A photograph of a golf course under a clear blue sky. In the background, a clubhouse and several tall, dark evergreen trees are visible. A group of golfers in white attire are positioned on a green in the middle ground. The foreground is dominated by a large, well-maintained green lawn with long shadows cast across it.

# The Strathallian 1985/86



# The Strathallian



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## SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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### Head of School

I. C. Kelly

*Head of Freeland:* A. G. Logan

*Head of Ruthven:* R. Reah

*Head of Leburn:* I. C. Kelly

*Head of Simpson:* R. H. Williams

*Head of Nicol:* G. S. S. Robertson

*Head of Woodlands:* C. M. Devlin

# Salvete

### RILEY HOUSE

S. W. Anderson, C. G. S. Brown, G. D. Burton, D. W. Clark, S. K. Forster, T. Chan, D. J. Fraser, D. A. Fraser, C. L. Hill, A. J. Cooper, J. A. Leiper, A. R. McNamara, C. McK. MacPherson, A. J. B. Nicholson, S. J. Nicoll, E. T. N. Ovenstone, D. W. Paterson, A. Quinn, J. C. Roome, D. W. S. Schmidt-Rieche, M. A. Smith, S. J. Vance, I. D. J. Wilson, A. F. C. Wood, S. Buchan, M. Buchan, K. T. Kay, R. Bamber, T. Hunter, R. G. Sangster, S. Blackstock, A. D. Fraser, N. G. Hawkford, K. A. Jones, K. L. Miller, F. H. Monro, F. J. Monro, C. Ninham, R. S. G. Taylor, C. L. Tomlin.

### FREELAND HOUSE

R. A. O. Hutchison, H. A. D. McEnzie-Wilson, D. I. Reid, J. A. Shepherd, A. J. Miller.

### LEBURN HOUSE

P. G. C. Begemann, C. E. Benton, J. Cunningham, K. G. Jardine, S. M. Kennedy, M. D. Martin, C. M. McIver, M. Stringer, N. Sinclair, R. Grieve.

### NICOL HOUSE

K. Boon, A. M. Buchan, P. J. Holst, A. R. J. Johnson, A. J. F. Jones, T. F. A. Lees, P. W. Hely, M-F. Lo, P. G. Lagerborg.

### RUTHVEN HOUSE

I. Bamber, J. Frame, K. Hatrick, R. M. Marshall, N. McMurtrie, J. J. B. Minihane, J. D. Moores, J. H. Murray, N. Quinn, P. F. Shanks, G. D. C. Wardhaugh, J. W. Winchester.

### SIMPSON HOUSE

S. R. A. Chenery, L. Davie, D. Connell, J. C. Fraser, J. W. B. Kruuk, P. A. Preacher, A. H. C. Davidson, F. R. I. Small.

### WOODLANDS HOUSE

A. Barclay, C. Batchelor, S. A. C. Bowring, K. A. Boyd, S. E. Chisholm, L. W. Clark, K. A. Clenaghan, K. S. Cook, S. P. Dow, S. M. C. Dunlop, S. J. Gibley, J. A. Gilchrist, F. Harrod, S. C. Smyth, F. J. Mowat, E. A. McNamara, S. Paterson, S. J. R. Reid, N. J. Robb, C. E. Russell, R. M. Rutherford, R. M. Smith, C. J. Stevenson, A. T. Tait, E. Wall, K. J. Wood, G. Addison, C. Burns.

## EDITORIAL

*Another school year has come and gone since the Strathallian changed both its editor and its format. The school too has seen many changes: the new Craft Design and Technology Centre is nearing completion and should soon be in full operation, and the extension to Woodlands House will provide even greater luxury for the fairer (and luckier) sex.*

*In my six years at Strathallan, there have been many changes. A new Boarding house has come into existence, Riley House has been considerably refurbished, the senior boys' dormitories have been slightly modernised and many of the classrooms have been brought up to date. And yet the school has never lost the one thing which I sensed very strongly in my first year here—its community spirit. Let us hope that this spirit continues to flourish in the new surroundings.*

*Finally, may I extend my thanks to Mr David Smith for allowing me the privilege of writing this editorial, Nikki de Jongh for all her hard work in sorting out the copy for this issue, to Mr John Burgess and his helpers for the photographs, and to all the other members of the school for a wide variety of assistance.*

James W. Wood

# STAFF NOTES

Mr Peter Gilks is leaving the Common Room this July but there will be eight new members in September. This is not wholly accounted for by the enormous contribution that Peter Gilks has made to the School over the last five years.

Mr Gilks came to Strathallan principally to teach Mathematics, but he soon extended computer teaching throughout the School, including the administrative offices. I am one of many who should be grateful for the endless time he spent encouraging us not to be frightened of modern office technology!

As is so often the case with good Schoolmasters he could be very demanding of his pupils and like other good Schoolmasters his contribution was not confined to teaching his subject. He was House Tutor to Nicol; he was involved with Games in all seasons – rugby training in the Christmas Term, Cross-Country in the Easter Term and Athletics in the Summer Term. He and his wife Gillian leave to pioneer a new school in Kuwait. They do so with our many thanks and warmest best wishes.

Mr Gilks is replaced in the Computer Department by Mrs Mary Smyth and

Miss Ailie Holmes in the Mathematics Department. Miss Holmes will be a residential House Tutor in Woodlands as will Miss Jennifer Lee who replaces Miss Blanche who left the Biology Department earlier in the year.

In September Mr and Mrs David Williams will have retired after twenty years of 'Housemastering,' the most recent five being in the Girls' House, Woodlands. When Mr and Mrs Williams took charge of the then twenty girls, they, the girls, were scattered all over the Campus. It is difficult to believe that in the intervening years the numbers have grown to ninety and that two phases of Woodlands House have been completed. That this project should have gone so smoothly is largely attributed to the dedication of David and Kay Williams, whose infinite care ensured that Woodlands became the integral part of the School it now is.

Mr and Mrs Williams are succeeded by Mr and Mrs Jonathan Forster who have the immediate task of absorbing the third and final(?) phase of this development.

Moving on to a completely different tack, Mr Court is about to play truant

from teaching English for a year in order to take a further degree. He is temporarily being replaced in the department by Mrs Elizabeth Adams and Mrs J. Forbes. Mr Robert Wallace is coming from Brunel University as a second graduate in the Craft, Design and Technology (C.D.T.) department which is about to expand into its new and specially designed building. Mr M. Wilson joins the C.D.T. department as Technical Assistant having spent the previous 22 years in the Royal Navy. The C.D.T. department will have a residential team of three which replaces Mr Esplin and his merry band of helpers, Messrs Cochran, Ritchie, Esselmont who have been coming so gallantly on a Part Time basis for the past seven years. We are grateful for all their help which has enabled us to make an early start in these subjects.

If my addition is correct there is still one new member of the Common Room unaccounted for! This must be Mr Robert Burnett, an experienced Schoolmaster who is coming to help in the Geography department where there seems to have been a sudden increase in numbers.

Messrs Bob Wallace and Mike Wilson



Misses Ailie Holmes and Jenni Lees



# Speech Day

The Chairman, Mr J. Dinsmore, in his introductory remarks emphasised that these were difficult times both for schools and Universities but, even so, Strathallan had expanded by more than 20% over the last five years and during that time 3 million pounds had been committed to such things as the girls' house, C.D.T., refurbishing of Riley, laboratories, etc. Clearly the school must always look forward and the new 10 year plan makes provision for upgrading accommodation in the boys' houses.

Finally, the Chairman paid tribute to the loyal service of Mr Neil Gillanders a member of the Governing Body for more than 20 years during which time he served twice as chairman of the Board.

The Headmaster began his report by talking about the market research project that the Governors had commissioned to find out what parents really want from a school such as Strathallan. Some interesting replies have already come in but, not surprisingly, most parents are interested in examination results. Last year, Strathallan had 91% pass vote at A-level, 86% at Highers, more than 30 pupils went on to University and another 30 on to Further Education or the Services.

With the advent of the G.C.S.E. in 1988 there will, of necessity, be big changes in the whole organisation of the school curriculum. For example, the exams will start about 4 weeks earlier and each subject will be examined on the same day no matter which Board the pupil has been entered for. In many ways this will simplify the organisation but in some subjects a decision will have to be taken as to which papers pupils are to take because, for example, in the sciences there are differentiated papers and the more able pupils who are capable of A and B grades will need to take extra papers if they are to be eligible for these higher grades. Such decisions will obviously create problems, mainly, who makes the final decision? The whole ethos behind the G.C.S.E. is that candidates should not be put in for examinations that are beyond them. The new examination has a greater applied content and an element of internal assessment. The emphasis is very much on making the subjects relevant to everyday experiences and with that in mind the object of the examination is to assess what pupils know rather than what they do not know.

The curriculum at Strathallan has been reshaped in order to take into account these major changes in the educational system. Pupils entering the Third Form will follow a common non-specialist course in all subjects. At the end of the year an element of choice will be introduced so that in the 4th and 5th Forms

pupils will take fewer subject but spend more time on these subjects. This will allow time for internal assessment/projects to be fully integrated into the course work.

The Headmaster paid tribute to all those members of staff who give up a great deal of their spare time to encouraging sporting and cultural activities in the school. These continue to flourish and perhaps one might single out the 1st XI Hockey who remain unbeaten amongst the Scottish Schools for the third year. Productions like 'My Fair Lady' and Music at St. Giles Cathedral illustrate the high level of achievement of our pupils in all spheres of school life.

Finally, the Headmaster welcomed new members of staff, Mr Pengelley, Head of History, Mr Clelland, Head of Modern Languages and Mr Buntin, Mathematics. Mr Gilks is leaving at the end of the summer term to take up a post abroad and the Headmaster thanked him for the tremendous contribution he has made to many aspects of school life, not least in the computing department, in the short time that he has been with us.

The Chairman introduced the Guest of the Day, Professor Adam Neville, Principal, University of Dundee. Principal Neville referred to the Chairman's opening remarks about the difficulties experienced by schools and Universities and expressed hope that University Principals would not go out of business before Strathallan had got fed up with inviting them.

What does getting a prize mean? In one sense, it means that you are better than a lot of other people in that subject but Principal Neville said that his views on the matter were ambivalent. Getting a prize in a particular subject should not necessarily determine your future career. After all, if this was the case very few people would take up engineering, a subject not usually studied in schools. Principal Neville urged people that to be a little more daring about their future, not to be hidebound by school tradition of pursuing what you are best at. Life without change can be very dull and people should be encouraged to take any opportunities that come along. Ask yourselves the question, 'what can't I do?' then assume that you can do everything else. In conclusion, you never know what skills are going to be useful in life. Some skills outside your main job may give you the edge when it comes to taking on a new challenge. Always keep an eye for sideways opportunities and don't be hesitant about changing your job if the opportunity presents itself.

P.A.B.

## Prizes

*The Smith Cup for Captain of the School*  
Ian C. Kelly

*The Houston Prize for all round Merit*  
Graeme S. R. Robertson

*Dux*  
Lucy Crispin

*The William Tattersall Art Prize*  
Andrew Meikle

*The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings*  
Nicola Thaw

*The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music*  
Nicola Smith

*The Richard Moffat History Prize*  
Jamie Pratt

*The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize*  
Carolyn Devlin/Dominik Diamond

*English*  
Carolyn Devlin/Joanna Fagg

*Geography*  
Bruce Tether

*French*  
Jamie Pratt

*German & Goethe Institute*  
Jamie Pratt

*Mathematics*  
Richard Ford

*Chemistry*  
Simon G. Clarke

*Physics*  
Helen Pearson/Simon G. Clarke

*Sixth Form Mathematics and Science*  
Helen Pearson

*Biology*  
James Kingham

*Art*  
Hannah Walker

*The David Bogie Economics Prize*  
Rob W. Paterson

*Sixth Form Modern Languages Prize*  
Nicola Smith

# Freeland House

It is with great regret that I have to announce once again our failure to win the Rowan Cup for Standards. As past and present members of the House know, it has long been my ambition. Unfortunately the House concentrated on minor matters and emerged with trivial trophies such as Junior Rugby, Junior League Rugby, Senior Squash and Senior 'fluffy ball.' Another major disappointment to me was the loss of the House Football and the failure to win any of the other major trophies – Darts, Snooker, Croquet or Needlepoint. So much for the cups.

For once I am writing this report on time so it is tinged with the sadness of seeing the leavers go. How deeply I shall miss the sartorial elegance of Colin Walker; the musical subtlety of Richard Ford's electric guitar; the solid Conservatism of Jimmy the Red; Rowley Robertson's unselfish contributions to the local glassworks; Robert Beckman's unselfish contributions to brighter football; Gavin Vernon's study decorations; Andrew Meikle's quiet sophistication; Guy Logan's brutal macho image; Simon Clarke's

deep and abiding love of the Arts; Steven Judge's wild irresponsibility. So much for the leavers.

On a more serious note some individuals have achieved a great deal this year. It was pleasing to see so many perform in all forms of music, in the School play, in School teams, in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and in many other areas and activities. I do not intend to single out those individuals (no – not because I've forgotten them in a haze of Perrier Water) because they have had their plaudits. Any community depends just as much on those who do not shine individually but who contribute in less obvious ways to the general welfare. The atmosphere in the House has been so good because there have been plenty of people willing to contribute. So much for the waffle.

I am deeply indebted to the prefects for their help; to Mr Court for his constant loyalty and sound advice (also for allowing me to watch him catch fish); to Mr Pengelly for his greatly needed extra assistance; to all our wives (not the pre-

fects – ?) for their ready forgiveness when we forget to tell them things and for their charming good nature when we arrive back a little late after discussing your problems over a cup of tea in the common room. So much for the thanks.

I have never been able to work out what a House Report should be. Usually I manage to offend someone through omission or inclusion. I do not think it should be a narrative of events or a list of achievements. People already know about these if they are worth knowing about. Those in the house know about the outstanding integrity of a Head of House without having to read about it. I am still not sure so you have been given the sermon approach. So much for the sermon.

*P.S. Holiday Quiz: –*

- (a) What did Richard Ford use the garden shed for?
- (b) What happens to all the brooms?

R.J.W.P.

## Timothy's

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24 St. John Street, Perth  
Telephone (0738) 26641

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Home-cooked Scottish Sirloin of Beef  
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Salmon, straight from the River Tay – in season  
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Lunch – 12 noon to 2.30 p.m.  
Dinner – 7 p.m. to 10.15 p.m.  
And after Theatre by arrangement

CLOSED SUNDAY AND MONDAY

# LEBURN HOUSE

For the first time for some years the Head of House was also Head of School, from January anyway, and although we lost him to the 'Ivory Tower' the House continued to run smoothly in spite of our rather 'frisky' fourth form and the seeming allergy to work which afflicted a number of the exam candidates. However, as the 'O' and 'A' levels loomed up, the study block seemed deserted at times and the library over-inhabited. Let us hope the late charge was not in vain! This was also, as mentioned last year, the first year that 'fagging' was abolished. The result was progressive in certain aspects but it has to be said that certain 'underground' jobs were still being done on a small scale.

Sport has never been an activity in which Leburn 'cleans up' the cups but there is always a concerted effort by most people concerned to challenge for honours, and this year proved to be no exception. The following is a resumé of the sports scene over the year: in the winter term the Rugby team, our senior league XV struggled with limited talent and had a rough passage but the junior XV played well and came a good second overall. The spring term as usual was filled with inter-house confrontations. For the second successive year we reached the final of the indoor hockey, a good effort considering we had a much weaker team than last year, but lost 15 – 12 to the 'might' of Ruthven. In the senior house rugby we lost a very exciting game 8 – 0 against Freeland whilst the juniors played as never before to beat a fancied Nicol team 19 – 18 in the semi-final before losing to Freeland in the final. Squash has always been one of our strong points, and although we did not retain both cups – the seniors 1st to Freeland(!) in the final –

the juniors did well to keep hold of their cup. We were hoping to retain the swimming cup but Simpson snatched it away in the closing stages of the competition. However Jamie Pratt secured a new school record for the crawl.

Whereas we competed well in most of the House Competitions, this unfortunately cannot be said of the cross-country and standards competitions. The latter was characterised by lack of effort at the senior end of the House in particular too many people found it too much of a 'hassle' to spend half an hour down at the track on Monday afternoons, and their tame excuse about pressure of worked fooled nobody. The outcome was that we came a poor fourth in the competition. We came last in the senior and junior cross-country races but the middles came a very creditable second and Rhett Harrison did well to take second place. Although we had Richard McAlister and Steven Liddell as school captains of tennis and golf we were unable to clinch either of these cups although we were runners-up in the golf for the second year running.

The Pipe Band had a strong Leburn contingent. Iain Kelly was Pipe Major and he was heard to remark on one occasion 'Ma house, ma school, ma band!' His youngest brother Bruce came second in the Scottish schools junior drumming competition but was beaten into second place in the school competition by his partner-in-crime, Tony Hill. Keith Dinsmore came third in the Pibroch competition.

Overall it was an enjoyable sporting year which ended with Keith Dunlop sharing the senior Victor Ludorum with Graeme Muir on Sports Day. This meant that Keith has been Victor Ludorum at all three levels during his

school career, a great achievement.

Our juniors won the inaugural House drama competition with a performance of 'The Glasgae Bums,' written by Keith Dinsmore and directed by his elder brother David. It was thoroughly enjoyed by cast and audience alike.

In spite of only limited academic and sporting successes over the year, morale has nevertheless been good and there has been a friendliness about the place which has produced a pleasant atmosphere generally. The Common Room has a new snooker table and some new furniture to replace that which was 'accidentally' wrecked! We have also a new pathway across to the main building which helps to reduce the number of muddy feet coming into the study block.

The team at the top were ably supported by Iain Kelly and the prefects, and all did their best to keep the House ticking over efficiently. Our thanks to Mrs Wylie, Mrs Robertson's successor, for all her hard work in the study block and to Mrs Sommerton who came close to throwing in the towel on occasions when faced with the striproom 'problem!'

Finally, most of you will have heard that Clive Jones was involved in a dreadful car accident last November in which he sustained serious head injuries. His chances of survival were not reckoned to be high, but thanks to a terrific will to live and sheer guts he has pulled through. Not only that but those who saw him and spoke to him on Sports Day will testify to the astonishing recovery which he has made so far. It was great seeing you Clive and keep up the good work.

T.A.A.R./D.W.D.

## *Head of House:*

I. C. Kelly

## *Deputy Head of House:*

J. M. Pratt

## *Prefects:*

J. R. Bell  
D. W. Dinsmore  
G. I. D. Forbes-Leith  
S. J. Liddell  
R. A. L. McAlister  
K. J. McBride  
T. A. A. Reid

## *House Colours:*

All the above.

## *LVI Prefects:*

S. C. Buchanan  
S. Miln  
J. W. Wood  
M. J. Zaraza



# NICOL HOUSE

As time slips by it becomes harder to write original House reports. They mostly drift into eulogies of wondrous deeds recorded elsewhere in this magazine. This year will be no exception, but, before the plaudits, a few grumbles.

The school is an open, friendly society but a free and easy atmosphere can lead to lack of regard for others' feeling and property. From time to time people bump up against school rules; when they do 'others didn't get caught so I shouldn't be punished' is a poor defence. There have been too many incidents of these kinds this year, and the happy tone of the House has been a little spoilt.

The sporting year started well. The senior league rugby team capitalised on our strength in depth and, helped by a 'heavyish' front row, Mark Russell's boot and Andrew Elliot's speed, won a close competition. We looked to have a chance in the proper cup too, but at a very unseasonable time a listless opening performance put us out. The loss of the indoor hockey trophy was also a blow to morale. All, of course, would have been put right in the outdoor matches but the weather was not on our side. Much to our relief, perhaps, gales put paid to House skiing but nothing could stop our Tutor running the cross-country. It was just as well for, once again, we had a clean sweep at all levels, with a first from Chris Lawrence and thirds from Nick Colbeck and Andrew Dow. With Keith Hutcheson our only regular we made little impression in squash. Nor did the pool suit us: despite some good individual

efforts we came third. On the other hand the shooting cup stayed firmly in place, Karl Johnson leading us to another overwhelming victory. Golf and tennis were definitely not our games, nor, after a promising start, was junior cricket. It was left to the sailors, led by experts Andrew Rodger and Gavin Clark, to ensure another cup. Perhaps the biggest disappointment was in athletics standards. Again we pushed Ruthven hard and had one or two of our 'elders' done more we might have triumphed. A computer malfunction is what we need!

Despite the 'silver slide' there were some notable sporting performances, both in and out of school. Big blond Chief Robertson got 1st XV colours, captained hockey and cricket and was selected for the Scottish Under 19 cricket squad. Nick Colbeck (here for a year for a little polishing) did well in the national orienteering championships and Andrew Rodger and Gavin Clark are potential national sailors. Keith Arnott is on the fringe of the Scottish youth triathlon team. Internally Dughall Aitken was an efficient hockey secretary and no mean player, Karl Johnson was shooting captain and Angus Cuthbertson leapt ever upwards. Chris Lawrence, Roger Bond and Keith Hutcheson were other outstanding athletes.

Musically and artistically we at last had some depth, not, in the case of Sebastian Head, basso profundo, but a wonderful treble voice. There was a string of fiddlers, led by John Maxwell and Euan Smith, a boom of brass, Andrew Beath being

the best, and a plaid of enthusiastic pipers represented by Andrew Rodger and Clive Pattison in the band. John Maxwell's extraordinarily original House play nearly came off and enough was seen of Ian Clark in this and *My Fair Lady* to show we had an actor on our hands. There was no lack of keen artists, the pick of the bunch being Douglas Browne, Graham Austick and Douglas Irvine.

All in all a good, if not bumper, year in which our leavers have been particularly prominent. We shall miss all of them: Blondie for his elegant playing of the field, Maurice for at last seeing a beginning and end of term and Ach for his ebriosity. Rocky will miss his evening walks – Dughall didn't get any! I will miss Karl and Jim's dog-watching, while Greg will be remembered for that catch and his finesse in the brewing room, and Graham Austick for his common room performances. Nick's study will remember him.

Most of all we shall miss Peter Gilks. He has given his time unsparingly to establish computing and produce a level of fitness among athletes and rugger men hitherto undreamt of. In the House he has been vigilant for skivers and taken on many tedious tasks without complaint. He has been enormous support to me personally and, together with all Nicolites, I wish him and Gill the very best of luck as they go to their new lives in Kuwait.

J.N.F.

## *Head of House* G. S. R. Robertson

### *House Prefects*

D. S. Aitken  
N. C. Colbeck  
A. C. Cuthbertson  
A. M. M. Elliot  
K. S. Johnson  
J. I. Kingan  
P. D. Rochow  
G. C. Smith  
A. A. Beath (Summer term)  
G. J. M. Clark (Summer term)  
J. Kean (Summer term)  
G. D. McLay (Summer term)

### *Captains*

Rugby  
Hockey  
Cricket  
Athletics  
Cross-country  
Swimming  
Skiing  
Squash  
Shooting  
Sailing  
Golf  
Tennis

D. S. Aitken  
P. D. Rochow  
G. S. R. Robertson  
A. C. Cuthbertson  
A. M. M. Elliot  
N. C. Colbeck  
A. D. MacIntyre  
K. S. Hutcheson  
K. S. Johnson  
G. J. M. Clark  
M. D. Russell  
Anyone

# Ruthven House

The year ended with a fine flourish with the House winning the Rowan and the Athletics Cups. In addition, Graeme Muir shared the Senior Victor Ludorum, outright and Steven Neish, back to his best sprinting form, came very close to the Middle by winning both 100 and 200m sprints on Sports Day. Obviously it is the talented athletes who are usually on show on that day but it must be pointed out that the Rowan Cup is about everybody contributing and it is the effort of the non-athletes that is perhaps more important – certainly, the whole House once again made a great effort to win this trophy with Nigel McLachlan as captain of athletics.

For the third year running, the House Golf trophy returned to Ruthven with Bruce Guy and Iain Steel following in their brothers' footsteps; Alasdair Lenman was the third member of the team. In addition we won both the senior and junior 6-a-side House football competitions, captained by Richard Reah and Bruce Guy respectively, although the Seniors would admit to being a little lucky to win eventually in the penalty shoot out that has now become such a common and nail-biting spectacle. It was good to see another brother combination Rae and Scott Gibb contributing so well to both competitions.

Earlier in the year we won the Senior House rugby competition for the first time since 1981 and our first hockey

trophy for a long, long time, the indoor competition. The former team was captained by Richard Reah and the latter by Ross McCulloch. The juniors did well in the cross country, swimming and squash competitions. The skiing team did not have a chance to show their paces down the slopes, although James Gilyead assures me that we would have done well. Robin Batchelor is to be congratulated for being selected for the Scottish Alpine ski team.

It was good to see a number of boys from the House involved in the School's production of 'My Fair Lady,' whether it be in stage management so ably controlled by Colin Pillinger or in the orchestra such as Simon Billington or in the various roles on stage such as Ross McCulloch, Ian Huxley, Euan Grant and Alasdair Lenman. Our contribution to the pipe band continues in strong vein with David Haddleton, Simon Peters, Sam Pate, Euan Grant and Robert Jones; the latter winning the Scottish Schools solo drumming competition and Simon the school junior piping.

Richard Reah, as Head of House, is to be congratulated for the job he has done throughout the year, for the way in which as 1st XV captain he coped with the cartilage problem to make the Scottish Schools squad and for being presented with the Campbell Award for the School's outstanding sportsman of the year. David Haddleton was an excellent help as number two in the House and was

also a School Prefect. I thank Rich, Dave and all the other prefects for their invaluable support throughout the year. This year, for the first time, we appointed LVI Prefects half way through the Spring term as well as at the beginning of the summer and I am pleased to say that the experiment worked well.

Mr Forshaw and Mr Hawksford have continued to give their time and support freely and I am sure that the whole House is better for their valuable contribution. Last but not least I thank Mr Barnes most sincerely for his unstinting effort on behalf of the House.

## *Prefects were:*

R. E. M. Reah  
D. R. N. Haddleton  
A. R. MacLellan  
S. C. Billington  
A. G. Binnie  
R. J. McCalister  
R. S. B. McCulloch  
D. W. Stewart

## *LVI appointments were;*

A. B. D. Barr  
J. A. A. Christie  
P. C. G. Cleland  
H. A. T. Fitzpatrick  
I. S. G. Huxley  
C. D. McCall-Smith  
C. J. Pillinger



v. Whitgift  
*Scrums about to go down*

# SIMPSON HOUSE

Simpson this year were prominent in House finals but it was only the Junior House cricket and the swimming that were won. We lost the Senior House rugby leagues by a conversion, the House football on penalties and the House tennis 2 – 1 in a close last match. The rugby matches saw a win against Nicol but the superior strength of Ruthven's three-quarter meant a large defeat although their heavier scrum was pushed and beaten by our less experienced side.

There were individual performances throughout the House. John Harris won the around-the-island sailing competition, David Sheal just lost the Senior House cross country and Craig McClay came third in the juniors. Rob Patterson was a lively actor in 'My Fair Lady' and we all hope he doesn't catch any diseases in Africa.

Dirk Patterson, Rob's brother, and Gavin Pettinger came second and third respectively in a music competition held in Perth. Craig McClay and James Clement were in the Scottish rugby trials with James securing a place in the squad. Although not mentioned in previous editions of the Strathallian Robin Niven, Phil Dewar, Andrew Bullard and James McVitte have contributed to the renamed Jazz band. The playwright wit of Frazer

Fyfe, the direction of it by Duncan Fulton was too cynical and complicated for the judges. They saw excellent performances from Kit Johnson and the terrible twins, David and Michael Niven, but the misguiding storyline lost to a more simple and irrelevant play that had a more common and unimaginative storyline.

The main event that Simpson showed their expertise at was the swimming. Having come second for the past 5 or so years Ian Black and Bruce Tether were able to set the example that at last won us a deserved cup.

Simpson also cleared up in the school tennis competitions, winning the doubles and both the junior and senior singles. With Tom Ford, Ian Black and Andrew Logan helping us to more cups.

The House's thanks go to Richard Williams for being a sturdy pillar in House routine, to Mr Clelland and especially to Mr Smith for their invaluable help as House tutors and, of course, to Mr Du Boulay for his continuing House mastership. Our farewells go to Mr Forster and his wife who have been promoted to Woodlands. Our best wishes go to them.

Finally, congratulations should go to Dave Smith who is head of school, Neville Drummond as head of Simpson and

Alister Robertson who is a school prefect. For the first time since Ross and Mike, Simpson have again dominated the high table.

## *School prefects*

Rich Williams\*

Phil Dewar\*

## *Summer term school prefects*

Neville Drummond\*

Dave Smith\*

## *Summer term prefects*

Tom Ford

Michael Blanche

Andrew Bullard

Alister Robertson\*

## *House prefects*

Mark Butler

Duncan Fulton\*

James McVitte\*

Robin Niven\*

Rob Patterson\*

Bruce Tether\*

Stevie Thomson\*

Dave Whorton\*

Ian Younger

Eddie Milligan

\* House Colours



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# WOODLANDS HOUSE

It seems all too easy once term has ended to lapse into terminal apathy and allow the trials and tribulations of the past year to fade quickly into insignificance after the traumas of the final parting. However it is the 'curse of service' that, despite an overpowering urge never to write again, it falls upon yours truly to write the House report.

September saw an intake of some thirty girls (yet another McMillan!), and although the majority were at the junior end all were quickly settled in with relatively few teething troubles. Despite the countless disruptions from fire alarms (always at darkest night or during East Ends) things were quiet domestically. One third former did manage to blow up a spindryer; 'But I thought it was automatic.'

The hockey season under Suzanne's captaincy was perhaps our best yet, losing only to Morrison's, and then by a single goal in the dark. The junior team, led by Tui Orr, are to be congratulated on winning the Nan Mudie Memorial Cup, overcoming the rest of Tayside.

The inter-House junior play competition was a great success, and within the House inspired the talents of those whose abilities had already been recognised and those who had kept them hidden under the proverbial bushel. Louisa's script deservedly won 1st prize, as did Karen Salter's acting. The play itself took 2nd prize; I for one will not forget the appearance of Carol Anderson with Hoover and her 'Move yer \*\*\*\* feet,' nor the emergence of Fiona Jardine from behind the wings in an incredible outfit, with a yet more incredible smile, and a 'Hello everybody.'

For the third consecutive year Woodlands had the winner of the Christmas card competition, with Lis Streule's entry.

Musically the House has been very active throughout the year. Was the high-point the Headmaster's Musick or the Disco? Nikki Thaw and Nicky Smith are a team who will be missed by all.

In the Spring Term music and drama combined in the JF/PEA production of 'My Fair Lady.' With almost a third of the House involved it was a focus of energy for much of the term. Regardless of the size of the part, or the backstage contribution, the effort and enthusiasm were tremendous. Hannah played Mrs Pearce Morningside-style, and Kari was Eliza. Phosey contributed her usual gem part, and .... one could go on and on.

Spring sport was somewhat affected by the weather. Cross country enthusiasts were few in number, but keen under Clare's captaincy, although with only one match possible they didn't have much chance to show their talent. Ironically, skiing

was restricted by too much snow, and the Ski Thursdays were not as successful as they might have been; still, they allowed the Play Reading Society to get off the ground. But Amanda Robertson was able to turn in some excellent performances and was close to selection for the Scottish team. Suzanne's swimmers acquitted themselves well in the House competition, and if we didn't beat the boys we proved our stamina. The term ended with the Hockey XI going on tour to Stuttgart, a great success on and off the field. We won two out of three games, Sheelagh Gordon emerged as a player of real class, and Sandie proved invaluable, not only for her goal-keeping but also for her linguistic skills. We enjoyed superb hospitality, and we certainly hope to do it again.

At the end of term we said goodbye to Miss Blance and Avalon. Miss Blance left for the U.S.A. and Avalon for Miss B's parents. They have both been missed in the House, and we wish them well in the future. In Miss Blance's place we welcomed Mr and Mrs Forster, who were learning the ropes for a term before taking over the business themselves.

In the Summer Term the pace of academic efforts was stepped up rapidly, with exams imminent. Unfortunately, so was the building of the third wing – not always the perfect working environment; living closest to the builders, Nicky Smith and Katharine Duncan had their vocabularies considerably enlarged. It wasn't all work, however, and many will recall a group (nameless) venturing outside at 7.15 a.m. in nighties to wash their faces in the dew of May 1st. To their dismay they found none.

We were well represented on Speech Day with six prizewinners sharing ten prizes.

Jenny David's unrelenting energy in her battle to make Strath aware of Africa's famine must surely win her respect and congratulations; if her methods are not always subtle she certainly gets what she wants.

Tennis and athletics were keenly contested. Lesley, as tennis captain, set a great example, and she and Suzanne were a strong first couple. Kate captained athletics with her usual gusto, although again bad weather played havoc with fixtures. On Sports Day Kate won the Senior Victrix Ludorum and Sheelagh the Junior, both defending champions; and Suzanne became the first winner of the new Scanlan Trophy, awarded to the best sportswoman of the year. House Colours were also awarded for the first time; a list of recipients appears below.

Typically the sun ceased to shine as the 'A' Levels finished. Fi and Kath, how-

ever, never had it so good. As usual we kept the Interflora man in business, and after Phosey's disaster the hairdressers were quick to carry out emergency surgery. Fiona's interior decorating must be complimented; Gail's never ceased to be a talking-point. Shouting-points rather than talking-points were more the order of the day when Nikki Maxwell had her music on (are all Maxwell's deaf?); and we mustn't forget Jo, our resident invalid.

Throughout the year the House maintained that essential balance between academia and leisure, sports and the arts, so necessary in the Strath environment, an atmosphere most of us leaving will find hard to match anywhere. For us and the Williams' it is the end of an era. What can I say on the subject of the Williams leaving, other than that they established themselves as the term-time parents of eighty or so erratic girls, and that they will be a very hard act to follow. We wish the Forster's the very best of luck; if anyone but the Williams' can run three wings it must surely be them.

C.M.D.

We come to the end of our five years with Woodlands with very mixed feelings. Setting up a new House was a challenge, but Woodlands now seems firmly on the map. We have had some splendid girls through the House, and the seniors this year have been as good a bunch as any. To Kari, Suzanne and all the prefects, our thanks for all their loyalty and support. We also thank all those who have been responsible for games. Mrs Carratt's quiet unflappable efficiency has been indispensable, and she and Mr and Mrs Walker have always ensured a high and rising standard in all games departments. Our thanks too to Mrs Lafferty and Mrs Stewart, who have kept the House so immaculately. But above all we wish to thank all this year's girls and their parents for their generosity and all their words of good wishes. We shall miss it all.

Kay and David Williams



*Head of House*  
Carolyn Devlin

*Deputy Head*  
Suzanne Rhodes

*Prefects*  
Jane Cooper  
Joanna Fagg  
Clare Gadie  
Sandra Mackie  
Philippa McMurray  
Fiona Martin  
Lesley Meikle  
Kate Streule

*(Summer Term)*  
Nicola Smith  
Karen Burton  
Elspeth Dickinson  
Elizabeth Streule  
Hannah Walker

*(Correction: the list of prefects for 1984-85 should have included Jenny Fraser)*

*House Colours were awarded to:*

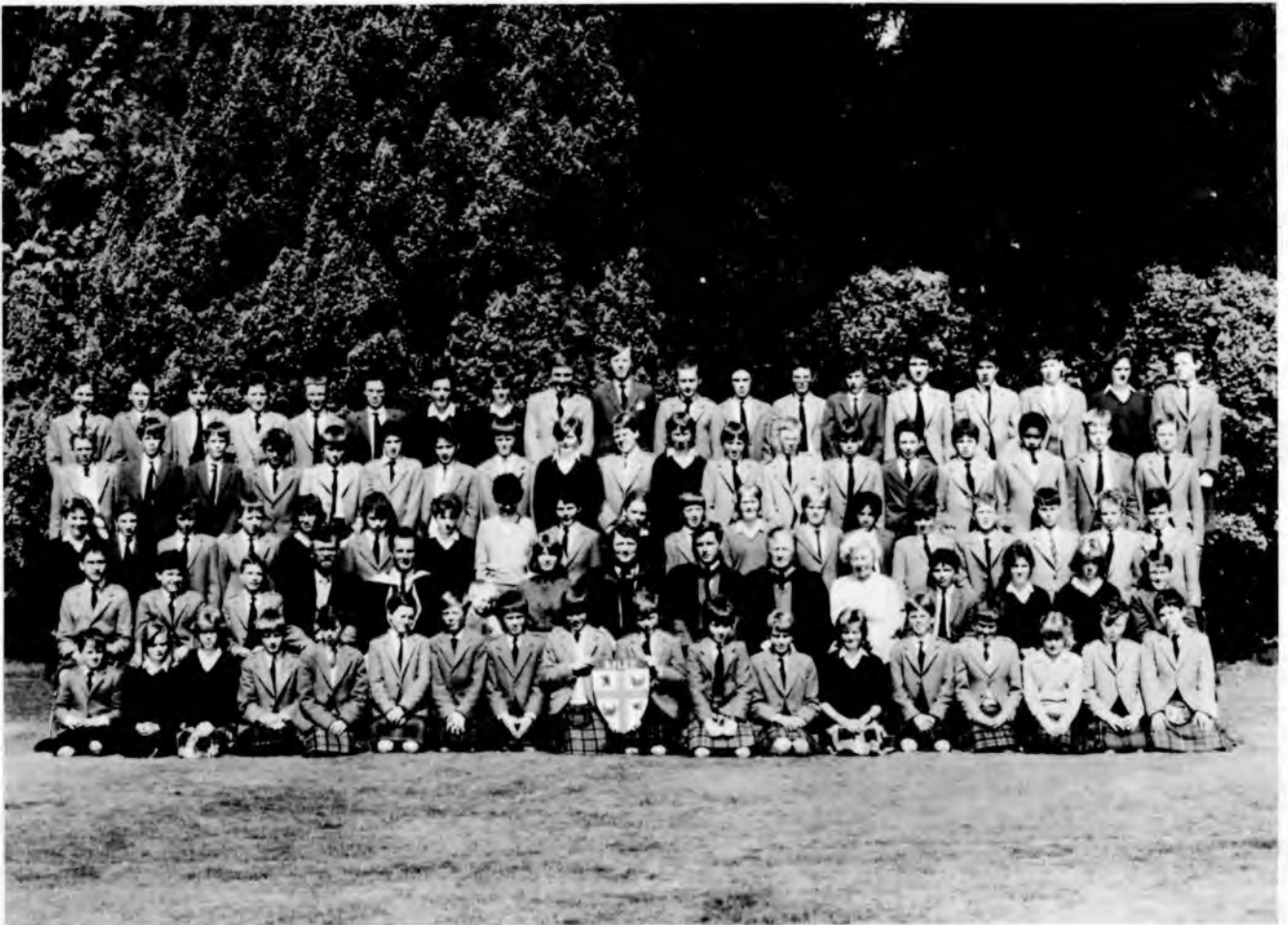
Suzanne Rhodes  
Carolyn Devlin  
Clare Gadie  
Sandra Mackie  
Paula Maxwell  
Lesley Meikle  
Kate Streule  
Nicola Thaw

*Captains*

Hockey	Suzanne Rhodes
Tennis	Lesley Meikle
Athletics	Kate Streule
Cross country	Clare Gadie
Sailing	Lara Clayton
Skiing	Lara Clayton
Squash	Paula Maxwell
Swimming	Suzanne Rhodes

A stickpin, with a miniature enamelled House shield, is now available for Old Girls, price £2.50. Hand-painted House shields, approx 7" x 6" and suitable for wall mounting are also available, price £10.00.

Orders please to the Housemaster.



# RILEY HOUSE

## The gnomes report on themselves:

### The Arrival

The interstellar ramjet skimmed along the main drive, packed with a huge box of equipment and a small, feeble alien. The ship turned left at the huge electronic sign and came to a halt on the front landing pad. A large forbidding inhabitant of the new and unexplored land came out of the main complex speaking in soothing tones to the little red alien. The ramjet skimmed off, leaving the little red alien all alone, with only his trusty automatic line writer to keep him on the track. It had begun!

### Winter Term

The start of a new year  
New people new rules  
Rugby Hockey Netball  
Rain and dark nights  
Revision Exams Results

The term ends yet has hardly come at all

### Spring Term

Cold shiver ice and snow  
Snow ball fights sledging  
Skiing down slopes for the first time  
Up to the top 1, 2, 3, GO  
Down to the bottom wet and cold  
But there's the thaw that leads to the summer

### Summer Term

The sunshine brings us to life  
Cricket Tennis Water fights  
Athletics, events of field and track  
Speech day, soon to Sports day  
The fun has finished  
It's all gone too quickly now I look back

### Riley goes Inter Dorm

During our two terms in Riley, each of the dorms, Islay, Drumfinn, Glencoe, Hamilton, Moncreiffe, Little and Big Invermay, who combine together when competing in competitions, have had many attempts to beat each other in sports.

In the winter term it was hockey, eight-a-side. Because of winter colds and illnesses many people were put off games so some of the teams weren't as strong as they could have been. When Julie Clark was taken to hospital after 'keeping her eye on the ball' just a wee bit too well, this weakened the girl's team even more! Islay, the strongest boys' team in Riley, eventually won that competition.

The inter dorm entertainment was another thing altogether! It was organised at the special request of the girls. After a disaster or three Moncreiffe won by performing several short acts each of which was very amusing.

In the summer term, there have been swimming, cricket, orienteering and running competitions. Unfortunately in

the cricket the girls were not there this time but they gave all the other teams an awful fright in the swimming.

### Dorm

A dorm is a place  
Of noise and mess  
But it is the haunt  
That a gnome likes the best

The floor is tidy  
(Where you can see it)  
Our lockers are sweet stores  
(Disguised as our games kit)

A dorm may be quiet  
Happy or sad  
But the noise after lights out  
Drives the masters mad!

### Riley Girls Sports

'Go....al!' That voice shrilled through the hockey sticks. Our first goal in months and all our hard practice had got us somewhere. For what seemed like weeks we had played different schools and lost. Now we were in the lead. We went back to the centre line and the whistle went. Dribbling down to the goal we hit! Goal! Another one! After forty more minutes of hard play the final whistle sounded. The game was to us, Ten to nil. We also played in a netball tournament organised by Ardvreck and when all the points were added up we think we were second last; our excuse was that it was pouring with rain. We wondered why it was only on us! The teas were good though!

In the Easter term there was not much to do outside because of the snow, so it was skiing and sledging. We did have one indoor match of hockey using a puck and different sticks. We won eight to nil. Coming into the summer term there were Athletics and Tennis. The A, B and C teams each had two matches; won one, lost one, and more good teas! Then there was Sports Day, the big dread! Our final run in Riley and then the big Long Jump into the future.

### Riley Boys Sport

Boys sport has been booming. The under 13's rugby team has not been beaten for two years now and last year was exceptionally good with only one try being scored against us while we scored 275 points in the six matches. We have only been beaten once in the last two years in hockey. The cricket has also gone well, though we are not generally as strong at this as we are at rugby and hockey. We are also competing in other sports such as football, swimming and cross country running. At the end of two years

in Riley we wondered how we managed to fit it all in.

### Riley Library

Why do we need a House library racked with hundreds of interesting books and stories when life in Riley itself is one large story of adventure, mystery, romance and achievement in work and sport? Seriously though, the library has flourished immensely this year thanks to the enthusiasm of gnome librarians and House tutors. Donations of both books and games have been numerous making the library a very popular place.

The library has undergone a few changes, thanks to Mr Keith who has been very generous with his time. There is a new filing system for non fiction books and story tapes have been introduced for gnomes to listen to. The magazines, some of which are very old indeed, are being found interesting to read, but could the number of class projects being undertaken have anything to do with the number of magazines which find themselves being cut up?

The library is also appreciated by those with the privilege of doing their prep there as a reward for good Form Orders, those same people seem to find access to all the reference books during prep time a handy thing as well! We thank people for suggestions and hope they continue giving them and improving the library to the satisfaction of those who use it.

### Departure

Feeling a lot more intelligent after two whole years of learning the local galactic dialect, the alien summons the interstellar ramjet. The last few megatrons are spent loading up the inter galactic grate. There are sorrows and happiness due to the huge complications of leaving and adapting to new stratospheric conditions. Next memomegatron the ramjet, now blazonned with the sign of the gnome, would set new hyper space coordinates to a new galaxy perhaps Woodlands or maybe Freeland. Whatever, it would remain forever a constant memory, thanks to the efforts of the less inferior.

### Written and Compiled by:

Julie Clark  
Callum Drummond  
Elspeth Green  
Philip Laing  
Timothy Lawrence  
Sarah McDougall  
Colin Pettinger  
Kristian Lannen



# Chapel Notes

The over-riding, if not dominant theme of this issue of 'The Strathallian Chapel Notes' is *people* – a not inappropriate theme when considering the place of Religious Education and Worship. Far too often 'The Church' has been thought of as buildings, be they gothic splendour of cathedrals or the smaller but equally impressive and important school chapels. It is right, therefore, that a photograph of a representative group of pupils who took part in our 'Strath-Aid' appeal for the famine areas of Africa should head the chaplain's contribution. (A fuller account of our fund-raising activities appears on page of 'The Strathallian').

Before I returned from my summer holiday on Uist, a letter had been forwarded from School informing me that B.B.C. Scotland intended broadcasting a Sunday Service from the Chapel in a series of services from the major Independent Schools in Scotland. The date of the recording was fixed as Sunday, October 13th and the transmission of same scheduled for the following Sunday. It really did not give much time for rehearsal of the School, musicians and readers. A major cause for concern when the B.B.C. technicians arrived was the fact that the organ slowly appeared to be coming to the end of its life. This necessitated long pauses between prayers, readings and any music while the organ was switched on and off. Skilful editing, and a great deal of patience on the part of the School ensured that listeners had no inkling of the problem. The preacher at that service was The Very Reverend John Paterson, Minister of St Paul's, Milngavie. The music at the service included items of praise from Iona, Taizé in France, Gounod's 'Credo' sung by the whole School, a prose psalm as well as the more traditional hymns. Indeed, the correspondence received from listeners after the service spoke of the 'triumphant' and 'celebratory' atmosphere.

It is difficult to determine the role of Chaplain in the School – little did I think that it might involve being chauffeur, spectacle-repairer, printer of the socialist magazine: 'Turn Left,' chef to seventy-seven guests and purveyor of fishing flies. At least life wasn't dull!

Nor, indeed, were the visiting preachers during the year, either inside the Chapel, or in the informal atmosphere of lunch or supper. They included:

## Autumn Term:

The Reverend Dr A. S. Todd (St. Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen); David Harper (St. Meddan's, Troon); The Very Reverend Dr P. P. Brodie (St. Mungo's, Alloa); Alexander Cunningham (Clerk to Glasgow Presbytery); Professor Murdo

Ewen Macdonald – Remembrance Sunday – (Glasgow University); Laurence Whitley (Montrose Old); The Reverend Dr W. J. Morris (Glasgow Cathedral).

## Spring Term:

The Reverends Charles Robertson (Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh); Gilleasbuig Macmillan (St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh); The Very Reverend Drs W. B. Johnston (Colinton, Edinburgh); Andrew Herron (Glasgow); The Reverend Tom Cuthell (St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh); The Rt. Reverend Michael Hare Duke (Bishop of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane); The Reverends W. B. Macmillan (Dundee Parish Church); Keith Angus (Braemar and Crathie).

## Summer Term

The Reverend David Keddie (Chaplain, Kelvinside Academy); The Reverend Dr Colin Thompson (University of Sussex); The Very Reverend Dr Ronald Selby Wright (Edinburgh); The Reverends Johnston Mackay (Paisley Abbey); Uist Macdonald (Perth); D. D. Ogston (St. John's Kirk, Perth). I preached on six occasions.

## Communion Services:

There were 10 Communion services during the year with a total of 400 communicants (including the Christmas Eve midnight service).

## Chapel Offerings:

The following Charities received offerings from the Chapel services throughout the year: Eritrean Relief Association; Age Concern (Scotland), Arthritis Research, BLESMA (Crieff), Cystic Fibrosis, Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled, Ben Hardwicke Fund, Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Dunbarney and District Senior Citizens' Association, Save the Children Fund, SOS (Childrens' Villages) – towards our sponsorship appeal, Association for Guide Dogs, British Heart Foundation, Star Centre for disabled Youth, Eastpark Home for Children, Medical Aid for Poland, Cancer Research, British Kidney Patients' Association (towards the Paris Marathon run by Messrs Raine and Barnes), Imperial Cancer Fund, Action Research for the Crippled Child, Cancer Relief, Shelter, RNLI, Muscular Dystrophy (Total: £854.27). In addition were 5 collections in the Autumn Term for 'Live-Aid' which raised £500. *Grand Total: £1,354* (an increase of £300 over last year). This is indicative of the generosity of the School when we remember that there were many other sponsorship appeals undertaken by individual pupils or groups of pupils, as well as the successor to the Autumn Term's 'Live-Aid' Appeal – 'Strath-Aid'. At a time when so many people's thoughts are centred upon what *they* can

get, it is good to remember that excluding individual fund-raising efforts, the School as a whole gave over £3,000 to charities throughout the year. A community effort of that magnitude deserves praise.

As a community, the Church received 20 pupils into full Communicant membership.

**Church of Scotland:** At a Celebration of the Holy Communion on Trinity Sunday, May 25th, the following candidates were presented to The Very Reverend Dr Ronald Selby Wright CVO, TD (Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 1972) for the laying-on-of hands: Jane and Jonathan Taylor, Jill Fraser, Nicola McAuley, Hazel Niven, George Wallace, Christopher Lawrence, Jane Cooper, Paula Maxwell, Katherine Duncan, Justin Bell, Michael Blanche, Sandy Carrick-Buchanan, Charles McCall-Smith, Alasdair Robertson, Andrew Rodger and Ruaidhri Truter.

**Scottish Episcopal Church:** A week later, during a Celebration of the Holy Communion, presided over by the Right Reverend Michael Hare Duke, Bishop of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane in St. John's Episcopal Church, Perth, the following candidates confirmed their baptismal promises: Elspeth and Alan Dickinson, Lorraine Burton.

The Reverend Fergus Harris (Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church and Episcopal Chaplain to the School) and I were privileged to spend three terms with the candidates in Joint Confirmation classes exploring the Christian Faith and the nature of belief.

In what was in some respects a difficult year for the School there were personal reasons for rejoicing even when, at times, there was an element of sadness. We were witnesses to courage and love. As a fulfilment of love, on Saturday, August 2nd, 1986, in the School Chapel, the first 'Old Girl' to return to the School Chapel for her marriage, Jocelyn Christie, was married to Andrew Glebocki by the Chaplain, assisted by Monsignor John Barry.

With the advent of G.C.S.E. examinations with their trinity of 'Knowledge,' 'Understanding' and 'Evaluation' in varying degrees of importance, it is right to examine the place of Chapel and Christianity in a School such as this.

A community depends upon individuals within it, in order that the day-to-day running may continue. Within one part of our School community – the Chapel – again we have many individuals to thank.

Week after week after week there is a band of flower arrangers who ensure

that whenever anyone enters the Chapel they will see flowers adorning God's House. Often, the real joy of the flowers is actually arranging them in the solitude and heavily-laden atmosphere of the Chapel, and so we are grateful to Mrs Fairbairn and her team of arrangers.

Music, too, is an integral part of the worship – and, again, it is right and proper to thank again the members of the Choir under the direction of Nicholas Reed as well as the 'occasional' musicians, for the integral part they played throughout the year in the worship offered to God.

I was doubly fortunate this year to have two Chapel Prefects to organise not only me, but also the Visiting preachers, and to ensure that all ran smoothly. Guy Logan and Jamie Pratt by their quietly efficient manner and their subsequent training of Neville Drummond and David Smith ensured that not only did the Chapel services and the seating arrangements in an over-crowded building continue, but also that the Headmaster had an able and diligent Captain of School for the academic year 1986/1987.

To those whom I have named, and those whom I have forgotten to name,

my thanks for the 'community spirit' which endured.

Man, by his very nature is hungry for a satisfying relationship with something beyond him – the source from which he gains his individual origin and inspiration for acts of courage, generosity and love. Man, as distinct from other animals, is inherently and characteristically religious.

Education which is true to its linguistic roots, must therefore *be* religious, meaning that it is a gradual process by which man, especially in his youth, becomes more and more conscious of the nature of the Divine source and of his relationship with it.

The growth of this consciousness is not dependent on the efforts of the older generation to pass on its limited experience to the young, still less on the injection into them of factual knowledge, academic or otherwise; but the result of a growing awareness, through experience in youth, of an inborn knowledge of the Truth.

If Christians believe that God reveals himself to man chiefly in creation and in love, schools must provide on the one hand ample and varied creative opport-

unity as a form of practical worship, and on the other hand must provide a communal way of life of such a kind as to develop that creative and social response which such a God requires.

If, too, we believe that God has not ended the revelation of himself to man, and that we must not only share with the present generation of pupils the fruits (both bad as well as good) of our own experience, then we must also respect them as agents through whom there may come to our world a more full or further revelation, which we may not be fully capable of receiving.

All this means that human life is personal and that education must be personal, implying not only respect for that which is individual, but also reverence for that which is divine in every pupil (however difficult it may be for us to detect!); and that life increases in abundance as we establish a creative and satisfying personal relationship with one another – which is only achieved as we recognise, reverence and co-operate with the will of God.

T.G.L.

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# Music

Knowing quite where to start when summarising each year's most varied programme of music-making is becoming an increasingly difficult task, such is the spread of interests, abilities and performances. To begin with the performers themselves, without whose help such a demanding schedule would not be possible. Their numbers grow each season, as it appears does their proficiency. At a time when leisure activities are often all too readily available, to find approximately 180 musicians wanting to learn instruments is very gratifying.

Learning to play any instrument demands a balance of skills not always fully understood by those suspicious of the musicians. This ranges from natural musical ability to precise muscular co-ordination and quick-thinking mental agility. These skills come only after months, and sometimes years, of battling away at the mundane technical requirements, and not everyone is prepared for this struggle. The regular commitment to practice is the hardest single element in music performance, a fact frequently missed by many.

A substantial number of players have entered various forms of musical exams and competitive festivals over the year. These have covered the Associated Board and Trinity College exams in both practical and theoretical subjects, and festivals in Perth, Fort William, Fife and Edinburgh. Music has also been studied in its more academic forms to GCE O level and Highers standard.

The teaching staff has remained largely unaltered with the exception of Mrs Barlow, who had to leave through ill-health. Her place has been filled by Sheila Cochran for the Flutes, and she brings a wealth of performance and teaching experience to that field. Mrs Taylor joins our team to help with the pianists. At the end of the year we have had to say good-bye to Rodney Mount who has been teaching woodwind, but now is retiring from teaching altogether. He is to exchange one form of wind for another as he now pilots his 40 foot sailing boat to the Mediterranean. Angela Griffiths, who has taught the cello, is sadly leaving us to return to the concert platform and recording studios with the professional orchestras. Woodwind will be taught by Jenny Green, who teaches in Glasgow and plays the Oboe with the Scottish Ballet Orchestra.

The performances given by various combinations of musicians have again been of outstandingly high standards. The venues for these concerts have ranged from our own Music-room, to the Drawing-room of Grantully Castle as guests of Mr and Mrs Henry Steuart Fother-

ingham. The orchestra and soloists made two visits to St. Giles Cathedral. Their November concert included *Corelli's Christmas Concerto*, a *Handel Organ Concerto* and a quite outstanding performance of *Bach's Concerto for Violin and Oboe*, with Nicola Smith and Gavin Pettinger as soloists. In May a return visit was made with the full Choir and orchestra, when Elgar's '*O give unto the Lord*' and two unaccompanied *Motets by Bruckner* were sung. The degree of excellence is hard to pass on in words, but the thrill of singing such music in so resonant a building could be clearly seen in the faces of the participants. The organ on that occasion was played for us by the Cathedral Organist, Herrick Bunney.

The Perth Festival of the Arts gave us another excuse for a programme of concertos and orchestral music, including *Albinoni's Oboe Concerto in B flat* with Gavin Pettinger as soloist, and a wonderful performance of the *Fantasy Trio of John Ireland* given by Nicola Thaw and Nicola Smith. Performances at Speech Day in the marquee, to the Dunkeld Music Society, and to the parishioners of the Old Church, Montrose rounded off an extremely busy year.

The Second Orchestra, conducted by Paul Auster and with Cosmo Fairbairn as narrator, brought the house down at the Christmas Concert with a piece entitled '*Careless Cozzie*,' a light-hearted equivalent of the 'Young Person's guide to the Orchestra,' generously doctored to suit the occasion.

The largest-scale musical venture of the year was the production of '*My Fair Lady*,' conducted by Paul Auster and reviewed elsewhere in the issue. The performance drew upon hitherto hidden talents from members of the chorus and orchestra alike, achieving a week's run of superb performances. No less impressive has been the varied diary of engagements handled by the Dance Band over the year. To be able to provide a blend of stylish background music suitable for one occasion and concert performances for another is a great achievement. Their performances have taken them from the Huntingtower Hotel to the Scottish Schools Jazz Festival at Loretto and all the school concerts en route. The band keeps a steady trickle of new blood in its ranks to take over from the leavers, for this year sees the disappearance of some of the founder members in Colin Walker, Robin Niven, Phil Dewar and Iain and Scott Kelly.

The Chapel Choir enjoyed the bonus of an experienced and talented treble in Sebastian Head, who joined the school from King's College, Cambridge, where he had served the world famous choir

as a treble. The choir has produced a splendid blend of sound this year, a fact not always appreciated by its audiences in Chapel, for its public performances have drawn most favourable comments from musician and layman alike.

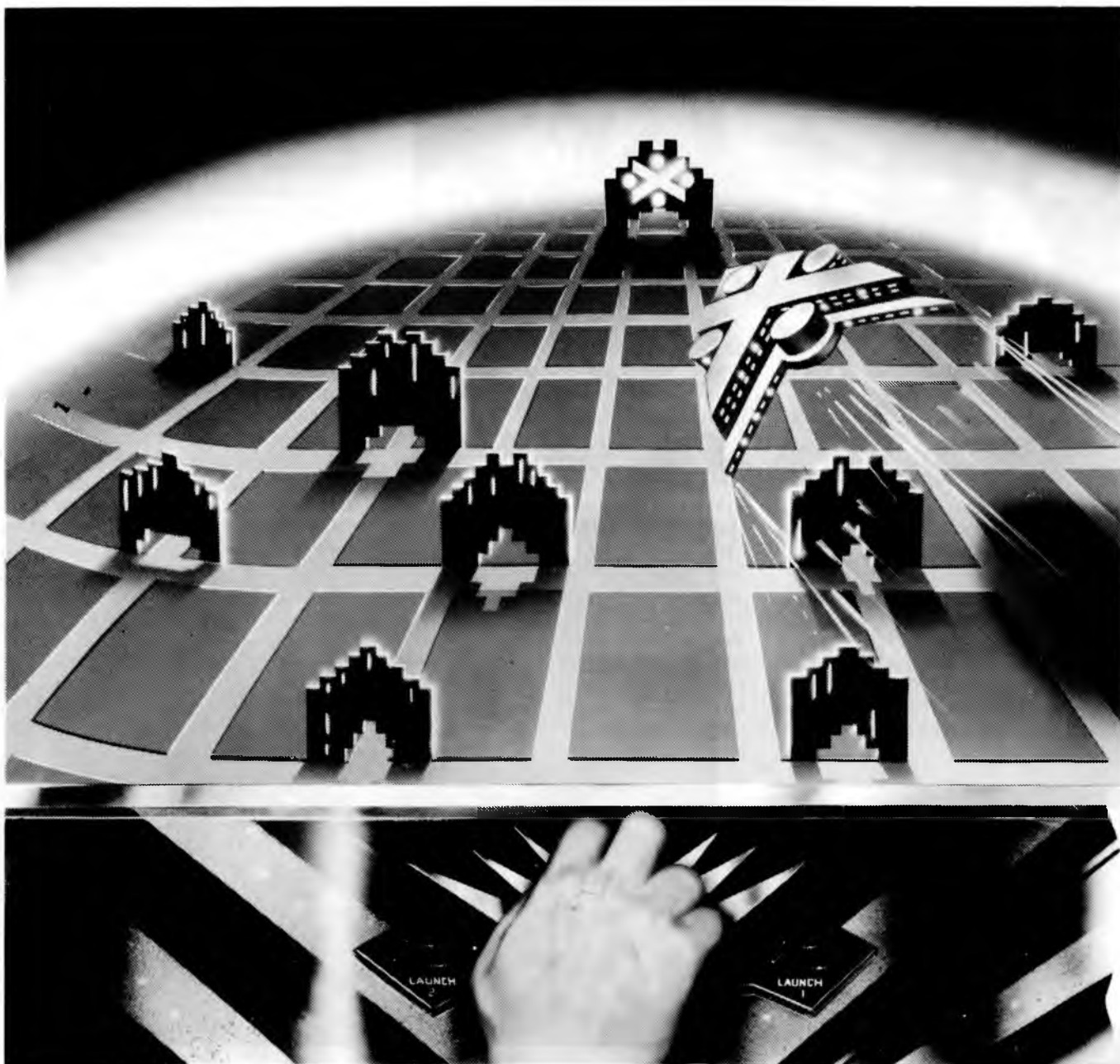
If one considers one of the aims of a music department in a school such as ours as to introduce the established repertoire of the classics to the pupils, then this year has seen more than an average number of people take up offers to hear music away from the school. There have been concerts of Jazz, Gilbert & Sullivan, regular orchestral repertoire, and of opera. Although there is a marked reluctance here of trying something new, perhaps the suspicion of the unknown is slowly melting. The opera trips have been particularly successful in this respect, in that all those who have been to the Theatre Royal have been more than a little apprehensive at first, but have without exception returned to school eager for the next visit.

We lose some of our familiar names in these columns this year. Colin Walker has kept us all entertained with his jazz improvisations on classical themes—usually during serious rehearsals of other music—and with his brand of zany humour. Nicola Thaw and Nicola Smith have provided a core of the highest quality in the string-playing, and I for one shall miss the pure pleasure of accompanying such musical playing on the cello. We would all wish the leavers continued pleasure from their music-making, whether as amateurs or professional.

F.N.R.

**The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings**  
Nicola Thaw

**The Robert Barr Prize for Music**  
Nicola Smith



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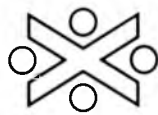
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# Pipes and Drums

This year we continued to produce a band of 13 pipers but were reduced to 3 side, 2 tenor and 1 bass drummer. However we have only one leaver in the piping section, Ian Kelly Pipe-Major, and Campbell Mitchell Tenor Drummer, and with younger members waiting in the wings we will be able to make up the deficit and probably exceed 13 pipers. We had a fairly full programme of engagements starting as usual with the Blackford Games. This year the weather behaved and it proved to be a very enjoyable outing. The highlight of our engagements was the 'Army Open' Day at Glencorse Barracks on Sunday 15th June organised by Major Colin Dunbar an old boy, whose son Charles is at the present a piper (as was Dad) in the band. After the opening address the band gave their first performance on the main square. They gave their second performance later on what was known as Area 2, and finally at the conclusion of the afternoon led one of the parade groups in a march past. However during the course of the afternoon there were displays of, gymnastics, Weaponary, Mortars, Tanks, Static, Greasy pole, Combat, Q. V. School Pipe Band, Military Brass Band, and many more too numerous to mention. The big event of the day for most of the spectators was probably the display by the Golden Lions Free Fall Parachute Team, who incidentally have promised to literally 'Drop In' on us on sports day. The weather was perfect, if anything too hot and most likely because of it attracted a crowd of 15,000.

We also played for the Tayside Conservatives Fete at Scone Palace on the 21st June, again the weather was perfect, the band played well but unfortunately probably because of the distance from the town the attendance was less than was expected. Our final external engagement was the Dunning Gala on the 28th June. Again the weather was good, so hot in fact the band played in shirt sleeve order, clean white shirts I hasten to add, and was greatly appreciated by the local population, most of whom I think must work at Strathallan. As a matter of fact the opening ceremony was ably performed by Brian and Jean Raine. The East of Scotland CCF and Individual Competition was held at Dundee High School. Regrettably due to alterations to their sports grounds it had to be held entirely in the Caird Hall. The sad part about it was the weather was ideal for outside playing. However despite all this the band was placed 3rd out of 8 bands and Robert Jones and Bruce Kelly came 1st and 2nd respectively in the junior drumming.

Our success in Piping and Drumming is due to the excellent tuition and dedication of Pipe Major Bert Barron and Drumming instructor Dave Clark. Sadly Rusty Clark had to give up teaching the Bass Section for domestic reasons, however he judged our drumming competition at the end of term, and we hope to entice him back some time in the not too distant future.

## School Piping and Drumming Results:

*Pibroch* 1st J. Ball  
2nd S. Peters  
3rd K. Dinsmore

*Senior March – Strathspey and Reel*  
1st J. Ball  
2nd A. Rodger  
3rd J. Harris

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

*Most improved Piper*  
1st S. Walker

*Senior Drumming*  
No competitors this year

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

D.B.H.

## Music at Grandtully

On the 23rd November 1985, Mr and Mrs Henry Stuart Fotheringham invited Nicholas Reed to bring some Musicians from the School to perform at Grandtully Castle.

This has become an annual event, and an invited audience, sitting in the beautiful panelled drawing room enjoyed an evening of music.

As usual the Stuart Fotheringhams were very generous hosts, and in civilised and appreciative atmosphere, we listened

to some marvellous performances.

The interesting programme included some wonderful moments. It is impossible to mention them all, but I must pick out one or two outstanding ones.

Nicola Smith and Gavin Pettinger played the Bach Violin and Oboe Concerto in D minor superbly. The Laudamus Te from Vivaldi's Gloria was sung by Gavin Pettinger and Douglas Orr as an extra item, and was so popular that it won an encore.

Sebastian Head sang Panis Angelicus with marvellous breath-control, but the highlight of the evening was Nicola Thaw's wonderful and moving playing of the Elegie bu Fauré.

Everyone was very impressed by the standard of playing, and I think we can be very proud of all our musicians who represented the School so professionally.

A.L.F.

# DRAMA

## My Fair Lady

Anyone who has the idea of putting on an ambitious production like 'My Fair Lady' in the School Gym must either be crazy or brave. Mr Forster must have had moments when he thought he was either or both!

All the details of a Musical Show on this scale have to be practised to a stage of perfection that takes hours of patient rehearsal.

Well, it paid off. This show was slick, professional, and full of enthusiasm and pace.

First of all it must be said that the Orchestra was quite outstanding, and with that backing the players had every chance to excel—which they did. Conducted by Mr Auster, and led by Nicola Smith, they played superbly, accompanying the singers sympathetically, and timing the numbers perfectly down to the last curtain-call.

It is always helpful to have someone with professional experience, and Mr Smith, beardless, in the part of Professor Higgins put over those marvellous songs in a very polished manner, adding a dash of style to the overall effect.

Eliza is a difficult part by any standards, with its gradual change from guttersnipe to society lady and the complications that follow from that, and Kari Devlin managed the transition with subtlety and pathos. Her singing was vibrantly alive throughout and the characterisation totally convincing, from the rowdy earlier scenes to her touching departure from the Professor's house.

As Doolittle, Jimmy Gellatly acted and sang with great gusto, and again this was an excellent performance. I must pick out 'With a little bit of luck' which practically brought the house down. He led the song-and-dance routines with marvellous abandon and really brought the part to life.

Dancing on that tiny sloping stage must be almost impossible, and Tony Ellis did wonders with the choreography in such a small space. The Chorus, whether at Ascot, Covent Garden or The Ball, all acted every minute with verve and energy.

It is impossible to mention everyone individually by name, but I must pick

out Hannah Walker as Mrs Pearce in a very neat little cameo, Dominik Diamond as a charmingly love-sick Freddy, Michael Edie as a gentle Colonel Pickering, and Phosey McMurray whose stage presence brought dignity to the part of Mrs Higgins.

A great deal of work obviously went into the making, painting and lighting of the set, and the scene-changes must have broken all records for speed. Of course, if you have stage-hands who train to improve their timing, you're in luck!

The costumes and make-up completed the picture to make the whole thing convincing and enjoyable.

Now we come at last to the producer, and we really must congratulate Mr Forster for pulling all the ends together and creating such a wonderful show. It is only with enormously hard work and meticulous rehearsing, combined with the talents of the performers, that such a high standard can be reached. We'll remember 'My Fair Lady.'

Congratulations to all concerned.

A.L.P.

## STRATHALLAN SCHOOL

PRESENTS

## MY FAIR LADY

by  
Alan Jay Lerner  
Frederic Loewe  
based upon "Pygmalion"  
by  
George Bernard Shaw.



20, 21, 22, 23 March 1986 School Gymnasium 7.30 pm.

## Coven Trees Play-reading

Some experimental whole ski-days were tried out in the Easter Term. While most of the School were braving the sleet, or, sadly, waiting frustratedly in buses at snow-blocked roads, some of the chillier members of the VIth Form took the chance of several free hours on end, to gather at Coven Trees for play-reading, followed by discussions on the play. 'A Man of All Seasons,' 'Plenty' and 'The Churchill Play' were read and provided good bases for discussion, contrast and comparison. Initial nervousness at letting oneself get fully involved in the parts soon vanished and in the final play the accents were as enthusiastic as they were dubious! A lot of worthwhile discussion ensued, and it is hoped that there will be further opportunities to repeat this in the future. Everyone read and joined in enthusiastically.

The casts were: —  
Mrs Fairbairn (an inspiring female lead, especially in 'Plenty,' and our generous

hostess), Mr Fairbairn (better at BBC voices than Derbyshire!), Mr Forster (reduced to 4th Guard and Servant), Mr Court (Sir Thomas himself, and the chief inspiration in the discussions), Kari Devlin (she got the long parts), Jennifer David (she got the short parts—sorry!), Richard Williams (funny voices), Graeme Robertson (more funny voices), Ian Kelly (lots of small parts, was probably asked to talk to himself), Guy Logan (asked to get drunk in the last play), Robert Beckman (going from the aristocracy to a black dog), Duncan Fulton (happiest as a Scot?), Dughall Aitken (enjoying it more each time), Peter Rochow (very entertaining), Michael Edie (he should be a good NCO in the CCF), and Dominik Diamond (a very good lead in 'Plenty'). Guest appearances were from Jamie Pratt (very serious in 'A Man for All Seasons') and Alan Murton (a brilliant Furry Keegan).

Thanks to all concerned.

## House Drama Competition

The Christmas term, as well as the inevitable rugby saw the start of a slightly more cultured competition, the house drama competition. 'So What?' was the general response, at least for the first week or so when the competition was simply a break from English. But quite soon people started to ask for finished scripts, and dress rehearsals. The plays were then seen in the right perspective by the actors who were now both shouted at and praised in an effort to see some talent shine. By now though there was a real air of competitiveness and so somebody had to think of something else to shout about!

So to the plays themselves.

Freelands was a simple, but funny rip-take of Ruthven and all that goes with it, the 1st XV 'wham gang' and so on. Special mention must go to the 'scivs' Robert Moir and Christian Robertson, the latter deservedly winning the best actor award.

Nicol was certainly the most different play, a mimed Charlie Chaplin in front of a strobe light. They came 3rd with originality.

Simpson and Ruthven both made the obvious mistake of trying to do too much with too little and thus ending, although amusingly, with a very difficult plot.

Woodlands play was complicated in plot but was well acted and so came 2nd.

Finally Leburn's play had what everyone should have had, simplicity. Together with good acting and a lot of laughs from Fraser McDonald. They thoroughly deserved to win.

There you have it, the plays of course tended to centralise on a few basic gags—Ruthven House and the Head, which wore thin after a while.

And now all you need to do is watch the play next year to see it all for yourselves.

Finally all the actors needed the help of Dave Dinsmore and Duncan Fulton, the prefects in charge. Mr Forshaw and Mr Court were always about to help too. And least but not least, Mr Forster who as well as shouting at people, organised the competition and Mr Smith who did the lights, and all the other technicalities.



## School Reading

Held on Sunday 11th May, the School Reading Competition again attracted a high standard of entry, particularly in the Senior and Junior sections. The fourth year were largely notable by their absence apart from two honourable exceptions who were both prize-winners.

The Competition was adjudicated by Mrs Burnell and she once again took the time and trouble, not only to judge, but to offer helpful criticism to all contestants, our thanks goes to her and her husband.

In the Junior section it was pleasing to see the number of first formers participating and generally they tackled the set passage from 'Lord of The Rings' extremely well, conceding more in experience and maturity rather than ability to the eventual second form winners. These were in order of Merit, Tarrant Steele, Colin Pettinger and Callum Drummond.

The middle section entrants faced a challenging set passage in the form of the American 'Declaration of Independence,' but Louisa McKenzie read it not only in an American accent but with such power and passion it was probably one of the outstanding performances of the day and gave her a fully deserved victory. Kate Morrison kept the third year's flag flying by a good rendition of the set passage, but also encouraged us to read Wilbur Smith with an interesting

excerpt from one of his novels. Dirk Paterson also read well, displaying his versatility with several short but well chosen pieces. These individual choices of the competitors were one of the most interesting and entertaining features of the afternoon and this was especially so in the Senior Section where humorous verses enlivened the proceedings and play speeches were used to good effect. The standard of the seniors was particularly high and judging was not an enviable task. Jimmy Gellatly however did well in contrasting the set Hardy part with readings from the great McGonagol and was given third place. It was however the serious stuff that carried the day, even if it was the serious discussion of comedy as was Dominik Diamond's choice. Kari Devlin genuinely moved us. So for the second year running it was felt impossible to separate the winners so Kari and Dominik had to be content to share first place and in some ways this seemed a politic decision!

Once again the Competition had proved itself an interesting and exciting event, and I particularly urge those who had their first experience of it this term to try again next year and we will also be needing some new faces coming forward to try and depose some of those champions.

J.C.F.



# The Barbican Trip

Where do we start? Each person packed so much into this weekend trip that it is impossible to include them all. But try we must, and the best place to start is the journey down. Eight hour train rides are not much fun but the excitement, anticipation and the thousands of Over 21 magazines made life bearable. On arrival we soon realised how difficult it is to find anyplace in London and throughout the weekend a certain group of five either suffered from 'lost tourist' disease or were just plain incompetent.

The group stayed in Holland Park Youth Hostel in the middle of Holland Park, believe it or not. Holland Park itself was beautiful during the day but none too friendly when running lost through it at 1.00 a.m. There are a lot of strange people in London.....

An elite group of us, including the three mature students, went to see Peter Bowles in John Osborne's 'The Entertainer.' Supported by an excellent cast Peter Bowles was superb as Archie Rice and it made this trip to Shaftesbury Avenue worthwhile. The less artistically motivated amongst us went to Covent Garden, where they fraternised with the local constabulary.

On Saturday morning we recovered from the events of the night before by persuing Camden Market before arriving at the Barbican (surprisingly enough the only easy place to find in London) at midday for our backstage tour. For those in our group accustomed to the smaller repertory theatres in Scotland the Barbican tour was an incredible experience. The Professionalism of the company there includes a 'latecomers' room' in which there is a black and white monitor to watch until the opportunity to enter the main theatre arrives.

After a beautiful lunch at the Riverside cafe we watched 'Troilus and Cressida' in the main Barbican Theatre. Unfortunately this is arguably Shakespeare's most difficult play and the combination of complicated language and plot mingled with fatigue turned it into a dream like experience. But all things told, it did have some great scenes, due to the sheer vivacity of the RSC's acting.

After a hasty, but happy dinner, we proceeded to 'The Pit' to see Trevor Griffith's 'Real Dreams,' a new play about the conflicts within socialist groups from the viewpoint of a group of anti-Vietnam American students in Cleveland. Due to the very intonal atmosphere of

the Pit the atmosphere during this tense play was electric and for all of us this was the highlight of the trip. Unfortunately this was tinged with sadness. The infamous 'Group of Five' had sat through the whole show without realising that the Who's Pete Townsend was sitting in front of them. He even laughed when we crunched our Polos during a quiet scene!

That night, Covent Garden was the attraction once more, when we chatted to what seemed to be a multinational group about everything, including a member of our party with a distinct Scottish accent who insisted on arguing his home country's case for the World Cup.

Unfortunately all good things must come to an end and the next day we made our way back to Kings Cross for the journey back, leaving behind London but keeping the following memories: Simon and Mark's being tourism, and Kate's rapping, Graeme's inability to read Tube Station maps and above all the harmonised snoring of Mr Forster and Mr Smith.

D.D. & H.W.

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# Paris Trip

The weather didn't look good when we met at Victoria Station. However, we boarded the train to Dover. On the train we were terrorised firstly by Tyrannosaurus Rex and then by invading hordes of stormtroopers, in the form of Mr Clelland's son.

The ferry crossing was, I am reliably told by those who had crossed the channel before, 'quite calm.' Having alighted at Calais, we boarded the infinitely superior French train to Paris. We arrived at the Gard du Nord at about 5 o'clock. We were quite exhausted, as the majority had spent the night travelling on the 'Nightrider' to London, managing to catch about three hours sleep. A brief rest at 'Maison des Jemes' was followed by our first visit to a Parisian restaurant. The restaurant provided good, cheap food and interesting wall decoration. After dinner we stretched our legs and collapsed into bed at about 11 o'clock, tired but happy with our first day in Paris.

The next morning we visited the Notre Dame Cathedral. This 12th century building is not only magnificent to look at, but is also the resting place for all the Kings of France. For a small fee one could climb the towers of Notre Dame and look out across the whole of Paris on a clear day. Unfortunately, the weather refused to co-operate and thus our view was limited, but nevertheless spectacular.

Some members of our party attempted to change travellers cheques – an adventure in itself. Entry to the bank involved pressing numerous brightly coloured buttons, which either resulted in you tripping over the door frame or being told 'Nous ne les changeons pas ici!' Eventually we managed to change some money and set off to sample some French cuisine. We ended up eating chips at what looked like the equivalent of a corner shop off the Rue de Rivoli....so much for 'la vie Parisienne!'

The sun shone bravely for 20 minutes at lunchtime, and then capitulated to the ever-menacing black clouds. We re-assembled at the Ile de la Cité to see the monument to the Parisian Jews deported in the second world war. This building deserves description. It is circular in design, and was built in such a way that all sounds are dampened, producing an eerie silence. In a corridor barred off from the rest of the building one could see a gangway, on either side of which 200,000 white pebbles were embedded into the walls – one for every Jew deported. Triangles were carved into the Walls and each one bore the name of a Nazi death-camp. Written in Bronze on a stone circle in the middle of which was the inscription 'They have left this world and will never

return.' To enter that monument is an experience some shall not forget quickly.

We then went our separate ways, agreeing to meet at the Sacre Coeur at 3 o'clock. Some of the group took a roundabout way, first to Pigalle and then up through Montmartre where a thunderstorm hit us. This meant that we ran up three flights of steps leading to the Sacre Coeur. The Sacre Coeur itself is incredible – a completely white building, with breathtaking stained glass windows.

As it was still raining, we retired to the Chaligny and spent the evening with mechanical amusements such as Pinball and others...

After the evening meal, some of us returned to the hostel, but others stayed out and returned rather later than agreed, causing great concern amongst the rest of the party. We arose to another continental breakfast which was for one member of the party at least, a light meal. Still, when in Rome...

In the morning we visited the Louvre. If the art in this building were not enough to take your breath away, then the amount of walking to be done certainly was! It was well worth it, though, to see both the Venus de Milo and the Mona Lisa, as well as all the lesser-known works. Another fascinating part of our visit was to see the plans which the French Arts Ministry had in store for the Louvre. These included a huge square-based pyramid made out of glass which will act as a main entrance. This will lead to an underground complex which will include more galleries, restaurants and an information centre.

We went our separate ways for lunch. Some people went to a restaurant, while others preferred to eat lunch in the gardens in front of the Louvre. It then rained heavily whilst we were in the Metro going to Les Halles, but this did not prevent us from visiting both the shopping centre and the Pompidou Centre, a futuristically designed Art gallery. The most amazing piece of art in the Pompidou Centre had to be, in my opinion, 'The Winter room' – a walk-in chamber, painted white with black lines to give the effect of blocks of ice. The floor was deliberately uneven, and the room was dimly lit, which prompted one member of the group to comment, 'Great place to trip' (what ever **that** means).

After dinner some of us took a walk to the Champs-Elysees, while others walked to the Boulevard St. Michel, and sat in a café (thank you Colin) until it was time to return to the hostel.

On Thursday, we went to visit the Pere-Lachaise graveyard, where France's most famous sons are buried. Among the graves we visited were those of Edith

Piaf, Oscar Wilde, and Jim Morrison. Morrison's grave must be seen to be believed; in itself, it is not very prepossessing; a small gravestone, and a bust of Morrison on top of this. For yards around, however, graffiti covers all the other graves, praising the late 60's/early 70's rock poet in an almost religious fashion. Bottles of wine and flowers were placed on the grave itself, and when we were there we met a young couple from America who had come to Paris to see Morrison's grave.

At lunchtime we sat in what we had come to know as 'the local' hostel. We then visited the Eiffel Tower and fountains. It was amazing to look down from the fountains past the Eiffel Tower and the Champs-Elysee to the Elysee Palace itself.

Some of us returned to the Hostel to spend a 'quiet night in' whilst others sat in a cafe and lamented the fact that our stay had been so short.

On Friday we returned to Folkestone, and thus to Scotland.

We will all, I am sure, have varying memories of our excursion to Paris, but they will certainly be happy ones. Some of the people and places who helped make them were Steve and Hazel, the Rue de Rivoli, the staff, building and interior decorators of the Restaurant aux Assassins, The Magic Busker of Montmartre, the Cafe la France, M. Jigaboo, the Pinball Wizard, Dave B., the Sledgehammer and the ubiquitous Tork...the list is endless.

Above all, our thanks and deepest gratitude must go to Mr and Mrs Clelland for all their effort in organising the trip, and to Gareth and Naomi for providing comic relief during the tiring train journeys.

J. W. W.

# HOCKEY

Industrial action in the state schools hit hockey badly, and several of our traditional fixtures were dropped. More unfortunately, the inter-schools tournament was cancelled. This was a pity for our indoor side looked promising. Nevertheless games against Stewarts Melville, Glenalmond and Rannoch were all comfortably won, and, in a match of high skill, with last year's champions, Monifieth High School, we lost only through a last second goal. There was depth in the indoor game too – the second squad were unbeaten and an under 15 team developed well.

The snows of January were still there when we started the outdoor season with over six inches covering the pitches. The first game got sick (literally) of the Coven Trees hill climb so we attempted to clear the hard pitch. Bodies appeared from all over the campus and some worked harder than at any time in their lives! In 36 hours half the surface was available for practice and by the next day it was clear. 24 hours later it had all melted, but the exercise had occupied the troops! Naturally the grass pitches took far longer to recover and many of the early junior games and the House matches had to be cancelled. Only one 1st XI match, an inaugural one with Abbey, was eventually called off.

Brief hard pitch practice was not the best preparation for a northern tour on grass. Gordonstoun quickly settled into their usual direct style and scored first. Reah equalised near half time and, despite losing Maclellan in the first of a series of unlucky injuries, we scored early in the second half and were never really in danger; our novices, Murton and Russell, having particularly fine defensive games. Aberdeen Grammar School always give us trouble. We started lackadaisically and it was no surprise that they scored first. We played better, if not well, in the second half, foiled time after time by some magnificent goal-keeping, we could only score once. A draw was a disappointing result especially when we realised they only fielded ten men!

The next Sunday a Scottish Under 16 squad visited, as part of their preparation for the internationals. The first XI was weakened by the absence of Maclellan (still injured), Reah (a traitor to rugby) and Hatfield (playing for the opposition and eventually to get an international cap). In a skilful game we did well to force a draw. Last year's Fettes match had been a fierce encounter but on our pitch we were always in control and a hat trick from McCulloch helped us to a comfortable victory. The final period produced some of the best attacking hockey I have seen, and had shots been

on target many more would have been scored. Our first fixture with Dundee High School was played on a rough surface and the standard was poor. Without much difficulty we won 4 – 0 but it was not a very enjoyable game. Rannoch proved quite a match for us on the hard pitch, but their defence caved in in the last ten minutes when we scored six goals. The hardest game was always likely to be against Monifieth High School. On a difficult shale pitch we were completely out-manoeuvred in the first half and turned 2 – 1 down. With our forwards bunching and overrun in midfield we changed to a 4 – 4 – 2 formation for the second half. Aitken played superbly in an unaccustomed position, we moved into a new gear and completely altered the pattern to bring off a wonderful win. Loretto were approached in an over confident mood and soon, lax play and a missed stroke brought us to 2 – 0 down. Our unbeaten record was now really threatened but we rallied, McCulloch converted, Reah scored and a Robertson short corner completed the job just before full time.

In the holidays we took a slightly weakened squad to Coventry School. This was a splendidly organised, high quality international tournament played on brand new artificial surfaces. The only disappointment was the weather. In three days it did everything. We even started a game on snow. In the main event our first opponents were Mid-Holland, a regional Dutch side probably as good as any British under-18 national team. We shocked them with a typical Reah goal but for the rest of the game their superb skills and teamwork dominated and we were well beaten. It was a useful lesson in just how good hockey can be. Despite not dealing with their fast strikers, we played well against Coventry and those that finished the game were unlucky not to force a win! Earlier injury had deprived us of Maclellan's scoring touch and, this, plus self-inflicted 'wounds' which made it difficult for some forwards to see the goal, cost us dear against Etten Leaur, a friendly Dutch club team. Enough chances were made to win but we didn't play with much conviction. In the mini-tournament we fared better, giving Mid-Holland a scare and each game being decided by the odd goal.

The first team was largely composed of players in their last year and their experience and strength were invaluable. After a shaky start captain Robertson improved and his short corners were always a threat. The combination of Rochow, Maclellan and Reah troubled defences. Reah the outstanding player

at Coventry with his dashing runs (and wit!) Aitken's constructive play was a useful adjunct to McCulloch's skills, and McAlister and Smith had good games at wing half on the hard pitch. At times they were replaced effectively, if slowly, by Clark and Beath. Hatfield's play continued to mature at left wing, but the most improved performances came from Murton and Russell, the latter hardly making a serious goalkeeping mistake all season.

Among the other side the 2nd XI had a good season with only the Fettes result a blemish. The Senior Colts lost only to a 2nd XI, but sadly the weather played havoc with other fixtures and the promise shown by the Junior Colts and Riley seldom had a chance to develop.

My thanks go to all who coached, prepared pitches, cleaned kit and swept snow. The enthusiasm for the game is certainly there at all levels, but those who saw the 'big' game against the girls will realise that some coaches should be put to grass!

J.N.F.

## A WARM WELCOME

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# HOCKEY RESULTS

## 1st XI

v. Gordonstoun	Won	2-1
v. Aberdeen G.S.	Drawn	1-1
v. SSHA Under 16 XI	Drawn	1-1
v. Fettes	Won	5-1
v. Dundee H.S.	Won	4-0
v. Rannoch	Won	8-1
v. Monifieth H.S.	Won	4-2
v. Loretto	Won	3-2

## Team from:

G. S. R. Robertson (Captain), D. S. Aitken (Secretary), R. E. M. Reah, R. S. B. McCulloch, A. R. Maclellan, P. D. Rochow, A. E. Murton, M. D. Russell, R. A. Hatfield, R. A. L. McAlister, K. D. Smith, A. A. Beath, G. J. M. Clark, A. G. A. Bullard, A. J. Horney.

## Coventry Tournament

v. Mid-Holland	Lost	1-5
v. Coventry School	Drawn	2-2
v. Etten Leaur	Lost	1-3

## Party:

G. S. R. Robertson (Captain), D. S. Aitken, R. E. M. Reah, A. R. Maclellan, P. D. Rochow, A. E. Murton, M. D. Russell, R. A. Hatfield, A. A. Beath, A. J. Horney, J. A. A. Christie, H. A. T. Fitzpatrick.

## 2nd XI

v. Glenalmond	Won	2-1
v. SSHA Under 16 XI	Lost	0-2
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	3-0
v. Fettes	Lost	1-6
v. Dundee H.S.	Won	10-0
v. Rannoch	Won	1-0
v. Loretto	Won	1-0

## Team from:

R. A. Ford (Captain), G. Cowie, A. A. Beath, G. J. M. Clark, H. A. T. Fitzpatrick, J. A. A. Christie, T. A. M. Zaid, G. C. McLay, A. G. A. Bullard, A. J. Horney, D. J. Clark, N. A. McLachlan.

## 3rd XI

v. Fettes	Won	2-1
v. Loretto	Lost	1-7

## 4th XI

v. Fettes	Lost	1-9
v. Loretto	Won	2-1

## Senior Colts

### A XI

v. Gordonstoun	Drawn	3-3
v. Aberdeen G.S.	Lost	0-1
v. Dundee H.S.	Won	8-0
v. Monifieth	Won	7-0
v. Loretto	Won	4-1

## Team:

C. J. Logan (Captain), R. G. Brown, C. S. Churchill, G. J. Stocks, C. M. Main, G. M. Adam, K. J. Russell, R. J. Gray, D. C. Spinner, J. M. Clement, R. Moffat, F. D. Dalrymple.

## BXI

v. Loretto	Won	5-0
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## Junior Colts

### A XI

v. Monifieth H.S.	Won	8-0
v. Loretto	Won	3-1

## Team:

R. A. Jones, N. E. Whiteley, A. D. Lochore, G. M. Webster, D. R. Logan, J. A. Jacobsen, C. Clark, M. J. Clement, A. C. Logan, N. D. Dempsey, C. A. Simmers, A. J. Sinclair.

## B XI

v. Lathallan	Won	8-2
v. Loretto	Lost	2-3

## Riley and Under 13

v. Fettes	Won	4-0
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## Overall Record (all teams, during term)

Won 21 Drawn 3 Lost 6 Cancelled 11



## Summer Hockey

For the first time for many years, there were no members of the winter 1st XI available for regular selection for the summer team. This was unfortunate, for although those who did play showed plenty of enthusiasm and no little skill, there were occasions when the steadying influence of more experienced players would have been of considerable value.

Fixtures this year were restricted to those against other schools and the Old Strathallians. The season started with two successes by narrow margins against Lomond and Fettes, but Glenalmond beat us convincingly and deservedly. We

took the lead against Rannoch, but our lack of experience then showed and allowed them to gain victory by a rather flattering 4-1 margin - similarly against Edinburgh Academy we let slip a 3-1 lead, achieved by good constructive hockey, and eventually went down 4-3 having given away some unnecessary goals. In the meantime, we had taken on the Old Boys, whose team was completed only by courtesy of three present pupils - a close match resulted but their 'volunteer' goalkeeper took his OS membership too seriously and another narrow defeat was our lot.

Finally, I must offer my thanks to David Haddleton who took on the job of leading what was bound to be an inexperienced side and did the job with much good sense and efficiency, and to Mr Williams for his continuing support with the whistle.

The following played for the 1st XI during the term:

P. Cleland, H. Fitzpatrick, G. Forbes-Leith, D. Fulton, J. Gellatly, D. Haddleton, J. Kingan, R. McCalister, A. Murton, R. Niven, A. Robertson, C. Walker, R. Williams, M. Zaid.



# STRATHSKI

*Captain:* R.G. Robertson

This year the season started of in December with the British Schools Artificial Slope Championships at Hillend. Strath finished 9th being the second school from outside Edinburgh – a creditable performance considering that 3 out of the 4 members of the team ski on plastic once a year. The best results came from James Gilyead and Robin Batchelor who came 22nd and 27th respectively.

The next schools race was meant to be the Perthshire Schools but sadly this was cancelled much to the disappointment of many a budding skier and a few masters hoping to escape the agony of an eight lesson Wednesday.

At the Scottish Schools the girls put in an excellent performance considering their limited experience and the tough competition; they were 5th. The best individual results came from Amanda Robertson (10th) and Fiona Dunbar (14th). In the afternoon the boys also finished 5th allowing them to qualify for the following day's British Schools and affording them the satisfaction of beating Gordonstoun (just) and Glenalmond (convincingly). Individually the best performance came from Jamie Verden-Anderson whose 14th place earned him the Butchart Tankard for the best placed Strathallian. Robin Batchelor chased him home in 15th place and was followed by Rowland Robertson (18th) and James Gilyead (22nd).

The British schools, held in Glenshee for the first time this year, saw another respectable performance from the boys who skied well to take 4th place, two seconds from a medal. Jamie Verden-Anderson produced an excellent 5th individual place amply proving his worth as a member of the team.

The last team event of the season was the Minors but sadly Strath. failed to put together a team time although James Banks produced a creditable individual performance.

The squad also managed a number of individual appearances during the season. The first of these was at the ASC John Clark BMW Championships in January. Amanda Robertson managed a good sixth place in both slalom and giant slalom amongst the girls. In the boys event Jamie Verden-Anderson in 4th place was hotly pursued, 0.5 seconds behind, by Rowland Robertson (5th) with Robert Moir 8th and Robin Batchelor 10th – this in the slalom. In the Giant Slalom Robin Batchelor was our best performer at 6th with Jamie Verden-Anderson 7th and Robert Moir 18th. Rowland Roberson failed, not for the

first time, to finish.

At the Dolphin SC Log Cabin weekend Robert Moir and James Gilyead skied very well in the slalom to finish 10th and 11th respectively, whilst in the giant slalom Ronnie Naismith, our trainer/chauffeur finished 6th just ahead of Robin Batchelor (7th) with Rowland Robertson and Jamie Verden-Anderson finishing 13th and 14th.

The last individual outing before the Scottish Championships was to the Perth Ski Club Championships where the squad managed to fill 6 of the top ten places: Robin Gilyead (Capt. '85) 3rd; Rowland Robertson 4th; Jamie Verden-Anderson 5th; Robin Batchelor 7th; Gordon Stocks 8th and James Gilyead 9th.

Sadly this year the house race had to be cancelled in the face of appalling weather on the day. It is claimed that Freeland would have in any event beaten Ruthven despite the attempts of Messrs Barnes and Raine to sabotage the Freeland team by claiming that Ken Smith was required for RUGBY!!!

This year a mid week experiment was tried for the first four Thursdays of term. 350 pupils and some 19 staff took advantage of the offer. Alas the weather was against us on two occasions causing the seven buses to turn back from blocked roads. However, on the two Thursdays when we were able to ski an immense amount of enjoyment was generated by the queue-free ski-ing; by the awesome sight of Messrs Barnes, Meadows and Keir in action and by Messrs Wands and Burgess' success in destroying orderly queues. On one of the unsuccessful Thursdays a full-scale snow war broke out in Blairgowrie car park – to the amusement of the natives.

We offer our congratulations to Jamie Verden-Anderson and Robin Batchelor on their award of colours and especially to Robin Batchelor on his selection for the Scottish Team with whom he has already begun training.

We thank Ronnie Naismith, once again, for his driving and training talents and also Mr Gilks for all his efforts in the time that he has been with us. He will be sadly missed but we wish him all the very best in warmer climes.

R.G.R.

there was fresh snow.

JFC arranged for Mark (barman, 'Singer' and intrepid bomber pilot) to give us a quick two hour preview of the resort before classes and organised activity got under way. Although the area was busy – it was Easter week – any queues were fast moving and the slopes themselves were not that crowded. A further bonus for those used to Scottish ski-ing: most of the lifts took you up faster than you could ski down.

The runs were long and there were plenty of them. Apart from one afternoon when it began to snow every day was warm, if not boiling hot, and sunny. To make our happiness complete it seemed to snow most nights thus giving us a fresh covering of snow and some new powder each morning. Not for the first time on these trips some of the 'hot shot' group were tempted to doubt the sanity of their instructor/trainer/guide but since he too was a Scot nobody was unduly surprised!

Both in the hotel and in the resort there were plenty of activities laid on to prevent those who had any energy left getting bored.

Altogether we rated the school ski tour a very big success – thank you JFC and Hourmont Total Ski.

Mike Logan

## Les Trois Vallees – Les Menuires

It took quite along time to get there but when we did it was fantastic. While we had been travelling it had been snowing so once we were up in the morning

Ski-ing takes off at Strath



Robin Batchelor—  
to whom our congratulations go on his selection for the Scottish Team



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# Girls Hockey

The girls first XI hockey team has had a very good season. At the beginning four girls were put forward to the Midlands trials, being S. Rhodes, S. Mackie, N. Corbett and K. Orr. Unfortunately none got in. We then were given the shock that Mrs Walker was leaving us – who was to be our coach? Mr Walker gallantly stepped in and we were given another shock to the system due to his vigorous training! We would like to thank Mrs Walker for all her help in the past and wish her continued success in her relatively new job.

Our first string of matches ended in victory, at last our Monday training circuits were paying off! But soon all good things come to an end; yet again Morrisons got the better of us. However I must add that after confusing the time of play (not on our part), Morrisons arrived late and by the end of the game darkness took over. Unfortunately due to the fact that it was very hard to see anything, let alone the ball, the goal was scored in the last three minutes. But one can not blame mother nature, only the unpunctuality of Morrisons!

Defeat led to victory once more; we won our first tournament. The schools involved were Loretto, Fettes and George Heriot's. A special mention to N. Corbett for her impeccable goal scoring in the game against Loretto. As there was no cup, we presented ourselves with a free petrol glass on the way back! As a result of the tournament no less than six Strath girls were picked to play in a mixed team (including some girls from Fettes, Loretto and George Heriot's) versus the Edinburgh district champions, Mary Erskine. Those girls were S. Rhodes, S. Mackie, N. Corbett, V. Cornish, S. Gordon, S. Heggie. For this V. Cornish, S. Cornish, S. Gordon and S. Heggie received half-colours.

The match against Kilgraston can only be described as the 'final conflict!' and what delighted us even more was the fact we won.

The aggressive tactics of Mr Pearson and Mr Barnes heightened the drama of the match versus the masters. Notable was Mr Keir's valiant chasing but never quite making contact with the elusive ball! (in the end he scored!). Thanks to Mr Court's bias refereeing, we lost!! The girls were spared no mercy at the hands of Ruthven in the house indoor hockey.

The girls 1st XI for the first time in Strath history went on tour; to Stuttgart. We wondered if it was a bad omen when four members of the team (including the captain!) got separated from the rest in the tubes at London. However this was not so, when we arrived safely and managed to win our first two matches.

Unfortunately we just got beaten by a particularly aggressive team in the third match. We were overwhelmed by the hospitality of the Germans. They continually plied us with German cuisine, and instead of losing a few pounds, we gained a few stone! – isn't that true Kate Orr!! We experienced the communal showers and seeing Sandie Mackie is certainly an experience to remember! Say no more! I must give special thanks to Klaus Wümsch for enabling our tour to go ahead without hitch on the German part, and Mrs Carratt for the organisation and invaluable translatable abilities! Also a thank-you to Mr Walker for putting up with some members of the teams tantrums! The whole trip was a great success and has thus paved the way for future tours.

Congratulations to Suzanne Rhodes, Nikki Corbett and the baby of the team Sheelagh Gordon for receiving their full colours.

Finally well done for an excellent season. We hope next year's team will be even more successful and may the light shine on you in the Morrison's match!

S.M.R.

## Matches

v. Perth Grammar	Won	2 – 0
v. Old Girls	Won	3 – 2
v. Kilgraston	Won	3 – 0
v. Madras	Won	1 – 0
v. St. Georges	Drawn	2 – 2
v. Dundee High	Drawn	0 – 0
v. Morrisons	Lost	1 – 0

## Tournament:

v. Fettes	Won	2 – 0
v. Loretto	Won	3 – 0
v. George Heriots	Lost	0 – 1
v. Kilgraston	Won	1 – 0

A lot of matches cancelled due to the weather.

Team: Suzanne Rhodes (Capt.), Sandie Mackie (Vice-Capt.), Clare Gadie, Gail Cornish, Kate Orr, Lis Streule, Ghillie Lawson, Nikki Corbett, Claire Niven, Paula Maxwell, Viv Cornish, Sharon Heggie, Sheelagh Gordon.

## U.15 Hockey

This year's U.15 team proved to be the best U.15 team we have had so far. It was therefore unfortunate that the weather and the teachers' dispute caused the cancellation of a substantial number of fixtures. There were many talented players in the team, but special mention must be made of Sheelagh Gordon who was promoted to the 1st XI part way

through the autumn term. Her place was filled most competently by Rachel Adam who with Fiona Jardine formed a very effective partnership as centre half and left half. Fiona's sheer determination to win and constant refusal to give in often acted as an inspiration to the rest of the team. The captain, Tui Orr, led the forward line who were supported by a very capable defence. The U.15 team was undefeated throughout the season.

On the 23rd November the team participated in the Midlands Junior Outdoor Tournament which they proceeded to win on penalty strokes, more than compensating for their disappointment at the previous years tournament. This is the first trophy to be won by a girls hockey team. The results of the tournament were:

v. Morrison's Academy	Won	1 – 0
v. Monifieth	Won	1 – 0
v. St. Leonards	Drawn	0 – 0
v. Madras	Final	3 – 1

(on penalty strokes after five minutes extra time had been played.)

The remainder of the U.15 results were as follows:

## Home Fixtures:

v. Perth Grammar	Won	15 – 0
v. Kilgraston	Won	6 – 0
v. Madras	Drawn	0 – 0
v. St. George	Won	1 – 0
v. Dundee High	Won	1 – 0
v. Morrison's Academy	Won	1 – 0

## Away fixtures:

v. Kilgraston	Won	2 – 0
v. Morrison's Academy	Drawn	0 – 0

The team was selected from: T. Orr (Capt.); N. Macauley; H. Niven; K. Boyd; K. Reynolds; Jo. Smith; R. Adam; F. Jardine; A. Beath; J. Smith; A. Robertson; K. Salters.

J.E.C.

# RUGBY

For the first time Strathallan went beyond Europe for their pre-season tour. Canada was a tremendous experience socially, culturally, educationally and last but not least for the rugby. Initially we were hosted by Tswassen who proved to be excellent hosts in all respects and did extremely well to win 9–6 against a rather large and basically u21/20 side. After a brief spell in downtown Vancouver we went to Vancouver Island where our first tour problem occurred – James Bay, who were scheduled to host and play us, had backed out at the eleventh hour. However, the tour company paid for us to stay in a hotel and then we went to Brentwood College earlier than expected. It was here that the International Festival was to be held. A re-arranged game against Brentwood gave us our second game before the festival. We won 24–4. In the festival itself we beat Shawnigan Lake 26–4, but lost narrowly to Whitgift in the deciding match in our group. Losing Andy Tench with severe concussion did not help our chances. In the play-off to go through we capitulated totally to Christ Brecon 0–32 who went on to the final. After the tournament we headed across the Rockies to Calgary and from 30–40 degrees we plunged to –2/4 degrees on our second day in Calgary and our last game was played in a few inches of snow. It was only played in order to give the younger and less experienced players another game and we lost 6–7 to an again over sized and over aged side.

The season began with a 39–0 win over Perth Academy, Callum Bannerman and Joffy Christie scored two tries each and Peter Rochow, Graeme Muir and Richard McAlister one each with 4 conversions and 1 penalty from the boot of Ross McCulloch.

The old boys game was closely contested and from a 4–10 deficit we pulled back in the last 15 minutes and scored through Andy Maclellan and a superb try from an initial break by Rich Reah, with excellent handling and support play with Peter Rochow scoring on the wing. Ross added the conversion.

Sadly our 55–0 win against Rannoch with 10 tries (R. McAlister 4; G. Mclay 2; A. Maclellan and C. Bannerman 1 each; and 5 conversions by R. McCulloch) was to be a very costly affair which ruled out any combined practice for a week, and in particular ruled out our captain Richard Reah for most of the season with a cartilage problem.

Thus with a slightly different line up we met Fettes and lost 17–0 in a game for which we rarely competed. Weak tackling allowed Fettes some relatively easy scores and we were not committed enough all round. Some rearrangement

of personnel was necessary for the next match against Glenalmond and Graeme Mclay was moved from full-back to fly-half with Ross McCulloch moving to centre; Simon Clarke, the 2nd XV scrum half came in at full back. The forwards remained the same. A 14–6 victory against Glenalmond was the result with two tries from Peter Rochow on the way and on form Callum Bannerman and one conversion from Ross McCulloch. Peter's second try was a superb example of counter attacking from deep.

The same side faced a very powerful and confident Loretto XV and we produced one of our best performances of the season to win 19–3. Against a very big and powerful pack our eight played a superb rucking and driving game both offensively and defensively it was certainly Clive Jones's best performance. Four good tries (P. Rochow; A. Maclellan; J. Christie; and G. Robertson and 1 penalty from R. McCulloch) were just reward for some excellent rugby.

Unfortunately we lost Neville Drummond with a torn rib cartilage as a result did not play again till the end of the season and this disrupted our front row. Iain Kelly our experienced loose head had to switch sides much to his initial discomfort and Ken Smith the 2nd XV hooker but also a very capable prop came in at loose head.

The first game of the second half of the season against Merchiston was very disappointing: after turning round at half time 3–0 down having dominated the first half and almost scoring on a few occasions, unaccountably we capitulated and gave them the freedom of the park in the second half, thus losing 20–0. This was the result of 35 minutes of poor tackling, weak defensive covering and a lack of commitment by some. We were comprehensively beaten in a game we should have won.

Our next game against Edinburgh Academy we knew would be hard and it proved to be so. Clive Jones and Graeme Muir were replaced after the Merchiston game by Max Adam and Andy Binnie, and Alistair Robertson moved from second row to No. 8. We were under tremendous pressure especially in the first half and had to weather a severe barrage from Edinburgh Ac. but remarkably we withstood it all – a complete contrast from the previous week. Then we turned round at half time for the second week running 3–0 down. Another penalty put them 6–0 ahead. After some good running and kicking we created an overlap on the left and Peter Rochow was put away to score a good try in the corner. A penalty by Ross McCulloch gave us the lead and with true grit and determination we

managed to hold the lead.

Apart from switching A. Robertson and G. Robertson in the back row, there were no changes for Morrisons, who again were 3–0 up at half time: this was becoming something of a habit, but on this occasion it was because we had not moved into top gear. This we duly did in the second half with three tries, two from C. Bannerman and one from Graeme Robertson and two conversions from Ross McCulloch took the result beyond dispute. There were more near misses which would have widened the lead but the score remained at 16–3.

The mood within the School and especially of the 1st XV was extremely gloomy between this and our next match, due to a terrible car accident near the School involving Clive Jones and Ross McCulloch both of whom had been on tour. Unfortunately due to a variety of other circumstances we were unable to field anything like our full side against Dollar. Andrew MacLellan, our very experienced petit general was injured and the only replacement was Simon Clarke (FB). Thus we had to make another positional change with right wing J. Christie moving to full back and Max Gordon coming in on the wing. Callum Bannerman was involved in Oxbridge exams and had to be replaced – Hugh Fitzpatrick taking his place and the only counterbalancing factor was that our captain Rich Reah had made a remarkable recovery from his operation to remove the torn cartilage and was available to play again – however it was his first game in 7½ weeks.

An excellent start by Strathallan almost resulted in 2 scores: Joffy Christie on the right had his effort disallowed and Peter Rochow was hauled down inches short, and minutes later, on the left, their captain and Scottish Schools captain, Pearson, scored their first try, peeling off from a maul following a lineout near our line. Their second was made out on the left and thus it was 10–0 at half time. Considering that Dollar were unbeaten, and their very high scoring rate we did well to hold them to a pushover try in the second half. They were a good side and taking into account our changes, which included losing our main place kicker (R. McCulloch), the spirit and fire was tremendous.

We were back almost to full strength for Kelvinside. Graeme Muir, who had been playing well again in the 2nd XV, was brought into replace Ken McBride who was having a bad spell and most of those unavailable for the previous match were able to play Kelvinside who, playing mainly a 10 man game, had us turning and going back; our concentrat-



ion went and allowed them 2 easy, kickable penalties. Shortly after half-time Andy MacLellan raced through onto a fumbled ball behind the scrum and scored. Sadly we did not take the chances available and almost on the stroke of the final whistle we gave them a third penalty. Thus we lost 4 – 9 in a rather dismal performance ranking alongside Merchiston and Fettes.

Our last game on the Scottish circuit was against another unbeaten side, Glasgow Academy and with Neville Drummond back at prop, Ian Kelly who had done a superb job at tight head, was now able to move back to the more familiar side. In addition we decided to move Ken Smith into hooker, (his rightful position), because he had played so well at prop and because we wanted to unleash Callum Bannerman from the back row on the Simmers Brothers. Alistair Robertson moved to second row and Max Adam, our young second row, who had been feeling the pressure of the games was rested as sub.

It was an excellent all round performance: our back three tidied up anything that was kicked their way and returned with interest or counter attacked with purpose. Up front we were determined to take them on and ruck as hard as possible which we did. We controlled the scrummage with our new front row doing an excellent job. The new look back row also worked a treat and caused havoc in attack and defensively. No room was allowed in midfield and no prisoners were taken. Tries came from Callum Bannerman (2), G. McIay (1), and J. Christie (1) with one conversion from Richard Reah. It was an awesome performance with the whole team showing the real ability and with Richard Reah now back to match fitness inspiring the side to a great victory.

Our final game was against the much vaunted southern touring side, Wellington College. Sadly we had to make two changes from the previous game. Peter Rochow was away at an interview and was replaced by Dominik Diamond, and Richard Reah who had done remarkably well under the circumstances, had been selected for the Scottish Schools squad against Australian Schools, and it was decided not to risk him the day before his big chance. Therefore, Ross McCulloch came back in and, as it turned out, was a mistake because he had obviously not fully recovered from his injuries as a result of a car accident and had to be replaced by Allan Pearson in the second half. In addition we suffered a reaction from the great win two days before where as Wellington, having been beaten by Glenalmond, were out to prove that southern schools sides were not that bad. They had the better of the first half and some weak defensively tactical errors allowed them to score two tries. Dominik Diamond got our first try – a well taken

opportunistic try. Once again they took advantage of weak defence at centre to take the score to 16 – 4. It was at this stage with plenty of time left that we did really put them under pressure. A second try was scored by Callum Bannerman and but for a superb run by Callum being disallowed we may have pushed closer to a win. However, it was not to be and we ended the season on a weak note losing 16 – 8.

1986 was our worst 7-a-side for a few years. After holding the Merchiston trophy for three years we were unable to extend our unbeaten record, losing to Edinburgh Academy in the second round. Although we were unable to take part in the Perth Academy 7's we did attend Rosslyn Park National 7's, competing in the festival section. Sadly this did not go well; injuries to key players after second round game against Queen's, Taunton meant that we were unable to field anything like our best sides for the third and fourth games in our section, the last of which was against the beaten finalists St. Josephs, Ipswich.

Out of the remaining senior sides the 4th XV, coached by Mr Court and Mr Proctor had a very successful season winning all but one of their games. They were led by Fraser Lennox from scrum half in the early stages of the season, then Hugh Fitzpatrick briefly and latterly from the back row by Scott Kelly. A very solid pack with a mobile back row and some talented backs for a good balanced side.

At the junior end of the school the U.15 side won the bulk of their games and finished with an excellent win against the previously unbeaten Glasgow Academy XV. The coaching partnership here of Mr du Boulay and Mr Meadows had to work hard to convince what essentially was a side with a number of talented individuals that not only did they have to work hard but they had to work as a XV. However it did seem to pay dividends and the two props Craig McLay and Archie Millar who were not only stalwarts for the XV but also for the Midlands were selected for the Scottish Schools U.15 trial (sadly, because of the dispute it did not take place).

The U.15 'C' XV played after by that sage coach Gavin Vernon, in Mr Auster's absence, played exceptionally well and won all their matches. A new coaching combination of Mr Keir and Mr Cleland took over the U.14 side which had mixed fortunes. They suffered more defeats than they should have done due to an over-reliance on Cameron Cook, a lack of aggression amongst the forwards and weak tackling amongst the backs.

However the U.13 XV carried the flag once again with its second successive unbeaten season. Mr Thomson seems to have found the right formula because his side scored 250 points against 6 in only 5 matches. Timothy Lawrence as

captain and David Smart were the outstanding players with Robin Johnston, still U.12, a very promising scrum half; outside Robin, Craig Forester, like a young Ollie Campbell, chose all the right options. Unfortunately the U.12 side were not so successful but they played with tremendous spirit and, considering that most had not played rugby before, they did extremely well. Robin Johnston, their captain led by example as did their outstanding forward Malcolm Dippie.

As master-in-charge of all rugby I am indebted to all the coaches for their unstinting effort throughout the season. At a time when the teaching profession has been strongly criticised for industrial action it has been most heartening to see all those who give so freely and willingly of their time, over and above the normal teaching load. Having been involved in district rugby and seen the effect that the industrial dispute has had on schools rugby, I can only thank all coaching staff on behalf of the boys and the school for their continued devotion to 'the cause.'

Finally my thanks must go to Mrs Clayton and her ladies who ensure that the teams have kit and that even in the most difficult circumstances it is clean; Sister in the san continues to cope with the usual crop of rugby injuries and usually manages to smile: Craig Young and his dining hall staff for dealing so patiently with the very heavy demands of the rugby season.

B.R.



v. Tsawwassen, Vancouver  
*Andy Tench about to jump*



v. Shawnigan Lake School  
*Front row about to go down*

v. Tsawwassen, Vancouver  
*Andy Tench jumping for the ball*



v. Brentwood College, Vancouver Island  
*Poised at the lineout*



# RUGBY RESULTS 1985/86

## 1st XV

v. Perth Academy	Won	39-0
v. Rannoch	Won	50-0
v. Fettes	Lost	0-17
v. Glenalmond	Won	14-6
v. Loretto	Won	19-3
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-22
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	7-6
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	16-3
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	0-16
v. Kelvinside	Lost	4-9
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	18-9
v. Wellington College	Lost	8-16

## Cub Match

v. Old Strathallians	Won	15-9
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## Schools

Played 12; Won 7; Lost 5;  
Points for 175; Points against 107

## All Matches

Played 13; Won 8; Lost 5;  
Points for 190; Points against 116

## 2nd XV

v. Q.V.S. 1st XV	Lost	8-9
v. Fettes	Lost	0-32
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-18
v. Loretto	Lost	9-10
v. Merchiston	Won	7-3
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	0-17
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	18-0
v. Glasgow Academy	Lost	11-12

Played 8; Won 2; Lost 6;  
Points for 53; Points against 101

## 3rd XV

v. Perth Academy 2nd XV	Won	42-0
v. Rannoch	Lost	0-16
v. Fettes	Drawn	0-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	4-26
v. Loretto	Lost	0-16
v. Merchiston	Won	10-6
v. Edinburgh Academy	Drawn	4-4
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	28-0

Played 8; Won 3; Lost 3; Drawn 2;  
Points for 88; Points against 68

## 4th XV

v. Q.V.S. 2nd XV	Won	44-0
v. Keil U.16	Drawn	7-7
v. Fettes	Won	14-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	14-3
v. Glenalmond U.16	Lost	0-9
v. Loretto	Won	12-3
v. Merchiston	Won	14-0
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	12-10
v. Morrisons 3rd XV	Won	16-6
v. Kelvinside	Won	15-6
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	66-0

Played 12; Won 10; Lost 1; Drawn 1;  
Points for 226; Points against 48

## 5th XV

v. Rannoch 3rd XV	Lost	4-38
v. Fettes	Lost	6-10
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-20
v. Loretto	Lost	0-21
v. Merchiston	Lost	10-14
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	12-22
v. Kelvinside	Won	52-0
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	38-0

Played 8; Won 2; Lost 6;  
Points for 122; Points against 125

## 6th XV

v. Fettes	Drawn	4-4
v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-24
v. Merchiston	Won	20-4

Played 3; Won 1; Lost 1; Drawn 1;  
Points for 24; Points against 32

## 7th XV

v. Glenalmond	Won	20-12
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	39-0

Played 2; Won 2;  
Points for 59; Points against 12

## U'15 'A' XV

v. Keil	Won	24-4
v. Rannoch	Won	24-6
v. Fettes	Won	46-0
v. Glenalmond	Lost	3-14
v. Loretto	Won	4-0
v. Merchiston	Lost	3-32
v. Edinburgh Academy	Drawn	4-4
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	22-0
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	14-0

Played 9; Won 6; Lost 2; Drawn 1;  
Points for 144; Points against 60

## U'15 'B' XV

v. Perth Academy 'A'	Lost	0-28
v. Fettes	Won	24-4
v. Glenalmond	Drawn	14-14
v. Loretto	Won	16-4
v. Merchiston	Lost	9-10
v. Edinburgh Academy	Won	72-0
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	8-4

Played 7; Won 4; Lost 2; Drawn 1;  
Points for 143; Points against 54

## U'15 'C' XV

v. Glenalmond	Won	18-3
v. Merchiston	Won	9-6
v. Glasgow Academy	Won	46-0

Played 3; Won 3;  
Points for 73; Points against 9

## U'14 'A' XV

v. Rannoch	Won	24-4
v. Fettes	Won	20-12
v. Glenalmond	Lost	12-22
v. Loretto	Lost	8-13
v. Merchiston	Lost	6-66
v. Edinburgh	Lost	20-24
v. Morrisons	Won	54-4

Played 7; Won 3; Lost 4;  
Points for 144; Points against 145

## U'14 'B' XV

v. Perth Academy 'A'	Won	24-4
v. Glenalmond	Lost	4-18
v. Loretto	Drawn	4-4
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-18
v. Edinburgh Academy	Lost	16-22

Played 5; Won 1; Lost 3; Drawn 1;  
Points for 48; Points against 66

## U'14 'C' XV

v. Glenalmond	Lost	0-32
v. Merchiston	Lost	0-56

Played 2; Lost 2;  
Points for 0; Points against 88

## U'13'14 XV

v. Rannoch	Won	66-0
v. Fettes	Won	52-0
v. Merchiston	Won	56-0
v. Morrisons Academy	Won	50-0
v. Dollar Academy	Won	26-6

Played 5; Won 5;  
Points for 250; Points against 6

## U'12'14 XV

v. Craigclowan	Lost	4-8
v. Ardvreck	Lost	0-26
v. New Park	Won	18-4

Played 3; Won 1; Lost 2;  
Points for 22; Points against 38

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# ATHLETICS

As usual the team's worst enemy was the weather. Our first fixture against Edinburgh Academy was cancelled due to bad weather conditions, this was possibly a blessing in disguise.

Our second fixture against Fettes was away and on a very undesirable track with near 'gale force' winds. Not all events were able to take place, as the grass areas were very slippery. This affected all high jump competitions which were our stronger events. In the Under 17 events good performances by Russell, Hutcheson and Whitley, ensured wins in all of the throwing events. Lawrence also made a clean sweep of the 1500m and 800m, both of which were clear wins. In the open events Andy Binnie won the shot by almost 1m and Dave Stewart won the discus by a clear 2m. This winning form in the throwing events was upheld for the rest of the season. Graeme Muir and Max Gordon won the 800m and 200m respectively. Over all the match was lost by 16 points.

The next match to fall foul of the weather was that against Glenalmond.

The possibility of a home match became very faint, the track was waterlogged and only due to some quick thinking by our all round super coach D.J. Barnes, was the match able to take place at Livingston athletics track. The match was against Loretto and Merchiston.

Once again Lawrence won the 1500m convincingly but this was the only first in the Under 17 events, but good performances by K. Hutcheson, K. Russell and

A. Stewart were enough to beat Loretto overall but Merchiston won quite easily. However in the open events Dave Stewart and Andy Binnie won all throwing events between them – again! Angus Cuthbertson won both long and high jumps with two personal bests of 5.62m and 1.84m respectively. Graeme Muir again won the 800m in great style. Finally the relay was won very convincingly by the Strath team.

The final match against Rannoch was a total whitewash by the seniors who won all but one event. The most memorable performances were by Graeme Muir in the 400, Andy Binnie who won all throwing events (Dave Stewart coming second in two) and by Max Gordon who won the 100m in 11.2 sec. The high jump of 1.85m by Angus Cuthbertson.

The middle team did well to hold Rannoch to a draw with Chris Lawrence cruising the 1500m in his gold-rimmed shades not to mention the 800m.

Andrew Dow won the high jump with a personal best of 1.62m.

Although the U15 team was slung together at the 11th hour, Glen Jones managed to pull out a jump of 1.50m in the high jump, which is amazing for a 13 year old.

The final relay was won by the senior team by a clear 10 metres.

## Half colours:

C. Lawrence – Awarded 1985, A. Stewart, N. MacLachlan, G. Muir, K. Dunlop – Awarded 1985.

## Full colours:

I. Kelly, D. Stewart, A. Binnie, M. Gordon, A. Cuthbertson – Awarded 1985.

## Scottish Schools

In the relay championships no-one even qualified for the final, but the seniors were close, but failed due to some bad changes.

After some rather erratic directions from the back of the minibus, we arrived at Crownpoint for the individual championships. In the 100m Nigel MacLachlan did well, but Max Gordon started well for once and got into the final. Chris Lawrence and Craig McLay did well in the Under 17 5000m, but due to inexperience were not well placed. Dave Stewart and Andy Binnie for once were off form and were made to take a back seat. One memorable event was the refusal of even a certain Doberman to eat the packed lunch pork pies. By the end of the day the bucket was full of them.

In the 200m Bain Kelly was unlucky not to qualify for the final due to his placing in heat 1 but again Max Gordon qualified easily.

Our thanks this year go to D. J. Barnes who has set the trend for us with his 'not the Strath sports day' which was just mildly amusing. Also our thanks go to Mr Meadows, Mr Pengelley, Mr Henderson, Mr Walker and Mr Gilks.

I.C.K.

## Girls' Tennis

The season began well with some early wins, but unfortunately we were unable to keep up the momentum throughout the term. We reached the Midlands semi-final, enjoying a victory over Morrison's Academy en route. Again we took part in the triangle match v. Fettes v. Gordounstoun, hosted this year by Fettes. Although we did not come out on top, it was an enjoyable day for everyone.

Lesley Meikle and Suzanne Rhodes maintained an unbeaten record in all the fixtures and were awarded full and half colours respectively.

The Junior Team had a more successful season, winning three out of five

matches. Their enthusiasm and determination hold promise for a future senior team.

Our thanks must go to Mrs Carratt for her continual support and encouragement throughout the season.

## 1st VI Match results:

v. Loretto	Lost	1 – 2
v. Fettes	Lost	4 – 5
v. Morrison's	Won	5 – 4
v. Kilgraston	Lost	3 – 6
v. St. Leonard's	Lost	4 – 5
v. St. George's	Lost	4 – 5
v. Dollar Acacemy	Won	2 – 1

## U15 VI Match results:

v. Fettes	Won	6 – 3
v. Kilgraston	Won	5 – 4
v. St. George's	Lost	1 – 8
v. Dollar Academy	Lost	1 – 8
v. Mary Erskine	Won	7 – 2

The teams were chosen from the following:

1st VI: L. J. Meikle (Captain), S. M. Rhodes, P. K. Maxwell, N. E. H. Thaw, E. J. Cooper, K. E. W. Duncan, M. L. Calder, F. G. Liddell, N. H. De longh.  
U15 VI: J. A. Smith (Captain), K. J. Salters, A. J. Robertson, C. S. McIver, F. A. Jardine, N. J. Maxwell.

L.J.M.





The Year



in Colour











## *A Successful Paddle*

The suggestion had been made months previously and was then incredulously received. With the benefit of hindsight the concern expressed was perhaps not altogether misplaced. Be that as it may plans were laid and put into effect. The inevitable result was that on the eve of the venture we met in the Crown Hotel, Portpatrick. We did not know quite what to expect. It all depended on the weather conditions forecast for the North Channel. The canoeists, Paul Elliott and John Burgess, were obviously fully equipped and had prepared impressively detailed plans, taking full accounts of the tides and currents they could expect between there and Northern Ireland. The forecasts, however, were not favourable. On that occasion there was much excited discussion and speculation. We retired on board the *Estralita* to sleep and to review our plans in the light of the weather forecast at 3 am on Wednesday; for one plan dictated that we take advantage of a favourable tide and sail at about 4 am.

We were all awake to reconsider those plans but forecasts of winds measured at Force 5 or 6 forced us to abandon them. We slept on as peacefully as a persistent snorer would permit.

After breakfast on Wednesday morning we went to sea in the *Estralita* 'to have a look.' Short, steep seas confirmed the wisdom of our earlier decision. Accordingly we launched the inflatable dinghy, powered by an outboard engine, and spent the morning practising safety routines with the two canoes. After lunch the *Estralita* came out of Portpatrick and, with practise, a bond of confidence was quickly forged as, on a prearranged signal from Paul or John, Peter McKee and Mark Elliott took the inflatable dinghy to the canoes so that together a stable 'raft' was formed. In that way we perfected a means of passing

refreshments, of setting up a discussion or of simply giving Paul and John an opportunity to rest.

By mid-afternoon we were satisfied with our progress and returned to harbour. That evening, again in the Crown Hotel, we were in a more confident mood. The seas had abated and the immediate weather forecast, though not certain, was more promising. The long-term weather forecast was not encouraging. Paul suggested that the next favourable tide would dictate a departure soon after 4.30 am next day. As before, he made the necessary early morning telephone call. The long-term prospects of winds measured at Force 5–7 decided him. We all slept on undisturbed until breakfast time.

We woke to an ideal, sunny, calm morning. These conditions were too good to miss and the tides were not adverse. There were no sign of the predicted strong winds. We decided to go, on the understanding that if conditions deteriorated markedly we would take the canoes on board the *Estralita* and return to harbour. Paul and John paddled off the beach adjoining the harbour at 10 am on Thursday, 14 August 1986. They were escorted for the first mile or so by Peter in the inflatable dinghy. It took longer to prepare the *Estralita* for sea. When we emerged from Portpatrick Harbour there was no sign of the canoes and Peter in the inflatable was about a mile off shore, albeit on the predetermined course. It transpired that Paul and John could paddle the canoes at a good 5 knots and the inflatable dinghy could not keep up.

The *Estralita*, having 'rescued' Peter and taken the inflatable in tow, soon caught the canoes. Paul and John looked relaxed and were making good progress. The weather remained ideal. We on the *Estralita* were stripped to the waist. We reported to the Coastguard every

hour. They still predicted strong winds later. They could not be persuaded to say how much later. As it seemed, we needed only four hours to make the crossing. The morning passed uneventfully and Paul and John made very good progress. They were almost half way over by noon.

Then the tide started to flood from the north and the wind freshened, at first almost imperceptibly, from the south-east. We altered course to take advantage of the tide and enter Belfast Lough. The ever-increasing force of the wind gradually whipped up steep seas. From the *Estralita* escorting within a hundred yards we had been able to see the canoes all morning. Then there were occasions when we could only see Paul or John as their canoes disappeared into the troughs between the waves. Finally, as we approached the Irish coast there were times when we could only see a canoeist's head.

Our course took us close to the north side of Belfast Lough so that the nearest landfall was at Whitehead. At 3.30 pm Paul did two successful dramatic rolls. He came up so quickly on each occasion that one could have assumed that they were intentional, possible victory rolls. Twenty minutes later, at 3.50 pm, the canoeists were ashore in Ireland. Paul and John had beaten the North Channel and the weather, but only just. They had been in their canoes for nearly six hours.

Later that evening we did some celebrating, this time in Bangor, Co Down, where the harbour was more sheltered. Paul and John confirmed a taste for Guinness, Irish steaks and the friendly waitress with the flashing...I will leave them to report on that.

Congratulations to both of them.

J. McK.



# GIRL'S ATHLETICS

A large percentage of the first half of the 1986 season was cold and wet, but training began immediately although this often seemed to feature crawling through the mud under the supervision of Mr Meadows. However a warm end to the season saw some good performances.

The first match of the season was away against Fettes which was unfortunately lost 46 – 42. Kate Orr jumped well, setting a new high jump record of 1.47m and also gained a first in the shot putt. Other first places were gained by Kate Streule in 100m, 200m and long jump and Sheelagh Gordon in 200m.

The next match scheduled against Dollar Academy was cancelled due to

bad weather and the following match cancelled by Kilgraston. Later in the season the triangular fixture with Heriots and Fettes was also cancelled.

On the 14th June one team travelled to Grangemouth to compete in the Scottish schools relay championship, where they achieved a good time but did not reach the final. The team was – Nikki Corbett, Nicky McAuley, Jill Fraser and Sheelagh Gordon. The Scottish schools individual championship took place the following week again at Grangemouth, no-one did particularly well. Kate Orr qualified for the high jump, Kate Streule for 100m and 200m, Sheelagh Gordon for 200m and Tui Orr for high jump.

After three matches having been can-

celled earlier in the season this left only the Rannoch match which we won, and saw some good performances with two new records being set, senior 100m of 12.8 secs. by Kate Streule and junior shot putt of 8.04m by Tui Orr. Sheelagh Gordon ran well gaining first places in 100m and 200m, Viv Cornish got 1st place in the senior 800m and Kate got a 1st in the shot putt.

Half colours were awarded to Kate Orr for her good performances in high jump and shot putt.

Many thanks go to all the staff for their help throughout the season.

K.L.S.



# Football Report

For the first time ever, football was a games option, and it was nice to see the game rise above the hatred of the school hierarchy. The first XI played three games drawing one, and characteristically losing two. The house Competition provoked much interest, however, both junior and senior were won rather tediously by Ruthven – and a football cup is now inevitable.

Our first game was against the old boys and Strath, due to the incredible emphasis on rugby, were under strength. We lost 4 – 1, losing goals notably to Corsett twice and an equally hungover Drummond. Due to Judge's tremendous efforts, we pulled one back after an own goal by McClung. The 'veterans' were spearheaded by Fairweather's brawn and J. Beckman's speed and vision – (he drove

them to the game). The performance was creditable and mention must be made of Wharton, Aitken and McAlister, and Reid who was imprinted with someone's (J. Beckman's) studs.

In the return we gained a good draw after yours truly had the embarrassment of missing a penalty. Billington opened the scoring, but goals from Cash and Corsett's flat \*\*\*\*\* put us under pressure. However, \*\*\*\*\* equalised at the death after good work from R. Beckman junior, Aitken, Wharton, Judge and Pearson. To end the season we disappointingly lost 2 – 1 to Glenalmond, when Wharton was outstanding, and we missed endless chances.

The Under 16's lost 3 – 2 to Glenalmond, with excellent performances from Johnny Ball, McKenzie and Steele.

Ruthven played well as a team in the House competitions, although had R. Beckman not missed a sitter Freeland would probably have triumphed again however a late equaliser from Reah halted their challenge. Simpson tried hard, and were unlucky; however, the rest of the teams were rather disappointing.

Finally, many thanks go to Mr Gilks for arrangements and Mr Bunting, for his endless enthusiasm and commitment. Also mention must be made to our loyal home support, notably, Fi Martin, Pam Clark and Sandie Mackie, and tremendous away support from Reah, Marton and Keith. Now perhaps Strath has finally accepted football as a sport played by gentlemen.

R.B.

## OCCASIONALS CRICKET

The domestic season was dominated by the steady refusal of DARW to take his three hundredth wicket for the Occasionals. It has been estimated that, at present progress, the target should be reached shortly after Woodlands spreads to the bottom of the hill. Reliance on Occasionals fielders to take catches is not a recipe for success. Other members of staff performed to some extent or another. HCA was as elegant as ever with the bat as was JNF behind the stumps. The spin attack of Messrs Court and Forster wreaked havoc – with windows and shrubs. PLG fielded with ferocity. No one else fielded at all, the efforts of RJWP and NTHDuB being concentrated on keeping the square on the level by standing at Short Leg and Gully respectively. PK almost scored a run. From time to time guests

and boys were allowed to play in order that some wickets might be taken or runs scored.

The South Western tour took place again. It was conducted in its usual genteel and restrained manner. A hired killer was taken in the form of Bret Stevensen (the Cupar pro) and this added to the already formidable attack. A piper was taken to strike even greater fear into the hearts of the enemy (and to inflict agony on the ears of everybody). The scorer was extremely bad-tempered throughout the tour and sat on a table full of glasses. There were some remarkably good performances on the field, particularly from the younger generation. There were some awesome performances off the field, greatly helped by the hospitality of Alan and Judy and returns from the

fines sock. A special celebration marked the NTHDuB becoming the leading Occasionals run scorer. He now totals over 2,500 and some of them have been scored in front of the wicket. (The writer could be nice about the effort Nick puts into organisation etc. but it isn't in his nature).

In a slightly more serious vein, the mix was about right this year between cricket and other activities. The quality of cricket on tour was, for the most part, excellent and the fixture list is certainly strengthening. We are lucky to benefit from the hospitality and generosity of Tim Hudson (to say nothing of his eccentric captaincy theories) and from the unparalleled excellence of the Mildmay Arms. We shall return.

# CRICKET

With a great deal of inexperience in the side, it was inevitable that much would depend on the batting of Graeme Robertson and the bowling of Ken Smith. Neither of them failed to respond. Graeme was a model of consistency while Ken picked up more wickets than any other bowler for over twenty years. Richard Reah batted with much more maturity and with the odd piece of explosive violence but the batting in general lacked a dominant quality although it was greatly strengthened late in the season by the inclusion of Robert Moffat. The surprise find of the season was Chris Henderson who bowled superbly in the early part of the season when the wickets were responsive. It was not a great season for results but the quality of play was much higher than initially feared. The festival at Lancaster produced three excellent games and Graeme Robertson won the 'player of the festival' award. He also represented the Scotland Under 19 side with great success.

It was an encouraging season for the future. A number of younger players gained valuable experience and there are some very good Colts to come up next year. The fielding was rather better than early practices pointed to and the spirit of the side was excellent.

The major School results were as follows:  
Loretto 82 – 5 (Henderson 4 – 25)

*Match Drawn* (rain)

Fettes 201 – 7 dec. (Henderson 3 – 47)  
Strathallan 142 – 6 (Bullard 45,  
Robertson 39)

*Match Drawn*

Strathallan 119  
Stewart's Melville 94 – 6 (Henderson  
3 – 24)

*Match Drawn*

Strathallan 151 – 9 dec. (Robertson 46)  
Edinburgh Academy 152 – 8 (Hender-  
son 3 – 44)

*Lost by 2 wickets*

Strathallan 175 – 8 dec. (Bullard 43,  
Reah 44)  
Merchiston 129 – 8 (Smith 4 – 39)

*Match Drawn*

Strathallan 154 – 8 dec. (Smith 36,  
Robertson 46)  
Ballymena 79 – 6 (Smith 4 – 15)

*Match Drawn*

Glenalmond 281 – 5 dec.  
Strathallan 95 – 5 (Robertson 39)

*Match Drawn*

The Senior Colts performed well, winning three of their completed matches and losing only once. The individual honours were shared but particularly impressive were Moffat,

who was moved up to the First XI, and Jacobsen. Some of the bowling was excellent.

Against apparent weakness on paper, the Junior Colts played some excellent cricket. The side showed great determination after one very poor early season performance. The batting of Eason was encouraging while some less talented individuals made great contributions.

Some of the most exciting cricket was produced by the Second and Third XI's. The former lacked the ability to dominate with the bat but produced some excellent bowling and fielding performances.

It is going to be a couple of years before First XI cricket becomes really strong again but there are some very encouraging signs. I am very grateful for the help and enthusiasm of all staff involved. At all levels many hours of coaching and umpiring have been produced. I am grateful also to those responsible for the grounds and the catering. First XI lunches maintained their magnificent quality.

The new all-weather net facility was of enormous value this year. With such involvement and with talented players emerging there is every reason for confidence about the future.

## SQUASH

Squash is treated as a minor sport at the school, but there is no doubt that it is one in which most pupils find enjoyment at some time. There has been a lot of friendly squash played, both within the school as well as team matches against other schools.

There is little doubt that throughout the year the game has become more and more popular which is best illustrated by the formation of a very keen girls team.

Mr Keir's interest and involvement with the squash team has been very beneficial, with his idea of squash coaching and internal school leagues, both of which ran very smoothly and with great success. Most of the teams victories must be attributed to Mr Keir and the coach Mr D. Gordon.

Amongst many fixtures against schools in the area, both the boys and the girls teams also travelled on a weekend tour as far as Elgin and Gordonstoun, a trip which was enjoyed by all and one which will doubtless be made next year.

Results:	P	W	L
1st V Boys	9	6	3
1st V Girls	4	1	3
U 16	3	3	0

S.C.J.  
D.M.T.

## SWIMMING

This year appeared to get off to a decidedly better start, with about forty people attending the first meeting in order to discuss the plans and prospects for the 1985/86 season, and expressing their willingness to meet regularly for training. But as so often is the case during the winter-term, very little energy and motivation could be found after a day's lessons and a hard run on the playing fields.

Further complications were caused by a malfunction in the boiler which led to irregularities in the heating of the pool and made worth-while training sessions almost impossible.

The boiler trouble went on and off until the spring-term, but eventually the problem was overcome and training got seriously under way. Time however was now a critical factor and we were not able to prepare ourselves sufficiently for any matches.

The summer-term gave us the first real opportunity for a meeting versus Glenalmond. The least said about the result, the better. Suffice it to say that lack of training was rather evident. There were some splendid individual performances, notably from Ian Black, but the overall picture was one of 'gifted amateurs'.

One of the most entertaining occasions was the Inter-House Swimming. Traditionally a very hard fought contest it lived up to its reputation and provided a thrilling competition. The Simpson team produced the winner with the very last relay race of the day, beating Leburn into second place by a couple of points.

Despite our little set-backs there has been a lot of interest in swimming this year and I hope that this will be translated into a solid training commitment for the coming season.

K. McBride  
Captain of Swimming

# C.C.F. REPORT

Once again, the C.C.F. has had a very good year and I'm pleased to say that the N.C.O.'s are now beginning to give positive leadership and this is at least due to the excellent help that we are now getting from the Cadet Training Team. I hope things will be even better next year when the C.C.F. becomes voluntary for members of the Upper Sixth – leadership in the wrong direction is worse than no leadership at all! In spite of the good things that have happened during the year there are still some areas that give cause for concern. Numbers in the R.A.F. Section have been falling over the past few years and morale now seems to be at an all time low. Admittedly R.A.F. activities are somewhat limited as compared with those offered to R.N. and Army cadets but even so it was disturbing that only two cadets attended Easter camp at R.A.F. Leeming, no cadets volunteered for any of the gliding courses and Proficiency exam results were as bad as they have ever been. N.C.O.'s must share some responsibility for this state of affairs and I hope that next year there will be a determined effort to halt this decline and, if possible, reverse it before the section becomes inviable.

Field Day was held in October and this year we reverted to the old style of each section 'doing its own thing' in place of the large-scale interservice exercise. Visits to R.A.F. and R.N. establishments were organised, the Marines trained at Garelochhead and the Army exercised locally. Most people seemed to enjoy the break in what is always a long and wearing term.

The Easter term was uneventful but we do take the opportunity of inviting a few visitors to speak to the C.C.F. during the bad weather and details about this

are given in each section reports.

The summer term was taken up with preparations for General Inspection Day, Friday 23rd May. This year was an official inspection year and we were very privileged to have as our inspecting officer, Major General Julian Thompson, C.B., O.B.E., Major General Training Reserve and Special Forces, Royal Marines. General Thompson, perhaps better known as Brigadier Thompson, Brigade Commander of 3 Commando Brigade R.M. in the Falklands' campaign inspected a Guard of Honour at mid-day and then after lunch reviewed C.C.F. training. He travelled by helicopter to Rossie Ochil to see the final stages of a Royal Marines overnight exercise, to Lochore Meadows to see R.N. sailing, to Lochearnhead to see Army training. Finally he returned to the school to see R.N. and R.A.F. activities on the campus. He even managed a trip in the R.A.F. hovercraft. It was a very good day, everybody rose to the occasion and General Thompson obviously greatly enjoyed his visit to the school. General Inspection Day normally represents the end of all formal C.C.F. activities for the year but we did hold another formal parade and presentation to Captain C. Keay to mark his retirement as Commanding Officer Tay Division R.N.R. and the Golden Lions parachuted on to Big Acre at the end of Sports Day.

During the year, I have been very pleased at the number of cadets who have taken the opportunity of attending a variety of camps and courses on offer through the C.C.F. For example, Corporal Julian Keen had a marvellous time on the U.K. L.F. Leadership course at Wretham, Corporal Finlay Crocker is attending camp at Otterburn with the Honourable Art-

illery Company in September. For the first time we entered a team for the Highland Cadet Tactical Competition. They didn't do particularly well but they learnt a lot, thoroughly enjoyed taking part and I'm quite certain that next year our team will do a lot better. The Pipe Band came third in the East of Scotland Pipe Band Competition. The Drummers excelled themselves and really swept the board. In fact if drumming was weighed equally with piping we would certainly have won the competition! Next year this prestigious competition is being held at Strathallan and I'm confident that our Pipe Band will do very well.

During the summer, Lieutenant Commander Macleod will be taking cadets to Portsmouth and Dartmouth, Lieutenant Clayton is running a sailing course at H.M.S. Osprey, Portland, Lieutenant Court has the Army cadets at Cultybraggan and Captain Glimm and Pilot Officer Hawksford will be taking a small group of cadets on to some remote Scottish island for survival training. Mr J. Foreshaw (shortly to be commissioned into the Army section) will be attending the Officers' course at Sandhurst. All this leads me to conclude that the C.C.F. is in good heart and not missing out on all that is on offer. At Easter we said farewell to Pilot Officer L.H. Blance W.R.A.F.V.R.(T) and would wish her well in her new post at Epsom College. Next term we shall welcome Mr J. Foreshaw into the Army Section. Finally, I would express my very sincere thanks to all Officers, N.C.O.'s and cadets who have contributed to the overall high standard of achievement in the C.C.F. during the past year.

P.A.B.

## R.A.F. SECTION

After seven years in charge Capt. A. L. K. Dutton resigned his commission at the beginning of the academic year and left the R.A.F. Section healthy in number and in the hands of two new officers – Flying Officer A. J. H. Wands and Pilot Officer G. P. Hawksford.

The year's first event, apart from Friday flying at R.A.F. Turnhouse was Field Day visits to Leuchars and R.A.F. Lossiemouth where much was learnt and many

useful contacts made. Three boys have joined Shackleton sorties, ten will be flying in Nimrod missions in November '86, and Cpl. Zaraza is off to Lyneham in Wiltshire for a Hercules flight in October.

Camp at Easter was at R.A.F. Leeming and was enjoyed by the cadets and officers.

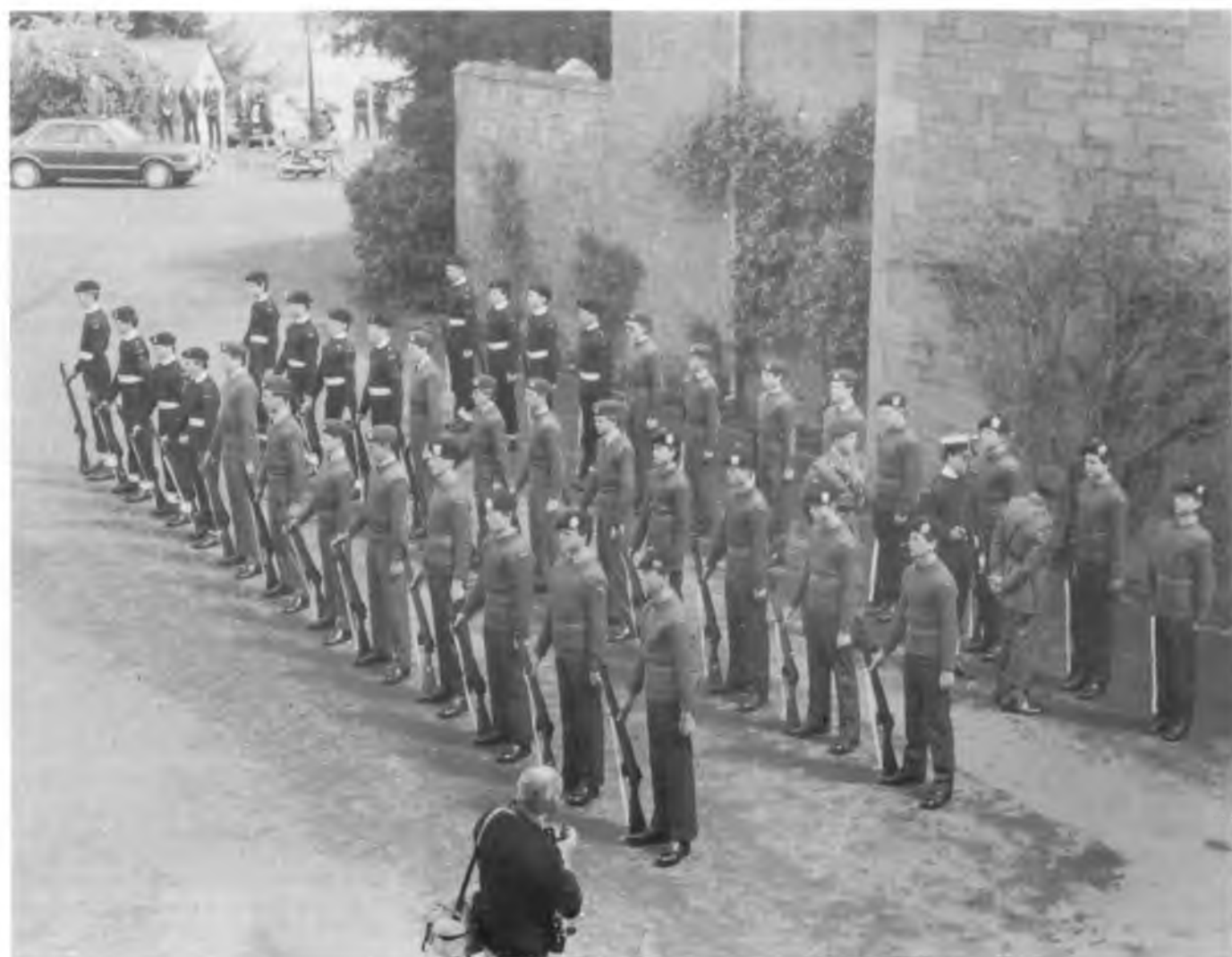
Examination results have not been outstanding this year but we have five cadets currently being considered for flying scholarships by the Aircrew Selection

Centre at Biggin Hill.

We now have a new R.A.F. building recently completed and incorporating a teaching room with video, a computer room and flight simulator office and common room and we are looking forward to moving in September.

A.J.H.W.





# R.N. SECTION

This has been a particularly busy year. At the start of term Captain Evans R.N. the Senior School's Liaison Officer gave an interesting talk on the role of the Royal Navy with reference to the Russian threat. A lively question time followed. The C.C.F. is becoming popular with most boys in the R.N. Section and this year a number of cadets attended camps and courses. During the school terms various opportunities occur for sea training and Strathallan is fortunate that the Headmaster always gives permission for cadets to take part.

Sea training this year included a weekend on H.M.S. Archer, the new fast patrol boat of H.M.S. Camperdown, Tay Division R.N.R. Lt. Cdr. Macleod and three senior boys had a most exciting sail round the coast to Aberdeen which included an exercise with the R.N.X.S. On Field Day in October Lt. Clayton and several cadets had an interesting day with the Fishery Protection Service and Sub. Lt. Goody took the new entry cadets to H.M. Naval Base, Rosyth. We are always grateful to C.A.C.T.O. Rosyth and C.P.O. Stokes for arranging what was on this occasion an interesting day which included sea training on a fleet tender.

We took part in the C.C.F. Mine-sweeping Day and in December Lt. Cdr. Macleod took six cadets on one of the six minehunters taking part in a splendid exercise.

H.M.S. Camperdown has been of real value this year. C.P.O. Harrison and C.P.O. Wightman have been regular visitors to the school. The R.N. Stores complex has been completely re-organised and L. S. Marshall, A. B. Smith and A. B. Muir worked very hard to ensure an excellent report on General Inspection Day.

All boys in the R.N. Section worked well for the event. Cox'n Truter and his initially reluctant guard proved that with C.P.O. Wightman's droll sense of hum-

our and expertise they could actually enjoy taking part.

Cox'n Johnson and Senior Cox'n Watson maintained the motor boats well even though the delay in survey meant that The Cheverton could not be involved during the summer term. A Section is as good as its officers and senior N.C.O.'s and we have been fortunate that this year's team has been outstanding. Sailing maintained its high standard under Lt. Clayton and Sub. Lt. Goody and one of the highlights of Major-General Thompson's inspection was his visit to Lochore Meadows.

The accompanying R.N. Staff Officer on G.I. Day was Lt. Stewart from Tay Division. He looked closely at all aspects of R.N. training and pronounced himself well satisfied with our 'tight-ship.'

Navigation plays an increasingly important role in the classroom part of the syllabus and during Easter twelve cadets got the opportunity to put Sub. Lt. Goody's teaching to practical use when he and Lt. Cdr. Macleod joined R.M.A.S. Cricklade on the Firth of Clyde. It is somewhat ironic that facilities for air acquaintance and flying experience are usually better in the R.N. Section than the R.A.F. Section. At the end of the Easter term Lt. Cdr. Macleod and six cadets had an excellent week with 899 Sea Harrier Squadron at R.N.A.S. Yeovilton. In May six cadets took part in the air weekend at H.M.S. Osprey, Portland and it was with great pleasure that we learned that next year's Senior Cox'n Alasdair Robertson was runner-up in the Fleet Air Arm Trophy.

During the summer a full programme of camps and courses with cadets taking part in the R.N. acquaint course on board H.M.S. Kent, Portsmouth, range-firing at H.M.S. Cochrane, air acquaint at R.N. A.S. Yeovilton, submarine acquaint at H.M.S. Dolphin, Gosport, and canoeing at R.M. Lympstone.

Lt. Clayton is running the sailing course at Portland and Lt. Cdr. Macleod is once again River Officer at B.R.N.C. Dartmouth.

Once again we have welcomed distinguished visitors to the Section and in March Brian Callison, the well-known author gave an excellent talk about his other interest, the Royal Navy Auxiliary Service of which he is Head of Unit at Dundee. Happily Mr Hewson had a stock of several of Brian's novels which he autographed for many delighted boys (and officers).

At the end of the summer term we officially said goodbye to Captain Colin Keay, Tay Division R.N.R. Captain Keay was presented with a painting of the Bass Rock, Firth of Forth for which every cadet contributed a small sum. He inspected a combined navy and marine guard and the pipe band. Captain Keay has been a good friend to the R.N. Section over many years during which his son was at Strathallan and a P.O. in the Section.

Once again we thank W.O. Curle for his forbearance and encouragement. In May Lt. Cdr. Bayliss took over as Staff Officer at H.M.S. Camperdown and we look forward to his help with training.

In conclusion a good year and with my new appointment I look forward to maintaining our high standard.

## Promotions:

### *Chief Coxswain*

A. M. Robertson

### *Divisional Coxswains*

M. B. Raitt, P. G. C. Cleland

### *Petty Officers*

A. B. D. Barr, H. A. T. Fitzpatrick,  
A. S. Fawcus, A. Lenman, M. Russell.

T.J.M.

# ARMY SECTION

One of the last official duties of the departing C.O., Major Pearson, was to organise the annual Camp at Warcop. And what a splendid job he made of it: the cadets came back with high recommendations and a trophy for the 'Best Contingent.'

Having to live up to such high standards is never easy, but looking back over the year, I feel quite sure that we are continuing along the right lines.

The routine training was carried out efficiently and, especially in the case of the recruits, with an extraordinary amount of enthusiasm. Even so, Lt. Court had his work cut out: the chronic shortage of officers in the Army Section made it necessary for him to be in three places at once; by accomplishing little organisational miracles every Friday afternoon he managed to keep the Section running smoothly.

Training in general developed a slight bias towards out-door pursuits and away from some of the traditional drills. The cadets responded very positively to this and seemed to enjoy the more arduous tasks. In this context the recruits gave an indication of their potential during a week-end exercise which taxed their skills of navigation, camp-craft and first aid.

Field Day in October was a highly complex exercise of escape and evasion, ambush and pursuit which took place in the hills just on our door-step. It is always a great surprise to find that one can get thoroughly lost in an area which one thinks one knows like the back of one's hand. But whatever the shortcomings of the navigational skills, whatever the occasional logistic problems and

whatever the vagaries of the weather, in the end it is commitment of the individual that counts, and on that score we can look back to Field Day as a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

This year saw a high degree of co-operation between the Army Section and the R.M. Detachment and some of the traditional rivalry seems to have been replaced by a healthy respect for each other. A joint team was put up to take part in the Highland Cadet Tactical Competition at Barry Buddon.

As newcomers to the competition we did not rate our chances particularly highly and we were pleasantly surprised to find ourselves in 14th position at the end of two days of continuous tests which ranged from Fire Control Orders over Map Reading to Patrolling and Shooting – to name but a few. All in all, a very useful competition which we shall enjoy entering a team for again next year.

This Summer Term a lot of time was taken up by preparations for the General Inspection: twelve Army cadets formed part of the Guard of Honour for Maj. Gen. J. Thompson. Their turn-out and drill performance was impressive and gave the General a good idea of the effort that the members of the Section have been putting into the training throughout the year.

The remainder of the Section took the opportunity of going to Lochearnhead for the day and when the General visited them in the afternoon he was entertained with stories about canoeing and abseiling. Neither the high winds nor the occasional heavy shower had in any way dampened the spirits and the general feeling was that G.I. Day can actually be fun. Special

fun was had by those members of the section who had joined the R.M. exercises as terrorists. If their stories of booby-traps and superior tactical thinking are to be believed it must come as a surprise to hear that some of the Marines actually survived the assault on the terrorists' hide-out.

During the second half of the Summer Term we tried to restructure the Section by altering the platoon system. The initial response to this has been very positive and we hope that in the near future all Army cadets will benefit from the new arrangements which are designed to lead to the development of fairly independent, self-contained units.

At the end of a very busy year, it is a great pleasure to say thank you to a large number of people for all that they have done for the Section: to the members of 23 CTT who helped with the weekly training routine and became involved in our activities well beyond the call of duty; to Mr Colley who has again given up a lot of what little spare time he has in order to assist us; to Mr Barker and the other C.C.F. officers for their help and co-operation; to Lt. Court who had to run the show single-handed on many occasions; to all uncomplaining wives who let their husbands go away on week-end jollies while they were left holding the baby; and finally, but not least, to all the cadets, the ones who are leaving and those staying on, for their continued efforts which made this such a successful year.

K.G.



# RM DETACHMENT

Looking back over the 1985/1986 training calendar I find references to camp-craft, battle craft, weapons training, navigation and orienteering which bring back vivid memories of yet another action-packed year.

They remind me of our outing to Garelochhead in early October, where the official brief was to assist with training for the Wren-Recruits from H.M.S. Scotia and to introduce them to the pleasure of the wilds, with particular reference to setting up a bivouac camp a) on a hillside, b) in the middle of the night and c) in pouring rain. The weather continued to be pretty ghastly, but that was more or less the norm in 1985, and did not affect the successful run over the orienteering course or the load-carrying race. It was, in fact, just good practice and preparation for our Field Day/week-end which was held in the same area a few weeks later. On this occasion we included a little yomp on the Ardgarten peninsula and halfway up the Cobbler, a fine abseiling afternoon under the watchful eye of Sgt. Rigsby and a day's shooting on the Garelochhead ranges.

As we moved into winter the weather conditions improved and we managed to embark on some of the lunatic activities that provide entertainment and light relief. I am thinking of pond-crossing which involve ice-breaking skills and bivouac exercises in sub-zero temperatures – all good, clean fun and designed to make you appreciate School showers and dormitories.

In January training started in earnest for a few members of the detachment who, together with some Army cadets, had been selected to represent the school

in the Highland Cadet Tactical Competition at Barry Buddon. It was our first attempt in this competition and we did not really know what to expect or what was expected of us. Thanks to the efforts of the N.C.O.'s from 23 CTT however, we managed to produce a squad which, in spite of last minute changes, stood up very well the more experienced opposition and reached a creditable 14th place out of 19 competing teams.

During the Summer Term of 1986 our attention was concentrated on the General Inspection by Maj. Gen. J. H. A. Thompson, C.B.O.B.E. Being inspected by a General of the Corps meant that we were going to try particularly hard to give the man something to write home about.

Consequently we staged a little over-night exercise with a difference: a hostage (a Wren volunteer from H.M.S. Scotia) was taken by a group of terrorists (ably led by Lt. John/Bob Coard R.M.R. and viciously assisted by Pills and Co.). The 'baddies' went to ground in a derelict farm while the 'goodies' made a high speed dash across country in order to rescue the poor damsel. Somehow we managed to restrain ourselves and hold back with the assault on the farm until the General arrived in his helicopter to see for himself how we would put blank ammo thunderflashes to good use in order to achieve our objective.

Later in the day we returned to School and changed into our borrowed Blues and Belts, just to show that we too can look smart if we really try. At the moment we are waiting for the inspection report, only then will we know if and how our efforts were appreciated. So

look out for next year's Strathallian for more information.

We rounded off the year with a visit to Balmanno Castle, a splendid example of 16th Century architecture with a tower that would bring a happy glint into the eyes of any abseil-freak. A wonderful afternoon was had by all freaks.

Talking of which, abseiling seems to be one of those activities which you either hate or love. I am sure this will be borne out by those members of the detachment who were able to accept the invitation from H.M.S. Scotia to join them for another training week-end, this time at Cameron Barracks in Inverness.

On this particular occasion they got a chance to abseil from a helicopter – which must rank highly among the many exciting experiences of the year.

Let me conclude this survey of the year by expressing my thanks to all who helped to make 1985/86 a successful and enjoyable year. Our thanks go to the members of the Cadet Training Team, the helpers from the R.M.R. units in Glasgow and Dundee, our men in London, Lt. Burnell and W.O.2 Bell and to the officers and cadets in the other sections of the C.C.F. at Strathallan, without whose co-operation many things would have been, maybe not impossible, but certainly more difficult to run.

And finally I should like to say thank you very much to the members of the detachment who are leaving. Your contribution has been greatly appreciated; what you have done and the enthusiasm with which you have done it has made working with you a real pleasure.

K.G.



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# Fladda 1985 — A Survivor's Diary

**Monday.** Arrived on Fladda in pouring rain about 5 p.m. High wind, roughish crossing. Discovered the walls of a derelict building, cleared out brambles and other debris. Managed to get a roof across, fortunately there appears to be plenty driftwood. Rain continued all evening, finished the shelter and got a fire going. Things are looking up. It's a bit of a squeeze inside with thirteen people and all the bags stacked in one corner, but somehow we all manage to find enough space to almost stretch out. Early night for all. The light fades about 9 o'clock, and there really is nothing else to do but get a good night's sleep.

**Tuesday.** Early start; lots of things need to be done. A fishing party gets underway with an ingenious scheme for floating a line across the bay. But no luck, a seal turned up at the wrong time and frightened the fish away. Found some brambles and a cormorant. A quick walk around the southern end of the island resulted in more food. A young seal provides enough grub for everybody. It would be nice if one could preserve the skin, but I doubt if our tools and expertise will suffice. Roasting the meat is more difficult than you would think — everybody wants it well done to forget the taste of what they are eating.

The mood is good, people are a bit tired, but that's to be expected. The fishermen are off again and the rain is on. The fishing does not produce anything apart from another brilliant method of floating the bait way out into the Sound. By rights we should be up to our necks in fish, but ...

**Wednesday.** Crisis Day? Good start; fine weather tempted most people into the sea for a wash. Another fishing expedition is mounted, rods have been fashioned by the resident engineer. Again by rights the fish shouldn't have a chance.

Most of the day is spent wood-hunting, berry-collecting and fishing. Found a big chunk of netting in the other bay, will try to make some use of it. Found and repaired an ancient lobster pot, baited it with pieces of seal meat. Caught one big crab and one tiny one. Food for tomorrow. Today we are eating some mussels and winkles, everybody is bearing up well, except for our Cornflake-Freak. Showers in the evening turning into heavy rain which seriously tested our shelter. Went into plastic bags during the night to stay dry.

**Thursday.** The fishermen are out early to check the lines, but no joy. Dragged the big net across the bay in the hope of catching some fish at last. Moving the thing must have used up more energy than we could possibly hope to recover by any fish caught. Didn't catch any —

so there.

The lobster pot continues to attract crabs, but the wrong kind, so it's back to berries, winkles and cormorant. Jason is very proud of his hunting skills; he and the mad axe-woman are a formidable team; a few more people now know how to gut seabirds. I am getting like everybody else, my thoughts (and writings) seem to revolve around food.

Guy is becoming quite obsessed with the need to catch fish, and a bit depressed at the lack of success.

After the meal of the day all flopped down and chatted, everybody feeling quite well fed (two ounces of grub seems like magic if you're not spoilt) and cheerful. Someone suggests the founding of a Strathallan Survivors' Club, with club-tie and annual dinner. The possible menu provides food (here I go again) for a lot of ribald suggestions.

Out again in the afternoon, heavy hail-shower caught us all unawares checked the lobster pots, no luck, let's try a different location.

**Friday.** Light rain during the night, nothing drastic. Have spread a part of the fishing net over the roof to prevent it from taking off in the high wind. Great success.

Got up early to check the big net, seals were making a hellish din, probably ate all the fish. There certainly was nothing in the net for us.

The end of our stay is now in sight, spirits are quite high; the daily work continues, food, wood, water, berries — it's a 24 hour job to stay alive.

Chopping a lot of wood, it's a good way of looking busy without being over-energetic. The main fishing line broke this morning, since then we have been reduced to single line angling. No major engineering feats to report from the fishing front. Checked the net again — in vain — at lunch time (funny how one keeps using these terms). I don't think we will be eating any fish on Fladda. Caught a seagull, though, which is just being grilled. I think I'll give it a miss, I had half a dozen winkles earlier, so I'm really quite well fed.

The weather is still holding but the forecast for tomorrow is not too great — strong wind and rain.

**Saturday.** Last full day on Fladda — woke up early to Guy making tea in the kitchen corner. Highly organised here, you know. Checked our lobster pots; one no-catch, then we lost the second one, our pride and joy, in the rough sea. Haven't tried the big net yet, that can wait till the afternoon. It is over in the other bay where the seals are being very active, so there is not too much hope any way.

We are settling down to a quiet day indoors, books are the order of the day. The rain is coming down solidly now — we have just been out to check the net and pots and got precisely nothing but wet.

We have rustled up a sort of meal, twelve berries and two spoonfuls of crab-meat per head, delicious and, under the circumstances, quite satisfactory.

All bedded down by eight o'clock, the rain has eased, let's hope for a dry night.

**Sunday.** D-Day! All up at the crack of dawn. It takes a while to get sorted out and packed up. Even had a complete wash and change in honour of the occasion.

We have dismantled the roof which has been home for a week and are now sitting huddled under ponchos in the customary slight drizzle. There is a huge fire burning in the cooking corner, all the spare wood plus any bits and pieces that we have collected over the last few days and that have outlived their usefulness are going up in a final blaze.

Someone has heard the boat! There it is, chugging into the bay! You have never seen people shift so smartly to get down to the landing place.

Gordon has brought a loaf of bread and a piece of cheese. The first proper food since a week ago, and what a delight it is, too.



K.G.

# 'No, Not Holiday - -' or Torridon re-visited

It wasn't last year and it wasn't this year. But second time around it was different. For one thing, the hills were not only there, but could be seen to be so.

Yes, Torridon was fine – and hot for the first couple of days. In fact, all week there was almost not a drop – of rain. It was different in other ways too, not least in the personnel. 'They' were increased by the presence of Mr Burgess, who joined Messrs Elliot, Smith and Pedgrift plus Mrs Pedgrift. The ratio was thus an improvement upon last year allowing a greater flexibility in the activities. In contrast, the 'subjects' were fewer in number. Eventually a mere 16 mustered, from a preliminary count of 24. The missing members had either left School or had found 'pressing engagements elsewhere' that were deemed more appropriate. If the truth be told, perhaps some of the 16 would have opted out as well. This poses the

question: 'What's up with Torridon?' – other than the hills, that is.

The week is devised for the mundane purpose of protecting 'A' level examinees from the contrived diversions of the post-Highers examinees! From a more positive viewpoint, a group of senior pupils that is free to do so can savour the rigours of healthy outdoor pursuits. That's the spiel. Now for the reality.

Torridon offers its waters, mountains and its glens, and the Youth Hostel Association provides the base. The Torridon Y.H. was purpose-built in 1975 and is very well appointed for its object, which includes self-catering. This element gives additional educational value to the whole exercise. Namely, we all have to cook.

In the event, operations around the hostel worked smoothly. Granted that the School supplied more of the food for the main meals – and we were not

all so pleased about that – but there was a clear improvement over last year in the industry of preparation and clearing up of the aftermath of meal-times. Indeed, some of the group produced quite edible meals, an essential prelude and follow-up to work on the hills and water.

A German philosopher once said that it was generally best to view a church from the outside, a public house from the inside and a mountain from the foot. On the far side of the Upper Loch, the Beinn Damph Bar appreciated our trade. The shuttle system operated in the mini-buses for the days' work was simply extended to take care of the evenings pleasures. Thus, whilst the initial, perhaps contentious, piece of philosophical advice was ignored, the second was taken to the full. If you read on, you will see how we failed miserably on the third.

Apart from the arrival evening's exercise, the first four days were spent alternately walking and paddling in two groups of eight. The Activities Programme: –

## Hill Walkers

### Arrival Day

A quick 'sprint' up Beinn Damph – and a dip in a river pool, so warm was it.

### Monday

Group A: A 'drop' at Coulags and a long walk to climb a lone Munro peak (3,000 ft.), Maol Chean-Dearg. Quite a sweat and it included all-fours scramble up rock ledges for over 400 ft. We too had a dip in a welcome river pool in the early evening after the descent.

### Tuesday

B: A short but very stiff climb of almost 3,000 ft. up the south face of Liathach – a ridge with three Munro peaks. Once up there, the ridge climb had its problems. The slopes from the arête are pretty fierce, and vertigo troubled some. But they 'did' the climb – and survived! Plenty of snow in the north slope gullies.

### Wednesday

A: A walk and climb of 1,800 ft. into the fine corrie Loch Coire Mhic Fhearchair beneath the Beinn Eighe ridge. Three intrepids plus the arch climber himself (D.S.) nipped up to the heights of the Beinn. Meeting rain and hill fog they equally quickly nipped down again via the well known white quartzite screes. The rest, with N.F.P. had a gentle stroll down the glen between Liathach and Alligin.

### Thursday

B: Likewise a split. Three went with the arch-c. himself and 'did' Beinn Alligin. This is a fine horse-shoe shaped ridge-top with Grugaich and other spikes reaching Munro proportions. Meanwhile, the 'strollers' were dropped at Diabeg, clambered over an area of 'knock and lochan' landscape before meandering back to base following the northern coastline to Upper Loch Torridon.

### Friday

Home – well, Strath. at any rate. But not before the day was spent abseiling cliffs that Mr Smith 'just happened to know about, and that they were still pegged out ready for us.' Most of us enjoyed this one – and, strangely, vertigo did not seem to trouble anyone.

## Canoeists

An equally quick paddle across the head of the Upper Loch – and someone took a dip or two too!

Group B: With a strong easterly blowing. the paddlers went west – from the head of the Upper Loch to Shildaig – a delightful village nestling on the narrow raised beach to the south just beyond the Upper Loch. A good paddle, but the waves in the 'narrows' of the mouth made it tough going.

A: Similar to Group B. – only half way down the loch the wind veered westerly! Waves were even bigger, and one of the party 'retired hurt' (sea-sick!). Shildaig was out of the question, so the group redirected to Diabeg on the north coast.

B: Back to the paddles for this lot. They ventured further afield, up to Gairloch to the north of Inverewe. Here the southerly breeze was bringing good surfing waves into the loch – big enough to skim the canoes inshore. Many turtles were turned doing this, but it was thoroughly good fun.

A: Were dropped at Shildaig. Dragging themselves (screaming) from the hostelry, they bay-hopped along the south coast of the outer loch, and thereby into the Applecross peninsula. The two groups spotted each other on the opposite shores, and waved (touching wasn't it!).



The top of Maol Chean-Dearg  
Dave Smith with Karl Johnson, Justin Bell, George Forbes-Leith, Jas. McVittie

Beneath the crags of Maol Chean-Dearg



Over half-way up the Liathach Ridge from the south—  
Maol Chean-Dearg left of centre back

Beating the hill-fog down the Liathach Ridge



Thus it was all survived, and I believe very few would 'wish we hadn't gone.' The following are some thoughts on it all:

— The banks of broom en route were beautiful — such bright yellow.

— 'Those crags are steep - - - we're not going up there.' We did.

— The waves 'were so high, in the troughs we couldn't see anyone else' - - - And there was more than one case of sea-sickness.

— 'It wouldn't be so bad if it wasn't for the midges.'

— Yes, they are the one obvious form of life. Otherwise, there are a few small frogs in the boggy areas, and beetles on the hills. And we saw some deer. These were surprisingly low down for the time of year — due to the prolonged winter delaying spring growth on the hills.

— But there were no snakes this year!

— 'It's so much more comfortable to have you driving sir' (guess who) - - - (and why the comment!).

Twice, and after a hard day's work, the two 'young' members of staff (no,

not NFP but PJE and JB) set off from Torridon to paddle to Shildaig 'for a pint.' The first time they arrived to find that, it being a Sunday, visitors could not be served, only the residents. On the second occasion, those wretched waves in the 'narrows' delayed the arrival time — and the pub was closed. Too bad! The paddle was enjoyable though — or so they said.

And now for next year - - - a hat-trick of Torridons?

N.F.P.

# Geography in Arran



'Is this it?' 'what no street lights!' 'is the local disco run on peat?'

These and similar exclamations greeted the good people of Lochranza as twelve sophististraths disembarked from Arran Transports once-a-week bus for a whole week of geography at the Lochranza field studies centre.

Introductions to tutors, feeding arrangements and tuck shop were all squeezed in before the 'occasional wet day' referred to in the centres literature paid us the first of five visits. Rain and sleet notwithstanding, our tutor Turbo Boots Mary a girl of remarkable speed up a mountain, had us on the hill by ten the next day loaded down with 'PH' meters, quadrats, anemometers, tape measures,

buckets of salt, conductivity meters, chains, a map and a compass for a six hour twelve mile working day. So strenuous was the schedule that on most nights the whole party were not only in bed but asleep before the official curfew time.

Much was learnt – how to draw field sketches inside a plastic bag in horizontal rain whilst mentally juggling the joint problems of contact unetamorphism, meta quartzite, hanging valleys, survival and when is lunch? The centre justifiably prided itself on its catering, but this did not stop late night cockle foraging on the beach to tide us over the televised coverage of the World Cup.

River evaluation, hydrographic surveys, coastal deposition, settlement ancient

and modern, soil, paleontology and glaciation were all thoroughly investigated. Minor distractions included sightings of eagles, deer, submarines and Mary at close quarters and much entertainment was in flat stone skiffing competitions and the sight of several pairs of jeans soaked up to the knees in mud and other deposits not of fluvial or glacial origin.

Several of our number left a day early for a visit to London's theatres going from the ridiculous to the sublime in less than 24 hours and no doubt suffering from culture shock.

No one ever found the peat powered disco but the second bus of the summer was sighted and boarded after a week of taxing but enjoyable hypothermia.



# GOLF

## *Captain:*

S. J. Liddell

## *Secretary:*

A. B. Lenman

## *Match Results:*

v. Merchiston      Won 4½ – 1½  
v. Glenalmond      Won 5 – 3  
v. Craigie Hill Juniors Lost 4½ – 3½  
v. Blairgowrie Juniors Halved 3 – 3

## *Team:*

S. J. Liddell, A. B. Lenman, B. J. Guy, T. H. Ford, S. C. F. Judge, M. D. Russell, I. A. Steel, K. J. McBride, J. Kean, H. Clyde, R. A. L. McAlister.

## *Winners of House Competition:*

Ruthven

## *Stroke-Play Champion:*

B. J. Guy.

Once again our best golfers found it impossible to produce their best form for the autumn part of the season and we failed to make much impression in either the Strokes Cup (4th) or the Golf Foundation Qualifying Round at Ladybank. Unfortunately, because of the continuing work-to-rule by the teachers in the day schools, the Perth and Kinross Schools League was suspended in the summer and our fixtures list was restricted to two school matches and two club ones. This was a great pity because the team was stronger than for many a long year and should have done very well in the League. However, as a result of the suspension of the League we played two new fixtures, against Craigie Hill and Blairgowrie G.C. Juniors, and both proved to be very enjoyable and close contests. It is hoped that these matches will become permanent features of our fixture list.

This year's team was strengthened by the influx of several good golfers. Bruce Guy, William's brother, returned

after a 'year-off' and played very well indeed, winning all his matches and also winning the Stroke-play cup at the end of term in great style with an excellent 72. Steve Judge and Tom Ford, new into the UVI and LVI respectively also proved themselves to be very useful players, and these three together with the 'old firm' of Steve Liddell and Alistair Lenman gave the team an impressive look. Alastair's unbeaten run nearly extended to two seasons but he finally succumbed on the green in the Glenalmond match. This was the day that our 'mighty atom' Ian Steel, Mitch's brother, won his first match—he swings the club well and will undoubtedly win many more in the future.

Next year's prospects look good and one hopes that the League will be operating once again so as to boost the fixture list. A match against the Old Boys is planned in the autumn, the day after the Old Boys Dinner!

S.J.L.

# SAILING

As usual the season began with great enthusiasm and the laborious process of transportation to Lochore Meadows. To cap it all we arrived to find a semi-completed dinghy park, which now that it is completed is turning out to be quite a pleasant area.

We got down to actually sailing in time for the first of the L.M.S.C. Spring Series. The arrival of Andrew Rodger and Nicholas Colbeck provided some stiff opposition for the 'old-timers' of the club. A pleasant force 2-3 and clear skies started the racing on a happy note.

Unfortunately the next few weeks provided both novice and experienced crews with some rather stormy and testing afternoons though once the sufficient alterations to the boat storage system had been finished at least the boats survived without too many scars to show for their punishment. During this period Messrs Goody and Clayton alone will have guaranteed ANADIN against any possibility of going into liquidation.

Andrew Rodger and I also took the chance to test out the Laser II's at Cumbernauld, with a crew from Dollar Academy, in the Scottish Team Championships but high winds prevented any racing on the second day and an abandonment was the result.

We were loaned three Laser II's for a few weeks before Half Term by courtesy of Old Strathallian Mr J. Peters. They provided some high speed entertainment for those both on and off the water.

The match against Merchiston resulted in a maximum points win for Strathallan but unfortunately the contest against Glenalmond had to be cancelled by our opponents as a result of damage caused to their fleet by gale force winds.

Fortunately the winds finally dropped to within safety levels and the beginners could progress with less dire effects upon Mr Clayton's hair and fingernails.

The Loch Earn S.C. Brown Trophy schools race saw the entry of three Strath boats—Neil Watson and I finished third with Nick Colbeck and Karl Johnson fourth and Andrew Rodger and Richard Ford fifth.

The match against Dollar Academy was a success, Strath scoring 1, 3, 4 in the first race and 1, 4, 6 in the second when for the third time this season I fell out of the boat—this time 10 yards from the finish. The Loretto match was a bit of a disappointment with, just for a change, a flat and soggy calm. The boats managed to crawl round the first race, Andrew, I and Justin Bell finishing in the first three places respectively. The second race was abandoned due to a unanimous lack of interest.

For the L.M.S.C. Regatta, the weather was at one of its peaks—the clear sunny skies provided our first taste of sunburn. After two great races I emerged first followed by John Harris. Shortly after this, the last of the Spring Series races was sailed to give the overall positions of myself first and Nick Colbeck second.

Though the beginners did not appear in the running for prizes the experience did much for their proficiency on the water and the mere fact that they were able to compete at all so soon after beginning their sailing careers was a tribute to their enthusiasm. I hope they continue to progress as well as they have been.

The last of the unfriendly races was the battle of the houses. For the first time Riley entered two crews who acquitted themselves very well. The wind had increased for the first time since the earlier 'hurricane' and unfortunately proved too much for some of the crews. In both races the finishing order was Nicol, Leburn, Freeland.

To finish the season, alas but on a happy note, the Round the Islands Race was a great success. In a fresh breeze Justin Bell despite two capsize took Thomas Crapper round two circuits of the islands into first place, second place going to John Harris thanks to Richard Ford's ballet nautique at the last mark which proved handsomely entertaining to those on shore. The barbeque was much enjoyed—our thanks to Mrs Clayton for the food. Our thanks also to Messrs Goody, Clayton and Hawkford for all their hard work.

G. J. M. Clark (Capt.)



# Hooked

It may have been the fact that the dreaded weed re-appeared in the School Pond, or, on the other hand, it may have been the fact that non-cricket-playing pupils were at last given respectability, or even, that during the non-skiing season the School Chaplain needed some form of Saturday afternoon relaxation: whatever the reason, at the beginning of the Summer Term a notice suddenly appeared suggesting that those who wished could sign up for fishing trips. Quite a few did, lured by the possibility of a Saturday afternoon on Loch Tay, Loch Leven or the River Dochart. Colin Walker's initial list of likely places was superseded by either 'The Rev's' personal preferences, or the unavailability of suitable waters.

The first expedition was to the local Rainbow trout fishery, Sandyknowes. The most unorthodox fishing methods were employed by local fishermen and seemed to consist of casting an 'Ace of Spades' far out, putting the rod down to the bank, wandering off to have a half-hour chat with somebody else, finally going back to the rod and very slowly 'twitching' the fly back. Using a more acceptable method, Simon Peters caught the first fish of the afternoon and Roger Jamieson amused us all by not only catching a fish with one of the Chaplain's rods, but also hoisting it up into the air and attempting to knock its brains out with the rod handle. Nine fishers went on the first outing.

The second trip was to Loch Leven in what appeared to be a Force 9 gale. So strong was the wind that it blew Kenneth McKenzie's confidence away altogether, since not only had he never fished from a boat before, but he'd never been IN one! We motored through the white horses to the 'lee' shore and attempted to fish there. The 'Rev's' boat was more fortunate in that he made good use of his drogue, while we skated across the water. We do feel that Messrs Goody and Clayton ought to teach their sailors how to moor boats, for the major excitement of the afternoon was watching everybody dashing after Bruce McIntyre's boat which, he assured us, WAS securely tied to a tree but which was speedily drifting across the loch. Kevin Meikle to the rescue in the second boat.

The next trip was to Loch Tay where we were fortunate enough to have the expertise of two ghillies as boatmen. Sadly, what we didn't know until we arrived was that the traditional method of salmon fishing was 'trolling.' At idling speed the boats cruise along the shoreline with what appeared to be the mechanics of oil rigs in the form of four

trolling reaching out from the stern. Both ghillies were despondent about the weather which seemed far, far too cold for the time of the year. The three or four who risked their wrath by attempting to fly fish did so only to keep warm!

After Loch Tay we moved to our only Saturday river, the River Dochart at the top end of Loch Tay. Here, again, we had the benefit of three ghillies, or rather, two ghillies and the Head keeper. We were spread out over roughly 10 miles of the river and it is rumoured, though yet to be verified, that the only two who connected with fish were the Chaplain and David Young (Riley) who were, coincidentally, fishing together!

After that we had expeditions on what were possibly the two hottest Saturday afternoons of the Summer Term – consecutive at that! The first was a return trip to Loch Leven where, taking the Chaplain's advice, we motored down to the eastern end of the loch, leaving the flotilla of other boats far behind. This time the problem was the sun, which almost proved too hot for the fishermen. Though again, the Chaplain's boat did see what he said was 'the largest brown trout he'd ever seen, rolling like a salmon!'

The penultimate trip was a birthday treat for Kevin Meikle who, every three or four minutes reminded us that it was: 'Ma burrthday.' Birthday or not, at the little loch towards Kinloch Rannoch, Kevin had three fish, everyone else one each – *except* Messrs Kirkland and Longmuir!

The last trip was an end-of-term/post-examination/evening trip – *not* to Loch Leven as indicated until 15 minutes before we departed, but to Heathery Ford near Kinross. Apparently if a boat is required for an evening expedition to Leven in July, it has to be booked the October before! However, this delightful new fishery kept everyone trying everything until, eventually, one anonymous red-haired gentleman in the 3rd form hooked a fish. Screams for a net, preferred advice from 9 others, 'Leave him alone, he's doing fine!' from a non-Strath fisherman and ten minutes later the fish was gone. Nevertheless, three fish were taken and many others cast over, until it was time to take the Free-land fishermen to the service station for ice-cream, Philip Walker to find his gym shoes and back to bed.

The fishermen: Douglas Irvine, Sandy Carrick-Buchanan, Colin Walker, Kenneth McKenzie, Alan Kirkland, Bruce McIntyre, 'Burrthday' boy Meikle, Simon Peters, John Elphinstone, Roger Jamieson, Gavin Robb, Alan Dickinson, Kristian Robertson, Mark Johnston,

George Forbes-Leith, Graham Austick and Clive Pattinson would like to thank 'The Rev' – Mr Longmuir, for arranging the fishing permits for the River Earn, for transporting us, mostly in his car, to the various venues, for his inexhaustible supply of flies, rods, reels and casts, but above all else, for his store of stories about fish he had caught. Perhaps, one day, we might actually see him in action.

## 'Piscator'

(Since I actually typed out this article, translating the appalling English and deciphering the illegible handwriting, I do feel confident enough to offer a reward of an afternoon's fishing with me for the first person to identify the scandal-monger who wrote this and an afternoon's free fishing on Rockall for the author himself! Seriously, it was a pleasure spending so many afternoons with the above-named, but why were there no lady fishermen this season? Come on, Woodlands! The gentlemen challenge you to a match! – T.G.L.)

## Y.F.C. Report

Despite a general decline in the percentage of pupils with agricultural backgrounds at Strathallan there has still been strong interest in the club from a small minority.

The clubs activities for the year started with the general meeting where new office bearers were elected; the rest of the year's activities included guest speakers, visits, videos and the annual quiz.

The guest speakers' talks ranged from the college research system to the hazards of auctioneering, with an excellent talk by Mr Leggate of MacDonald and Fraser Auction Company from Perth.

The Royal Highland Show visit was enjoyed by those who could spare the time, but they were unfortunate to pick the wettest day.

Nicol won the 'Stump the Yokel' quiz for the second year running with fierce competition from a surprisingly knowledgeable Woodlands team.

Finally the club would like to thank all those who made the year's activities possible.

J.I.K.

## Merry Christmas

by

Nicola de Longh

The revellers gathered in the snow-filled streets at six o'clock in the evening on Christmas Day. The small, typically English village, tucked away in some rustic corner of Kent, was celebrating; the whole village was alight with candles and fairy-lights; the shiny decorations on the huge tree in the village square reflected the friendly excitement and joy that filled the atmosphere. Every member of this small, close-knit community knew everyone else, and they shared their joy. The snow lay thick on the ground and was now hard, compact and very slippery. Children had made slides and there was much laughter, and one or two tears, from those who slipped and fell. The snowman they had built in the school playground smiled benignly at them, watching their fun through black eyes of coal.

David, a little boy of six years, took his turn on the slide, and on reaching the other end ran to his watching family.

'Did you see that? I didn't fall!' His small, angelic face was flushed with pride and triumph. 'Why don't you try it? It's really fun! Come on, Kay!'

He pulled at his sister's hand insistently. She smiled at his eagerness to share his delight with his family.

'No,' she answered, 'otherwise I'll be the one who is falling over!'

'Come and see Angus, our snowman, then,' he demanded, and tugged at the teenager's hand. She followed him towards it, listening happily to his six-year old chatter:

'...and me and Mark built the body, and it was Angela's idea to put the red and white pom-pom hat on him. We borrowed James' dad's pipe and the postman said it was really good...'

After she had expressed due admiration, they wandered on, occasionally joining a snowball fight or stopping to talk to friends. Kay left him with his friends at the slide once more, and returned to the people of her own age, laughing, teasing them and ducking from a few well-aimed snowballs. Cries of 'Merry Christmas!' came regularly and the merriment increased as the level of mulled wine went down. The occasional car drove slowly through the village square and was bombarded with shouts of 'Merry Christmas!' and covered with streamers.

David was now involved in a snowball fight between the boys and girls of his own age. Kay and her friends smiled at the childish laughter as they played their mock-battle. Kay scooped up a handful

of snow to throw at her brother but held it in her hand while she watched him run out of the line of fire of a girl with a particularly accurate aim. She then watched, as if she was in a cinema, the car come swerving in from a side street and saw the driver's facial muscles contorting as he struggled desperately to regain control of the vehicle, but it was futile. The boy slide straight under the front wheel, and was thrown aside, like a used match, by the impact of machine against flesh.

There followed an eternal silence, broken suddenly by a peal of laughter from a hastily quietened baby. Then the scream of agony came simultaneously from both mother and daughter as they ran desperately towards the car, then the strangled sob of the father. They reached the boy, whose body was unmarked; he was lying on the cold snow. His large brown eyes were open and glazed over with bewilderment more than pain. He gave a small whimper, like a wounded animal, and his head lolled onto the cold, hard, unyielding ground. The only feature which tainted the cherubic face was the small river of blood flowing from his lips, bright scarlet, landing on the white, white snow.



### Frost on the Window Pane

And in the morning I saw a broken  
mirror of light,  
A writhing picture portrayed by a master:  
Winter.

The myriad of sparks were captured and  
paralysed  
But the longer I looked the mightier  
Spring became,  
Breaking the locks that held life's most  
precious substance, in aquamarines  
on the pane.

A searing flash and the sun came down  
from heaven  
And winter was pierced by warmth and  
kindness,  
Reducing it to a shimmering pool on the  
window shelf.

P. Laing, Form 2

# WRITING

She left for home the same day, amid subdued murmurs of subdued sympathy from the rest of the house. Her best friend, for some reason, was nowhere to be found but reappeared after she had gone.

The subject was the talk of the school for days after.

'What shall we do when she comes back? Do we mention it or not?'

Those who had connections with her adopted an 'I'm in charge of the situation' attitude and proffered various reasons why they should or should not mention her late mother to her. Groups of about twenty girls all gathered in one room and each tried to prove to the rest how sympathetic and understanding she was. After the initial shock, most girls were secretly, very secretly delighted that this had happened. It was news, hot gossip, something to talk about with their respective friends.

She came back a week later, quietly and submissively, into a House Meeting. Time stood still as she shuffled slowly towards her friend and sat down. The silence was awful, embarrassing. No one knew how to react or what to say. Everyone was hit by a sudden subconscious wave of loneliness and silence took over the whole house for a split second.

Then talking resumed, but a nervous forced sort of chatter. People tried to act as naturally as possible but there was something else there, a kind of curious fear of her which repelled them from

her and made them huddle together in tight groups, talking intensely, while she hugged her knees on the floor. One or two were plucking up the courage to go and speak to her, when she got up and walked silently over.

The talking stopped. Some girls stared up at the cobwebs with unnatural interest, a few smiled warily at her, 'Hi,' she said. Her voice was listless. 'Did you win the Athletics match?'

She was trying desperately to be in with the crowd, really making an effort to be easy to talk to, but the girls who spoke to her felt more and more as if they were speaking to half a person. She wasn't all there. It was as if her personality had been wrenched away, making an irreparable hole on her life. The death had left her in a lethargic stupor, feeling that nothing would be right again.

It was this that made the girls very gently reject her. It started with this general feeling of unease with her. People started talking and she didn't really stand a chance. If she was seen crying, then she was 'trying to attract sympathy.' Similarly if she was seen laughing or enjoying herself, then she was 'hard and unfeeling.' As most girls felt ill at ease and embarrassed with her, they took advantage of this ill-feeling towards her to outcast her from all their doings. She grew lonelier as this strange hostility grew more open, and more and more girls presented her with their spines.

## Alone

So she had no one to speak to, and her burdens weighed her down like a millstone round her neck. Yet she had done no wrong.

She was sitting outside. From far away the sound of a cricket bat hitting a ball carried through the humid air. It was one of those hot, nostalgic days when memories seem to pulse through the air like waves. She was crying. A boy and a girl walked past, talking quietly and eating iced lollies, while a fat bee hummed lazily among the flowers. The sky was blue, like a cornflower. She heard strains of her song, very quietly from somewhere, floating past just out of reach, like wisps of a long forgotten memory.

'Alone on a platform

The wind and the rain

On a sad and lonely face'

Far away someone was laughing.

The bell rang as if life was just fine, shattering her thoughts. A tornado of people crashed out of their rooms and ran outside yelling to be heard above everyone else's yelling.

Then the house was silent again and she sat at her window, alone.

Couples walked past slowly, talking. People ran to tennis, shouting. All except her.

A fat bee hummed lazily past the window.

Louisa MacKenzie

My life that's, what my cafe was. It wasn't only the income that made it so, it was the sparkling floors with their linoleum tops supporting matching chairs and tables which stood like exhibits in a glass case, free of dusts or any speck of dirt which came from the folk that used the place. From the outside it looked just as handsome. Two large panes of glass were there, and across them in bold lettering were the words 'ENRICOS CAFE' and in smaller print was 'WE ACCEPT BARCLAY CARDS OR VISA' I never liked that last bit but everybody nowadays uses that plastic stuff. The pride of my life was the counter. It glistened in the sun sending rays of light shooting back onto my face as I worked. On it were stacked cups and saucers which were sixty or seventy years old but after tender loving care still looked new. The till was at one end of the counter and the ring as it shot open was music to my ears. But the music was seldom heard for people didn't come here all that often, only Bill and Winnie and Trevor who used to come here every day

## Enrico's No More

and sit and chat and order coffee while I added a few comments here or there. Ah yes, those were the days when hordes of people came to buy a cup of tea or have a snack. Now, things have moved on, people don't want anything except booze and a hamburger, and the more unhygienic the place the better.

Some people around here think I'm mad, maybe I am but so what. If there are people who enjoy virtually killing a man then I think that man has a right to be a lunatic. What's the point in living when your real life is dead.

It happened on 2nd July Nineteen-Eighty-Four. I had opened up at nine o'clock and had served an empty table for three hours, and then the door opened. Three youths walked in, they were all tall and burly and at a glance they had an aura of hatred about them. I showed them to a seat, but as I moved one of them shoved me with surprising force. I fell across the counter. To my disbelief one of them drew a knife and faced me twisting the silver blade of death. I drew back into a corner trying to blend into

the deep red of the wall. I cowered there, terror stricken as the other two started to smash up my life. What a way to go, I had thought I suppose we'd have gone both together, but it was not to be so. I was spared but not so much could be said for her, she was dead. Her windows were cracked as if someone had just stepped on some very thin ice. Her chairs were unidentifiable and the counter had been pulverised, raised to the ground and was as good as useless.

I ask you, how can humans do such a thing? How can they make such a picture of beauty into that of ugliness? The police never caught them, of course they never do, because they don't care about an old wop who's half mad. Anyway, I think it's about time to go now, and serve my customers, because today I've got some very important people wanting a cup of tea. 'Yes, Mrs Thatcher, of course your Majesty.' 'So that's two cups of tea and a bun for you.'

Keith Dinsmore

# Philosophy Society

The new year began as the old ended – once-weekly meetings in the Old Library, which attempted to get the world to rights (or at least part of it!). Proposals such as Johnathan Swift's 'Eating babies is right!' were discussed.

Then rumours ran rife that the JMB was offering an A-level in Philosophy. The school decided, perhaps somewhat rashly, that it would enter candidates for the exam, and so preparations began.

Candidates dropped out during the year, either because they were unable to bear another of A. J. Ayers exhortations on video (But tell me, who is this God fellow? and the like), or because of the pressure of work.

As the exam drew close, many an evening was spent tearing through Aristotle, Plato, Nietzsche, Marx and Rousseau's philosophies. If we shall remember any of these texts, it will probably be Plato's 'Republic' for the 'Splendid,' said Glaucon. This phrase was used with remarkable regularity as time progressed.

Lessons were crammed in as and when we could find the time, and Mr and Mrs Thomson were always prepared to let us invade their living room 2 or 3 times per week (although their dog was somewhat less tolerant!)

At last the exam arrived and the two surviving candidates sat two papers

which were, if anything, easier than the 'specimen' paper set by JMB. Hopefully the school will allow others to continue taking this course whether or not the candidates are successful, for as Epicurus said, 'Let no one when young delay to study philosophy nor when he is old grow weary of his study, for no one can come too early or too late to secure the health of his soul.'

J.W.W.

*(Editor's (and part-time philosophy tutor's) note: the candidate scored a 'B' and a 'C' at 'A' level; a remarkable achievement bearing in mind the time available and their mainstream 'A' level commitments).*

## *In a muddle with your units?*

In A.D. 120 Ptolemy proved that the World was round and also showed that each 1° of longitude was 57 miles at the equator. Undoubtedly a talented man, his maps showed such places as Iceland and Sri Lanka. When the Great Library at Alexandria was sacked his Geography was out on loan. It turned up 1300 years later in Constantinople and by 1490 about 500 copies had been made. One of them was acquired by a retired Genoese pirate by the name of Christopher Columbus.

In the late 15th century in Europe before freezers, soap and synthetic textiles, the food tasted awful and the people smelt foul, vile and their coarse clothes itched. Spices, silks and scents from the orient were much in demand but the wagons carrying the food were preyed on by brigands who took their cut. An improved attempt at the orient by sea looked like a financial winner, and the recent invention of the caravel made it look possible. All it needed was someone nutty enough to try. Columbus was the fall guy. He made a gross miscalculation of the distance, and in 1492 set out to sail two thirds of the way round the globe. One of his errors was the units of distance he used. Being Genoese he assumed that Ptolemy's miles were the same as Roman statute miles but they were actually Arabic miles of 2000 metres. He was lucky that an undiscovered continent lay across his route.

Decimalisation of our currency happened overnight in February 1971 and

in spite of a few grumbles from the granies it was soon accepted and now we think nothing of paying 4/6 for a pint of milk. But the process of metrication seems doomed to drag on for decades. We buy eggs in dozens and beer in pints. Petrol prices are quoted in gallons but the pumps dispense in litres. Tins of beans and packets of cornflakes have dual markings, in grammes and ounces. Even the weather comes in different varieties – 16°C or 61°F. We are in a state of limbo between two systems, except that schools have totally embraced the SI system for science.

When they leave school however, citizens must learn how high mountains are in feet and how far it is to London in miles. The armed forces are in a right muddle too. The weight of the Jet Provost for example, is quoted in lbs, so is its thrust. Hydraulic pressure in the Jaguar is in bars but its fuel is in litres. British Aerospace's Hawk's fuel is in kilograms and the Bulldog's in gallons. The Royal Navy deal in 'endurance' for their fuel and the Merchant Navy in cubic metres. The U.K. buys oil by the metric tonne but it is sold by the barrel – 45 gallons or 204.5 litres paid for in dollars....with me so far? There was a recent flurry of concern when radioactive sheep turned up in Cumbria exhibiting above acceptable levels of Becquerels. This relates to a Curie via the formula  $3.7 \times 10^{18}$  but it doesn't tell us whether we or the sheep glow in the dark. Even the Meteorological Office

now quotes the atmospheric pressure in hectopascals. 1 Pascal = 1 Newton/Metre<sup>2</sup>. If you feel different you now know why.

In the U.S.A. atmospheric pressure is in inches of mercury, and degrees Fahrenheit are used for surface temperatures and dew point. In Greenland statute miles are used to measure visibility. In the UK windspeed is in knots, kms/hr or metres/sec which we then mentally convert to m.p.h.

Ordinance Survey maps in the U.K. give elevation in metres but only where a convenient metric and imperial elevation coincide. The British Army uses the mil as an angular measurement and this is what appears on their compasses. 360° = 6400 mils as far as the Army is concerned. A mil though is actually a miliradian and so there are about 6283 mils in 360°. So now we have degrees, real mils and military mils. Which one do the Russians use?

The whole thing is rather a nuisance unless the units of measurement are clearly understood. Time is required for re-education and there must be a quick and accurate method of conversion when necessary. Either we must step back to the 'old' units or forward to the SI system. First we must realise we are in a muddle with our units and Murphy lies in wait. Perhaps there is an undiscovered continent waiting to save us from a disastrous miscalculation.

A.J.H.W.

# Perth School Flooded by 50,000 Tons of Rain

This smacks of the Gutter Press, (well you can't say we didn't need them on that day!), but more of that later (and that's just what we did have). After 18 years of recording it is becoming clear that 'climate' seldom happens. It is only weather that does so, and in the last two years there has been plenty of this. Remember 'climate' is basically the average of day-to-day

weather. Averages are normally calculated on a calendar month basis, and as we all know, certain months 'come in like a lamb and go out like a lamb' (and vice versa), or they start of 'wet and 'orrible' and end 'cold and worse.' Thus actual weather seldom coincides with monthly climate. Temperatures and rainfall are invariably 'above' or 'below' the average, seldom truly 'average.' The

first person who pipes up with: 'but why don't you work out the average on a half-monthly basis?' can do just that (30 days of max temps and min temps per month, as well as rainfall, for 24 half-months per year, for 18½ years). That's a lot of calculations – and should quell your piping!  
Now for the statistics:

Temperatures	Winter			Spring			Summer			Autumn		
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Average °C	3.0	2.8	3.1	4.4	6.9	9.9	13.2	14.6	14.1	11.8	8.0	5.0
1983-84	5.0	0.8	3.4	4.7	8.0	10.3	14.2	16.3	16.4	12.1	9.5	6.9
1984-85	4.6	0.5	2.6	4.2	7.9	10.7	12.0	14.4	13.5	11.9	10.1	2.4
1985-86	4.5	2.1	0.5	4.9	5.5	10.4	13.5					
Rainfall												
	Average mm											
Average mm	81.3	63.5	58.4	63.5	45.7	55.9	48.3	73.7	86.4	55.9	73.7	73.7
1983-84	111.9	174.4	45.9	113.8	6.9	36.0	49.2	38.7	20.5	99.2	100.5	215.2
1984-85	61.8	57.1	11.2	67.8	51.3	42.4	56.7	143.8	125.9	174.6	26.8	59.9
1985-86	114.4	102.0	33.2	52.1	27.1	106.1	70.9					

Spring of '84 was pretty good, wasn't it? – and the Summer was super – Autumn was a flood – look at November – our wettest. Winter '84/85 was a bit sharp – but dry, for all the good that was. Another good Spring in '85 – but the Summer! Did anyone like it? Autumn – or October – was mild. They tend to be these days – but November was a bit much, worse than a normal January. Winter '85/86 was a bit brass-monkey-ish – February – was nasty (but skiers enjoyed the consequences). As for Spring '86 – the coldest April on our record BUT is was quite dry. May was a misery do I hear? Very wet,

yes, but not cold(!). I put the surprisingly high temperature down to cloud – cool days but mild nights. The winds didn't help either! And now for that deluge. That's what it was. It happened on Friday 26th July last year, and was measured on the Saturday morning (9.00 a.m.). The reading was 81.6mm (3¼ inches), by far our wettest single day, and higher than the early reported figures on the radio. I desperately tried to get us mentioned on the box that night, but after frantic calls to the Glasgow and London weather centres: 'engaged' or 'not answering' at various times throughout

that Saturday, I had to give up my quest. Anyhow, it transpired that Edinburgh pipped us by 0.6mm!  
That 50,000 tons headline?  
Well, 1 inch (25mm) of rain is about 100 tons of water per acre. We had 3¼ inches, i.e. 325 tons per acre. The school grounds are ± 150 acres (you work it out!).... Well, it's nearly 50,000 tons... near enough for the Gutter Press. Which is where we came in....  
Cheers  
N.F.P.





# 'STRATH-AID'

Inspired by the various diverse activities of Bob Geldof, 'Strath-Aid' was formed in the vein of 'Live-Aid/School-Aid' in the Spring of 1986 – the aim being to attempt our lot (and a big lot too) towards famine relief in Africa, and in the most interesting way possible. A committee of eight proceeded to while away the night, discussing (arguing?) the proposals put forward in the luxury of the 'Cock 'n' Bull' (*the Vltth form Coffee Lounge*).

Hunger lunches were the first major venture and took place for three consecutive Saturdays in March with approximately three-quarters of the School voluntarily signing up to participate. Within twenty-four hours the notice stretched from the top of the notice-board to the floor.

The name 'Hunger Lunches' is rather misleading, for nobody, in fact, starved. In effect, it didn't mean giving up lunch; it simply meant a more modest meal at a more modest price, the profit from each lunch going to the fund. The Hunger Lunch menu consisted of bread, cheese, half a pint of milk, an apple, butter and jam, as opposed to liver and tatties for the rest of the School.

During the Summer Term 'Strath-Aid' became a charity and opened an account with the Bank of Scotland. Donations were received in profusion and three subsequent ventures took place. One Sunday in May a book sale was held with 300 books generously given – ranging from political history to light romance.

The very first question posed when the idea of swimming the Channel for 'Strath-Aid' was broached was: 'Isn't the cost of the rail tickets going to be too much?' But tackling the English Channel itself isn't practical – it's much easier in the Strathallan School Swimming Pool.

After initial delays, problems and frequent postponing, the sponsored swim from Dover to Calais finally got underway on Tuesday, 1st July with a team of 28 – incessantly amended on the day with people turning up and pressing to be allowed to swim. There were no serious mishaps – just effervescence which re-

ulted in certain people receiving unexpected chlorinated baths with their clothes on. It was enjoyed by all – swimmers, spectators and workers.

The 'Strath-Aid/Live-Aid 1986 Grand Raffle' was the largest money-spinner. Through correspondence with over 100 companies, we received an Aladdin's Cave of prizes, ranging from telephones to coffee-makers, and from whisky (in abundance) to fluffy white teddy bears.

Tickets were sold at all opportunities – Speech Day, Old Pupils' Day, Sports Day and in Perth shops. The most successful approach was by posting one book to every parent along with the joyful tidings of an increase in fees.

Publicity was never far from our minds and through negotiation on paper and over the telephone, two radio interviews and the articles for the 'Perthshire Advertiser' and the 'Dundee Courier' were arranged. Here, thanks must be expressed to Jane McKenzie-Smith, Dominik Diamond and Richard Williams who bravely faced interrogation over the air.

The project has gone well. There is talk of a fund-raising 'Disco.' As we know, 'Band-Aid/Live-Aid' is winding up in November 1986, the intention being to inspire small local cells of people who will continue the work.

Many people have helped to make 'Strath-Aid' possible, but thanks must be expressed to the Committee, the Headmaster, Mr Craig Young (Catering Manager), the 'Rev' – Mr Longmuir, the Bursar's Secretary – Miss Marilyn Ross, Lara Clayton and Mr Williams.

At the time of writing, July 1986, the total raised through 'Strath-Aid' events is over £1,600, so, with a bit of luck we will reach £2,000 by the end. We hope that we've managed to achieve something worthwhile and that the money raised will not only save, but also improve the lives of some of those starving in Africa.

## *The Swimmers:*

Colin Pillinger, Bruce Tether, Tim Reid, Roderic Tether, Jimmy Gellatly, Tom Ford, Ian Black, Gareth Thorburn, Elspeth Dickinson, Hannah Walker,

Elizabeth Struele, Tara Hegney, Sharon Heggie, Bruce Kelly, Neal Dods, Duncan Roddoch, Jennifer David, Scott Kelly, Mark Butler, Jeremy Mactaggart, Kenneth McBride, Clive Pattinson, Alan Kirkland, Justin Bell, Alan Dickinson, Duncan Spinner, David Nicol.

## *The Committee:*

Richard Williams, Dominik Diamond, Steven Judge, Carolyn Devlin, Hannah Walker, Jennifer David, Jane McKenzie-Smith, Elizabeth Struele.

J.D.

## 'Feed the World'

In the Autumn Term of 1985 I received a Video-tape through the post from 'Band-Aid.' It told of the plight of children, women and the aged in Africa and sowed the seeds of helping them to 'Know It's Christmas' by collecting cereals, sugar and other appropriate foodstuffs, filling sacks with them, and taking them to the nearest 'Red-Star' British Rail depot. Every Divinity lesson throughout the School was given over to a 'showing' of the Video. The scenes of natural devastation and human suffering left a lasting impression on all who saw it, and they spread the word to the Vth and Upper Vltth who asked for their own showing. On three consecutive nights the Riley Lecture Theatre was filled to overflowing for two 'viewings' every Active's. Within days every house raised sufficient money to enable the School to fill 24 sacks in time for shipping to Africa for Christmas. Later we received a follow-up Video with the moving scenes of the convoys of Geldof's caravanseri speeding across desert tracks, helicopters flying into mountain villages, all of them loaded with sacks labelled: 'With Love From 'Band-Aid'.'

It is due to the inspiring vision of 'Sir' Bob Geldof that 'Strath-Aid/Live-Aid' got underway. It always takes one person to cajole, nag, worry and, ultimately, to achieve – that Jennifer David has done!

T.G.L.

# STAKIS

## THE INTELLIGENT CHOICE

Conveniently located for Strathallan School, these two Stakis Hotels offer a truly scholarly choice for meals or accommodation during open days or half term visits.

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# Waite

## Freeland

UVI

Beckman, R. A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 6th XV (Capt.); 1st VII tour to Rosslyn Park; 4th XI Cricket; 1st XI Football (Capt.); Debating; Social Services. *Flat K, 82 Portland Place, London W1N 3DIY*.

Clarke, S. G. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Riley XV (Capt.); Minor Colts A's (Capt.); Junior Colts A's (Capt.); 4th XV; 1st XV; Hockey Riley A's; Tennis VI; Scholarship; Riley Prize; 3rd Form Prize; O-Level Prize; Chemistry and Physics Prize; Social Services; RAF Private; (M'bikes). *Ballindarg, Forfar, Angus DD8 1QA*.

Ford, R. A. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 5th XV (Capt.); 2nd V Indoor Hockey; 2nd XI Hockey (Capt.); Mathematics Prize; Orchestra; Young Socialists; Dance Band; RN Rank P.O. *Nicol House, Strathallan School, Forgandenny, Perth PH2 9EG*.

## Leburn

UVI

Bell, J. R. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Junior Shooting (Capt.); Sailing; (M'bikes). *270 Grange Road, Guildford, Surrey, England GU2 6QZ*.

Dinsmore, D. W. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Athletics; Choir; Drama; Navy PO. *39 Thorn Road, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 4BS*.

Forbes-Leith, G. I. D. Came 1981<sup>1</sup>; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; Hockey 2nd XI; 3rd XI; Summer Hockey; Shooting; Fishing; Ski-ing; Navy LS; (M'bikes). *Dunachton Lodge, By Kingussie, Inverness-shire*.

Keith, K. D. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; Rugby Minor Colts B; Minor Colts C; Junior Colts B; 5th XV; 3rd XV, 2nd XV; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Tennis; 1st XI Football; RAF Rank CDT. *Turlundie, Sandyhill Road, Banff AB4 1BE*.

## Nicol

UVI

Aitken, D. S. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; House Prefect; 2nd XV; Hockey 1st XI; Summer Hockey; Cricket; Senior Colts A XI; Cross Country; Squash; Debating; Army Corporal. *8 Deal Road, Medway Park, Singapore 0513, Republic of Singapore*.

Colbeck, N. C. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; House Prefect; 2nd XV; Cross Country; Sailing. *Lochanhead Gardens, Lochanhead, Dumfries DG2 8JB*.

Cuthbertson, A. C. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Athletics (Full Colours); Shooting; 4th XV; RAF; Debating; Philosophy; YFC. *Hareshaw Lodge, Waterside, Fenwick KA3 6JJ*.

Elliot, A. M. M. Came 1980<sup>2</sup>; I; House Prefect; 2nd XV; Cricket 2nd XI; Football; Army Cadet. *Moulin Rateau, 89260 St. Martin sur Dreuse, Yonne, France*.

Gellatly, J. N. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Young Socialists; Hockey 2nd XI; 1st XI; Choir; YFC; Drama; Social Services; RN Rank AB. *Mains of Fowlis, Invergowrie, Dundee DD2 5LQ*.

Judge, S. C. F. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; House Prefect; School Prefect; 2nd XV; Cross Country; Squash; Golf; Strath-Aid Committee; (M'bikes). *Jameston Farm, Maidens, Girvan KA26 9NF*.

Logan, A. G. Came 1982<sup>1</sup>; III; School Prefect; Head of Freeland; Tennis VI; Squash; Swimming Team; 4th XI Cricket; 2nd XV Rugby; 3rd XV; Debating; YFC; Dance Band; Badminton; Social Services; Army; (M'bikes). *Dairsie Mains, Cupar, Fife KY15 4RL*.

Meikle, A. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Capt. of House Athletics; Rugby 2nd XV; Hockey 4th XI; Art Prize; Marines Senior Cadet. *3c McBeth Drive, New Farm Loch, Kilmarnock KA3 7HN*.

Liddell, S. H. Came 1984<sup>1</sup>; V; House Prefect; Golf; (Capt.); U15's XV; RAF Corporal; *28 Southbeach, Troon, Ayrshire*.

McAlister, R. A. L. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; VII's Rugby; Golf (Capt.); Squash; 1st Indoor Hockey; Basketball (Capt.); Tennis VI (Capt.); Football XI; 3rd Form Prize; 4th Form Prize; RAF Corporal. *11a Durham Road, Duddington, Edinburgh*.

McBride, K. J. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Swimming (Capt.); 1st XV Rugby; Athletics; RAF Corporal. *c/o Mrs Young, 54 Kirkdale Drive, Glasgow G52 1ET*.

Hsu, P. C. Y. Came 1982<sup>1</sup>; III; Cross Country; Social Services; Choir; 2nd Orchestra; Scripture Union. *20 Macdonnell Road, 3rd Floor, St. Lousion Mansion, Mid-level, Hong Kong*.

Johnson, K. S. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Riley XV; Minor Colts; Junior Colts B; 4th XV B; 5th XV; 3rd XV; Sailing; Choir; YFC; Navy Coxswain. *Clashope Cottage, New Shoreston, Seamounts, Northumberland NE68 7SX*.

Kingan, J. I. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 3rd XV; Curling; Hockey; Biology Prize; YFC; Choir; Orchestra; Debating; Photography; Army Sgt.; *Blairshinnoch, Kirkgunzeon, Dumfries DG2 8JJ*.

Murton, A. E. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; 2nd XV; Hockey 1st XI (Half Colours); RAF Flying Scholarship; RAF Corporal. *6 Chestnut Grove, Coytton, Ayrshire*.

Robertson, R. G. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; Ski-team (Capt.); 4th B's XV; Minor Colts B XV; Junior Colts B XV; 6th XV; Drama; Navy PO. *Pitgarnie Farm, Laurencekirk, Kincardineshire AB3 1RB*.

Vernon, G. A. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; 3rd Hockey XI; 5th Rugby XV; Editor of 'Alternative'; Choir; RAF Corporal. *Gable Cottage, 33 Upper Park Road, Kingston, London*.

Walker, C. W. D. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; i/c Printing; i/c Fishing; Rugby 3rd XV; 5th XV; 4th B XV; Junior Colts B; Minor Colts B; Cricket 3rd XI; 4th XI; Hockey 2nd XI; 1st XI; Choir; Orchestra; Jazz Band; Dance Band; Brass Ensemble; Young Socialists; (M'bikes). *32 Inverleith Terrace, Edinburgh EH3 5NU*.

III

Mackay, J. R. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; III; Rugby U14 C XV.

Pratt, J. M. Came 1980<sup>2</sup>; II; House Prefect; School Prefect; Swimming; 3rd XV Rugby; French Prize; History Prize; German Prize; Choir; RAF; Social Services. *Daldrishaig, Aberfoyle, Stirlingshire FK8 3TQ*.

Reid, T. A. A. Came 1982<sup>1</sup>; III; House Prefect; Capt. of House Swimming; 5th XV Rugby; RAF J. Corporal. *1 Annetyard Drive, Skelmorlie, Ayrshire PA17 5BN*.

Truter, R. H. J. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; Rugby 5th XV; 6th XV; 7th XV; 2nd Summer Hockey XI; Navy Coxswain. *27 Rowland Place, Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex HA6 1AD*.

Watson, R. N. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; IV; Rugby 5th XV; 6th XV; Sailing; Hockey 4th XI; YFC; Navy Senior Coxswain.

Robertson, G. S. R. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; Head of House; 1st XV; Hockey 1st XI (Capt.); Cricket XI (Capt.); (M'bikes). *Houston Prize. 1 Bellswood Crescent, Banchory, Kincardineshire*.

Rochow, P. D. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Hockey 1st XI; 1st XV; Cricket Senior Colts B; Summer Hockey; Scholarship; Army; Social Services. *Furzewood House, Furze Hill, Kingswood, Surrey*.

Smith, G. C. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Riley 1st XV; Minor Colts B; Hockey 2nd XI; Cricket 4th XI; YFC; Photography; Science Society; RAF Junior Corporal. *Castle Craig, Carslogie Road, Cupar, Fife KY15 4MG*.

V

Nabulsi, J. A. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; III; Basketball. *Elcomech, PO Box 2800, Amman, Jordan*.



# Ruthven

## UVI

Billington, S. C. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Minor Colts A; Junior Colts A; 1st XI Football; Hockey Senior Colts B (Capt.); Golf; Orchestra; Choir; RAF Senior Corporal. *12 Parsonage St., Cambridge, England.*

Binnie, A. G. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV; Athletics; Hockey 3rd XI; Basketball; Marines Corporal. *Firhill, Hatton Road, Kinnoull, Perth.*

Haddleton, D. R. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; School Prefect; 2nd XV; 1st Summer Hockey; (Capt.); 2nd XI Hockey; O-level Prize; Photography; Pipe Band Sergeant. *8 Leicester Road, Sheshed, Leicestershire LE12 9DQ.*

McCalister, R. J. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 6th XV; 2nd XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Social Services. *25 Mayfield Crescent, Howwood, Refrewhire PA9 1BL.*

McCulloch, R. S. B. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; 1st XI Cricket; Golf; Athletics; Choir; Drama; Marines. *Dornoch House, 92 Orrell Road, Wigan, Lancashire WN5 8HB.*

McLachlan, N. A. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Senior Colts Rugby; Senior Colts Hockey (Capt.); Senior Colts Cricket; Athletics; 2nd XI Hockey; Marines Lance Corporal. *87 Carclui Crescent, Alloway, Ayr KA7 45Z.*

McLellan, A. R. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; VII's Rugby; Indoor Hockey XI; Athletics; Army. *23 Eyre Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 5EU.*

Muir, G. L. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; 1st XV Rugby; 1st VII's Rugby; Cross Country; Athletics; Social Services. *74 Southbeach, Troon, Ayrshire KA10 6EF.*

Phillip, A. J. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Rugby Minor Colts A; Junior Colts A; 4th XV; 3rd XV; Hockey Junior Colts B; 3rd XI; Cricket Junior Colts A; Senior Colts A; 2nd XI; Curling; Navy Petty Officer. *Gilchorn, Inverkeilor, By Arbroath DD11 4UP.*

Pillinger, C. J. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Riley Rugby XV; Hockey XI; Cricket XI; 4th XV Rugby; 2nd XV; Drama. *1 Rawson Villas, Jubilee Avenue, Rustington, Sussex.*

Reah, R. E. M. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XV Rugby (Capt.); 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey; 1st VII Rugby; Cross Country; Athletics; Scottish Schools Rugby; Marines. *48 Queen Alexandre Road, Grangetown, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, England.*

Stewart, D. W. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Cross Country; Rugby 4th XV; 2nd XV (Capt.); Photography; Marines Sergeant. *4 Drostan Drive, Mintlaw, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire AB4 8PY.*

## V

Donaldson, N. S. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; IV; Rugby 3rd XV; 5th XV; 2nd XV; 4th XV; Junior Squash; Athletics; Navy LS. *27 Roddinghead Road, Whitecraigs, Glasgow G46 6TR.*

# Simpson

## UVI

Butler, M. L. B. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; 5th XV; Swimming; Choir; Science Society; Drama; Navy LS. *5 Llys Cadnant, Parkview, Dyserth Road, Rhyl, Clwyd, North Wales LL18 4DJ.*

Dewar, P. J. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; School Prefect; Head Librarian; Dance Band; RAF Cadet. *Pinecrest, 1A, 65 Repulse Bay Road, Hong Kong.*

Fulton, D. J. M. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; House Colours; Drama; Cricket 3rd XI; Rugby 3rd XI; Hockey 1st XI; Young Socialists; Philosophy; Choir; Drama; Debating; Army Corporal. *Coire Kander, Cowden Road, Comrie, Perthshire PH6 2HN.*

McVittie, J. C. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; 2nd XI Cricket; 3rd XV Rugby; Cross Country; Dance Band; Choral Society; YFC; Army Sergeant. *Brentwood, Garelochhead, Dunbartonshire.*

Niven, R. A. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Summer Hockey 1st XI; Rugby 5th XV; Cricket Senior Colts; Curling; YFC; Science Society; Choir; Orchestra; Drama; Jazz Band; Dance Band; Army Under-Officer; House Colours. *Inneryte Farm, Stanley, Perthshire.*

Paterson, R. W. Came 1980<sup>3</sup>; II; House Prefect; Athletics; Rugby 3rd XV; Cross Country; Maths Scholarship; Economics Prize; House Colours. *Old Bank House, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire DG3 5LU.*

Tether, B. S. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; Swimming; Geography Prize; RAF Junior Corporal. *52 Bradmore Way, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts.*

Thomson, S. J. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; House Colours; Rugby 2nd XV; 3rd XV; Army; (M'bikes. Sgt.). *C. C. C. S. Marco, Lucca 55100, Italy.*

Wharton, D. Came 1984<sup>1</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; 1st VII; Tennis VI; Football XI; Social Services.

Williams, R. H. Came 1978<sup>3</sup>; I; School Prefect; Head of House; Cross Country; Shooting; Junior Colts B XI; Senior Colts XI; 3rd XI Hockey; 1st XI Summer Hockey; Choir; Orchestra; Photography; Fishing; Navy AB; Army Head of Signals; (M'bikes). *Upper Jesmand, Pitkeithley Wells Road, Bridge of Earn, Perth.*

Younger, I. J. Came 1979<sup>3</sup>; I; House Prefect; Drama; Young Socialists; Navy LS. *183 Main Street, Pathhead, Midlothian EH37 5SQ.*

## V

Nicol, D. J. Came 1984<sup>1</sup>; III; Swimming; Junior Colts B's Hockey and Cricket; Senior Colts B Hockey; RAF. *25 West Cairncry Road, Stocket Hill, Aberdeen AB2 5RE.*

Notman, L. H. R. A. Came 1984<sup>1</sup>; III; Minor Colts C Rugby; Senior Colts B Cricket; Canoeing; Army. *PO Box 2889, Honeydew, 2040, TVL, South Africa.*

# Woodlands

## UVI

- Carruthers, M. A. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; Athletics. *Balcassie, Kirkton of Mailur Road, Craigend, Perth PH2 0SS*.
- Cooper, E. J. Came 1984<sup>1</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; Squash; Tennis; House Skiing; Debating Society. *66 Bonhard Road, Scone, Perth PH2 6QB*.
- Cornish, G. V. S. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; Hockey 1st XI; Art. *Old Acres, Lower Peover near Knutsford, Cheshire WA168UN*.
- Devlin, C. M. Came 1982<sup>1</sup>; III; Head of House; House Colours; English Prize; William Tattershall Art Prize; Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize; Debating Society Chairman; Social Services, Drama; School Magazine. *West Cottage, Inchtute, Perthshire PH14 9RN*.
- Duncan, K. E. W. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; 2nd XI Hockey; 1st Tennis. *Kennerty House, Culter, Aberdeen AB1 0LS*.
- Fagg, J. D. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; Academic and Music Scholarships; Music Prize; English Prize; Choir; Orchestra; Early Music Group; Madrigal Choir; Social Services. *'Serendipity,' Newton of Fenintosh, Conon Bridge, Dingwall, The Black Isle IV7 8HZ*.

- Gadie, C. E. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; House Colours; Cross Country (Capt.); Athletics; 2nd XI Hockey and 1st Hockey; Ski-ing; 2nd Orchestra; Drama. *Beck House, Steansby, York YO6 4AS*.
- McKenzie-Walker, A. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; Hockey U15; Sailing; Social Services; Drama; Debating Society. *Broun-gorton, Near Colintrave, Argyll*.
- Mackie, S. J. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; House Colours; 1st Hockey; (½ Colours); Debating Society. *Lyon-cross House, Aurs Road, Barrhead, Glasgow G78 2SQ*.
- McMurray, P. K. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; Drama; Social Services; Debating Society. *Cobthorne, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4EP*.
- Martin, F. M. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; IV; House Prefect; Sailing; Drama. *Blairfettie, Calvine, Pitlochry, Perthshire*.
- Meikle, L. J. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; House Prefect; House Colours; Tennis (Capt.); Squash; Debating Society. *Mains of Airleywight, Bankfoot, Perth PH1 4AN*.
- Pearson, H. F. Came 1984<sup>3</sup>; LVI; Physics Prize; Science and Mathematics Prize; Choir; 1st and 2nd Orchestra. *4 Rossie Place, Forgan-denny, Perth PH2 9EJ*.

- Rhodes, S. M. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; IV; School Prefect; House Colours; 1st Hockey (Capt.); Tennis; Squash; Swimming; Ski-ing; Drama; Debating Society. *Stanley Cottage, Anmore Road, Denmead, Hants PO7 6HW*.
- Smith, N. J. Came 1985<sup>3</sup>; UVI; House Prefect; Music Scholarship; Music Prize; Modern Language Prize; Choir; Orchestra. *Helenslea, London Road, Stranraer DG9 8AF*.
- Streule, S. L. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Prefect; House Colours; Athletics (Capt.); 2nd Hockey; Victrix Le Duorurn; Debating Society. *Ardvreck, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 4EX*.
- Thaw, N. E. Came 1981<sup>3</sup>; III; House Colours; Swimming; Squash; Tennis; 2nd XI Hockey; Cross Country; Athletics; Strings Prize; Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music; Music Scholarship; Choir; Orchestra; Early Music Group. *Tigh Civil, Glen-almond, Perth PH1 3RY*.

## LVI

- Maxwell, P. K. Came 1982<sup>3</sup>; III; House Colours; U15, 2nd and 1st XI Hockey; U15 and 1st Tennis; Squash. *2 Gordon Street, Barnhill, Dundee*.
- Clark, P. J. Came 1983<sup>3</sup>; IV; Social Services. *35 Graham Crescent, Montrose, Angus*.

## Obituaries

During the year three senior Churchmen died, who had close connections with Strathallan Chapel.

### The Reverend T. Thurstan Irvine

Thurstan Irvine died suddenly on the 5th November 1985. He was the Honorary Episcopal Chaplain at Strathallan from 1966 until 1983 while he was Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Perth.

Thurstan prepared many Strathallians for Confirmation and conducted the monthly Communion Services in the School Chapel as well as being a regular preacher. He always wore the kilt and it somehow came as a surprise to see brogues and green woolly stockings peeping beneath his cassock as you knelt at the altar-rail to take Communion.

His short addresses during those services were always worth hearing and were filled with practical good common-sense.

He was a kind and understanding man, always ready to assist with problems, without pressing his services.

Strathallan owed him a great deal for his faithful ministrations over seventeen years and our deep sympathy goes to his wife Elizabeth and their daughters in their untimely loss.

### The Very Reverend Dr John A. Fraser

Dr John Fraser died on the 3rd October 1985 aged 91. He was the Honorary Chaplain at Strathallan from 1964 until 1966 and he preached on many other occasions. The School owed him a particular debt of gratitude for his loyal and wise support, and for his willingness to take on the Chaplaincy at School and the conducting of our services, in addition to running his own Parish of Aberdalgie.

He was a man of high principles, who was forceful in speaking his mind. His military bearing, his forthrightness, his honest Christian faith and his no-nonsense belief in old-fashioned values impressed all who were privileged to know him.

Until they retired to Edinburgh, he and Mrs Fraser were regular visitors to Strathallan.

### The Very Reverend Dr Archie C. Craig

Dr Archie Craig died on the 26th August 1985 aged 96. It was he who dedicated the Chapel on Sunday the 3rd June 1962, and he also preached several times. All those who attended the Dedication Service will remember his imposing figure and his infectious sense of humour.

### Lt. Col. J. D. Aldridge

Derek Aldridge died in March 1986. He came to Strathallan as Factor in 1964. He had been a Regular soldier with a distinguished War record and had been Secretary of Fife T.A. Association immediately before joining our Staff. He looked after the grounds and estates of the School with loving care for thirteen years until he retired in 1977. His mechanical skill was tested to the full by the old roller we then had for the Cricket square, and he kept it going for many years beyond its natural life. Perhaps it reminded him of his old days in the Tanks, for he enjoyed driving it, rolling the pitch on Saturday afternoons himself. His particular pride was in showing off the grounds on special occasions, and with true military precision all lawns had their 'short back and sides' especially before Speech Day. Woe to any parent he caught parking in the wrong place!

He was also the Hon. Treasurer for several School appeals, and he and his Staff were responsible for re forging many links between Strathallians and the School, that had been lost. How he did this at the same time as asking for money is anyone's guess! After retiring as Factor he continued as Hon. Treasurer of the Development Trust, and with Peter Spurgin he undertook the preparation and publication of 'The Story of Strathallan School.' As the title suggests it did not intend to be a complete factual history, but it hoped to give an accurate impression of the School as it was, as seen through the eyes of those who were members of it, since its foundation. While writing it Derek made many friends.

'The Colonel,' as he was always affectionately known by everyone at Strathallan, was a jovial companion and a devoted servant of the School. He and Ada always enlivened our social gatherings and together have done an enormous amount to enhance the local reputation of Strathallan. He was a very keen fisherman and a great sportsman, who latterly got very frustrated that he could not walk uphill as fast as he wanted to. He regularly brought members of the Kinross and Perth Field Sports Society on visits to the School.

All his many friends at Strathallan will miss him, and our thanks go out to Ada for all they both did for the School, and our sympathy goes to her and their son Alistair who lives in New Zealand.

### John B. Maitland Cowan

John Maitland Cowan died at the turn of the year. He left Strathallan in 1925 but he remained a life-long friend of the school. He was an original member of the Strathallian Club, boasting membership certificate number \*\*\* which he

presented to the School in 1985. He was Secretary of the Club in 1938 when Harry Riley was presented with the portrait that now hangs in the Saloon, and President in 1949. In 1938 Harry Riley took certain measures to provide for the future of the School and he appointed himself, David Bogie and John Cowan as Directors of Strathallan School Ltd. Harry Riley died on the first day of term in September 1942; David Bogie was a prisoner of war, and John Cowan was on active service with the 1st Airborne Division, and so it was not until after the war that they could really act as Directors. John Cowan remained a full-time Governor until 1970 and an Honorary Governor until his death. The present flourishing state of the school is a tribute to his devotion and hard work on its behalf. He attended Speech Day very regularly and was a fount of knowledge about the early history of Strathallan.

He was a deeply family man and an Elder of Broom Parish Church for many years. He was a partner in his family legal practice from 1931 – 1974 excepting the years of his War Service. He trained as a parachutist and was one of the first to land in Sicily where he was wounded seriously. He was always annoyed by the ensuing deafness.

He was a courageous man, enduring a form of cancer for many years, making regular hospital visits for treatment. Meeting him, one would never have guessed.

His old friend Guthrie Reid, whom he visited weekly, described him as a source of energy for the Club, the School and in private life. We will all miss his all gentlemanly figure and his wise advice, and our deep sympathy goes to his daughters in their loss.

T.C.G.F.

### Euan Smith

As the School prepared for the Spring Term's half-term break we were devastated to hear that Euan Smith, who had only been with us in Riley from the beginning of the academic year, died in Perth Royal Infirmary after suddenly being taken ill in School a few hours before.

At his Funeral service in Wormit Parish Church, at which the Chairman of Governors, Headmaster, Riley Housemaster and other members of staff were present, the School Chaplain delivered the Address.

# STRATHALLIAN CLUB



**I. Q. JONES — PRESIDENT OF THE STRATHALLIAN CLUB 1985-1986**



*(Photograph: John Burgess)*

John B. Maitland Cowan on one of his last visits to Strathallan for the pre-1939 Lunch in June 1985.



## DINNER FOR STRATHALLIANS LEAVING SCHOOL 1940-49

After three weeks' holidays the Hall and large rooms in the Main Buildings are a little dusty, to say the least, and Mrs Calder and her Staff did wonders to make them all spick and span, because a dinner was being held at Strathallan on Saturday 19th April 1986, for those who left School between 1940-1949. Some eighty Strathallians were able to attend. Woodlands House provided very comfortable rooms for the majority, and Mr and Mrs Williams and their ladies organised a magic sheet-change for the girls returning the next day.

Drinks were served in the Saloon and Headmaster's House, generously dispensed by three current members of the School, Andrew Bullard, Richard Ford and Bruce Tether, disguised as waiters. Dinner was served in the Music Room, and our thanks go to Craig and Carmel Young and their Staff for an excellent meal, nicely served, and to The Bursar's Staff for acting as furniture removers. Jimmy Dinsmore, the Chairman,

brought greetings from Strathallians in Canada, Trinidad and Australia, as well as from other parts of the U.K., and he kept most of us in order most of the time. Many of those present had not been at the School for, well, let's call it quite a long time; others, who were also parents or Governors, had seen it more recently. At the end of the meal Simon Peters, at present a member of the Pipes and Drums, piped in the port (and Drambuie, thanks) in front of his father.

The whole group in a benign and jolly mood, descended upon the Lecture Theatre, to which Trevor Goody, during the holidays, had spirited some of the stage lighting. Jonathon Forster introduced and presented an excellent entertainment given by members of Staff and pupils who had sacrificed some holiday to be present. Nicholas Reed, the Director of Music, hot-foot from the ski slopes, arranged the musical programme and was the accompanist. The show was lively and slick from the

moment Carrie Devlin stepped onto the 'stage' until the end. She, with Jimmy Gellatly, Dominik Diamond and David Smith of the English Department, acted and sang items from 'My Fair Lady' and this was interspersed with music played by Nicola Smith (violin), Nikki Thaw (cello) and Dirk Paterson (another Strathallian's son) on the flute. (Nicola nearly lost her place when turning over the pages!!) The audience thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and were most grateful to those who had put it on.

A nightcap with the Headmaster and a lot of reminiscing finished the evening, and a large breakfast began the next day. The object of the exercise really is for old friends to meet again in a convivial atmosphere and I hope and feel that that was done fairly well!

'Was I really at School with all those greybeards?' was the last remark I heard from a car disappearing down the drive.

T.C.G.F.

Those who accepted were:

### Strathallians:

J. D. Adam  
I. M. Aitkenhead  
G. R. Bainbridge  
E. W. Bannerman  
L. Barclay  
J. D. Barr  
R. S. Barrie  
T. A. Baxter  
D. S. Bell  
R. F. Beveridge  
J. Blanche  
W. D. Blanche  
D. R. Calder  
A. B. Carlaw  
J. M. Clark  
D. A. Cruickshank  
J. C. Dawson  
E. S. Dawson  
J. A. Davidson  
J. W. Dinsmore (*Chairman*)  
S. G. Dryden  
W. A. S. Dryden  
P. G. Dunley  
W. R. Ferguson  
A. G. Frame  
J. H. H. Fraser  
T. R. L. Fraser

K. Frost  
R. C. Frost  
D. C. Fulton  
I. C. Geddes  
R. H. H. Gibson  
S. A. H Haddow  
A. S. Headrick  
I. A. Headrick  
J. M. Jackson  
I. Q. Jones (*President*)  
D. W. Lewis  
E. W. Linton  
A. N. Low  
G. S. Lowden  
J. S. Lowden  
V. S. Lowden  
S. R. P. Pyle  
E. C. McCrimmon  
W. M. MacGregor  
J. M. Mackay  
J. M. Macharg  
J. A. McIntyre  
D. F. MacKenzie  
D. R. C. MacKenzie  
D. McLauchlan  
S. McLennan  
H. W. Mann  
D. L. Mason  
J. S. Mitchell  
N. Mitchell

J. D. Molison  
R. A. H. Newton  
A. M. Nicol  
D. N. Paterson  
R. H. Paterson  
R. S. Peters  
R. Philip  
S. M. Ritchie  
I. J. S. Russell  
J. G. Sandeman  
W. M. Sandeman  
J. E. Semple  
J. C. Shaw  
James H. Smith  
John H. Smith  
N. H. Stewart  
G. W. Stokes  
A. A. Stuart  
R. P. Thomas  
C. M. L. Thompson  
D. I. Wightman  
D. Yates

### Guests:

W. A. Bullard  
T. C. G. Fairburn  
C. P. Hewson  
C. D. Pighills (*Headmaster*)

Messrs D. A. Biggart, R. A. M. Kennedy, D. Mason, W. M. Nairn, T. M. Nicol and D. L. Young sadly had to call off at the last minute.

*Apology:* The name of Donald F. Barclay was inadvertently omitted from last year's Strathallian magazine in the list of those attending the dinner on 30th March 1985.

# STRATHALLIAN CURLING CLUB

Last year I submitted a report which I indicated that the Club had reached the very bottom, being placed last in the Scottish Wanderers League and that in this season attempts would be made to pick stronger teams and thereby improve our results and our overall position.

I can report that we were third, possibly. We were lying in third position behind Glenalmond and Kelvinside Academicals at the point when the roof fell in on Crossmyloof following which the final fixtures in the league had to be re-arranged! Our matches in the second half against Loretto and Glasgow Academicals were cancelled but our second half match against Kelvinside Academicals was played. In the final standings Kelvinside won the league for the second year in a row having lost only a single game, that being a 9-5 defeat inflicted upon them by a Strathallian team skipped by Robin Brechin in November. Glenalmond were placed second having lost two games in the course of the season one of those being an 8-5 defeat inflicted upon them again by a Strathallian team skipped by Robin Brechin. Our placings were not worked out, so I can only report that when last counted we were in third place. Twelve rather than the fourteen league games were played by this club, of which seven were won and five lost with an overall score line of 93 shots for and 71 against. As last years statistics were three games won, two games drawn and nine lost,

the shots for 79 for and 124 against, the improvement we look for is there.

For the same reason a number of friendly matches fell by the wayside. We did manage two matches against Glasgow Junior Chamber of Commerce (5-5 and 9-4) Drystones (4-8 and 7-7) Campbell Neill & Company (10-6) A. J. Maclay & Company (5-2) Pioneers (7-8) Clydesdale Bank (4-6) Whitecraigs Lawn Tennis Club (6-10) and Stirling Hendry & Company (19-3) giving a result over the season of 10 games played, four won, two drawn and four lost, shots for 76 and against 59.

In the Sandy Miller knockout competition at Crossmyloof the team did not progress beyond the first round.

The Archie Barr Trophy for the match between East and West Strathallians was contested at Kinross in November despite the fact that the Strathallian Club A.G.M. and Dinner was due to be held in Glasgow. Those members who travelled from Glasgow to Kinross all returned in time to attend the dinner. On this occasion however the trophy returned as the West won on aggregate by 19 shots to 18. East I skipped by Jim Stirrat beat West I skipped by Harry Levick 11-6 but West II skipped by Jack Turner beat East II skipped by Jim Paton 13-7 for the one shot victory.

The Scottish Wanderers Bonspeil has been cancelled at Crossmyloof and was held at the Summit Centre in March with a Dinner afterwards. The format was

a circulating Bonspeil with the four Strathallians each in different teams. Jack Turner, Robin Turner, John Fingland and Alan Fitzpatrick represented the club and enjoyed their evening though none were in the winning rink at the end of the night.

The club has had 24 members this year who played one or more games with the playing reserves Charlie Magee, Jimmy Smith and Mike Spens never being called upon. Out of the number of games played by the club on only four occasions were the rink to appear exactly as selected (two wins, two losses!)

The first supply of jerseys appeared after the new year. Those who wished only the jerseys with the badge will have received these while those who are to have their name printed beneath the school badge will receive them before the start of the new season.

In April the club was admitted to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club being sponsored to the membership by Drystones Curling Club and Whitecraigs Lawn Tennis Club (Curling Section). We have also been accepted for membership to Glasgow Province with an entry having been put in for the next season for each of the Province competitions.

The Secretary of the Curling Section of the Club is Jack Turner, 12 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, Telephone 041-248 3434 and new Members are always welcome at any stage in the season.

## STRATHALLIAN GOLF CLUB—1985

### Grafton Morrish Trophy

Unlike previous years when we have performed well and have never qualified, this year we played badly and came last, 18 points behind leading qualifiers Loretto.

### Scottish Wayfarers

#### Stenhouse Quaich

The team cup was again played for in March at the Elie golf links. Unfortunately this turned out to be a complete disaster for as your Secretary, feeling pleased with himself for eventually persuading six people to play, was advised on the eve of the competition that eight players were required to make

up the team. Our team of six duly played on Saturday, and, with much appreciated help from the Headmaster, we did have eight for the Sunday matches. All of this was to no avail as we were disqualified by the Wayfarer's Committee eager to put down the new members of the association! Your Secretary immediately offered his resignation but, by way of punishment, this was not accepted.

### Over 50's Weekend

Our team of 6, ably lead by Hamish Dawson, succeeded in taking a prize at the over 50's outing at Muirfield. This was the 'Clachan' awarded for winning the second division after we had only just failed by one point to qualify for the first.

### Summer and Autumn Meetings

These were held respectively at Muirfield and Luffness and no Strathallian featured on the winner's rostrum at either outing. In fact no Strathallian played at all at Luffness.

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We are always keen to have new young members as some of our team have limited playing years left(!). Any old boy, or school boy about to leave, who would like to join and play in these outings should write to me, Andrew McInroy, at 8 Learmonth Gardens, Edinburgh EH4 1HD. The annual subscription is still only £1.

# News of Members of The Strathallian Club

- ALLISON, Rev. N. J. (1922) is Reeve of The Township of Amherst Island, Ontario.
- ANDERSON, J. (1936) is 95% retired in Carlisle and is so busy that he cannot understand how he found time to work!
- ARAGON, J. E. F. (c.1940) is a High Court Judge in Mombasa. The Strathallian who met him did not report what he was in court!
- BANNERMAN, C. M. (1985) has been playing rugby in New Zealand, for Upper Clutha. The Central Otago news describes him as a 'mystery man,' 'the broad Scottish accent belongs to a guy called Callum but his surname is unknown,' they report.
- BENNET, G. I. (1974) and his wife are very pleased with a son born in December 1985.
- BISSET, S. B. (1981) lives in Keston, Kent, and is employed on 'below the line' advertising for Promotional Campaigns Ltd.
- BLANCHE, R. B. (1950) is Assistant Director for audit in the Government service in Hong Kong. Strathallians parents living in Hong Kong, do not fudge your tax!
- BRACKENRIDGE, G. R. (1951) is General Manager of Esso, Tanzania in Dar es Salaam.
- BROWN, Dr D. S. C. (1951) is in a group practice in Mount Jambier, Australia.
- CALDWELL, W. R. (1944) is a gardener for the Church Commissioners, and lives in Wells, if you want to park your car while visiting the Cathedral.
- CARVER, G. A. R. (1964) is a management consultant in Toronto.
- CHRYSTAL, H. (1971) is keen to make Strathallians welcome on ski holidays in France and Switzerland with his new company White Ski Roc. Barbie MacLaurin (Q.V) is running a chalet his company will be using.
- CRANSTON, Lt. Col. D. A. (1964) is proving how good the CCF was, as he is now C.O. 4 Regiment Army Air Corps.
- DAVIDSON, E. A. (1956) is an accountant in Nairobi and is loving his work and is living in Kenya.
- DOBBIE, G. (1980) one of two brothers who are in the police force, and his wife had a daughter, Emma, in December.
- DOBBIE, R. K. (1981) the other policeman, married Marilyn Jones in Corstorphine, Edinburgh on 14th June 1986.
- DUNCAN, R. J. (1980) graduated from Magdalene College, Cambridge in 1985 and represented the University in skiing, rugby league and rowing. He won his half blue for skiing and rugby league. He too can wear a hawks tie! He is now racing with The British Ski Team.
- FAIRBAIRN, J. N. (1983) got a 2i at Newcastle University in soil science and spent the summer at an archaeological site in Yugoslavia.
- FAWCETT, J. F. (1969) has returned from New Zealand to Herefordshire. We have sent him a school prospectus for his 8 year old son!
- FINLAYSON, T. M. D. (1976) lives in Helensburgh where he and his wife run 'Uncle Toms Cabin,' but they also have a water-skiing and wind-surfing School on the Algarve.
- FRAME, L. G. (1980) married Mr David Richmond on 25th April 1986. Should she now be under the R's?
- FYFE, J. F. (1974) graduated from Edinburgh University in Civil Engineering, married in 1980, worked in Glasgow till 1982, is a chartered member of the I.C.E. and is now with Charles Roe Associates. He plays golf and competes with a small bore rifle.
- GALLOWAY, R. (1978) married in 1984 and should, by the time this is magazine is printed, have their first child.
- GRANT, E. P. (1971) is in the shipping corporation of New Zealand, exporting and importing to and from Japan. He lives in Auckland.
- GREENSHIELDS, M. J. A. (1980) writes books on computers including 'Mastering the Commodore 64' and 'Amstrad graphics and sound.'
- HAIDIE, F. A. G. (1979) will be found at the Highlander Inn, New Hampshire, U.S.A.
- HARGROVE, I. (1935) though retired is still the Registrar and a lecturer at the Bulawayo Christian Bible Training College in Zimbabwe.
- HERBET, R. C. (1973) has been a pharmacist at the Royal Alexandria Hospital for Sick Children and is moving to Brighton General Hospital.
- HILL, S. I. (1975) was married to Carole Gordon Day on 29th March 1985.
- HOLLAND, P. J. (1976) is married with a son. If you want to hire a car in Queensland, Australia, contact him at Redland Bay.
- KIRKLAND, Captain R. L. (1975) of Royal Engineers is married and playing rugby for Folkestone.
- LAIDLAW, Professor M. G. G. (1963) is professor of Computer Science at Durban University and lives in Kloop, South Africa.
- LEE, C. L. H. (1981) gained her B.Sc. from Dundee University.
- LEISHMAN, R. S. F. (1974) is married with a son. He is a designer for control systems for oils rigs and petrochemical plants and builds rally cars.
- LINN, J. W. (1961) is a chartered accountant in Hong Kong and is general manager of his company in China.
- LOCKE, A. J. H. (1977) is a dental technician in Three Hills, Alberta. He married in 1985 and will be happy to look at Strathallian teeth on their visit to Canada!
- McBRIDE, I. A. (1934) is still in Port of Spain, Trinidad, and though officially retired, works for the Guardian Life.
- McCARROLL, C. S. (1981) will be happy to look after you if you are lucky enough to be visiting Paradise Island, Nassau.
- MacFARLANE, Lt. Col. D. S. (1966) is C.O. 7th Tank Transporter Regt., R.C.T.
- MACKIE, Dr J. G. (1937) is now retired and still living in North Vancouver.
- McLAREN, A. H. (1978) was on board H.M.S. Illustrious with R. A. Cunningham (1977) and his next posting will be as a Sea Harrier Staff Air Welfare Instructor.
- MacLAURIN, B. A. (1981) graduated from Aberdeen University, then travelled in the East and the Alps. Her new Chalet Company in Morzine is called 'Ski Nut' and would give vegetarian Strathallians a special welcome.
- MELVILLE, W. B. (1966) is with Metal Box in Johannesburg.
- MENENDEZ, C. (1981) has been studying Chemical Engineering at the Monterrey Institute. So we could have had tickets for the World Cup!
- MILNE, J. B. (1938) is a Consulting Engineer in Vancouver and enjoyed the 1985 Strathallian very much.
- MOWAT, C. M. (1982) apart from doing a clinical course at Addenbrooke's Hospital, she sailed for Cambridge Ladies' Team which won the British Universities' Sailing Association Championship in 1986.
- MURRAY, G. S. (1943) urges all Strathallians to eat beef and wear pure new wool, for he farms 4,500 acres with Merino sheep and Murray Grey cattle in Albany, W. Australia.
- McINNES, J. M. (1957) is a lecturer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

- McINTOSH, J. D. (1979) is engaged to be married and is presently working for Schlumbergers in Madras, India.
- MacKAY, K. S. (1983) has graduated B.A. in Accountancy from Stirling University.
- McKEE, P. J. (1982) has graduated in Law from Cambridge and has won a legal scholarship.
- MacKEEVER, F. B. (1964) will help you if you ever get into trouble in Naples, Italy. Fred is at the British Consulate.
- McKENZIE, G. M. G. (1981) is now an M.A. of Dundee University. We have lost his address, so if you know where he is, please let us know.
- PARKER, N. J. C. (1977) has become a Chartered Engineer and M.I.Mech.E. as well as having a daughter Lorna Elizabeth.
- PATE, A. R. (1947) is a neurosurgeon in Dublin.
- PHILP, T. (1940) has been a consultant radiologist in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh since 1949 and is taking early retirement.
- POTTIE, A. G. M. (1979) is engaged to be married.
- REID, H. A. H. (1980) has gained M.B.Ch.B. in medicine and dentistry from Dundee University.
- RODGER, G. (1982) has joined the army and is at Sandhurst with a view to serving with the K.O.S.B.
- ROSELLE, C. P. (1959) in spite of rumours of his decease, came through the Korean War successfully and was in excellent form on his visit to the school in December 1985. He is living in Manalpan, New Jersey. His brother S. R. (1960) lives in Springfield, Illinois.
- ROWAN, H. B. (1937) after 24 years with B.P. mainly with Iranian Oil Services has retired to Giffnock.
- RUSSELL, G. T. (1979) has graduated from Cambridge and is a trainee actuary.
- SERINIYON, Dr O. S. (1977) he is with the North Trent Neonatal intensive care unit.
- SMITH, A. M. (1982) has graduated with honours in Sociology from Stirling University.
- SMITH, G. R. S. (1971) is marketing with the Hong Kong Land Company.
- SNODGRASS, W. A. (1936) is retired and lives in Burlington, Ontario. He was sorry not to be able to come over for the re-union of pre-39'rs in 1985.
- STEELE, C. D. (1972) is a consultant 'mud' engineer living in Kifisia in Athens with his wife and family.
- STUART, H. L. (1953) is with Dura Construction Company in Rondebosch, Cape Town.
- SURI, R. (1983) graduated in law from Corpus Christi, Cambridge in June and will probably be training and practising eventually in Canada.
- TARGOURSKEI, E. G. M. (1969) has been appointed senior Magistrate Seychelles for two years.
- TAYLOR, A. J. (1982) is a graduate of Glasgow University and will be going to Sandhurst and joining R. A. D. Powrie (1974) in Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
- TAYLOR, D. N. (1981) is an Assistant Scientific Officer in Information Section at Dounreay for the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority. He graduated in Librarianship and Information Studies at Robert Gordon's in 1984.
- TAYLOR, J. D. (1968) is a C.A. with Mobil Oil and spends most of his time in Djibuti.
- TAYLOR, M. C. (1973) is in the Army. We apologise for getting the date of births of his son wrong in the last magazine.
- TULLOCH, P. J. (1963) is a building Project Manager with Toyota G.B. Ltd. He lives near Tonbridge with his wife and teenage family. He does a lot of work for the church.
- VANDONGEN, Sub. Lt. H. H., R.N. (1978) has graduated with B.Sc. in Engineering from the Royal Engineering College in Manadon.
- VOIGT, N. J. (1979) is a Research Assistant and Lecturer in Microbiology at Napier College. He was married in 1985.
- WHILTON, D. J. (1941) is a freelance author living in Williamstown, Victoria, Australia. He also enjoyed the 1985 'Strathallian.'
- WILLOX, Fl. Lieut. K. W. (1976) is serving with the R.A.F. in Cyprus.
- WILSON, Professor N. H. F. (1968) is professor of Restorative Dentistry at Manchester University. He is married and lives in Didsbury.
- WILSON, R. F. (1931) has entered his three grandchildren for Strathallan.
- WILSON, R. F. (1976) is half of Wilson-Brousseau Associates in Scarborough, Ontario, far enough away he hopes to escape the next fete raffale!
- WINGATE, K. ( ) who took his degree at Durham, is a Lecturer in Business Computing at North Trafford College, Manchester.
- WINGATE, N. S. T. (1967) is a yachtmaster in a yachting school in Paddington, N.S.W., Australia.
- WITSENBURG, C. (1958) is with I.B.M. in the Netherlands.
- WILLIAMS, K. B. (1951) works in insurance in Quito, Ecuador.
- YATES, D. (1947) has been round the world and attended the Opening of Parliament in New Zealand on the 26th of February, 1986.
- YATES, E. (1945) is a farmer and also an Agricultural Consultant for the United Nations and The World Bank.

Thanks are due to all those who returned the pro-forma in last year's Strathallian. Please go on keeping in touch.

We still get a lot of correspondence returned 'Unknown at this address! Please send any change in address to the Headmaster's Secretary at Strathallan.

## DEATHS

- CARRUTHERS, I. T. (1965) Suddenly, in June 1986. He was a partner in Brodies W.S., Edinburgh. No one who was there can have forgotten his fierce match with the American, Bruce Ferguson in the now disbanded Home Boxing competition.
- COWAN, J. B. M. (1925). An appreciation of his work for the School is elsewhere in the magazine.
- HART, Dr E. W. (1928) in Gloucestershire, where he lived, on 23rd May, 1986.
- HAY, D. (1935) in April 1986. He lived at Glenearn House near Bridge of Earn.
- JAMIESON, M. S. (1958) in January 1986. He ran the Clachan Hotel, Fintry.
- MacDONALD, J. G. (1926) aged 78, on 25th January 1986, in Edinburgh where he lived in Ravelston Garden.
- MELVILLE, H. B. (1933) on 31st October 1985. He lived in Kirkcaldy and was a great supporter of the School. His two sons James and Will were in Riley and Nicol.
- MILLER, R. C. (1941) in March 1985 after a short illness. He lived in Broomhill.
- REID, J. D. (1927) in Leeds on 3rd September, 1985.
- SANDERSON, N. (1943) in Glasgow on 1st October 1985. He was a motor dealer, racing driver and yachtsman. He reached the peak of his racing career when he drove an Ecurie-Ecosse Jaguar D-type to victory in Le Mans in 1956. Jackie Stewart described him as a 'perfectionist, with immense spirit and commitment.' He also walked tirelessly for underprivileged children. In 1983, in spite of a stubborn fight against leukemia, he canoed from Broomielaw to Loch Fyne to help raise money for the medical oncology unit at Glasgow Royal Infirmary.



