

The Strathallian 1986/87



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The Strathallian



1987	
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Governors

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A. A. Arneil, FRICS.
J. J. Blanche, C.A.
I. A. Headrick, BL.
I. Q. Jones, MA, LL.B, WS.
Professor J. L. King, MA, PhD, FIMA.
(University of Edinburgh)

G. S. Lowden, MA, LL.B, WS.
Professor M. J. Alexander, MA.
(University of St Andrews)
His Honour Judge J. McKee, BA, QC, RD.
W. A. McMillan, BL.
A. M. Nicol.
Professor I. W. Noble.

Professor J. W. Parsons, BSc., PhD.
(University of Aberdeen)
R. S. Peters, MA.
Professor R. A. Rankin, MA, ScD.
(University of Glasgow)
Mrs K. M. Walker.

Bursar and Clerk to the Governors
W. A. Bullard, ACIS, MBIM

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C. D. Pighills, MA (Cantab)

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P. A. Barker, MA. (Cantab)
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J. L. Broadfoot, BA. (Leeds)
J. S. Burgess, BSc. (Manchester)
Mrs J. E. Carratt, MA (London)
J. F. Clayton, BA (Leicester)
H. M. Clelland, BA (Cantab)
W. A. Colley, BA (Durham)
M. C. Coombs, MSc (Newcastle)
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N. T. H. Du Boulay, BA (Warwick)
A. L. K. Dutton, Cert. Ed. (St John's. York)
P. K. Elliott, BSc (Manchester)
T. C. G. Fairbairn, MA (Oxon)
J. N. Ford, BSc (London)
J. R. Forshaw, BA (Aberystwyth)
J. Forster, BA (Leeds)
D. R. Giles, BA (Warwick)
K. Glimm, MA (Berlin/Keil/Edinburgh)
T. S. Goody, BSc (Durham)
M. Gray, BSc (Durham)
D. R. Harris, MA (Aberdeen)
P. J. S. Keir, BEd (College St Paul & Mary)
I. J. Keith, BEd (Dundee College Education)
G. Kitson, BSc (Aberdeen)
Rev. T. G. Longmuir, MA (Oxon) BEd
T. J. MacLeod, DA (Aberdeen)
A. M. Pearson, MA (Oxon)
N. F. Pedgrift, MA (Cantab)
G. H. S. Pengelly, BA (Bristol)
R. J. W. Proctor, MA (St Andrews)
B. Raine, BA (Durham)
D. J. Ralfs, BSc (Nottingham)
F. N. Reed, BA (Reading) GRSM, ARCO, LRAM
G. R. M. Ross, BSc (Nottingham)
D. M. E. Round, BSc (Liverpool)
Miss L. J. Smith, BEd (Dunfermline)
D. R. Sneddon, BSc (Strathclyde)
C. D. Stewart, BSc (Manchester)
A. Thomson, BA (Aberystwyth)
C. N. Walker, BSc (Aberdeen)
R. N. Wallace, BSc (Brunel)
A. J. H. Wands, MA (St Andrews)
D. A. R. Williams, MA (Cantab)
M. Wilson, RN

SUBJECT

Physics
Chemistry
Geography
English
Mathematics/
French/German
French
French/German
Geography/Economics
Geography
English
History
Jnr. Chemistry/Physics
Design/Technology
French
Biology
English
English
Mathematics
French/German
Mathematics
Physics
Music
English/P.E.
English
Mathematics
Chaplain
Art
Chemistry
Geography/Careers
History
History
History
Mathematics
Music
Biology/Computers
C.D.T.
P.E.
Mathematics
Physics
English/Latin/History
Biology
Design/Technology
Geography
Economics
C.D.T.

Housemaster Leburn
Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

Housmaster Simpson

Head of Department

Second Master

Housemaster Nicol

Housemaster Woodlands

Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

Housemaster Freeland

Housemaster Ruthven

Head of Department

Housemaster Riley

Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

PART-TIME TEACHING STAFF

Mrs E. Adam, BA (Dublin)
Mrs J. Forbes, MA (Aberdeen)
Mrs E. Hamilton, MA (Aberdeen)
Mr C. P. Hewson, MA (Edinburgh)
Mrs D. Hunter, DA (Dundee)

English
English
Chemistry/Biology
Latin
Art

Mrs L. J. Innes, BSc (Aberdeen)
Mrs F. N. Ninham, BA (St Andrews)
Mrs S. Paterson, BA (Open University)
Mrs E. N. Reid, MA (Glasgow)
Mr G. West, BSc (Dublin)

Science
Mathematics/French
Mathematics
English
Mathematics

Medical Officer

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

Head of School
D. G. Smith

Head of Freeland: J. L. Ball
Head of Leburn: S. Miln
Head of Nicol: G. J. M. Clark
Head of Ruthven: P. C. G. Cleland
Head of Simpson: N. J. Drummond
Head of Woodlands: E. S. Streule

SALVETE

RILEY HOUSE

J. B. Agnew, J. Aitken, J. Borgen-Nielsen, P. Borgen-Nielsen, A. E. Bruce, L. Crump, E. M. Currie, I. S. Davidson, L. Dewar, A. S. Doodson, M. R. Dover, J. A. Drummond, S. Dutton, A. G. Edwards, C. I. Ferguson, J. P. Gault, T. D. Goody, D. S. Green, J. G. Green, M. Hamilton, A. J. Hodgson, C. L. Hooper, P. M. Johnston, A. W. Keddie, L. C. Khazaka, C. Kirkland, C. Marshall, A. R. Meyers, A. H. J. McCarban, R. M. Macdonald, R. H. Mackay, R. F. MacLennan, V. C. McMahon, W. M. Nicholls, D. P. Nicholson, G. S. Nicoll, C. A. Ninham, C. E. Piper, J. A. G. Reekie, I. A. Round, E. F. Smart, J. E. Stewart, H. L. Swinbanks, Z. D. C. Thomson, J. P. Wallace, A. F. R. Walls, A. M. Wanless, G. S. Watt, N. G. Wilson, J. Wong.

FREELAND HOUSE

E. D. Anderson, T. S. Christie, M. J. Dick, J. R. Ford, G. M. Gardner, G. B. R. Gray, D. Heal, J. M. Healy, A. L. Hyde, H. M. Lochore, J. C. Low, J. R. Learmonth, A. Lasota, D. J. Pitchers.

LEBURN HOUSE

G. D. L. Cooke, J. Ewing, A. Hamilton, J. Lewis, H. P. Luin, A. S. Thomson, D. J. P. McGilvray, G. Ross, K. L. Salters, N. Sargent, R. Townhill, M. J. C. Whitnee.

NICOL HOUSE

D. G. J. Goldberg, D. Latta, A. M. Marshall, G. A. Macregor, J. Christie, C. I. Proctor, P. C. Palmer, M. A. Taylor, M. S. Tench, J. J. Whitnee.

RUTHVEN HOUSE

G. A. Anderson, J. W. L. Cuthill, J. Garvie, D. A. Mackay, M. D. L. Paterson, F. X. Piganeau, J. S. Stewart, E. D. Wall.

SIMPSON HOUSE

P. Aitken, P. H. Allen, J. M. Brooks, P. G. Hogg, J. A. Keddie.

WOODLANDS HOUSE

S. C. Bamford, C. M. Barr, C. Carruthers, J. C. Corrie, H. Dewar, K. A. Haines, F. M. M. Hutchison, S. H. E. Irvin, C. E. Martin, C. K. Meiklejohn, T. J. Morton, G. Sinclair, B. L. Stevens, L. J. Stewart, S. P. Walls, E. J. Wardhaugh, L. M. Weston.

EDITORIAL

When the Headmaster asked if I would edit "The Strathallian" after David Smith left, I agreed with cautious optimism, recalling the advice once given to an editor of a national newspaper: nothing to it old boy; check all facts and spellings; cut the first and last sentences and remove all attempts at jokes! A close look at back numbers of the magazine confirmed my caution but showed that I could at least imitate, if not improve, their style.

A long and helpful session with David then followed (for which much thanks) and I was left with the reassuring (sic) knowledge that it would all be perfectly

simple — except for one thing; persuading people to write their contributions! I have therefore been extremely grateful for the prompt response from everyone, when I asked for their reports.

Forty-six members of staff wrote or commissioned articles about activities which they had organised over dozens of hours outside their teaching timetables during the year and they did so at the end of an exhausting term's work in order that the school magazine could be printed to a deadline. If the first effort weren't proof enough of their dedication to Strathallan and its pupils, their second effort certainly is.

The wide variety of interesting extra-curricular events which Strathallians have enjoyed this year is reflected in the enthusiastic writing from all quarters and it would be wrong of me to do more than emulate Philip Howard of "The Times", who insisted on being "the mildest of editors, taking up the red biro with distaste."

Finally, I must thank John Burgess for his photographs and Wendy Fleming, Euan Grant, Nicky de Jongh, Keith Dinsmore and Louisa Mackenzie for their help in preparing the proofs for printing.

E. A.

Staff Notes

It was inevitable! With only one person, Mr Gilks, leaving the Common Room last year ('86) there were bound to be more changes than usual during 1987 and with a number of departments still expanding, this September saw the largest movement of staff for some time.

With whom or where should we begin? Regrettably it has to be on a sad note and to record the sudden death of Mr Henderson. Douglas Henderson was due to retire at the end of the Summer term ('87) and thereafter return to School on a part time basis. However this was not to be; a more fitting tribute is to be found elsewhere in these pages.

The promotion of Paul Auster to be Director of Music at Downside caused a double exit for we also lost the other half of that enthusiastic and cheerful duet, his wife Fiona, who taught Mathematics and Music. Mr Auster's successor, David Harris was a boy at Dollar Academy and comes to us via Aberdeen University. Good luck with the dance band whose reputation stretches from International curling rinks to various taverns in the town. David Smith leaves the English department, the Scottish hills and the esoteric slopes of the Strathallan stage to become Director of Drama on the plains of Oakham. He is replaced as a teacher of English by John Broadfoot, who also takes charge of the department in place of Mr Forster who is now Housemaster of Woodlands. Mr Broadfoot has run a large department in a Comprehensive School South of Edinburgh but as a Merchistonian is no stranger to the Independent Sector. Mr Meadows leaves the Chemistry laboratories (and Maths) to become a married man and master at Loretto. His departure leaves a big gap in the power house and it is not surprising therefore that he is replaced by several smaller men. We accordingly welcome Mr Vallot from The Abbey School, Fort Augustus, to teach Chemistry and Biology and Mr Giles directly from Warwick University to teach Mathematics. As Mr Buntin, a mathematician, is leaving to take a further degree and as Miss Holmes, another mathematician, is also leaving, we were fortunate to appoint Mr Sneddon from just over the hill and a graduate of Glasgow and Mr Kitson from south of the border, but a graduate of Aberdeen. After three years Mr Hawkford is leaving the physics department and is replaced by Mr Stewart — another exile to England who wishes to return home.

Following the completion of the new CDT building, numbers taking the subject have again increased and Mr Round, an experienced practitioner, is coming North to join the team. Taken together with Mr Coombs, who also comes from the South but to teach Geography and replace Mrs Guest, who kindly stood in part time at short notice, these appoint-

ments increase the staff by two to a full time complement of 47. This, however, does not quite cover the increase in numbers in the physics department and Mrs Innes has recently joined our part time staff to do just this. Nor does it say goodbye to Scott Macky who came over for a "Gap year" from New Zealand and who has so cheerfully and willingly stood in for Mr Henderson, who is replaced indirectly by Lyn Smith. Miss Smith is returning to the east side of the country from Laurel Bank in Glasgow to take charge of the girls' games and be the Senior residential Tutor in Woodlands.

Any reader still able to follow this Paul Jones, who incidentally is neither coming nor going, and realises that Miss Lees has left the Biology Department and Mrs Smyth has left the Computer Room, will, I am sure, rejoice with the writer in the appointment of Mr Ross, another native of the North, who is returning to teach Biology and Computer awareness. At last we have replaced Mr Gilks!

Thus there is a record number of staff and their families coming and going, and to be thanked and welcomed. I trust this collective form of doing so will not be taken as in any way insincere, for in the end the strength of the School is determined by the contribution of its staff and we have been fortunate in the past and look with confidence to the future.

Gifts

The School is extremely grateful for the following gifts:

A painting by L. Richmond was presented by his daughters in memory of John Maitland Cowan.

A trophy cupboard in the Saloon has been made in memory of W. T. Paton, Chairman of Governors in 1974.

A painting of the School by Harry Riley's father probably done in 1923, and given to Mr Bain on his appointment as Clerk of Works in that year, was brought back from Australia by one of his sons, and presented to the school on 9th July, 1987 on behalf of Mr Bain's three sons.

Mr and Mrs Hew McCall-Smith presented a magnificent bench from which to watch cricket, or just gaze at the rhododendrons, celebrating the end of fee-paying for their three sons, Hamish and Bryce, and Charles who left in July 1987!



Left to right. Back row: Mr Broadfoot; Mr Sneddon; Mr Round; Mr Ross. Front row: Mr Coombs; Mr Stewart; Miss Smith; Mr Vallot; Mr Giles.

Douglas B. Henderson

The name of Douglas Henderson was a byword for fitness and strength, and so when he was off work and in hospital for tests during the Easter term, we all knew he was far from well. His one concern was that he was being a nuisance to others who would have to do his work. Even so, we were all devastated and saddened when we learned that Douglas had died at home on the morning of Thursday, 9th of April, 1987, during the holidays. He was due to 'retire' officially at the end of the Summer Term, though he was going to continue many of his activities at School.

A large congregation of relatives, friends, colleagues and past and present pupils filled the Crematorium for his Funeral Service. The coffin was led in by the Pipes played by Pipe-Major Bert Barron and two Strathallan Pipers, Keith Dinsmore and Simon Peters. The Service was taken by the School Chaplain, The Reverend Graeme Longmuir, assisted by one of his predecessors, The Reverend Bill Monteith. As Doug would have liked, the sadness was interspersed with humorous moments.

Douglas Henderson joined the Staff at Strathallan in January 1960, in charge of P.E. He had served in the Army for twenty-two years, rising to the rank of RSM in the Army PT Corps. He joined the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders as a boy soldier at sixteen, and had risen to the rank of Sergeant by the age of eighteen. During the War he joined the SAS with whom he won his parachute wings. He served in Italy and joined an even more adventurous group, The Special Boat Service, whose job it was to make a nuisance of themselves and to help underground resistance movements in the occupied Greek Islands. What many of us regard as fantasy war-films, were a reality to him. He married after the War and continued his service in West Africa, Singapore, Scotland and England.

As a schoolmaster — his second career — he expected a lot from his pupils. He demanded discipline, especially self-discipline, a clean and tidy appearance, a pride in physical fitness, enjoyment of physical activities and above all effort. He did not mind if an individual was poor, mediocre or excellent in the sport concerned, as long as he tried. Of course he was proud of those who excelled, but he believed in trying to one's utmost. He never set anyone a task or exercise that he had not done himself at one time. Pupils enjoyed his dividing the PE classes into three halves!

When Strathallan was fully inspected by H.M. Inspectors, the brave unsuspecting Inspector suggested that perhaps Douglas should introduce Music and Movement into his syllabus. Douglas eyed him up and down, to make sure he was safe to remain in the Gym alone with this gentleman, and burst out laughing. The final report did not mention Music and Movement! There was always an uneasy truce between Douglas and 'The Thespians' who invaded his Gym around the time of School plays or operettas, especially in the days of the Boxing Tournament when the ring and the Play shared the Gym in the Easter Term, but he recognised that others were trying to excel in their field.

Douglas was an inspiration to many in 'minor' sports, particularly fencing, and he taught countless people to swim, including pupils from Forgandenny and Forteviot Primary Schools, but apart from his P.E. classes his three main contributions were in Athletics. The CCF and his beloved Pipes and Drums. He himself started to learn the pipes at the age of ten.

For more than twenty-five years he organised and ran Sports Day and was in charge of Athletics.

His devotion to detail and the accurate keeping of the School Records were a tribute to his hard work, and the smooth-running Sports Days were enjoyed by generations of parents. I think Jim McBride was probably the first Schoolboy 'gold' Strathallan won during his time. He was very proud of that.

In Memoriam

Members of Staff, pupils and former members of the Pipes and Drums presented two Silver Cups for Junior Piping and Junior Drumming to the Scottish Schools' Band Competition as a permanent memorial to Douglas. They also gave an inscribed quaich and a cheque to Jean. Pipe Major Barron composed a March 'Doug Henderson of Strathallan School', the original of which, together with a photo, hangs in the Library. The first performance of the new tune was given by the Pipes and Drums on Sunday, 5th July, when Jean and her brother Jim Roy were able to be present.

My own memories of Douglas of course are much connected with the CCF which he served loyally all his time at Strathallan. How we laughed at Camp!

No-one could have wished for a better companion or pint-downer, or a more hard-working and valuable cook, storeman, morning-getter-upper, assault-course fiend and organiser at a 'self-help' camp.

Readers who were not there will excuse me, I hope, for remembering some of the fun: Sam Galt's Izzy-Wozzy password; RSM Cullen's margarine; James Williams and 'The Barman' at a shindig in Kirkwall; Peter Grigsby wringing out his socks in a thunderstorm; the change from whisky to tea at Inverness Station; Mohammed-Gholi Madjid praying to Allah on the shores of Hoy; Coco sleepwalking out of Alan Pearson's window; Alan Reid despatching the OC as a parachutist "GO, GO, GO"; or driving vehicles at Magilligan Camp! Douglas loved these stories and many others.

And the Pipe Band. All drummers and most Pipe-Majors had their differences with him. There was only one reason — he expected more of them, but he loved his Pipes and Drums and was so proud when they played well at School functions, visits or competitions.

The Pipe Band won the West of Scotland Competition quite soon after he joined Strathallan but he had to wait for more than twenty years for them to win The Scottish Schools CCF Pipe Band Competition. What a delight it was for him when they finally did. He was so pleased that in his last years, sons of former Pipe Band members were playing themselves.

Douglas and Jean were not seen much, especially latterly, at social events at School, except sometimes at their great friends Brian and Jean Raine's, although they had seen some pretty good parties in their time. What happened to Ruth Hoare's contacts? Yes that Au Pair Girl *IS* now the wife of a Scottish Judge! Is Martin Gray's driving still as hairy? Douglas gave up his car when the breathalyser came in!!

He was a devoted family man, especially enjoying his holidays abroad with Jean, and to her, his daughter Eileen and her husband and to his grandson Kevin of whom he was very fond, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

He was held in great affection by everyone at Strathallan and it was a privilege to have had him as a colleague and a friend.

T.C.G.F.

SPEECH DAY 1987



Mr Malcolm Rifkind unveils the commemorative plaque at the C.D.T. centre watched by the Chairman of the Governors.

Speech Day was held at the school on Saturday 30th May. The Guest of Honour was the Right Honourable Malcolm Rifkind, QC, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, who arrived in advance of the main proceedings in order to open officially the Craft, Design and Technology centre.

The Chairman of the Governors, Mr J. Dinsmore, in his introductory remarks paid tribute to the late Mr Iain Headrick, a member of the governing body for 14 years and also to Mr Douglas Henderson, a member of staff for 28 years, who died suddenly during the Easter holidays. The chairman welcomed three new members to the governing body: Mrs Laing, Mr Logan and Dr Wilkinson. Finally, Mr Dinsmore announced that the school was shortly to start on a major building programme to provide study-bedroom accommodation for the boys' houses, similar to that enjoyed by the girls in Woodlands. The project will cost in the region of £4 million.

The Headmaster also welcomed the Secretary of State and emphasised some of the advantages of the independent sector: usually pleasant people to work with; nice surroundings and resources not in short supply. Sound management is obviously very important and the Headmaster referred to the heavy financial burden of setting up CDT and the new GCSE examinations. He went on to

point out that the most important factor is a dedicated and co-operative staff without which little can be achieved — as has been sadly obvious in the state sector in recent months.

The Headmaster welcomed new members of staff, Mr Wallace and Mr Wilson in the CDT department, Mrs Adam and Mrs Forbes to the English department and Mr Macky from New Zealand to help with PT and games. The Headmaster paid tribute to members of staff taking up new appointments: Mr D. Smith, Head of Drama at Oakham School, Mr Meadows to Loretto and Mr Buntin to study for a higher degree. Miss Holmes and Miss Lees are also leaving to seek fresh pastures.

The academic record of the school has been sound, with 86% pass rate at A level and 83% at Highers. The O level results were mediocre, very much as expected. On the games side, the highlight was winning the British Open Ski Championships and the 1st XI hockey lost just one match. Rugby did not have a vintage year. Music and Drama, however, continue to enjoy considerable public acclaim, 'Amadeus' certainly achieved an 'Oscar' and the Verdi Requiem, performed in Edinburgh, was described by one critic as the best amateur performance he had heard.

In his concluding remarks, the Headmaster stressed the importance of a

liberal but not permissive atmosphere in the school; we should strive for excellence but, at the same time, recognise the worth of every individual in the community.

The chairman of the Governors introduced the Secretary of State for Scotland. Mr Rifkind presented the prizes and then gave his address. He spoke of the quality of education involving both teachers and parents and approved of Strathallan's determination to adapt and change. He noted three reasons for encouraging an independent sector: firstly, the benefit received from the interplay between the state and independent systems; secondly the importance of choice for parents and lastly, the importance of education not being a monopoly of the state. Mr Rifkind felt strongly that parents should be involved in education and future Conservative governments would make this a priority in the state system.

It is customary on these occasions to give some advice to pupils. Mr Rifkind made two points: school days are not necessarily the best days of your life, there's plenty to look forward to after leaving school and secondly, experience of the past is relevant to the present but should not dominate it.

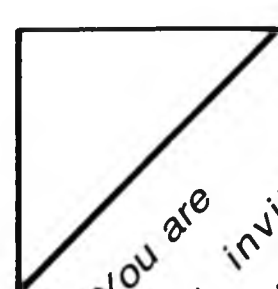
The chairman thanked Mr Rifkind for his address and presented him with an antique milk skimmer, making various suggestions as to what he might use it for.

P.A.B.



STRATHALLAN
SCHOOL

SATURDAY 28th MAY
1988



You are
cordially invited to
FOUNDER'S DAY —
SPEECH DAY FÊTE.

The purpose of which is
to purchase a new
organ for the school
chapel.

All donations to the
above fund would be
most welcome.

We look forward to
seeing you in May.



FREELAND HOUSE

"A House", said Ambrose Bierce" is a hollow edifice erected for the habitation of man, rat, mouse, beetle, cockroach, fly, bacillus and microbe". Most, if not all, of these things exist in Freeland, along with a number of other native charms:— a snooker table with bunkers; an internal circulating periodical library; a twenty-four hour television rota and the latest culinary aids. We also have a great variety of individuals, some of whom, to their great sorrow, are leaving us.

Who can forget these modern heroes? Johnny Ball — champion of sober piping; Perry Davenport — Ramboesque in the extreme; Dominik Diamond — master of modesty; Mike Edie — supremo of the standards; Ken McKenzie — consultant to the Oxford and Cambridge mathematics board; Matthew Raitt — white water specialist; Ron Smart — weed abolition expert; Ken Smith — Hector of the hirsute chin; Jason Steele — chief hassle avoidance officer; Charlie Temple — accident avoidance officer; Dave Thomson — elocution tutor (Glasgow); Mark Briggs — swimming coach; Chris Fehilly — music maestro; Jason Mosseri — initiator of the 'drinks before Dunblane club'; Nick Whitley — Strath/Fettes

exchange society. All these have gone and maybe (who knows?) some others.

A good year? It has its points. Cupwise yes:— Skiing, senior and junior squash, fluffy ball, sailing (shared), individual piping awards (J. Ball and C. Dunbar), individual shooting (D. Brown), Campbell Cup (K. Smith), a strong representation in drama, reading, music, academic awards. I am sure that I shall have angered somebody by leaving them out. Sorry! Tough!! The general atmosphere however is just as important as obvious achievement. For me the atmosphere has been damaged by theft. There is no point in hiding the issue or trivialising it. In the last term there have been several instances of money theft. Of course it is possible that these thefts have been carried out by someone outside the House — what a comforting (and convenient) thought. All this may seem rather odd to mention in a House report, traditionally a jolly and rosy picture of the past year. It is so important, however, that it cannot and must not be swept under the carpet. Any society such as this depends on trust. If trust is destroyed, the society is not worth supporting. If the thief has left, I wish him the success he deserves. If he has

not, there is some serious thinking to be done.

I do not wish to paint an altogether gloomy picture. There have been many good things. The third form have been just about the most energetic, enthusiastic, messy and noisy of all time. The fourth form, under the leadership of 'God' have managed to clean up Robert Moir and lose all of H.C.'s socks. Tommy Porter almost gained a girl friend and Gavin Webster lost several. The fifth form were far too busy with work to do anything wrong and the lower sixth were resting from the endeavours of last year.

I would like to thank Charles Court and Simon Pengelly for their invaluable assistance, the prefects, especially Johnny Ball, for their loyalty and the one or two parents who read end-of-term letters and did not phone up to find out the time of the parent/teacher meeting, play, carol service, sports, House knitting competition, etc., etc.

You can be left with a statement of Mark Twain: "In the first place God made idiots. This was for practice. Then he made schoolmasters".

R.J.W.P.



ENJOY THE GREAT SATISFACTION OF HAVING A SUCCESSFUL PORTRAIT MADE OF A LOVED ONE

COMMISSIONS ACCEPTED FOR PAINTINGS FROM
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS, SPORTS DAY,
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LEBURN HOUSE

To write a house report is no easy task: sitting here at the end of the summer term trying to compose our thoughts, it appears to be an extremely daunting assignment. How can one express all the feelings and atmosphere of a year of house life into a short report? We can only do our best, so here goes.

Since sport appears to be "de rigueur", it is perhaps appropriate to start off with a summary of the year's sporting events. As far as rugby was concerned, very few league matches were played due to inclement climatic circumstances (cancelled due to Raine), and no house matches whatsoever got off the ground in the lent term. This was most unfortunate for although our teams were not exceptionally talented, we felt our team spirit was inexhaustible. Never mind — in spite of everything, we managed to train next year's 1st XV captain. Congratulations, Max Adam! Our team came a close second in the house swimming competition led by our gallant but non-participant captain, Kevin Russell, to whom congratulations are due for his appointment as captain of school 1987-88. The squash competition finally took place towards the end of the summer term in the midst of O and A levels. We mustered together a senior team of some merit but unfortunately it was not quite good enough to stop Freeland winning an exciting match which kept an enthusiastic crowd on its toes long into the night. We came second yet again to our old hockey rivals Nicol

but prospects for success next year look good. What about the ski-ing, golf, tennis, football, cricket, sailing . . . teams? Well, we lost! On a more victorious note we won the Rowan Cup for standards, aided and abetted to a certain extent by Messrs Lenman and Gilyead. We could drone on about sport for longer, mentioning such feats as Max Adam's gripping century for the 1st XI against the M.C.C. or Chris Henderson's really quite impressive bowling, but suffice to say that the house has had a reasonably successful sporting year.

But more of the house itself. The year has passed peacefully and the atmosphere has, we feel, been good with Simon Miln presiding over all. His originality shone through with his highly novel "laissez-faire" method of rule.

There have been some notable individual performances. Simon Miln and James Wood made platform appearances on speech day to collect prizes, showing that academic traditions still linger on in Leburn! Tony Hill won the junior drumming cup on the occasion of the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Competition and along with Tony it was good to see Keith Dinsmore, Bruce Kelly, Craig Glimm and Russell Grieve contributing so well to the success of the Band.

The debating society was not unlike the Politbureau in that all bar two of the committee were from Leburn. Although his methods of gaining power were almost Stalinesque, state secretary Henderson had a good term as chairman, and

happily it appears that our domination in this area is set to continue with Max Adam being appointed chairman for next year, by a process which could hardly be more democratic.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Watson for her most generous donation to the house, part of which has been used to provide a very smart head of house board in the junior prep room.

Thanks are also due to Mr Meadows who is, sadly, leaving this term to take up a post at Loretto (surely we must question the wisdom of this decision!). After four years as house tutor, he has made many friends, and we shall miss him a lot. He is shortly to be married, and we wish him every success and happiness in the future. Thanks too to Mr Glimm for the help and support he continues to give the house, and to Mr Addison for his help and guidance over the years.

Finally, thanks must go to James Stewart who has never been mentioned in the school magazine before.

Head of House: S. Miln; Deputy Head of House: M. J. Zaraza; Prefects: A. R. Bannatyne, S. C. Buchanan, C. J. Crawford, A. J. Green, A. M. Lumsden, J. Stewart, J. W. Wood; LVI Prefects: G. M. Adam, R. D. Harrison, M. Stringer, K. J. Russell; House Colours: All senior prefects and C. M. C. Henderson, G. M. Adam, R. A. Hatfield, K. J. Russell.

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NICOL HOUSE

A good or a bad year? 'Hard to tell', 'Boring — much like any other', 'Rotten — my study flooded', 'Great — I played for the 1st XV', 'OK — I went out with -----', 'Marvellous — I'm leaving' are some of the replies you get. As Confucius once probably said — 'it all depends on your point of view'. For the enthusiasts who get involved in lots of things there is always satisfaction, for those who opt out it may only come from a member of the genus *Nicotiana*!

The greatest pleasure of the year was the Junior Play. Immaculately produced and acted, it retold the Nativity as seen by a primary school in a less than immaculate way. Ian Clark's bulbous school ma'am, Philip Laing's delivery as Mary, Charlie Simmers' rustic Joseph and Azim Khan's revolutionary Christ had us in stitches, yet the finale was serious and poignant. Douglas Irvine was the producer and later he led another moving event in the Chapel as well as being the best handyman the school never employed.

The musicians also flourished. Again Andrew Beath, Andrew Dow, Keith Arnott, Colin Gregory, Sebastian Head and John Maxwell were stalwarts of Dance Band, Brass Groups and Orchestras. Andrew Roger was Pipe Major in a band which paid tribute to the memory of Douglas Henderson by sweeping the board in competitions. Duncan Kennedy was voted the most promising piper.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme also attracted lots of takers. Many juniors got bronze awards and Philip Holst (our third German, short-stay visitor) was awarded his silver.

Academic successes can't be measured until the holidays but one hopes that Willie MacDonald's first at Cambridge will inspire Andrew Beath to follow and all our other leavers to achieve their offers. Further down the House the effort prizes seem to have stimulated some — especially the Laings whose plus scores were outstanding, while Azim 'the nine o'clock news' Khan convincingly won an inaugural 'mastermind' competition.

Sport crept in occasionally and here our record was mixed. Our rugby got off to a bad start. We dominated in both leagues but rows about eligibility broke out all over the place, the Senior Cup was abandoned and our Juniors rightly disqualified. With six in the 1st XV, led by Graeme McLay (full colours and 40 matches to his credit) we looked good bets for the Open Rugby, but like outdoor hockey and, mysteriously, cross-country, the competition never took place. The indoor hockey cup did return to its rightful place. Led by Mark Russell, also captain of the 1st XI, the

Head of House School Prefect House Prefects

G. J. M. Clark
A. A. Beath
D. F. Irvine
J. Kean
A. D. Macintyre
B. Martin
G. D. McLay
A. N. Rodger
M. D. Russell
T. A. M. Zaid
K. Boon
F. G. Crocker
S. M. Smith

Sports Captains

Rugby	G. D. McLay
Hockey	M. D. Russell
Cricket	A. H. Duff
Athletics	G. D. McLay
Cross Country	A. A. Beath
Sailing	A. N. Rodger
Shooting	G. J. M. Clark
Tennis	M. D. Russell
Squash	K. N. Hutcheson
Golf	D. F. Irvine
Swimming	B. Martin
Skiing	A. D. Macintyre
Soccer	T. A. M. Zaid

team scored freely against Simpson after an initial 'slip-up', just beat Freeland and, despite spirited resistance, overcame Leburn in a good final. Despite the many who enjoyed Thursday skiing we don't have the stars of yesteryear or many finishers in house competitions. Coming behind Riley was not a great performance! We did better in the hastily arranged swimming, especially in relays, and finished third. Sailing half slipped our grasp, our experienced team tying with Freeland, but solid performances in shooting by much the same personnel were rewarded. Distance running has become very popular in Nicol and seven ran at Loch Rannoch. Chris Lawrence was the first under 21 home and Roger Bond came second in his mini-marathon. Kris Boon ran here and in the Great North Run and, when not climbing with the Army, was occasionally here for classes! Despite breaking both 800m and 1500m Middle records, Chris Lawrence was pipped for Victor Ludorum. He (5th in 1500m) and Andrew Dow (6th in high jump) were our successes at the Scottish Schools. The mathematics of the standards cup never cease to amaze and, after a good turn out, fourth place was all we

could manage. Our tennis six reached the final but the promising football teams did not make an impact on the unseasonable tournament. Cricketers did not abound but it was good to see Alistair Duff get his half colours and the young Colin Churchill get his chance in the 1st XI.

Not, then, a vintage year for silverware, but too many cups stayed where they were. We urgently need a reorganisation of inter-house sport, perhaps with the involvement of a new Games Committee.

The best news of the year was the plan to knock down the study blocks. After 12 years of grey walls, streaming winter windows, crowded prep rooms and noisy brewing room and loos, there are plenty of offers to swing the first hammer. The fabric of the building has always been poor and it has not withstood the ravages of the inmates. This year they, at least, were not so tatty. The prefects, under the direction of the ever-smiling Gavin Clark have been a sociable and more or less exemplary bunch. Odd frictions did develop but by the end were forgotten and a good spell of weather helped finish the summer term on a happy note.

John Burgess took over as House Tutor and still found time to become a father. Our congratulations to him and Carol. Rumour has it that Burgess Junior will be the first to complete the Munroes while still in nappies. Andrew Wands also joined the team on a series of one night stands and has brought fresh ideas by the score. To them, Mrs Howie for the unenviable task of cleaning, and all the leavers, go thanks and good wishes for pleasant holidays before the academic grind begins again.

J.N.F.

Fear

I was sauntering down the corridor when a boy walked up to me.

"The headmaster wants to see you" he said. He then turned away in pursuit of his previous activity. I felt weak at the knees as a summons from the headmaster normally meant trouble. I walked down a flight of stairs thinking anxiously if I could remember what I had done wrong. I could think of nothing that I had done that would have gone to him. I knocked on his door trembling all over. I saw his dark shape approach me through the frosted glass, then he opened the door.

"Ah, Paul! Congratulations, your story has been chosen for the school magazine!!!" he exclaimed.

Paul Preacher, Form III

RUTHVEN HOUSE

With the sun shining brightly on Forgan-denny, no stereos blasting away and peace reigning supreme, the problems and traumas of the year pale into insignificance. Hopefully one can put things into perspective and prepare ourselves for the next academic year.

The penultimate chapel service was held by Ruthven and, although I'm biased of course, I thought it was excellently managed by Kerr Hatrick ably assisted by Alisdair Lenman, Lorne Scott, Calum Masson and Sandy Hamilton. Kerr is also a mainstay of the orchestra and various groups such as the Early Scottish. Along with Euan Grant, Sandy Hamilton, Ian Huxley and Paul Shanks they all contributed well towards the excellent school performance of 'Amadeus'. The strong Ruthven tradition in the Pipe Band continues with Euan Grant, Simon Peters, Sam Pate and Robert Jones helping towards the great success in the Scottish Schools' Competition. Robert also won the senior drumming.

Despite rumours to the contrary, the Rowan Cup was not screwed to our trophy shelf; it has been taken off and cleaned constantly for the last six years in Ruthven! Congratulations to Leburn on their effort in winning the standards cup. We did, however, retain the athletics cup by a large margin, helped by winning two out of the three relays and by Marc Wilkinson and Cameron Cook winning the middle and Junior Victor Ludorums respectively. There were also excellent

performances from Joffy Christie, Steven Neish, Edmund Parker, Alan Kirkland, Euan Grant, David Ismail, Archie Millar, James Winchester and Tim Lawrence.

Once again, thanks to Bruce Guy (captain), Ian Steel and Jonathan Frame we won the house golf with Bruce winning the individual stroke-play. In addition, had it not been for a fine performance by the masters' team Ruthven would have again won both the 6-a-side football competitions. We did win the juniors' competition captained by Scott Gibb, on the penalty shoot out rule and ironically lost the seniors' by the same method. Scott's elder brother, Rae, ably captained the senior side.

There have been some outstanding individual performances throughout the year: James Gilyead captained what might be described as the most successful Strathallan ski-ing team ever, winning the British schools' and coming second in the Scottish. Robin Batchelor who was third in the British schools' was chosen for the Scottish Alpine ski-team. Cameron Cook was selected for the Scottish under-15 rugby squad, Duncan Spinner for the Scottish under-16 hockey team and Joffy Christie had a Scottish schools' under-18 rugby trial.

One event earlier in the year which I enjoyed immensely was the junior house plays. I was very pleased with ours and although we may not have as many budding Lawrence Oliviers as other houses, I thought that it was performed

well and the witches trio of John Tindal, Ben Peacock and Mark Laird will certainly remain a vivid memory.

I am indebted to Paul Cleland and Joffy Christie and the remaining prefects for the smooth running of the house throughout the year. The prefects are asked to do a lot on top of the normal activities and I am continually amazed that they cope so admirably. My thanks also go to Mr. Barnes, Mr. Forshaw and Mr. Hawksford for their tremendous support throughout the year.

Finally, it is rather sad to have to say 'goodbye' to Mr. Hawksford. Although not an official house tutor, Mr. Hawksford has given his time and effort voluntarily to help out in Ruthven and I do know that the boys appreciated his help and advice. We shall miss him, but we wish him and his wife all the very best for the future.

On a happier note, I would like to end my report on behalf of Ruthven by wishing Mr Barnes and his bride to be on July 25th, Miss Tessa Young, all the very best for the wedding day and for their married life together.

Prefects were: P. C. G. Cleland, J. A. A. Christie, A. B. D. Barr, C. M. Bruce, A. S. Faircus, H. A. T. Fitzpatrick, J. R. Gilyead, I. S. G. Huxley, D. F. Lennox, C. D. McCall-Smith.; LVI appointments were: R. J. Gibb, E. J. Grant, M. K. James, C. A. Masson, S. Neish, L. H. M. Scott.

B.R.



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SIMPSON HOUSE

June 11th, and the morning of Friday 12th were memorable. Maggie returned to Downing Street. The cadet Fairbairn was returned to Westminster with a substantial majority, despite many distinguished Tory heads falling over Scotland. But in Strathallan the most significant events were the two phone calls made by C.D.P to the chairman of the governors and the school architect, confirming the demise of the old study block, albeit in eighteen months' time.

The study block opened in 1953, has been a home to the majority of Strathallan. Remarkably until the mid-70s, four houses were crammed in, under conditions which would have tested the most sociable rabbit. Even after the building of Ruthven and Nicol, the old block had its shortcomings. Insulation was strictly limited, and heating illicit or otherwise, was at a premium. The most modest of cassette players, owing to the amplification qualities of every study, became an embryonic ghetto blaster, while the emanating sounds were wonderfully catholic. However, I suspect that that which will be missed most, apart from homely squalor, will be the two attics, which were much loved by those with a screwdriver and a need for undisturbed recreation.

1986-87 was a year in which the VIth form provided leadership in many spheres. David Smith was school Captain. Alasdair Robertson was under officer in the Corps. Max Gordon led the athletics team with one shoulder that functioned and the other that didn't, but still ran with obvious manliness. Ian Black was captain of swimming and tennis, while Tom Ford showed the way to the golfers, hitting the ball many a mile

and sometimes straight. Gavin Pettinger was a quite outstanding oboist, and Sandy Chenery gave a powerful performance as Salieri in 'Amadeus'. Blair Stewart was this year's Sir Lancelot in the quest for the body beautiful. Speech day prizes were won by Smith, Robertson and Pettinger.

There were numerous personal successes. Robertson and Drummond gained rugby colours, the latter playing for the President's XV and being somewhat unlucky not to get closer to a Scottish schools' cap. Chenery got a distinction at grade 7 on the piano, while Pettinger reached grade 8 in two instruments with a distinction at every level on the oboe. James Clement played hockey for the Scottish U-16s. Andrew Bullard was awarded his cricket colours mainly for consistently outstanding fielding. Robert Moffat and Graham Reid played for the Wayfarers U-16s while Richard Eason and Hamish Blanche are in contention for the Scottish U-15s. David Smith gained his athletics colours. Others down the house made major contributions across the board but in an attempt at brevity, and to fuel their ambitions to appear in print, their individual deeds have been omitted save for the house play in which there was much to be admired, notably Nick Dempsey's script, and Michel Nugawela's graphics on the programme. Disappointingly, of the major trophies only the junior cricket and the swimming cups were won, but Ian Black's taking 1½ lengths of his opponents in the butterfly leg of the relay echoed shades of his Olympic silver medallist father.

I would like to thank Neville Drummond and his prefects, and the two house

tutors David Smith and Harry Clelland for all their hard work in running Simpson; All those who have attempted gallantly to keep the dormitories the strip rooms, and the study block clean and tidy; Helen Clayton and her team for making most people's clothing look respectable; and Craig Young for laying on another excellent leavers' house dinner.

Lastly to the farewells. Many parents on Sports Day say "you must be delighted that the term is over", but in reality it is a sad moment to see so many well-kent faces disappear. This year it is the turn of David (not the head of school) Smith and Liz (not the head of Wordlands) to disappear to Oakham with all our best wishes. I have been very grateful for their help in making Simpson tick along so smoothly, and those who saw David's production of 'Amadeus' will not forget it. Goodbye also to all the leavers from within the house. They will always be welcome visitors and few will forget Mike Blanche's hysterical imitations, even if they did all sound exactly the same.

School Prefects: D. G. Smith, A. M. Robertson, N. J. Drummond.

House Prefects: I. G. Black, M. W. D. Blanche, R. A. Chenery, T. H. Ford, G. Pettinger, K. J. R. Sheal, D. B. S. Stewart, B. P. Channell, M. R. M. Gordon, J. B. Harris, K. J. S. Twiggs.

House Colours: N. J. Drummond, A. M. Robertson, D. G. Smith, M. W. D. Blanche, A. G. A. Bullard, T. H. Ford, I. G. Black, D. B. S. Stewart, J. B. Harris, M. R. M. Gordon, K. J. S. Twiggs.

N.T.H.DuB.



School?

There are armed guards in the cell-
blocks,

There are sirens in the halls,
Sentries in the doorways,
And spotlights on the walls.

The men that are detained here,
Are apt to like a fight,
And I for one could go without,
Meeting them on a dark night.

Of course there are exceptions though,
Like Sid — he's animal daft,
He got nicked in Tescos,
Pinching food for his pet giraffe.

Sid's favourite prison pastime,
Is plotting to escape,
But little short of genius,
Will get him through the gate.

Yet just a week or so ago,
Ten days to be precise,
Sid stowed away in the caterers' van;
He emerged as a block of ice.

Alas, poor Sid has left us now;
Moved on to better things.
He could be a canary,
Or a bat with slimy wings.

Gordon Watt, Form III



At Edinburgh Zoo
by
Michel Nugawela
Form IV

WOODLANDS HOUSE

There's no time like the present for writing about the past; yet, amazingly a year is over, and we're already preparing for the next. It would be untrue to pretend that this has been an easy year for anyone in Woodlands. Those "fortunate" enough to be allocated a room in the new North Wing were, to say the least, somewhat isolated. The North Wing wasn't joined to the rest of the House until mid-November, and communication with the rest of us had to be achieved by a series of scrambles through the mud and a march down the East Wing downstairs corridor. And then, of course, there was the small matter of the change in staff: for Williams read Forster, for Blance read Holmes and Lees. That cannot have been easy for anyone; pipe-smoke replaced by fire and brimstone, calm by storm. The tolerance of the new Housemaster of screaming thirteen to eighteen year olds was only matched by the tolerance (or lack of it) of some senior girls of the mini-Forsters. Several years of peace and quiet, protected from the hurly-burly of the outside world, were shattered by the arrival of the 'F' team.

An excellent start to the hockey season for the first and under fifteen teams, an enjoyable weekend visit from Barnard Castle School, one or two minor problems, and the first half term was here. In

the gallop towards the end of term we hurdled the House Drama Competition — gaining an award for best actress for Rachel Adam, and providing great enjoyment for performers and audience alike, and then cantered to Christmas. The completion of the North Wing and Link was celebrated by a party for 60 guests and all of Woodlands. The music provided by the girls, orchestrated by Judith Gilchrist, was absolutely superb.

The New Year brought a new tutor; Mrs Liz Smith. I would like to thank Mrs Smith on behalf of everyone in the house for her cheerful and caring contribution. We are all sorry that you are leaving, and we wish you and David every success.

Snow, ski-ing, success: the three are synonymous with Strathallan (say that when you've supped a few schnappes!). The Woodlands house team achieved a remarkable result in coming 3rd in the house race. Caroline's Batchelor's performance in finishing 4th overall, beating one member of the Boys School ski-ing team, was outstanding.

The performances of Hannah Walker, Louisa Mackenzie and Karen Salters in 'Amadeus' all contributed to this marvellous production. There were others from the house who played their part in the backstage departments not least Nicky De longh who co-directed it. The term finished on a high note (no pun

intended) with the massed choirs performance of Verdi's Requiem in Edinburgh: once again Woodlands were very well represented and contributed towards a magnificent evening.

The summer term is, I'm afraid, now synonymous with exams: Highers and 'O' grades are followed almost immediately by 16+ exams and internal 'O' levels and 'A', and then just as the main-stream exams start, it's the end of term, and we're back to the beginning again. Or are we?

We've all learnt something. The staff have learnt from the prefects, particularly from the head of house, Lis. Streule, and the deputy head of house, Karen Burton. It is no cliché to say that, without those two, we really could not have managed to get through unscathed. Many of the prefects have learnt from taking responsibility for others. In almost all respects, it has been a really most satisfactory year: we are sorry to lose Miss Holmes and Miss Lees (we've already despatched of Mrs Smith!) and wish them every good fortune in the future. I'm sorry for fire practices — and false alarms. I am confident that with all the talents in Woodlands that next year will be even better, and wish all those who have left, and those about to come, a very happy future.

J.F.



East Wing Juniors — "Eastern Regiment"



Above: North Wing Seniors — "Nightmare on North Street"



Left: West Wing Seniors — "Warriors of the West-Land"

The Other World

Out in a world some called far-fetched,
Sat a man on a rock with his arm
outstretched;

Clad in a cloak of dreary brown,
His face wore a solemn and sorrowful
frown;

His penetrating eyes, red I could see,
No one, no thing could set him free.

Outside my window a fog I could see.
I glanced at the picture, he was staring at
me;

His eyes were ablaze, he continued to
stare,

By the madness of wanting me there;
Out came his hand, withered and curled,
Join him I must in his evil world.

The lurking fog then filled the room,
A bony hand took me to my doom;
So there we sat side by side,
Watching the fog above us glide;
For a thousand years here I would stay,
How could I go back — there was no
way.

Alone

Alone.
What a horrible thought,
Yet each one of us is,
With our own secrets,
Of anger and guilt.

Alone.
With or without
Friends by our side,
To help us through,
Life's long journey.

Alone.
That's how I am,
As I lie awake,
Until the dawn.
Just thinking.

Alone.
In the beginning,
At our birth.
In the end,
at our death.

Carol Anderson, Form IV

Kirsty Boyd, Form IV

GNOME FROM HOME OR THE LIFE OF RILEY

Cinders sets Riley Alight

Throughout the year, everyone has a chance to take part in at least one play whether it is the class, house or dorm plays which ranged from Historic to Western, to a fantasy on a desert island. Claire Tomlin and Alec Burrell stole the limelight in Riley's performance of 'Red Hot Cinders', which rewarded Mr Keith for his effort and patience. Dorm and class plays were enjoyed by everyone, generating great hilarity, although not always as intended!

MEGA STARS

During the course of the year a number of people have made outstanding individual achievements.

Several people took the scholarship exams, and Joanna Clark and Zoe Stephens were successful, while Chris Hartley and Rachel Taylor won prizes in the Reading Competition.

Robin Stewart performed exceptionally well in the U14 "A" Rugby team and the U17 Running team.

In a sponsored bike ride Peter Goody and Richard Sangster raised a stunning £86.52 in aid of the National Heart Foundation.

Calum Nicol, a member of the school ski team, led Riley in the Inter-House competition. We didn't come last either!



Alistair Nicoll and Robin Johnston worked hard to become members of the school pipe band. Robin was also in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Competition.

The Riley Entertainment was directed by Mr Keith. The two Hollywood stars were Alec Burrell and Claire Tomlin who ended it all with a romantic kiss.

Mr Macky joined Messrs Thompson, Keir, Keith, Colley, Foster and Ralphs organising the games and field days and gave endless help during activities. Towards the end of the year the house was structured into four divisions: Dupplin, Glenearn, Dron, and Balmano.

This year there have been field trips to Edinburgh Zoo and Murrayfield Ice Rink as well as to the dockyards in Dundee to see the Ark Royal. Also there was a five day trip to Paris during the summer half-term, organised very bravely by Mrs Carrat. It proved a great success with everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Riley has many other activities other than the scheduled games, for instance: air rifle club, swimming, tennis, squash, riding, snooker, table tennis, sailing, indoor football, tig down the valley, country dancing, Riley Entertainment and an endless list of others. When you

take all of this into account it's a wonder there is any time for lessons.

After a disappointing start to the rugby season, the teams began to pick up. The commitment of the teams could never be doubted, and morale, and courtesy were high, despite the occasional defeat.

This year is the first in a long time that 5-a-side football has gone inter-house. Riley were unbeaten in the competition, after playing three games against Ruthven, Simpson, and Nicol, much to the annoyance of 3rd form boys.

In this cricket season, more emphasis has been placed on practice and technique. This has been achieved in the practice nets, with the hope of it paying off in later matches.

The Riley Girls' hockey team had a good season, with only one defeat against Fettes. The Riley Boys' team became mixed for the first time and were unbeatable throughout the rest of the season, as well as being the most glamorous boys' team in Scotland.

This summer term, inter-house tennis has thrived with first-form doing well in the house competition.

The girls won a match against Craigclowan.

"Next stop Wimbledon!"

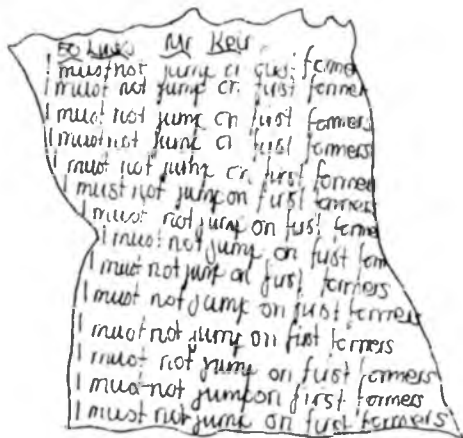
1. Matron's Diffiam.
Spikey Hairstyles,
Dirty Shoes
Outside the Dorm.
Midnight Walks,
Late For Bed.
Isaac's Bottom,
Of The Form.



2. Changing Dorms,
A Queue To Wash,
"Good Night Boys".
People Snoring,
Conversations,
Long Debates,
Essay Writing,
Class Is Boring!



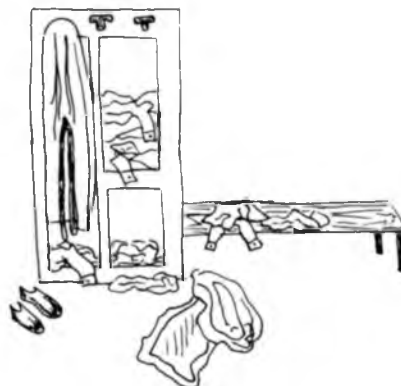
3. Throwing Chalk,
Extra Prep,
Dorm Untidy,
50 Lines.
Lights Out Early,
Freezing Showers,
Striproom Messy,
10p Fines.



4. Hockey Sticks,
Masters Shouting,
Rugby Tackles,
Muddy Knees,
Actives Times,
Playing Snooker,
Table Tennis,
Climbing Trees.



5. December Morning,
Frosty Paddock,
Runny Noses,
Chilblained Toes,
Sore Throats,
Sneezes,
Influenza,
Out On The Games Field,
In Dirty Clothes.



6. Filthy Boots,
Playing Rugby,
Cricket Whites,
Buzzing Bees,
Midnight Walks,
1st Form Shorts,
Arms In Plaster,
Cricket Teas.

7. Mischief Making,
Fighting, Laughing,
Dorm Inspection,
Kitchen Ban,
Out On The Paddock,
Playing Cricket,
Girls Sunbathing,
Pippa's Tan.



8. Chucking Rubbers,
Talking, Shouting,
Extra Prep,
We Are Bored,
End Of Term,
Midnight Feasts,
Master Takes,
Our Tuck Hoard.



9. Trunks And Cases,
From The Tunnel,
Clothes From Lockers,
Packed Away,
Posters Down,
Tuck-room Empty,
All the Gnomes have gone away.



CHAPEL NOTES



As the Summer Term draws rapidly to its inevitable frenetic close, there are (like any good Sermon) three points to this academic year's report: the weekly Eucharists, the Confirmation classes and the "Alternative" House Chapels.

Beginning at the end: the Summer Term weekday services were enlivened by seven which were arranged and conducted by the six Senior School houses. Two notable features were the time taken by pupils in preparation for these services — especially Nicol House who spent some six or seven hours in the company of a synthesizer, a tape-recorder and one of their House Tutors recording a fifteen second sound effect. Leburn were brave enough to attempt two services; the other feature was that without exception God and any message had to be accompanied by loud music, and not of the classical variety either! Has the Pachelbel Canon or Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony nothing to add to meditation? Without exception these services provoked comment (sometimes adverse!), but again, without exception, they left the School thinking — which isn't a bad thing at all. There is no doubt that these should become a permanent feature of the Chapel Services generally. Riley House had separate weekday Chapel Services when the Senior School were at House Assemblies. The weekday programme was: Monday: Riley, Tuesday: Senior School. Wednesday: Riley, Thursday: Senior School, Friday: Congregational Practice — for the Autumn and Spring Terms; and for the Summer: Monday: Riley, Tuesday: Senior School, Wednesday: Congregational Practice, Thursday: Senior School, early lessons Friday and Saturday.

The Confirmation Classes took on a quite different emphasis when it was discovered how many candidates there were — so many, in fact, that additional help had to be sought if all pupils were to explore the Christian Faith seriously. So, the Revd. Fergus Harris and myself were more than ably assisted by the Revds. Stuart Bonney, Priest at St. Kessog's Episcopal Church, Auchterarder, and Uist Macdonald, formerly Parish Minister of Aberdargie and Dupplin and, during this year, Chaplain to the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rt. Revd. Dr. R. Craig, C.B.E. So it was that after two terms' preparation the following record number of candidates confirmed their Baptismal promises and were received into full membership of the Church on Sunday, April 10th (3rd after Easter).

Church of Scotland: Confirmed by the Very Revd. Dr. Peter P. Brodie: **(IIIrd Form)** Elspeth Green; **(IVth Form)** Rachel Adam, Carol Anderson, James Banks, Mark Johnstone, Mark Laird, Sandy Milroy, David Reid, John Tindal, Graeme Wardhaugh; **(Vth Form)** Douglas Browne, Bruce Tilley, Philip Walker (brother of Hannah); **(VIth Form)** Caroline Batchelor, Katie Cook, Brenda Keith, Rozi McMillan, Jane McKenzie-Smith (Baptism and Confirmation), Rosie Rutherford, Hannah Walker, Bruce Addison, Mark Briggs, Ewen Clyde, Finlay Crocker, Stuart Currie, Alistair Duff, Rae Gibb, Euan Grant, Sandy Hamilton, Douglas Irvine, Julian Kean, Michael Logan, Colin Logan, Andrew McMaster, John Marshall, Kevin Meikle, David Robb, Alan Stewart.

On separate occasions in the Spring Term, Kevin Russell was baptised and confirmed by the Chaplain, and Katie and Clive Pattinson were confirmed by the Chaplain.

Scottish Episcopal Church: Confirmed by the Bishop of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane: **(IIIrd Form)** Tim Lawrence, Paul Shanks; **(IVth Form)** Andrew Ferguson, Alec Lochore, Stuart Monro, Ben Williamson (brother of Robert); **(VIth Form)** Nicola De Iongh, Kate Orr, Janette Wood, Jason Rea, Robert Williamson. This was a total of 54 candidates, meriting a mention in the Church of Scotland magazine "Life and Work".

In the Autumn Term the Communion Services, though held weekly, were celebrated on a weekday evening, mostly at 6.30 p.m. though occasionally at 9.30 p.m. In the Spring Term five were held on Saturday evenings, mostly at 6.30 p.m. though two were at 9.30 p.m. and four were held on Sunday evenings after the main School Chapel Service. In the Summer Term all Communion Services were held at 8.30 a.m. on Sunday mornings — normal "Reveille" time. It was impressive indeed to have in the term an average of 72 pupils attending that Service. Throughout the year there were 35 Communion Services with a total number of 2,048 communicants, averaging out to 58.5 per service! At every Service in the Chapel pupils took part; School prefects by reading lessons on Sunday, House Prefects at weekday Chapels, Riley pupils at the Riley House services either reading or leading the prayers, and at the Communion Services pupils not only read the lessons, but also with great dignity assisted in the distribu-

tion of the bread and wine which alternated between the customary Church of Scotland tradition and the more widespread Anglican / Roman Catholic / Methodist tradition whereby candidates come up and kneel or stand at the steps.

I had planned a Taizé Service, to be held in the Sports Hall at the end of the Spring Term, involving not only musicians — both vocal and instrumental — but also those engaged in the Modern Dance activity. Sadly the plans were thwarted by a certain Rugby International at Murrayfield involving "thistles" and "leeks" and Term finished prematurely on the Saturday. Taizé music may not be in favour with musical "purists" but there is no doubt that "the young" not only enjoy it, but find it more than helpful in their steps towards worship. Certainly, when at the Taizé "Gathering" in London over Christmas 1986 Southwark Cathedral, Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral had to be linked by sound relay systems and used to accommodate the many thousands of young people from all over the world — it is a style of worship that the Church as a whole neglects at her peril.

Communion Services, "Alternative" House Chapels and Confirmation all point to a year that was spiced by participation rather than the distressing trend of "spectatorsport — it is".

Visiting Preachers who occupied the Chapel Pulpit throughout the year were:

Autumn Term: The Revds. Tom Balfour, Stuart McWilliam, Alasdair Morton, Dr. John Drane, Douglas Aitken, Andrew Mitchell, Andrew Scobie, Dr. Ian Fraser, Dr. Margaret Stewart.

Spring Term: The Rt. Revd. Michael Hare Duke, The Most Revd. E. Luscombe, Primus, The Revds. Catherine Hepburn, David Reid, Ian Whyte, The Very Revd. Dr. W. B. Johnston, The Very Revd. Graham Forbes.

Summer Term: The Revd. Professor Alan Main, The Very Revd. Dr. Andrew Herron, The Very Revd. Dr. P. P. Brodie, The Revd. Michael Erskine, The Very Revd. Dr. Ronald Selby Wright, The Very Revd. Professor Robin Barbour, The Revds. Andrew Mitchell and Ainslie Walton, and, at the Valedictory Service, The Very Revd. Dr. David Smith.

(Six Moderators of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, two Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church, one Provost of a Cathedral, three University teachers, one University Chaplain, one former Clerk to the

General Assembly, four convenors of Church Committees, five members of the Iona Community, six Parish Ministers, one B.B.C. producer, one Dean of the Chapel Royal, three Chaplains to H.M. the Queen, two women Ministers, one Associate Minister and one Schoolteacher and if that weren't enough, the Chaplain preached six times.) There were three Carol Services and a celebration of the Eucharist at midnight on Christmas Eve at which there were 110 communicants, many from the village.

The total offerings received amounted to £1,237 with major beneficiaries being: The Macleod Centre Appeal (Iona) £250, B.B.C. "Children in Need Appeal" £148, B.L.E.S.M.A. Home (Crieff) £70, Cancer Research £111, British Heart Foundation £53, R.N.L.I. £49.

Occasional Services were: two Celebrations of the sacrament of Holy Baptism, (one a pupil) the other being the infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Clelland, one Funeral Service (Mr R. Cowie), one Service of Thanksgiving (Mr D. B. Henderson) and one Service of Compline held on the evening of the performance in St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, which removed from the Chapel not only the musicians on the staff as well as the musicians amongst the pupils, but also spectators amongst the staff. This Service, partly because of its candlelit atmosphere, and mostly because of its brevity commended itself in appreciative terms from the pupils. Indeed, this Service, more than any other, provoked the largest number of favourable comments after a School Service I have ever heard. The organist on that occasion was Mr E. Bennett from St. John's Kirk, Perth.

One new feature in the Chapel Services has been the singing of a Response to the reading of the Holy Gospel, sadly, mostly from The Church Hymnary (III), however it will be interesting to see the diversity of music which will come about after the Panel on Worship's publication of "Songs for God's People" by O.U.P. around the Autumn / New Year. I have been more than privileged to serve on the small committee responsible for its compilation.

In an attempt to promote more participation from the congregation, as well as broadening their ecumenical experience, occasional forays were made into music from Africa as well as Taizé. I found it interesting to compare the atmosphere of congregational practise at Strathallan with that at Kilgraston Convent which I shared in for a Term and a half. At the latter it seems more relaxed and "open" but that may be due to the time at which it is held: 6 p.m. on a Friday afternoon, as opposed to our 8.35 a.m. on either Friday or Wednesday.

We seem, sadly, to have lost that "terror" to VIth Form pupils and Chaplain alike, Esther, but I'm grateful to Mrs Calder and her staff for continuing to

battle against the eccentricities of pupils and weather alike, in ensuring that the Chapel is not only clean and tidy, but also welcoming. In that same vein, the thanks of all who enter the Chapel are due to those who faithfully and lovingly arrange the flowers, week by week. I've been grateful to the two Chapel Prefects, Michael Edie and Andrew Beath, who in the closing weeks of their time here were succeeded by Kevin Russell (again "whisked off" to be Captain of School) and Colin Logan.

I return to the central feature of all Christian worship — the Eucharist — which has become a central feature of the life of many pupils at the School. This Service is not confined or bounded by the School's walls and gates. In that act of worship we are united with our fellow-Christians all over the world. Why have they come, these Danish farmers and their families? The Sunday communion is their traditional worship, and all their boys and girls are still prepared for confirmation that they may take part fully. It is an expression of community, of nation, of the links they preserve with their history. Today they come remembering an old man who was buried in the churchyard two days ago. He and his wife were farmers all their working life. This was their faith, and their parents' before them. So, as the pastor prepares the bread and wine, something essential to them all is taking place. A statement about their work, their family life, their church.

Two thousand people, young and old, sing and clap in a town congregation in Latin America. There has been a long stirring sermon, a reminder that Jesus Christ too lived a no-one-in-particular life, that he might be Saviour to all the no-one-in-particular people who would ever live. Now the elders come to break bread for communion. There is an awed hush. A moment of peace and assurance for many who lack work or home or prospects. Here they belong. Here is their life's spring. Here they discover Christ in his people's joy and caring week by week.

Around three hundred members of a suburban American congregation meet in their newly-built church. Business executives burdened with routine pressures, overwork. Wives insecure over their children, uncertain whether the last move was right, always hoping to put down stronger roots. The pastor torn between wanting to minister regularly to people coming for reassurance, silence, a weekly "getting things together", and his concern to preach prophetically about some of the world's alarms and anxieties. He takes bread. The deacons distribute it, overwhelmingly conscious of the unformulated hunger people bring with them to the Lord's table. They receive it with great soberness, clearly feeling the numinous quality of this moment of time.

A small band of refugee workers and

their helpers have a very infrequent opportunity to be together in a communion service. Some of the few Christian refugees join them, women and men and children. Together they are in the survival business day by day, relying for food upon the relief agencies or host governments. Helping themselves by their own efforts where they can, but terribly vulnerable. Denominational backgrounds are irrelevant. Bread would be passed from one to another if they had it. Today it is rice. Hands which distribute daily food allowances, faces which smile hope, do so now in a context which is at once totally the same, and totally different. Deeply moved, they speak few words. There are tears, but who could interpret them fully?

Then, in the under-Church of the Chapel of the Reconciliation at Taizé, I assisted a Polish priest at a celebration of the Mass for twenty-three young people from his congregation. As they sang their hymns to Polish nationalist folk-tunes, their eyes strayed constantly to the shadows around the door, half-expecting that the two secret policemen who had followed them at the instigation of their communist masters, would be preparing to arrest them — but, at the moment of the reception of the bread and wine, defiantly they stood and processed round the under-Church.

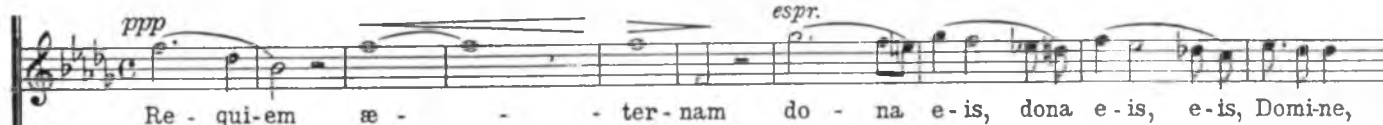
The panorama could go on indefinitely. In some situations what is eaten and drunk is not bread and wine, for these are the expensive luxuries of the rich. The relationship between creation and communion is expressed in potatoes or rice, and in water, tea or coconut juice. How the relationship is expressed is what matters. First century Palestinian everyday food and drink, bread and wine, do not in themselves constitute this service. Its unity lies in what is signified rather than the materials used. Indeed, in a world where many starve, the very act of eating and drinking at all is today disclosing meanings not seen before.

In bringing food and drink as an offering to God we are enacting the deepest facts of human existence and experience. We are acknowledging our dependence upon the Creator and sustainer of all things. We thank God for reliability. We go on at the same time accepting the responsibility given to us for managing, caring for and enjoying all that God goes on giving. The responsibility of these who have, of course, is to share with those who have not. In the elementary action of taking bread and wine in communion, Christians celebrate the most basic ecumenical co-operation: God-humankind-world.

So, whether it is in the Chapel with 8, 28, or 70 pupils, or in the Sanatorium with four, this is what the Chapel embodies and the Chaplaincy seeks to embody in word and action: God-humankind-world.

T.G.L.

MUSIC



The year has been one of great activity and some equally fine results. The highlights of the musical year, in addition to the customary round of concerts, Carols and away matches, were two performances of the "*Ceremony of Carols*" by Benjamin Britten, and a performance of the "*Requiem*" by Verdi.

The performance of the "*Ceremony of Carols*" was given jointly with a choir from Oxenfoord Castle School, each school hosting one performance. The piece is written for a choir of three independent parts of unbroken voices, and the whole piece is accompanied by a harp, which for our performances was played by Eluned Pierce, the First Harp from the Scottish National Orchestra. Although the music of Benjamin Britten seems still to find a mixed reception from the concert-going public, the two choirs seemed never to have a moment's doubt, and the singers took the demanding score quite in their stride. The performance at Strathallan took place in the Chapel, and the Brass group contributed some sixteenth century consort music to the programme, most aptly matching the mood of the mediaeval texts of the carols a little later. The away match took place in Crichton Church, Oxenfoord's local gem in the ecclesiastical crown. The building quite captured the hearts of the performers, even if the Earnside coach driver did not appreciate the equally mediaeval lanes which lead to the Church! Audiences of appreciative parents and pupils coupled with generous hospitality offered by the two schools created a most civilised conclusion to the term, and a thoroughly good omen for what was in store for us all the following term, when six schools would combine for a joint performance.

The *Requiem* by Verdi remains one of the greatest of all musical landmarks. It has provoked riots and has quelled troubled souls. The Roman Church found it too operatic after the first performance, and subsequently banned it from use in the Catholic Liturgical setting for which it was originally intended. However, it does provide the most marvellous opportunities for a "good sing" for a big and enthusiastic choir, and thus it was performed in the St. Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place on the 15th March by 310 voices drawn from six Independent Schools north of the border. It was almost certainly the largest and most ambitious musical happening ever to be attempted by those schools, but one which now successfully completed will not be the last.

The Chorus of 310 was drawn from St.

George's, Oxenfoord, Longridge Towers, Fettes, Glenalmond and Strathallan — each school learning their allotted parts quite independently of the others. When the day came for the first, and only, joint rehearsal held in Fettes' Concert Hall, excitement, apprehension, panic and pleasure were all seen on the faces of the participants, lined in huge rows round and round the room! Taking a Congregational Practice for singing hymns is one thing, but a choir of 310 singing in 8 independent parts is quite another! Miraculously something guided us all through, whether a white stick or the threat of dozens of extra rehearsals. I know not, but we survived to face the added problems of spacial layout, stone pillars and arctic temperatures. A review of the performance appears below.

Back at home, visiting teachers were trying to instil tone and technique into their charges with varying degrees of success. The Associated Board examination results totalled 36 passes over the year, with 9 Distinctions, 11 Merits and 16 Passes. The predominance of Pass marks is a reflection of the amount of time given to practice of musical instruments. The common cry of "We haven't got time" is sounding more and more like the "Wolf, Wolf" of our childhood days, and finds less than receptive ears the more it is offered. Our music staff are, for the large part, recruited from the major cities, and to be faced, after an hour on the motorway, by pupils who patently have not been into the practice block for a week is very disappointing. So much so that we have lost teachers as a result. Sheila Cochrane, who was building up the flutes, has moved to a full-time job in the Grampian authority, and John Davidson who took on the cellos from Angela Griffiths, has left us to concentrate on full-time playing. We are fortunate to have the services of Jean Murray for the majority of the Flute teaching and she has been most ably assisted by Richard Chester who after two terms leaves to take up a new full-time position as Administrator for the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland. Josef Lozowy, whose "Strathallan Early Music Group" is well-known to many, leaves after a long spell as guitar teacher here. We wish all our leavers well and thank our remaining staff for their care and sympathetic guidance. In addition to the part-time music staff, we have to say farewell to Paul and Fiona Auster, through whose care and enthusiasm great numbers of Strathallians have developed a love of music from playing in the Second Orchestra and the Dance Band. Paul's characterful bow-ties, and his

unscripted bursts into Dixieland Jazz have enlivened both individual music lessons as well as classes of 3rd or 4th formers. We wish them well in their new role at Downside School, and trust the monks will rock as readily in the cloisters as we have all done here.

There have been some absolutely splendid performances from pupils, and the Headmaster's Musick is customarily the first shop-window of the new year's talent. The range of styles and quality of the playing from those representing the department is very impressive. Confidence and sureness of touch is a now regular hallmark of our performers' contributions, a fact that is frequently commented on by audiences. Such is the confidence of some of our players that the programmes embarked upon now would have been unthinkable ten or fifteen years ago. There are always bright stars in the firmament, and one such musical one has been Gavin Pettinger. So much so that his most musical rendering of the *Mozart Oboe Concerto* was singled out as one of Ian Robertson's "most outstanding features of the Perth Festival of the Arts," reported in a recent Times Educational Supplement. No doubt we shall be hearing more of his playing as he progresses through the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and out into the world beyond.

The musical life of the non-specialist at Strathallan continues its course of a diet of sacred and commercial art played at impossibly high volumes. The congregational contribution in Chapel remains on High Days an impressive sound, even if on Low Days it leaves a great deal to be desired! The Choir, boosted by its successes on the public front, climb ever onwards and upwards, being largely no longer content with the two-page anthems of former days. Long may they be able to withstand the indifference of their colleagues in the body of the Kirk; at least they get a relatively comfortable seat!

Finally, thanks are due to all those through whose efforts the concerts both at home and at Grandtully, Montrose, Perth, St. Andrews, Edinburgh et al would not be possible, and these go especially to the leavers, with the hope that music will continue to be an important part of their lives beyond school.

Prize-winners for 1987

The Robert Barr Prize for Music: Gavin Pettinger

The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings: Susan Leiper, Rachel Smith

F.N.R.

Giuseppe Verdi's great Requiem composed in 1874 in memory of Manzoni is one of the towering peaks of the nineteenth-century choral repertory. To scale it successfully is never easy. To do so with a small army of young and relatively inexperienced singers and players must therefore be counted a considerable triumph indeed. Yet such was the achievement of Nicholas Reed and the combined forces of St. George's Edinburgh, Oxenfoord Castle, Longridge Towers, Glenalmond, Fettes and Strathallan at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on the evening of Sunday, 15th March. From first hushed note to last, the atmosphere in the packed cathedral was positively electric with excitement, and the performance, like the work itself, both thrilling and deeply moving by turns. The choir, some 300-strong, rose magnificently to the challenge. So too the orchestra ably led by William Baxter and afforded by a number of peripatetic staff and other senior instrumentalists. (The off-stage trumpets in the "Tuba mirum" were particularly good). A fine quartet of soloists from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama contributed much to the splendour of the occasion, especially Valerie Reid, an outstanding young mezzo-soprano of whom we shall surely hear more in years to come. Thoroughly well-drilled beforehand and inspired on the night both by the radiance of the work itself and the intense commitment to it of the man at the helm, soloists, choir and orchestra all gave of their best, and in doing so produced a marvellous performance which will undoubtedly linger long in the memory not only of those who were privileged to take part, but also of all those who heard it.

But behind every successful venture of this kind there are a number of unsung heroes on whose goodwill and organisational skills the entire exercise depends, in this case the Directors of Music and supporting staff at each of the schools concerned. When you consider the logistical problems involved in bringing together so many boys and girls, not just on the day of the performance but for a number of preliminary rehearsals as well, the smoothness and efficiency of the operation seems scarcely less impressive than the performance itself. Those responsible are to be congratulated, and especially Nick Reed whose grand idea it was. Having shown that a combined musical undertaking on this scale is not only possible but immensely worthwhile, one can but hope that he and his colleagues will feel sufficiently encouraged to make this an annual event. Anyone for *Gerontius*?

H. Diack Johnstone
St Anne's College, Oxford

GIUSEPPE VERDI

1813-1901



REQUIEM

St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh

Sunday, 15th March, 1987, at 7.30 p.m.

Elizabeth McKeon	...	...	...	...	<i>Soprano</i>
Valerie Reid	...	...	...	...	<i>Mezzo-Soprano</i>
David Grieve	...	...	...	...	<i>Tenor</i>
Gordon Cowie	...	...	...	...	<i>Bass</i>

<i>Leader</i>	...	...	...	...	William Baxter
<i>Conductor</i>	...	...	...	...	Nicholas Reed

Choirs from

St. George's, Edinburgh; Oxenfoord Castle School;
Longridge Towers, Berwick-on-Tweed; Glenalmond; Fettes;
Strathallan



Mr Rifkind with the Head of School and the Prizewinners on Speech Day.

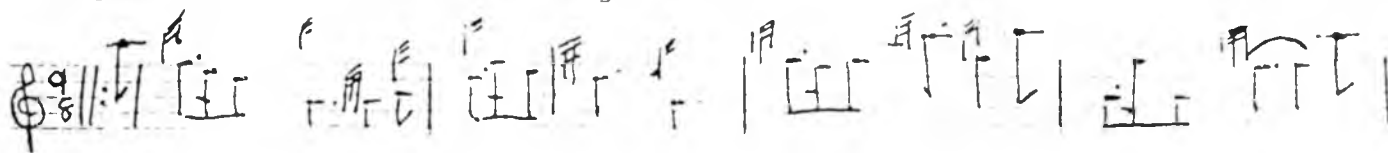


New venue for the Dance Band — Speech Day!

PIPES AND DRUMS

"Strathallan's Tribute to Douglas Henderson"

R. Barron BEM



The year started off in the usual slow manner, but with the introduction of a Piping Evening and Dinner, the Band were called upon to play earlier than expected. It meant that we all had to "get it together" sooner and therefore, hopefully, raise the standard of the Band.

The evening itself was held in the Autumn Term and was a great success. The Music Room looked as it had never looked before with much of Pipe Major Barron's memorabilia, dirks and plaids, a set of pipes from the 1745 Rebellion, a stag's head, and prints borrowed from the Chaplain. The menu was superb, with various collations of smoked brown trout, smoked sea trout and smoked salmon — all peat smoked from North Uist, venison to follow and an unpronounceable but heavenly pudding.

Those who were present will never forget the various uses to which Pipe Major Barron put the pipes, not least by using them to vacuum the Music Room floor and by playing bugle calls. There were performances from the Band, from Pipe Major Barron and his son as well as from Mr Craig Young whose excellent singing made a much-needed change from the wail of bagpipes and his undisputed culinary skills.

After Christmas and during the Spring Term, our President, Mr Douglas Henderson, became ill. This upset our routine but it also led to the Band working harder together.

During this Term some members of the Band were invited to play at the Royal Scottish Piping Society. This evening was meant to introduce young pipers to the Society so that in future years, having experienced the Society, they might join. It proved to be not only an instructive but also highly enjoyable and successful evening.

At this stage in the Term the pressure was on for the Band to do well in the approaching Scottish Schools' C.C.F. Pipe Band competition. This year it was to be held at Strathallan and we therefore wanted to put on a good show.

Fortunately we received a Bass section instructor, Mr George Braid, who managed to clean up the finer points of the section which had been more or less running itself for quite a while.

Sadly, during the Easter holidays, Mr Henderson passed away. This was a great blow, not only to the Band, but also to the School, and we must never forget the great amount of time and effort he not

only gave to us, but also for us. Pipe Major Barron, Simon Peters and Keith Dinsmore played at his funeral service in Perth Crematorium.

It was Mr Henderson's dream to see the Strathallan Pipes and Drums win at home, so the Band practised hard with this in mind.

The Chaplain, Revd. Graeme Longmuir, was invited to assume the role of President and in doing so, has succeeded in making the Band very smart, organised and well-disciplined.

By the Summer Term half-term the Band was really coming together. We had been practising most nights for ten days before the half-term, and, by the combined efforts of Major Colin Dunbar (O.S.) through arranging for Pipe Corporal Banner to assist Pipe Major Barron on Friday afternoons, as well as ensuring that the Chaplain collected sufficient pairs of brogues for each member of the Band from Glasgow, and the Chaplain's frequent notices and "spats" - whitening/belts - polishing/silver-buffing" sessions, Speech Day proved to be an excellent "warm-up" for the Competition in seven days' time.

On our return from the short half-term break we practised as a Band with only three days to go.

The day itself was cold, but since it didn't rain the Competition was held in the open air in the presence of the G.O.C. (Scotland) General Sir Norman Arthur and Air Vice-Marshal Brooks, and the open-airness greatly assisted the sound quality of the instruments. The judges had been provided by the Army, and in the Individual events we had mixed success.

No one managed to gain higher than "Fourth" in the Piping, but A. J. Hill took first place in "Junior Drumming"; R. A. Jones once again gained first, but on this occasion in "Senior Drumming" and our "press-ganged" bugler, M. J. Edie, normally a trumpeter, stepped in at very short notice, and after a "blow-off", remembering what the judge had said, conclusively won the "Bugling" — and won, on the School's behalf, the silver bugle, last won in 1961 by Graeme Wardhaugh's father (O.S.).

For the first time, the Pipes and Drums took the "Dress and Drill" cup which was a great reward after many people (Wing Commander P. A. Barker, the three ladies in the Sewing Room and the nagging Chaplain) had spent so much

time, bullying, cajoling and exhorting the Band into knocking itself into shape.

So far it sounds as though the Band did pretty well (which we did!) but to crown all, we took first place in the Band Piping Competition. This was a great achievement, proving that hard work and harsh words pay off. In all, we won five out of a possible eight separate competitions, and, on behalf of the whole Band I must thank all our instructors, Pipe Major Barron, Drum Major D. Clark and Mr G. Braid as well as all the other helpers for making it all possible.

After the other Schools had returned to their respective towns and cities, and while the Headmaster's guests were still enjoying his hospitality, the Band gave impromptu performances in the Riley Quad and in every House, including Woodlands with, on occasions, Drummers blowing themselves silly on the Pipes and Pipers drumming themselves crazy. We finished the evening's "entertainment" by playing in the Main Hall of the School to everyone's consternation.

After our success the Term ahead seemed singularly lacking in events due in no small measure to the pressures of the examination timetable.

We did, however, go to Blair Castle Open Day, arranged on behalf of the Scottish Wildlife Conservation Trust Appeal and we played to almost 1,000 visitors throughout the day, and both that visit and the competition success was covered by both local and national press. The sun shone at Blair and towards the end of the afternoon we were extremely privileged to be invited to play in the Great Hall of the Castle where only the premiere Piping Competitions and occasional dinners are held.

The last events in the School Calendar for us were the individual Piping and Drumming competitions.

The Piping was judged by Mr Roderick Barron and Drumming by Mr D. Clark.

Results:

Junior Piping: March: Charles Dunbar.

Senior Piping: March, Strathspey and Reel: Jonathan Ball.

Hornpipe and Jig: (New trophy) Andrew Rodger.

Pibroch: Jonathan Ball (first); Simon Peters (second); Andrew Rodger (third).

Senior Drumming: Robert Jones.

A.N.S.R.

DRAMA: 'AMADEUS'

The performances of Dominik Diamond and Sandy Chenery in David Smith's production of 'Amadeus' by Peter Shaffer were as good as any performances one will see at school level. Of course the play is a gift for talented actors—with enormous dramatic speeches and virtually no scene stealing from minor characters. This play is about Mozart and Salieri and they have all the best lines.

'Amadeus' is a "whodunnit": did Salieri, the mediocre Court composer murder Mozart through professional jealousy (as Salieri himself claimed) or did Mozart destroy himself through his own inability to curry favour with those in authority? The answer must always elude the audience, or fall somewhere between the two, for the mystery of Mozart's death is the mystery of his life. How could such a revolting loud-mouthed oaf have been the world's greatest composer?

Mr Smith's doubts about doing the play (echoed by other so-called experts (me)) evaporated with the arrival of the Venticelli—a pair of Morningside gossips, played by Hannah Walker and Louise Mackenzie—who opened the play with the charm that harms all who believe their malicious blether.

What arrested the audience's attention was the absolute conviction of purpose evidenced by these two, and it was this certainty that characterised all the performances. Every gesture meant something, each move on the stage was symbolic, yet at the same time natural and fluid. Some parts of the play are, as they say of certain bookshops "Adult," but the confidence of the cast in the play and their own performance at once dispelled any notion of sniggering from the audience. Dominik Diamond's Mozart was a proto-punk (pink hair, yellow hair, bad language), with a glamour that wins over a young audience. Here is a man who suffers because he speaks his mind and follows his own heart, a man who never loses touch with the child within himself. Audience sympathy for Mozart develops as Salieri's middle-class, middle-aged, middle-talented envy hastens Mozart's perhaps inevitable downfall.

Yet it is for Salieri whom we weep. Salieri is, in a sense us. His mediocrity is the mediocrity that pervades the world and cannot stand genius, because geniuses break all the rules that we have created and have to keep. Diamond's bravura performance captured almost all of Mozart's charm and lasciviousness at the same time. His death, and the

ensuing funeral cortege scene were the best in the production; their very theatricality capturing the drama that Mozart had written himself into. Sandy Chenery's performance was the most mature I have seen by a school-pupil; he does not possess Dominik's mercurial gift, but instead invested the character with a gravity and pathos quite remarkable for an 18 year-old.

This production was of such a high standard overall that I could not do justice to each performance. Instead, I will merely list all the outstanding attributes of the performance I saw: John Sloan's lighting; Mr McLeod's set (naked women in bulk); the musicians who opened the show; Karen Salter's Constanze — rough and ready, and doomed from the day she met 'Wolfie'; cameo roles from Keith Dinsmore and Ian Clark and others — do look at the programme and remember the names for they are the future of Strathallan drama; all the luscious cakes made by Mr Young. What I will remember above all is the reaction of an audience ranging from 13 year-olds to sixth formers, who left the gymnasium believing that they really had been to the theatre, and that they had indeed seen the life and death of a genius.

J.F.



"No this is not my usual hairdo . . ." Hannah Walker; Sandy Chenery.

HOUSE DRAMA

If the purpose of the House Drama Competition is:

- to encourage involvement in drama;
- to help spot budding dramatists and thespians;

- to provide entertainment; then the 1986 competition was a success on all these levels.

As regards involvement, all the houses crammed the lecture theatre stage with large casts of 3rd and 4th formers, while the background help of senior pupils and masters must have been considerable and certainly contributed greatly to the event.

In the talent spotting section, there were many fine performances: Sandy Milroy's trendy photographer for Leburn; Monro and Robertson. Free-land's Crockett and Tubbs; Rachael Adam's "Wide Boy" for Woodlands; Ian Clarke's awesome school mistress and his pupils ad-libbing their way through Nicol's effort; while Michel Nugawela's and David Davidson's well developed script for Simpson merited itself a prize, even if it lacked something in performance.

If we are to judge the plays on entertainment value "on the night" we can again see this successful pattern repeated. *Ruthven*, with perhaps limited resources, acted out their tragedy of the strip-rooms and counted the cost of not "playing for laughs", though the chorus

of commentators were fairly threatening. *Woodlands* Orchestra drama was perhaps on the long side but held the audience by a well-rehearsed cast in performance, including Susan Leiper's formidable leader of the orchestra. *Leburn* definitely played it for laughs as we entered the seamy side of Fleet Street, an alcoholic Alex Johnson paying the price of fame while trying to "scoop" a bank robbery. *Simpson's* "Murder, Mystery and Suspenders" lived up to its title and while not a winning performance, was a well-written effort. *Free-land's* play perhaps needed the script editors to be more ruthless, for though the elves were enjoyable, the audience began to flag as the dynamic duo met yet another dead end on the trail of Father Christmas' killer.

This all leads us to *Nicol*. Their original idea of a junior school rehearsing their Nativity play all sounded a bit dubious. Would it get past the censors, would the entire cast be done for blasphemy? In the event, positive script changes and sheer vitality of performance removed any such doubt. In fact, watching the Nicol play became something of a "cult" and may precipitate a change for the competition to a larger venue. The play seemed to capture people's imagination and lines such as "Does that mean Jesus is black, Miss?" "No it just means Azim is playing

Jesus." could be heard quoted around the school. From Ian Clark's amazing, bust-hoisting, School Marm, a firm but friendly performance; to careful costuming and props—angels and donkeys being effective visual jokes; to Joseph preparing to be an amateur mid-wife; it all worked.

The most surprising thing was, that after having the audience in tears of laughter for most of the play, their final scene of the Crucifixion was so powerful, reverent and effective that tears nearly started because of another profounder emotion. To move from farce to dignity in such a dramatic fashion was a credit to Douglas Irvine who helped master-mind this final act. If this is the standard the House Drama Competition produces, long may it flourish.

All those who took part of course gained something from the experience but for the record, our congratulations go to those who actually carried off the loot!

Nicol—Best Play Performance.

Simpson—Best Written Play.

Ian Clark—Best Acting Performance.

Rachel Adam—Runner-up for Best Acting Performance.

Our thanks must also go to Mrs Adam and Mr Keith for their impartial adjudicating and for presenting the prizes.

J.R.F.



SCHOOL READING COMPETITION

The Wilfrid Hoare School Reading Competition held on Sunday 24th May and ably adjudicated by Mrs Burnet, was as usual divided into three sections — JUNIOR, MIDDLE and SENIOR.

The standard of the Junior Competition was excellent, with several competitors benefiting from their previous year's experience. Christopher Hartley was awarded first prize after an impressive reading of the set passage from "The Wind in the Willows" and his own excerpt from "Banco". He took the trouble to explain why he had chosen this passage and impressed the judge by his composure and evident enjoyment of what he read. It was a close competition however and it was especially pleasing to see, among the 1st years, Rachel Taylor being awarded the runner-up prize and Christopher Brown being commended.

The Middle Section was again a pleasing competition, especially as third form were so well represented and I would urge them to try again next year. Roger McGough's "A Good Poem" proved an effective and enjoyable piece and was perhaps rendered best by Kate Morrison. However no-one could really compete with Tarrant Steele's "Dissection" which was as gripping as it was horrifying. Though there were many other good performances, Tarrant won with Kate as runner-up.

We then came to "The Battle of the Giants" and there was considerable speculation as whether anyone could give the joint-winner of the last two years, Dominik Diamond, a run for his money (the ever generous £15 first prize!). In the event Dominik faced very stiff competition, in particular from Louisa MacKenzie and the other impressive

Woodlands performances. The set passage here proved decisive. Dominik had well prepared his reading of the final pages of "The Great Gatsby" to bring out every nuance of the text as well as acquiring a Transatlantic accent. It was this performance which finally gave him the edge, despite some excellent performances of a very wide range of personal choices. It is one of the delights of the reading competition that one hears people reading with such obvious enjoyment and appreciation from works of such people as Dylan Thomas, Wordsworth, Edward Lear, John Cooper Clark or even their own offerings. How such impressive performances given by the prize-winners could be brought to a larger audience deserves some thought for future years.

J.R.F.

Here are the winning entries in the creative writing competition

I used to believe . . .

I used to believe in the tooth fairy,
Popping money underneath my bed,
I used to believe in the tooth fairy,
Until one day mum said:

"I am the fairy,
My name is Mary,
Gliding through the air,
Popping money everywhere.
Lie down and go to sleep."

I used to believe in Santa Claus,
Giving toys out, on Christmas day,
I used to believe in Santa Claus,
Until my mum did say:

"I am Santa,
So cut the banter.
Gliding through the air,
Popping toys everywhere.
Lie down and go to sleep."

I still believe in fortune,
Not living in a shed.
I still believe in fortune.
One day mum said:

"Always believe in fortune,
Never ever give it up,
Riches will come in time,
So let the clock chime,
And always believe in fortune."

**Rachel Taylor, Form I
First Prize**

Fireworks Night

Bang! Bang! Go the fireworks as they are let off. Children playing with sparklers trying to make pictures as they twirl them around. Whizz! Snap! They let off more fireworks: red, blue, green. As they come down it is like powder being sprinkled over the world. The screechers go soaring through the sky as though they are trying to reach the moon. The fire is blazing furiously as though trying to get out of a cage. Then on the top, is the poor guy, burning into ashes. The catherine wheels go whizzing round, letting out thousands of coloured diamonds. Then the Roman candle like a tiny volcano spurts colourful lava everywhere. Fireworks night; I can't wait until next year!

**Steven Buchanan, Form I
Runner-up**

On waking up (After Franz Kafka)

He awoke.

He was feeling tired, uncomfortable and very very hungry and his feet were getting cold anyway. He wondered if he should get up. If he did, he could make himself a delicious breakfast in the kitchen and take it back to bed with him. On the other hand he could get up and grab a snack and dive back into bed again. He decided on the first idea.

He tried to get out of bed but found it impossible. He somehow couldn't make his hand reach the sheets. It was as if his hand, in fact, both his arms and his hands had shrunk. He couldn't even see them, yet he could feel something scrabbling about round his stomach. His stomach! What a strange place for a pair of arms to grow! He tried pushing himself out using his feet but to his horror and dismay they also were little less than a foot long.

He decided to try and fall out of bed and stand up. He started rocking backwards and forwards, backwards and forwards, till at long last the sheets were flung loose and he fell crash, bang on to the middle of the floor, lying sprawled out on the carpet. The strange thing was that it didn't even hurt falling out of his four foot high bed. Now, he thought, there's got to be something behind all this. Maybe some magnificent transmutation had happened to him. Maybe he wasn't what he was or was what he wasn't. It seemed as if he also had eyes on the top of his head the way that he was looking at things. He tried to look as far round himself as possible and then he noticed a strange sight. He had a tail, a long tail. He could hardly believe his eyes. There was only one thing left that he hadn't tried. He should have tried it earlier. Why didn't he think of it before. The mirror. He made his way over to it. It was a big, long mirror. He stared into it. On each side of his mouth he had a long, lower tooth which showed outside the upper teeth when his jaws were shut. He had a snout which was notched for the two teeth. He noticed behind him, under, and just poking out from his back end a pair of webbed feet. His eyes were just as he thought — right on top of his head. What was he going to do now?

"It will be hard", he thought, "Especially when you're a Crocodile".

**P. T. Goody, Form II
First Prize**

The Planet

The yellow planet on which no living creature can survive, floated aimlessly among the vivid stars. A dark mist hung permanently in the atmosphere which was bitterly cold. Yellow foliage lay sparsely among the dust and large, gloomy rocks. Mysterious craters were

situated in many places, their dark depths raising debatable questions. Some of these craters were the size of a bus, others a mere ditch.

The eerie silence was broken by a loud 'whoosh' and a cloud of dust appeared as an asteroid pierced the heavy mist and landed, leaving a sizeable dent in the murky, yellow soil. It rolled for a short time before wallowing in a crater full of dust. It was a reasonably large, irregular shape off which steam rose into space.

A deafening explosion followed the asteroid and one of the small, but alarmingly powerful volcanoes erupted, exhaling a cloud of hot, volcanic ash which was the significant warning of a lava eruption. It spouted up, red and abundant. It rolled down the side in rivers and stopped at the bottom letting off poisonous gas. The eruption ceased and the planet was once again silent but for the Lunar Winds.

**Calum Nicol, Form II
Runner-up**

Here comes another world disaster,
Come on man, shoot a little faster,
Come on soldier, load your gun.
Justice, justice, will be done.

How high you climb,
Or far you run,
You'll pay for your crime.
Justice, justice will be done.

Golden, brassy, how bright the cartridge,
Load it in man, in your gun.
Aim and fire, a little higher.
Justice, justice must be done.

If he runs we will follow,
We will chase until the morrow,
Chase that man, kill his son.
Justice, justice will be done.

I missed you then, I have you now,
I'll break your will, I'll smash your dreams,
'Till I triumph with your screams.
Justice, justice will be done.

Now you're dead; your blood was red,
From your corpse I cut your head,
I put it on the highest pole,
I freed the evil from your soul.
Justice, justice will be done.

**Jon Minihane, Form III
First Prize**

Wars or Games?

Both went down, each was ready.
What was going to happen? Was it going to be a high lob or a hit and run? Whatever the opposition, they would be

ready, he could guarantee it. The bomb was set in the middle. It was placed into the hand of the missile launcher, both timed and primed. There was a call, then people running, defending their positions. The bomb launched quickly; it flew high into the air into the enemy's territory. It flew far and was going to the heart of the enemies' positions. Their hearts were beating. What will happen? Will this be the end? Will they be the only ones to stop it? The bomb flew into the hands of someone on the same side. Touchdown! The ball landed. It's brilliant! Hurray!

But what if that ball had really been a bomb? Would the world react like a touchdown? What if the points were worlds or countries and think — could a game become a war . . . ?

**Jaime Scott, Form III
Runner-up**

MOCKBE!

The bookshop was stuffed with people, and books. By all the shelves stood men and women with their heads crooked to one side, like so many puzzled budgerigars, straining to read the titles. Some had managed to bury themselves in a corner, surrounded by words, words, words. One or two younger ones sat in the middle of passages, one leg to each side, unashamedly reading. Everyone was cocooned in his own interests, for a bookshop is the home of every pursuit. The shop was silent. A collection of people hunting, each in his own world: hunting for their ideal bedside reading; hunting for an illustrated guide to river and stream; for their mother's birthday present; for the next book on their school reading list. A tall, elegant lady detached herself from the shelves clutching her prey, paid for it and went out into the world outside. As she walked along the street she began to read. "The coach for Newcastle moved off from the bus station".

The bus sped along the motorway, through the street-lit towns, under the bridges and on, an island of talking and laughter, into the distance. The small community it contained, united by their desire to arrive in Newcastle the next morning, all felt special in their own way. The bus gave them a sense of purpose and of importance. She sat amongst them, reading.

"The boat pulled away from the dock, Scandinavia bound. The gap between the pier and the ship widened. Alexandra could see her reflection in the oily water."

Looking down, the woman could see her reflection in the murkiness of the harbour. She was on her way. An excitement tensed the muscles in her arms and, feeling as if she was going to spill over, she gave a little skip and went

inside. She found the lounge and sat down again with her book.

"Fjords and mountains", "Saunas", "rolling in the snow", "skiing". She lay in the sauna, reading.

"The aeroplane landed in the dark, mysterious Moscow of the night. Alexandra held her breath with excitement."

Indeed her heart did miss a beat at the sight of the coloured onions which made up the city. Just as in the pictures, only brighter. And now, to find Lenin Prospect. First, time for a quick check with the book. Yes, 120 Lenin Prospect. She gathered up her coat and hurried off the plane.

She climbed the stairs of 120 Lenin Prospect, going round in circles, step after step, faster and faster. As she sensed she was reaching the top she stopped to turn over the last page. What would it say? Almost tripping over the words she read, she scrambled to the end of the story. But she wasn't prepared for what was coming. She shouldn't have chosen it from the crime section.

**Catherine Burns, Form IV
First Prize**

The Sweepers

On the bridge the captain looked at a minutely detailed chart. With a little concentration he realized that both of the trawlers had reached the end of the sweep. There was a sound of the klaxon and the sweep wires were slowly winched aboard the stern of the vessel.

They turned and headed down a new sweep. The wind was rising and there was a little bit of rain.

"Hey, skipper. What's the weather got in for us?" said the winchman. All the crew knew that this skipper was a veteran and had a knack for meteorology. "It will die down, I think" shouted back the skipper. "At least I hope so".

The two minesweepers continued on their long, uneventful vigil. They were two very ordinary trawlers, but painted grey. They had been snatched from the shipyards as soon as the war had started and now, only two years later, they looked as though they were ready for the breakers. The cook was the only member of the crew who had been with them for two years in service.

The captain looked over the bows through the windows, blurred from the film of water that splashed up onto the foredeck and then gurgled out the scuppers. He saw that beyond him was a murky void except for the crest on the ship's wake. To port he saw the lights of the companion ship but to starboard he saw through the rain the faint lights of a small convoy that barely moved towards the shore. He had begun to think about home when there was a cry from the winchman, "Mine!"

"What's that you said?" shouted back the captain as he ran down towards the stern of the boat.

"There's a mine on the sweep wire sir," replied the now excited man. "It'll be cut from its anchor if we continue".

Right enough, the menacing black ball with an array of spikes floated up to the surface between the two boats. The crew started to shoot at it with rifles hoping to explode it and witness the spectacular pyrotechnics that would ensue. But not this time; the mine sank and then there was a loud bang, muffled by the water, which shook both boats and soaked their crews in a spray of sea water.

The cook emerged with a battered old kettle. Within it lay the likely prospect of a cup of hot sweet tea or chocolate, but never coffee.

All the crew usually did was sit around and drink the cook's reviving concoctions. They had duties at points on a sweep, like oiling the winch which had to be kept at a certain tension to be safe and to do its job.

As the day wore on, they got tired and then bored. But they had to stay awake.

Suddenly an explosion was heard and then screams. The captain looked out of the bridge window and saw the sister vessel listing badly. Men were screaming as they were burnt alive by the fire that followed the explosion. They had hit a mine. It had happened before.

Already the crew of his own boat had launched their lifeboat and gone in pursuit of survivors that had managed to get clear of the floating incinerator. They managed to get two but there were no more.

They watched mournfully as the minesweeper slowly disappeared beneath the surface of the sea. The sweep was abandoned and they headed back to shore with the sadness of the loss of their fellow boat's crew. The skipper called through the silence on the boat. "What a bloody business this war is". Then he broke down and cried. The crew, as they mourned, helped to clean up the wounded.

**Roger Jamieson, Form IV
Runner-up**

Other People

Other people kiss by my window,
Or laugh upon the stair;
But as I walk past, my head bent low,
I pretend I never cared.

To see the others go walking by,
Arm in arm, happy as can be;
While none could know but myself and I,
How little they could see.

And so I sit alone at night,
Staring out my cold window;
And watch the moon, like other people,
Happy, soon to go.

James Wood, Form VI

RUGBY

After last year's North American tour we returned to more familiar pastures for our pre-season tour in France. Although the results (won one and lost three) were disappointing the only game that was out of our reach was that against Narbonne. The remaining games against Limoux, Gruissan and St. Affrique were all close and against Gruissan, the day after the Limoux game we found out that the French had an extremely liberal interpretation of the substitute ruling.

However, it was a marvellous tour: the weather throughout was tremendous and hospitality at all matches was first class. In addition, because Jean Faure arranged matches in interesting places we were able to see a lot of Languedoc. For example, on the way to Limoux we were able to visit Carassonne and the Haute Vallee de l'Aude but the match against St. Affrique provided us with a memorable day. Having left early we climbed through marvellously breath-taking scenery into the Guennes and on to Rocqufort where we were met and shown round the caves and presented with a whole Rocqufort. From there to St. Affrique was a short journey but we were most warmly received by the rugby-club who hosted our party in excellent fashion both before and after the match. Another great discovery on this trip for Messrs. Du Boulay, Barnes and Keir was Aquilant at Cap d' Agde which gave a slightly different dimension to beach and sun-bathing activities. Fortunately, I managed to escape without injury or mosquito bites this year.

The school programme began with a very convincing win (54-0) against Perth Academy with Kris Boon scoring 4 tries. Dominick Diamond and Graeme McLay two each and Dave Smith and Joffy Christie one each. Dominick kicked six conversions and Ken Smith one but sadly place-kicking was not always to be a strength throughout the season.

The Old Boys' side was one of the strongest and fittest for many years with Rich Reah, as captain, playing as well as I can remember. However, the loss of our full back, Euan Grant, in the first few minutes did not help the school side to settle and we had to survive a difficult early period. Callum Bannerman did a lot of good work for the Old Boys' at the back of the line and Rich Reah kept us going back with some very finely judged kicking. Yet the scrum with the front row of Neville Drummond, Ken Smith (captain) and Archie Millar stood up extremely well under strong pressure. With only a 0-3 deficit at half-time the game was still well within reach, but the Old Boys continued strongly and although the score was kept down to 0-12, a late try by Rich Reah sealed the match and rounded off a fine individual performance.

Already the bane for the season — injuries — made itself felt! For Rannoch, Ken Smith moved to scrum half for injured Dave Thompson and the lack of Neville Drummond at tight-head disrupted our scrumming more than expected. (Neville was to be a tower of strength throughout the season and there are many on the circuit who were amazed that he was not selected for Scottish Schools). Thus the forwards as a unit never seemed to fire on all cylinders and the linkage between forwards and backs was not good. However, at half-time we led 18-0 with tries from Joffy Christie, Kris Boon, Dominick Diamond and Graeme McLay. It could have been a resounding victory but we fizzled out like a damp squib.

Further injuries to Charlie Temple and Joffy Christie (both fairly lengthy) did not help our cause which was exacerbated by Andy Beath having to pull out at the last minute of the match against Fettes. Fortunately both scrum half and tight-head returned to the fray. The young but very able forward Nigel Howes moved from back row to replace Charlie at lock and Gavin Clark made his first appearance in the back row. A careless pass in the 22 was intercepted to provide an early 0-4 deficit but we responded well all round, no-one more so than Alistair Robertson. A back row move on the open, linking with the backs provided the equalising score just before half-time for Kevin Russell. Early in the second half we had to withstand some very heavy pressure but having weathered the storm we emerged with two good tries by Kris Boon and Ken Smith, the former being converted for a final score of 10-4.

In an attempt to cover for injuries some re-arrangement was tried in the backs for the Glenalmond game. Essentially this involved Dominick moving to full back and a young fly-half, James Jacobsen, filling the former's position. On both accounts this proved not to be successful but it was not a good performance all round and apart from the tight, we did not compete at a high-enough level around the field. It was a most decisive 0-34 defeat.

Kris Boon, Archie Millar and Gavin Clark all had to be replaced for the Loretto match. It was a pity that Andy Rodger, Mike James and Johnny Ball had such a baptism of fire against Loretto. However, we were the first to exert pressure which sadly was not maintained, allowing them a relatively easy score. Dave Thompson responded with a fine piece of individual play and a try on the blind. With only 10 minutes to go in the first half, the wind and the slope in our favour in the second half, things looked promising. At this stage everything seemed to go to pieces and for no

particularly obvious reason Loretto increased the score from 4-9 to 4-22 and the match was sealed. We failed to capitalise on early pressure in the second half and apart from a good solo effort from a double-dummy scissors by Dominick to score under the posts, it was Loretto who finished very much on top at 32-10.

An early score against Merchiston by Andy Beath, who had an excellent game against Loretto, was just the fillip we needed. However, Merchiston replied before half-time with two scores to make it 10-4. Our forwards played exceptionally well throughout this game with Max Adam playing from the back row (with Dave Smith and Alastair Robertson) and giving Scottish internationalist Peter Walton a lot to think about on the lines-out. This was a much improved performance against a very strong Merchiston side; we had won a lot of ball but scoring chances were missed by forwards holding on to the ball too long or half-backs taking the wrong option.

Injuries to Joffy Christie and Nigel Howes and an enforced absence meant further changes were necessary for Edinburgh Academy. Mudzaf Zaid returned to the wing and Craig McLay had his first game at wing forward. Gavin Clark, returning for the first time since being injured at Glenalmond, had an excellent game at the back of the line and in the loose foraging on the ground and burrowing into rucks and mauls like a Stakanovite. A good try by Kris Boon seemed to set the seal on some solid early play but, surprisingly, we assumed that it was all over and thereby allowed Edinburgh to dominate the game. A further minor irritation came when Alan Pearson had to leave the field with concussion — Fraser Lennox substituted well on the wing. At 4-6 down we woke up and played some good rugby in the last stages but, frustratingly, could not capitalise on possession and territorial advantage. Dominik, however, made amends for missing out on a 4-1 by slotting over a last minute penalty to win 7-6.

With Andrew Beath injured again, (for the Morrison's match) Johnny Ball came in at full back, Dominik moved to the wing to replace the injured Alan Pearson and Fraser Lennox was retained at fly-half. The forward dominance provided the platform for some good early play, the first try being scored by Kris Boon after a good break by Graeme McLay who also did the spade work for the second try scored by Gavin Clark, well up in support. Unfortunately, the appalling weather conditions did not help to provide quality rugby and we did not capitalise on good possession. As a result of this and poor support play between

forwards and backs the final score was restricted to 16-6.

A closely contested game against the highly rated Dollar XV produced a somewhat infuriating result. A draw would probably have been a fair result but had we taken full advantage of two 5 yard scrums at crucial stages, the result could easily have gone our way. As it was we lost on the penalty count of 3-2.

Joffy Christie returned for the Stewarts Melville game but in return we lost Archie Millar. Against a very big pack we were unable to secure enough line-out ball and we squandered a lot of good scrum ball between No. 8 and scrum half. It was this lost possession in addition to missed tackles in mid-field which meant that we lost by the narrowest of margins 10-11.

Our next game was against Scots School, an Australian touring side. Against a bigger and heavier side we did well and, in general, it was a much better all round performance. There was no score at half-time. In the second half Scots School used the climatic conditions well and kept us pinned in our own half for long spells. It was during one such sustained period that their No. 8 scored a good try. We replied well but could only manage three points. Their final try came through a good sequence of inter-play between forwards and backs. It was, therefore, a creditable performance although still disappointing to lose 3-8. Once again it was good to see, however, that Strathallan was on the map as the only side in Scotland to play this Australian side.

This year both Kelvinside and Glasgow Academy had very powerful sides, certainly among the best in Scotland. Thus it was to be no easy end to the season. In addition, injuries abounded both before and during each of these games. At one stage against Kelvinside we were down to 13 men with our only replacement Eddie Parker already on the field.

Eddie was to substitute in the Glasgow game and did extremely well in both matches. One try conceded in each half was the sum total against Kelvinside. However, the inaccuracy of the final pass cost us vital scores which might have produced a similar shock result to that of David's.

It was disappointing to end the season by recording a 0-11 defeat against Glasgow Academy but, in fact, this was by no means a poor result against an undoubtedly talented and very powerful side. Injuries again had severely depleted our side with five changes from the previous week and our stalwart centre Graeme McLay having to stand in at scrum half as he had done so valiantly and skilfully for the second half against Kelvinside.

Overall the season was extremely disappointing but the statistics which tell the clinical part of the story do not convey the tremendous commitment that was evident from the Merchiston game onwards against a series of very good sides. Ken Smith, who along with Dave Smith (No. 8), Max Adam and Graeme McLay, played in all games led the side with great spirit from the heart of the scrum. It was undoubtedly, the worst season that I can remember since my very first year with the 1st XV and this must be taken into account.

Every side needs its fair share of luck and when things are going well luck seems to be on your side. Sadly the converse seems to apply equally well! Within a week we lost 6-9 to Dollar, 10-11 to Stewarts Melville and 3-8 to Scots School: all could have gone our way, lifted spirits much higher and transformed the season's statistics.

Due to other commitments this year we were only able to compete in the Merchiston 7's and were unfortunate to come up against Glasgow Academy. However, as I'd predicted, this gave us a chance to win the Plate Competition: sadly my prediction did not quite come true as we lost to Stewarts Melville in the final.

1st XV colours were awarded to:—K. D. Smith; N. J. Drummond; A. M. Robertson; G. D. McLay, J. A. A. Christie. Half colours were awarded to:—M. Adam; A. Millar; D. G. Smith; D. M. Thompson. Scottish Schools Trialist/Presidents XV Representation — N. J. Drummond and J. A. A. Christie.

The 4th XV, captained by Bruce Guy, repeated their success of the previous season, losing only one game. Bruce managed to engender a good team spirit and his squad showed a high standard of basic skills with thirty-one tries scored by



the wings they were certainly an exciting side to watch. The 7th XV, however, latterly captained by Graeme Reid were the only unbeaten side, averaging almost 40 points per game.

In the junior sides Cameron Cook the captain of the U.15's deserves a special mention not only for representing the Midlands in all games but also for being selected for the Scotland squad versus Wales. Chris Clark and Kirk Clark also represented the Midlands in the final game. Sadly this may well be the last occasion that our young players have the opportunity of district rugby since it appears that an H.M.C. decision may well prevent our participation in future.

As a side the U.15's had a very disappointing season. Unfortunately the balance was not redressed by the U.14's, although they did score a lot of points: their outstanding feature was in the forwards with Glen Jones at prop and an excellent back-row trio of Tim Lawrence, David Smart and Rory Mudie. Mr Thomson's winning formula came unstuck mainly because half of his U.13 side were in fact U.12. This very young side, therefore, lacked bulk and ball skills but made up for this with bags of enthusiasm. With only 18 boys coming into the school at U.12 this side was obviously weakened too but similarly did not lack enthusiasm.

My thanks go to all the coaches without whom we would not be able to field anything like fifteen rugby sides, to Mrs Clayton and her assistants in the sewing room, to sister and to Craig Young and his staff for all their care and consideration.

B.R.

Rugby Results 1986/7

1st XV

v. Perth Academy	Won	54- 0
v. Rannoch	Won	18- 4
v. Fettes	Won	14- 4
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-34
v. Loretto	Lost	10-32
v. Merchiston	Lost	4-13
v. Edinburgh Acad.	Won	7- 6
v. Morrison's Acad.	Won	16- 6
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	6- 9
v. Stewarts Melville	Lost	10-11
v. Scots School (Aust.)		

	Lost	3- 8
v. Kelvinside Acad.	Lost	0- 8
v. Glasgow Acad.	Lost	0-11

Club Match

v. Old Boys	Lost	0-18
-------------	------	------

Schools

Played 13, Won 5, Lost 8
Points for 142
Points against 146

All matches

Played 14, Won 5, Lost 9
Points for 142
Points against 164

2nd XV

v. Q.V.S. 1st XV	Won	42- 0
v. Fettes	Won	8- 0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0- 9
v. Loretto	Lost	0- 8
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-36
v. Edinburgh Acad. drawn		4- 4
v. Morrisons Acad. Won		36- 0
v. Dollar Academy Lost		6- 9
v. Stewarts Melville Won		9- 0
v. Kelvinside Acad. Lost		4-10
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		20- 0
Played 11, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 5		
Points for 149		
Points against 76		

3rd XV

v. Perth Academy 2nd XV		
Won		20- 0
v. Rannoch 2nd XV Won		13- 0
v. Fettes Won		11- 0
v. Glenalmond Lost		0-39
v. Loretto Lost		6-24
v. Merchiston Lost		4-24
v. Edinburgh Acad. Lost		6-22
v. Dollar Academy Won		19- 4
v. Stewarts Melville Lost		6- 7
v. Kelvinside Acad. Lost		0-11
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		3- 0
Played 11, Won 5, Lost 6		
Points for 88		
Points against 131		

4th XV

v. Q.V.S. 2nd XV Won		22-10
v. Fettes Won		12- 0
v. Glenalmond Won		8- 3
v. Loretto Won		4- 3
v. Merchiston Lost		4-26
v. Edinburgh Acad. Won		18-10
v. Morrisons Acad. 3rd XV		
Won		50- 3
v. Dollar Academy Won		72- 0
v. Kelvinside Acad. Won		20- 6
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		42- 4
v. Howe of Fife Colts		
Won		48- 8
Played 11, Won 10, Lost 1		
Points against 69		
Points for 300		

5th XV

v. Rannoch 3rd XV Won		19- 4
v. Fettes Won		12- 4
v. Glenalmond Won		6- 4
v. Loretto Lost		0- 4
v. Merchiston Lost		4-14
v. Edinburgh Acad. drawn		4- 4
v. Kelvinside Acad. Won		36- 6
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		52- 0
Played 8, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 2		
Points for 133		
Points against 40		

6th XV

v. Q.V.S. 3rd XV Lost		0- 4
v. Fettes Lost		3- 6
v. Glenalmond Lost		4-30
v. Loretto Lost		4-15
v. Merchiston Lost		0-38
v. Edinburgh Acad. Won		30- 0
v. Kelvinside Acad. Won		56- 6

Played 7, Won 2, Lost 5

Points for 97
Points against 99**7th XV**

v. Glenalmond Won		20-18
v. Merchiston Won		34- 0
v. Edinburgh Acad. Won		76- 0
v. Glenalmond Won		26-20
Played 4, Won 4		
Points for 156		
Points against 38		

U.15 'A' XV

v. Q.V.S.	Lost	6-12
v. Rannoch Won		16- 8
v. Fettes Lost		14-28
v. Glenalmond Lost		4-13
v. Loretto Won		3- 0
v. Merchiston Lost		4-40
v. Edinburgh Acad. Lost		6-14
v. Morrison's Acad. Lost		4-22
v. Dollar Academy Won		22- 6
v. Glenalmond Lost		4- 7
v. Glasgow Acad. Lost		0-64
Played 11, Won 3, Lost 8		
Points for 83		
Points against 245		

U.15 'B' XV

v. Perth Academy 'A' XV		
Lost		8-14
v. Fettes Won		10- 8
v. Glenalmond Lost		52- 0
v. Loretto Lost		20-24
v. Merchiston Lost		0-16
v. Edinburgh Acad. Won		18- 6
v. Glenalmond Won		46- 0
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		22- 4
Played 8, Won 5, Lost 3		
Points for 188		
Points against 82		

U.15 'C' XV

v. Glenalmond Won		32- 0
v. Merchiston Won		22- 8
v. Glenalmond Lost		0- 4
v. Glasgow Acad. Lost		0-44

Played 4, Won 2, Lost 2
Points for 54
Points against 56**U.14 'A' XV**

v. Q.V.S.	Lost	0-28
v. Rannoch Won		28- 0
v. Fettes Won		28- 6
v. Glenalmond Lost		0-34
v. Loretto Lost		0-18
v. Merchiston Won		38- 0
v. Edinburgh Acad. Won		12- 4
v. Morrison's Acad. Won		52- 0
v. Dollar Academy Won		22- 3
v. Glenalmond Lost		0-36
v. Glasgow Acad. Won		44- 0
Played 11, Won 6, Lost 5		
Points for 232		
Points against 133		

U.14 'B' XV

v. Perth Academy 'A' XV		
Lost		4-54
v. Glenalmond Lost		12-22
v. Loretto Won		34-12
v. Merchiston Won		28- 8
v. Edinburgh Acad. Lost		4-24
v. Glenalmond Won		24-12
v. Glasgow Acad. Lost		12-22
Played 7, Won 3, Lost 4		
Points for 118		
Points against 154		

U.14 'C' XV

v. Glenalmond Lost		4- 8
v. Loretto Lost		0-10
v. Merchiston Won		26- 4
v. Glenalmond Lost		8-14
v. Glasgow Acad. Lost		0-36
Played 5, Won 1, Lost 4		
Points for 38		
Points against 72		

U.13

v. Rannoch Won		60- 0
v. Merchiston Lost		4-26
v. Edinburgh Acad. drawn		8- 8
v. Morrison's Acad. Lost		12-28
v. Dollar Academy Lost		0- 8
v. Q.V.S. Won		16- 8
Played 6, Won 2, Drawn 1 Lost 3		
Points for 100		
Points against 78		

U.12

v. Q.V.S.	Lost	4- 8
v. New Park Lost		0-40
v. Craigclowan Lost		0-24
v. Ardurech Lost		4-12
v. Croftinloan Lost		12-16
v. Edinburgh Acad. Lost		0-32
Played 6, Lost 6		
Points for 20		
Points against 132		

Narbonne Tour — Aug./Sept. 1986

Narbonne v Strathallan (26- 3) Lost
 Limoux v Strathallan (16- 8) Lost
 Gruissan v Strathallan (10- 0) Lost
 St. Affrique v Strathallan (6-10) Won

Rugby.

A game of prose and poetry,
 Of passing and pushing,
 Forwards and backs;
 In the scrum the hookers hack,
 The backs in speed make up the for-
 wards' lack.

Jon Minihihane, Form III



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HOCKEY



Because of continued industrial action in the state schools, compiling fixtures lists was again a headache. The first casualty was the inter-school tournament which is usually held in February and is therefore an aim for our winter indoor programme and a yardstick for our standards. Fortunately enthusiasm for the indoor game did not wane and we were able to field three teams with a fair degree of success in the first half of the Spring term. The first team won four out of five including narrow victories over a strong but 'not as fit as this time last year' Old Boys squad and Monifieth High School, who are usually finalists in the inter-school cup. Only Glenalmond, vigorous but more skilful than before, beat the first team. Thursday skiing meant rearrangement of the rest of the week so practice times were harder to find, but we were very grateful to Maurice Wilson, Scotland's indoor goalkeeper who, with Old Strathallian internationalist Mike Yellowlees, gave our keepers a memorable evening.

Outdoors, there was no repeat of last year's snows and the hard pitch was quickly in use for games against the Scottish Schools Under 16 squad. (Their pool made use of our facilities for training throughout the year). Inevitably the sides were rather 'scratch' but the matches were of reasonable quality. Once the 1st XI had settled and distribution improved, goals came quickly and a good win was recorded. The Old Boys fixture was moved to the hockey term for the first time and the opposition, made up mainly from the last two years' unbeaten XIs, provided the hoped-for test. In an excellent game in heavy rain, the Old Boys soon went into a commanding lead and only brilliant goals by Lennox pegged them back to 3-2 at half time. With legs going, the 'oldies' couldn't withstand the 1st XI's onslaught and they went down moderately cheerfully, 4-3. At last we were able to welcome Abbey School from Fort Augustus for matches. Their young side played some skilful hockey but couldn't cope with our pace and, with Lennox again leading the way, goals came freely and we won convincingly. Gordonstoun arrived the following Sunday but we nearly had to send them on their way. At 9 a.m. the pitch had 2 inches of snow, but by 10 (thanks to a miraculous thaw and some curling practice by RJWP and his slaves), the surface was fit for the scheduled games. The Colts sides drew in a fine open match, but the Gordonstoun

1st XI looked jaded after their heavy programme the previous day, never adjusted to the fast pitch and were easily beaten 6-1. Fettes away on the dreaded grass was not an inviting prospect. We always 'freeze' in this game and play the wrong sort of tactics. We also miss strokes and although we converted one they scored, and we needed a bit of luck in the closing stream of eight successive short corners to hang on for a draw. The contrast with the next game versus Morgan Academy on Superturf could not have been greater. Here proper hockey could be played and we quickly took control to score 4 fine first half goals. Something unexplained then happened to our cohesion and we were unable to score again. The gremlins were still there a few days later against an efficient Aberdeen Grammar School side. The midfield lost its customary grip and we slid to our first defeat in Scotland in three years and our first home loss since the hard pitch was laid. 2-0 down at half time the team fought hard, but with no luck or real control and another goal was conceded before the end. The Monifieth side was young but talented, but the 1st XI was in no mood to be trifled with and Hatfield scored regularly to give us another big win. In the final term game with Loretto we fell back into playing the opposition's tactics. More goals should have been scored but the visitors were fast and determined and we had to be content with another draw.

Several key players were missing for the Oxford Festival so we approached the first game with Trinity School, Croydon with trepidation. Oxford was its usual damp and cold self, but on a moderate pitch we had an entertaining game which we just managed to shade. A touring side, the Kestrels, were our next opponents. Again it rained but the surface was excellent and hockey to match was produced by both sides. Some wonderful goals were scored, including three by an inspired Hatfield, and all agreed that it was one of the finest games we have ever been involved in. We hope the Kestrels may come to Scotland. A return to a familiar hard pitch against St. Edmunds made it easy for us, the opposition never coming to terms with the surface. After two such good days the last was a great disappointment. By now pitches were becoming impossible. In the morning match, Aldenham scored first while the ball would still move and, despite enormous pressure and thanks to some fine goalkeeping, we could never score in a

match we should have easily won. The afternoon was as bad. The pitch was bumpy and wet. Colstons arrived late and neither side looked like scoring before the 1988 Festival! Nevertheless Oxford was enjoyed by all for its sociability. RJWP's tender loving care and one area of wet turf.

Hugh Fitzpatrick was voted player of the Festival and over the whole season was perhaps the most reliable performer. The young James Clement had the same quality and good distribution, but lacked pace on the turn. Speed was not Jonathan Christie's problem and his skills improved steadily. Gavin Clark played effectively at right half, if not with much finesse, while in midfield. Fraser Lennox and Ken Smith had good games early in the term. Bob Hatfield and Andrew Bullard were always dangerous in attack. Bob scoring frequently and Andrew doing a lot of unselfish running. On the left wing, Robin Gray was fast and direct, while on the other flank Kevin Russell nipped in at vital times but needs to improve his close skills. Captain Mark Russell kept goal with a calm authority throughout the season and I am grateful to him and Hugh Fitzpatrick for their efficient administration. At various times Andrew Beath and Chris Main filled in usefully, and at Oxford, Graeme McLay, Mudzaffar Zaid and Rinnes Brown added pace. Steven Philip emerged as a player of real potential in the midfield.

The outstanding team of the year was the Senior Colts which won all its games, bar one, usually by enormous margins. Their goalkeeper Duncan Spinner and James Clement from the 1st. XI were capped in the Under 16 Scottish side. Captain Rinnes Brown got to the final trials. This strong group gives hope for the future, even if the standard of this year's 2nd. and 3rd. XIs was not so good as usual. Fixtures for the Junior Colts were particularly hard to find but their season was fairly successful. So too was Riley's whose six came near to qualifying for the final of the rearranged Strathallan tournament. Our thanks go to the schools who reorganised their programmes at such short notice to attend.

My personal thanks go to the diminishing band of coaches, those who took games with such good grace, the ground staff for keeping pitches in good order, Mr Young for feeding and watering and the sewing room ladies for maintaining the ubiquitous 1st. XI shirts so smartly.

J.N.F.

Results

1st XI

v. SSHA Under 16 XI	Won	4-2
v. Old Strathallians	Won	4-3
v. Abbey	Won	5-0
v. Gordonstoun	Won	6-1
v. Fettes	Drawn	1-1
v. Morgan Academy	Won	5-0
v. Aberdeen G.S.	Lost	0-3
v. Monifieth H.S.	Won	6-1
v. Loretto	Drawn	2-2

Oxford Festival

v. Trinity, Croydon	Won	2-1
v. Kestrels	Lost	3-5
v. St. Edmunds,		
Canterbury	Won	3-0
v. Aldenham	Lost	0-1
v. Colstons	Drawn	0-0

2nd XI

v. SSHA Under 16 XI	Won	3-2
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-2
v. Stewarts Melville	Drawn	2-2
v. Fettes	Lost	0-1
v. Rannoch	Lost	0-1
v. Loretto	Lost	2-3

3rd XI

v. Glenalmond	Lost	1-3
v. Fettes	Lost	0-5
v. Loretto	Won	3-2

4th XI

v. Fettes	Lost	1-5
v. Loretto	Drawn	4-4

Senior Colts A XI

v. SSHA Under 15 XI	Won	5-3
v. Fettes	Won	9-0
v. Abbey	Won	4-0
v. Gordonstoun	Drawn	2-2
v. Aberdeen G.S.	Won	13-0
v. Watsons	Won	2-1
v. Loretto	Won	3-0

Senior Colts B XI

v. Stewarts Melville	Won	9-1
v. Fettes	Lost	0-2
v. Loretto	Won	5-0

Junior Colts A XI

v. Fettes	Lost	1-2
v. Monifieth H.S.	Won	1-0
v. Loretto	Lost	0-4

Junior Colts B XI

v. Fettes	Won	6-0
v. Lathallan	Won	1-0
v. Loretto	Won	3-2

Riley XIs

v. Cargilfield	Lost	0-2
v. Ardvreck	Drawn	1-1
v. Clifton Hall	Drawn	2-2
v. Fettes	Drawn	1-1
v. Monifieth H.S.	Won	3-2
v. Rannoch	Lost	0-1

Overall Record Won 23, Drawn 9, Lost 15, Cancelled 5. Goals for 128, Goals against 69.

Teams

1st XI

M. D. Russell* (Captain), H. A. T. Fitzpatrick* (Secretary), K. D. Smith*, D. F. Lennox*, R. A. Hatfield*, A. G. A. Bullard*, G. J. M. Clark†, K. J. Russell, R. J. Gray, J. A. A. Christie, J. M. Clement.

Also played: C. M. Main, A. A. Beath.

* Full Colours † Half colours

2nd XI

G. M. Adam (Captain), G. Cowie, G. D. McLay, A. M. Robertson, T. A. M. Zaid, A. A. Beath, C. M. Main, D. J. Clark, J. B. Harris, S. Neish, C. E. Benton, R. Moffat.

Senior Colts XI

R. G. Brown (Captain), D. C. Spinner, R. A. Jones, F. M. Fyfe, F. D. Dalrymple, A. D. Lochore, C. S. Churchill, N. E. Whitley, G. M. Webster, C. Clark, S. R. M. Philip. Also played: J. A. Jacobsen.

Junior Colts XI

From: C. Cook (Captain), N. Dempsey, C. Simmers, M. Clement, A. Khan, C. Philip, M. Vance, F. Small, H. McKenzie-Wilson, R. Sang, S. Walker, D. Smart, H. Blanche, J. Winchester.

SUMMER HOCKEY

The introduction of new options meant that the number choosing to play hockey in the summer was down compared to previous years. The inclusion of a number of girls meant that practice games approached 11-a-side, but selection for matches was restricted to the 16 or so boys playing regularly. Not surprisingly, our team was weaker than recently, and the most charitable way of describing the results of our four matches (against Fettes, Glenalmond, Rannoch and Edinburgh Academy) is to say that they were consistent!

However, not all was gloom and despair. The first source of encouragement was the good spirit shown both in practices and matches; the second the fact that more than half the first choice side had not yet reached the sixth form. These younger players will form the nucleus of what is a potentially very good side over the next few years — Mr Williams and I will take great delight in watching them exact revenge for this year's disappointments.

The following played for the XI during the season: H. Fitzpatrick (Captain), A. Barr, P. Cleland, J. Clement, M. Clement, N. Dempsey, F. Fyfe, M. James, R. Jones, A. Lochore, C. McCall-Smith, G. Piper, S. Smith, D. Spinner.

A.M.P.



GIRLS' HOCKEY

The girls First XI hockey team has had another good season. With Mr Walker still in charge, vigorous training and newfound skills paid off as we started off the season with a string of victories. However, even though "the light did shine on us" this time, Morrisons once again got the better of us and ended our success with a fairly substantial score. Defeat however gave way to victory once more, and, without the help of the captain, who was at home with tonsillitis, the team once again won the tournament held at Gordonstoun. The schools involved were Gordonstoun, Fettes, and St. Margaret's. Once again victory was won over Kilgraston but in somewhat more amicable fashion this time. Strath playing in bare knees and quarters were not to be beaten in sub-zero temperatures by a well clad Madras team in ski jackets, gloves, hats and other such variations in their kit!

The second tour for the 1st XI was an eventful if somewhat unsuccessful trip to Malvern. The weather, colder than Scotland, a series of three hard matches in two days and rather uncomfortable sleeping conditions are our only excuses for the disappointing scores. Our failure however cannot be put down to lack of effort — sore backs and fatigue were our only complaints, and our thanks go to Miss Lees for organising the tour. Eating in MacDonalds in Malvern in our kilts will always be remembered!

There was a colourful and rather noisy conclusion to the hockey season with the Woodlands inter-wing tournament. As much, if not more, care was taken over dress as over play on this occasion — often more than just bare knees was revealed this time. A prize was awarded for the winning wing as well as the best dressed and supported wing. The "Turkish Delights" — (full of eastern promise) triumphed over the "West wing Warriors" and the "Northern Highlanders" for hockey talent. However the flashes of "mini-kilts" by the North wing won the prize for support and dress. Sore throats and streaks of war paint were the only scars from that event.

Well done everyone for another excellent season, especially to our two chief goalscorers; Nikki Corbett and Kate Orr, we certainly wouldn't have gained victory where we did without the talent and determination of those two. Also a thank you to Fiona Jardine who left us minus the smallest but toughest member of our team!

Good luck to all future hockey players — we still await an unbeaten season for the 1st XI.

Matches

v. Perth Academy	Won	5-0
v. Kilgraston	Won	2-0
v. George Heriots	Won	1-0
v. Madras	Won	5-2
v. Rannoch	Won	5-0
v. Perth Academy	Won	1-0
v. Madras	Won	1-0
v. Morrisons	Drawn	1-1
v. George Heriots	Drawn	0-0
v. Dundee High	Lost	2-1
v. Lomond	Lost	2-1

Tournament

v. Gordonstoun	Won	2-1
v. Fettes	Won	6-0
v. St Margarets	Won	1-0

Hockey tour to Malvern

v. Chase High	Lost	1-0
v. Malvern Girls College	Lost	2-0
v. Lawnsdale	Won	1-0

Team: Elisabeth Streule (Capt.), Viv Cornish (Vice-Capt.), Kate Orr, Nikki Corbett, Sharon Heggie, Tui Orr, Kirsty Reynolds, Rosie Rutherford, Amanda Robertson, Janette Wood, Anna Beath, Sheelagh Gordon, Ghillie Lawson, Jo Smith, Nikki McAuley.
E.S.

2nd XI

The 2nd XI began with a good first term with only one loss to their name. Kilgraston was well and truly beaten with a 5-1 victory to us. We also beat Dundee High 1-0 much to the pleasure of Rosie and their disappointment.

The second term however did not progress quite so smoothly due to many members being otherwise occupied with the play and the 1st XI. We did however beat Perth Academy 7-0 which made up for the other losses if not by goals alone!

For the first time the 2nd XI went on a trip to Malvern. This was a hectic time with three matches in two days and despite being tired and coachlagged we won two matches against Lawnsdale and the Chase High School. Unfortunately we lost to Malvern Girls College — much to the disappointment of Miss Lees. The tour was enjoyable.

Our thanks must go to Miss Lees who gave so much time and effort to the team. And my thanks must go to the team for going out and showing what the 2nd XI are made of.

v. High School of Glasgow	Drew	1-1
v. Morrisons	Drew	1-1
v. Perth Academy	Won	5-0
v. Kilgraston	Won	5-1
v. George Heriots	Lost	0-2
v. St Georges	Won	2-0
v. Dundee High	Won	1-0
v. George Herriots	Lost	0-4
v. Perth Academy	Won	7-0
v. Kilgraston	Drew	0-0
v. Morrisons	Lost	0-2
v. Carnoustie High	Lost	0-1
v. Lomond	Won	1-0

Tour

v. Lawnsdale	Won	2-0
v. The Chase High	Won	2-0
v. Malvern Girls College	Lost	0-4

Team:

Ghillie Lawson (Capt.), Nikki Tyson, Sarah Gibley, Caroline Batchelor, Elspeth Dickenson, Corrie McIver, Janette Wood, Susie Robb, Wendy Fleming, Katie Cook, Jo Smith, Sharon Bowring, Rosie Rutherford, Tui Orr, Jane Paterson, Lara Clayton, Amanda Robertson.

G.L.

U.15

Once more the U15 hockey team has had an extremely successful season, remaining undefeated throughout their 14 matches. This is the second consecutive season that the U15 team has been undefeated, due largely to the girls' enthusiasm and commitment to the team. It is an achievement of which the girls can be justifiably proud when one bears in mind that they are often competing against teams which have a much wider choice of players.

The captain this year was Rachel Adam. She has fulfilled this role most competently both on and off the field and was selected for the Midlands U16 pool during the Autumn Term.

Our new goalkeeper, Carol Anderson, was a most fortunate "new" discovery and her fearless performance in goal saved the match for her team on more than one occasion.

Alex Milne provided the "on field" entertainment with her spectacular display at the Midlands tournament which took place at Perth Academy on an extremely cold and windy day. It was sufficient for us to win that particular match but sadly not the tournament overall, as the team lost in the final to St. Leonards.

On the forward line Kirsty Boyd's adroit stick work and perseverance helped create many goals with Sonja Reid proving a very effective striker. Here, mention must be made of Hazel Niven who has beavered away on the left wing for the past three years. Maybe the time has finally come for her to move on to higher things!

Lynn Meldrum must count as one of the most improved players over the season and with her invaluable contribution strengthened the half line along with Sheila Dow and Rachel Adam's tireless efforts.

In conclusion, one must add that it was not so much individual effort but the excellent team effort which contributed to this successful season and every player deserves congratulations.

We were far more fortunate this year in the amount of fixtures able to be played. Only one fixture, v. Dollar, had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. The results for the year were as follows:

Home:

v. High School of Glasgow	Won	2-0
v. Morrison's Academy	Drew	1-1
v. Perth Academy	Won	6-0
v. Kilgraston	Won	3-0
v. George Heriots	Won	3-0
v. Dundee High	Won	1-0
v. Dollar	Won	1-0

Away:

v. St. Georges	Drew	0-0
v. Morrison's	Won	2-1
v. Perth Academy	Won	8-0
v. Kilgraston	Won	2-0
v. George Heriots	Drew	2-2
v. Madras (1)	Drew	1-1
(2)	Won	4-0

The team was selected from: R. Adam (Capt.), C. Anderson, A. Milne, E. Reekie, M. Mackinlay, S. Dow, L. Meldrum, H. Niven, K. Boyd, J. Clark, S. Reid, N. Beale.

This year we were also able to field a most enthusiastic 'B' team and their results were:

v. Rannoch	1-1
v. Madras (1)	0-0
(2)	2-0
v. Dundee High	0-1

The team was selected from: M. Mackinlay (Capt.), F. Dunbar, S. Stevenson, C. Green, J. Pate, K. Dick, N. Reid, A. Ross, S. Leiper, A. Barclay, H. Hawksford, J. Taylor, G. Addison.

J.C.

U.13

The girls U.13 hockey had a very good season this year with the Riley girls quickly forming a competent team, aided by four experienced Woodlands girls (Sara Dunlop, Caroline Stevenson, Elspeth Green and Kirsty Wood).

Out of the ten matches played both at home and away fixtures the overall results were pleasing with losses only to Rannoch and Fettes.

Several matches were cancelled due to the teachers' dispute. However, very few were cancelled due to poor weather conditions (although the Paddock did seem to be rather wet and slippery towards the end of 1st term).

The home tournament with Fettes, Craigclowan and Strathallan resulted in Fettes first, Strathallan a close second (after a hard fight!) and Craigclowan third overall.

I feel sure the girls leaving Riley for Woodlands will soon be making their mark in the U.15 hockey and those left behind for another year should form the basis for an excellent U.13 team once again.

The team was selected from: J. Clark (Capt.), S. Dunlop, C. Stevenson, E. Green, K. Wood (all Woodlands); N. Kennedy, E. Stephens, P. Tilley, C. Ninham, R. Taylor, A. Fraser, F. Clayton, T. Lannen, S. Blackstock, C. Tomlin, N. Hawksford, K. Miller.

Home:

v. Perth Academy	Won	6-0
v. Kilgraston	Won	3-0
v. Fettes	Drew	0-0
v. Fettes	Lost	0-1
v. Craigclowan	Won	2-1
v. Dollar 'B' Team	Won	4-1

Away:

v. Perth Academy	Drew	1-1
v. Rannoch (mixed team)	Lost	0-1
v. Morrisons	Won	2-1
v. Kilgraston	Won	1-0

Field of Honour

The fog hung heavy on the air. A light drizzle was falling, creating puddles of murky water on the green astroturf. Above the field hung four great globes of light, barely piercing that thick mist of cloud.

Suddenly, out of the mist burst a gargantuan beast, sprinting through the defenders, wielding his two-handed wea-

pon. He came on. His target was obviously the palisade of the gods. He neared the last line of defence, the "King of the 'D'" — me.

I sprinted out, my mind consciously aware of the large gaps in my clanking armour. We met at the top of the 'D'. Suddenly, without warning, a small missile detached itself from the ground and began to speed its way towards my face. I slithered down in an attempt to deflect it, but to no avail. It struck me full in the throat. I fell to the ground, but quickly recovered. We were battling over the missile, lying on the ground. It was obvious that he would get there first and use it to destroy the palisade unless I took a risk and dived, bringing him down, possibly containing the wrath of the gods.

I dived. The missile was deflected to an area of safety, but the beast was brought down with a horrendous crash . . .

A shocked silence struck the open ground. Honour had to be satisfied. Single combat. I stood before the palisade, my armour fully adjusted, my field of vision unobscured. The beast was eleven paces to my front. His weapon gleamed as the sun broke through the veil of mist for the first time that day. Our seconds were nearby. Shouts of encouragement came from fellow members of our entourages as they took this chance to have wounds bathed and weapons polished.

Suddenly, everything quietened. The beast's second turned to me, as mine turned towards the beast. We nodded. The whistles blew. I concentrated hard on his eyes. They flicked to my left. In slow motion his right leg moved forward. His wrists turned back and then flicked forward. The missile was just a white blur. I dived to the left, seeking the ball — it rebounded off my outstretched arm. A great cheer rose from my team. It was still Scotland nil, North of England nil.

Duncan Spinner, Form V



STRATHSKI



It is usually difficult knowing where to start a journal of the season but my task has been greatly simplified by Strathallan's unprecedented success in the past season. In addition to equalling our best ever performance (2nd) in the Scottish National Schools race, we surpassed ourselves to achieve that elusive victory in the British Schools' event thus winning "The Ski" and assuming the rather becoming title of British Champions.

Hopes of success were always high, a fact borne out by the initiation by JFC, DJB and PJSK of a fitness programme for the squad. By no means all were in favour and some did a good deal more than others, but it did have its benefits — although these were not apparent when the British Schools Artificial Slope race provided a rather inauspicious start to the season. Despite steady runs by Robin Batchelor, our Scottish Team star, with 10th place and Jamie Verden-Anderson (22nd) the team failed to finish. Many paltry and unconvincing excuses were given including the captain's claim to be entertaining the crowd with an acrobatic display of disaster and the alternative chauvinistic view that our mishaps occurred because we had included a girl (Robin's sister "Titch") in the boys' team for the first time.

The Christmas holidays gave various fortunate people the chance of two or three weeks' training on the continent. There were, indeed, no less than ten Strath racers in the British Junior Championships, surely something of a record. Refreshed by this break, everyone returned in good heart, further inspired by the second year of Thursday ski-ing. Three of the planned four trips were possible and on each occasion 400 or so members of the school invaded and dominated the Glen. A good time was had by all and the race squad were able to get some invaluable training under the guidance of Crerar Adams and Gustav Fischnaller.

The Scottish Schools' races were held during Half Term, the girls leading the way by finishing a highly respectable 4th. Amanda Robertson and Caroline Batchelor laid the foundations with 8th and 10th places respectively, well supported by Fiona Dunbar and Lara Clayton. The boys, not to be outdone, came home second. There was a tinge of disappointment about being so near and yet so far but it was nevertheless a pleasing result. Robin Batchelor had the

best individual result with 6th, followed by Jamie Verden-Anderson (8th), James Gilyead (14th) and Robert Moir (25th).

In the second half of term we were offered, for the first time, ski-ing as a games option on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, giving the chance of more training and also making the minibus even more like a home from home. As well as verging on bankruptcy as a result of buying lift tickets, we became positive connoisseurs of the packed-lunch and were subjected regularly to the "delights" of the Blairgowrie take-away. The management there will definitely be awaiting the next ski season with some eagerness. The monotony of these journeys was further compounded by the oft-repeated life history of the Verden-Anderson clan and the safety record of the A93; Caroline's hysterical laugh (especially over the dead sheep) and her even more hysterical cat-suit; the smell of the oriental food and predictable ribaldry.

On a more serious note, the British Schools' was approaching, but on the eve of the race the captain could be found uttering a colourful array of expletives on the subject of the weather. The would-be competitors in the East of Scotland had already been foiled and now it was beginning to snow heaven's hardest. The prospects looked bleak and our big chance looked to be slipping away. However, the Gods were kind and the race went ahead, albeit in less than perfect conditions. The result is history, Strathallan winning by a comfortable 1.5 seconds. Robin Batchelor skied excellently to finish 3rd individually, Jamie Verden-Anderson did equally well considering his late start number to beat again several of his contemporaries who are in the Scottish Team in finishing 5th, while James Gilyead just managed to stay on his feet to come in 20th. Robert Moir's instructions were to give it everything. In the end his spectacular fall was academic to the result. Our goal had at last been achieved.

The House Race was, to the great appreciation of many, held on the last Friday of term and it turned out to be an enthralling affair. Tradition was broken with and instead of the usual secluded spot, often on scrappy patches of snow, the Glenshee GS piste was used (Ski Sunday start hut and all!) and the race was run very smoothly with the help of the Cairnwell race team. Freeland, despite James Banks' efforts on the bus,

were victorious ahead of Ruthven and Woodlands, who finished an impressive 3rd. On the individual front, Robin Batchelor just defeated Jamie Verden-Anderson to add the Duncan Trophy to the Butchart Tankard, with James Gilyead a close 3rd. Caroline Batchelor, meanwhile, produced the best ever performance by a girl in the House Race with 4th.

Several Strathallians past and present took on the might of Roc Petrovic and the Yugoslav team as well as Martin Bell, Lesley Beck et al. at the FIS Scottish Senior Championships. We won no medals but there were eight of them. Ronnie Duncan (Nicol 1980) fresh from an encouraging season racing World Cup and World Championship Downhill with the British Men's Alpine Team did quite well in the GS and Douglas Low (Ruthven ages ago!) had the distinction of being arguably the oldest man in the event. We all wish Ron well in his bid to make selection for the 1988 Olympics in Calgary.

Also during the Easter holidays, JFC and Mrs JFC accompanied a merry band of recreational skiers to Auris and Alpe d'Huez. The trip was accident and incident free and generally enjoyable, even if food and good quality snow were at something of a premium.

In the Summer Term, the Minors' race had unfortunately to be cancelled as the snow departed from Cairngorm with startling rapidity. The team will have their chance in the future. There is certainly no dearth of talent in the lower end of the School and let us hope that this year's success will only be a precedent for many more victories.

In addition to schools races, various racers competed in circuit races throughout the season with fluctuating results but few of any great merit. Perhaps Jamie Verden-Anderson's and Caroline Batchelor's results in the Log Cabin race and James Banks' 7th in the North of Scotland Junior Slalom were the pick of the bunch.

It only remains for me to express my gratitude to everyone who has helped in any way with Strathski this season and especially to JFC for his unremitting enthusiasm and dedication in organising the club's activities. It has been a privilege to work under him and I hope we have repaid him with our success.

Our congratulations to Robin Batchelor on being re-selected for the Scottish Team.

J.R.G.

THE YEAR IN COLOUR



Jane Mackenzie-Smith at Lochore.



Above: Salieri (Sandy Chenery) in "Amadeus".
Left: Mozart (Dominik Diamond) explains a point.



Sports Day: Senior Boys' Relay.



The Pipe Band at Blair Castle.



Pre-relay tension: Corrie McIver.



Rhett Harrison in dire straits!



Cameron Hill with the ball in Riley 'C' game.



Left: 1st XV v. Australian touring side. (Scots School, Bathurst, Sydney.)
Below: Mr Pengelley, Adrian Gowers and Rhett Harrison cook up mussels on Knoydart. (Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition).





A long jump! Jason Mosseri on Sports Day.

Left: Mr Du Boulay presides over a 1st XI game.



Rhett Harrison and Charlie Temple in the Lairig Leacach during a "Gold" Training Expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Senior boys' ski team: Robin Batchelor, Robert Moir, Jamie Verden-Anderson, James Gilyead.

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ATHLETICS

The performances of the field eventers this session could easily be classed as the good, the bad and the ugly — referring to Dave Smith, Neville Drummond and Harry Whitley respectively. The performance of the sprinters could be classed as the haves and have-nots — sometimes they had it, sometimes they did not. Yet, the middle distance runners can be seen as Hell's Angels — coming through as the angelic saviours of the team.

The first performance of the season was to prove the last of the bad. This was against Edinburgh Academy, where people turned up more to see the 'newspaper boy' (Jamie Henderson, the 1986 UK National 100m Champion) than participate in the meeting — or so it seemed. The best performance of the day was that of our assistant M.D. coach Mr Scott (Kiwi 'KB') Macky.

The Lorretonian tour was to prove more profitable for the throwers in the shape of B. Kelly, A. Kirkland, N. Howes and A. Millar and the omnipresent middle distance runners in form of A. Robertson, C. Lawrence and G. McLay.

Our next visitors were the Fettesians who were soundly beaten in all age and gender groups and I was very proud of

both boys' and girls' athletics teams for such a resounding victory.

Next match was to the Merchistonians. We arrived at Merchiston with knowledge of how close they had come to the fine athletics of Edinburgh Academy, but the team stuck to the hard task ahead of them, with determined performances from D. Diamond in long jump, N. Howes at javelin and (yet again) C. Lawrence in 1500m.

The Glenalmond track proved more a need for expertise in mountaineering than athletic prowess and our resident expert on this field was K. D. 'Polar Bear' Boon, who won our first relay for us.

The last match showed the capabilities of both boys and girls and the athletics team as a whole, as the blues of Strathallan proved far too powerful for the greens of Rannoch. The Captain, for once, put in a creditable performance despite the unwelcome appearance of part of his anatomy and the relay techniques of the Glenalmond match were yet again to the fore. And so ended the competitive aspect of our athletics against our opponents for the '87 season.

Now the "serious side" of athletics could begin — softball and the "Not-the-

Strathallan-School-Sports-Day." My thanks go to Mad Cowie for his secretarial skills (or lack of them in this report), Mr D. J. Barnes' organisation, the athletic figure of Mr P. Meadows, Mr B. Raine for his most enjoyable training sessions, Mr C. N. Walker and his ability with the starting gun, Mr G. S. Pengeley for his knowledge and dedication to field events and lastly (but by no means least) Mr Scott Macky for showing us how not to attack the early training stages.

M.G.

Half Colours — Boys

C. McLay
A. Robertson
N. Drummond
J. Christie
A. Dow

Half Colours — Girls

Rosie Rutherford

Full Colours — Boys

G. McLay
D. Smith
C. Lawrence

Full Colours — Girls

Kate Orr
Viv Cornish
Ghillie Lawson
Nikki Corbett

THE GREAT NORTH RUN (Mini tour)

The day started well with the bus leaving ahead of schedule at 5.50 a.m. and off we went; fourteen of us eager and expectant of the road ahead. Our first stop was in Edinburgh where we picked up our largest runner who had the first upset of the tour — he had forgotten his number! You would have thought it was the end of the world as our fearless leader mumbled under his breath. However, twenty minutes of slogging later, all was back to normal.

Our next stop was Newcastle and the eagerness and expectancy was turning to sheer horror with 13 miles to go! Finally, le grand Homme got his number from the desk and we were all set — then the big bang and we were off. The question on everyone's lips was, who would come last? Alas, it was your personal correspondent, beaten by 3 minutes — so our numberless hero had finally something to laugh about.

The race was 'brilliant', with thousands of Geordies cheering us on and

with no rain. I can say I enjoyed it. S. M. (our friend from 'down under') clocked the fastest time of 1 hour 27 minutes, closely followed by the only marathon runner who trains with Hitler. The fastest among the boys was Euan Eric Grant with 1 hour 41 minutes. Eventually we all crossed the line in various states of cardio-vascular collapse and gained our tee-shirts and medals. So it was worth it in the end!

Then we posed for the tour picture with Mrs James doing the honours (Mike's mum) as the big man really started to struggle. 20 minutes later to use a quote, "it was then everything went so terribly wrong." Mr not-so-small gave us back his breakfast of three cream buns and Sandy Hamilton was on the scene to report to moi.

The Wimpy was next, with our Heriot-teer giving away a bag of chips (something unheard of) and Addo-Babes (Bruce) had his food stolen by an over-eager waitress, so that the dustbin

had his hamburger before he had even had a bite.

Afterwards we went to the "Beach". As we arrived the music, quite appropriately, was "Surfing U.S.A." sung by us. A brave few entered the sea but the sane among us caught up with a few zzzs. Once on the bus again, we zoomed into Edinburgh for the Indian meal — which was not a happy memory for one Colin C. who ordered the hottest on the house, a Vindaloo curry (despite warnings). Later, out on in the street your correspondent was asked to do the Loch Rannoch half marathon, but declined!

The final trip back to school was quiet until we reached the gates and as we began "I can't get no satisfaction" the mini-bus came to a halt and we all poured out — all except 'Bowie' who, having turned the key of the ignition, simply broke it off. That was the end of an amusing day — but where was Woody our favourite tour parrot?

G.C.

Loch Rannoch Marathon Series 1987

One simply had to walk across the campus or into Forgandenny or, for that matter, along any road or track within five miles of the school to realise that something unusual was about to take place. Girls, boys, 'gnomes' and staff were out each evening pounding the roads in a desperate bid to get fit for the Loch Rannoch half and mini marathons. In total there were thirty-four 'Strathallians' in the field and despite rain early in the morning of the event, it turned out to be "heatwave" conditions.

This did not, however, deter the fearless runners and there were some outstanding performances. Chris Lawrence completed the 13 miles 142 yards in a remarkable time of 1 hour 25 minutes 6 seconds to take (at a very tender age), the prize for the fastest under 20 year old runner by over four minutes. Lorraine Young became the first Strathallan girl to complete a half-marathon and Alex Milne was second girl home in the mini-marathon, over a distance less than a mile short of a half-marathon. Roger Bond was the second boy to cross the line in the mini marathon in an excellent time of 1.24.54. All our runners completed the course (in various states of mind and body!) and managed to stagger along to the evening barbecue at which an enormous amount of food was demolished!

D.J.B.

The Race

I could feel the adrenalin surging through my veins; my body felt tense and ill at ease; my whole system was in upset; my nerves tickled furiously, right to the core; every fibre was ready and waiting, waiting for the race. The more I thought about it, the more strongly the butterflies stung inside my stomach; they weren't fluttering, they were terrified and fought to get out, away from this. My head was spinning, the brain inside humbly pulsating and uncontrollable, and my vision was blurred and hazy; everything seemed distant and spread out, fuzzy at the edges and out of focus.

The next race was coming to the start. I tried to reassure myself that I had two more races to go before it was my turn, but my thoughts were becoming crazily muddled, full of worries and fears. I didn't want to make a fool of myself in front of all those people, I wanted to show my parents, my friends; but most of all myself that I could do it.

I somehow managed to pull myself out of that frenzy of nervousness and started to try and warm up. Suddenly the starting gun fired a shot — my heart leaped to my mouth. I was so on edge that the slightest mention of running or starting a race shattered my sense of control. I started to stretch my legs, and tried to ease out the stiffness, warm the muscles and dissolve the rustiness from my joints. I bent double and put my head as near to my knees as I could although the backs of my

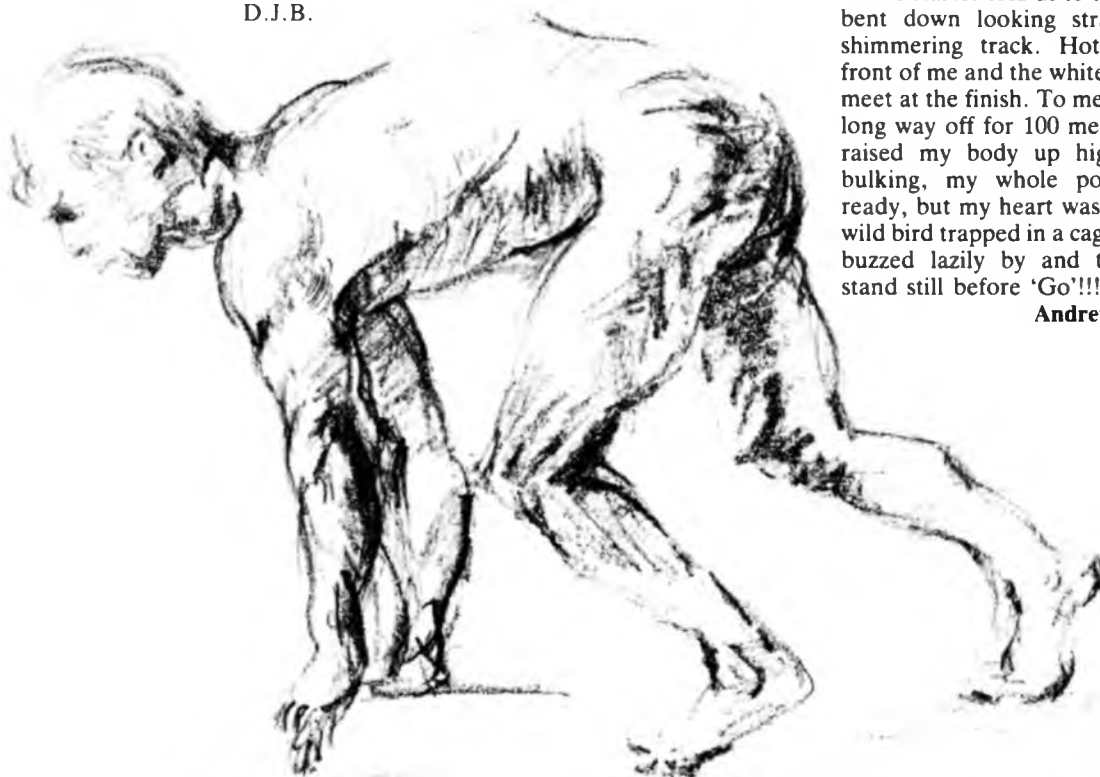
legs sent out waves of pain, which slowly died down the more times I did it. I now could feel my body relaxing slightly and could feel my legs and arms vibrating with hot blood. I stretched my back, the bones in my spine crunching and the tendons being pulled to their limits. My head filled and a pressure built up around my temples, which when I released my posture, subsided away as quickly as it had come.

It was time now; I could hear the announcer's voice calling out my race, but it seemed distant now that my senses were trained in upon the track and the other runners. I strode across, stretching as I went. I dared not look at the other runners and kept my head down upon the grass. For the first time I had noticed the immense detail of the ground below my feet, every blade of grass, small fragment of soil and microscopic organism, but at this time they seemed unimportant. The crowd's voices mingled into a blurr of sound in the hot hazy summer air, and the sunlight dazed down in bright rays of white light. The air was still and rank with the harsh smell of freshly cut grass.

I took my place on the starting blocks, and for the first time glanced briefly at the other runners. There was a coloured boy on my right; he seemed large and bulky, but I presumed he would be very fast. The boy on my left may have been tall but he was crouched up in a tight skinny ball of bones and flesh, and I could not tell.

The starter told us to take our marks. I bent down looking straight along the shimmering track. Hot air danced in front of me and the white lines seemed to meet at the finish. To me it had seemed a long way off for 100 metres! 'Get set!' I raised my body up high, my muscles bulking, my whole posture firm and ready, but my heart was fluttering like a wild bird trapped in a cage. A drowsy bee buzzed lazily by and time seemed to stand still before 'Go'!!! and I was off.

Andrew Dow, Form V



SPORTS DAY

It was with some trepidation that Sports Day 1987 was launched—the trepidation being caused by the absence of Doug Henderson who has so meticulously organised this complex event for so many years. However, as it turned out, he must have had a hand in things—how else could it have stayed dry from one to five in the afternoon and rained for the entire remainder of the day!

My thanks go to John Sloan and particularly James Green for all their help with the standards computation and Sports Day programme and to all the staff who helped out with both events. D.J.B.

And so to the results:

RILEY

	Boys			Record	Holder	Year
100m	R. Stewart	13.6		13.1	McLachlan	1981
200m	R. Stewart	25.9		25.3	Stewart	1987
400m	R. Stewart	59.3	New Record	59.9	Stewart	1987
800m	R. Stewart	2.26.7		2.24.4	Stewart	1987
1500m	S. Lokko	5.10.5		4.55.0	Lawrence	1984
High Jump	J. Tornos	1.48m	New Record	1.43m	McIntosh	1969
Long Jump	R. Stewart	4.09m		5.00m	Tindall	1961
Shot	K. Kay	11.29	New Record	11.29	Kay	1987

RILEY BOYS VICTOR LUDORUM: ROBIN STEWART

Girls

100m	Z. Stephens	15.26		14.5	Fraser	1984
200m	S. Blackstock	31.8		31.3	Fraser	1984
400m	R. Taylor	72.4		72.4	Taylor	1987
800m	Z. Stephens	2.59.6		2.50.9	Brodie	1984
1500m	R. Taylor	6.04.54		6.04.5	Taylor	1987

RILEY GIRLS VICTRIX LUDORUM: SUZANNE BLACKSTOCK

Junior Boys

100m	C. Cook	12.16		12.0	Ling	1971
200m	C. Cook	24.5	New Record	24.8	Ling	1971
400m	C. Cook	56.5	New Record	57.0	Ling	1971
800m	H. McKenzie-Wilson	2.27.7		2.19.9	Lawrence	1985
1500m	R. Sang	5.04.3		4.32.7	Lawrence	1985
High Jump	G. Jones	1.50m		1.63	Holmes	1965
Long Jump	G. Jones	4.87m		5.55m	Lear	1967
Shot	C. Cook	9.59m		11.43m	Knox	1974
Discus	K. Lannen	19.49m		36.27m	Knox	1974
Javelin	R. Mudie	25.20m		42.81m	Ross/McKenzie	1971

JUNIOR BOYS VICTOR LUDORUM: CAMERON COOK

Senior Girls

100m	S. Gordon	14.03		13.0	K. Streule	1983
200m	V. Cornish	27.3	New Record	28.2	K. Streule	1983
400m	V. Cornish	66.13		65.2	T. H. Craufurd	1983
800m	V. Cornish	2.45.4		2.37.7	V. Cornish	1987
Long Jump	R. Rutherford	4.38m	New Record	4.38m	R. Rutherford	1987
High Jump	N. Corbett	1.40m		1.55m	R. Rutherford	1987
Shot	K. Orr	8.03m	New Record	8.03m	K. Orr	1987

SENIOR VICTRIX LUDORUM: SHEELAGH GORDON

Senior Boys

100m	S. Neish	11.78		11.0	Lochart Ling	1972
					Smellie Kirkland	1978
200m	M. Gordon	24.09		22.8	Ling	1974
400m	D. Diamond	56.2		50.3	Roger	1982
800m	A. Robertson	2.07.82		1.56.2	Roger	1982
1500m	C. Crawford	5.00.4		4.16.0	Parkes	1977
High Jump	G. Clark	1.60m		1.89.5m	Roger	1982
Long Jump	D. Diamond	5.60m		6.52m	Smellie	1978
Shot	K. Boon	11.40m		12.90m	Callender	1979
Discus	K. Russell	29.28m		40.28m	McKenzie	1974
Javelin	K. Hutcheson	37.82m		57.07m	McBride	1977

SENIOR VICTOR LUDORUM: DOMINIK DIAMOND

Junior Girls

100m	K. Boyd	13.62	13.0	K. Streule	1982
200m	S. Reid	29.01	28.37	K. Streule	1982
400m	S. Reid	68.07	66.0	S. Reid	1987
800m	S. Reid	2.42.0	2.34.9	S. Reid	1987
Long Jump	K. Boyd	3.74m	4.46m	S. Gordon	1985
High Jump	P. Docherty	1.30m	1.45m	K. Orr	1984
Shot	J. Smith	8.55m	8.55m	J. Smith	1987

JUNIOR GIRLS VICTRIX LUDORUM: KIRSTY BOYD, SONYA REID

Middle Boys

100m	M. Wilkinson	12.39	10.9	Ogilvie	1978
200m	M. Wilkinson	25.6	23.2	Ling	1973
400m	C. Lawrence	55.5	52.5	Millar	1977
	M. Wilkinson				
800m	C. Lawrence	2.09.4	2.03.6	Lawrence	1987
1500m	C. Lawrence	4.40.4	4.18.3	Lawrence	1987
High Jump	A. Dow	1.60m	1.77.5m	Cuthbertson	1984
Long Jump	J. Mosseri	5.10m	6.17m	Lawson	1967
Shot	M. Adam	10.57m	14.73m	McKenzie	1973
Javelin	A. Pearson	32.07m	49.81m	McBride	1969
Discus	A. Kirkland	33.82m	42.00m	Knox	1976

MIDDLE VICTOR LUDORUM: MARC WILKINSON



Scott Macky presents Robin Stewart with the Riley Victor Ludorum.

TENNIS

Yet again, this year has seen another great influx of boys wanting to play tennis. This obviously gave us a greater selection for the team, although most of the boys were fifth form or below.

Tennis this term has gone well as the team progressed from strength to strength. We started off the term with a young and erratic team since only two players had any team experience. We lost our first match against Edinburgh Academy which as they all say "should not have happened." Our next game was against Loretto who turned out to be a strong team and the day ended with the match boiling down to one set which we won. Our first victory, how long would it last? Not for long because our next match was against Dundee High School in the Midlands tournament and we lost.

The team learned a great deal from their many mistakes and put them right for the next week, and won the Triangle competition against Fettes and Gordonstoun without dropping a set. This gave us a great boost and when we came to play Merchiston on their ancient and bumpy courts we won quite convincingly. Our next match was against Ran-

noch at home and the match was ours again without our dropping a set. This victory obviously went to our heads and Stewart's Melville brought us back down to earth again by beating us by a very big margin — in fact we didn't take a set off them. (I would like to add that 3 of their players play for Scotland Under 18's and this explains our total whitewash.) We were determined upon revenge when we went out to play George Watson's and we took this match after a long battle between the third pairs with a tie-break ending 22-20 against us.

To end the season the team played the masters common room contingent consisting of 3 well turned out pairs being Mr Macky and Mr Forshaw, Mr Keir and Mr DuBoulay and finally Mme Carratt and Mr Ralfs. We won and put an end to our season's tennis by being entertained at Mr Ralf's house.

Everybody within the team has improved considerably during this term, thereby proving that a young team is not always a weak one. Until next year when the nets are put back up again we will look back on this term as a very

successful one both individually and as a team.

The team and other tennis players would like to thank Ian Black, who is leaving, for leading us to our victories and to Mr Ralfs for giving up so much of his time and effort during the season.

The team consisted of the following:— Ian Black, Colin Logan, Craig Benton, Bruce Tilley, Lorne Scott, Rikki Sang, Robert Moir (reserve).

Full colours were awarded to Ian Black.

CRAIGLOCKART

On the 11th of June a small number of boys and girls went to watch the Grass Court Championships in Edinburgh. We were booked to watch Ivan Lendl against his coach Tony Roach and A. Gomez against D. Levine.

The weather was quite dreary but it didn't spoil the good tennis we saw, even though the last match was eventually rained off half way through. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and even if the tennis got boring there were always plenty of stars to go and annoy.

B.T. and C.B.

GIRLS' TENNIS

This year two teams have represented the school, an U16 and an U15 team. Unfortunately there were insufficient senior players to form a 1st VI this year. However this should be rectified next year as some of our junior players mature into stronger team members.

The first U16 fixture of the season took place on Strathallan Courts on an extremely windy day. Fettes provided the opposition. This proved a close match, with everything depending on the final set which our first couple, Corrie McIver and Amanda Robertson managed to win 7-5, having been 4-2 in the lead at one stage.

Unfortunately, the following fixture against Kilgraston was not quite so successful. The U15 team lost their fixture at Strathallan, playing some good tennis, despite the pouring rain. This was the first time the U15 team had played together and the final result did not reflect the effort they had made. The U16 team also lost, playing at Kilgraston against a more experienced team and on rather damp shale courts.

The U16 fixture versus Loretto provided a much more closely contested game, with the score 3 sets all at the final round. This time it was our third couple, Nicky Maxwell and Sarah Gibley, who saved the match by winning their last set.

We once more entered the Midlands Tournament, but this year were defeated by Kilgraston in the first round.

Both teams played Morrisons at home, resulting in a win for the U15 team and a loss for the U16 team. The U15 match was closely contested with Judy Pate and Sara Dunlop winning the vital set. The U16 result did not convey how close some of the sets were, several going to Morrisons 6-5.

The annual triangular fixture against Gordonstoun and Fettes was held at Strathallan on Sunday, May 24th. An enjoyable day was had by all, the fine sunny weather inspiring a good standard of tennis.

Unfortunately the weather was not quite so good after half-term, and several away fixtures had to be cancelled due to the incessant rain during the month of June. The other two fixtures which were played were versus Mary Erskine and St. Leonards, both schools providing us with strong opposition.

The season's results were as follows:

		U16	U15
v. Fettes (H)	won	5-4	
v. Loretto (H)	won	5-4	
v. Morrisons (H)	lost	2-7	won 5-4
v. Kilgraston (A)	lost	1-8	(H) lost 1-8
v. Fettes (H)	won	5-2	

v. Gordonstoun	
(H)	lost 2-6
v. Mary Erskine	
(A)	lost 1-8
v. St. Leonards	
(H)	lost 1-8 lost 1-8

U16 team selected from: C. McIver, A. Robertson, K. Salters, J. Smith (capt.), N. Maxwell, S. Gibley, G. Addison.

U15 team selected from: R. Adam, K. Dick, G. Addison (capt.), S. Reid, J. Pate, S. Dunlop, N. Reid, J. Clarke, A. Barclay.

To conclude, on behalf of girls' games, both winter and summer, I would like to thank the kitchen staff for all their help with the catering throughout the year.

J.E.C.

Before a Shot!

Hands twitching, legs aching,
Sweat pouring, feet slipping,
Concentration never leaving.

Clothes heavy, racket slippery,
Crowds silent, eyes droopy,
Muscles tightening, position fixed.

Eyes revolving round and round,
Racquet raised off the ground,
Tense, the ball is hit with all his strength.

Angus Johnston, Form III

FOOTBALL

Once again this year, with the help of pupils and masters alike, football at Strathallan has managed to stay on its feet. In fact I would go as far as to say that football is climbing in the rankings of sports at Strathallan, and this has been reflected in the marked increase in interest with the sport, enabling us to field both a senior and junior side this year.

The senior side played a total of five matches in the season. Things started off fairly badly with two defeats at the hands of Edinburgh Academy and Loretto, although the morale of the team kept high (with some help from Cowie, Lenman and co.), and we managed to play some reasonably skilful football.

As last year, we played an evening match away against our old rivals Glenalmond, in the aid of charity, and as usual

the match was played in a truly "friendly" spirit. Much to the annoyance of the near two hundred spectators Strathallan led 2-0 at half-time thanks to goals from Cowie and Meikle, but Glenalmond pulled one back and Strathallan did well to hold on until the final whistle, with fine saves from Van Beusekom and some sound tackling from Pearson and Ball at the back.

The next match was again away, this time to QVS, but the side never really got into the match and our forwards were intimidated by the size of their defence. Despite, once again, some excellent goalkeeping from Van Beusekom, the side went down 2-0.

The "Old Boys" match this year was again played in brilliant sunshine. A powerful Strathallan XI started out in a very determined manner and led at

half-time by 2-0. The crowd were stunned into silence as they witnessed R. Beckman actually succeeding in putting the ball in the back of the net and with a spectacular 'own goal' by M. Gordon, the match ended in a draw.

The junior side, captained by B. Dawes, played three fixtures. The team started off well with a 1-0 win against Edinburgh Academy, and then suffered defeats against QVS and a rather bigger Glenalmond side. It is evident that the skill and standard of play associated with this team stands the senior side in good stead for quite a few years to come.

Our thanks go to Mr I. Buntin for all the hard work he has put into raising a team and arranging the fixtures this season, and especially for putting up with the moods of a few prima donnas in our ranks. **J.B.**

GOLF REPORT

Captain: T. H. Ford.

Match Results:

v. Merchiston	Lost 1½-2½
v. Glenalmond	Won 4-2
v. Blairgowrie Juniors	Lest 2-4
v. Morrison's Academy	Won 2½-1½
v. Breadalbane Academy	Lost 1-3
v. Auchterarder High School	Halved 2-2
v. Crieff High School	Halved 2-2

Team: T. H. Ford, B. J. Guy, I. A. Steel, J. Kean, M. D. Russell, J. Frame, M. Sinclair.

Happily, after a 'year off', the Perth and Kinross Schools League swung back into action this summer, but as luck would have it two of the matches clashed with exams and we were unable to field our strongest team. However, this did allow the 'up and coming' stars to gain

valuable experience and they acquitted themselves well. Of the other matches, all of which were very enjoyable, we lost to Merchiston for the first time in many a long year but managed a second successive win against Glenalmond, which brought the season to a close on a high note.

Although perhaps lacking last year's depth, the team nevertheless had a solid look about it when at full strength. Bruce Guy, who was the Stroke-Play Champion for the second year in succession, played some good golf at number one but couldn't always keep his wing grooved and perhaps a bit more practice might have helped! Tom Ford played well when he remembered to slow things down and

swing at the ball rather than hammer it, and Iain 'Chunky' Steel never ceased to amaze with the accuracy of his short game. Julian Kean, Mark Russell, Jonathon Frame and Neil Sinclair all proved to be useful players — Julian's golf swing was never quite as smooth as his chat but he certainly had his moments!

Our thanks must go to Mr Addison for all the transporting and match organisation which he did, and also to Frank Smith, the coaching professional, who helped cure recurrent 'gorilla' grips and 'outside to inside' faults during the course of the term.

T.H.F.



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SQUASH

There were several features that were to highlight the season.

Firstly, the school had entered and was accepted into the Dundee and District Squash League, Division 5. This meant a regular league match (every week) for the top boys; an opportunity to play different opponents; play in different courts; gain extremely valuable experience and of course benefit from the social aspect.

The second feature that was to radically effect squash at the school were

improvements to the courts. At long last we had heating put in to each of the courts. It is a very efficient system and made a tremendous difference to the amount the courts were used. We also now have strip lighting and the promise of the walls and floors being done. When all these improvements are completed we will, without doubt, have two of the best courts on the circuit.

I was a little disappointed with the school matches in that we really

shouldn't have lost a match (excluding the Wayfarers). Lax concentration against Loretto, and inexperience against Gordonstoun, on both occasions away, cost us the matches. We won them both at home!

Overall, it was a good season. A lot of squash played; a lot of experience gained; a good junior squad developing — I look forward to the '87-'88 season.

P.K.

Captain's Report

This season undoubtedly got off to a much improved start with the new heating and lighting system in the squash courts. More people are expressing their willingness to play squash regularly, even in the more severe cold conditions in winter. Being in the Dundee & District Squash League meant a regular league match for the top boys Chris Henderson, Mark Zaraza, Alan Pearson, Keith Hutchenson, James Jacobsen and myself, playing alongside P.K.

Over the course of the season we were all to gain valuable experience playing in the league. Matches that were well within our grasp were lost through tactical naivete, but each time more experience was gained.

Alan, Keith and James all return next year and providing they play as they are capable, they should fare well.

Woodlands were also encouraged to play and a number of girls were chosen, for one reason or another, to represent the school in school matches. Unfortunately they were not as successful as they might have wished, but with a little more experience and quite a lot more stamina and effort, they will eventually win games. It is encouraging to see Woodlands starting to play squash, and more girls should come forward and have a go, as a few of them, who have not yet played competitively, are talented enough to form a good girls team.

A rewarding finale to the season was our victory over Glenalmond to win back the Bennet salver, which we lost last season. It was indeed a reward for a lot of hard effort, not merely by the team, but most definitely by Mr Keir. With that, we must thank Mr Keir for putting so much of his time and energy into making the season both competitive and enjoyable, and for driving us (along with Mr Barnes, who also deserves our thanks) to and from matches. With this kind of encouraging commitment, next year can only go from strength to strength and with luck retain the much prized Bennet salver.

D.T./C.H.

School Matches

Senior V Boys

v Fettes	Won	3-2
v Loretto	Lost	4-1
v Loretto (top 7)	Won	4-3
v Elgin	Won	4-2
v Gordonstoun	Lost	3-2
v Wayfarers	Lost	3-2
v Fettes	Won	3-2
v Gordonstoun	Won	4-1
v Glenalmond	Won	3-2

(Bennett Shield)

Played 9; Won 6; Lost 3.

U-16 School Matches (Boys)

v Glenalmond	Won	3-2
v Loretto	Won	3-0
v Fettes	Won	4-1
v Glenalmond	Lost	4-1

Played 4; Won 3; Lost 1.

Senior Girls

v Elgin	Lost	5-1
v Gordonstoun	Lost	5-0

Dundee and District Squash League 86-87

v Panmure 3	Won	4-1
v Angus Hotel 2	Won	3-2
v Olympia 2	Won	5-0
v Bridgend	Lost	3-2
v Ardlar	Won	3-2
v Bells	Won	4-1
v Perth Fitness 2	Lost	4-1
v Forfar 3	Won	4-1
v Glenrothes 2	Lost	4-1
v Angus Hotel 3	Cancelled	
v Prunes (Cup)	Lost	4-1
v Panmure 3	Cancelled	
v Angus Hotel	Lost	4-1
v Olympia 4	Won	4-1
v Bridgend	Lost	5-0
v Ardlar	Lost	3-2
v Bells	Lost	4-1
v Perth Fitness 2	Cancelled	
v Forfar 3	Won	4-1
v Glenrothes 2	Won	3-2
v Angus Hotel 3	Cancelled	

Played 17; Won 9; Lost 8; Cancelled 4.

Overall Season's Statistics

Senior V Boys

Played 26; Won 15; Lost 11.

Colours:

C. Henderson, D. Thomson.

House Squash

I was delighted to see a marked interest in the competition this year, and there was a tremendous improvement in the standard. I was also pleased to see the amount of support given to the players by other pupils.

My thanks to D.J.B. for helping me mark the games and congratulations to Freeland for winning both the junior and senior events.

Senior House Squash Competition

1/4 Final	Semi-Final	Final
Nicol		
	Ruthven	
	Woodlands	
Woodlands		
		Ruthven
		Freeland

Leburn	
	Freeland
	Leburn

Simpson

Junior House Squash Competition

1/4 Final	Semi-Final	Final
Freeland		
	Nicol	
	Freeland	
Woodlands		
		Freeland
		Ruthven

Leburn	
	Ruthven
	Simpson

Simpson

P.K.



SAILING

Once again an enthusiastic band managed to handle the task of boat transportation to the Loch, just in time for the first of the LMSC Spring Series.

Unlike last year, this season we have no outstanding newcomers, though this was of no significance to the school racing record.

The season started blusterously and we looked forward to an exciting season's sailing, but unfortunately we found ourselves faced with a spell of uninspiring winds.

This year Messrs Clayton and Goody gave up a lot of their greatly appreciated spare time to ensure that there were more opportunities to gain experience against a wider range of competition.

Finlay Crocker and I attended the Strathclyde Loch S. C. Regatta in which I won the junior trophy. Divine intervention led to Finlay having to give up second place to be in time for confirmation at school.

Duncan Kennedy, Pauline McCracken and I attended the Perth regatta, but the competition was too good and we gained little but experience and a sun-tan.

Over half term, Gavin Clark managed three creditable third places in the Brown trophy at Loch Earn.

Although Forfar S. C. has a very high class Enterprise fleet — it has produced world class Enterprise sailors — Andrew Rodger managed a first in one of the two

races at this regatta. It is a pity that they were unable to compete on the previous day. Andrew and Gavin were sailing our new boat "What's On" at Forfar. Our thanks go to Mrs Watson who very kindly donated the boat.

On the same day, David Robb and I managed ninth place at the Northern Bosun Championships, despite agonising difficulties in using the Spinnaker, which at times seemed to cause more delay than speed.

Once again, school matches proved no problem to the team with a maximum points win against Glenalmond, partly caused by their desire to practise capsizing drill throughout the race. Later, Dollar provided a better opposition who made us fight for our win.

The away match against Loretto gave Gavin and Andrew a chance to test their skills against each other. Andrew finishing a hair's breadth in front of Gavin, myself following in a half sunk boat to take third.

At Lochore the regatta was a great success in which I managed to beat an outsider Wayfarer by a marginal eight seconds. This year Gavin managed to win the LMSC Spring series despite only showing up for five races. He was followed in second place by Andrew Rodger.

Postponement was a disappointing start to the first day of the house races, and they eventually sailed two days later

than scheduled. Davie Brown sailed well into first place followed by Gavin in a seriously waterlogged boat, who in turn was followed by Alex Davidson.

The second day did not go well for Simpson who suffered from a breakage on the way to winning the race and taking overall first, leaving us to retire and so Andrew Rodger finished first, followed closely by Robert Williamson who sailed well, managing to hassle Andrew throughout the race.

Overall positions were: Freeland and Nicol first, followed by Woodlands — the only other house to finish both races.

To finish off the season, the Round the Island race was sailed in disappointingly calm weather with Andrew Rodger winning, myself second and Andrew McMaster finishing third.

The race was followed by a much enjoyed barbeque — thanks to Mrs Clayton, who arranged it.

Overall the season has been enjoyed not only by the old hands but also by the beginners who learned a lot in the calm spell which let them sail in peace; twelve of these beginners gained their N.D.S.C.s, and the new Toppers were well used.

Lastly our thanks to Mr and Mrs Clayton, Mr Goody and Mr Hawksford for their hard work in keeping the club run efficiently the year through.

J.H.

CANOEING

The last year has been very active with the introduction of canoe polo to the already busy canoe timetable. The team, led by M. Raitt, took the Scottish League by storm and would have won the league had they been able to attend the last series of matches. However holidays prevented this. Nevertheless, it was an extremely good performance indeed.

Riley canoeing continues every Friday evening and this was helped tremendously by M. Raitt and P. Davenport, both of whom have now qualified as trainee instructors, and my thanks and best wishes go with them now that they have moved on.

During the games afternoon of the summer term, we have made full use of our new fleet of kayaks, with some 42 canoeists involved, and congratulations go to the sixteen Duke of Edinburgh candidates who gained their one star award for the Scottish Canoe Association.

We are continually moving forward, and the standard of canoeing ability is extremely high indeed, and so I look forward to an even more successful season this year.

P.J.E.

Thoughts of a wind surfer

Near the pebbled beach of the loch, the water was still, not a ripple. It was crystal clear, the stones and fish visible right down to its depth. Further out, the stiff, steady breeze cast small ripples, starting abruptly in an irregular line where it met the clear water. The sun was warming, only a few cotton-wool-like clouds being in the sky. It was bright blue, a radiant colour to the eye. No sort of protective clothing was necessary — a pair of shorts enabled the water to soak round my body in a warming layer. The board and sail were already set to go. Once the sail was up, I could just hop on and the light breeze would carry me out to where the land was no longer a block to a windsurfer's paradise. The wind was steady and strong enough to support my body at full length over the side of the board with only my feet directly above it. The wind rushed through my hair as the tip of the board rose higher into the air and the weight was moved to the back so that the water sprayed and waked behind. The feeling was relaxing and my mind ran wild, fantasising as the air hit my face.

Coming back to shore was not so easy. (You have to be aware of the wind

direction much more.) As I crossed the barrier of the wind-blown water to the land-sheltered water, I was liable to be dropped into the water as the weight of my body was no longer supported by the wind in the sail. Since the wind was no longer giving maximum speed to the board, it would take a great deal longer to come back to shore. The sun beat down on my pale flesh, warming me to the bone. It was easy to lie down on the board. The fresh water was warm enough or cool enough, whichever way you look at it, just to roll into.

Back on the beach, I could lie down and relax, thinking back to the enjoyable moments that had, all too quickly, passed.

Piers du Cane Wilkinson, Form III



CRICKET

Although there were some high spots, this was another slightly disappointing season. The weather played havoc with the important fixtures, the final trick being played when we were in a very strong position against Glenalmond.

The season went as follows:— against Crieff, the School declared at 163-5, (Moffat 78) while Crieff managed 111-9 (Smith 6-38). In an extraordinary match against the Old Boys, the School side was bowled out for 90, largely by the newly savage (and enormous) Tench. A strong Old Boys batting side was then bowled out for 78 (Henderson 6-29). The Loretto game petered out into a dull draw after Smith had batted well for 52:— Strathallan 162-7 dec. Loretto 120-6 (Henderson 4-75). The Fettes game was much more interesting. After we had bowled badly (Henderson sustaining a back injury which remained on and off until the end of the season) and allowed Fettes to reach 178-9 dec. with Addison bowling heroically for 26 overs, a run chase ended with Strathallan on 142-8, valuable contributions being made by Neish, Lennox and Jacobsen. The last match before half term was against a very powerful side produced by Steve Dight. His XI declared at 257-7. The school did well to reach 170-4 in reply (Smith 62*).

After half-term, the weather took over. To start with, however, the XL club beat us convincingly. After having declared at 197-3 (the evergreen and slimline R. Laing scoring 123) the XL club bowled us out for 139. Several batsmen got in but none played a major innings. The Edinburgh Academy game was washed out just after lunch, with neither side holding a particular advantage. Dollar were beaten, but not without the odd self-

imposed wound (The reverse sweep. Ken?). After batting poorly against Merchiston (125 all out) we bowled very well (Smith 5-18) and were unlucky not to win with Merchiston ending on 98-9. Two matches with badly depleted sides were played against a very pleasant Coleraine side and an extremely unpleasant (and insanely managed) side from Brisbane.

The final few days produced some genuinely good cricket. A very tight game against the Occasionals gave the latter victory by just 3 runs, with a rejuvenated Henderson taking 6-49 for the school. The next day brought a magnificent victory against MCC. MCC scored 175-8 declared (Smith 4-38). Given a more than fair target, the school responded by losing two wickets in the first over and staggering to 25-4. After this it became 'Adam's Match' — 179-7 (Adam 100*). It looked as though the tide had really turned when, having bowled out Glenalmond for 154 (Smith 5-44) we reached 90-1 (Jacobsen 45). At this stage, the heavens decided to open.

The festival was dominated by bad weather and injury, so much of the latter that the most peculiar people had to bowl (Neish!).

There were some pleasing individual performances in the season. Ken Smith batted and captained soundly and bowled well, at times superbly. He gathered another 45 wickets. Chris Henderson had his season ruined by injury, but, nevertheless, gained 27 wickets. Andrew Bullard, disappointing with the bat, fielded as though his life depended on it. Fraser Lennox batted, and moved, like an old pro. Of the younger players, Steven Neish had a disappointing season but Max Adam excelled expectations. James

Jacobsen and Robert Moffat look a formidable combination for the future and 'mad Al' Duff began to fulfil his winter promise. Graham Reid should develop into a good all-rounder and Andrew Logan into a genuinely good 'keeper. Of the old lags, James Gilyead never really had a chance to find form and Charlie Temple made it at last.

In spite of great difficulties with exams, weather and injury (21 different people played for the side), the attitude and spirit remained remarkably high and much credit must go to Ken Smith for this.

The Second XI had a mixed season. Very unlucky on occasion, they could also, at times, 'lose their way'. A fine win against Edinburgh Academy early in the season was never really built on, although it must be said that the demands of the 1st XI never allowed a settled side to develop.

The Colts were disappointing. Too often the 'stars' made little real effort and relied too much on the determination of less talented players. The more able players must realise that there is no automatic place for them in next year's 1st XI.

The attitude of the Junior Colts was entirely different. Their determination and enthusiasm were electric and they gave some excellent performances.

I would like to thank all those who have devoted so much time to cricket this term. To the grounds and catering staff; to all those who coach and umpire. Without the enthusiasm and resilience of those involved, it would be quite impossible to run reasonable cricket in this damnable climate.

R.J.W.P.

SHOOTING REPORT



The Shooting Club has had a very busy season, meeting on three, often four and sometimes five evenings a week in order to complete our programme of league matches, inter-school competitions and individual trophy and cups shoots.

David Brown has been the undisputed star of the year: shooting a maximum score for the first time in the school for at

least five years; representing Scotland at schoolboy level; reaching the final in two Perthshire competitions; winning the school individual shooting cup and leading the team in a most successful season.

The House competition was the closest it has been for many years with Nicol just winning from Freeland and Woodlands coming a close third.

There are a number of good keen shooters amongst the younger members of the school and it still proves to be a popular evening activity. If it continues like this, the shooting team will be strong for a long time to come.

A.J.H.W.

STRATHALLAN OCCASIONALS

In the first match of the domestic season the evergreen D.A.R.W. took his haul of victims for the club to 300. A passing remark that three wickets per year was not a great striking rate was ignored. The home season, indeed, was one of unmatched triumph. Six wins were recorded in six games; not too surprising, perhaps, when one remembers the superb athleticism of those Housemasters involved. A little assistance was given by Messrs Lennox (97 against Perth Northern), Corbett (Corgi) (69 against Cupar) and Robertson (114*) and Heggie (80*) who put on an unbeaten stand of 207 against I.Q. Jones' XI. Probably the best of the home games was that against the school when the wise decision of the Occasionals' captain not to bowl himself ensured victory — by three runs.

The tour did not provide such success — two draws and three losses. Of course these results were totally unaffected by evening training and night exercises. The bowling attack depended to a large extent on Australian and South African imports. "Dingo" Tapp and "Gazelle" Rendel had to shoulder much of the burden from "Mousse" Henderson (back and eyes), and Tench the Bear (sleeplessness). With only the awesome pace of Proctor, the devastating spin of Hamilton and the subtle swing of the Kiwi to add to the bowling strength, it

was hardly surprising that opposing batsmen vied eagerly for high positions in the order. The batting depended much on age and experience and consequently few runs were scored. The fielding was extraordinary — it is quite amazing how a few days with the Occasionals can reduce a keen and athletic fielder to a stumbling wreck.

A little about the matches: At Birtles Bowl the Occasionals failed to respond to a reasonable target, largely because four of them had the good manners to get out to the slow loops of Hudson the host. The Corgi distinguished himself by performing an elegant (and unsurprisingly futile) dive over a steep bank. After quite a good start against Old Cliftonians, we took pity on them and converted 88-2 into 124 all out. Reah bowled. We lost. Quite a tight draw with the Downside Ravens was notable for the running between the wickets of Du Boulay and Hudson. An enthralled monk was heard to say that this reminded him of the movements of some of the most needy cases on his last pilgrimage to Lourdes. Du Boulay, however, scored yet another fifty for the Occasionals to make a total of 20 (almost 200 hours of work). Proctor, inspired by this example, lapsed into almost total motionlessness the next morning, at one stage savaging the Dorset Rangers' attack for three runs in

fifty minutes. Reah hacked a fifty to save some face, but Macky bowled. We lost. Apart from Kilpatrick (dragged down from city-slickerdom to strengthen our attack) the Occasionals bowled quite well against Denstone Wanderers. They declared at 219-7, lured into an early declaration by the erratic scoring of James Beckman. Corbett (the cricketer not the Corgi) scored a good 75. The ever-youthful Peter Hamilton contributed with a sophisticated 36. Peter Bullard batted. We lost.

The rest of the tour activity was experimentation: Scott Macky experimented with the local talent; Richard Reah experimented with different types of clothing; Chris Henderson experimented with eye colouration (internally administered); Andy Tench experimented with nocturnal existence; Jonathan Tapp experimented with different types of hangover. The more aged members of the party experimented much less, concentrating, with varying degrees of success, on survival. Even with only a brief (mercifully?) appearance from PK, the tour fine sock still gathered £109 or so. The sum was invested in liquid assets. Thank you, Alan, Judy and Co. yet again.

R.J.W.P.

Aerial View

As the cool breeze stirred the June air, bathers could be seen soaking up the sun. The tennis courts were full of action with players almost dying of dehydration. It was an unusually hot day for the middle of June and still cherry blossom was on the tree.

It was a joyous day — fete time in Forgandenny and the villagers had turned out in force to welcome in the good weather. There were various stalls — from tombola to bric a brac. The birds were chirping melodiously in all the trees and bushes, rejoicing at the summer weather.

The cricket match was under way and the 1st XI were slogging for sixes on the lawn whilst the other part of the school was slogging in a different way, for their 'O' and 'A' level exams and the future possibility of earning thousands of pounds a year.

All round the country, happy voices could be heard and the most common phrase was, "summer is on its way." Out on the farms, irrigation was taking place with water supplies falling rapidly all over. The rate of dogs dying of heat had increased. Summer was here already.

David Connell, Form III

RIDING AT LOCHORE

Summer term for many means the looking out of jodhpurs, hats and whips for the start of the riding season; which spells fun for some, although bruises for the less fortunate.

Riding this term has been enjoyed by many — from the beginners to the more experienced 6th Form. It has been nice to see so many boys participating; most of them were from Riley, but we are still hoping to encourage the senior male members of the school to have a go.

The first day's riding involves the race to see which group can secure the first ride, as this means longer at the cafe afterwards. Riley won the contest this year, which for the rest of us resulted in the long trek back an hour later.

Certain members from the second group loved demonstrating their acrobatic skills on horseback this term. One, Brenda Keith, decided to be somewhat adventurous and tried to jump the double fence before the horse which was rather eager, but luckily she was no worse for wear, apart from a few bumps. Elizabeth Reekie produced another spectacular fall

in the arena on a rather frisky pony called Winnie. It decided to take the corner at top speed in order to get back to its friends, however Liz didn't quite go at the same pace and after a brave attempt to clutch on for dear life they parted company, Liz narrowly missing a collision with the fence surrounding the arena. Luckily both parties escaped uninjured.

The highlight of each alternate week is the hack for both groups, which gets the adrenalin running, for the horses are frisky and anything can happen — as we soon found out. One week we discovered that you didn't always know what is round the corner (or is in the field) for while having a peaceful gallop we were confronted by a herd of cows, who promptly decided it was time for us to leave their territory, which I can assure you we did with the utmost haste.

So now it is back to the snow and the hockey-sticks as we eagerly await the next season of jolly antics.

J.E.McK.-S.

CCF REPORT



This has been another very good year for the CCF with one or two rather special events which have made 1986/87 a memorable year.

On Friday, 30 January, 1987, we had a very special parade in honour of Lieutenant Commander T. J. Macleod. On this occasion, the Lord Lieutenant, Major D. H. Butter, MC. presented Lieutenant Commander Macleod with a certificate of meritorious service in the CCF. We were pleased to welcome a number of visitors on this occasion, including a representative from the office of the Flag Officer, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

All of us who worked closely with Douglas Henderson were shattered to hear of his death during the Easter holidays. I got to know Douglas particularly well in connection with the CCF, School Stationery and Pipe Band. The latter, I suppose, was his real pride and joy. This year the Scottish Schools CCF Pipes and Drums Competition was held at Strathallan School and Douglas, of course, was really looking forward to it, particularly as it was going to be his last year in the school before retirement. I was very pleased that the school gave two cups in his memory, one for junior drumming and one for junior piping. These cups were presented for the first time at the competition and it was very pleasing that Drummer Tony Hill won the junior drumming cup. However, Douglas would have been really proud of our Pipes and Drums who not only won the Band cup but also, for the first time ever, the drill and turn-out cup. It was indeed a memorable occasion and one that Douglas would have been thrilled to be associated with. I must say my very grateful thanks to the Reverend Graeme Longmuir, who succeeded Douglas as President of the Pipes and Drums and tackled the task of bringing our band up to this very high standard with a determination and enthusiasm which far exceeded anything I could possibly have wished for. He was, of course, greatly supported by our excellent team of instructors: Pipe Major Barron, Dave Clarke and George Braid. Nothing I

could see here would do justice to the efforts of these three gentlemen, who were determined that our band would bring home all the honours — and what a pleasure it was to do so on our home ground.

The Army Section continues to do very well in prestigious competitions and it is very encouraging to see so many boys taking a real pride in being in the Army Section of the CCF.

The Mini Highland Cadet Tactical Competition was held at Brucefield, Clackmannan at the beginning of the Easter term. Eleven teams from various schools and ACF's took part and our team came second. This was a very encouraging prelude to the big event, the main HCTC, which was held at Garelochhead at the end of May. This was only the second occasion that we had taken part in this event. Last year we entered one team that came 14th out of 21; this year we entered two teams and one came 6th and the other 17th out of 20. It is quite clear that we are now a force to be reckoned with and next year we shall do even better.

We have had two field days this year: our usual one during the Christmas term and another one, in place of General Inspection Day, in the summer term. On both occasions, the different sections 'did their own thing' and it seemed to make a popular break in the middle of the terms.

We have a number of people, not only pupils, who say that the CCF is a waste of time. I can understand this: military training and discipline is not going to be popular with everybody. However, I was just reflecting on CCF activities during the summer holiday and, for the record: eight officers are attending camps and courses; cadets are at Army Camp at Wathgill near Catterick; RN Cadets are attending a wide variety of courses at HMS Kent, Dartmouth, on Fleet Tender, shooting and air acquaintance courses; some RAF cadets are gliding and one RAF cadet is doing his flying scholarship; some Royal Marines are at Garelochhead and we have several cadets on the Royal Artillery potential

officers courses doing parachuting, adventurous training, commando training and so on. Of course, I must not forget those select few who opt to do a survival course on some remote Scottish island during the last week of the summer holiday. It seems to me that there is a lot on offer and many of our cadets are taking every opportunity to experience service life at no cost to themselves apart from what they give mentally and physically. This surely indicates that the CCF is no soft option but provides a worthwhile experience for those who accept the challenge.

I said at the beginning that this has been a very good year for the CCF and, of course, this is largely due to the enthusiasm and dedication of the officers and the NCOs. I should like to thank all the officers in the CCF and others, like Mr F. N. Reed who continues to run the motorcycle section with great efficiency and dedication, Commander C. N. Walker who has run the motorboats and the Reverend T. G. Longmuir who looks after the Pipe Band. I must also thank the 'regulars' who came along on Friday afternoons to assist in the different sections: the Cadet Training Team, the Glencorse Team, the RN, the RM and the RAF NCOs.

Sadly this term we say farewell to Flying Officer G. P. Hawksford who has given much of his time to helping with the Army Section and, in particular, with setting up the Armoury with all its new detectors, alarm bells, etc. We wish him well in his new appointment. I must say, finally, how very much the CCF has gained from having a first class Under Officer, Alasdair Robertson. He has acted as the link between the Officers and the cadets and no better Under Officer have I managed to appoint in my years as Contingent Commander. I should like to wish him, all NCOs and cadets who have now left the CCF, a very happy and successful future — with the hope that what they have learnt here at school, they may put to good use in the competitive world outside.

P.A.B.

R. M. DETACHMENT

Another year of activity has drawn to a close, although, I think, this year has seen slightly less action than have the rest of my three years in the section. The cause of this has been the one and a half terms we have devoted to training for the 1987 HCTC (Highland Cadet Tactical Competition) — but more of that later. Nevertheless we have managed to get in at least our quota of adventures!

Perhaps the high point of the year for many of us, was the winning of the Pearson Trophy in the spring. We were notified of our taking part barely a week before the event, and rapidly a 'top team' was drawn from the Royal Marines and Army sections. Thereafter we spent about one hour a day training for what seemed the impossible — we had heard that other teams had trained for 6 months and more! Nevertheless, we gave it a shot, practising drill daily until I think our standard would have impressed even the most particular Guards' Sergeant Major! In the event we won the Trophy outright, and very nearly wiped the board in the individual stances, coming second in many — even the football, which had a trophy more impressive than the Pearson Trophy itself! We marines took particular comfort in having defeated the Parachute Regiment Cadets, with whom there was a certain amount of rivalry. All round, then, a great team effort, and, I think, extremely spirited. I think I speak for all the team members in thanking 15 Para for an enjoyable competition.

Whilst not pitted in desperate competition against other schools, the section this year, ably led by Sgt. Jonathan Christie, got up to its typical high jinks. At Christmas we 'yomped' down to Dunning to abseil down an old Church spire on Mr. Marshall's farm. Despite the truly appalling conditions, a good time was had by all, and we thank the Marshalls for providing us with hot drinks and delicious shortbread. The wind made some parts of the descent a little hairy, but Cpl. Colin Crawford and myself felt particularly at ease—even a swaying steeple and howling gale cannot compare with a 200 ft descent from a helicopter. Nevertheless, for first-timers and the inexperienced, it was a valuable experience.

We have also participated in several exercises. The first was of two parts: — going down to ground in a designated area; and eluding SAS and Royal Marine search parties. Although none of us was detected, I think possibly the worst night was spent by Michael Blanche and myself who had to arrive late at night as we had been away during the day. We arrived under the impression that search parties were combing the woods, and I certainly spent the night terrified, fearing that any noise I heard was some great SAS trooper, knuckles

dragging on the ground, coming to carry us both off for 'questioning'!

This exercise culminated in an attack on the army after a long yomp across the hills. Their singular lack of concern at being in the words of Tennyson "stormed at with shot and shell" was infuriating to say the least after the yomp from Bridge of Earn to Rossie Ochil.

We also had a series of mini exercises against the Army whose individual platoons took it in turn to have an exercise in which certain members of the Royal Marines played the role of enemy. I believe the first of these was an enjoyable outing, and I think we gave a reasonable account of ourselves. A misunderstanding in timings led to what appeared to be a navigational error, and confusion reigned for a short time, but soon the matter was solved and the exercise continued.

The second one was one that I participated in; suffice to say that the weather was truly appalling, with conditions approaching white-out. Arctic gear would have been much appreciated! One young Army cadet had to be taken off the hill, and when the intrepid Dan Adam fell into a stream, I really had fears for his safety with the cold and the wind, but as ever he pulled through!

This year was dominated by the events of the HCTC. This year two teams were out forward, again mixed Royal Marine/Army. We spent many Friday afternoons concentrating on tactical work, and much time was devoted to training out of these hours too. Sadly, some injuries and other engagements meant that we were running short of men, and at times it looked as if there were not enough to make up a B-team. Nevertheless, a team was scraped together, albeit an inexperienced one. As experience is, I believe, the most important factor in this type of competition, it is a credit to Cpl. Meikle's effort and ability that he managed to steer them to a position — they came 16th — which was, all things considered, most respectable. The A-team, ably led by Sgt Major Julian Kean managed to improve its position from 16th last year to sixth this year. Although the top 5 would have been nice, I feel we gave a good account of ourselves, especially in the face of such strong competition.

It was also nice to see us come 2nd in the 'warm-up' mini-HCTC. I think the experience gained here was most useful, and it boosted morale at home, too!

We were given an opportunity to dress up in our Blues, when some members of the section took part in a joint Guard of Honour with the Navy for the Lord Lieutenant's presentation to Lt Commander Macleod.

Our congratulations go to Lt. Commander Macleod on achieving this, as well as our thanks for all the time and

effort he has put in over the years.

Field day this year was spent at Glencorse barracks, and of particular interest was the display of the new individual weapon, the SA80. Some of us took more interest than others, as we may well be using them in the near future!

Of news within the section, it was a great relief to see the back of the old web pattern which has been with us since 1937. The arrival of new 1958 pattern webbing is a Godsend, and it is good to see any new kit coming our way. There was great excitement at the news that the Royal Marine sections across Britain were to be issued with a new weapon, the Ensign, which is the Cadet version of the SA80. Sadly this did not materialise, and we have stuck with the trusty .303 Lee Enfield.

Congratulations go to L.Cpl. Colin Churchill on achieving the status of Full Bore Marksman. We now reckon we have a good advantage in march and shoot competitions. Cpl. Crawford took to the skies in the holidays, before leaping from a plane on a parachuting course with the Royal Artillery. I think the results of an order to "go and see if that electric fence is on" may have addled his brain.

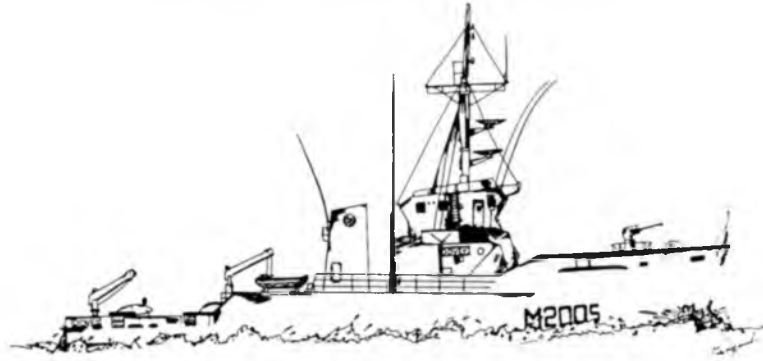
We say goodbye to Lt. Burnell who has been with us for some years. His efforts to reach this most remote of RM sections, flying up from London, have been much appreciated and I speak for all the Royal Marines at Strathallan who have enjoyed his gung-ho spirit, in thanking him for the time and effort he has put in. In wishing him well for the future, I also welcome our new Training Officer, Lt. Evans. It was gratifying to see that he came up to Garelochhead during HCTC to survey the proceedings and see how we were doing. The steadying influence of W.O. Bell remains. He has been with the Royal Marines here since I can remember, and I wish both him and Lt. Evans all the best in the future.

News of old members? Apparently Phil Gadie, here two years ago won the Commando Medal during his training at Lympstone. This medal is awarded to those who display the highest qualities of the Royal Marines Commando, and is not something that is awarded lightly. Our congratulations go to him. What of the mysterious Colin Pillinger? Has he joined the Corps? The only news we have heard is from two cards sent to the girls, merely signed 'Pils'! Pils, if you are out there, let us know what you are doing!

And finally I must extend my thanks, and those of the section, to Lt. Glimm, our section commander. Over the years I have seen changes in the section, but his enthusiasm remains undying! I will certainly have fond memories of these three years as a Royal Marine at Strathallan.

S.C.B.

RN SECTION



In September 1986, some twenty-five cadets joined the RN Section. It is interesting to debate why the Navy Section remains a popular option for the boys concerned. Various reasons have been promulgated, but it is an easy option! There is not too much drill! Camps and courses are worthwhile and interesting! It is difficult, if not impossible, to determine what decides the average schoolboy to spend some three years minimum in a particular service. I hope that the RN Section can offer a suitable challenge for the average cadet by providing an interesting programme both at school and on various camps and courses.

At the beginning of term, the Senior Schools Liaison Officer, Captain J. Evans RN, gave his introductory talk on the role of the Royal Navy. This year we have had a particularly strong team of senior NCOs. Under Officer Robertson and Coxswains Barr, Raitt and Clelland proved an excellent team who all gave maximum commitment to their RN Section.

We have always had a close liaison with HMS Camperdown, Tay Division Royal Navy Reserve, but this year has been exceptional in that Lt. Commander Bayliss RN and the Commanding Officer, Commander Dickinson RNR, have both gone out of their way to be as helpful as possible regarding training. This was obvious in October when on Field Day forty cadets from Strathallan had a splendid weekend sea training on board HMS Helmsdale and HMS Archer. To suddenly go from school environment and spend a night on board HMS Helmsdale, with sea training on HMS Archer the following day, was quite an experience. This, combined with motor boat and Gemini training plus a fascinating visit to SS Discovery proved one of the most successful Field Days Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and Lt. Clayton have experienced.

Sub. Lt. Goody took the junior cadets to the Royal Dockyard at Rosyth where an interesting day's programme was combined with sea training on a fleet tender in the Firth of Forth. CPO Stokes, the Careers and Cadet Training Officer at Rosyth is always helpful and once again we are grateful to him and his staff.

There has been a major change in RN school facilities this year. In October the RN Stores and Seamanship Room were demolished. RN Stores moved to a secure room beside the Pipe Band complex and the RN took over a large classroom in the new combined Cadet Force Headquarters as an office and lecture room. PO R. D. Smith has proved an efficient stores NCO and was commended by HMS Camperdown at the last stores muster.

CPO Wightman and CPO Harrison have again been regular visitors from HMS Camperdown Dundee. Bob Wightman is retiring shortly and the RN Section contributed to a small presentation to thank him for his invaluable help over the past two years. From fitting a new screw to our Cheverton motor boat, to climbing 45 feet to paint the school mast, Bob has proved an invaluable colleague who will be sorely missed.

We have established a close liaison with Perth Sea Cadets. After a year, our motor boat was eventually surveyed and passed with honours. We now share a mooring on the River Tay with Perth Sea Cadets and we are grateful to Lt. Cdr. Chalmers and CPO Sanders for their assistance. We congratulate Commander Walker on taking over command at HMS Scotia, Pitreavie and are grateful to him for re-establishing our motor boat section. In this connection, PO Marshall has been an excellent NCO and following their training at HMS Raleigh we look forward to having qualified coxswains next year.

At Easter, Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and Sub. Lt. Goody took twelve cadets on board HMFT Bembridge at Portsmouth for a cruise on the South Coast. While it was originally intended to sail to the Channel Islands, atrocious weather prevailed and we only reached the Isle of Wight. Nevertheless all enjoyed the experience. On this cruise we visited the Sea Cadet Training Ship, Royalist, at Poole.

In April, Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and six senior cadets attended the Air Day at HMS Osprey, Portland. This involved being flown from Edinburgh and flights in Sea King helicopters.

In May, Under Officer Robertson organised an ambitious river and orienteering exercise using our Cheverton

motor boat and Tay Division fast motor launch. Some seventy cadets were involved. For the past few years we have used Laird's Loch, Tullybaccart, as our base headquarters and once again we are grateful to Mrs Lindsay of Hallyburton House and other landowners for allowing us access to their estates. All cadets who took part in this exercise found it exhausting but really worthwhile.

During the summer, there is a full programme of camps and courses with cadets taking part in the RN Acquaint course on board HMS Kent at Portsmouth, range firing at HMS Excellent, range firing at RNAS Yeovilton, powerboat at HMS Raleigh, Plymouth, and amphibious warfare at RN Poole. Lt. Cdr. MacLeod is River Officer at BRNC Dartmouth and Cox Logan and Cox Robb are attending this course. Lt. Clayton is Sailing Instructor on board HMS Kent at the General Camp there.

It is always pleasant to renew acquaintance with old boys and this year Lt. Cdr. Fergus Gillanders has invited two senior boys on board HMS Rothesay for a cruise in August on the Clyde. This is coinciding with our fleet tender cruise on RNAS Meavy when Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and Lt. Clayton are taking twelve cadets to sea.

Because of timetable vagaries, it has not been possible to have sailing in CCF time on Fridays in the summer term. Most RN sailing devotees have managed to take part on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons, however and sailing and sail boarding have maintained their high standard under Lt. Clayton and Sub. Lt. Goody's instruction.

It is with considerable regret that we say goodbye to WO Curle, who is retiring after many years as our Area Chief. Len has proved an invaluable help to both officers and cadets and we will all miss his cheery sense of humour. To him and his wife Else we wish all the best in their home at Braemar.

It has been another busy year with a good team.

SENIOR PROMOTIONS

Senior Coxswain — K. J. Russell. Divisional Coxswains — C. J. Logan, D. M. Robb.

T.J.M



Presentation of Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to Lieutenant Commander T. J. Macleod.

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RAF SECTION

The building of a new HQ, originally for the exclusive use of the RAF but now shared by all sections of the CCF, meant that we had a central location for parades and instruction. This building is fully equipped with computers, simulators and video facilities—all invaluable teaching resources.

Annual camp this year was due to be held at RAF Rheindahlen in West Germany but 24 hours before departure the IRA bombed the officers mess, rather putting paid to our visit. However, room was found for us at RAF Binbrook—a bit of a comedown but better than nothing.

As well as the annual visits to RAF stations, Friday flying at Turnhouse and Proficiency successes and failures, more

variety has been introduced into the training programme this year: initiative exercises, escape and evasion, orienteering and, most popular, rabbit cleaning and cooking.

Field day this year took the form of a two-day joint RAF Navy orienteering exercise organised and run entirely by NCOs. All went well except that one landrover had to be abandoned when the gear stick fell off and during the night nocturnal vandals removed desirable items like wheels, aerials etc. much to the irritation of the Army who owned the vehicle. On top of that, after crossing the Tay by boat, several boys and one officer were quizzed like criminals by Customs and Excise men who had been alerted that drugs were being landed by "suspicious looking types"!

To supply NCOs for future Field Days and for day to day training, there is a thriving cadre flight as well as a team in training for next year's UK Aircraft Recognition Competition and several Flying Scholarships pending. Four boys applied for Flying Scholarships during the year, Ian Huxley being the only successful applicant and he completed his training at Dundee Airport during August.

Ten boys enjoyed a day's familiarisation gliding at RM Condor in March and this led to three of them being selected for a week's continuous training to solo standard during the latter part of July.

A.J.H.W.

ARMY SECTION

It is nice to be given the opportunity to comment on some of the army section's achievements — and they are not few — during the past year.

The Summer Camp at Cultybraggan in '86 saw the section, with the aid of some Marine friends, winning the Assault Course Competition and finishing 2nd, by one point out of four hundred or so, in the March and Shoot. Having been Champion Contingent at Warcop in 1985 we had achieved the same status by virtue of some excellent leadership at N.C.O. level, notably from Sgt. J. A. A. Christie, Sgt. Charlie Temple and Cpl. Scott Kelly. It was a happy and hard-working camp, the spirit of which was typified by Jason Mosseri's run that saw him collapsing but making it to the end of the march and shoot run.

It was the spirit achieved at Cultybraggan that provided the impetus for us to enter the Pearson Trophy at Exercise Summer Stroll run by the paras at Garelochhead. On returning to school in September the Strathallan team only had one week in which to train. Every opportunity was used and to our surprise and delight we ran out the winners. The team was led by Julian Kean who, having passed-out top of his pre-R.C.B. course, seems to have a promising career in the forces ahead of him after university. Other young members of the team such as Finlay Crocker, Alan Kirkland, Douglas Browne, Neil Dods, Ivan Tait, Richard Cornish and Colin Churchill

began to make their way up through the ranks and now are all very valuable N.C.O.'s in both Army and Marine sections.

The Summer term involved frantic preparation for the Highland Cadet Competition and we entered two Army/Marine teams in what was only our second year of participation. In the Mini H.C.T.C. Sgt. F. Crocker and Cpl. K. Meikle led some young and promising cadets, as well as Sgt. H. Whitley and Cpl. C. Benton, to a good second place. The H.C.T.C. proper was remarkably toughly contested and the standard of performance very high. Our senior team was pleased to finish a close third of the C.C.F.'s, behind Dollar, and Fort Augustus. The boys had enjoyed the event a great deal and the cheerful and enthusiastic way the 1st team went about competing was a great credit to them. The younger 2nd team was badly hit by injuries on the eve of departure and it was good to notice their refusal to simply opt-out. With five last minute recruits they should not be ashamed of coming sixteenth of the eighteen teams competing.

The occasion of the writing of this report is the bus journey back from this year's Summer Camp which was at Wathgill in North Yorkshire. At the moment we are leading the camp's competition, the march and shoot, as well as having recorded the fastest time on the assault course. When I consider

that schools like Winchester, Newcastle Grammar and William Holme's from the south and Edinburgh Academy from Scotland have been left behind, it gives me some idea of how well the boys, as the smallest contingent there, performed. As usual a great deal of credit goes to N.C.O.'s such as Neil Dods, Douglas Browne, Harry Whitley, Nigel Howes, Archie Millar, Alan Kirkland and John McBain who lead from the front with great sense of humour and made this camp, as the previous ones, so cheerful.

Throughout the year these and other N.C.O.'s and particularly C.S.M. J. Kean have managed an Army Section I am pleased to be associated with. With their help and enthusiasm we have had some regular training of a good standard, some very worthwhile overnight exercises and an excellent Corps Day at Glencorse courtesy of the Black Watch and Major Dunbar. I must comment on how very good and useful it has been to have James Forshaw join the section; taking the first steps in the direction we are heading smacks of the over-the-top courage of trench warfare. May his instinct for self-preservation remain absent for a long time!

Lastly I must make public our gratitude to 23 C.T.T. for all their hard work and excellent training. Without them little could have been achieved.

C.N.C.

FISHING



It is beyond the wit of mortal man to repeat the "purple prose" of last year's Recorder of Fishing exploits at School. Suffice it to say that the Chaplain was seen catching one fish — albeit on the School pond, the evening after the Headmaster was similarly seen catching what was probably the same fish!

The rainbow trout arrived unseen during the early part of the Summer Term and it was not long before "The Rev." was seen, early in the morning, feeding the fish. A week or so afterwards, he had company for two or three mornings, and the fish were seen queuing up for their breakfast of fish pellets. Amongst them were three, if not four, much larger fish, one of them being affectionately named "Fred". He managed to be caught, twice, but since most of us were adhering to the rules of fishing size 14 barbless hooks, no real damage was done — except perhaps to his pride — if there be such a thing amongst cold-blooded creatures. It was not long before the dreaded blanket weed, spawned from the rich fertilisers used higher up the hill, began dampening the exploits of the fishermen on the "Woodlands" side of the Pond. Thankfully, due to an old trick used in some of the fisheries in the south of England, only two patches appeared in the "Mudflats" end.

Thirty or so pupils fished the Pond and most, though *not all* resisted the temptation to "kill" the fish they caught, waiting until the last two days of Term to

take one or two. Next year, should the poachers steer clear, there should be some much larger fish than usual. So, also, we were assured, will there be grass carp hopefully assuaging their voracious appetites by feeding on the two main varieties of weed and possibly the rushes, too.

Twenty-three pupils had permits to fish the River Earn and though sea trout and salmon were seen, the bulk of "tugs" and "pulls" were mainly small brown trout.

Major Saturday afternoon expeditions ranged between Heathery Ford and Sandyknowes fisheries, with expeditions further afield to Newmill Loch and Castlehill.

One of the most fascinating of all the expeditions was to Cloan Hatcheries and Frandy where, courtesy of Mr Richard Haldane and Mr McKenzie the manager, the breeding cycle of rainbows, browns and salmon was explained, along with rearing techniques and then, the rarest treat of all, seeing thousands upon thousands of young fry swimming in the breeding tanks.

Up the hill we saw some very large rainbows, most of them "Pets" which

had escaped into the local burn but were content to wait around for the "free lunch" we're told never exists.

The match against the Strathallian Club was cancelled, but for those planning to go, it was no great loss, in that Lake Menteith never seems to produce much during the day. However, we are looking forward (those of us who are left!) to taking up their offer of perhaps two evening outings elsewhere.

Mr Court relieved the Chaplain towards the end of term and took another party to Heathery Ford. This time, fish were caught!

We're grateful to Mr Barnes for selling some of the Chaplain's strange assortment of "size 14" "barbless" hooks, and nylon; to Mr Court for displaying his usual piscatorial interest, and to the Chaplain not only for driving pupils to various venues, but for his frequent and often mysterious trips into Perth to buy rods, reels and lines, and for his erstwhile attempts to teach novice fishers to fish. Although occasional articles by him still appear in "Trout and Salmon", along with reports of his success in the Hebrides, we remain unconvinced.

"Isaak Walton"

A WING AND A PRAYER

I think it is the "Flyfishers' Club" which has the motto "Piscator non solum Piscatur" or in speakeasy, "there is more to fishing than catching fish." This was proved conclusively during the first week of September, when five of us: the author, Colin Walker, John Getley, Christopher Sellick and his son, were invited by Mr Reed to try our hand for the salmon on the Upper Netherdale Beat of the River Deveron.

Despite typical conditions of lashing rain and muddy paths, we quickly installed ourselves in the excellent fishing lodge to unpack the dozen of cartons containing all the piscatorial and gastro-nomic goodies necessary for a week on the river. If nothing else, this was going to be a feast of Gargantuan proportions, helped by the provision of 15 dozen eggs from John's chicken farm, and my father's contribution of a dozen home-smoked Kippers and two sides of smoked salmon.

The following morning, after a predictably huge breakfast, we gathered on the riverbank to plan the day's battle tactics. All the omens were good — the water 3 inches below "the" stone, those rocks uncovered, the others covered, all those wonderful rule of thumb methods fishermen have to calculate the favourable

odds of catching fish. But it was not to be, and that day we drew a blank. And the next, and the next! Meanwhile salmon continued to leap and rise as if there was no tomorrow. Only on the fourth day did I chance upon a fish of particularly suicidal nature which took my fly. One hour later it was on the bank, a beautiful fresh fish of 11½ lbs, which had fought superbly, causing me to charge up and down the bank like a dervish.

Sadly, that was to be the only fish of the week, although everyone seemed to have experienced "great tugs" and "coming short" was the expression of the week. This made us all the more determined to make something of our prize, and we ate it in great style the following evening.

The memories? There are many, but particularly John's incredible soporific mellowness in the face of all adversity, political arguments with Colin over dinner, and Mr Reed's piping us in from dram to dinner; that food, that drink . . . and finally the sheer fun of going out fishing. I am sure I speak for all the guests when I thank our host most sincerely for an absolutely tremendous week.

S.C.-B.

Home-Sweet-Home

Cold grey water lapped the flimsy-looking sides of the fibre-glass dinghy. I shivered at the thought of the five hundred feet down to the sea-bed underneath. In this vast area of solitary water, the only noise to keep me sane was the vibrating motor at the rear. It was a grey, damp day; not far from rain. The air rang inside my head with a stinging chill. My feet lacked feeling. I was dressed for this bitter, grey, October weather. The wind was eating its way through layers to gnaw at my very soul. In a padded cap with ear flaps fastening with a strap under my chin, padded trousers, short, wide-legged gumboots, and a thick downie-like jacket, I sat cold and alone in the dinghy. A glimpse at my neck spoke of other layers underneath.

Whilst rocking within the hypnotic motion of the sea I shivered in the bitterness of the open water. I had to face a relentlessly cold day before returning to my cosy cottage and a blazing fire.

Rachel Adam, Form IV

A YEAR OFF!

"How are you looking forward to going back to work?" is the friendly question I have been asked with increasing frequency as my year's quasi-sabbatical has drawn to its close. It is a question that annoys the over-sensitive student and that in itself asks other questions and reveals a few assumptions. These assumptions are perhaps particularly schoolmasterly ones. The critical notion is that while schoolmasters work, students do not. Or that educators educate while those being educated recreate. The reverse, I think, is much closer to the truth.

It all comes down, you see, to what one means by work and, in particular, what that means for an educator. If one is seen running from gamesfield to classroom, from study to sportshall or lecture theatre with sheaves of exam papers and lesson plans bound together with the thong of a whistle, one is working. If one is panting, sweating, on the verge of collapse or breakdown, one is working really hard. If one has the physical flexibility of a Daley Thompson and the administrative expertise of an I.C.I. executive one would probably be an Outstanding Schoolmaster. And if one has the mind of a . . . ? One hesitates. Names flash through the head: a Charles Dickens, an Albert Einstein, a Barnes Wallace? None of these will do really. And that is when one starts to think; at least you would if only you had the time. Having just had the time I suggest the answer is simply: the mind of a student.

Once upon a time, many years ago, I took my first uncertain steps into the teaching profession. I was going to use a cliché like road or perhaps 'treadmill' but the closest metaphor I can think of has something to do with those little running machines like miniature conveyor belts that executives use to run on whilst ensuring they don't get anywhere, least of all away from their work. In any case, those uncertain steps accelerated into a kind of marathon sprint punctuated with comatose holidays. Suddenly I found I didn't read much, though lesson preparation demanded the set text, the appropriate criticism and the compulsory background reading. When I looked around me in the dimly-lit theatre I would see the faces of the young on the verge of sleep or revelation and start preparing mental notes for the interval or the bus journey, notes that would prod the tardy behind or dangle the carrot in front of the head of the composite school-child beast. Most of all, conversations became full of talk of the Jeepsian or Johnsian qualities of a

boy's scrum-half or stand-off play; the finer mechanics of some sixth formers' essay writing technique; the underlying sources of some fourth formers' behavioural problems that had reduced you to a quivering wreck of rage, fear or frustration. Talk about and the immediacy of, Form Orders, Home Fixtures, School Reports, C.C.F. Exercises filled the working day. It was no wonder I began to think of irresponsible students and care-free schoolchildren. One thing was absolutely certain from my panoramic view on top of that exercise thingy and that was that they definitely did not work. Only we did work.

The strange thing was that sometimes one came out of a class with a taste of joy so strong that it made Daley Thomson's mouth of Lucozade seem pure ditch water. Something exciting to do with the mind or the process of learning had happened and perhaps, one should have felt guilty. That wasn't anything to do with work, was it? The delight was tinged with the guilt of an illicit and hopelessly romantic love affair. And thoughts like that lead me back to student days when I half knew I wasn't really working and somehow not quite worth my grant. But that was where those gifted moments that were not work came from and ever-clearer it is apparent to me that that is where my real worth lies. Work, after all, in education, has something to do with inspiration and not the intensity of drudgery. At the very least

inspiration and joy in learning lies vaguely at the heart of what we seek to do.

The point is, then, that the person doing 'the job' for the last five, ten or fifteen years has been living off the student that he or she was. The host has been getting thinner and thinner, the parasite more and more demanding and less and less grateful. The trouble is, that the parasite begins to think of himself as the suffering victim. Sometimes, when the real 'work' of teaching is being done, there is a kind of happy re-enacting of that gruesome scene in 'Alien' when the 'Thing' bursts out of the spacemen's chest. There is a moment of tension, a distinct feeling of awkwardness and suddenly there is a long-haired, socially useless and irresponsible alien standing in those very well-worn but carefully polished brown brogues of the conscientious teacher. The funny thing is that the alien is so much more interesting and seems to be talking a language the children can understand.

I suppose a sabbatical is the opportunity in which one can give that long-haired lout the chance to build his strength a little before his next term as host to the hard-working teacher. I am certainly grateful that 'he' has had another chance and especially glad that he has been able to read what he enjoys. Today is a day of work-schedules, objectives, parameters, modules and nodules and teachers try to make themselves well-paid by showing that they not only work but can out jargon the technocrat and tick and tock with the precision to match that of any computer programmer. As G.C.S.E. grows, so the teacher's job seems less to do with inspiration but the devising of a scheme of work, a schedule of marking, a precise isolation of, identification and assessment of skills. With the efficiency of some super-programmed word-processor, he produces a portfolio of exercises that gains grades not so much according to pupils' merits but the teacher's professionalism. Over the horizon comes the spectre of an examination scheme that will do away with pupils altogether. To speed its approach teachers spend their sabbatical years, their in-service training, studying education: the devising of curriculums, the process of assessment, the administrative programmes by which a school may be launched towards the future. It is as dreer and pointless as Cape Canaveral.

I am glad I spent my year studying poetry. It is so absolutely useless and has nothing at all to do with work.

C.N.C



WEATHER — A STOP GAP



That's what Hon. Ed. said, or almost; "... in case I need a filler ..." were the words. Well, here it is. Wanted or not, it happened. And here is how it did so: no floods, no hurricanes, no droughts, nothing to make the brass monkey sit up for, and certainly no heat wave. Really, it's all been a bit mundane — but weather usually is. That's how we love it — must be, since we keep talking about it.

I left you high and dry (well, fairly so) in the middle of last summer. We'd had our 50,000 tons worth in July '85 and in 1986 we were enjoying that grey, though dry, phenomenon that we refer to as summer in these parts. August wasn't a whole heap better; in fact it was distinctly chilsome (our coldest) and September

saw little improvement. The saving grace was October, like so many these last 20 years, a very mild one, and sunny enough to delay the onset of winter (which otherwise started in that August!). The early winter months were mild enough, but it rained rather a lot. December was our second wettest in 19 years: 154mm against the average 81.

Then began our 20th year. January was certainly cold: at 0.9°C the average was 2°C lower than normal, but we've had 4 colder ones in the past 10 years! Winter did not carry on like that though, for the next 2 months were around average and April was decidedly balmy — a full 2°C above average, even after a putrid start. It was then that the "west", and the

Outer Isles in particular, started their sunshine season. May too held the good work, but June was a washout and chilly (11.8°C compared with 13.2°C, and 111mm with 48). To date, (mid) July has been "warm" and fairly dry, but as I write it seems that the monsoon is about to arrive.

You see, mundanity does prevail. If you're still with me, thanks for hanging on. Excitements for us all next year: the 20-year statistics will be published. Yes, for 20 years the "wet" and "dry", the "max" and "min", the Rain Gauge and the rest have been recorded. And to think that it was all born from an A-level pupil's Geography project!

N.F.P.

THE LONDON TRIP

A group of intellectual English students had been psyching up for this weekend since embarking on their A-level course. (Hopefully the trip hadn't influenced anyone's decision the previous term on which A-levels to take.) A nameless two students were unfortunate to be left behind as tickets were in short supply. We hear that they were rather depressed over the weekend in question.

The day before planned departure, no trains from Scotland to London were running because of hazardous snow conditions and this caused a great deal of worry (and cheers from the unlucky couple aforementioned!). Finally, an hour before departure a notice was displayed bearing the words, "LONDON TRIP SLEEPER IS NOW RUNNING," which promptly put our minds at rest and started the adrenalin flowing!

After a well-spent night on the stifling train, we arrived in King's Cross at some unearthly hour. Of course, the girls, being well organised, promptly disembarked and made their way to the youth hostel, deciding as a result of feeling

neither awake nor energetic enough (our bags were bursting at the seams!) not to try and puzzle out the tube but to 'splash out' on a taxi. We found out later that some of the boys only surfaced about half an hour later and then only by force!

After securing the best beds and trying to force some food into our lack-lustre, listless, lackadaisical (notice the alliteration — guess who does English?!) bodies, we went our separate ways until the agreed meeting time at the National Theatre. Of course it was raining but it would have taken more than rain to dampen our spirits in this great city.

Surprisingly, everyone turned up on time and we took out seats in the Olivier Theatre for the performance of King Lear. The set was very simple but some exotic symbolic imagery was used to great effect. I cannot begin to describe some of the props but they caused a great deal of commotion and prompted furious discussion. The first half (two and a half hours of non-stop Shakespeare) left us feeling rather stiff in certain places! Anthony Hopkins, in the lead role as King Lear, was very powerful but perhaps a little too aggressive for a man in his eighties. Even if we left the N.T. with doubts of whether or not we liked the way in which King Lear had been presented, we had found it interesting to see in what light the infamous David Hare had seen the play. After an exciting and varied evening we reluctantly returned to the youth hostel for our 11 o'clock curfew.

Everyone (well nearly) rose early the next morning to the chimes from St. Paul's Cathedral in order to rush to the famed Camden Market in search of a bargain (typical Scots!) before taking the train back to school. A few people forwent this pleasure in search of satisfaction on a higher level and attended the service at St. Paul's that morning.

On the return journey, because of the snow, the trains broke down (much to the delight of those who were quite happy to miss evening chapel!). We transferred train and the journey passed very quickly although Mr Macky, our resident New Zealander, managed to get himself lost somewhere in the change.

All in all the trip was a great success and we must thank Mr Smith (regrettably for the last time), Mrs Adam and Mr Forster for making it all possible. We wait in anticipation for next year — but please can we go in the summer?!

W.F. N.del.



Upper Sixth Blues

I'm at a difficult stage.
Depression as an art form beckons,
'A' levels beckon.
The hereto hidden delights,
Which tempt and seduce everyone this
age,
Are coming on strong.
Universities are cold and unfriendly,
You have to fight if you want to get in.
And your acceptance can only bring
about
The shattering of another's dreams.
And to do it you must lower,
Or perhaps lift,
Yourself to the level of prostitution.
Hey Mr University chick,
You want my number?
It'll cost you
Two A's and a B.
There are, of course, other buyers —
A girl like me's got no probs —
But I kinda like you, so I'll
Let you take me first.
That's bad enough, but just you wait
Till they start rejecting you.
And here I am, writing poetry.

N. H. de I.



"Four hours of Shakespeare and never felt better!" Mr Smith.

THE PARIS TRIP

Thursday, May 28th, 8.30 p.m. Standing at Rothesay Pier in the rain waiting for the slightly late arrival of the coach was a bit of an anticlimax after months of frustrated excitement on the part of second and third formers (and one lucky first former!). However, our expectations were revived on the arrival of a sleek, comfortable coach equipped with a video to whirl away the twenty-one hours to Paris. By the following morning we found ourselves on a ferry, crossing the channel and leaving the White Cliffs of Dover behind us. Arrival in France was welcomed but another six hours still lay ahead on the journey to the new town of Evry just outside Paris, where the party was to stay. The hostel was called FiapEvry and rooms were divided between groups of three or four.

After a very welcome good night's sleep, three complete days of sightseeing lay ahead of us. They started with a guided tour of Paris in our coach with a charming old lady called Mme. Bresson. This was followed by lunch in a restaur-

ant called 'Le Rallye' and the afternoon was filled with a visit to the Notre Dame Cathedral. This building was beautiful and the view of Paris from the South Tower was quite spectacular. Back in Evry for the evening we went for a swim in the pool round the corner from us before returning to the hostel for dinner. Afterwards, we watched the finals of a trampolining competition nearby before finally retiring to bed.

Sunday's activities started with a cruise down the Seine with all the places of interest pointed out by a guide in many different languages. In the afternoon we visited the magnificent Palais de Versailles. Both the interior of the Palace and the extensive gardens were well worth seeing but one did get rather sore feet after a while! The evening was spent at leisure back in the hostel.

With Monday morning came the long awaited ascent of the Eiffel Tower. It was quite surprising how many people weren't so anxious once they actually got there! Anyway, I think everyone did go

up and it was well worth it too. Lunch was taken at the 'Moulin Rouge' (no, not the famous one — a self-service restaurant actually!) and then came the last visit of the holiday. This was to the beautiful Sacre Coeur Cathedral which had three interesting levels: the crypt, the main Cathedral area and the dome which provided yet another spectacular view of Paris. In the evening we went to a park fairly near the hostel and played some football and rounders and 'mini golf'.

The following morning was, sadly, our departure time but everyone had certainly had a great holiday. Everything had run very smoothly thanks to the hard work of our coach driver and the careful organisation of Mrs Carratt, who didn't go unrewarded, by the way! Thanks also to the other members of staff who went on the trip and acted as treasurers for members of the party! Altogether, everyone had a tremendous time and the trip was certainly well worth it.

C.S.D.

PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY

I thought that Philosophy sounded like a suitably odd society to join; this hunch was confirmed when a beaming Mr Thomson insisted "It's fun and it's also easy. I mean last year's candidates (Dominik Diamond and James Wood) got a 'B' and a 'C' and they didn't find out about the exam until the second term

Well in that case it really must be pretty basic . . .

Our first meeting left us suitably disillusioned. The existence of God was proved to us conclusively by "People who knew" and just when the logic of the argument had dawned, it was conclusively rejected. Wonderful. I could tell this was going to be really fun . . .

To be honest, it actually was fun. We learnt the basics of formal logic and touched upon various ideas of various philosophers (Classical and later). There were even a few animated discussions — well as animated as is possible when somebody's unsympathetic logic squashes every bright idea.

I would like to thank, on behalf of Sharon Bowring and myself, Messrs.

Thomson and Smith for all their time and attention spent in preparing us for the exam and for giving us the ability to be annoying in arguments.

N. H. de I.

(Well done! Good enough passes for both. Ed.)

At a party

She's not quite right, you know.

I tell you this in a
Subdued sort of way,
Clutching my Pimms in
My hands, so others will see
It's a secret.

Hello.
Do have a seat.
Not that one.
What I was saying was . . .

Strictly confidential. The
Recognised ritual of eye contact.
People linger by my table.

And my hand, unstuck from
The glass, rises above
Your sunken head
Like a priest's
And it echoes —

She's not quite right, you know.

DEBATING SOCIETY

There were three Debates in the Autumn Term and three in the Spring Term. The "star" debate was the one centred upon whether God was a figment of the human imagination. The rules of debating technique won through, and whilst there may have been a high proportion of VIth formers present who believed such to be the case, such was the force of the sincerity of Kerr Hatrick's speech and answers to questions from the floor, that the motion was heavily defeated.

We entered a Team for the Prudential General Knowledge Quiz — were successful in rounds 1 and 2, but defeated in round 3. Nevertheless, not only did our participants, Michael Edie, Nicola de Iongh, Sharon Bowring and Rhett Harrison win cash prizes, so also did the VIth form Coffee Lounge.

T.G.L.

CRAFT, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Well, this has been an important year for the department of Craft, Design and Technology at Strathallan. We have seen the completion of the new building, its subsequent equipping and eventual official opening which took place in May of this year.

This is really the culmination of three years of preparation, research and planning, and I can now quite firmly say to the question "What is Craft, Design & Technology?" (or C.D.T. as it is often called) "Come along and see for yourself!"

The subject is seen as a vital addition to every pupil's curriculum as we endeavour to encourage the enquiring mind, to satisfy the desire to 'make something' and to ensure that 'Design' is used to stretch the horizons of not only the budding craftsman, but also the thinking scientist.

To facilitate this very vast subject I have welcomed the help of Mr Wallace and Mr Wilson, both of whom have worked so very hard throughout their first year here, and for this I thank them both very much indeed.

I look forward to the additional help from Mr Round, who has now joined us to complete the team of staff.

As the subject moves forward within the examination regime, we are now covering 'A' level 'Design & Technology' and 'A' level 'Technology', have submitted the last 'O' levels in these two subjects and are now offering the whole range of the new G.C.S.E. courses, and this is proving to be quite an exciting development.

All this has been quite a change for Strathallan and change is sometimes hard to accept; that is human nature. However, for those who have been involved already within the department, and have tasted its potential, it is a very exciting change indeed, offering broader examination combinations, and equipping our pupils to cope better with the demand for change in the world outside school.

The adage "ignorance is bliss", cannot be said of Strathallan and to those who do not know the subject, I offer an invitation to all to come and explore, you never know what you may find.

The doors are always open, so you have no excuse; you are welcome any time.

P.J.E.

YFC REPORT

Chairman: C. D. McCall Smith
Secretary: N. Moss
Treasurer: R. Batchelor

There is an ever decreasing number of pupils with farming backgrounds, but keen interest has been shown by members.

The year started off with the AGM where the new office bearers were elected. The club hosted the East Area Speech Making Competition Final. There was a trip to Elmwood College. The usual trip to the Highland Show took place on the Tuesday, again a rainy day. Mr Sinclair had the assistance of some boys for his Family Day On The Farm.

The Committee would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the club in any way.

C.D.McC.-S.

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John Kruuk attends to David Connell during the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme first-aid course.



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VALETE

Freeland

UVI

Ball, J. L. Came 1985³; LV1; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XI Football (Capt.); 2nd XV Rugby; Cross Country; Pipe Band Sergeant. *Cartref, Broadford, Isle of Skye, Scotland IV49 9AA.*

Davenport, P. R. Came 1980³; I; House Prefect; 5th XV Rugby; Canoe Polo Team; D of E Bronze; Choir; Drama; RAF Corporal. *37 Greenside Park, St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland.*

Diamond, P.D. Came 1980³; I; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Cricket, Athletics Team, Junior and Middle Victor Ludorum; Academic Scholarship; Senior Reading Prize; Music Prize (Vth Form); English Prize; Dance and Jazz bands; Drama; Debating; Strath-Aid; P.O. in Navy. *19 Richmond Way, Newport Pagnell, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK16 0LF.*

Eddie, M. J. Came 1981³; II; School Prefect; Vice-Head Freeland; 3rd XV Rugby (Capt.); 1st XI Scorer, Cricket half colours; 3rd, 4th form prizes; Junior Reading Prize; Physics Prize; Choir; Dance Band; 2nd Orchestra, Brass group; Drama; Philosophy; Corporal (M'bikes). *Stoneshiel Hall, Reston, Eyemouth, Berwickshire TD14 5LU.*

McKenzie, J. K. D. Came 1980³; I; Cross Country; Fishing; 1st XI Football; 5th XV Rugby; D of E Bronze; Choir; R.A.F. *55 Octavia Terrace, Greenock, Strathclyde PA16 7SR.*

Raitt, M. B. Came 1981³; III; House Prefect; Canoeing (Capt.); 3rd XV Rugby; 2nd XI Cricket; 3rd Form Scholarship; Navy cox'n. *Frankenslag 179, 2582 Hl Den Haag, The Netherlands.*

Smart, R. B. Came 1980³; House Prefect; 5th XV Rugby; R.A.F.; Debating Society; School Band. *The Grove, St. Andrew's Street, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.*

Smith, K. D. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby (Capt.); 1st XI Cricket (Capt.); 1st XI Hockey; Skiing Team; Junior Squash and Swimming; Marines. *Letham Grange Hotel, Arbroath, Angus.*

Steele, J. M. Came 1981³; II; House Prefect; Scholarship; Choir; Drama; Rock Climbing; L.S. in Navy. *4 Mansfield Road, Flat 20/10 Floor, The Peak, Hong Kong.*

Temple, C. N. E. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 3rd XI Hockey (Capt.); 3rd XI Cricket (Capt.); D of E; Mountaineering Club;

Royal Marines Cadet. *Knockdolian, Braco Road, Comrie, Perthshire PH6 2HP.*

Thomson, D. M. Came 1984³; V; House Prefect; Squash (Capt.); 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Football; Athletics and Cross Country teams; School band; Jazz band. *114 Glentruin Road, Blantyre, Glasgow G72 9RF.*

LV1

Briggs, C. M. Came 1983³; III; 3rd XI Cricket; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Roxburgh House, Roxburgh, Kelso, Roxburghshire.*

V

Fehilly, C. M. F. Came 1981³; III; L. S. in Navy. *Tayflettes House, Isla Road, Perth.*

Mosseri, J. R. Came 1983³; II; Head of Preproom; 4th XV Rugby; Athletics; Army Private. *North-Gates, 9 Oatlands Close, Weybridge, Surrey.*

Whitley, N. E. Came 1984³; III; Hockey; Senior Colt A, Junior Colt A (Capt.); 4th XV Rugby; Junior Colt B Cricket; Indoor Hockey; Computing; Electronics; Army Cadet. *Easter Whitehouse, Inverest, By Musselburgh, Edinburgh EH21 7TG.*

Leburn

Pawson, M. D. Came 1984³; Junior Rugby Colts C; Cricket 2nd/3rd XI; Choir; Drama; RAF Cadet. *Hillburn, Oyne, Aberdeenshire AB5 6QT.*

Vanbeck, C. M. Came 1982³; U15 C Rugby; U14 C Rugby; U13 A Hockey XI Junior/Senior Colts; Junior Cricket Colts B; Navy Leading Seaman. *6 West Glebe, Stonehaven AB3 2HZ.*

Begemann, P. G. C. Came 1986³ Social Services. *Isestrasse 125, 2000 Hamburg 13, Germany.*

Bannatyne, A. R. Came 1982³; House Prefect; Captain of 5th XV Rugby; Academic Scholarship; Debating Society; Motorbikes. *Burnside, 8 Burnfoot Road, Fairlie, Ayrshire KA29 0D4.*

Carrick-Buchanan, S. Came 1980³; House Prefect; Cross Country; Debating Society; Royal Marines Corporal. *Address to come.*

Crawford, C. J. Came 1980³; House

Prefect; Captain of Cross Country; Rugby 6th XV; Athletics; Royal Marines Corporal. *7 Townend Terrace, Symington, Ayrshire.*

Green, A. J. Came 1981³; House Prefect; House Captain of Shooting; Rugby 6th/5th/3rd XV; Music; Sponsorship by BTR to University; Orchestras. *Jagerslaan Noord 20, 2242 S2 Wassenaar, The Netherlands.*

Henderson, C. N. C. Came 1982³; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby. Full Colours; Debating Society. *Address to come.*

Liddell, C. M. Came 1984³; RAF Cadet; Motorbikes. *43 Saddleback Rise, Murrays Bay, North Shore, Auckland, New Zealand.*

Lumsden, A. M. Came 1983¹; House Prefect; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Cross Country; Academic Scholarship; O Level Prize; Drama; Debating Society; RAF Corporal. *Great Begbeer Farm, Spreyton, Crediton, Devon.*

Miln S. Came 1984¹; House Prefect, School Prefect; Head of House; Rugby 6th XV; David Bogie Prize for Economics; RAF Cadet; Motorbikes. *Société Cameronnaise De Sacherie, BP 398, Donala, Cameroun, W. Africa.*

Stewart, J. Came 1981; House Prefect; House Football Captain; Rugby 3rd/5th/6th XV; Cricket 3rd XI; Football U16; Debating Society; RAF Cadet. *15 Bourne Crescent, Inchinnan, Renfrewshire.*

Wood, J. A. Came 1980³; English Prize; German Prize; Drama; Debating Society; Editor School Magazine; Philosophy. *6 Hollowhill, St. Andrews, Fife.*

Zaraza, M. Came 1981³; House Prefect; Vice-House Captain; Junior and Senior Squash 1st V; Waterskiing; Debating Society; Bagpipes; RAF Sergeant. *P.O. Box 736, Honiara, Solomon Islands.*

Nicol

UVI

Beath, A. A. Came 1980³; I; School Prefect; Vice Head of House; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; 2nd XI Hockey; 1st XI Cricket; Choir; Orchestra; Dance band; Brass group; M'bikes. *Balmossie, Ledaig, Connel, Oban, Argyll PA37 1QP.*

Clark, G. J. M. Came 1980³; I: Head of House; Sailing; Shooting; Hockey Junior Colts; Senior Colts; 2nd XI. 1st XI. Rugby Minor Colts; Junior Colts; 4th XV; 1st XV; Choir; Orchestra; M'bikes. *Greenfields, Kirkgunzion, Dumfries GD2 8JR.*

Irvine, D. F. I. Came 1981³; II; House Prefect; Drama; Choir; Orchestra; M'bikes. *Trylaw House, Symington, Ayrshire.*

Kean, J. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Shooting; Golf; Cross Country; Rugby 3rd XV; Army. *End Cottage, Burns of Benholm, Montrose, Angus DD10 0HT.*

Macintyre, A. D. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Cross Country; Windsurfing; RM; Army. *Lundin Links Hotel, Lundin Links, Fife KY8 GAP.*

McLay, G. D. Came 1981³; II; House Prefect; Athletics; 1st XV Rugby; Capt. of 1st VII Rugby; Full Colours Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; Pipe Band. *Main Street, Houston PA6 7EL.*

Martin, B. Came 1985³; LVI; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV; 3rd XV; Hockey 3rd XI. *Evergreen 96; Atlantic Shores, Christchurch Barbados W1.*

Rodger, A. N. S. Came 1983³; LVI; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV; 1st XV; Sailing; Pipe Major. *Esthwaite, Lochmaben, Dumfries and Galloway.*

Russell, M. D. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Hockey XI; Cricket 2nd XI; Athletics; Golf; Navy. *41 Hillpark Avenue, Hillpark, Edinburgh.*

Zaid, T. A. M. Came 1982³; III; House

Prefect; Rugby 1st XV; Hockey 2nd XI; 1st XI; Cricket 2nd XI; Football 1st XI; Indoor Hockey 1st; Army. *84J/n Arnpang Milir, Kuala Lumpur 55000, W. Malaysia.*

LVI

Austick, G. S. Came 1984¹; III; Cricket U15 B XI; U16 B XI; Cross Country; Choir; Young Farmers; Navy. *Milbourne Hall, Milbourne, Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 0EB.*

Geddes, S. W. Came 1983³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 6th XV; Army. Social Services.

Holst, P. J. Came 1986³; LVI; Ski-ing; Summer Term Hockey; Golf; Orchestra; D of E. *Philosphenweg 31, 2000 Hamburg 50, West Germany.*

Marshall, J. W. M. Came 1983³; III; U14 Cs; U15 Cs; Secretary of Young Farmers; Navy. *Dalreoch, Dunning, Perth PH2 0QJ.*

Ruthven

UVI

Barr, A. B. D. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV; 6th XV; Summer Hockey 2nd XI; Geography Prize; Debating; Royal Navy. *16 Westgate, North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4AF.*

Bruce, C. M. Came 1980²; I; House Prefect; 3rd XI Hockey; Summer Hockey 2nd XI; Choir; Band; RAF. *92 Queen Street, Peterhead, Aberdeen AB4 6TT.*

Christie, J. A. A. Came 1980³; I; Head of House; Rugby 1st XV; Indoor Hockey 1st; Cricket 1st XI; Athletics; Marines-Navy. *Rossie Ochil, Forgan-denny, Perthshire PH2 9DH.*

Cleland, P. C. G. Came 1980³; I; Head of House; Rugby 1st XV; 2nd XV; Hockey 2nd XI; Summer Hockey 1st XI; Survival; Photography; Navy. *Marel, 21 Sorn Road, Mauchline, Ayrshire KA5 6AW.*

Fawcus, A. S. Came 1983¹; III; House Prefect; Capt. House Squash; 2nd XV Rugby; 2nd XI Hockey; 2nd XI Sum-

mer Hockey; Photography; R.N. *Bal-linduin, Strathay, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH9 0LP.*

Fitzpatrick, H. A. T. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 1st XV; 2nd XV Capt.; Hockey 1st XI, Full Colours; Indoor Hockey 1st XI; Summer Hockey 1st XI; Golf; Social Services; Photography; Navy. *Cairnmohr, Erskine Road, Whitecraigs, Glasgow G46 6TH.*

Gilyead, J. R. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; 1st XI Cricket; 2nd XI Hockey; Ski-ing Capt. and Colours; Debating. *53 Barnfield Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5TH.*

Huxley, I. S. G. Came 1984³; V; House Prefect; Senior Librarian; Rugby 6th XV; Flying Scholarship; O-Level Prize; Drama; RAF. *Balchrack, The Craigs, Ardgay, Sutherland IV24 3BP.*

Lennox, D. F. Came 1979³; I; House Prefect; Rugby 1st XV; Hockey 1st XI, Full Colours; Indoor Hockey; 1st XI Cricket, Full Colours; 1st XI Football; Junior Tennis Cup; Social Services; Navy. *Squirrel Court, Binns Lane, Holmfirth HD7 1BJ.*

Lenman, A. B. Came 1984¹; IV; House

Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; 3rd XV Capt.; Golf 1st IV; 1st XI Football; Debating; Drama; Royal Navy. *Cromalt, 50 Lade Braes, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9DA.*

McCall-Smith, C. D. Came 1980³; I; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Summer Hockey 1st XI; Biology Prize; Chairman of YFC; Social Services; Photography; Navy. *Adamson Farm, By Huntly, Aberdeenshire AB5 6AL.*

V

Aitkenhead, R. P. Came 1983³; I; Rugby U15 B; Drama; Navy. *Lochnell Arms Hotel, North Connel, Argyll PG37 1RP.*

Clyde, E. Came 1983³; III; Athletics; Cross Country; Ski-ing; M'bikes. *Vor-esheed, Berstane Road, Kirkwall, Orkney.*

Scott, L. H. M. Came 1983³; III; Rugby 2nd XV; 3rd XV; 4th XV; Tennis 1st VI; U16 Football; Choir; Army. *The Little House, Pier Road, Rhu, Dunbartonshire G84 8LH.*

Riley

Kennedy, N. K. Came 1984³; I; U13 Hockey; U13 Netball; Choir; Drama. *Keltie House, Leny Feus, Callander, Perthshire FK17 8AS.*

Earnie, D. D. G. Came 1987³; I; U13 Hockey. 'Viewbank', *Moredun Terrace, Craigie, Perth PH2 0DA.*

Middleton, R. M. M. Came 1985³; I; Shooting prize. *Marnock, Glenburne Road, Rothesay, Isle of Bute.*

Simpson

Hogg, M. R. A. H. Came 1985³; Duke of Edinburgh; Navy, Leading Seaman. *Northfield Hotel, Northfield Road, Minehead, Somerset, England.*

Channell, B. P. Came 1983³; L6 Prefect; Junior Colts XV; Senior Colts XV; 4th B; Senior Colts XI B; Basketball, Swimming; Canoeing; Navy, Leading Seaman. *43 Pinewoods, 31 Shonsoon Hill Road, Hong Kong.*

Black, I. G. Came 1985³; House Prefect; School Captain of Tennis; School Captain of Swimming; 3rd Rugby; House Colours; S.W.D. Lieutenant. *13 Dodie Ness, Altens, Aberdeen.*

Blanche, M. W. D. Came 1980³; House Prefect; 2nd, 3rd, 5th XV Rugby; 1st, 2nd XI Cricket; Choir; Photography; Riley Drama; Royal Marines. *Grange House, Grange, Keith, Banffshire AB5 3RX.*

Bullard, A. G. A. Came 1980¹; House Prefect; 2nd XV Rugby Captain; 1st XI Hockey. Colours; 1st XI Cricket. Colours; Dance band; Army Corporal. *The Croft, Forgandenny, Perthshire PH2 9EL.*

Chenery, R. A. Came 1986³; House Prefect; Academic Scholarship; Choir; Orchestra; Dance Band; Drama. *1 Kilrymont Place, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 8DH.*

Drummond, N. J. Came 1980³; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Cricket; 4th XI Hockey; Athletics; Sevens; Drama; Motorbikes. *60 Montgomery Street, Kinross, Tayside.*

Ford, T. H. Came 1985³; House Prefect; 2nd XV Rugby; Captain of Golf; Canoe Polo; RAF. *Vaganesveier S.B., 4052 Royneburg, Stavanger, Norway.*

Pettinger, G. Came 1981³; House Prefect; Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music, twice; Choir; Orchestra; Drama; Reading Competition; RAF Cadet. *An Conasg, Corpach, Fort William, Inverness-shire PH33 7JJ.*

Robertson, A. M. Came 1980³; School Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 2nd XI Hockey; Athletics; Swimming; Houston Prize for All-Round Merit; Richard Moffat History Prize; Debating; Navy, Under Officer. *17 Lady Jane Gardens, North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4ER.*

Sheal, K. J. R. Came 1985³; House Prefect; Librarian; 3rd XV Rugby; 5th XV Rugby; Army Private. *P.O. Box 10109, Dhahran, Arramco, Saudi Arabia.*

Smith, D. G. Came 1982³; School Prefect; Captain of School; 1st XV Rugby, Half Colours; Athletics, Half Colours; Swimming; Smith Cup for Head of School; Army Corporal. *St. Catherine's, Links Road, Leven, Kirkcaldy KY8 4HR.*

Stewart, D. B. S. Came 1982³; House Prefect; 1st/2nd XV Rugby; Cricket 2nd/3rd XI, Colts; Army Sergeant. *Holbrooke House, Stokenham, Nr. Kingsbridge, Devon.*

Woodlands

UVI

Beale, Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; U15 Tennis; Badminton; Choir; Orchestra; *Craigclowan School, Edinburgh Road, Perth PH2 8PS.*

Burton, K. F. Came 1982³; III; Deputy Head of House; Tennis U15 VI; Squash Capt.; Athletics; Cross Country; Hockey U15. *The Garh, Drum, Fossoway, Kinross-shire.*

Chisholm, S. E. Came 1986³; UVI; House Prefect; Music Scholarship; Orchestra; Choir. *29 Snowdon Terrace, West Kilbride, Ayrshire KA23 9HN.*

Clayton, L. H. Came 1981¹; I; House Prefect, Ski-ing Capt.; Sailing Capt.; Hockey U15 XI; 2nd XI; Wilfred Hoare Reading Prize; Choir; Orchestra; Drama; Photography. *'Kiaran', Forgandenny, Perthshire PH2 9EN.*

Cornish, V. C. Came 1983³; IV; House Prefect; U15 Hockey XI; 1st XI, Vice-Capt.; Athletics Capt.; Cross Country. *Old Acres, Over Peover, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 8UN.*

David, J. A. Came 1985³; LVI; House Prefect; French Prize; Choir; Debating; Young Socialists; Drama; Strath-Aid. *St. Leonard's, Moulin, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5QZ.*

Dickinson, E. J. Came 1985³; LVI; School Prefect; Hockey 2nd XI; Sailing 1st VI; Squash 1st V. *West End, Largoward, By Leven, Fife KY9 1HT.*

Gilchrist, J. A. Came 1986³; UVI; House Prefect; Choir, Orchestra; D of E. *138 Prestonfield, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 7QA.*

Gray, J. R. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Hockey U15 XI; Tennis U15; Cross Country; Dance Band; Choir. *'Collingwood', Forgandenny, Perth PH2 9HP.*

Ismail, R. Came 1983³; IV; House Prefect; IV Form Prize; Drama. *Fordel House, Glenfarg, Perth PH2 8QQ.*

Lawson, G. M. M. Came 1982¹; II; House Prefect; Hockey U15 XI; 2nd XI Capt.; 1st XI; Swimming Capt.; Athletics. *13 Knoll Park, Ayr, Scotland.*

Liddell, F. G. Came 1984¹; IV; House Prefect; Tennis U15 VI; 1st VI; William Tattersall Art Prize; Photography. *43 Saddleback Rise, Murray's Bay, North Shore, Auckland.*

McMillan, R. L. M. Came 1985³; LVI; House Prefect; Athletics; Survival. *Afton Lodge, Mossblawn, By Ayr.*

Niven, C. E. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Hockey U15; 2nd XI Capt.; 1st XI; Drama; M'bikes. *Acorn Lodge, Whitsome Hill, Duns, Berwickshire TO11 3NF.*

Robb, S. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Hockey U15 XI; 2nd XI. *3 James Place, Broughty Ferry, Dundee.*

Streule, E. S. Came 1982³; III; Head of House; Hockey U15 XI; 2nd XI; 1st XI Capt.; Athletics; Tennis; Senior Art Prize; Strath-Aid. *Ardvreck, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 4EX.*

Tyson, N. D. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Hockey U15 XI; 2nd XI; Photography; Drama; M'bike. *'Six Oaks', 20 Broomfield Ride, Oxshot, Surrey KT22 0LW.*

Walker, H. M. Came 1985³; LVI; House Prefect; 2nd XI Hockey; William Tattersall Art Prize; Orchestra; Strath-Aid; Drama. *32 Inverleith Terrace, Edinburgh EH3 5NV.*

Wood, J. K. Came 1982³; III; House Prefect; Hockey U15s XI; 2nd XI, 1st XI. *10 Willow Green, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6AX.*

Wotherspoon, E. R. G. Came 1983³; IV; House Prefect; Athletics; Cross Country; Choir. *Rudha-na-Craige, Inveraray, Argyll.*

Young, L. M. Came 1985⁴; LVI; House Prefect; Drama; Choir. *Dalalandi 10, 108 Rekjavik, Iceland.*

LVI

Corbett, N. L. Came 1983³; IV; House Prefect; Hockey U15 XI; 1st XI; Athletics; Swimming; Hockey Full Colours. *Braehead, 71 Clerminston Road, Edinburgh.*

LEAVERS' COMMENTS

What they Enjoyed

'The friends'
'The sport'
'Arguments in dorm'
'Variety of activities'
'Christmas dinner'
'Annoying people with my stereo'
'Relationships'
'Late night illegal TV watching'
'D + D'
'Perth leave'
'Tours'
'Beating the system'
'Mr Wands' stories'
'Saturday nights out'
'Bikes'
'Atmosphere'
'Drama'
'The scandal'
'The laughs'
'Social life'
'Cordon bleu cuisine'
'Moments of vision'
'Post Highers Course'
'Reading in Chapel'
'Canoeing'
'Masters'
'Congregational practices'
'Upper sixth'
'Eight years'
'Life?'
'Holidays'
'Tuck shop'
'Talking'
'Midnight feasts'
'Climbing trees'
'Snowball fights'
'Throwing teddies out of windows'
'The last week'

What they will miss least

'Alzy's only compact disc'
'Double Bio'
'School food'
'The heating'
'Routine'
'Getting up'
'Chapel'
'Standards'
'San'
'Speech Day'
'Fire alarms'
'People complaining about my stereo'
'Resitting Maths 'O' level again'
'C + B'
'Masters who think they're right'
'Filling in irrelevant leavers' forms'
'Petty rules'
'Cross-country runs'
'C.F.'s stereo'
'Dom's rosary beads'
'Charlie's socks'
'The 'Yes' boys'
'A-levels'
'My sister'
'Weather'
'Doctor Hurgenfurrgh and the mighty squares from Gravel-land' (!)
'Sleepwalkers'
'Loo roll'
'Uniforms'
'Wednesday afternoon lessons'
'Gnomes!'
'Triple Physics'
'House Photos'
'Chips'
'Being a prefect'
'No post'
'Pipe band'

Valete: the Classics

It is sad to have to report that the Classics will no longer be a part of the Curriculum at Strathallan in future. There will be those who regret their demise, not least those studying English or Romance Languages at an advanced level, but there will be others who think the Classics out of date in the age of Technology.

But the die is cast, as Caesar said on a memorable occasion, and listed below are some of the qualities and ideals admired by the Romans:—

Pietas — respect for the eternal values and the will of the gods.
Humanitas — respect for human personality and relationships, whether in the family, in the state, or among friends.
Libertas — respect for the individual, issuing in the maintenance of his freedom.
Mores — respect for customs handed down, because they contain the accumulated wisdom which no one man or moment can supply.

Auctoritas — respect for authority, not as superior power, but as regard for the judgement of men whose experience and knowledge deserve respect.

Fides — respect for the pledged word and expressed intention.

Disciplina — the training of home, school and public life.

Severitas — the training a good person imposes on himself.

Gravitas — the responsible cast of mind which assigns importance to properly important matters.

Constantia — the quality that keeps a person faithful.

Let these thoughts serve as a Valedictory for the Classics.

C.P.H.
(With acknowledgements to R. R. Barrow, The Romans, Penguin Books).

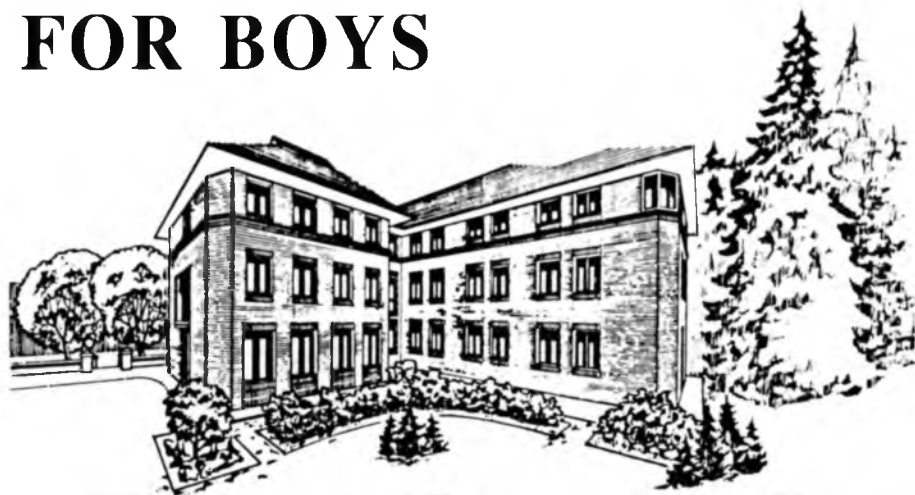


NEW ACCOMMODATION FOR BOYS

The Governors have decided to embark on an ambitious plan to upgrade the Boys' accommodation along the lines of that currently enjoyed by the girls in Woodlands.

It is envisaged that over the next three to four years, depending upon the financial climate, there will be a phased building programme to replace the current study blocks by self-contained Houses with study/bedrooms for all those above the Third Forms.

Building of the first House is to start this November ('87).



£11,074 in your first year as a graduate engineer.

If you are considering a career in engineering you may find that the Army has rather more to offer than you thought.

Technically we have probably the most advanced equipment of any Army in the world. All of which has been developed by Army officers in conjunction with civilians.

Our main battle tank, for example, is fitted with laser range finders. Most missile systems are fully computerised and our telecommunications networks and electronic warfare capability are amongst the most sophisticated that exist.

If you are looking for an intellectual challenge you will certainly find yourself stretched to the limit.

But that's only half the job.

Within a year of joining, you will probably find yourself managing a team of 40 highly qualified soldiers. So you must have the potential to be a good leader and be able to take responsibility at an early age.

When you are working under active service conditions, such as the Falklands War, you will not have the luxury of a workshop if a helicopter breaks down.

Or an office if you have to plan and build a bridge or set up a communications system at night in the pouring rain.

You will need a large share of imagination

and initiative. And the ability to improvise where necessary. People's lives will depend on how efficiently you do your job.

There are three different Corps in the Army that are concerned with engineering:

Royal Engineers.

The activities of the Royal Engineers are very diverse covering the construction of bridges, airfields, roads and bulk petroleum installations. The building of ports and military camps. The laying and clearing of minefields and power generation and distribution.

As a Royal Engineer you could also get involved in disaster relief work anywhere in the world, particularly in developing countries.

Royal Signals.

The Royal Signals are responsible for all telecommunications in the Army and for those of the RAF abroad.

The systems currently in use, range from the Clansman net radio, to large trunk systems covering most of Europe.

And from satellite communications stretching across the world to highly sophisticated surveillance systems.

A young Signals officer will typically be responsible for the telecommunications of a brigade or even a whole armoured division. So you would find yourself close to the nerve centre

very soon after being commissioned.

Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

It is a safe assumption that most things that move in the Army are looked after by REME.

All the Army's vehicles, tanks, radio sets and helicopters come under their umbrella. Including the electro-optical equipment and the computerised tracking control of the new battle tanks.

The Artillery's guided missile systems and all fire control computers are also maintained by REME.

The Corps covers the widest field of equipment engineering in the Army.

Qualifications.

Engineering graduates are welcomed by all three Corps. The Royal Engineers and Royal Signals also accept graduates in other disciplines. There are also facilities for suitably qualified non graduates to read for an engineering degree while in the Army.

For further information please write to: Major (Retd) T. B. Cannan, Deputy Schools Liaison Officer, Army Headquarters Scotland, Edinburgh EH1 2YX. Give your date of birth, your school, university, polytechnic or college of further education and the qualifications you have or expect.



Army Officer



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STRATHALLIAN CLUB



PRESIDENT OF THE OLD STRATHALLIAN CLUB

Allan Cook our President was at Strathallan from 1956 until 1960. He was in Ruthven House. He was a keen piper and sportsman playing cricket for the 1st XI.

On leaving School he attended the Royal College of Science and Technology before joining his family engineering company, John Allan & Sons Ltd., of Glasgow, in 1965.

In business he has travelled widely, acting as leader for various trade missions

on behalf of the Scottish Council For Development and Industry.

He married Heather in 1968 and has a daughter Katie and a son Cameron both of whom are pupils at Strathallan.

Allan is currently Collector of The Incorporation of Coopers of the City of Glasgow and will shortly become Deacon. His stewardship of the Strathallian Club's golf section is only one of his achievements with the small white ball. He is a member of Glasgow Golf Club,

Helensburgh Golf Club, Machrihanish Golf Club and is currently Captain of the Engineering Industries Association Golf Section.

When not on the golf course he enjoys tennis, squash, yachting and shooting having long since hung up his rugby boots.

He is a warm generous man with a great outgoing personality and more than his share of common sense.

DINNER FOR STRATHALLIANS LEAVING SCHOOL 1960-65

Here was the chance for the 40-45 year-olds to pretend they were back at School; the dinner for those who left School between 1960-65 took place at Strathallan on the 28th March 1987 and not only Wilf Hoare but all the then-Housemasters were able to be present, with the exception of Denis Young who was rushing from one Antique Fair to another. "Knowing your probable level of hospitality," he wrote, "I fear that I would be in no fit state to get to the second of them." We can assure him however that he was not forgotten.

Woodlands once again provided overnight shelter and we were most grateful to Jonathan and Paula Forster for all the trouble they took to make it comfortable. Even girls sometimes have dramatic posters, so we tried to put one or two fathers in their daughter's rooms. I wonder if they noticed?

Pre-dinner drinks were in the Saloon — thanks to barmen Guarin Clayton (84) and Simon Ralfs. Dinner followed in the Music Room and again this year Mr and Mrs Young and their staff gave us an excellent meal. We were most grateful to Mrs Calder and her Staff for preparing and decorating the rooms and to the Bursar's men for lugging furniture about. For Craig and Carmel it was a difficult date, and they have had a tough year, so their personal efforts to make everything nice and the tables attractive were much appreciated.

Jimmy Dinsmore, The Chairman, once again ruled over the festivities with a benign and firm hand, and Simon Peters, a member of Form V, again piped in the port.

After dinner there was an entertainment by current pupils, some of whom had travelled a good distance to be there.

James Forshaw kindly oversaw the Lecture Theatre end. Mr Jo Lozowy, Susan Chisholm, Dominik Diamond, Kerr Hatrick, Gavin Pettinger and Rachel Smith were the performers and the programme included early Scottish Music, two movements from a Mozart quartet, and scurrilous poetry about the 'old' days, with some truthful excerpts from the Strathallian magazine.

Nightcaps in the Saloon and the Headmaster's Drawing Room proved popular, as, to the surprise of some, did a real Sunday cooked breakfast in the Dining Hall. The loss of the Summer Time hour was not even noticed.

It was a great pleasure to see all those who were able to come and thank you very much for doing so.

T.C.G.F.

Those who accepted were:

F. R. Bell
B. M. S. Borland
A. H. Brown
D. F. Carswell
J. F. Carswell
J. G. Clement
A. S. Cook (President)
C. M.T. Cornish
A. W. Clark
J. W. Dinsmore (Chairman)
C. C. K. Dunbar
R. G. Duncan
W. R. Duncan
J. C. Ferguson
C. D. Ferguson
H. A. Fleming
D. C. Fulton
E. A. Fraser
T. Gibson
P. M. Grant
J. B. Gray
W. D. Halliday
A. G. Johnston
A. Graham Johnston
I. H. W. Jones

H. J. Lochore
D. W. Logan
J. M. McGill
A. S. McInroy
N. McIntyre
D. MacKenzie
K. L. MacKenzie
S. L. MacKenzie
W. E. McLachlan
J. R. Marshall
J. B. Martin
D. H. Martyn
A. D. Niven
W. S. Pate
M. B. N. Paterson
N. D. L. Paterson
N. D. Paton
R. S. Peters
E. Pickard
D. G. Reid
P. M. G. Reynolds
R. F. Ridland
I. M. Robertson

R. H. Scott
D. B. Sinclair
R. B. Smith
J. Thomson
P. J. Tulloch
D. I. Turner
J. D. Wallace
D. R. Wardaugh
A. P. D. Wilkinson
A. L. Wingate

Guests:

H. C. Addison
W. A. Bullard
R. A. L. Burnet
T. C. G. Fairbairn
J. Forster
C. P. Hewson
W. N. S. Hoare
P. T. McLellan
C. D. Pighills (Headmaster)
B. Raine
P. R. Spurgin
D. A. R. Williams

THE ANNUAL DINNER is normally held in the 3rd week in November. If you would like to attend future dinners and have not received the information, do not hesitate to contact the Club Secretary, or the Headmaster's Secretary at School.

DINNER FOR THOSE LEAVING STRATHALLAN BETWEEN 1966-71. It is expected that a Dinner will be held for those leaving between these dates at School on Saturday, March 26, 1988. Invitations will be sent out in January. If you are eligible and do not receive an invitation please contact the Headmaster's Secretary. Book the date in your diary now!

NEWS OF STRATHALLIANS

- ALLINGHAM, M. J. (1983) has joined the staff of Strathallan to help with games and P.E. for a term or so.
- ARMSTRONG, A. J. G. (1969) "Tank" is now a lawyer in Fife and has moved to Pitkeathly Wells with his wife and two children.
- BAIN, D. J. (1979) is married to Lisa and is managing Whirly Bird Services in Aberdeen. He also has business interests in Blackpool.
- BAIN, R. A. (1983) gained his HND in Computer Studies but at the last report was one of "Maggie's millions".
- BLAIR, J. M. (1969) The Sunday Times of the 15th March 1987 praised the YMSO's performance of Mahler's Eighth Symphony at the Festival Hall and their conductor and moving spirit James Blair. The piece took the capacity audience by storm.
- BOYD-RATCLIFFE, G. T. (1980) George visited the School in very jolly form with his fiancée. They are buying a house and he is working with his father in Essex.
- BROADWOOD, R. A. (1970) has two sons aged 5 and 2 and he has recently set up his own Computer Management Accounting business in Chester.
- BROUGH J. A. (1956) is Sales Manager for Kraft Foodservice in Santa Anna, California. He married Caroline in 1971 and has two daughters. He would like to hear from Strathallians in California.
- BROWN, D. R. (1971) and his wife Jane had a daughter on 27 June 1987. He works with Ferranti in Edinburgh.
- BURT, Rev. T. M. (1966) is Minister of West Linton and met Peter Spurgin at The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
- CHALMERS, A. A. (1970) is in Canada in the Catering Business.
- CHALMERS, A. G. (1969) manages The Gateway Building Society in Newmarket. (He sounds good for a loan!).
- CORBETT, G. S. B. (1983) graduated BA in accounting and received his degree in the Caird Hall, Dundee in November 1986.
- CRAN, Major M. W. H. (1970) is Deputy Chief of Staff, 52 Lowland Brigade H.Q.
- CRONE, C. A. (1978) is a solicitor in Newton Stewart.
- CROOK, C. J. (1963) is married with a daughter and he and his wife run The Tweeddale Arms Hotel, Gifford. Bon viveur Strathallians please note!
- CUNNINGHAM, Lt. R. A. (1977) is serving on 702 Royal Naval Air Squadron converting from Sea King to Lynx helicopters. His wife Wendy is expecting their second child.
- DAVIES, J. R. (1970) is a manager with Brittany Ferries in Portsmouth. He is hoping we will send lots of School parties to France.
- de la HAYE, Major B. G. (1973) is on the staff of 4th Armoured Brigade in Munster.
- DOCHERTY, T. F. (1930) is living in Southsea and has kindly sent us some old photos including one of Harry Riley, George Balfour, Francis Grant and himself at Heidelberg Schloss. In those days he lived in Buenos Aires.
- DOW, A. S. (1983) has gained a 2/1 from St. Andrews in Physics.
- DUNBAR, Dr J. A. (1966) is practising in Dundee and is also in the TA with the Field Ambulance Squadron.
- DUNCAN, S. J. (1983) works for the Royal Bank of Scotland in Jersey.
- ELDER, R. J. (1966) works in Aberdeen and has his own oil-related business.
- FAIRBAIRN, J. N. (1983) is an 'Investigator visitante' with a firm called CIAT in Cali, Columbia; if anyone happens to be passing that way, call in.
- FERGUSON, S. S. (1927) writes that one of his claims to fame is that he was the first House Captain of Simpson. He has recently returned to Scotland from abroad and is living in Milton of Campsie. Old photos of him and his brother J.M. (20) can be seen in 'The Story of Strathallan School.' Their brother Lt. Col. T. M. Ferguson, O.B.E. is deceased.
- GADIE, P. A. (1985) won the 'Commando Medal' on his course at Lymington in February 1987.
- GILLANDERS, Lt. Cdr. F. G. R. (1974) is serving as the ship's Gunnery Officer on HMS Rothesay and is busy at work and at home with an increasing family.
- GOODBURN, B. M. (1981) has gained his B.A. in Management Science with Computing at Kent University.
- GOODBURN, J. N. (1979) and his wife Hannah have had a son.
- GOODBURN, M. G. (1981) works for a chartered engineering company in Leeds.
- GRANT, Dr E. M. (1978) got a Ph.D. from Cambridge and is very high-powered in IBM.
- GRANT, R. G. (1981) went solo round the world for 6 months and now works in the family motor business.
- GRAY, M. H. (1981) and Irene Mason (1981) were married in August, 1985. They both work for (different) computer firms and live near West Calder.
- GREIG, C. A. H. (1965) is a Civil Engineer for Dundee District Council, but we have lost his address!
- HAMILTON, W. R. (1982) gained 2nd class Honours in his B.Sc. (Agri.) from Aberdeen University.
- HANSON, J. R. (1984) has gained a HNC in Newcastle and is now doing a HND in graphics in Cornwall.
- HANSON, R. R. (1984) is still in Hong Kong and has been working as a Health Club instructor and taking exams.
- HARRON, S. M. B. (1958) lives in Royston, Herts. He served for 17 years in the Royal Army Educational Corps, during which time he went on the Chilean Patagonia expedition of 1972-3. He is now a training adviser for the National Westminster Bank in London.
- HASTINGS, N. R. (1977) is still taking exams! He is completing his Master's degree at UMIST, Manchester, in computation and may take a Ph.D. after that! He should be a genius at computer process control engineering by now!
- HENDERSON, D. R. (1947) visited the School recently with his wife over here on holiday from Donnybrook, W. Australia.
- HUNTER, Dr K. R. (1957) is working at the hospital in Plymouth.
- INNES, J. A. M. (1949) has 3 daughters, and lives in Evergreen, Colorado, where he is President of a Gas Company.
- KIRKLAND, Capt. R. L. (1975) is serving on the Staff of HQ 3 Armoured Division.
- KNOX, K. W. (1978) served for three years in the Army, two of which were in Belfast, and is now back on the farm.
- KNOX, R. K. (1984) is studying Offshore Mechanical Engineering at Heriot-Watt University and is working VERY hard!
- KNOX, S. B. (1975) is also farming and has two large sons of future rugger-playing potential!
- LAMBIE, S. E. (1985) gained a merit in part 1 of her degree at Kent University and is proceeding to part II in English and French Law.
- LEE, C. L. H. (1981). She is now in New Zealand reading for a D Phil in microbiology at the University of Waikato.
- LEE, P. S. H. (1980) has completed his pre-registration and is now a pharmacist. He is engaged to Diane Lusman.
- LEWIS, J. S. (1982) has gained his BA in Economic Policy from Stirling University.
- LIVINGSTON, Q. C. (1982) had a busy time over the election in the Press and advertising department of the Conservative Party HQ in Smith Square.

- MacDONALD, G. M. H. (1985). She is living in Clapham and enjoys working in London.
- MacDONALD, W. N. (1984). Congratulations on his 1st Class in the Computer Science Tripos at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. He was also in the College Athletics team and Rugby XV. The College have written to ask if we have any more like Willie!
- MacFARLANE, R. J. (1961) is serving as Queensland State Manager for an international Travel Company and lives in Brisbane with his wife Irene, a schoolteacher, and their two sons. He is also State Treasurer of the Boys' Brigade, Australia.
- MacKAY, A. H. (1975) is working on a salmon farm in Durness.
- MacKAY, A. L. (1977) has started his own business and aquatic centre in Codsall near Wolverhampton. Strathallians wanting anything from goldfish to Japanese Koi carp as Christmas presents, please contact Adj NOW.
- MacKAY, N. J. (1978). Bim has been renovating an old barn in Sussex but he so enjoyed working in cranberry bogs in America last year, that he hopes to be back there soon.
- MacLEOD, C. A. (1980) after a year in the States he took his PGCE at Cambridge where he was reserve for the Varsity Match.
- MacLEOD, D. (1967) is a features writer for The Scotsman.
- MacLEOD, N. (1939) father of all these MacLeods has retired from teaching. He finds the Highland Cattle at Durham more amenable!
- MacLEOD, T. C. (1981). This one shouldn't be in the middle of this MacLeod family at all, being TJM's son. He is serving with The Lothian and Borders Police and was present at School on 30 January, 1987, when The Lord Lieutenant of Perthshire awarded his father the Lord Lieutenant's medal for long service with Strathallan School CCF. (Well done, Old Torquil!)
- MacLEOD, Rev. R. N. (1975). Back to the other family! He has been a Minister in Skene, Aberdeenshire, and by the time the magazine comes out should be installed as Assistant Chaplain at Loretto.
- MacLEOD, T. R. (1971). He is still teaching in Newcastle and has two sons.
- MAIN, A. G. R. (1970) is reported as keeping Blairgowrie awake at nights playing the Pipes!
- MAITLAND-MAKGILL-CRICHTON, C. (1979) sadly has had a very serious accident while serving with the Black Watch in Zimbabwe. He came home to Stoke Mandeville Hospital in June, 1987. He wrote a very cheerful letter to the Headmaster from Hospital.
- N.B. Now we are computerised, the Mc's come a long way after the Mac's!
- McBRIDE, D. J. (1971) visited Strathallan with his wife Cindy in June. He is a stockbroker — or some such! — in Florida and he makes a little money!
- McKECHNIE, L. (1986). She has moved to Portlethen in Aberdeenshire, where incidentally John Brown (ex-member of Staff) is teaching Maths.
- McTEAGUE, K. (1980). She works for a Law firm in Edinburgh.
- MONTGOMERY-SMITH, S. (1983). She got a 2nd last year in Geography at Cambridge and took up a teaching appointment in Hong Kong.
- MOODIE, A. C. G. (1971) and his brother IAG (1968) both live in the Channel Islands. Alistair plays the drums in the local Pipe Band.
- NAYLOR, Dr L. (1981). She has graduated as a doctor from Aberdeen University.
- OGILVIE, I. G. (1978) and his wife went ski-ing with the Bains in Courmayeur, Italy, in early 1987.
- POTTS, W. M. (1978) has gained 2nd class honours in Business Studies at Robert Gordon's College.
- POWRIE, G. C. R. (1983) continues as an aspiring actor and opened in the Piccadilly Theatre in the West End in spring. He hopes to move with 'Rosenkrantz and Guildenstern . . . ' to America.
- POWRIE, R. A. D. (1974) has been with the Gurkhas in Brunei and is now with them in Hong Kong.
- POWRIE, R. D. G. (1976) is Training Adjutant with the Royal Artillery Depot at Woolwich. Any Strathallians in and around the London area wanting dinner in the RA Mess should contact him at once.
- PRADIPASEN, P. (1964) studied in London at the Royal Academy of Music and in America at Colombia University. He is now head of the Western Music Section of the Fine Arts Department at the National Theatre, Bangkok. Gordon West spotted an article in the Music Journal of February, 1987, on the ASEAN Youth Music Workshops at which Pradhak was principal conductor, and an excellent one too, according to the author.
- QUARRY, W. W. (1964) is a Chartered Surveyor and has moved with his family of one son and two daughters to be a near neighbour at Dunbarnie.
- RANDELL, A. M. (1983) has graduated BA from Strathclyde University.
- RHODES, L. M. (1982) made her stage debut in Noel Coward's 'Hay Fever' as Sorel Bliss in the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, in March, 1987. Amongst those who went to see the performance was Lesley Murton (1982).
- RUSSELL, M. A. (1978) has graduated from Middlesex Polytechnic and is working for British Rail Engineering Ltd.
- RUSSELL, P. D. (1981) has graduated 2/1 LLB with honours in Forensic Medicine and is now with a stockbroking firm in Hong Kong.
- RUSSELL, P. J. (1982) is studying at Napier College.
- RICHMOND, Mrs L. G. (Frame) (1980) gave birth to a daughter Caroline June on 15 February, 1987, who has already been inspected by some of the other original 'Thorneyshades' girls.
- ROBERTSON, G. S. R. (1986) joined the Staff at Strathallan for a month in the Summer Term coaching cricket and taking PE, as well as trying to keep our NZ visitor 'Scotty' in order. This was a rest from Jordanhill.
- ROGERS, W. D. (1980) another of the original girls, was Matron at New Park for a year and now works in Thin's bookshop in Edinburgh.
- ROSELLE, C. P. (1959). Apologies that last year's magazine made him a veteran of the Korean War instead of Vietnam. He is not as old as all that!
- ROSS, Wg. Cdr., I. C. (1964) is a pilot in the RAF and has been serving in the Ministry of Defence.
- ROSS, Air Cdre., J. B. (1930) father of the above enjoys retirement in the South of Portugal.
- ROWE, C. (1980). Yet another of the original girls, she lives in a 6th floor flat in Paris and works in a Bank.
- SELWOOD, Dr, M. D. (1981) has graduated MB ChB from Aberdeen University.
- THOMSON, A. A. (1981) builds and races motorbikes in Lucca, Italy. He is quite Italian now, our spies tell us.
- THOMSON, A. W. S. (1965) is Head of PE at Felsted School, Essex.
- TRUSDALE, T. N. W. (1966) visited Strathallan with his wife and daughter in Summer. He is organising 'flying-doctor' training in Ontario.
- TURNER, C. T. (1982) has gained his HD in Applied Physics with Electronics from Robert Gordon's College. Does anyone know his address?
- WALLACE, D. R. P., (1967). After graduating in Hotel Management at Surrey University, he worked in the UK then started touring the world. He has worked in Australia, the Far East, Nigeria, Tahiti, the U.S., etc. His home, when he is there is near Basle in Switzerland. Any free holidays for your old Housemaster?
- WALLACE, G. G. (1966) is an architect with Dundee District Council.
- WATSON, G. S. (1969) is President of MCA Records International and lives in Burnham, Bucks.
- WATSON, P. C. G. (1982) has graduated from the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon, and has fenced for the Navy in the USA and at the Royal Tournament.
- WIDDOWSON, A. D. G. (1975) is still very much enjoying teaching Maths and Computing at Felsted School, Essex. He writes to say how much he enjoyed last year's Strathallian magazine. Thanks a lot, Andrew.

WILLIAMS, R. H. (1986) was a disc-jockey with Cloud 9, then worked with Tom McLean's Survival Adventure Training Centre, living a very lonely life in the North-West. Now he is working for Lloyd's Bank, Jersey.

WILLOX, K. H. (1976) has retired from the RAF and is now Deputy Manager of J. Lyons Catering at 'Keswick Bridge,' a new leisure development in the Lake District.

WITHER, J. G. (1977) is a marketing information project controller for Tesco Stores Ltd. (Now we know who gets all our money). He married in July, 1986.

YATES, N. C. S. (1977) has retired after 8 years with the Royal Marines, and rumour says he now works for a Security firm.

YOUNG, B. C. (1966). He retired from the RAF in 1985 after service including the Falklands. In 1978 he organised the support party for the world record-breaking canoe trip down the entire length of the Mississippi. He is now an Air Traffic Control Officer for British Aerospace at Bristol Fitton.

R. W. Patterson (1986) has now spent a year teaching in the Sudan, under the auspices of the Project Trust. Below are extracts from his letters to his sponsors in Scotland.

"... My partner Justin and I are teaching in El Meilig, a town of about 2,000, in the middle of the Gazira irrigation scheme. We are half an hour by dirt track from the main road, so communication can be difficult. The people are very friendly — the Sudanese certainly rank among the world's most outwardly friendly people, even to us "khawajah" or foreigners.

The weather seemed unbearable after the cool British summer, but since then I have grown accustomed to the almost overwhelming heat. So far my health has been good, but some of my colleagues have been less fortunate, contracting common diseases such as malaria and dysentery. We have a co-ordinator in Khartoum who will ship anyone seriously ill out of the country.

We soon found a house in the village only 10 minutes' walk from the school. It is really very adequate, with a water supply and electricity.

On the very first day we were launched into teaching. There seemed to be a casual attitude towards teaching — many classes had no teachers, and we would fill in at random. This was because of a staff shortage, and in fact there was no headmaster.

Now the school is running smoothly, with sufficient teachers, a new headmaster, and a fixed timetable. It has about 500 students, ranging in age from about 15-20. It causes great amusement when I announce that I am 18 to my bearded students! I teach a total of 18 morning lessons a week here.

The teachers have also given us a

ADDRESSES AND DATES TO NOTE

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, The Strathallian Club: J. Max McGill, 12 Woodside Place, Glasgow. Tel: 041-332-3411.

New Members are welcome in all sections — especially active golfers.

Please contact the following:

Angling Section: Jack Turner, Messrs Wright, Johnston & MacKenzie, 12 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow. Tel: 041-248-3434 (Office).

Golf Section: Hamish McFarlane, 9 Craigelvan Grove, Condorrat, Cumbernauld. Tel: Cumbernauld 38281.

Curling Section: The Hon. Secretary.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please send all changes of address promptly to The Headmaster's Secretary, Strathallian School.

If you have news of yourself or other Strathallians for the next issue of the Strathallian, why not send it NOW to the editor at Strathallian?

concession of nine classes a week at their afternoon school. This is a fee-paying school set up to supplement teachers' meagre government salaries, and students here are often not clever enough to get into the secondary school. We aren't allowed to use the government books, and have none of our own, so teaching is challenging but made easier by the students' eagerness to learn.

We have started a library of simplified readers, borrowed from the British Consul, which has been a great success. The school's own library, though well-stocked, is run-down. To sort it out, we hope to set up a supervisory scheme in which everyone will do library duties.

It would be good to generate some interest in sport. There are no organised clubs or matches, but there is equipment for football, basketball, table tennis and netball which could be mended and used.

We are kept very busy, but it is good to have the opportunity of improving the school.

It's now winter but the weather is still hot by European standards, reaching 80°F at midday. However, the Sudanese seem to feel the cold — furry ear muffs, shawls and woolly hats are all worn quite seriously.

In school itself, our Christian society is popular with the boys from the south, who have escaped from the war there. The south is totally different from the more desert-like north, with a tropical climate, and Christian or atheist tribes. No provision is made for these boys, as they are a minority amongst the Muslims.

After two weeks of exams, I decided to

see the east coast of Sudan. Firstly I visited Vassala, near the Ethiopian border. The people are fascinating. They are a mixture of tribes who each maintain their separate characteristics. You see men of the Hadenowa tribe with four foot swords and knives up their sleeves for self-defence. Some women carry bags full of silver jewellery which they try to press on the apparently rich "khawajah" foreigner — it looks more like metal armour.

After seeing Kassala, we caught a lorry to Port Sudan — a journey of about 14 hours perched on top of a load of grain. The hygiene of the shacks at which we stopped to eat would be enough to send a U.K. government inspector running for cover.

Once at Port Sudan, we snorkelled in the Red Sea to see the famous corals, fortunately avoiding the sharks. Another day we were almost caught in riots — exciting!

I spent Christmas in Khartoum with my fellow volunteers. We attended a watch night service, in which three songs were sung in Dinka by part of the congregation from the south, complete with drum accompaniment. Our usually colourful Christmas hymns seemed dull by comparison.

We two foreigners have ceased to become such a novelty although everyone is still very kind to us. I will miss the hospitality of these people.

I enjoy life here very much. Thank you very much for giving me the chance to come here, and for your continuing support and encouragement.

OBITUARY

G. C. TURNER



Strathallan in its formative years has been blessed by the devotion and business skills of a few outstanding Old Boys, of whom George Turner was undoubtedly one. His very active involvement in its affairs—and that of the Club—spanned virtually all the years between his return from war service until his death.

George Colvin Turner, who died on 2nd June, 1987, was a member of a distinguished Ayrshire family which has over two generations formed a strong link with the School, his brother Ian being also educated there as well as their respective sons.

At school George first showed evidence of the ability, drive and enthusiasm which were to characterise his whole career. He was both Junior and Senior Dux of the School which he left in 1935 to take up a career in law.

George graduated in Arts and Law at Glasgow University but his studies were interrupted by the war. During that period of some six years he served with his father's old regiment, The Royal Scots Fusiliers, being wounded in Normandy and rejoining his Battalion for the Rhine crossing, and ending the war as a Major with a mention in Despatches.

He returned to complete his Law Degree and to re-join the Glasgow legal firm of Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie, to which he was apprenticed and where he was a partner for many years, senior partner for some 10 years and latterly a consultant following his retirement at the

end of 1983. Throughout his career the example which he set by his integrity, ability and concern for his clients was in the best tradition of his profession.

George's interest in and devotion to his School never diminished and indeed seemed continually to grow as, following the war, he involved himself, with only the enthusiasm and purpose George could show, in the affairs of the Old Boys' Club, of which he was secretary for 10 years and finally its President in 1958/59. This was followed by his appointment as a School Governor in 1960 and he served as such for the ensuing period of 27 years until his death. He was Chairman of the Governors from 1962 to 1967. As though that were not enough, George gave, literally freely, of his professional abilities by serving as the School Lawyer for many years when his firm advice and competence were of great value to the School.

He still found time, such was his energy and sense of service, to involve himself in the charitable activities of the Red Cross and of his Regimental Association. He was also, as his friends will affectionately remember, much devoted to such recreational activities as fishing, shooting and curling.

While his outstanding abilities, so generously given to the School, will be sorely missed. He will above all be missed for himself by his many friends associated with the School over the years and not least by the School staff in whose welfare George was always interested.

Governors' Meetings will never quite be the same without his presence and his invariably sound and forthright contributions to the deliberations. The Reverend Dr D. H. Whiteford put it very well at George's funeral service when he observed that George "had always in him a great zest for life. He could bring into a room a sparkle and a lightness which put to flight the sober sided gloomier shadows with laughter and a smile".

Dr Whiteford must have struck a chord in many hearts when he said — "Those of us who knew George well know how much the hills, the rivers, the moors, the bird life and the gardens of Scotland meant to him, to shoot with his dogs over the moors where "the whaups are crying", to stand on a bend in a Highland river fishing, to walk East Lothian farm fields in all weathers with friends whose friendship stands and holds and deepens over the years. To his life, and to be able in the last weeks of his life to go to Twickenham for the Sevens, to go for the last time to his beloved Strathallan, and to go again to Ballater and the Dee in his very last days, knowing perhaps that for him time was gently slipping away, must have gladdened his heart".

The School and Club extend their deepest sympathy in their very sad loss to George's widow, Margaret, his sons, Robin and Jack, and his daughter, Helen.

D. C. Fulton

OBITUARIES



R. G. COWIE

Bob Cowie was appointed Bursar in 1967. He came to us from the head office of the Clydesdale Bank in Glasgow, where he had retired after a distinguished career, finally reaching the position of Chief Cashier. His training in Law and Accountancy coupled with a typical banker's caution where the spending of money was concerned, fitted him ideally for the post of Bursar. Without any doubt, during his years as Bursar he managed the school's finances skilfully and shrewdly which contributed, in no small measure, to the firm foundation on which the school stands today. Apart from this, Bob is much more likely to be remembered by those who worked with him as a kind, considerate and friendly person.

He trusted people, left them to get on with their job and if they proposed schemes or ideas that would clearly be of great benefit to the school then he gave them full support.

Somebody once said, the teaching staff are expected to put up ideas and the Bursar's job is to reject them on financial considerations. I'm glad to say that this was not Bob Cowie's style of management. Bob was very much an administrator; he preferred being at his desk, keeping the books and he was indeed fortunate in having a Factor, Lieutenant Colonel Derek Aldridge, who managed the estate. The school benefited greatly from this successful partnership.

Bob Cowie retired as Bursar in 1976. During his working years at Strathallan, Bob was ably supported by his wife, May. She took an active part in the life of the community and was also much loved by all who knew her. Bob and May retired to their own bungalow in the school grounds and took great pleasure in attending all the major events in the school calendar. They were very friendly and hospitable towards all members of staff and even the newest arrivals soon got to know who the Cowies were.

May died in 1984 and Bob found it very difficult to adjust to his change in

circumstances. They were a perfect partnership and after May's death, Bob lost a lot of his zest for life. Even so, he still enjoyed being part of the community and was delighted when his daughter, Fiona, joined the teaching staff and his granddaughter Claire became a pupil in Riley House.

Bob Cowie died peacefully on 11th March, 1987, at the age of 81.

He had a long and distinguished life; at his funeral service in the School Chapel some of his war-time friends from Holland were present, bearing witness to an earlier part of his life that few of us knew anything about. He will be missed by a lot of people. Strathallan has lost a loyal and respected member of the community.

P.A.B.

IAIN A. HEADRICK

Iain Alexander Headrick died in November, 1986. With his wife Doreen they shared with a very few the fact that for five years he was suffering from a terminal illness. He was a brave man and to the end maintained his optimism and astounding good cheer.

The very large number who attended his funeral was a fitting tribute to someone who was both highly respected and admired.

Iain's particular interest in the Strathallian Club stemmed from his appointment as Secretary, an office which he held for some 10 years and until he was elected Vice President and subsequently President of the Club.

In 1972 he was appointed Governor of the School and continued in that capacity until his retirement in October, 1986.

During a period of major development at the School his conscientious and sympathetic approach to problems was greatly appreciated. As School Solicitor for a number of years he gave freely of

his sound advice, as with the many other activities in which he was involved.

On leaving School he joined the Royal Navy commanding an ML in West Africa and elsewhere. After the war he qualified as a lawyer and for many years practised in the family firm, latterly becoming senior partner. He was of the old school of professionals who conscientiously gave of his time, very often to the less fortunate of the world.

He was a keen and enthusiastic sportsman, but the company and fellowship of his friends and the open country were of greater consequence to him than the number of birds shot or fish caught. It is believed he consistently chose the quickest way down a ski slope and he found an outlet for his life-time love for the sea at his cottage in Carradale. He was an able performer at water ski-ing and wind surfing.

His many friends will greatly miss him, his good humour and his companionship and our deep sympathy is extended to Doreen, their daughter and their two sons both of whom attended the School.

S.A.H.H.

DEATHS

AULD, A. W. (left 1939) of Kilmarnock on 24 July, 1986.

BLACK, A. G. (left 1937) of Kintyre in November, 1986.

DAWSON, Alex (1928-32) of Milngavie on 12 February, 1987.

DOCHERTY, R. S. (1920-24) on 9 April, 1987. He was a former captain of cricket.

FULTON, D. A. A. (1932-7) of Newlands, Glasgow, on 18 Nov. 1986. Husband of Margaret and father of Kathryn and Alasdair.

HEADRICK, I. A. For an appreciation of his work for the school, see left.

MORTON, J. M. (left 1930) in 1986.

POTTIE, A. D. (1945-52) of Paisley in August, 1986.

RODGER, J. M. on 12 Oct., 1986. One of the original "Riley boys." He lived latterly in Bournemouth and fought bravely and cheerfully against illness for some years.

SHANKS, H. T. He lived in Strathmiglo and his son Henry, left in 1985.

SMITH, Dr J. A. (1931-5) in December, 1986. He worked in the Hospital in Plymouth and often spoke fondly of Strathallan.

TURNER, G. C. An appreciation of his work for the School appears on page 75.

FORMER MEMBERS OF STAFF

HALDANE, Dr W. S. in June, 1987, aged 77. He was Head of the Science Department leaving in 1953 to become a Headmaster. He was the first master to live in "Cloandene."

PINKNEY, Mrs, who was Housekeeper in the early '50s, died in June, 1987, aged 92.

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