

# The Strathallian



1984/85

# The Strathallian



1985	
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SCHOOL AUTHORITY

Head of School

D. W. Davidson/R. D. Baird

Head of Freeland: C. Bannerman

Head of Leburn: A. C. Buchanan

Head of Nicol: A. E. L. Lagerborg

Head of Ruthven: K. W. Adamson

Head of Simpson: N. J. Tether

Head of Woodlands: A. R. McDonald

School Prefects

C. J. Edie

S. Hamilton

Salvete

Riley

Arestis, N. J., Brown, P. H., Burrell, A. M. G., Bruce, J., Clark, Joanna H., Clayton, Fionna M., Dawes, D., Dippie, M. R., Duncan, S. A., Garvie, D. D., Grant, Lyndesay S., Gray, N. A., Foster, S. R., Hartley, C. T., Hartley, N. J., Heslop, P. T., Johnston, R. G. J., Kennedy, D. G., Langley, J. M., Lannen, Tanja L., Law, C. J. F., Low, Frances G. L., Lokko, S. L., Martin, A. F., Middleton, R. M., Mackenzie, N. R. L., McCracken, Pauline N., McDougall, Sarah C., McKechnie, Laura A., McLaren, Morag E., Nicol, C. S., Panns, R. M., Stephens, Zoe J., Tilley, Phillipa C.

III

Adam, Rachel C., Bond, R. A.(N), Boyd, Kirsty J., Brown, Susan J., Campbell, J. L.(N), Clark, C.(N), Clark, W. K. G.(R), Currie, G. A.(N), Dempsey, B. M.(S), Dick, Karen L., Disbury, M.(R), Dunbar, C. A. B.(F), Dunbar, Fiona E. J., Fawcus, R. A.(R), Ferguson, A. R.(R), Finnie, S.(S), Gray, A. F.(L), Green, Carol A. H., Harrison, Abigail A., Head, S. T.(N), Ismail, D. R.(R), Jacobsen, S. A.(L), Khan, A.(N), Laird, M. C.(R), Law, Anita C., Lochore, A. D.(F), Logan, D. R.(F), Marshall, A. J. K.(N), Morrison, Kathryn R., Milne, Alexandra A. M., Mackay, J. R. E.(F), McLennan, A. F.(N), Nugawela, M. C. S.(S), Peacock, B. G.(R), Mappin, M. G.(F), Pattinson, Kathryn, Prentice, J. J.(S), Reid, Natasha A., Rea, F.(L), Sinclair, A. J.(L), Smith, C. A.(L), Tindal, J. A.(R), Webster, G. M.(F).

IV

Guy, B. J.(R), Lloyd, M.(N), Muir, M. D. P.(N), Salters, Karen J.

V

Mappin, M. G.(F).

Lower VI

Black, I. G.(S), David, Jennifer A., Dickenson, Elspeth J., Ford, T.(S), Sheal, K. J. R.(S), Walker, Hannah M., Young, Lorraine M.

Upper VI

Carruthers, Margaret A., Colbeck, N. C.(N), Duncan, Katherine E., Judge, S. C. F.(F), Muir, G. L.(R), Smith, Nicola J.



## EDITORIAL

*As a relative new boy to Strathallan, it is something of an honour to find myself in the privileged position of editor of the school magazine. The task of creating a journal for an organisation about which I know precious little is daunting and bemusing; it would be impossible to face without the cooperation of a great many people. So the primary purpose of this short piece will be to convey my sincere thanks to all of those colleagues and students who have made the task a little easier for me. When the Headmaster asked (sic.) me to take over the Strathallian from John Clayton, who has done such a splendid job on the magazine for the past ten years, he directed that the publication date should be brought forward by some six months. In an effort to achieve this, I asked that my fellow members of staff should try to get their contributions to me by the first week of the Summer Vacation. It is to their great credit that a great many of them actually did so; indeed, they all managed it by the end of the vac. To them, my heartfelt thanks! Without the help of the students of the school, not only would the creation of the Strathallian become a Herculean task, it would be pointless. It is a school magazine, and its creative force should reflect this. And so I must thank a large number of the members of the Sixth Form Common Room, but, in particular, I must give special thanks to Michael Edie, David Haddleton, David Dinsmore and Kari Devlin. I would literally have been lost without their invaluable assistance. I must also mention again John Clayton, who has continued to give me advice based on his years of experience even though he no longer is directly responsible for the end result.*

*Finally, I ought to say something about the new format. The new look magazine is the result of the Headmaster's wish to produce a journal which will not only serve as a record of school activities, but will also, hopefully, be a useful public relations document which can be issued to prospective parents to give some rough idea of what goes on here throughout the year. If you think the format can be improved in any way, or you have any other suggestions, please let me know.*

David Smith

# STAFF NOTES

These staff notes should be the shortest for quite some time! This is not to belittle the contribution made by those leaving nor indeed to prejudge the intentions of those joining the School in September. It merely reflects fewer changes in the Common Room.

Mr Yellowlees came on a temporary part time basis to teach History and games. We were hoping that having been persuaded to do a year full time he might have made a career as a schoolmaster, but the Civil Service and the freedom it gives to pursue international hockey have been too big a lure. However, we are grateful for the very positive contribution Michael has made particularly to the School's hockey and who knows his extra help here may have sown seeds for the next generation of Internationalists.

Mr Yellowlees is indirectly replaced by Mr Pengelly who is coming as Head of the History Department in order that Mr Proctor, the present Head of Department, may spend more time on his other commitments. Mr Simon Pengelly and family are moving to Scotland from Abingdon, Oxford. In spite of being at a soccer school himself Mr Pengelly assures us that he is willing to help with all games including rugby football.

Mrs Gilks – Ms Rogers donning her working title – also came at short notice on a part time temporary basis but such were the needs of the School and her enthusiasm for involvement that the

position quickly became full time in the English department. Gillian's commitment to drama, especially amongst the Juniors who so often can be forgotten has brought a lively interest in this activity. Scarcely a week has passed without Gill taking some group some where, even if it has only been as far as our own lecture theatre. Many thanks.

When the opportunity arose of appointing a second residential House Tutor to Riley in the person of Peter Keir we took it. Mr Keir came from Clifton Hall preparatory school in Edinburgh where he taught English and games and has been with us since January. Thus a belated welcome.

In addition to these changes there will be two new families joining the Staff in September. Mr Harry Clelland, who has taught at Fettes and Wellington, Berkshire, not to be confused with Wellington, Ayrshire, is coming to take over the Modern Languages Department in place of Mr Fairbairn, who will then be able to devote more time to what seems to be the never ending increase in paper work that comes to the desk of the Second Master.

Mr Buntin is returning from Brunei where he was Head of Mathematics in a Sixth Form College and will join our Maths. and Computer Department, the rate of expansion of which is governed just as much by finding good staff as it is by the price of hardware and space needed to house it.

Miss Hay is leaving Riley House for a career as an officer in the WRAC. What better initial training could anyone have had than a year as House Matron in Riley! Many thanks.

To everyone, be they coming or going, we extend our good wishes.

C.D.P.



Mr Peter Keir  
*English*



Mr Harry Clelland  
*Modern Languages*  
Mr Simon Pengelly  
*History*



Mr Buntin  
*Mathematics*

# Speech Day 1985

*Speech by Dr Graham Hills, Principal of the University of Strathclyde*

*Speech Day last term was held at the School and was graced by one of the few breaks in the dampness of the summer. It was further graced by one of the most enlightening speeches to have been given at this important occasion. Dr Graham Hills, Principal of the University of Strathclyde gave an oration which was both entertaining and thought-provoking, and it is reproduced in its entirety below.*

Mr Chairman, Headmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen.

May I say how pleased and honoured I am to be asked to this prizegiving. The School has an excellent reputation. It has sent forth many distinguished pupils. I have no doubt it will continue to do so.

It was your Headmaster who first invited me to address you and I hope he will not have reason to regret his impetuosity. As many of you will by now have realised, most teachers, even those in universities, are fond of their own voices and they like having a captive audience such as yourselves. When therefore I was invited to address you on this important occasion, my first reaction was gratefully to accept.

Nearer the time, I had a few doubts, for I should say straightaway that I am a serious sort of man given to dry humour and not to anecdotes about my school days. I admire the man who, when asked how he would like his hair cut said, 'In silence.'

Another of my difficulties is that I am by training a specialist and by its very nature my scientific specialisation cuts me off from those who do not share the particular language of that specialisation. More and more I feel that the only person with whom I can have a sensible conversation is myself. I would not say that I was absent-minded but my wife thinks I am. She says that a Principal is a man who talks in other people's sleep. Certainly, I have a colleague who dreamt he was giving a bad lecture and woke up to find that he was.

But further and much more seriously so far as this occasion is concerned, I am morally persuaded that all men and women (and nearly all boys and girls) are equally deserving and that to reward a boy or a girl for being clever is as unjustifiable as rewarding him or her for having blue eyes. What is one to say then at a prizegiving such as this? The answer, I am afraid is 'Quite a lot.' In preparation for my address I therefore advise you to get comfortable. This is to be a one-way discourse with no opportunity for questions or interruption.

Now, as to the matter of prizegiving, a cynic once said that there are two important decisions in a women's life (1) the choice of her parents and (2) the



choice of her husband's parents for, make no mistake, we are largely what we have inherited. It is easy to see that this is so and all in this room will quickly discover the circumference of their waists, the colour of their hair and the shape of their noses in one or more close relatives. At least I hope so. Food, drink and exercise may add or subtract an inch or two, but basically our size and shape are thrust upon us and we should learn at the earliest age to accept and even to love them. My first advice to each of you is to like yourself, for if you cannot like yourself, you cannot like, let alone love, anyone else.

If you doubt the importance of inherited characteristics, clasp your hands and you will find that you have an asymmetric habit which you have inherited and cannot change. If you fold your arms, you will also find you do it in a particular way which you might

as well accept. So I say – look at your left hand. It is the only left hand you are going to have; learn to like it and you can learn to like the rest of yourself and become a sunny personality, finding fault with nobody and putting other people entirely at their ease.

Your physical characteristics are therefore something of a lottery and we do not give prizes for them. That is why beauty queen contests are so vulgar. But perhaps the same considerations also apply to your intelligence. Here we are on uncertain ground as to what we mean by intelligence but where it is recognisable it is likely to be inherited. It does not follow that intelligent parents necessarily have intelligent children or *vice versa*, but only that cleverness at doing certain things is established at birth. Look at me if you will, I could never run fast, I was no good at games, and I never scored a goal in my life. My

mind was keen but my body was not. You may well think that when I was being made, God was not paying attention to the importance of getting it right, but I have learned to accept myself and indeed quite to like myself. This makes me an agreeable sort of man but it also persuades me that life in this world is a bit chancy and in that sense inherited. Intelligence is a matter of luck and should not be rewarded.

*But*, and it is a very big *but*, the evidence is strong that character traits are not genetic factors. They may come from your parents but also from others. They are taught and therefore acquired during life. Thus the degree of caring, of making effort, of assuming responsibility, in short, being good. All these are learned and it is these immensely important qualities of life that we seek to encourage in school and, I would hope, throughout life. This is what prizes are about. Whether we extend the idea of prizes to giving scholarships to very bright pupils or first class degrees to very bright students or very large salaries to successful men, I do not know. The fact is *we do*. However, I believe that, before long, the robots and the computers will enable more men and women to pursue their own interests and develop their talents to the full, not in competition with others.

I would argue that competition is getting out of hand. When England's football manager, Bobby Robson, said on Thursday it is more important to play the game than to win – it was not before time. That was what I was taught at school. Not so Paul Newman (my wife's favourite film star) when he cynically said, 'show me a good loser – and I will show you a real loser.' That simply will not do, at school, at uni-

versity, or even in business, not if we are to live in peace and harmony. 'All is not fair in love or war' and competition (when pressed too far) brings out the worst, not the best in man. The will to strive will be with us, but whereas once it was by force of arms and is now by means of examinations and qualifications, it will, except perhaps for surgeons and coal miners, be a matter of inclination and self-fulfilment. If we still give prizes then, they will be for the creation of goodness and beauty and I hope you do not think that too idealistic a notion. At that stage, we may put into practice the Christian belief that virtue is its own reward and recall the inscription over the gate of Eton College:

'May you be a good and modest boy, growing up so correctly among your equals that you may go forth from your education an honest member of society and a useful citizen of your country to the greater glory of God.'

I could wish none of you any more or any less and as you accept your prizes, perhaps you will consider how lucky you have been to possess the talents and gifts that you have, as well as the family encouragement that has brought you to this splendid school. Indeed, everything in life is a gift and we have just one life in which to repay our good fortune, i.e. by passing it on to others. I therefore congratulate you all, as well as the school and thank you all for listening so patiently, *so far*.

For I have one more important thing to say and I will be as brief as possible. It is directed with great respect at your parents but principally at your teachers. It concerns what we consider is important in education and what we therefore teach, examine and classify. For at

least a century, we have placed overwhelming emphasis on reading, writing, arithmetic and all matters expressible in words and symbols, such as mathematics, philosophy and economics and to the detriment of things practical, of crafts and other non-academic pursuits. We revere Plato who turned reason into mathematics. We admire Euclid who turned geometry, one of the most delicate and profound areas of man's inborn understanding, into a puzzle-solving exercise, whilst around him men like Pericles were performing miracles of geometrical application entirely out of hereditary insight. It is said that over Plato's door read inscription, freely translated, 'Let no man without mathematics enter my house,' and the imprecation of that looms over this country to this day.

It is helpful to be clever but it is also helpful to appreciate those non-academic qualities of grace, design, reliability, steadfastness, loyalty and all the other unquantifiable values.

My hero is therefore not Plato but Newton, of whom it was said that he had the mind of a mathematician and the hands of a carpenter. I do not believe that without his manual skills he could have carried out his vital researches, or James Watt, John Logie Baird, Leonardo da Vinci or Michaelangelo to have made their discoveries or their works of art. The combination of theory and practice is the staple of most professions, such as medicine and the law.

So to finish I would say to you, please develop all your talents and please acquire creative skills for the pleasure they will give you and eventually to others. Once again, thank you for listening to me and may the school continue on its successful way.

## Freeland House

It was an odd year. A housemasterly experiment created (against the wise advice of S. McEachern) seemingly as many prefects as doghairs on the said housemaster's jacket. The experiment, with one or two worthy exceptions, did not work and the result was a degree of confusion. Although, once again, we reached second position in several events – Leagues, Skiing, Sailing, Squash, Junior Cricket – only had two sporting triumphs – Football (!) and Tennis (both, alas, detestable sports). The juniors, however, show great sporting promise and determination.

It was pleasing to see so many members of the House involved in many activities. Several took part in the school play, notably Angus Macdonald, Michael Edie, Dominik Diamond, Tom Bowron, Sean McEachern and Jimmy Gellatly. Even more took part in musical events and it was good to see so many

involved in the speech day formalities. Academically (dirty word!) it was also a good year for the House.

Perhaps the atmosphere of the leavers party indicated a really good spirit (although, on the other hand, it might have been an entirely different sort of spirit) in spite of various ups and downs in the year. Certainly it demonstrated unexpectedly athletic Frisbee from Messrs Smith and Philp. For some people, the sixth form in any boarding school can be an infuriating place, with seemingly pointless restrictions and mindless routine. Fortunately our lot survived – just.

House authority only just survived a Jordanian threat. The prefects may have felt hard pressed but they weren't phoned at three in the morning every so often.

Once again Sean McEachern and Ken Smith seemed to pick up most of the in-

ternal competitions with cash prizes. It is a sobering thought that House funds must have supplied a fair amount of Sean's supplies of Marlborough and fines.

Many of those departing brought great contributions to the House – Calum Bannerman's cultured tones (I think I can survive one more term of his shout); Gavin Corbett's intellectual qualities, Robin Dawson's stern brutality; 'Ted' Smith's athleticism. More seriously most of them did bring real qualities and they take with them our best wishes.

To them I owe my thanks as indeed I do to the whole House for not doing anything (discovered) too appalling. My thanks also go to Florence, who suffers most of my pent-up rage, along with brats, dog, cat and lawn-mower and to Charles Court, whose advice is always valuable, whose help is essential and whose racing tips are utterly useless.

R.H.W.P.

# LEBURN HOUSE

*For the first time that I can remember we ended the year with exactly the same people in the house that we started with. A larger than usual upper sixth made us slightly top heavy, but this extra weight, embodying as it did a considerable amount of all-round talent, proved to be a considerable asset to both school and house.*

*Of the senior group one thinks of the tremendous contribution which Ken Orr has made to the school music and drama over the years, and his superb final performance in 'She Stoops To Conquer' this year. He shared the 'Wilfred Hoar Senior reading Prize' with Dominik Diamond and demonstrated to all on speech day what talent he has in this direction. He is going to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in October and there is no doubt that he will be heard of again. Lindsay Low won a Dundee University Bursary and will be taking his place to read law in due course. He and Angus McDonald did well in the schools debating competition during the winter term and may well be a pointer to future success in his chosen career. Sean Cozier excelled quietly in just about every sport there was to offer – he was a member of the 1st XV, the successful Merchiston sevens team (top try scorer), 1st XI hockey, and the schools athletics and swimming teams. He contributed a great deal to all of them. Archie McAlister too did well on the games side, particularly at rugby, tennis and hockey, and Mark Gowrie's rugby was good enough for him to be selected for the Presidents XV. Brian Dodds was a great competitor in all he played and Peter Ellen had an excellent season with the Jazz and Dance Bands. Quite a talented bunch, all told.*

*There is no doubt that we had more games talent around this year than for*

*a long time and expectations of success in the competitions were high. In the Michaelmas term the junior league XV, captained by Keith Dunlop, played with great spirit and won all their matches convincingly. The indoor hockey final against Nicol was a tense affair – with the scores still level after extra time the game was decided by a penalty stroke 'shoot-out,' and we came second! This happened again in the final of the outdoor hockey competition at the end of the next term, and it was Nicol again who did us after another exciting encounter. However, in spite of this, the term was a successful one overall for we came second in the cross-country (to Nicol again!), the junior indoor squad won the 'circus' in great style, the swimmers under Sean Cozier's leadership triumphed very impressively, and the squash players completed a double for the second year running – the junior final against Freeland was a desperately close thing, and it was thanks to Mark Zaraza who came back from the dead against Alan Pearson that we edged home. In the summer things didn't go quite according to plan because the golfers were expected to do a bit better than come runners-up to Ruthven and the tennis team, our 'bankers,' were seen off by Freeland before they knew what was happening! However, the year ended on a high note when we lifted the athletics cup on Sports Day – Ken Orr, Sean Cozier and Keith Dunlop made major contributions to this success and Keith deservedly won the Middle Victor Ludorum. Two other individual winners not mentioned previously were Colin Crawford who ran with great determination to win the Middle Cross-Country, and Steven Liddell who won the golf strokeplay cup. Not a winner but a good third was Bruce Kelly in the*

*junior piping section of the West of Scotland Pipe Band Competition.*

*It has been a year where a good atmosphere and spirit has prevailed in the house. Everyone has got on well, by and large, and although I have my usual complaints regarding the Marlboro men, the 'borrowing' and the lack of respect that exists for personal and other people's property, there has been a friendliness about the place which has made life enjoyable in spite of these perennial problems. Which reminds me, the abolition of 'fagging' will be an interesting venture into the unknown. Although it is not a universally acclaimed reform act at the moment I'm sure it will prove to be a progressive step.*

*Angus Buchanan's slightly military style of leadership went down well as most people and he did a good job with head of house. The prefects though not totally reliable were a very pleasant bunch and certainly did their bit in keeping things on an even keel. My thanks to my wife, Phil Meadows and Klaus Glimm for their willing and valuable help over the year and to Mrs Robertson and Mrs Sommerton who did their best to keep us all in shape. Mrs Robertson made a brave attempt to come to terms with two-wheeled motorised transport in the summer but unfortunately ended up breaking her ankle after coming a real 'purler.' Happily, she is on the mend and should be fully restored soon.*

*Sadly I have to report the tragic death in the Easter holidays of Anders Jarlow (1975-79) brother of Johan Jarlow came into Leburn the term before I took over as housemaster and I have very clear and happy memories of him during his time here.*

*H.C.A.*

*Head of House  
A. C. Buchanan*

*Deputy Head of House  
M. Gowrie*

## *Prefects*

*B. M. Dods  
L. M. Low  
G. D. Lyall  
A. J. McAlister  
D. J. Martin  
K. F. Orr  
I. C. Kelly  
J. M. Pratt  
R. A. L. McAlister  
K. J. McBride*

## *House Colours*

*A. C. Buchanan  
S. A. Cozier  
B. M. Dods  
M. Gowrie  
L. M. Low  
A. J. McAlister  
T. J. Pawson  
K. F. Orr*



# NICOL HOUSE

Trying to review a whole year is an onerous task (especially after an early rise to fire-fighting in the school kitchens) and errors creep in. So apologies at the start to Walter MacDonald for omitting him from last year's list of House Prefects and allowing brother Willie to usurp him as 3rd XI captain in my hockey report. I expect there will be some omissions this time too, so penance in advance!

Although that great triumvirate of school problems: 'borrowing,' untidiness and ragging occasionally reared its ugly head, the year was impressive for the loyalty, determination in competition and co-operation of all in the House. Nowhere was there more so than in athletics. As in 1983 we cleaned up at all three levels in cross-country, Robbie Galloway and Christopher Lawrence winning their races. In the Standards Cup we led until the last two days, then Mr Gilks' computer went hyper and calculated that Ruthven had won by one point something. We did have the consolation of being the House with the greatest participation and, in Graeme McLay, having the individual with the highest score. Another second came in the Finals, helped by excellent runs by Robbie Galloway (he also won a silver medal in the Scottish Schools 5000 metres), Christopher Lawrence (Junior Victor Ludorum by a mile), Alan Stewart, Graeme McLay, Bobbie Macintyre and Andrew Dow. Sadly Angus Cuthbertson, an outstanding high jumper came to grief in the long jump pit just days before the Sports. The first three of these plus Graham 'Break' Austick subjected themselves to the Great North Run.

Much of this success came from inspired leadership of Robbie Galloway and the 'coaxing' of Peter Brown, and it was also Robbie that led the experienced shooting team to their seventh successive win. No wonder he couldn't find time to tidy his study.

Axel Lagerborg's undying enthusiasm and four representatives in the 1st XI were the foundations of another winning year in the 'really important' game. The indoor hockey cup was wrested from Leburn after a tense series of penalty strokes, and the outdoor cup retained after another penalty shoot out.

Once again there were no major rugby competitions, but, by being fiercely competitive, we managed a creditable second in the Senior Leagues. The Junior League XV got off to a good start, but, despite Gavin Clark's driving leadership, it faded badly in the last two games. Senior cricket also fell by the wayside, and the Juniors, mostly non-pros, were soundly thrashed in the opening match. Golf, tennis, squash and, despite an excellent Junior effort, swimming were not to our taste. But we ended on a winning note in the sailing. Here we had great depth: Douglas Gillespie and Gavin Clark were nominated for the Scottish Schools squad, Douglas (with an alien) coming second in the Loch Earn Schools race. Andrew Tench had always made a tremendous contribution to School sport and he was deservedly given the Campbell Award.

Artistic success is harder to measure but we had our painting stars, led by Neil Pratt (Art Prize) and Douglas Orr. (Robert Adam and Douglas Irvine won my prize for interior design in their study). Andrew Beath, Clive Pattinson, Colin Gregory and Keith Arnott all blew hard for various bands and orchestras and there was a sprinkling of beginners at most instruments. Unfortunately so many of the latter and our rare choristers give up too early through 'pressure of work.' Like anything else music is a discipline requiring practice, but the eventual enjoyment lasts for life. Perhaps parents (and the Housemaster!) won't be so indulgent in the future. Dramatically we didn't figure much. Douglas Orr, thoroughly

convincing as a venerable gent, and Angus Cuthbertson, efficient behind the scenes, were the only participants in the play. Douglas also read most sensitively in an imaginative poetry evening. We will have to pull our tights up if the proposed junior drama competition comes to fruition.

The dreaded 'work' always seems to get in the way of all these activities. Nevertheless, judging by the pluses and minuses, my impression is that most have been trying; whether, for the examinees, it was hard enough only time will tell. Academics Angus Cuthbertson, Peter Rochow and (probably) Douglas Orr will all be trying Cambridge papers next term.

Alan Murton was awarded an RAF Scholarship to learn to fly; eventually like ex-Nicolite Ted McLaren we may see him hovering over the school.

The German connection continued with Mark Holst spending a year with us, contributing much to music, art and the common room (many thanks for the picture).

Good news came from the Macleans. Stuart, though still severely handicapped, has made a fine recovery and is facing the future with courageous optimism.

For a housemaster there have been few traumas. This, can be put down to sensible, firm and enthusiastic leadership from the prefects. Everybody has felt involved. Being an outsider is hard in such a close community, but nowadays there is more sympathy and generosity towards the underdog and this makes for greater happiness all round. My thanks go to the retiring authority, to Mr Gilks for his sterling work as House Tutor and to all leavers for making this such an enjoyable year.

J.H.F.

## House Prefects

J. J. Beveridge  
J. R. Galloway  
D. J. C. Gillespie  
D. E. Orr  
N. M. Pratt  
A. C. Robertson  
A. W. Tench  
D. S. Aitken (Summer term)  
P. C. Brown (Summer term)  
K. S. Johnson (Summer term)  
J. I. Kingan (Summer term)

## House Colours

All the the above and J. G. Barrack

## Head of House

A. I. L. Lagerborg

## School Prefect

G. S. R. Robertson (Summer term)

## Captains of Sport

Rugby	A. I. L. Lagerborg
Hockey	A. I. L. Lagerborg
Cricket	A. W. Tench
Athletics	J. R. Galloway
Cross-country	J. R. Galloway
Swimming	A. C. Robertson
Ski-ing	P. C. Brown
Squash	G. S. R. Robertson
Shooting	J. R. Galloway
Sailing	D. J. C. Gillespie
Golf	G. S. R. Robertson
Tennis	A. I. L. Lagerborg

# Ruthven House

It is an awesome task to have to sum up a year's contribution, commitment and involvement by over 60 boys in a short article. The particular task does not get any easier with the experience of yet another year.

As far as sport is concerned it should be noted that we won the House Skiing with a tremendous contribution by Robin Gilyead and his brother James. The Sixth Form lounge was the setting for a new tournament – DARTS! It is a great tribute to dedication and training of our formidable team that we won this new trophy. Douglas Drysdale who some might say was much more at home in the darts team, showed his diverse talents by captaining the golf team to a victory. Our first junior trophy for a few years came with the junior football, captained by Alasdair Lenman. An excellent effort by the whole house resulted in our retaining the Rowan Cup, now under a new system involving ability as well as effort. It proved a nailbiting finish and Roddy Baird can testify to the commitment involved.

The Ruthven commitment to and the success of the Pipe Band continued with

Lorne Watson, the pipe major coming first in the Senior Piping and Pibroch competitions, Simon Peters winning the Junior Piping, James Downie, the leading drummer, winning the Senior Drumming and Robert Jones the Junior Drumming.

David Davidson and Roddy Baird are to be congratulated on the job they have both done as Heads of School. Undoubtedly they have contributed to the smooth running of the school and helped to engender the good spirit that existed this year. Their appointments meant that Keith Adamson was promoted as Head of House after Christmas and I thank Dave, Roddy, Keith and all the prefects for their invaluable help throughout the year.

#### *Prefects were: –*

D. W. Davidson  
R. D. Baird  
K. H. Adamson  
J. C. Downie  
D. Drysdale  
E. R. Gilyead  
G. Hamilton  
A. J. G. McCulloch  
A. R. MacLellan  
H. Shanks  
L. W. Watson

Each of the leavers will be missed in their own way: Douglas Drysdale for opening a new branch of the Scottish RSPCA in our bottom corridor; Angus McCulloch for being Mr Fixit and Lorne Watson for giving me my nightly dose of Reggae; and Mahmoud, Zaid and Yousef for giving the house a very real cosmopolitan touch during the last two years.

This year we have incorporated Mr Forshaw and Mr Hawksford into the house and I thank them both for their personal contribution. Despite his heavy involvement with games, Mr Barnes has continued as house Tutor to give his own inimitable contribution and I thank him for all his efforts.

B.R.

#### *Summer appointments were: –*

R. E. M. Reah  
D. R. N. Haddleton  
A. J. Phillip  
D. W. Stewart

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# SIMPSON HOUSE

There are rumblings in Fleet Street. John Clayton has retired from the onerous task of editing 'The Strathallian.' He has had a successful decade in which the improvement in the photographic content has been particularly marked, and his copy has reflected an air of bonhomie. The date of publication became a matter of amused conjecture, as events referred to had often been long forgotten, and some of the misprints were worthy of the Nationals. There are dark rumours that under new management there will be early deadlines, and that our beloved Forgandenny Chronicle will become another tabloid, perhaps even featuring the president of the Old Boys' Club on page 3. This has little to do with Simpson, but I would like to thank John, on behalf of all Simpsonites past and present for all his effort.

For the most part, it has been a year of solid achievements rather than spectacular success. The refurbished dormitories have been appreciated and the striprooms are gradually becoming a reliable asset. However the ability to erode, weather and glaciare common room furniture never ceases to amaze me. The outstanding individual achieve-

ments were Philip Gadie's Exploring Fellowship to Alaska; David Mackie's flying scholarship and subsequent pilot's licence; Neil Tether's Geography Prize; Fraser Fyfe's Reading Prize and Nigel Kilpatrick's bronze medal in the Scottish Schools 400m, as well as being an excellent captain of athletics, and deservedly Victor Ludorum. Full Colours were held by Malcolm Heggie for cricket and Nigel Kilpatrick for rugby and athletics. It was pleasing to win the House Rugby Leagues, under Jonathan Coutts, while the retention of the cricket Junior House Matches reflected the depth of talent at the bottom of the house. On the other hand it was galling to come 2nd in the swimming again. Gavin Pettinger made his usual major contribution to school music while a whole host of Simpsonites gained considerable pleasure from their lively performances in the Dance Band. I am sure that Mr Forster's influence will help to encourage even more participation in dramatic productions.

Last autumn we welcomed Mr Jonathan Forster as house tutor and he and his wife, Paula, have already made a considerable contribution to the

smooth running and generally friendly atmosphere pervading in the house. On which note, it was encouraging to note how many Rileyites have opted to come to Simpson, with or despite their inside knowledge. My thanks go to Neil Tether, who I think was unique as a vegetarian, non lunch-eating, teetotal Head of House, and a group of conscientious and willing prefects, who got the important matters right.

To the leavers go my best wishes. It was most pleasant to have so many 'Old Persons' prepared to tramp up the flight of stairs, sometimes out of thirst, but more often out of friendliness. I hope that this year's ex-Simpsonites will follow them.

On the anecdotal and obscure, these may not be forgotten; Neil Tether's early morning tete-a-tetes with Kari; Jonathan Coutts' self-restraint; Jeremy Garnett's excuses; Malcolm Heggie's laugh; David Mackie's driving; Philip Gadie's energy; Neil Stratton's political crusade; Andrew Gilchrist's hair and will Gaile succumb to Nigel Kilpatrick's cooking and get her teeth back from Mr Elliott?

N.T.H.DuB.

## *Head of House*

N. J. Tether

## *Prefects*

J. Coutts  
P. A. Gadie  
J. M. Garnett  
M. I. Heggie  
N. D. Kilpatrick  
D. H. Mackie  
N. T. Stratton  
R. H. Williams

## *L VI Prefects*

M. L. B. Butler  
P. J. Dewar  
R. A. Niven  
B. S. Tether  
S. J. Thomson  
I. J. Younger

## *House Colours*

N. J. Tether  
N. D. Kilpatrick  
J. M. Garnett  
J. Coutts  
P. A. Gadie  
M. I. Heggie  
R. H. Williams

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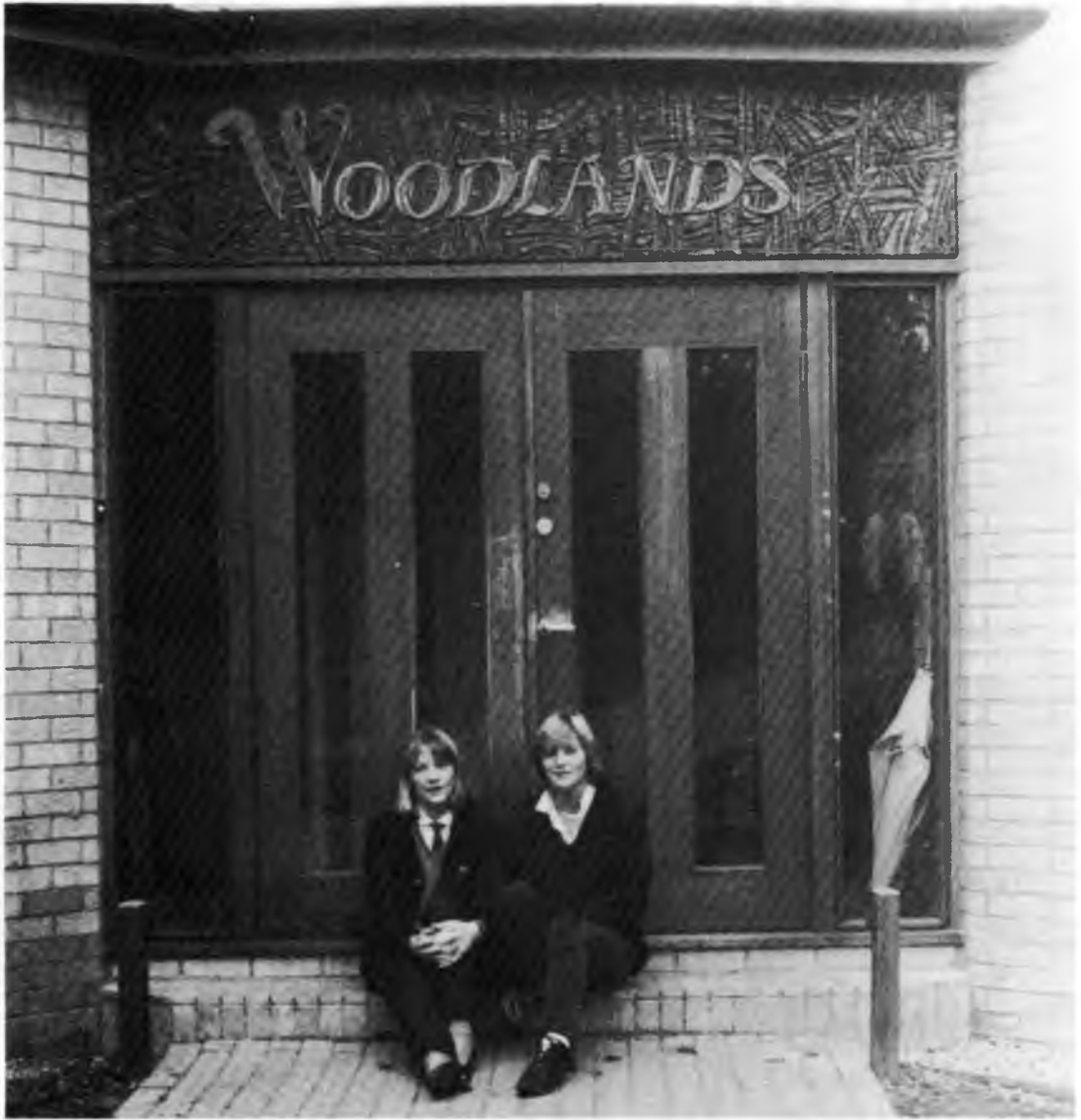
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# Woodlands



With Woodlands again stripped bare, and various people banging their shins on trunks as they stagger up and down the corridor with their fourteenth carrier bag, it is again time to assess the merits – or otherwise – of our fourth year of remorseless penetration of the school. Academically it has been a very good year; Woodlands sailed away with eight of thirteen prizes on Speech Day, and Helen Pearson deserves a mention as a prizewinner in the national 'Mathematical Challenge.'

In the more important area of games we have had a good year too. The 1st XI had a very successful season, Sandie's facemask laying low many of our opponents with terror – from the other end of the pitch! Jenny Bamford was the first girl to be awarded full colours, having displayed her true national skill throughout the year, and Nikki Corbett was selected as reserve for the Junior Midlands team. Under the hand of Miss Blance, the 2nd XI changed from a social to a serious team,

and there are several promising juniors in the U.15 XI.

In the Spring Term the cross-country team ploughed valiantly to third place in the Scottish Schools U.17 competition, Miss Fraser soldiering – slowly – on to ensure the team a place. The swimming team put up a good fight in the school competition; although we did not win, we equally did not lose! With the advent of the new tennis courts an outstanding senior tennis team emerged. Katie Macdonald and Jenny Bamford were awarded half-colours, and under Katie's guidance in the absence of Mrs Carratt the team reached the final of the Midlands competition. The position of the Woodlands sailing team in the inter-House competition does not accurately reflect the time and effort that many put in, under the enthusiastic ministrations of Lara Clayton. Down on Big Acre, meanwhile, lots of 'personal bests' were achieved, Kate Streule being awarded full colours, and there are

many promising Juniors to ensure our future success. As for standards... well, despite much cursing in the upper corridor of the East Wing, the whole House turned out to put on a very good, if frequently amusing, show. Bola deserves a special mention for being slick – if not speedy – on the track!

In customary fashion, Woodlands did not neglect the more cultured side of Strath. life. Despite the fact that the House Music Competition has been stopped (as we would invariably win) groups and individuals flourished. Lindsey Chisholm sawed away valiantly even throughout her Oxbridge term, Nikki Thaw was a grand finalist in the Perth Music Festival, and the Early Music Group hit the guiltless airwaves of an unsuspecting Scotland. Several girls trod the boards in late March; Amy McDonald put on an outstanding performance as Mrs Hardcastle, and she, her daughter and Miss Neville will not easily be forgotten. Nor will Phosey's hat! Our praise must go to the backroom



'persons': Sally and Alison successfully slapped on the panstick for several successive nights. Amy also gained entry to both the Scottish and the National Youth Theatres. However, in an almost Strathallian feat of organisation the national company failed to find a theatre, and so Amy is in Edinburgh for the Summer. . . . beware, the Fringe!

Woodlands having been such a success – witness the nightly clanging of the water pipes, the 'hot' water, and the marvellous(!) soundproofing against the eccentricities of the pipe band – a new wing is going to be built, which will allow ninety girls to board. This year, with a meagre seventy, we have nonetheless been unselfish in the bestowal of our favours around the school (in some cases, too generous. Ces's glee as she was released from evening incarceration was a joy to behold). The success of the Disco can be judged by the number of sausage rolls left uneaten – everyone was too busy to worry about such trivialities as food – and the courage of Misses Belch and McMillan warrants a mention: they bravely went where no girl had been before, with the post-Highers group to Torridon. Lastly, the constant hard work and care of Mrs Williams must be remembered, ensuring the smooth running of the House (Who *did* paper over her door?).

Overall it has been a good, friendly year in Woodlands; how we will fare in the final tear-jerking rendition of 'Jerusalem' and indeed in the coming year remains to be seen.

L.A.C.

*Head of House (Autumn)*

Lindsey Chisholm

*Head of House (Spring & Summer)*

Amy McDonald

*School Prefect*

Caroline Edie

*House Prefects*

Sally Binnie

Jenny Bamford

Bola Ayantuga

Lucy Crispin

Katie Macdonald

Kate Scanlan

*House Prefects (Summer Term)*

Kari Devlin

Suzanne Rhodes

*Captains*

Hockey

Jenny Bamford

Tennis

Katie Macdonald

Cross-country

Amy McDonald

Ski-ing

Amy McDonald

Swimming

Katie Macdonald

Athletics

Amy McDonald



# RILEY HOUSE



After such wonderful weather during the summer of 1984, not even the start of the Winter term could seem depressing. The full Riley intake responded in an encouragingly positive way to their first term in boarding school not only in the classroom but also on the sports' fields and in the worlds of music and drama. In the Winter term the rugby team beat all comers and the powerful and talented Cameron Cook put fear and trembling into many a cover defence. The team as a whole was not full of rich rugby talent but each played his part and was not prepared to let a fellow member down and success followed. The U.12's were created this year and under the effervescent Messrs Forster and Colley produced remarkable results for first time rugby players. All opponents bar one fell before their sparkle and indeed the enthusiastic response and support from the rest of the school for both the U.13's and U.12's bodes well for the corporate sporting life at Strathallan. Gnomes do appreciate feeling that they are a part of the greater scheme of things.

Particularly in the Winter term much of the 'tone' of Riley is determined by the Second Year who, as the Veterans, have seen the whole process a whole once before! The fact that a lot of hard work and play took place during the term reflects well on these veterans and they should be congratulated for allowing the new boys and girls to feel less strange more quickly than was the case in most of their experiences. The number

of people learning musical instruments was encouraging and examples such as Susie Leiper, who came into the Second Year as a Music Scholar, can only encourage aspirants to excellence; her performance at the Headmaster's Musik was not only very pleasing to the ear but remarkably mature in its interpretation. Similarly, Elizabeth Reekie's 'Once in Royal' was as courageous as it was pure – well done.

The Easter term started in traditional form with the playing fields covered in snow and our first game of hockey was a school match which, not surprisingly, we lost. Thereafter we beat the rest of the teams with some commanding mid-field play and some sharply taken goals. The 'Easter term bug' arrived with a vengeance and at least fifty of the House took to their beds. I had no fear for any of that fifty but for Matron, Mrs Thomson, the resident tutors and myself the injunction 'Stay alive in '85' seemed as absurd as it did remote! The Riley entertainment had to be postponed until the end of term but it was all the more pleasurable when it arrived. Who would have thought that co-education or – dare I say it – co-habitation in Riley would have produced a play called 'Unhand Me Squire.' Anyhow Mr Keith's production was an undoubted success and what was really welcome to see was that it was evidently enjoyed as much by the cast as it was by the audience. More next year please, Mr Keith. (Now get out of that one!).

Such was the desire in the Easter

term to skip Saturday morning school, that Robert Moir and James Banks felt obliged to go and pick up what seemed to be an endless list of ski-ing medals round the countryside: well done to them and indeed well done to the countless people who persisted every dark, winter Sunday morning in embussing at Rothesay Pier not knowing what weather conditions would greet them at Glenshee: Snow White and the 70 gnomes – thank you Mr Clayton!

The Summer term began in a heap of Autumn leaves and finished in mid-Winter. Maybe the rugby season will produce scorched grass and baked playing fields. A not particularly talented cricket team managed to escape with only one defeat during the season. The spirit was good and although it flagged just a little towards the end of term, the cricketing proficiency was much improved, particularly amongst those who will go on to become cricketers later, and there is no doubt that the new artificial nets had an awful lot to do with this. Gareth Thorburn deserves special mention for having taken nine wickets against a strong Lathallan side and it was pleasing to see the rest of the team watching what good old fashioned flight and finger spin can do. Cameron Cook blasted his way to a fifty against a good bowling attack from Forfar County U.13's. I hope he will forgive my saying that this innings included the remarkable achievement of failing to make contact with a single delivery from



their leg spinner! Sadly Cameron injured his hand and so we missed the rest of the season's excitements from his bat, but injury and all he did manage to become a 3 A's five star pentathlete by the end of term. As with the rugby, the Forster-Colley combination launched into the world of U.12 cricket without anything remotely near a defeat all season, despite the facilities at their disposal: just as Ballesteros remarked whilst standing outside the clubhouse before his first tournament in England, 'Where is the golf course?' so Forster and Colley could have said. . . .

Apart from cricket and work for the end of year exams, Miss Roger's end of term second and first year class plays were a notable highlight and surely some of the cast will never be able to look in the mirror in just quite the same way ever again! Mr Keith's Second Year camps were very much appreciated by all who took part despite the angry weather and Mr Keir's swimming gala was as noisy as it was successful. Gym clubs, shooting clubs, tennis coaching, football games, etc., etc., can only come about through the endless good services of Messrs Keith, Keir, Colley and Ralfs, the Riley tutors and through those willing to give 'Riley Hours' from their very busy lives. Art 'actives' thrived as always and the Macleod sketch books provided a very keen incentive for the budding exhibitor. Mr and Mrs Elliot provided canoeing and Craft classes and those involved – and who wasn't – were enormously grateful and keen. The end of the Summer term produced

an amazing musical extravaganza which paid tribute to the enthusiasm of Mr Auster and Pipe Major Reed and their music department. If it raised nothing else apart from the roof Riley's answer to Live Aid was something to behold and why the Housemaster was playing the drums wearing Ailsa Ross's straw hat only Mr Auster will know!

Finally and sadly, whilst Mr Hewson still looks on with a benevolent and eagle eye, two who have been very connected with Riley are leaving. Mr

Yellowlees joins the Civil Service and the clunk click of the hockey balls hitting the back of the net at six o'clock every morning will be sadly missed. Matron, Miss Catriona Hay, is off to Sandhurst and after disturbed nights, scattered laundry, 'Quick, Matron, will you take hockey this afternoon?' tuck shop and bits of elastoplast etc., etc., the Army can't be that difficult. Many thanks and good luck.

A.T.





# Chapel Notes



'Experiment' has been the key-note of Chapel Services this year, both in words as well as in music. In the first half of the Summer Term Vivaldi's 'Gloria' provided the backdrop to Chapel worship. In the second half of the term, a number of Sunday Services began with the thrilling notes of trumpets and trombones which further lifted the singing from its earthbound level to a more, dare I say, heavenly tone.

So too, the School has been encouraged to sing Gounod's 'Credo' as a statement of hope, if not of belief. Occasionally, too, music from the Taizé Community in France, (which attracts thousands of young people each year from all over the world), crossed the Channel, climbed over Hadrian's Wall and entered the Chapel here. Even the strains of Scott Joplin's 'The Entertainer' accompanied one sermon by design, though unwittingly obscuring the preacher's words for those occupying the back pews.

Congregational participation in the weekday services has, on two occasions, extended beyond House Prefects reading the lessons, in that two parables, in dramatic form, have been performed by way of the act of worship. Several Sunday services have included printed orders of worship, enabling members of the School to take part vocally in responses; the singing of new hymns and the saying of corporate prayers. In spite of reminding the School from time to time, it is still difficult to coax from them an 'Amen' at the conclusion of prayers. This is a pity, since it is a difficult enough task trying to put into words the thoughts, hopes, fears and regrets of such a varied congregation. An occasional 'Amen' would signify that the writer's words had indeed struck a sympathetic chord.

The sacramental aspect of worship is of great concern. Numbers actually attending and participating in 12 Communion services, both Episcopal and Church of Scotland, have been very low – a total of 379. It was not

until almost at the end of the Confirmation Classes that the reason became clear. Attendance at the main School Service is compulsory, even though members of the School have attended, or intend to participate in a Communion service, and so, there is reluctance to spend almost two hours in Chapel on Sundays. Accordingly, the Reverend Fergus Harris (Episcopal Chaplain) and I have agreed that Communion services should, apart from major festivals of the Church, be celebrated for an experimental period, mid-week.

The emphasis and concern with regard to the Eucharist is not misplaced. Without this central act of Christian worship which encapsulates the whole story of Redemption, from Creation through to the final summing-up of the age, our worship becomes stale and arid, cerebral instead of a thing of the heart. In spite of anxieties about attendances, the following offered themselves for Confirmation and spent two terms in preparation and follow-up:

## Church of Scotland

Maxwell Adam; Doughall Aitken; Gavin Clark; Alistair Dewar; Hugh Fitzpatrick; Richard Ford; Duncan Fulton; Kenneth Keith; James Kingan; Fraser Lennox; Guy Logan; Jeremy Mactaggart; Robin McAlister; Bruce McIntyre; Gaile McMillan; Lesley Meikle; Sheena Millar; Robin Niven; James Paton; Helen Pearson; Jamie Pratt; Robin Thompson.

## Scottish Episcopal Church

Gaile Cornish; Andrew Young.

At the service on Sunday, May 12th, Sandra Mackie was baptised and confirmed by the School Chaplain and the Very Reverend Dr P. P. Brodie (Minister of Alloa, St. Mungo's and former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland) preached the Sermon and confirmed the remainder of the Church of Scotland candidates.

the Right Reverend Michael Hare Duke, Bishop of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane confirmed the candidates for the Scottish Episcopal Church.

For the record, the marriage service of June Donnelly to Eric William Hamilton in July was held in the Chapel and conducted by the School Chaplain.

A new Laudian frontal for the Communion Table was worked by the sewing room along with matching cushions for the Headmaster's and Visiting Preacher's stalls, the Chaplain's stall and the President's chair, as well as a matching pulpit fall which replaced the blue brocade one but retains the gold cross from the old fall which is edged with the School 'blue.' All these are in a festal colour, gold and white, but, running through the material can be seen the browns of the woodwork of the pews, pulpit and stalls and the grey slate of the East wall and Chancel floor. I think it would be good to have a full set of frontals and falls in the Chapel, red, green and purple as well as white, since any visual aids will assist the worship and the sense of occasion which undoubtedly exists at not a few of the services throughout the Christian year.

It has been good to have not only readers from both Common Rooms, but also to have members of the School who have been willing to lead the intercessory prayers. Members of the senior school who have done this have displayed great sensitivity, confidence and dignity and added an extra dimension to the worship.

Two years have enabled me to keep my ear to the ground, and, indeed, to sound out pupils for suggestions about Chapel. Apart from the inevitable: 'No boring preachers'; 'More comfort' (and who can fail to sympathise with that point, particularly with 11 or 13 to a pew?); 'Less listening'; 'Varied hymns'; there have been some constructive comments which have influenced some subtle changes, if not experimental innovations. Whether the 'Hosanna'

from Lloyd Webber's 'Requiem' *should* actually be played at the equivalent volume to that of Concorde flying overhead at 200 feet above our heads is irrelevant. What *was* important was the care and attention devoted by those controlling the audio-equipment. That same care and attention has been seen in those who acted in the Chapel, has been heard from the Choir, instrumentalists and the Director of Music and Paul Auster, Assistant Director.

I am sometimes of the distinct impression that, like the flowers, the music is taken for granted. Organ voluntaries are not a 'cover-up' for conversation before and after Chapel, and, for the most part, in Strathallan never have been. They have a positive contribution to make to the worship, setting the tone of the service beforehand and sending us out of the building triumphantly. I am definitely of the impression that it is expected of me to thank all the musicians for their contribution. I suppose that it is. However, I do this most sincerely now, and particularly thank again the Director of Music, Nicholas Reed, who endures with supreme patience the occasional oddities of visiting preachers' choice of hymns and, more frequently, and with greater fortitude, suffers the 'shopping list' hymns which increasingly appear from the Chaplain's typewriter or store.

The whole School, as well as visitors, is indebted to the team of flower arrangers who have both faithfully and beautifully ensured that the Chapel continues to be a place of beauty as well as life. Life therein there certainly has been, with wasps constantly invading the roof space, mice investigating pianos seeking the Cause beyond causes, my own Deerhound persistently threatening to disrupt a Chapel service by appearing through one of the doors, Esther's ever-forgiving and tolerant nature; and, an added bonus this year: 3 Chapel prefects. The first was stolen from me by the Headmaster to be Captain of School (Roderick Baird), the second never volunteered an explanation as to why he only lasted one term (Keith Adamson), and so, lastly, Angus Carrick Buchanan whose amiable tour of duty enlivened many a pre-weekday Chapel 5 minutes, welcomed visiting preachers to the vestry and often gave both Chaplain and Headmaster anxious moments as we waited the appearance, or non-appearance of a reader from the body of the kirk. To all three my sincere thanks for their support, organisational feats, friendship and helpful comments.

The preachers this academic year were:

**Autumn Term:** The Revds.: W. N. Monteith (former Chaplain); Dr T. J. T. Nicol, MVO, MBE (Crathie); Dr C. J. McGlashan, CBE; Hugh Mackay (Duns); Very Rev. Dr Andrew B. Doig (Edinburgh); Alasdair Macdonnell (Hadding-

ton, St. Mary's); Remembrance: Very Rev. Dr Roy Sanderson; Very Rev. Professor Robin Barbour, MC (Dean of the Chapel Royal); Colin Williamson (Aberdalgie & Dupplin)

**Spring Term:** The Revds.: John Cairns (Langholm); David Beckett (Greyfriars Tolbooth & Highland Kirk); David Reid (West Kirk, Helensburgh); John L. Paterson (St Michael's, Linlithgow); Maxwell Craig (Wellington, Glasgow); David Cumming (Elgin); Kenneth MacVicar, MBE, DFC (Kenmore); James Millar (Dunblane Cathedral).

**Summer Term:** The Revds.: Gordon Stewart (St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields and Trinity, Perth); Richard Baxter, OBE (St. Andrew's & St. George's, Edinburgh); Rev. Professor James A. Whyte (St. Andrews); Rev. Professor Murdo Ewen Macdonald (Glasgow); John Harvey (Govan Old); Founder's Day: Very Rev. Dr R. Leonard Small, CBE; James Stirling (St. Ninians, Stirling).

**For the record:** Four former Moderators of the General Assembly; five Chaplains to Her Majesty the Queen; fourteen Parish Ministers and the Chaplain preached eight times.

**Chapel offerings** were given to the following charities: Queen Elizabeth's Foundation; Age Concern; Leprosy Mission; Scottish Association for Mental Health; Cancer Research; Guide Dogs; Body Scanner Appeal (Dundee); British Kidney Patients; PHAB(Perth); Arthritis; British Diabetic Association; RNLI; Bradford Fire Disaster; Samaritans (Edinburgh); Ben Hardwicke Appeal; Jean Robertson Holiday Fund (Perth) – Total £500. In addition: Ethiopian Drought Appeal £140; British Heart Foundation £68; BLESMA £186; Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh £103; Leukaemia Research £53. **Grand total:** £1,050.

It seems that religion is no longer a taboo subject for conversation at parties. Nor, indeed, have certain bishops felt constrained to limit themselves to the narrowly theological, as the industrial unrest of the past year has wrung from them statements that their critics have felt to be excessively political. Hence, what the Church says about the mines, or the teaching profession, the Resurrection, the government and social security 'clawbacks' or the Virgin Birth is news. While Durham hits the headlines, religion is of interest to the layman and that much at least must be welcomed.

Communicating the Christian faith to intelligent and volatile pupils is going to become more difficult and not easier. Commitment to Christianity as an institutionalised religion, providing the 'tribal' ceremonies of the School will be increasingly questioned as it no longer expresses the common belief of parents, masters and pupils. Assumptions about a Christian ethos will be challenged as

the underpinning beliefs may not be shared by parents who want their son or daughter to succeed in solely materialistic terms and when what might be taught in some areas will be at odds with the Christian ethical tenets which hitherto have been acceptable to most non-believers. If this does in fact happen what will be the future of 'Chapel'?

Thomas Arnold of Rugby in his inaugural lecture, delivered at Oxford as Regius Professor of Modern History in December 1841 bore witness to the importance of his life's work, relating his educational skills to the needs of the nation at that time and to the duties – as he saw them – of a truly Christian society.

There are certain principles, which the State wishes to inculcate on all its members, certain habits which it wishes to form, a certain kind and degree of knowledge which it wishes to communicate; such, namely, as bear more or less immediately on its great end, its own intellectual and moral perfection, arising out of the perfection of its several members. Now... as far as this instruction is applied to the young, it goes under the name of education; as far as it regards persons of all ages, it generally takes the form of religion.

True worship can never be compulsory, but a compulsory system does give the structure through which the weaker brethren may be given strength and protection to nourish their faith.

This faith is not confined to one three-quarters of an hour act of worship in Chapel on a Sunday, or to ten minutes worship during the week. Nor is it confined to one period of Divinity a week. It belongs to the world of science, as much as it does to the world of music and art; it contributes to a better understanding of history as well as of literature; it enters the world of football violence, unemployment, the exploitation of the atom as well as of the poor, common rooms as well as dormitories.

I am grateful, too, for the support given by Housemasters and House prefects as, throughout this academic year, the community of the School has explored just what it means to be one among many, sharing problems as well as successes.

That much-loved friend of so many public schools, the Very Reverend Dr Selby Wright published two volumes entitled: 'Asking Them Questions.' Through *his* ministry, Jesus sought to draw out (*educare*) from those around him, answers from within. So long as outside and inside the Chapel we continue to ask questions of ourselves, I am sure that together we shall grow to a fuller understanding of Christ as well as of each precious individual, pupil and Master, at Strathallan.

T.G.L.

# Music Round-up



W. S. Gilbert's famous lines from the *Mikado*:

'A wandering minstrel I – a thing of shreds and patches, of ballads, songs and snatches, and dreamy lullaby!' seems just as true today as when he first wrote them (one hundred years ago). Even if our 'shreds and patches' may not be true sartorially, our hitherto wandering existence around the school grounds, looking for practice rooms has at last come to an end.

In October we were able for the first time to get into our custom-built practice-rooms, and put the acoustics and sound-proofing to test. Even though a piccolo and a tuba in adjacent rooms may upset the cricketers, inside we remain unaware of how loud a fortissimo really is! Even the cries of protest over its design and placing have been silenced by its unassuming Pagoda-like appearance, in the corner of the Rose Garden, which Gilbert would have relished for a *Mikado* stage-set.

Buildings are nothing without people to use them, and our musical facilities have been put to very good use during the year. The overall number of pupils learning instruments has risen, and the standards attained by some have been

remarkably high. There continues to be a decent topping of Distinctions and Merits on the Associated Board musical cake, even if the examiners continually highlight the need for constant attention to scales and arpeggios!

Our musical teaching staff remain unchanged from before, except with the addition of Mrs Barlow who finds time from her teaching at Napier College to come and teach the Flute and Piano, and Mrs Lofthouse who teaches the Piano.

Our musical wanderings have taken us, in one combination or another, to a wide range of concert venues this year.

In addition to our concerts at School, concerts have been given in the Perth Ice Rink by the Dance Band, Stirling Castle by the Early Music Group, in Dunkeld, Perth and Grantully Castle by the orchestra and soloists, New Park School, and to audiences of millions through the air-waves in two broadcasts by the BBC. The first was given by the Early Music Group, in the 'Make Minor Music' series recorded by the BBC Scotland. This series threw the spotlight on young musicians from schools and colleges in Scotland, and the group's programme of Early Scottish music

came across most stylishly and effectively. The second broadcast lasted less time but included the entire Chapel Choir and orchestra in the St. John's Kirk of Perth performing part of the 'Gloria' by Vivaldi, which in its complete form was included in our programme for the opening concert in the Perth Festival of the Arts. This was recorded by Grampian Television.

The experience and confidence gained through performances such as these is hard to quantify, but it must explain how our musicians are able to bring off such superb performances in public places, without showing the slightest trace of nerves or insecurity. The concert given at the Headmaster's Musick was one such example, with a modified repeat given for charity at Grantully Castle a little later in the term, and which raised nearly £500.

The year's music-making was brought to a close with the Speech-day concert given in a marquee on the lawn at school. Never an easy operation at the best of times to tune wind, brass and strings together, but despite the vagaries of the weather bringing stretching fiddle strings and cooling brass, a cheerful mixture of styles from the two orchestras,

Brass group, Early Music and Dance Band seemed to be much appreciated.

The most cheerful concert of the year, was one given and attended solely by members of Riley House. The concert items, drawn from class music offerings, solos, their own orchestra and Jazz Band, were greeted with rapturous applause and unbridled enthusiasm.

The Chapel Choir, now grown to the size of a Choral Society, has sung with ever-growing confidence over the year. Their major achievement was the performance, with orchestra and soloists Joanna Fagg and Lucy Crispin, of Vivaldi's 'Gloria.' The brightness and sparkle of the music was never once lost, despite music of great complexity for many of the singers of lesser experience. Their contribution to the Congregational singing has been excellent, and combined performances of music from the Taizé rite sung in four-part canon have been frequently sung. The congregation's performances of the 'Credo' from the St. Cecilia Mass by Gounod have been most impressive, and have now led to an increasing repertoire of anthems for congregation and Choir accompaniment!

All these 'ballads, songs and snatches, and dreamy lullabies' could never have been achieved without the cheerful co-operation of all concerned, and my warmest congratulations and thanks go to all performers and teachers alike for another successful year. A full list of prize-winners and music staff currently teaching is listed below.

*The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings* – Robin Dawson

*The Robert Barr Prize for Music* –  
The members of the Early Music Group

*The Josef Lozowy Prize for Guitar* –  
Piers du Cane Wilkinson

Nicholas Reed	–	<i>Director of Music</i>
Paul Auster	–	<i>Ass./Dir. of Music</i>
Gordon West	–	<i>Piano</i>
Fiona Auster	–	<i>Clar. &amp; S'xphone</i>
Joseph Lozowy	–	<i>Guitar</i>
Peter Harrap	–	<i>Brass</i>
Jo Barlow	–	<i>Flute &amp; Piano</i>
Angela Griffiths	–	<i>Cello</i>
Rodney Mount	–	<i>Oboe &amp; Clarinet</i>
Glad Lofthouse	–	<i>Piano</i>

#### **Been to a concert?** Perth Festival 1985

Despite an initial lack of response to sign up for a trip to a 'boring classical concert,' over £500 worth of seats were occupied by Strathallians during the recent Festival period. Whether this response was conditioned more by the thought of a 'chip shop' stop or by the music, I will leave our readers to guess. After the concerts were over, it was generally agreed by most people that the concerts had been very enjoyable and thoroughly worthwhile, with no lasting ill-effects.

The festival provided a wide spectrum for all tastes, and a fresh outlook on music-making for some of whom

concert-going was a new experience. The quality of the concerts was very high, and for some the most unlikely diet of all-Bach concerts played by George Malcolm (harpsichord) and the Academy of St. Martin's in the Field proved to be the high-point.

A coach load of Riley taken to the noisy 'Last-night-of-the-Proms' type concert on the last day of the Festival had some most enthusiastic supporters

amongst its members. There seems nothing like trumpet and drums to get the adrenalin flowing!

All in all, everyone enjoyed the jaunts to the City Hall, St. Johns and the civilised setting of Battleby – perhaps for the wine in the intervals – and we look forward to more visits to the Autumn season of concerts in the Usher Hall next term.

G.P.



## All that Jazz

Since the original Villa's Jazz Band made their debut at the Murrayshall Hotel way back in the dim and distant past, the School Jazz and Dance Bands continue to flourish and delight audiences within and outside the School.

During 1984-85 the jazz band was scaled down (in numbers not quality!) to a quartet, and they usually had their own slot, along with the saxophone quartet, in the overall programme provided by the Dance Band. This was the format for the inaugural Jazz Concert given in the Gym immediately after the Christmas Dinner. Spirits, as always, were high – especially when clothes went flying to the music of 'the stripper,' and the stage curtains opened to reveal...!! Grateful thanks to the stage and lighting crew for helping to make the evening a success, hopefully the first of many of its kind.

The main event in the Easter Term was an invitation to play at Perth Ice Rink for the International Curling Championships. The late hours of play produced some weary faces next morning, but happy at the job done well

enough for joyful Canadians to hit the dance floor.

In the Summer Term we took part in the Loretto Jazz Festival. Bands from various Scottish Schools took part, as well as being hospitably entertained to a New Orleans Supper, a jazz lecture/workshop, and an evening Concert given by Swing '85 (the Edinburgh Jazz Festival winners). It was interesting to hear other school bands, and refreshing to see friendships made by lovers of jazz music that is growing in popularity and respectability in schools.

The year ended with two garden parties: the first was a fund-raising effort for one of the band members, Phil Gadie. He is off to Alaska later this year with the British Schools Expedition, and benefited to the tune of £89 as parents, staff and pupils warmed to the music – if not the weather.

Farewells were said to Peter Ellen and Robin Gilyead, as well as Phil Gadie, and thanks expressed for various contributions made by Mr Craig 'Bing' Young for the added dimension he has given the band with his 'crooning.' Both he, and the band, were in splendid form at



the second garden party, for the School C.C.F. (by kind permission of Messrs. Barker and MacLeod). It was rewarding to end the year on such a good note, and we all look forward to more of the same next year.

#### Personnel:

*The Villa'ns:* Peter Ellen, Colin Walker, Scott Kelly, P. Auster.

*Sax. Quartet:* Peter Ellen, Scott Kelly, Iain Kelly, F. Auster.



*Strathallan Swingers:* Andrew Beath, Robin Gilyead, Michael Edie, Colin Logan, Hilary Hawksford, Colin Gregory, Colin Walker, Keith Arnott, Peter Ellen, Scott Kelly, Iain Kelly, Jacqueline Gray, Phillip Gadie, Robin Niven, Andrew Bullard, Lorraine Burton, Elizabeth Reekie, Dominik Diamond, James McVittie, Phillip Dewar, Mr Craig Young, Mr and Mrs Paul Auster.

## Pipes and Drums

Contrary to expectations this year we produced the largest band ever, 13 pipers, 6 side drummers, 2 tenors and 1 bass. When one considers that we had only 3 pipers and 3 drummers back from last years band it was quite an achievement. It meant a lot of junior pipers and drummers being thrown in at the deep end, and to their credit they rose to the occasion. We had a fuller programme of events this year starting with Rossie House open day to which the band marched, gave the performance and marched back. Next came our annual performance at the Blackford Games, unfortunately the weather was atrocious but the band as usual gave a good account of themselves. On Friday 31st May we played at Ballathie House Hotel at a sale of watercolours by the father of Bill Lindsay and old boy of the School in aid of the British Limbless Ex-Servicemens Association, the weather was perfect and the band made an impressive sight on the lawns with the baronial type hotel in the background. On Sunday 2nd June we played on the lawn in front of the HM's house as back-

ground music whilst the pre 1939 old boys sipped wine and talked of old times. Friday the 14th June was the annual East of Scotland Band competition which was held at the Mary Erskine School, Edinburgh. Eight bands competed. Fettes withdrew, and we came 5th. This was a very good result for such a young band. James Downie came 3rd equal in the senior drumming, Bruce Kelly came 3rd in the junior drumming. Our final engagement was at Glenfarg Gala day. Unfortunately the rain made things pretty miserable for all concerned but the band after a long march to the field gave their usual performance.

Again we are indebted to Pipe-Major A. Barron, Dave Clark, Rusty Clark for their dedication, patience and expert tuition in piping and drumming. We lose only 3 pipers and 2 drummers this year and I believe there is the possibility of 2 pipers joining the school, we also have a number of learner pipers and drummers in the line so it augurs well for the future.

#### School Piping Results:

*Pibroch* 1st L. Watson  
2nd S. Peters  
3rd D. Gillespie

*Senior March – Strathspey and Reel*  
1st L. Watson  
2nd D. Gillespie  
3rd I. Kelly

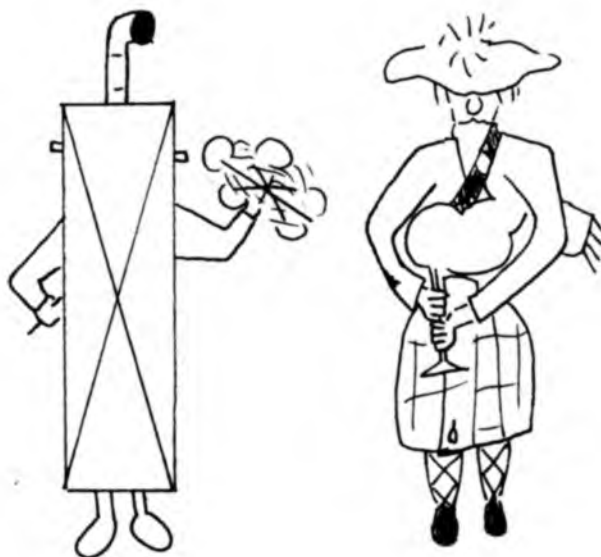
*Junior March*  
1st S. Peters  
2nd C. Pattison  
3rd K. Dinsmore

*Most improved Piper*  
1st J. N. McBride

*Senior Drumming*  
1st J. C. Downie  
2nd G. McLay

*Junior Drumming*  
1st R. Jones  
2nd B. Kelly  
3rd C. Hill

D.B.H.



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# Drama

Theatre-going continues to flourish at the school, and the school play was performed at the end of Easter Term to appreciative audiences. However, tucked away in the lecture theatre, a whole range of activities have proceeded unobtrusively, but most enthusiastically and competently.

Messrs Forster, Forshaw, Keith, Court and Ms Rogers all produced class plays with Riley pupils, in many cases the works having been written by the pupils themselves. The standard of writing and performance – not to mention costumes and props – has been out-

standing, and will, I hope, encourage pupils to develop their talents in the new House Drama Competition.

The Lecture theatre is an ideal venue for small-scale studio performances, and 1984/85 saw two outstanding senior productions. Twice during the year, Ken Orr, Amy McDonald, Tom Bowron, Sean McEachern, Suzanne McLaurin and Kate Scanlan performed a sequence of Harold Pinter sketches and in November, Mr Smith directed his own compilation of poetry and songs from the Second World War. The music was arranged and performed by the ubiquitous

Auster family and the readings by Ken Orr, Angus Macdonald, Lucy Crispin and Douglas Orr were beautifully executed. In particular, Doug Orr and Angus Macdonald are to be congratulated upon the excellence of their performances.

Autumn Term 1985 will see the first attempt at the House Drama Competition. I hope that recent developments in interest and expertise at all levels of the school will provide a firm basis for an excellent festival of talent.

J.F.

## THE SCHOOL PLAY

### *SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER* by Oliver Goldsmith

It's not usual for a director to review his own efforts but this was by no means a usual production. Three weeks before the performance I had to see the National Theatre ruin a very funny play by refusing to realise that enthusiasm for what you're doing is the very cornerstone of success; I have never been involved with a school play in which the actors exhibited such wholehearted commitment to their craft. Later in this article I will praise the exceptional talents of two members of the cast, but I should like to begin by commending those with lesser parts who became absorbed by their roles.

Jimmy Gellatly and Robin Dawson as two contrasting drunks in the Inn scene produced disciplined, meticulously observed performances which never went over the top.

Servants and wenches too numerous to name flitted on and off the set like real people walking around real rooms in real life.

Maids McMurray and Gadie (Phosie and Clare) invested humble parts with natural humility, never tempted to freeze or ham.

I should also like to pay more than conventional compliments to Mrs Williams and Mrs Addison for the costumes: the ordering, measuring, fitting; all of which proceeded smoothly behind the scenes.

Mr Goody and Angus Cuthbertson organised a most effective lighting plot, and the help provided by Simon Sewell of Perth Rep. in the form of additional lights to supplement the inadequacies of the school system was invaluable. The results of their labours was a lighting design of accuracy and great subtlety.

Mr Smith (the other one with the beard, glasses; he's the trendy one) was

visibly appalled by the director's haphazard organisation and belief in divine assistance. His (Mr Smith's) knowledge of life back-stage, up-stage and down-stage (gleaned from an earlier career on the stage) was combined with his considerable talent as a carpenter and make-up man (he does his own).

Of course, I have been talking as if there was one director. Which of course there was: Court-Forster being the man. Sometimes he wears a beard and specs and he shouts, sometimes he wears a moustache, funny specs and he screams. But always he manages to start smoking a week before the performance.

Now to the play itself: the plot is too complicated to condense neatly into a review, and really is not very important except as a vehicle for the characters who make the play into a classic. Bullying Dad – Mr Hardcastle – finds wife and daughter too female for his taste. What he wants is to smoke his pipe and talk about the war.

Posh young chaps – Marlow and Hastings – enjoy taking the rip out of silly country bumpkins (Kate Hardcastle and Tony Lumpkin) who are really much cleverer than they are. Silly fellows fall on their faces and learn that there is more to life than fancy clothes and smooth talk. Pretty girls (Constance and Kate) win the day, get the chaps and we all go home happy.

The merit of the performances in this production was that the audience really believed in the characters. Several parents asked me afterwards if Ken Orr was a master at the school; was Amy McDonald really only 18 years old.

Ken Orr does not need me to sing his praises further; so long as he has the determination to succeed he will achieve great things in the theatre. His sense of

timing is without compare, his stagecraft that of a natural.

Amy McDonald's performance was, in the best sense, professional. Her approach to the part was methodical, considering every aspect of Mrs Hardcastle's character and being prepared to modify her performance up to the last minute to achieve excellence.

Less experienced actors Michael Edie and Kari Devlin were also exceptionally competent. Both, in the lead romantic roles of Marlow and Kate, brought keen intelligences to their performances so that they created entirely credible characters.

Praise must also be given to David Dinsmore as Hastings and Suzanne Rhodes as Constance Neville, who despite playing less colourful characters managed to make us care what happened to them.

Dominik Diamond was suitably enthusiastic as Tony Lumpkin and conveyed Tony's combination of slyness and warm-heartedness excellently.

Douglas Orr, in his cameo role of Sir Charles Marlow, looked and behaved as though he was the oldest man in the world, and thus brought humour to an often colourless part.

All these performances took place in the panelled comfort of Mr MacLeod's set; another important factor in creating an air of authenticity.

If the play was a success, the credit lies with the actors, for it is they who must bring words and ideas to life. I would like to thank all who were involved for their enthusiasm and energy, and encourage all those who haven't acted here before in a school play to come to auditions and give it a go!

J.F.





# The London Trip

Shakespeare as the worlds greatest dramatist wrote with the intention that his work should be performed 'live.' It was with this in mind that the English department decided that there was no better place to see 'Hamlet' than London in the 'Royal Shakespeare Company's' custom built theatre at the Barbican Centre. Their experience was to leave the less experienced Shakespearians with a far more vivid impression of the play than the text alone could give.

As the names of those interested were collected and messages of 'Please dad' were sent home with the weekly letter along with the permission slips of our resident Shakespearians Mr Forster and Mr Smith began the travel arrangements and accommodation organisation. The date was set and the day finally arrived when we hastily packed and assembled in the deep of the night to be shuttled to Perth Railway Station to catch the sleeper. The excited young students went straight to sleep in their bunks to be awoken by the early morning tea man. A few slept on, missing the excitement of spilling the tea all over the bedclothes. The lazy were given a rude awakening as the already 'dolloed up' girls informed them that we were nearly there. We then tramped towards the underground and humphed our bags (some heavier than others) to the youth hostel, discovering on the way that the lifts at our stop were undergoing repair – meaning we had to climb at least 150 steps. Our two more mature students took a Taxi, just to see how long it would take.'

We were to meet at the Barbican at mid-day so we went our separate ways – although most went to Covent Garden where extremely large breakfasts were consumed and excessive browsing meant we had to rush to the Barbican. Easier said than done – it is not the easiest of places to find your way too.



Eventually we found it – even following an arrow which led all the way from the underground we had difficulty. The theatre we wanted was at the centre of a maze of buildings highlighted by a stagnant pond. The weekend we spent most of our time on trains or in a darkened theatre was to be the nicest (the only?) weekend of the Summer.

The centre itself is immense – as if finding your way there is not enough – finding your way about is everybit as difficult. Mr Forster claims to have met an aged lady who asked him directions. He told her he was lost too and she replied she'd been there trying to find her way out for nearly a week!

Once we reassembled we were taken on a back stage tour. The theatre is built specifically to the company's requirements. The stage is tilted at a considerable angle; each row has its own door all of which close automatically at the beginning of each performance; one man is employed simply to change the light bulbs! The list could go on and on.

We then had a spare hour to have some lunch and soak up some sunshine. We then took our places for the performance. The set was simply designed to cater for the many scene changes, huge staircases, and primitive candelabras were brought on with ease and the stage even split to reveal a grave. Roger Rees's performance as Hamlet was spectacular and the rest of the cast brought Shakespeare's words to life and even made them amusing. The production far surpassed any other most of us had seen.

The rest of the weekend although dull in comparison was spent most enjoyably. In the evening once again we went our separate ways. Most of us ended up once more in Covent Garden and despite the reluctance of the London shopkeepers/ice-cream sellers/restaurant owners to accept our money we had a pleasant evening listening to the Buskers and joining in with the dancing. The others had an equally enjoyable evening and save a short detour (they managed to loose themselves there) to one of the less reputable areas of the city spent most of the evening in the same area. Reluctantly we made our way back to the Y.H.

The next day was spent largely in rest. Mr F and Mr S took a leisurely walk to the station and their less energetic students took a leisurely tube ride. Some met a fascinating Scottish tramp called 'John the Baptist' who had been in London since the war, others looked at shops. We all made it to the train and the journey back passed relatively quickly. All returned far more interested and knowledgeable as concerns 'Hamlet.' The weekend was invaluable in this respect and our thanks go to those who made it possible.

D.F., K.D.



# MOUNTAINEERING

The last day of September marked our first foray into the hills when a group of us set off for a day on the high and extensive moorland above Glen Clova. A walk along Jock's Road, an old hill route to Braemar took us through the wild and magnificent scenery above Glen Doll to the small stone shelter below Cairn Lunkard. Here we left the path to make our way across the lonely country which stretched between us and Ma Mayar, our first peak of the day. The rain was turning to snow as we reached the summit, although there remained an extensive view, and after a short break we traversed across to Driesh, at 3108 feet above sea level the high spot of the day. A steep descent to the valley completed the walk as the sun broke through to dry and warm us and to tempt us to consider the question, 'where next?'

Westward from Strathallan, the peak of Ben Vorlich above Loch Earn is seen as a graceful cone; an appealing objective for our next expedition. The ascent from Ardvorlich is direct and simple, so we were fairly soon enjoying a rest on the summit and surveying the next leg of the journey, the traverse to Stuc a' Chroin. From Ben Vorlich, the way appears barred by a ring of savage crags, but, on closer examination, these are found to be very broken and an ascending route may be found without too much difficulty. Once on the summit, we could listen to the evocative sound of stags roaring in the glen beneath our feet: a sure reminder that winter was not far away.

Winter in the Scottish hills woos her devotees with days of great beauty when the mountains lie silent under their shroud of snow and the sun beats fiercely down from a flawless blue sky. Sadly, she more often viciously attacks anyone daft enough to leave their front door. In short, it is mainly optimists who climb in Scotland in the winter. In late November, our optimistic, happy little band were to be found experiencing the joys of Cairngorm in one of her more gentle moods; it did not snow terribly hard and the wind was definitely less than gale-force. You could even see thirty yards in front of you.

Undeterred, we decided to try again in December, and we took to the Crianlarich Hills. During the week, much of the Earn Valley had been under water the railway ran through a temporary

lake and we should have taken the hint. At least we discovered where all of the water was coming from. Wet and windy would be a fair description.

Finally, in early February, we set off for the Tarmachan Ridge above Loch Tay. At last the sun shone for us and we spent a memorable day scrambling among the snow-covered ridges of this magnificent range of mountains.

And so on that positive side, this report must finish. But the outdoor life is growing in popularity at Strathallan and plans are already in hand for next season, which should include ascents of Buchaille Etive More, Ben More, Stobinian and Ben Ledi. Perhaps the sun will shine; who knows? Come and join us.

J.S.B.



# HOCKEY

This year's report will not be as long as usual (mercifully!—do I hear the reader cry?) as the Secretary failed to provide a full record of the outdoor season.

However, we do have the full story of indoor hockey. The build up to the SSHA Tournament was promising. Under the expert guidance of Mike Yellowlees, a good squad was soon playing to a pattern of complex moves and putting corners away. Before Christmas Glenalmond were soundly beaten and after, Perth High School eventually overcome and a much improved Glenalmond side edged. A senior B and a third form squad also played Glenalmond. In the Bells tournament we got off to a good start with big wins in the first three games, but the last pool match against Monifieth High School was tougher. We were 3–1 down with five minutes to go but drew level by the end to head our section and qualify, for the first time, for the semi-final. Sadly form lapsed against Dunblane High School, our passing lost its accuracy and we lost confidence. A missed stroke, a conceded stroke and excellent opposition goalkeeping kept us out of the final by the odd goal.

This disappointment was quickly put aside at the start of outdoor hockey. The 1st XI had its second undefeated season in Scotland and maintained the 100% record on our hard pitch. A useful warm-up game against Glenalmond was comfortably won before we played away at Perth High School. Conditions were awful, fog and smoke obscured the umpire's view and the wet blaze pitch turned to porridge. Perth had some experienced and talented players but we were the more aggressive side and got a narrow win. Campbell College came over from Belfast on a short tour and we tackled them on a Saturday morning (Too early for one sleepy half!). Playing typically Irish hockey Campbell came at us hard and fast but we kept control and were probably worth more than an odd goal win. Aberdeen's young side were our next visitors. We dominated this game and ran out easy winners. Fettes on a heavy, long grass pitch were not our cup of tea. As always they hit the ball straight and hard and disrupted our square passing. We missed several

chances and a stroke on half time, but in the end it was only a brilliant save by Angus McCulloch that prevented tragedy. The rubberised surface at Stewarts Melville was more to our taste. There were times when the game nearly got out of hand but there was no doubt who would win. Harris Academy was not so strong this year and had no answer to our short, accurate passing. Finally Loretto were swamped in a fine display of attacking hockey in which we recorded the biggest ever win by a 1st XI.

At Oxford things were different (and, as usual, colder and wetter!). First we met a good Sherborne side on a soft grass pitch and struggled until half time. By then 2–0 down, we began to find form but, although we hit a post we couldn't score. This was our first defeat for two years so the afternoon game with Liverpool College was something of a test of character. On an excellent surface in the Parks we totally dominated territorially but were only able to win by one goal. Kings Canterbury and Dover were both played on a soaking blaze area. Despite losing the first 4–1 we controlled the game from first to last. All Kings' goals were breakaways and our forwards and short corners strikers missed time after time. It was even worse against Dover. We had twenty plus corners to their handful but could only manage an equaliser. By far the best game was with the previously unbeaten Forest XI on almost perfect Christ Church grass. The match was tight throughout yet we held on for a deserved win to round off an enjoyable if frustrating festival. We have yet to go unbeaten at Oxford.

At the start of the season we were desperate for a goalkeeper but Angus McCulloch emerged from the depths of league hockey and did us proud. He was dedicated to the job, totally fearless and got better with each game. So too did Stuart Hamilton, who, by the end of the season, was playing with great authority at the back. Graeme Robertson kept up last year's high standard, although, while still striking the ball hard, he couldn't convert enough corners, especially at Oxford when it really mattered. The hard-working halves were the foundation of

success. Archie McAlister was everywhere (and often where he shouldn't have been) while Ross McCulloch was the best technician. Sean Cozier played hard and fast (especially in House matches), Andrew Tench was all soundness and Roddy Baird was voted 'man of the festival' for his tireless running and covering. The forwards depended much on Axel Lagerborg's ability to get excitingly behind defences and had Richard Reah struck his best form even more goals would have been scored (he nearly failed to get on the score sheet against Loretto!). Dughall Aitken occupied the left wing with some skill but tired easily. Peter Rochow came in for him latterly to play with skill, enjoying contact with goalkeepers if not the back-board! The most improved player was Andrew MacLellan. We often depended on him to score vital goals.

The 2nd XI and Senior Colts had some good wins, but their records were modest compared with their usual high standards. The most consistent results were obtained by the Junior Colts and U.13 side, so the long term future should be good.

In the Prep School Sixes Riley didn't perform as well as last year, and a powerful Loretto Nippers side overcame Cargilfield in the final.

Three 1st XI players were nominated for national under 18 training, but there was wealth of talent at this level in Scottish School hockey and Richard Reah, Ross McCulloch and Graeme Robertson were not picked for the final squad. Andrew Beath suffered a similar fate at under 16 level.

My thanks go to the ground staff, Craig Young and Mrs Clayton for all their willing help and to all the old-stagers who coached again this season. Good wishes and thanks too, to Mike Yellowlees who, after too brief a time with us for the good of school hockey, goes to join the Civil Service proper. Where are the young men of tomorrow?

J.N.F.

# HOCKEY RESULTS

<b>1st XI</b>			<b>Senior Colts XI</b>			<b>Overall Record</b>		
v. Glenalmond	Won	4-1	v. Whitfield High School	Won	5-1	Played 46; Won 29; Drawn 4; Lost 13; Cancelled 8		
v. Perth High School	Won	2-1	v. Fettes	Drawn	1-1	(Some fixtures v. Loretto not included)		
v. Campbell College	Won	3-2	v. Stewarts Melville	Won	6-0			
v. Aberdeen Grammar School	Won	3-0	v. Harris Academy	Won	6-0			
v. Fettes	Drawn	0-0	v. Bangor Grammar School	Lost	1-2			
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	3-0	<b>Senior Colts B XI</b>			<b>House Matches</b>		
v. Harris Academy	Won	4-1	v. Fettes	Lost	1-3	<b>Indoor</b>		
v. Loretto	Won	13-0	<b>Junior Colts XI</b>			Nicol beat Leburn in the final after penalty strokes		
<b>Public School Festival</b>			v. Lathallan	Won	4-1	<b>Outdoor</b>		
v. Sherborne	Lost	0-2	v. Fettes	Won	4-1	Preliminary Round		
v. Liverpool College	Won	2-1	v. Whitfield High School	Won	3-0	Nicol	13	Woodlands 0
v. Kings Canterbury	Lost	1-4	v. Stewarts Melville	Won	2-1	Leburn	6	Freeland 3
v. Dover College	Drawn	1-1	v. Monifieth High School	Lost	0-1	Semi-finals		
v. Forest School	Won	1-0	v. Aberdeen Grammar School	Won	1-0	Nicol	5	Simpson 0
<b>2nd XI</b>			v. Harris Academy	Won	4-1	Leburn	1	Ruthven 0
v. Rannoch 1st XI	Lost	0-2	<b>Junior Colts B XI</b>			Final		
v. Whitfield High School	Won	6-0	v. Fettes	Won	4-1	Nicol	1	Leburn 1
v. Aberdeen Grammar School	Won	5-0	<b>Riley/U.13 XI</b>			(Nicol won on penalties 4-3)		
v. Fettes	Lost	2-4	v. Cargilfield	Lost	2-5	<b>1st XI Team</b>		
v. Harris Academy	Won	1-0	v. Whitfield High School	Won	8-0	From: A. I. L. Lagerborg (Captain)		
<b>3rd XI</b>			v. Clifton Hall	Won	2-0	R. S. B. McCulloch (Secretary)		
v. Fettes	Won	2-1	v. Fettes Junior School	Won	2-0	A. J. G. McCulloch (Goalkeeper)		
<b>4th XI</b>			v. Monifieth High School	Drawn	3-3	A. J. McAlister, R. E. M. Reah		
v. Fettes	Lost	2-5				G. S. R. Robertson, R. S. Hamilton		
						A. W. Tench, A. R. MacLellan		
						D. S. Aitken, S. A. Cozier		
						P. D. Rochow, R. D. Baird		





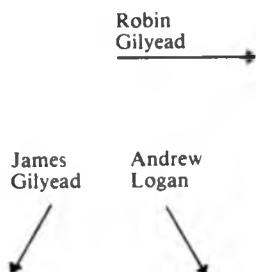
# SKI-ING

Captain E. R. Gilyead

The 1984-85 season began for a small dedicated band of volunteers back in the autumn, trying to establish some order in the new store. By the end of the winter term most of the work of installing racks and work-benches in our new premises in the basement of the Activities Centre was just about complete. Thanks to some hard work during the holidays with paint brushes everything was habitable by the time the masses returned in January.

This season saw the introduction of mid-week ski-ing which proved to be a welcome added bonus in a year marked by its lack of snow. These ventures proved very successful and will hopefully be expanded in years to come.

Racing began in December with the British Schools Championships at Hill-end. The team was placed 9th with Robin Gilyead (5th), James Gilyead (26th), Rowly Robertson (75th) and Robin Batchelor (87th) ski-ing very competently as a team. School then adjourned for Christmas and the next race scheduled was the Perthshire



Circuit racing came to the fore again this year with an influx of promising juniors and also the establishment of a training squad under trainer Ronnie Naismith whose help and guidance has proved most valuable. The season began with the John Clark BMW races in Glenshee. Ronnie was 2nd Combined (2nd Slalom & GS) and Robin Gilyead was 4th Combined (3rd Slalom & 6th GS). These results gained Strath a mention on Scotsport and also in the Scotsman. In the North of Scotland Juniors Robin Batchelor produced a 4th in the Giant Slalom which was a very creditable result. The first race after Half Term was the Log Cabin Cup where the only result of any note was Rowly Robertson's 18th in GS. The final race of the Spring Term was the Perth SC race where Robin Gilyead, following media pressure, was press-ganged into racing. He did however win the Old Strathallian Guerin Clayton 3rd. After the Easter break we returned for the final race of the season, the Woolboard Highland Cup. The icy course proved too much for many, and not just Strath., with only Robin Gilyead 13th, Robert Moir 19th and Jamie Verden-Anderson 22nd finishing.

The House Race was the only other event of note during the season. Held on what little snow there was on a glorious sunny day. It was the usual fun race with its own sense of hilarity. The race was won by Ruthven from Freeland who sadly, as with Ruthven, were not at their strongest with one of their best skiers missing. Ruthven's depth thus proved too strong. Rowly Robertson won the individual Duncan Cup from James Gilyead in a hard-fought race.

It thus only remains to say a big thank you to all who help with ski-ing at Strath. In particular to Ronnie Naismith for all his help as trainer/chauffeur for the race squad and to the Caterer and his staff for well over a thousand packed lunches.

Colours were awarded to James Gilyead.

E.R.G.



Schools in March followed by the Scottish School the next week. Unfortunately both of these events had to be cancelled for lack of snow. The British School on Cairngorm was, however, held and the depleted team acquitted themselves reasonably coming 8th with Robin 15th, James 27th, Rowly 35th and Ken Smith a good 38th. The Minors Race the following week saw Strath finish 4th with good runs from Robert Moir (4th) and James Banks (13th). These good results must augur well for future years.





Rowly Robertson  
←



James Banks  
→



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# Girls' Hockey

## SENIORS

On return to the school in September, the Perthshire Hockey Trials had already taken place. However, a late trial was arranged for Jenny Bamford, Kirsten Belch and Lucy Crispin. Jenny and Kirsten were selected to represent Perthshire at the Midlands Trials on the following Saturday. In the U16 Trials Nikki Corbett was picked for the Midlands squad.

This year the 1st XI had its most successful season, after a shaky start. The senior Midlands Inter-school Hockey Tournament sadly was cancelled after such bad weather.

A most enjoyable match with the 'Old Girls' took place on the day after the 'Old Strathallians' rugby fixture. Linda-Jane excelled in the game in more ways than one.

Towards the end of the Autumn term Perthshire Indoor Hockey Trials took place at Perth High School. Sandie Mackie was chosen to represent Perthshire as G.K. in the Midlands Trials.

At the start of the Spring season the 1st XI had a disastrous match v. Auchterarder in the snow. The team was somewhat depleted due to an outbreak of flu. Fortunately by the next fixture most girls had recovered.

Lomond school from Helensburgh came to Strathallan while on tour in the area. The result was a no score draw after a great deal of effort on both sides.

Towards the end of term Strathallan played host to the 'Independent Schools Tournament' which took place on March 16th. Gordonstoun stayed overnight and were the winners of the tournament. On the Sunday a selected team from Fettes, Gordonstoun, Loretto and Strathallan played a Midlands team (Morrisons). Jenny Bamford, Nikki Corbett and Sandie Mackie were selected to play and Jenny was chosen to captain the match. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. Many thanks to Mr Proctor for umpiring.

The season ended with a hectic last week of fixtures and a 'fun' match v. Staff.

Nikki Corbett was top goal scorer for the season with Suzanne Rhodes not far behind.

Hockey colours were awarded to Jenny Bamford while half colours went to Nikki Corbett, Sandie Mackie and Kirsten Bech.

## 2nd XI

A great deal improved team emerged this year, with the girls showing a lot of determination and some very good results.

Thanks to all staff for their help in coaching and umpiring. Also thanks to the ground staff for all their hard work, and Mr Young and the kitchen staff for the constant supply of delicious teas.

P.W.

## Teams:

**1st XI** S. Mackie, L. Crispin, J. Bamford (Captain), V. Cornish, K. Belch, P. Coutts, K. Scanlan, N. Corbett, S. Rhodes, G. Cornish, K. Orr.

**2nd XI** L. Clayton, J. Wood, N. Thaw, C. Niven, C. Edie (Captain), G. Lawson, S. Binnie, C. Gadie, P. Maxwell, K. MacDonald, K. Streule, E. Streule, C. McLung, S. Robb.

## 1st XI RESULTS

### Autumn Term

v. Perth Academy	(H)	Won 1-0
v. Old Girls	(H)	Draw 1-1
v. Gordonstoun	(H)	Lost 0-3
v. Morrisons	(H)	Lost 0-3
v. Dundee High (2nd IX)		Won 1-0
v. Loretto	(H)	Won 6-0
v. Dollar	(H)	Won 1-0
v. Kilgraston	(H)	Won 1-0
v. Fettes	(H)	Draw 0-0
v. Auchterarder	(H)	Won 3-2

### Spring Term

v. Auchterarder	(A)	Lost 1-5
v. St. Georges	(A)	Draw 1-1
v. Dundee High	(A)	Won 1-0
v. Dollar	(A)	Draw 0-0
v. Lomond	(H)	Draw 1-1
v. Morrisons	(A)	Lost 1-2
v. Loretto	(A)	Won 1-0
v. Kilgraston	(A)	Lost 0-1

### 1st & 2nd Mixed Team (U16)

v. Rannoch	(H)	Won 6-0
v. Perth Grammar		Won 6-0

## JUNIORS

**U15 X.** The U15 XI this year has been strengthened by the arrival of several new girls. Despite the fact that the team has been a very young one, consisting mainly of third form pupils. It has achieved some very creditable results. The team was never outclassed and the teamwork went from strength to strength as the season progressed. In several instances notably the away matches versus Kilgraston and Dollar, they were extremely unlucky to lose to goals scored in the last minutes of the game having had the majority of play throughout the match. The team once more participated in the Midlands Junior Tournament. In their first match they lost one-nil and drew all their other matches including the match against Monifieth. Monifieth eventually went on to win the

section on penalty strokes. Other results were:

Perth Academy	(H)	Draw 2-2
Morrisons Acad.	(H)	Lost 0-2
	(A)	Lost 1-3
Gordonstoun	(H)	Lost 0-4
Dollar	(H)	Lost 1-2
	(A)	Lost 0-1
Kilgraston	(H)	Won 5-0
	(A)	Lost 0-1
Fettes	(H)	Won 2-1
Auchterarder	(H)	Won 14-0
(v. A'der 2nd XI)	(A)	Lost 0-1
St. Georges	(A)	Won 2-1
Perth Grammar	(A)	Won 8-0

With many of the present team eligible for next season the team should provide strong opposition.

The team was selected from:

T. Orr (Captain), A. Beath, D. Crichton, S. Gordon, F. Jardine, L. Mackenzie, L. Meldrum, S. Heggie, H. Niven, W. Fleming, K. Reynolds, A. Robertson, J. Smith.

## RILEY XI

Although the Riley team did not register many victories they played all their matches with great enthusiasm. This nearly equalled the enthusiasm with which they 'attacked' their after-match teas. Several members of the team were playing hockey for the first time and meeting more experienced opposition. Nevertheless most of their matches were closely fought and were only conceded in the final stages of the match. They managed to end their season with a well-deserved victory over Perth Grammar. The results were:

Perth Academy	(H)	Lost 0-2
Morrisons	(H)	Lost 0-1
	(A)	Lost 1-3
Dollar	(H)	Lost 0-5
		(to an older team)
Auchterarder	(H)	Lost 2-1
Perth Grammar	(A)	Won 4-0

The team was selected from:

L. Meldrum (Captain), N. Beale, C. Anderson, P. Docherty, E. Reekie, M. Mackinlay, J. Taylor, J. Wilson, H. Hawksford, J. Pate, N. Kennedy, S. Stevenson, S. Leiper, G. Butler, A. Ross, H. Bruce.

On behalf of the girls games teams special thanks must be given to the kitchen staff for preparing what must seem to them a never-ending supply of refreshments, packed teas and lunches for all our fixtures.

J.E.C.

# RUGBY

Once again we started with a pre-season tour of Narbonne which proved to be just as successful as the previous years despite losing our first match against SIGEAN 12–22. The second match against CANET looked as if it was going the same way but with two tries in the last few minutes we won 20–13 in a most exciting game. The third match against now familiar opponents CAZOULS, near Beziers was a convincing 28–6 victory.

In between the matches, which were well spaced out, we were fortunately able to use the Parc des Sports for training and Mr Meadows, a new recruit, enjoyed taking the odd session. The beach, as usual, proved to have its usual attractions with myself and DJB soaking up the rays and our newly appointed president Mr du Boulay enjoying all the delights of Narbonne plage. This year at the end of the beach where we normally train there was an added attraction – The Aqua-Jet. It will be long remembered by all for some amazing sights, not the least the formidable combination of Mahmoud and N.du B. appearing down the shoot – an awesome sight! Unfortunately the beach this year had other memories for myself and a torn muscle in the calf, just as I was making a scintillating break while playing touch rugby with the backs, provided along with Neil Pratt and Justin Beveridge the injured trio.

On our return journey, which was fraught with all sorts of difficulties for myself, not helped I might add by my colleagues, we played LUNEL at Arles. It was a great pity that we did not have time to spend in this magnificent Roman city but we did make a short detour to visit Nimes. While being bitten by what seemed later like a thousand mosquitos in my immobile position, I was privileged to watch some of our best rugby of the tour as we beat in grand style a strong Lunel side 34–12, scoring 7 tries in the process.

Having assessed the team and prospects at this stage it did seem that there was a lot of talent, especially in the backs. However, we were lacking experience up front and so our long term success would depend to a certain extent on how the forwards developed and the raw talent in the backs expressed itself.

Good progress was made in the first few matches which traditionally included the Old Boys. Of the school matches we beat Perth Academy 41–0 in a match which did not really reflect the full potential of the side; Keil 78–0 with 14 tries and 11 conversions by Gav with some excellent running and support play; Rannoch 52–0 with some tre-

mendous rugby in the first 25 minutes.

The Old Boys put out a very strong side to face the school and this was our first real test. Our forwards did remarkably well in the early stages but a penalty put the Old Boys in front. Rich Reah, the fly half, broke beautifully to score under the posts and a conversion by Gav Corbett gave us the lead. Gav equalised with another penalty after two further penalties by the Old Boys and then a beautiful move in the backs by Rich creating the initial space, Keith Adamson making the break and Mark Gowrie from the back row in a good supporting position to finish off, brought us the winning try.

As usual Fettes proved to be a difficult game. Our forwards were outplayed in the first half but our backs were making good use of limited possession. The second half saw the forwards gain more ball and constant pressure on the Fettes backs gave them little room for manoeuvre. Two tries by Axel Lagerborg on the wing broke the deadlock. From the restart of the second try our dark-horse, speedy prop Sean Cozier broke and attacked down-field to their 22; from this position and a scrum David Davidson from inside centre came blind and scored a fine individual try.

We played the Glenalmond match in appalling weather conditions but this was no excuse for the lack of concentration which gave the opposition the simplest of tries and a big psychological advantage in the opening minutes. Having settled down after a while Calum took a ball peeling round a line out just inside their 22 and shrugged off a couple of tackles to score under the posts – a fine captains example! The conversion gave us the lead at 6–4. The big problem, however, was up front where we were totally outpowered at times and consequently the backs got little good possession. Only very solid defence by Rich, David and Keith prevented Glenalmond taking too much advantage. A careless piece of play at a line out gave them the boost of another try, just before half-time. Despite this we came back to 9–11 with a penalty by Gav. However the decisive try went to Glenalmond due to some good running by their wing Bewsher and some weak tackling on our part.

Loretto was the sort of game that we should not have lost! We led by 11–0 and it should have been more well before half-time. Unfortunately, very poor marking gave Loretto the initiative near our line and from a scrum a push over try resulted. With wind advantage, the slope and a powerful

pack the opposition kicked for position and from another scrum and drive a second try resulted from their scrum half. A penalty put them in front and despite some late pressure by ourselves we were unable to reverse the score. The absence of Gav Corbett both as a place kicker and at wing forward had been crucial but with great running and support play in the first half we should have been so far ahead, the second half would have been immaterial.

Another appalling day was the weather-scene for Merchiston's visit. A dummy scissors by Rich Reah opened up the gap for an early score. Despite missing the conversion in front of the posts, Gav made amends with a more difficult penalty from the 22. Good inter-passing and support play with Andy Tench showing his paces put John in for another try and it was he who scored the last try with a solo effort from the half-way line. The revamped pack with Iain Kelly and Graeme Robertson coming in at prop and wing forward respectively and Mark Gowrie moving up to second row had performed well in difficult conditions.

In the first 18 minutes we found ourselves 19–0 down against Edinburgh Academy due to good control by their captain Mike Walker and our total lack of concentration. At this stage we got a grip of ourselves and the defence tightened considerably. Unfortunately, Axel had to go off just before half-time and we played the remainder of the game with 14 men. Despite this we won a lot of the ball and played some good rugby but the Edinburgh Academy defence was just too strong. Points would undoubtedly have been scored against a lesser side. The final score 25–3 was by no means a disgrace and perhaps did not reflect the way we played for so much of the game, but it is the full 70 minutes that count and undoubtedly we lost the game in the first 20 minutes.

We were taught another good lesson by Morrisons Academy in the next game: do not relax once you have scored: This happened twice to make the score 10–10 into the second half. At this point indiscipline and the lack of experience did show and we gave away a succession of penalties, two of which Morrisons converted. Yet all credit is due to the XV for coming back from the grave in the dying minutes. After good handling along the line, John Pawson got away and ran exceptionally well to get over in the corner and cool as the proverbial cucumber Gav slotted the conversion from far out to draw the match.





The journey to Gordonstoun was made without two key players, captain Calum at hooker and scrum-half Andrew MacLellan but their replacements Percy Brown and Brian Dods can by no means be blamed for the result. Unfortunately, we were unable to convert first half dominance into points and in the second half we seemed content to watch them play the rugby. Thus it was a very disappointing and dreary 0-0 draw.

Fortunately the spirit was not broken and the match against Dollar was a good encounter. Dollar led 6-3 in the first half but Gav got his second penalty to level the score by half-time. The scrum with the front-five doing excellent work in the tight and the back row harassing in the loose, were dominating and providing good ball and Archie McAlister, on the wing, came close to scoring on several occasions. Due to severe pressure, maintained by shrewd kicking by David Davidson, we kept Dollar in their half and an excellent try by full back John Clark, having come into the line and weaved and side stepped his way through, sealed the match.

Two early tries by Nigel Kilpatrick gave us a strong lead against Stewart's Melville: both were something of opportunist tries but they all count and, at least Nigel had to work for the second one. An interception by John Pawson took us further into the lead, which by half-time was 22-0. After a barren spell we slackened off the final score was 22-10.

We were brought down to earth sharply with a 17-0 defeat by Kelvinside. David's diagonal kick to their winger for their first try and the last one intercepted summed it all up. The Glasgow Academy match was a close encounter and as suggested by the score, but even more so by the number of penalties we gave away, could have gone either way. Fortunately, for us a try and another long conversion by Gav was enough to win the game.

Three visiting sides were planned to give the 1st XV the best end to a season for a long time. Unfortunately the last one against St. Georges College, Argentina could not be played because of snow and frost virtually everywhere in Scotland. The other two against Bangor G.S. and Rondebosch highlighted some of our strengths and weaknesses.

At the beginning of the second half against Bangor we were 16-3 down. Awed by their size we had sat back and watched them play. However an excellent try by John Pawson, appearing on the other wing set the ball rolling and a drive by the forwards resulted in a try by Nigel Kilpatrick. At 16-11 and with a lot of pressure we did not capitalise on undoubted opportunities. To quote our secretary 'It was definitely the one that got away.'

The final game was an excellent encounter with both sides prepared to

run the ball from all over the pitch and we had gained considerably from the Bangor game. The first half would have gone to Rondebosch and, in fact, they led 7-3 but the pace was stepped up by the whole side in the second half. With about 5 minutes to go we had a scrum to the right of the posts, 10 yards out. Nigel picked up and broke blind, but was held: Sean ripped the ball away and powered his way over the line with the forwards driving behind. Once again Gav needed a conversion from the touchline and remarkably he did it, to give us a well-deserved 9-7 victory. The 1st XV should take a lot of pride from their performance against a very good side: I found out later that we were the only side in the U.K. to defeat Rondebosch.

The 7-a-side season was very mixed. For the third successive year we won the Merchiston Cup, beating Portobello 28-0, Stewart's Melville 10-0, Merchiston 14-0 and Dundee High School in the final 32-6. The side was captained by Calum Bannerman and included John Clark, Andrew MacLellan, Rich Reah, Keith Adamson, Sean Cozier, Nigel Kilpatrick, Mark Gowrie and Archie McAlister.

Due to various commitments we put a somewhat different side out for the Perth Academy 7's, totally lost concentration and we went out in the first round. In addition, we had to withdraw at the eleventh hour from what would have been our first appearance at the COEDCAE 7's at Stradey Park, Llanelli, which rounded off the 7's season on a sad note.

1st XV colours were awarded to:-

C. M. Bannerman; N. D. Kilpatrick; R. E. M. Reah; J. C. Clark; K. H. Adamson; (D. W. Davidson from previous year).

½ colours were awarded to:-

A. R. MacLellan; S. A. Cozier; A. W. Tench; M. Gowrie; G. R. F. Corbett.

President XV Representation:-

C. M. Bannerman; N. D. Kilpatrick; A. R. MacLellan; D. W. Davidson; M. Gowrie; R. E. M. Reah (Replacement).

Our teams throughout the school this year have not been as uniformly successful as last season, but there has been just as much commitment and enjoyment by both players and coaches. A new departure this season was at the very junior end where U.12 and U.12½ sides were organised from Mr Thomson's U.13 game. This has resulted in more of the younger boys being given the chance to compete against their proper age group - a most important point at this early age. The enthusiasm shown not only by Mr Thomson but also Mr Forster at this level lingers well for the future and we congratulate them for the success they have had.

Finally my thanks go to all those who forced by dint of their jobs to pick

up the pieces, dirty washing, wounded etc.: Mrs Clayton and her assistants in the sewing room: Sister in the san and Craig Young and his staff for coping with such calm with the 'Barbarian Hordes' every week.

## RUGBY RESULTS 1984/85

### 1st XV

v. Perth Academy	Won	41-0
v. Keil	Won	78-0
v. Rannoch	Won	52-0
v. Fettes	Won	16-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	9-16
v. Loretto	Lost	11-13
v. Merchiston	Won	15-0
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	3-25
v. Morrisons Academy	Drawn	10-10
v. Gordonstoun	Drawn	0-0
v. Dollar Academy	Won	13-6
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	22-10
v. Kelvinside Academy	Lost	0-17
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	6-4
v. Bangor G.S.	Lost	11-16
v. Rondebosch	Won	9-7

### Club Match

v. Old Strathallians	Won	15-9
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### Schools

Played 16; Won 9; Drawn 2; Lost 5  
Points for 302; points against 131

### All Matches

Played 17; Won 10; Drawn 2; Lost 5  
Points for 317; points against 140

### 2nd XV

v. Perthshire Colts	Won	68-13
v. Q.V.S. 1st XV	Won	26-16
v. Fettes	Won	17-9
v. Glenalmond	Won	11-8
v. Loretto	Won	20-7
v. Merchiston	Won	12-3
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	10-16
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	24-3
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	0-22
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	9-6
v. Kelvinside Academy	Lost	4-9
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	18-4

Played 12; Won 9; Lost 3

Points for 219; points against 116

### 3rd XV

v. Perth Ac. 2nd XV	Won	14-0
v. Rannoch 2nd XV	Won	12-0
v. Fettes	Lost	6-8
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-53
v. Loretto	Won	6-4
v. Merchiston	Drawn	4-4
v. Edinburgh Academy	Drawn	6-6
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	0-43
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	20-0
v. Kelvinside Academy	Lost	0-4
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	10-0

Played 11; Won 5; Drawn 3; Lost 4  
Points for 82; points against 139

**4th XV**

v. Q.V.S. 2nd XV	Won	36-0
v. Rannoch 3rd XV	Won	4-0
v. Fettes	Lost	6-8
v. Glenalmond	Won	9-3
v. Loretto	Won	38-0
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-6
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	12-0
v. Dollar Academy	Won	20-3
v. Kelvinside Academy	Drawn	4-4
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	25-0
v. Glenalmond U.16	Lost	0-7

Played 11; Won 7; Drawn 1; Lost 3  
Points for 154; points against 40

**U.15 'A' XV**

v. Perth Academy Colts XV	Lost	4-28
v. Rannoch	Won	24-4
v. Fettes	Won	14-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	6-28
v. Loretto	Lost	3-24
v. Merchiston	Lost	3-42
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	8-4
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	3-25
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	8-4
v. Glasgow Academy	Drawn	10-10

Played 10; Won 4; Drawn 1; Lost 5  
Points for 93; points against 171

**U.14 'A' XV**

v. Perth Academy	Won	16-0
v. Rannoch	Won	50-0
v. Fettes	Won	20-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	12-0
v. Loretto	Lost	0-26
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-12
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	4-24
v. Glasgow Academy	Lost	4-24
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	12-14
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	24-0

Played 10; Won 5; Lost 5  
Points for 142; points against 100

**5th XV**

v. Fettes	Won	22-6
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-22
v. Glenalmond U.16B	Won	18-0
v. Loretto	Won	16-0
v. Merchiston	Lost	6-13
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	8-14
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	25-6

Played 8; Won 4; Lost 4  
Points for 99; points against 79

**U.15 'B' XV**

v. Fettes	Won	22-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-40
v. Loretto	Lost	0-52
v. Merchiston	Lost	12-18
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	10-12
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	8-4

Played 6; Won 2; Lost 4  
Points for 52; points against 136

**U.14 'B' XV**

v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-22
v. Loretto	Won	6-4
v. Merchiston	Lost	4-8
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	13-6
v. Glasgow Academy	Lost	4-26

Played 5; Won 2; Lost 3  
Points for 27; points against 66

**6th XV**

v. Q.V.S. 3rd XV	Won	18-0
v. Fettes	Won	8-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-32
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-18
v. Loretto	Lost	0-4
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	11-28

Played 6; Won 2; Lost 4  
Points for 37; points against 86

**U.15 'C' XV**

v. Glenalmond	Lost	8-14
v. Merchiston	Lost	4-18
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	38-0

Played 3; Won 1; Lost 2  
Points for 50; points against 32

**U.14 'C' XV**

v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-32
v. Loretto	Lost	4-25
v. Merchiston	Won	34-10

Played 3; Won 1; Lost 2  
Points for 38; points against 67

**U.13 XV**

v. Rannoch	Won	30-0
v. Fettes	Won	32-8
v. Edinburgh Academy B	Won	28-14
v. Merchiston	Won	24-4
v. Craigclowan	Won	30-0
v. Morrisons	Won	32-8

Played 6; Won 6  
Points for 176; points against 34

**U.12½ XV**

v. Ardvreck	Won	34-14
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**U.12 XV**

v. New Park	Won	24-0
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	12-0

# TENNIS

## BOYS

During 1984 our new all-weather courts had few opportunities to show that they merited the all-weather tag. 1985 was a more testing season in this respect and the courts came through with such distinction that no home matches were postponed and very few games afternoons were lost.

Tennis continues to gain in popularity with more boys opting for tennis than ever before, record entries for internal competitions and rarely is a court to be found vacant during activities time. There is some promising talent among the junior years and I hope next year to form an under 15 tennis team.

Peter Darbyshire, a professional tennis coach from Edinburgh, started a coaching evening at the school this Summer and forty pupils from Form 1 through to Form 6 took advantage of this opportunity to improve their court-craft and strokeplay.

The school tennis team had a mixed season with favourable results heavily dependent on the form of our first pair, Richard and Archie McAlister. They formed a formidable partnership winning 17 of their 21 sets during the season and both deservedly earned their colours this year. Our first entry into the Midland's Schools' Tennis Tournament was quite promising, reaching the semi-finals before losing to Glenalmond College, the eventual winners of this trophy. An innovation this year was the hexangular match involving boys and girls matches with Gordonstoun and Fettes. It was an exhausting day especially for those pairs who played six sets but there was some exhilarating tennis and I hope that such a fixture becomes a permanent feature of future summer terms. The annual match against the masters' common room was carefully arranged on a day when the school's first pair were unavailable and so the MCR team just managed to avenge last year's drubbing.

My thanks to Richard McAlister, this year's captain of tennis, who so ably coped with the finer details of the organisation for matches, proved a charming host to our opponents off court and such a ferocious competitor on court.

### Team

R. A. L. McAlister, A. J. McAlister, R. Skea, A. G. Logan, J. Coutts, D. Wharton, P. C. Brown

### Results

4th May	
v. Loretto	(H) Lost 4 – 5
11th May	
v. Edinburgh Academy	(H) Won 5 – 4
23rd May	
v. Morrison's Academy	(H) Won 5 – 4
26th May	
v. Fettes	(H) Lost 0 – 3
26th May	
v. Gordonstoun	(H) Lost 1 – 2
28th May	
v. Glenalmond	(H) Lost 1 – 5
30th May	
v. Merchiston	(A) Lost 4 – 5
1st June	
v. George Watsons	(A) Won 6 – 3
4th June	
v. Stewarts Melville	(H) Lost 0 – 3
16th June	
v. Old Strathallians	(H) Won 5 – 4
7th July	
v. Masters C/Room	(H) Lost 4 – 5

D.G.R.



## GIRLS

**1st VI.** Under the captaincy of Katie Macdonald the 1st VI had a splendid start to the season being undefeated in their first seven matches. For the first year we competed in the Midlands tournament beating Kilgraston 7 – 2 in the semi-final and losing to St. Leonard's in the final. After half-term there were two disappointing losses versus Morrison's and St. George's but these were compensated for by victories over Dollar and the Old-Girls. The team completed a successful season by snatching victory from a Ladies VI 5 – 4.

Despite the weather rarely providing true tennis playing conditions all the girls who played for the team must be congratulated for their determination and enthusiasm. Their co-operation has certainly been appreciated. Special thanks to Katie who proved extremely efficient and reliable whilst I was in Germany. Both she and Jenny Bamford will be missed next summer as they have been great assets to the team for two years. Both were awarded their colours.

### Results

v. Loretto	(H)	Won 5 – 4
v. Fettes	(H)	Won 5 – 4
v. Kilgraston	(H)	Won 7 – 2
v. St. Leonard's II	(H)	Won 8 – 1
v. Morrison's	(A)	Lost 3 – 6
v. Dollar II	(A)	Won 7 – 2
v. St. George's II	(A)	Lost 4 – 5
v. Ladies VI	(H)	Won 5 – 4
v. Old Girls	(H)	Won 7 – 2

### Midlands Tournament:

Semi-final v. Kilgraston	Won 7 – 2
Final v. St. Leonard's	Lost 3 – 6

### Triangular Fixture:

v. Fettes	Lost 1 – 2
v. Gordonstoun	Lost 1 – 2
Gordonstoun v. Fettes	Lost 2 – 1

### Team

K. Macdonald (Captain), J. Bamford, L. Meikle, S. Rhodes, P. Maxwell, J. Fraser, J. Cooper

**U15 VI.** This year the U15 VI only had a few fixtures but showed great promise. They were narrowly beaten in the first match by Morrisons and did well to beat Kilgraston 5 – 4 before rain stopped play. Their defeat v. Morrisons was due in part to the shale courts having rather too much shale on them.

### Results

v. Morrisons	(A)	Lost 4 – 5
v. Kilgraston	(A)	Won 5 – 4
v. Dollar	(A)	Lost 9 – 0

### Team

M. Calder (Captain), N. De Iongh, J. Smith, F. Jardine, C. McIver, J. Paterson, N. Maxwell, N. McAuley

J.E.C.



## SHOOTING

Regular scores of 98 and 99 out of 100 assured J. R. Galloway of a place in the schoolboy international shooting team for a triangular match against England and Wales in the Spring. In the event, Scotland came third, but congratulations to Robert for being selected.

Other successes this year include the presentation of the Perthshire Small-Bore Rifle Association's Cup to D. J. Gillespie for being the most consistent Under-19 Shooter in the county. As well as these outstanding performances, the school shooting team finished second in their division of the Perthshire League after 18 matches and colours were awarded to next year's captain, K. S. Johnson.

Interest in the sport is very strong at the moment, and there are many promising young shooters in the school. We look forward to maintaining the high standards we have achieved this year.

A.J.H.W.

## CANOEING

Throughout the year, we were canoeing every week, with sessions in the pool during the winter months and down the local rivers and to the sea as soon as the weather permitted.

The standard of personal proficiency for each member of the both canoeing groups rose rapidly and we now have eight boys who have gained the British Canoe Union Proficiency Award, and one member of staff is ready to be assessed as an instructor.

During the Field-Day weekend of Summer Term, we completed the whole length of the River Tay, and Phil Gadie raised several hundred pounds in sponsorship money towards the cost of his Alaska expedition. (*See separate article*).

With a good nucleus of competent canoeists, the future years look very bright indeed, and my intention is to encourage more to sample the excitement of the sport; if you are interested, please come along.

P.J.E.

## SQUASH

A lot of internal, friendly squash has been played but very few school matches. The vacuum left as a result of us withdrawing from the Dundee and District League was not filled for a variety of reasons, but it is hoped to arrange more inter-school matches next season. However, we managed to win the Bennet Salver from Glenalmond, which was satisfying, and this means we have won it once each.

### Match Results:

#### Senior V

v. Masters	Lost	3-2
v. Glenalmond (H)	Won	4-1
v. Old Boys	Lost	4-3

#### Junior V

v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	3-2
v. Glenalmond (H)	Lost	5-0

Senior V: A. J. McAlister (Capt.), N. J. Tether, D. M. Thomson, C. N. C. Henderson, M. J. Zaraza.

Junior V: D. M. Thomson, M. J. Zaraza, A. Pearson, W. L. A. Blanshard, D. B. Addison, G. M. Adam.

### Winners of House Competitions:

Senior: Leburn  
Junior: Leburn

H.C.A.

## GOLF

### Captain:

R. A. L. McAlister

### Secretary:

S. J. Liddell

### Results:

#### League Matches

v. Auchterarder	Won 3-1
v. Perth Academy	Won 2½-1½
v. Kinross H.S.	Halved 2-2

#### League Play Off

v. Morrison's Acad.	Halved 2-2
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#### Other Matches

v. Merchiston	Won 6-0
v. Glenalmond and Fettes (played as a Stableford Competition, came Second)	

Team: R. A. L. McAlister, S. J. Liddell  
A. B. Lenman, S. McEachern, C. H. Jones, R. S. B. McCulloch.

Winners of House Competition:  
Ruthven

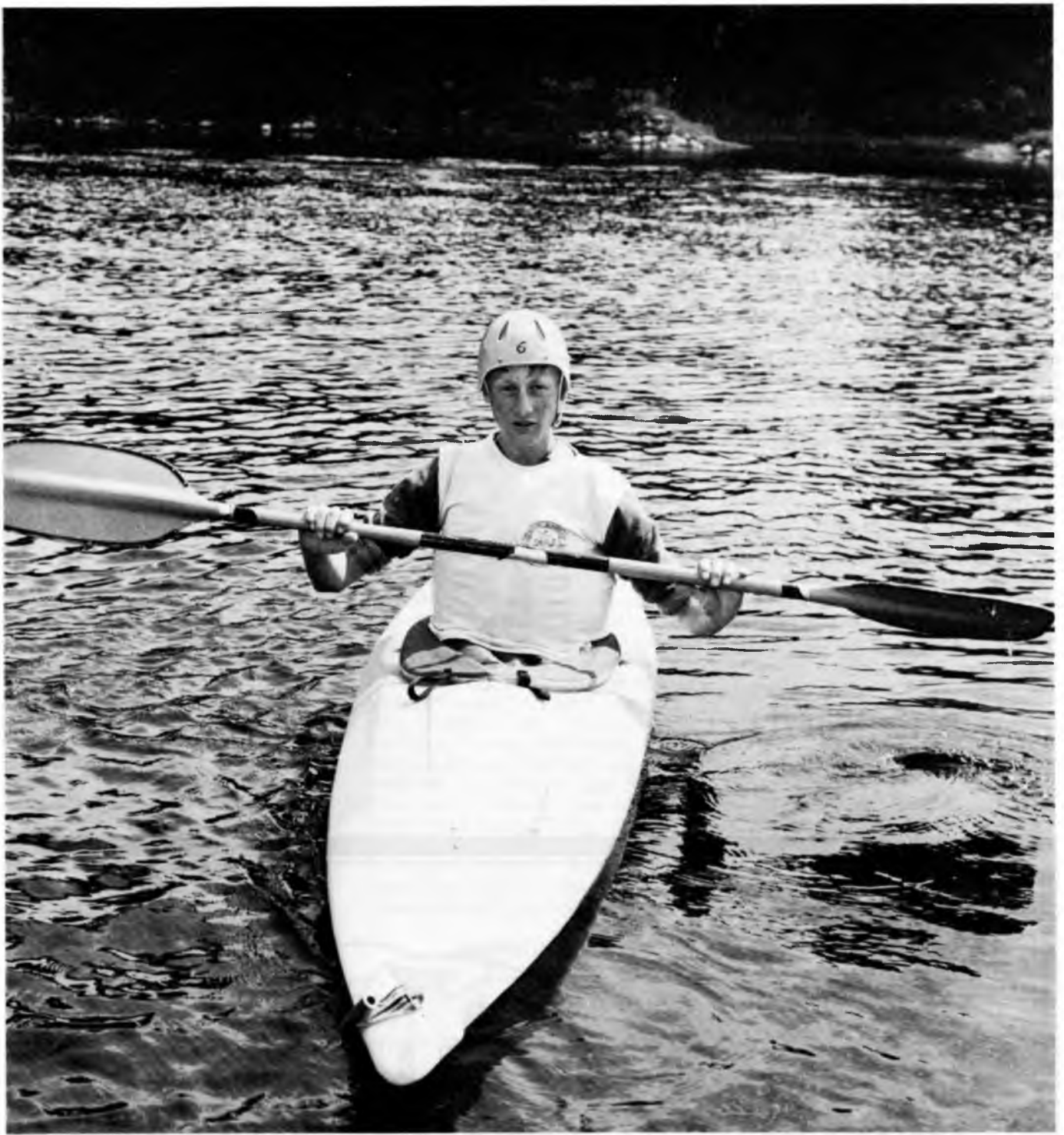
Stroke-Play Champion: S. J. Liddell.

Our section of the Perth and Kinross Schools League was restricted to only four teams this year because of the teacher 'troubles' and although this was disappointing in that we played fewer matches than usual, it turned out well because we won the section for the first time ever. The play-off over Craigie Hill against the other section winners, Morrison's Academy, was just about as close as you could get. The match was halved in games but unfortunately we lost it because Morrison's were two holes up on aggregate over the 72 holes played. Perhaps next year, with the same team back, we might go one better and win the J. Douglas Cup.

Certainly this year's team gained valuable experience in the art of match-play and benefited considerably from the coaching given by Frank Smith.

The success of the team was due in the main to the consistency of Steven Liddell and Alistair Lenman playing at two and three respectively. Alistair was unbeaten and Steven lost just once. The Captain, Richard McAlister, played well at the start of the season but lost confidence and faded a little in the later stages, whilst Sean McEachern looked good a lot of the time but could not quite keep his game going over a full round. Ross McCulloch, who only played twice because of his cricketing commitments, was also undefeated. The game against the Wayfarers, played over Bruntsfield, was as usual most enjoyable and is regarded as one of the highlights of the summer golf season.

H.C.A.



# SWIMMING

After last years somewhat desperate plea, swimming appears to have taken a turn for the better. The number of persons appearing during the activities sessions has risen and a commendable amount of serious work is being done. People are improving their technique and their stamina in individually directed training schedules, more people have come to grips with the basic skills of the butterfly stroke than ever before (and every swimmer will know that this is no mean feat). The Junior Games Circus produced a number of excellent individual performances and resulted in a

runaway victory for Leburn, with second and third place being hotly contested by Ruthven and Simpson.

Having thus praised the swimmers at the school, we must now come to almost bury the swimming-team. In two official encounters with the auld enemy we were beaten, if not thrashed. The reasons were clear to everyone who had observed the team in training: too few people turned up too infrequently! The potential is there, as could be seen during the friendly against Fettes, but it takes more than individual skills and the occasional effort to make a good team.

All the same, I am encouraged by the more recent developments; there now exists a list of names of persons who have committed themselves to regular attendance at the training sessions and on whose shoulders rests the burden of bringing the Swimming Team out of the doldrums.

My sincere thanks go to those swimmers who worked so hard all year and whose individual achievements were quite outstanding; let us make sure that next year they have the backing they deserve.

K.G.

## ISLE OF SKYE HOTEL PERTH



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**A welcome across Scotland.**



# GIRLS' ATHLETICS

The start of the season came as a shock to many girls this year. Training with the boys was somewhat strenuous. Girls were seen crawling into Woodlands at the end of the afternoon on hands and knees. Once again results were virtually a repeat of last year, the stumbling block being Morrisons senior team. The junior team however put up a very good performance and beat Morrisons by 2 points. Best performances came from Sheila Gordon who was 1st in the 100m and 200m, and Jo Smith who won the Shot. In the seniors our only 1st place came from Kate Streule in the 100m. As before, the Riley girls fielded a team against Morrisons and had a very close match. Elizabeth Reekie came 1st in the High Jump and broke the school record while Gail Butler won the Long Jump. Both teams had the same points. However, Morrisons were disqualified in the Relay, which gave Riley an overall win.

Two days later, senior and junior teams travelled to Fettes. The heavens opened. All events took place between torrential showers except for the High Jump, which was abandoned altogether. The result was extremely close with the seniors 2 points ahead and the juniors 1 point behind. Again Kate Streule performed well with 1st in the 100m, 200m and Long Jump. In the 800m a very close race developed between Amy McDonald and Viv Cornish with Amy winning by 0.24 of a second. Sheila

Gordon was outstanding in the juniors by taking 1st place in the 100m and 200m, while Tui Orr won the Shot.

Because the weather had been so bad Fettes came up to Strathallan for a triangular match the next week. The juniors competed against Fettes and Rannoch and the seniors against Fettes and Kilgraston. Once again the same girls were successful with Kate Orr also winning the High Jump.

On 6th June a senior and junior team went to Kilgraston. It was a miserable afternoon weatherwise but encouraging in performances. Sheila Gordon broke the school record in the Long Jump with a jump of 4m46.

Unfortunately the match later in the month with St. Leonards was cancelled due to bad weather.

On 8th June, two girls teams went to the Scottish Schools Relay Championship at Grangemouth. Out of the two teams, the senior girls were more successful and came 5th in the final with the fastest time ever run by a senior Strathallan girls team (53.3 sec.). The teams were – *Juniors*: Jill Fraser, Nicola McAuley, Louisa Mackenzie, Sheila Gordon. *Seniors*: Celia McClung, Jenny Bamford, Sally Binnie, Kate Streule. Then, on 15th June the Scottish Schools Individual Championships took place at Pitreavie. The following girls qualified to compete – *Seniors*: Sally Binnie – 100m; Kate Streule – 100m and 200m. *Middles*: Kate Orr and Nikki Corbett –

High Jump. *Juniors*: Sheila Gordon – 200m. None of the above girls were successful, but all did well to qualify.

On Sports Day despite poor weather Pamela Docherty in Riley managed to break the school record in the loom.

Various A.A.A. coaches visited Strathallan this term arranged by Mr Barnes. Particular thanks to Mr R. Hill who gave up a lot of time to coach throwing events.

With the National Star Awards Scheme underway this year there has been a lot more interest in Athletics. The following girls gained 5-star awards over 3 events: 17 – 20 years – Kate Streule; Under 16 – Nikki Corbett; Under 15 – Tui Orr and Sheila Gordon.

Kate Streule was awarded colours for Athletics while Amy McDonald and Sally Binnie gained half-colours.

Thanks to all staff for their help and encouragement throughout the season.

P.W.

## Results

16th May  
v. Morrisons (H) Lost 123 – 138  
18th May  
v. Fettes (A) Won 77 – 76  
25th May – *Juniors*  
v. Fettes v. Rannoch Won 34 – 25 – 24  
– *Seniors*  
v. Fettes v. Kilgraston Won 68 – 45 – 31  
6th June  
v. Kilgraston (A) Won 116 – 80

## RESULTS

Event	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	E	W	Time/ Distance	Record	Holder	Year
100m	Riley	P. Docherty	H. Hawksford	G. Butler + J. Pate	–	–	14.07	14.07	P. Docherty	1985
100m	Junior	S. Gordon (E)	N. McAuley (E)	H. Niven (E)	20	1	13.24	13.00	K. Streule	1982
100m	Senior	K. Streule (W)	S. Binnie (E)	N. Corbett (E)	14	12	13.08	13.00	K. Streule	1983
200m	Riley	H. Hawksford	P. Docherty	S. Leiper	–	–	32.01	31.03	J. Fraser	1984
200m	Junior	S. Gordon (E)	N. McAuley (E)	H. Niven (E)	15	3	29.16	28.04	S. Gordon	1985
200m	Senior	K. Streule (W)	S. Binnie (E)	J. Bamford (W)	7	19	27.88	28.02	K. Streule	1983
400m	Junior	S. Gordon (E)	N. McAuley (E)	K. Reynolds (W)	15	3	67.32	66.75	S. Gordon	1985
400m	Senior	K. Streule (W)	V. Cornish (E)	S. Binnie (E)	15	11	67.08	65.02	T. H-Craufurd	1984
800m	Riley	N. Kennedy	S. Stevenson	C. Anderson	–	–	3m05	2.58.93	A. Brodie	1984
800m	Junior	H. Niven (E)	C. McIver (E)	T. Orr (W)	14	4	2.59.18	2.47.28	G. Lawson	1984
800m	Senior	V. Cornish (E)	P. Coutts (E)	C. Gadie (W)	17	9	2.48.82	2.42.00	K. Scanlan	1984
1500	Open	P. Coutts (E)	C. Gadie	G. Cornish (W)	14	12	6.03.66	5.37.38	A. McDonald	1984
H/Jump	Riley	E. Reekie	P. Docherty	G. Butler	–	–	1m24	1m26	E. Reekie	1985
H/Jump	Junior	S. Gordon (E)	T. Orr (W)	N. Beale (W)	8	10	1m41	1m45	K. Orr	1984
H/Jump	Senior	K. Orr (E)	N. Corbett (E)	S. Rhodes (W)	19	7	1m36	1m45	K. Orr = N. Corbett	1985
L/Jump	Riley	G. Butler	J. Clark	J. Pate	–	–	3m84	4m08	A. Brodie	1984
L/Jump	Junior	S. Gordon (E)	K. Reynolds (W)	T. Orr (W)	8	10	4m00	4m46	S. Gordon	1985
L/Jump	Senior	K. Streule (W)	J. Bamford (W)	E. Streule (W)	4	22	4m39	4m81	K. Streule	1985
Shot	Riley	G. Butler	E. Reekie	C. Anderson	–	–	6m95	8m20	T. Orr	1984
Shot	Junior	T. Orr (W)	J. Smith (W)	L. Helderum (E)	4	14	7m02	7m14	K. Orr	1984
Shot	Senior	K. Orr (E)	S. Binnie (E)	J. Bamford (W)	20	6	7m79	7m79	K. Orr	1985
4 x 100	Junior	East	West		10	7	56.9	–	–	–
4 x 100	Senior	West	East		12	16	54.9	–	–	–

TOTAL POINTS: 216 166

Standards: Woodlands 219.21 (5th)

Vitrix Ludorum: Senior – Kate Streule

Junior – Sheila Gordon

Riley – Gail Butler

East Wing v. West Wing: Winner – East Wing (216 – 166)

# CRICKET 1985

This was a very mixed season. A great deal of inexperience at a senior level was not helped by the demands of exams – for the first time taking large numbers of players away from matches (six missing against Free Foresters for instance). Furthermore, as for everyone, the weather drastically cut down on both practice and playing time. Nevertheless, all was not disaster. Stuart Hamilton captained with sound judgement. Richard Reah saw us through the early part of the season and Graeme Robertson through the latter (in rather more orthodox fashion). Ken Smith, often desperately unlucky, emerged as a spinner with real penetration while John Pawson and Andrew Tench collected about thirty wickets apiece, though never having the hard wickets they needed. Roddy Baird bowled well at the end of the season, as did Graeme Robertson. The batting remained very fragile, too often flattering to deceive but the fielding regained its past quality, greatly helped by the wicket-keeping of Fraser Lennox. Ross McCulloch produced the goods on more than one occasion to help the side out of difficulty and Malcolm Heggie looked the fine player he should be without ever really living up to his potential.

The results were a mixed bunch. For the first time for many years Edinburgh Academy were defeated but we lost unnecessarily to Stewart's Melville. We should have beaten Glenalmond but collapsed, in poor conditions, at the vital moment. At the end of the season some younger players showed promise. Indeed at a younger level there are some very good signs. The Senior Colts, though inconsistent, showed great enthusiasm and a lot of potential. The Junior Colts were the best for many years and contained several players of real quality. Their results were excellent. The long-term prospects for the game in the school look very healthy, particularly with the improved practice nets. These proved a great success with Riley. With such nets available throughout the school and something drastic done to the Garden wicket, playing facilities should be excellent. For Riley more space is needed.

The end of term festival, in spite of the weather, was a great success. Every team won at least one match and the competition, finally won by Downside, hinged on the last ball of the last match.

A great deal has to be packed into a short time and this would be impossible without the assistance of many people. In particular I would like to thank Nick Du Boulay for hours of net coaching and gallons of Pimms; Jack Taylor for weathering all storms; Paul Auster for his enormous enthusiasm (and in spite of his admiration for Boycott); Ken Dutton, Andrew Wands, Mike Yellowlees, Norman Pedgrift, Martin Gray and several others for many hours of their own time. John Ford in his anorak in the nets in the pouring rain is now one of the famous sights of Strathallan. Charles Court is unequalled as maestro of the Thirds. It is the depth in these sides that has been largely responsible for many players coming through to a higher level and, indeed, the Second XI produced the most exciting match of the season. Finally I would like to thank Mrs Calder and her staff for making the festival possible and, of course, Craig Young and his staff for quite outstanding catering.



## 1st XI RESULTS

Strathallan 148 – 8 dec. (Smith 44)	
Crieff 101 – 7 (Tench 4 – 34)	<i>Match Drawn</i>
Strathallan 176 – 7 dec. (Robertson 53, Reah 52*)	
St. Andrews 106 (Pawson 5 – 14)	<i>Won by 70 runs</i>
Free Foresters 163 (Smith 5 – 38)	
Strathallan 65	<i>Lost by 98 runs</i>
Strathallan 73 – 5 (Hamilton 53)	
Loretto	<i>Match abandoned</i>
Strathallan 34 – 4	
Fettes	<i>Match abandoned</i>
Scottish Wayfarers 161 – 8 dec.	
Strathallan 134 – 7	<i>Match Drawn</i>
Strathallan 132 (McCulloch 62)	
Stewarts Melville 135 – 9 (Pawson 5 – 43)	<i>Lost by 1 wicket</i>
Occasionals 146 – 7 dec.	
Strathallan 148 – 6 (Heggie 43, Reah 54*)	<i>Won by 4 wickets</i>
XL Club 135 (Pawson 5 – 46)	
Strathallan 136 – 3 (Hamilton 49)	<i>Won by 7 wickets</i>
Strathallan 184 – 7 dec. (Hamilton 61, Robertson 75*)	
Edinburgh Academy 89 (Pawson 4 – 21)	<i>Won by 95 runs</i>
Old Strathallians 185 – 8 dec. (Allingham 86)	
Strathallan 138 (Hamilton 49, Bell 4 – 16)	<i>Lost by 47 runs</i>
Strathallan Merchiston	<i>Match abandoned</i>
Strathallan 151 – 5 dec. (McCulloch 44)	
Dollar Academy 81 – 7 (Robertson 4 – 22)	<i>Match Drawn</i>
M.C.C. 191 – 7 dec.	
Strathallan 56	<i>Lost by 135 runs</i>
Glenalmond 114	
Strathallan 101 (Robertson 40)	<i>Lost by 13 runs</i>
<hr/>	
Festival matches were over games: –	
<i>Lost to Lancaster by 6 wickets</i>	
<i>Beat Dulwich by 9 runs</i>	
<i>Lost to Downside by 6 wickets</i>	



# OCCASIONALS' TOUR-1985

The tour this year was highlighted more with Gin, Tequila and Bass than cricket. Despite the liquids, Jamie Chapman found time from polishing his care and holding hands with the local werewolf to score a century against a mid-Somerset XI and Richard Eglinton managed a proper one against the Old Cliftonians who were beaten for the first time for many years. The only other notable achievement on the field was the fact that we managed to drop fourteen catches against the Dorset Rangers and be bowled out by a combination of the geriatric and the innocuous.

On our first night we were entertained by Tim Hudson in the Birtles Bowl pavilion. Endless tuneless singing (mainly Kilpatrick variety) and considerable bar investment forced us to lay our heads in the Birtles Hall grounds. A few slept in beds, others found automobiles more attractive.

Day two—a bleary day of travelling—was made bearable only by memories of the size of Mike Allingham's tie and by the prospect of the Mildmay Arms. During the evening social secretary Phil Meadows just lost a well-fought contest with a T-bone steak and a bottle of Dijon mustard—Messrs Keir and Kilpatrick were delighted. The next morning room 1 won the race to breakfast, Mike Edie evidently determined to rival the waistline of a rather hairier member of the party. Hudson sponsorship of the Eglinton century catalysed the evening's entertainment.

Barton St. David found the Occasionals at less than their best in spite of a sparkling new opening batting partnership by Tench and Meadows. In the evening the concussion from spoons of Kilpatrick must have accounted for his failure to score more than five runs on tour and his inability to remain vertical on any other evening. Morning five saw a victory by Walker to breakfast, who had been wise enough to sleep in the dining room all night. After breakfast Proctor slept in the car park and Keir experimented with an eighteen-hour girdle. The cricket was extraordinary. It was followed by the night-of-the-long-glasses.

Next morning—Tench had lost his sight; Garnett had found his; Kummel's stomach had returned to normal; Walker's hadn't. Chapman gave his car a final polish; Baird gave his father's a bit of final repair work. Most of the

party left the Mildmay, bar profits a mere £600 up on the weekly average. A fine match in the drizzle finished the cricketing side of the tour. The really brave decided to spend a final night on Scrumpy. Others, playing it safe, were collected by the police.

Hopefully, back to the Mildmay next year where the hospitality of Allan, Judy and Mandy is quite awesome.

R.W.N.K.

## OCCASIONALS RESULTS

Occasionals 199—8 dec. (Thomson 100\*)  
Perth Northern 153

*Won by 46 runs*

Occasionals 204—6 dec. (Beale 65)  
Comrie 146 (Proctor 5—44)

*Won by 58 runs*

Occasionals 146—7 dec.  
School 147—6 (Dutton 4—41)

*Lost by 4 wickets*

Hudson's XI 294  
Occasionals 130—8 (Baird 46,  
Lennox 46)

*Match Drawn*

Occasionals 198—7 dec. (Eglinton 110\*)  
Old Cliftonians 186 (Chapman 4—75)

*Won by 12 runs*

Occasionals 159—9 (S. Hamilton 42)  
Barton St. David 160—6 (Tench 4—29)

*Lost by 4 wickets*

Occasionals 244—2 dec. (Chapman 104\*  
Du Boulay 73\*)  
Mid-Somerset 248—4

*Lost by 6 wickets*

Dorset Rangers 234 (Chapman 4—71)  
Occasionals 155 (S. Hamilton 41)

*Lost by 79 runs*

Occasionals 176—6 dec. (Eglinton 43,  
Garnett 43\*)

Denstone Wanderers 177—8

*Lost by 2 wickets*



# CCF REPORT

The CCF has continued to flourish over the past year in terms of interest and activities although I feel there is still room for improvement, particularly in the standard of drill, turn-out and general smartness. I hope that during the next session we can make a start on tackling this problem by providing a more carefully structured course of training from recruit to NCO level. Now that we are almost up to full officer strength, it should be possible to improve our NCO selection procedure and, at least in theory, improve the overall standard of the corps.

A number of good things have happened during the year; David Mackie and Alan Murton obtained flying scholarships – the first time I think, we have obtained two in one year; Matthew Raitt represented the RN section at the VE Day service in Westminster Abbey and the RAF Section entered a team in the BP National Hovercraft Competition in Manchester – they didn't win but they put a creditable performance.

This year we have a rather young and inexperienced Pipe Band but nevertheless,

there are a number of promising pipers and drummers on their way up and in the terms of numbers I think it is the largest Pipe Band that we have ever had. All credit to our instructors, Pipe Major Barron, Mr David Clark and Mr Rusty Clark for their enthusiasm and expertise.

We ran two major combined services exercises during the year. I suppose the highlight was exercise 'COUNTER-STRIKE' held in October when the cream of our corps took on the local SAS in a weekend exercise full of bangs and surprises. During the summer term, in place of a General Inspection, we held a similar weekend exercise also a great success – possibly due to the fact that we had a lot of pyrotechnics that we wanted to use up.

Once again during the summer holiday many cadets and most of the officers attended a variety of camps and courses ranging from annual Army camp at Warcop to a survival exercise on the remote island of Fladda.

We say farewell this year to Major Alan Pearson who retires from the

CCF after more than 20 years service. For the past 6 years he has been OC Army Section and my 2i/c in the Corps. An official presentation was made at the end of the term but I should now like to record formally my grateful thanks to Major Pearson for his help and support over many years.

Two new officers have recently been commissioned; Plt. Off. G. P. Hawksford RAFVR(T) and Plt. Off. L. H. Blance WRAFVR(T). I am sure that they will greatly strengthen the RAF Section which has been understaffed now for many years.

Lastly, I must thank all officers, NCOs and cadets for their contribution over the past year; also Mr D. B. Henderson (Pipe Band), Mr F. N. Reed (Motorcycles) and Mr W. A. Colley (Army). Lt. Cdr. C. N. Walker is not in the CCF, but I am sure that it will come as no surprise to many because he has given up a great deal of his time to look after the RN Section motor boats, not only maintaining them but also teaching cadets to drive them.

P.A.B.

## RN SECTION

This year has been memorable because of the excellent training given by the navy. More time has been spent at sea than in any year I can remember and HMS Camperdown provided several weekends at sea in varying weather conditions.

We have had a busy year which started with Lt. Clayton taking a team of senior cadets to the RN CCF Regatta at Poole. Sailing is becoming much stronger within the section and we have had more RYA certificates awarded than ever before. Lochore Meadows is a much better venue than the River Tay and we are most appreciative of the help received from the Warden and his staff. It is always difficult to get our best sailing cadets off other commitments to be able to compete nationally but once again Strathallan Cadets gave a good account of themselves.

The October Field Day was highly successful – new entry cadets had an excellent day at HMS Cochrane, Rosyth while the older cadets took part in the training weekend with the SAS at Laird's Loch, Hallyburton. It is on occasions like the exercise that the motor boat section comes into its own and an integral part involved a River Tay crossing. We are particularly grateful to Lt. Cdr. Walker, Cox Watson and the other members of the section who have worked so well in maintaining in first class condition both the Cheverton Motor Boat and the 32' Cutter which is finally afloat.

In February Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and eight cadets attended the submarine weekend at HMS Dolphin, Gosport. This was highly successful and all

thought the long journey worthwhile. Several weeks later Sub. Lieut. Goody took ten cadets on the Minesweeping day at Rosyth and eight cadets travelled to HMS Osprey for the Air Day at the end of April.

In March, Commander J. Osborne, the Naval Member JCE, retired and was succeeded by Commander N. Cocks. In many years of running the RN Section I have to give Commander Osborne the credit for making Senior Flag Officers aware of the existence of the CCF and its tremendous potential. The quality of the speakers at the advanced refresher courses at HMS Royal Arthur annually and the various RN establishments which have made their facilities available to the CCF remain a testament to his interest.

Commander Cocks visited Strathallan in June. As his visit occurred on the day before Speech Day, RN training was of necessity curtailed but he enjoyed a sail down the River Tay on the Cutter and seemed impressed by the upkeep of the motor boats. The School Pipe Band entertained him during the afternoon and the motor bike section escorted his car from Strathallan.

Presentations have included the role of the Navy Lecture by Captain J. A. G. Evans, The Senior Schools Liaison Officer. Several RN Cadets over the years enter the Navy often as a direct result of Captain Evans encouragement and interest.

This has again been a good year for camps and courses which were held at RNAS Daedalus, HMS Excellent, RM Lympstone. Sub. Lt. Goody and Lt. Commander MacLeod took twelve

cadets on RMAS Crickdale in the Firth of Clyde with our old friend Willie McVey. Lt. Clayton and Sub. Lt. Goody ran the sailing course at HMS Neptune.

Five cadets attended the RN Acquaint course while Lt. Cdr. MacLeod was River Officer at BRNC Dartmouth in the worst weather conditions possible.

An exceptional honour was bestowed on Strathallan RN Section in May when PO Raitt represented the Combined Cadet Force in Scotland at the VE Day Commemorative Service in Westminster Abbey. Matthew was a credit to us all on this occasion.

Tay Division RNR is always helpful and the Staff Officer, Lt. Commander Loudon made the fleet tender Abinger available for the May training weekend when Lt. Clayton took fifteen cadets on a cruise down the West Coast from Fort William. To him and Lt. Commander Dickinson who gave up his weekend for this occasion most grateful thanks.

FCPO Curle as always has given invaluable assistance and our proficiency results have been the best for many years.

The RN Section largely depends on its cadet NCO's as well as the officers and this year we have a particularly good team.

*Senior Coxswain:* R. N. Watson

*Divisional Coxswains:* K. S. Johnson,  
R. J. H. Truter

*Petty Officers:* A. B. D. Barr, D. W. Dinsmore, R. A. Ford,  
R. W. Paterson, M. B. Raitt, R. G. Robertson



# ROYAL MARINES

Looking back on the (in the case of the Marines not necessarily academic) year 1984/85 I feel sure that for most of us the Field Day Exercise must rate as one of the most exciting and rewarding activities undertaken.

We have managed to enlist the assistance of the SAS unit based at Invergowrie; they actually agreed to play opposition to our combined Cadet Force and by doing so gave the Army Battlecraft Group and the Marines a rare opportunity to work together rather than against each other. The battle plans were complex, the movements mainly in the dark, and logistics as always a major headache. But eventually everything fell into place: we avoided being caught in an ambush and reached the target area at Laird's Loch, set up a defensive position and held it against seemingly overwhelming enemy forces until our reinforcements arrived almost thirty hours later. By that time we were on our knees with fatigue and virtually out of ammunition, everybody was quite happy to hand the rifles over to the new-comers and to hop into the sleeping bags for a couple of hours. As always during the course of an exercise, far too much is going on for a really clear and orderly picture to form. It's afterwards, over the first brew of tea under peaceful circumstances, when stories are told and experiences compared, that certain unforgettable moments are highlighted. Like the picture of Indiana W. sitting up a tree, blazing away with his six-shooter at a bunch of yelling SAS men who came charging through the camp letting us feel the full impact of their machinegun-assisted fire-power. Or the

somewhat eerie (frightening even?) feeling of being taken prisoner and finding yourself lying face down in the mud, thumbs tied behind your back, eyes covered – pretending that you are not at all worried because it is, after all, only make-belief.

By comparison the remainder of the year passed rather quietly, a lot of work was done on the assault course and most people have by now mastered the art of getting back onto the ropes after a deliberate 'accidental' slip. We improved our orienteering skills and freshened up our knowledge of un-armed combat with the help of an instructor from RMR Glasgow, whose cheerful advice on how to mutilate people would have gone down well at any pub bouncers' convention.

During the Spring Term, when the weather is usually at its worst, we managed to select a night with fine sub-zero temperatures for our annual testing of sleeping bags and bivouac construction techniques.

Having prepared ourselves throughout the year in a great variety of military and survival skills, it came as a sad blow to all of us to find that we would not be able to take part in the Pringle Trophy Competition, as its dates had been changed to suit the English schools; our commitment to Scottish exam dates ruled out the trip to Winchester and our chances bringing the Trophy up to Strathallan.

Whilst most people went home for their Summer Half Term, most members of the Detachment accepted an invitation by RMR Scotland to spend a training weekend with the professionals in Gourrock. It turned out to be time very

well spent, once one got over the pains of their early morning PT sessions. The instruction on the Raiding Craft was sheer magic and the training with small arms and night sights was well worth the sacrifices of a couple of days holidays.

Our Summer Term Field Day visit to 45 Commando in Arbroath rounded off the range of activities for the year. We spent some considerable time on the dry ski slope (although not always on skis) and were allowed to abseil from the highest part of the structure, which is a bit more exciting than abseiling from the top of the main School building. The .22 shooting with converted SLR's produced some good results and confirmed Rob in his position as top marksman of the detachment.

Once again the time has come to say good-bye to some members of the Detachment. Every one of you has made his impression on the troop and will be missed, your hard work and dedication has inspired the up-and-coming ones and has been instrumental in making 1984/85 a success. Our thanks and best wishes for the future go with you all.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the Officers and NCO's of the RMR, as well as to the members of the other sections of Strathallan CCF, without whose help and unstinting support our work would have been well-nigh impossible. My personal thanks also to a certain member of staff, who turned an occasional blind eye on Marines arriving in class covered in mud and (don't tell the Headmaster) two minutes late.

K.G.

## ARMY SECTION

I have always believed that the most productive part of Army Section training is Annual Camp, affording as it does the opportunity to put into practice in rather larger areas what has been learned on Friday afternoons. I make no apology therefore for devoting most of this report to camp, merely pausing briefly to record that 36 CTT, Lt. Court and Mr Colley have continued to ensure that cadets have been profitably occupied during the year, whether it were on basic training, fieldcraft exercises, acquiring signals and first aid expertise, or NCO training.

It is hard to imagine a better start to camp than a parade in front of a regular RSM, followed by a run over the assault course in torrential rain. Cadets might not agree! However, this was Warcop 1985 one hour after arrival – as it turned

out, the RSM offered good advice and the assault course experience proved invaluable when we had to do it competitively.

After this introduction to camp life, Sunday found us revising basic military skills and, in the afternoon, confounding the OC's pessimism about our navigational abilities when asked to find the way across some unfamiliar country. L/Cpl. Bullard's quintet won the day's competition. On Monday, competition was joined with other contingents in 'March and Shoot,' an event which runs throughout the period of the camp. The 5km march was covered comfortably within the bogey time, and sufficient energy had been preserved to cross the assault course in 5 – 09, smashing the year's record by some 45 seconds. Shooting was adequate, but good enough

to put us in the lead at that point – unfortunately, a further four seconds was taken off by another school, but at the time of writing we lie in second place.

Tuesday was in many respects the climax of the week, certainly in terms of the physical and mental demands beginning as it did with an 0630 breakfast and ending with an eventual collapse into bed nineteen and a half hours later. In the intervening period, much was learned of the demands made on modern infantryman (and the vocabulary required to achieve senior NCO rank!). The shortest distance between two points is still a straight line, even when a pond lies on it; gun legs fall off if the barrel does; officers have been known to lie 'dead' on a smoke grenade with the pin pulled out; if the rain holds off,



leopard crawling up a stream is an even better way of getting soaked.

The monsoon, accompanied by high winds, arrived on the day set aside for adventurous training, so that rock climbers were washed out by lunch time and canoeists had to wait until the afternoon for the waves to subside on Ullswater. Only the walkers completed their intended journey – I'm not sure whether the singing was out of enjoyment or to keep their spirits up, but it was noticed that 'Climb every mountain' was not included in the repertoire. Helicopter flights provided some welcome relaxation – the records will doubtless show that sixty cadets from Strathallan went up, no mean achievement when only twenty were at camp. 'The best thing that's ever happened' was one comment as one cadet completed his third trip. And so to the range, where a number found that a target a hundred metres

away was not quite as easy to see as one at thirty metres – nevertheless, most rounds did find their mark, L/Cpl. Blanche's group achieving the highest aggregate score.

With thoughts of approaching home comforts, a last effort was demanded in the 'Battle Initiative Competition,' a stretcher race interrupted at intervals by assorted tasks of observation, air rifle shooting, initiative and first aid. Our two teams acquitted themselves well, and we left camp holding first and fourth positions overall. All that remained was a final go at the assault course – pride was restored by getting through in under five minutes – and a chance to fire the SLR.

Finally, the time of departure arrived, a time looked forward to eagerly a week earlier, but I believe that when it did come, there were some genuine regrets that the week had come to an end. It

had been a varied week and one in which I had been impressed by the determination of all to do the best they possibly could. It was pleasing that their efforts had been rewarded by considerably higher places in the competitive events than in previous years. Special mention must be made of CSM McCulloch (a Warcop addict) whose enthusiasm did much to encourage those less experienced, of L/Cpls. Blanche, Bullard and Temple for the leadership they showed, and of Lt. Court and Mr Colley without whose encouragement and hard work the camp could not have been the success it was. I could hardly have asked for a better camp or group of boys for my last one – I am grateful to all, not least for ensuring that I departed with the right spirit!

A.M.P.





# The Short Trip

by N. J. Drummond

White vinyl walls, a strong, deep smell of disinfectant hangs heavily in the air. A large room with no windows; wooden benches surround three walls and a large bath rises from the middle of the floor, scrubbed spotlessly clean, too white and far too unwelcoming. The silence is engaged, fighting for superiority with the heavy smell of disinfectant, a useless fight.

Silence is broken, life is suddenly brought into the dazzling white room. Footsteps echo eerily in the passage outside. Deep, booming voices break through the door. The voices ignite the room into life as they each move to the benches and stake a claim with their bags. Careless chatter, loud voices shout across the room at each other. The voices merge in deep, bright red faces, a human form. Each form different, each form contrasting but each form bound together by comradeship, a bond, an unbreakable bond of sport. The fifteen men, large and round, small and thin undress slowly, not only clothes but their character which undergoes

deep change in emotional feeling. The players prepare themselves for the coming confrontation, egos forgotten.

Slowly the voices die down into whispers, the silence vibrating from wall to wall and man to man. The red and white stripes, the symbol of unification dominant.

The authoritative voice of the trainer breaks the silence, the heads turn, glad for distraction. The words come steadily and fluently, after years of practice and hard experience, he has lost count. He follows the same routine every weekend yet he never irritates, his face twisted permanently with pain into a sardonic smile.

The pressure in the room builds, the air saturated with virilism. Each man tuned to a mental and physical knife-edge, each man ready to confront pain, each man programmed by weeks of commitment and hurt, to sustain a moral code, to win. The voices are gone, each man involved in his own motivation, his own privacy of thought, too precious to be broken.

The door opens, heads lifted again, the sign given, it is time, a déjà-vu occurs, they leave and with them the atmosphere escapes, bursting out.

The room is silent and sterile, it lies dormant, the silence pierced ominously by faint cheers, a sign of life beyond.

The confrontation over the room is re-awakened from its slumber, tired figures with heads back slump down mercifully without energy, defeated by sheer physical effort, the barrier broken. The hopes and aspirations of pre-match dawn are gone, forgotten, the brain is tired. The bath is filled, the room covered with thick steam, each man is lost.

The changing room deserts as each man leaves, head down, forgetting, they came in a group but leave one by one. The bond is broken, just for another week. They will return next week with new hopes, new aspirations, looking for light at the end of a dark, dank passage. The last man casts an eye around the white room, nothing has been left. He switches out the light. Requiescat in pace.

# The Break Up

by Dominik Diamond

Phone rings.  
I feel an impending sense of doom  
as I lift up the blood-red receiver.  
'Yeah?' I say, casual as ever,  
(Well, trying anyway!)

'Well, you see. . . . it's like this. . . .  
Could we just be good friends.'

Say no more.  
Message received,  
Understood.

It's over.'  
Finis,  
Love on the rocks,  
You don't bring me flowers 'and  
Only the lonely' all rolled up  
into one malicious sentence.  
Why?

'Eh. . . . Dunno' she says.  
'Dunno?'  
'I just think it would be better if. . . .'

'Oh, that's just great!  
Four months of so called true love,  
And then a telephone call  
without a reason.  
I'm not that ugly,  
(Am I?)  
I wasn't that pushy,  
(Was I?)

I saw her as often as I could,  
(Did I?)  
I didn't cheat on her,  
(You sure?)  
(Maybe the meanderings of one  
drunken night have got me more  
than I bargained for!)  
'You still there?'

'Eh, yeah! Just lit a fag'  
(Good. Keep up the mach image,  
think of a reply,  
keep up your ego,  
don't sound heartbroken!)  
'Yeah! O.K. Eh. . . . suits me!'  
(Choke back the tears)  
'It was kinda' boring'  
(Cigarette cough)  
'And I did have this other girl,  
In mind, actually.'  
(You really make me sick!)  
'There's this boy, as well. . . .'  
She says.

I drop the phone.

'What's was that?' she says

'Dropped me fags, sorry!'

'Yeah, it's Alan from the youth club.  
He's taking me to the flicks,  
On Saturday.'

'Oh Alan! Great guy!  
Know him well!'  
(Electric blood spilled down the lines)

Silence

(Bad connection)

Silence

(The previously engaged line is  
open now)

Silence

(However, the connection dialling tone  
of life must go on.)

'Well,' I say, 'I have to go.'

(Lines uncrossed)

'Goodbye,' she says.  
'Auf wiedersehen.'

Click!

The electric hum of loneliness  
consumes all.  
I replace the blood red receiver  
And walk away.

# Oxton

by Ian Toner

The street appears very normal. The slightly cracked grey tarmac feels warm through the soles of your shoes, as the sun beats down on the trees lining the suburban road. The houses are uniform two up one down Victorian middle class houses with small gardens out in front and warm cheerful golden honey sandstone frontages. People bustle along it, but it still keeps its peaceful, placid attitude, as if it is very quiet, and 'nothing ever happens here, my dear.' And of course nothing ever does stir the neighbourhood; the happy mothers are contented with play groups and coffee mornings, accustomed to getting whatever they want, and in the morning the men leave for work and their leaving leaves no sense of loss or even of absence.

The house, oddly nameless, appears very normal in these surroundings as well. The only way of seeing any difference is by the small sign that proclaims proudly to the world, or at least to the small part of it that passes, filled with goodwill, that Oxton is Homes have been registered as suitable for private nursing. The doorbell rings in a room somewhere below ground level, and the

sound comes to the door strangled by the cramped spaces it has passed through. The glass of the door shows a shadowy figure, keys in hand, advancing to greet the outside world. A few words of introduction, and then a well used, quiet welcome.

The door slams shut; the lock clicks; the reverberations shake the house.

As your eye slowly becomes used to the light, and your nose to the all-pervading stench of urine, you begin to take in your surroundings. The entrance hall is small, dark and dingy, with gloomy dark-blue wallpaper, with purple flowers smeared on it. A faint yellow bulb, scantily covered with purple lampshade shines, although the sun is high in the sky outside. The stairs are thin, and slightly dangerous feeling, covered in a loose blue carpet which slides beneath your feet. At last you reach the top, the landing, and the small cell of the person you have come to visit. A blue, nameless door with a number on it. You knock, and a confused, tired voice drifts through the door bidding you to enter.

The door creaks on rusty hinges as you open it and enter. A well-known,

well-loved face, confused, but pleased to see you, appears, attached to a body sitting in a chair. The colour scheme in here is different: light cream, newly painted walls, an ornate plaster ceiling, a beautiful lamp-shade, and oil paintings interspersed with family snaps on the walls. The venetian blinds, however, cast bars over the room, so that the effect is slightly spoiled, a pleasant experience by imprisonment, a flower growing in a mass grave. The inhabitant of the room makes you sign the visitors' book, as it makes her remember the people who have visited, and lets her match the names with the faces in the photos on the walls. The conversation dries up, and on the mention of the fact that the visit must stop the happy facade changes to a sad one, and the face looks older.

Leaving the house as the doors slam behind you, you see a face looking out from behind the bars of the blinds of the window sadly at you. You wave, and turn your back as you walk away from the dump with the middle class sandstone exterior.

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## COLOURS

Black is the colour of a butler's suit,  
the back of the fire and the emptiness of nothing.

White might be the cygnet's dream, a fluffy ice-cream,  
the pages of a new jotter, mashed potatoes, the summer sky,  
the clothes of an angel, a phantom horse with glossy mane,  
new painted roadlines and your eyes.

Red is the colour of my mother's dress or poppies in a field,  
rubies on a golden necklace, the posters at the supermarket,  
a brave toreador's cape which whirls around a maddened bull  
and Rudolf's nose.

Blue is the colour of a freezing child, a china bowl,  
my third school maths book, a boiling pool, the midnight  
witch's hair and the ink my pen uses.

Green might be a soldier's uniform, a cocktail, an English lawn,  
a summer field and a lazy dream wandering across your mind in a  
hot classroom while summer passes by.

Gold, the riches of the earth, a harvest mouse, the colour of  
a body and a horse's back, a moonbeam, a snoozing cat  
on a sunbaked wall.

## DREAMS

Dreams are like a little breeze in the air,  
The breeze blows once and not again,  
It refreshes you and cools you then leaves you to  
Get along the best you can.

## EMPTY

They closed it down,  
It stands alone, outside the town,  
The tall grey tower watching the buildings below.

No more in summer will the strawberry-pickers smell  
The sweet scent of sugar as it wafts the air,  
Now they smell tar and petrol as garages are set up  
And bright garden gnomes smile falsely at the road.

The empty buildings mourn, and squat in clusters,  
They would leave if they could but have to stay  
Empty and cold 'till someone comes to destroy them.

## EVERGREENS

Outside my window is a bank,  
It is grassy and has yellow gorse on it,  
In summer daffodils rustle there,  
And in winter the evergreens shake and sway.

They are different in looks and I fancy in character.  
The first is the tallest and stands regally, swaying  
Graciously, and bowing politely, when the wind blows.

The second is always striving to be taller than the first  
And will one day I think reach this aim because  
He doesn't bend in the wind.

The third and last is small indeed, but he doesn't mind,  
He does not catch the wind and is content to stay that way.

Elizabeth Reekie

# School Reading Competition

From Orwell to Owen; Salinger to Attila the Stockbroker; Sir Smashum up to Shakespeare, variety was the hallmark of the school's Reading Competition. The moods changed from the anguish of the trenches to the social comedy of Dickens; from the futuristic worlds to the observation of animals; from great poetry to a Geography text book. This was the delight of the competition as each section and performance brought forth its own stars and each interpretation added some new quality to the set passages.

The competition took place on Sunday 19th May in the Lecture Theatre and was ably adjudicated by Mrs Burnett, to whom we are deeply grateful. Not only did she kindly judge the competition, but she took time to explain how competitors could improve upon their performance and pointed out some of the pitfalls of this demanding art. This was of particular help to the Junior and Middle Sections entrants who will hopefully continue their interest in such work.

Overall the standard of entry was extremely pleasing and it would be invidious to try to single out too many

individuals, suffice it to say the eventual prize-winners were fairly hard-pressed in all sections. It was also pleasing that, the school as a whole, could hear some of the competitors performances on Speech Day and must have realised how hard the task of judging must have been.

In the junior section the set passage was from George Orwell's 'Animal Farm' which encouraged a sincere dramatic delivery. One general criticism was that the reader does need to lift his audience and not the page. Thought also must be given to the character one is reading, for an old pig some of the characters readings were extremely good!

Jane Taylor was the eventual winner succeeding in making mountain formation sound interesting in a surprising selected passage, Derek Wynams was selected second and Kristien Robertson used his acting talents to amuse us into third place.

In the Middle Section there was still a tendency for nerve to inhibit the reader, but Dirk Paterson and Fraser Fyfe got involved in their passages and projected well coming third and first respectively, while Corrie McIver impressed with clear reading and a well chosen passage

from 'Flowers in the Attic' gaining second place.

The senior section was crowded with good performances, with Owen's 'Dulce et Decorum Est' providing the spur for some very moving readings evoking the full horror and obscenity of war. Ken Orr after a marvellous interpretation of Owen followed with the work of a lesser known poet, Mr Fairbairn, which provided some much needed comic relief. Dominik Diamond at first seemed to actually become a trooper in the trenches and then contrasted this well with an excerpt from Ibsen, though he was criticised for acting the piece, which he had learnt rather than reading it, perhaps a point to bear in mind in a reading competition. These two could not be separated and shared first place, but only just edging out two excellent performances by Michael Edie and Angus Macdonald who were third and fourth. The standard in this section seemed extremely high.

Our thanks to all competitors for an enthralling afternoon and once again to our adjudicator, Mrs Burnett.

## Debating Society

Last years Debating Society saw greatest activity in the winter term, with two internal debates and the participation of Angus Macdonald and Lindsay Low in the Bank of Scotlands School Debating Championships.

Our congratulations to them on reaching the Regional Final, where unfortunately, they were defeated proposing the motion 'this house prefers liberty to equality.' They also debated other motions, for example 'This house believes that Scotland is a second class nation.'

The internal debates bravely fought by committee and non-committee

members and a notable number of girls (Amy McDonald, Katie Macdonald and Kari Devlin) took part. The girls sided with and were opposed by Mark Gowrie, David Dinsmore, Nigel Kilpatrick, Axel Lagerborg and James Downie. All this was refereed by Ken Orr as chairman, who, over the question of sport had to handle the whole of the first eleven versus the academics.

The result was that 'this house believes that the importance of sport in education is vastly overrated in Public Schools.'

Also it was concluded that 'this house believes that pop music is not being corrupted by visual imagery.'

### Committee members

*Chairman:* Ken Orr

*Secretary:* Kate Scanlan

Caroline Edie	David Dinsmore
Katie Macdonald	Angus Macdonald
Kari Devlin	James Downie
Lindsay Low	Douglas Orr
James Pratt	

Our thanks to Mr Longmuir for all his help and co-operation throughout the year.

K.S.

# PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY

The Philosophy Society, originally conceived as a sixth form discussion group to cover philosophy and the history of ideas in general, got off the ground at the beginning of the Spring term under the careful guidance of Messrs Thompson and Smith. Partly to fill a yawning gap in the school's range of activities, partly to give some idea of what the subject involves to those thinking of studying it at university, but mainly just as a forum for those interested in ideas and discussion. The philosophy society seems to have firmly established itself as part of the school scene. The Headmaster generously allowed us use most of prep for one night a week and fairly regular meetings took place in the old library for the rest of the year. As expected, numbers dropped rapidly after the first couple of meetings and despite an energetic advertising campaign launched by Mr Smith, we remained for most of the

year a central 'core' of about four or five people with others dropping in when exam pressure allowed or the subject under discussion seemed particularly interesting. We quickly settled into a pattern of having members of the group present, each week, give a brief talk on a particular subject, to get the discussion going. At the end various threads were drawn together and the proper philosophical terms applied to the ad hoc ideas that had cropped up. ('The fallacy of the undisturbed middle' is actually simpler than it sounds!).

The existence of God was the provocative subject of our first meeting but throughout the year we ranged across such varied subjects as the mind and body, the meaning of 'Good,' the philosophy of science and even Marxism as a philosophy (entirely unconnected to the rise of young socialism we hasten to add. .). Mr Thompson also gave a very clear exposition of Formal Logic.

The emphasis throughout was on clear thinking and logic rather than a personal conviction (the distinguishing factor being validity and truth was made clear to us very early on!) and we successfully avoided turning the meetings into an ideological battleground. Inevitably there were mutters of 'its all definitions' or 'You're just going round in circles' but as the year progressed we came to realise that reaching conclusions about the issues was never the object of philosophy but rather to teach one to think clearly, to analyse objectively and to place things in their proper perspective.

Next year will bring a new set of would be philosophers and there has already been talk of an extra-curricular A Level in Philosophy. Whether that eventually materialises or not remains to be seen, but in the Philosophy Society continues to be an important element in the intellectual life of the school.

G.A.M.

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF MARX

The Marxist is someone who believes in dialectical materialism, a form of Materialism on which Karl Marx based his theories. This form of materialism, which considers human history as an evolutionary process in which development is the result of a conflict between opposites, the present world conditions being due to a class struggle between the capitalists, whose aim is private profit, and the workers, who resist exploitation.

Marx said in his *Economic and Philosophical Manuscript of 1844* that 'capitalism is still primarily an unnatural society, the 'social hell' which was denounced for its failure to fulfil a human being's genuine needs.'

Marx declared that there is no such thing as human nature in the abstract. Rather, as society changes, so also do the beliefs, desires and attitudes of men and women. The way people are cannot be separated from the sort of society in which we live. So, in order to understand how people behave, we must first analyse the historically changing 'ensemble of social relations.' 'My analytic method,' Marx wrote, 'does not proceed from Man, but from the period of society given by economics.'

The separation of mental and manual labour, itself a reflection of the class societies in which they lived, was made by all the great bourgeois philosophers from Descartes to Hegel. Marx wrote, 'The only labour which Hegel knows and recognises is abstractly mental labour.' Marx overturned this by treating productive labour as fundamental to what

human beings are. Production is a social activity involving a 'two-fold relation: on the one hand as a natural, on the other hand as a social relation, social in the sense that it denotes cooperation of several individuals no matter under what conditions in what manner and to what end.'

If production is the most fundamental of human activities it follows that when we analyse society we should give most attention to the way in which production is organised. Thus Marx concentrates his attention on the 'social relations of production,' the exploitive relationship between lord and serf or capitalist and worker.

If production is a social activity then it follows that changes in the organisation of production will bring about changes in society and therefore, since 'the essence of man is the ensemble of the social relations,' changes also in people's beliefs, desires and conduct. This is the core of Marx's materialist conception of history.

Marx considered alienation to be a material and a social process. Under a capitalist society the worker is compelled to sell his strength and his skills to the capitalist. As a result, he controls neither the products of his labour nor his labour itself. This condition of alienating labour gives rise to the relationship between worker and capitalist in which a non-worker controls and profits from the labour of others.

Marx's point may be made clearer if we borrow an analogy he himself used on a number of occasions. A beehive

is a case of a highly organised division of labour in which each bee has its allotted task to fulfil in the hive's economy. But the bee's work is repetitive. It has not changed for millions of years. What a bee can do is limited in advance to a very narrow range of activities determined by its genetic make-up.

Human beings are not subject to this limitation. They can change and improve on their methods of production. They are able to do this because of their superior mental equipment. Human beings possess the power of reflection. They can in other words, step back from what they are doing and compare it with other ways of achieving the same objective. They can criticise and improve upon what they are doing and even think up new goals to pursue.

One implication of the analysis of alienated labour is that the capitalists are themselves alienated, themselves condemned to live a less than human, debased existence. This sort of argument has been used to justify appealing to capitalists as well as workers arguing that they too stood to benefit from the overthrow of bourgeois society.

Engels said, in 1892, of Marx's *Economic and Philosophical Manuscript of 1844* that 'so long as the wealthy classes not only do not feel the want of any emancipation but strenuously oppose the self emancipation of the working class, so long the social revolution will have to be prepared and fought out by the working class alone.'

'Ted' Smith

# UNIVERSALS

Most of us accept that there are particulars, objects such as people, horses and tables. But are there also such things as the species 'man,' the colour 'red,' the relation 'being taller than.' If these exist, these are what are known as Universals. The view that these things exist is called 'The Realist Theory of Universals.'

The first emergence of a version of this theory was Plato's Theory of Forms. This stemmed from Socrates's habit of asking such questions as 'What is virtue?' requiring a definition rather than examples for his answer. It could then be decided whether a particular action was virtuous or not by relating it to this definition. Plato went beyond this and asked what kind of things we are investigating when we seek definitions – are they ordinary familiar things like people and trees, or entities of a different kind. If asked for a definition of beauty it is no answer to give examples of things we consider beautiful. Plato accounts for this by distinguishing between the many things which exemplify 'X' on the one hand, and the single entity 'X' on the other. This answered his first question – the things we are investigating when seeking for definitions are things like 'X' itself, beauty itself, courage itself, things which he called Forms (his word for Universals).

Plato held that Forms could exist without particulars – Beauty would exist if there were no beautiful things – but particulars are only beautiful in relation to the Form of Beauty – so there can be Forms without particulars but not particulars without Forms – because there is a definition of absolute equality, or absolute circularity – there must be Forms of a.e. or a.c. – although there are no such things among particulars.

He had two ideas as to the relationship between Forms and particulars; one was that the Form was somehow shared between the particulars, the other that the particulars are weak imitations of Forms. Therefore Forms have the greater reality: they are what particulars try to be. Also because they are independent, eternal and changeless, while particulars are dependent, transient and constantly changing. He believed genuine knowledge was only possible when no change occurred. Therefore it was only possible for Forms, not particulars.

He also had a peculiar idea that we all have an intellectual conception of Forms from a previous existence and seeing particulars which resemble these forms remind us of them – e.g. we can conceive of absolute equality but this is not based on any experience in this life.

Aristotle rejects the view that Forms can exist without particulars any more than a smile can exist without a face. A smile is something which appears on a face, man is a species to which individual men belong. Man is the kind of entity which only exists if it is 'said off' something. He also feels that Plato is wrong in describing Particulars as imitations of the Forms as this is treating universals and particulars as alike in a way which they could not possibly be. The basic difference between the two is that for Plato Forms are self-sufficient entities which may or may not have particulars related to them; for Aristotle universals exist only in virtue of their relation to particulars.

A possible argument against Aristotle is that there is no room for universals corresponding to general terms which do not apply to everything – e.g. there is no universal centaur. The question is whether every meaningful general term must have a universal corresponding to it. If it is possible to define general terms without bringing in universals there may be no reason to have universals at all. If there are general terms to which no universals correspond it may be possible to define them without bringing in universals – but if we can explain 'centaur' without universals, why not man? However (1) – need the existence to be proved in this kind of way (2) – is it possible to define in general terms without bringing in universals anyway e.g. can one define centaur without the universals 'man' and 'horse.' Aristotle's views seem closer to commonsense, Plato's Forms and their relation to particulars are more puzzling and mysterious.

For the argument against the existence of universals there are the views of British Empiricists which is shown in the words of Locke: 'Since all things that exist are merely particulars, how come we by general terms.' The basic idea of their empiricism is that all knowledge comes from experience – how can we know anything about entities which we cannot directly perceive. They call those things which are directly perceived 'ideas'\* not using the word in its normal sense. The function of the word is to stand for ideas, so the question of whether they are general terms becomes are they general ideas. Locke thinks they are, they are arrived at by a process of abstraction, but the emphasis is that even general ideas are particulars. General ideas fall into the class of complex ideas – ideas created by the mind out of simple ideas which are those which are passively perceived.

We have none of us actually perceived man, we have only perceived particular men. Hence the general idea that man

is not anything we have actually perceived, in the sense in which my idea of a friend's face is the idea of something I have actually perceived.

To the experience of imagining a friend's face correspond the experience of seeing it – but there is no similar correspondence to thinking of man as such. It is essential to Locke's theory that there should not be for then there would have to be a universal man to be the object of this experience.

Berkeley meanwhile disagrees with Locke's doctrine of abstraction and rejects the view that ideas must be different from ideas of particulars – for him what makes an idea 'general' is the use we make of it in thought. For Locke the general idea of a triangle has no angles – for if its angles are of any particular size it is a particular triangle. In Berkeley's view one can have a general idea of a triangle which is a particular triangle but ignore all other acts about it other than its triangularity – as for example a geometric proof when the angles of the triangle on the diagram are ignored. He also realises that, as it is possible to have a geometric proof without a diagram it is possible to have a general idea without a mental image. However he thinks such verbal reasoning should only be used when the reasoner is capable of conjuring up a mental image or words become meaningless.

Hume agrees with the ideas of Berkeley, and develops these views concerning himself with the psychological processes involved. He believes that when we have perceived many objects to which the same name is applied, hearing that name will call to mind an image of one of those objects, but our minds will be in a state of readiness to conjure up an image of any of the other objects. Knowing the meaning of a general term involves the capacity to form any one of a whole range of particular ideas.

For all the British Empiricists, everything which exists is particular yet they are inclined to speak about ideas and words in a way which indicates that ideas and words are not particulars – they speak of having the same idea, or using the same word on two different occasions. Ideas and words so conceived are entities which have instances and are therefore not particulars. They may be described as similar – but does this admission of real similarities = an admission of universals?

\*'Ideas' = mental images. Point against the theories – do we actually need to be able to call up mental images in order to think – this is implied in the British Empiricists' theories.

Sarah Lambie



# The Great North Run 1985

This year marks the first extravaganza to the North East. Having first 'sussed out' the set up in '84, Mr Barnes came up with the ludicrous idea that we take a team down to compete along with 25,000 others in Tyneside's Great North Run.

The convoy set off from school on Saturday the 29th of June and shook its way gracefully through the Borders until we were forced to steel ourselves to the task of entering foreign territory.

It had been arranged that we stay at Hatfield College, Durham overnight. Most were willing to get some much needed rest though Messrs Galloway and Kilpatrick were determined to make a night of it. The non-participating manager/video-man/baggage handler/chauffeur/canoist had to be prized away from the Durham night-life which seemed to consist of good looking females.

It was about this time that a certain member of the party, who is obliged not to reveal his identity, realised that he had left his start number, complete with computer tab, back at school. Needless to say, he was rather distraught!

Next morning all were changed for the race with one of the party not sure there was going to be a race and had to put up with the constant jibes of;

'Where's your number?'

'Why are you changed?' etc. etc.

By this time, however, the psyching up process had begun and most members of the party had fairly small breakfasts except for Meadows who managed to divert Sandy's attention long enough for him to steal his eggs.

When the city centre was reached a team shot was taken. The fact that someone's number was missing was quickly pointed out by his 'friend.' Nige gave an interview with the unfortunate competitor. The problem was quickly resolved by a good looking steward who Mr Meadows wanted to get a better look at through his camera and asked that 'B...y shoulders' be moved. After this another press conference was called and a certain amount of relief was expressed.

The race start was quite an experience; seeing a motorway swarming with people in every direction. The race commentator was Peter Jones of R2, who attempted to get us to sing a rousing chorus of the 'Blaydon Races.' I think he was the only one singing!

The race itself was quite an experience and quite a harrowing one for the less

fit! Rab Galloway provided the best time of 1 hour 28 mins. and only 1410 places behind the winner while staggering through the finish, T-shirt, medals and milk were picked up and one made his way to the team meeting area.

Nige Kilpatrick gave another interview in his usual style on how the run had gone and ridiculed the last member of the team home. Had he got lost along with his number? Lunch was eaten and cars collected. Eventually we got out of a congested Newcastle. Meadows was not to be outdone and was determined to have his fun, so in the biting cold at Bamburgh he went canoeing!

In Edinburgh Mr Barnes, Mr Meadows and I were educated in hot-curry eating by Christopher 'Punjab' Lawrence. The restaurateur was suitably impressed by his request! The less adventurous members of the team went to the Wimpy.

If you thought the run was hard, it was nothing to the legs the next morning!

## The Team

Nige Kilpatrick (*Captain*)  
Rab Galloway  
David Dinsmore  
Sandy Clark  
Ewan Grant  
Alan Stewart  
Christopher Lawrence  
Mr D. J. Barnes  
Mr J. Forshaw

Mr P. Meadows (*Manager*)

D.W.D.

## Craft Design and Technology

'We have the technology!' is now a well-worn phrase, but very soon at Strathallan that is going to be the case. We will soon see the construction of the purpose-built Craft Design and Technology Centre and this will house the facilities that will cater for all aspects of the work. Traditional crafts as we know them together with a central design area that is adjacent to a Computer Control Technology room and an Electronics room; these will be the main components of the building.

Candidates will be sitting O-Level

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examinations this year and the opening of the centre will coincide with the start of the A-Level courses.

The choice of examinations available in this area has increased dramatically, making it possible to find something for everybody.

The new facilities will also improve the options available during activity time and I will welcome anybody who feels that he or she would like to gain some experience in this area.

P.J.E.

# 6th Form Coffee Lounge

It must have been with a wicked sense of humour that in the closing months of the 1984 Summer term, N. H. McKee (Nicol, 1984), swiftly followed by Brian Raine and pursued by the Headmaster the seeds were sown for the proposition that this somewhat naïve writer should take over the responsibility for the 6th Form Coffee Lounge from Brian.

Gradually workmen appeared in the region of the old 'Strip' Rooms and began stripping the lavatorial tiles from the walls. They were speedily followed by plumbers, plasterers, electricians, painters and carpet-fitters. A male deputation invaded the sanctuary that is 'Woodlands' to test-drive the chairs there and, before anyone really knew what had happened, the Activities Centre and 6th Form Coffee Lounge were in use without any formal opening ceremony.

We have learned to ignore the entrance hall's green paint (but only just!). The sole toilet in the building ceased to be unisex when a sign eventually appeared on the door. Torquil Macleod has graciously loaned us two paintings and, after an initial battle, we seem to be managing to keep the Lounge tidily presentable.

Touring teams have been welcomed in; sports kit has been most unwelcome; the curtains do not close (by design!); a kettle has boiled innumerable cups of tea and coffee. All the 'Strathallan School' mugs were either given away as souvenirs or taken as such, by ourselves – not by visitors!

Mr Dutton spent very many hours restoring the music centre to a more than playable standard and tamper-proof condition complete with flashing lights and a noise level which sometimes threatens to demolish the building. The ladies have proved themselves formidable opponents at pool and our cleaning lady has been forgiving to the \*th degree.

The inter-house Darts competition was won by Ruthven and a discreet veil of anonymity must be drawn over a few of the less edifying gymnastic activities.

Suggestions for 'swinging pub signs' outside were consigned to the 'pending' tray and even the name 'The Cock and Bull' refused to transfer easily from the old site behind Freeland and Simpson.

Thus the catalogue of 'happenings' moves to its acceptable conclusion leaving it to fertile imaginations to picture what might or might not take place therein. It goes without saying that there is no doubt that those who have used it and those who will use it are grateful for the opportunity to have a meeting place which is comfortable (though not *too* comfortable); private

(though not *too* private); musical (though not *too* musical) and which is solely the province of the 6th Form.

T.G.L.



# Post Highers Course

*Approximately thirty of our upper sixth formers having finished their examinations embarked upon a 'multi-activity' exposure course for the remaining six weeks of the summer term. The activities ranged from workshop based Craft Design and technology, to a crash course in 'survival cooking,' and included typing as well as a full day per week*

*at the local Watersport centre Sailing, Absailing, Canoeing, Board sailing and skiing.*

*The course was designed to give the students a wide range of experience and therefore included several visits to local colleges and industry, including a tour of B.P. and a visit to a computer fair and a day at the college of technology to name but a few.*

*A major element of the course was the 'Adventure training' week that was based on the Loch Torridon Youth Hostel and the students enjoyed the delights of Mountaineering, Canoeing, Hillwalking and Board-sailing; together with the fun of looking after themselves at the Youth Hostel self-catering as they are.*

*P.J.E.*

## Thoughts on Torridon

'Did you have a nice time?' 'Enjoy the holiday?' The second must have been a jibe. The first, an unfortunate choice of words. Yes, neither was apt. Torridon was an experience, an enjoyable one, a great one, but not 'nice.'

The 'Party' numbered 28–24 post-highers pupils plus Messrs Smith (of the hills), Elliot (of the canoes), and Pedgrift (of the strolls), plus Mrs T. Pedgrift who convoyed the last four examinees a day later, and by running a shuttle service, made more interesting canoe trips possible. The main group left Strath on the Sunday after lunch arriving at Torridon youth hostel early evening. Rations for two days were taken from school, then groups of three had to survive on a 'sub' paid out each morning sufficient to cover two meals in the hostel and a lunch. The hostel provided roof, bed, hot water, a drying room and cooking facilities, but no meals. That made life interesting. The staff were OK, with Mrs Pedgrift to oversee should the need arise. The threesomes innovated: haggis, fry-ups, tea and bread and beans cooked in the tin.

In the morning and evening pandemonium reigned, but time improved techniques. 'Cook it or starve seemed to be the motto. We cooked! Just a couple of quotes from the kitchen: 'What do I do now the egg is boiling?' and '...but you only give me the skivvy jobs' – both quotes were from one of the girls (and in that order). Certain people disappeared at preparation times, but showed up as soon as the food was served.

The evenings were socially spent, both around the hostel with its TV room, quiet room and dining room, and at the local hostelry some two miles round the head of the Loch. This latter provided us with a bar in which the occasional drink was imbibed – left handed drinking was the only rule, or a penalty! When two of the later arrivals came on the Tuesday, this conversation piece was overheard: 'What time do we get off the hills?' 'About 5 o'clock.' 'Then we go to the boozier?' 'No, we have to eat first. Then we go about 8 or 9. 'They' nip off to another one and come back for us later – it works quite well.' It's nice to know.

Now for the principle purposes of the exercise. These groups of eight were in the tender care of the said staff. The canoeists went to various launch points on the inner and outer launch points of Loch Torridon. Here Mr Elliot ushered and cajoled and spun around the group of mainly beginners, rather like a duck around her brood. Later, in the 'deep' he had the group 'walking the canoes,' similar to the 'Pirates Plank,' whilst the others held the craft, more or less, steady. Not everyone received a ducking. But, however he encouraged, he could not paddle for the others, and some found this very tiring across miles of open water. In the choppy bits some felt 'nearly sea-sick' – quote – but all survived.

On the first day the other two groups went on a combined walk. In Torridon mountains hardly ever occur as single peaks, rather are they elongated peaks, each of which 'have' to be surmounted. Beinn Alligin was the first target – not that we could see it of course, for the weather befitted the scenery, rugged. 'We've had a good spell, but it has turned,' so we were told. And it stayed 'turned' throughout. Ah well, perhaps fewer suffered heat-exhaustion or vertigo since few of us could see! And so it began. 'You don't mean we're going up *that*!' Late it was more of a case of 'Oh no, not another hill!' From a Geographer (but taking Highers you'll understand) referring to Loch Torridon below having just been told it's a sea loch; 'But it'll be all right to drink the water sir,

P.T.O.



won't it?' No comment. Later from the same mouth, 'Is this water-fall salty too sir?' I ask you, we were 1,000 feet up. Zero out of ten for that, but no punishment, except to climb to 3,000 feet. Then there was the taste of salt – our own sweat. Beinn A. was arrived upon – not seen of course – but Mr Smith assured us of the fact. For most of us, climbing down was worse than the ascent. But we made it, linked up with the returning canoeists (who had paddled from Inver Alligin to Shielding and back), and returned to the Hostel.

So the groups turned around. A different group of canoeists went to Diabaig to be cajoled and ducked etc. The Smithies went to Kinlochewe from where they climbed Slioch and actually saw the sun momentarily. The Pedders did Beinn Eighe. We climbed into the magnificent Corrie Mhic Fhearchair and duly found the sad remains of the Shackelton aircraft under the Triple Buttress. We also found there a herd of deer mounting the slopes rather more easily than we bipeds, a near rock climb at the top, and a gale when we crossed the most exposed part of the ridge. Slioch was a longer walk but probably less eventful. By now all of us had 'done a 'munroe' or two' (a peak over 3,000 feet).

And so the third day arrived, and once more it was generally wet, misty and not a little depressing. Another day on the water for Mr Elliot, this time a bay well west of Shieldaig up to the head of the upper Loch Torridon. A long slog. The walking groups decided to 'take the low road,' because of the weather. The Smithies were dropped near to Kishorn and they walked along the wide glacial valley north-eastwards towards Torridon. It was largely a bog-walk along no path at all – so it was difficult, wearisome and wet under-foot as well as from above. The Pedders found a drier start and thereby had a pleasant up-valley walk to the Falls of Balgy and on into the hanging valley holding Loch Damh as a finger lake whose floor is lower than the sea-bed in Upper Loch Torridon. The loch-side walk was also very pleasant – until it rained. Eventually leaving the loch we too bog-walked, and in doing so one of the group strode over an adder, which we duly stared at and photographed. It was probably comatose due to the cold – or was it hatching its young? Anyhow, it remained stationary, and thankfully no one could find a stick to prod it! Both walking groups finished the day doing the same second leg which included a magnificent walk out of a hanging valley alongside a gorge littered with majestic rapids and falls. The fourth day was largely self-chosen. Certain pairs of feet could take no more of the hills. They went to the world famous Inverewe garden near Gairloch. Another batch chose to pony-trek. The more energetic were split between some open sea canoeing and another



Munroe – the latter feat ensured that even the latest of the late-comers reached above 3,000 feet. But if only we could have seen the heights!

Friday was for clearing and leaving. Torridon Y.H. was able to return to normal. In truth the warden, would claim that it was only normal during our stay. There were travellers from Germany, Holland, Australia, Sweden, England, Scotland – and Strathallan.

An interesting experience for us all. How many canoeists and/or hill-walkers were 'made' by it we shall not know. But an introduction to these very differ-

ent and exciting forms of exercise was given. Was it 'nice' after all? It was certainly nice to have been. Our thanks go to those who made it possible.

P.S.1 We found a purse with £21 in it in a field on the way to the hostelry – nice! Mind you, one of our number had previously lost a purse with £21.

P.S.2 The sun never shines in Torridon. Nor do the mountains have summits. Or so it seemed.

P.S.3 The stench of the drying room will remain with us all – but tinged with gratitude for it.



# Survival '85

After the successful survival experiment last year a number of volunteers put their names forward for a repeat performance in September 1984. The chosen island was a rather unknown little place called Lunga off the West coast of Scotland, an island which is too small to feature on any but the most detailed maps. We landed on a Monday, equipped with bivouac sheets and sleeping bags, fish hooks, snares, knives and matches and a bundle of spare clothes in the rucksacks. And, I almost forgot, a dozen tea-bags each as the only permitted food supply for one week.

The first consideration had to be the setting-up of a communal shelter; for this purpose we moved into the remains of one of the houses which, according to local gossip, had been occupied until about ninety years ago. All that is left of them today are the foundations, except for one, which we found to be more suitable and which we proceeded to make wind-and-rain-tight with the aid of ponchos and driftwood. There was enough bracken to provide dry and comfortable bedding, and soon we had a comforting fire blazing in the corner of our new home.

The next day the question of 'survival' had to be tackled in earnest. We all woke up feeling hungry and the need to find food began to dominate everything; the desire to satisfy this most elementary of all requirements is so strong that everybody's hunting instinct is awakened and heaven help the sea-gull or rabbit that gets in the way. Thanks to the combined efforts we were never really short of things to eat, even if they would not necessarily have met with the approval of sophisticated diners anywhere else in the world. Grilled sea-gull and chick-weed stew was a novelty to all of us, and a culinary experience which only a few people would like to encounter again. Much praise must go to Doug Gillespie and Angus Robertson whose trapping and general hunting skills contributed with (almost) regularity to the menu. In fact, one can safely say, that every member of our twelve-man strong party had at least three ounces of food per day.

But even with such a regular intake of nourishment the differences between

our normal, or customary, feeding habits and the harsh reality of Lunga were beginning to tell. Morale sagged to an all-time low on the third day, the two most burning questions on everybody's mind were: when is it going to end, and what is the point of it all? Well, the first question was easily answered, the boat would not be back until Sunday. As for the reason why – we had to sit down and take stock: Most of us have never been hungry in our lives. Maybe a little bit peckish, but never really reduced to a near-starvation diet. This totally unknown experience creates a certain stress, and every individual reacts differently to this. Common

Many people speak of going on survival expeditions, many say how much they would like to find out how they would react under harsh, adverse circumstances and I take my hat off to the boys who actually went along and found at first hand what it means to be deprived of the comforts we all take for granted in our daily lives. I admired the way they came through this moment of crisis, bounced back and continued for the remainder of the week, almost cheerfully accepting the inevitable hardships caused by adverse weather conditions and a constantly nagging awareness of the lack of suitable food.



to all is a feeling of lethargy, everything becomes an effort, ones movements are slowed down, thinking straight is a strain. This is the time when one has to try and rally one's mental reserves and take a very tight grip of oneself. The welfare of the group and of its weaker members must be considered, tempers must be controlled and what strength or skill an individual might have must be employed in the best possible way for the benefit of the community.

One had a lot of time to think on an island like Lunga, especially when one is sitting on some windswept rock, trying to out-wit the fish, using only the most elementary equipment like a piece of old corksandal for a float and a stone for a weight attached to your limpet-baited twopenny hook and string. And it is this time for contemplation which teaches one an awful lot about oneself and other people, about priorities and what really matters in life, which makes



# Survival '85 continued

an exercise such as this valuable beyond the obvious things. Of course it is nice to come back, having shed a few extra pounds and having acquired a weatherbeaten tan. But more importantly, one has matured more in one week than one normally would in a year.

On Saturday afternoon a fairly strong wind was sweeping the island, one hardly noticed it any longer. Suddenly the boat-man arrived in the shelter and announced that we had 45 minutes to get our things together and to get off the island. If we missed this opportunity, he said, he did not know when he would next be able to land on the island, as there was a severe gale brewing. Needless to say, we were all in the boat with two minutes to spare and only a few items left behind. The trip back to Iona was rough, but who cared? After all, we had two sandwiches to shareout, which the skipper had found left over in his lunch-box, and which he kindly donated when he saw the lean and hungry expression on our faces. We spent the night on Iona, enjoying the delights of proper food, things we had dreamt of for a week, like banana sandwiches, nutty bars, coffee and tea which did not taste of sea-gull.

On Sunday we said good-bye to our host and to the islands and returned to School, determined never to complain about the dining hall again (or hardly ever).

K.G.



# Walete

## Freeland July 1985

### UVI

Bond, C. J. L. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Cross Country; 6th XV; Philosophy; Social Services. 2 *Mansefield Place, Isla Road, Perth PH2 7HG*.  
Bowron, T. O. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 6th XV; Cricket 3rd XI; Philosophy; Drama; Social Services. *Edenside, Strathmiglo, Fife KY14 7QL*.  
Clarke, J. A. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; 1st XV; Football XI; Athletics; Cricket 3rd XI; Hockey 2nd XI; Social Services. *Ballindarg, Forfar, Angus*.  
Dawson, R. D. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 3rd XV; Sailing; Cross Country; Choir; Orchestra; Drama; Social Services. 2 *Sutherland Avenue, Pollokshields, Glasgow G41 4JH*.

## Leburn July 1985

### UVI

Buchanan, Angus C. Came 1978<sup>2</sup>; I; Head of Leburn; School Prefect; 4th XI, 3rd XI Hockey, Sgt. i/c. RM. *Wood Cottage, Otter-Ferry, Argyll*.  
Cozier, S. A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; VI; 1st XI Hockey; 1st XV; Soccer XI; Athletics; Indoor Hockey; Swimming; Cpl. RM.  
Ellen, P. B. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; V; Sailing; Sgt. RAF. *Tree Tops, Buchanan Castle, Drymen, Glasgow*.  
Dods, B. M. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; 2nd XV; 2nd XI, 1st XI Football; Basketball; Swimming; Skiing; Cadet. RM.  
Gowrie, M. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV; Athletics; Basketball; Football 1st XI (Capt.); Cdt. RM. *7 Amisfield Park, Haddington, East Lothian*.

### V

Dickens, J. A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; IV; Private Army. *33 Farburn Road Gardens, Stonehaven*.

## Nicol July 1985

### III

De Boer, M. E. Came 1985<sup>1</sup>; III; *154 North Deeside Road, Milltimber, Aberdeen*.

### V

Adam, R. M. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Cdt. Army. *New House of Glamis, By Forfar, Angus*.  
Avern, N. R. Came 1983<sup>1</sup>; III; Cross Country; Athletics; 3rd XI Cricket; Cdt. Army. *Suvrella, Murray Road, Newtonhill, Kincardineshire*.  
Barrack, J. G. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; 4th XV; Athletics; Cross Country; Cdt. RM. *Friendville, Thornsgrrove Avenue, Aberdeen*.  
Brown, P. C. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 2nd XV; Tennis VI; (M'bikes). *Forneth House, By Blairgowrie, Perthshire*.  
Leitch, S. S. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; III; *33 Bonaly Brae, Colinton, Edinburgh*.

Fagg, A. J. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 5th XV; Hockey 2nd XI; Summer Hockey 1st XI; Philosophy; Debating; RN-Cox'n. *Serendipity Newton of Fernitosh, Near Conon Bridge, Dingwall*.  
Fuller, J. C. C. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Shooting; Sailing; RN-Cox'n. *Rhebreck, Balmoral, Ballater, Aberdeenshire AB3 5TB*.  
Hamilton, R. S. Came 1977<sup>3</sup>; I; School Prefect; Cricket 1st XI; 2nd XV; Hockey 1st XI; RN-PO. 6 *McKenzie Drive, Kilbarchan, Renfrewshire*.  
McEachern, S. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; Golf; 6th XV; Cricket 3rd XI; Scholar; Drama; Motorbikes. *576 Crow Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow*.

Gray, C. E. T. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; 3rd XV; 3rd XI Hockey; 2nd XI Summer Hockey; Shooting; Cdt. (M'bikes). *c/o L. H. T. Gray, West Faerwood, Tillicoultry Road, Dollar*.  
Low, L. M. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Scholar, Bursary to Dundee Univ.; Debating; Cpl. RAF. *Painbridge Manse, Carnoustie, Angus DD7 6BC*.  
Lyll, G. D. Came 1978. I; House Prefect; Sailing; LS RN. *Tigh na Mar, St. Fillans, Perthshire*.  
Martin, D. J. Came 1977<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect. *Blairfettie Farm, Calvine, Pitlochry*.

Pawson, T. J. 1st XV; 1st XI Cricket; Squash; Cross Country. *Hillbarn, Oyne, Insch, Aberdeenshire*.

### LVI

Holst, M. J. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; Orchestra; LVI. *Philesophenweg 31, 2 Hamburg 50, F.G.R.*

### UVI

Beveridge, Justin J. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; V; House Prefect; 2nd XV; 3rd XI Hockey; (i/c. M'bikes). *Woodriddle of Barra, Old Meldrum, Aberdeenshire*.  
Galloway, J. R. House Prefect; Athletics (Vice-Capt.); Cross Country (Capt.); Bronze Medal Scottish Schools 5000m; Shooting (Capt.); Scottish Schools Shooting Team; RM. *The Cairn, Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire PA12 4LD*.  
Gillespie, D. J. R. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Shooting; Sailing; 6th XV; (M'bikes). *Dunrod Lodge, Borgue, Kirkcudbrightshire*.

Philp, S. J. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I. *The Long Barn, Goldsborough, Knaresborough, Near York*.  
Robson, M. L. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 2nd XV; Swimming; Cross Country; Athletics. *Pressen Hill, Kelso, Roxburghshire*.  
Smith, R. M. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 5th XV; Philosophy. *Karel Van Lorreinen Laan 24, B-1980 Tervuren, Brussels, Belgium*.

McAlister, A. J. 1st XV; 1st XI Hockey (Capt.); Squash; Basketball; 1st XI Football (Capt.); Social Services. *11a Durham Road, Duddingston, Edinburgh*.  
Orr, K. F. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 1st XV; Athletics; 3rd XI Hockey; 3rd XI Cricket; Chairman Debating Society; Pipe Band; Reading Prize; Drama. *12 Dean Ridge, Gawkhill, Dunfermline*.  
Redshaw, P. F. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; Cross Country; (M'bikes). *84 Sauchenbush Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife*.  
Skea, R. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; IV; 1st XI Tennis; Cpl. (M'bikes). *62 Gardyne Street, Friockheim, Angus*.

Lagerborg, A. I. L. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; Head of Nicol; House Prefect; 1st XV; 1st XI Hockey (Capt.); Athletics; Indoor Hockey. *Hogstadveinen 41, 1370 Asker, Norway*.  
Pratt, N. M. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Art Prize. *31 Carlogie Road, Carnoustie*.  
Robertson, A. C. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect. *Redmire, Long Formacrus Road, Duns, Borders*.  
Tench, A. W. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV; 1st XI Hockey; 1st 1st XI Cricket. *Newton of Burras, Stonehaven*.

## Ruthven July 1985

### UVI

- Adamson, K. H. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XV; 2nd XI Cricket; 2nd XI Hockey; Rugby 7s; Athletics; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Cpl. RAF. *West Friarton, Newport-on-Tay, Fife*.
- Baird, R. D. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; Captain of School; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey; 2nd XV; Private RM. *Kirkness Farm, Ballingry, Lochgelly, Fife KY5 0HH*.
- Downie, J. C. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 3rd XV; 2nd XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Debating Committee; Cross Country; Leading Drummer, Pipe Band. *Ellands of Brodie, By Forres, Moray IV36 0TE*.
- Drysdale, D. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 3rd XI Hockey; 3rd XI Cricket; Golf; Army. *Lochview Hotel, Crockettford, By Dumfries DG2 8RF*.

Gilyead, E. R. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 6th XV; 2nd XI Cricket; Skiing; Orchestra; Dance Band; Sgt. Army. *53 Barnfield Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5TH*.

Hamilton, G. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 5th XV; 2nd XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; PO RN. *Tulloch-gribban, Mains Dulnain Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3NE*.

McCulloch, A. J. G. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Indoor Hockey; 3rd XV; Sgt. Army. *92 Orrell Road, Wigan WN5 8HB*.

Shanks, H. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 2nd XV; 3rd XI Hockey; 2nd XI Cricket; Sgt. Army. *Easter Cash, Strathmiglo, Fife KY14 7RJ*.

Watson, L. W. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Swimming; Drama; P/Mjr. Pipe Band. *Halton House, By Leven, Fife KY8 5QD*.

### V

Abu Dahab, M. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; Athletics; 4th XV. *14/15 Haydock Park Gardens, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside or PO Box 1147, Amman, Jordan*.

Asfour, Z. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; IV; 6th XV; *PO Box 26, Amman, Jordan*.

Nabulsi, M. Y. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; IV; 2nd XV; Army.

## Simpson July 1985

### UVI

- Coutts, J. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; 1st VI Tennis; 3rd XV; 2nd XI Cricket; Photography; Navy. *Chartwell, Nisbet Road, Gullane, East Lothian*.
- Gichrist, G. A. J. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; Rugby VI XV; Young Socialists; Army. *Craiglea, 25 Craig Road, Tayport, Fife*.
- Kilpatrick, N. D. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Athletics (Capt.); 1st XV (Vice-Capt.); Cricket; RM. *The Lines, Little Bampton, Nr. Wigton, Cumbria*.

Stratton, N. T. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; 3rd XV (Capt.); Fishing; 2nd XI Summer Hockey; Founder Young Socialists; RAF. *Riverside House, Riverside Drive, Ratray, Blairgowrie, Perthshire*.

Tether, N. J. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; Head of Simpson; Smimming (Capt.); Squash VI; Athletics; 2nd XV; Geog. Prize. *c/o Mrs M. Tether, 52 Broadmore Way, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts*.

### LVI

McLaren, G. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; Chess (Capt.); YFC; Science Society; RAF. *Cults Farm, Cupar, Fife KY7 7TF*.

Paterson, G. C. L. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; YFC; Computers; Social Services. *Moness House Hotel, Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2DY*.

Paton, J. S. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; 6th XV; YFC; Sailing; RN. *Meikle Obney, Bankfoot, Perth*.

## Woodlands December 1984

### UVI

- Chisholm, Lindsey J. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; UVI; Head of Woodlands; School Prefect; Patrick Grandison Strings Prize; Chemistry Prize; Leader School Orchestra; Choir. *The Moorings, 29 Snowdon Terrace, West Kilbride KA23 9HN*.

### IV

- Thompson, Heather A. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; IV; *Woodrising, Buchanan Castle Estate, Drymen, Glasgow*.

### July 1985

### UVI

- Ayantuga, Bolajoko O. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; V; House Prefect; Social Services; *11 The Ridgeway, Golders Green, London NW11*.

- Bamford, Jennifer D. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Capt. of Hockey (Colours); Tennis (Half-Colours). *35 Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5NN*.

- Belch, Kirsten F. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; 1st XI Hockey (Half-Colours); YFC. *The Crossways, 53 Charlotte Street, Helensburgh G84 7SE*.

- Binnie, Sally A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; V; House Prefect; Athletics (Half-Colours); 2nd XI Hockey; Drama. *Firhill, Hatton Road, Perth PH2 7DB*.

Coutts, Phillipa D. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; UVI; 1st XI Hockey; Cross Country (Half-Colours); Athletics. *Woodburn Farm, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 3RG*.

Crispin, Lucy A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; IV; House Prefect; English Prize; History Prize; 1st XI Hockey; Leader Early Music Group; Drama; Choir; Philosophy Society. *Meadowend, Saline, Fife KY12 9TU*.

Edie, Caroline J. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; IV; School Prefect; Dpty. Head of Woodlands; 2nd XI Hockey (Capt.); Drama; Debating; Social Services. *20 Fountainhall Road, Newington, Edinburgh EH9 2NN*.

Fraser, Janet Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Chemistry Prize; Tennis; Cross Country; Orchestra; Choir. *Southbrae, 6 Edward Drive, Helensburgh G84 9QP*.

Lambie, Sarah E. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; French Prize; Maths Prize; Philosophy Society; Choir. *Bountree, Glenfarg, Perth PH2 9NL*.

McDonald, Amy K. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; IV; Head of Woodlands; School Prefect; Skiing (Capt.); Cross Country (Capt.) (Half-Colours); Athletics (Capt.) (Half-Colours); Drama; Social Services. *50 Abbey Road, Scone, Perth PH2 6LL*.

MacDonald, Katie F. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Tennis (Capt.) (Half-Colours); Swimming (Capt.); 2nd XI Hockey; Debating. *Dunsmuir, Cradlehall, Inverness*.

MacLaurin, Suzanne M. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; LVI; Athletics. *608 King's Court, Ramsey, Isle of Man*.

McMillan, Gaile E. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; UVI; *Nirvana, Longhill Avenue, Alloway, Ayr*.

Millar, Sheena A. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; UVI; Biology Prize; Choir. *Laurelbank Nurseries, Overtown, Wishaw, Lanarkshire*.

Scanlan, Katherine A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; IV; House Prefect; 1st XI Hockey; Athletics; Cross Country; Secretary of Debating Society; Drama. *34 Desswood Place, Aberdeen AB2 4DG*.

### V

Johnson, Sara E. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; III; *Hillcrest, Wark, Cornhill-on-Tweed, Northumberland TD12 4RH*.

McClung, Celia J. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; Athletics; Swimming; 2nd XI Hockey. *9 Wester Coates Gardens, Edinburgh*.

# STRATHALLIAN CLUB



## THE PRESIDENT

David Muir, our President this year, who has previously served as Club Governor, left school in 1951 with an active and versatile sporting and academic record. He subsequently graduated MA from Glasgow University in 1954 and was about to continue his academic career to read Medicine when domestic considerations required him to take over management of the family business in 1957 at the age of 24. He is married and has two daughters and a son, Martin who has recently joined Nicol House. His leisure activities include

hill walking, curling and golf.

The Muir companies which have traded in toys, cycles, textiles and footwear variously retail and wholesale, have prospered under David's leadership and have subsequently diversified into property investment. It is a great tribute to David that he has not only succeeded in maintaining the momentum of his family business against the background of many changes in High Street trading but he has also given generously of his time in public service to many bodies including The Junior Chamber

of Commerce, The Incorporation of Weavers of Glasgow, The Scottish Business Education Council and The Glasgow & Scottish Golf Unions to name but a few.

David is a good businessman and a true public servant. We are grateful to him as our President for his commitment to the Club in the current year and wish him well in his year of office.

## STRATHALLIAN CURLING CLUB

### Secretary's Report on the 1984/85 Season

The season's results made very poor reading. At the mid point of the season the club lay third in the Scottish Wanderers League and had not lost a friendly match.

However in the second half of the season we failed to win another Wanderers match, and slipped from third place to finish last in the league, our worst showing since the league started. In the friendly matches in the second half we won four out of seven.

Twelve friendly matches were played during the season, some involving two games against the same opposition at different times of the season. Where that happened the same team was not picked for each game and may account for the change in score. The matches were against Campbell Neill & Co. (10-2), Glasgow Junior Chamber of Commerce (12-7 and 8-4), Rolling Stones (8-3), Clydesdale Bank (5-5 and 9-8), A. J. Maclay & Partners (9-2), Glasgow Ski Club (13-4), Drystanes (9-7 and 10-13), Crouch & Hogg (4-6) and Whitecraigs Tennis Club (5-8) giving a result over the season of Played 12, Won 8, Drawn 1

and Lost 3, Shots for 102 and against 69.

In the Sandy Miller Knockout Competition at Crossmyloof the team of Jack Turner (Skip), Ronald Grant, Peter Lewis and John Fingland won their first round match against Mearns Coronation but lost to Cambuslang in the second round, Cambuslang in turn were knocked out in the next round.

The Archie Barr Trophy for the match between East and West Strathallians was contested at Kinross in November before the Strathallian Club's AGM and Dinner in Perth. The trophy was retained by the East who won by ten shots on aggregate. East I skipped by Lord Kincraig lost to West I skipped by Jack Turner 5-9, but East II skipped by Bert Gibson, beat West II, skipped by Ronald Grant 17-3.

The Scottish Wanderers Bonspeil was staged at Crossmyloof in March in yet another new format, with all the representative skips forming two rinks, the 3's another two rinks and so on. Allan Fitzpatrick nominated as a lead was a member of the winning rink.

The Club had 19 members this year

who played one or more games, the most active member having 9 games in all. The 3 reserves, Alastair Headrick, Jimmy Smith and Charlie Magee may have been called on but the records do not show any of them having played during the season. Eight times in the season a team turned up exactly as selected - only one of these games was won so the Secretary must be losing his touch in team selection.

Only twice in the season did we fail to put out a full rink (same unnamed person on both occasions) and at least once 5 members turned up to play. In the first friendly match against the Drystanes, 6 Strathallians were present, 2 appearing for Drystanes. A number of members skipped teams against the Strathallians, Stuart Biggart for Campbell Neill & Co. and The Junior Chamber, Douglas Lewis for Drystanes and Robin Turner for A. J. Maclay & Partners. Seven members of our Club acted as skip for friendly or league matches this season.

Next year's season commences at Crossmyloof on 16th September.

Kelvinside Accies won the Wanderers League and at the end of the league it was:

	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Points</i>
1. Kelvinside Accies	11	1	2	124	87	67
2. Glenalmond	8	2	4	109	81	52
3. Glasgow Accies	7	1	6	102	75	43
4. Sedbergh	6	2	6	104	83	42
5. Watsonians	6	2	6	104	104	38
6. Loretto	5	1	8	88	105	27
7. Merchiston	4	1	9	72	123	27
8. Strathallan	3	2	9	79	124	24

*Last year you will recall we finished second overall!!*

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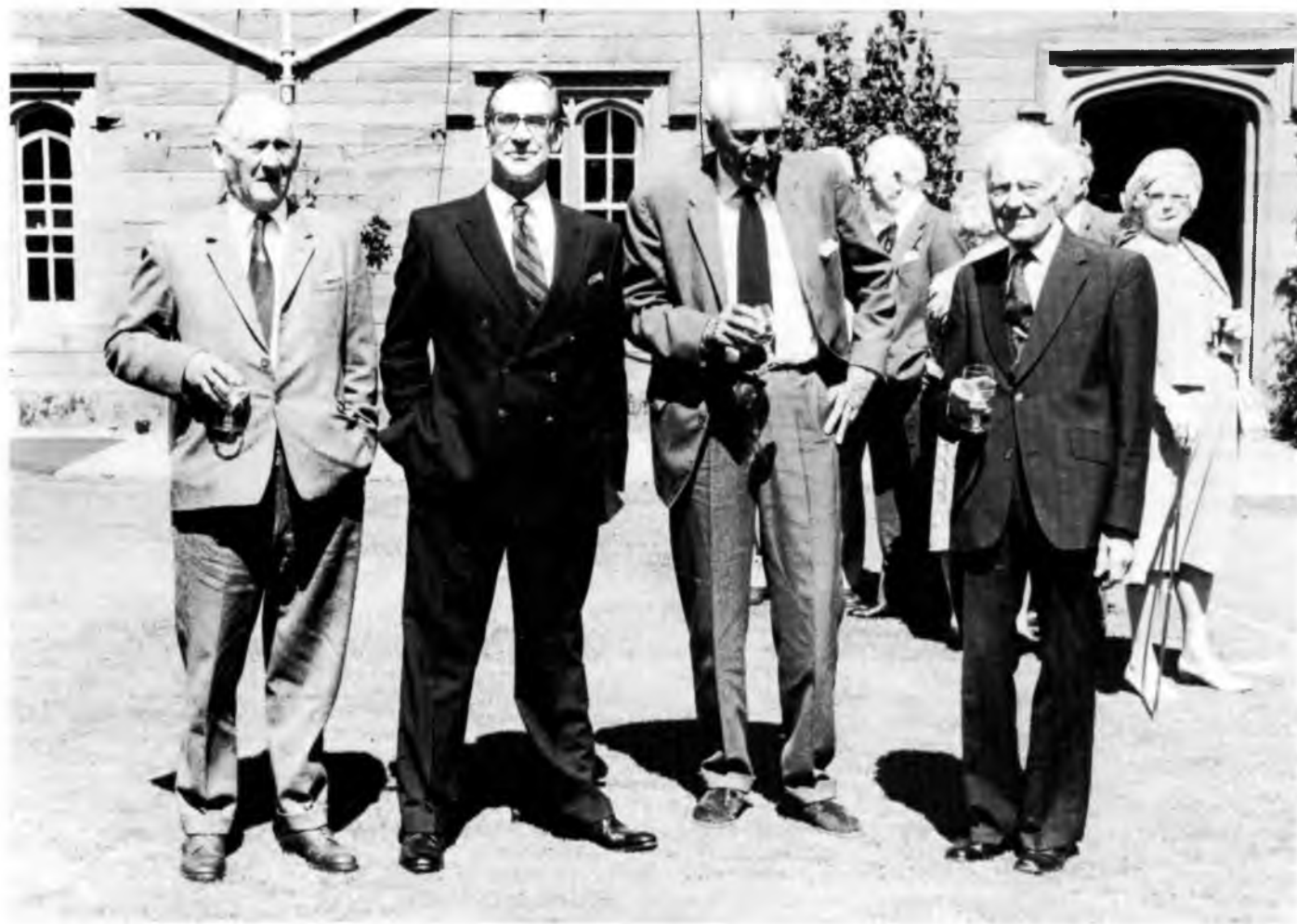
### MEMBERS OF THE STRATHALLIAN CLUB ADDRESSES

*Every time a circular is sent out we get a bundle of packages returned from the Post Office with 'Gone Away' written on it.*

*Can you please keep us informed of any change of address by sending it to the Headmaster's Secretary at School. The Club will be informed automatically.*



# LUNCH FOR STRATHALLIANS LEAVING SCHOOL BEFORE 1939 AND THEIR WIVES



Sunday 2nd June 1985 turned out to be a gorgeous day with warm sun. The rhododendrons were at their best and the School grounds were looking lovely. It was a somewhat historic day for the School anyway, because Strathallians who left School before 1939 had been invited to lunch with their wives. Present members of the School donned their kilts to act as ushers, pour drinks and show people to their tables. The Pipes and Drums played on the lawn and the XI played the Occasionals in the afternoon. The setting could not have been more perfect.

Memories of faces long forgotten were revived by photographs and in the flesh, and to get to the drinks on the lawn the Headmaster had routed all the guests through Harry Riley's study! 'What a small room,' someone remarked. Others kept their hands firmly in their pockets – presumably the naughtiest of their day!

After lots of chat and generous drinks, lunch was ready in the Dining Hall, and the afternoon was there for everyone to walk around, and meet and see old friends, and find out what the Strathallians of 1985 are like.

Sadly one or two people had to call off at the last moment and many wrote to say that distance or other commitments prevented them from accepting, but the turn-out was wonderful and most encouraging.



It was a special pleasure to welcome Dr Robert Burgess and Mr Alexander Thomson, both of whom left in 1918 before Strathallan moved to Forgan-denny, Mr James Paton (1921) whose son and grandson are Strathallians too, and Mrs Eirene Bogie whose husband David did so much with J. B. Maitland Cowan for the School and the Club. Unfortunately Mrs Margaret Smith a Strathallian 'grandmother' was unable to be present. The young 'chickens' who left as recently as 1923 and thereafter, are too young to get a special mention.

Other guests included Mr Ian Gow who had many connections with Strathallan in its Bridge of Allan days and Dr Bill Pasfield a former Director of Music at the School.

Memories of Strathallan of long ago were happily revived and today's pupils may wonder what a visit for them to their old School will be like in the year 2052!

Those who attended were:

**Strathallians and their wives:**

Mr & Mrs D. C. Fulton, *Chairman* 1939  
Mr & Mrs D. I. Muir, *President* 1951  
Mr & Mrs J. H. Allan  
Mr & Mrs F. A. Anderson  
Mr & Mrs J. Anderson  
Dr G. W. Balfour  
Mr & Mrs W. Bone  
Mr & Mrs A. J. G. Brown  
Mr & Mrs J. E. Buchanan  
Dr R. C. Burgess  
Mr & Mrs V. R. Chappelle  
Mr & Mrs R. G. Clow  
J. B. M. Cowan  
Mr & Mrs J. A. Dow  
Mr & Mrs J. Findlay  
Mr & Mrs D. Fleming  
Mr & Mrs A. Fraser  
Mr & Mrs R. R. Fraser  
Mr & Mrs J. H. Frost  
Mr & Mrs D. A. A. Fulton  
Mr & Mrs I. C. Geddes  
Mr & Mrs E. C. Gillanders  
Mr & Mrs N. A. Gillanders

Mr & Mrs S. R. Gillanders  
Mr & Mrs A. Graham  
Mr & Mrs J. S. Graham  
Dr I. D. Henderson  
Dr & Mrs R. A. Houston  
Lord & Lady Kincaid  
Mr & Mrs R. D. Linton  
Mr & Mrs W. A. MacAlister  
Dr & Mrs D. McColl  
Mr & Mrs A. McCreadie  
Mr & Mrs J. McFadzen  
Mr & Mrs T. MacFarlane  
Mr & Mrs A. J. McGregor  
Mr & Mrs G. S. McInroy  
Mr & Mrs J. W. McMillan  
Dr & Mrs A. S. Martin  
Mr & Mrs A. J. B. Milroy  
Dr A. Morrison  
G. D. Muir  
Mr & Mrs I. P. Murray  
Mr & Mrs J. Paton  
W. P. Pringle  
Lt. Col. & Mrs W. W. Rae  
N. G. Reid  
Mr & Mrs R. B. Reid  
W. H. Reid

Mr & Mrs G. F. Christie  
D. L. Robertson  
W. G. Rowan  
Dr & Mrs W. R. Steven  
Mr & Mrs A. S. Thomson  
D. K. Thomson  
Mr & Mrs G. M. Thomson  
Mr & Mrs S. J. Thomson  
J. P. Tindal  
Mr & Mrs I. M. Turner  
Mr & Mrs D. Vost  
Mr & Mrs R. B. Wallace  
W. J. Wallace  
R. A. Wilson  
Mr & Mrs J. M. Wood

**Guests:**

Lt. Col. & Mrs J. D. Aldridge  
Mrs E. Bogie  
R. G. Cowie  
T. C. G. Fairbairn  
I. Gow  
C. P. Hewson  
Dr W. R. Pasfield  
C. D. Pighills (*Headmaster*)  
J. S. Burgess

*The text of an anonymous untitled poem enacted during the entertainment by Ken Orr, might amuse some who knew Wilf.*

I'm just a little Riley boy – well a bit larger than norm –  
I was smoking in my bed last night and set fire to the Dorm.  
Old Dougie Silver smelt the smoke, and came charging through the door.  
'You wicked, naughty little boy! You're going to Mr Hoare.'

My wee knees knocked, my hands did shake as my finger touched the bell,  
'I'm sure I'm going to be expelled, and given six as well.'  
Then Gracie opened up the door: 'Hello, my dear,' she said,  
'The Study's there – for you must be the boy who burnt his bed.'

I knocked upon the door this time, and heard Wilf shout 'Come in!'  
I bit my teeth into my lip, to control my wobbling chin.  
'You're late, you're late,' Old Wilfred cried. He grabbed me by the ear,  
'Put on your gloves, put on your pads, put on your batting gear.'

He pushed me through the Study door and dragged me to the nets.  
'You have the bat, now take your guard, and then you'll see it gets  
Much easier each evening. Now remember what I said  
When you were batting yesterday: 'Arm straight, and raise your head.'

The whole eleven waiting there then bowled fast balls at me,  
'Your elbow up, and forearm straight,' Wilf cried with utmost glee.  
I tried and tried, and batted hard and did what I was told.  
(Oh what a hellish punishment!) – but then I wasn't bowled!

'It's time for Prep, we all must go. Well batted boy, well done!  
Now back you come to-morrow then, and we'll repeat the fun!  
'Excuse me Sir,' I said at last, 'I think I must confess,  
'Twas me who burnt down half the School and made that awful mess.'

'Burnt down the School? Well never mind, Insurance companies pay,  
That's what they're for. Now to important things – and this is what I say –  
Your elbow up – your left arm straight – and then we'll see – Good Heavens!  
You can easily buy new buildings – but you can't buy good elevens.'

It is hoped to have other dinners for different year groups in the future, so please keep the School informed of your address, so that you may be invited.

# Obituary



**Ian David Stuart, MA, LL.B. CA.  
1929 – 1985**

An infectious smile and a happy laugh – that is what greeted the visitor to his house or to his office; but quickly that open invitation to trust and to feel welcome was followed by a meticulous concern for the detail of the business in hand. But then again; how was it that Ian seemed to melt into the background so that you and your question (or whatever) took centre-stage; how does anyone combine that kind of humility, caring concern and gaiety with efficiency, authority and serenity? Whoever you were you came away from meeting Ian feeling three inches taller, with a faith deepened, a stronger sense of purpose and an intent to try to live up to his modest courtesy, loyalty and love.

To have known such a man as Ian in his family life, in his christian life, in his church life, and in his business, is a privilege beyond telling. His enthusiasm was unstinted – yet balanced by that gift of wisdom and discernment which is rare.

From The Very Reverend Philip Crosfield.

When I first met Ian Stuart in 1959 he was a plump young man, heavier in build than myself, but in 1962 he took ill with a rheumatoid virus which put him out of action for almost six months and at the end of it he re-appeared the lean, sometimes gaunt figure that most of us remember.

Although we didn't know it at the time the virus had affected his heart, so that years later two major heart operations to replace valves became necessary. In a way he was very glad to have lost weight, and certainly it never changed his personality which remained throughout, by nature and by grace, that of a happy energetic man with a tremendous zest for life, a deep concern for people, and an ability to laugh, even in circumstances where that required great courage.

He was the only child of Charles and Maude Stuart, but his mother's family

was very large and he knew nothing of the loneliness or isolation of so many single children. After attending Dundee High School and Strathallan, he went to St. John's College, Cambridge, where, with the interruption of a spell in National Service, he graduated in Arts before returning to Dundee to read law and accountancy, graduating LLB and CA. His National Service was in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and he found that one of the most enriching experiences of his life. He refused to consider a commission, but did become a sergeant, and it is typical of him that, whilst in the army, he befriended some German prisoners and one in particular, who acted as an interpreter, became a life long friend.

In his private life he was a man of great culture. He loved music and literature, the theatre and the visual arts; he was cosmopolitan too, well travelled and with a great enjoyment of food and wine. In his professional life he was, of course, highly efficient but what the Church will remember mostly is not administrative, legal and accountancy expertise, but his extraordinary pastoral ministry to the clergy, their wives, their families and their widows. Nothing was too much trouble. He was always accessible; he was always interested; and his care, concern and advice were always well informed. No-one ever turned to Ian Stuart in vain; indeed some of us sometimes thought he was a little too accessible, especially in his later years when his reserves of energy were decreasing. We were afraid that too much was being asked of him, yet he himself was always wondering if he was giving enough.

He married Nancy, the daughter of a distinguished Church of Scotland minister, Dr R. F. V. Scott, who after charges in Dundee and Glasgow became minister of St. Columba's, Pont Street, London, and later Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. That made sure that the natural inclusive generosity of his heart and mind were committed, right across the board, to the Ecumenical Movement. Ian and Nancy were enormously happy with their family (John who is 26, James who is 25 and Emma who is 21) and they are of great comfort and support to Nancy now.

Those of us who ministered to Ian in his last months and days, and especially towards the end, will never forget the courage and serene faith with which he greeted his approaching death. He was indeed 'a good man, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith.' May our end be like his.

From The Most Reverend A. I. M. Haggart,  
Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing Ian during school days in the forties, remember him with affection for his remarkable sense of humour and for the interest in and caring he showed for his fellow pupils. He made a lasting impression and formed several fine friendships which have endured and developed over years during which his gaiety and lively wit have delighted and

rejuvenated us. We have sought his advice, and the strength of his character has been a lasting support.

He hailed from Tayport, Fife, and after happy years at Strathallan graduated from Cambridge and St. Andrews Universities. After completing his CA apprenticeship at Dundee he went into partnership with his father, C. E. Stuart; Stuart & Stuart CA's. In his association with the Episcopal Church, in the area, many charities benefited from his seemingly inexhaustible store of energy and compassion.

The death of his father in 1966 gave him the opportunity of the (then) Representative Church Council, and later Secretary General and Treasurer of the General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church. It should be every administrator's aim to be 'competent – but caring,' and Ian personified this ideal, being neither, as some officials can be, so coldly efficient that they forget that papers and statistics represent real people nor apt to excuse malpractice on the grounds that 'This is a Church not a business!'

Ian's friends and associates remember him for his unfailing courtesy, care and thoughtfulness; for his humility, efficiency and skill, knowledge and thoroughness; for his loving care, for his staff and all whom he served; for his special concern for the needy and disadvantaged; for his enquiring mind.

He showed a lion-hearted courage through years of pain, weakness, frustration and ill-health. Patience, an indomitable joyfulness, and an unconquerable spirit supported his persistent concern for others.

The Primus presided at a Requiem Eucharist at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, Edinburgh on February 21st, 1985.

We remember Ian with affection and respect.

Laurance Barclay.

## Professor David Spence

David Spence was appointed a Governor of Strathallan, representing St. Andrews University, in May 1978 and he continued being the University's representative on the Board until his untimely death in May 1985. He was a distinguished botanist, though we usually saw a lighter side of him as he arrived on his motor-bike for Governor's Meetings and peeled his black cycle-gear off at the Front Door.

Professor Jim King, Chairman of the Education Committee writes:

After his appointment to the Board, David Spence quickly developed a feeling for the School and he made a full and valuable contribution to all our discussions, always with the greatest of good humour. His genuine enthusiasm and deep interest in people were obvious to all who worked with him. He felt great affection for the School and this was mutually returned. Whenever David was at meetings, or when he was with his wife Dorothy at social functions, laughter and fun were never far away. Our deepest sympathy goes to Mrs Spence and their daughters in their loss, which is one we share.

# News of Old Strathallians

- ANDERSON, J. A. (1953/57) is the sector controller for National Express in Carlisle.
- BAKER, A. J. W. (1968/73) has been elected captain of Lloyds Bank R.F.C. for 1985/86 after representing United Banks R.F.C. in 1983/84/85.
- BENZIES, D. (1970/75) was appointed director of William Culross & Son Ltd., James H. Jackson Ltd. and Charles Keith and Co. Ltd. in May 1985.
- BIGGART, D. (1962/68) was appointed general manager of Fine Fare Superstore, Hawick in January 1985. He has taken up marathon running, and has completed the Glasgow marathon twice, and the Dundee marathon once.
- BOYD, W. J. (1937/42) was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.
- BROWN, S. A. (1982/84) is now attending Oxford and County Secretarial College.
- BUCHER, M. (1954/60) is now managing director of Lonestar Toys Ltd.
- BULLOUGH, D. (1982/84) is working in London as secretary for an advertising company.
- BURDEN, D. W. (1941/49) has emigrated to Western Australia to avoid the rain!
- CAMPBELL, A. D. K. (1955/59) is a Wing Commander in the R.A.F. serving on the staff of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff, and expecting to move to a new appointment in spring 1986.
- CHALMERS, J. A. (1944/51) is chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ipswich Hospital.
- CRABB, S. A. (1980/81) is a trainee accountant with Price Waterhouse, Aberdeen.
- CRAWFORD, I. (1973/80) is flying 747s for British Airways.
- CUNNINGHAM, R. A. (1975/77) has recently qualified as a Sea King pilot, serving with 814 Naval Air Squadron, Culdrose and H.M.S. Illustrious.
- DANGERFIELD, P. H. has been awarded an M.D. for his thesis entitled 'A study of Neonatal Measurements.'
- DRYBOROUGH, W. G. (1950/57) has moved to Mid Wales as farm manager/lecturer for the Welsh Agricultural College, Aberystwyth, and would like other old boys in the area to get in touch on 09747-242.
- FELLOWS-PRYNNE, T. R. (1973/78) is a customs officer in North Shields, Tyne & Wear.
- FIELDING, N. has been in Cairo for the last 7 years, which is the base for his international corporate legal practice. He is the chairman of Claymore Investments Inc., and director of several other companies with wide-ranging interests. He would be happy to welcome any Strathallian in the area.
- FROST, K. (1944/50) and R. FROST are now directors of Martin & Frost in Edinburgh.
- GALLOWAY, W. (1958/60) is the Information Centre co-ordinator for Canadian Forest Products Ltd.
- GARDNER R. A. (1977/78) has reached the final year of his Ph.D. at the University of Salford, and reports that N. L. GARDNER (1975/76) is an instructor at the Schlumberger Training Centre, Egypt.
- GERRARD, G. A. M. (1970/77) is director of archaeological excavations on Bodmin Moor, and field surveyor for the Cornwall Committee for Rescue Archaeology, researching early Cornish tin industry for a doctorate.
- GIBSON, W. D. is currently working for Bell Ingram, Chartered Surveyors, in Glasgow.
- GILMOUR, C. G. R. (1979/81) has been appointed senior (II) speech therapist (southern unit), Inverness, with the Highland Health Board.
- GOODBURN, M. G. has obtained a Class 2, Division 2 Honours Degree in Civil Engineering at Leeds University.
- JARLOW, K.-J. (1978/83) is entering the third year of his Geology degree course at Glasgow University.
- KEECH, J. R. N. has recently been appointed international business development manager of Ford's tractor division. He has also been appointed to the board of Fabreca de Tractores Agricolas in Mexico and is responsible for other special markets.
- LECKIE, S. (1981/83) has taken up wrestling. He was second in the Espoir British Championships and has wrestled in the under-20 age group for Scotland against Manchester, South England and Germany. He has finished the 2nd year of his course in Catering and Accommodation Studies at Napier College.
- LEISHMAN, R. S. F. (1968/74) is working for Britoil in the designing of an oil rig for the Clyde field.
- LINN, J. W. (1956/61) is the general manager of Lark International China Ltd.
- LOCKE, J. M. O. C. (1980/82) has graduated in dental assisting in Canada.
- MACHARG, J. M. (1939/44) was elected president of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland in June 1985.
- McKEE, N. H. (1979/84) has played rugby for Ulster under-20s and Edinburgh Academicals, and starts a degree course in engineering in the second year at Edinburgh University in October, 1985.
- McLENACHAN, W. D. (1968/75) is a quality assurance inspector for Rentokil.
- McPHERSON N. W. (1974/81) has finished his B.Sc. in Agriculture at Aberdeen University, and graduated in general honours with a 2(i). He captained the University hockey XI for the 84/85 season.
- MURTON, L. J. (1980/82) has graduated in Drama and English.
- NIVEN, G. (1983/84) has finished the first year of her degree course in fine art and painting at the Winchester School of Arts.
- PATON, R. C. (-/66) gained his M.D. in 1983.
- POWRIE, G. C. R. (-/82) gained his Royal Lyceum prize at Queen Margaret's College and was with the Scottish Theatre Company in 'The Three Estates' and 'The Wallace' at the 1985 Edinburgh Festival.
- POWRIE, R. A. D. (1966/74) recently completed two years as Adjutant of 3/51 Highland Volunteers in Stirling. He is now on a two year secondment away from the Argylls with the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VIIS own Gurkha Rifles in Brunei and then Hong Kong.
- PROSSER, D. H. (1974/79) reports that his brother is now working as a civil engineer in Abu Dhabi, after being best man at his wedding.
- RANDELL, A. M. (1978/83) is entering the third year of his degree course in accountancy in October 1985, and is president of the Strathclyde University Accountants Society 1985/86. He reports that G. SEDGWICK has finished his first year of Mechanical Engineering at Dundee, and F. COZIER has finished his first year of Chemical Engineering at Aberdeen. C. LEE has achieved a 2(i) honours degree from Dundee, and P. LEE has finished the honours year of his pharmacy degree at Strathclyde.
- REID, P. K. graduated in summer 85 with a 2(i) honours B.Sc. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Heriott-Watt University.
- REID, D. S. (-/79) has completed his course in Architecture Technology and is working for the Bank of Scotland's Architects Department.

STARK, R. C. (1968/72) is practising as a solicitor, and reports that his brother I. C. STARK (1970/72) is a systems analyst for British Syphins plc.

STEELE, B. W. (1970/77) is a works engineer for Vinyl Products Ltd.

WALKER, D. A. (1973/78) is a site engineer for hydro-electric dam installations in Malawi.

WALKER, R. G. (1973/78) is currently employed by Chevron Petroleum (U.K.) Ltd. as a reservoir engineer, and reports that M. GRANT (1973/78) is working with W.L.P.U. consultants in Kenya.

WALLACE-REA, W. (1924/29) was elected Lord Dean of Guild of the City and Royal Burgh of Dundee on 29th October 1984.

WEARMOUTH, C. C. (1959/64) is the Group General Manager, Financial Control of the Hong Kong Land Co. He reports that A. L. WEARMOUTH (1964/69) is working in the Indonesian jungle on a World Bank project for Morrisson Knudsen.

WHITE, A. L. (1927/30) has retired.

WORDIE, W. (1977/82) is starting the final year of his Higher Diploma at the Aberdeen College of Agriculture. He reports that his brother G. WORDIE is working in the family business.

## BIRTHS

BAIRD, G. G. (1975/78) to Mr and Mrs Baird a son, George Alexander on 2nd January, 1985.

BALFOUR, A. G. (1962/69) to Mr and Mrs Balfour a daughter, Gillian Sarah on 29th March, 1985.

BETHUNE, A. W. (1964/71) to Mr and Mrs Bethune a son, Calum Peter on 1st May, 1985.

FELLOWS-PRYNNE, T. R. (1973/78) to Mr And Mrs Fellows-Prynn a daughter, Lorna in April, 1985.

TAYLOR, M. C. (1969/73) to Mr and Mrs Taylor a son, Paul Matthew Klaus on 19th October, 1985.

## MARRIAGES

BROWN, D. R. (1965/71) to Miss Jane C. Wrigley on 29th June, 1985.

DOVE, J. M. (1972/77) to Miss Melissa Austin on 27th May, 1985.

FELLOWS-PRYNNE, T. R. (1973/78) to Miss Bernadette Dowling in March 1984.

GIBSON, W. D. to Miss Elaine C. Skinner on 11th June, 1985.

GILMOUR, C. G. R. (1979/81) to Mr Collier MacEwan on 16th November, 1984.

LEISHMAN, R. S. F. (1968/74) to Miss Sally Gubbin on 16th February, 1985.

McBRIDE, D. J. (-/71) to Miss Cynthia Radzewicz on 20th April, 1985.

McLENACHAN, W. D. to Miss Katryna Ferens on 17th October, 1984.

PROSSER, D. H. (1974/79) to Miss Susan Westrop at St. Mary's Nolton, Bridgend.

STARK, R. C. (1955/62) to Miss Jong Siew Kian on 8th February, 1985.

STARK, R. C. (1968/72) to Miss Josephine Crozier on 11th August, 1984 in Suffolk.

WALKER, R. G. (1973/78) to Miss Jane Roper on 9th June, 1984.

## ENGAGEMENTS

GARDNER, R. A. (1977/78) to Miss Sally Woodhouse (due to be wed 29th September, 1985).

GERRARD, G. A. M. (1970/77) to Miss Helen Buxton.

## DEATHS

McCULLOCH, J. G. (-/30) on 14th September, 1984.

STRACHAN, F. W. (1915/20) on 17th April, 1985.

# Leavers Comments '85

## They have enjoyed . . . . .

Some of the people . . . .  
 Meeting some real individuals.  
 The utopian type life style.  
 The community atmosphere.  
 The friendliness of the masters.  
 Rugby and 'Rugby Lads.'  
 Cricket.  
 Watersports, athletics, hockey, tennis etc.  
 Watching cricket on the lawn.  
 The 'Pope.'  
 Chapel.  
 The motor-bike section.  
 Trendy clothes.  
 Young Socialists.  
 Theatre visits.  
 Breaking rules.  
 Computers.  
 Miss Atkinson's cat.  
 Jazz.  
 Rikki.  
 Crisps.  
 Drama.

## They will miss least . . . . .

. . . . The rest of the people.  
 Boring, stereotype, idle, shallow, earth dwellers.  
 The routine.  
 Lessons on Monday afternoon.  
 Mindless pigheadedness.  
 Games in the cold.  
 Standards.  
 'The narrow minded totalitarian control of the rugby players.'  
 Chapel.  
 Congregational practice.  
 Corps.  
 The 'Wham Gang.'  
 The smell of Kimmel in the history rooms.  
 Other peoples clothes and music.  
 Fire alarms.  
 Air Conditioned toilets.  
 Toilet paper.  
 The food, especially lunches.  
 Retiring and rising too early.  
 Doug Drysdales Burton shirts.  
 An actor too full of himself.



## DINNER FOR STRATHALLIANS LEAVING SCHOOL 1950 – 59

The first of a series of gatherings for Strathallians, grouped by the years they left School, was held at Strathallan on the 30th March 1985. The Chairman of Governors and Headmaster had invited all those who left School between 1950-59 whose addresses could be discovered. Those accepting arrived at School to be accommodated in the Woodlands single rooms. (Some expressed disappointment that the usual occupant was away – for it was during the holidays). Bow ties adjusted, the company assembled in the Saloon and Drawing Room for drinks with the Headmaster, where there was a display of photographs showing many of those present 30 years younger with more hair and less stomach. Dinner was served in the Music Room – eating in the Chapel did not used to be allowed! The School Pipe Major, Lorne Watson piped in port and the Chairman of Governors David Fulton (1939) said a few words of welcome to the chief guest, who was Wilf Hoare himself – the one person present who did not seem to have changed at all. After an excellent dinner provided by the School Caterers, Craig and Carmel Young and their Staff, everyone went over to the Lecture Theatre where there was a most professional short entertainment presented by the Early Music and Drama groups, who had given up some of their holidays to put on the show. The official part of the programme finished with nightcaps in the Headmaster's House again and the unofficial part of the programme reminisced on until the small hours. On Sunday morning everyone seemed remarkably spritely and ate far more breakfast than usual or was good for them, and slowly dispersed during the morning.

All those who attended seemed to thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to see the School as it is now, meet some friends, many of whom they had not seen for years, and even see one or two of the Masters again! Surprise, surprise it didn't cost anything, and SO FAR no begging letter has been received. . .

Those who attended were:

### Strathallians:

D. C. Fulton, *Chairman of Governors*  
I. M. Aitken  
A. A. Arneil  
Dr A. A. Barclay  
S. M. Bayne  
B. Benson  
R. M. Benson  
J. A. Brough  
W. R. Brown  
R. A. Carswell  
R. S. Chalmers  
J. W. Dinsmore

P. Eason  
R. S. Eason  
D. M. Fisher  
A. J. Fitzpatrick  
H. I. B. Fitzpatrick  
M. Gardner  
I. A. W. Gillespie  
A. B. B. Gilmour  
R. M. D. Grant  
S. W. Grierson  
D. W. Hannah  
G. T. Hudson  
Dr K. R. Hunter  
N. R. King  
R. J. Kinvig  
H. R. Levick  
W. R. Linn  
R. S. Little  
A. Logan  
D. F. Logan  
J. M. Low  
C. McCreadie  
M. McGill  
J. A. McIntyre  
J. McKee  
W. A. McMillan  
J. M. Maguire  
N. F. Maguire  
I. D. Marshall  
C. J. Marsland  
R. A. C. Miller  
D. I. Muir (*President of the Club*)  
M. J. Morgenthaler  
T. I. R. Ovens  
R. W. W. Paterson  
J. Paton

J. G. Paton  
D. S. Pattullo  
J. C. Pattullo  
J. R. Peters  
R. M. Rentoul  
A. D. Ritchie  
D. M. Sinclair  
G. W. Sinclair  
J. H. Sinclair  
I. W. G. Taylor  
D. A. Thain  
H. F. Wilson

### Guests:

R. A. L. Burnet  
T. C. G. Fairbairn  
W. N. S. Hoare  
C. P. Hewson  
C. D. Pighills (*Headmaster*)  
P. R. Spurgin  
D. A. R. Williams

Many letters of regret were received from Strathallians both at home and abroad, and the letters of thanks received afterwards were very much appreciated.

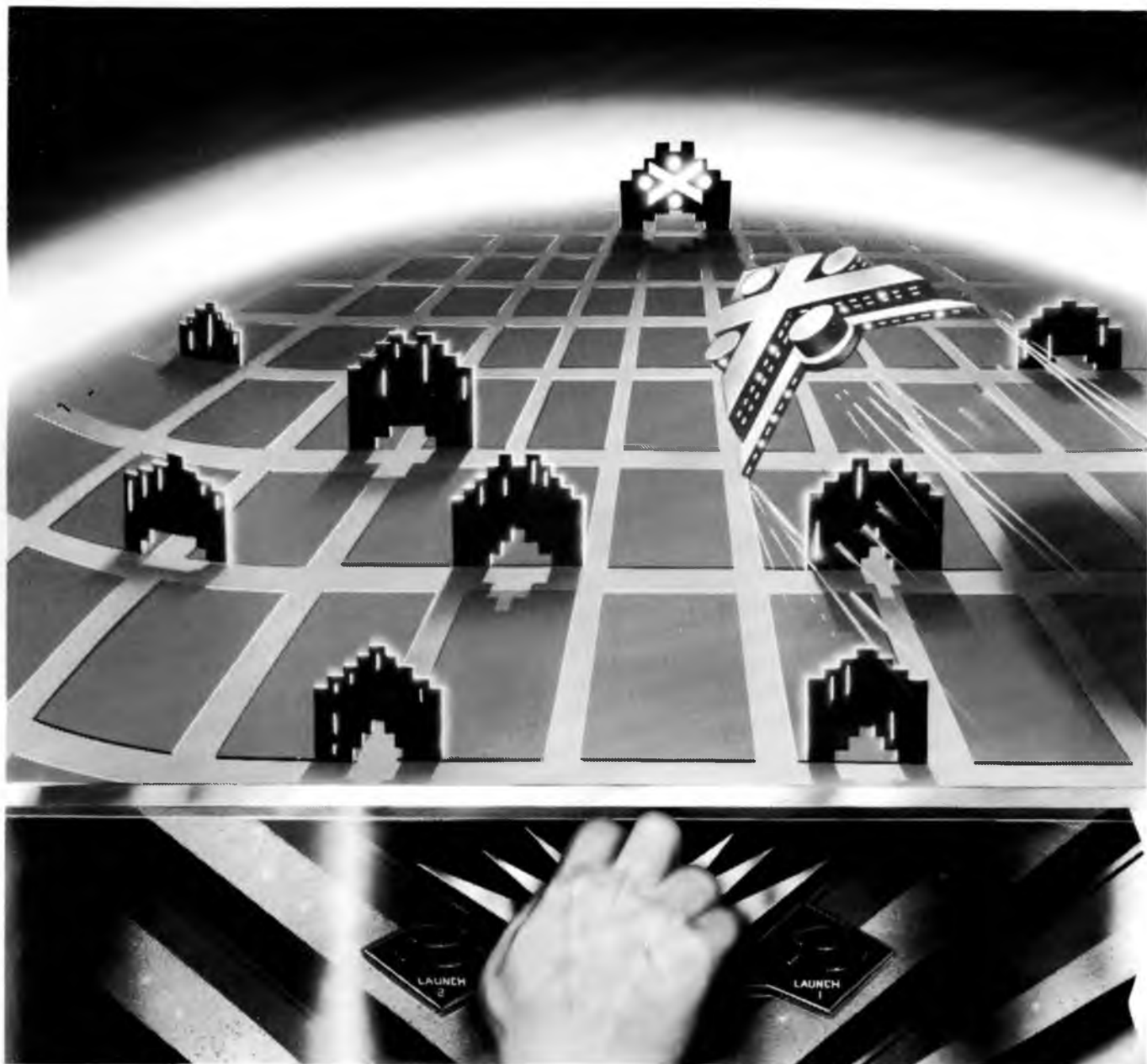
The Entertainment was given by:

*The Early Music Group:* J. Lozowy, Lucy Crispin, Jo Fagg and Nicola Thaw.

*Drama Group:* Ken Orr, Sally Binnie, Tom Bowron, Amy McDonald, Sean McEachern and Kate Scanlan.



Three Generations of Strathallians – *The Patons of Bankfoot, Perth*



# A friend you can trust with your money.

*From now on you will have to decide where your money goes, how much you spend and how much you save.*

*What you really need is a friend who can advise you.*

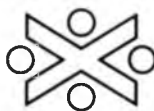
*A friend at Bank of Scotland.*

*A bank account will help you*

*manage your money and make the most of your new independence.*

*A free bank account can help you even more – and that's what Bank of Scotland is offering.*

*Drop into your local branch of Bank of Scotland. You'll make a friend for life.*



**BANK OF SCOTLAND**  
A FRIEND FOR LIFE



*labor omnia vincit*

