



The Strathallian 1989/90



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The Strathallian

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Back cover designed by Tanja Lannen

*Front cover photograph of Thornbank
by Mr Burgess*

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M. Wilson, RN

SUBJECT

Physics

ic

Head of Department

Head of Department

Housemaster Simpson

Head of Department

Second Master

Housemaster Nicol

Housemaster Woodlands

Head of Department

Head of Science

Head of Department

Head of Department

English

History/Music

Chemistry

History

Head of Department

CDT

History

Housemaster Freeland

History

Housemaster Ruthven

Mathematics

Music

Head of Department

Biology/Computers

P.E.

Housemistress Thornbank

Econ. Bus. Stud.

Head of Department

Mathematics

Physics

Head of Department

French/German

Physics

Housemaster Riley

English/History

Chemistry/Biology

Head of Department

Biology

Design/Technology

Geography

Head of Department

French/Russian

Head of Department

Careers

C.D.T.

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English

Geography/English

Games

English

Chemistry

Art

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Mrs F. N. Ninham, BA (St Andrews)

Mrs H. C. K. Segauld

Science

Games

French

English

Mathematics/French

Games

Medical Officer

A. Forsyth, MB, ChB, D.Obst., MRCP, RCOG

School Authority

Captain of School
D. R. Logan

Head of Freeland	A. D. Lochore
Head of Leburn	A. J. Sinclair
Head of Nicol	R. A. Bond
Head of Ruthven	W. K. Clark
Head of Simpson	D. W. Smart
Head of Thornbank	A. T. McMaster
Head of Woodlands	C. F. Burns

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K. J. Boyd A. C. Cook C. A. Dunbar K. Pattinson

SALVETE

RILEY HOUSE

A. McDonald, A. Sutherland, S. J. Callander, N. A. Charlier, D. G. Christie, M. J. Devine, N. W. Kennedy, D. H. MacDonald, D. McIntyre, R. G. McMillan, F. C. Nicolson, T. H. Ranger, B. M. Scott, H. Scott, J. Ward, L. M. Webster, I. G. Anderson, K. A. Anderson, M. A. Burrell, C. M. Cooper, K. I. Cooper, F. R. Currie, S. Davidson-Dell, J. N. Donald, A. J. Forbes, C. Gdula, J. F. Goody, A. D. Hall, F. Hamilton, J. R. Henderson, A. Higgins, M. G. Honig, B. W. Hutton, L. M. Hutton, R. O. Maddox, D. I. Matheson, D. C. Moncur, A. G. McMullan, M. Narchi, J. D. Osborne, C. S. Perry, C. S. Rogers, D. A. Stone, P. M. Sutherland, A. C. Wilson.

FREELAND HOUSE

M. S. Gordon, R. C. Lamb, G. D. Obank, J. A. Booth, A. B. D. Dundas, D. R. G. Elder, J. A. R. Finlay, G. J. McKendry.

NICOL HOUSE

R. A. Cumming, J. S. Ireland, D. Man, A. C. B. Marsham, N. E. L. Melville, K. I. Morrison, A. Scott, I. D. Senior, J. D. Turner.

RUTHVEN HOUSE

N. P. Brookes, G. R. Nicolson, D. G. West, P. G. Love, L. J. Scott, S. D. Storrie, N. J. Gibb, R. A. D. Williams, J. P. Barlow, G. J. Gemmill, M. D. Greshon, G. J. Levack, A. J. Macdonell, I. R. Potts.

SIMPSON HOUSE

B. M. I. Muir, D. A. MacMillan, D. N. Simmers, D. B. Clement, C. J. Cooper, A. J. Y. Duncan, D. G. O. Fergusson, P. D. Hodgson, R. J. Pollock, D. J. A. Smith, W. Stewart, D. M. Wright.

THORNBANK HOUSE

J. Morris, K. L. Nicolson, F. H. Cameron, K. L. Fowler, V. A. Henderson, C. L. Low.

WOODLANDS HOUSE

K. E. Primrose, S. Allen, F. M. Grainiger, C. J. Burns, M. J. Gillingham, K. L. A. High, J. C. Malcolm, K. E. Yellowlees.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this year's school magazine. It is doubtful that it will make as interesting reading to anyone connected with Strathallan as did the Daily Record but nevertheless I shall bludgeon on. One merely has to read past editorials to somehow get the impression that the energy needed to create the havoc reported, in that newspaper, is somewhat lacking here! (No disrespect to previous writers of the editorials — I understand the difficulties of the job believe me!)

In writing any editorial and particularly one for the school magazine, one is immediately aware that, in all likelihood, it will not be read. Does this give me carte-blanche to burst into a blisteringly off-colour and brutally honest diatribe about life in general and Strathallan in particular? — Stop gripping the arm-

chair so tightly! Unfortunately, of course, I must stay within the bounds of traditional sensibility — which undoubtedly will make less scintillating reading, but such is life.

The year has had its moments: great changes have taken place. It pained us all to witness the demise of the old Ruthven and Nicol study blocks (sob) but our misery was alleviated by the encampment in the new building where our senses were astounded by how quickly the grass grew. Leburn House was the next victim — not the building this time, but the souls within it who were scattered to the remaining four winds (houses!) where, I am reliably informed, they have taken root happily. The Leburn study block is temporarily occupied by Fourth Formers this year, but demolition will follow the

completed building of Halls 3 and 4 (R.I.P.).

Then the establishment of another magazine within the school, rival to this noble publication for which I write, must be commented on. Chiefly the work of members of the sixth form, the "Yess" magazine draws its readership from the pupils and to the best of my knowledge is not yet available to parents. So far, no loss, but it's improving.

However, here the usual gratitude must be shown — and rightly so — to all who have contributed to or helped with, the magazine and indeed the school this year; our thanks are definitely merited. The results, I can assure the doubters among you, *will* make interesting reading.

Jon Minihane

Colin Addison

As we went to press, we heard the tragic news of Colin's death. Everyone at Strathallan feels a deep personal loss, and we send our heartfelt sympathy to Anne, Bruce and Gillian.

Sadly, a full appreciation of his long years at Strathallan must

wait until our next issue, but for fifteen out of its twenty-one years of existence, Leburn House meant "Colin and Anne," and all former members of the House wish to say how much they appreciated his caring, patient and wise guidance.

STAFF NOTES

In last year's staff notes you will see the opening sentence reads "For the second year running we say "Goodbye" to a small number of leavers from the Common Room and again "Welcome" to slightly more new members." For a number of reasons, not the least of which is to meet parental expectations of staffing ratios, there are yet again more additions to the staff than there are departures.

Those leaving have not, sadly, been long with us. Mr Cullen, after two years as Head of Economics, is changing his life as a Schoolmaster for that of a free-lance writer. Mrs McKillop from the Language department is returning to Canada and Dr McLay leaves the Music Department to return to the specialist music school, Cheetams. They all leave for their very different habitats with our best wishes.

Mr Nigel Smith, together with his family, comes from Fettes to head the Economics department and start the "A" level Business Studies course. Mrs McKillop is replaced by not one but one and a half linguists: Mrs Duncan full-time and Mrs Maltman part-time. Mr Love comes to the Music Department via London and Ireland. Mr Summersgill, together with family, comes, comes from Blackburn Grammar School to join the Physics department, and Mr Murray comes to his first teaching position to join the English staff.

Staff inevitably come and go in the normal business of a School's life. So also are there changes within the School and none more important than those involving a change of Housemaster. All parents are aware that as part of the redevelopment programme involving the building

of new study/bedrooms for boys, Leburn House is to be discontinued for a time. Leburn was chosen as by coincidence Mr Addison retires from the House after completing his fifteen year reign. Never having been a boy in the House, it is impossible to speak from first hand experience but having heard so many of the Leburn boys over the years speak to me with such warm affection and respect for Colin Addison I know I can say on their behalf a sincere "thank you" for all the care and concern that Mr Addison brought to his stewardship and also to Anne his wife for all the numerous extras that she so willingly carried out behind the scene without anyone ever knowing. They have our very best wishes for the rest of their time with us at Strathallan for, although retiring from the House, Mr Addison has still much to do elsewhere in the school!



L to r: Mr Smith, Mr Love, Mr Summersgill, Mrs Duncan and Mr Murray.

PRIZE WINNERS

The Smith Cup for Captain of School — Duncan R. Logan.
The Houston Prize for all round merit — Alexander Lochore.
The Scanlon Cup for merit (Girls) — Kate Morrison.
Dux — Andrew M. Marshall.
The William Tattersall Art Prize — Alexander H. C. Davidson.
The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music — Neil N. Cockburn.
The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings — Susan Leiper.
The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize — Catherine Burns.
The Richard Moffat Prize for History — Kate Morrison.
The David Bogie Prize for Economics — Alexander G. Johnson.
The Lord Kincaid Prize for English — Laura Marshall.
Geography — Elizabeth C. Reekie.
French — Rhidian Davies.
German — Rhidian Davies.
Politics — Morris T. Legge.

Mathematics — Penelope J. Carruthers.
Chemistry — Jeremy S. Parker.
Physics — Alan G. Davidson.
Biology — Nicholas D. Dempsey.
Art — Laura Marshall.
Craft Design Technology — David Smart.

Oxford and Cambridge

Congratulations to the six pupils who gained places at Oxford or Cambridge this summer:

— Neil Cockburn (L) Keble College, Oxford, Organ Scholar.
— Kate Morrison (W) Magdalen College, Oxford, to read Modern Languages.
— Kate Bowden (W) University College, Oxford, to read Engineering.
— Catherine Burns (W) Pembroke, Cambridge, to read Philosophy.
— Alex Johnson (L) Balliol College, Oxford, to read Law.
— Rhidian Davies (L) Trinity Hall, Cambridge, to read Modern Languages.

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Thanks to the many contributors, especially Peter Goody, Murray Hamilton, Mr Burgess, Mr Barnes, Mrs McFarlane, Mr Court and Mr Vallot.

If . . .

If I could tell you I would let you know,
But I cannot speak. I can write though.
My teeth are stuck together with glue,
But I can still write to you.
With my pen I can communicate,
Put across my message before it's too late.
If it's important you'll surely know,
For I can write — as you already know.
I may write of the weather, the sun and the rain,
(People may think I am madly insane.)
I could write of the animals in the jungle trees,
My lions and tigers and chimpanzees.
If I could speak I would tell you instead,
But as I can't my letter will be read,
I know.

Roderick Christie.
(After W. H. Auden)

SPEECH DAY

Strathallan School Speech Day was held on 26th May and a more pleasant summer day could not have been chosen. Sir Roger Young, the former principal of George Watson's College, travelled from his home in Bath to appear as the guest of honour.

The Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr J. W. Dinsmore, opened the proceedings. Mr Dinsmore reflected upon two major changes that have been made to the school: the introduction of girls ten years ago and the more recent development — the construction of the new houses for boys. Both changes have been a success: it is difficult now to remember Strathallan without the girls and plans are being pushed ahead to turn the idea of study bedrooms for all senior pupils into a reality.

Tribute was paid to the staff for their individual and collective contribution to the School. The School's reputation was steadily growing thanks to the developing resources, both human and physical, and, thought Mr Dinsmore, would continue to do so.

In his speech the Headmaster welcomed the new staff and praise was given to those pupils that had excelled themselves in sport, music and the recent dramatic production "The Boyfriend." Academically the school has also done well with the GCSE results being approximately twice as good as the National Average. The Headmaster revealed plans for another development in the form of an expanded careers advisory department, another example of the school changing with the times.

Sir Roger Young awarded the prizes and proceeded to make an excellent speech in which he emphasised the importance of education from experience. Sir Roger Young's memories of walking in Nepal with his family brought home to us the need to discover our own limits, priorities, strengths and weaknesses and most importantly the benefits of interdependency — something that is fundamental for an effective school. Sir Roger's tale of the man who carefully planted trees in a barren valley related to our situation here at Strathallan where the new developments will bear fruit in the near future.

The speeches therefore shed light upon many different aspects of school life and at the same time looked forward to the future. Perhaps the most poignant expression of this was in the Headmaster's speech:

'As an Independent School it is sometimes our privilege to exercise our Independence by doing nothing more than standing still and not adapting to the "Modern side". Sir Roger had a reputation at George Watson's for reading poetry to the whole School at Assembly. I do not suppose at the time he ever expected to be remembered for this but, that he has, gives me the courage to read a short poem with which to close. It was written by a friend of mine who with his wife had spent all his working life in Schools, admittedly boys' ones. It is called "Background Music" and just happens to be about hymns and compulsory chapel, but it could be about so many other things. It reads:

All through our married life, we've heard
The sound of boys — boys singing, in
School chapels, hymns — hymns which
for them
Were old and dull, though they'd be
stirred
On big Speech Day occasions when
They roared out Blake's Jerusalem.

Those boys will now be family men
In middle age — and, if they go
To church at all, they'll want to sing
Those old, dull hymns and hear again
That old full-blooded organ-flow
Of their school chapel rendering.

We little realise what we owe
To things like hymns we hate, reject,
Were bored with; and we bore our
wives
By going on about them so
And so, unconsciously, select
The background music of our lives.

What a responsibility, what a
'challenge!'

Laura Marshall

*Governors and Headmaster 'at the helm' on
Speech Day.*



“DO YOU HAVE GIRLS AT STRATHALLAN . . . ?”

(By Jonathan Forster (Housemaster Woodlands 1986-))

“Do you have girls at Strathallan?” an old boy asked me recently.

“Had them for ten years,” I replied. “More than ten if you want to be precise. Started with a few in the 6th form — great success. Now got them all the way through from Riley?”

“Riley? You mean you have girls in Riley?”

At this point I gave up trying to bring up to date one of the very few people who don't know about the girls at Strathallan. (This particular old boy had a good excuse — he'd been in Australia for twelve years). For those of us who have come to Strathallan in the last ten years (about 1,000 pupils and perhaps 30 members of the teaching staff), it's difficult to imagine the school without girls. You'll never convince the diehard male chauvinist — the sort who believes that “a woman's place is in the wrong” — but I have never heard any member of the school (past or present) deny the value of having girls at Strathallan. “The boys wash more often now, and wear after-shave,” the Headmaster will tell you jokingly, but that's just the beginning of the story . . .

The first few girls, all sixth formers, lived in the first two bungalows adjoining Thorneyshades hockey pitch, and were looked after by Cosmo and Annabel Fairbairn, assisted by Mr and Mrs John Brown, who lived in the third of the original Thorneyshades bungalows. The girls' house was in fact called ‘Thorneyshades’, but as the girls were all sixth form, wore no school uniform and only numbered 12, the girls were merely attending a boys' school — certainly participating as fully as possible, but not fully integrated. This arrangement obviously proved to be extremely successful, but of course limited, and very shortly the decision was taken to admit girls from thirteen plus, as full members of the school.

‘Woodlands’ as the first girls house was now named, opened in 1981. David and Kay Williams — experienced campaigners with fifteen years of Ruthven behind them, were installed as the first husband and wife ‘housemaster’ team. Obviously it is not possible for a man to run a girls' house without a wife to assist and advise, and David and Kay worked together for five years to establish girls at Strathallan as equal, but different, members of the school. Girls became school prefects, girls wore a uniform (as close as possible to the boys'), girls played games and won. The school's academic reputation was enhanced by girls, who although by

no means always cleverer than the boys, were usually better motivated, and certainly more mature in their approach to academic study. Music and drama burgeoned during this period — not that there had not been good music and drama before, but the influx of at first 30, soon 60 and by 1986, 90 girls into a senior school of about 400 pupils, gave music and drama a greater emphasis in the life of the school.

It's invidious in any general account to select individuals for special attention. In any event, as an outsider during this era, (1980-86) one tended to notice the girls who starred in the classroom or in some other sphere of school-life, and was less aware of the girls who laid the solid foundation of care and responsibility within the house itself. ‘Woodlands’ was always planned to give single-room accommodation grouped around small kitchen/social areas. In practice the younger girls have often shared a room, which is usually a good idea, if only because one learns to cope with someone whom you may not particularly like! The senior girls, under the Williams aegis soon developed their own pastoral system, caring for the homesick or depressed, usually by blethering into the early hours of the morning!

By 1983 a second wing had been added to Woodlands, and numbers moved up to 60 and beyond. The decision to build a third wing was taken soon after, and as the Williams finished their five year stint in 1986, a third wing was opened. Needless to say, a house of 90 single rooms, a sick bay, common rooms, music practice room, laundry and showers, is a very big house, and whoever took over from David and Kay Williams would need to be keen walkers! 90 rooms to visit each day. Paula and I moved into a gigantic building, perhaps at first overawed by the impressive day-to-day routine handed on to us. Did the Williams really know so much about these girls? It appeared they did. Did David really empty the tokens from all the washing machines and driers every week. He did — AND he knew how the boiler worked. Once we realised that we would never emulate the efficiency of the Williams, and concentrated on getting to know the girls, we began to cope.

Lyn Smith's arrival at Strathallan in 1987 heralded a more coherent approach to the coaching and structuring of a girls' games programme. Penny Walker, Colin Walker and Jan Carratt had shouldered the burden of all girls' games organisation and had achieved some excellent

results in hockey and tennis. Lyn's brief was to develop team games whilst at the same time introducing new options for the non-team players. Individual sports such as athletics have likewise blossomed recently.

All this time — and by 1988 there were 112 girls in Woodlands — “Woodlands” and “the girls at Strathallan” were synonymous in the senior school. Inter-house competition against boys is usually not possible in most sports, for it is pointless girls competing in sports dependent to some extent upon brute strength. The weight of numbers and a feeling, perhaps, that a boarding house in excess of 100 could lead to anonymity for some of the quieter members of the house with so many others clamouring for the attention of the housemaster, his wife and house tutors, led the governors to authorise the building of a second girls house — ‘Thornbank.’

One wing of Woodlands was joined to a new housemaster's house, common room and sick bay area and to a new wing built at 90° to the existing west wing. Some girls from Woodlands would be moved into Thornbank and joined by about thirty new girls. The achievements of the first nine years of girls at Strathallan perhaps assisted the headmaster in deciding that the best man for the new job was a woman: Lyn Smith. If I comment only briefly on Thornbank's sporting successes in their first year of existence (9 out of the first XI hockey team, 22 out of 27 representatives on the Barbados Hockey Tour, a victory in all but one of the inter-girls house sporting competitions), it is merely because I'm coming to the end of my allotted space in the magazine!

The new slim-line Woodlands (back down to seventy girls) has benefitted from the opening of Thornbank — see the Woodlands House Report. And two interesting facts emerged during the final hours of last summer term. Woodlands' new head of house (Fiona Mowat) is the sister of the first Woodlands head of house to be a school prefect, Carolyn Mowat. The second bit of news may not have reached the old boys in the outback of Australia, but the Headmaster yet again picked the best man for the job of Head of school when he asked Nicola Robb to be School Captain for 1990-1991.

Yes, we do have girls at Strathallan!

Above right: First girls at Strathallan (1979-80) with Mr and Mrs Fairbairn and Mr and Mrs Brown and family.



SO WHAT HAS THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT GOT TO DO WITH OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT?

Did you know the African elephant is the only animal in the world with four knees? That it makes a pillow for itself before it goes to sleep? Or that it's hard to insult one because it's so thick skinned? (One and a half inches thick to be precise.)

The African elephant is very proud of its skin actually, massaging it, powdering it with dust, and bathing as often as possible. (Is this why it's so wrinkly?)

Maybe the bath water it uses isn't hot enough, because the African elephant also gets a lot of colds. (So if you ever see one with an elephant size tissue, duck. Its sneeze is so powerful it's been likened to an exploding boiler.)

Here's a tip, never bet on an elephant to win gold in a high jump competition.



(They're the only animal on earth that can't get off the ground.)

Now, this could be useful. Never find yourself stranded and thirsty in the

Sahara if you haven't brought along an elephant. It can use its trunk to sniff out water from 3 miles away. Clever thing an elephant's trunk, it can pick up pins, pull up trees, even uncork bottles of wine. (And you thought your labrador was clever.)

Anyway, what has all this got to do with banking? Well this multi-talented pachyderm also has a phenomenal memory. And that's the point. When the time comes for you to open a bank account we'd like you to be a bit of an African elephant and remember this name.

Clydesdale Bank

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RILEY



DIV. PLAYS oh no! they're on again.
We waddle on stage as cowboy or hen.
Ten points at stake, we mustn't lose!
We're all so brilliant how can they choose?



RUGBY'S TEAM was rather young.
And yet a match or six were won.
We may have been a bit too small,
But we knew what to do with an odd shaped ball.

Expensive **BATS** and leather **PADS**?
We don't need them we're the Riley lads.
With Stephen's bowls and Logie's drives.
They were lucky to escape with their lives.
But we won eight matches and lost just one.
Wait for next year! Here we come!



JUNIOR GIRLS HOCKEY on the Riley pitches?
People thought they would laugh till in stitches.
But with Lucy in goal and our forwards up front.
Our opposition were in for a bit of a shunt.
When all was over, played and done.
We had only lost just the single one.



We love **NETBALL**, yes indeed.
No matter the colour or the creed.
You'll love Mrs Buchan — ooh she's great—
She's nowhere near her sell-by date!
Matron, Bessie; biscuit ban.
Rush to the match in a Pennywise van.
Sit in the back seat, talk about R.A.D.A.
Wondering if life does ever get harder!



Oh the **FUN RUN** is a great affair.
With loudest of clothes and bunched up hair.
Emerging from the lush green grass.
Oh good — it's Rowan, I'm not quite last.
We've got our badge and can of coke.
Time to relax and have a soak.



FOR ENTERTAINMENT it's Samson's show,
The audience are laughing when his muscles blow!
Here comes Delilah with looks so fair,
Samson's excited he's lost his hair!



Screaming crawler,
Mother caller.
Headache maker
peace breaker.
Toy chewer,
Small spewer.
Unsucceeding walker,
Makeshift talker.
Silly squabbles,
Temper wobbles.
New hobbies,
Annoying bobbies.
Height of fashion,
Clothes are smashin'
Studying hard,
Off work card.
Fine job,
Dirty snob.
Executive suite,
Life is neat.
Growing old,
Got a cold.
Life we steer,
Death is near.
Up in Heaven,
Back to seven.

A L I F E T I M E

Struan Fairbairn
David MacLeod
Form I



TENNIS IN RILEY with Borgy's skill,
Good first serve and in for the kill.
We won all our matches by more than a game,
We've reached the Scottish final! Here comes fame!



THE SEA DEVILS

Long and Round,
Makes no sound,
Terrible sight,
Here comes a fight,
Stripey Sails,
Beats Gales,
This Devil afloat,
Is a Viking Boat.

Morag Bruce

They killed the Monks one by one,
They threw them to the ground,
Then they went inside the church,
To take the gold they found.

Robert Barr

They liked to raid and plunder,
Or to work the land,
But when it was time to die,
They'd die with sword in hand.

David MacLeod

We are going a-Viking,
To rape and plunder and kill,
We'll be loaded up with riches,
And all because of our skill.

Douglas Patterson

The Vikings came,
With death in their name,
Large striped sails,
Blowing in the gales.

**Elizabeth Outlaw
Form I**

THE BATTLEFIELD

The mangled bodies dying,
The injured soldiers lying,
Under the stars,
Praying to Mars.
The God of the fight,
Who gave the Romans might.
He has now vanished,
After the caledoneii he'd vanquished.
But the Romans still marched on to
destroy,
And in the village a little boy,
Wept . . .
And wept . . .
And wept . . .

**Nicholas Morley
Form I**

*Above: Pauline McCracken and Peter Brown
take to the water in an 'Enterprise'.
Right: Mignonne Khazata's alternative to lines.*



FREELAND

This year a fine example was set by those at the top of the House. Rarely can three School Prefects in a House have given such an example of integrity, and consequently the house was a happier place for everyone.

Now then — attitude to work. Few people enjoy work, particularly when it reaches the excruciatingly boring stage of revision. In the House this year some people, particularly in the fifth form, have worked very hard indeed. Others, particularly in the Upper Sixth, have left everything until the last minute. One or two have done nothing. It is impossible to *make* people work. Of course sanctions can be used, punishments given or even positive encouragement. If boys wish to spend their parents' money in committing academic suicide, so be it. BUT, and this is the real point, they must not interfere with the work of others. A game of cricket in the passage with a milk crate, tennis ball and hockey stick does little for the concentration of others in the vicinity. A community attitude must develop in which it is the norm to work

hard and in which it is not acceptable to disturb others. It would be a pity if draconian measures were to be deemed necessary.

After last year's excellent performance, it was unlikely that this year would be so good on the sporting front. Nevertheless it was far from bad and it was particularly pleasing to see so many less than brilliant natural athletes contributing to the cross-country cup (the Coronary Cup for staff is under consideration). Pleasing also was the final Athletics victory with some exceptional individual performances (never mind the Relay).

I cannot remember being so sorry to see a group of leavers go. Freeland without the intellectual sparkle of a Logan, without the whinny (or bray) of Spanner, (who is going to captain everything?), without Mark's hairstyle (or H-C's). No more Spanish sub-culture. There are good points though. Another dormitory will be available now that Robert and Kristien have picked up their clothes and there will be flights available

to the Philippines. (Incidentally, parents, three pupils from the Philippines, over a period of five years plus, clocked up less early leaves and late returns than one *local* pupil over a shorter period. Worth a thought?) Perhaps the highlight of the year in some ways was the Prefects' dinner. Organised by CNC and the Prefects and produced by themselves (with great co-operation from the kitchens) this was symptomatic of their overall attitude. As a group of leavers they had had their ups and downs but their friendliness and sociability remained.

To Charles Court, without whose assistance I would have long ago been committed to an asylum (it could still happen) and to a superb group of academic tutors — Simon Pengelley (who does evening duties as well), Adam Streatfield-James and Geoff Bolton — go my sincere thanks. My thanks go also to the members of the House whose overall attitude has been excellent. I wonder how we will get on when I'm 'on site'. Beware!

R.W.P.



Mr Court is taken away at high speed.

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LEBURN HOUSE — VALETE

Ed. These reports were written before the sad and unexpectedly sudden death of Mr Addison.

"House tragically slaughtered — only 21 years old." Yes, I'm afraid it's true, Leburn is being disbanded at the end of this term, and by the time you read this the non-leavers will have spent their first non-Leburn term at Strathallan.

I came into Leburn in September 1985. At that time it was seen by us ex-Gnomes as the most popular and most friendly House with the most modern buildings (suppress the chuckles please — this is a requiem after all). We green third-formers had heard the usual senior school chat about semi-slavery, cold showers, wicked corruptible scheming prefects, but it never quite materialised. In fact, as I progressed up the school everything was fine, great, super, until the summer of the fourth form when they cruelly and callously chopped down the cherry blossom tree. A fairly unimportant thing in itself perhaps but it heralded . . . Hall One! Yes, there was a dark, evil side to those great "New Houses" you have read about in these pages and this act was the beginning of the end. But in 1986 we were all still too young, foolish and naive to understand the implication of what was happening before our very eyes!

Leburn has been living in limbo since the 23rd June, for it was then that the "End of Leburn" party or the "Leburn Wake" took place chez Mr Pighills. Despite an air of accepted inevitability, the atmosphere was relaxed and good humour prevailed throughout the evening. Everybody enjoyed the mouth-watering eats (chicken casserole followed by strawberries and cream), and the "fun and games" which took place in the Lecture Theatre afterwards. Messrs Cockburn and Parker wrote the sketch "Fruity Moments", a parody of Julian Clary's "Sticky Moments," and it was well received by all. Our Queen of Comperes, Neil Cockburn, dressed up in a slinky outfit with full make-up, stole the show. A great evening ended with a presentation to Mr and Mrs Addison of a crystal decanter, crystal glasses, and a cheque from the assembled company and the Leburn Old Boys.

As a House we have had quite a Swansong — without wishing to deride past efforts our achievements this year have certainly been the most impressive since I've been here. The zeal to go out in a blaze of glory was very definitely to the fore. Certainly, dearest to Mr Addison's heart, and one of the highlights of the year was our half share in the senior House rugby cup. Captained by Andrew Sinclair the team played with good spirit and commitment throughout the competition and in the final against Simpson hopes were high that a Glenn Jones try in the first half might be enough to win the

game. However, it was not to be, for Simpson scored an equalising try in the second half, and though two of Keith Salter's penalty kicks went tantalisingly close, there was no further scoring even after extra time. It was a great game and having been the outsiders we were delighted to share the spoils. We won the Rowan Cup for Standards once again, after an effort by almost everyone and in squash we also reigned supreme — the competition was rather novel this year in that it took the form of "Us versus the Rest."

On a more academic plane, I led the debating team of Fraser Rea and Sandy Milroy to victory in the inaugural House Debating competition — the standard of debating in general was acknowledged to be high and it was very satisfying to win a competition which hopefully will become established as a prestigious event in the school calendar.

And now for a few notable individual achievements. Neil Cockburn won an Organ Scholarship to Keble College, Oxford and made history as the first Strathallian to win such a distinguished award. Congratulations Neil and good luck. Rhidian Davies just needs an AAB 'A'-level combination to gain a place at Trinity Hall, Cambridge and we all hope he makes it. We mopped up five prizes at Speech Day — Neil Cockburn (music), Rhidian Davies (French and German), Alex Johnson (economics) and Morris Legge (politics). Andrew Sinclair was selected for the President's XV and was a member of the Scottish U-19 schools squad, and Keith Salter played for the school at cricket, hockey and squash whilst still in the fifth form.

Andrew 'Ferty' Sinclair, a scrupulously and sometimes sickeningly fair head of house, got the backing of the top corridor and helped to create what was a very good camaraderie amongst the U-VI. Fraser Rea has demanded another mention and one therefore remarks that he recovered well from a theatre trip during 'The Fall', and continued to play a lively, though less authoritative role in the affairs of the school thereafter!

The Addisons have been mentioned already, but after 15 years of being in charge of Leburn, deserve a bit more. They have always been tolerant and helpful, and Mr Addison was a very highly respected Housemaster. Leburn would like to wish him and his wife all the best for the future. Mr Glimm, our nine year-old tutor (service not age!) will be missed by all on Wednesday nights and Mr Kitson proved himself to be a most worthy sporter of the House Colours tie, after only a year. Thank you gentlemen.

Finally, Mr Addison has requested two

things — firstly a Leburn Room where the Leburn memorabilia can reside so that Old Leburners can wallow in a bit of nostalgia when passing by, and secondly he hopes to hear from us all in the future. Okay Mr A., how about a reunion party at your place, in say 10 years! See you then.

A. G. Johnson

"Born 4th October, 1969, passed away peacefully 29th June, 1990". Leburn has been an integral part of Strathallan for 21 years, and I am very sad that circumstances dictated that the House should be disbanded at this time. I feel sad too for the late Mrs Leburn who christened the House in memory of her husband, Gilmour Leburn, a distinguished Old Strathallian. I hope that neither the House nor the name Gilmour Leburn will be forgotten.

To those of you who have passed through Leburn: I hope most of your memories of the house are happy ones. Like every House, we have had our trials and tribulations, but I think we can be justly proud of our 'record' of both individual and corporate achievements over the years, and of the contribution which members of the House have made to all aspects of school life. Unfortunately, there is always a small minority within a House community who try to sabotage one's attempts to create an atmosphere of trust, decency and loyalty, and we have had our share of saboteurs, but in spite of them, my feeling is that over the years, Leburn has been a happy place. If this has been the case, and if Leburn is remembered as such, I will be well satisfied.

I am extremely indebted to all the House Tutors, House Captains and prefects who have helped me in Leburn over the last 15 years, and of course to my wife Anne for all her support in so many, many ways. We were thrilled with the crystal decanter, glasses and cheque which Andrew Sinclair presented to us at the House party on behalf of Leburn and Leburn Old Boys, and our sincere thanks to all concerned. The cheque will be converted into golf clubs and hopefully my game will be rejuvenated as a result!

Sadly, the Leburn 'leave' is total this year. However, paradoxically, many who are leaving will in fact be returning and joining another House, and I hope they will be happy and successful for the remainder of their time at school. I wish all who are leaving Strathallan the very best for the future and I hope to hear from you, and see you, long before the reunion party!

H.C.A.



Above: First Leburn House photograph.

Left: A. J. Sinclair, Leburn's last Head of House.

Below: Leburn's last poet!



DEFY THE DARK

Grave tides of night, stalking.
Insidious, inexorable Gloom
Obscures all but this brief
Pool of light, my room.

The waves of work
Lap at my dim edges,
Eroding my sand-spit,
Enticing me with their touch.

I would like to merge,
To give up the ghost,
Let the depths wash over, enshroud me,
And keep me close.

Yet the candle light flickers
On. Spatters.
As I remain dry,
Refusing the line of least resistance,
The opposite attraction of the waters.
Working, weaving my way on through
this night.

Rhidian Davies

NICOL

This has been a good year for Nicol. We at last won cups in each of the major team sports.

In mild first half of the spring term we played some spirited rugby. In the senior competition we faced the might of Ruthven (10 1st XV players) with only two stars (Jimmy Whitmee, who had a fine season for the school and Chris Clark, who had been injured). In a gritty performance we limited them to a couple of penalties. Although we had 5 under 15 A XV players (including captain Philip Ainsworth who represented the Midlands), the odds were also against beating Freeland in the Junior final. Tremendous tackling from all the backs kept them at bay and Graham Addison crashed over to win the cup.

It was the turn of the seniors in indoor hockey. Again a strong Freeland side was beaten by the odd goal, and, although we didn't play so well in the final, we just shaded Simpson. Jimmy Whitmee (1st XI captain) and Chris Clark were the key men, but Duncan Robertson confirmed his promise as a keeper. The juniors defeated Leburn 5-2 but disappointed in the semi-final against Ruthven.

The enthusiastic squad of juniors came good again in the cricket term. After an easy victory over Simpson (120 played 40), we had Freeland 5 for 5 in the final. They gallantly struggled to 40, Mark Silver (7 for 13) and James Henderson doing the damage. Our batting faltered but that man Silver scored 20, stubborn resistance from Guy Stephens saw off their openers and we got home by three wickets. Although we had only one 1st XI player (Mark Tench — half colours and in with a chance of a Scottish under 16 cap), it was good to see so many 'oldies' coming back to cricket.

Individually our athletes had a fine year. Roger Bond was outstanding. He again collected a bronze in the Scottish

Schools 1500m (despite an early 'pit stop'), smashed the senior cross country record by two minutes and led a Nicol-dominated team to win the Rannoch Marathon (Riki Sang was third and Andrew Buchan fourth). Unfortunately we couldn't pack well enough in the House cross-country, so, despite Riki Sang's middle win, we surrendered the cup. There was a big effort in standards (even from the upper sixth!), but only third place. Before Sports Day, with wins from Alistair Bennett, Riki Sang, James Henderson, Chris Clark, Riki Sang and inevitably Roger Bond, we were lying second, but on the day we didn't have enough competitors and fell to another third. "Never mind the width, madam, feel the quality" might be our motto. The eagle-eyed will notice that Nicol boys hold 13 out of the 34 athletics records.

Minor sports didn't go so well. Cancellation of the skiing and squash probably saved our blushes. Swimming is still not our forte, although we did beat Thornbank, and our former strength at shooting seems to have gone. The young golf team disappointed and in the rule-ridden sailing, capsized and collision didn't help. The football and tennis cups also escaped.

There were some cultural successes too. The junior house play, produced by Azim Deen, was too obscure to win but provided an excellent stage for James Ducat's comic talents and he won the acting cup. He and Jonathan Taylor also figured in the school production of the Boy Friend, but the real star here was Colin Pettinger's bumbling old gent. Someone unkindly suggested that he didn't need to act! Colin and Jonathan also turned 'pro' with the Perth Festival Opera. John Maxwell won the senior reading prize and together with Sebastian Head (leader), Philip Ainsworth, Euan Smith and Raj Arumugam, was a main-

stay of the Orchestra. Paul Mainwaring and Robbie Wilson joined some of these in providing an above-par contribution to the Choir. Andrew Marshall was our best piper, even at 20,000 feet. He, Jimmy Whitmee and James Ducat kept up the Nicol tradition in the Pipe Band.

Amongst all this activity some academic work crept in. The 'plus score' of most of the juniors was excellent and reflected in effort prizes for Duncan Taylor, John Green, William Livingston and Raj Arumugam. Whether the Upper Sixth and Fifth Form have been quite so successful remains to be seen.

The great treat of the year was the demolition of the 'Spanish Hotel' and the move to 'Hilton Hall 2'. Nicol boys were surprised to find that water now only ran into wash basins, butter could be kept on bread and that Ruthvenites are humanoid. The old 'cheek by jowl' existence had gone and with it many of the frictions of House life. Already people are finding it is possible to live like proper toffs. We look forward to 1991 and the 'final solution'. Then it will be up to the incumbents to make sure that the old friendly Nicol survives.

It is the prefects who create the ambience of a House, and this year it has, for the most part, been good. One or two strain at the leash in their final year and set bad examples. We hope Andrew Buchan and the new team will pick up only the good points shown by most of Roger's crew.

Our good wishes go to all our leavers with the old plea to 'keep in touch'. My thanks go to John Burgess and Andrew Wands for being such supportive Tutors and to Peter Green and David Giles for their academic guidance of the juniors. The latter now move on to the frightening task of supervising an old Leburn full of fourth formers. We wish them luck.

J.N.F.

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Top left: Colin Pettinger exits pursued by his "wife"! Top right: Roger Bond takes a breather after his record time in the 1500m. Bottom left: David Clark with his prize-winning cat flap, shows off his new frame-disjointing technique. Bottom right: The old Nicol block bites the dust.



RUTHVEN

The year may well be best remembered for two things. Firstly, the rather sad, but necessary move from our original site to Hall No. 2. Considering how badly it was built, Ruthven can be proud of the fact that successive years managed to leave the building in marvellous condition. The settling-in process has now been completed and, in terms of facilities, there is no comparison, but we have yet to find the 'homeliness' that was part of the old Ruthven.

Secondly, as I write Will Guy, who was in Ruthven, is preparing himself for the Scottish Open, having won the Bell's Assistants 36-hole tournament with a record equalling 7 under par 63 on the King James VI course. No doubt, Bruce will be giving him invaluable advice and wishing he was playing as well. Best of luck, Will!

The autumn term, blasted as we were by 'flu epidemics and severe weather, was, perhaps, most notable for the Junior House Play entitled 'Radio Stornoway'. I'm not sure whether my view of the Highlands and Islands will ever be the same but the play was an excellent effort. If it did not win the 'Best Play' award, which many of the cognoscente felt it should, it did win the 'Best Script' award. Congratulations to John Tindal, Forfar's

answer to Steve Wright, and Mark Laird for the time and expertise they devoted to scripting and directing, to all involved and, especially, to the lead characters, Cameron Hill and Calum Nicol.

Ruthven was well represented in the 1st XV with Cameron Cook as captain, Scott Gibb, Tony Gibson, Tim Lawrence, Malcolm Dippie, Graham MacLennan and Robin Stewart as regulars. Captains of other teams included James Winchester, Alec Burrell and James Garvie.

In the spring term we came within a whisker of winning the Inter-House Cross-Country and Swimming Competitions. David Ismail and Bruce Webb did extremely well to marshall our resources and there were some terrific individual performances in both competitions. The Juniors, in particular, deserve credit for winning their section of the Cross Country with Craig Gibson 3rd and Martin Fitchie 5th. Malcolm Dippie and Graham MacLennan were 2nd and 3rd respectively in the middles and Cameron Cook was 3rd in the seniors. The outstanding swimming performances came from Bruce Webb, Tim Lawrence, John and Robin Stewart and Graham MacLennan.

Malcolm Dippie deserves a special

mention for his selection for the Scottish U16 hockey squad, in the international tournament in Holland. It was a relief that his shoulder recovered in time for him not only to make the squad but to compete at the international level again.

Although sadly some of our members have opted out of the Pipe Band, it was good to see Jonathan Frame involved in the quartet which came second in the Lady Lauriston Evening as well as Andrew Quinn, Alisdair Gaw and Alex MacLeod who contributed towards the Pipe Band's success at the Scottish Championships.

Continuing on the musical side, Ruthven's answer to Jason Donovan (Nick Quinn) performed extremely well on stage as Tony in the School's production of the 'Boy Friend'. Also involved from the House in this excellent performance were Derek Jones, Daniel Breves and, backstage, Francois Piganeau.

The summer term brought very near misses in the golf, in which Jonathan Frame won the Individual Stroke Play but the House just missed out on winning the overall Competition; the Rowan Cup for Standards, where we came second; and in the Athletics Competition where we lost by two points. In the latter, we did, however, win both the senior and junior sections and there were some first class performances from Cameron Cook and Jonathan Wallace, both so near to being Victor Ludorum, and from Tony Gibson, Martin Fitchie, Tim Lawrence, Dave Ismail and Richard Fawcus. In addition, we did win the Inter-House Tennis Competition thanks to Daniel Breves, Jonathan Wallace, James Winchester, Matt Gilliver, Craig Gibson and Richard McNally.

Once again things have run smoothly in the House and I am indebted to Kirk Clark and the remainder of the Prefects for their efforts. Kirk has done an excellent job not only in keeping everyone aware of the parameters of discipline and order but also in maintaining a good and happy atmosphere.

As always my thanks go to Dave Barnes, who still manages to put time, enthusiasm and a lot of TLC into Ruthven; and to John Broadfoot, who is willingly taking on more and more, and whose care and concern is much appreciated. We say 'goodbye' to Steve Cullen, who has been academic tutor to the lower sixth; we wish him and his wife all the very best in their new and brave venture. Finally, but by no means least, we are increasingly indebted to Mrs Howie who is not only a valued member of the House team but whose care and concern for Ruthven and all its members extends beyond the call of duty.

B.R.



SIMPSON

Sitting down to write the house report at the end of the academic year, in June, is a reminder of the iniquitous timing of public exams. In practice, 'A' level and 'O' level's replacement, GCSE, have slipped back from late June-July to May and early June. Perhaps exams take longer to mark! Yet to make the examiners' life less burdensome both 'A' level to an extent, and GCSE incorporate a considerable amount of coursework which is internally assessed. Judging by the lack of feedback from at least one board, their scrutiny is not excessive. The ramifications of this timetable change are considerable. The Autumn term is excessively long. Its mid-term break effectively creates a four term year, causing overseas parents to fund yet more air tickets. Unfortunately its therapeutic effects are inadequate to stop pupils and staff alike being reduced to fractious zombi-ism by mid-December. Some candidates year after year forget the original advice that exams are fast looming and the pre-exam panic only hits home in March and course work takes up a considerable amount of the Spring term. Finally, the Summer term is no longer a period in which a coherent revision programme can be carried out. Exams take place virtually from day one, and continue unrelentingly. They seem to come in clusters, followed by long breaks, and many candidates finish well before the end of term. It is a credit to the great majority, that they respected the time of those who still had to work, and did not allow idle hands to make mischief. As the Headmaster pointed out on Speech Day, there have been a number of educational reforms over the last decade. It would be encouraging if the democratic power of Parliament could move exams to a more desirable time. The current situation merely puts unnecessary pressure on individual boys and girls.

These comments obviously do not apply to Simpsonites alone, but they do have an effect on those in their final and GCSE years, and how they spend their time. To a greater extent the success of the House is a reflection of the calibre of the Upper Sixth; calibre being a combination of talent, character and solid endeavour. Of the former there was no lack. David Smart, Nick Dempsey, Alex and Alan Davidson all won Speech Day prizes. Murray Hamilton was awarded an RAF university bursary. They included amongst them six who played for the 1st XV, four for the Hockey XI, and two under Gareth Thorburn's captaincy in the Cricket XI. Strength of character and endeavour in and out of the classroom, were less in evidence, and I trust that these facts will not be borne out by exam results. A little more individual and collective ambition would not have gone amiss.



There were plenty of merit-worthy performances. Pride of place must go Ky Kay who won a Gold Medal at the Scottish Schools Athletic Championships for the Discus, and has been picked to represent Scotland, and Jonathon Brooks who won a Bronze Medal in the sprint in the British Independent Schools Final, despite slipping at the start. The most coveted of the cups is undoubtedly the House Rugby. We entered the final as favourites but were perhaps lucky to achieve a draw after extra time. Leburn made the most of their resources, and in particular Keith Salters utilised his strategic skills. Leburn's success was a fitting tribute to Mr Addison in his final year as Housemaster and to the demise of the House itself. The introduction of Y.E.S.S., an alternative magazine emanating principally from Hall I, was an interesting, controversial and overdue innovation. "Zip O' Lightning", the Junior House play, was amusing and entertaining, and rather better than it was acclaimed. However, as I have yet to agree with any of the final winners over the years, I am probably not the best judge. Craig Forster was selected to play golf for Perthshire Schools, and with solid support from Stuart Walker and Alan Davidson, won the School trophy. The other Davidson brothers and Ian Ford retained the Sailing Cup. Alan Keddie also retained the Junior Tennis Singles, as he was kind enough to remind me, but unfortunately we were just pipped by Ruthven in the Pairs final. The Football competitions were played at all

hours, which seemed to suit us, as both Senior and Junior were won. The swimmers, a small elite squad, recaptured the Cup, while the Junior Indoor, and Senior Outdoor Hockey Cups were also won. Altogether this was an impressive array of cups and achievements.

Less satisfactory was the general standard of tidiness, self-discipline and the ability to work without direct supervision. Too many were content to allow others to clear up after them in studies, brewing rooms, common rooms, strip rooms and dormitories alike. Therefore all the more thanks go to those who cleaned, replaced and repaired. The admirable can-collection scheme did not help, and let us hope for less unsightly receptacles in future.

Once again, relations with Freeland in the shared "Hall" were remarkably good and says much for the accommodating nature of the Strathallian.

On the Staff side, I would like to thank the tutors: Mr Vallot, whose unfailing energy and enthusiasm is invaluable, and Mr Ross, plus the academic tutors who have made the pastoral side work so well. Unfortunately Mrs Hamilton, who was brave enough to volunteer herself to Simpson, has been lured off to Woodlands by "Lou Macari" Forster.

Lastly, thank you to David Smart and his prefects and farewell to the leavers. They were an interesting and idiosyncratic bunch with many endearing features. I would like to wish them well as they find their respective niches.

N.T.H.DuB.

THORNBANK

Coming Together is a Beginning Keeping Together is Progress Working Together is Success

As I sit listlessly listening to the chants of Italia or the plonk of "fluffy ball", I try to engage the brain into gear to put down on paper the first Thornbank report. Our House motto above conveniently divides into three phrases and thus three terms. This should jog my memory in what seems to have been the quickest session in my 13 years of teaching.

Coming Together: How many recall that wet first day of the year with workmens' Daily Records down to protect the new floor; signpost directions to wings but no names on doors; the smell of fresh paint and the fluff on new carpets?

Three weeks of term came and went and all, old and new, settled in without a homesick sob to Mum and Dad, mainly because the telephone was still not connected! Eighteen days of term elapsed before the common room was officially opened on the occasion of Susan Arnott's (and one other) birthday. How many remember the many hours spent in the Chapel for those roll calls, meetings and fire practices? One wonders if this second home for Thornbankers encouraged so many to be confirmed later in the year.

I remember clearly in the early weeks living from moment to moment, however, and all credit to them, the girls were well into School Routine, all beginning to show signs of coming together whether in the orchestra for the Headmaster's music led ably by Susie Leiper or combining together to produce a successful script in the House Drama competition, written by Jill Grieve and Karen Miller. The 3rd form performed together in the Hebridean Weaving Lilt on St. Andrew's Night and there were visits to Perth Theatre for performances of Sweeney Todd while an Early Music Concert brought both Woodlands and Thornbank girls together again as did willing volunteers to help at the successful Race Night, raising funds for the Girls' Hockey Tour.

The House end-of-term Christmas party saw young and old mix well, enjoying thoroughly the entertainment organised by Susie, accompanied by Yvonne and Ailsa. It had been a long term, not without illness, but by the end of it Thornbank was well and truly established and things were beginning to come together.

Keeping Together: House affinity was never more prominent than when many of the Inter House competitions were played. Altogether, wins against Woodlands in hockey, netball, cross country, athletics and cricket were recorded. More competent racket skills won

Woodlands the badminton and tennis trophies and our swimming prowess found us in 6th place, beating only one boy's House. We talked ourselves into the final of the debating competition and although Carol, Dani and Nicky argued well, we finished runners-up to Leburn.

Pulling together within House competitions is progress and should not be discouraged. My thought for the year and indeed the future is that the truth will out. Keeping together is not progress if it is to save your own skin, and I trust those throughout all forms who have received my "words of comfort" on such matters have learnt that honesty is the best policy — right from the start!

Talent again came to the fore at Easter with the production of "The Boyfriend". Many girls in the House were involved in the chorus, programme design, make-up, costumes and orchestra with Kirsty Wood playing a leading role as Polly.

Working Together: Time alone will tell whether the atmosphere created in the House was a productive one for those who sat external examinations. Third and fourth formers made sound progress in their respective courses with success for Karen Miller and Emma Smart who were awarded form prizes. The Lower Sixth to their credit did realise that this stage is not "a year off". In mid-June Alison Edmonds, Sonya Reid, Clodagh Meiklejohn and Rachel Taylor gave superb athletic performances at the Scottish

Schools Championships and the Loch Rannoch Run gave Rachel her second place victory and her second Caithness glass rosebowl.

If anything goes drastically wrong with any Upper Sixth results, they can work successfully together as brickies, joiners or painters. They are almost experts in these fields now, as in their whole time at Strathallan there has always been some construction underway.

Seriously, I wish all the Upper Sixth happiness and success. Without the excellent leadership of Ailsa and Kirsty and all the House Prefects, I may well have had the nervous breakdown I've been promising myself all year. They have set the House on the right track. Those who remain will do their best not to let them down.

My thanks to Miss Neale, Mrs Watson and Mrs Adam for duty nights and academic tutoring. Thanks too to Mrs Barnes who looks after us ALL and to Madge and Morag who put up with our mess. Sadly we say goodbye to Dr. McLay ("The Doc" as she is affectionately known). We wish her well in her new post back in Manchester.

Apologies if I have omitted your momentous event of the year. The whole session has passed all too fast. Perhaps by the time this is being read at Christmas, all contractor's work will be completed in Thornbank and I may have finally unpacked my removal from Woodlands.

L.J.S.



"When shall we three meet again . . . ?"

WOODLANDS

Chief Boy



Horganus Prolifix

The Warrior Chiefs



Klausus the *
Grimm



D Raineed
Teacher of War



Kamerus Candido
Chief boy
Warrior



Johnu the *
Forester



Miss Elloe
of the Forest

Alisonus
Blurus
(the runner)

Kaitlin of
the flame



Carol of the
grass

Leaders of the swan maidens *
protectors of the sacred
Wooded Lands

Characters in Penelope Carruthers' comic saga of school life.

You will, I am told, hear tales of 'derring-do' in the north wing kitchen in Woodlands elsewhere in this magazine. Do not believe all you read. Occasionally, the north wingers did go to bed before midnight, though they did, it was to be admitted, often get up again to continue their training for the Perth Festival 'non-stop talking-in-a-loud-voice competition'. Winner: Gold medal — Tessa Dunlop.

Those were, indubitably, The Days! When one casts one's mind back to the academic year just passed, inevitably one thinks of the summer term: those days of lying on Big Acre in the drizzle, rejoicing that exams are over, and wondering what a day-long walk at Loch Tummel with the Headmaster will really be like.

The term ended very cheerfully, and even if the 'A', 'H' and GCSE examinations did not all go according to plan, no-one allowed gloomy thoughts to cloud a very pleasant week or ten days of well-earned relaxation.

As I write this report — watching the drizzle — my main memory of the year is

one of cheerful endeavour. Results elsewhere will show that Woodlands was usually kind enough to allow our young sister, Thornbank, to win most of the prizes on the games field. We did SO want to win the first inter-house girls' cricket trophy, and nearly did, losing by three runs. The inter-house tennis cup was won by Woodlands, thanks to Gillian, Jo, Geraldine and others for their sterling service (get it?!). The house sailing team, lead by Pauline McCracken and Elizabeth Reekie came second out of all the senior school houses, as did the shooting team of Caitriana Barr, Jodie Cust and Sally Cust.

Further back in time — yes, I can remember last November — Marianne Rustad and others in the 3rd and 4th forms too numerous to mention won the annual house drama competition. New girl, Jill Kelly, picked up an award for best supporting actor. Most of the house were involved either on the stage, backstage or the orchestra in an outstanding school production of 'The Boyfriend' special mention must go to Jennifer

Scouller for her performance as Maisie: well done!

The biggest headache at the beginning of the year was settling 26 new girls into the third form, plus six into the sixth form. The success of this difficult task was in great part owing to the prefects, led by Catherine Burns, Carol Green and Katie Pattinson. Each prefect in her own way contributed greatly to creation of a cohesive, well-disciplined and happy atmosphere. Somehow any problems we had in 1989-1990 (and we, of course, always have a few problems) seemed less difficult to handle, and this was chiefly owing to the honest and enthusiastic support from the senior girls.

Both Paula and I wish all who are leaving every success in future, and look forward to another very productive and happy year in 'slimline' 'Woodlands'. Incidentally, we miss old friends (now in Thornbank), but inform them that the cricket trophy will be back where it belongs before long!

J. F.

CHAPEL NOTES

The Chapel is for worship. People worship for many reasons. We worship in order to recount the Christian story, and to set that story within the framework of history, as expressed in the books of the Old and New Testaments. Therefore it may be helpful to think of worship as a drama, the drama of salvation. In each of the Sunday Services we are reminded, first of all, of human sin and need, secondly of God's response of love, given fullest expression in Jesus Christ, and thirdly, of the ways in which we may best respond to that love.

In this drama, however, we are not merely spectators but participants. We remember the story, but we also make ourselves part of it. It is a never-ending story . . . as those who attended the Communion Services each Friday morning at 7.30 a.m. began to realise.

We worship together, and not just by ourselves. Worship always asks us questions — are we open and welcoming to the stranger in our midst, are we alert to the needy in our world? In worship, though we are reminded of our responsibility, we also have the chance to admit where we failed, and be reminded of God's forgiveness to all who regret their failure and wish to make a new beginning.

We worship so that we consciously allow ourselves to be drawn into God's presence wherever we are: at work in the classroom; at meals in the Dining Hall; as we participate in team sports; or alone in our studies, but in worship we deliberately place that at the front of our minds, and try as much as we can to experience the mystery of God.

In worship the deepest longings of our spirits are expressed — the longing for meaning and purpose, for acceptance and freedom, for celebration and hope. The rituals, signs and symbols, far from being peripheral, help us to express this need.

Assisting in our worship in the School Chapel during the Academic Year were the following visiting preachers:

Autumn Term

The Revds Dr David Ross (Peterhead Old), Tom Balfour (Edinburgh), Hugh Ormiston (Industrial Chaplain), W. Uist Macdonald (Perth), Iain Davidson (Holy Rude, Stirling), David Mill (Greenock), W. J. Christman (Ayr), John L. Paterson (St Michael's, Linlithgow), David Beckett (Greyfriars Tolbooth and Highland Kirk, Edinburgh), The Very Revd Dr Andrew Herron (Glasgow) and The Very Revd Professor John MacIntyre, CVO (Edinburgh).



Spring Term

The Revds W. Uist Macdonald (Perth), Graham Houston (Letham St Mark's Perth), Duncan Stenhouse (Dunbarney and Forgandenny), Stanley Strachan (Muthill, Trinity Gask and Kinkell), Colin Williamson (Aberdalgie and Dupplin), Gordon Stewart (St Leonard's-in-the-Fields and Trinity, Perth), Robert P. Sloan (North Kirk, Perth) and Ewen Gilchrist (St Matthew's, Perth).

Summer Term:

The Revds Laurence Whitley (Monterose Old), David Ogston (St John's Kirk, Perth), James Harkness OBE (Chaplain-General, MOD), Alan T. Birss (Paisley Abbey) and at Founder's Day and the Valedictory Service, The Dean of the Chapel Royal, The Very Revd Prof Robin Barbour, MC.

At the Confirmation Service the Preacher was the Very Revd Dr Fraser McLuskey (St Columba's, Pont Street) and the Eucharist was celebrated by the Rt Revd Michael Hare Duke (Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane).

To the two Chapel Prefects, Alec Lochore and David Smart, for the steady performance of their duties and their welcome to visiting preachers, to the team of flower arrangers who never failed to contribute to the beauty of worship, and to the Housekeeper and her ladies who coped with the tramp of 500+ feet in the Chapel week by week — go my thanks.

T.G.L.

AN IRREVERENT LOOK AT DEATH

Cosy coffin,
I've often thought
Of giving up the ghost.

I'd make a date,
Consummate,
And join you past the post.

Rhidian Davies

If . . .

If I could tell you I would let you know,
If my heart would open and let speech flow.

If you could just see me and know,
I would explode with passion that you don't know.

I would fly and dance and never feel low,
If I could just see you and slow.

You are proud and you are fair,
You are beautiful and you are there.
Oh, If I could just tell you,
I would let you know —

But I can't.

Jonathan Frame.
(After W. H. Auden)

SUNDAYS

That worn feeling
You get after too many cups of tea.
A damp chill, rotten leaves
And newspaper print staining fingers.

Seemingly endless,
Sundays are immeasurably autumn,
And inevitably October.
Being at church by 11 a.m.

And home again for lunch nobody wants.

They too are really undesired, out of place.

A hiccup in the strict routine
Of the week that works.

Rhidian Davies

CAREERS

The Careers Department continues to develop, and over the last two years there have been some major changes in the service and facilities offered to pupils.

The number of Fifth formers opting to take the ISCO Aptitude tests has greatly increased. In 1989-90 only four parents declined to join the ISCO Guidance Scheme (although a few others did not reply). In view of this very high take up, all pupils will be automatically enrolled from 1990, including new entrants to the Lower Sixth. The benefit to pupils is that all subsequent ISCO services will be free (apart from some expenses incurred on Careers Experience Courses), and parents will no longer have to pay directly for enrolment.

In fact, 40% of the Lower Sixth went on at least one Careers Experience course this year, and virtually all found it very worthwhile. I hope that more still will apply; details of courses are sent home with the Lower Sixth in December. There is a wide variety: some may be a day spent at a professional institution, others offer 'hands on' work experience for a week or so.

We are also making increasing use of the computer. Details of hundreds of careers are in a databank, which can be accessed by any pupil at any time, and all reference sources mentioned there are available in the Careers Room. Other programmes, which allow for different levels of examination success, help us to advise on careers and on possible university courses. This is particularly useful for

members of the Upper Sixth who have had a change of mind since Fifth Form days.

In arranging visits away from school one has to be careful not to cause disruption of classes and achieve a counter-productive effect. However, virtually all Upper Sixth attended the Open Day at Glasgow University. We also took advantage of the excellent Higher Education Convention arranged by the Tayside Careers Service. Some seventy pupils attended this, and everyone had the opportunity to talk individually to a representative from any and every Scottish university and college of further education, as well as from many universities and polytechnics south of the border. Many found this a most useful and informative visit.

A number of visitors have given talks at the school on a variety of career-related subjects and on matters of more general interest. They include:

Mr Bill Baird: 'University Entrance'.

Dr Ian Birss (OS): 'Atomic Energy'.

Major David Broadfoot MBE: 'Northern Ireland'.

Professor Anthony Bussuttil: 'The role of the Forensic Pathologist in Crime Investigation'.

Mr Cowan Ervine: 'A career in Law'.

Sir Nicholas Fairbairn QC MP: 'The changing face of Eastern Europe'.

Dr Ian Hunter: 'St Andrews University'.

Major Carolyn Jenkins WRAC: 'Women in the Services'.

Ms Annie MacLean: 'Careers with the BBC'.

Mrs Helen MacNeill: 'Secretarial courses and careers'.

Mrs Joan Reid: 'Making decisions in a changing world'.

Mr Alasdair Robertson (OS): 'Life with the Gurkhas on a short Service Commission'.

We are most grateful to all these ladies and gentlemen for giving their time to come and see us.

Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force Liaison Officers have visited the school each term, and about forty pupils have benefitted from their advice.

There has been a regular programme of video presentations on a wide range of careers, to complement visits. No doubt if these were shown during prep, attendance would rocket! These videos are very well produced and highly informative, and I hope that more will use the opportunity in the future.

Pupils are introduced to the School Careers Service in the Third Form, and they are encouraged to use the facilities of the Careers Room which is very well supplied with up-to-date material, and within a couple of years, as part of the general re-allocation of space in the school, we shall have a new, more central location. I expect that this will quickly bring a greater awareness of the importance of forward thinking at an early age.

D.A.R.W

THE BUSINESS WORLD

The business world, the business world,

Where life before you is unfurled,
With life insurance, income tax, And
many a bulging file-o-fax.

To survive you must be ruthless, tough,
By retirement age, you've had enough!
But after all is said and done,
There is no prize, nothing won.

Share of stock prices rise and fall,
Is there any point to this at all?

Yuppies all 'hang out' in Sloane Square,
It takes some cunning to make it there,
Fortunes are made and as swiftly lost,
A new Porsche is bought at no great cost,
London is packed out over the lunch
hour,

Yuppies in wine bars, oozing with power,
Go shopping at Fortnums, have tea at
the Ritz,

You can't ever afford to just call it quits.

Just get to the car-phone and make a
quick call,

IS there any point to this at all?

Jill Grieve
Form IV

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MUSIC ROCK ON

Over the past academic year, the music staff have given 173 individual pupils 5603 music lessons, or 224,120 minutes of their time and expertise — 3735 hours of accumulated experience in the pursuit of individual musical excellence. To achieve this, they have covered 45,784 miles from door to door in all weathers, cheerfully to await the arrival of their well practised pupils. How many minutes of practice done in a year, I hear you ask? Good question!

Not one of the possible 6500 sounding notes of the Copeman Hart Organ, used goodness knows how many times this year, has had to be even tuned or replaced, even though approaching 4500 verses of Sunday and weekday hymns have been accompanied on it. 448 Organ Volunteers have been practised and performed and 50 anthems rehearsed and sung.

The string Orchestra, Dance Band, Concert Band, Brass Group, String Quartets and Chamber music groups have each put in more than 35 hours of formal rehearsals over the year, and their efforts have been heard and appreciated by many in a wide variety of venues, and testified to by the convincing and confident ensemble playing.

We do not operate an "all exams to be taken" policy, and the teachers and pupils decide on the grade and the moment for each exam. So much of the real "stuff" of music is not covered, or covered only very cursorily in these grades, that their use is at best only a rough yardstick of improvement and standard.

Margaret McLay's arrival in the department heralded the long awaited boost to Riley music-making, by creating for them times and opportunities to play in small groups, and at regular rehearsals. Their efforts were brought together twice in the form of musical entertainments for the house, one for the parents, and a small instrumental and group ensemble competition.

Nicholas Morley (Clarinet), Duncan Forbes (Cello) and Colin Stephen (Piano) stole the ensemble class with three splendidly played "Lyric Pieces" by Grieg. The talents and activities of all the musicians bodes well for the future. My thanks to Margaret for steering these young players through the initial steps to stardom, and indeed the many other musicians she has helped during the year. She returns to Cheethams Music School in Manchester.

Why do we go on doing it? Probably for the same reason mountain walkers go walking, even without a dog to exercise, simply because the hill is there! Getting there brings its own rewards, spills and thrills, each experience completely different, but complimentary to those of everyday life. Each musical experience, rich chromatic chord, string of fast notes or complicated rhythm mastered is a fulfillment of the fascinating creativity of music. I hope teachers and those taught continue to draw strength and pleasure from this activity, all the while discovering new talents and abilities.

Although the achievements of the year are due to no one group or individual, and here all the staff and enthusiastic pupils deserve credit, mention must be made of our visitor from Germany, for what became a whole year, Henrich von Kopp-Colomb. Henrich, who soon showed us that he was the very personification of the Audi advert — "Vorsprung durch Technik" has brought such humour and cheerfulness to our activities. He has left every musical group he has played with — and that is most of them — very much the richer for his generous sharing of goodwill, companionship, and expertise.

22



School orchestra play the 'lunchtime concert' at St John's Kirk, Perth. (Photo by courtesy of Louis Flood, Photographers, Perth.) See review from "The Courier" below.



colourful year to set up home in Sicily, where his wife plays in the opera house. Our grateful thanks to all those leaving for their unstinting efforts and good cheer, all of which is quite impossible to quantify in statistics, and our very best wishes go to them all for the future.

F.N.R.

Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings: Susan Leiper.

Robert Barr Prize for Music: Neil Cockburn.

The pupils of Strathallan School brought a remarkable degree of maturity to their lunchtime concert in St John's Kirk, Perth, yesterday.

In a programme which was both varied and adventurous, the vocal and instru-

mental groupings achieved standards which fully justify the inclusion of this series of school recitals in the diary of mainline festival events.

It was clear from the professional way in which music master Nicholas Reed directed the programme that much of the inspiration emanated from his own musicianship and his ability to communicate this to his pupils and to the audience.

Clean incisive playing marked the opening bars of Kenneth Platt's "Saturday Overture," which opened the programme, and the disciplined playing from each section was maintained throughout a well-shaped performance.

Incredibly their first piece was surpassed by a virtually flawless reading of Adriano Banchieri's "Echo Fantasia."

The same group later excelled in a

setting of the conspirators' chorus from Verdi's *Rigoletto*."

Sir Hubert Parry's setting of Milton's words in "Blest Pair of Sirens" is considered one of his finest compositions, and the Strathallan choir captured Milton's character in a performance full of deep feeling and intensity, admirably borne along by Geoffrey Bolton's effectively registered organ accompaniment. A change of mood and pace was provided by a very promising string quartet in a delicately played Minuet and Trio by Boccherini.

The choir captured nicely the idiom of Bartok's "Four Slovak Songs," with Mr Bolton accompanying.

The combined forces massed for a grand finale consisting of Saint-Saens' popular "Carnival of the Animals" — a performance which in many respects would be hard to match.

From "The Courier".

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

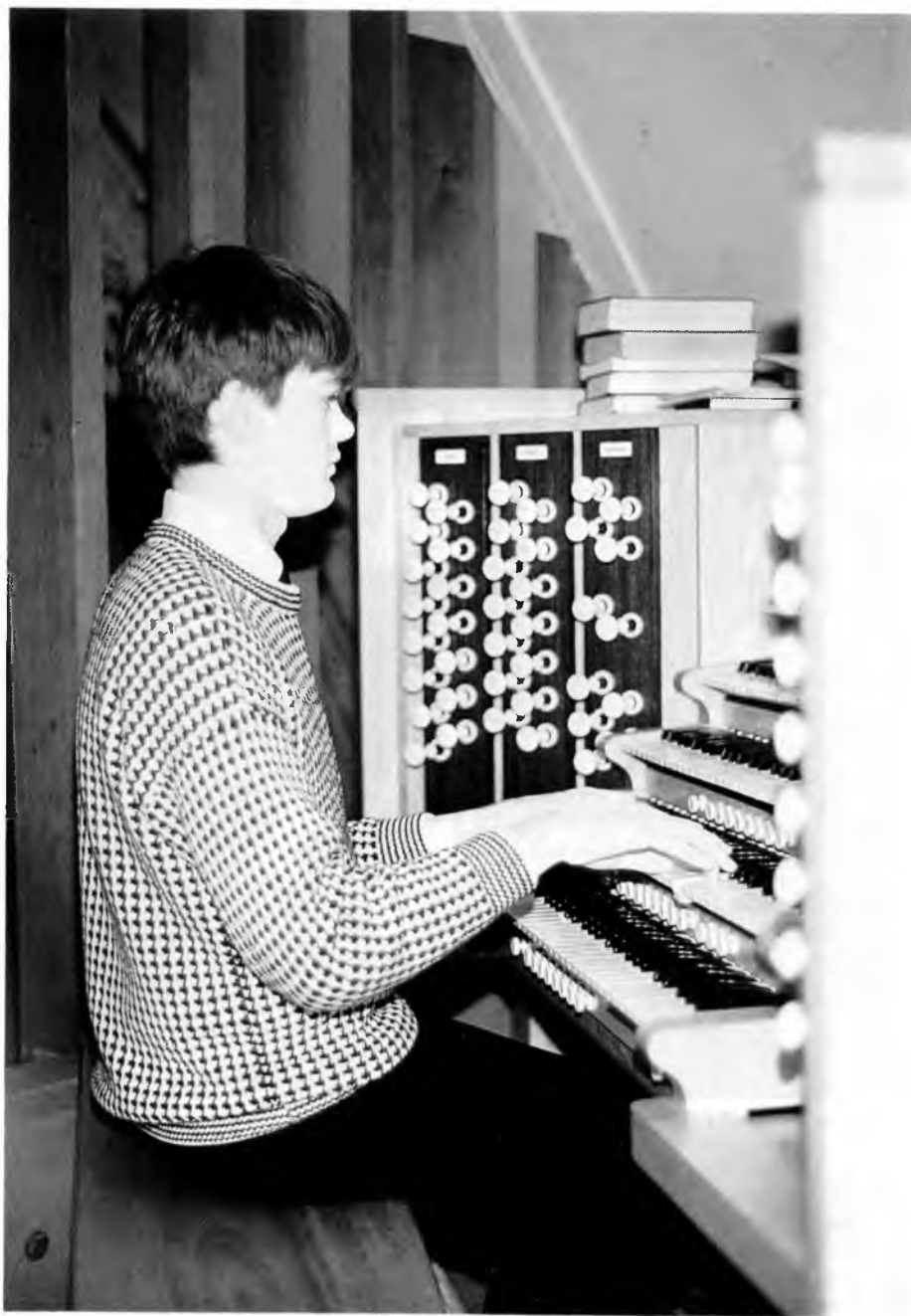
At risk of boring you I thought I'd write about, you've guessed it, organs and organ playing, or rather, try to answer some of those questions about what goes on up there in the organ loft . .

First of all, it ought to be made quite clear that we organists cannot in fact watch the latest thrilling episode of "Neighbours" on that conveniently placed T.V. screen on top of the console (nor even Sticky Moments — though it has to be said, such a treat would on certain occasions, not have gone amiss).

Although "When" I hear you say "are either of those programmes on T.V. when we are in Chapel?" O.K., point taken, but then what *is* on T.V. at 8.35 a.m. apart from the Green Goddess? No, that screen along with the camera which always seems to be pointing at you wherever you may be in the entire Chapel, is merely to enable the organist to view the conductor whilst accompanying one of the choir's anthems, which though I say it myself, are always stunning!

Then, of course, there is the question of why organists always seem to be bobbing up and down or flinging their arms about from side to side. Well, for a non-organist the first look at a cathedral organ console (and indeed, though it is electronic, our organ is of cathedral organ proportions) is nothing short of staggering, and I have seen many a jaw fall. Not contented with just using our hands, we organists revel in doing acrobatics with our feet — there is an entire row of notes for the feet (known as the pedal board) which is set out just like a normal piano keyboard only on a much larger scale to enable you to play single notes with each foot (or sometimes chords — a feat more easily performed wearing high-heels — not that I've tried it!) Then there are three 'pedals' known as 'swell boxes,' resembling something like a car accelerator and they control the volume (although only partially — this is a bit too complex to explain in this article). Then on our organ there are a further eighteen gold(ish) buttons or 'toe pistons' which control the movement of the stops (those round white things which come out and go back in again from time to time — they control what sound the organ is actually making, e.g. trumpet or flute).

So, whilst all you can see of me is from the waist upwards, there are a multitude of things going on down below — hence the bobbing and swaying as I dive with my foot for a different piston or pedal. The theme from "that piece which everyone knows as 'the Rev.' is going out of chapel" (The Toccata, from Leon Boellmann's 'Suite Gothique', for the more educated among us) is in fact played with the feet on the pedals — meanwhile the hands are playing 'loads



Neil at the console of our exciting new organ.

of notes' and are, to look at, frankly just a blur — they are meant to be that way though — it's not that I can't play it — honest!

As for swinging your arms around, some people think that this looks 'artistic,' and as a result make a meal of it (actually it looks daft) but one has from time to time to push or pull a stop manually and this is a very tricky manoeuvre while playing, hence the fast arm movement.

Finally, for the back row boys, that very loud and very rude noise which emanates from above you periodically, is not due to the fact that we have overfed the organ, but the 32 foot reed — so called because on a pipe organ the

resonator of the lowest note would be 32 feet long. If used sparingly and heard from the front of the chapel, from where the balance is best, this gives a very thrilling addition to the last chord of a piece, for example 'God is gone up' by Gerald Finzi. However, used in the 'wrong context, this 'noise' can either be quite irritating or amusing — you take your pick.

Anyway, I hope that this has cleared up most of the common queries about the organ. It's great fun to play and rather sad that more people do not take it up (budding pianists take note). There is always a shortage of organists and plenty of reasonably paid posts to be found!

Neil Cockburn.

RILEY MUSIC

Riley music took on a new look this year. Individual instrumentalists found themselves 'volunteered' into small groups. The variety of these has been impressive, ranging through a saxophone quartet, brass trio, violin duo, cello duo, to the Riley Trio of clarinet, piano and cello. (Could any senior house match this wealth of talent?) Pianists were catered for, too, with a Piano Club which at least attempted to explore some of the mysteries of improvisation. The Riley Choir provided many harmonious moments at Chapel services, with the anthems ranging from Russia to South Africa and dating from the 17th to the 20th centuries.

Another innovation was a series of half-termly concerts for the whole House. The first was a relatively modest affair lasting 50 minutes with contributions from Riley Choir and some instrumentalists. This proved so successful that the next concert lasted two hours and contained items by Riley drama groups, and recitations, as well as music. The stage was set therefore (excuse the pun) for the Riley Entertainment for parents (our next concert). The main

item here was a performance of *Swingin' Samson* in which the Choir provided the music to a series of tableaux depicting the Bible story. Singer and actors alike responded to an appreciative and enthusiastic audience.

The year will end with a competition for instrumentalists. There will be three classes: 1 piano solo, 2 other instrumental / vocal solo, 3 ensemble. The prize-winners will play at the final Riley Concert on June 26th.

I have not singled out any individual names for mention here, since so many have contributed to the best of their ability. Riley Music is flourishing — long may it do so.

M.McL.

THE GUITARIST

It's evening, as the family settle down in front of the TV.

The lone father sneaks off to his little room, to play his sacred guitar.

He worships it for its elegance.

Yet curses it for its difficulty.

The time consuming hobby.

That drives him up the wall.

Steel hard concentration.

Frowning on the brow.

Hands poised, like attacking vipers.

Waiting to strike their prey.

The first note struck out unceremoniously.

Shattering the silence.

Then followed by the rest of the tune.

Played with the vicious flow of an amateur.

The musician played, tickling the belly of the fish.

He so wanted to conquer.

With bended back and tapping foot.

He struggled into the night.

The tune flowed through him.

Avoiding and fighting the abysmal off-key notes.

Without loss of concentration the man

managed to straighten his back.

And relax his mind as he started to enjoy his labour.

From key to key and tune to tune.

The man played all he knew.

Then finally he stopped for he had played all that he could.

All that remained was a lingering tune.

Which he whistled as he left the room.

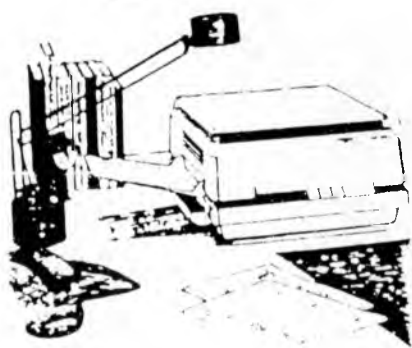
James Reekie

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PIPES AND DRUMS

Due to limited literacy amongst senior members of the Band, or due to my low resistance to persuasion, the lines have fallen to me — and thus I present this year's Report.

The first Term passed peacefully with hockey taking precedence for Messrs Whitmee and Low, who managed only a few more appearances at practices than the "all-singing, all-dancing, holy" Pipe Band President. The death of "The Battle of Killiecrankie" was greatly mourned by all Band members, none more so than the Judge and his mentor.

In the Spring Term, the number of Band engagements rose dramatically to an incredible "TWO" adventures, unfortunately both to a place where no man had dared march before, Perth Ice Rink! (Actually, the Band has played there on seven occasions in the last three years. — TGL) During the final day of the Ice Rink's existence, the Band almost became stars of slippery stage and screen, but failed miserably in gaining nationwide recognition even on "Scotsport" at 10 minutes to midnight. We were heard but not seen, but the usual high standard of play was maintained throughout the performance, as was the Band's collective appetite over the Buffet Lunch.

The next major event of this Band year was the "Duty Free" pilgrimage by the two senior pipers, Messrs Marshall and Dunbar to a festival held at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport in "Gay Paree." That jaunt had to be classed as one of the best Band engagements ever. Pity the Band wasn't there!

Due to a quite spectacular feat of skill and dexterity, The Lady Lauriston Piping Competition managed to clash with the VIth Form Ball. The standard of piping from all schools was extremely high, with Glenalmond taking the honours just ahead of Strathallan. Nevertheless, it was gratifying to have so many schools taking part and to have so many juniors from Prep Schools present. The Band's Drum Corps — always feeling neglected — provided a magnificent Drum Fanfare before the Finale.

The remainder of our Spring Term practices were disrupted by our young aspiring thespians and incredible hockey talent.

But before moving on to the Summer Term, a brief respite from the pupils' activities and the first word of thanks to our Instructors. In the course of the year Pipe Major Barron was hospitalised and his son, Roderick, took over the Piping Instruction and tightened up on our discipline. Mr Clark and Mr Braid devoted countless hours of their spare time to decorating "The Piping Palace" which *nearly* became wholly ours (no one daring to evict Mr Glimm from his

mysterious annexe!). Throughout the year we enjoyed new lighting, a new decor and Royal Stewart curtains — We were proud to be there. During their herculean and nocturnal exploits came the news that we were to be moved fairly soon. Nevertheless, their work was not in vain, since we proved to the Army that not only did we deserve premises, but also that we could look after them. We have our suspicions that the demolition of "The Range" on the Main Drive and the building of a new complex on East Drive owe their planning in no small measure to Mr Clark and Mr Braid.

So to the Summer Term, which was fraught with danger, partly due to the imminent arrival of much-needed new kit (Oh! The muttered conversations between the Chaplain and the three Instructors and the frequent use of a calculator, but finally and superbly supplied by the mother of a pupil at School and generously financed by the Governors) and partly due to the departure of Nick Quinn, twice! We nevertheless seemed to muddle through to Speech Day, which was a great success and, from the comments heard both during and after, enjoyed by all. We fielded 26 pipers and drummers.

With The Scottish Schools' CCF Competition looming even nearer, the three wise monkeys (alias Pipe Major Bert Barron, Drum Major George Braid and the ever-enthusiastic disciplinarian David Clark) smoothed out rough edges.

The Competition was held at Glasgow Academy and we were thrilled to see that Commander CN Walker (Master i/c CCF) and the Headmaster were present. The final results were astounding:

Junior Piping Competition:

1st — Hamish McCartan (Strathallan) (14 competitors).

Junior Drumming Competition:

1st — Glasgow Academy (9 competitors).

2nd — Iain Wilson (Strathallan).

3rd — Andrew Quinn (Strathallan).

Senior Drumming Competition:

1st — Peter Sochart (Strathallan) (12 competitors).

Drum Bass Section Competition:

1st — Russell Grieve (Strathallan); Henry Brown (Strathallan); James Steel (Strathallan).

2nd — Dollar Academy.

3rd — Glenalmond (3 competitors).

Pipes and Drums Competition:

1st — Edinburgh Academy (9 competitors).

2nd — Strathallan.

3rd — Daniel Stewarts & Melville College.

Drill and Dress Competition:

1st — Strathallan (9 competitors).

2nd — Daniel Stewarts & Melville College.

(Had our Junior Drum Major, James Steel, competed, there is no doubt that he would have taken the 5th Trophy!)

So over the past five years Strathallan School's Pipes & Drums has not been out of the top three School Bands, never mind our success at the TAVR Competition in 1989! Our return journey from Glasgow was rather noisy!

Arrangements made by "Dougie" Henderson three years ago to play at Bridge of Earn Hospital's 50th year Reunion Fete was confirmed and fulfilled, and, in spite of the absence of a "Beer Tent," was enjoyed by us all.

So to our "Farewells": to Andrew Marshall (he of the whispered conversations); to Russell Grieve (he of the un-hirsute elegance); to Scott Gibb (the doyen of Woodlands, Thornbank and his minder — David Gault) and lastly, to Pipe Major Charlie Dunbar (he of the memorable "Listen in! The Old 3/4s").

The Strathallan Piping & Drumming Competition Results:

Junior Drumming:

1st — Peter Borgen-Nielson; 2nd — R. Bevan; 3rd — M. Burns (all Riley!).

March, Strathspey & Reel:

1st — Charles Dunbar; 2nd — Andrew J. K. Marshall.

Hornpipe & Jig:

1st — C. A. B. Dunbar; 2nd — Jonathan Frame.

Senior Drumming:

1st — Peter Sochart; 2nd — A. J. Quinn; 3rd — I. D. J. Wilson.

Pibroch:

1st — C. A. B. Dunbar; 2nd A. J. K. Marshall; 3rd — H. McCartan.

President's Cup for Service to the Pipes and Drums:

Russell Grieve.

Pipe Band Ties awarded to:

Alasdair Gaw, Alex Macleod and James Steel.

A momentous effort was put in by every member of the Band throughout the year. We are all indebted to our three Instructors without whom we would not be "The Strathallan School Pipes & Drums."

Russell Grieve
(with AJKM's help)



PIPE BAND

Go on lads! face the crowds and judges,
Taste the summer breeze,
Let them find no hints of mistake,
Let the drums crack and spit forth their song.

Draw up your chests, to full height,
Smart and uniformed, tightened belts,
Sporrans gleaming, flowing plaids and bits,
Glengarries moulded to your heads,
Pull on the face of discipline,
March forward in precision, rank and file
in sweet coalition.

Let all taxing practises, and long circles
on the lawn,
Punctuated finger exercises of precision,
Devoted winter nights,
All that was worked towards,
Be summoned up today.

The hard hours polishing, buffing metal-
ware,
Pressing hat and kilt,
Scrubbed spats, and blackened brogues
shining,

Have been towards this,
The snares snarl, while the bass drum
calls forth —,
The rumbling of a waking monster,
And then — soaring melodies of ecstasy,
Piercing the air to fly erratically.

The rich tune fleeing to greater heights,
Dancing and reeling,
The march strong to rouse the moun-
tains,
The reel, playful, could will a baby to
slumber.

Split out the circle so perfect,
That no compass may match,
Lift knees graceful to please the eye,
Yet formal and regulated.

Allow your fingers to accentuate the
tune,
Gambolling as if possessed by immortal
spirit,
Lilt the tune,
Keep taut the bag, steady the tone.

Let the spirit and life of the song inflame
your soul,
Be taken away: let the performance
emerge from within —
Prancing and frolicking, playing on the
observers', ears and innermost emo-
tions . . .

The tune will close — pull out like
lightning — to silence,
Take down the pipes soundlessly,
To hear a mouse's heart beat,
Withdraw with contentment,
And know you've done your best.

When you have, there'll be no doubting
your reward:
Scottish Schools Pipe Band Champions.

Hamish McCartan
Form IV Runner-up

Below: The Scottish Poetry Library visited the school. Tessa Rainsford gave a lecture and we had the chance of borrowing from a selection of books which she brought with her.



THE BOYFRIEND

(A masochist's view)

First I'd just like to say "Hi Dad" and that this is not going to be a conventional 'It was absolutely *super* and *everyone* was a star' type school play review — I was in it, so I don't have to say that. Right. That's that.

The plot of Cole Porter's wonderful pseudo-20's all-singing, all-dancing, all-family entertainment musical extravaganza with a cast of thousands was . . . well . . . a little tiny bit shallow. Basically it runs something like this: Polly (Kirsty Wood) is a beautiful li'l rich gal, daughter of millionaire Percival Browne (James Ducat), who won't let her see boys, because 'one day' she will be rich, and he doesn't want her married for her money (to be). Her friends are, however, well-endowed on the 'ole boyfriend front — "The Leader of the Pack" is arch-flirtress Masie (Jenny Scouller), who has

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Curtains open, revealing a very revealing Hortense (Kate Morrison) — skimpily and scandalously clad. I might add — distracted by noisy girls. There follows Polly with a letter from her "boyfriend" and there's a dance. Mme Dubonnet (Kate Bowden), presumably distracted by the informal clacking of tap shoes in her school, chastises them, reads (quite rudely) Polly's letter, and — shock, gasps — it's not from Paris, but Nice — She's writing to herself. They go away, Bobby and Masie Charleston to an eerily omnipresent orchestra (...) and Percival enters — It transpires that 'Kiki' Dubonnet and he were war-time lovers. As if this startling improbability was not enough (and it always struck me as odd that a parent should never have met the owner of his daughter's school), the boy delivering Polly's dress gives it straight to her — and Tony (that's his name, well actually he prefers "Nik Quinn") is English! Quelle surprise! Polly meets Daddy — happy end of Act I.

After the positively nauseating "Sur la Plage" number (in which we all happily mimicked doing Breaststroke) Polly and Tony meet at the bandstand (cliché). In their "Oh, In it sweet" duette, "Room in Bloomsbury", Tony consistently seems more interested in the springiness of the bed than her pie for two . . . and

Dutch-cum-American Bobby Van Heusen (Dan Breves) on her tail. The others — Dulcie (Liz Reekie), Fay (Fiona Mowat), and Nancy (Frances Low) are enamoured (and, let's be frank, who can blame them?), by Alphonse (Derek Jones), Marcel (Kris Lannen), and Pierre (Yours Truly) respectively. Furthermore, there is a chorus of young beauts at said School for Young Ladies (Helen Swin-

banks, Gillian McAvoy, Dayveen Dalrymple, Lesley-Anne Dewar, Eilidh Currie, Kate Turner and Jill Kelly) flirting with strange boys who climb in their French Windows (Jon Taylor and Ian Fergusson). Anyway, after the all too necessary name dropping (to appease the Thespians amongst us, you understand *dahling?*). Back to Nice . . .

Kirsty *did* blush every night (!) — but their make believe happiness is crassly shattered by Hortense (in equally slight Twenties gear) promenading with the boys and girls. (La risqué can-can number, 'Nicer in Nice', and a new side to Hortense's character). Enter Kiki and Percy, being reluctantly romanced; say 'Hi' to Lord Brockhurst (Colin Pettinger) — a right pervo. Lady B Laura Marshall) has him on a very tight leash however (and I must ask if that's what he wanted all along . . .) Again ultra-coincidence — they're in Nice to find their son (a runaway) — guess who? Yes! Tony — not really a messenger boy, but a black-sheep Baronet! Maisie continues to flirt shamelessly (the hussy!) and so the end of the Act approacheth — Tony and Polly are together but when Lady B sees him, she calls for the policemen (Martin Ross; he moonlighted as a waiter too) and everything gets confused 'cos everyone thinks Tony is a thief! *Poor Billy*



(hack!) who will take her to the ball now? Sob!

Act III reveals all — (Hortense's dress gets even shorter) — Kiki and Percy get together, and the boys propose to the girls — who won't give a definite answer 'til midnight (a hilarious prank, I'm sure) — but to console the audience now on the edge of their seats, a devilish (YES! YOU DO IT AND YOU WILL SEE!) "new" dance (invented by someone with three legs, a metronome in his head, and a mania for contortion) — "The Rivera". Quite unforgettable were Lord B and Dulcie's performance of "Never too old to fall in love" — a gratuitous, bawdy, licentious, innuendo-ridden piece of bottom smacking, finger licking filth. Yes FILTH. Incidentally, it was very funny — Liz's nonchalant Betty Boop voice and Colin's anxious Englishness were not to be missed. Sorry if you did. Well, after a cloying story of heartache, a truly tumultuously tacky finale was inevitable. Polly, needless to say really, is manic-depressive Pierette — and all



credit *must* be given to Kirsty for not collapsing into giggles (it was all so OTT, dahling). Hortense (still a la skimp) finds Tony and persuades him to go to the ball. That he does and happiness is (wait for it — you know it's coming, and I'm so sorry, but I didn't write it) sealed with a kiss. Nooo! Argh! Percy tells Polly he's marrying Kiki, and the girls accept the boys. All the parents meet, and despite that before Tony had fled from his disgusting lewd father and ear-splitting shrill mother, he's happy to see them(?). Final rendition of 'The Boyfriend's and umpteenth 'I could be happy with you' — with Balloons! Curtain closes — screams of "Makeup remover!"

After getting this far, you may well be thinking "Who was the Acid Victim who picked *that* one, then?"

Mr "Say you hate me" Broadfoot. It was a great play to be seen in (I refuse to write 'be a part of') — and a welcome extreme to *Macbeth* of last year and everyone knew it was completely unreal, which really made it work. Mr B also deserves credit as our producer, and

director — you try to make a dance break look "natural" and "impromptu". Mr Reed conducted the school orchestra as well as "coaxing out our untapped wells of singing magnificence". It would be completely unfair to give one member of the direction team extra attention, but I will — Tony Ellis, our Dance Instructor, transformed (me at least) from a shuffling wreck, near to wracking sobs at his own ineptitude, to a "lean, mean, dancin' machine", (well almost). His classes may have been effective, but they reduced poor L.M. to a quivering mass and she ran away . . . ! Well done Tony. Mr Goody made the lights light (or not), with usual flair, a Burns-Riddoch-Parker-Pigeneau-B.O. Schlee team built the set (under expert help from Mr "Fairy Lights" Ross), and Mrs Hunter with her Addison-Clark — Pattinson and (Yes, it was true, 1st XV Captain! Cheez!) COOK team made us all look like we had make up on. We did. There were a lot of stagehands. Hi. You remember who you were. Finally, Katriona Bell told us to shut up. Actually she was trainee stage manager here at the Strathallan Amateur Dramatics Society (or SADS, as we'll call ourselves, dahling, in the biz).

Well I liked it, and I've a pretty good idea everyone did. I understand next year they're doing a few pieces 'flung together' by Chekov, in the Freud-Oedipal interpretation. (In the original Ukranian dialect). As for tap dancing and Charlestoning — Ha! They'll be doing it on roller skates! See you then.

Alex Johnson.

P.S. To all of those who accused me so unfairly of doing the play to shirk games (the very idea) — YOU go to a dance practice for an hour!

(Alex does his stuff — top right, previous page).



VERSE SPEAKING CLUB

In a new venture, 18 individual pupils and the whole of III Set I made forays into Perth for the verse speaking/Bible reading classes of the Perthshire Musical (Competition) Festival in the City Hall in March. The expeditions proved to be very fruitful, despite the fact that for many of the participants it was the first time they had performed on a stage before an audience and an adjudicator. A few, sadly, discovered that if one leaves the learning of the poems until the last minute then the pressure and tension of the occasion will inevitably bring lapses of memory.

The following pupils achieved distinction certificates (85-89%): Julie Johnstone, for fine readings from the Old and New Testaments; Tracey Morton and Marianne Rustad for recitations from Burns; and Paul Johnston, who performed poems by the Perth poet, William Soutar. Distinctions also went to Richard

Townhill and Heather Dewar for recitations of two very difficult poems by Edwin Muir and Phoebe Hesketh. First place in that class went to Tessa Dunlop who also performed splendidly in the Burns class for the senior age group. She gained high praise from Mr Tom Martin, the adjudicator, and a score of 92%, the highest mark I can ever remember being awarded for recitation in Perth. This was for a rendering of "Address to the Haggis." "She will be much in demand for Burns Suppers," Mr Martin said.

Having performed two Scots poems chorally at last November's St Andrews Night, III Set I decided to try the choral verse speaking class at Perth. They achieved a distinction for energetic renderings of poems by Charles Wolfe and Ogden Nash. This result was obtained despite the distraction caused to the adjudicator by Laurie Crump who was spotted scratching his leg during the second poem!

In May, five girls took part in the speech and drama classes of the Edinburgh Competition Festival, held in Musselburgh. All five came home, armed with certificates. Tracey Morton and Tessa Dunlop achieved merit (85-89%) for reciting a poem by Marion Angus. In the class for the performance of a short scene from a play, Heather Dewar and Louise Weston attained a merit for boldly tackling the dialogue in "Henry V" between Catherine and Alice — in French! Marianne Rustad won two firsts, with a merit certificate for a prepared reading of prose, and a splendid Honours (over 90%) for "Address to the Toothache" by Burns. As the adjudicator said, it was such a realistic performance that we all suffered with her.

I. McF.

Below: Form III smile with relief at their success.



DEBATING SOCIETY

In apparent contrast with previous debating years, the School Debating Society has had a very successful and productive session this year, characterised by encouraging performances in the more "usual" areas, and also by exciting excursions into related spheres of activity.

With a series of debates in the Autumn Term with such diverse titles as: "This House believes that the individual's first responsibility is to himself" or "This House would legalise cannabis" (by far the better-attended debate!), the opportunity was given for the School's latent debating talent to realise itself. This it did, with encouraging success and enthusiasm — those who debated doing so, either for the challenge it offered, for the public exposure it afforded, or just for the joy of arguing. Many of those motivated by the latter were just giving free rein to their belligerent urges, awakened, though partly frustrated, as a member of The House at earlier debates. Amongst the more notable examples of talent exposed were John Minihane, Laura Marshall, Alec Johnson and Daniel Breves. Hopefully, those going into Upper Sixth will continue to develop their abilities as well as allowing their urges to remain unbridled.

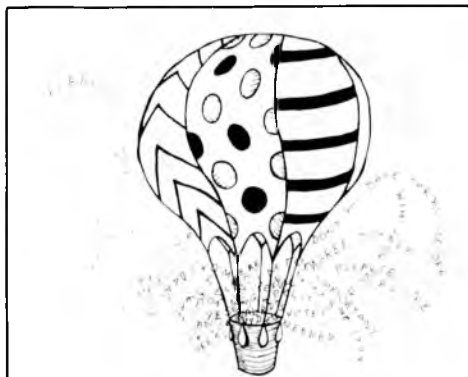
In addition to these fairly standard features of "The Debating Year", there were some exciting developments into previously unexplored areas of debating. The most significant of these has to be the "Inter-House Debating Competition", brainchild of Catherine ("the skirt") Burns. "Mr Speaker" as Mr Longmuir kept insisting. Run on a knock-out basis, judged by a Team of judges drawn from houses not taking part in that particular debate, the competition was contested by teams of two (from a pool of 3) from each house. Debate titles ranged from the philosophical:

"... Justice cannot be achieved through Revenge", to the topical:

"Mrs Thatcher should stand down before the next election." Each debate was chaired by a Master (mostly by Mr Longmuir) but with vital contributions from Mrs Forster and Mr Bolton.

The Leburn team of Alex Johnson, Fraser Rea and Sandy Milroy won the competition though this was not without fierce and impressive competition from the Woodlands', Ruthven, and particularly the Thornbank team of Danielle Muir and Nicola Robb. With a debate being held every week, organisation and administration (or "manipulation" as some bad losers would have it), was hectic and became increasingly difficult towards the end, the very word "Debate" coming to signify a bore, if not a vile curse that the Committee had

brought upon itself. However, it must be recognised that the Competition came off very successfully, especially for a first-time run. This was due particularly to the enthusiasm and commitment of a certain Jeremy Parker and also to the advice and support of the Chaplain. Ultimately, I think that everyone found the competi-



The star of the Balloon Debate held in the last week of the Academic Year had to be Leburn's very own Alex Johnson as "Wanda Whiplash". Attired in a fetching pair of black fishnets, a micro-skirt, a blonde wig and leather jacket, and illustrating his/her argument with a particularly striking prop, Miss "Big Al" Wanda entertained all with her account of good old-fashioned sin and corruption. (A subject with which The Big A is not unfamiliar.) The other debaters used equally innovative if flimsy arguments. The Hoods (Jonathan Leiper, Daniel McGilvray) "We'll kick you in if you don't vote frus". Lord Tharg (David Ismail — in riding breeches, riding boots and wielding a riding crop) "I'm unbelievably opulent, so do as I say". Jason Donovan (Tarrant Steele) "I'll sing at you if you don't comply". Mr Anonymous (Nick Dempsey, looking a bit like "The Invisible Man" but clad in a full American Football face-mask) "I don't know who I am, so definitely vote for me" (?) and Zarta The Master Debater (Sandy Milroy) "Since I'm the all-time Master Debater, then I'll beat you all at debating, so you won't be able to fling me out ...". All hugely convincing arguments ... Even if they weren't, they made us laugh, which was the actual point of it all. Final mention should also be made of the Chairman, Jeremy Parker, as Col. Muhammed Qu'addafi, the time-keeper, Neil Cockburn as a colourful Queen, Rhidian Davies (Ed: Clad in an Aristotlian sheet which frequently came undone) and the Chaplain as The Chorus in his natty scarlet Oxford rowing blazer and boater. Though he may not have attained the same philosophical depths as Sophocles, he did have the seeming omnipresence and of course the audibility of a classical Greek chorus. With all due respect, of course, "Pace".

tion rewarding and fun, made even more so by the following verbal contortions and contradictions thrown up by beleaguered minds in times of debating duress (the less enlightened might term them "Debating Boogers"):

"... killing people saves lives"

"... Who's going to have the baby, the man or the woman?"

"... In 1939 there was an outbreak of Hitler".

Another new development this year has been the introduction, by popular request, of Junior Debating for the third and fourth forms. Although attendance at the maiden debate was discouragingly low, succeeding debates have been enthusiastically supported and look set to be equally well-attended in coming years. In spite of the fact that some arguments suffered from under-preparation and poor delivery, this can be remedied.

What is of primary importance is the actual attempt. Nevertheless, several Junior Debaters of high calibre emerged, amongst them: Pauline Lockhart, Nicholas Hartley, Jason Kaye and Matthew Dover, who all look as though they might develop their latent abilities in the future. One problem that has arisen from the current arrangement of Junior Debating for the third and fourth formers, and Senior Debating for the sixth form only, is the consequent neglect of fifth form debating — should they be incorporated into Senior debating, or attached to the third and fourth forms? Perhaps the whole structure needs rethinking to allow for mixed debates? I hope that next year's committee will apply themselves to resolving this situation.

An equally significant, yet less publicised expansion was that into the area of "Inter-school Debating". In early October, the School entered a team against Montrose Academy in a nationally-organised competition being held that night at Forfar Academy. In spite of a valiant attempt by debating "heroes", Rhidian Davies and Catherine Burns, we were knocked out in the first round by a team of hysterical neurotics (female), commended, ludicrously, by the Judges for their "emotional involvement" in their argument. However, this emotional exhibitionism didn't stop them from losing the actual vote of the House ("The important bit", we consoled ourselves). On a less satirical note, however, the competition did serve to show just how high the standards of debating elsewhere can be, and gave the Chaplain the opportunity to insist upon correct debating procedure", thus laying the ghost of the complacent attitude that "because we're Strath, we must be good" which prevailed for the past 5 years.

Rhidian Davies

HOUSE DRAMA

1989 marked the sixth annual "House Drama Festival", and this year Mrs Forster assumed the difficult task of organising the event. So it was, after a brief period of scriptwriting and rehearsing (very brief in some cases), that all gathered for the ultimate competition, by offering their plays for evaluation by the two judges, Mrs Ross and Mrs McFarlane.

On November 3rd at 7 p.m., what appeared to be hundreds of third and fourth formers squeezed into the lecture theatre, compacting themselves into the rows of seats and jostling for space in the aisle and on the floor. By 10.30 p.m., when the ritual finally ended, the room resembled something nearer to a Turkish bath, and the bathers seemed exhausted after the marathon dip into house drama. It would be impractical to describe each

of the seven plays that were performed, but some are worthy of a mention.

Woodlands' "Vegetables Believe In Heaven" featured some courageous singing and dancing by a throng of rugby and hockey playing grocers. The audience and judges (who admitted to being "lost") were baffled by the storyline, yet it was obvious that this was the most sophisticated and rehearsed play of the evening, and it was rewarded with the "Best Play" prize.

James Ducat (Nicol) was by far the evening's most entertaining and impressive actor as an alcoholic defence lawyer at the trial of a Mr Schneider, and he was rightly recognised as "Best Actor". Jill Kelly (Woodlands) was awarded "Best Supporting Actor" in her role as Miss

Clouding, the mysterious wilt-leader of the vegetables. Peter Brown (Freeland) and Cameron Hill (Ruthven) provided more laughs as did Rhesa Obineche (Leburn) in his appropriate(!) role as Goldilocks. Ruthven, who had a highly original storyline, won the prize for "Best Script" with "Radio Stornoway", followed by Thornbank's "L'activitie on deck" as runner-up.

While the standards of writing this year seemed to be lower than that of previous years, the judges seemed generally impressed, stressing that the importance of the festival lay in the rehearsing and performing rather than in the judging. Excitement over then, we must wait until next year when once again potential playwrights and actors will wrack their brains and unveil their powers.

Nicola Robb.

VIVE LA DIFFÉRENCE!

The 'Modern' in Modern Languages Department has taken on a new significance this year since two of the four classrooms have been provided with Tandberg 600 Learning Labs, carpeted and decorated. We now have rooms which are a pleasure to work in and equipment which has permitted us to broaden our range of teaching activities. This has had a very positive effect on the pupils, as you may read from their comments below. We are looking forward to the modernisation of the two remaining rooms, when all pupils will be able to take advantage of new equipment.

"The fact that we can rewind and replay parts as many times as we need to is a great advantage. This helps to make sure that the information needed is hammered into a few thick skulls. Pity that the teacher can listen to what we say, though!"

(Rhesa Obineche, Form 4).

"Helps you more because you can concentrate better with the headphones on."

(Richard Wilson, Form 4).

"The lessons feel more like a French lesson in France than a French lesson in Scotland."

(Kushla Hansson-Bolt, Form 4).

"The tapes bring a bit of fun into learning French . . . it also gives pupils a chance to help each other with their learning problems."

(Jill McGarrie, Form 4).

"I quite like the machines because you can have a go at recording, you can talk

to your partner about things you don't understand or 'call teacher'. Madame Watson can also talk to individual groups or the whole class. She can also record onto all tapes at once from her console. We can be listening to different recordings as well. Altogether, I like 'les casques'."

(Colin Stephen, Form 2).

"Last year any sort of listening exercise was a major job, as there was only one tape recorder for the whole class. However, once the 'listening labs' were installed, you could go at your own speed (instead of that of your teacher), under-

stand the French better and even record your own speech, then rewind it and find out your mistakes. This became an everyday thing!"

(Hanna Kranenborg, Form 2).

. . . It is good as no-one can hear you making a mistake . . .

(Ross Gardner, Form 2).

"Les casques sont très bien. J'aime beaucoup écouter les cassettes françaises. J'aime parler avec un accent français et avec les casques les exercices sont très bien et pas difficiles."

(Ben Ward, Form 2).



Comrades from Form III try out some Russian tapes.

A GERMAN COLUMBUS IN SCOTLAND

Columbus was really a very remarkable man when he left Spain to find the best way to India in 1492. Yet I don't want to just remind you that the year 1992 does not only mean a new step in the history of the E.E.C. but also a reason for America to celebrate the 500th anniversary of its discovery by Columbus, when he put his feet on American soil on the 12th of October.

That was only the start: later, other people realised that Columbus had found a "New World" and to become an explorer of this New World was a very popular "profession". So different kinds of people from different countries went to America with different purposes. Some tried to start a new life, and others were more interested in exploring the country, sometimes with considerable force and bloodshed.

In some way I belong to this explorer's tradition because I came to Strathallan School and explored and discovered a completely new world. I had never been at a Boarding School before, so I enjoyed this different world with its obligations such as chapel which has such an indirect influence on the pupils. I also discovered its atmosphere, which is created by being together 24 hours a day, and its noises (especially those in the Dining Hall).

My main aim in coming was to try to reach and understand the British people and I really hope that this year also did its best to improve my English. But I wasn't here long enough, probably, because I failed to understand one of the Headmaster's very good jokes in his speech on Speech Day. It dealt with two foreign students to a British School and one of them who was obviously upset about what his English master said: "He thinks that I know damn nothing, but I know damn all!"

I discovered Scotland geographically with a tour during the Easter holidays, and I enjoyed the sights and varied countryside a lot. But at the same time I could discover Scotland better through her people: those with whom I could stay, which was very nice, or those who were so friendly in giving this over-tall boy with his rucksack a lift.

In the Autumn Term last year, we were pleased to be visited at Strathallan by Frau Margret Gehlhaus, a teacher of English at the Ralschule am Niesentiech in Paderborn. Subsequently, and at rather short notice she invited our pupils to visit Paderborn, an offer which was accepted by a modest five — holiday plans and GCSE revision deterring many.

However, Paderborn was well worth

"Two World Wars and one World Cup" was a typical sentence to call me to order and calm me down not to contribute too much to the conversation. This sentence summarises very briefly my handicap (although I don't really include the World Cup as a very serious one!). In spite of attempts to convince me otherwise, I think the same about the nostalgia in war films, war comics and war books, which fortunately don't have too serious an influence at Strathallan. But what about their influence on those who don't receive such good history lessons? This also has another side effect: "I know a little bit of



German" and that person will present me very proudly with what he knows — often only consisting of "commando" vocabulary such as "Achtung Engländer!", "Eins, swei, eins, swei" . . . or "Hande hoch!" From "Allo-Allo" they already have formed the range of German pronunciation. "The Gestapo will get you!" is Germanised by pronouncing the "th" in the German way and by adding several "Ya's".

Whether the literature and films had also an influence on the attitude towards German re-unification, I don't know, but the Strathallan students seem very open-minded about it. I was really impressed by the positive attitude revealed by a very good debate, but I had to fight very hard with the school's barbers who really fear that another Hitler and another World War would be produced by a United Germany. This might also be the reason why the German Government is calming the anxieties of its neighbours by reviving the old idea of the U.S.E. (United States of Europe). This could turn the nationalism to internationalism, as a major cause for wars. It would also bind Germany more strongly to a union of countries. But then the barber (who himself is a Scottish Nationalist) would go on to argue that one wouldn't be able to pass laws which would be suitable for Scotland and Greece at the same time. In fact I think you can pass a law which would be general and could be defined and adapted individually for every country. While I was here, everyone was keen on hearing my opinions which made life very interesting.

Columbus returned home with the knowledge of a sea way and of America which was then to start a completely new chapter of history. I too go back, after having enjoyed this year, subtly changed and surely with Strathallan's influence on my life — and mine perhaps left on the Scottish people I met.

Henrich Von Kopp-Columb(us).

P.S. I shall always remember the Headmaster's music, because I had never played the organ in a kilt before, and it was rather alarming, suddenly, not to see the feet, but only the kilt!

the visit: the group was shown round the town, miraculously rebuilt after almost total destruction in a couple of hours at the end of the war; we were personally welcomed by the Mayor; there was also a look at the school (very modern and pleasant), the town's hi-tech theatre, and (my favourite), a vast open-air museum of historic houses.

There were gains for all involved in the trip: Hamish McCartan found Helga, and

Jill Grieve found out why she had been learning German for two years, while Marianne found that she could speak quite happily, in German. The two GCSE girls, Suzy Walls and Caitriana Barr, found inspiration for their exams. Incidentally, all three fourth year pupils subsequently came top in the end of term oral exam, and Suzy and Caitriana both gained an A grade. Bis bald!

A.C.W.S.-J.

This season started once again with a tour to Narbonne with games against Pezenas (19-32), Canet (16-0), Porte-la-Nouvelle (10-6) and Chalabre (10-10). The tour proved to be very successful both on and off the field, with the greatest overall benefit being in education towards the game. Perhaps the best performance was against a very strong and physical Porte-la-Nouvelle side because, although we were under considerable pressure in a number of areas in the first half, we turned round only 0-6 down. There seemed to be much more determination to win in the second half and, suddenly, the tables were reversed. Not only did we drive their pack back but we rucked well and by using the ball well, we stretched their defence. This resulted in two well earned tries and an excellent win.

On return, it was down to preparing for the school matches. The XV which played the first match was as follows:— R. G. Johnston, A. Lochore, A. C. Cook (capt.), H. A. D. Blanche, A. B. Gibson, C. Clark, J. Whitmee, A. J. Sinclair, M. R. Dippie, R. Stewart, M. D. Martin, J. d'Ath, S. R. Gibb, D. W. Smart, F. J. Rea.

Out of this side only Cameron Cook had played regularly for the 1st XV the season before and two very talented backs, Alec Lochore and Chris Clark, were to break their wrists during the first two games of the season and not play again until the very end.

We lost our first game 8-24, despite having the potential to score a lot of points ourselves. However, we did not produce enough ball for the backs, Alec broke his wrist after 20 minutes, the Glasgow Academy back row covered exceptionally well to prevent vital scores and our defence in the backs was not good enough. One sparkling try and some exciting running by Alec was a sample of what we were to miss.

Substantial victories against Perth Academy (52-0) and Rannoch (36-9) with tries in the former for Tony Gibson (3), Cameron Cook (2), Hamish Blanche (2), Scott Gibb, Jimmy Whitmee and Mike Martin; and in the latter, for Cameron Cook, Tony Gibson, Hamish Blanche, Dave Smart, Jimmy Whitmee, Fraser Rea and Robin Johnston provided enough running rugby to build up the confidence. Certainly, the concentration was much better against Perth Academy, but we were not really tested. As mentioned above, unfortunately, we lost Chris Clark: it was evident in this match that his control of the game and maturity would have helped considerably throughout the season. Dommage!

Our first fixture against St. Aloysius saw a somewhat changed team due to injuries. It read as follows:— H. A. D. McKenzie-Wilson, G. A. Currie, M. J. Clement, G. R. MacLennan, A. B. Gibson, R. G. Johnston, J. Whitmee, A. J. Sinclair, M. R. Dippie, R. Stewart,

J. d'Ath, M. D. Martin, S. R. Gibb, F. G. Rea, T. P. Lawrence.

With six players injured and Dave Smart going down with a bug on the morning of the game, we were somewhat depleted to face the Scottish Schools Cup champions. However, with Andy Sinclair, as captain, doing a magnificent job and a touch of the Agincourt speech ringing in their ears, the 1st XV on the day performed valiantly. None more so than the completely new centre pairing of Graham MacLennan and Michael Clement. Jimmy Whitmee was also showing what a valuable member of the team he was to be. However, the bigger and stronger St. Aloysius pack increasingly dominated the game and Mark Craig, the Scottish Schools winger, scored a hat-trick of tries. The loss of Robin Stewart with concussion also did not help our cause. But the fact that the score was only 4-7 at half-time and that it was from one of our attacks in the second half that the opposition got their next score showed that this was a determined performance.

With a considerably weakened front and back row we faced a tough match against Fettes who, on the day, deserved their victory. We were unable to produce much good ball and Cameron Cook's missed penalty attempts did not allow us to capitalise on pressure situations. Fortunately, for the Glenalmond match we were much nearer full strength.

Hans McKenzie-Wilson was by now settling well into the full-back role and Robin Johnston had adapted quickly and intuitively to the fly-half berth. Mike Clement, now on the wing, was to contribute extremely well, not just in this match but throughout the season to both offence and defence. A hat-trick of tries for Hamish Blanche and one by Mike Martin after some terrific support play gave the 1st XV a well earned victory by 16-6, but, again, too many kicks at goal were missed.

A confident start against Merchiston did not produce the points that were

available and a very strong Merchiston XV, especially up front, gradually wore us down. Missed tackles and opportunities plus two push-over tries led to a score of 3-8 after 30 minutes. Yet Merchiston continued to apply the screw, capitalising on our faults and driving our much lighter and inexperienced pack. Ronnie Erikson, the President's XV captain and Scottish Schoolboy centre controlled the game well and with powerful forwards such as Mark Rutherford, the Scottish Schools hooker, despite some valiant tackling, we were eventually out-gunned and out-played by a fine opposition performance.

Edinburgh Academy were unbeaten at this stage of the season and were another very strong side, with two Scottish Schoolboys in their pack. Our loose play was much better in this match with Tim Lawrence, now at wing forward playing well in a scavenging offensive/defensive role. With two scores down we came back very well but could not capitalise on scoring positions and again we could not maintain possession. This resulted in another Edinburgh Academy score just before half-time. We produced some very determined play in the second half and with a try by Graham MacLennan we were by no means disgraced with a final score of 6-26.

Unfortunately the Morrison's and Dollar games were cancelled because of flu and scrub-pox respectively. Thus we moved into the final phase of the season with a very strong programme to finish, including two strong touring sides in Coleraine and Tonbridge. Kelvinside were first on the list and, as usual, they provided very strong opposition, especially up front. However, by winning and utilising sensibly a lot of second phase ball we kept this heavy pack turning and running backwards. This brought a lead of 7-0 at half-time from a penalty and an excellent try by Mike Clement. Robin Johnston, who had set up Mike's try, took the next score himself with a very neat individual effort on the blind side



from a five yard scrum. At this stage we lost concentration and almost the game; fortunately our resolve held.

Cameron Cook's move to full-back made a considerable difference in these last few games as did the combination of Graham MacLennan and Hamish Blanche in the centre. Our next fixture against Coleraine had to be transferred to Edinburgh due to frost at Strathallan. Terrific driving, rucking and support play produced good second and third phase ball and, with some very positive back play, we scored three excellent tries (Cameron Cook 2 and Jimmy Whitmee 1) in the first half. Again, kicks at goal were missed and we turned round 12-3 ahead. Coleraine came back very strongly in the second half which coincided with a lapse in concentration in midfield on our part. What had been devastating first half tackling was now slack. Despite a last-minute surge, with Dave Smart and Andy Sinclair providing further inspiration, we lost this game 12-13 and there is no doubt that we threw this one away.

Loretto had beaten Merchiston; thus our task here looked daunting to say the least. Yet there was no lack of confidence in our preparation for this game. Unfortunately, we had to switch venues again due to frost, losing home advantage. Through some silly mistakes we gave Loretto a comfortable 7-0 lead and then started to play well. We continued to play some first class rugby with Robin Johnston going over on the blind side from a five yard scrum as a result of continued pressure within their 22. Again, Loretto capitalised on a mistake amongst our backs and scored to make it 6-11. This galvanised our 1st XV into action and a phase of play that was as good as anything we had produced throughout the season. It included counter-attacking from real depth and close support by backs and forwards. One of these support plays down the left produced an excellent try by Cameron Cook but the score remained at 10-11 despite a sustained final surge by Strathallan, including being held up over the line and a desperately close-run chase and touch down to a chip through by Hamish. Tense, nail-biting and exciting stuff!

Under the worst possible conditions, including hard ground and a blizzard, we faced Tonbridge School. They started much more strongly than we did and were able to forge ahead. However, we were able to stem the tide and the final score of 7-16 was a fair reflection of the game. Two further touring sides played after Christmas: St. Andrew's Scots School from Buenos Aires and Porte-la-Nouvelle from France.

The former beat us comprehensively 34-0. This was certainly one of the best schoolboy sides I have ever seen and it was a delight and a privilege to watch them play. Their speed of thought and action were on a different level to most U.K. sides and a lesson to us all. With

little training possible prior to this match we were unable to cope with such an effervescent and skilful all-round performance.

The latter was our final match and again due to the weather we had to transfer to Edinburgh. However, we did start well in this game and put them under considerable pressure. Unfortunately, by giving away too many penalties we allowed them into the game and from us being ahead, Porte-la Nouvelle moved to 13-9. There followed a terrific phase of play towards the end with a cheeky try by Jimmy Whitmee, which brought a well-deserved draw.

Thus the season came to an end with a considerable imbalance in terms of won and lost. Yet this was a side with a combination of youth and inexperience and injuries to key players did not help our already stretched resources. Even so, in the final run of fixtures in December the 1st XV played some excellent rugby against a combination of the best sides from Scotland, England and Ireland and were unlucky not to win the majority of these. It was also an enjoyable season from a coaching point of view as there was no lack of commitment and willingness to learn; hopefully, this will pay dividends next season.

1st XV colours were awarded to Cameron Cook, Hamish Blanche, Andrew Sinclair and Dave Smart. Half colours were awarded to James Whitmee, James d'Ath, Robin Johnston, Tim Lawrence and Scott Gibb.

Representative honours: Andrew Sinclair and Dave Smart played for the President's XV and Andrew went on to gain a Scottish Schools trial.

Of the remaining school sides the 4th XV, captained by Jonathan Leiper almost had an unbeaten season. After losing their first match they went on to be a very useful combination making full use of a very mobile pack. The back row of Jonathan Leiper, John Keddie and James Tornos were outstanding and behind this was an excellent half-back pairing of Eddie Anderson and Keith Salters. The 6th XV also had a good season, losing only to Merchiston. Mr Ross, their

coach, concentrated on fifth year boys and was well pleased with their performance. The games were generally fairly close and won by good teamwork and good defence.

The fourth form 'B' XV, coached by Mr Broadfoot, ably assisted by Kirk Clark, was unbeaten and with a squad that changed considerably due to injuries and movement between Bs and As, it is to their credit that they did so well. It is also worthy of note that out of a number of boys who represented the Midlands at U-15 level, Andrew Wood and Alan Keddie went on to the final trials for Scottish Schoolboys.

The third form 'A' XV, captained by Paul Johnston, had a very good season too, losing only to Glenalmond and Merchiston. They had a good set of forwards and a powerful wing in Jonathan Wallace, who scored 20 tries. The most pleasing result was the 6-6 draw against an unbeaten Loretto side. A new member of the staff, Mr Green, helped Mr du Boulay at this level adding his youthful enthusiasm to the latter's experience.

At the Riley U-13 level, there was some splendid rugby. Although he and his team were a bit light, Christopher Ninham, the captain, led by example and they achieved some good results. Six of the side will still be available next year. The U-12s were talented but quite small, the majority not having played rugby before, but they made up for their lack of experience by plenty of enthusiasm.

It was good to see members of the sixth form who were unable to play themselves, helping members of staff with coaching. In addition to Kirk already mentioned, the others were Dave Gault, Nick Quinn and Jason Sim. My thanks go to them and, of course, to all the staff coaches, who continue to give unstintingly of their time and without whom we would be unable to field so many sides and play in the very competitive circuit which we do. Thanks also to Mrs Clayton and the sewing room, to Sister and to Craig Young and the catering staff for administering to the boys' various needs.

B.R.



Drawing by Robert Marshall

RUGBY RESULTS 1989/90

1st XV

v. Glasgow Acad.	Lost	8-24
v. Perth Acad.	Won	52-0
v. Rannoch	Won	36-9
v. St Aloysius	Lost	4-19
v. Fettes	Lost	3-10
v. Glenalmond	Won	16-6
v. Merchiston	Lost	32-4
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	4-26
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Won	11-6
v. Coleraine	Lost	12-13
v. Loretto	Lost	10-11
v. Tonbridge School	Lost	7-16
v. St Andrews Scots School	Lost	0-34
v. Port La Nouvelle	Drawn	13-13

Played 14, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 9
Points for 179
Points against 229

2nd XV

v. Glasgow Acad.	Lost	15-26
v. QVS 1st XV	Won	21-12
v. St Aloysius	Won	13-8
v. Fettes	Lost	10-20
v. Glenalmond	Lost	4-28
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-57
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	0-26
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Lost	0-7
v. Loretto	Lost	0-18
v. Arbroath HS	Won	52-0
v. Howe of Fife	Lost	4-32

Played 11, Won 3, Lost 8
Points for 119
Points against 234

3rd XV

v. Glasgow Acad.	Lost	8-28
v. Rannoch 2nd XV	Lost	0-20
v. QVS 1st XV	Lost	7-10
v. Fettes	Won	7-4
v. Glenalmond	Lost	10-20
v. Merchiston	Drawn	4-4
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	0-23
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Won	20-0
v. Loretto	Drawn	12-12

Played 9, Won 2, Drawn 2, Lost 5
Points for 68
Points against 121

4th XV

v. Glasgow Acad.	Lost	20-24
v. QVS 2nd XV	Won	23-6
v. St Aloysius 3rd XV	Won	38-3
v. Fettes	Won	44-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	15-13
v. Merchiston	Won	22-10
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	18-4
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Won	12-9
v. Loretto	Won	7-6
v. Howe of Fife	Won	28-0
v. Port La Nouvelle	Won	34-0

Played 11, Won 10, Lost 1
Points for 261
Points against 75

5th XV

v. Glasgow Acad.	Won	30-0
v. Rannoch 3rd XV	Lost	8-15
v. Fettes	Won	48-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-48
v. Merchiston	Lost	10-20
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	10-24
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Lost	4-6

Played 7, Won 2, Lost 5
Points for 110
Points against 113

6th XV

v. Perth Acad. 2nd XV	Won	18-8
v. Fettes	Won	40-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	14-9
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-14
v. Loretto	Won	15-0
v. QVS 3rd XV	Won	14-0
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	16-6

Played 7, Won 6, Lost 1
Points for 117
Points against 37

7th XV

v. QVS 3rd XV	Lost	0-18
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-38
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-70
v. Arbroath HS 2nd XV	Won	12-6

Played 4, Won 1, Lost 3
Points for 12
Points against 132

Form 4A XV

v. Rannoch	Won	18-4
v. Perth Acad.	Won	60-4
v. St Aloysius	Won	10-4
v. QVS	Won	24-7
v. Fettes	Won	22-4
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-4
v. Merchiston	Won	16-15
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	6-17
v. Dollar Acad.	Lost	10-25
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Won	49-4
v. Loretto	Lost	0-12

Played 11, Won 7, Lost 4
Points for 215
Points against 100

Form 4B XV

v. Aberdeen GS 'A' XV	Drawn	12-12
v. St Aloysius	Won	44-6
v. Fettes	Won	40-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	52-0
v. Merchiston	Won	4-0
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Drawn	0-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	38-0
v. Loretto	Won	26-0

Played 8, Won 6, Drawn 2
Points for 216
Points against 18

Form 3A XV

v. Rannoch	Won	20-0
v. Perth Acad.	Won	70-0
v. St Aloysius	Won	46-0
v. QVS	Won	42-6
v. Fettes	Won	62-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-14
v. Merchiston	Lost	10-16
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	13-8
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Won	38-0
v. Loretto	Drawn	6-6

Played 10, Won 7, Drawn 1, Lost 2
Points for 307
Points against 50

Form 3B XV

v. Aberdeen GS 'A' XV	Lost	8-14
v. St Aloysius	Won	46-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	8-0
v. Merchiston	Drawn	4-4
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	30-0
v. Glenalmond	Drawn	4-4
v. Loretto	Lost	8-12

Played 7, Won 3, Drawn 2, Lost 2
Points for 108
Points against 34

Form 3C XV

v. Aberdeen GS 'B' XV	Won	32-8
v. QVS 'B' XV	Won	24-12
v. Merchiston	Lost	4-16
v. Glenalmond	Won	14-12

Played 4, Won 3, Lost 1
Points for 74
Points against 48

Form 2 'A' XV

v. Perth Acad.	Won	12-6
v. Rannoch	Won	36-0
v. St Aloysius	Lost	6-18
v. QVS	Won	28-8
v. Fettes	Lost	0-18
v. Merchiston	Lost	10-12
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	28-0

Played 7, Won 4, Lost 3
Points for 120
Points against 62

Form 2 'B' XV

v. St Aloysius	Won	20-0
v. QVS 'B' XV	Won	40-10
v. Merchiston	Won	36-4

Played 3, Won 3
Points for 96
Points against 14

Form 1 XV

v. Craigcrowan	Lost	4-34
v. Ardvreck	Lost	0-30
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Lost	6-26

Played 3, Won 0, Lost 3
Points for 10
Points against 90



HOCKEY

Encouraged by a hard evening's work under Scottish Coach Billy McPherson and internationalist Jimmy Cox, the senior indoor team looked promising. Clement and Whitmee were secure at the back and McKenzie-Wilson's striking and Lochore's speed meant goals. In the first game, against the Old Boys, we dominated, but Mark Russell's brilliant goalkeeping kept us at bay and we only managed a 7-7 draw. Away to Rannoch, we started slowly, and, although 4-1 up at half time, we only got into our stride after the interval with short corners flying in regularly. Glenalmond were a tougher nut. They were physically stronger and in the confines of the Sports hall we were edged out by the odd goal. Prospects for the Bell's Tournament therefore looked reasonable, but even indoor hockey succumbs to the climate in Scotland! The Tay rose rapidly, the hall flooded and Bell's shut for months. The Glenalmond organisers enterprisingly switched to the new 'astro' surface at MacDiarmid Park and, just before half term, an outdoor six-a-side competition was held. We were badly depleted by rugby calls and couldn't quite reach the semi-finals. We lost narrowly to Stewarts Melville and Loretto, but managed a good win against some skilful Perth players.

Back at home the House indoor tournaments were played with their usual enthusiasm and occasional skill. In close matches Simpson won the Junior and Nicol the Senior Cups.

A surprise snowfall after half term meant we had no outdoor practice before playing the Scottish Under-16 squad. Malcolm Dippie (later to be selected for Scotland Under-16s in both their international tournaments), played for the opposition. Under the circumstances we did well, but the Under-16s greater skill and cohesion just told. George Watson's were not so strong as in recent years. At Meadowbank we dominated, created at least 15 chances and scored 3 without

reply. The Old Boys brought their best-ever side, including internationalist Mike Yellowlees. We had a hard-fought, enjoyable game, super-sub Anderson clinching the win with a fine goal.

More snow cancelled the Fettes and Abbey games. Then, at home, Harris Academy were quickly dominated; our goalkeeper was only involved twice and we cracked in eight.

The mini-tour to the North is always demanding. Yet more snow on the journey looked like preventing our playing Gordonstoun, but the Moray coast was clear. Inevitably the pitch was heavy and the game quickly deteriorated into end-to-end hitting and bad tackling. We escaped with a draw and no serious injuries in an awful encounter. Next day Aberdeen Grammar were unusually weak and our speed overawed them. Again we scored eight.

Back at Strathallan, Morgan Academy had a skilful side, but our backs tackled securely, we took our chances and won 2-0. We then returned to MacDiarmid Park for a round robin with Glenalmond and Rannoch. Neither seriously threatened us and we scored freely to win the trophy. Grass pitches are never to our liking and a strong Loretto side quickly had us under pressure. They scored three goals and panic set in. Several players looked tired and slow, but, to the team's credit, it never gave in and the attacks of the last ten minutes could easily have brought a draw. The final fixture with Monifieth is always a tough match, but we were in no mood for another defeat. Their teamwork broke down and we had little difficulty in winning.

With only one loss against a school it was a good, if not vintage season. Captain Jimmy Whitmee was probably the outstanding player. Fast and accurate in the tackle, he saved many dangerous situations. Alongside him David Smart had some very good matches, but could

be cumbersome. Goalkeeper Stuart Walker seldom made serious mistakes, his speed to the edge of the circle being outstanding. In midfield, Cameron Philip, Malcolm Dippie and Chris Clark all worked well. Michael Clement missed most of the games through illness and Craig Forster substituted wholeheartedly. At the front Hans McKenzie-Wilson and Keith Salters always looked likely to open defences and they scored most of our goals. Hans had some training with the Under-18 national squad. In Alec Lochore and Jason Low we had high speed on the wings, but both could be countered by thinking defenders. Jason trained with the national under-16 group, as did Senior Colts goalkeeper Duncan Robertson, and came very near a cap.

The other Senior XIs had modest seasons, but the 2nd XI play mostly school 1st XIs so their record was not bad. There wasn't quite so much talent in this year's Senior Colts as usual, but, with Alan Keddie and Douglas Green selected for under-15 national training, they managed to win most games. The Junior Colts sides were equally successful, losing only three of their 12 games, so the future looks secure.

This year was the tenth Strathallan Sixes for Prep and Junior schools. For the second year running, Loretto Nippers won, just beating New Park in the final. In a mixed season of 11-a-side results, Riley reached the quarter final only to go out to a talented Cragfield six. Our thanks go to Mrs Valentine for kindly presenting a trophy for the runners-up and giving out the prizes on the day.

I also thank all who coached, clothed, fed and generally encouraged hockey players. Our standards remain high but with more and more schools playing on artificial grass pitches we could be soon overhauled.

J.N.F.

SUMMER HOCKEY

For various reasons this has been a fairly non-competitive year. The 'option' list at the beginning of term showed that while there was a nucleus of good players, the supporting cast made it unlikely that we would be able to turn out a boys' XI capable of taking on those schools whose winter first XI played on through the summer term. Thoughts therefore turned to a programme of 'A' XI and 'mixed' XI matches, but in the event only two of these materialised.

In the first a boys' XI travelled to

Rannoch only to meet with a 4-1 defeat — while victory went to the stronger team, the score would have been closer had we been able to take advantage of numerous chances which fell to us. A 'mixed' XI played against the Edinburgh Academy towards the end of term — this time a 1-1 draw was the outcome of a match which again showed our reluctance to put the ball in the goal when the opportunity offered.

James Whitmee captained the team in matches (and enjoyed playing cricket for

the rest of the time!), while Mark Taylor deserves special mention for his perpetual enthusiasm and competitiveness.

I hope that next year will see more players choosing the game as one of their summer options so that full first XI matches can be restored as well as 'mixed' XIs, and that amongst them will be some genuine forwards who can score the goals which seem to have been lacking over the past few seasons.

A.M.P.

CRICKET

Not just for Strathallan but throughout the Scottish school circuit, this was a very odd season. The ball dominated the bat in an unprecedented manner. A combination of poor wickets, moderate batting and good bowling made runs very difficult to get. Only one of our main inter-school fixtures went the whole way. Wins were recorded over Fettes, Edinburgh Academy, Dollar and Stewarts Melville; losses against Loretto and Merchiston; a draw with Glenalmond. With such a young side (seven fifth formers by the end), this is not such a bad balance sheet, but considerable work will be needed on basic batting technique in order to make the most of natural talent. In addition, the production of good wickets throughout the circuit must become a priority. Hours of coaching in the nets followed by a ball in the teeth is hardly productive of confidence.

The First XI had perhaps the best bowling attack of any in the past ten seasons. The pace attack of Hans McKenzie-Wilson (36 wickets at 12.15) and Mark Tench (23 wickets at 18.91) was followed by the supreme conmanship of James d'Ath (16 wickets at 13.56) and the spin of Keith Salters (33 wickets at 12.15) and Gareth Thorburn (7 wickets at 15.42). This attack, backed up for most of the time by good fielding and the very promising wicket-keeping of Andrew Wood made our opponents work hard for

runs. Outstanding among the performances were Hans' 6-25 against Fettes and 8-67 against MCC and Keith's 5-13 against the Academy and 5-83 against Glenalmond. It is, alas, much more difficult to find pleasure in the batting. Five batsmen made scores of over 50 but few found any consistency. Stuart Walker showed his usual determination (some would say bloody-mindedness) as an opener and hit a high point with an unbeaten innings lasting for three hours against the XL Club. Hugh Lochore produced two highly effective innings amongst some low scores. Gareth Thorburn, Hans McKenzie-Wilson, Mark Vance, Hamish Blanche, Robin Johnston and, towards the end, Martin Smith all had their moments. Only Keith Salters found any real consistency and approached a batting average of 30. As eight players return next year and seven the year after, the prospects are quite good but there is a lot of work to be done.

The Second XI, once again, produced some exciting cricket. A sound bowling attack, some excellent fielding and some good batting performances (notably by the mercurial James Winchester) resulted in a good season. Unfortunately only Martin Smith and, in the festival, Edward Anderson, showed the ability to step up a league. Nevertheless there will be several

players in contention for First XI places next year.

The Third XI, much younger than usual, did not reach its usual heights and CNC was unable to produce his cyanide concoction for Glenalmond. Nevertheless one or two of the younger members of the side will make useful players.

The Senior Colts, by far the most difficult age group, produced the odd really fine performance, notably in a thrilling final win against Glenalmond. There is considerable individual talent in the group but not enough realisation that it is a team game requiring patience. To some extent the same criticism should apply to the Junior Colts but with honourable exceptions. The Senior and Junior Colt B sides did well but it is increasingly difficult to find meaningful fixtures and almost impossible to find matches for PMV's killer group, the Junior Colt Cs, whose single match resulted in a win by over 280 runs.

I am deeply grateful to those who run the various games and who put in considerable time. Once again I am particularly grateful to NTHduB for his coaching, umpiring and imperviousness to snarl. There is considerable potential for good cricket in the School. It is up to us to produce the conditions and the motivation to make the most of it.

R.W.P.





Drawing by Emma McNamara

HOWZAT!

Cricket: game of cunning and skill, tension and excitement, stumps and bails, ducks and googlies, bats and balls.

Before coming to Strathallan my only contact with cricket was either watching a few white figures on the television, or worse, listening to it on the radio for the benefit of my dad in the car. Cricket on the radio consists of two old men sitting and talking and trying to make what is happening sound interesting. Unfortunately most of the time nothing is happening so they spend their time reminiscing about other even more exciting events in the history of cricket.

Coming here did not do much to continue my enthusiasm for the game. After a quick spell of trying my hand at it in third form I discovered it was quite a lot less enjoyable than rounders. Why this easier and much more amusing game isn't taken seriously I don't know.

So what is it that makes cricket such a popular sport? Most sports fall into two categories: spectator sports and competition sports. Cricket doesn't appear to fall into either as most of the time there is nothing for people to watch, and most of the time the teams aren't doing anything. Obviously in Test Cricket there is the added interest of streakers and players featured in the scandal pages of tabloid newspapers. Strathallan, as far as I know, has never had a streaker at a cricket match and when it does come to reported scandal I don't think any of our local newspapers know the rules.

I begin to wonder if people participate in the sport out of a sense of guilt. The spectators who would much rather be sunbathing and reading a book do so, but in order not to be labelled lazy they make the effort to muster up some polite applause and conversations. Their conscience is clear. Likewise the team members feel they must do something before they go and have their cricket teas. Certainly it's not the winning that counts but the taking part. After all, any hard feelings just wouldn't be cricket.

However, another possible and eminently more realistic reason for the popularity of cricket is the completely new vocabulary that comes into the game. Any game which involves such a rich array of ducks, in my opinion, is enough to bowl any maiden over. I think the most heartening thing about cricket must be the fact that you can shout, without the slightest feeling of being a jerk; HOWZAT!

Richard Townhill.

GIRLS' GAMES

This year sees reports on Hockey, Swimming, Netball, Tennis, Sailing, Cricket and Athletics all written by the respective captains with not too much prodding from me. Generally it has been a year of young, inexperienced teams and as a result our successes in fixtures and tournaments have been limited but this in

no way should detract from the amount of effort these players put in during this session. Their gradual improvement in skills and commitment to their teams has been very rewarding to watch and I am as hopeful as they are that next session will see an abundance of victories. May I take this opportunity on their behalf to thank

all members of staff who work on the Girls' Games programme for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. It is your enthusiasm which encourages the girls to do well and this is appreciated by all.

L.J.S.

First XI HOCKEY REPORT

The start of a new year also meant the start of a new First XI, with only three of the team remaining plus Carol Anderson from the Second XI. The team was a relatively young mixture. Rachel Taylor, a Fourth former, as the youngest member of the team earned a well-deserved place.

Congratulations go to Sonya Reid for being in the pool for the Scottish Schools U18. Unfortunately she was not selected this year, but all the best for next year, Sonya.

After a shaky start, all teams had clean sweeps against Albyn, St George's, Westbourne and St Columba's.

After half term we took time to settle again and had our usual hard matches against Dundee High School and Dollar, losing to both. Following this however, we had clean sweeps against both the High School of Glasgow and Fettes.

New fixtures for the juniors against Crieff High School and Robert Gordon's in Aberdeen, the latter now taking girls, resulted in the Fourth Form losing but Third Form and Second Form winning.

A goalless draw against Loretto by the First XI brought to mind the Independent Trophy to be played in a month's time. An improvement in this score would have to be necessary for us to retain it, and a convincing win over Waid Academy set us on the right track, for the tournament to be held at Bell Baxter in late November. Wins over Waid Academy, Bell Baxter, Kinross and fixtures, the team withstood the pressure, played well and held onto the trophy for yet another year.

The spring term brought its usual gaps in the fixture list due to the weather and

Harris gave us the twelve goals for us to qualify in our section for the semi-finals, where we met Dundee High School. Sadly, we couldn't maintain our goal scoring and we lost 0-2 to the High School, the eventual winners.

Gordonstoun visited us on the afternoon of the tournament and a very tired First XI enjoyed their match despite losing 2-1 but the honours were upheld by the Second XI yet again drawing 1-1!

Indoor hockey is being played more and more at school and district level nowadays, and to their credit Sheila Dow and Carol Anderson gained places in the Midlands Indoor District team for the second season.

Our match against Fettes in early December for the Second, Third and Fourth Form resulted in a win and two draws. At the same time the First XI were playing at Loretto at the Independent Tournament.

Having wins over: Gordonstoun 1-0, Fettes 2-0, Loretto 2-0 and despite having poorer results against these teams in

despite settling well against Westbourne — juniors winning all matches — there were some losses against St Katherine's, Dollar and Heriot's, the Second XI losing only to Dollar.

Indoor hockey against Rannoch kept us fit, with losses in the first round and two wins in the second round. Despite more time being spent on indoor hockey, the senior team were unable to get through their section in the Midlands Senior Indoor Championships. The junior team obviously did benefit from the sessions and reached the finals in their Midlands Tournament with wins over: Morgan 2-0, Bell Baxter 3-0, Strathallan 2 2-1, Dundee High School 1-0. Semi-finals: Crieff 2-0, but lost 0-1 in the finals to Morrisons after a very good match.

A draw against St Columba's, wins over Rannoch, St George's and Laurel Bank gave us some confidence before the Heriot's 7's towards the end of the season, but unlike the Independent Trophy, we could not get the ball in the back of the net, to get through our section and retain our title of last year.

All in all it has been a mixed season with regard to results. However, with the Second XI scores being constant and encouraging, all looks well for the future. As a reward for their efforts, colours were awarded as follows:

Full Colours: Lynne Meldrum, Sonya Reid.

Half Colours: Susan Arnott, Kirsty Boyd.

Full Colours for Minor Sport (indoor hockey): Carol Anderson, Sheila Dow.

Lynne Meldrum, Captain.



THE VISITING ARGENTINIAN TEAM

The highlight of the season was when St Andrew's Scots School, Argentina, came across to play both hockey and rugby. They arrived on 7th February and were staying with us till the 10th. To our surprise, the girls arrived in above-knee-length kilts and here we were trying to keep warm! They were then split up and taken to their billets or taken to Woodlands or Thornbank.

We were delighted to discover that

they could speak very good English, and were delightfully talkative. They also tried to teach a few of us Spanish but to no avail.

The evening before the match there was for the first time a combined hockey and rugby dinner. It was a really good evening, both teams getting on extremely well!

The match was to be played on the all-weather pitch — the First XI's pre-

ferred surface. Watching them practise told us that this was going to be a tough match. The weather was cold but not rainy, until just at the beginning of the second half the heavens opened. Despite this, we led 1-0 till the last few minutes when they equalised and made it 1-1. It was a very good game despite the weather.

L.M.



Miss Smith with the Hockey team in Barbados.

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THE YEAR IN COLOUR



Advice on the drive for fast 'Fun' runners.



Riley slalom stalls.

Stuart Munro's sartorial elegance on 'silly shirts' day.



Mr Addison walks over to Leburn by night.



Thornbank Amazons.



Mr Pengelley — cannibal chef?



Sports Day final.



Loch Rannoch Road Race: Winning team.



New Boys' Halls in occupation.



"I could be happy with you": 'The Boyfriend'.



Top: Form IV Army Section at Cultybraggan Assault Course during summer camp.

Above: Flat out.

Top right: Cinderella on her way to the Sixth Form Ball.

Below: Levitation!

**Below right:
1st XV v Scots' School, Argentina.**



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Below: Strathallan girls meet the President and the Vice-President of the West Indies' Hockey Association.



GIRLS' HOCKEY TOUR TO BARBADOS, JULY 1990

By the time this report is read, the peeling will have stopped and the tans will have long since disappeared. Many, including staff, parents and friends wished us luck on holiday! Yet, ask any of the girls or Miss Smith or Mr Keir on their return if it was a restful two weeks on a beach and you will be met with laughter. This was a Hockey Tour — and a very successful one at that.

It seems so long ago (June '89), that letters were circulated to see if there would be a response to such a venture. Response there was and early in the session, 89-90 places were drawn for the "lucky" 27.

Every Sunday throughout the Summer Term saw either a 9 a.m. or an after-chapel training session where both teams learnt skills and set-pieces. Wednesdays saw the fitness programme, which went down really well! In fact, the girls asked many sensible questions about the benefits of fitness and fitness-testing, but it was not until we were out in Barbados playing in heat of 80°C + and 70% humidity that they fully appreciated that being fit meant skills would not deteriorate so rapidly while the body copes with heat and little fresh oxygen.

The Senior Team, made up of many of the 1st XI, had less difficulty in jelling together. The Junior Team with some 2nd and 3rd XI plus 4th Form team players had to work hard on individual skills and becoming familiar with changed positions and playing mates. They had a lot of ground to make up and in all fairness they appreciated this and tried. Mr Keir certainly had his work cut out.

The trip was not cheap, but once the initial cost was met the girls were most inventive at thinking up ideas to raise further funds. A word of thanks to all those who contributed in any way, large or small, towards the financing of touring tops, playing strips and kit, trips and entertainment, transport costs to the Hockey Federation of Barbados, food bills and the all-important departure tax. In the end we were able to take a magnificent sum of money away with us after paying all bills.

The tour members returned to school after a very brief 5 days away and, after photo calls for the press and then two days of extensive training (furnished with magnificent school holiday breakfasts), departed at midnight by bus to travel to Manchester. A two and a half hour flight delay did not dampen spirits nor did the refuelling stop at Gander (where?), or the crew change in Bangor, Maine, or even the heavy rain that met us on arrival in the West Indies. It was hot rain! From the Friday morning when we



got up, to arrival at the hotel, we calculated, with the four hours time change, we had been on the go for 42 hours. However, a long lie was prevented by an eager tour rep, who wished to talk us through all Barbados had to offer.

From the end of that talk till we landed back home it was non-stop. Free snorkelling lessons in the pool, swimming in the beautiful sea, out for training on the wonderfully manicured pitch at Garriston Savannah, going on a trip to the Museum to see "1627 And All That", surviving the Jolly Roger and Harbour Lights, trying to keep awake at After Dark, waiting for a disco at the Ship Inn (not that everyone hung around all the time for that), jet skiing and windsurfing or just catching the sun (Tracey) on the watersports trip, visiting the local hospital to have stitches put in or taken out (Sheila) or making ourselves known at the local police station (Suzy), shopping, eating Big Macs or Kentucky Fries, sampling the strawberry daquiries (5th Form), making popcorn or filling the sink with the tea (Ailsa) or enjoying sitting outside rooms watching the sun come up. This alone was enough to fill two weeks, but there was some hockey to fit in — 10 matches in fact!

Three wins, a draw and only one loss was recorded by the Junior team against school and junior club sides. An excellent effort. The side notched up 17 goals and only conceded 4. Our earlier fears were unjustified as the girls improved with each match and worked really hard.

The Seniors amassed 17 goals also in their 4 wins and one loss touring display,

conceding 10. The majority of the goals were given away — 6 in one match — but it will be a match that stays in the mind of these girls for many a year, playing against a full International side. The last match the Seniors played was at Kensington Oval, the West Indian Test Cricket ground and there they met the Barbados Women's national side who were looking for a training match before leaving for South America for the 5 Nations Cup. This same team will represent Barbados at the Pan-Am games next year. We held them for the first 10 minutes in a 70 minute match but this took a lot out of the girls. We went three down in the first half followed by another three in the second — consistent if nothing else. It was a great experience for all those who played — and for the coaches. We all learnt a great deal on helping a team cope with pressure, physical differences in strength, speed and panic situations. We were *about* to score on three occasions, which was a magnificent effort against such a team.

Our grateful thanks go to Ramsay World Travel, Perth, for their superb package which included a trophy for the best tourist, won by Julie Clark. Our appreciation also to Mark Norville, vice-president of the Barbados Hockey Federation for his wonderful organisation — including a picnic tour of the island.

All in all it was a very successful Hockey Tour and as we study our memories captured on film — it was a great holiday!

L.J.S. and P.K.

(more photos — see pages 42 and 43)

GIRLS' ATHLETICS

Girls' Athletics has without doubt seen the most successful season ever this year. Very nearly every track record has been smashed and most of the field records too have been threatened or broken.

The sprinting squad, coached by Mrs Broadfoot and Mr Green, have a number of very talented junior sprinters in the form of Tizi Nicholson, Lindsey Moir, Eilidh Currie and Sophie Murray, but the lime-light this year was definitely stolen by Alison Edmonds who won gold in both the 100m and the 200m at the Scottish Schools' Scottish Junior Championships and double Silver in the British Independent Schools' Championships. Her electrifying last effort at the Scottish Schools' Relay Championship also helped the team of Kate Morrison, Sarah Semple and Sonya Reid to win. Of course, Alison gained a bronze and so nearly a silver medal in an event where Strathallan has never even made the final before. Improvements have also been seen (and noted) in Fiona Mowat, who unfortunately missed the end of the season due to illness, as well as Claire Corrie and Sheila Dow.

The middle distance squad under Mr

Raine and Mr Barnes probably had one of the hardest seasons ever, (even if this appears to be the general opinion every year), but the headaches and nausea that followed this year's repetitions and "Fartleks" certainly payed off. At the Scottish Schools Rachel Taylor ran almost a minute faster than ever before over 3000m to win a bronze medal in Badge Standard time. Clodagh Meiklejohn ran another personal best of 5 mins. 07 secs. again winning a bronze medal, with Flo Griffiths coming in 6th in the same strong field and Sonya Reid ran her personal best over 400m to take the silver in a badge standard time. Lucy Quarry too ran a commendable race over 1500m in her first visit to this daunting event. The day at the Scottish Schools was then capped when it was announced that Strathallan was to share the Paisley Shield for the best Scottish School.

The field squad, although not quite so successful as the track, still had some encouraging results. Claire Corrie recorded her personal best in both high and long jump. Bonnie Stevens threw shot and discus consistently well all season and Alison Edmonds recorded some excellent throws in the shot putt.

Lucy Young, Lesley-Anne Dewar, Rachel Tilford and Kris Filmer also gave promising performances.

The season has been more than just outstanding performances, however. Running tights sported by some likely lassies appeared for the first time. (Definitely a must for everyone next year) and mind over matter exercises (compliments of Mr Barnes) may well have contributed to the success of the squad.

Sports Day this year resulted in fairly average performances across the board in the light of the team's achievements, but this was definitely excusable after the hard season. The house trophy went to Thornbank House, as perhaps expected, and the Victrix Ludorum to Alison Edmonds.

In a report it is always difficult to ensure everybody deserving has had a mention and I'm sure there are people I've missed out, but finally however I would like to thank all those who don't normally do Athletics who turned up to help us out when we were short of numbers. It was very much appreciated.

Sonya Reid

Joint winners of the Paisley shield were: Back L to R Alison Edmonds, Sonya Reid and Flo Griffiths, front L to R Lucy Quarry, Clodagh Meiklejohn and Rachel Taylor.



GIRLS' SWIMMING

With nineteen girls now representing the swimming team we are becoming stronger and more competitive. It is difficult to believe that it was only two years ago that the girls began swimming against other schools. Having won against Rannoch for the second year running we were confident of a victory over St. Leonards. However, they again proved to be the stronger team, but with the points' margin now reduced to as little as ten this was an excellent effort, considering the vast difference in numbers.

Even though the original girls' team had been split (both houses with new recruits), they still managed to subject the boys to tough competition. With continuing enthusiasm and commitment, which has been commendable this year, it is eventually hoped to see a girls' victory in the interhouse competition. However, until then, we have to be contented with beating Nicol — which both Woodlands and Thornbank did this year.

Susan Arnott

CRICKET

(Yes . . . for girls!)

Although you will not have read any details about our activities in the school magazine before, in fact this was the second year of "Girls" Cricket, and although we have not been able to overcome our title of "Girls", we have shown that we are rapidly becoming a force to be reckoned with. Whilst we are not quite ready to challenge the 1st XI boys team, Riley have proved to be within our grasp.

Last year our matches brought us victory over a Loretto Girls' Team and a mixture of boys from Riley (they think we only won because we did not play the U13A — but we think we would have won anyway!). The team members were very grateful to Loretto for giving us our first ever match — it was useful to see if any one remembered anything from all the practices we had both during the winter and summer term.

This year our cricket saw a great boost due to the enthusiasm of many of the third formers. It would not be right to forget to mention the talents (or lack of) which some members displayed at the start — Eilidh Nicolson in particular. However, despite any original problems with co-ordination, there was a dramatic and rewarding improvement in everyone's skill (maybe just as well).

As before, the team was coached by the careful eyes of Mr Giles, who takes revenge quite seriously, and Mr Forster, for whom revenge is all part of the game. Undoubtedly the windmill technique of bowling would not have been so well mastered had they not been present.

This growth in techniques became self-evident in our only match of the season. (Unfortunately the match with Loretto was cancelled due to rain). This match, an Inter-House competition, provided an appropriate end to the year. The general opinion after the game was that it was some of the best cricket ever played by the girls. For me, the final outcome of a narrow victory of Thornbank over Woodlands was conclusive evidence of this.

Finally I would like to say thanks to Messrs Giles and Forster and to all those who came to play cricket who thought that there was no chance for them to actually learn how it was done — I hope this year has proved you wrong. Cricket is a game for everyone and with a little help anyone can learn to play and enjoy the game as is so clearly shown in the successful unbeaten record which the Strathallan Girls' Cricket team has achieved.

Carol Anderson

TENNIS

With the nature of the team, as regards members, changing constantly throughout the season in order to accommodate GCSE and A Level exams, the results were perhaps a little disappointing for the Seniors, and did not fully reflect the effort exerted and the skill demonstrated by many individuals.

The season began with a fairly convincing defeat at St Leonards and ended with a disappointing one from the old rivals, Kilgraston, but good tennis played by Strathallan brought success at Loretto, Laurel Bank and Dollar.

The Junior team played consistently and impressively well and it is encouraging to see such strong players working their way up the school.

Next season it may be useful for the whole team to enrol the help of Peter Derbyshire for coaching purposes in order to develop skills and exploit talents more fully, and to get the team working as a unit.

Lastly, a mention must go to the Strathallan success in the Midland Bank competitions this year by the U13 Riley boys, who battled through the first round to beat George Watsons and then win against the High School of Glasgow to reach the Scottish Finals to be played indoors in September.

All that is left to say is to wish future teams the very best of luck from Jo and me.

Gillian Addison.



JUNIOR NETBALL

The Junior netball squad has had quite an even term: they won a few games and lost a few. Our first match against Rannoch was 7-9 against and that was just our trial. Next to beat was Morrison's and beat them we did: the score was 18-7. Our real challenge was to do well against Gordonstoun and the outcome was a first time victory for Strathallan, the score being 11-7. Next was Fettes, 30-3 to us again. When we played Kilgraston they were winning 10-5 in the first half and in the second half we did our best to come back to make the final score 23-11. Sadly in the next match we just didn't have enough breath and Rannoch beat us again 12-18.

Over all I think the Junior Netball squad did really well and I hope they do as well next year.

Victoria Forster: Captain

NETBALL

The standard of netball again improved with new players from prep school keen and ready to play and those left from last season having acquired new skills. Several members of last year's junior team moved up to the seniors, leaving spaces for the promising new players at the lower level and the set moves which we learned helped pull the team together and made for a much tighter standard of game. The way the sport is seen by others has also improved as people are now beginning to take note and take us seriously. The turn-out at the match against the staff was proof of this.

Our first match was against Dundee High School and although it was a good game we failed to take proper control until the last quarter. We did, however, finish with a very respectable score of 11-14.

This year our fixture list increased dramatically with schools such as Morrison's, Fettes, Kilgraston and St. George's having taken up the sport recently. Thus more even standards were expected. We played away to Morrison's, Kilgraston and St. George's and had convincing wins of 27-7, 29-3 and 26-3 respectively.

We enjoyed a very exciting, close game against Fettes in which both sides were thoroughly tested as to their ability to play as a team and draw on their experiences to get the upper hand. The outcome was a narrow win for us: 19-16.

The Gordonstoun match was not one of our better games and although we knew that we were playing against a better team, we failed to pull together and show our true form. We were outclassed and outplayed and therefore suffered a heavy defeat. Maybe in a few years' time the up-and-coming players will be able to get revenge for us.

The standard of the inter-house competition was high but Thornbank Seniors played their way to a 21-11 victory and, combined with the Juniors' victory, took the inter-house shield.

The match against the staff was an interesting affair with an unusual mixture of the serious and light-hearted. The Senior team was sponsored per goal with the proceeds going to the Hockey Tour, thus a 22-15 victory helped the netballers do their bit for the Hockey Tour.

An unexpected match was played against a Civil Service Team in Perth during the Summer term and we were all exhausted by the end.

All in all we had a very successful season and next term promises to be even better with the team feeling more like a proper recognised team with official netball shirts. Good luck.

Susan Brown

SOME SUMMER TERM SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

Strathallan win the Scottish Schools Sailing Trophy.

Strathallan reach the National Finals of the Bank of Scotland U13 Tennis Challenge (will be played next term).

Craig Foster is selected for the Perthshire Schools Golf Team.

David Reid and Kristian Lannen play for the Tayside Region U18 Basketball team in the Scottish Regional Championships.

Keith Salters and Mark Tench have a final trial for Scottish U16 Cricket next month.

U14 C's XI score 297 for 3 dec. (James Reekie 104 n.o.) and dismiss the opposition for 10 runs!

Sonya Reid is selected for the summer training pool for the Scottish Schoolgirls' Hockey Team.

Strathallan win 15 medals at Scottish Schools Athletics Championships (including 3 Golds) and the Girls share the Trophy for the school with the best performances at the Championships.

Ky Kay is selected to throw the Discus for Scotland in the Schools Home International Athletics meeting at Meadow-

bank.

Alison Edmonds confirms her status as the fastest U19 female in Scotland by winning both the 100m and 200m in the Scottish Junior Championships.

Jonathan Brooks wins a bronze medal 100m at the British Independent Schools Championships in London (Alison Edmonds wins silver in both the 100 and 200).

Strathallan take the first FIVE places in the Loch Rannoch 12.5 mile road race for Schools and win both the Boys and the Girls team trophy.



David Grtten hands the baton to Jonathan Brooks — U17 4x100m Scottish Schools Championship.

BOYS' ATHLETICS

A unique year . . . definitely one that could not have been predicted! We managed to win 15 medals at the Scottish Schools Championships, three medals at the British Independent Schools Championships, the boys were totally outshone by the girls and we still only managed to win two matches outright! Several features have not changed though — Roger Bond still came third in the Scottish Schools Senior 1500m (and still failed to win a single 800m), our field events (with two notable exceptions) were weak but had great character and yet again "Not the Strathallan Sports Day" turned into a comical farce!

As usual the first match provided us with a few surprises, none more so than Alec Lochore's mad 100m dash that lasted for 400m! Cameron Cook also silenced his critics by winning the 200m against "one of those dark chaps"!

Fettes proved to be dominant in the field events but with a little (well, OK then, a lot) of help from our Girls we just managed to win. Glenalmond also provided another big shock — we beat them! Notable performances were given by Graham Maclellan and Murray Dick.

Rannoch is never the easiest of matches, especially when competing away. This year we had the added difficulty of having no upper sixth due to exams! The middles won, the seniors didn't.

The final match was against Merchiston and needs no further mention — suffice to say we came second. Actually, it should be noted that the middle unbeaten record ended here by the narrowest of margins — a single point! Jonathan Brooks' 100m, David Gritten's 400m and the middles' 4 x 100m relay

victories were highlights of an outstanding meeting.

After the Merchiston match, we felt that things could get better and this proved to be true at the Scottish Schools Relay Championships. The Senior Boys just failed to make the last six, while the Middles quartet of Graham Maclellan, Tony Gibson, David Gritten and Jonathan Brooks won silver medals and broke "badge standard" and the Girls also excelled by bringing home the Bronze, also at "badge standard".

The Scottish Schools Individual Championships was also a great success. Ky Kay won the Gold in the U17 Discus . . . congratulations and good luck throwing for Scotland in the Home International in July! Roger Bond just failed to emulate his "Chariots of Fire" hero by taking the Bronze in the Senior 1500m (and that after spending the early part of the race lying flat on his back on the track — these club athletes are rough — thanks guys!). Other outstanding efforts came from James Tornos, Jonathan Brooks, Iain Wilson, Cameron Cook and our very own Alec Lochore. The girls will tell their own story — don't miss it!

This was nothing in comparison to "Not the Strathallan Sports Day"!!! In front of a capacity crowd no-one failed to look ridiculous. There were "special" performances by Simon "medallion man" H-C in the limbo and Julie Clark in managing to win "Scop the Seagull".

Athletics has also thrived in another area this season — that of road running! Our own internal "fun run" for the Barbados Tour provided a victory for Roger Bond and once again Tim Lawrence came in just behind. Other

excellent performances came from Piers Du Cane Wilkinson, Andrew Buchan and our trainer DJB. All those training sessions trying to keep up with us obviously paid off!

At the Loch Rannoch Mini-Marathon (12.5 miles) we decided to launch a major assault this year. Taking a strong squad of six plus hoards of Riley Gnomes (to intimidate the opposition) we managed to get the first five finishers and take the individual and team prizes. Well done Rachael Taylor on breaking your own course record in the Girls competition and to our fearless female squad for sharing in the top girls team prize! Thanks to all those at Rannoch and to the event sponsors for a great day out! Thanks also for the Bauchaille Dash — I think!

All in all it was an outstanding season. It's a shame that circumstances deprive us of greater depth in our squad but credit must be given to all those athletes who competed (yes, even you Rod!) and our sincere thanks go to all our coaches. Thanks for a great season.

Roger Bond

FULL COLOURS: R. A. Bond (Capt.)
A. C. Cook
Ky T. Kay

HALF COLOURS: I. D. J. Wilson
A. B. Gibson
J. M. Brooks
D. J. Gritten
J. A. Tornos
G. R. Maclellan
T. P. Lawrence
A. D. Lochore
S. D. Housion-Craufurd



Left: Duncan Logan to the fore in cross-country. Right: Murray Dick U17 800m Scottish Schools Championship.



FUN RUN



Drawing by Tim Lawrence

To one such as myself the idea of a run being fun was well beyond my grasp. Yet when a notice went up asking who would be interested in running 12 miles in aid of the Girls' Tour I signed my name up with all the grace and ease of someone who had done this many times before. What was I thinking of, you ask? That is a question I often ask myself. Could it have been pride? No. Could it have been a sense of duty to help the girls? Maybe, but I think not. So was it basic stupidity or a change of image? Well I'll let you decide. The reason why I "signed up" those many months ago is now lost and irrelevant. The fact was that when I arrived back this term I was officially on "The Strathallan School Barbados Fun Run" and I could not back out — that was it: I was on.

Being who I am, I could not take the 12 mile course too lightly. In fact I had to treat it with more respect than even my Housemaster warrants, a considerable amount to say the least! Unfortunately just treating the Run with respect was not going to get me round the three laps of the four mile course. This, of course, meant TRAINING. Just saying the word sends shivers down my spine even now. Yet, if I was going to do this run then I had to get the ball rolling sooner or later. What better way to start than with a "Pilgy". It was not until I had finally finished my first one that I realised that it was not a ball I had to get rolling but a 10 ton boulder! That was when the true fact of the matter struck me, I was going to run TWELVE MILES! I must confess that I felt like chucking it all in and telling P.K. that I did not want to do it anymore. For making me stick with it I must thank Piers. He dragged me round and slowly, very slowly, I got fitter.

The 20th May loomed ever closer. By May 8th I could run four miles without too much bother. On 9th I tried two laps. It was slow, unenjoyable, tedious and, more importantly, absolutely shattering! "Oh, oh", I thought, "I've got a long way to go." So with increased anxiety I trained (me—training!) a bit harder. I like to look at my progress as impressive and, to me, being able to run 8 miles in under an hour (59m 58s to be exact) by May 14th was an impressive achievement. With a week to go I made final preparations. After a quick consultation with my dietary adviser, Dr P. Unjab, I got a carbohydrate-loading diet for the last week. "Only three training days left," he said. "Then rest." In those three days I ran four miles a day. I now had three days left of eating solid carbohydrates and no exercise (nothing could be easier!).

Well, finally Sunday, May 20th arrived. The day of the Strath Fun Run

was here. The day was hot and humid and tension filled the air by the main gates where about 130 people gathered at 1.30 p.m. for the start at 2 p.m. I think it would be fair to say I was just a touch, and only a touch mind you, worried. It was not the fact that I might not be able to finish the Run that worried me, but the fact that Julie might beat me!

Anyway, at 2 we set off. I sat at the back of the pack, with my reasoning being that then I might overtake people! As the Run progressed the pack thinned considerably and I found myself running on my own. I suppose if I am honest, and it pains me to say this, I did actually enjoy the Run. I completed my three laps without TOO much bother and in a respectable time, at least for me, of 1 hour 32 minutes. I feel I must mention that there were some outstanding performances: Roger Bond (whose race number was 007) somehow flew round the distance in a remarkable time of 1 hour 1 minute, Tim Lawrence hot on his tail at 1 hour 2 minutes. A big upset in third place, with no disrespect intended, for Piers du Cane Wilkinson in 1 hour 7 minutes, managing to beat DJB (it must have been training with me that did it). Also worth a large mention are Rachel Taylor who finished in 1 hour 15 minutes which is great for anyone, but for an under 16 girl it is fantastic, the same goes for Andrew Jeffreys who completed the course in 1 hour 17 minutes. Also I suppose I must admit defeat and congratulate Julie for beating me (oh dear!) in a time of 1 hour 30 minutes. I am sure I have missed out many fine performances and for that I apologise.

I believe that on all accounts the Run was a great success, hopefully we managed to raise enough money to help send our beloved girls on tour, and maybe more importantly we helped to set up an event that will be continued annually.

Finally I must, on the runners' behalf, thank all who helped organise the Run, especially Mr Keir and Miss Smith. Mr Ross and his crew should be congratulated for the results service and Mr Vallot and Mr Elliot's crew for organising the watering stations.

I must also thank, on behalf of Mr Keir, Miss Smith and the girls going on tour, all those who ran and helped to raise money. Oh, and let us not forget Mr Proctor who, at great personal loss, let us borrow and set up our "we did it" barbecue after the Run. Thank you, Sir.

Results		Time
Fastest OAP:	Dave Barnes	1:08
Biggest race upset:	P du C Wilkinson, 3rd	1:07

Your melodramatic reporter:
Tarrant (I really ran 12 miles) Steel.

SPORTS DAY

Those who were there, and who were actually watching the Athletics, will have noted some excellent track and field performances under difficult conditions.

The high standards achieved by our athletes this season are a reflection of their efforts and the latter have been considerable!

Congratulations to all those who set new "P Bs", my thanks go to all those colleagues who helped with arrangements prior to and on Sports Day and to Mrs Margie Logan who so kindly agreed to present the prizes.

We have found Rachel Taylor, but where was Roger Bond . . .

D.J.B.

GIRLS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist.	Record	Holder	Year
100m	Ri	Pearman R. C.	15.34	14.30	Ninham C.	1988
100m	J	Nicholson E. A.	14.44	13.00	Streule K.	1982
100m	S	Edmonds A.	12.70	12.12	Edmonds A.	1990
200m	Ri	Kranenburg H. C.	32.00	28.61	Blackstock S.	1988
200m	J	Currie E. M.	32.38	27.79	Reid S.	1988
200m	S	Edmonds A.	28.31	25.20	Edmonds A.	1990
400m	Ri	Doodson L. A.	77.66	69.95	Blackstock S.	1988
400m	J	Tilford R. E.	71.97	66.00	Reid S./Taylor R.	1987/90
400m	S	Reid S. J.	62.68	60.00	Reid S.	1990
800m	Ri	Bryans L.	3:06.00	2:43.37	Taylor R.	1988
800m	J	Taylor R. S. G.	2:35.64	2:32.10	Taylor R.	1990
800m	S	Reid S. J.	2:42.40	2:37.00	Reid S.	1990
1500m	Ri	Dutton S. M.	7:33.00	5:39.00	Hooper C.	1988
1500m	J	Taylor R. S. G.	5:19.22*	5:24.20	Taylor R. <i>New School Record</i>	1990
1500m	S	Meiklejohn C. K.	5:31.12	5:09.10	Meiklejohn C.	1990
High Jump	Ri	Bryans/Doodson	1.15	1.36	Blackstock S.	1988
High Jump	J	Blackstock S.	1.25	1.45	Orr K.	1984
High Jump	S	Corrie J. C.	1.30	1.55	Rutherford R.	1987
Long Jump	Ri	Sang T.	3.48	4.08	Brodie A.	1984
Long Jump	J	Lannen T. L.	4.12	4.46	Gordon S.	1985
Long Jump	S	Boyd K. J.	4.35	4.58	Carruthers C.	1989
Shot	Ri	Sang T.	6.52	8.20	Orr T.	1984
Shot	J	Young L. J. S.	7.04	8.55	Smith J.	1985
Shot	S	Edmonds A.	7.01	9.49	Edmonds A.	1990
4 x 100m Relay	J	Woodlands	58.31	56.90	East Wing	1985
4 x 100m Relay	S	Thornbank	52.74*	54.54	Thornbank <i>New School Record</i>	1990

BOYS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist.	Record	Holder	Year
100m	Ri	Price M.	13.84	12.14	Cook C.	1985
100m	J	Wallace J. P.	12.49	12.00	Ling T.	1971
100m	M	Gibson A. B.	12.10	10.90	Ogilvie	1978
100m	S	Cook A. C.	11.49	11.00	Lochart/Ling/Smellie/Kirkland	1971/78
200m	Ri	Barr J. D.	32.25	25.34	Stewart R.	1987
200m	J	Wallace J. P.	27.25	24.50	Cook C.	1987
200m	M	Low J. C.	25.71	23.20	Ling T.	1973
200m	S	Cook A. C.	24.62	22.80	Ling T.	1987
400m	Ri	Price M.	64.83	59.30	Stewart R.	1987
400m	J	Bennett A. J. B.	64.19	56.50	Cook C.	1987
400m	M	Low J. C.	55.80	52.50	Millar	1977
400m	S	Lochore A. D.	53.31	50.30	Roger G.	1982
800m	Ri	Camilleri D. M. A.	2:51.00	2:24.4	Stewart R.	1987
800m	J	Wilson I. D. J.	2:17.28	2:12.9	Lawrence C.	1984
800m	M	Dick M. J.	2:13.50	2:03.6	Lawrence C.	1985
800m	S	Lochore A. D.	2:09.94	1:55.2	Roger G.	1982
1500m	Ri	Price M.	5:30.32	4:55.0	Lawrence C.	1984
1500m	J	Wilson I. D. J.	4:40.17	4:32.7	Lawrence C.	1985
1500m	M	Sang R. T. D.	4:38.00	4:14.5	Bond R.	1988
1500m	S	Bond R. A.	4:38.00	4:09.2	Bond R.	1989
High Jump	Ri	Hall D. A.	1.24	1.48	Tornos J.	1987
High Jump	J	Wallace M.	1.60	1.63	Holmes	1965
High Jump	M	Tornos J. A.	1.65	1.775	Cuthbertson A.	1984
High Jump	S	Lannen K. L. F.	1.45	1.895	Roger G.	1982
Long Jump	Ri	Wood G. C.	3.95	5.00	Tindall	1961
Long Jump	J	Hill C. L.	4.69	5.55	Lear C.	1967
Long Jump	M	Gritten D. J.	5.15	6.17	Lawson	1967
Long Jump	S	Lochore A. D.	5.22	6.52	Smellie D.	1978
Shot	Ri	Hall D. A.	9.76	11.29	Kay K.	1987
Shot	J	Wallace M.	9.80	11.43	Knox S.	1974
Shot	M	Sochart P. D. H.	10.96	14.73	McKenzie G.	1973
Shot	S	Sinclair A. J.	9.01	12.90	Callander	1979
Discus	J	Ferguson P. J.	26.93	36.27	Knox S.	1976
Discus	M	Kay Ky T.	37.20	42.00	Knox S.	1974
Discus	S	Clark C.	24.42	40.26	McKenzie G.	1974
Javelin	J	Henderson P. R.	28.20	49.81	McBride J.	1969
Javelin	M	Low J. C.	39.51	49.81	McBride J.	1969
Javelin	S	Clark C.	38.15	57.07	McBride J.	1971
4 x 100m Relay	Ri	Balmano	60.47	56.70	Dron	1987
4 x 100m Relay	J	Leburn	52.75	50.50	Ruthven	1987
4 x 100m Relay	M	Freeland	48.79	46.60	Simpson	1972
4 x 100m Relay	S	Ruthven	47.90	45.50	Freeland	1981

VICTORES LUDORUM

Riley: Mark Price

Middle Boys: Jason Low

Junior Boys: Iain Wilson

Senior Boys: Alec Lochore

VICTRIX LUDORUM

Riley: Hanna Kranenburg

Junior Girls: Eilidh Currie

Senior Girls: Alison Edmonds

**ROWAN CUP FOR ATHLETICS
STANDARDS: LEBURN**

**BOYS INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS
CHAMPIONS: Freeland**

**GIRLS INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS
CHAMPIONS: Thornbank**

FINAL HOUSE POINTS TOTALS:

Girls: Thornbank 165,
Woodlands 109

Boys: Freeland 129, Leburn
94, Nicol 118, Ruthven 127,
Simpson 79



Iain Wilson wins the 800 metres.



Alex Lochore receives his cup from Mrs Logan.

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GOLF

I'm glad to report that golf continues to be a very popular summer sport and that the team has once again enjoyed a good season.

Although we lost the first two matches against Merchiston and Morrison's Academy, we won four of the remaining matches. Unfortunately, losing to Morrison's meant we finished runners-up to them in our section of the Perth and Kinross Schools League for the second year in succession, and I just hope this doesn't become a habit. As last year, they went on to win the final and we congratulate them on their success. All the matches were most enjoyable and played in a very friendly spirit, with the one against Blairgowrie G.C. Juniors played over the Rosemount course rated particularly highly.

Colours were awarded to Jonathan Frame, Craig Forster and David Reid. All were a bit inconsistent at times but they nevertheless played solid golf over the season and gave a good account of themselves in the matches. James Garvie, the fourth member of the league side, gained in confidence after a shaky start and should do well in the future. Craig was the 'find' of the season — his

switch from cricket to golf in his final term worked out well, and in his quiet, undemonstrative way he made quite an impact. He was runner-up in the Schools Individual Competition at Crieff and was selected to play for the District in the Coca Cola Team Championships.

Ruthven's long run of success in the Home Competition finally came to an end this year — Simpson's 3 round aggregate being just 2 shots better than theirs. Leburn, well led by Colin Smith who scored 79, came a close third.



However, 'Joffie' Frame saw to it that the Stroke Play Cup stayed in Ruthven by scoring 76, one better than David Reid.

There is no doubt that Frank Smith's coaching sessions on Thursday afternoons have helped all who were present, from the raw beginner up to those of team standard, and on behalf of everyone I thank him for his patience and expert advice.

H.C.A.

Captain: J. S. Frame.

Team: J. S. Frame, C. Forster, D. I. Reid, J. Garvie.
(E. Watson, C. A. Smith, A. Davidson, R. McNalley).

Match Results

League:

v Morrison's Academy	Lost 1½-3½
v Crieff H.S.	Won 3-1
v Kinross H.S.	Won 2½-1½
v Auchterarder H.S.	Won 4-0
v Glenalmond	Halved 2-2

Friendlies:

v Merchiston	Lost 1½-2½
v Blairgowrie Juniors	Won 5½-2½

FOOTBALL

This summer term saw upwards of thirty boys from Fourth Form to Upper Sixth choosing to play soccer, and over the course of the first month this was increased by at least ten refugees from other sports. The game was given added interest by a visit from Mr Ken Wharton, a former Aston Villa player who was talent-spotted by David Giles in Intersport. Mr Wharton kindly agreed to give a coaching session, and promised to return weekly . . . in any case, we were all very grateful to him for the time which he did manage to spare us.

We played two fixtures against Queen Victoria School, the first at home, which we won by 2 goals to 1; the second away, which we lost 3-2. The squad from which the team was picked consisted of a group of very keen players, and indeed they were a creditable side. Individual performances of note came from Mike Clement in goal, Angus Johnston, Jamie Scott and Scott Gibb as the strikers and Stephen Wilson, Malcolm Dippie and Fraser Rea in midfield and defence.

The Senior House Matches were played over two weeks towards the end of term; despite the failure to complete two of the matches, the final points total left Freeland in an unassailable position with eight points, no other House having more than four.

A.S.J.

I think we should go for it . . . I think we're ready.
Look, will you pay attention Freddie!
I want you to go out there and be aggressive,
But for God's sake . . . you had better be impressive.

There are a lot of people out there watching you, you and you;
They're fed up with the old faces — they want someone new.
I'm sure you'll like the fans, (and there'll be a good few).

I want you to go out there and show them how to play the game.
Go speak to them, even tell them your name,
Tell them you haven't yet cracked it.
You know that old tactic.

I'm getting a bit tired of the chatting in the back,
You've got to grow-up, you could do with a good smack,
That's what's wrong with you boys,
You're still at the age of playing with toys!

You're all fitter, and more experienced than the rest,
So just go out there and do your best.
I want you all to feel the glory.
And most important come back with that trophy!

Jill McGarrie

SWIMMING

As a games option Swimming remains as popular as ever, although it must be said that many a budding swimmer ends up a little bit disappointed. I have in mind those persons who think of it as a soft option and get a mild shock when they realise that one can have as strenuous a work-out in the pool as one could in the multi-gym.

We appear to have overcome most of the technical problems which used to bedevil the pool.

Competitive swimming is beginning to pick up again. The girls' houses are strongly represented in the middles and junior groups, and even among the seniors they are a force to be reckoned with, as the Inter-house Swimming Gala showed.

Could it have something to do with the fact that the girls train more regularly? The boys seem to rely on raw strength rather than real skill, which is a pity, when one watches some of the rather talented swimmers during Activities sessions.

While swimming cannot possibly claim to play a major role among the various sports and games, it remains firmly established as an activity that offers good opportunities for both relaxation and physical challenge.

K.G.

BASKETBALL

Way back in September, 1989, matches began and for some did not end until June, 1990. It was a long hard season with over 30 games being played.

In the league I was slightly worried that with only three players left from last season we would struggle. But this was not so and in fact we were more successful than last season. Although we only won four games, we were never well beaten and always went down fighting, reaching the semi-finals of the 2nd division cup in the process. Our success was mainly due to our Canadian "import", Graeme Renton, and our Israeli assistant coach, Samir Sabbagh. They not only strengthened the side but added valuable experience. Renton finished top average-points scorer and captain David Reid was 2nd highest 3-point scorer.

In school matches we were soundly beaten in the Scottish Schools Cup by Alness Academy but, although not play-



ing to their full potential, the boys retained the Strathallan Invitation Trophy beating Glenalmond, Rannoch and Kinross High in the process.

Overall it has been a successful and enjoyable season. Congratulations must go to David Reid and Kristian Lannen in representing Tayside Under 18s and to Jamie Shepherd, Cameron Philip and Kris Lannen in gaining their full colours.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Ross for the time he has put into refereeing many of our games, Samir Sabbagh for his help with the coaching and last but not least the team for their dedication and effort throughout the season.

D.R.G.

THE TEAM:

Seniors: D. Giles (Coach), S. Sabbagh (Ass. Coach), G. Renton.

Boys: D. Reid (Captain), C. Philip, J. Shepherd, J. Hay, K. Lannen, J. Langley, D. Breves.

Also Played: M. Dippie, D. Dawes.

BOYS' TENNIS

Despite the limitations imposed on the sport by the summer options programme, the First VI did very well to win most of their matches this season.

A stylish third pair who, unfortunately, won few games, put undue pressure on the other two pairs in the early matches. A reorganisation of pairings and the appearance of new talent from the lower forms gave a better balance to the team and good wins followed, particularly against Glenalmond and Fettes. Edinburgh and, as always, Stewarts Melville proved much too strong for us but all other matches were keenly and closely contested.

In previous years the highlight of the season has been the hexangular fixture with Gordonstoun and Fettes involving both boys' and girls' teams. Sadly this season the fixture did not take place; a victim of the increasing pressure of examinations and the reluctance of Fettes to travel to Elgin. Hopefully it will be possible to reinstate this fixture in a modified form for future years.

Robert Moir, in his third year in the First VI captained the team well and set an excellent example on court. Jonathan Wallace and Daniel Breves, both in their first season with the team, formed a promising partnership which augurs well for next season. John Keddie proved an excellent foil for his captain in the early matches but the length and control of his shots became more erratic with the approach of exam time. In the third pair Neil Sinclair provided the power and the tactics whilst Tommy Chan provided the mobility.

In the house competition Ruthven deservedly won a restyled tournament after some close games and Robert Moir was singles champion.

The school team was selected from Robert Moir, Daniel Breves, John Keddie, Neil Sinclair, Jonathan Wallace, Tommy Chan, Iain Wilson and Kris Robertson. Robert Moir was rewarded full colours for the season.

D.J.R.

Results:

v Edinburgh Academy (a)	lost 0-6
v Morrisons Academy (a)	won 5-4
v Rannoch (a)	won 7-2
v Madras (h)	lost 2-7
v Glenalmond (h)	won 5-4
v Fettes (a)	won 6-3
v Morrisons Academy (h)	lost 4-5
v Stewarts Melville (a)	lost 0-6
v Loretto (a)	won 5-4
v MCR (h)	lost 4-5



SKI-ING

The racing season started early in the Autumn Term with Stathallan qualifying at the Scottish Schools Artificial Slope Championships at Hillend in Edinburgh to represent Scottish Schools in the British event held in November at Silks-worth in Sunderland. The team's relative inexperience on the artificial mat saw us finishing no better than tenth in both events. Individually Robert Moir managed 20th in Sunderland and 'Rambo' Hutchison 22nd at Hillend whilst Guillermo 'Bob Smith' Aristegui scored a notably painful straddle down in the land of the leek buttie.

Early snow-falls in November looked hopeful but, in the event, it was a second consecutive disaster of a ski season. Occasional heavy falls during the winter made little if any impact due to the lack of a solid base.

This was particularly disappointing for a team which on paper was destined to do well on snow; did well at the Perthshire

Schools — one of the very few events to be held in Glenshee these last two seasons — but was denied the chance of proving their worth at national and international level by the enforced cancellation of both Scottish and British Schools snow races.

With Robert 1st; Rambo 3rd followed closely by Jimmy Banks 4th and Peter Allen 7th, the senior team won the Perthshire Schools Open event with some style. At the same meeting the Under-14 team did well to take second place after very little training. Gregor Watt's second individual place being particularly creditable. An inexperienced girls' team managed a fourth place (out of five). It is the Captain's privilege to compliment Sarah Semple on her 13th place in her competitive debut.

The season was not without its competitive rewards. Robert Hutchison put up some good performances in various national events and we all wish him well

in his endeavours to be 'constructively noticed' by the Scottish Squad selectors.

Robert Moir

Star billing must go to Robert Moir who was selected to lead a CCF team competing for the first time in the Royal Navy Championships in the Pyrenees in March. He, and the team, won everything in sight — shades of Ron Duncan and the Strathallan CCF team at the Army Championships back in the 70's; and look what happened to him! The Navy were sufficiently impressed to have a special medal cast for him and in great secrecy sent up to School so that it could be presented to him at Speech Day by the guest of honour, Sir Roger Young.

(Additional material by JFC who wrote the bits that Robert was too modest to put in and who rates this a far more fitting memento of his 25th ski season at Strathallan than one Ski Thursday and a couple of second-rate Sundays.)

SQUASH

The past season was certainly not one of our best and we finished the bottom side of middle in our league. Our main fault lay in the fact that far too many of our defeats were 3 matches to two, and we should have been able to at least win one of the other three. I think there were many times when this could have been put down to 'lack of experience', but certainly not every time.

This is where participation in the league is so valuable as it does give players the chance to gain experience

playing the more 'seasoned' competition in a match situation. To lose this chance would be a great loss and I hope that those staying on will be involved in the 90/91 leagues.

I must put in a special thanks to all those who played, and especially to Roger Bond for so often filling in at the last moment and who I have to report has still not won a league match yet! Hopefully, next season's results will be better, with Piers and Keith returning.

As usual the team extends its thanks to

P.K. for sacrificing his own free time, his own apres match money for refreshments, and for winning all his league matches at the number one slot. This helped no end. We once nearly got promotion, let's hope it's next season.

Gareth Thorburn
(Capt.)

Record:

1stV:	Played: 16	U16:	Played: 2
	Won: 5		Won: 1
	Lost: 11		Lost: 1



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SAILING

It would appear that in the time that it takes to tip a Topper the sailing season has come and gone again. The examinations seem to stretch through the whole term and it is rather awkward to fit in many competitive fixtures. Congratulations to Peter Brown and Pauline McCracken who have brought the Brown Trophy back to Strathallan for the first time since 1969 and to IIA and JJ Davidson who were second. There are more details of this competition elsewhere in the magazine.

The top helms were not available for the match against Loretto but although it was sailed on the sea, the 2nd team did not disgrace themselves. As Glenalmond do not sail high-performance dinghies it was decided to have a Junior Match in their Mirrors and I am pleased to say that we won this convincingly. Next year the

return match could be in Toppers at Lochore Meadows.

This season we have had a larger than normal number of beginners — including two members of staff — and we sorely missed the services of MCC and DR. However we are pleased to welcome Miss Neale into the fold (or should it be fleet?) and I am greatly indebted to her for helping JFC with these beginners. I cannot remember seeing so many capsized drills being done in any one afternoon — it was done very efficiently. We can now welcome AP and JLB who after their capsized drills and a term's messing about in boats can now feel more at home in assisting and managing such a large fleet of boats — 18 at the last count — excluding the 6 RN Toppers which have been available on most sailing afternoons.

I am pleased to report that there has been no serious damage this season but there has been some careless use and careless loss of some of the equipment. Next season I think that the first lesson should be on how to secure a boat cover properly!

It was a relief that the new double-deck trailer arrived just in time to bring the heavier boats back to school. It is lighter and lower than the previous RN trailer and it should help us to be more efficient in trailing boats.

Finally I would like to thank that band of members who were always willing to help in the chores of tidying up every week and with the transportation of the boats to and from Lochore Meadows: without you the sailing could not continue.

T.S.G.

THE BROWN CUP

Scottish Schools Loch Earn Regatta, organised by Loch Earn Sailing Club and sponsored by the Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

Reflected in the gleaming foredeck of "What's On?", the Brown Cup (with a £100 cheque inside it) is held by Peter Brown and his crew, Pauline McCracken. The identity of names is a particularly happy co-incidence. The Cup was presented for the first time in 1960 by Peter's late grandfather, Jack. The winners that year were Strathallan School and the helmsman was Graham Brown, you've guessed it, Jack's son and Peter's father.

Icing the cake, Alex Davidson (on the left) and his brother James (far right) finished second.

24 boats: Mirrors, Toppers, Enterprises, a 420, a Gull and a Kestrel competed in a series of three handicap races. The wind, basically from the South, was in fact variable in both strength and direction all day. In the first race, after a good start, Peter finished 5th on handicap with Alex just feet behind him in 6th. After lunch Peter won the second race with Alex second. In the third race the positions of the second were neatly reversed. Peter eventually took the trophy on the better discard position in the first race. They don't come any closer.

J.F.C.

The winning crew with the Brown Trophy.



CCF

This year saw the closure of the RAF Section as no replacement for Mr Cullen could be found. However, we hope this is only a temporary closure and that the Flight can be re-established in the future once adequate staffing levels can be met. All boys in the Flight have been relocated in the Navy or Army sections and hopefully will be fully integrated in these sections by the time you read this.

On a brighter note, it is hoped that the replacement Range and Store buildings will be constructed in the current financial year to take advantage of a substantial TAVRA grant towards the cost of this project.

Our major problems next year will be obtaining stores and keeping to restricted travel budgets. This is all due to MOD wide moratoria on stores and travel and subsistence. Added to all this will be the increased pressure which parent units and their staffs will be under due to the changes about to be announced since the momentous events that occurred in Warsaw pact countries.

Having weathered the Hume Report

and the subsequent management restructuring, the CCF is bound to be looked at again in the near future. We will no doubt have to adapt once again to another change in direction, although the prime aim of the CCF, which is to encourage leadership in the youth of today, still holds true.

As both sections will be large next year, the involvement of NCOs will be crucial to our continuing success. Their success will be monitored officially in October with our formal review by GOC Scotland.

As already indicated, Mr Cullen leaves us to take up a new career in Edinburgh and I wish him well and thank him for his valuable contribution to the Flight in the past year.

Mr Philips joins us in September and will assist in the Naval Section.

Army Camp, although a small turnout, seemed to be enjoyed at Cultybraggan and the Army Air Corps managed to get most of the group airborne for a short time. The section was in good heart, ably led by Captain Court. I hope his sleu-

thing pays dividends at HCTC to be held in October at Fort George.

The Navy camps and courses were well attended and I can recommend these to any cadet as value for money. Congratulations to Robert Moir on winning the Navy Ski Championships in France this year.

The Royals were active in Skye once more and, with their new intake, the troop will be back to almost their complement after a few 'early baths' last year.

The band are now established in their new home which is looking very smart and they acquitted themselves well at the Championships, especially in junior piping and drumming. It was noteworthy to see that they won the turnout and drill award. Well done all concerned!

Finally I would like to thank Mr Eades and all the officers on behalf of all cadets of the CCF for their support, much of it beyond the call of normal duty, as without it the continuity and sense of purpose of the contingent would be sadly lacking.

C. N. W.

Will yours be a yawning gap or a dawning gap?

What will you be doing in your Gap year? Fancy spending it in Gibraltar, Cyprus, Germany or Hong Kong?

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Short Service Limited Commission



Army Officer

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ARMY SECTION

Parents who collect (perhaps I should say pick-up) their boys one week later than the end of summer term and after Army Camp will know just how exhausting fun can be.

The boy is shattered; his feet are tired, his body is aching, he has several sets of blisters and he will probably sleep for an uninterrupted twelve hours or so. It will be the sleep of the just and the happy, however, or so I am informed by a mother who anticipated writing a letter to me complaining of the unfairness of expecting boys to give up a week of their summer holidays while, in the days of sex equality, girls do not have to meet such demands. Her boy, the one she had almost to lift bodily into her car had just passed what he described, when he woke up, as "the best week of my life".

The activities we undertake do demand a great deal of the boys and I have vivid pictures of certain boys with skinned hands caused by being so tired that they could no longer properly hold the ropes on the assault course, those with huge blisters on their backs from carrying the weapon there on a march and shoot, of Laurence Gage, who, after carrying a heavy radio set for most of an exercise, was woken at three in the morning, told to establish his radio network and to be ready to move-out in ten minutes with the regular officer whose signaller and runner he was. I almost felt a pang of sympathy from within the warmth of my sleeping bag.

For boys to be able to push themselves hard, there have to be opportunities, and a lot of different exercises and activities have taken place this past year. In the ironically-named "Summer Stroll" competition exercise, run by 15 Para., our team performed extremely well to finish second — to the Para. Cadets! We had an excellent and demanding exercise organised by the Gordon Highlanders at Fort George. It was an opportunity for boys to work in an exercise both with, and against regular infantry. On Field Day the Junior Proficiency had a great time at Glencorse Barracks and 23 Cadet Training Team ran a series of events for the Senior Proficiency — the highlight perhaps being the opportunity to fire Ensigns on an Individual Battle Skills Range. We ran our own exercises from school too and, although they were less arduous, they nevertheless required some difficult night patrolling and, as Sgt Christie is only too well aware, suffered the perils of night attacks.

Such events do give boys an opportunity to push themselves hard for short periods of time and to earn the respect of their fellow cadets. But that is part of the icing on the cake, the substance for which comes from the slog of training from week to week. The NCOs put some unflagging hard work into their lessons and parades and there is much to be pleased about in the kind of loyalty that leads them to stay on in their VIth year. In the Section as a whole there is an

honesty and an 'ordinary' reliability in the handling of matters such as uniform and kit that makes the Section workable.

To conclude, I say how important were the contributions of Under Officer Davidson and Colour Sergeant Nugawela, as well as those of the other Sergeants: Clayton, Houison-Craufurd and Lochore. Two of these are going for Commissions in the regular army and I hope they are successful while we get on with the next batch of recruits. In their field people like Chris Proctor, Rikki Sang and Robert Hutchison, who have given up holiday periods to attend Outward Bound Courses and the United Kingdom Land Forces Leadership Course, should be able to put their acquired experience and knowledge to good effect. Having had the fun (painful though it may be at times), they will be expected to put in the hard work of the day-to-day that asks much more of them, and of cadets like Euan Smith and John Langley, in real terms.

Finally, on behalf of the Section, I would like to thank Captain Bob Kelly, of 23 CTT, for all his help and, in particular, for placing Sergeant Rosenberg with us. Ian Eades has kept a necessarily beady eye on the stores. Paul Vallot and Adam Streatfield-James are doing more and more in the Section and I am very grateful for their help.

C. N. C.



HEROES

Look as the last embers of twilight,
Dip behind the tired hills.
And the seas of soft green coats,
Lie fast and proud in their channels.
When the dawn shall raise his sleepy
head.
And smile upon us, we shall go forth.
To glory we shall go, clambering across
the barren waste of France.
Do not do it for me, my friends,
But for your King, Country and family.
Who do not wish to live as slaves,
Under the titan rule of Germany.
They wish to be free to roam over the
green pastures and see their brave
sons' faces.
Let loose the beast in you,
Let it leap savagely forward,
And tear at the lines of defence,
Break through and leave us heroes.

Andrew McNamara
Form IV Runner-up

R.A.F. SECTION

This year there were a large number of new recruits, bringing total numbers to over forty. All recruits passed the Recruits' Test and all cadets were able to take to the air in Number 12 AEF's Turnhouse-based Chipmunks, and 22 went shooting (including a creditable placing (!) in the Assegai Trophy competition), while night exercises, leadership training, drill, camp craft, modelling, and even some rudimentary unarmed combat filled the year. Outside school Sgts Hamilton and Taylor gained their Gliding Wings, whilst Sgt Hamilton and Cadet Bradbury enjoyed a week's Easter camp with Number XV Squadron of R.A.F. Germany.

All the section's activities were characterised by a certain ironic atmosphere, in contrast to much of the 'toy-soldier' mentality that is more common in this sort of undertaking. My favourite memory of the year must be when a group of semi-frozen cadets stripped Cadet Robbie Wilson's excellent bivouac for fuel for a roaring beacon of a camp fire. The sight of the irate Wilson (hopping around amidst delirious, whooping fire-worshippers), shouting "Stop being so bloody immature" will remain with me for the rest of my life. Cadet Rodger's amazing feat of consuming 4lbs of semi-raw liver during the same night 'exercise' must also be mentioned.

I must finish on a rather disappointing note. Next year, 1991, would have been the Section's 50th anniversary. However, the school's administration has been forced to close the section because of lack of adult assistance.

S.M.C.



THE AIR COMMODORE'S FINAL SPEECH?

Fellow pilots! We have been together for a long time. We have spent years, practising and striving to achieve perfection with absolute precision and skill. You are trained to keep a cool, clear mind and to make and execute evaluated decisions amidst turmoil, confusion and danger. You are trained to have all the qualities of effective leadership and management and you have the authority and power to make anybody else in the force, save a few, defy you and carry out anything you say. You are the elite, the cream, and you are supreme to any opposition.

However things have not always been easy. All of you at times in your career have suffered failure, depression, and

grief as you discovered just what it took to be the best. Because of this, you all have invaluable experience and stamina to stand up to the ultimate test — you can endure anything that comes your way. Nothing is too difficult, and you may rest in peace knowing that you have no equals.

All this training was not for nothing, for it is your duty to defend and fight for your country and your Queen. Millions of British people depend on you; you are part of the nation's security. You are expected to be perfect, for no error is tolerated in any way. You are expected to be more dangerous, and to fly closer to the wind than ever before. Failure is unacceptable, and I rest assured that you

won't let us down, for the time of testing has finally come.

Psyche yourselves up, whiten your knuckles and let the blood run to your heads. Enrage yourselves and become mad beasts overcome with fury. Bare your claws and set your venom for there are enemies beyond our borders waiting to attack. Grind them to pulp; fight better than anyone has fought before, for your country, for NATO and for Europe and make sure that the offenders do not live to recontemplate warfare. I wish you all extreme luck and success. Goodbye!



Andrew Yeates,
Form IV winner

(Swan Song for the RAF Section? Ed)

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Robert Marshall's drawing of CCF activities complements the photographs of shooting on the rifle range and boat training at Cultybraggan.



ROYAL NAVY

After a busy summer when a large number of cadets attended various camps and courses, the Royal Navy Section started school training, suitably inspired by a strong team of senior NCO's led by Coxswains Heal, Jamieson and Williamson. Having just attended Britannia Royal Naval College they had a real opportunity to put their leadership into practice. A video film taken at Dartmouth caused both amusement and interest when shown at school as one of the stars was Roger Bond, who won the prestigious cross-country race.

The fleet tender cruise on Bembridge was successful, although once again we were unlucky with the weather which made it impossible to reach the Channel Islands. All cadets enjoyed the week although sailing was limited to the coast around the Isle of Wight. It was also an interesting experience to pass the liner Queen Elizabeth II at Southampton.

During the year the RN section has had a full training programme and several visitors. Commander Dickinson RNR, the captain of Tay Division gave 'The role of the Navy' lecture. As HMS Camperdown is our parent establishment, it was interesting to have an update on the increasing importance of the Royal Naval Reserve. We also welcomed Lt. Cdr. Johnston, the Staff Officer of Tay Division who acted as Inspecting Officer at Divisions. This was his first visit to Strathallan and all cadets made a good impression on parade.

We were congratulated by the Ministry of Defence on the state of our Cheverton motor boat which passed its recent survey with flying colours. This was certainly due to the time and effort put in by Commander Walker and his team.

Sadly, however, it was no longer possible to continue sharing our Cheverton motor boat with Perth Sea cadets. Keeping a boat where it can be subjected to vandalism is always difficult and without Sub. Lt. Saunders to keep a careful eye we had to think about a new mooring. Fortunately Commander Walker was able to arrange berthing facilities at Port Edgar, Rosyth. Cadets were still able to use the motor boat on the Tay throughout September. Sub Lt. Saunders assisted Sub Lt. Goody with instruction.

With a compulsory cadet force it is sometimes difficult when certain individuals make up their minds to be difficult and disruptive. Unfortunately navigation and seamanship classes suffered occasionally by the actions of a few boys. However, the standard of fourth form entry was considerably higher than usual. To have twelve keenly-motivated cadets in the section at this level has made a difference.

At the RN CCF Regatta at Portland in September, F. Piganeau and P.G. Brown

were runners-up in one of the bosun races, we congratulate R. I. Moir who, at the RN Ski Championship at Bareges in the French Pyrenees, was Captain of the RN CCF team and individually won all but one event while the CCF team won all events. A special commemorative medal was sent to the school by the Admiralty and presented on speech day. Robert has also been selected to be a member of the RN Ski team next year. We also congratulate Jason Sim on being awarded a Royal Navy Scholarship.

In February Lt. Cdr. Macleod was guest at a wardroom mess dinner at HMS Camperdown when he presented a portrait of the late Captain T. A. C. Keay to Tay Division. Mrs Jean Keay unveiled the portrait.

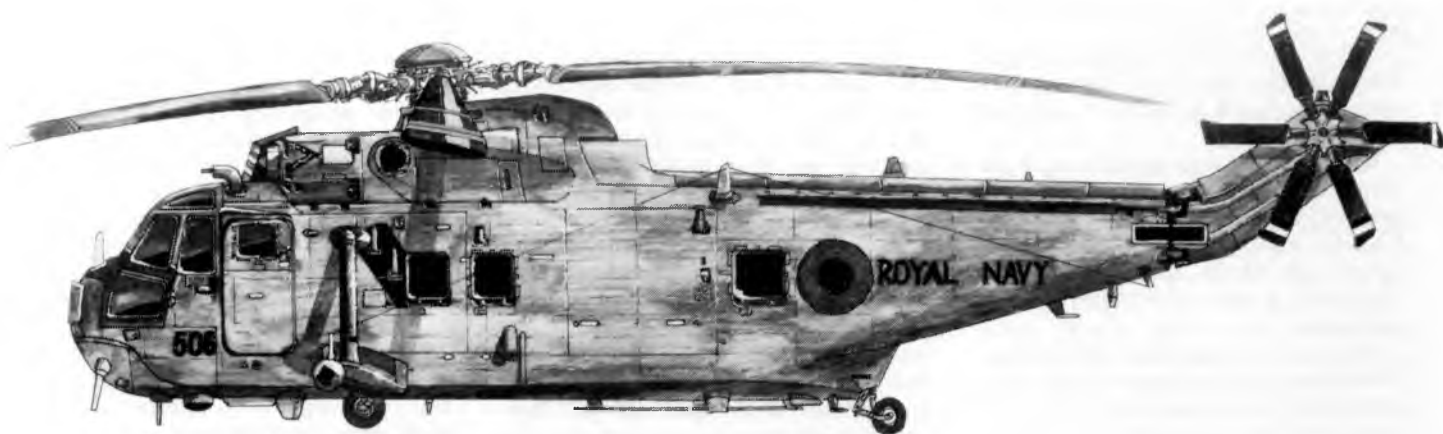
Easter Camps were held at HMS Osprey and RNAS Yeovilton, where Lt. Cdr. Macleod was Divisional Officer. D.

Connell and M. Vance gained badges and A. Macmillan gained his sports boat certificate at HMS Raleigh, Plymouth. Sub Lt. Goody and Strathallan Cadets shared a Fleet Tender on the Firth of Clyde with Edinburgh Academy.

During the summer term, full use was again made of boating facilities both at Lochore Meadows and Port Edgar. We are grateful to Lt. Clayton, Sub Lt. Goody, Sub Lt. Ross and CPO Richards for their expertise. The Strathallan Sailing Fleet has benefitted from the use of six CCF Topper Dinghies which we share with the other Scottish schools. They have proved very popular with both officers and cadets. Fourth form cadets and a select group of fifth form have been able to sail continuously throughout the summer term.

Field Day was hosted by Tay Division RNR when Junior Cadets had sea train-





ing on HMS Archer and visited RMS Discovery and the Frigate Unicorn, and we are particularly grateful to Lt. Cdr. Johnston and the crew of HMS Archer for their training expertise. Sub Lt. Ross and the senior cadets spent the day power boating at Port Edgar, where we are most grateful to Lt. Cdr. Clarke and his staff for their continued help.

Thanks to the leadership of Sub Lt. Ross the boat section has made real progress this year and the help of qualified senior cadets has made a tremendous difference to section training.

At the end of term CPO Salisbury was presented with a painting from the section on his last visit as Staff Coxswain of HMS Camperdown. We thank him for his enthusiastic support over the last two years in which he has played a leading role in smartening up the section on parade.

We thank Commander Dickinson and Lt. Cdr. Johnston for their continued support. Our PLO Lt. Cdr. McCrow keeps closely in touch while CPO King has been of invaluable help with stores.

During the summer holidays cadets attended various camps at HMS Kent, Portsmouth, Air Acquaint at HMS Seahawk, Culdrose and Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

Lt. Cdr. Macleod was Divisional Officer of the RN Acquaint course and River Officer at BRNC Dartmouth. Lt. Clayton was Sailing Instructor on the HMS Kent summer camp and Sub Lt. Ross attended a sailing course on the Isle of Man.

Lastly, my thanks to a first-class team of Officers and Senior Cadets with special mention of Coxswains David Gritten and Jason Sim who ran the section last term.

Senior Promotions — Senior Coxswain — J. Sim. Division Coxswains — J. Fraser, J. Kruuk.

T.J.M.

ROYAL MARINES

During the summer holidays of 1989 we were, for the first time, represented at the Annual Royal Marines Training Camp at Faslane. Normally it is assumed that we see enough of Scotland during the years and should therefore go down south for various camps and courses. Tim seemed to enjoy himself over on the West Coast; so much so that we shall be sending more members of the Detachment to the camp this year.

Immediately afterwards — still during the holidays — we took some of the lads up to Skye. We had been invited to join an exercise by the Young Officers from Lymestone and ended up playing enemy along with some regulars from Comacchio Group. Three action-packed days followed, during which one realised that the training sessions back at Strathallan can be quite valuable. We must have made a reasonable impression, because the invitation has been renewed and is being taken up by four chaps this summer.

Working with Regulars and Reserves has actually become a feature of our training and most of our more important exercises tend to involve outside opposition of this nature. We find that it adds a dimension which is both challenging and rewarding and, just as importantly, it makes our Wednesday afternoon training sessions more meaningful. Bivvy-building, abseiling, orienteering, unarmed combat, patrolling, skill at arms — it all falls into place when an exercise is laid on and when the opposition consists of professionals or semi-professionals.

Once again we co-operated closely with RNR personnel from HMS Scotia. One of the more entertaining exercises took place in and around a derelict farmhouse a few miles away from the

School. We re-enacted a hostage-taking scenario that had proved successful about five years ago. It allowed for a fair amount of night-time patrolling (in wet, cold weather as usual) and culminated in an all-out attack on the buildings. A group of medics from Scotia then presented us with a number of cunningly made-up casualties. Under the watchful eye of the M.O. the principles of First Aid in the field were demonstrated in a most interesting way.

Another RNR exercise involved an attempt to penetrate the defences of the Filtration Plant at the Glenfarg Reservoir. Two members of the Detachment had been seconded to the RNR to act as advisers on navigation (just as well) and camp-craft.

Talking of navigation — there are still a few shortcomings in this department. We really have to accept that a compass is a touch more accurate than one's instincts when it comes to moving at night.

I really ought to mention the many people without whose assistance our work would be not only more difficult but, in some cases, downright impossible. The RM Training Team with Lt. Wilson, WO2 Bell and Sgt. Barton, Comacchio Group in Arbroath, HMS Scotia, the various local residents who allow us to conduct our training exercises on their land, our colleagues in the other Sections and many more — thank you all!

My thanks also to all the members of the Detachment who have given so much of their time and energy to make it another worthwhile year. If you are staying on — thank you for everything. If you are leaving — good luck for the future.

K.G.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

EXPEDITIONS AND HOW WE GO ABOUT THEM

"Okay, who's in under-14 rugby? Who's in the girls' third form hockey team? Who's not going on a weekend out?"

It's September and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is under way once more as JSB, DRS, RJE, JLB, RNW and EAE try to determine which third form Bronze candidates are to join which expedition groups over the next few weekends.

Once that is finalised, training begins. The intricacies of ordnance survey maps are introduced together with the complicated manoeuvre of taking a compass bearing. These techniques are practiced on short walks around school and on the training expeditions with pupils who too frequently assume they know it all and don't pay the attention they should. Consequently a written test on navigation produces a few surprises: if in doubt about the direction in which to walk follow the magnetic arrow on your compass. An expedition has yet to be mounted in the Arctic to test the practicality of this theory!

An afternoon is spent on 'tents and stoves'. The latter may provide nothing more unusual than a cup of tea once the jigsaw that is a Trangia has been assembled. However over the years it has been discovered that Smash is not an adequate substitute for dried milk as it does not dissolve in coffee, while to put petrol rather than meths in a Trangia is likely to result in your getting your eyebrows as well as your sausages burnt. 'Tents' always raises questions as to the instructor's sanity as it is insisted to the pitchers, as they swelter in shorts and T-shirts, that it is pouring with rain. This rapidly turns to accusations of sadism as people wrestle with canvas inner tents inside ready-pitched oven-like fly sheets.

Then it's off on expedition. Most routes taken are straightforward, others are more hazardous as we gaily stomp across moss-covered bridges with gaps in the planking or across covered boulder fields that require a little scrambling to avoid falling down the black holes in between.

On to campsites. There are the beautiful and tranquil; the waterlogged where alarming sloshing sounds are heard as you roll over in your sleeping bag; those so infested by midges that you eat breakfast with your towel over your head. At Beinn Pattack there's Angus the deer who will eat that food which you want to give him out of your hand and that which you don't when your back is turned or you're asleep. The two horses encountered by some third form girls burnt their tongues licking the stoves, ate quite a lot of food, and broke two plates and a mug.

Then of course there's the pupils themselves. Some, enamoured by the idea of ghost stories round the campfire, get severely disillusioned when they discover they have to walk seven miles with a 25lb pack on their back before these delights can be sampled. Some have sore feet and shoulders, others an endless supply of tasteless jokes. There are those that never stop eating, those that appear to eat nothing except toasted marshmallows round the campfire, those that always wear their waterproofs, those that always wear their shorts. Some forget such luxuries as tent pegs but remember the essential teddy bear. There are those that complain all the time, but still have a grin on their faces at the end, those that complain all the time and don't.

It all adds up to an interesting weekend. I say interesting because no-one really enjoys it if it's pouring with rain or misty and cold, but by and large we wouldn't do it if we didn't derive some pleasure from the exercise. And let's face it: it gets you out of corps on a Wednesday afternoon anyway.

The scheme has continued to prosper within the school and many have been involved at the various levels. Congratulations go to Louisa MacKenzie, Carol Anderson and Yvonne Gilchrist who have achieved their Gold Awards.

Expeditions have continued to be dispatched through the length and breadth of the Highlands with the culmination a successful Gold Assessment on Mull at the start of the summer (?) holidays. Despite some awful weather it was (in retrospect) a really worthwhile trip. Miss England's 'unofficial' report gives more highlights from these trips.

First Aid, Lifesaving and Police courses have all proved very successful as part of the service section. (Who was it who failed the breath test during the traffic officer's talk?).

My special thanks this year go to Mr Sneddon who has taken upon himself the task of arranging the Wednesday afternoon sessions for the Bronze candidates.

The scheme by its very nature is one aspect of school life in which the motivation must come mainly from the participants and it is your enthusiasm which ultimately determines our successes and failures.

E.A.E.

J.S.B.



ANGLING

Yet again, Alistair Dickson turned up at School every Wednesday to help the rising number of fishermen at Strathallan. With his expert fly-casting tuition (and fund of Stories) and Mr Richard Philps' fly-tying lessons, everyone was eager for the season to open.

The first trip to Ledlanet Loch was a disaster, mainly due to the weather. Yes, it was a great day for sunbathing but nothing else. What made the day worse was the fact that we were told that the Loch was about to be stocked. So, of course, we just put our lack of success down to the fact that "There were obviously no fish in the place".

The second trip was again to Ledlanet but was totally different. Again the conditions were hot, but this time the sky was more overcast. Fish seemed to be rising everywhere. However, catching them was to be hard. That day the "Priest" seemed to be the best fly (not inappropriate since "The Rev" was with us!). One skilful redhead caught four on it whilst also managing to lose five. Johnny and Michael (Captain of Fishing) got one each. Possibly the largest fish was hooked by our friendly Spaniard, but as usual, he was too busy talking and looking after what was in his mouth, so he lost it.

The final outing to (if you haven't already guessed it) Ledlanet was reasonably successful. The Loch had been re-stocked by this time, but, as with the School Pond after re-stocking, we returned the new fish and kept the old fish. Milky caught the first fish of the day and his first fish on a Strath outing. Well done! Craig produced a good bag, two fish of around 13lb. Alastair, he of the piscatorial sartorial elegance, having hooked a good fish, followed the wrong person's advice (that's you, sir) and lost it. Never mind, listen to me next time, Alastair. A total of 9 fish was the basket for the day. To further enliven the afternoon's proceedings, a feral mink swam within a foot of "The Rev.", took one look at him and got such a fright that it dropped its half-eaten fish right at his feet. Immediately the more junior members dropped everything and began pursuing the mink through the rhododendrons and azaleas. Chris Marshall in the vanguard threatening to "bash the living daylight out of it with a stick".

The resultant disturbance "flushed out" its mate and the juniors split into two groups, armed with rocks. As with the better fish, the mink lived to fight another day.

"Angling Booger":

Alastair Edwards: (running along the bank to Mr Longmuir, followed by Iain Davidson) "Sir, he won't give me my flies back!"

Mr Longmuir: (intent on watching the

rising fish) "Give him his flies back, Iain."

Five minutes later . . .

Alastair: (plaintively) "Sir, he *still* won't give them back."

Mr Longmuir: (crossly) "Iain, DO AS YOU'RE TOLD!"

Iain: (weeping silently, shows "The Rev" his right bicep in which are firmly embedded a team of three (very good) flies) "I can't!"

A total of 48 pupils, Riley and Senior School, availed themselves of the facilities of the School Pond which certainly looked in much better condition after the remedial work done on rush-clearing. Some very large fish were caught, some eaten, some put back, some lost (even with a Head-magisterial eye supervising

the Kitsonian proceedings — Kitson Jnr., not Snr.). By the time this issue of "The Strathallian" is in the hands of its readers, the Pond will have been re-stocked — with Brown Trout — for the first time in living memory, and the "School v The Old Boys' Match" will have been held.

Our thanks go to Mr Longmuir for his dedication to the sport, the frequent trips to Perth and Kinross for tackle and rod repairs. (No one, as yet, has seen him catch a fish). Thanks again, sir, and, by the way, maybe fishing is better than football on a Saturday afternoon.

Good luck, School, against us "Old Boys" — but, you know, you have no chance!

Mark Johnston



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SHOOTING

Due to staffing difficulties, shooting this year has not been as active as in previous years, but despite this we have a pool of seven or eight from whom we can draw the five necessary for our weekly competition.

The results in the Perthshire League have not been particularly outstanding but this has not detracted from the team's enjoyment of their Friday evenings throughout the winter.

What I have noticed in the recent past is the increasing standard of shooting at the bottom end of the school, proof of the popularity and good coaching of the sport at prep. school level — long may it continue.

This year we lose two of our team — the captain, Alec Lochore, and Caitriana Barr. To them go our good wishes and thanks for their respective contributions.

A.J.H.W.



Left: The CCF motorbike section demonstrate "controlled parking." For further skills, see "Levitation" in the colour pages.

Right: More creative writing from the annual competition.

Other winners' contributions are elsewhere in the magazine.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year has seen a fairly small but committed group from Thornbank and Woodlands involved in various activities. The main regular visits have continued to be to the old folks at Bridge of Earn hospital and the Moncrieffe Home. Many relationships have developed between the residents and our visitors and everyone has achieved a real sense of satisfaction from these visits. Particularly successful was the Christmas concert during which a variety of carols and Scottish fiddle tunes were played to packed and appreciative (if captive) audiences in the wards.

Dunbarney and Forgandenny primary schools have been visited each week by Kerry Clenaghan, Sarah McDougall and Ailsa McMaster. These seem to have

been very enjoyable, if rather messy at times. I am reliably informed that finger painting for thirty is great fun!

Fund raising has not really taken off this year although our thanks do go to those third formers who helped with the annual poppy day collection around the village.

Special mention should be made of Carol Anderson's initiative to try and encourage us to collect our recyclable waste. Is there someone out there ready to continue her efforts or someone who has a project of his or her own to get involved in? If so let us know and help us increase the variety within our programme next year.

J.S.B.

RIDING

As we returned to school after the Easter holidays, the suitcases of equestrian pupils were easy to identify — bulging with caps, boots, jods and whips in preparation for the long-awaited summer Wednesdays at Lochore stables.

Seasoned riders knew to ask for their favourite mounts and the novices were left to try their luck. Sugar and spice soon turned into guts and grit as the girls showed what they were really made of. Anyone who thought it would be anything but serious stuff was mistaken!

Susie hung on like a heroine as her rather eager pony called Connie sharp-cornered enthusiastically over the jumps and our frisky friend Winnie was as windy as ever — whooshing into canter when trot signals are given — but Hilary coped (hilariously) well.

By the time we rolled into the cafe to stock up for the trip home, our knees were shaking with the effort of steering but our spirits were unbowed.

Mignone Khazaka

THE HAIRDRESSER

Creak. Crack, the door swung. Smack!
 "Good morning sir", smacking her big
 red lips, hoisting her roundness off her
 chair, her droopy permed hair fell flat.
 "Can I help ya," rang the drawn-out
 cockney drivel. She chomped on the
 chewing gum . . .

"I made an appointment. The nam . . ."

"Name?" she uttered.

"Arestis",

"Pardon",

"Arsetis",

"Whaat?"

"Arestis, A-R-E . . ."

"Sorry, what was that last vowel," (she
 wasn't very clever),

"E-S-T-I-S,"

"Oh yes, an appointment, made here for
 Mr Arse-tis",

"Yes," I drew a deep drawn-out breath,
 "That'll be right",

"Ya got Sheila",

I was directed over to the bed pans sitting
 on what appeared to be black shoe
 boxes.

My head was wrenched back fiercely,
 ferociously!

"Is the water alright sir!" — the boiling,
 hissing, gurgling wine of Adam was
 sizzling across my poor locks.

"A bit on the hot side perhaps!" my
 voice was rising to a crisp crescendo.
 The sudden change must have killed
 the curls. Then the pressing icicles
 were pruning my scalp, the coldness
 hanging on my brow which began to
 bald.

"That better?" hissed Sheila.

I decided to opt for this rather than going
 through the hell of petrification or
 purgatory.

"Better".

Swish, pull, rub, the last locks came out.
 A forceful hand on the shoulder shoved
 me back into the leather seat from
 Landmark. Then the battle began:
 snip, crop, hair-up-the-nose, the hand
 under the pvc sheet, rustling; the
 pushing and pulling of the head to get
 it at the angle of attack, the inevitable
 nip of the ear. Slowly you relax and
 stop scrutinising the hairdresser and
 you begin to view the room: the large

chessboard floor, the park, the pretty
 girl.

Someone in the right hand corner is
 getting a screeching, shining, unstylish,
 slow-of-cure, conventional crewcut.

A slap of gel, a tidela of air from the
 hairdryer.

"Is that fine sir — a bit more to the right
 perhaps?"

No, No, that's fine."

"Are you sure?"

"Positive,"

"A bit more colour perhaps?"

"No that's fine, how much is that?"

"That'll be £15.99."

Out of the wallet horridly appeared a ten,
 a five and a one; blue/blue-green.
 They slide out, very quickly. "Keep
 the change." Opening the door, I
 edged out, bending my head low in
 disgrace. Over on the side of the street
 lay a puddle. Quick race, down on my
 knees, head in. Get, rid of it,
 whatever the cost. Behind me the door
 opens, "You forgot your jacket sir!"

Nikolas Arestis
Form V Winner

AUTUMN

It's Autumn,
 Down come the leaves,
 In a sprinkle of Gold,
 Up comes the Autumn moon in a trail of
 silver.

The glistening dew,
 Matches the October stars,
 Like a misted Autumn mirror.

The trees stick their
 Wrinkled, crooked fingers,
 Into Autumn's cool blue sky,
 Like witches craving for
 Their long lost beauty.

The trees are Glace,
 And their little feathered lodgers,
 Have deserted them in their time of
 need.

The mists are coming,
 And the mellow fruitfulness is going,
 As Autumn is driven back by Winter.

Paul Henderson
Form III Winner



Drawing by Lucy Quarry

DAUGHTER OF THE MOON

Twas a night of bitter cold,
 The snow lay thick and white,
 An iron-grey steed did pass by there,
 Carrying a bold young knight.

"Behold the castle of the moon,
 At last my destiny,
 The great oak doors stood strong and
 tall,

Alas, I have no key."

"Oh daughter of the Moon", he called,
 "I wish your golden hand,
 I am a knight who's travelled far,
 I come from a far-off land."

He saw her at the window high,
 Her hair as white as snow,

Her eyes of piercing lunar blue,
 Filled him with woe.
 Her lifeless eyes were crystal clear,
 Her face was pale and sad,
 She gazed on him in a thoughtful way,
 As if he must be mad.

"I am the daughter of the Moon,
 And you a mortal knight,
 I fear you cannot have my hand,
 You see it is not right.

If you were an immortal knight,
 You could marry me,
 And then together we could ride,
 O'er sky and land and sea."

"Tell me, tell me how I could,
 Become a prince of the sky,"

"If you really want to know,
 I fear that you must die."

The knight took out his silver sword,
 And slew his iron-grey steed,
 Then to his heart a dagger took
 He lay dead — but did not bleed.

The daughter of the Moon looked down,
 And saw the brave young knight,
 "I fear he hath done a foolish thing,
 To live he needs moonlight."

The ghostly knight will haunt the sky,
 On night and day will he ride.
 "Oh can I ever catch the Moon,
 And find my beautiful bride?"

Lucy Quarry
Form III Runner-up

WIPE-OUT IN THE TORE DEL VINO



OR CASANOVA GETS HIS COME-UPPANCE

The excitement and noise of a tourist-filled beach rang through the hazy Italian air, but the waterskier was oblivious to all sounds except the coughs of the outboard motor. His head bobbed just above the water, and as he inhaled the salt-smelling air he peered between the tips of his skis at the sleek, white speedboat. He knew that any second now the rough noise of the engine would become a smooth purr, the smooth water between him and the boat would become white froth and he would be skimming across the waves.

Waves of heat rose from the Italian marketplace, and Luciano wiped the sweat of his brow as he staggered into the Tore del Vino. He leant against the bar, ran his fingers through his thin brown hair and ordered Chianti.

Looking wearily around the room he recognised no one, but as his gaze wandered to the other end of the bar, he could not help noticing a rather beautiful, foreign-looking lady. She was elegantly poised on her stool; long black hair cascaded over her shoulders and partly hid her dark brown eyes.

The barman stood in front of her and in a clear English accent she ordered a Cinzano.

'Eccellente', thought Luciano. French would be difficult, German impossible, but English — he spoke it fluently.

He caught her eye and lifted the glass to his lips very slowly.

Slowly but surely the tension on the ski-rope increased as the power-boat cruised through the water. The power ran through his body and down to his feet. As he moved along he gradually began to stand up until at last he was on top of the water and coasting over the waves.

Now in full flow the waterskier threw back his head and let out a cry of delight. The boat opened up the throttle and he swept across the water like a wild wind, weaving through the waves smoothly and gracefully.

Smoothly and gracefully, Luciano slipped off the stool, weaved his way between the tables with glass in hand, and sat next to the girl.

"You are English, yes?" he asked in a deep voice.

"That's right," she answered with a nervous smile.

"I am Luciano Lodovico."

"My name is Mary."

"You are alone in Sienna?"

"That's right."

'Eccellente,' thought Luciano. "A beautiful girl like you," he said, looking into her eyes, "should never go around a strange city alone. Perhaps you could use a guide . . ." She lifted a book out of her bag with 'Berlitz: A guide to Italy' on the cover. ". . . Someone," he continued, regardless, "who knows all the best places — shops, restaurants, hotels . . ."

"Well, I —"

"Do you have a car?" he interrupted.

"No, but —"

"Good." Luciano turned round to look for a free table. There was one just outside with a bench on one side and a chair on the other. He led the girl to the

table and sat down beside her on the bench. Luciano leant back with his elbow on the table. The girl crossed her legs and shaded her eyes from the fierce light of the sun.

The sun beat down on the racing waterskier as he glided over the water. The wind ran through his hair and his body cut through the wind, he almost felt like a component part of the wind — flying over the water.

Suddenly his eyes made out a red shape in the near distance — the waterskier realised that he was heading for the ski jumps. As he neared the red ramp, adrenalin flowed through his veins and he strained in anticipation.

The ramp came closer and closer until eventually the boat veered to the right to avoid it and the waterskier guided his way across in line with it. His eyes became slits and his mind became focused as he approached the ramp, then with a thump he hit it and was up. He was filled with a sense of elation as he flew through the air. But he felt his skis cross and as the water surface approached him again he strained his leg muscles to straighten them. With a light splash he landed and he was gliding over the surface. Once more the waterskier breathed a sigh of relief, but he knew that there was a bigger jump yet to come, which could easily land him in the drink.

"Drink," laughed Luciano. He filled a glass and held it up in front of them. The bright red wine brought out the many rich colours of the marketplace behind which bustled with the sights and noises of midday Sienna. He passed it to her, and she accepted it — almost reluctantly. "You know, Maria," said Luciano, "life can be so hard on people who are in a strange place on their own."

"I don't know," she said, sipping her glass.

"You know, with no relations, no friends, no familiar places."

"But it is nice to get away —"

"Don't worry," said Luciano. "I, too, feel lonesome. Yes, I, Luciano Lodovico." With this he clasped her hand in his. She stiffened and uncrossed her legs, as if to get up, but relented, somewhat reluctantly. "Bene!" thought Luciano, "soon she will be in my power."

"Drink," he said, reaching for the bottle once more.

Once more, the waterskier made out the shape of a ski-jump, but this one was bigger than the last — it was bigger than himself.

He coasted over the water towards the jump with eager anticipation, but tried hard to fight back the nerves which ran through his mind.

Again the boat veered to the right and left the waterskier on his own. Only now did he fully appreciate the speed at which he was travelling, because the ramp seemed to grow bigger at an alarming rate. The waterskier's eyes were slits, his knees bent and he drew in breath.

With a wham! he was lunched high into the air. Time slowed down for the waterskier as he realised what height he had

gained from the sea, and he was so thrilled that his giddiness barely registered. Like a kite in the wind he seemed suspended without motion.

Every second seemed a minute as he sensed his left ski straying outwards. The sea was approaching relentless, and he knew that if his skis were not straight, on landing he would crash. As a reflex he pulled the left ski back with all his leg strength, but too far — his skis were now crossed — and it was too late.

With the sound of a thousand thunderclaps the waterskier crashed through the surface of the sea. The water, which had been a glassy path, was now a roaring torrent of darkness and wet.

Surfacing, the man spat out the foul seawater and turned to look at the red iceberg that had thrown him. Only now did he realise just how much he had wanted to conquer it.

"A wipe-out," he muttered dejectedly. "I wiped out."

"Out there, Maria," said Luciano, staring at the distant hills over the empty bottle, "is a cold world. I feel it, as well as you."

"But I'm not all that —" she started.

"A desolate, hostile world, Maria," he continued, "and I think people who are lonely should find one another and see things through together. You know that, Maria?" With this he turned to look deep in her eyes. Something inside his head said: 'Now!' "Maria," he said in a low voice, "how will I say this . . . I have been waiting for you my whole life long . . ."

Luciano slid his arms around her shoulders and, leaning forward, embraced her slowly. 'Eccellente,' he thought, 'she does not resist. But she does not respond. This might not turn out so well.' He leaned back to look in her eyes, but her eyes were following her hand, and her hand was reaching for her glass. Luciano winced at what he knew was coming.

The splash of red wine on his face and chest shook him. By the time he had recovered she had disappeared and all that was left was the tapping of her high heels on the sidewalk.

"Accidenti!" he cursed, turning to confront the smiles and laughs of the other customers, "now I have not one clean shirt. Not one!"

But as he wiped his brow, a strange sensation ran through Luciano. The wine on his lips tasted sour, his eyes strayed to the empty seat and footsteps beat on his memory. But most bewildering of all, his stomach hurt since Mary had gone. He leaned on the table and managed to stand up. "I must try to forget her, if I can," he mumbled to himself, as dazed and confused, Luciano Lodovico staggered out of the Tore del Vino, numb and oblivious to the excitement and noise.

John Maxwell
Form VI Winner
Drawing by
Kristian Lannen.

ROUND THE

Those lucky enough to be in **Woodlands House** are lucky in that they are in Woodlands. Yes, the house that deceives all those that saunter past every hour of the day is not a subdued and shadowy retreat with shy and reserved creatures within: each beauty has her own talents, and wondrous qualities which flourish and embellish the strength of this paradise.

Imagine, then, the scene at the heart of the glade: a warm and fiery glow pulls all to it at all times of the day — the kitchens. What attracts the acolytes to these temples? Is it the toasters, the array of orange and green chairs or the striped curtains that hang limply from the plastic curtain rail? No. If you want to know what's happening in the school, or "who's happening", this is the place to be. Anyone worth knowing about is discussed, torn apart, screwed up into a ball and thrown to the corners.

It is this same retreat that **all** is revealed, while munching toast, drinking coffee and tea or during the water fights which occur late at night or while others are having fits at realising they've probably just failed their 'A' level History exams. Our luxurious kitchen accommodation (which is the envy of many of the boys), is ideal for escaping to after a long,



hard day and sometimes even provides the window-way for escape during prep. Those who don't luxuriate in a panoramic prospect of green acres can wallow there in first class views of billowing trees yards from the window. There the carapace develops.

Let the leaves grow greener, roots longer, branches thicker and stronger — Woodlands — till you reach your full glory and blossom into an array of steely delight and enchanting beauty upon the unsuspecting world.

Jennifer Scouller

Nicol has finally moved out of its old lair into its proper place — above Ruthven. If Mr Raine viewed the prospect of sharing with strongly baited breath, can you blame him? The old building was sadly demolished — in fact the job was partly started before we moved out. The Move meant we lost Mrs Howie — not actually in the Move, but, sadly, she defected downhill — to Ruthven. (Escaped? Ed.).

JCBs revealed that the Nicol Spirit was very much in evidence, some in a bottled form! However, in the new House, fines for swearing and locking doors provided a nice nest egg for Mr Ford, and Mr Wands cracked "lights out" with a new "personal organiser" which enabled him to whip round the dorms in double time.

The New House has many strange and puzzling features, such as the bars on the Housemaster's windows. Could they be to prevent suicide attempts? To perhaps stop a fall to the ground (ten feet below)?

Or could they be there to curb future assassination attempts? Even more sophisticated design in the shape of David Clark's prize winning electronic cat flap is rumoured to be prototype of a new anti-theft device for Mr Burgess' high-security house bank.

Now that we have been in our new house a term, Nicolites are starting to complain about some aspects: no longer can we slip out of our windows in prep and no longer can Nicolites play football or hockey in the corridors or common room. Some are even grudging the long climb up the stairs! But of course the ever-imaginative Nicolite has discovered new past times such as "locking yourself out of your Study" or the window-to-window waterfights. The Nicolite has also had to develop new skills such as 'how to leave the building unseen during prep' or (for the junior half of the house) 'how to smuggle bread from the upper six brewing room'.



Yet some customs have survived the move — these include "outblast everyone else in the house with your music", "strew the paper round the common room" and many other ancient traditions.

Above all, the Nicolite is now fully exposed to a subversive element he has not previously had to confront in such proximity to his territory. This new element is of course — Ruthven. This is something Nicolites are coming to terms with by trying hard to avoid any Ruthven influence creeping in.

Next year will be strangely different: will the Nicolite be changed by his new environment and influx of Leburnites? will the House change — influenced by the strange goings on below in Ruthven? will the new building survive the Nicol onslaught? who knows?

Chris Procter.

(Top) Mr Vallot turns a blind eye to Freeland.
(Bottom) Thornbank and Ruthven get together at the Form IV and V disco.



HOUSES . . .

SIMPSON'S

Gal and Huey

Your No.1 AGONY UNCLES

Dear Uncles,

I do not like it at school when it rains
cats and dogs.

Try not to step on the 'poodles' then.

Dear Uncles,

I am going to die. What can I do?

Nothing. We are all going to die.

Dear Uncles,

I do not know the capital of Switzer-
land.

Well, it is Zurich. Does that help?

Dear Uncles,

I am fifteen.

Take two paracetamols and come back
in the morning. ►



(Top) Nicol joins forces with Ruthven to form a
band for Form III's Black & White party.



Dear Uncles,

I am in love but I do not know what
relevance your silly advice has.

Well, you are obviously an insomniac
with psychopathic tendencies. Take
two paracetamols and come back in
the morning.

Dear Uncles,

Whenever I wake up, I realise that I
am staring at the ceiling. Is this
significant? I am seventeen and just
broke up with my girl friend. Could
this be my girlfriend's way of punish-
ing me?

◄ No.

Dear Uncles,

I am a sixteen year old girl. I found
out that my best friend has been
making slanderous and often hurting
remarks about me behind my back.
Recently, I found out that she has
been becoming very friendly with my
boyfriend. For example, spending all
of Sundays playing golf with him and
waiting to talk to him after every
meal. As a result of all this, he only
has time to say 'hi' to me every so
often. But this is probably just me
getting jealous of him talking to
someone else for a change. I also find
that at tea I end up sitting on my own
as there is no room on any other
tables, they tell me. Each day I am
stoned by the other girls for a reason
they won't tell me. The other night,
my best friend ran out of my study
after I saw her through the mirror
accidentally spill rat poison in my
coffee.

Take 246 paracetamols.

Gareth Thorburn
Alex Davidson



SURVIVAL?

Sunday 1st July

Departure time: 0.9.30 hrs.

The drive seemed to take forever (we were just so eager to get to Fladda!?) Oban was our chip, chili and chocolate stop — the last. Mrs Glimm drove us all way to Oban and after the ferry from Oban, across Mull to Fionnphort, Paula's offer to give her company on the way back — was declined.

It started to rain — an omen perhaps? The Atlantic — (no — not the North sea, Kerry) was not looking too friendly and the fishing boat journey encouraged a repeat of David's chips! At 18.30 hrs. we arrived on Fladda — cold, wet and green. Would we survive here in harmony with nature — for the next six days, I asked myself!

Operation number one, was the construction of 'Toffs' Hall' — appropriately named by David! We converted the standing four walls into our 'house', giving it a roof of ponchos and netting, a luxurious bracken carpet, a kitchen, a library, a bedroom, shelves, rather romantic lighting, our own stereo system, and to top it all — a singing bird (which might be dead before tonight, Craig informed us.) Nails were positioned as coat hangers. What more could we ask for? FOOD!

Twelve of us sleeping in here will be quite cosy. Kerry, Paula, Ailsa, Angus, Sara and I hit the sack at 22.30, an early night to prepare for the next fun packed week! We could not perceive how the other six (who being adventurous, went to try out their expert fishing techniques) would fit in.

Monday, 2nd July

At midnight we discovered how the others were to fit in, as the second layer of people descended on us. We all awoke at the usual school reveille time, much to the disgust of Mr Wands and Mr Glimm (who gained the names Harrison Ford and Sean Connery respectively — and not because of 'The Last Crusade' Mr G!!) Kerry discovered the true meaning of 'wet through' as she had slept under one of the joins of our roof, while it poured all night.

Rod was talking about cheese sandwiches all night — and still is. In the fishing boat yesterday, we saw two porpoise — tasty! There was a seal bobbing around somewhere, which might do for dinner one night — especially if Rod gets his hands on it. There were also a lot of puffins about — very cute . . . ! The coffee — we'd been told by our reliable food expert (the above mentioned)

"tasted like the inside of a vacuum cleaner," and guess what — the tea tasted worse!

We 'ladies' visited the laundrette and hairdressers on the beach, while Kerry and Paula diligently collected dinner (winkles and mussels) on the way to the shore. The 'men' checked out the poultry and fish situation. It was sunny, so we all stripped off to the bare minimum. I was later awarded the 'blue rope medal' for the most fully dressed. So we must have had a spy in our midst (eh Craig!) The rocks were full of 'interesting' little creatures — things that we were supposed to eat? Ugh — I wasn't that hungry yet! Everyone's stomachs were making terrible groans, but Ailsa's was definitely the noisiest.

For dinner tonight on the menu we had crab, mussels, winkles, perhaps some sorrel and to wash it down (in true Enid Blyton style) 'lashings of ginger beer' — o.k. maybe not, — tea again.

Ailsa and Paula refused to touch the delicacies provided to us by our professional chefs Michael and Craig, their motto being "you can eat it, but it tastes awful!" The rest of us tucked in without qualms — until five minutes after we finished!

Then to bed, Ailsa's beaming face providing the night light.

Tuesday 3rd July

We arose much later, and since it was such a nice day yesterday, we naively assumed today would be much the same. Kerry got soaked again, and decided it was someone else's turn, so sleeping arrangements were all swapped around.

Angus and Rod went 'hunting' . . . seagull, Craig managed to get a fulmar. (I must say, we are very impressed by Craig and Michael's knowledge of wild life, and their ability to skin, gut and cook it — most of us don't have a clue!) Mr Wands, Craig and Michael are intensely dedicated to their fishing, even Sara tried her hand at it, but so far to no avail.

This afternoon it cleared up a bit and Angus and Rod were enticed by some madness, into the sea. Sanity hit them as soon as the cold water, and they were out again pretty quickly! Their bravery was much appreciated by the encouraging (dry) spectators on the beach. (Oh yes we had a beach!)

Dinner — of seagull — was nothing short of revolting! Our imported weatherman (Mr W) assured us of a dry night tonight — well, we shall see! The infamous flying teeth (midgies) of the West of Scotland are becoming too intimate for my liking!

Wednesday 4th July

Weathermen! — It rained all night and all today! Craig, Mr G and Mr W (who went for their daily bath) — were the



Michael puts the kettle on.

only ones to venture out, the rest of us stayed in bed, moving reluctantly only in response to nature's call. Angus was the cause of amusement to us all last night (yes we can still manage to laugh). Since it was his turn to sleep under one of the drips, he came up with the ingenious idea of using Sara's umbrella as a collecting basin. Very clever — until the weight of the water caused the broly to turn inside-out — totally soaking him!

All day we played alternately with Sara's mini dominoes (efficient isn't she!) and the cards, using matchsticks for gambling. The lack of energy is such a weird experience — the numbness, light headedness, detachment, the effort involved to summon enough strength to sit up — is so peculiar.

Thursday 5th July

Last night — much to the exasperation of everybody else, Rod, David and Angus managed to spend two hours discussing the traditional dishes of every different country they could think of. Rod's standard response to the frequent and not terribly polite complaints from unwilling listeners was — "Hit the fridge!" (we wish!) or occasionally — "Hey man, chill-out!, injections, (in a 'not very school prefectish manner) from David of "Yip Yah", were tolerated purely because no-one had enough energy to throttle him! The other excitement of the night was Michael's attempt at patching up a hole in the roof, which



resulted in him emptying the entire 'lake' of water, which had collected throughout the day — on top of an unsuspecting Craig!

We took advantage of the fine weather and went to wash. What took us one hour on the first day took seven hours today, because we kept sitting down and falling asleep.

Friday 6th July

Last full day — PLEASE! Gales have started to develop — not a good sign. What if the fishing boat can't get here tomorrow? We'd panic if we could be bothered! Sara started her countdown (optimistically) until civilisation. Just about everyone went to the shore (except for me!)

SATURDAY!

At last! We were all up bright and early (actually — forget the bright!) to dismantle our home and clear up for the next victims. It was raining — so we were all clad in our waterproofs, impatiently trying to stuff everything into our rucksacks and not caring what got wet. All being tidy to the satisfaction of Mr Glimm, we trudged to the only spot on the island that the boat can tie up — an hour later we were still sitting on the rocks. The visibility was poor, the wind from the sea was driving the rain into us all huddled together for warmth. Gone were the smiles and jokes, apart from Mr G's attempt at humour by stating the obvious. "If the boat doesn't come, we'll just have to re-erect Toffs Hall and get the kettle on".

This was met with frantic mutterings of prayer from those who could be bothered. We were not impressed!

The relief felt by all when we were safely aboard the trawler was overwhelming and when we spied the sandwiches and bottles of coke . . . (Thank you fishermen!)

Heaven! — Rod's dreams came true — cheese sandwiches! David lasted half an hour before repeating his performance from the way over!

What did we learn from this escapade? — We've all been asked, well . . . an awful lot about each others sleeping habits!

Thank you to Mrs G. for doing so much driving (especially on the way back, considering how terrible we must have smelt!) and to Kerry for keeping us all smiling! And of course to Sean Connery and Harrison Ford!

Suzanne Paterson
(with the help of everyone else!)

Following an appeal to Old Survivors to contact me with their current addresses I had a fantastic response — one letter precisely. Since we are trying to organise a reunion-type dinner (promise — no seagull) it would help if you could fill in the following cut-off portion and send it to K.Glimm, c/o Strathallan, by December 1st, 1990. You will be notified of the date and venue of the meeting early in the New Year. See you soon.



Mr Glimm collecting treats for the Reunion Dinner.



— ✂ — — ✂ — — ✂ — Cut off here

I would like to come to the Survivors' Reunion Dinner in Spring 1991.

Name (block capitals).....

Address

VALETE

FREELAND

Aristegui, G. A. Came 1988¹; LVI; Ski Team, Rugby XV, Summer Hockey 1st XI, Hockey 3rd XI (vice captain), 'yess' committee; *Cervantes I; Los Arenas, Viccaya, Spain.*

Banks, D. J. Came 1984¹; II; Ski Team (3 years), Navy Admiral; 3 *Sputwells Avenue, Scone, Perth PH2 6RP.*

Clayton, M. S. Came 1982¹; I; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV (captain); Cross Country; Athletics; Debating; Drama; D of E; Army Sergeant; *Tigh Tosgaidh, Dornie, Kyle of Lochalsh, Rossshire IV40 8EH.*

Dunbar, C. A. B. Came 1985¹; III; School Prefect; Rugby U-14; U-15; 4th/3rd XV; Athletics; Cross Country; Pipes and Drums Pipe Major; *Balloburn, 1st Main Street, Abernethy, Perth.*

Haslam, R. G. Came 1983²; I; School Play; LS in Navy, c/o JEP Coats Ltd., 155 St Vincent Street, Glasgow (pls forward to Maula).

Houison Craufurd, S. D. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Navy/Army ab/sergeant; *Crawfordland Castle, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire KA3 6BS.*

Johnstone, M. J. Came 1986³; III;

House Prefect; Naval Shooting Team Captain; Fishing Team; Football Team; D officer in Navy, 6B *Burn Road, Inverness IU2 4WG.*

Lochore, A. D. Came 1985¹; III; School Prefect; Head of House; Rugby 1st XV; 7-a-side; 1st XV Hockey; 2nd XI Cricket; Athletics; Cross Country; Houston Prize for all round merit; Debating Society; Orchestra; Sergeant in Army, *Burgie House, Forres, Moray N36 0QV.*

Logan, D. R. Came 1985¹; III; Captain of School; Rugby 1st XV, 2nd XV, 3rd XV, 4th XV (Captain); Hockey 3rd XI; Tennis, Sergeant in Army, *Dairsie Mains, Cupar, Fife KY15 4RL.*

Moir, R. I. Came 1983; II; House Prefect; Skiing Team (captain); Tennis (captain); Rugby 3rd XV; County side Shooting Team; Hockey 3rd XI Yess Committee; Debating Society; Politics Club; Corporal in Army, *Hillfoot, Insh, Nr. Kingussie, Invernessshire.*

Monro, S. D. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Librarian; Rugby 3rd XV, 5th XV, U-14 'C' XV; Swimming; House Rugby; Choir; Yess Committee; House Drama; PO in Navy, 61 *Hilton Street, Aberdeen AB2 3QR.*

Reid, D. I. Came 1986¹; IV; House

Prefect; Basketball (captain); Rugby 2nd XV; Golf; Football 1st XI; LS in Navy, *Flat 1, Ravenscourt, Thorntonhall, Glasgow.*

Robertson, K. J. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; 1st Tennis; 1st Rugby 2nd XV; House Tennis; House Rugby; Choir; Yess Committee; House Drama; Best Actor '86, 2 *High Ardoch, Comsul Gallery, By Montrose.*

Williamson, B. E. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Head of SBS Section; Rugby U-15s; 6th XV, 3rd XV; House Sailing (captain); 1st Form Latin Prize; Coxswain in SBS, 8 *Roscobie Park, Banchory, Kincardineshire AB3 3RE.*

Von Kopp-Colomb, H. E. E. Came 1989¹; LVI; Orchestra; Chamber Orchestra; Quartet; Choir; Scripture Union, *Heitkamp 2, D4358 Haltern-Hohtwick, (West) Germany.*

Dawes, D. Came 1985¹; I; Rugby U-12A; U-13A; U-14C; U-15B; U-16B; Hockey; U-13A; U-14B; U-15A; U-16A; Cricket U-12A; U-13B; U-14B; U-15B; Swimming 1sts; Football 1st XI; Basketball 1st; Drama; Cadet in Army, *ATS, PO Box 26803, Maise.*

LEBURN

Cockburn, N. N. Came 1988¹; LVI; House Prefect; Music Scholarship; The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music; Organ Scholarship to Keble College, Oxford; Orchestra; Choir; Wind Band; Chapel Organist; House Colours, 16 *Drumcarrow Road, St Andrew, Fife KY16 8SE.*

Davies, R. A. S. Came 1988¹; LVI; House Prefect; Head Librarian; Secretary of Debating Society; Cross Country Team (1 year); Academic Scholarship; French and German Prizes; Cambridge?; Choir; Debating; Acted in *Macbeth* (89); Army Lieutenant Corporal; Member of Army HCTC Team (89); House Colours; House Cross Country (captain), 15 *Lochend Road, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 1DX.*

Grieve, R. J. Came 1986¹; IV; House Prefect; U-14 BXV (86); U-15 BXV (87); 6XV (88); 3XV (89); Rugby, Canoeing; Pipe Band; Colour Sgt. 14 *Tyfield, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, Hants RG24 9H7.*

Jamieson, R. E. Came 1984¹; II; House Prefect; House Sailing Captain; Music and Academic Scholarship; Choir; Orchestra; Sailing; Canoeing; Navy Coxswain, 70 *Forest Road, Aberdeen AB2 4BL.*

Johnson, A. G. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; David Bolie Prize Economics; House Colours; Debating; Drama; Mac-

beth, Boyfriend, Reeves Tale; RAF Jnr. Corporal, c/o *Little, 3 Gillies Court, Upper Largo, Leven, Fife KY8 6HA.*

Jones, G. H. Came 1983¹; I; Athletics Team (4 years); 2nd XV Rugby (2 years); Debating Society, 7 *Garth Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN1 3RT.*

Legge, M. T. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Swimming Captain (House and School); Swimming Team; Politics Prize; RAF, Lance Corporal.

Milroy, A. J. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; 1st XI Summer Hockey (2 years); U-15 1st XI Hockey; Art Distinctions; Debating Cup; House Drama; House Colours; Debating Society; School Play; Navy, Ordinary Seaman, 14 *Crossways, Craigends, Houston, Renfrewshire.*

Parker, J. S. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Head of RAF Section; Chemistry Prize; Debating; Orchestral Percussionist; RAF Sergeant, 24 *Quarry Road, Winchester, Hants SO23 8JG.*

Rea, F. J. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Deputy Head of House; Chairman of Social Committee; Head of Marines Corps; School Captain of Football; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Football; 2nd XI Cricket; Athletics Team; 3rd XI Hockey; Army Scholarship; Debating Society (winners of Inter House Debating Competition); Drama, *Drum, Dunscore, Dumfries DG2 0UF.*

Sinclair, A. J. Came 1985¹; III; Summer Term House Prefect; School Prefect;

Head of House; 4th, 2nd; 1st XV Rugby; 3rd; 2nd XI Hockey; 3rd XI Cricket (2 years captain); Athletics; D of E Bronze Award; Motorbikes; Rugby for Presidents XV; Scottish Schools; Rugby full Colours; House Colours, *East Dron Farm, Bridge of Earn, Perth PH2 9HG.*

Sinclair, N. 1986¹; IV; Fire Chief; Squash Team (87-90); Golf; Tennis Team 90; 5th XV Rugby; Signals Lieutenant, *Duncarse, 15 Muirton Bank, Perth PH1 9EG.*

Smith, C. A. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; School Golf Team; U-14 B XV Rugby; D of E Silver and Bronze Awards; RAF Cadet, *West Gallabery, Kirkton, Dumfries.*

Wilson, I. J. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; 2nd XI Hockey; 3rd XI Cricket; 5th XV Rugby; 3rd XI Hockey (captain); RAF Corporal; House Colours, 30 *Green Lane, Hucclecote, Gloucester GL3 1HQ.*

Wilson, S. J. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; 1st VII Rugby; 3rd XV Rugby; 3rd XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; 1st XI Soccer; School Scholarship; RAF Corporal; House Colours; Football House Captain, *Broadstone, 30 Green Lane, Hucclecote, Gloucester GL3 3QU.*

Gage, L. S. Came 1988¹; IV; 4th XV Rugby (1 year); Army, *West Coodham, Symington, Ayrshire KA1 3SJ.*

NICOL

Bayne, J. S. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby U-13 A; U-14 A; U-15 B; 4th XV (LVI); 3rd XV (UVI); Cross Country Athletics; Young Farmers Society; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Gospetry, Milnathort, Kinross KY13 7SW.*

Beveridge, H. J. Came 1988¹; LVI; Rugby 2nd XV (1 year); Football 1st XI (1 year); Athletics, Discus (1 year); 'YESS' Magazine Committee. *Woodside of Barra, Bourtne, Old Meldrum, Aberdeenshire AB5 0BH.*

Bond, R. A. Came 1985¹; III; School Prefect, Head of Nicol; Captain of Athletics; Motorbikes and Cross Country; Squash (2 years); Cross Country (5 years); Athletics (5 years); i/c Motorbikes. *372 George Street, Aberdeen.*

Clark, C. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby 1st XV (1990); Hockey 1st XI (1989, 90); Football 1st XI (1988, 89, 90). *George Hotel, Inverary, Argyll PA32 8TT.*

Currie, G. A. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby 1st XV, 2nd XV, 3rd XV, U-15A; Football 1st XI (UVI); Chairman

Politics Club; Politics Club; Debating Society; Lance Corporal in Royal Signals. *Flat 272, 23 Upper Grove Place, Edinburgh.*

Deen, A. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV (captain); Hockey 2nd XI (captain); Cricket 3rd XI; Debating Society; Director of House Drama; Cadet in Army/ Navy/SBS. *383 Pinner Road, North Harrow, Middlesex, England.*

Head, S. J. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby U-15 C XV; 1st Music Scholarship; Dance Band; 1st Orchestra; Choir; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Aberlour House, Aberlour, Banffshire AB3 9LG.*

Laing, J. D. A. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Cross Country Team (since 3rd form); Sailing Team; Scripture Union; Choir, Petty officer in Navy. *Wyndales, Hatton Road, Perth.*

Marshall, A. J. K. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect (LVI); Rugby U-14 B, U-15 B, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd XV; Cricket U-14 A, U-15, 3rd XI; Hockey 3rd XI; Cross Country; Athletics; Golf (secretary); Music Scholarship (piping);

Sergeant in Pipe Band. *Dalreoch, Dunning, Perth PH2 0QJ.*

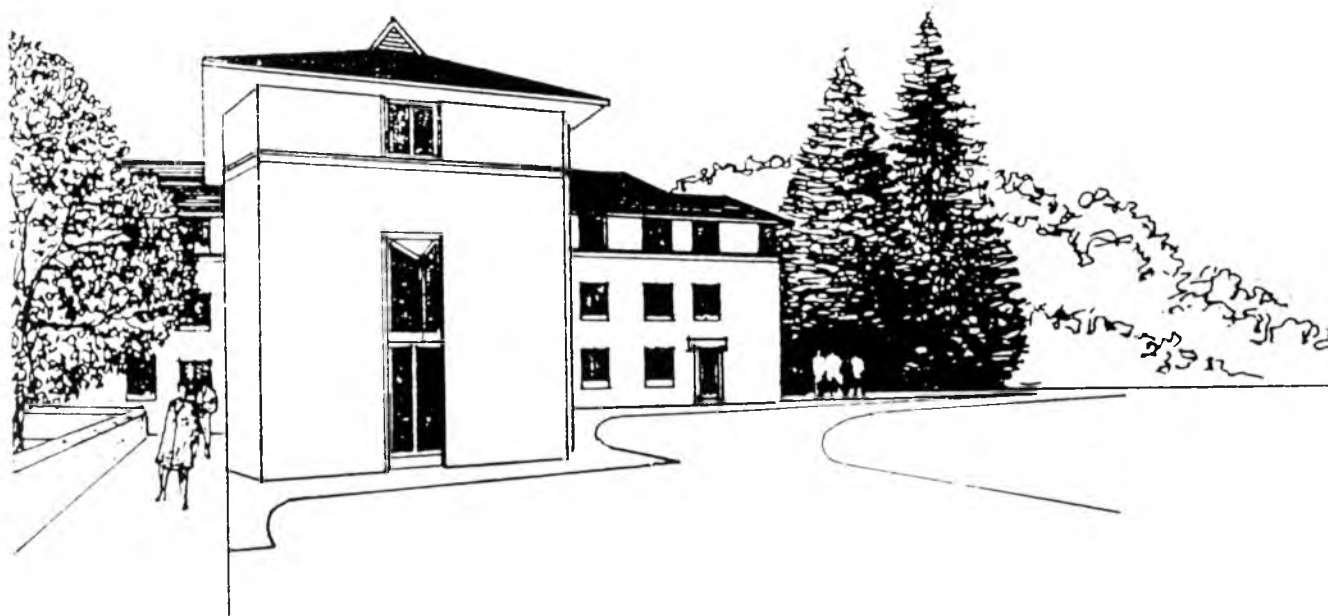
Maxwell, J. W. M., Came 1982¹; I; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV (1 year); Athletics (4 years); Cross Country (3 years); Riley Improvement Prize; Academic Scholarship; 1st Orchestra; 2nd Orchestra; String Orchestra; Choir; School Drama (Macbeth); House Drama; Creative Writing Society; Lance Corporal in Army. *Upper Pitcairn, By Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2EQ.*

Whitmee, J. J. Came 1988; V; House Prefect; Corporal CCF; Captain of 1st XI Hockey; Rugby U-16 A (1 year), 3rd XV (1 year), 1st XV (1 year); Cricket 3rd XI (1 year); Hockey U-16 A (1 year), 1st XI (2 years); Indoor Hockey 1st VI (2 years); Corporal in Pipe Band. *35 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh.*

Jones, A. J. F. Came 1986¹; III; Junior Corporal in RAF. *Nether Kinneddar, Saline, Fife KY12 9LS.*

Downes, D. J. Came 1988¹; IV; Army; Summer Stroll Team; Cross Country Team; Lance Corporal in Army. *Norwood, 3 Victoria Road, Dullatur E68 0AW.*

HALLS OF RESIDENCE



Boswell Mitchell & Johnston

18 Woodlands Terrace Glasgow G3 8DH Telephone 041-332 9184

Chartered Architects and Planning Consultants

RUTHVEN

Clark, W. K. G. J. Came 1985¹; III; School Prefect; House Prefect; Rugby U-14 A (1 year); U-15 A (1 year), 4th XV (1 year); Athletics; Curling; Lance Corporal in Army. *Broomlea, 6 Broomfields Crescent, Largs KA30 8DY.*

Cook, A. C. Came 1984¹; II; School Prefect; vice-head of Ruthven, Captain of Rugby; Rugby 1st XV (3 years), 1st VII (4 years); Hockey 2nd XI (1 year); Athletics (3 years); Academic Scholarship; D of E; Corporal in Royal Marines. *Hillcrest, Golfhill Drive, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire G84 9JD.*

Fawcus, R. A. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Cricket U-14 XI; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Ballinduin, Strathtay, By Pitlochry, Perthshire PH9 0LP.*

SIMPSON

Blanche, H. A. D. Came 1983; I; House Prefect; Captain 1st VII Rugby; 1st XV and 1st VII Rugby (1 year); 1st/2nd XI Hockey; 1st XI Cricket (4 years); Marines. *Grange House, Grange, Kerth, Banffshire A5 3RY.*

Clement, M. J. Came 1983; I; 1st XI Hockey (captain and secretary); 1st XV Rugby (1 year); Summer Hockey XI; 1st XI Indoor Hockey; 1st XI Football (1 year); Politics Club; RAF, Cadet. *Carvenom Farm, By Anstruther, Fife KY10 3JU.*

d'Ath, J. F. Came 1984; II; House Prefect; Head of SBS; 1st XV Rugby (1 year) Half Colours; 1st VII Rugby (1 year); 1st XI Cricket (1 year); SBS, PO. *Hazlebank, Orchil Road, Auchterarder, Perthshire PH5 1LS.*

Davidson, A. G. Came 1983; I; House Prefect; 3rd XV Rugby (1 year); Physics Prize; Navy/Signals; AB. *Suilven, Larg Road, Stranraer DG9 0JN.*

Davidson, H. A. C. Came 1986; IV; House Prefect; U-15 B Rugby (1 year); 7 (1 year); 4 (1 year); Sailing; Art Prize; Army, under officer. *18 Wreck Road, Somerset Bridge SBO1, Bermuda.*

Dempsey, N. D. Came 1985; III; 5th XV Rugby; 1st/2nd XI Indoor Hockey; Biology Prize; Debating; School Play; Navy; LS. *5 Eardley Court, Pitcairn, Glenrothes, Fife.*

Ford, I. J. Came 1988; LVI; House Prefect; 3rd XV Rugby (1 year); House Captain Skiing (1 year). *The Birches, Golf Road, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire AB3 5HP.*

Forster, C. M. Came 1984; II; House Prefect; 2nd XV Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; 2nd XI Cricket; 1st XI Football; Golf. *Thornbank, Thornbank Road, Stranraer PG9 0EY.*

Hamilton, M. D. Came 1988; LVI; House Head Librarian; Scholarship; RAF, Sergeant. *Gynack Bank Cottage, Gynack Street, Kingussie, Invernessshire PH21 1EL.*

Gault, D. R. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Coach to Under 12 XV; Rugby U-13 XV, U-14 A, U-15 B (1 year each); Cricket U-13 XI, U-14 XI (1 year each); Athletics (1 year); Cross Country (1 year); Choir; D of E Bronze; Lifesaving Bronze Medallion; Social Services; Cadet in Army. *30 Alexandra Street, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow G66 1HE.*

Gibb, S. R. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Swimming; Rugby 1st XV (1 year); Football 1st XI (2 years); Social Committee; Piper in Pipe Band. *c/o Officers Mess, RAF Gatow, Berlin BFPO 45.*

Ismail, D. R. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Hockey 2nd XI (LVI and UVI); Rugby Narbonne Tour, U-17 XV, 2nd XV; Athletics (87-90); Chairman of Politics Society; Corporal in Army. *Fordel House, Glenfarg, Perth PH2 9QQ.*

Mitchell, J. F. Came 1983; I; House Prefect; Cross Country (2 years); Athletics; 5th XV Rugby; U-14 B Cricket; Choir; Navy, LS. *56 Beechlands Drive, Clarkston, Glasgow G76 7UX.*

Nugawela, M. C. Came 1985; III; House Drama; Editor YESS; Politics Club; Debating Society; Army, co Sergeant Major UNTSO Headquarters. *Government House, PO Box 490, Jerusalem, Israel.*

Prentice, J. J. Came 1985; III; House Prefect; U-14 B Rugby (1 year), U-15 B Rugby (1 year), 3rd/5th/6th XV Rugby; SFA; SBS; IS. *Swinton East Quarter, Duns, Berwickshire TD11 3JN.*

Smart, D. W. J. Came 1984; II; Head of House; School Prefect; vice-captain 1st XV Rugby, Full Colours; Captain U-14 and U-15 XV Rugby; 1st XI Hockey (1 year); Half Colours; 2nd XI Cricket (1 year); 1st XI Football (2 years); President's XV Rugby; CDT Prize; School Social Committee; Motorbikes. *Kinnaber House, Montrose, Angus DD10 9ER.*

Thorburn, D. G. Came 1983; I House Prefect; Captain 1st XI Cricket; Captain Squash; Captain Swimming; 3rd XI Hockey (2 years); House Debating; Drama; YESS Committee; Army, Corporal. *PO Box 2002, Dubai, UAE.*

Walker, T. S. T. Came 1984; II; House Prefect; Captain 2nd XV Rugby; Captain S-colt Cricket; vice-captain 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey; 1st XV Rugby; RAF. *The Arch, Torrisdale, Carradale, Argyll PA28 6QT.*

Davie, L. J. G. D. Came 1987; III; U-14 C, U-15 C Rugby; 6th XV Rugby (2 years); Strath Survival Club; Navy, LS. *Seaview, 2 Urquhart Road, St Fergus, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire AB4 7DD.*

LaQuiante, F. L. Q. Came 1989; LVI; House Prefect; 4th XV Rugby; SBS, LS. *Bevgstedtev Chaussee 62, 2000 Hamburg 65, W. Germany.*

Laird, M. C. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Groundsman; A B in Navy. *West Menills, By Forfar, Angus DD8 3TY.*

Tindal, J. A. D. Came 1985; III; House Prefect; Rugby U-14; Best Sript Junior House Drama 1990; Social Committee, School Disc Jockey, Debating Society, Drama, Organising House Drama, House Skiing; Royal Signals. *Cantsmill, Airlie, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 5NE.*

Martin, A. F. Came 1986¹; I; Rugby, U-12 A, U-13 A, U-14 B, 6th XV; Piping and Drumming; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Ardnagask Mains, Muir of Ard, Ross-shire.*

Sangster, R. G. Came 1986¹; II; Rugby U-14 B, U-15 C, 6th XV; Leading Seaman in Navy. *2 Benmore Avenue, Montrose, Angus DD10 9EX.*

What you have enjoyed most . . .

Music lessons with Dr McLay.
The surrounding countryside/the wonderful scenery.
Laughing at people's short haircuts.
Some of the people, some of the time, but not all the people all of the time.
Everything.
Leburn.
Friends.
Holidays.
Perth leave.
Incidental socialising.
Being thought of as hyper-intelligent!
Summer terms.
Snowball fights.
Rhododendrons.
Growing up.
Scandal.
Post highers.
The old Ruthven.
The Girls.
Meeting new people.
Being a groundsman.
Babysitting.
School pizza.
"Ardargie tour".



THORNBANK

Anderson, C. A. Came 1984; II; House Prefect; Hockey 1st XI; Midlands Indoor Hockey; Girls Cricket 1st XI; House Debating Team; Gold Duke of Edinburgh. *5 Jona Murray Drive, Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire FK9 4QH.*

Arnott, S. Came 1988; LVI; House Prefect; House Swimming Captain; Colours in Swimming; Athletics; 1st XI Hockey; Half Colours in Hockey; Life-saving Bronze Medallion; Choir; Concert Band. *Glencarrick, Nether Auchendrane, Alloway, By Ayr KA7 4EE.*

Boyd, K. J. Came 1985; III; School Prefect; U-15 Hockey (2 years); Athletics (4 years); Hockey 1st XI (3 years); Summer Mixed Hockey; Chairman Social Committee. *4 Boyd Close, Stobbington, Hants PO14 2DL.*

Brown, S. J. Came 1985; III; House Prefect; Curling (3 years, captain 1 year); Sailing (2 years); Netball (2 years, captain 1 year); Hockey 3rd XI; VIth form ball committee 1989. *Green Park Hotel, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5JY.*

Gilchrist, Y. Came 1988; LVI; House Prefect; Badminton; Choir; Orchestra. *The Coach House, Auchengillan, Blane-field, Glasgow G63 9AU.*

Leiper, S. E. Came 1984; II; House

Prefect; Captain 3rd XI, U-15 B Team; Music Scholarship; Choir; Leader 1st Orchestra and String Orchestra; Drama; House Drama. *Airyhemming, Glenluce, Wigtownshire DG8 0NP.*

Mackinlay, M. H. Came 1983; I; House Prefect; Hockey Captain U-15 Bs and reserve U-15 As for 1 year; Hockey 3rd XI (3 years); House Drama. *11 Ravelston Garden, Edinburgh EH4 3LD.*

McMaster, A. T. Came 1988; LVI; Head of House; School Prefect; Hockey 3rd XI; Girls Cricket; Captain House XI Hockey Team; Choir; Clarinet and Piano. *Heron House, Tavard, Argyll, Scotland PA23 7UD.*

Meldrum, L. House Prefect; Captain Hockey 1st XI; Swimming (3 years); Hockey 1st XI (3 years); Captain of Games; Full Colours for Hockey. *RIJS-WIJK, Crachie, By Forfar, Angus.*

Muir, D. M. Came 1989; UVI; House Prefect; Hockey 3rd XI; Curling; Choir; Debating; Confirmation; House Colours; D of E. *Nether Old Hall, Dunlop, Ayrshire KA34 4BN.*

Riddoch, G. E. Came 1983; I; House Prefect; U-13 Hockey; U-13 B; Netball; U-15 B Hockey. *6 Baircraig Road, Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire PA11 3HG.*

prizes; History Prize (UVI); all round merit cup; Choir, first orchestra (85-90); D of E Bronze; House Drama (85-86); Director (89), School Play, The Boy-friend. *Haselmere Preparatory School, The Heights, Haselmere, Surrey.*

Pattinson, K. Came 1985¹; III; School Prefect; Badminton (88); U-15 A, U-15 B, 3rd XI 1985-90; Grade 3 Piano; D of E Bronze; Debating Society; Drama Club; Choir (85-87). *Overwood, Rowan Avenue, Darnoch, IV25 3PH.*

Reekie, E. C. Came 1983¹; I; House Prefect; Hockey U-15 (2 years); Riley form Prize; VI form Geography Prize; Choir; Orchestra (4 years); Wind Band; Drama; Sailing; Dance. *87 St Michaels Drive, Cupar, Fife KYT5 5BT.*

Ross, A. J. Came 1984¹; II; House Prefect; Girls Squash (2 years); Girls Badminton (captain); Girls Cricket 1st XI; U-13, U15B, 3rd XI Hockey, Academic Scholarship; Dance Band. *Cathdon, 3 Druim Avenue, Inverness IV2 4LG.*

Barr, C. M. Came 1987¹; III; 3rd XI Hockey (89); Shooting (89-90); Silver D of E; Stage Manager. *Timber Trails, Furze Hill Road, Headly Down, Hants GU35 8HD.*

McCracken, P. N. Came 1985¹; I; Sailing Team (4 years); Netball; Swimming (5 years); Orchestra; Dance Band; Wind Band; Brass Group. *Prospect House, The Street, Gt. Braxted, nr. Witham, Essex CM8 3EJ.*

Walls, S. P. Came 1987¹; III; Tennis Team (89); IV Hockey XI; Silver D of E. *8 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham SW6 5EA, London.*

Semple, S. J. Came 1989; UVI; House Prefect; Skiing; Hockey 4th XI; House Relay Team; Social Services. *Bonnyton Cottage, Bonnyton Road, Eaglesham, Glasgow G76 0PM.*

What you will miss least . . .

Speed Marches — Never so much pain for so little point.

Rhidian's mercedesidal mumblings.

The S. S. S. S. S.?

Monday Duty.

People who keep talking about rugby at tea.

The YESS magazine.

Alex Johnston's music.

House bank with its negative interest rate.

Going on punishment runs.

The "Lads".

Nicol house tops.

Prep.

Routine.

Organised Boredom.

Grey skirts.

Fire alarms.

Missing home.

Juniors listening to Kylie and Jason.

Playing hockey in rain/sleet/snow.

Fish pie.

Standards.

Borrowing.

Saturday 8.30 a.m. starts.

Regulations.

The barbers.

Being gated.

Rumours.



WOODLANDS

Addison, G. D. Came 1987¹; IV; House Prefect; 3rd XI Hockey; Squash (captain 89,90); Tennis (captain 89); Debating Society. *Leburn House, Forgandenny, Perthshire PH2 9EG.*

Burns, C. F. Came 1986¹; IV; School Prefect; Head of House; Badminton Side; Wilfred Hoare Reading Prize; Chairman Debating Society; Stage Manager Macbeth. *20 Main Street, Kilconquhar, Fife KY4 1LQ.*

Carruthers, P. J. Came 1988¹; LVI; Senior Netball Team (reserve); Maths Prize; Sabatoer in Choir. *Balcassie, Kirkton of Moulter Road, Craigend, Perth PH2 0SS.*

Clark, J. K. Came 1988¹; LVI; House Captain of Swimming; Girls Ski-ing Captain; Tennis 1st VI; Squash; Swimming; Ski-ing, Colours and House Colours Swimming. *East Wing, Laverockdale House, 68 Dreghorn Loan, Colinton, Edinburgh, EH13 0DB.*

Dick, K. L. Came 1985¹; III; Captain House Sport; Tennis 1st VI, V and VI form; Hockey 2nd and 3rd XI in IV, V, VI form; Choir; Guitar. *The Conifers, 8 Grant Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh.*

Green, C. A. H. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; U-15 B Hockey XI (2 years); 3rd XI Hockey (3 years); 2nd XI Hockey; House Colours; Gliding; Social Committee. *Park Place, Flat A1, First Floor, 7 Tai Tam Reservoir Road, Hong Kong.*

Morrison, K. R. Came 1985¹; III; House Prefect; Athletics Team (88, 89); 3rd XI Hockey (3 years); 3rd, 4th form

STRATHALLIAN CLUB

ROGER EASON

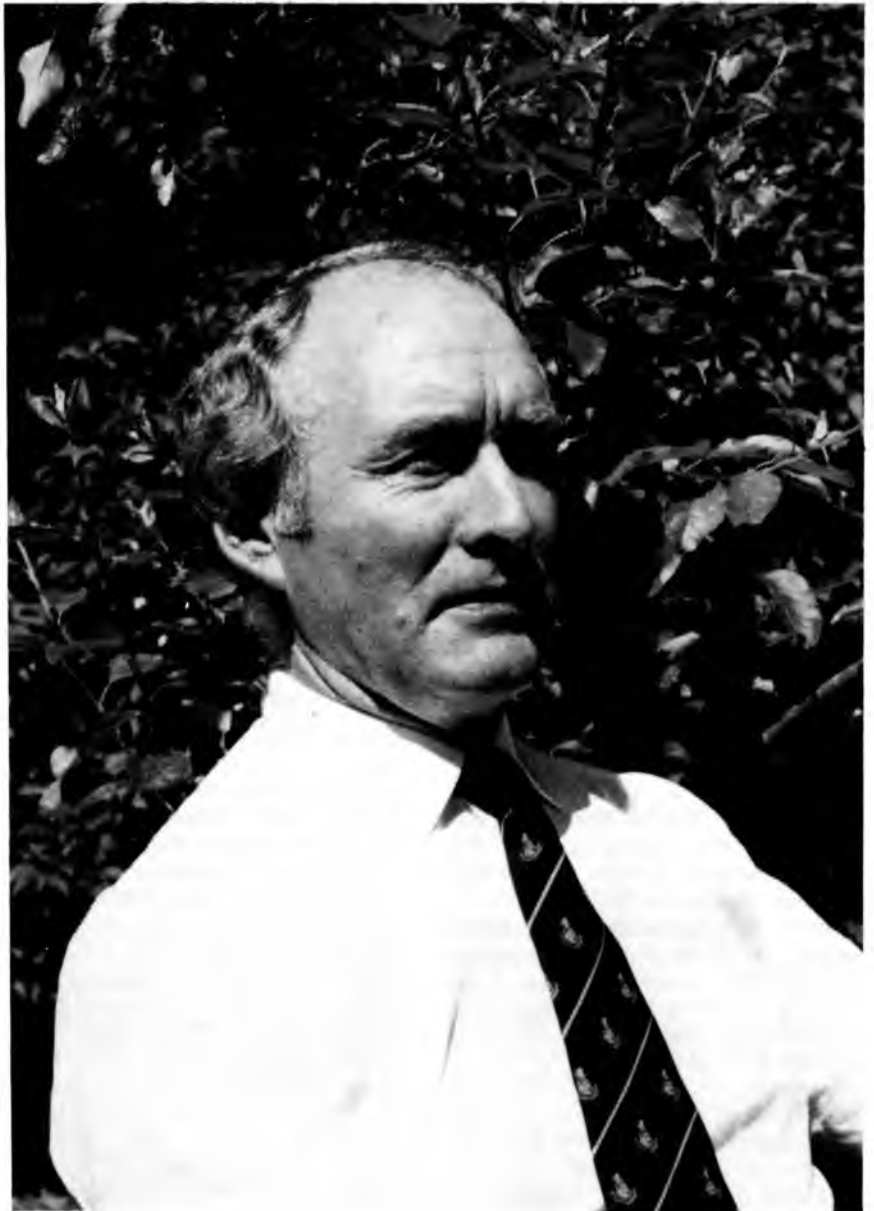
Roger was born at Godstone, in Surrey in 1937, and he arrived at Strathallan in 1950. The older of two brothers who were both at Strathallan, Roger was in Simpson until 1954, claiming only an average school career. He played, however, in the 1st XI in 1952 and 1953 and captained the team in 1954. He also boxed for the school and for the RAF Section of the CCF (winning every bout), coached by the local postman who had been a booth boxer.

On leaving School he joined the export department of one of Britain's major wire manufacturers until called up for National Service in 1955 with the RAF. He spent eighteen months in Egypt, Jordan and Cyprus at the time of the Suez crisis.

After de-mob in 1957 he joined the Glasgow Branch of the largest agricultural wire company in Britain. He became a director in 1972 and in 1985 he started his own business, looking after the needs of Scottish agriculture and forestry.

He is a keen curler, swims regularly and plays golf infrequently and erratically.

He and his wife Gillian celebrated their Silver Wedding in 1989. They have two children, Jane, an Honours Physics graduate, who is now an engineer with BBC TV in London, and Richard, who left Strathallan in 1989, and who played for the 1st XI in 1988 and 1989 and who had the doubtful distinction of being "caught RS Eason, bowled T. Hudson" in the 1988 Old Boys' match which the Old Strathallians won handsomely!



“THE LIST OF THE LOST”

Last year we published a list of members of the club whose addresses were not known. We should like to thank all those who wrote to us. As a result of your letters we traced over 50 Strathallians.

Unfortunately almost as many have fallen by the wayside since, with The Strathallian magazine and circulars being returned to us "Gone Away".

PLEASE keep us informed when you change your address. Just drop a line to

The Headmaster's Secretary at the School.

A. MURRAY GORDON (1939)

Murray Gordon was one of the names on our list and several of his contemporaries have written to say they understood that he was killed in the War.

His name is not on the War Memorial, nor in any of the lists of those Killed or Missing in the copies of The Strathallian of the day.

If anyone can give us further information about him, which branch of the Services he was in or which regiment, we shall be most grateful.

M. J. F. PICKERING (1971)

We were sad to learn that Michael Pickering was killed in a diving accident in the North Sea in 1981/82. We had not previously recorded his death.

Dinner for Strathallians Leaving School 1972-1977

31st March, 1990

Those who were at School between 1972-1977 saw a change of Headmaster, so representatives of two regimes were present at the dinner on 31st March. Unfortunately Mr McCallum was not able to be with us. All who came seemed to enjoy meeting former colleagues and the social time in the Saloon before the formal dinner in the Music Room. There were some who confessed they had not enjoyed *all* their time at School, and who were slightly uncertain if they wanted to renew some of their acquaintances of 15 years ago. I am sure that they would now recommend this "year" gathering very much and having been glad that they had decided to attend. We were delighted to see you all. Worth the odd sore head on Sunday, perhaps?

Our special thanks go to Mrs Wylie and her Staff, to the Bursar's Staff, and to Mr and Mrs Young and their staff for organising things to go so smoothly and happily. Strathallians Gillian Addison, Philip Aitken, George Kitson and David Young gave up some of their holidays to help with drinks, for which we are most grateful. (Don't worry, their lips are sealed!).

The Entertainment was provided by Pipe Major Charles Dunbar and Pipe Sgt. Andrew Marshall, and an unknown Japanese brought in by pianist Geoffrey Bolton. His song from *The Mikado*, "I've Got a Little List" seemed to include some of the eccentrics of those distant days at School, all of whom (present company excepted) were voted highly suitable for execution. If I may say it myself, our thanks go to all the gentlemen concerned in the Entertainment.

We were delighted to welcome Miss Katie Widdowson who bravely was the only girl in this male gathering because our own Margaret Burnet was abroad and could not attend.

T.C.G.F.

Those present were:

Strathallians

A. D. Baxter
D. C. Bell
A. J. Bennet
G. I. Bennet
A. D. Butchart
D. J. Butchart
W. D. G. Cameron
C. A. Campbell
G. J. F. Crowe
H. K. Currie
B. D. de la Haye
J. W. Dinsmore (Chairman)
C. A. B. Dunbar (Pipe-Major)
R. S. Eason (President of the Club)
R. A. Elder
P. J. M. Fairlie
J. B. Ferguson
D. R. I. Fingland
J. A. E. Fingland
M. T. Finlay
R. M. Garside
D. M. N. Gillanders
J. Hall
J. E. Hamilton
J. A. Hay
S. L. Hill
G. L. F. Inglis
M. D. Kirk
R. L. Kirkland
J. M. S. Kirkwood
P. N. Lewis
R. K. Linton
H. N. McFarlane
K. G. MacLeod
R. N. MacLeod
C. S. S. Magee
M. T. Manson
A. J. K. Marshall (Pipe Sgt.)
I. C. McGregor
N. A. McNicol
D. R. Newton
J. H. R. Parker
A. I. Pate
I. Paterson-Brown
K. W. Paterson-Brown

A. B. Peddie
A. R. Peddie
D. W. Peddie
H. Purdie
C. D. Reekie
D. K. Roger
A. K. Shaw
J. F. J. Shearer
R. K. Shedden
I. S. Stark
R. C. Stark
P. B. M. Sutherland
M. C. Taylor
R. F. Voigt
C. J. Wallace
I. T. Watters
D. A. S. Whyte
A. D. G. Widdowson
J. A. M. Wilson
D. L. Young

School Guests

W. A. Bullard
G. A. Bolton
J. F. Claytoin
A. L. K. Dutton
T. C. G. Fairbairn
M. Gray
T. J. MacLeod
A. M. Pearson
C. D. Pighills (Headmaster)
B. Raine
Miss K. Widdowson
D. A. R. Williams
S. Wilson

W. D. Gibson and B. W. Parker were unable to attend at the last minute.

DATES TO NOTE
(subject to confirmation)

LONDON DINNER 21st March
1991

STRATHALLIAN CLUB
DINNER 23rd November 1991

The Late Mr Colin Addison. A full appreciation of his long years at Strathallan will appear in our next issue.

NEWS OF FORMER MEMBERS OF STAFF

Congratulations to Bill and Anne Colley on the birth of Calum James on 5th June, 1990.

Philip Hewson is living at New Park Home, Trentham, Stoke on Trent and would be very glad to hear from old pupils and friends. Do call in to see him if you are in the neighbourhood.

Thanks to Graeme Renton of Vancouver, Canada, for helping us out for

two terms in 1989-90 and welcome to Simon Welsh of New Zealand who is continuing the Scott Macky tradition.

We apologise sincerely to Mr Tony Binian, who taught at Strathallan in the 1950s, that an incorrect report of his death was published in last year's Strathallian. Mr and Mrs Hoare have seen him recently and found him fit and well.

Old Strathallian Ties
£5

Old Strathallian Scarves
£18

**School Sweatshirts with
embroidered badge**

£15
M. L. XL

All including postage

Apply to Matron at School

NEWS OF OLD STRATHALLIANS

- ADAMSON K. H. (1985) He completed his H.N.D. at Harper Adams Agricultural College, playing rugby for the College and for Shropshire under 21, the winners of the English Colleges 7-a-side tournament. He then had a social tour of Canada and the USA. He tells us: "I am at home working for Daddy now!"
- ALLISON Rev. N. J. (1922) He retired in 1989 and he and his wife are living in Kingston, Ontario. Their son is a Doctor, and their daughter an Occupational Therapist; they have six grandchildren. We were most grateful to receive your photographs.
- BARLAS A.D. (1979) He married Victoria Forbes in Brechin Cathedral in August 1989. We hope he has fully recovered from falling off that ladder!
- BLAIR J. M. (1969) We duly noted his concert with the London Concert Orchestra on February 14th 1990 entitled "Valentine's Day Love Classics".
- BLANCHE G. W. G. (1978) He lives in Duns and he is a member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists and Chairman of the Berwick Advanced Motorists. He teaches members of the public skills for better driving and for the test itself.
- BOWDEN K. E. (1990) Kate is off to work for Project Trust, before taking up her place at Oxford. Good luck in both ventures!
- BRASH D. G. (1968) He is a solicitor with Alex Morison & Co. W.S. of Edinburgh.
- BUCHER M. J. (1960) He is Managing Director of J. W. Spear & Sons. He can happily provide Scrabble in French or German! The photograph of him in the Daily Telegraph of 5th May 1990 shows him smiling after a nearly three-fold profits rise!
- CAPUTO P. (1982) She has qualified as a doctor in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and is working towards becoming a plastic surgeon.
- CHRISTIE T. S. (1989) Since leaving School he has had a course with the Wilderness Leadership School in South Africa, meeting crocodiles, lions and cobras. Then he worked with the Save the Rhino project in Namibia during election time. He went on to Zimbabwe where he became an expert in game fencing and went pig-hunting with Richard Cornish!
- CLARKE J. A. (1985) He has gained his B.Sc. in Environmental Studies at the University of Dundee and is now working as an Insurance Broker in London.
- CLARKE S. G. (1986) He is in his 5th year of Medicine at Manchester University. He has played rugby for the Manchester Medicals and Manchester Rugby Club 1st XV's. At present he is spending his clinical elective in Straub Clinic, Honolulu.
- COCHRAN J. N. (1967) He is a partner with Dundas & Wilson, Solicitors in Edinburgh. He is married with two children and lives in North Berwick.
- COLEMAN J. A. R. (1982) He is engaged to be married to Tessa Franklin Mitchell.
- CORNISH G. V. (1986) Gail is living and working in London.
- CORNISH R. M. (1989) First he travelled round Europe as far as Bulgaria and Turkey. Then he did an O type engagement in the Army with Duncan Spinner (1989) and Craig Benton (1988), after which he passed the R.C.B. Congratulations on his entry to Sandhurst. To fill up time he had a quick trip to Zimbabwe where he enjoyed horse-riding through the bush and learning about the tobacco industry (how ironic!). He also met Roderic Tether (1989).
- CORNISH V.C. (1987) After passing out with distinction at Oxford Secretarial College, Vivien is working in New York.
- CREE I. S. (1961) He has a kiwi fruit farm in Matakana, New Zealand.
- CUMMING A. H. (1977) After spending three years in Pennsylvania, he and his wife Marta are living in Brussels.
- CUMMING J. G. (1984) After a year in California he is working for GEC Energy Systems in Leicester as Junior Manager. He hopes to be posted to Paris soon.
- DAY I. F. S. (1972) He graduated B.A., M.A. from York University, Ontario, and is now an environmental planner with M. M. Dillon Ltd., Ontario.
- DAY W.G.E. (1972) He graduated B.Sc. from the University of Guelph, Ontario, and is now Managing Director of Northrup King Seeds, in Melbourne, Australia.
- DINNEN G. S. (1969) He has become Managing Director of Credit Lyonnais Securities (Asia) Ltd., in Jakarta. So he and his wife and three children (number four should be there by now too, as he/she was due in October) have left Hong Kong for Indonesia.
- DOBBIE M. J. (1983) He works for Corporate & Marketing Insurance Consultants Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia.
- DOWNIE J. C. (1985) He has graduated M.A. (Hons) at Aberdeen University.
- DUNCAN R. J. (1980) Ronald continues to impress us with his ski-ing successes as a World Cup Ski Racer. Recent headlines include: "Duncan Records Top British Time", "Trail-marker Duncan Surprises Top Seeds", "Downhill All the Way to the Top". Thanks for calling in in the Summer Term.
- DUNLEY P. G. (1949) He is based at the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce as one of the thirty-three Export Development Advisers in the U.K.
- ELDER R. A. (1973) He is Business Manager for the English National Opera at the Coliseum, London. He had to deal at long distance from Forgandenny with poll-tax rioters in the West End on the evening of the 1972-77 Reunion Dinner. Our grateful thanks for your presentation of Kobbe's Complete Opera Book for the Library.
- FAIRBAIRN D. M. (1966) He has been appointed managing partner of the Glasgow office of Ernst and Young.
- FERGUSON D. L. (1964) He is manager of Investment Services with Island Savings, based in Duncan on Vancouver Island. He is married with two children and he has two nieces at Strathallan.
- FORSYTH A. M. (1984) She has graduated B.A. in Business Studies from Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology.
- FRASER T. R. L. (1946) Congratulations on the award of the Fellowship of the Guild of Agricultural Journalists to add to the Silver Medal of the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists.
- GRANT I. D. (1960) He retired as President of the National Farmer's Union of Scotland in March, and is to be congratulated on his appointment as Chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board.
- GUNN R. H. D. (1964) He is married with two sons and he is living and working in Taipei, Taiwan.
- HAMILTON R. S. (1955) He has given up the Ironmongers in Galashiels and has let the shop to a Sports Shop. He is now concentrating on letting property.
- HARDIE A. K. (1982) He is working for Xerox in London.
- HARDIE F. G. (1979) He left the Hotel trade and is working in the family plastic moulding business, living in Edinburgh.
- HARRINGTON C. R. (1973) B.Sc. and Ph.D. no less, he is living in Cambridge but we would like to hear what he is doing.
- HARRINGTON M. G. (1969) He is a Doctor in La Canada, California.
- HARRISON R. D. (1988) He is at Durham University and when we last heard (from the Press & Journal) was about to head an expedition to the jungles of Peru to compare three regions of rain forest. With luck when you read this, he will have returned, safe from jaguars, spiders and poisonous snakes. Let us hear about it, Rhett!

- HERBERT J. D. (1971) He is married with two children. He is a Senior Crown Prosecutor for the Crown Prosecution Service. (Sounds pretty daunting!)
- HOUSTON R. D. (1956) Many thanks for the photographs you sent. He is living in Lytham St Annes.
- HSU P. C-Y. (1986) He has graduated B.Eng in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Heriot-Watt University.
- KEECH J. R. N. (1966) He visited the School last summer. He is with Ford as Director, Asia, Pacific & Mexico Sales Operations, and lives in New Holland, Pennsylvania.
- LECKIE G. K. S. (1983) He is working in Nottingham for Queen's Moat Houses and is Food and Beverage Manager at the Royal Hotel. Do go and try it! He survived running a marathon last year, and by the time you read this should be married to Fiona Willins.
- LINDSAY R. (1931) He was interested in the story that Strathallan bowled out Hillhead in 1928 for 0, as suggested in our last edition. He confirms that this is not correct. However he has a new cricketing story of Strathallan's prowess. In 1924 J. W. Hart and J. D. Reid bowled Auchterarder out for 1, taking five wickets each. Mr Riley then gave a serious row to the one that had all the runs scored off his bowling!
- LOW, L. M. (1985) He has graduated LL.B. with a 2.1 at Dundee University.
- MACDONALD W. J. R. (1984) He lives in Essex and is a Job-fitness Consultant. He was lucky enough to play the winter season with the University of Wollongong Rugby Club in Australia, as a relaxation from his normal place with the London Scottish 2nd XV. Other Strathallians he has met with the London Scottish include Peter Bullard (1983), Grant Corbett (1983) and George Stevenson (1983).
- MACDONALD W. M. (1984) He lives in Slough and works in Amersham as a computer programmer. He has retired from rugby!
- MACKAY A. H. (1975) He is married and lives in Canada.
- MACKAY A. L. (1977) He is a partner in Anglo-Scottish Aquatics in Codsall, Wolverhampton.
- MACKAY N. J. (1989) Another London Scottish rugby occasional!
- MACKIE S. J. (1986) Sandra married Willie Watt (1983) on 29th June. Her brother David (1985) was best man, and Lesley Meikle (1986) one of her bridesmaids. "A Strathy do" she described it. Congratulations to you both.
- MACLEOD D. (1945) He lives at 8 Laggan Road, Lochardel, Inverness after a long time in South Africa. He is very anxious to renew contact with A. K. Finlay, of whom he last heard in Greece or Turkey, and Jim Paterson, a doctor in Canada, possibly now in British Columbia. Does anyone know of their whereabouts?
- MACNEE S. D. (1984) He is now working for Coca-Cola and is about to go off round the world.
- MANSON M. T. (1977) He was married to Linda Godfrey in 1988 at the Candlelight Wedding Chapel, Las Vegas. Just to disappoint us all, Linda is a tax specialist! Mark works for Saudi Arabian Airlines at Heathrow.
- MARSHALL A. G. (1973) Congratulations to you both on the birth of your son in March.
- MAXWELL N. J. (1989) She is studying Geography at Newcastle University.
- MAXWELL P. K. (1986) She is also studying Geography at Newcastle University!
- MAXWELL T. D. (1984) She married William Watson on 20th October 1989 and they are now living in Dubai.
- McBRIDE D. J. (1971) To Jim and Cindy a daughter, Erin Michelle, on 29th December 1989. Congratulations.
- McCLUNG C. J. (1985) Celia is working for Guinness in Edinburgh.
- McCLUNG G. E. (1983) He is working for a law firm in London.
- McCLUNG T. F. (1981) He is farming near Kelso, and married Nicola Stewart on 1st July 1989.
- McFARLANE P. A. (1981) He is a very hard-working doctor in Paisley. It was very nice to see you and your brother recently, Wilbur!
- McFARLANE W. G. (1978) He is an electro-mechanical design engineer in Schaumburg Illinois. Any visitors would be welcome.
- McGLASHAN L. R. (1984) In December 1989 Lisa announced her engagement to David Robertson.
- McINTOSH E. (1984) He has gained his B.A. in Business Studies at Robert Gordon's.
- McMILLAN G. E. (1985). She graduated M.A. in Arts and Social Science with a 2.1 from Glasgow University.
- MITCHELL S. (1984) He has graduated B.A. in Business Studies with a 2.1 from Robert Gordon's.
- MONTGOMERY-SMITH S. (1983) She is working in the City of London as a Financial Adviser. (What is a lady Yuppie called?) She is engaged to be married to Jamieson Aylmore-Ide. The wedding is due in August 1991!
- MUIR K. H. (1980) He has returned home from Australia and was in good form on a recent visit.
- MUIR P. L. (1980) He is married with two children and is the Sales Engineer for the whole of Scotland for Metsec.
- NICOL D. J. (1986) He moved to Australia in 1988 and is studying a combined degree course in Accounting and Computing at the Bendigo College of Advanced Education in Victoria. He ought to be engaged to be married by now from what he said in his letter.
- PARK D. R. M. (1976) He is working for Anadrill-Schlumberger in the Philippines.
- PARKER J. H. R. (1972) A huge picture of Hugh appeared in Scotland on Sunday on May 6th 1990 as he sent another ball to the boundary, piling on the agony for Freuchie at Grange Loan.
- PATERSON D. P. (1989) He is spending a year in Roatan, one of the islands off Honduras, with Project Trust. An account of some of his experiences appears elsewhere in the magazine.
- PATERSON M. D. L. (1988) He is studying Land Economy at Aberdeen University, where he also enjoys Scuba Diving. He had a great trip to Australia in the summer of 1989 and he bumped into Max Adam (1988) in Hervey Bay!
- PEACOCK J. G. (1962) He is the Co-ordinator of the Hotel and Restaurant Administration programme for the Hospitality and Tourism Centre at Niagara Falls, Ontario. (Sounds like a nice job!). He remembers the School motto "*Labor omnia vincit*" and tells us this is also the motto of Bhujoharry College, Port-Louis, Mauritius. (Venue of the next overseas Hockey/Rugby tour, perhaps!)
- PICKEN C. W. (1973) He was married in March 1988 and he and his wife Maureen live in Ayr, where he is still involved in the family business.
- PICKETT I. W. (1981) He works for Chase Manhattan in Hong Kong, where he and his wife Debbie are expecting their second child.
- PILLINGER C. J. (1986) He has a City and Guilds Bricklaying qualification and his firm in Rustington, W. Sussex promises 'Prompt Service' and 'Free Quotes'.
- PORTER J. A. L. (1972) The Sunday Times Colour Supplement of 10th June 1990 had a long feature "The Secret Art of Making Money" about the new Bank of England £5 note. Photographs were by Sandy Porter. Very impressive, too.
- POWRIE R. D. G. (1976) Now a Major, he is still serving with the Royal Artillery, and when he wrote was just expecting a new posting.
- PRATT A. J. H. (1983) He took his Master's degree in Journalism at the University of Georgia, and is a reporter for the St Augustine Record in Florida.
- PRATT J. M. (1986) He was due to graduate at Durham this summer, after which he is studying Law with a Sponsorship from Slaughter & May. He spends most of his holidays with his parents in South Carolina, but last year he did a 2000 mile trip to Alaska

and the Yukon, where they saw a lot of grizzly bears.

PRINGLE R. J. L. (1976) He is married with one son, and he and his wife Dorothy live in Hong Kong. He is Area Director of Purchasing for the Asia Pacific Region for the Ladbroke/Hilton Group. He is a keen supporter of the Hong Kong Sevens.

RANDELL A. (1983) He is now a Chartered Accountant working as a business consultant for Pannell Kerr Forster of Glasgow.

ROBBIE D. M. S. (1969) He is married with two children and he runs a hotel in Dundee.

RUSSELL G. T. (1979) News has reached us that he has qualified as an actuary.

RUSSELL M. A. (1978) He is working with Infographics in Edinburgh.

RUSSELL P. D. (1981) He has moved to Singapore with W. I. Carr where he is the Director of Research, living in colonial splendour in a beautiful old bungalow.

RUSSELL P. J. (1982) He has been round the world and was camping with the TA in Germany when his brother Patrick wrote.

SAMPLES W. P. M. (1967) He visited the School with his wife recently on holiday from Vancouver where he is an actor.

SETTLES R. L. (1968) He is Director of Studies at Dulwich College Preparatory School. He is vice-captain of Sidley Cricket Club in the Sussex league and a member of the M.C.C.

SINCLAIR E. C. (1929) He and his wife are now living in Aberfeldy and they visited the School on Sports Day. We are most grateful for the donation of the silver-mounted cricket ball presented to him by Mr Riley when he got 10 wickets for 11 runs against Auchterarder in 1928. This is an authenticated cricket story, and he has the cutting from a local paper to prove it!

SMITH E. J. E. (1953) He now works for Rolls Royce (China) Ltd.

STEEDMAN C. M. (1980) He is a solicitor with Sinclair Ross, Temperley in London. He and his wife Sally live near Redhill.

STEEDMAN H. W. R. (1976) After graduating from Stirling University, he spent seven years in Montreal where he received his Fellowship to the Institute of Canadian Bankers. He married Judith, daughter of W. M. Brown (1927) in 1989 and they are living in Edinburgh where he is a Business Analyst with the Bank of Scotland.

STONE-WIGG R. A. (1978) He is living in Kenya and is engaged to Sally-Anne Thornton.

STRACHAN R. M. S. (1974) He is working in London in the Treasury and Foreign Exchange Department of the Banco di Roma.

THOMSON J. N. L. (1938) He was on our List of the Lost last year, but we are glad to have his address in Herne Bay, Kent.

TURNER D. I. (1962) Congratulations to Donald on being appointed the regional managing partner for Scotland, the north of England and Northern Ireland of Ernst and Young.

TYSON N. D. (1987) She broke off her studies at Aberdeen University to spend a year at the University of South Florida, and in theatre production in Massachusetts. Back at Aberdeen for her final year, she may find things a bit dull!

VERDEN-ANDERSON J. E. (1987) He was second in the L.S.R.A. Anglo-Scottish Challenge Cup Slalom, Combined, at Hoch in Austria as reported in the Times on the 3rd January 1990.

WATSON, G. S. (1968) He is living in Littleworth Common, Burnham, Bucks and would very much like to renew contact with Strathallians of his age.

WHITELAW D. E. (1984) He had graduated in Medicine from Edinburgh University and is a House Surgeon at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

WHITTON D. J. (1941) He and his wife Sue live in Doonside, Natal, where he is writing novels, so look out for "Invubu" (the Zulu word for hippopotamus), "Zama", a biographical novel about a wild elephant, and "the Martyrs of Zadazig" which is set in Egypt during 1952-3. From 1950-64 he served in the Foreign Office as an Arab Affairs specialist, he taught English and French at Geelong College, Victoria from 1965-70, then he nipped off to the Sorbonne for a Master's degree, and became an adviser to the French Government and the Government of Zambia until 1976 when he was a lecturer in Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Melbourne until 1980. Now, as he says, it's hippos!

WITHER J. G. (1977) He is living in Barnet and is the M.I.P. Controller for Tesco Head Office. He recently visited the School with his wife and little daughter.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES TO NOTE

Please note the names and addresses of the following Club Officeholders and contact them if you would like to join their section:—

Secretary & Treasurer — Max McGill, 12 Woodside Place, Glasgow G3 7QN. 041 332 3411.

Golf Section — Hamish McFarlane, 9 Craigelvan Road, Condorrat, Cumbernauld.

Angling Section — Alastair Biggart, Taylor & Ireland, 307 West George St., Glasgow G2 4LB. 041 211 7206.

Curling Section — R. M. Turner, Roseland, 44 Irvine Rd., Kilmairs, Ayrshire. 0563 21412.

London Section — Michael Bucher, 193 Goldhurst Terrace, London NW6 3ER.

TEN WICKETS FOR 11 RUNS

Strathallan Schoolboy's Performance

Bowling for Strathallan School against Auchterarder last night. E. Sinclair had ten wickets for 11 runs. P. McCabe for Auchterarder had four for 27.

STRATHALLAN		AUCHTERARDER	
E. Hort, b Scrimgeour	2	P. McCabe, c Hart, b Sinclair	15
W. H. Reid, b McCabe	56	D. McLeod, c do, b do	0
I. M'Ewan, c Smith, b Marshall	0	J. Smith, b do	4
R. Dunn, b McCabe	1	J. C. Rodgers, c Dow, b do	2
J. Dow, b do	0	A. Duncan, lbw, b do	0
E. Sinclair, run out	24	J. C. Dougall, b do	5
W. Frew, c Dougall, b McCabe	8	A. Scrimgeour, c M'Ewan, b do	5
A. Morrison, b Scrimgeour	2	A. Marshall, c do, b do	13
J. Moodie, b Dougall	5	W. Dunn, b do	0
W. Shanks, run out	17	J. Houston, not out	1
J. Grant, not out	7	J. Kerr, b do	0
Extras	3	Extras	2
Total	125	Total	47

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please send all changes of address promptly to the Headmaster's Secretary, Strathallan School.

If you have news of yourself or other Strathallians for the next issue of the Strathallian, please send it to The Editor at Strathallan.

OBITUARY

BAILLIE J. S. (1942) on January 1990 in Dumfries Infirmary. He lived in Kirkcudbright.

BARR A. J. (1928) of Kilmalcolm in 1988.

CLELAND H. E. (1928) in October 1989. He lived in Kirkintilloch.

DONALDSON Dr T. E. (1938) while on holiday in Johannesburg on 10th March 1990. He graduated in medicine from Edinburgh University in 1943 and served with the RAMC. He was in general practice in Yorkshire, Hull and Dundee before retiring in 1982. A keen member of the R & A, he was the British Seniors amateur golf champion in 1977.

FERGUSON J. M. (1920) he had been living in Lasswade.

GERRARD I. F. (1978) on 22nd June 1990 after a long illness, bravely borne. All his many friends were shocked at the news of Iain's death. No-one who knew him will forget his

bouncy character, his individual personality, his enthusiasm and his love of Arbroath. Our deepest sympathy goes to his mother and his brother Sandy (1977).

GREGORY R. W. (1942) in November 1989. He was a Fellow of St Catherine's College, Cambridge for over a quarter of a century before retiring to Corbridge. He was a good sportsman. As an undergraduate at Cambridge he was "a great fly-half" for his College XV and he rowed for the College as well.

McCREADIE A. (1926) on the 19th February 1990. He lived in Largs.

MACMILLAN J. W. (1932) on 19th July, 1990. He trained as an engineer with Riley Motors of Coventry and spent his working life in India and Pakistan, with wartime service in the Indian Army. He lived in Dollar latterly.

MONTGOMERIE J. A. (1932) on 17th

December 1989. A tribute to Alastair will be found below.

WHAMMOND D. (1947) on 14th January 1990 in Ottawa. On leaving school Donald qualified as C.A. in Dundee, then emigrated to Canada joining Price Waterhouse, Toronto. Whilst in Toronto he was President of the Scottish Rugby Club. He later joined the Auditors General Office of Canada, in Ottawa.

YOUNG D. L. (1943) in April 1990. Lindsay was a regular attender at dinners and a very loyal and long-standing member of the Fishing Section of The Club. He was a well-known hotelier before his retirement. Our deep sympathy goes to Mrs Young and their son David (1975).

We are very sorry to record the death of Mrs Barbara Forbes who was the Accountant in the Bursar's office for many years. Her cheery personality is sadly missed.

J. ALASTAIR MONTGOMERIE, D.S.C., KT. ST. JOHN

J. Alastair Montgomerie, D.S.C., KT. St John was better known to many as Monty. He was the driving force in founding the R.N.V.R. Club (Scotland) — of which he was honorary Commodore — in its ill-fated headquarters ship "Carrick." At that time he was praised by a friend saying "If it had not been for your inability to accept the problems which lay ahead, we would never have had this club." The same determination enabled the club to be re-established after the ship sank eleven years ago. His death on 17th December was the end of an era for "Carrick."

Alastair was educated at Strathallan and became a Governor of that school and President of the Strathallian Club. While at Downing College, Cambridge, he played Ice-hockey for the university and was elected a member of the Hawks Club. After a short spell at Harvard he joined the family business of montgomerie & Co., Bakers, in Ibrox and apart from the war years remained with the company to become Chairman, which position he held for some years after the Bakery was sold to Spillers.

During the war he served in the Navy where his gallantry as an MTB Officer was recognised in the award of the Distinguished Service Cross and a Mention in Despatches. Latterly he was in command of a flotilla and retired with the rank of Lieutenant-Commander; now Honorary Commander R.N.R. as a result of his considerable work for post-war Naval interests.

After the war Alastair was a well

known figure in the City; not only in business, but in the Merchants House and the Trades House, where he had the unusual distinction of becoming Deacon of both the Incorporation of Bakers, and the Incorporation of Tailors. He served with the Queen's bodyguard in Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers.

He gave freely of his time to several good causes, not least being King George's Fund for Sailors, which received many benefits under his Chairmanship and with the help of "Carrick." He was instrumental in the restoration of the Cutty Sark and was an active Rotarian and member of the English Speaking Union.

But, with all his facets, which are so difficult to list, Alastair will be remembered most for his warm personality, his interest in people and his many friends, to whom he gave unsparingly of himself.

He is survived by his widow, Patricia, their son and three daughters and their grand-children.

R. A. Peacock (1938)

STOP PRESS

Watch out for the film version of "Taggart" on ITV in the New Year. Directed by Alan Macmillan (1966) the cast includes Allan Sharpe (1966) as an unscrupulous drugs dealer and Kenneth Orr (1985) as a more honest police car mechanic. Incidentally, large numbers of the School thoroughly enjoyed Ken's Sir Toby Belch with TAG on its rounds recently.



LIME TREES

An article in the Times of 1st February, 1990 under the heading "Replanted Trees Brave the Storm" by Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent, attracted our attention, as well as that of other Strathallians. The article said "A West Sussex solicitor and estate owner, Mr Ken Prichard Jones, has astonished tree experts by raising and replanting limes and oaks that were blown down in the storm of October 1987. All the replanted trees survived last week's gales."

It did not however surprise those who know the history of the avenue at the entrance to the School

In a great storm on the evening of 28th January 1927 two thirds of the mature lime trees, which were then well over 100 years old were blown down and considered as victims of the gale.

The late Mr R. N. Bain, the Estate Clerk of Works, pollarded the trees and hauled them back into position with the aid of horses and chain tackle. Some time later he said "We put the trees back during the early Spring and we were the laughing stock of the countryside. Men who should have known better said they would never grow, but they are still there."

And they are still there now and flourishing sixty-three years later, as all who go down the drive know.

**Excerpts from "Dirk's Adventure"
or Letters from D. Paterson: Our Man in
Roatan.**

Dear Supporter,

"A letter from Honduras?" I hear you say. Yes, it's Thornhill's tropical traveller who, contrary to the beliefs of some, and despite snakes in his shower, a heavy storm washing away his accommodation and various inexplicable tropical diseases, really is, still here.

Where is Roatan, you ask — well, if you take out the atlas and find Central America you will find Honduras in about the middle. Move your finger to the top right hand corner and you should see 3 small dots — the middle one is Roatan.

Roatan is 25 miles long and 7 miles wide at the widest point. It has a rugged coastline consisting of many keys (islands) and bights (inlets). It is the process of some volcanic activity producing a scenic jagged back-bone of hills running the length of the island. The 600' peaks are thickly forested in exotic hardwoods and palm trees.

A traditional wooden cabin on stilts over the water is my accommodation: this has its ups and downs. The ups, first of all, are the amazing coral garden which is just a step off the porch, and the fantastic wildlife which can be seen from my walkway such as crabs, sea snakes, octopus, stingray and assorted beautiful fish. The down is that the north coast is open to any hurricanes or depressions coming in from the Caribbean. Since I am only 3 feet above normal water level, when the weather gets bad I really feel it!

My job initially with the Project Trust

was to tutor children in ESBIR the Escuela Bilingual de Roatan which was founded for those whose parents are illiterate and therefore cannot pay, but I soon absorbed the roles of administrator, fund relations officer and fund social worker. It has turned out on occasions that children have been failing because of malnutrition or beating — sadly, a popular method of discipline.

Just this very week I've joined in with a local Reggae band and — they're good. There's a guitar (electric), an incredible vocalist and keyboard player. I've just been "freekin out" with ethnic improvisations on the old flute and doing vocal backing.

My first taste of iguana lizard was at lunch time today, when we had a fund raising meal in aid of the Children's Educational Fund. I found it difficult to work up any enthusiasm when a dollop of scales, dark meat and yellow balls were dumped on my plate. If I hadn't known I would have thought I was about to eat snake. The strong rubbery taste of the meat and iguana eggs is not really something I could get enthusiastic about . . . !

I narrowly escaped a stabbing recently. I was walking along the beach on my way home from playing at a Reggae party, when I heard two men shouting about how much they hated the host (the local M.P., needless to say). "I hate him and I'd tell it to the President," one said in hateful animation. I tried to merge into the shadow of a palm tree and not be noticed, but couldn't resist trying to see who the people were, so I glanced idly

over as I walked past.

"What you lookin' at?" I walked on faster.

"What you want?"

"You lookin' for a ghost?"

"I'll show you a ghost." A number of similar comments were hurled in my direction as I tried to ignore them.

"You want blood?" one said nastily to the other.

"Me go then let spill some white blood right now." At this final utterance I sped off as fast as my legs would carry me. As you see, life continues to be exciting here in Honduras. . .

As the end of my year approaches I have become reflective on my time here and can truly say that the experience has been a wonderful one. Living in a different but complex culture and law meant the disregard of one's own standards, which have been built into my 18 years, and assuming a set of completely different ones. To do this and learn the patois has been an integral part of my year, thus enabling me to fit into the community and this has been an exciting and mind broadening experience. The great thing is that while all this has been going on, I've been able to be useful too, I think, by teaching, helpful the Emergency Medical Service, playing in a Reggae band and setting up two English schools.

Without your support none of this would have been possible. Thank you for all you have done.

Yours sincerely,

Dirk Paterson

— Edited by Callum Drummond.



Calton's Hugh Parker (1972) sends another ball to the boundary at Grange Loan.

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Top left: That rucksack again! Top right: Reducing the numbers in the CCF. Mid left: Harrison Ford and Sean Connery (alias Messrs Wands and Glimm) on Fladda. Mid right: Stylish finish on Sports Day. Bottom left: Spanner in the works. Bottom right: Kristien Robertson surprised and delighted by Kate Morrison at the Prefects' Dinner.



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