time or another considered as a nightmare. Without having a subject, nor time in which to chose one and collect a few thoughts, he was called upon to speak. In a twinkling of his eye he turned what might have been a nightmare for him into a dream of a speech for us. Speaking strictly off the cuff he revealed a sense of humour and depth of vision which at once created a widespread feeling of envy for the students in his faculty. His interest in Strathallan appears to be much more than the fulfilment of his duties would demand and we are indeed fortunate to have a knowledge and experience such as his at the disposal of the Board of Governors.

R.A.P.

### **EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY**

AN enjoyable luncheon was held early this term which about twelve Old Strathallians attended. This was followed a few nights later by a skittles match arranged by J. Shaw.

This year we say goodbye and good luck to N. Paterson, now graduated in forestry and off to Canada in the middle of May. He intends seeing Canada by touring between lumber camps on horseback before taking up a permanent job. Also good luck to D. Bell, now finished his course at Agricultural College, and when last seen, looking for a job as a hill shepherd.

I. Turnbull, 3rd year, and H. Stewart, 2nd year, continue their B.Sc. Agricultural Course.

A. Baxter, Heriot Watt, and D. Shannon, Dick Vet College, are eagerly anticipating their annual reunion at the September resits.

E. Spink we know started the session in Medical School, 3rd year (we stood together shivering in the queue for mass X-Ray before matriculation), but he has not been seen since, at least by your correspondent.

We would once again appeal to Strathallian freshers, and indeed any Strathallian at University (D. Rossie and C. Wallace please note) who are unknown to your correspondent, to contact him and help to make this "News" a complete record.

### ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

STRATHALLIANS are scarce in St. Andrews, but we do know that L. Barclay, I. Russell and I. Aitkenhead are still successfully carrying out their studies in medicine at Dundee, and that I. Birss, N. Mitchell, and our solitary newcomer to St. Andrews, A. Clayton, are still to be seen about the town in between lectures, etc. R. Philip is returning to University next term, having completed a year's successful stay in the United States under an exchange scholarship scheme.

We had the pleasure of entertaining A. R. Pate after the Glasgow game during the Christmas term, and we offer our congratulations to him in passing his Finals in medicine in December of last year. We also had the pleasure of meeting J. Cochrane in our Union one Saturday night last term. He is now a regular officer in the R.A.F. and is at present flying Canberra jet bombers at Leuchars.

### GLASGOW UNIVERSITY

THREE Strathallians have graduated from Glasgow University in the past half-year, J. D. Stevenson and A. R. Pate were capped M.B., Ch.B., last December, and A. A. Stuart received his B.Sc. Engineering degree in March. Alex. was a well-known figure at Varsity, having been President of G.U. Athletic Club, Captain of Rugby and Former Student member of the Union Board. Allan, who was also on the Union Board, is at present awaiting his National Service call-up papers. Drummond, who completed his service with the forces before starting medicine, has been appointed to the staff of an Inverness Hospital. To all three we offer our congratulations.

G. Sandeman and R. Newton are preparing for the M.B., Ch.B. finals in June and December respectively. L. J. McCarrol has had a most successful 4th year, having gained his first XV rugby colours and done well in his studies. In the third year is K. Brown, who passed his 2nd professional exam. in March. He was awarded the Weir Trophy—presented annually to the cadet in the University Air Squadron who has made most progress. D. Brown has finished 2nd year medicine. He gained his rowing colours as cox of the first crew and was re-elected Secretary of the Boat Club for next season. Awaiting the results of the second half of their first professional exams. are F. Noble and J. M. Maguire.

We are glad in this issue to be able to give a fuller account of those taking the Allied Veterinary Course. J. Smith, I. McLachlan and R. Cullen are in their final year, while D. Barr is studying for his fourth year exams. Returned from a commission in the army, J. M. Hart is in his first year. He has been playing

rugby this past season for Greenock Wanderers and played for Renfrewshire in representative matches. A. D. Pottie, not studying dentistry as we formerly understood, is also in the first year and has passed the first half of his professional exams. R. I. F. Stuart has finished 4th year dentistry and has gained his basket-ball colours.

I. W. M. Hendry continues his studies of Law as does W. A. McMillan, who is in his first year and sat exams. earlier this month. He played throughout the season for Glasgow University first XV and gained a place in the Scottish Universities side. D. I. Muir passed his 2nd intermediate Chartered Accountancy exam. in December and took his first year Arts exams. in May. He represented G.U. at Fives and has been elected to the Fives Club committee.

T. R. L. Fraser, M.A., sat his 2nd year B.Sc. (Agriculture) exams. in May and continues his extra-curricular activities as Vice-President of the Liberal Club. Sitting both 2nd year and 3rd year exams. are W. A. D. McFadzean and A. McLelland. M. Cessford, having done his year's practical farming, sat his chemistry exam. in May. M. Farquharson and M. Yates are taking a Diploma course in Dairy Technology.

In the Faculty of Science I. R. Stephens continues his studies of Honours Chemistry. He has now finished his 3rd year. All other Strathallian B.Sc. candidates are in the Engineering Faculty. G. Vernon, G. Wolf and M. Thomas have completed their third year and R. G. Stuart has passed his 2nd year exams., who is Treasurer of the Engineering Society. H. I. B. Fitzpatrick and N. Milne continue their studies of 2nd year subjects. Norman was selected as one of Glasgow University's three T.A. representatives at the Coronation. C. McLay has finished his first year.

It will be noticed that this year the number of Strathallians sitting final exams. is somewhat greater than usual. They all have our best wishes for success. We note with pleasure the increase in Strathallian activity in the social and athletic life of the University and feel sure that it will be maintained in the coming year.

### **CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY**

WHEN the request for news from Cambridge comes at this time of the year it is always difficult to find topics of interest to write about. The thought of examinations is foremost in the minds of most of us here and life in Cambridge calms down. Once more dusty books are pulled off the shelves and endeavours made to cover some of the year's work in the few remaining weeks. But the gaiety usually associated with Cambridge will soon return, in time for the Coronation, May 'Bumps and Balls.

Your correspondent, A. A. Chisholm, while at present preparing for degree examinations, hopes to take up graduate training with the General Electric Company in Birmingham in the autumn. This will leave Colin Guthrie as the only Strathallian "in statu pupilaris". However, Colin informs me that his brother will be joining him in the Michaelmas Term; and perhaps others will venture south to swell the numbers here in Cambridge.

### BIRTHS

- ANDERSON. On 25th March, 1953, to Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Anderson, 34 Viewfield Culcabock, Inverness, a daughter.
- BALFOUR. At Buenos Aires on 19th April, 1953, to Mr. and Mrs. John B. Balfour, El Recuerdo, Bonifacio, F.C.N.G.R., Argentine Republic, a son.
- BROWN. At Dar-es-Salaam on 5th March, 1953, to Nan (Née Allison), wife of Alan J. G. Brown, a son.
- McBRIDE (1929-34). On 5th October, 1952, to Mr. and Mrs. Ian A. McBride, 52 Ellerslie Park, Port of Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I., a son, Donald James.
- ROWAN. On 23rd March, 1953, to Mary, wife of William G. Rowan, 8 Burnside Road, Whitecraigs, a daughter.
- TURNER. At Irvine on 3rd May, 1953, to Margaret (Née Simpson), wife of George C. Turner, Roseland, Kilmaurs, a son.
- WILKIE. At Queen Mary Maternity Home, Edinburgh, on 6th January, 1953, to Elizabeth Mary, wife of Peter Wilkie, 3 Church Hill, a son.

### MARRIAGES

- BONTHRONE-HOGARTH. At Kirkcaldy Old Parish Church on 30th August, 1952, by the Rev. H. Russell Ferrie, M.A., assisted by the Rev. A. Renshaw Mackay, M.B.E., M.A., David Hugh Gaston, younger son of the late Mr. David Bonthron, Newton of Falkland, and of Mrs. Bonthron, William Street, Kirkcaldy, to Daphne Candelet, only child of Mr. and Mrs. John Hogarth, Lothrie, Kirkcaldy.
- BOYD-SCOTT. At Rothesay on 6th March, 1953, Ian N. Boyd to Margaret Mary Christine Scott, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Scott, 13 Covenham Gardens, Hornchurch, Essex.
- KING-LEDINGHAM. At Aberdeen on 2nd April, 1953, Dennis L. B. King, 16 Viewfield Avenue, Aberdeen, to Kathleen C. Ledingham.
- LOWDEN-STEVEN. In September, 1951, J. S. Lowden, 30 Ward Avenue, Grays, Essex, to Jean Steven, Twickenham, Middlesex.
- MACKENZIE-ORR. At Christchurch, Lanark, on 30th June, 1952, by the Rev. Malcolm Walker, M.A., Donald Ramsay Craig, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Murdo Mackenzie, The Maynes, Symington, to Catherine Dawson, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Orr, Tantallon, Lanark.

### ENGAGEMENTS

- LINTON, E. W. (1938-42) to Miss Joan D. Young, 68 Sherbrooke Avenue, Glasgow, S.1.
- LYLE, S. R. P. (1937-42) to Miss Kathleen M. Adams, M.B., Ch.B., Dunsley, Dunfermline.
- MASON, DAVID (1937-42) to Miss Judith May Roberts, Byways, Prestbury, Cheshire.