

The Strathallian 1990/91



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Contents

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	Page
Governors and Staff	2
School Authority, Salvete and Editorial	3
Speech Day	5
House Reports	8
Chapel Notes	16
Careers	17
Music	18
Drama and the Arts	21
Sports	30
CCF and D of E	50
Activities	56
Gossip	63
Valete	66
Obituary	70
Reminiscences	72
Strathallian Club	76

Front Cover photograph from *Tartuffe* — Tessa Dunlop and Colin Pettinger

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The Strathallian

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Chemistry/Music

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Mathematics

French

English

French/Spanish

History

French/Russian

Jnr. Chemistry/Physics

Design/Technology

Geography

Biology

English

Mathematics/PE

French/German

Mathematics

Geography

English/P.E.

English

Mathematics

Divinity

Music

Art

Econ/Business Studies

English

History/Music

Chemistry

History

Design/Technology

History

History

Mathematics

Music

French

Biology/Computers

P.E.

Econ/Business Studies

Mathematics

Physics

French/German

Physics

Physics

English/History

Biology

Biology

Design/Technology

Geography

French/Russian

Careers

Design/Technology

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Head of Department

Head of Department

Administrative Secretary

Housemaster Freeland

Housemaster Simpson

Head of Department

Housemaster Nicol

Housemaster Woodlands

Head of Department

Chaplain

Head of Department

Director of Studies

Head of Department

Senior Master

Head of Department

Housemistress Thornbank

Head of Department

Head of Department

Housemaster Riley

Head of Department

Head of Department

Head of Department

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Geography/English

Games

Art

English

Chemistry

Art

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Games

French

English

Mathematics

Games

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

School Authority

Academic Year 1990/91

Captain of School
N. J. Robb

Head of Freeland
Head of Nicol
Head of Ruthven
Head of Simpson
Head of Thornbank
Head of Woodlands

J. M. Langley
A. M. Buchan
T. P. Lawrence
J. C. Fraser
J. A. Clark
F. J. Mowat

School Prefects

D. J. Gritten, J. J. B. Minihane, E. K. Wall,
B. D. Webb

Academic Year 1991/92

Captain of School
A. M. G. Burrell

Head of Freeland
Head of Nicol
Head of Ruthven
Head of Simpson
Head of Thornbank
Head of Woodlands

H. M. Lochore
N. P. Buckley
G. R. Maclellan
J. A. Leiper
L. S. Grant
F. M. Clayton

School Prefects

P. Aitken, E. D. Anderson, F. M. M. Hutchison, R. G. J. Johnston, M. S. R. Tench,
C. L. Tomlin, J. A. Tornos, A. F. C. Wood

SALVETE

RILEY HOUSE

T. J. Forster, D. C. Horsfall, M. R. A. Morley, W. J. Stark, D. C. Taylor, R. D. Wallace, G. I. Wheeldon, S. C. Burnett, S. C. Dury, D. Kazaka, L. A. Maceachem, T. P. Turner, C. N. Appleby, T. K. Ashcroft, A. S. M. Backman, K. G. Baird, A. R. Bishop, A. Blackstock, H. Campbell-Jack, C. Charlies, J. M. Dalley, R. J. Duffy, D. McL. Fisher, N. J. Gdula, R. Gemmill, C. J. Mouat, N. A. Nicholson, C. R. Roome, I. Stewart, Y. G. R. Thomson, A. M. Turner, J. A. R. Wright, S. E. C. Branson, K. S. Dutton, L. M. B. Gemmell, A. M. Grant, G. M. Green, L. E. A. Macdonald, R. Sharp, N. A. Young.

FREELAND HOUSE

G. D. Obank, A. Chapman, R. Dundas, D. Gray, D. Henderson, L. Loam, A. Robertson, N. Scales, N. Telfer.

NICOL HOUSE

D. Elliot, R. Wheeldon, C. Dorman, C. Burnett, S. Heslop, M. Hunter, M. Ingham, R. Mawdsley, R. Walker.

RUTHVEN HOUSE

P. Clow, B. Simmers, R. A. D. Williams, T. Preston, J. Bird, W. Broughton, S. Cochrane, E. Mackay, B. Martin, B. McClure, A. Miranda, A. Whyte.

SIMPSON HOUSE

S. J. Callander, E. Frost, H., Hensman,

A. Hussain, C. Mitchell, A. Reekie, L. Walker.

THORNBANK HOUSE

K. L. Nicolson, R. Peters, G. Dunn, S. Jones, A. Mitchell, J. A. Baillie, K. Barker, A. L. Barlow, K. Burr, G. Clifford, E. Dilger, C. Halliday, K. Lawson, C. MacDonell, E. Manning.

WOODLANDS HOUSE

F. Grainger, N. A. Crowe, L. English, J. Griffiths, C. Lusk, C. Smith, C. A. Jones, A. Blair-Oliphant, C. Duckworth, L. Falconer, S. Galt, T. C. L. Gilliver, E. Kerr, E. Kerry, L. McLardy, W. Rankin, H. Ross, T. Stevens, I. Tylde-sley.

EDITORIAL

Looking back over previous Strathallan editorials, it seems the building programme has been in operation since the dawn of time. I don't intend to go into detail here (I've already had enough of green vans and huge articulated lorries) but I am pleased to report that the end is in sight, although I myself will be seeking (Oxbridge) pastures new.

Overall this year has been both fairly peaceful and yet progressive. There were

some brilliant individual and team sporting success, detailed elsewhere, while the school play, *Tartuffe*, was in a class of its own; and for once the acoustics in the marquee didn't make the orchestra sound like a primary school band on Speech Day.

Once again this summer, Strathallan is expanding its field of influence in foreign parts — this year rugby teams go to Chile and Argentina. Another girls' hockey

tour is also on the horizon. All these plans meant that this year numerous fund raising activities which always bring a sparkle to Strathallan life, have taken place.

Thanks to Mrs Adam for once again badgering people to write articles and also to the editorial team. To see the results of their hard labour, read on.

Nicola Robb

Prize Winners June 1991

The Smith Cup for Captain of School

The Houston Prize for All Round Merit
The Scanlon Cup for Merit (Girls)
The William Tattersall Art Prize
The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music
The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings
The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize
The Richard Moffat Prize for History
The David Bogie Prize for Economics
The Lord Kincaig Prize for English

Tim Lawrence
Sonya Reid
Tim Lawrence
Emma Wardhaugh
Nigel Brookes
Jennifer Scouller
Philip Laing
John Fraser
Emma McNamara

Nicola Robb

Dux
Geography
French
Mathematics
Chemistry
Physics
Biology
Art
Design & Technology

Alexander Johnson
Philip Laing
Nicola Robb
Elspeth Green
Daniel Breves
Elspeth Green
Sonya Reid
Robert Marshall
Tim Lawrence

STAFF NOTES

In stating that for the fourth year running the School will be welcoming more members of staff at the beginning of the new academic year (Sept. 91) than left at the end of the previous one it is implied, amongst other things, that staff tend to stay at Strathallan for a long time. At the end of the summer term there were only two departures from the Common Room, Mr Fairbairn and Mr Gray, who have served the School for thirty two and thirty six years respectively. Such commitment calls for more than a mere acknowledgement in staff notes! Nevertheless, we must add briefly to what is written elsewhere and record our respectful thanks and warmest good wishes to them and their wives for a happy and healthy retirement.

The replacement of Messrs Fairbairn and Gray by four new members of staff will take some explaining to the Governors! Here follows a short explanation. Mr Keith Taylor, a graduate of London University, returns to Scotland for his first teaching post to replace Mr Gray in the Physics Department. All quite straightforward. Mr Paul Crosfield also

the Modern Language Department and becomes the resident House Tutor in Simpson. Miss Morag Rodgers is returning to Scotland too, this time from France, to join the Language Department and be the resident House Tutor to Thornbank. That two linguists seem necessary to replace Mr Fairbairn is accounted for by some restructuring of the Administration within the School. We do try to keep this aspect of the School as streamlined as possible and conserve valuable resources for more important activities such as teaching! However, the new examination systems, the advent of the National Curriculum and other initiatives and the increase in the size of the School have produced more paper work. To help with this Mr Clayton leaves the Language Department to become the part time Administrative Secretary and also to oversee the hiring of the School's facilities in the holidays, an activity which we hope will increase in the future now that the new Houses are completed. Mr Pearson will extend his role as Time Table Master to become the Director of Studies helping

to advise and co-ordinate the many academic developments that are currently being discussed at National level. Mr Ross takes over the Computer Department, another area of accelerating change. Mr Proctor succeeds Mr Fairbairn as Second Master and with relief from administration of the examinations will have more time to tidy up some of the loose ends which have inevitably emerged during the recent extensive developments. Mr Court becomes the Freeland Housemaster and Mr Barnes takes over from Mr Raine who retires after ten years as Housemaster of Ruthven. Mr Keir takes on overall responsibility for games in place of Mr Barnes, Mr Vallot leaves Simpson as resident House Tutor and joins Nicol and Mr Mayes takes up residence place in Freeland. Mr Mayes is a new name to the list and joins the Economics and Business Studies Department to meet the increased numbers wishing to take Business Studies to "A" level and the advent of the new Scottish Higher in Business and Information Studies starting this September. To everyone, good luck.



Mr Taylor, Mr Mayes, Mr Crosfield and Miss Rodgers.

We were very pleased to have Judith Knox as a student from Moray House with us for the Winter Term 1990.

Our thanks to Simon Welsh from New Zealand for helping us over the year 1990. We enjoyed his company very much and are most grateful for his work.

Andrew Hawke, from Canberra, Australia, is helping out with games and Riley this year, 1991.

OXBRIDGE SUCCESS

Congratulations to:

Daniel Breves, Christchurch, Oxford (Biochemistry).

Philip Laing, Peterhouse, Cambridge (Philosophy).

Nicola Robb, Newnham, Cambridge (Law).

Paulina Smith, Trinity, Cambridge (Oriental Studies).

Gift from Mrs Macmillan, widow of J. W. Macmillan, who left Strathallan in 1932.

We were most grateful for the gift of a silver cup inscribed: "Cricket Championship — Freeland House 1932 — J. W. Macmillan — Captain", together with a pair of gold and enamel Strathallian Club cuff-links, photographs and other memorabilia from the 1930s.



Aerial view of School and new Boys' Houses.

SPEECH DAY

It was a rather grey and dull Saturday morning, not the best weather for Speech Day, but at least the rain held off. In his usual cheery way, Mr Dinsmore (Chairman of the Board of Governors) reeled off the school's achievements for this year; most notably that by next term, those much talked about "major areas of development" (in other words the new halls of residence for the boys) would be in full operation with single studies for boys from Fourth form upwards. "It remains to be seen whether they will keep them in the immaculate state common to those in the girls houses . . . Thereafter follows a theatre and new dining hall . . . and, one could go on."

Mr Dinsmore also recognised, with due credit, the long services to the school of both Mr Gray and Mr Fairbairn, both of whom are to retire at the end of the year, and remembered Mr Addison's unique contribution to Strathallan.

The Headmaster, during his annual report, described how times have changed — focusing on the great deal of choice offered to us nowadays. He reminisced fondly of the times when chunks of red carbollic soap were catapulted down the Simpson corridors and remembered the vividness of "that

smell", perhaps slightly amazed now that the boys' wash-corridors display a wider assortment of bottles and potions than the sinks in Thornbank and Woodlands. He also thanked Mr Fairbairn and Mr Gray and welcomed Mr Proctor who will step into the shoes of Mr Fairbairn as Second Master. Mr Court will replace Mr Proctor as Housemaster of Freeland, while Mr Raine, who is stepping down as Housemaster of Ruthven, will be replaced by Mr Barnes.

Having finished relating the commentary on the staff's professional "musical chairs" the Headmaster went on to remind us of the necessity for hard work. He was obviously delighted with the six successful Oxbridge candidates of last year and, perhaps not unwisely, went on to remind us of the fate of those who "took their year out last year — during term time".

Prizegiving went off without any hitches, despite the strategically placed flowerpots on each side of the rostrum just waiting to be kicked over by some unfortunately clumsy winner.

The Guest of Honour, Lord Fraser of Carmylie QC (Lord Advocate for Scotland) was by all accounts an outstanding

speaker and in his moving speech the warmth and generosity of his character came through. Untypical of sometimes tedious speechmakers, Lord Fraser, by reminding us of the Lockerbie tragedy, helped us to recognise the importance of those people who are sometimes so easily forgotten in the excitement of school life — our parents. He empathised with the day to day complications people find in life, and urged us not to spend time becoming confused by what is beyond immediate understanding, but to enjoy life for what it is now because we are lucky. Cynics among you take note, it is a message worth remembering. His final piece of advice was not to even try to understand "King Lear" until one is at least fifty (cue sigh of relief from English students).

The orchestra and bands all performed with their customary skill even though the acoustics in the marquee left much to be desired, and the weather did brighten just a little for drinks on the lawn.

And then it was all over; half-term had begun, and I wonder how many battles with parents in the car on the way home had been prevented thanks to Lord Fraser's words?

Emma McNamara

MR T. C. G. FAIRBAIRN

Mr Cosmo Fairbairn retired at the end of the Summer Term 1991, after thirty-two years at Strathallan.

T.C.G.F. joined the staff in 1959 from Magdalen College School, Brackley, bringing with him his wife of a few weeks, Annabel. He came to teach French and to take over command of the C.C.F. A year later he was appointed Head of Modern Languages. In 1961 he took over the Housemastership of Nicol from Bobby Burnet, a position he held until 1979 when he was appointed Second Master, again succeeding Bobby Burnet.

As a teacher Cosmo would, I think, like to be remembered as one of the "old school", a firm believer in grammatical accuracy allied to a sound vocabulary, which to achieve in his pupils he would relentlessly go over the ground until the point was made. Of course, examiners in those days set more store by written accuracy than may be the case today. Suffice to say that a large number of weaker linguists who gained an 'O' Level have reason to be grateful to him, particularly as a pass in French was almost always necessary for university entrance. But he was no stick-in-the-mud teacher, and his love of literature was communicated to generations of Sixth formers. And it should not be forgotten that he presided over the establishing of one of the first language laboratories in the country.

There is no doubt that one of Cosmo's greatest enthusiasms was the Corps. He took over shortly after the end of National Service, at a time when more and more were questioning the value of the CCF, now it was not the gateway to a National Service commission. He quickly set about widening the aims, introducing a much more varied training programme and giving full support to the growing R.N. and R.A.F. sections. Camps were held as far apart as Malta and Norway, and there were memorable times in the Orkneys. Many will recall the parade-ground sight of knobbly stick and knobbly knees. When he relinquished command in 1979, after twenty years and with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, it was for him a time of very mixed feelings.

In 1961 Cosmo took over Nicol, in the old (and I mean old) Study Block with eighty boys in half the space later assigned to a House of seventy. How we managed in those days I don't know, but manage we did, and in Nicol as elsewhere there was no absence of House spirit, especially in the Saloon Bar in the loft space! Some 365 boys passed through the House in Cosmo's time, and I am sure they would all testify to their amazement that he knew so much about them and — usually — that he knew where they all

were. Nicol in those days never won all the silver, but they took their share, and I suggest that an analysis of the times would show a strong Nicol representation in music and drama, a reflection of Cosmo's own belief in encouraging talent in all fields.

In 1979 Cosmo retired from Nicol to take on the dual responsibility of Second Master and, with Annabel, of being in charge of the first intake of girls. Together they took over a small group of talented and very individual girls, and tackled the challenge of integrating them into an all-male establishment. Their success can best be gauged by the number of applicants when Woodlands opened its doors two years later, and the rest is history.

The Second Master has a very difficult role. In addition to the mountain of administrative chores that devolve on him he is at the same time the Headmaster's right-hand man and deputy, and he is guide and mentor to the rest of the staff, particularly perhaps younger ones. That Cosmo always enjoyed the confidence, trust and respect of all is a tribute to his skill in man-management. But this post too was essentially a joint one, and I am sure that Cosmo would say that without Annabel he could not have done the job. At Coventrees and in the Headmaster's House Annabel was the perfect hostess, with that deft touch that puts newcomers and the nervous at their ease. New members of staff were always welcomed at Coventrees by them both, and leavers, whether teachers or ancillary staff, were always remembered. Annabel was closely involved with music and drama, accompanying the second

orchestra on many occasions and taking a leading role in musicals in "pre-girl" days. For the last twelve years she also had the responsibility for all floral displays, at dinners, on Speech Day, and especially in Chapel.

Through all his years here Cosmo took an abiding interest in games and he was invariably on the touchline supporting the School or Nicol. For many years he helped in rugby coaching, and he took summer hockey until past his sixtieth birthday. Not many can say that, but then not many have his secret of seemingly eternal youth.

In recent years Cosmo has been the guiding force behind the highly successful 'year' dinners for Old Boys. He has worked closely with the Strathallian Club in maintaining records of former pupils, and he has been instrumental in ensuring growing numbers keep their contact with the School. It is indeed welcome news that he is prepared to continue this work for some time to come.

So, how will you recall the Cosmo years? Irregular verbs? Colonel Cozzy? The all-seeing Housemaster? Second master?

For my part, I will always think of the Cosmo and Annabel team, colleagues and neighbours for many years, hospitable beyond compare, and always true friends in need.

I am sure that all at Strathallan and generations who have left will join me in thanking them for their great service to the School and share my delight that they will be living just down the road. Cosmo and Annabel take with them our warmest wishes for a long and happy retirement.

D.A.R.W.



Mr. M. GRAY

Martin Gray came from Durham and Oxford Universities to teach Physics at Strathallan in 1955. He has always been a painstaking and meticulous teacher, whose lesson preparation has been the model for, and envy of his colleagues. The lights of the Physics labs often burnt late at night, and rumour says that people peeping through the windows found Martin teaching Physics to the desks! Whatever the truth may be, his pupils have always benefited from thoroughly prepared lessons, and those with exams in 1991 were no exception.

Strathallan School has been in existence for 78 years, and it is a sobering thought to reflect that Martin has been a Member of Staff here for nearly half of the School's life, though as he said recently, the part from 1913-1955 seems a very much longer and further away period than the last 36 years!

Martin has always been ready to help in every way. He started House tutoring with Riley, then for many years was an extra House Tutor in Nicol, and latterly has been a volunteer baby-sitter-in-chief for various Houses. He has always been a keen rugby coach and referee, taking some of the less glamorous teams and

games, but always acting as if he were coaching the 1st XV for a really serious match. In summer too, come rain or wind, he has continued devoted help with the third form not-so-athletically endowed! His help and example will be sadly missed.

His wife Riitta taught piano at the School for some years, but she will always be remembered for her musical recitals with James Blair (1969) and her two lovely performances in Orpheus in the Underworld, when she and Annabel Fairbairn bravely joined otherwise all-boy casts in two memorable and excellent School productions.

It was a great pleasure that they sent their lively daughter Jacqueline (1987) to Strathallan.

Martin and Riitta will be living quite near the School, so no doubt we shall be seeing something of them, but we should like to wish them every happiness in their retirement, and to thank Martin for such a long, loyal and dedicated period of service to the School.

MISS MARY McLEAN

Mary McLean retired from Strathallan after more than a quarter of a century of loyal service to the School. She gave

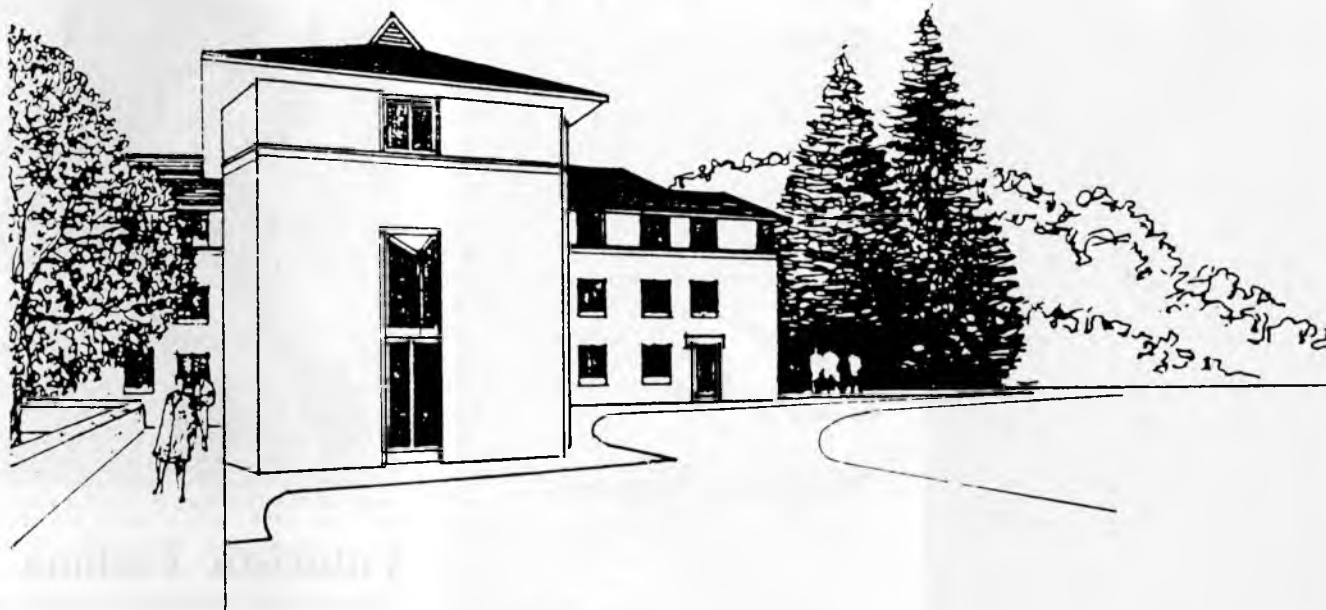
invaluable help to three Headmasters in the Headmaster's House, often appearing in black dress and white apron. In recent years she has also been working in the Sewing Room. Who would open up when rugger shorts, or cricket trousers that had been forgotten, were urgently needed for a match? How can a lost sporran be replaced just before Chapel? Can the cellar be unlocked because I am leaving early to fly off home, and need my trunk? The answer was that Mary did all these things. We shall miss her lovely Aberdeen voice organising the distribution of clean sheets to the dormitories.

The members of the Masters' Common Room have special reason to thank her for her unstinting work, especially at weekends, to keep the room tidy, and to provide coffee on Sundays.

She had served at table so often at School functions that it was a real pleasure to have her as a Top-table guest at the Leavers' Dinner when John Langley presented her with a crystal bowl and vase on behalf of the School.

It is difficult to find words to thank her adequately for her long and devoted service to the School. We wish her a long and happy retirement in her house in Forgandenny.

HALLS OF RESIDENCE



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A Term in Riley

"Hi guys, I'm back!" Who would believe the summer holidays could pass so quickly. Hasty farewells to parents over. The start of another fun packed term at Strath dawns.

"Morning boys, wake up!" The dreaded summoning early Monday morning. Ghost-like bodies arise at the bidding from the depths of blissful slumber and rush to take their place in the breakfast queue.

Lessons over! Nerves unstrung! Now to take out our energy on the games field. After tea, relaxing. Activities, having fun. Bed time. Utter chaos! Finally zonk out time! Till tomorrow.

End of term! Hasty packing. Got a headache from last night's E-additive feast. Another year is over — exams passed! Parents welcoming. "See you next year guys!"



Camping camouflage.

FUN



Stupendously Scholarly Scholars

One wet Monday morning, while the rest of their set went to Mr Sneddon's Really Enjoyable Maths days, in Lovely and Warm Riley 4, they trudged, cold and wet, over to the senior school to take the Extremely Hard scholarship exam. They had been told that the exam was in the library, how were they to know it was in the non-fiction library? And how could they help wasting a quarter of an hour in the fiction library? Eventually, however, all were seated in the right library, with the impossible exam in front of them. Having passed that Most Difficult of tests, Douglas Patterson, Lesley Mac-Mullan and Michael Govind were all successful and won awards.

Riley's Roald Raises Roof

Encore! Bravo! Roars of applause roared up and down the gym hall. Red, beaming happy faces, quick bow and then you're off. Jack and the beanstalk finished. What's next? First form poetry! Scramble! Butterflies! Last farewells! You're on! Matilda's next! Oh no! Will the parents like it? Hope so. Lots of laughs. Good music from the orchestra. Roald Dahl's writing is taking the roof off! Just as well. Got to butter the parents up before the parent/teacher meeting!

Making Music

New teacher, new pupils. Riley's orchestra is getting bigger and better all the time. With little concerts at house-meetings and big concerts with 220 others at Fettes, they were improving and obviously enjoying their new found success. The choir too produced many harmonious moments in chapel and the carol service.

Mr Love's highly accomplished musicians are something Riley are not going to forget.

Red Noses Run Riot in Riley

The "Red Nose Plague" hit Riley on the 15th March. Everyone went wild, with red noses showing everywhere. Beforehand, everybody was asked to think of some fund-raising ideas. Dozens were contributed, including dressing up in various costumes, running pilgries in kilts and wearing pig-tails for the day.

But the highlight of the festival was the sketches in the Lecture Theatre. Each division put a play on, but the best were done by the smaller groups. Overall, a stunning £40 was raised for the Comic Relief Fund.



Mike Burrell completes the 12-mile fun run.

Futuristic Fashion

Boys' shorts abolished! Trousers will take their place! Hoods will sprout from sweatshirts! Tracksuit bottoms will, at last, be tasteful!

Guernseys will soon be parading up and down the causeway! Blazers shall be optional and worn with navy jumpers! Soon it will be less embarrassing to be a gnome in Riley!

Highland Hurl

Muscles flexed, brains psyched up, we were ready! Nobody stood up to us. The opposition melted in front of us. Hill race won, we were on our way. The stone was rolling and nobody could stop us now. Finally it was ours. The Highland Games trophy was ours and we were going to keep it. Well, for a year at least.

AND... GAMES

Fighting Fit Fun Runners

Oh my goodness, it's Sunday morning! The day of the Fun Run is cautiously dawning. The day we were dreading from dawn till dusk. When we would either die or fall, concussed. The pacing is great at the start of the Fun Run. (I wish I had gone on a Fri/Sat/Sun). I topple over the finishing line, Whoo-pee!!! And we raise eight hundred and twenty pounds, thirty three pee.

Girls' Games

Peep! Full time! We had won! We were on our way at last! Who says girls can't play hockey? We're the Riley girls! This year's games went extremely well. Our hockey and netball teams managed to notch up quite a few wins over the months. Rounders and tennis in the summer term! Balls whizzing about our ears! Stiff training! But I bet it's worth it! Our rounders team only lost one match. Tennis went well too with each pair doing their best and coming out with good results. With old hands, new talents. Altogether, an invincible fighting machine, ready to carry the game into the opposition's half! Lets face it, we're the Riley Girls!



Riley Entertainment . . .

U.13 Sport

Silence. He placed the ball on the ground, and walked back. He began the run-up, he took the kick . . .

"HE'S MISSED!" 12-12 that meant. Apart from this, the U.13's scored 362 points for, 29 against, keeping an unbeaten season on the rugby pitch.

On the hockey pitch, the U.13's had another unbeaten season, except for the

Strath Sixes, when 1 point against, (compared with the 26 for!) was scored in the final, when it really counted, a goal in extra time.

In cricket, the U.13's had a bad day in their match against Ardvreck. Apart from this, they won every other match, with a year that was almost unbeaten.

Below: Hockey heroes.



FREELAND

Finishing off one's last set of House Reports gives rather an odd feeling. It is a weird mixture of relief tinged with sadness. Relief because there is nothing more irritating than watching colleagues gallivanting around in holiday gear when one has still eighty-odd reports to do; sadness because there is an element of community spirit within a house which is, in spite of all the infuriation involved, irreplaceable. That is the closest I am going to get to sentiment — I would hate to disappoint those convinced of my complete commitment to cynicism (though personally I think I am just battle-scarred).

The Cup bit: Well done to those who contributed to the wins in Squash, Cross-Country, Basketball, Sailing, Skiing and Athletics. (I expect I have left something out.) Well done also to those who directed and took part in the Junior House Drama. This was particularly pleasing because it was an event in which the Third Form was involved. Quite frankly, they were disappointing this year. There were too many Prima Donnas, at times thoroughly unpleasant to each other and too concerned for themselves. Such an insular approach to life will be a disaster if continued in the naturally rather more isolated study-bedroom situation.

In other areas there have been some very encouraging points. The GCSE results last year were good and the attitude to work of this year's Fifth Form was even better. There are some good academics in the House and a healthily competitive edge. The Fourth Form also have done well and much of the credit for this goes to David Barnes and his team of Fourth Form Tutors. Due to their efforts the one year horizontal system worked extremely well. The Lower Sixth performed anything sporting with both ability and energy. Academically the picture was not quite so good but considerably better than it might have been. It is a very talented year group and this can be frustrating for those who miss out. It might be worth the Third Form noting that this Lower Sixth also had its 'blood bath' period a couple of years ago (ask Robin) and came through it with flying colours.

Now to the Leavers: Henry Brown has gone early to learn about trees, Tommy Chan has gone early to hit the academic life in Edinburgh and 'Skits' has gone early to sort out the knifemen of Aberdeen. They have all made a major contribution. The Upper Sixth leavers also have their achievements:— Jason Hay got his television back (again). Greig Gardner supported a winning Rangers side. Robert Hutchison didn't break anything. David Gritten did. Jamie Shepherd went camping. Jason Sim was only late back on eleven

occasions. Cameron Philip did not get caught every time he did something wrong. John Langley did. Hans McKenzie-Wilson only had his nose broken, not pierced. John Learmonth attended every wedding and twenty-first in Perthshire. After a poor start, Mike Martin managed to get through an entire



week without being snarled at by me. Rod Christie did not. Andrew Miller and Piers Du Cane Wilkinson achieved considerable breakthroughs on the social front. I had considerable misgivings back in September about this year's Upper Sixth. Thanks to them all, and especially to John Langley, the year has gone remarkably well.

Final thoughts: The future will be very different. The new Houses will have considerable advantages. There will also be one or two drawbacks. Privacy is one thing; loneliness is another. If the new Houses are to work as they should, everyone, not just staff or prefects, must be alert lest people are being forgotten. It is difficult to be forgotten if fourteen stone of rugby prop has just landed on you from one of the 'horse-boxes'. It is easy to be forgotten if you shut yourself away in your room. The demolition of the old study block ushered out a period of squalor but just a bit of the community spirit was lost. Study bedrooms will add to the place but not if they are seen as individual cocoons.

As a Housemaster I have been more than lucky with my Heads of House, not least my most recent; my Prefects; my Academic Tutors, all of whom have done considerably more than their 'brief', and with my wife, who has tried to make me

behave. I have been especially lucky with my House Tutor and I am delighted that it is Charles and Lesley who will be taking over Freeland (I'm not so sure how pleased they will be when they find my paperwork). Good luck to all in the House and I promise to try to shut up and mind my own business.

R.J.W.P.

Left: Casual Chris Moore tries for

BREAK-FAST

7.30 and the morning bell cuts the peace of the Tuesday like a knife. Two minutes later the atmosphere of lethargy descends again over the sleepy forms as heads return to the pillow for another 'five minutes'. 8.05 looms and someone turns over, fumbles for a watch thrown casually aside the previous night and comes too as if hit by a glass of water, leaping out of bed with startling speed. Quickly the panic spreads through the dormitory, and the race begins.

Four minutes thirty seconds to get to breakfast, no mean task. Clothes are thrown on, shoes half laced, and with one minute thirty seconds to go the population of a hungry, panic-stricken boarders' dorm rushes downstairs and outside. The pouring rain goes unnoticed as ties are knotted on the run, feet splashing through the usual puddles, discomfort ignored with twenty-eight seconds and twenty-two yards to go. Five seconds before closing time, the forerunners burst into the dining room.

WHO WOULD BE MAN'S FRIEND?

If I were a horse,
I'd break free —
Free from Man's grasp,
His grasp on me.

If I were a cow,
I'd kick out —
Out at his body,
His body or mouth.

If I were a sheep,
I'd run away —
Run through darkness,
From darkness today.

If I were a bird,
I'd fly by the night —
Fly to my world,
With Man out of sight.

If I were a fish,
I'd rot and stink —
Give him a bellyache
To make him think.

If I were a dog,
I'd bite through my leash —
And come back to greet him,
The day he makes peace.

Robert Mitchell

NICOL

Fortunately for all you readers this report will be brief as at the end of the summer term the chicken went home to roost taking the House records with him! So an elderly (but not quite extinct) Housemaster has had to dredge up memories of the past year. Inevitably there will be inaccuracies and omissions! Some will be exalted beyond their worth while others are belittled. My apologies in advance.

On the sporting front we managed only a brace of cups. Leburn imports — Nick Buckley, David Saffron and Nick Russell — starred in the swimming competition, and the new junior soccer cup was just won. With three in the school team, hopes were high for the golf, but on the day David Clark, Ewan Watson and Duncan Taylor were away, the latter two tuning up their game for next year. Dan's boys, again with many in the school team, were fancied in the senior soccer, but failed to find form. However, the finals of Junior rugby and cricket were reached: the rugby final was desperately close, but the proper cricketers from Simpson were far too good. Going into the senior part of the cross country we were well placed. Iain Wilson (later to win the Loch Rannoch Mini Marathon) won the middle section and Jonathan Ireland came third in the junior race, but, despite Riki Sang's win and Andrew Buchan's good run, the seniors let us down. Athletic standards and finals almost fell to us, with particularly fine performances from Captain Sang, Andrew Buchan, James Ducat, Kristian Lannen, Jonathan Ireland and the middle relay team. Another second came in the sailing.

There were, however, some individual achievements: PG Lagerborg played well for the 1st XV, as did Angus Johnston, once he realised the shape of the ball. Mark Taylor and Duncan Robertson were stalwarts of the indoor and outdoor hockey 1st squads. Mark Tench was secretary of cricket and mighty pounding run ups as an opening bowler earned him full colours. James Henderson and John Green both played for Midlands Under 15 rugby, James going on to the Scotland squad. Later he had a trial for Under 15 cricket. Kristian Lannen (who else?) was a stylish national skier.

We had our cultural stars, too: outstanding was Colin Pettinger's *Tartuffe*. A heavily accented Peter Yeates was the mainstay of a junior house play, whose script was too intelligent for most of the audience! The orchestra contained Andrew Yeates, Phil Ainsworth, Raj Arumugam (a potential Satchmo?) and occasionally Euan Smith. These plus Colin Pettiger and Robbie Wilson made male choir practices look like Nicol House meetings. Colin and Euan were also half a Barbershop Quartet. Hamish McCartan was a prize-winning piper and Iain Wilson will become Drum Major. With a host of juniors in or around the Pipe Band, a long Nicol tradition continues.

In the CCF Euan Smith and Duncan Robertson were effective leaders — Euan and Andrew Buchan did much to turn the dreaded post-exam Cultybraggan course into a 'fun' week.

The term finished on a cheerful note with a House barbecue. Thanks to Riki Sang's organisation and that man Smith's culinary skills, a good time and feed was



Paul Manwaring realises dorm life is over.

had by all. It looks destined to become an annual event.

How **did** we survive sharing a building with Ruthven? Fortunately they had as many rogues in the Upper Sixth as we had, while none of their circuits seem to jam and we like to think a little Nicol humanism rubbed off.

The big change comes next year when we take over the prime site in the new residential system. Gone will be the convivial, but smelly, dormitories; in will come elegant study bedrooms in which everyone will work incredibly hard. No longer, either, the post-prep stippie assemblies: instead, sophisticated cocoa parties will be *de rigueur*.

Mr Vallot will become Senior Tutor and live in the integral flat. Mr Wands continues as a Tutor (we should be alright for wood), and Mr Streatfeild-James joins the team. Sadly we say goodbye to Mr Burgess who has been a great support and ever willing presence for the past few years. My thanks to him and the academic tutors: Messrs Giles, Green and Phillips, all of whom have been so generous with their time.

We shall miss our leavers. Who could forget PG's carring, Phil's athleticism, Tom's laziness, Rik's studiousness, Man Fei's jacket (was it his?), or Jonathan's volubility. And the big question — will Andrew always bank with Barclays? Bon voyage to you all on the stormy sea of life after school!

J.N.F.



Left: The New House, Sept. 1991.

RUTHVEN

After so many years of living in close proximity to other Houses and yet remaining in 'splendid isolation', this last year and a term, sharing Hall No. 2, came as quite a shock to the system. That Ruthven has survived and remained inviolate is a tribute to all connected with the House. In particular, Mrs Howie, who has managed to preserve great order and a pristine appearance against all odds, deserves great praise. In my 20 years at Strathallan, I have not come across anyone better in her position and it is a great sadness for Ruthven that she will not be with the House next year — hers will be a very difficult act to follow!

Andrew Murray, John Broadfoot and David Barnes — a trio of caring and enthusiastic professionals — all deserve thanks for the way in which they have supported the House. Although with the fourth form block this year, DJB has been my right hand man for a number of years and I am indebted to him, and to Andrew and John, for helping me to maintain the high standards for which Ruthven is noted.

However, without the close support of the Prefects, life in any boarding establishment would be very difficult. This year we have again been fortunate with our Head of House, Tim Lawrence (who, incidentally, won the Houston Prize for all round merit, the William Tattersall Art and C.D.T. Prizes, and was 1st XV and Athletics captain). Tim has always set himself the highest of standards. He has done the same in helping me to run the House and along with Bruce Webb they have not only handled difficult situations well, but have helped to create the right atmosphere throughout the House.

In addition, we have been fortunate in not only having some good men in the U.VI but a very solid L.VI. In the latter, I would like to wish Alec Burrell all the very best of luck in his most challenging role as Head of School. My very best wishes also go to Graham MacLennan, next year's Head of House and his two deputies James Tornos and Martin Ross.

Finally, my thanks also go to Nigel Smith and Andrew Love, the academic tutors for the L.VI, and to Simon Welsh and Andrew Hawke our New Zealand and Australian students who have helped in the House this year.

By normal trophy-hunting — Strathallan standards, this has not been a successful year. The badminton team under Daniel Breves had our only success. We did, however, perform very creditably in the swimming, cross-country, golf and athletics. Bruce Webb did a marvellous job with the swimming team — as did Tim Lawrence with the cross-country. In the latter, the Juniors deserve special mention because they won their section, with James Barbour

and Martin Fitchie coming first and second, respectively. In the golf, team selection may well have cost us the trophy but James Garvie did win the Individual Stroke Play.

Once upon a time the Rowan Cup for Standards and the Athletics cups had permanent homes on the Ruthven shelves. This year we came very close to winning the former, thanks to the efforts of Graham MacLennan and Robin Stewart and we came third in the latter. However, there were some excellent performances from Tim Lawrence, Graham MacLennan, James Tornos, Martin Fitchie, Ian Potts and none better than James Barlow, who won the Junior Victor Ludorum. We also won the Senior Relay.

Taffy Frame, as Pipe Major, has done an excellent job with the Pipe Band and as well as winning the Senior Piping Awards within the School, along with Ali Gair the School quartet won the Lady Lauriston Competition. Alex MacLeod, Andrew Quinn and Derek Jones were also involved in the competition band, Andrew doing particularly well at Scottish Schools in the drumming.

Nigel Brookes who won the Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings made a cultured impact as leader of the orchestra and along with Richard Townhill, Robert Ionides, Nick Quinn, Robin Stewart,

Euan Sutherland and Alexis McGregor they made a strong contribution to music in the School. The School Play, *Tartuffe*, was an excellent production and John Minihane and Derek Jones are to be congratulated for carrying out their major roles so successfully. Well done also to Richard Townhill and Francois Piganean for their contribution to the play.

Two rather contrasting individuals deserve a special mention: Daniel Breves, in his forth term in the U.VI secured an unconditional place at Oxford — that he did so in English rather than his native language is even more to his credit. Malcolm Dippie has had more than his fair share of misfortune but despite a dislocated collar bone represented the Presidents XV and was selected for the Scotland U.18 Hockey Squad.

I have enjoyed my years with Ruthven and I could not have done the job so well without the terrific moral support I have received from my wife, apart from the entertaining which she has managed so perfectly. For me, it has been a most rewarding and satisfying job, despite the problems and inevitable hassle of living, working with, and caring for so many boys. I'm sure DJB will enjoy his time with Ruthven just as much and I wish him all the very best of luck.

Le roi est mort! Vive le Roi!

B.R.



Willem Bark — contemplates Ruthven's future?

SIMPSON

This year, Simpson has done well at the top, been successful at the bottom, but suffered from a soft centre. Congratulations to all those who have enjoyed individual and collective success, but to certain others a positive attitude and willingness to contribute more than nihilism would not go amiss.

Sport has played its usual major part in house activities but there have been some notable performances elsewhere. John Fraser won the Economics prize on Speech Day and Mark Vance said he would have won the Politics prize if there had been one. In the summer term Richard Morris, James Reekie and Logie Mackenzie all won prizes for exam performance. Tom Edwards, a third former, won the School Chess prize. Laurie Crump won two 1st prizes at the Perth Verse Festival, as well as making a major contribution to school music and the IVth form entertainment. Andrew Jeffery, who shared best actor, Martin Frost and Richard Morris made major contributions to the Junior House Play. Jonathan Leiper combined being a leading player in the orchestra with the role of a foraging flanker for the 1st XV.

On the Sports Field successes were numerous. We had seven who played for the 1st XV, including Garry Burton (15 years) who represented the President's XV as a lock. Quietly we fancied our chances of retaining the Rugby Cup, but everyone else seemed to have high hopes too and the awful weather meant that no one was disappointed. Peter Allen's skiing team were the best we have had for a decade, but could not match Freeland's All Stars. However superior goalkeeping brought about victory against our co-tenants in the indoor Hockey. Alan Keddie was unlucky not to be selected for the Scottish U.16 team. The summer term brought about some pleasant surprises: Fraser Small was Victor Ludorum, despite being a cricketer and

injured for most of the summer. He also led the victorious tennis team which included Jan Conradi on a two-term visit from Germany, and David Simmers whose principal sport was throwing the Javelin. The golfers provided a real upset: Ben Muir, a half-colour for athletics, proved to be a bandit off a handicap of 22, going round in 76. Mark Vance, a late recruit after the 1st XI match against Glenalmond was rained off, was next best. Ky Kay, despite a personally disappointing athletics season, cajoled the athletes into winning the Standards Cup.

In the third and fourth forms there are numerous good games players and they achieved the treble. A number of A team members did not make the House XV. Kip Kirkland represented the Midlands



Garry Burton — 1st XV and Presidents' XV lock forward.

XV. Tim Hunter was crucial in goal in the Indoor Hockey whilst the Cricket XI was astutely captained by Andrew Jeffery. In the final, Alan Milne, Gregor Watt and Iain Fergusson made major contributions.

By the time this is published, the house will have moved to substantial new premises, which I suspect have more floor space than all four houses together had in the old days of the study block. Undoubtedly they will provide a challenge as well as scope and opportunities. Much effort will be required by staff and members alike, if traditional warmth and friendliness are to be maintained. Dormitory life has been an integral part of "Strath" culture and the single study will be a considerable change. Indeed we say farewell to Freeland with whom we have shared a building for so long, all things considered, remarkably harmoniously. Perhaps a warning should be issued here to Isaac, Specky and Co: modern architecture lacks the durability to encourage indoor cricket, and mindless damage will prove expensive.

My thanks go to John Fraser and his prefects who have done a good job; to the academic tutors, Mr Gray, Mr Dutton, Mr Summersgill and Mr Kitson who have maintained an excellent system, to all those who have fed, clothed and cleaned us, and to Mr Ross and Mr Vallot who have kept the house running. I would like to wish a special thank you to P.M.V. and Mrs Vallot who move to Nicol, ironically because the accommodation is more spacious. Paul has given of his time and energy unstintingly and many members of the house have been grateful for his sympathetic and caring nature.

Lastly, farewell to all the leavers, with all my best wishes, and to Martin and Riitta Gray for whom I wish a long and happy retirement.

N.H. du B.

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THORNBANK

I am reliably informed that there is an "alternative house report" somewhere in the magazine; a report which I am sure will make for more informative and amusing reading . . . do I need to continue? I suppose I should, otherwise my fellow Housemasters will not be well pleased at me getting off so lightly with this task at the beginning of the holidays.

Thornbank has survived another cheerful session of organised chaos. The absence of a Resident Tutor has not been easy to live with or without but has enabled the Head of School Nicola Robb, Head of House Julie Clark and our day girl Olivia Wands to live in splendid luxury and produce the most magnificent smells of cooked breakfasts on Sunday mornings. Good always vanquishes chaos however and we are to be blessed with a resident House Tutor next year — Miss Rodgers — so sorry, but the cooked breakfasts will now be found in the dining room.

The building chaos within the House also finally came to an end at Easter, a year and a half after opening. I wish the new residents of Nicol and Ruthven well! Yet some remnants of chaos still reign daily in the House — a dry washing taken out and mixed with the mountains of soggy waiting to be dried; an item of clothing "borrowed" and not returned; toast left in the toaster whilst the owner goes for a shower; the III form playing football in the South Wing corridor after prep — I could go on and on.

Amongst all this, however, a great deal has been achieved. The year was off to a splendid start with the V form GCSE results, several girls gaining straight 'A's. They have maintained these high standards and have proved themselves very worthy 'A' level candidates. Applications to Cambridge by the U VI have resulted in Elspeth Green and Nicola Robb gaining conditional places while UCCA, PCAS and College forms submitted — even Flo's eventually — have given every girl very attainable conditional offers. The working atmosphere within the House has been most encouraging with perhaps the exception of the III form who spent a term split up from room mates during prep.

As Mistress i/c of Girl's Games I always feel a little bashful in reporting our sporting successes as we do somehow seem to have an abundance of talent. Sonya, Flo and Clodagh reached the last 25 in the Scottish U18 Hockey pool with Sonya achieving a place in the final squad, being elected Vice Captain and gained caps in the European Championships in Düsseldorf and in the Home Counties which Scotland won for the first time. At the Scottish Schools Athletic Championships this summer Sonya, Clodagh, Clare C and Alison gained Bronze medals in their respective events. In



Claire Tomlin on life in Thornbank.

House competitions Thornbank had wins in Hockey, Basketball, Cross Country, Tennis and Athletics. Our sporting prowess in our first year made up for a lack of numbers on the more cultural side. However this year with a wealth of dramatic productions many names come to the fore: Dayveen, Tilly, Hanna, Lesley-Anne and Lucy Y in *Doctor and the Devils*; Heather and Louise in *Tartuffe* and the majority of the IV form starring on stage or behind the scenes in their night of entertainment. Speaking of Dayveen, we lost her at Easter, (not in the same way we lost four members of the III form on a D of E expedition or nearly all the V form on the final day of post GCSE). She was moved to pastures new and isn't the House quiet — well apart from the III form. I wonder if their rowdiness got a mention in the "alternative" report? The House was well represented in the orchestra for the Headmaster's Musik and St Andrew's Night. Tracey, Heather, Judith, Tilly, Lorna, Rebecca and Catherine performed publicly at Burns and Verse Speaking festivals in Edinburgh and Perth. Prizes were awarded to girls in the House at the end of term Headmaster's address and at Speech Day: Nicola, Sonya, Elspeth and Emma W were justly rewarded for their efforts during the year.

So the cheerful chaos has produced many organised and pleasing events. There have, of course, been incidents throughout the year which will not be mentioned nor girls congratulated for their endeavours in beating the system. I am resigned to the fact that not everyone can be contented with work, games and cultural participation. Nothing surprises

me now except the lack of personal care the girls have for their own health. Standing in the pouring rain after prep in games kit, believe it or not, is by no means the best way to rid oneself of a hacking cough!

This year sees 21 leavers, five from the V form to whom I wish luck in pastures new where they may or may not find that the grass is greener on the other side. To the Upper Sixth leavers go my very best wishes for happiness in their respective futures. I am sorry to see each and every one of them depart. Their caring attitude, their friendliness and their keenness to do a good job has been much appreciated, especially during a rather difficult year for me personally. I trust they will all keep in touch.

My thanks as always to Mrs Barnes for her immense contribution, proving at Christmas that no one is indispensable when she ably took over the House in my absence. Thanks also to Mrs Watson and Miss Neale for duty nights and to Mrs Adam and Mrs Duncan who also act as academic tutors. To Madge and Morag, who suffer constantly from backache due to picking up after the girls, I wish peace and tranquility over the summer break. Thanks to all those who have walked "the monster" this year, a task originally envisaged to help those who needed a pal, but has developed more into a punishment! Finally, thanks to the personal assistant in the House since the end of January, my mother, who has been most grateful to all of you for your cheery smiles and greetings. She now is looking forward to peace and quiet in her new home — perhaps away from the noisy III form!!!

L.J.S.

WOODLANDS

Last year I was told off by someone who complained that she hadn't received a mention in the 1990 Woodlands House report. "After all," she complained, "I was in this team, that play; I won all these prizes." "Congratulations!" we all said and did say last year in other parts of the magazine. Plenty of space is given over to success and the successful. Those with talent win prizes and praise; they put a great deal into the school, and in fact gain much in return.

This House report is dedicated to all those who did their best, for themselves and for others, but did not receive the recognition their efforts deserve.

I would like to record my thanks to Fiona Mowat and Elspeth Wall for their outstanding commitment as Head of House and Deputy. Fiona was off school owing to ill health for much of the Easter term, and Elspeth ("Fuzzy") shouldered the burden of Fiona's responsibilities as well as her own and, despite a very demanding work programme of four "A" levels, was always prepared to listen sympathetically to younger girls and to quietly chide older members of the House (including her Housemaster).



Fiona bounced back with tremendous zest from her illness and never allowed her own worries to prevent her from taking responsibility and spreading good humour.

The majority of the Upper Sixth have completed five years in Woodlands — the same length of time as their Housemaster and Housemistress — and have been an outstanding group. We wish them all, and those who joined us later, great happiness and success in the future.

This past year has been a very happy year in Woodlands. I managed to avoid moaning in House Prayers for at least three successive weeks about the things I usually moan about. Those in Woodlands know what I'm talking about. Work habits were the best I can remember, rooms tidier, noise levels lower. Don't let's become complacent next year!

I would like to thank our cleaners, Betty and Vicki for their outstanding efforts and kindness and on behalf of myself, Mrs Foster, Miss England, Mrs Broadfoot and Mrs Hamilton, thank all in Woodlands for an excellent year.

J.F.

Left: Fiona Mowat, Belle of the Ball.

SAW DUST

"Good evenin, Miss Joanna."
 "Hello Ben. You got work?"
 Old Ben perched on the broom end
 "Work? Oh yeah Miss Jo, I always got somethin'
 To do.
 How about you?"
 "I'm not busy . . .
 Yet."
 "Some folks have got all . . .
 All the time . . .
 In the world
 To get things done.
 Me? I've just begun
 Clearing up this shed."
 He murmured as he
 Puffed and
 Pushed and
 Prattled on
 Shhh . . . sweeping soaring arcs
 He'd blend, sifting the painstaking sand
 (Of time)
 With a rustic broom sniffing the musty dusty shavings
 And pensioned-off immaterial cares
 Like a dog — ol' hound.
 He was the faithful friend.

Hounded, Miss Joanna
 Wrung her hands over a piece of
 Strong and yet
 Supple and, such a
 Satined
 Plained piece of wood.

"You busy right now?"
 She hoped.
 "Well, talkin's O.K. right now.
 Just gotta clean up here."
 Jo squeezed a tear
 Back into her eye —
 She wasn't a girl! The dust made you
 Cry

And try, try as she might,
 With all her might, the sight,
 That sight in here,
 Ground still stained with his hand's blood . . .
 Old Ben turned, nodded his head
 And deliberately said,
 "Well, strikes me there's not much worth speakin'
 'bout."
 "I don't know."
 "Well, tell ya what I . . . think then —
 You tell me 'bout school.
 Old Ben's an old fool
 An' he don't know nothin' 'bout an edjagation.
 "Man! But you're lucky.
 Schools in my day —
 It just wasn't the
 Way we learned 'bout life!
 "I learned to farm —
 Chop the wood like a regular
 Twelve year ol' man . . . Turned out nice again . . .
 Miss Joanna?"
 He turned round and saw
 Miss Jo on the floor
 Of the wood shed.
 She cried onto the dust (of the earth),
 And she saw
 All of last night again.
 Just the same,
 Heard the rough and rasping
 Rasping
 Rawcous saw
 And poor brother —
 Johnny pushing the wood
 Towards the jaw
 That opened so wide,
 With so many teeth.
 A monster, an historic dinosaur
 Waiting to saw his hand
 In the band
 Saw

And she watched, couldn't break her stare
 And Johnny, unaware
 Came closer and
 Closer and
 Faster and faster, and she knew
 He was through — good as d . . .
 So she said
 "SUPPER!"

How could she know John was,
 Was nearly through with
 That plank,
 And he would have turned it off.
 And,
 But instead, he turned, hearing bone
 Grate like stone against an iron will

Oh, he'd spank her,
 She knew . . . She . . .
 But he laughed, and cried screamed begged
 But what was a little
 Little Girl
 Supposed to do,
 If only she knew.

And he went to sleep and didn't wake up.
 "Dead."
 They said, going
 "Shhh"
 And, "Take Joanna out."
 "Yes, she'll find out . . .
 Act as normal, I would."
 If only she could,
 But they could,
 How come?

He cuddled her close, old Ben.
 Safe and sound.
 All over, better now.
 And she remembered,
 Daniel in the Lion's Den.

Marianne Rustad

CHAPEL NOTES

Although mention will be made elsewhere of Mr Fairbairn's retirement as Second Master, it is as Chaplain that I begin with a word of thanks to both Mr and Mrs Fairbairn. Eight years ago Cosmo gave me a guided tour of the intricacies of the Chapel — its heating system, its cupboards, the curious mechanism of Ian Miller's desk — and was always on hand on "high days" to check on arrangements and, most importantly, to welcome guests. Week after week Cosmo attended almost every Service held in the Chapel — weekdays and Sundays. He has sung more Hymns than anyone else on the Staff (with the possible exception of the Headmaster), has heard (and read) more lessons than anyone else and has sung more harmoniously than anyone else (something even the Headmaster would not claim to have done!).

There is nowhere in the School that Cosmo and Annabel have not already been. They will be a hard "act" to follow. Thank you both for the very high standards you set in the past. We will try to follow!

Mrs Fairbairn has organised the arranging of flowers in the Chapel longer than anyone can remember, faithfully producing a list of arrangers at the beginning of every term and overseeing with her invariable good taste and sense, flowers and floral decorations in the Chapel for the "high days". Not many can say that they have wrestled with prickly holly, red candles, red ribbons, evergreen and a circle of "oasis" — just to produce a fitting Advent Wreath. In addition, her floral skills graced the Dining Hall on Speech Days and the first day of the Academic Year. (Again, something even the Headmaster would not claim to have done.) Thankfully, Alleybank is not so far away as to prevent her from still decorating the Chapel for what, we hope, will be many years to come.

On the penultimate day of Term and of his tenure as Second Master, Cosmo said to me after Chapel: "I set you a test and you have failed it." On my raising an eyebrow he continued: "For eight days three bulbs in the Chapel chandeliers have been out. I have waited for you to have them replaced, knowing that when I have gone it will have to be your job to see to the bulbs." I could only reply by

saying: "Cosmo, every time that I have gone to report defunct bulbs, I discovered that you had already been and left a note."

It has been a different year — though every year is unique. There have been breathtakingly moving moments in the Chapel as when six former Heads of Leburn returned to act as pall-bearers for their Housemaster or when 60 pupils returned to Chapel after Morning Service for a service of Holy Communion. We have welcomed two groups of parents to the Chapel for the first of a series of "Parents' Services", followed by a Question and Answer session which proved illuminating to both the Parents and to the Academic Staff present.

Yet again the "format" of the Sunday Order of Service has changed. The Scripture sentences and the opening prayers are said by both the Chaplain and the Congregation, making the services corporate acts of worship (though it was curious to hear a parent ask "Are all the Services Anglican?" — since any Anglican who might have been present would have found it hard to detect anything in that particular service which came from either the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, the 1928 Prayer Book or the Alternative Service Book. Congregational participation is something all the Reformers worked long and hard for as can be seen in the Genevan Service Book or in any of the Books of Common Order of the Church of Scotland).

Throughout the Gulf War many of us were conscious of the fact that we had friends or relatives in branches of the Armed Forces or serving in the Field Hospitals. Our worship, music, prayers and sermons all had a particular poignancy.

A VIth Form leaver spoke to me just before the Leavers' Service and said, "Sir, there was one thing that I hoped would happen before I left School — that the Hostages' Candle on the altar would be extinguished." Sadly, that was not yet the case. However, images like that candle serve as a focus for many pupils' thoughts and prayers to God however they conceive Him or Her to be. Presbyterian (or Anglican, or Roman Catholic, or Methodist, or Baptist) words are not enough to convey the mystery and the majesty of the Gospel. We need the visual aids, we need the music, we need the poetry and the drama. To that end the School has been well served by its three professional musicians (two from

the Music department and one from the Chemistry department), as well as by musicians from within the School population whose voices or instrumental playing have added a fourth dimension to worship in the Chapel.

The School has continued to support its traditional charities as well as its sponsorship of seven young people through "S.O.S. Children's Villages". In addition we have recently responded to a letter which came to the Headmaster from Daniel Obago in Mombasa, Kenya (the text of which is reproduced below).

The School immediately responded and has raised enough money for Daniel's education and additional expenses for at least a year and we are now awaiting further information as to how the monies can be securely transferred from this country to the right authorities in Kenya.

To Mrs Wyllie and her team in the Housekeeping Department for battling against studded brogues on the Chapel floor, the tramp of snow-covered boots, the vagrant autumnal leaves, untidy pupils and an untidy Chaplain, thanks for maintaining in good "order" one of the show-pieces of the School.

"Sir,

I have been going to Holo Primary School but my mother now cannot afford the cost of keeping me at School. Her hands are crippled so she cannot work and my father died three years ago. I want to stay at School but now there is no way.

I am writing to you most respectfully to ask if the pupils at your School would like to help pay my School expenses. The money you could send through Lions Club International.

One of my older brothers Julius was sponsored on a Tailoring Course at Ahero Village Polytechnic by the Chaplain of Dean Close School, Cheltenham and now he is buying a sewing machine for Julius to start work as a tailor.

Rev. Young is also sponsoring my next older brother, Ezekiel, at Mombasa Baptist High School, but there is no-one to help me with my schooling and the Rev. Young cannot afford to sponsor me as well as Ezekiel.

Please, Sir, ask your pupils if they will care to help me. I need 1,500/- each term for my School expenses. That is about £30. Please, Sir, do try to help me so that I can become educated.

*Hoping to hear from you, Sir,
Yours respectfully (etc)"*

Autumn Term Preachers:

The Revd Andrew Scobie (Cardross), The Revd Professor Murdo Ewen Macdonald, Mr P. E. Johnston (Headmaster, QECS, Blackburn), The Revd Dr A. S. Todd (St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen), The Revd Rory MacLeod (OS and Chaplain at Loretto School), Captain J. B. Coutts, Mr R. D. Kernohan (Editor "Life & Work"), Remembrance: The Revd W. G. A. Wright, QHC, CF, MBE, BD, The Revd David Weekes (Fettes College), The Revd Charles Robertson, JP, MA (Canongate Kirk), and The Revd Tom Balfour (Edinburgh).

Spring Term Preachers:

The Revd W. Fergus Harris, MA (Perth), The Revd Ewen S. Nicoll (Luss & Arrochar), The Revd R. P. Sloan (Perth).

Summer Term Preachers:

The Revd Bruce Cameron (St John's Episcopal Church, Perth), Revd Bruce Thomson (Scone Old), Revd Tom Cuthell (St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh), Revd Uise Macdonald (Perth), Revd

David Hamilton (Glasgow University) and at the Valedictory Service: Revd David Ogston (St John's Kirk, Perth).

(During the year the Chaplain preached 15 times and there were 228 communicants.)

Confirmation Service:

During a celebration of the Holy Communion on Sunday, May 14th at which the Preacher was the Rt Revd Patrick Roger, formerly Bishop of Manchester, then Oxford, the following candidates were presented to the Bishop for Confirmation by: The Revd Bruce Cameron and Revd Fergus Harris and Mr Simon Dunlop:

Church of England/Scottish Episcopal Church/Episcopal Church in Norway:

Elaine Campbell, Lucy-Anne Bryans, Sally Burrell, Olivia Wands, Helen Bruce, George Obank, Andrew Hodgson, Peter Yeates, Graeme Johannesen.

The Chaplain confirmed the following candidates for **The Church of Scotland**:

Karen Primrose, Joanna Clark, Claire Corrie, Heather Dewar, Judith Morris, Philippa Tilley, William Livingstone,

Claire Tomlin, Lesley-Anne Dewar, Rebecca Milne, Lynn MacLennan, Rachael Tilford, Lorna Doodson, Sarah McDougall, Estelle Aitken, Susie Dutton, Nicola Miller, Fiona Clayton, Frances Low, Ben Gray and Martin Fitchie.

In addition, Tracey Morton and Mark Brand received instruction prior to Confirmation at home by The Church of Scotland and The Church of Ireland (respectively).

Graeme Longmuir (Chaplain)

THE HEDGEHOG OR JOHN THE BAPTIST

He rooted under stones and poked down holes; hope remained. There was nowhere for it to go.

The sun beat down on his prickly coat, as he searched the barren plain. There it was, soon crunching in his watering mouth; a round beetle.

The prize God had sent for patience.

Kip Kirkland

CAREERS

The major change in the careers service this year has been the implementation of the policy referred to in last year's "Strathallian": the enrolling of all Fifth formers in the ISCO Careers Guidance Scheme, and we also enrol all new pupils joining the Lower Sixth.

Those who seek individual careers advice can be divided into two broad categories: those wanting specific information about particular careers or courses, and those who, in the jargon, "haven't a clue what to do".

It had become abundantly clear that the great majority of those in this second category were those who were not enrolled in the Scheme. The Scheme does not, of course, answer all questions, but a detailed analysis of a pupil's interests and aptitudes together with recommendations, all fully discussed with the pupil, does help to set him/her on the right lines. The parents of all Fifth formers have received a comprehensive report which I hope they (the parents) will find constructive.

This year there has been a significant and very welcome increase in the number of Lower Sixth pupils attending Careers Experience Courses: 59% of the year, compared with 40% in 1989/90; many attended at least two courses. Pupils have to write a brief report after their course, and judging by the reports virtually all found the courses very helpful and worthwhile.

Once again the Upper Sixth had the opportunity to visit at least one university and to meet representatives from all Scottish universities and colleges, plus many from England. These events are timed for a few weeks before application forms have to be submitted and they prove very useful to many in determining their future courses. This pattern of visits will be continued for the foreseeable future.

As always, we have had a number of guest speakers on a wide variety of subjects, and we are most grateful to these ladies and gentlemen for giving their time so generously. They have included:

Mr Bill Baird: "University Entrance".

Mr F. R. H. Elgood: "Insight on Blindness".

Mr Cowan Irvine: "Careers in Law".

Mr Stanley Farrow: "The Scottish Central Institutions".

Mrs Christine Hellier: "Careers in Accountancy".

Mr Magnus Linklater: "The Role of the Press".

Mr Tom McClean: "Motivation".

Mr Rory MacLeod: "Careers in Journalism".

Mrs Janet Mathewson: "The Dangers of Cults".

Mr Alex Totten: "The Life of the Football Manager".

Major changes in the structure of higher education are planned for the next decade, and we will see many polytechnics given full university status. While this may not be the case, except on a small scale, during the relevant period for the present generation of Strathallians, the simple fact is that polytechnics or equivalent institutions in Scotland and England already offer degree courses in a huge range of subjects, including some not available at universities: a fact of which many parents appear unaware, and it is my impression that if they were aware of this, then all too often the polytechnic is regarded as a second rate choice. May I remind any doubters that it is not so long ago that two of Scotland's polytechnics achieved university status; I am sure no-one regards Heriot-Watt and Strathclyde as second rate.

My point is simply this — and I am speaking essentially to parents — if we should recommend that such-and-such a course at such-and-such a polytechnic is worth investigating, then please do so, and encourage your son/daughter to do so. As the Secretary of State for Education said recently: "Courses offered by the best polytechnics are often better than those offered by the weakest universities". In the future the difference between the two types of institution will disappear. For the time being, remember that it is possible to apply to both.

D.A.R.W.

FANTASIESTÜCK OR VERISMO?

Kappelmeister, Musik-Director or Maestro di Capella is a long-established position in the great households and courts throughout Europe, and many illustrious names figure in the lists of those who have held them: Vivaldi, Haydn, Leopold Mozart (WAM's dad), and the mighty J. S. Bach (who got the sack for playing fancy harmonisations of hymns at Sunday Chapel) to name but a few.

The task has changed very little over the centuries, even though the instruments, musical styles and fashions have altered somewhat. The duties remain the same outwardly, being those of supplying all the musical needs of the community, reflecting the social and church year with their differing requirements. He had to maintain a corps of musicians to help perform, arrange and compose music, and to keep abreast of the fashions and changes of taste, if not to set them.

The job of Director at Strathallan is very much the same as Bach's, even if Sunday morning Chapel is now about 3 hours shorter. We don't sing a Cantata every week for the service, but organ music, choir anthems and congregational settings feature in the 1990 scheme of things, just as they did in 1690.

The Prince Archbishop of Salzburg may have held more dinner parties where his orchestra played discreetly in the background to the delight of his guests, but similar happens today, and called the Headmaster's Musick, guests sit silently through the dazzling performances, and the orchestra and soloists eat enthusiastically during the dinner interval!

Just as Bach would have drafted visiting musicians into his band, so we, this year, enjoyed the support of Nigel Brookes, here for a year of hectic music-making. He had travelled from Helensburgh, taking in the National Youth Orchestra en route. Like jobbing musicians the world over, there has been no blank moment this year for him: thrown into string quartets: Mendelssohn's D Minor Trio for the Headmaster's Musick; (along with Marianne Rustad on the cello); Grade 8 violin and piano; Mozart's G Major Violin concerto; Beethoven's chamber music and, finally, leading the orchestra. In short, there is "no peace for the wicked", as they say. He continues his musical journey firstly with another summer with NYOS, and on to Edinburgh University.

Whereas the Kappelmeisters of the past might have written all the new music for performance, this year it has been the turn of the candidates for Higher and GCSE music to compose. The results, always interesting, have proved no less demanding in performance than those of their illustrious forbears. After all, so



many "great" composers of the past were told at the first rehearsal that their music was unplayable, and they even nearly slaughtered Stravinsky at the first outing of the "Rite of Spring". All of ours escaped injury, and one can only encourage them all to keep the ink flowing, for composition gets easier with practice.

"Easier with practice" — how many times has that been said since 1700? However dusty with age, it is still true and the players who have heeded the advice have produced many fine performances and Associated Board successes. The introduction of the Associated Board new Theory exam passed without too much trauma, even if its over-complex appearance will only dismay the younger candidates in the future. Bach and his colleagues taught reliance on the grammar, and thus the understanding of the musical language. How is it that modern day performers think they can master the language without knowing anything about it? Bach would have

written some pretty strange fugues if he hadn't studied his Grade VIII Theory. He would, however, have been very delighted with the performance of his Concerto for 2 Violins which Pauline Lockhart and Andrew Yeates gave at the HM Musick, displaying, as it did, both technical and musical mastery.

The Choir and Congregational singing, although not an outstanding year vocally for either group, has kept going at a high level.

The ever strengthening bass and treble lines, aided by harmony from the choir, make the unaccompanied verses a real treat to hear. The congregation, unlike Bach's worthy burghers of Leipzig, who disapproved of fancy harmonies in their hymns, have risen to the challenge of trumpets, descants and chromaticisms thrown at them by the organists. The brass group itself, has risen to unknown heights of excellence and showed themselves to very best advantage in a splendid performance of *Finlandia* in the Chapel.

The fourth formers whom Bach taught, as history would have us believe, made light of the problems of music technique, and they studied the subject voraciously. Do they 300 years on? Whereas, perhaps, entertainments or mind-improving diversions were rare in 1691, today these are widely available and require little real searching out. Bach, rather fortunately, didn't teach "Musical Appreciation" to classes; lucky for him, for there wasn't much music around to appreciate then — he hadn't written it! What he did do, though, was to experiment with all the latest instruments, and to a certain extent, styles, even through his eldest son (of 21) regarded him as a most fuddy-duddy daddy!

Whereas the court band rooms didn't run to all the newest instruments, even in Haydn's day, there were always the musical experimenters about, boasting the latest gadgets. The 1990s are no different, and although the orchestral instruments do not change, the electronic ones do. Public experiment here with new instruments and styles is, perforce, reliant on individuals to carry it out, and this year has not been an idle one for Colin Pettinger. At one moment, his partners in crime, Euan Smith and Nik Quinn, croon close harmony with Mr Bolton, the next, they are plugged into the nineties with the Korg M1, producing layers of fantastic sound, invented as they play. I'm sure Bach or Tony Vivaldi felt as excited as they fingered a new harpsichord or one of the new Italian violins. Their music certainly gives one to believe that.

So where are we going 300 years on, and how are we getting there? Sadly, it will be without the slinky, Selmer-sound, sax playing of Karen Miller and Marianne Rustad's cello playing, for they both leave to continue their studies in Edinburgh. To help us, Andrew Love has joined the full-time staff. Luckily for him, and the organist's assistant, and unlike Bach, he doesn't have to practice the organ late at night in a freezing Kirk, candles flickering and with a reluctant pupil pumping for all he's worth keeping the wind pressure up! Between the ingenuity of Copeman Hart and the Bursar, the girls' houses are serenaded well into the night watches, and the organist, all the while, in total comfort.

We're also going upwards, literally! More space is to be made available for music practice and teaching after the removal of the boys' dormitories above the music room. Instead of piles of instrument cases littering the floors in the practice block, there will be two flights of stone stairs to trip over. The road to musical perfection never was an easy one!

Along with the practicalities, there are dreams to be realised. Dreams about making music, writing music, and performing music with new people and new instruments; and dreams, or is it a vision, of a contemporary music studio,

equipped with Korg M Is, and all manner of keyboards, drums, multi-track tape recorders, computers to help write the music, all beautifully sound-proofed to keep everyone happy with performers not just music scholars, but classes of third and fourth formers realising their creative skills through music. Along with all this comes a wider, more open-minded audience, prepared to acknowledge the place of the Arts in society. Maybe when the new theatre, et al, are realities, professional musicians shall come to visit and perform for us. For certain, we shall get out to hear more music played by them, to inspire us. The school shall continue to sing together, perhaps accompanied by great orchestras, and led by teams of soloists. Choral works in harmony, perhaps a fifth former's electronically inspired contribution to the ceremonials of Speech Day performed by 500. The future? It has all

been done before, so perhaps we must go on to the past?

One thing for sure, we shall only go on with the continued hard work and goodwill of our faithful team of music staff. And particular thanks for the support from Alison Mitchell who leaves to get married and continue her flute playing a little nearer home, and to Colin Armstrong. Their places will be taken by Andrea Kypers and Steven James, and we welcome them aboard most cordially.

Long may all our efforts find a ready place in the hearts of our creatively-minded community, from the continuing generous patronage of our benefactors beyond the school drive, the Governors and Headmaster. Viva Music!

F.N.R.

Robin Barr Memorial Prize for Music:

Emma Wardhaugh.

Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings:

Nigel Brookes.



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PIPES AND DRUMS

In any School Pipe Band there will inevitably be "lean years" when the Band lacks the weight of Senior Pipers and/or Senior Drummers. This was one of Strathallan's "lean years". That being said, with Pipe Major Jonathan Frame, assisted by Sgt David Fraser in the Pipe Corps and Leading Drummer Sgt Peter Sochart and with Drum Major Derek Jones (formerly a piper), there was sufficient strength to ensure that we did not disgrace ourselves.

As a token of the esteem in which the Governors hold the Band, a new set of Side drums and a new Bass Drum were purchased, as were additional Drummers' Plaids. It was interesting to see that in the wake of our having borrowed "State-of-the-Art" Side drums for the 1990 CCF Competition, by the time that the 1991 Competition came along, almost every School had followed our lead.

Various other Senior Pupils helped in the Band in the course of the year, some having been Bandsmen, some novices. Special effort was made by Andrew Quinn, Hugh Lochore, Euan Smith and Henry Brown.

Our first "outing" seems to be a fixture on the Piping Calendar for Strathallan, notably playing for the Scottish Curling Championship, this time in the splendid new Dewar's Rinks in Perth. From there, we moved on to providing pipers for an engagement in Newburgh, a

Band for an engagement at Kinmouth Castle, and pipers to combine with a group from Fettes who, together with Lathallan School's Pipes and Drums, played for an International Day at Lathallan School for The Save the Children Fund. At this event the total amount of money raised was £4,000.

On the "Competition Circuit" we held our heads high, for the most part. Our Junior Pipers did exceptionally well at The Vale of Atholl Pipe Band Competition at Pitlochry; we won back from Glenalmond "The Lauriston Broadsword" and our Bass Section were easily the winning Section at the Scottish Schools' CCF Championship where there were some most unusual results.

So impressed was Miss Jennifer Huchence (Judge at the "Lady Lauriston" Competition) that she has invited us to rehearse from time to time with Craigmount High School.

Special mention should be made of the joint holders of The President's Cup. Two pupils in the School, after just a year's tuition, led the Bass Section to its stunning win at the CCF Championship at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane.

Their Section had the most convincing win in the competition, bring only two points off maximum. They also happened to be the first two girls from Strathallan to compete. Jennifer Scouller and Bonnie Stevens justly deserved the award of The President's Cup for Services to the Band.

They (along with Michael Govind, Riley) were also awarded their Pipe Band Ties.

The Band and The School are well aware that what has made us a force to be reckoned with is the quality of instruction, our pupils receive, either as individual pipers and drummers or as Bandsmen/women. To Pipe Major Barron, Mr Braid and Mr Clark for their individual contributions, their stories, their patience, their exasperation and their genuine concern for every pupil, we are all most grateful.

The Strathallan Competition: (Judges: Mr Roderick Barron, Mr D. Clark, Mr George Braid. Presentations of medals: Mrs Joy Taylor; Presentation of trophies: The Headmaster)

Junior Piping: Alex MacLeod
Senior Piping: Jonathan Frame
Senior Drumming: Peter Sochart
Senior Tenor Drummer: (a new competition with a new trophy given by Mr George Braid — Tenor Drumming Instructor) Jennifer Scouller
Hornpipe & Jig:

3rd: Hamish McCartan

2nd: Alex MacLeod

1st: Jonathan Frame

Pibroch Competition:

4th: Alasdair Macdonnell

3rd: David Fraser

2nd: Hamish McCartan

1st: Alex MacLeod.

President's Cup: (for Services to the Band)

Jointly: Jennifer Scouller and Bonnie Stevens.

Hamish McCartan

THE MONSTER

Hamish McSporran was walking home
Hamish McSporran was soaked to the bone

In the rain that pelted down, down, down,

Hamish McSporran thought he would drown.

When all of a sudden, to his surprise
A monster splashed out and ate up his eyes.

Hamish couldn't see, Hamish was blind,
The monster took advantage, and ate his mind.

The monster proceeded to eat his lips
And it sucked Hamish's blood in small, tasty sips.

The horrible beast then, and very slow,
Gradually nibbled at Hamish's nose.

The ugly animal scoffed his ears
And washed them down with a couple of beers.

It gobbled up everything, his kidneys, his heart,

His hands and feet, and . . . his other part.

Colin Perry,
Form I



Bell's "Islander" World Curling Championships at Perth Ice Rink.

THESPIANS

Nineteen-ninety one has definitely been the "Year of Culture" as far as the English Department has been concerned. In frantic attempts to find us literary stimulus, and to convince us that English isn't all about men wearing tights and talking to skulls, the staff have spent thankless hours knee-deep in travel brochures and train time-tables to organise trips for us.

Thanks to them, during the Easter term we have been able to see many varying productions of our A-level texts, which will hopefully stand us in good stead for the exam.

We were able to go on two overnight trips, the first of which, at the beginning of term was for two nights spent in Stratford-upon-Avon home of our great English playwright, William Shakespeare (patron saint of sleepless nights and bitten fingernails!). Our second overnight trip, daringly organised for the last night of term, was to London, to see a production of Harold Pinter's "The Homecoming".

During the term we also managed numerous journeys to nearby theatres. The most memorable productions were the controversial "Waiting for Godot" by Samuel Becket, performed by the Compass Theatre Company, and a surprisingly light-hearted "King Lear" performed by the National Theatre Company in Edinburgh. Brian Cox in the title role painted an endearing portrait of a dotty old man who especially enjoyed being zoomed around the stage in his wheelchair at an alarmingly fast rate. That colourful production provided a striking contrast to the more intense production which we saw in Stratford.

Most left for Stratford unconvinced as to the entertainment value of the next few days. The prospect of an eight-hour bus journey there and back, attending three plays and a theatre workshop filled even the keenest students with gloom. We weren't even sure where we were staying! However, no-one was disappointed — in fact even the journeys passed quite quickly as we were able to indulge our more basic interests — by watching videos on the bus. Surprisingly, despite our packed schedule we had a fair amount of free time, which was spent exploring the beautiful old town, or, for the more industrious among us, brushing up on the Shakespeare quotes for the evening performances.

I think I am right in saying that everyone was very impressed by the overwhelming size of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and that despite the fact it was huge the actors appeared to be "the size of flies to wanton boys" — and four and a half hours on those seats were perhaps not the most comfortable four and a half hours ever spent!

As we had expected, the standard of performances was extremely high and the scenery, including a revolving stage, was very effective. The storm scene certainly had a few people's faces turning green! That production of "King Lear" was very intense and dramatic — perhaps not everyone's cup of tea. The next day, however, after our "Theatre Workshop" (special mention should go to Jennifer for her spontaneous, but nevertheless convincing portrayal of Edmund) we moved on to slightly lighter things. This came in the form of Chekov's "Seagull" performed at the Swan Theatre. This was a poignantly romantic drama which had the girls in the back row reaching for the Kleenex — a great cathartic experience!

That evening, it was back to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre again for an extremely colourful production of "Love's Labour's Lost", which is apparently, for Shakespearian scholars, classed as "light entertainment". Suitably cultured, and definitely refreshed, we departed for school next morning.

Our next journey to London, was an impulsive idea of Mr Forster's and organised with awesome rapidity. We literally travelled down to London on the last day of term, watched the play and jumped back on the sleeper. Speculation mounted as to whether it would be a successful mission — twenty of the upper sixth let loose in London — at night! — and rumours that the masters were

beginning to get nervous were confirmed by Mr Court's plea that we were not to give the impression that English trips were (and I quote) "Bohemian Orgies!"

These fears were unfounded, however, and the trip was a remarkable success. We had some free time in London for a meal and then went to the Peter Hall production of "The Homecoming" at the Comedy Theatre. Warren Mitchell (a.k.a. Alf Garnett) played the grouchy Max superbly, while Cheri Lunghi certainly grabbed the attention of the male members of the audience as the beautifully calculating Ruth. Because of the complexity of the humour in "The Homecoming" it certainly helped to see it interpreted on stage, before studying it as an A-level text.

Definitely the most unpleasant part of the trip was having to change trains about three times at unearthly hours of the morning on the way back to school, but we took consolation from the fact that at least we were on holiday now.

All that remains is for me to thank the English staff — Mr Broadfoot, Mr Court, Mr Forster, Mrs Adam and Mr Murray for all their time and patience in organising and supervising these trips, I hope it wasn't too heavy going! Also special thanks must go to Mrs Forster for her impromptu high-speed journey to Edinburgh to get Jan on the train.

Emma McNamara



TARTUFFE

Molière's stylish comedy "Tartuffe" has been very successfully translated into modern Scots dialect by Liz Lochhead.

Surely quite a challenge for a school's company! But in every respect the production at Strathallan in March succeeded admirably. Emboldened by this, John Broadfoot took the decision to transfer it to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August. By then, aided by discreet pruning of the text imposed by the strict time schedule in the Fringe venue and a general tightening up of performances, the whole show moved far beyond the league of the normal school production. This opinion was echoed by the Scotsman reviewers who chose it as a "Pick of the Day" from the hundreds of shows on the Fringe.

needed for the stage in the Fringe venue, it was not possible to transfer the whole of the splendid set designed by Torquil Macleod, Greg Ross and Adam Sheatfeild-James for the school production. It imaginatively revealed the elegance of the era and the social class in which the play was set. Sufficient of the original remained, however, to fulfil the requirements of the text. Also the costumes splendidly underlined the blend in the play of socially conscious elegance and Scottish couthiness. This was further emphasised by the occasional use of incidental music. Particularly effective was the dramatic use of music and lighting at the height of the play at the point of Tartuffe's demonic scream of victory.

Realistic and humorous performances were given by Jon Minihane and Tessa Dunlop as the infuriatingly gullible Orgon and his vivacious and flirtatious wife, Elmire. Colin Pettinger was a sleezy, slimy and disgustingly hypocritical Tartuffe. Finally, the audience loved Jennifer Scouller's hilarious rendering of the earthily witty lines of verse in Liz Lochhead's translation.

All in all, an excellent show and a great credit to the dedication and inspired direction of John Broadfoot, whose talents — late 20th Century Renaissance Man, that he is! — even stretched to the nightly washing and ironing of the costumes.

L.McF.



Left: Jennifer Scouller as the 'managing' maid Dorine gives them all a piece of her mind.

*Above: 'Gullible' John Minihane.
Below: Reflection in the Green Room.*

All honours to the cast, they confidently tackled the Scots dialect (written in verse) with a natural and relaxed enjoyment. There were competent performances from Chris Procter, Richard Townhill, Florence Griffiths, Louise Weston and Fiona Grainger. Tarrant Steele gave a convincing portrayal of Cleante, Orgon's brother.

Derek Jones, as the young lover, Valere, displayed very well the impetuousness of youth. Marianne, his "fiancee" is a difficult part to play because of her blend of filial reliance on her father and a growing sense of independence: Heather Dewar coped admirably with the part.

Sadly, because of the "quick change"





THE FESTIVAL

FRINGE REVIEW Thursday, 29 August 1991

TARTUFFE Strathallians Across the Mersey Theatre

Liz Lochhead's vigorous translation of Molière into largely modern Scots is given a vivaciously amusing performance by this group from Strathallan School. The actors speak the vernacular to great effect, making the most of their comic lines and well-placed contemporary idioms.

Colin Pettinger is a smoothly self-satisfied Tartuffe, with a hint of a Hebridean accent bringing an additional dimension to his religious zeal. His scenes with Tessa Dunlop, who makes a delightfully flighty Elmire, with Kelvin-side pretensions, have particular force.

Jon Minihane is sympathetic as the gullible Orgon who is deceived by Tartuffe's hypocrisy, making him seem more decent than foolish. His daughter, Marianne, is a balance between the quietly knowing and the innocently romantic in Heather Dewar's portrayal.

The dominant figure is the distinctly forward maid, Dorine, who speaks up loudly for good sense and honest scepticism. She is skilfully played by Jennifer Scouller.

The set is simple but elegant, and the director, John Broadfoot, groups the actors effectively.

Colin Affleck

After pondering a while over what exactly I should write concerning our fringe production of *Tartuffe*, I came to the conclusion that perhaps this job should have been given to someone else. Well, I *could* say how wonderfully well it had gone down, how competently produced it had been, or how it transformed from the traditional "School play" into one of considerable professionalism . . . but that, although true, would undoubtedly bore you. Instead, I am left with no choice but to entice you with what *really* happened . . . (knew that would get you). It all started in March 1991 when the director (also known as Mr B) informed us that miraculously, the school production of *Tartuffe* had gained a place at the Edinburgh Fringe, (whoops and cheers, etc., etc.). Elated though we were, however, this meant cutting short our holiday, and in Tessa's case, cutting it altogether. (Greece would've loved you). So there we were . . . alone (well not quite, actually) . . . gathered together once more in the lecture theatre after five months. Quel horreur! Had it

not been for Mrs B's cooking and our hosts' hospitality, it is debatable whether we would have survived the next few days. (We have reason to believe Mr B has strong ties with the slave trade).

After intense rehearsals, during which we dutifully collapsed into bed every night at 10 p.m. (or was it a.m.?), we left Strathallan for Edinburgh and so began our week's work as true Thespians. In my opinion the time to follow couldn't have been better spent (literally). I will never forget that daily ritual of meeting outside the Fringe Club and desperately trying to get rid of the leaflets that Mr B refused to stop printing. I never want to see another piece of luminous pink paper again! (I'm sure many passers-by felt the same way). Praise be to the man who equipped us with "The Filling Station" just opposite! Such a place has never been more gladly entered! I will always remember the night at the Fringe Club, too. Who would've thought a scene plucked out of the middle of a play could have been so well received? More importantly, who would have thought other members of the cast would have been there as audience to their own play?

And the play itself? I have never seen Jon more "Orgon-ish", Jenny more "Dorine-ish" or Colin more revolting — those wandering hands limbering up (and down) that red tablecloth will, I'm sure, be fixed in people's minds for a long time!"

As a whole, the play was a tremendous success and I cannot find words to explain the pleasure it brought. Whether it was on the stage — trying hard not to laugh at Rick's wig which so graciously displayed half a can of talcum powder when Jenny turned him around in rehearsals; collapsing into fits of giggles at our new "improved" roles; or off stage simply enjoying the drill of the Fringe, the atmosphere and companionship that resulted is one that hopefully we will never forget.

Thank you to those who made that possible.

Heather Dewar

Right: Mr. and Mrs. Broadfoot and Mr. Streiffeld-James — Director and Producers at the Fringe.



"OCH, AN TARTUFFE???"

HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITIONS

After a frantic six weeks of preparation, the House plays opened to a packed theatre of expectant teachers and pupils on Friday, 3rd November. We were not to be disappointed: six inventive texts unfolded to a provided climax of "Don't jump, Oscar! Don't jump!" (He almost always did).

Simpson warmed us up with an extremely funny, if derivative, visit to Blackadder and Baldrick through the ages. The time changes from 1928 to 1428 and back again to the present were rather confusing, but Richard Morris as the "dancing boy" kept us entertained with his tricks during the many (too many?) curtain pulls. Martin Frost as Blackadder managed the complex text of his own devising very well and Baldrick supported him hilariously, mainly by being himself (Andrew Jeffrey) while Flash-heart deserved a mention for his stunning entries. Laurie Crump and Matthew Barker added music to the text most inventively but the promised end (concerning Oscar) didn't arise out of the main action convincingly enough. This was a well-rehearsed play which used simple costumes and props very effectively (special mention for the trench walls).

Thornbank then burst upon the stage, its four powerful and weighty main characters endeavouring to lose some of their bulk in pursuit of romance: "All it takes is a little wishful thinking". Dayveen Dalrymple was hilarious as the Glaswegian Cilla and Rachel Tilford gave a delightful (if not always audible) performance as Whoopee. There was a good bout of hysteria from Rebecca Milne, and Lucy Ann Bryans as Oscar made a convincing young man. Although the ending was irrelevant and weak, nevertheless this play entertained the audience hugely, especially in the beautifully choreographed and performed aerobic and ballet scenes. What a pity there wasn't a prize for the best dancing...

Ruthven's play was disappointing, not only because it was poorly rehearsed, but because it contained a potentially exciting structure which opened so well with the apparent spontaneity of a strong speech from James Gammack-Clark, the metaphysical schoolboy. However, the play deteriorated into a predictable satire on school life and the inconsequential end with its search for Oscar (the pet frog), although good fun and well handled, never made up for the poor timing of the rest of the play.

"The Return of Clutz and Blunder" from Freeland was a joy to watch. There were both delightful and disgusting (that dog!) small touches in the text from start to ingenious finish. SPOOK! went the effective pauses in the action and this simple technique punctuated the clever plot most amusingly. There were strong

performances from Paul Johnston and Mark Price as the two Chandlerish detectives. They held the play together very well, framed by some beautifully staged scenes of bar room and street lamp life. The sound effects and special effects were a triumph — Ali Dundas, Duncan Elder and Ross Gardener being mainly responsible. This was a well written and ingenious script and the large cast had worked hard to make it the enjoying and amusing success it was. Oscar jumped!

Woodlands had a bad start — with a combination of bad luck (jammed curtain) and bad management (noise on stage) so that the effect of the prologue was lost and with visibly nervous actors. "Don't Eat the Dragon" got off to a stiff opening scene. However, the excellent costumes and increasingly confident acting of a complex plot began to work their spell. In a well-scripted tale of romantic derring-do in medieval high places, Sir Lovealot courted the maid (or was it the Queen?). Potential confusion in the plot was smoothed by strong (over?) acting from Lucy Quarry as the Queen, Carolyn Silver as the bumbling old King, but above all, through a stunningly simple performance by Catriona MacLean as the Maid: she sang well, she spoke well — she was superb. The ending was therefore surprisingly affecting, albeit

unlikely. Did she **have** to die of shame because her name was Oscar?

Nicol's "Play" was by far the best drama on paper. This beautifully presented and illustrated script was deserving of the prize, had it not been for the weak handling of the plot on stage. The character of Pierre, lynch-pin of the story, did not come across in performance and lack of direction and careful rehearsal told in the poor supporting cast. However, mention must be made of the spectacular opening scene: the startling entry of a large red motorbike belching exhaust! Oscar's search for suicide was no doubt caused by the (unscripted) struggle to remove his ordinary old jeans (in order to put on the smart, slinky L★V★S associated with the bike) without exposing himself!

Exhausted we were indeed! Having nominated several possible candidates for each category of award, Mrs Broadfoot and Mrs Adam carried out their own Oscar scene and "jumped" on the following winners:

Best Script: Woodlands.

Best Actor: Martin Frost/Andrew Jeffrey.

Best Actress: Catriona MacLean.

Most ingenious use of the last line: Freeland.

Best Production: Freeland.

E.M.A.



DOCTOR AND THE DEVILS

For the IIIrd and IVth form play this year the school gym was brilliantly transformed into an amazing combination of morgue, Morningside coffee shop and misery of Edinburgh slum life. The story of Burke and Hare, adapted here by Dylan Thomas, held the audience as various souls "excited stage left" followed by blood curdling screams, never to appear again, except on the Doctor's dissecting table.

But it was not all blood and gore. The Morningside madames (Lucy Young, Lesley-Anne Dewar and Kananu Kirimi) offered a contemporary commentary written by Tessa Dunlop, both witty and amusing in itself and skilfully amplifying the moral dilemmas of the text. Despite

the play's macabre theme, the play itself was full of life and movement — with large and very well stage-managed crowd scenes, and atmospheric use of violin, dance and song.

There was a degree of subtlety as the play progressed. The anatomical students greeted the Doctor with respect, but as the plot unfolded it was impossible not to wonder who were the devils. The Doctor (Paul Johnston) with his voluminous black cloak, long stride and powerful sonorous voice, slowly lost the respect of his young students. Burke (Peter Brown) and Hare (Gregor Watt) kept us both on our toes and wide awake, as they executed the downfall of the Doctor's next specimen with clinical exactitude

and speed. A play that was not for the squeamish as a victim's leg hung out of the basket en route for the morgue, but without a doubt it was a play which enthused both cast and audience. What price medical research?

As in all Strathallan productions, excellent stage management negated the difficulties of the small stage area with dramatic entrances and exits from round the gym. Lighting emphasised the dark goings on and created a sense of suspense and inevitability. Congratulations to the excellent cast: from little Daft Jennie (Catriona MacLean) to those merciless accomplices, Jonathan Forster and Andrew Murray, who produced and directed it.

J.T.F.



Morningside Mesdames.



Grassmarket Wife — Dayveen Dalrymple.

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ST. ANDREW'S NIGHT

Friday the 30th November 1990 saw an assembly in the music room of a most unusual clan — pupils, masters and guests alike, clad in a variety of outfits; gentlemen taking the form of the 'tartan skirt', polished shoes and open-necked shirt; ladies, a whole host of garments. There was also the decidedly unpatriotic sector wearing (perish the thought!) trousers, but no offensive comments were made. After all, the entertaining and informative kaleidoscope of Scotland's ancestry and culture to follow was intended for a universal audience. And indeed, it proved to be one of the most memorable evenings of the academic year.

The evening started in truly grandiose style with the raucous "Cooper of Fife" sung by the choir. Improvisation flourished throughout; fortunately, few were made clearly distinguishable!

Next up were the poems "Beasts and Fowk" — a most amusing set of short verses delivered by the up-and-coming verse speakers of Riley First Form. Accompanying them, were the standard array of the stage conscious (loss of one's bearings) but it all added to the entertainment — well done everyone involved for a charming, well-rehearsed show!

Returning to music, Hilary Moore gave a captivating selection of Scottish melodies on the harp, a shift from humour to beauty; Indeed, it was an enchanting performance appreciated by musical and non-musical alike.

On the theme of poetry, the third form's rendering of the complex choral recitation "The Deluge" by W. D. Cocker was well-balanced and slick, containing a fair number of climaxes and fast-running dialogues that must have taken a great deal of effort on the production side, which was much appreciated.

The talented girls' team of Scottish Country Dancers was next; displaying skill and stamina in their boisterous routine which set the traditional 'ceilidh' mood. This was continued in the choir's tenor and bass section chorus, who rampaged through "Donald's Purse"; the 'true' story of a Scotsman's financial downfall as a consequence of marriage!

Raj Arumagum's very own interpretation of Donald Campbell's "Haf Roads up Schiehallion" followed; this was a hilarious piece of work. Raj's uncannily slick delivery surprised everyone; the whole room was in stitches at the simple, modest tale. Well done to Raj on his performance that evening, and on winning a verse-speaking contest in Perth with the same piece of work.

A new atmosphere was created with the entrance of a group of representatives from the School Pipe Band. The drum fanfare, led by Drum Major Derek Jones and leading Drummer Peter Sochart, was

exciting, noisy and military, and the piping medley of various famous pieces such as "Paddy's Leather Breeches" and "The 79th's Farewell to Gibraltar" was led by Pipe Major Jonathan Frame, and was traditionally loud, yet dignified.

Another prose break followed, with the somewhat reflective "Pride" by Violet Jacob; this quelled the noisy atmosphere of the Pipe Band. Interesting and well delivered, it supplied a little factual background on the reality of Scottish life.

Finally, the first half ended with the splendid "Hoe Down" by Aaron Copeland; very much a "Penguin Cafe Orchestra" type piece; the spirited and lively performance was made by Nigel Brookes on the violin, with an equally bouncy piano accompaniment courtesy of Mr Reed. Nigel has made a considerable contribution to school music events in his short time here, and this performance was well up to his normal high standard of playing. Excellent!

The "mighty banquet" was served during the interval. Unlike other such school functions where the eating is "al fresco", this was a sit down affair, with tables lining the walls of the Music Room. It proved to be very successful and just as sociable; the food was good, the atmosphere right, and drinks were enjoyed by most!

As the noisy chatter and occasional bout of bellowing laughter subsided, the second half got off to a spirited start, the ceilidh atmosphere returning with the jaunty "Wee Willie's Rant" and "Pentland Hills" brought to life by the three fiddlers Nigel Brookes, Pauline Lockhart and Laurie Crump. Audience participation levels had increased dramatically since the interval (one wonders why...); it was definitely 'interactive entertainment'!

Prose took the next slot with two equally amusing monologues by Liz Lochhead — "Mrs Abernethy" and "Sharon". The latter especially proved to be a great evoker of laughter; with the typical, teenage 'Little Miss Glasgow' wonderfully personified by Tessa Dunlop — seen by many as the least likely person for the role! A truly convincing and entertaining performance all the same — well done Tessa!

Next on was what many people had been waiting for all night — our very own Pipe Major Bert Barron's diverse array of applications and modifications that every Highland Bagpiper should know. This year they included demonstrations of a vacuum cleaner, a projectile launcher, and a handy tool for indulging in 'a wee bit of the crater'. (The latter was executed with notable skill and expertise!). Not to mention Bert's own 'Concerto for flat F'. A wonderful show, and a great character — I'm only sad I'll not be here to see next year's installment!

The dance group returned for the 'final fling' with their own compilation selected from a number of favourites; once more, audience accompaniment was in full roar — it was a wonder the group could hear the music!

The time had come for the special guest to take the floor, in the form of Ian Crichton Smith, poet and novelist. Having been introduced to his talent at the same event two years ago, everyone was anxious to hear what he had to say, and everything was up to all expectations. His autobiographical-style recollection of schooldays was delivered in a flat, blackly comic style, which was peppered with hilariously truthful jokes and happenings. A well-prepared, slick, captivating speech — we wait with anticipation for his return.



Another guest took the floor next, the singer Euan McColl giving a hearty 'a capella' performance of "Free Born Man" and "30ft. Trailer" — almost Corries-style narrative songs. His powerful projection and solid tone gave a relaxing yet entertaining wind-down after Mr Crichton Smith's complex monologue. Once again, we very much hope that he will come back again next year — a unique character of sound that proved very popular with the audience.



Next, a complete change of tone arose as the lights dimmed and I took the floor to read the chilling tale of "Thrawn Janet" by R. L. Stevenson: a truly terrifying and gruesome account of the hauntings of the Reverend Soulis — though not to be taken seriously of course (as became obvious!), but it doesn't pay to take no heed of Scotland's generations of active 'spunkies' and 'bogles' . . .

After the brief period of people loosening collars and groping for a 'dram', the strings returned, in the form of a quintet this time, and gave a spirited, light rendering of "Harvest Home". A pleasant break between the two final prose items; the last of which being the "Glasgow Perspectives" — in respect of Glasgow's position of "City of Culture 1990"; or was it mockery? Certainly plenty to think about. Thanks to Nicola Robb, Fiona Mowatt and Julie Clark with their self-presented dialogues.

Finally, the music returned once more for the dramatic play out, beginning traditionally with a piano and a song from Mr McLeod and Mr Young in turn. All the melancholy classics were played ('My Love is Like A Red, Red Rose' being an example) the audience's soft humming accompanying . . . rumour has it that one or two people actually nodded off, such was the peaceful atmosphere. This was complemented by the climax, the return of the full choir singing the delicate and beautiful "Eriskay Love Lilt"; enjoyed by the singers and the listeners (or sleepers!).

One would have liked to have said that we left the sleepy little village of Forgan-denny drifting off to the land of nod with this quiet, warm ending, the tall and the short, the kilted and the non-kilted, the Scottish and . . . the foreign. But no, it took Simon Welch's athletic ascent of a table followed by a teaching of a New Zealand war chang to bring everyone back to life; but I'd like to know what that has got to do with Scotland!

Whatever the connection was, it signalled the end of a fantastic evening enjoyed by performers, organisers and audience alike. Special thanks go to the guests Bert Barron, Ian Crichton Smith

and Euan McColl, also to Mr Reed for organising all the musical events, and staff of the English Department who helped with the running of the prose items. Thanks also to Craig Young and his talented group of kitchen staff who prepared the wonderful meal. A final vote of thanks goes to Mr Broadfoot who compered the whole evening and organised a great deal of the programme; without him, there's no doubt we would have been in 'real bother'.

It looks as though this fairly recently conceived event will continue to be annual, and I would encourage anybody with any kind of talent in this field to stand up and perform for their heritage . . . after all, "WHA'S LIKE US?!!"

Colin Pettinger



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ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR ALL CLASSES OF JOINER WORK

VERSE

As part of the increased participation in drama at the school this session, there has been greater involvement by pupils in speech and verse speaking — in public performances and competitions.

In December, The Perth Branch of the Scots Language Society was entertained by "star turns" from the school's St. Andrew's Night. Raj Arumugam (who had also come second in the Perth Burns' Club poetry competition) and Marianne Rustad did recitations. Tessa Dunlop and Jennifer Scouller performed two hilarious monologues by Liz Lohead (of "Tartuffe") and Colin Pettinger gave a spine-chilling reading of R. L. Stevenson's "Thrawn Janet". Laurie Crump played the fiddle.

The Perth Competitive Festival in March attracted forty-five solo entries from Strathallan (from 1st to 6th form).

Form III set 2 achieved the overall highest mark in the choral verse speaking classes. Twenty-seven of the solo entries attained distinction (85% and over). Laurie Crump was placed 1st in both the English poems recitation and Bible reading for the 15 to 18 age group. Tracey Morton also displayed the versatility of many of our pupils in performances of passages by writers as diverse as Burns, Shakespeare and the translator of the book of Genesis for the King James Bible! Particularly fine readings from Isaiah were given by competitors in the 12 to 15 age group — Katherine High, Lorna Doodson, Ewan Sutherland, Nicola Miller, Alexander Macleod and Joanna Malcolm. (Chaplain, take note!)

Riley pupils — Lucy Kitson, Angela Higgins, Kimberley Anderson and Kirsty Cooper — gave spirited renderings of

poems by Robert Burns and Perth poet William Soutar.

The four girls who ventured south for the Edinburgh (competition) Festival in May all returned successful. Tracey Morton came first in the adult intermediate class for recitations of poems by R. L. Stevenson and Thomas Hardy. Tessa Dunlop and Heather Dewar won the adult acting class for hilarious performances as Gwendolen and Cecily in a scene from "The Importance of Being Earnest". Marianne Rustad came back to school with the Mary Cameron Watson Cup for the acting of a speech of Katherine's in "The Taming of the Shrew".

Well done to all who took part in these events.

I. McF.

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Prize Winners

Form I: John Osborne
Form II: Douglas Patterson
Form III: David Robertson
Form IV: Caroline Proctor
Form V: Marianne Rustad
Form VI: John Murray



Right: Tracy Morton, Heather Dewar, Tessa Dunlop and Marianne Rustad.

—OR WORSE

Oscar Wilde's "Cecily Cardew" declared that "whenever one has anything unpleasant to say, one should always be quite candid". It is, however with trepidation that I tackle this theory. Don't get me wrong — Mr Wilde obviously had his reasons for stating this. He was working on the imagination of an adoring Victorian public, and more importantly, he had nothing to lose. At least, not as much as I, were I to describe Verse Speaking in such a way.

Admittedly, we once again had an almost clean sweep of victories: at the Edinburgh Festival, with Marianna Rus-

tad's various renditions, and in new stars like Jock and co. rising to the dizzy heights of Thespianism, and through Tracey Morton's amiable efforts.

However, speaking quite candidly, this year also served as an adequate reminder for life's philosophy, "One false move and it's over." They never taught us *that* at prep school.

Forget 'Pride comes before a fall'. When it really happens and the judge describes what a lovely rendition that was, and yes, those vibrato tones were full of . . . meaning, but then decides

your hands put her "right off", one begins to wonder. Lady Macbeth eat your heart out. All taken in good stead we tried again, and despite the pre-performance cramming, Tessa's tendency to forget that in the 19th century "crossing one's legs was not the done thing", and my "weally super wendition" of Cecily Cardew, the result at the Edinburgh Festival was well worth it.

Why do Verse Speaking? Don't ask me. I have never understood. But then, that's one of the joys of Thespianism.

Heather Dewar

LIBRARY

When Mrs Adam asks you in March to write something fascinating, informative and witty about the Library for June 24, you say 'Of course, no problem' — June being so remote that it will never arrive. June 24 it is today — what can I tell you about the Library?

The Fiction Library has had a large (but never large enough) input of new books and now ancient tomes of Dickens, Thackeray et al jostle for shelf room with Joan Lingard, Judy Blume, William McIlvanney, Rosamunde Pilcher . . . The Reference Library was not neglected either with Scots History and Literature, Social Issues, Sport, Health and Cookery all receiving an input of bright new titles.

The School has responded enthusiastically to this and borrowing has tripled, probably, compared to previous years. More new books will go in this summer and I'm keeping my fingers crossed that all last summer's books will come back safe and sound.

What are the long-term objectives for the Library? I think the main one must be to transform it from a collection of books into the hub of the school's information system, providing curricular support for staff and pupils alike. To do this it will

undoubtedly be necessary to employ a qualified librarian with the experience and expertise to advise, provide materials and develop information skills programmes. Until such time comes, the School, Staff and Librarian must work together to get the best out of our Library as it is now. Here are a few Golden Rules we could follow in order to do this:

— Keep books out a maximum of 3 weeks.

— Cross your book off your card when you return it.

— Don't take our REFERENCE books — you're preventing other people from using them.

— Treat the Library as you KNOW IT SHOULD be treated.

— Tell your friends when you've enjoyed a book or found it useful — they can benefit from it too.

— Tell your House Librarian if there's a book or author you like, which is not on the shelves.

A final word of thanks to my Librarians. They have helped 'oil the wheels' this year and my job would have been much harder without them.

J.W.

DEBATING

I have been asked to write a report on this year's activities of The Debating Society — a topic which is almost as barren as some of the Debating titles we devised.

This sounds disheartening but one must point out that this year has had "downs", admittedly, but the "add up" has strayed our way as well. Perhaps most encouraging is the potential in the Junior years of the school. We have received most encouragement from the enthusiasm of IIIrd and IVth Forms this year which has, in no small measure, made up for either the apathy or timidity seen in the Senior School.

I would hazard a guess that Richard Graham's enthusiastic pestering was the most powerful motivation for the Speaker this year, as was Daniel McGilvray's for the Senior School.

The Academic Year began with a

Committee of seven members — but the numbers fell to four due to the withering element of the meeting of the deadline of the completion of U.C.C.A. forms or "pressure of work" (sic!). The Committee that stayed the course was Daniel Breves, Nicholas Quinn, Emma McNamara and the author.

Topics covered in the debates that took place this year frequently followed current events. The most recent, organised by Daniel McGilvray for the most part, dealt with the "dangerous dogs" issue. Other titles ranged from "The Gulf War" to age restrictions on alcohol consumption and even the benefits of Euthanasia.

Widespread euthanasia may well have occurred in the Sixth Form at some point judging from the enthusiasm for active participation this year. There was no shortage of willing audiences in the Old

Library, but precious few who would "venture into the arena"! Those who did were to be commended for their debating skills, particularly the regulars like Tarrant Steele, Philip Laing and our dear committee member, Nick Quinn who climbed from Mount Olympus to debate with the rank and file.

In all, this year's Debating was a "mixed bag," to borrow one of the Headmaster's analogies. I would hope that this coming academic year will witness growth in the whole debating sphere.

(Speaker) John Minihane

(STOP PRESS: In early September, under the auspices of the Bank of Scotland and the Edinburgh University Debating Society, a workshop will be held at Strathallan).

ATHLETICS

This year saw the athletics team with only four interschool matches against:

Edinburgh Academy	lost
Fettes	won
Glenalmond	lost
Rannoch	won

The circuit this year was very competitive (probably the reason for our imperfect record) with Edinburgh Academy, Glenalmond and Fettes featuring prominently at the Scottish Schools. Moreover it was friendly and displayed the true nature of sport. This was clearly shown in the drama and interest provided in our one point victory over Rannoch.

The season was successful, though, in terms of enjoyment and a relaxed happy atmosphere — the exception to this being Glenalmond's meteorological situation — and the highlights were the post race activities at the Scottish Open and Barbarian Relay Team victories against the much-vaunted Craig Joiner and Merchiston.

Contribution and commitment have been high (although a few leavers found the pace a bit too much for their old bodies and weary minds) and I thank everyone involved for their efforts even if at times it seems to go unnoticed. We

have also seen numerous developments — especially in the field events.

However, the most memorable and important aspect of the season for me was the spirit and the little eccentricities and the characters: MacLennan-Dick Fartlegs, Wilson-Fitchie 1500s, Simmers-Muir-Sochart javelins extraordinaire and I suppose the late arrival on the scene of Andy Buchan and Dave Gritten.

Thanks again to all involved and good luck next year.

T. P. Lawrence

P.S. Watch out for Johnny Ireland and Andy McCulloch.



Tim Lawrence, School Captain of Athletics, lines up for Scottish Schools 800m final.



Martin Fitchie and Iain Wilson — Scottish Schools 1500m final.

SPORTS DAY

After weeks of wet weather, we were blessed with a glorious day for the Inter-House Athletics finals. Whilst the standard of performance was not on a par with last year, the level of effort from those competing was excellent.

Congratulations to all our individual and team champions and indeed to those who didn't quite make it this time! My thanks go to all those colleagues who helped make the event run so smoothly and to Mrs Annabel Fairbairn who so kindly presented the prizes. **D.J.B.**

VICTORES LUDORUM

Junior Boys: James Barlow Middle Boys: Jason Low Senior Boys: Fraser Small

VICTRIX LUDORUM

Junior Girls: Lyndsay Moir Senior Girls: Sonya Reid

ROWAN CUP FOR STANDARDS

Simpson

BOYS INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

CHAMPIONS: Freeland

GIRLS INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

CHAMPIONS: Thornbank

BOYS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist.	Record	Holder	Year
100m	J	Watt, G.	12.91	12.0	Ling, T.	1971
100m	M	Low, J.	11.48	10.9	Ogilvie	1978
100m	S	Small, F.	11.4	11.0	Lochart/Ling/Smellie/Kirkland	1971/78
200m	J	Price, M.	26.94	24.5	Cook, C.	1987
200m	M	Low, J.	24.44	23.2	Ling, T.	1973
200m	S	Gibson, A.	24.29	22.8	Ling, T.	1974
400m	J	Greshow, M.	64.3	56.5	Cook, C.	1987
400m	M	Ducat, J.	55.3	52.5	Millar	1977
400m	S	Small, F.	55.5	50.3	Roger, G.	1982
800m	J	Ireland, J.	2.24.0	2.12.9	Lawrence, C.	1984
800m	M	Dick, M.	2.11.3	2.03.6	Lawrence, C.	1985
800m	S	Buchan, A.	2.09.5	1.55.2	Roger, G.	1982
1500m	J	Ireland, J.	4.53.7	4.32.7	Lawrence, C.	1985
1500m	M	Wilson, I.	4.37.0	4.14.5	Bond, R.	1988
1500m	S	Buchan, A.	4.37.0	4.09.2	Bond, R.	1989
High Jump	J	Barlow, J.	1.35	1.63	Holmes	1965
High Jump	M	Wallace, M.	1.50	1.775	Cuthbertson, A.	1984
High Jump	S	Lannen, K.	1.70	1.895	Roger, G.	1982
Long Jump	J	Barlow, J.	4.45	5.55	Lear, C.	1967
Long Jump	M	McCulloch, A.	5.29	6.17	Lawson	1967
Long Jump	S	Sang, R.	5.39	6.52	Smellie, D.	1978
Shot	J	Harrod, S.	9.18	11.43	Knox, S.	1974
Shot	M	Sochart, P.	11.65	14.73	Mckenzie, G.	1973
Shot	S	Kay, K.	11.21	12.90	Callander	1979
Discus	J	Proctor, J.	24.55	36.27	Knox, S.	1974
Discus	M	Sochart, P.	32.17	42.00	Knox, S.	1976
Discus	S	Kay, K.	38.01	40.26	Mckenzie, G.	1974
Javelin	J	Potts, I.	27.40	49.81	McBride, J.	1969
Javelin	M	Muir, B.	38.10	49.81	McBride, J.	1969
Javelin	S	Simmers, D.	37.6	57.07	McBride, J.	1971
4 x 100m	J	Simpson	52.6	50.5	Ruthven	1987
4 x 100m	M	Nicol	48.01	46.6	Simpson	1972
4 x 100m	S	Ruthven	48.24	45.5	Freeland	1981

GIRLS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist.	Record	Holder	Year
100m	J	Moir, L.	*12.59	13.00	Streule, K.	1982
100m	S	Fraser, A.	14.7	12.12	Edmonds, A.	1990
200m	J	Moir, L.	28.7	27.79	Reid, S. J.	1988
200m	S	Reid, S. J.	27.62	25.2	Edmonds, A.	1990
400m	J	Quarry, L.	69.1	66.00	Reid, S. J./Taylor, RSG	1987/90
400m	S	Reid, S. J.	67.8	60.00	Reid, S. J.	1990
800m	J	Smith, A.	2.40.0	2.32.1	Taylor, R. S. G.	1990
800m	S	Taylor, R. S. G.	2.47.0	2.37.0	Reid, S. J.	1990
1500m	J/S	Meiklejohn, C.	5.20.9	5.09.1	Meiklejohn, C.	1990
High Jump	J	Moir, L.	1.30	1.45	Orr, K.	1984
High Jump	S	Corrie, C.	1.35	1.55	Rutherford, R.	1987
Long Jump	J	Tilford, R.	3.72	4.46	Gordon, S.	1985
Long Jump	S	Reid, S. J.	4.35	4.58	Carruthers, C.	1989
Shot	J	Cust, S. A.	7.69	8.55	Smith, J.	1985
Shot	S	Edmonds, A.	8.40	9.49	Edmonds, A.	1990
4 x 100m	J/S	Thornbank	*54.54	54.54	Thornbank	1990

*New School Record

RUGBY

For the second year running we visited Narbonne for our pre-season tour. Although we lost 3 out of the 4 games, they were all very close and could easily have gone the other way. The first game against Chalabre was played in intense heat and certainly sapped the energy of our players. The result was 11-14. Our first ever game against Carcassonne brought our second defeat 7-10. Another new venue was Lespignan where we lost 3-6. The last game was against St Affrique in the Cevennes. I'm not sure whether many of the team were awake to appreciate the magnificent scenery on the way but, as in previous years, the visits to Roquefort and St Affrique were excellent. Terrific team spirit was the key to winning this game 9-4. As always, we received magnificent hospitality after all games and the Entente Cordiale was further cemented by our presence in the villages: Narbonne itself and Narbonne Plage.

The opening team of the season was as follows: R. Johnston, P. G. Lagerborg, G. MacLennan, A. Keddie, T. Gibson, A. Wood, E. Anderson, R. Stewart, T. Lawrence, K. Kay, G. Burton, D. Connell, J. Tornos, M. Dippie, J. Shepherd.

In a very close contest with Glasgow Academy we emerged victors with the only try of the game by scrum half Eddie Anderson. Our second game at Rannoch produced an unconvincing 10-3 victory. Having not capitalised on earlier opportunities, playing down the hill and having only scored one try (Eddie Anderson) and a penalty (Robin Johnston) by half time, the second half was quite a desperate struggle.

There followed a resounding 37-0 victory over Perth Academy with eight tries being scored (Eddie Anderson 2, Robin Johnston, Alan Keddie, James Shepherd, Matt Gilliver, Tony Gibson and Tim Lawrence). St Aloysius was quite a contrast — this was a very hard, uncompromising game. Mark Craig, the Scottish Schools wing, had just returned to their team and he was to have a significant influence on the game, scoring one try and creating a second. A careless tap back at the line out had given them an easy first score and Mark Craig's solo effort was the second. At 0-12 down, the Strathallan team responded with an excellent spell of play leading up to half time. Johnny Leiper and Tim Lawrence created superb forward momentum and with the forwards and the backs began to penetrate. This brought a penalty and a try by Robin Johnston. Unfortunately, half time broke the momentum. St Aloysius came back into the game and scored a third try. Once again we responded and finished strongly with a try by Eddie Anderson.

An opportunist try by the young centre Alan Keddie, helped us to a good start against Fettes. This was followed by a penalty from Robin Johnston. Careless marking allowed Fettes to get back into the game with a try by their right wing, just before half time. An excellent passage of play with good support for Tony Gibson brought a try by Robin Johnston with a well-timed inside pass by Tony. A combination of our relaxing, Fettes seizing the initiative and our second row Garry Burton having to leave the field because of injury, brought two scores in quick succession for the opposition. From a reasonably strong position at 11-4, we were suddenly losing at 11-14. A final nail was added with a try by Fettes from a short penalty move to bring the score to 11-18.

Glenalmond were a powerful side and just too big and strong for us. Having said that, to lose your captain and vice-captain through injury in the first five minutes (and for the rest of the game) was not the greatest of morale boosters. In fact, injuries did not just stop at that — indeed, so much so that Jim Fleming, the international referee, and I were able to have quite a lively conversation throughout the match, due to me being called on to the pitch so often. Glenalmond were a very complete side and I was most surprised that they did not go through the season unbeaten.

For the first time we played the North and Midlands U-18 side at Howe of Fife. Unfortunately, we were without 4 of our senior 1st XV players and we picked up

further injuries during this game. However, the defence at times, particularly within our 22, was quite remarkable with outstanding work by Johnny Leiper, Alec Burrell and James Shepherd. Inexperience and a lack of concentration led to us not capitalising on scoring opportunities. Conversely, the North and Midlands side developed as the game progressed. Not only did Johnny Leiper lead the side by example before he was injured but so did Robin Stewart who encouraged and led by example. Hans McKenzie-Wilson at full-back tackled tirelessly throughout the game and Garry Burton had an outstanding game in the line-out.

The team for the first game after half term was as follows: H. McKenzie-Wilson, T. Gibson, A. Keddie, K. Salters, G. MacLennan, R. Johnston, E. Anderson, R. Stewart, M. Dippie, M. Gilliver, G. Burton, P. Sochart, T. Lawrence, J. Leiper, J. Shepherd. The first 20 minutes against Merchiston went extremely well and we were crossing the gain line on most occasions. Robin Johnston was having an excellent game at fly half until he got injured and had to leave the field — this was to be a sad loss not just for this game but for the remainder of the season. Thereafter, Merchiston were able to get on top and moved to a comfortable victory.

With a lead of 6-0 against Edinburgh Academy we seemed to be going well and, in fact, we should have been further ahead by half time. Some weak tackling, in general, and especially in the backs, in addition to the crucial loss of Johnny



Malcolm Dippie — injury has cut short his rugby career.



1st XV played Scots' School Argentina at Strathallan.

Leiper led to a series of excellent scores by the Edinburgh team with Doug Wight having an outstanding game.

Bob Mitchell was introduced for the Morrison's Academy game and Angus Johnston who had been brought in to replace Robin Johnston moved from centre to fly half. Neither side was able to convert pressure into points and Morrison's escaped with the only try of the game. Dollar Academy was another close game but this was much more keenly contested despite conditions that were more suitable for the ducks than rugby. Although we lost 7-14, the forwards, in particular, fought very bravely and Bob Mitchell came off age. It was a disappointing one to lose.

Mark Vance played his second game at scrum half against Kelvinside. Malcolm Dippie, the hooker, also had to be replaced due to injury — a sad blow for him and the team as he had had an excellent season. His replacement, John Fraser, however, had an excellent game on his debut. Andy Wood playing with renewed confidence in the centre added a new dimension and worked well with Angus and Alan, not only to create openings but to defend well. P.G. (Lagerborg) who had played most of the season, finished off a good move to score our first try and with a penalty; we were leading 7-0 at half time. Thereafter we did not stamp our authority on the game and a draw was poor reward for what might have been.

The last game against Campbell College was played with the same team minus Matt Gilliver (prop) and Bob Mitchell (second row) — both injured. Matt had proved himself to be a very solid citizen in the front row and in matches like the North and Midlands had been a tower of strength. Their replacements respectively were Ky Kay and Dave Connell. In a game which Campbell College should have won, it was a great credit to the 1st XV that they stuck to the task and came through with the narrowest of victories 15-14. This was a good team performance but the midfield trio of Angus Johnston, Andy Wood and Alan Keddie did some excellent work as

did the back row of Johnny Leiper, James Shepherd and Tim Lawrence. Robin Stewart once again showed both great strength and spirit.

Overall, this was a most disappointing season when one looks at the balance sheet. However, injuries did not allow for a settled side to develop and the inexperience and physical immaturity of the side were only too obvious in some matches. Yet Tim Lawrence as captain and Tony Gibson as vice-captain did a good job of maintaining team spirit in difficult circumstances. Our only representative honours were won by Malcolm Dippie and Garry Burton, both of whom played for the Presidents XV. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Green, who joined me part of the way through the season, for his support and able assistance in coaching the 1st XV and, in particular, for his efforts with the Sevens.

Amongst the senior sides both the 2nd and 3rd XVs had good seasons, losing only two games each and the 6th XV took an even bigger fixture list, due directly to Greg Ross's enthusiasm in searching for additional fixtures. Theirs was a commendable performance, as was the 'magnificent sevenths' who played two and won two.

At the junior level there was tremendous success. The 4th form (U-15) side lost only one game and the 3rd form (U-14) and 2nd form (U-13) sides were unbeaten. The fourth form side was captained by Paul Johnston and although they had a physically small set of backs, their forwards were very solid and lost little ball. They played a good, open, running game. J. Henderson, J. Wallace, S. Harrod, K. Kirkland, J. Ruskie and J. Green all played for the Midlands and out of these the first three reached the Final Trial for Scotland U-15. James Henderson and Stephen Harrod are to be congratulated for being selected for the Scottish Schools U-15 squad.

The 3rd form side, captained by James Proctor from tight head prop, had a large, powerful pack and a set of backs whose handling improved considerably during the season. There were also some

very useful players in the 'B' side. The 2nd form side had Stephen Cooksley as captain latterly and had a very talented back division. Robert Barr is a natural fly half and with Robert Horsfall and Andrew Chown working well off their fly half, Kim Parker, the full back was able to contribute to some exciting back play. Forwards such as David Christie and Stephen Cooksley not only linked with the backs but provided the ball and as a unit the forwards got better and better.

As always those who play rugby are indebted to the coaching staff for all their time, effort, patience and expertise. This year we have two very valuable additions at U-14 and U-15 level — Paul Summersgills and Andrew Murray. Already they have shown that they will be a considerable asset.

We can now field up to 7 senior sides and up to 9 junior sides — a tremendous achievement when one considers the size of the boys' section of the school. The only reason we can do so is that we have not only the staff prepared to contribute but we have a quality of coaches spread across the junior and senior sides, and not just 'A' XVs, that can be matched by very few schools in Scotland. Although the 1st XV may not have had a successful season, judged as a Rugby Club, Strathallan School has had a very good season and this is due to the players at all levels and the quality of coaching staff. Congratulations to all!

One very good example of commitment is unfortunately leaving us this year and this is Martin Gray. In my years as Master-In-Charge of Games and In Charge of Rugby, he has contributed extensively to games and, in particular, to rugby. On behalf of the Rugby Club I would like to wish Martin and his wife a long and happy retirement. Many thanks for all your effort!

Finally, thanks also to Mrs Clayton, Mary and all in the sewing room, the Sister, Mr Young and the kitchen staff who all contribute in their different ways to help us to field teams, keep us fed and watered and to minister to our every need.

B.R.

RUGBY RESULTS

1st XV

v. Glasgow Academy (H)	Won	4-0
v. Rannoch (A)	Won	10-3
v. Perth Academy (H)	Won	37-0
v. St Aloysius (A)	Lost	13-18
v. Fettes (H)	Lost	11-18
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	0-43
v. North & Midlands U18 (A)	Lost	0-32
v. Merchiston (H)	Lost	0-22
v. Edinburgh Academy (A)	Lost	6-21
v. Morrison's Academy (H)	Lost	0-6
v. Dollar Academy (A)	Lost	7-14
v. Kelvinside Academy (A)	Drawn	10-10
v. Campbell College (H)	Won	15-14
v. Loretto (H)	Cancelled	

Played 13, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 8

Points for 113

Points against 201

2nd XV

v. Glasgow Academy (H)	Won	39-4
v. Q.V.S. 1st XV (H)	Won	20-4
v. St Aloysius (A)	Won	20-0
v. Fettes (H)	Won	14-6
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	0-9
v. Merchiston (H)	Lost	6-10
v. Edinburgh Academy (H)	Won	10-8
v. Morrison's Academy (H)	Won	42-4
v. Dollar Academy (A)	Won	10-8
v. Kelvinside Academy (A)	Won	32-0
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 10, Won 8, Lost 2

Points for 193

Points against 53

3rd XV

v. Glasgow Academy (H)	Won	60-0
v. Rannoch 2nd XV (H)	Won	44-0
v. Fettes (H)	Won	28-0
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	4-6
v. Merchiston (A)	Lost	3-26
v. Edinburgh Academy (H)	Won	10-6
v. The Abbey 1st XV	Won	16-4
v. Dollar Academy (A)	Won	17-12
v. Kelvinside Academy	Cancelled	
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 8, Won 6, Lost 2

Points for 182

Points against 54

4th XV

v. Glasgow Academy (A)	Won	34-0
v. Q.V.S. 2nd XV (H)	Lost	6-10
v. Arbroath H.S. (A)	Lost	3-20
v. St Aloysius (H)	Won	26-4
v. Fettes (A)	Won	26-10
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	3-7
v. Merchiston (H)	Lost	10-19
v. Edinburgh Academy (A)	Drawn	8-8
v. Morrison's Academy (H)	Won	18-8
v. Dollar Academy (H)	Won	44-0
v. Kelvinside Academy (H)	Lost	7-26
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 11, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 5

Points for 185

Points against 112

5th XV

Glasgow Academy (A)	Won	32-0
v. Rannoch 3rd XV (H)	Won	38-0
v. Perth Acad. 2nd XV (H)	Won	32-0
v. Fettes (H)	Won	36-0
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	4-20
v. Merchiston (A)	Lost	0-28
v. Edinburgh Academy (H)	Lost	8-10
v. Kelvinside	Cancelled	
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 7, Won 4, Lost 3

Points for 150

Points against 58

6th XV (U-16 B XV)

v. Glasgow Acad. 5th XV (A)	Won	34-0
v. Q.V.S. 3rd XV (H)	Won	15-0
v. Rannoch 3rd XV (A)	Lost	4-21
v. Glenalmond 6th XV (A)	Lost	4-14
v. Merchiston 6th XV (A)	Lost	12-20
v. Howe of Fife U-16 (A)	Won	18-0
v. Edinburgh Acad. 6th XV (H)	Won	60-3
v. Glenalmond 6th XV (H)	Lost	0-3
v. Morrison's Acad. 4th XV (H)	Won	38-0
v. Rannoch 3rd XV (H)	Won	14-10
v. Blairgowrie U-16 (A)	Won	12-4
v. Kinross U-16 (A)	Won	14-12
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 12, Won 8, Lost 4

Points for 225

Points against 87

7th XV

v. Merchiston (H)	Won	27-7
v. Glenalmond (A)	Won	6-4

Played 2, Won 2

Points for 33

Points against 11

Form 4A XV

v. Rannoch (H)	Won	37-3
v. St Aloysius (H)	Won	48-0
v. Q.V.S. (H)	Won	14-4
v. Fettes (A)	Won	24-4
v. Glenalmond (H)	Drawn	4-4
v. Merchiston (A)	Lost	0-47
v. Edinburgh Academy (A)	Won	9-6
v. Morrison's Academy (A)	Won	10-9
v. Dollar Academy (H)	Won	35-0
v. Kelvinside Academy (H)	Won	78-3
v. Loretto (A)	Cancelled	

Played 10, Won 8, Drawn 1, Lost 1

Points for 259

Points against 80

Form 4B XV

v. Arbroath H.S. (A)	Lost	0-44
v. Aberdeen G.S. (A)	Lost	4-20
v. St Aloysius (H)	Won	14-4
v. Fettes (A)	Won	50-0
v. Glenalmond (H)	Drawn	10-10
v. Merchiston (H)	Won	16-9
v. Edinburgh Academy (A)	Won	44-0
v. Morrison's Academy (A)	Won	10-0
v. Glenalmond (A)	Lost	4-24
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 9, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 3

Points for 152

Points against 111

Form 4C XV

v. Q.V.S. (A)	Lost	10-12
v. Merchiston (H)	Won	16-6
v. Abbey School (A)	Lost	9-42

Played 3, Won 1, Lost 2

Points for 35

Points against 60

Form 3A XV

v. Rannoch (H)	Won	64-0
v. Perth Academy (A)	Won	60-6
v. St Aloysius (H)	Won	30-4
v. Q.V.S. (A)	Won	28-0
v. Fettes (H)	Won	12-8
v. Glenalmond (H)	Won	50-0
v. Merchiston (H)	Won	24-4
v. Edinburgh Academy (H)	Won	24-16
v. Morrison's Academy (A)	Won	30-8
v. Dollar Academy (A)	Won	30-0
v. Kelvinside Academy (H)	Won	38-4
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

School Games

Played 11, Won 11

Points for 390

Points against 50

Form 3B XV

v. Arbroath H.S. (A)	Lost	4-16
v. Aberdeen G.S. (A)	Drawn	8-8
v. St Aloysius (H)	Won	24-0
v. Glenalmond (H)	Won	24-0
v. Merchiston (H)	Lost	0-24
v. Edinburgh Academy (H)	Won	18-4
v. Morrison's Academy (A)	Won	74-0
v. Dollar Academy (A)	Won	44-0
v. Loretto	Cancelled	

Played 8, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 2

Points for 196

Points against 52

Form 3C XV

v. Q.V.S. B XV (A)	Won	38-0
v. Merchiston	Won	22-10

Played 2, Won 2

Points for 60

Points against 10

Form 2A XV

v. Howe of Fife (H)	Won	42-0
v. Rannoch (A)	Won	48-0
v. Perth Academy (H)	Won	60-0
v. St Aloysius (A)	Won	24-4
v. Q.V.S. (H)	Won	28-4
v. Fettes (H)	Won	50-0
v. Merchiston (A)	Won	38-3
v. Edinburgh Academy (A)	Drawn	12-12
v. Morrison's Academy (A)	Won	48-0
v. Dollar Academy (H)	Won	16-6

Played 10, Won 9, Drawn 1

Points for 366

Points against 29

Form 2B XV

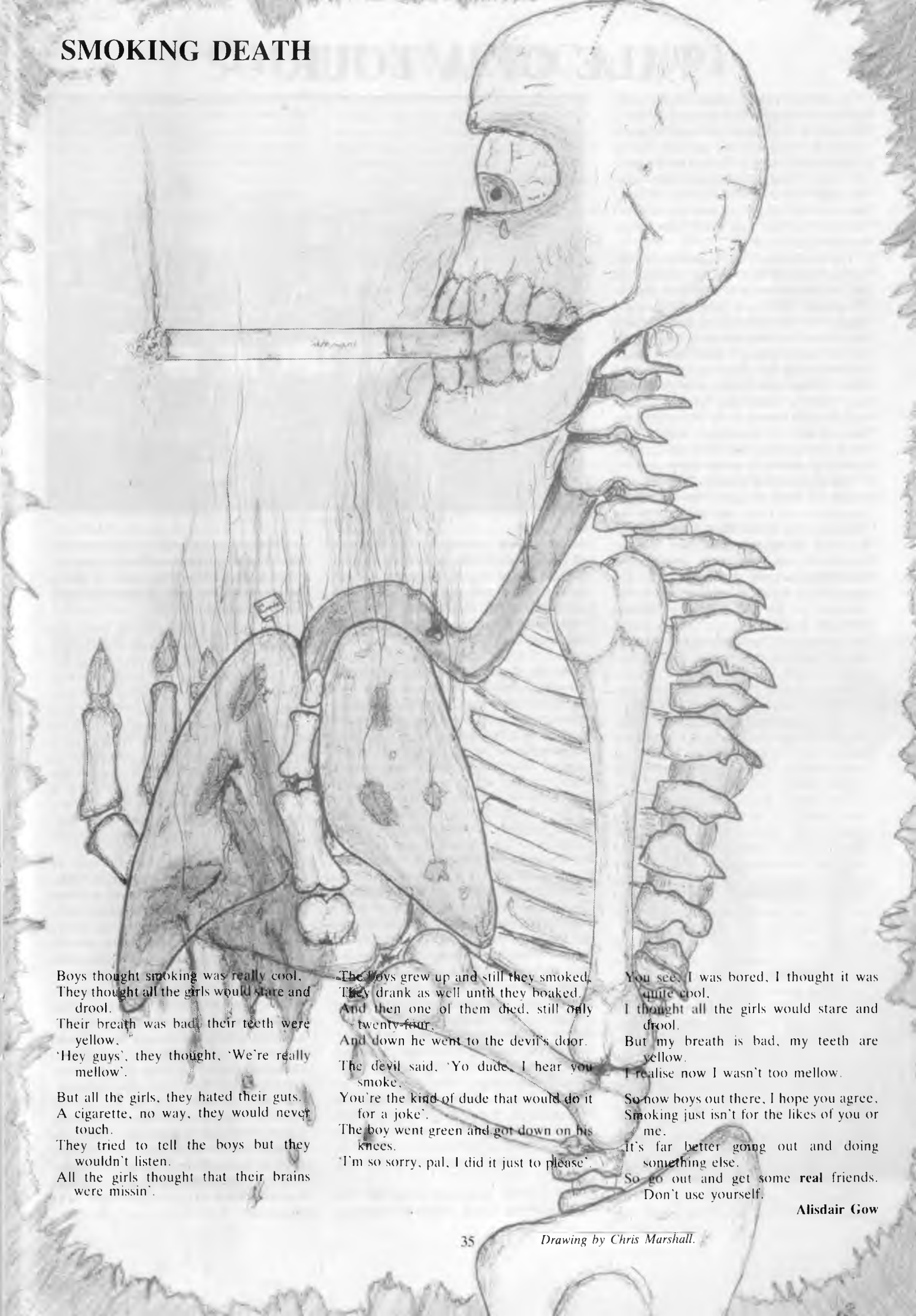
v. St Aloysius (A)	Won	18-8
v. Q.V.S. (H)	Won	32-0
v. Merchiston (A)	Won	4-0
v. Dollar Academy (H)	Lost	0-6

Played 4, Won 3, Lost 1

Points for 54

Points against 14

SMOKING DEATH



Boys thought smoking was really cool.
They thought all the girls would stare and drool.
Their breath was bad, their teeth were yellow.
'Hey guys', they thought, 'We're really mellow'.
But all the girls, they hated their guts.
A cigarette, no way, they would never touch.
They tried to tell the boys but they wouldn't listen.
All the girls thought that their brains were missin'.

The boys grew up and still they smoked.
They drank as well until they boaked.
And then one of them died, still only twenty-four.
And down he went to the devil's door.
The devil said, 'Yo dude, I hear you smoke.
You're the kind of dude that would do it for a joke'.
The boy went green and got down on his knees.
'I'm so sorry, pal, I did it just to please'.

You see, I was bored, I thought it was quite cool.
I thought all the girls would stare and drool.
But my breath is bad, my teeth are yellow.
I realise now I wasn't too mellow.
So now boys out there, I hope you agree.
Smoking just isn't for the likes of you or me.
It's far better going out and doing something else.
So go out and get some **real** friends.
Don't use yourself.

Alisdair Gow

TALE OF A TOUR —

As anyone knows, taking a large party abroad is fraught with hazards. With a mixture of trepidation and exhilaration a party of 27 players and six staff met at Forgandenny in early August for a couple of days' training. Preparations went smoothly. Everyone turned up on time, more or less. Hugh Lochore was delayed because his car was filled with diesel rather than petrol.

On Wednesday 7th August we set off on our expedition to South America (at the testing hour of 3 a.m.) by bus to Heathrow. We were pioneers in many senses. No Scottish School had ventured into these parts before for a Rugby tour and we were taking a side, all of whom are returning to school for the coming year. Unlike most other schools we did not take a leavening of last year's experienced players to boost playing performance. In retrospect, it may have been a mistake but our team was to learn by being thrown in at the deep end.

Having reached London Airport with plenty of time to spare, we set off for Argentina via Paris and Madrid. As we reboarded in Spain, Ben Gray asked if we had another stop before Buenos Aires. A mid-Atlantic touchdown seemed a worrying prospect, but he was right. Fog in B.A. caused us to be diverted to Rio de Janeiro to refuel. After 37 hours travel, we finally arrived in Santiago to be greeted by tales of flooded pitches, depressions in the Humboldt current and snow in the Atacama desert for the first time in living memory. Needless to say it was raining. Our hosts — Brian Jackson, yet another ex-Loughborough man, Jimmy Cowan, the headmaster, an Irishman who had played representative rugby with the likes of Sid Millar, Willie John McBride and Rod Long, a junior Springbok — made us feel very much at home at the Grange School. The players were skilfully billeted, although Murray Dick was a little unwilling to be introduced to the austere values of vegetarianism. I shall not allude to the social activities of individual players, but equally the grapevine will provide its own tales of Derring-do.

Our first full day in Chile brought a marvellously picturesque surprise. The grey clouds had lifted, to be replaced by vivid blue winter skies. The surrounding Andean foothills (higher than Ben Nevis) were covered with heavy snow, and were quite breathtaking. The local population were totally unused to black ice and the morning rush hour was marked by carnage on the roads. The hot sun turned an early morning iced quagmire, into a gluepot as we trained. In the afternoon David Barnes referred our hosts to an impressive 30 point victory on no worse than holding ground and he received plaudits from the local cognoscenti for his sympathetic handling of the game. This was to be the first of several games that



Our team at The Grange School, Santiago.

he was asked to referee. The less said about the staff who attempted to play golf the better, except that the course was magnificently picturesque, and we saw most of it. Brian Jackson and his charming Chilean wife entertained us in a restaurant to traditional fare. This consisted of eating everything the abattoir normally dispose of as hygienically as possible. Brian Raine coped, others struggled. However Veronica Jackson's attempts to teach Peter Kier Spanish was comely of a high order.

Saturday brought our first match against Craighouse School, just outside Santiago. The setting was spectacular and the pitch was excellent. We were just below the snowline and 'bookies', the local buzzard, hovered above the pitch waiting for tasty Scottish morsels.

The game itself was a disappointment from a Scottish point of view. Robin Stewart, the captain and bulwark of the front row went off with a heel injury which effectively kept him out for the rest of the tour. Although we turned round only 4-0 down, our general performance was lethargic and we finished losers by 26-4. Tired troops returned to their billets and the staff were generously treated by the Craighouse staff who took us to an interesting ethnic restaurant, where the local dance troupe performed the various styles of Chile and the South Pacific unsmilingly. The largely American audience enjoyed it. Sunday was occupied by a trip to the coast, which gave us our first serious view of a Chilean life, but most slept through it and awoke only for a short training session and lunch.

Despite the protestations of the tour manager, the skiing lobby won the day

and had a few magnificent hours on the slopes of the Andes. The cognoscenti were impressed and for many it was a highpoint of the tour. For skiing buffs, Chile is a must.

Tuesday was our last day in Chile and was to be the derby with the Grange School. We had had our pride wounded at Craighouse, and our hosts, the best school side in Chile, wanted to show their guests who was the master. They had done everything to make us welcome off the pitch, but this was the crunch. As it transpired, we put up a much improved performance. Bob Mitchell came of age as a First XI player, but we still lost 10-8 in a match which we nearly snatched in a determined second half rally. Alan Keldie scored an excellent break-away try.

Everyone then dispersed to meet up with their hosts for the last night in Chile. Unfortunately during the evening James Henderson was extremely badly hurt, when he was hit by a car. It was a traumatic time for everyone concerned, and suffice to say it is marvellous that James is making such an excellent recovery. No praise can be too high for those who attended him at the time, the surgeons and staff of the German clinic, and particularly the Grange School, who made every possible facility available to David Barnes, Paul Vallot and James' father, who flew out immediately. Adversity brought out the best in all involved and I trust that the very strong bond between Strathallan and the Grange will continue indefinitely. What Jimmy Cowan, Brian Jackson, David and Paul and the boys and girls did to ease James' immediate recovery was immense.

SOUTH AMERICA 1991

It was a very subdued group that set off on our trip across the Andes by bus. The climb up the Chilean side was spectacular as we rose some 10,000 ft to the border, passing the ski resort of Portillo, the venue of the 1972 Winter Olympics. The resort boasted a run with a vertical drop of over 3,000 ft. The Argentinian side was less dramatic, but far more stark, the only sign of life being the occasional Condor drifting overhead. Our courier for the rest of the trip was Dusty Maers, a charming and youthful 75-year-old, who seemed to know every woman in Argentina. He had played Rugby for Argentina and had been involved with touring sides since 1937, and it was remarkable how many individuals he remembered.

Our next stop was Mendoza, the centre of the wine growing region and a very wealthy industrial city. Our opponents Los Tordos hosted us. They were the local junior champions, and their power and support play were excellent, and we lost 36-4. The game was played in a heatwave, despite it being midwinter, and we were not disgraced. Los Tordos seemed to reckon 50 point victories were about normal. Like all good Frenchmen, Francois Piganeau is well connected, and it just so happened that his godfather was vice-president of Moët & Chandon, and a trip to their establishment was arranged for us. A fascinating trip round the plant was followed by a tasting and snacks. Moët had done us proud. Apart from their red and white wines, they had been making champagne for 150 years. They rather resented the petty restrictions on nomenclature by the French, who had only had enforced it since the 1930s. For the wine buffs, the quality of Argentinian vintages is excellent. Unfortunately the idiosyncracies of government, import tariffs, and compulsory overmanning, make it virtually impossible for them to compete internationally.

We then moved on to St Paul's School, La Cumbre about two hours from Cordoba. The story of the foundation of the school by Bob Thurn in 1947 under Peron's regime is worth a book in itself. St Paul's only has 110 pupils, and about 60 of senior school age. Unfortunately they were unable to put out a XV against us, but instead laid on a sevens tournament. Our best seven won their group and looked to be heading for the final when a penalty try was awarded against us for a tap tackle. This is a sensible law, considering the hardness of the Argentinian grounds, but it was a disappointment and an embarrassment to our host Peter Towers, the headmaster. St Paul's themselves played with considerable courage, and had some very talented individuals. There were many similarities between the types of boys and girls who went to our respective schools, and an excellent rapport was established. A highlight was a horseback ride up the

Cordoba hills some 5000 feet above the village. There were many good riders in our party, and our star Hugh Lochore failed to get his horse to respond to a light touch. Others, including Peter Keir, had some hairy moments on the six mile trek, particularly coming down what seemed like a precipice. For those, who know my girth, I dismounted from an extremely tired armchair stiff but unbowed. Unfortunately most tours have idiocies. This year it was Jason Low's turn. He put his money belt in his tracksuit pouch. Somewhere in the La Cumbre Hills, lies his passport, and his and Garry Burton's travellers' cheques. *C'est la vie!*

St Paul's was an interesting contrast with the city schools that we visited and once again they could not have made more effort to make our stay an enjoyable one.

A bit of a break was very much in order, and now we headed to Iguazu via Buenos Aires, where we picked up Paul Vallot, who had flown back from Santiago. Iguazu is the biggest and most spectacular series of waterfalls in the world, dwarfing the better known Niagara for example. Unfortunately the Hotel Tropical made Fawltly Towers seem positively five star, but our visit to the falls, from both the Brazilian and Argentinian sides, was blessed with a glorious cloudless day. It was impossible not to be awed by the sheer volume of water on its precipitous descent, and at the same time the tranquility experienced standing near the foot of the falls. Unsurprisingly, it is a sacred place for the Indians. Those with enough dollars took some memorable photos on their helicopter flight.

After 36 hours we set off on the last leg of our tour to Buenos Aires, a beautiful and vibrant city. Our hosts were St Andrew's Scots School, who had visited us 18 months before. The school has an excellent reputation, not least for its Rugby. Their team was impressive on its visit to Britain, and they had improved, taking the scalps of two of New Zealand's leading schools in the meantime. The champions of South America proved too strong in all departments for us, and despite magnificent tackling by Johnny Leiper and Phil Ainsworth in particular, we were outgunned 57-0. It was a masochistic pleasure to watch them and Brian Raine said that they were the best school side that he had ever seen. Nevertheless credit can go to Eddie Anderson and some of the younger contingent like Steven Harrod who played their hearts out. Danny Puerta, the lively and knowledgeable coach, was markedly modest in victory, and the St Andrew's staff and side were unstinting in their generosity and showed off the many pleasures of B.A. Certain individu-

als had unforgettable experiences! Our final game against St Leonard's was an anti-climax, coming only 48 hours after the St Andrew's game. They themselves had lost by over 70 points. Unfortunately in a lacklustre performance we lost 31-13.

Our return flight was mercifully uneventful, and a tired but exhilarated group returned home for a few days before term started. There is no doubt that we were disappointed on the rugby field, but hopefully we are a wiser team. In all other aspects it was a magnificent tour. We were hosted consistently well throughout. The variety of visual experiences was dazzling. Everywhere we met kindness, friendship and bonhomie. Our party were enjoyed and appreciated by all their hosts, which is a credit to their parents who made the trip possible, and to each individual concerned. Without exception we were invited back — but next time with the girls as well — and many are looking forward to visiting Scotland. Each tourist will have his own special memories, but for all it was an unforgettable trip.

Lastly, on behalf of all the tourists, I would like to thank Brian Raine for organising, managing and taking the buck for the whole party. I suspect that he will be able to enjoy the trip very much more in retrospect.

N. T. H. Du B.



Martin Ross and Cameron Mackay at Iguazu, on the border of Argentina and Brazil.

HOCKEY

A host of players attended winter indoor training, and, inspired by some sessions with Billy McPherson (Scotland's Coach), a useful senior team emerged by Christmas. After a good senior House competition in which Simpson just pipped Freeland (their Junior team also won later), the first squad tackled their January programme with zest. Big wins over Stewarts Melville, Perthshire Colts and Rannoch with 36 goals scored (McKenzie-Wilson scoring more than half of these) kept us in sight of our real target — the winning of the Glenalmond Challenge at Bell's. Here we continued well to lead our pool, beating Edinburgh Academy 5-1, Watsons 4-2 and Rannoch 4-1. Looking the most accomplished side there, we faced Loretto in the semi-final. They had speed and determination and a couple of careless errors at the back gave them easy goals, and, although we forced a string of corners and hit a post in the final minutes, we could never get back, and had to be content with third place by beating Watsons again (7-1). By the end of term we had also beaten the other finalists — Glenalmond.

An unexpected snow flurry prevented any outdoor practice before the 1st XI faced the Scottish Under 16 squad on Stirling Albion's astro pitch. Plenty of chances came our way, but some harsh umpiring gave them numerous short corners from which they eventually scored. It was the first time we had lost an opening fixture. Worse was to follow against a well organised Watsons side at Meadowbank. They went one up early on and they defended so effectively that we couldn't reply.

Back at home a strong Old Boys' team forced us to work hard for a 3-0 win and this got us into our stride. The Fettes pitch is often our 'slough of despond' but luckily the fixture was switched to the perfect Moray House astro. We scored early goals and sauntered to an easy win. Harris Academy posed bigger problems on their blaise surface. We tried a sweeper system for the first time, but only when we reverted to the familiar 2-2-4 pattern could we make headway and score goals in the last ten minutes. Aberdeen were also a sound side, and, again, it was not until late in the game that we dominated. The next day Gordonstoun were visitors and a fine open game produced 9 goals with 6 to us. Dundee H.S. on grass could have posed problems, but they were inexperienced, our pace soon told and we scored 10. Desperate to get revenge we played Loretto in the final school fixture at McDiarmid Park. Again their speed and sharpness panicked us and we were quickly two goals down. Again we hit a post and made chances, but, despite constant pressure we were unable to

break down a massed defence, so the Scottish season ended disappointingly.

As a warm up for the Oxford Festival the squad returned to McDiarmid Park to play a Perthshire Select composed of experienced adults and a few talented youngsters. A thoroughly entertaining game was drawn with our final hit. Hopes for Oxford were therefore high, but quickly dashed when we saw the skill level of our opponents. English school hockey has advanced rapidly in the last few years, this being the first generation of senior school players raised exclusively on artificial grass pitches. On the first day Kings Rochester dissected our defence to lead 5-0 by half time. We won the second half 3-1, but, in the afternoon, KCS Wimbledon were even better and we were never in the hunt. On the next morning Birkenhead looked more our standard, but things went badly wrong. First Graham MacLennan got a stick above the eye, then Fraser Small (crawling from the comfort of the goalie's bag to reluctantly sub) was attacked by our mad Irishman. Both finished up with the help of the ever 'cheerful' under manager at the same so-called 'local' casualty department. Meanwhile Gordon McGregor-Christie had damaged a finger (later found to be broken). A 5-1 loss was not too bad! Carrying our courageous cripples we dashed to High Wycombe to play Whitgift, probably the side of the Festival. They had a player from the English Men's First Division who waltzed through us time after time and we fell to our biggest ever defeat. Despite these setbacks everyone, buoyed up by Alan Keddie's intelligent conversation, kept cheerful and on the final day we played with such determination that a much vaunted Merchant Taylors, Crosby, side was comfortably beaten. It

was a triumph for Scottish grit, but we have much to learn about the level of skill needed to be up with the best. Regular practice on artificial grass is the only answer.

The 2nd XI coped with their difficult fixture list well. C.N.C.'s 'babes' play most of their games against 1st XIs. The highlight was a comprehensive victory over Glenalmond's first team. The 3rds and 4ths lost only one game between them, while the Senior Colts sides recorded 9 wins to 2 losses. The Junior Colts teams had an unbeaten record and they often had to cope with the worst grass pitches.

In the prep school sixes a good Riley side reached the final, looked likely to win the trophy, but missed chances and were just pipped by Cargilfield after extra time.

Ben Ward, Douglas Clement and Alan Keddie, all received training with the Scottish U15/16 pool; Alan coming near to selection for the U16 squad. Malcolm Dippie, already an U16 internationalist, played with characteristic determination to get into the U18 team, which won the Home Countries Tournament for the first time. Jason Low was nominated for a Swifts tour of Zimbabwe, but in the face of very strong competition from English public school players couldn't be found a place.

Unluckiest was Captain Hans McKenzie-Wilson, who was just too old for U18 selection and began to suffer knee problems. He had been our most prolific forward for three seasons.

My thanks go to him and all the players for such an enjoyable season, and to all coaches and umpires who braved the elements. It was a good term's hockey, but not a vintage one.

J.N.F.



Senior Colts on their way to beating Fettes.

Teams and Results

1st XI

J. J. Whitmee* (Captain), H. A. D. McKenzie-Wilson* (Secretary), A. D. Lochore*, M. J. Clement*, C. J. M. Philip, J. C. Low, T. S. T. Walker, D. W. J. Smart, C. Clark, M. R. Dippie, K. L. Salters, C. M. Forster.

*Full colours.

Also played: A. Deen, H. A. D. Blanche, E. D. Anderson.

v. SYHB Under 16 XI	Lost	2-3
v. George Watsons	Won	3-0
v. Old Strathallians	Won	4-3
v. Harris Academy	Won	8-0
v. Gordonstoun	Drew	1-1
v. Aberdeen GS	Won	8-0
v. Glenalmond	Won	5-0
v. Rannoch	Won	4-1
v. Loretto	Lost	1-3
v. Monifieth HS	Won	3-0

2nd XI

A. Deen (Captain), N. Dempsey, J. Fraser, G. MacLennan, M. Taylor, E. Anderson, J. Winchester, H. Blanche, H. Lochore, C. Cook, F. Small.

v. SYHB Under 16 XI	Lost	0-2
v. Glenalmond 1st XI	Drew	2-2
v. Stewarts Melville 1st XI	Lost	1-3
v. Rannoch 1st XI	Lost	1-2
v. Edinburgh Academy 1st XI	Drew	3-3
v. Forfar HS 1st XI	Won	2-0
v. Loretto	Lost	0-3

3rd XI

R. Lawman, J. Ford, P. Aitken, J. Langley, C. MacDonald, D. Ismail, G. Thorburn, R. Moir, D. Logan, G. Aristegui.

v. Glenalmond 2nd XI	Lost	1-3
v. Rannoch 2nd XI	Won	1-0
v. Edinburgh Academy 2nd XI	Lost	1-2
v. Perth Academy 1st XI	Drew	0-0
v. Loretto	Won	6-1

4th XI

J. Leiper, S. Milroy, P. Sochart, D. Young, D. Fraser, M. Lo, C. Ferguson, A. Johnston, A. Buchan, D. Connell.

v. Morrisons 1st XI	Lost	0-4
v. Loretto	Lost	1-4

Senior Colts A XI

G. McGregor-Christie (Captain), D. Robertson, S. Lokko, H. Brown, N. Mackenzie, D. Dawes, A. Wood, M. Silver, A. Hyde, A. Keddie, M. Smith.

v. SYHB Under 15 XI	Lost	3-4
v. Fettes	Won	5-0
v. Gordonstoun	Won	3-0
v. Aberdeen GS	Drew	0-0
v. Morgan Academy	Lost	0-5
v. Loretto	Drew	4-4
v. Abbey	Won	6-1

Junior Colts A XI

J. Wallace (Captain), T. Hunter, C. Hill, A. Milne, R. Morris, J. Henderson, M. Gillingham, S. Jacobsen, C. Nicol, P. Johnston, J. Tyrell.

v. Harris Academy	Won	4-0
v. Perth Academy	Lost	1-2
v. Fettes	Won	5-0
v. Watsons	Won	1-0
v. Loretto	Won	2-1
v. Monifieth HS	Won	10-1
v. Abbey	Won	5-0

Junior Colts B XI

P. Chaimetha, A. Jeffrey, S. Gray, G. Stephens, J. Stewart, A. Bennett, J. Meiklejohn, A. Quinn, E. Ovenstone, S. Anderson, M. Barker.

v. Harris Academy	Won	8-0
v. Fettes	Drew	0-0
v. Lathallan	Won	5-2
v. Forfar HS	Won	7-2
v. Loretto	Lost	1-2

Senior Colts B XI

M. Tench (Captain), D. Green, G. Burton, R. Dodds, P. Sochart, N. Mackenzie, N. Jones, J. Garvie, C. Ferguson, A. Doodson.

v. SYHB Under 15 XI	Lost	0-4
v. Harris Academy	Won	5-1
v. Fettes	Won	4-0
v. Loretto	Won	3-0
v. Stewarts Melville	Won	1-0



Indoor squad for Glenalmond challenge.

CRICKET

In spite of the weather, this was one of the most rewarding and interesting seasons in many years. With a captain and side always prepared to go for a win, positive results were always likely and the final tally of seven wins, four losses and three draws gives an accurate picture. Of the major school matches, wins were recorded against Loretto, Fettes, Edinburgh Academy and Lancaster RGS.

The season opened promisingly with a good win over Perth Northern and a draw against Crieff. This was followed by an exciting match with Loretto which resulted in a win in a game which had fluctuated throughout the day. The key to success came in the determined after-lunch batting of the tail (Messrs Wood, Anderson and Silver) who took the score from 110-8 to 170 all out. The victory over Fettes was the result of the 'reborn' McKenzie-Wilson as a batsman and the Wayfarers, eccentrically led by Gavin Corbett, fell to a savage assault from Keith Salters (79) and a more orthodox approach from Robin Johnston (65*). Niall Gray collected the runs (74) in an excruciatingly dull draw with Stewart's Melville.

The second half of the term started well with an interesting win over the XL Club and a convincing performance against Edinburgh Academy in a match hogged by the old man from the hills, Hans McKenzie-Wilson (19-13-22-8 and 46 runs). The following weekend things went wrong. Merchiston deservedly won a game dominated by the bowlers and a powerful MCC side, spearheaded by the ageless guile of George Goddard, proved too good on the day. Then the weather intervened. Dollar was rained off. The Occasionals were rained off. Coleraine was rained off. Glenalmond was rained off. Only the morning's play was possible against an Old Boy's side for whom the captain, Grant Corbett, sparkled for 19 runs in only two hours. The rest of the family compensated with magnificent entertainment in the pavilion for the rest of the day.

The lack of cricket in the three weeks leading up to the festival did not help our initial performance and losses were recorded against both Downside and Dulwich. Then came the real turn-up for the books. Lancaster RGS, unbeaten by another school for over thirty matches and comfortable winners against both Downside and Dulwich were the victims. Strathallan scored only 123 and this due mainly to a stubborn 23 (in 41 overs) from Martin Smith and a final assault from Andrew Wood, who decided to use the occasion to show that he was a batsman after all. Lancaster were bowled out for 108 due to fine bowling from Mark Tench, Edward Anderson, Keith Salters and Nicholas Mackenzie, but even more to a fielding performance, spearheaded

by Cameron Philip and Mark Vance, as good as any for many years: a truly marvellous end to an exciting season.

Nine of this year's regular team are back next year, although an enormous gap will be left by Hans. Of this year's team the following can be said: Keith Salters captained with a positive approach; bowled by his standards, slightly disappointingly and batted with the predictability of a demented gerbil. Martin Smith mastered the basics of opening batting and caught just about everything. Niall Gray looked enormously promising for the future and Robin Johnston really began to fulfil his promise. Mark Vance contributed a great deal through his enthusiasm and his fielding. Cameron Philip did a thankless task effectively. Mark Tench bowled tirelessly

and overcame a confidence crisis. Edward Anderson proved the perfect change bowler and also batted effectively. Andrew Wood, hit by a virus, did not 'keep' quite as well as expected but nevertheless made a major contribution. Nicholas, 'Granny' when fielding, Mackenzie emerged as the surprise bowling weapon with considerable potential. Finally to Hans McKenzie-Wilson: injured for the first part of the season, he turned himself into a batsman. Returning to bowling he completed his hundred wickets for the School. Everything about his cricket will be missed; everything, that is, except for his feet.

FIRST XI RESULTS

Played 14, won 7, drawn 3, lost 4, abandoned 4.

The Second XI, once again, played some very good cricket. Very ably led by Cameron Philip (until stolen for the First XI), they were competitive and, for a young side, remarkably mature. One or two of the Fifth Formers have very real First XI potential. The Senior Colts, suffering once again from the vagaries of the Garden wicket, went through some crises of confidence but here too are some players of real potential. There were batsmen scoring fifties and there were bowlers, particularly James Henderson, with real striking force. The Junior Colts have some players of outstanding potential. Their match performance was perhaps spoiled by the foolish and at times selfish performance of those less talented. It might be a start if some of those individuals **and their parents** realised that a team game ends when the team is all out and not just their little treasure.

Many thanks to the many people involved: to Nick du Boulay, for coaching, umpiring and arranging his own transport back from Loretto; to John Ford, Charles Court, David Giles, George Kitson, Ken Dutton, Andrew Wands, Paul Vallot, Martin Gray (of course) and Andrew Hawke for all their efforts with various teams; to Craig Young and his kitchen staff for their patience with weather-altered arrangements; to Earnside Coaches for the same thing; to Clarence Parfitt for all his net time; to David Rees for umpiring and washing up; to Ed McDonald and his staff for the groundwork. Finally thanks must go to the players themselves, particularly to those leaving us and if any of them become millionaires overnight they could always think in terms of Pavilion extension, covers, a relaid garden pitch, or even zimmer frame and tranquilliser set for the master in charge.

R.J.W.P.



'Dougal' Fergusson takes a tea break on his way to 50 in the Junior Cricket Final.

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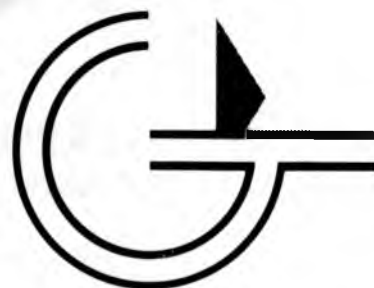
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Library Study

THE YEAR IN COLOUR



Sonya Reid: Scottish Schools
Bronze Medallist at 400m.



Mr Vallot flags for the start.



Mrs Fairbairn presented the prizes at Sports Day.



Graham MacLennan: Hard-earned success.



Special Boat Service on the Forth.



Riley Musicians at the Scottish Prep. Schools Orchestra Day.



"Me Jane, you Tarzan."



"I think I got it wrong again, Dad."



"I like to know where I'm going . . ."



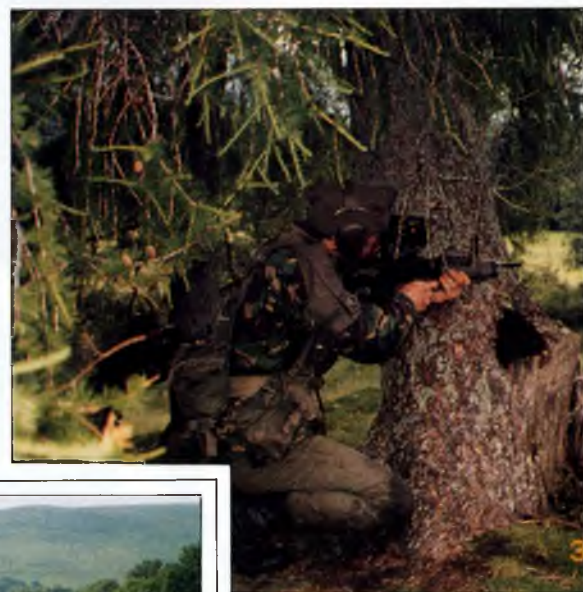
Revenge is wet.



"Hold it, Chas, we haven't clipped you on!"



"Yer what?"



Where's that Captain?



"Right! Anyone here a bit squeamish?"



Gotcha!



He's always wanted to get to the top.



Those also serve, who only sit and watch.



"Any questions?" "Yes, what's for breakfast?"



"And now, for the pièce de résistance, Cultybraggan cutlets."



Simpson House at cherry blossom time.



"This could be difficult . . ."



Mr MacLeod's advice is always welcome.



Thornbank v Woodlands: New Image Rugby.



Third Formers going to class in January.



Mr Wilson, alias Captain Birdseye.



Freeland House in the snow.



Jonathan Leiper:
"You may kiss my feet"!

GIRLS' GAMES

As can be seen from the following reports, yet another full year of activity for the girls has passed. Their enthusiasm and commitment never ceases to amaze me. When the chips look down in any

match they never give up — be it in the dying seconds of a hockey match when a goal is needed to win, or in a final burst on the finishing straight in athletics to gain a medal at the Scottish Schools — I

can always be sure determination will take over from a tired body. My grateful thanks as always to the staff — Mrs Carrat, Mrs Buchan, Mrs Lamont, Mrs Segaud, Miss England and Miss Neale.

L.J.S.

HOCKEY

The girls' hockey teams have again had outstanding results: the 1st XI only lost one fixture and that was at the beginning of the season on an unfamiliar surface and the 2nd XI only lost when playing 1st XI opposition.

The big disappointment this season came again in the form of the Outdoor District Tournament where, after playing outstandingly all tournament, we were beaten in the final by Dundee High, a side we had beaten convincingly a few weeks earlier in a full length fixture. Salt was poured on wounds when Dundee High then went on to win the Scottish!! BUT CONGRATULATIONS MUST GO TO THEM NEVERTHELESS.

The team this year was the most effective attacking side Strathallan has ever fielded. The three strikers, Clodagh Meiklejohn, Zoe Stephens and Rachel Taylor, confused many a defender with increasingly complex stickwork, "foot-work" and basic speed.

Linking the defence and the strikers were Sonya Reid and Julie Clark. Congratulations must go to Julie on perfecting the art of scoring and commiserations for Sonya on forgetting it! Sweeping the forwards was Jo Clark whose intelligent ball distribution, coupled with solid strickwork and a diligent attitude, made her a very valuable player.

The defence worked well all season and eventually gelled to form a formidable obstacle to the opposition once the importance of individual marking became clear. Flo Griffiths and Bonnie Stevens played instinctively and inspirationally to help the team out of many a tight spot while Judy Pate, Sheila Dow and Emma Wardhaugh played accurately and solidly to prevent too many tight situations arising in the first place! Our goalie, Fi Clayton, played hard all season and noticable improvements were seen especially in the Indoor Tournament and sevens where our success was very largely due to some magnificent saves.

To say the team's success was due to any one person would be very wrong because for once I can stress with a clear conscience that all of the players played as well as they could all of the time and this is the secret of success: but in saying that a few individual achievements must not go unnoticed. Six U16 players gained places in the Midlands squad and five players made it into the Midlands District

U18 side: Sonya, Flo, Clodagh, Heather and Rachel; with three selected for Scottish trials: Sonya, Flo and Clodagh, who reached the last 25 with Sonya going on to the full International Squad as Vice-Captain and playing in Germany and Scotland at Easter.

This is undoubtedly the most players Strathallan has ever had selected for District and National training and for this and the season's results we must thank Miss Smith whose enthusiasm and commitment to the game and team has been infectious; the time and effort she has put into training sessions has been reflected by these successes. Staff mentions would not be complete without a thank-you to the 2nd XI coach and umpire, Mr Giles, who not only coached the 2nds to their impressively high standard but positively goaded the 1st XI to an even higher one.

Sonya Reid



Tizi Nicholson and Suzanne Blackstock on the Fun 'Hobble'.



Sonya Reid tacks up for the game.

ATHLETICS

Despite a limited Senior Team due to examinations we managed to do quite well with many doing the maximum three events, but still succeeded in being unbeatable this season. We had some very close wins over Rannoch, Kilgraston, Loretto and Fettes. At the end of the day a P.B. in the Senior Girls Relay of 64.8 — Claire Corrie, Sonya Reid, Heather Dewar, Alison Edmonds — was recorded.

This year's Scottish Schools didn't see as many medals as the previous year but nevertheless the girls returned to Strathallan with four bronze medals: Sonya Reid in the 400m with a gutsy run — wind against on home straight (rather you than me Son!); Clodagh in the 1500m (5.08 sec.); Clare Corrie in High Jump with a brilliant P.B. of 1.50m and myself in the Shot!! Well done to all who attended — great team spirit.

Distinctions in the junior team must go to Ashley Smith and Lucy Quarry in both middle distance events, and to Eilidh Currie and Lindsay Moir in 100m and 200m for their superb effort in all matches.

Special mentions must go to those who helped the team while athletes were in



Alison Edmonds, Senior Shot Putt v Dollar.

short supply! — Bonnie Stevens in Shot and Discus, Sophie Murray in Sprints, and Jody Cust in Shot and Discus. Thanks go also to all the other members of the teams and to all staff without whom we'd have not been able to run more than 10 metres — at least without a breather — well in my case anyway. Thanks to Mr Barnes and Miss England for organising us all and to Mr Green for his horrible Pyramids and hill runs. All the best for next season.

Alison Edmonds



Claire Corrie heading for 1.50m in High Jump, Scottish School's Bronze Medallist.

NETBALL

We started off the season enthusiastically, with a rigorous fitness routine at the beginning of every session and a run at the end of every session. Interest, however, sadly waned: this fault could probably be attributed to the lack of matches outwith the school. The results at first glance do not look too drastic: the three teams, Firsts, Seconds and Juniors, each won half of their matches . . . the Juniors won one as did the Seconds, and the Seniors won two! I am reluctant to add, but I suppose I had better, that one of these was against a prep school — Ardvreck, the result 22-12, thank goodness! The other match the Firsts won was

against Morrison's, the final score being 44-8. We lost to Dundee High 18-14; an improvement upon last year on our part. After a three hour bus journey up to Gordonstoun we were beaten 25-9. Playing Gordonstoun next season perhaps the teams should meet at a halfway point!

The Seconds lost to Dundee High 18-7, and won against Loretto 19-6. The Juniors lost to Gordonstoun 27-2, and won against Crieff High School, scoring 32 goals to 4. Luckily, more and more schools are taking Netball on board their sporting curricula, even this year Morrisons, Loretto and Crieff High were new

fixtures. Next year the players have the opportunity to play with, and against, ladies' teams at the Bell's centre in Perth. This should be invaluable experience, hopefully qualifying the team for the league.

I hope those leaving this year who were in any of the teams will try to continue with their Netball somehow, somewhere. Those staying on . . . please beat Gordonstoun!

Suzanne Paterson

One last thing — Kerry, Nicola and myself were given our half colours: this is a first for Netball!

TENNIS

An enjoyable term was had by all despite the usual disruptions in the senior team by G.C.S.E. and "A" level examinations.

The standard of tennis this year has been high, though this is not fully reflected in the results that were obtained. The season's victories were against Dollar, Loretto, Glenalmond, Laurelbank and Mary Erskine 2nd VI. Our first couple, Katie Nicolson and Claire Tomlin, have had an excellent term's tennis, only dropping a few sets. Although there were many losses, including St. Leonards, St. George's, Fettes, and our rivals from along the road, Kilgraston, the matches were all close, and perhaps next year Strathallan will have the upper hand.

The Junior team has had a good season, receiving only two defeats against St. George's and St. Leonard's, while gaining many convincing wins against Kilgraston, Fettes, Morrison's and Laurelbank. This degree of tennis will no doubt give next year's senior team some strong individuals.

Riley, too, have shown that they are not to be outdone, with their consistent tennis. This is demonstrated by their results, losing only two of their matches.

Tournaments have perhaps demonstrated our tennis form, especially amongst the Junior teams. In the St. Leonard's Preparatory Schools Tennis Tournament, Melissa Gillingham and Catherine Low were to find themselves as outright winners. Also, in the Kilgraston American Tournament, Melissa Gillingham and Katie Yellowlees came out top in the junior section.

On behalf of the teams, I would like to thank Miss Smith and all the staff who have coached and organised matches so that the tennis could be enjoyed by all. All that is left to say is good luck and all the best to next year's teams, and indeed, future teams.

Judy Pate



"Rounders"? A match? Us? Oh No! were the common responses, but after very little persuasion and with the mention of Glenalmond, we composed a team. After much reminding of the rules the match started with the Glenalmond girls bowling. Unfortunately even Foggy and Katie couldn't save the day with their impressive whacks, and we lost, but cheering loudly.

ROUNDERS

Not to be demoralised, the next fixture here was a tournament against Kilgraston and Rannoch. This time with a little team tactics from Clodagh, our bowler, we successfully managed several impressive rounders (as well as one or two Golden Ducks!). The adrenalin rose and the carefree attitude changed to determination with the possible chance of winning, and sadly for Rannoch, again our team-

work led to final victory. Gone were the "Rounders is for Gnomes" replaced with "when is the next match?"

The junior team made an impressive attempt and managed to beat Kilgraston but were less fortunate against Rannoch.

Fiona Hutchison



Drawings: Above: Claire Ninham.
Left: Heather Dewar.

SWIMMING

This year the girls' swimming results have been encouraging, as we maintained our unbeaten record against Rannoch with good results in both matches. The two matches against St. Leonards showed some pleasing individual and team performances but unfortunately a weakness in numbers due to injury and other commitments proved our efforts unsuc-

cessful on both occasions. However the standard of the girls' swimming has improved and hopefully with the inspiration of the newly painted pool, it will continue to improve. Thank you to all those who competed this year and thank you to Miss Smith for our coaching.

Emma Wardhaugh (Captain)

Left: drawing by Heather Dewar.

STRATHSKI

What can I say? The snow finally found us after a couple of "green" years. This brightened our views of some inter-school races, and even an inter-house competition.

The first Sunday was perhaps the nicest for skiing throughout the whole season. It was therefore the worst day for the bus to break down only a mile from Glenshee ski slopes. This found the race team walking up one of the area's remote off-piste mountains. A couple of hours' walking and skiing certainly separated the fit from the "others". We finally made it up to the slopes for two hours of talent spotting. The first few weeks of the season had near enough the same conditions, giving a few days of snow and of course, rain. The rain finally settled in to strip the resort of a lot of its snow, baring the rocks and streams.

We received some excellent training from Cairnwell Ski School, and in parti-

cular Gustav Fischnaller and Duncan Riley, to whom all our thanks must go for their hard work.

Thursday, 7th February saw the running of the inter-house ski competition on the Cairnwell race piste. This was really the selection trials for the school team, as it usually is, and a fine performance from Mark Gillingham ensured him a place in the team and he proved to be a noticeable asset. So the team was decided as: Robert Hutchison, Peter Allen, Ben Gray and Mark Gillingham.

The Scottish Schools race was run on an excellent day, and "the boys" put in a performance that at least ensured Strath a place in the British Schools competition, coming 8th (out of 32).

Individual performances were as follows: myself 6th, Peter 36th, Ben 37th, and Mark 44th.

The same team was used in the British race, where, well . . . we did finish!

As for the girls; well, Sophie, Melissa, Anne and Tracy managed to join in the fight for the British as well as the Scottish and provided some added humour in the mini-bus every week!

The Perthshire Schools race was held on "one of those days" where we were beaten to first place by . . . yes — Glenalmond. Maybe next year?! And that, alas, brings the close to the skiing this year. It was fun!

I would like to thank, on behalf of the team, Mr J. F. Clayton who has made Strath skiing, and who has worked hard to get the team up to Glenshee 2-3 times a week, and who has also had the guts to say without too much embarrassment: "Those were my boys."

R. A. O. Hutchison

P.S. Congratulations to Kristian Lannen for his wacky displays that proved him to be daft enough for the Scottish Freestyle team.



Robert Hutchison leading by example at the Scottish National Schools Race.

THE SKIER

The wind was strong and tense,
The snow fell thick and deep.
The trees were dark and tall,
And the run looked long and steep.

The bar was lifted high,
The skier began to race.
Faster and faster he went,
But a branch swept past his face.

His timing went astray,
Crash on the snow he lay.

**Andrew Forbes,
Form I**



Bus parade at Glenshee.

GOLF

The sun shone on the golf team in more ways than one this year. The early spring weather was excellent and so was the form of the team in the Perth & Kinross League. They played some very steady golf and finished unbeaten in the league. Unfortunately, they were "pipped" by half a point by Auchterarder H.S. for first place in their section of the league. Two additional matches were played, against Merchiston and Blairgowrie Juniors, both of which ended in defeat, although the team was 'weakened' by the unavailability of key players on both occasions.

On an individual level, the team members will all have something to remember from the season. Captain, "Taffi" Frame, although a little inconsistent at times, started the season with a level par round at Crieff to win his match comfortably. His season finished in fine style when, on a return visit to Crieff, for the Perth & Kinross School's Golf Association he won the individual title. Previous winners of this trophy include Brian Marchbank and William Guy (also an ex-Strathallian).

James Garvie was unbeaten in the

League this year and his only defeat was at Merchiston where, playing at No. 1, he was only 1 over par on an unfamiliar course (Mortonhall), yet his opponent was 4 under! James' golf was of a very consistent standard this year and he proved himself to be a very difficult opponent to beat.

Ewan Watson also had an excellent season, playing at No. 3 in the 'league' team. He was ever present in the team and won six out of seven matches — a very creditable performance. Probably his highlight of the season was in winning the Individual Handicap prize at the Blairgowrie Juniors Open Team Championship with a 79 gross.

Simon Forster and David Clark were in competition for the fourth team place and both had their moments on the golf course. Simon's results were a little unflattering as he was up against some tricky opponents. David 'forced' himself into the team during the season and finished unbeaten, despite battling against a slice in the latter part of the term.

The Inter-House Competition was won by Simpson who beat Ruthven by 1 shot.

thanks largely to two very steady rounds by Ben Muir (76) and Mark Vance (80). James Garvie won the individual title with a steady round of 74.

We were once again indebted to the work of Frank Smith, our visiting professional from Craigie Hill. He has a very good eye for what is going wrong with a golf swing and if we can all (writer included) learn from his excellent advice then I feel sure we will all be better golfers soon.

Team: (Number of Matches played in brackets) J. S. Frame (Capt) (5); J. M. Garvie (6); E. Watson (7); S. K. Forster (6); D. W. Clark (3); N. R. T. Barclay (1); D. R. Taylor (1); A. M. Macleod (2); N. C. G. Dobson (1); G. J. Johannessen (1); C. Ninham (1).

Results — League
v Crieff H.S. (A) W 3-1
v Auchterarder H.S. (H) D 2-2
v Glenalmond (H) D 2-2
v Kinross H.S. (A) W 2½-1½
v Morrisons Acad (H) W 4-0

Friendlies
v Merchiston L 1½-4½
v Blairgowrie Juniors L 2-6

N.S.



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SQUASH

When we won our first two league matches away back in November of '90 and got through the opening round of the DDSRA knockout competition for the very first time, I thought we were going to have a good season. However, the familiar pattern and story of our life in league squash was soon to establish itself again: that of losing three games to two. At the senior level we played 22 matches and lost 13 of them 3-2! Next season with only Piers and Tommy leaving and with the courts now vacated, I feel sure that things could change — forever the optimist!

My thanks to Piers, who as captain was always extremely helpful, who gained his full colours and who, when he makes his first million, owes me several pints; to Keith, who despite having heavy rugby and hockey commitments rarely missed a match (other than when his ankle gave up), was always quick to correct the umpire and is the only person I know

who can get through four rackets and only pay for one of them; to Tommy, who really did progress on and off the court and now knows what a female 'fireperson' looks like and to Colin, who despite all the sweat and anguish never quite managed to get a win in a match. I should also mention the Craigs, Jonathans and others who filled in, in times of injury. My thanks to you all.

For the record:

League matches — Played 20 Won 5 Lost 15

School matches — Played 5 Won 3 Lost 2

As a footnote, I am encouraged to see that there are still a lot of girls playing the game and I hope if I can get things organised, that we can get them into a league next season.

P.K.

The season was all too short for the five in the league team. The regular Tuesday night matches in the fifth divi-

sion of the Dundee's district league seemed to be part of the school's routine, each match enjoyed by all. Thanks goes to Craig Gibson for standing in on the few occasions he could. I hope his confidence grows next season when he plays regularly for the team. Colin has the ability but lacks in luck — next year will be his one. Tommy has improved in leaps and bounds with his winning streak at the end of the season easily noticed. Keith continued to finish his opponents (on court). Thanks also goes to Mr Keir for his persistence in chauffering the team, winning his matches (though I have to add that his one and a half year winning streak was broken late into the season) and for the pints I'll eventually owe him.

I wish luck to the team next year which I'm sure will be winning 3-2 (if not 4-1 or 5-0) as opposed to this year's unfortunate 2-3 losses.

Piers du C. Wilkinson.



Line up for the Fun Run in aid of the Rugby Tour to S. America.

SWIMMING

The swimming team can be pleased with its 100% record this year. The season opened with a match against Rannoch at home which we won comfortably. Some good swimming resulted in colours being awarded to Emma Wardhaugh, Suzanne Blackstock, Alison Edmonds, Jonathan Taylor and Nick Buckley.

The inter-house competition was dominated by a very well-organised Nicol who converted last year's last place to a win by ten points this year. Ruthven scraped second place by just one point ahead of

Simpson. Thornbank beat Freeland and Woodlands to take third place(!). Nick Buckley broke the school record for 100 yards freestyle with his time of 58.7 seconds. Well done.

The most exciting swimming of the year, however, came at the Aberfeldy sports centre, again against Rannoch with Strathallan lacking their powerhouse juniors (B.C.G. injections and a trip to the theatre reducing the match to seniors only). We won by one point on the last swimmer of the last relay! Colours were awarded to Flo Griffith,

Jodie Cust, Suzanne Paterson, Alec Burrell, John Fraser and Piers du Cane Wilkinson, all of whom swam so well in the closing relays and throughout the year.

All that remains is to say thank you to Emma Wardhaugh, captain of girls swimming for organising the girls so well (without whom I am sure the results would be quite different!). Also thank you to Mr Glimm and Miss Smith who both put so much time into swimming at Strathallan (and who have to put up with some dreadful singing in the minibuses!).

Bruce Webb

SAILING

The Brown Cup Race is an annual school's dinghy race held at Loch Earn in June.

Peter Brown, who won the race last year, and whose late grandfather donated the cup back in 1960, was not able to attend this year due to exams, so the responsibility was mine to keep the school's reputation up.

Richard Graham, my crewman, and I were deposited at Loch Earn Sailing Club at about 9 o'clock by Mr Proctor so that we could get the boat. *Wat's On*, ready before the starting race at 10 a.m.

After the introductions, starting flags and course directions, we were to be out on the water within five minutes. A slightly muddled start left us lying quite far behind the leaders but we managed to

claw back some places in the westerly force three wind. We finished within the first 20 boats out of the 63 boat fleet with the rain drizzling down our necks, ready and competent for the next race.

The course was changed for the second race where we got off to a good start behind the lasers of the Scottish Squad (and a few others) but we got stranded after the second buoy like the rest of the competitors while the wind disappeared to a whisper and turned up in all sorts of places. It eventually turned round through all the points and back to the SW. The horn was blown for the shortened course and the rain came down in a constant drizzle. Suddenly freshening again, the wind brought most of the leading boats home after a tactical beat to

the finish where we crossed the line in 9th place.

Lunch was then the order of the day, after which the last race took place in stinging rain and a fresh wind. The start was crucial, and we timed it almost right but definitely not in front of the bulk of the lasers which were out in force. Our good start gradually disappeared and we eventually crossed the line 12th, after a cold, wet and slightly disappointing end to the racing.

The Prize Giving took place after everyone was loaded and sorted out. Mark Baron was the winner and Stew Mell took the schools' prize. Our overall position on handicap was 18th.

Jamie Smith

TENNIS

In terms of a win-loss account, 1991 was always going to be a difficult season. The numbers opting for tennis were the lowest ever and the small pool of players from which the first VI was to be selected lacked match experience. It is ironic then that we did so well in the Midland Schools tournament, eventually going out to Dundee High in a closely contested final. If this was the high point of the season then the low was reached on

Glenalmond's new courts where a weakened team failed to win even one set.

The second half of the season was no more successful than the first although the quality of the tennis played improved considerably. Had our third pair been a little steadier in tie-break sets we would have won the last four matches. The first pair of Wallace and Breves had a very

good season, playing some powerful tennis and were particularly effective at the net.

The most enjoyable event of the season, once again, was the mixed doubles match with the girls' team. For the record Judy Pate's team lost in the last set to Dan Breves' team. Dan Breves, who captained the first VI, was awarded full colours.

D.J.R.

FOOTBALL

During the whole of the year, few days have passed without someone, somewhere in Strathallan playing football, organised or otherwise.

Although failing to win any of their matches, the senior team played some good football and had chances which a little more skill might have turned into goals. The Riley team, however, won all their matches and by large goal-margins — well done.

The Senior House knockout competition played on one Sunday was won by Freeland with Nicol coming a commendable second. All the matches were much enjoyed by a large number of spectators. The Riley/middle school competition was a marathon of ten matches, also on one Sunday, and this time Nicol did manage to win. Riley also challenged the Girls' Houses, though due to the weather this had to be a 5-a-side indoor competition.

As expected, Riley won, but not so easily as they thought they would. The girls played well with some very good performances by individuals, but in the end it was the experience of the Riley boys that carried them to victory.

My thanks go to A.S-J and A.M. for their contribution to the football in the school and also to N.S. and D.J.B. for the valuable help they gave in refereeing house matches.

G.A.B.

CCF

CONTINGENT COMMANDER'S REPORT

The year started with slightly greater urgency as the Contingent was reviewed on the 17th of October by Lt Gen Sir John MacMillan KCB CBE GOC The Army in Scotland. All turned out well on the day with visits to Port Edgar and Lochore Meadows Country Park to see the RN Section in action afloat; to the Ochil Hills for the RM troop; and back to Strathallan for an Army Section Minitac.

GOC was well pleased with what he saw and commented several times during the day on how well the senior NCOs briefed him. Once more the Contingent got a clean bill of health and our first experience of continuous assessment by the MOD was over.

It is my impression that the senior and not-so-senior NCOs have worked hard this year in all sections to deal with the increase in numbers. Although some members have tried hard not to contribute, the overall response was typified by the Vth year who responded exceptionally well after their enforced holiday complete with rain in all its forms at Cultybraggan.

As this report is being written, we await the announcement of the "options

for change" measures by the government; many Naval camps and courses have been cancelled due to a 60% reduction in travel allowances. The army will now only pay travel to Camp and back to School, although warrants are still available for courses such as UKLF Leadership. There has also been a large reduction in our ammunition allowances. Certain stores are simply not available. Two Scottish Regiments are under threat and Naval Establishments are also threatened with closure. Our parent RNR Unit HMS CAMPERDOWN has had its MSF withdrawn meaning even less chance of getting to sea with grey funnel. The CCF, we are assured, is safe, but the support we manage to obtain must be used wisely as it is unlikely to increase.

Fortunately our new Range and Stores building is now nearing completion after an administrative delay regarding security. Adam Streatfield-James has been most patient, and by the time this is in print most of you will have used the building for one of its many functions, although the beds currently in the upper floor are not a new house to be run by

Paul Vallot. (CNC denies spreading such a believable rumour).

Captain Charles Court will relinquish command of the Army (nothing to do with the above denial) as he moves to take over Freeland House. Lt Vallot will assume command of the Army Section in September 1991. I am certain all recent Army cadets will remember Charles Court's infectious enthusiasm for all things Army, his hatred of the Royals for taking away his embryo "Jocks", and his love affair with Cultybraggan Nissen Huts Officers-Sleeping-for-the-use-of. Thank you Charles for your efforts.

Next year will see some changes in the way in which we do our business — the details of which depend on things outwith our control. What will remain, I hope, is a Youth Leadership Training organisation that most cadets make full use of to find out about themselves whilst still at school and still able to make mistakes.

Finally I would like to thank Mr Eades and all the Officers on behalf of all cadets of the CCF for their support, always beyond the call of normal duty, as without it the Contingent could not exist.

C.N.W.

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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ARMY REPORT

Almost my last duty as OC the Army Section of Strathallan School CCF was to see some Fourth Form boys off from Perth Station after this year's camp at Cultybraggan.

Jimmy Micklejohn, who is hardly noted for towering stature or bulging muscles, was carrying the amount of luggage that would have made a platoon of hardened lancers collectively wince. The 'sprinter' to Inverness, his destination, was fifteen minutes late and was so over-full that it might have been the mid-day express to Bangalore. Somehow, cases, rucksack and kit bag (and Jimmy himself) were squeezed in amongst the legs of wild-eyed and haggard adventurers and serene but inscrutable natives. As the doors were not working properly (a hazard that seemed to be claiming as many victims as the rebels), I left the 'sprinter' still in its blocks at Platform 4 in order to get back to official duties.

There was no chance of my catching a final glimpse of the traveller to Inverness but I couldn't help wondering how he was going to cope on that interminable journey north during the monsoon season of early July. I reassured myself that he had just spent the last week acquiring the skills required; abseiling down from blown viaducts; rafting across fearful rapids; killing and preparing chickens

when the B.R. buffet service couldn't handle any more £10 notes; the kind of command task that required moving four heavy cases into a space that didn't exist, whilst standing on one leg and simultaneously being courteous to an old but extremely bad-tempered maharane.

As for the rebel hordes peeping out from behind the rocks — I was sure his marksmanship could cope. If they should find the previous express and its occupants massacred at Dunjkeldi I was confident his stomach could cope with the dead and his first-aid skills with the wounded.

Doubtlessly you know by now two separate camps at Cultybraggan during one monsoon season can do queer things to a colonialist's mind. I put my survival in Her Majesty's Service during the last seven or so years (one loses track of the time, don't you know) down to gin and quinine and the kind of chaps one finds out here.

The kind of 'chaps' I am talking about are not only the officers in Corps like Paul Vallot and Adam Streatfield-James but also Mr Ian Eades, who remains unflappable and efficient no matter what the temperature. It is also good to be able to say how much I am indebted to some of our N.C.O.s: Euan Smith, John Langley and Andrew Buchan contributed enormously to the success of the Fifth

Form Camp. Some of these and Rikki Sang, together with the next crop of sergeants, such as Duncan Robertson and James Healy, made our Highland Cadet Tactical Competition team extremely useful. We started the competition slowly, won outright two of the events on the final day, and came fourth overall, beaten only a whisker by the winning CCF team — one well-placed round in the shooting would have done it.

The boys in the section have attended a lot of useful training camps. UKLF camps, Frimly leadership courses and NCO cadres at Edinburgh have been attended by the likes of C. Procter, C. Ferguson, P. Raper, P. Ainsworth and G. Ross. It is the enthusiasm of cadets such as these who make so many of the difficult times worthwhile. I am sure Captain Vallot will find there is much to do and new challenges to be met when he takes command of the Army Section in September.

Curiously it all comes back to Inverness and experience at the North West Frontier. I started my CCF career with Major Vincent Pirie-Watson and the Cameron Highlanders at the beleaguered outpost of Fort Augustus where I remember Cadet Paul Vallot surviving several ugly skirmishes to become a sergeant in that particular Combined Cadet Force.

C.N.C.

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Army Officer

ROYAL NAVY

This year the Royal Navy Section increased considerably in strength because of the closure of the Royal Air Force. Since we were faced with large numbers, a re-think of training was essential. The practice of having divisions by age was discontinued and a new structure formed in which six watches each rotated between classroom and practical training. An excellent team of senior Cadets led by Under Officer Jason Sim and Coxswains John Fraser, John Kruuk and Bruce Webb provided the necessary leadership.

Various camps at naval establishments including HMS Kent, HMS Raleigh and RNAS Yeovilton and Culdrose were this year well attended. Once again the leadership course at Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth proved of immense value to our potential senior NCOs.

The first Scottish Area CCF Regatta was held in September at Lochore Meadows. CPO Richards put in much effort in getting this event off the ground. Strathallan was awarded first place against fierce competition.

During the year the Royal Navy Section has had a full and varied training programme and many distinguished visitors. On Field Day the senior Cadets with Sub Lt. Ross went to Port Edgar for motor boat training. Sub Lt. Goody visited the USS Simon Lake, the submarine depot ship on Holy Loch. This proved an interesting change of venue and the US Navy made the Strathallan Cadets most welcome. Lt. Clayton and Sub Lt. Phillips took another group boating at Lochore Meadows. Lt. Cdr. MacLeod and Sub Lt. Saunders of Dundee Sea Cadets visited the Royal Naval Aircraft workshops at Almondbank and later the Frigate Unicorn and the RS Discovery at Dundee.

Sub Lt. Ross has inspired real enthusiasm and expertise in the Boat Section which has had a particularly successful year. Coxswain Fraser and PO Cuthill have been outstanding leaders. The many facilities at Port Edgar were fully utilised and we are most grateful to Lt. Cdr. Clarke and his CPO George Thornton who each week stayed late to assist the Strathallan Cadets. CPO Thornton was presented with a painting to mark our appreciation on leaving Port Edgar. Most of the Boat Section Cadets gained their Power Boat Certificates.

We have now mostly achieved our aim of having the Sixth Form Cadets take an active part in leadership. Most have taken responsibility for Divisional Training in various disciplines while several weekend exercises with the Army and Royal Marine Sections have helped establish a real "Esprit de Corps."

During the summer term fullest use was made of the boating facilities at Lochore Meadows. We are grateful to Lt. Clayton, Sub Lt. Goody and CPO Richards for their expertise. The arrival of the new bosun dinghy enhanced our fleet and various items of bosun gear were obtained from MOD with minimal delay. We have had an active water programme and most Cadets have had a session of wind surfing and motor boat instruction both at Lochore Meadows and Port Edgar. Inevitably the sixty per cent cut in travel funding will mean some hard thinking for the future but fortunately this year most travel was covered by MOD.

With a very large section only a small proportion of the group can take part in water based activity weekly so it is vital that each Cadet develops some individual responsibility. As usual, time and training is wasted by certain characters trotting out inane excuses on Wednesday afternoons. I suppose with a compulsory CCF this is inevitable. Nevertheless the proven facts are that some of the least interested boys eventually become leaders.

Because more emphasis has been placed on practical training less time has been spent on parade as was obvious when CPO Thirlwall last visited us. A real tighten-up can be anticipated.

In the summer term we were visited by Commander Kemp and three young officers from the office of the Director of Naval Recruiting. They instructed the various groups in potential leadership tasks. Commander Kemp commented on our extensive facilities and was impressed by the new CCF complex.

Goodbye to the old wooden navigation room on the drive. Over the holiday the move to CCF Headquarters will be completed. We look forward to the new range and we hope that the RN will have more opportunities for shooting practice.

Various visits took place throughout the year. Lt Clayton attended the National CCF Regatta at HMS Osprey, Portland. The Strathallan team did well in the upper pool. Four senior Cadets attended the Air Day with Lt. Cdr. MacLeod at HMS Osprey and stayed two nights on board HMS Kent.

Midshipman Robert Moir is to assist at the Dartmouth Summer Camp and because of Robert's connection, Strathallan was the only school that took part in the RN Dry-slope Ski Championship, and finished third. The team was R. Moir, B. Muir and G. Watt.

A team from RN Naval Workshops Almondbank played Strathallan Masters' Common Room at cricket. Former Coxswain RN Watson is to assist at the World Youth Sailing Championship at Largs.

Over the years we have had excellent co-operation from Old Boys and Parents serving in the Royal Navy and this year Commander A. J. K. Nicoll from HMS Neptune gave a fascinating talk on the submarine service and, unusually for Strathallan, he was asked so many questions that the boys were nearly late for tea.

With the G.S.C.E. exams finishing early Sub Lt. Ross took a large group of Fifth Form Boys to Cultybraggan Army Camp for a week's training. There was a lot of apprehension beforehand but as Lt Cdr. MacLeod found out when he visited at the end of the week, all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Particular thanks to Coxswain Bruce Webb who was in charge of the Navy group.

Because of the Gulf War several Easter Camps were cancelled but two Cadets attended the range firing course at RM Condor, Arbroath, and one place was allocated to the school on the Pilot's Course at RNAS Culdrose. Six Cadets with Lt. Cdr. MacLeod attended the RN Acquaint Course on board HMS Kent in Portsmouth. The highlight of the week was an exciting day's sea training on HMS Fencer. All appreciated doing twenty-five knots in the Solent.

For the first time a Cadet is attending the First Aid Course at the RN Hospital, Haslar and five senior Cadets have been allocated places at the Britannia Royal Naval College Summer Camp.

Officers are fully involved in summer training. Lt. Clayton is in charge of sailing at the HMS Kent Summer Camp. Sub Lt. Phillips is doing his initial Officer's Course at Dartmouth. Also at Dartmouth Sub Lt. Ross has been appointed as Motor Boat Instructor and Lt. Cdr. MacLeod is once again Senior River Officer.

A successful year owes a lot to many people. To a splendid team of officers involving Lt. Clayton's meticulous planning, the initiative of Sub Lt. Ross who has been directly responsible for Motor Boat Training and Sub Lt. Goody and Sub Lt. Phillips who, with Lt. Clayton, have ensured an even higher standard of sailing. To have so many involved on water without accident is always impressive and says much for the expertise of all involved.

We thank Commander Dickinson and Lt. Cdr. Johnstone of HMS Camperdown, Tay Division RNR for their support. Over the years Mike Dickinson has been a good friend of Strathallan and of invaluable help to the RN Section. We wish him well on relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of our parent establishment. We are also grateful to CPO Thirlwall who has endeavoured to smarten up the section on parade, CPO King who was until

recently in charge of stores, and our PLO Lt. Cdr. McCrow for his continued help and interest.

CPO Richards is directly responsible for setting up the Scottish Area Regatta and has throughout the year been our mentor and link with the Royal Navy. We thank him for his continued support. CCF headquarters in London are always helpful and we are grateful to the Staff Officer, Commander Wilson, to Andrew Hiscutt who looks after administration, Commander Goss in charge of boats and WO Chetwood who has allocated camps and courses.

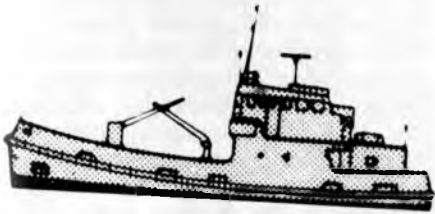
The Sea Cadet Corps always assists us and Sub Lt. Saunders of Dundee Sea Cadets has visited us on several occasions to help with training.

Transport has been greatly improved thanks to Captain Walker's support. We congratulate him on his recent promotion.

Lastly, my thanks to excellent senior Cadets with special mention of Under Officer Sim and Coxswains Fraser, Kruuk and Webb.

Promotions: Senior Coxswain — F. Piganeau.
Divisional Coxswains — M. Dick, J. Ford.
Coxswain i/c S.B.S. — G. Obank.
Coxswain i/c Boats — J. Cuthill.

T.J.M.



Right: Britannia Cadets stand easy at Dartmouth.



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ROYAL MARINES DETACHMENT

About twenty hopefuls entered the annual competition for just over half a dozen vacancies in the RM Detachment. They subjected themselves to the USMC fitness test, which is particularly gruelling as nobody forces you to achieve any specific target, and your own determination to do well is the only thing that drives you on.

They went on a squad run, where the stamina of the individual is as important as his willingness to give up a personal advantage for the sake of helping a weaker member of the squad. They took part in an abseiling exercise, putting their trust in the system and their lives in the hands of the person who controls the ropes — a fine demonstration of how much we depend on each other in the Detachment. And, of course, they had to show their ability to swim with their clothes on, (just in case you thought we made it too easy for them).

Fortunately, and thanks to the thorough preparation by Mr Raine and Mr Barnes, fitness and stamina are never a real problem and most people pass the physical without any great difficulty. The hardest part of the test is for us to decide whom to take into the Detachment and whom to disappoint. But eventually this tricky decision was made and the new recruits were ready for the start of a year of fun with the Royal Marines!

The weekly training, which is designed to build up to the level of skill necessary to cope with the requirements of increasingly demanding exercises, began gently enough with a drill afternoon on which the former Navy Cadets learn how to march while their colleagues from the Army Section are taught how not to do it.

Then, via weapons training and instruction in navigation and campcraft, through unarmed combat and general fieldcraft, they were gradually prepared for the first important exercise on Field Day. Despite the inevitable rain and the almost traditional navigational mishaps, everything was alright on the night, or rather on the morning after.

For the past five years or so, the

Seaward Defence Group from HMS Scotia have provided the opposition for many of our exercises and we look back again to a couple of entertaining meetings where our ability to be in the right place at the right time prevented the opposition from catching up on their beauty sleep.

The Navy Section also has a group of such Action men and decided to challenge us to a little hit and run game. The elaborate cover story that involved Mobile Air Defence Systems (MADS) and other Simulated Observation Devices (SODs) served as an excuse for a sophisticated game of Cowboys and Indians. It is impossible to determine winners and losers in those encounters; as always both groups came away able to claim at least a moral victory and, on a more serious note, able to say that they had learned a lot from their mistakes.

This year the winter weather was sufficiently cold to allow a repeat of one of the more memorable activities, the Ice-Rescue and Hypothermia Treatment. No classroom talk could show the problems of pulling a heavy body out of a hole in the ice, no medical lecture could better illustrate the importance of making the victim share a sleeping bag with a friend, than the practical demonstration down by the School Pond.

Our Parent Unit at 45 Cdo in Arbroath invited us to spend an afternoon with them and to make full use of their facilities. The 30 metre range saw some fine shooting, as well as an interesting demonstration of the awesome fire power of combat shotguns. The highlight of the day was the abseiling from the back of the artificial ski slope. It is only a 90 foot drop, but when you are standing on a table sized platform, ready to step into empty space, it seems high enough and provides one of those rare thrills that make it all worthwhile.

Towards the end of the summer term, we invited the local landowners to a little display. It was our way of saying a small 'thank you' for letting us use their land for our exercises and was meant to show

some of the things that can happen on these occasions. Our guests observed the campcraft stand with great interest and were particularly impressed by the fact that no traces of camping or cooking remained and that not a speck of litter could be found anywhere after the event.

A nicely co-ordinated display of unarmed combat was well received and reminded some visitors of their own rugby playing days. This led almost logically to a demonstration of casualty handling and First Aid, for which purpose one volunteer had been made up with artificial blood and sticking-out chicken bones to resemble something out of Elm Street!

The evening ended most successfully with an abseiling session for all who wanted to have a go themselves. The ladies and children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and seemed ready to sign up for permanent membership with the Detachment.

Particular thanks must go to Mr Sinclair who allowed us to stage the event on his land and to his wife for her hospitality afterwards.

It is never possible to mention and thank everybody who has helped with the smooth running of the programme over the year. There are the patient ladies in the sewing room, forever repairing kit five minutes before the parade, the catering department, providing yet another 18 late teas or early breakfasts, colleagues who allow a camouflaged, mud-caked Marine Cadet into their classroom, Section Commanders who offer assistance and advice, the medical branch from HMS SCOTIA whose support both on and off the field is greatly appreciated, the RM Training Team and many more to whom we owe our sincere thanks.

And finally, but not least, my personal thank you to all the members of the Detachment for the dedication you have shown this year. You have made my job easy; in fact, it, has been a pleasure working with you.

K.G.

LAST WORDS FROM THE LEAVERS

Last words are for fools who haven't said enough!

The fun days are over . . .

I grow, I prosper!

I came, I saw . . . and I left,

It's been a long hard slog.

The times here were sometimes good, sometimes bad and sometimes ugly.

Some people might think I'm crazy but I've had a great time!

Time goes you say? Alas no . . . time stays — we go.



ELEMENTARY MY DEAR WATSON

"You see that man, Watson? He obviously comes from the south of the town, is a retired policeman on his journey home, has two children, and a blue carpet in his front room."

"How did you recognise those facts my dear Holmes?"

"Elementary my dear Watson.

That man is my Uncle".

Richard Morris

Left: Cartoon from "The Strathallian" 1977.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SCHEME

As usual, the scheme has continued to provide many highlights (or lowlights — depending on your point of view). This is particularly true of the expedition section where we have seen some extraordinary cuisine (anything from Sirloin Steak to Tandoori Tadpole); where we have had one group who, in their desire to get off the beaten track, rather overdid it and were not found until the next morning; where we have seen pyromania of a rare quality (was B.J. really trying to burn down the bothy?) — the list could go on.

Particularly memorable were the gold training and assessed expeditions. The training expedition soon discovered the difference between Nautical Miles, Statute miles, and KNOYDART Miles. The latter seem to take a lot longer to walk over than either of the other two but everyone agreed it was worth it. Knoydart is one of the wildest parts of Britain and the highlight of the trip there was an ascent of Sgurr na Ciche — one of Scotland's finest peaks on one of the all too rare sunny days of this summer.

For assessment, the Gold candidates went to Mull. Chris Procter, unfortunately, had to drop out but Jamie Smith,



Francois Piganeau, Peter Goody, Martin Ross, Robin Stewart and Tracey Morton successfully completed the 50 mile trek. Wildlife was much in evidence with Golden Eagles, Sea Eagles and Adders being the highlights.

In the service section we again ran the Junior First Aid course of the St Andrew's Ambulance with a total of 45 people gaining this qualification, while the Lifesaving course which began as part of D of E has now taken on a life of its own: Bronze medallions were achieved by Phil Aitken, Stuart Anderson, Angus Bruce-Jones, Piers Wilkinson, Alison Edmonds, Peter Goody, Andrew Hodgson, and Nick MacKenzie. For the first time we ran an Award of Merit course and this was successfully completed by Alek Burrell, Jodie Cust, Clodagh Meiklejohn, Tracey Morton, Colin McDonald, Francois Piganeau, Robin

Stewart, Emma Wardhaugh and David Young.

As for Duke of Edinburgh Awards, the following successfully completed the various stages of the scheme.

BRONZE. Graham Nicoll, Cristina Burns, Peter Yeates, Tom Edwards, Julia Wanless, Iain MacDonald, Iain Senior, Ross Gardner, Neil Melville, David Man, Katie Yellowlees, Melissa Gillingham, Alistair Dundas, Philip Hodgson, Kananu Kirimi, Katherine High, Catherine Jones, Clark Cooper and Bill Stewart.

SILVER. Martin Ross, Peter Goody, Fiona Clayton, Emma Wardhaugh, James Ford, Fiona Hutchison, Phil Aitken, Alek Burrell, Thomas Lees and Colin McDonald.

GOLD. John Fraser, Jason Sim and Liz England.

J.S.B.



ANGLING CLUB

Fishermen "fish" quietly and privately! This was indeed a private and quiet Season. The presence (and stories) of Mr Alistair Dickson, and the patience of Mr Richard Philp over the fly-tier's bench in Geog. I were sadly missed. It is to be hoped that Mr Philp's business commitments will be such that they will permit his spending one evening a week with the pupils in the Autumn Term.

Over Easter a consignment of "Loch Leven" trout arrived and within hours were seen rising to natural hatches in the School Pond. It was later discovered that some of the Rainbow Trout from the last but one Season's stocking had survived two winters in the Pond and, as a result had grown into impressively-sized fish. A few fell to the rods, but some still lurk in the reedy margins and in the deeper pools. The "controlled spraying" of the

reeds (under licence) had a dramatic effect, allowing pupils to cast from previously inaccessible parts of the bank. The "Levens" were quite small and really not worth "killing" — but some good sport was had, and casting to a rising fish set the blood racing with the thought that it might be one of the rainbows.

As far as the Pond's "wildlife" was concerned, the swans returned, but sadly did not nest this year. The Rev, on his early morning dog walks, frequently saw the heron; and most of us — if we were quiet, saw the little grebe. A Mallard successfully reared a brood of twelve ducks and the moorhens were as prolific as ever. Shortly after Easter the tadpoles appeared — some of them surviving the predations of the rainbows. Contact has been made with "Scottish Conservation

Projects" in the hope that the School Pond might qualify for assistance in their "Operation Brightwater" Scheme.

Angling expeditions were few in number — partly due to the lack of transport and partly due to the poor weather in the Summer Term. However, some brave souls made unsuccessful expeditions to Sandyknowes and an interesting Saturday afternoon and evening were spent at a delightful little fishery north of Cupar.

Sadly we said farewell to two angling stalwarts: Craig Phillip and David Connell. Craig and myself were awarded "half colours" in the closing moments of the Term. All I can do is wish each and all "Tight Lines" and hope to meet up again in an old Boys' Fishing Match.

Michael Martin

(Captain of Fishing — for the last time).

SHOOTING

No more trudging down the dark drive on winter nights weighed down with guns and ammunition. No more rain-soaked targets or numb hands on frosty Fridays whilst trying to produce decent scores against opposition shooting their cards in the warmth and light of an indoor range.

This summer sees the end of an era in shooting at Strathallan with the opening of the new range on East Drive and we all

look forward to the previous adversities being just a memory.

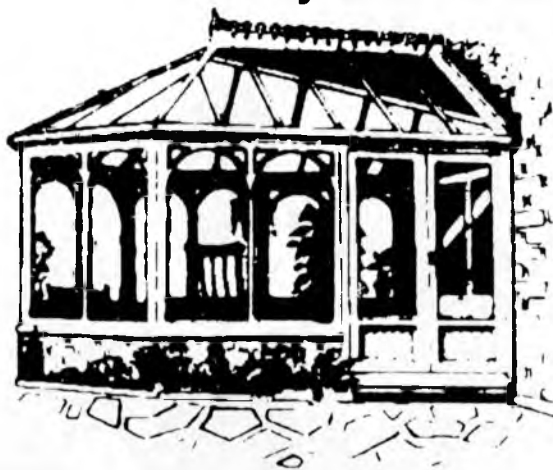
Despite the adversities, shooting is still popular — particularly with 3rd Form, where activities occupied 2 evenings a week this year in addition to the Friday team match competitions running for the 2 winter terms. Again Duncan Taylor was selected for the Scottish Schools team for the Home International and

returned one of the highest scores in the entire competition. Our congratulations go to him as do our hopes that his performances will improve in the new range. Next year looks most promising with renewed interest in the school and new but established shooters coming in from other schools and I look forward to the new season with interest.

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SIDEY

SURVIVAL

The Strathallan Survivors' Club is pleased to announce the admission of eight new members who have earned the privilege of wearing the distinctive Crab-and-Fishbone tie.

This tie is more than a conversation piece, more than a status symbol and certainly more than just another item on the School Clothing List. It is given to the few who have decided to explore a different side of life, who have volunteered to spend a week on a 'desert' island and to try and survive there, armed with little more than the clothes they stand up in and a handful of approved survival aids, like fish hooks, matches and a knife.

Little do they know what to expect when they sign on the dotted line. They may have heard tales of hungry days and wet and windy nights in a simple shelter, of fruitless fishing attempts, of rabbits that got away and of seagulls that didn't.

But as is so often the case, these stories are no more than just stories, and quite different from reality. For the reality of survival puts food very much to the end of the list of priorities, even if it remains the favourite topic of conversation throughout the week.

The most important thing is to find shelter, to provide protection against the almost inevitable rain and wind. Of course, there are days of brilliant sunshine, when noses turn red and shoulders peel — but those are few and far between, as any visitor to the West of Scotland will know.

The next item on the agenda is water, for man can live by water alone for quite a while. Fortunately, this is never a great problem, because although there are no rivers or streams on the Treshnish Islands, there is enough rainfall for water to gather in sufficient quantities in certain places. The quality of the water varies, and drinking directly from the 'well' is not recommended, unless one regards the presence of wee beasties and other flotsam as welcome flavour-enhancers. The golden rule must therefore always be to boil or be sorry.

Boiling water — that brings us to the next important point: we must find fuel. And that can be tricky on an island that has no trees or bushes, where in other words the only source of fuel is old fish boxes and small bits of wood washed up by the tides. The daily walks along the rocky shoreline are a necessity and beach-combing is one of the most useful occupations for any survivor.

And when all this is said and done, we may begin to think seriously about food. Every amateur will tell you that fishing is simple. But ask him if he has ever caught anything without the aid of rod and



spinner, without proper bait and all the paraphernalia of successful angling. Because that is precisely what you have to do: float your limpet-baited hook out as far as the current will take it and hope for the best. There may well be plenty of fish in the sea, but they rarely come close enough to the rock from which you are trying to catch them.

So your attention turns to rabbits and you set your snares along the clearly defined runs. You check the snares in the morning, you have caught something, you think of glorious food — only to find that the poor rabbit is affected by the dreaded myxomatosis. Our facilities for preparing food under hygienic conditions are too limited to allow us to take any risks with such a catch and we make do without it. Thank goodness, the disease has not spread too far yet and we manage to catch enough healthy rabbits to create a stir fry that has everybody licking their fingers and hoping for more.

All this probably sounds pretty horrible to you. Why then, you may ask, do people volunteer to go and what benefits can they possibly derive from the experience?

Let me try to answer the question by looking at the average customer. He or she is most likely used to consuming about 2000 calories per day, to having access to all mod cons and to having the mother slave attending to most whims and fancies.

We take you away from all this, from your cosy bed, from Neighbours and stereos, from fridge and hot showers and throw you into a situation, where stress builds up rapidly while your body experiences hunger for the first time ever. You grow weaker by the day; everything, even thinking, becomes a real effort. And here you are, huddled under a leaking, makeshift roof on a bed of bracken.

Do you still have a sense of humour to cheer up the others and yourself? Do you still see the everyday problems and can you still tell your lethargic body to get up and do something about them? Or do you just lie in your corner, happy to let others do the necessary work? Are you still a member of the team or have you withdrawn into your little world of dreams and self pity?

This is where you will discover a part of yourself that you never knew existed. There is a certain resilience, an ability to bounce back, to overcome discomfort and weakness which has been waiting to be brought out in you. Your reaction to this most basic of all stress situations is worth observing; your ability to cope with this stress comes as a surprise to you and will be something to be remembered for many years to come.

Never again (we hope) are you likely to be reduced to such an elementary state of affairs, but you will always be able to say to yourself: I have once coped with one of the most basic problems in life, the one thing that really matters, so what else is there to worry about?

K.G.



POST HIGHERS' WEEK OR KNOYDART IN THE RAIN

"Adventure training? What does that involve?"

"Canoeing, abseiling, backpacking, camping."

"Ugh! I'd hate every minute of it."

Luckily the person who made that comment was *not* down on the list to go to Ardentigh, Tom McClean's outdoor centre in Knoydart on the west coast!

Undoubtedly some of it was terrifying and equally there were bits that everybody hated (the incessant rain) but the point of this type of exercise is that you learn to put up with those things you dislike and realise that those things you fear can often be overcome. The best way to get anything done is to go for it; the best way to overcome any fear is to meet it head on, work out how to stamp it out and then do so with both feet. Awareness of this was what the staff were hoping the pupils would develop over the week. Such a perception is not always derived through everyday life where it is often too easy to jog along cushioned from fear by an easy way out, but in outdoor activities there is no easy way out and answers to questions frequently have to be provided instantly or personal survival may be at risk.

Those that got most out of the week were the ones who developed an ability to tackle situations they had not actually believed they could attempt. Those that failed were the ones who, besides being unable to overcome all situations, (which in itself helps develop awareness of weaknesses) moaned about it. This is very selfish since it must only affect other hesitant people in the worst possible way. Luckily these people were in the minority, otherwise the week could not have been the success it undoubtedly was.

Well, that's the theory over. Apart from broadening people's perspectives on their own capabilities we intended to



have fun. Days settled down into a pattern of activities and serious eating. Chores were carried out on a duty rota so that everyone got the chance to cook, wash up, clean the loos, etc. The activities were based around a core of canoeing, hiking and abseiling, but optional extras included wind-surfing, snorkeling, fishing and waterfall scrambling.

It would be difficult, given the confines of this article, to deliver a blow by blow account of the week. However the awards below should fill in some of the highlights.

TOM McCLEAN — Greatest Patriot. Even his Wheelbarrow is painted red, white and blue.

ROBERT MARSHALL — Absentee of the week award. His, "I'm not coming, Sir, is that alright?" very nearly earned him the Remark of the week award but that went to

DOUGIE ELDER — who yelled: "We've come for your poll tax!" from the Rescue Boat at two hikers approaching Sourlies bothy.

MW — Captain Birdseye award for safety boat management.

JLB — Weather forecaster of the week — "I've never known a wet June week in Knoydart." (It was *your* fault, Mr Broadfoot).

JSB — Pyromaniac of the week award for organising a fire so big at Oban bothy that the whole building nearly went up.
RICKY SANG — Latest Riser of the week — he nearly missed the trip as Nicol slumbered way past 7 a.m. on the day of departure.

ALISON EDMONDS — Show-off of the week for opening the minibus door to share her travel sickness with not only her own bus but the one behind and two Dutch picknickers, too.

CLAIRE DONNELLY — Bravest (some would say stupidest) recruit — for canoeing ten miles across sea to the centre, never having sat in a canoe before in her life.

EUAN SMITH — Nattiest Dresser of the week — for putting a steamer wetsuit on back to front (also wins Strangest Walk of the week award).

MIKE MARTIN — Dunker of the week — for capsizing Dougie.

ROBERT HUTCHISON — Baby of the week award — for putting his spraydeck on like a nappy (nothing to do with height, honest!).

JAMIE SHEPHERD — Early riser of the week (yes, really!) for waking up at 10 p.m. after an evening's kip on the overnight expedition and thinking it was time for breakfast.

ALASTAIR MACMILLAN — Most Gullible Recruit. He thought that when Dougie said: "How about a walk up the river?" he meant *beside* it. As cold reality literally washed over him, he discovered the true meaning of Waterfall Scrambling.

CRAIG PHILIP — Most Disappointed Fisherman. He caught enough fish for a starter for tea one night, but despite much talk never landed a conger eel.

ANDREW MILLER — Most Frustrated Mariner — there weren't any sailing boats.

ANGUS JOHNSTONE and **MATTHEW GILLIVER** — Most Domesticated Males. Angus because he wanted Kerry to know he cleaned those kitchen cupboards; and Matt because he washed up on at least two occasions — and it's better than the Grouch Award.

EAE — Food Mismanagement of the Week. "I don't know how we happen to *still* have two chocolate cakes left on Mr Wilson's birthday. How come they've not been eaten already?"

KAREN PRIMROSE — Dark Horse of the week award — not to my knowledge did she do anything startling, but . . .

PJE — Organiser of the week award. Thanks for a great trip.

E.A.E.



Ascending the quay at Inverie, Ali views the expedition with trepidation.



Launching the rescue boat, Post Highers; Knoydart.



Matt about to Grouch.

WIND

Some people call it God's breath:
it whistles round the trees like a man
through a park,
going through the grass like a comb
through hair.

Some people call it annoying:
pushing you over as you were on a rugby
pitch,
blowing up your kilt and freezing your
sporrán off.

Some people call it relaxing:
going in an open car fast blowing your
hair back like a kite,
a hot day's gentle breeze slowly going
over you like a bucket of
water being poured over a fire.

But most people call it by its name:
going round trees, whistling as though it
was pleased.

Its first, and only name is wind.

Janice Drummond

POST GCSE STROLL

Oh for the end of the GCSEs! Since the beginning of 4th Form, I dreamed of the days of tranquility and relaxation. Actually the word "sloth" frequently crops up in my vocabulary, so you can imagine the horror with which news of a hike greeted my ears.

"Oh, just a 6-mile hike with the Headmaster. You get an amazing feeling

of achievement once you've climbed a hill."

"Achie WHAT?"

Six miles, on reflection, would have been a veritable picnic, compared to the many more we walked that day. Peat bogs, rain, heather and electric fences blurred into one as we plodded from Loch Tummel to Aberfeldy (via a few jolly big hills). Of course, being a

professional pessimist, I didn't quite appreciate the character-enhancing aspects of the day — congratulations to those who did!

Thanks must go to Miss Smith for her words of comfort: "It's just around the corner!" And of course to Mr Pighills for lending us his mountain. It was certainly a unique experience!

Jilly Grieve

LOWER SIXTH CDT TRIP

Eventually, after a rather long and tedious train journey south accompanied with the usual, but this time more concentrated and awful, C.D.T. jokes, we arrived safely in England's somewhat undignified capital. From the moment the hordes of Strathallian feet clattered onto the platform at London's Euston station, we knew that the weekend before us was going to be something special. After catching the tube, it wasn't long before we arrived at the address of our hotel, but after Mr Elliot's clear instructions on how to find it the inevitable happened when we by-passed the entrance for the 3rd time! However, after finding the correct door and after everyone had helped George to carry his entire wardrobe up the pearly-whitesteps, we entered the glorious 4 star "Eden Park Hotel". Crowding around reception, we collected our tickets and in due course received the traditional C.D.T.

green work folder, complete with its own free photocopied map of London! Each pupil was given his personal digital key and although warned to keep hold of it at all times, certain individuals still managed to find themselves locked out of their rooms. (Yes Edward, you included).

There was an "early" rise at eight o'clock the next morning and it was off to the Design Museum. After a brisk walk along the side of the Thames and a rather unnecessary trip to St. Paul's, we arrived. Exploring the wonders of the Data Library and individually tampering with the occasional computer, we gathered all the information we needed for school before departing for the actual museum itself, a large two-storey building packed full of interesting pieces of information showing the many stages of development that products had gone through to become as they look today. For once this

was an experience to be enjoyed by all and not just by members of staff. After a brief, pay-it-yourself lunch we had the rest of the day free to do as we pleased and so at long last we were released onto the streets of London. After taking in the sights of the city (and in Phil's case the sights of certain unforgettable doorways), it was back on the tube and back to the hotel.

Next day, after all the flock had been rounded up it was off yet again, this time to the Design Centre which was very bare and to be honest was a bit of an anti-climax compared to our previous visit. Nevertheless, we had a good look round and after managing to lose the teachers, earlier than expected, we escaped back to the streets. After spending almost the entire afternoon looking around we headed back to the hotel. Although we didn't know at the time, the best part of the trip was still to come: a visit to the West End to watch the famous "Buddy Holly Story". The musical quality of the show was fantastic and the acting unbelievably good, so everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Towards the end of the performance the show became so inspiring that numerous Strathallians led by the rather over-enthusiastic Murray took to the back of the theatre where they were compelled to "jive to the music". Even Mr Wilson (a secret Buddy Holly fan) had admitted afterwards that if it hadn't been for where he was sitting, he too might have joined in. Well, after a good night out it was back yet again to the hotel where we continued our social evening by listening to the dreary crackle of MTV into the early hours of the morning. By this time most of us were rather tired and after Bonnie had exercised her talent as a masseuse, we crawled off to bed.

"Thank you C.D.T.!"

Peter Goody



THE DISCO

"Where's my hat?"

"Have you got my ticket?"

"I need red lipstick now, not later!"

Anybody listening to this kind of talk in Thornbank or Woodlands on the 2nd December would realize there was some kind of social event about to happen.

Well, they would be right. The third and fourth form disco with a Cowboys and Indians theme (hence the hat!).

Everyone was checking their appearance once more and people were taking photos; you couldn't get out the door without being snapped at least once.

The gym was covered in tartan rugs and the costumes were very inventive,

especially the very realistic looking wig-wam, and even the masters had made a great effort to "look properly wild." The school band, consisting of three talented musicians: Euan Smith, Nick Quinn and Colin Pettinger played a great range of music and also accompanied an impressive solo of "Eternal Flame" by Kirsty Wood.

The highlight of the evening must have been the party game. In mixed pairs, you were given a piece of newspaper and had to dance round it. When the music stopped, you had to fold the paper and stand on it together but if you lost your balance and fell off, you were both

disqualified. This continued until only one couple was left on the floor, balancing in an extremely funny position, on a ridiculously small bit of newspaper.

Then, at 10 p.m., after lots of dancing, music, fun and games, the disco ended and the poor boys were left to clear up the gym while we danced back to the houses, talking about "him", "them" and well, everything really.

Of course, none of this could have happened without one certain person. Thank you Mr Vallot, we can't wait till the next one!

Caroline Frame

YEAH MAN!

School discos are a dicey subject at best, so when the sixties theme was suggested, everyone was flabbergasted. (I must admit, never had my considerable flabber been gasted as much).

How would anyone get any outrageous clothes? The answer presented itself at Half Term, when skeletons came tum-

bling out of parents' closets and Beatnik pasts were revealed.

The night arrived . . . mascara madness reigned and soon cold pants became hot-pants in a mass of leaping psychedelia.

The band, consisting of Kirsty Wood, Euan Smith, Nick Quinn and Colin

Pettinger were excellent and the hired DJ was well worth it. We would all like to say "thank-you" to Mr Vallot for all his organisation — it certainly paid off!! It gave us all something to remember 2 days later whilst toiling over mocks in the same room. Amazing what a few balloons will do!!

Jill Grieve



THE GROOVY PIG

Vince was a-bopping at the disco one night

With his hair gelled back and his Levi's skin tight,

The Crown Prince of disco, a slick little mover,

Arms like an octopus, lips like a hoover!

He was the one all the girls dreamed about

"Vince you're the best", he heard them all shout,

How little he knew that later that night, Happiness would flee like a bird in full flight!

They danced round their handbags, did all Vince's girls,

With their tarted-up faces and peroxidized curls,

"Life's good", he reflected, as he drank some more wine,

When the doors swung open and in tottered a swine!

My God! That dancing! With hips like a snake,

The pig twisted and twirled, screaming girls in his wake,

"Vince who?" they cried, round the pig they all flocked,

Vince just couldn't speak, his jaw became locked.

A few numbers later, Vince stood all alone,

"Who'd look at me now", he said with a groan,

Then anger fuelled Vince, with his ego no more,

He wiggled his hips and strutted the floor.

"Hey Pig", uttered Vince, "a word in your ear",

"These girls are all mine, leave off them, you hear?"

The Pig gave a grunt, laughed, and shoved Vince aside,

"Not any more Vince", so go take a ride.

Incensed by their words, Vince swung a left hook.

The Pig carried on dancing, gave Vince not a look,

Embarrassed, Vince turned and slunk out the door,

And back to his Lada, to boogie no more.

He went for a drive, to think of the past, How quickly he'd gone from star to outcast.

Depressed, suicidal, Vince felt so alone. His company, the Riva's monotonous tone.

60-70, the Lada gained speed.

"I'll teach him to make *me* look like a weed."

Suddenly, it cracked, Vince had pushed it too far,

That was the end of Vince and his car.

They found him next morning, crashed into a gate,

In a smashed up Lada, a dreadful fate.

The moral: Watch out! Never try to be big,

You will always be beaten by the Groovy Pig

Jill Grieve



SIXTH FORM BALL

As Thornbank and Woodlands opened their doors for pre-Ball drinks, we saw a new but controlled liberalism coming to the Sixth Form Ball. Mr Burgess became rather snap happy as he clicked away at the various ball goers and their partners, so we have a full record of who invited who (especially the Toyboy International and Miss Smith).

Despite the pre-Ball country dancing practices diligently organised by CameronPhillip, Euan Smith and Piers du Cane Wilkinson, Strip the Willow was performed with even more people than usual being flung across the floor, and the eightsome reel with a mystifying look of complete confusion upon the faces of some of the participants.

Generally a good time was had by all with not too much scandalous behaviour. I would like to thank Mr Vallot, the social committee and all the staff who put so much of their time towards the ball — our highlight in these dark winter months!

Flo Griffiths



Top left: Nikolas Arestis, Fiona Clayton, Fiona Grainger, Anne Griffiths and Robin Stewart.

Top right: Claire Tomlin and Lyndsay Grant.

Bottom left: James Tornos, Frances Low, Simon Miller, James Garvie, Laurie Scott, Alec Burrell and James Cuthill.

Bottom right: Francois-Xavier Piganeau and Louise Weston.

FOURTH FRATERNITY

When you are a 4th Former, you have to be a little bit of everything — artist, scientist, athlete, scholar. When you have sixty-seven of the aforementioned species trying — or trying not — to be all these things at once and, in the process, being housed in the oldest and most fragile study block in the school — the one hidden away behind the **new** buildings — one might be forgiven for thinking that you have the perfect recipe for unmitigated disaster. Just to remind you, it was the Headmaster's idea!

On reflection, as a true educational experience, one would like to think that we have had some success. Certainly, the energy generated by this group of individuals has been considerable. Energy which has produced 3015 positive comments on work throughout the 'orders' (and 270 negative ones!), with the end-of-year exam results showing a marked improvement in performance on those taken at Christmas. Energy which saw all the major sports teams achieving the highest standards.

Then there was 'The Doctor and the Devils', the Hallowe'en Apple Dunking,

the Fancy Dress Disco, the 4th Form 'Entertainment', the Indoor Nets and Golf Course, Ronald's Carry Outs, the decor of the stripprooms (at least the water was hot late at night **and** early in the morning!), the longevity of the windows, Saturday 'Prep', brewing box, the barbecue!

Goals were set at the beginning of the year and my sincere thanks go to Messrs Giles, Green and Streatfeild-James for their considerable efforts in helping guide the body of the kirk towards achieving these.

Of course, there is always a 'down side', albeit an infrequent one. People do not exist in a vacuum. The actions of individuals affect those around them and, at times, we have had selfish, dishonest and uncaring individual actions. Let us hope that we learn from experience and guidance.

In contrast, as a group, the 4th Form raised considerable funds for Comic Relief, P.A.D.S, Cancer Research (via the can recycling scheme) and the Rugby Tour Fund. Thanks to all those who supported them.

It would be very remiss not to mention the girls — they really are a terrific bunch — thanks for your civilising influence, for markedly improving the scenery in the 'block' and for keeping our many 'superstars' feet firmly on the ground! (Your rugby isn't bad either!).

Sometimes it seems that growing older is a process of giving things up one by one. We all have something which we regret giving up, something that we really miss, that we gave up because we were too lazy, because we couldn't stick it out or because we were too afraid. So think carefully as you set your goals for next year.

One of my recurring nightmares throughout the year was that I would arrive at the 4th Form block early one morning to find that it had been systematically destroyed. Last Tuesday morning, the nightmare became a reality — fortunately the destruction had been effected by a mechanical 'monster' as part of the famous 'redevelopment' programme and **not** by the pupils!

Still, it's the people that make the place, not the buildings . . . **D.J.B.**



Gang slide.



Andrew Jeffrey's hot dog.

AROUND THE HOUSES

The year began with an influx of Old Leburnites joining the highly bred race that is **Freeland**. Having been thrown out of their house (the victims both of circumstance and the vicious actions of the man at the top), they begged to be allowed into somewhere decent. Thus they were heralded in, sheepish and nervous, to be greeted with open arms, and after an incident involving a window and Neil's derriere on the first night, with muttered recriminations.

Nevertheless, this year was destined to be different. Freeland had few sporting triumphs: something explained by the lack of inter-house corridor cricket and couch potato competitions (which our sixth form video-watchers trained hard for). What's more, changes of the like never seen before occurred. Herr Dictator (the mysterious M.P.) decided to listen to the house and to let us air our grievances. Thus the house committee, with representatives at every level, was formed, everyone got their say and Mr P. had a chance to practise a new phrase he'd learned. "No, that's not possible."

And this was not all. Mr Proctor sadly chose to desert us to move into a "decent" house and thus end a year of moaning by becoming Second Master and resident in Mr Fairbairn's old "pad". This leaves us, the hard-suffering pupils, under the novice hands of Mr Court, his duffle coat and his furry animal-loving side-kicks, William and Smasher. So far his policies appear to be a new style of Socialism: bread for the masses, capital punishment for disobeying and for theft, the communal passing of the Hoover (regularly), the eradication of filthy capitalist propaganda (the video) and a new state leisure facility (a snooker table) whilst maintaining order in the "new age" Freeland. We wish him luck and for all those wanting to find out if there is a happy ending — same place next year.

Nic Hartley



Since **Thornbank** is now a well established house with not much (we hope!) danger of falling apart, I could have a go at annihilating Woodlands but I won't. Why not? Well, we've already done that in the inter-house competitions (apart from badminton and skiing) and in any case, despite vicious rumour, the new girls' houses integrate well — with increasing numbers of combined efforts, (aerobics and self-defence are some examples for all those antagonists out there) and so the novelty of competition seems to be limiting itself to sport and not general life. (But **we** still can't watch Top of the Pops!) Yet this could change so Woodlands won't have to suffer a Thornbank invasion every Thursday night.

Thanks to Louise's Monday morning "topics for discussion" (an opportunity for the whole house to moan at those on high and their various rules), the house is developing into something like a democracy. (And no, Mrs Barnes, it was nothing personal but it is impossible to combine the dark rule, with the 3rd form and their various rugby-playing mentors without a certain amount of hysteria in the foyer).

Speaking of 3rd form, a new prefects policy was introduced — shout down the corridor to check if juniors are in bed and, if they answer, give them 50 lines because they are obviously not asleep (Zoe!). Luckily however, not all the prefects have the lower sixth's Fascist tendencies! and Julie and the gang oiled the wheels of Thornbank's rather successful year so efficiently that we hardly noticed its passing before we could properly thank them. So . . . thanks!!

Claire Tomlin

Simpson's Mr Du Boulay has kept us all alive throughout the year with his colourful repertoire of vocabulary that he puts into practice at most house meetings: "Blitz those studies, P.D.Q.", he bellows — Translation: "Could you please tidy your studies when you find a little spare time." Another abbreviation commonly in use is "Hand those leaflets in A.S.A.P.", followed by a questioning "... John?" to which John Fraser, Head of Simpson, slowly spins on his two heels to face the audience and says, rather tentatively, "... Uh ... Aye ... Could I have yer sponsor money by this evening?" and then studies his feet in minute detail.

It was found quite amusing by the members of the school that the discovery of some empty deodorant cans led to the belief that aerosol sniffing was going on amongst the pupils. As Mr Pighills put it when expressing the danger of such activities — "Do it and you're a gonna." However, the whole incident was soon seen to be a foundless joke, and to those who are now "gonna" (the leavers), we hope that they go with good memories.

Alastair Edwards





THE STRANGE REASONING OF A HAPPY MAN

John visited Tom who had been shot through the mouth in a gunfight. Tom lay, mouth bandaged, but his eyes smiled.

"You're glad it missed your brain?"

Tom lifted his notebook and wrote, "No, my heart."

"Your heart?" queried John.

"It was in my mouth at the time" wrote Tom.

Judy Young



Many of the **Woodlands'** girls have sampled the obvious "social benefits" that continue to mark a healthy Co-Ed school. Such positive influence seems to persuade many a boy to change his rugby shirt more frequently and perhaps chop and change a haircut. — How did they survive without the female touch, we ask? Also, it has been said that a "black market" laundry service is in operation and that this may be the cause of our smarter, cleaner males. Woodlands, however, deny all knowledge of such a scheme.

Our other achievements, depending on your interpretation of this category, range from victory in an interhouse competition to an adherence to allocated bed-times. All such factors being considered, we, theoretically, felt that these individual and collective efforts helped to make up the reasonably stable and contented atmosphere Mr Forster is inexplicably able to feel the "vibes" of.

Pauline Lockhart



Top left: Chris Procter Nicol's Lord of the Flies.

Top right: Nicol posers — charming but speechless.

Left: Ben Muir prevents David Graham from uttering Ruthven slander.

Right: Lindsey Moir — Woodlands' future Scottish winger?

PAGE 64—

Top: Tracey Morton waiting for the bus on a Thorn bank.

Bottom left: Stuart Storrie's study.
Bottom right: Peter Sochart and Frances Low of the 'Free Woodlands' Campaign.

A MEAL TO REMEMBER

Unfed for three days, the man looked up as his captor placed the meal in front of him.

"Eat", he ordered, "We no starve you."

Cautiously he took a bite.

"Tough. Goat meat", he thought, but he ate it all.

"And my son?" he asked.

"He tasty?" came the reply.

Lindsey Moir

VALETE

FREELAND

UVI

Christie, R. T. Came 1989¹; LVI; Sgt in Army; Rugby 3rd XV; Cricket 3rd XI; Athletics; Shooting; Survival; HCTC. *Blackhills House, Blackhills Estate, by Elgin, Morayshire IV30 3QU.*

Du Cane Wilkinson, P. N. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; L.S. in Navy; Rugby 2nd XV; Hockey 3rd XI (Captain); Squash 1st V (Captain); Swimming; Cross Country; Football; Sailing; Skiing; 3rd Form Exam Prize. *Birkwood Cottage, Wester Brae of Cantray, Croy, Inverness.*

Gardner, G. M. Came 1987¹; IV; L.S. in Navy; 7th XV Rugby; Curling 1st IV; Basketball; Cross Country. 'Ashlea', *Vicarage Close, Upper State, Nr Rochester, Kent ME3 95D.*

Gritten, D. J. Came 1983¹; I; School Prefect; Coxswain in Navy; Rugby 3rd XV (Captain) and 1st VII; Athletics. *Flat 8/3, Berliner Strasse 40 6790, Lanstuhl — P2AL2 (Kaiserswautern), Germany.*

Hay, J. T. Came 1985¹; I; Cricket 1st XI; Rugby 2nd XV; Basketball 1st X. *Fieldridge, Earlston, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire.*

Hutchison, R. A. O. Came 1986¹; III; Sgt in Army; Rugby 5th XV; Cricket 3rd XI; Captain of Skiing; Athletics; Waters-

ports. *Strathairly, Upper Largo, Fife KY8 6EB.*

Langley, J. M. Came 1985¹; II; Head of House; School Prefect; Sgt in Army; HCTC; D. of E. Bronze Award; Cricket 2nd XI; Hockey 2nd XI; Rugby 3rd XV; Basketball; Cross Country. *Kirkwood House, Snaigow, by Dunkeld, Perth PH8 CKD.*

Learmonth, J. R. Came 1987¹; IV; House Prefect; Librarian; Sgt in Motorbikes; Rugby 3rd XV; Curling 1st IV; Athletics; Basketball. *Easterton Cottage, Glenfarg, Perthshire PH2 9QJ.*

McKenzie-Wilson, H. A. D. Came 1986¹; House prefect; L/Cpl in Army; Rugby 1st XV; Hockey 1st XI (Captain); Cricket 1st XI; Scotland Under 16s Cricket. *Mill of Ross, Comrie, by Crieff, Perthshire PH6 2JS.*

Martin, M. D. Came 1987¹; III; House Prefect; Head of Motorbikes Section; Rugby 1st XV; Athletics; Hockey; Cricket; Captain of Fishing. *Blairfettie, Calvine, Pitlochry, Perthshire.*

Miller, A. J. Came 1986¹; III; Librarian; P.O. in Navy; D. of E. Bronze award; Cross Country; Sailing. 'Larklea', *Barrach Road, Comrie, Crieff PH6 2EQ.*

Philip, C. J. M. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; D. of E. Bronze Award; Hockey 1st XI; Cricket 2nd XI (Captain); Rugby 2nd XV; Basketball. *12 Hollowhill, St Andrews, Fife KY16 8SF.*

Sim, J. G. Came 1985¹; II; House Prefect; Senior Coxswain in Navy; Under Officer of CCF; D. of E. Gold Award; Rugby; Athletics; Piping; Choir; Royal Navy Scholarship; Fourth Form Work Prize; Academic Scholarship. *Poole Farmhouse, by Friockheim, Arbroath, Angus DD11 4RY.*

Steel, T. A. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; D. of E. Bronze Award. 'Cowans Croft', *Kilchrenan, Taynuilt, Oban, Argyll PA35 1HD.*

LVI

Chan, T. Came 1986¹; II; Royal Marines; Rugby 2nd XV; Midlands Rugby U15; Squash 1st V; Captain Junior Squash; Tennis 1st VI; Basketball; Golf. *1 Muirend Avenue, Perth PH1 1JL.*

Lawman, R. Came 1984¹; I; L/Cpl in Army; D. of E. Bronze Award; Rugby 5th XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Cricket 3rd XI; Football. *30 Malcolms' Mount, Stonehaven, Kincardineshire AB3 2SR.*

V

Brown, P. H. Came 1985¹; I; Cpl in Pipe Band; Rugby 6th XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Summer Hockey; Cricket; 3 times winner of the School's Bass Drum Competition. *The Grange, Rosedale Abbey, Nr Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8RD.*

NICOL

UVI

Buchan, A. M. Came 1986¹; III; Head of House; School Prefect; Rugby U15B 5th XV, 3rd XV; Hockey U15 B 3rd XI, 2nd XI; Cricket U14 B, U15 B; Athletics; Scottish Schools Cross Country; D. of E. Bronze and Silver; 4th Form Exam Prize; Corporal in Army. *6 Middleton Terrace, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB2 28HW.*

Johnston, A. R. J. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby 1st XV (1 year); Captain of Football, Football 1st XI; Hockey 4th XI; D. of E. Bronze. *70 The Old Town, Peebles, Borders.*

Lagerborg, P. G. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; House Colours; Rugby 1st XV (Half Colours, 1 year), (1st XV U14s, U15 As); Hockey 2nd XI; Athletics; Football; Skiing; Nicol Nationalist Party; Royal Marines; Navy and Army. *Putney Hill, 7 Wessex Court, London SW15.*

Laing, P. M. A. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Librarian; Rugby U12 As, U13 As, U14As; Football 1st XI; Sailing; Canoeing; Philosophy; Debating; House Drama; School Magazine; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Form Exam Prizes; GCSE Prize; History; Geography Prize (UVI); D. of E. Bronze; Petty Officer in Navy. *Wyn- dales, Hatton Road, Perth PH2 7DB.*

Lannen, K. L. F. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Basketball 1st (Full Colours); Football 1st XI; Athletics; Skiing; Royal Marines. *16 St Thomas Road, St Annes-on-Sea, Lancs. F7B 1JL.*

Lees, T. F. A. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Rugby U14B, U15B 7th XV; Cricket U15B; GCSE prize; Bronze and Silver D. of E.; Petty Officer in Navy. 'Mucomir Falls', *Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacollm, Renfrewshire PA13 4DZ.*

Lo, M. Came 1986¹; III; Football; Hockey 3rd XI; Cricket 3rd XI. *89A Forfar Road, Dundee DD4 9BS.*

Pettinger, C. Came 1985¹; II; House Prefect; Sailing Team; Fishing Team; House Drama; School Plays: "The Boy-friend", "Tartuffe"; Debating; Choir; School Band Leader; Jazz Band; Academic Scholarship; Piper in Pipe Band. , *An Conasg, Corpach, Fort William PH33 7JJ.*

Sang, R. T. D. Came 1985¹; II; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Cricket 2nd XI; Athletics; Cross Country; Squash Team; Tennis Team; Football 1st XI; Swimming; Bronze D. of E.; Sergeant in Army. *N.R.D.C., P.O. Box CH99, Lusaka, Zambia.*

Smith, E. S. H. Came 1984¹; II; House Prefect; Rugby 2nd XV; Athletics; Bronze D. of E.; Company Sergeant Major in Army. *The Stables Garage, Huntingtower, Perth PH1 3JT.*

Taylor, J. D. Came 1984¹; I; Librarian; Rugby 7th XV; Athletics; Cross Country;

Curling; Fishing; Swimming (full colours); Bronze D. of E.; Sergeant in RAF. *Mullinore, Portadown Road, Armagh, County Armagh, Northern Ireland BT61 9EL.*

LVI

Nicoll, A. R. Came 1983²; I; Rugby U15B, 6th XV; Football 1st XI; Piper in Pipe Band; Leading Seaman in SBS. *The Manse, Luss, Alexandria, Dunbartonshire G83 8NZ.*

RUTHVEN

UVI

Breves, D. D. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; Rugby 5ths; Captain of Tennis; Basketball; Football; President of Debating Society; Chemistry Prize. *Bergstedter Chaussee 62, 2000 Hamburg 65, Germany.*

Brookes, N. P. Came 1990³; UVI; House Prefect; Football; Orchestra (leader); String Orchestra; Choir; String Quartet; Marine; Music Scholarship; Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings. *17 East Abercromby Street, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 9HZ.*

Da Costa, D. J. Came 1988²; IV; Cross Country; Sailing; AB in Navy. *15a Atholl Street, Perth PH1 5NH.*

Frame, J. S. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 6ths; Captain of golf; Skiing; Squash; Pipe Major in Pipe Band. *Flat 4, Windlemere House, Westwood Road, Windlesham, Surrey.*

Gilliver, M. S. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; Tennis; Badminton; CCF ic Stores; Half Colours rugby. *House 2 Rocky Bank, 6 Deepwater Bay Road, Hong Kong.*

SIMPSON

U VI

Connell, D. R. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Secretary and Chairman of Young Farmers Club; P.O. in S.B.S.; D. of E. Bronze Award; Rugby 1st XV and 1st VII; Hockey 4th XI; Curling 1st IV; Fishing. *Culliard Farm, Scaniport, Inverness IV1 2DL.*

Drummond, C. S. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Corporal in RAF; Rugby U15 'C' XV; Drama; School Magazine; Exam Prizes 1st, 2nd and 3rd Form; Reading Competitions Prizes. *15 Beaconsfield Road, Kelvinside, Glasgow G12 0PJ.*

Fraser, J. C. Came 1986¹; III; Head of House; School Prefect; Coxswain in Navy; D. of E. Gold Award; Hockey 1st XI; Rugby 2nd XV; Swimming team; Curling 1st IV; Junior Debating; Social Committee; Economics Prize. *Bogside of Brodie, Auldearn, Nairn IV12 5LE.*

Kruuk, J. W. B. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Coxswain in Navy; Rugby 3rd XV; Summer Hockey; Fishing; Ski-

V

Addison, G. R. Came 1988¹; III; Rugby U14A, U15A, 4th XV; Skiing; Lance Corporal in Army. *Oak Grange, Station Road, Balfour, Glasgow G63 0SX.*

McLelland, W. M. Came 1988¹; III; Rugby U14C, U15C; Hockey U15C; Cricket U15C; Hockey U15C; Cricket U15C; D. of E. Bronze. *9 Dentale, The Meadows, Stewartfield, East Kilbride, Glasgow G74 4LP.*

Jones D. A. Came 1983³; I; House Prefect; 1st XI Football; Major in Pipe Band; Drama. *Route de Burtigny, 1261 Bassins, Vaud, Switzerland.*

Lawrence, T. D. Came 1984³; I; School Prefect; Head of House; Rugby 1st XV (Captain); Athletics (Captain); Rugby Sevens; Cross Country; Marines (Sergeant in Charge); D. of E. Bronze; Houston Price for All Round Merit; Art Prize; Design and Technology Prize. *Burley Orchard Cottage, Herrings Lane, Chertsey, Surrey.*

Marshall R. M. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Navy; Art Prize. *6 Cluny Cottage, Colleston, Aberdeen AB41 8RS.*

Minihane, J. J. B. Came 1986³; III; School Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; House Drama; School Play "Tartuffe"; Corporal in Army; Lance Corporal in Marines; Head of Debating. *18 Whitewisp Gardens, Dollar, Clackmannanshire, Scotland FK14 7BH.*

McIver, C. M. Came 1986⁴; III; House Prefect; Swimming; RAF. *Woodlea Hotel, Moniaive, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire DG3 4CN.*

Murray, J. H. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 5ths; 1st XI Soccer;

ing; 3rd Form exam; House Drama acting prize. *Airlie Cottage, Gillan, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire AB34 5JS.*

MacMillan, A. G. J. Came 1989¹; LVI; L.S. in Navy; D. of E. Bronze Award; Rugby 5th XV; Squash; Water Sports; Canoeing. *Hill Lodge West, 1 Cockburnhill Road, Balerno, Midlothian EH14 7HY.*

Philip, J. C. Came 1986²; II; House Prefect; L/Cpl in Army; Hockey 3rd XI; Rugby 5th XV; Cricket U14 'B' XI; Fishing. *Kinnudie Farm, Auldearn, Nairn IV12 5QF.*

Small, F. R. I. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Corporal in Royal Marines; Hockey 1st XI; Indoor Hockey 1st V; Rugby 2nd XV; Cricket 2nd XI; Swimming team; Football 1st XI; Assault Course Record. *5 Fort Street, Madlin Yard Road, Dundee.*

Vance, M. G. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Corporal in Royal Marines; D. of E. Bronze Award; Rugby 1st XV; Hockey 1st XI; Cricket 1st XI; Debating Society. *2 Waulk Milton Farm, The Steadings, Linlithgow.*

Nicholson, A. J. B. Came 1986¹; I; Rugby U12A 6th XV; Sailing; Swimming; Life Saving Bronze; D. of E. Bronze; AB Seaman in Navy. *7 Godwin Close, Emsworth, Hants PO20 7XT.*

III

Croll, T. A. Came 1989¹; II; Rugby U14C; Cricket U14C; Ski Team. *Atbara, Ewanfield, Crieff, Perthshire.*

Tennis; Badminton; Golf. *7 The Birches, Burn Road, Doagh, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.*

Nicolson, G. R. Came 1990³; UVI; Rugby 5ths; Skiing Team; Tennis. *Dun Dubh, Loch Ard, By Aberfoyle.*

Quinn, N. B. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 7ths; 1st XI Football; Squash Team; Swimming; Badminton; Dance Band. *62h Clevedon Drive, Glasgow G12 0NX or Bangka 1, Kemang, Jakarta, Indonesia.*

Webb, B. D. Came 1989³; LVI; School Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV; Captain of Swimming; Coxswain in Navy; Academic Scholarship. *Cottack Cottage, Dunscore, Dumfriesshire DG2 0TB.*

West, D. G. Came 1990³; UVI; House Prefect; Rugby 5th XV; D. of E. Silver; Academic Scholarship. *"Cademuir", Kingston Road, Neilston, Glasgow G78 3HZ.*

Winchester, J. W. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Rugby 3rd XV (Captain); 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey; Tennis; Golf; Leading Seaman in Navy. *Fairfield, 26 Gamekeeper's Road, Barnton, Edinburgh.*

LVI

Allen, P. H. Came 1987¹; III; L/Cpl in Army; D. of E. Bronze Award; Skiing team; Rugby 5th XV; Tennis; Football. *Cuil Bay, Duron, Appin, Argyll PA38 4DA.*

Brooks, J. M. Came 1987¹; III; D. of E. Bronze Award; Athletics team (Bronze Medal British Schools, 2 Silver Medals Scottish Schools); Junior Victor Ludorum; Rugby; Squash; Hockey. *98 Hepburn Gardens, St Andrews, Fife.*

Conradi, J. E. Came 1990²; LVI; Tennis; Golf. *Amkastanienberg 66a, 6903 Neckargemünd, F.R. Germany.*

V

Dodds, R. A. Came 1988¹; III; Rugby 4th XV; Hockey 3rd XI; Cricket 3rd XI; Fishing; Golf. *Littleton House, Gatehouse of Fleet, Castle Douglas, Dumfries.*

IV

Chubb, P. Came 1989²; III; Rugby U14B XV. *Estin House, 3 The Glebe, Dunning.*

THORNBANK

UVI

Boyd, K. A. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Netball (3 years); Athletics; School Magazine; Backstage "Tartuffe". 4 Boyd Close, Hillhead, Hants PO14 2DL.

Campbell, E. H. Came 1989¹; LVI; House Prefect; Badminton Team; Choir; Social Services. *The Brig House, By Westfield, West Lothian EH48 3DW.*

Clark, J. A. Came 1984¹; I; Head of House; School Prefect; Hockey U-15A; 1st XI; Squash Team; Athletics; Cross Country; Scottish Schools; Basketball; School Play ('88). *Little Lun Farm, Windygates, Fife KY8 5RU.*

Donnelly, C. J. Came 1989¹; LVI; Badminton. *C/o Emirates National Shipping, P.O. Box 42, Dubai, UAE.*

Dunlop, S. M. C. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Hockey U-15A; 2nd XI; Badminton; Tennis; Athletics. 37 Braid Drive, Glenrothes, Fife KY7 4ES.

Edmonds, A. J. Came 1989¹; LVI; House Prefect; Hockey 2nd XI; Athletics — Captain and Scottish Schools; Swimming. "Neser", Box 53, 4860, Byglandsfjord, Setesdal Valley, Norway.

Green, E. J. Came 1984¹; House Prefect; Librarian; Badminton; Hockey U-13; Orchestra; String Group; Choir; Social Services; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Form Exam Prizes; GCSE Prize; Maths and Physics Prize (UVI). 122 Kiln Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1TE.

Griffiths, F. E. C. Came 1989¹; LVI; House Prefect; Hockey 1st XI; Midlands U-16 ('89); Midland U-18 ('90); Indoor Hockey; Cross Country; Athletics;

Swimming; Squash; House Colours. *The Carriages, Anthony Place, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 3DQ.*

MacDonald, K. B. Came 1989¹; LVI; Social Committee; Swimming; Badminton; Social Services. *P.O. Box 594, Dubai, UAE.*

Pate, J. M. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Hockey U-15A; 1st XI; Netball; Tennis Team (Captain '91); Social Services; 3rd Form Exam Prize; Bronze D. of E. *Reedie Farm, Westmuir, Kirriemuir, Angus DD8 5LX.*

Paterson, S. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Netball (Captain); Swimming. *Southlodge, Whitehouse, Nr. Tarbert, Argyll PA29 6XR.*

Reid, S. J. Came 1986¹; III; House Prefect; Hockey U-15A; 1st XI; U-16 Midlands, U-18 Midlands, Vice-Captain U-18 Scottish Hockey Team; Athletics; Scottish Schools; Cross Country; Squash (Captain); U-15 Tennis; House Colours; GCSE Exam Prize, Biology Prize UVI; Scanlon Cup for all-round Merit. *Canterland, Marykirk, Kincardineshire AB30 1XJ.*

Robb, N. J. J. Came 1986¹; III; Head of School; School Prefect; U-15A Hockey; Tennis; Netball (Captain '89); Debating, French Prize (UVI). 30 Les Roches, Les Genevriers, Versonnex, 01210 Ferney-Voltaire, France.

Wardhaugh E. J. Came 1987¹; IV; House Prefect; Hockey U-15A; 1st XI; Athletics; Swimming (Captain) (Full Colours); Orchestra; Wind Band; Brass Group; Choir; House Colours; Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music (UVI);

Bronze and Silver D. of E. *The Padlocks, Battledykes, By Forfar, Angus DD8 3RY.*

Wilson, P. A. Came 1984¹; I; House Prefect; Netball Team (2nd's Captain); Swimming; Life-Saving; Squash. 40 Draycott Park, Singapore 1025.

Wood, K. J. Came 1986¹; III; Hockey 3rd XI (Captain); Basketball; Squash; Tennis Team; School Play "Boyfriend", Choir; House Colours. *Buchenstrasse 14, 8124 Seeshaupt, Bavaria, Germany.*

V

Cameron, F. H. Came 1990¹; V; Wind Band; Flute Group. *C/o ARCO Dubai Inc., PO Box 9236, Dubai, UAE.*

Grieve, J. M. Came 1987³; III; Hockey U-13B; 4th XI; Canoeing; House Drama; Social Services; Exam Prize 2nd Form; Bronze D. of E. 14 Tyfield, Sherborne St. John, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9HZ.

Lannen, T. L. Came 1985¹; I; Hockey U-13A; 2nd XI; Swimming; Athletics; Basketball; 2nd Orchestra; Choir; Exam Prize 3rd Form; Bronze D. of E. 16 St. Thomas Road, St. Annes, Lancs FYB 1JL.

Miller, K. L. Came 1986¹; I; Hockey U-13A, U-15A, 3rd XI; 1st Orchestra; Wind Band; Dance Band; Choir; Academic Scholarship; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Form Exam Prizes; Bronze D. of E. 93 Ravelston Dykes, Edinburgh EH2 6EY.

Valentine, C. M. V. Came 1988¹; III; Hockey U-15A; 3rd XI; Wind Band; Dance Band; Choir; Social Services; Bronze D. of E. *Litigan Farm, Kettney Burn, By Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2LG.*

WOODLANDS

UVI

Barclay, A. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Hockey 2nd XI; Athletics. *Woodend House, Madderty By Crieff, Perth PH7 3PA.*

Breves, J. E. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; Badminton; Riding; Art. *Bergstedter Chaussee 62, 2000 Hamburg 65, Germany.*

Bruce, H. M. Came 1983³; I; House Prefect; Swimming; Badminton; Choir. 1 Cambridge Street, Edinburgh EH1 2DY.

Clenaghan, K. A. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Badminton; Duke of Edinburgh Silver; Choir. 2 Arkwright Court, North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4RT.

Dow, S. P. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; 1st XI Hockey; Captain of House Sports; Squash; Tennis; Basketball; Athletics; House Drama. *Kelvinhead Farm, Kilsyth, Glasgow G65 0QH.*

McDougall, S. C. Came 1985³; II; House Prefect; D. of E. Silver; House

Drama; Social Services. *Railway Cottages, Dalmally, Argyll PA33 1AA.*

McLaren, M. E. Came 1985³; II; House Prefect; Badminton; Rounders; Golf; Cricket; Choir; Orchestra. *Cults Farm, Cupar, Fife KY7 7TF.*

McNamara, E. A. Came 1986³; III; House Prefect; Athletics; Netball; Squash; House Drama; English Prize. 24 Southside Road, Inverness IV2 3BG.

Mowat, F. J. Came 1986³; III; School Prefect; Head of House; Athletics; 1st Netball; Drama; Choir. *Kinlochruel, Colinbrane, Argyll PA22 3HZ.*

Primrose, K. Came 1990³; UVI; House Prefect; D. of E. Bronze. 3 Dunolly Drive, Newton Mearns, Glasgow G77 5NT.

Sandilands, L. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; House Sailing. 7 Leven Place, Kinross, Tayside.

Scouller, J. E. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; 3rd XI Hockey; D. of E. Bronze; Orchestra; String Orchestra; Choir; Pipe Band; Drama; Wilfred Hoare Reading Prize. "Brookfield", 6 Eglinton Terrace, Skelmorlie, Ayrshire PA17 5ER.

Smith, P. V. Came 1989³; LVI; House Prefect; Badminton. 665 Komohama Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720, USA.

Thomson, M. I. S. Came 1989³; LVI. 16 Hillview Road, Cults, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Wall, E. K. Came 1986³; III; School Prefect; Badminton; Rounders; D. of E. Bronze; Choir; Orchestra. *Old Manse Creich, Bonar Bridge, Sutherland IV24 3AB.*

V

Ninham, C. A. Came 1986³; I; Hockey 2nd XI; Netball; Swimming; Rounders; Tennis; Badminton; Football; Orchestra; Dance Band; Wind Band; Art; Country Dancing. 5 Earngrove, Kintillo, Bridge of Earn, Perth PH2 9BL.

Rustad, M. M. Came 1988³; III; Badminton; Orchestra; String Orchestra; Quartet; Poetry Reading; Drama; House Drama; Librarian. *Yetholm Hall, Town Yetholm, Kelso, Roxburghshire TD5 8RD.*



Above: Some leavers (and others!) June 1991.

Alleybank Cottage,
Forgandenny Road,
Bridge of Earn,
Perth PH2 9EZ

To all current Members of the School,
and those who left in Summer 1991.

Dear Strathallians,

My wife Annabel and I would like to thank you all for the lovely decanter which you gave me at the last assembly of the Summer Term and also the beautiful Shepherd's Crook, which was such a thoughtful and kind present, to replace the one which I had lost. I have used it constantly and shall try very hard not to lose this one! We are both most grateful to you all.

When Mr and Mrs Gray, Mary McLean and Annabel and I left Strathallan, between us we had seen more than 150 years of service at the School. We know all aspects of the School pretty well! In our own case Annabel and I have

thoroughly enjoyed our 32 years, and it has been a great privilege to be part of the development and progress of the School, which has changed from a traditional and perhaps rather spartan Boys' school into a larger, warmer and much more comfortable co-ed Boarding School!

In spite of the very long time that all of us Staff leavers have had at Strathallan, and however well we have known and been part of the School, there is one thing that none of us can be: a Strathallian. And that is something that none of you can avoid being, even if the choice was probably your parents' rather than your own! As I say, I have been very happy here, and I hope the same is true for you, so my leaving wish is that you each may be proud of your School, for you have every cause to be, remembering that we all judge Schools by the individuals we meet from them, both past and present members.

For the first two years that girls came to Strathallan, Annabel was the Housemistress of Thornyshades and I was her assistant, and so it was a great pleasure to us that before we left a girl became School Captain. I would particularly like to thank Nicola Robb for all the administrative work she did for me as Second Master, and to congratulate her on her very successful year as Head of School, as well as on her French A level result, of course!

I am very pleased that I shall be continuing some connection with the School, as School Secretary of the Strathallian Club, and as we are living nearby, we shall no doubt see and hear from many of you.

Once again our thanks for your present and good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Cosmo Fairbairn



Mr. H. C. ADDISON

Colin Addison was one of the most popular and respected Masters at Strathallan, and his death in November, 1990 came as a shock to the whole community. We all knew he had been fighting illness for some time, but as he never complained, and as he had been teaching Physics as usual a couple of weeks before, we were not prepared.

He came to Strathallan from St Andrews University in 1961. After that, the first mention of him in 'The Strathallian' is in 1962 when he played for Mr Lodge's XI and was "b. Harvey-Walker 8". He did not seem to get a bowl!

In 1963 he took charge of cricket and in his very first season wrote: "This has been a quite outstanding and memorable season, one in which the 1st XI has remained not only undefeated in the 10 School matches played but won 9 of them". The Loretto match was drawn, but Ashley Harvey-Walker and his men scored wins over Edinburgh Academy by 88 runs, Morrisons by 80 runs, Merchiston by 157 runs, Daniel Stewarts by 141 runs, Fettes by 134 runs, Dollar by 8 wickets, Glasgow Academy by 84 runs and Glenalmond by 183 runs. In 1964 the XI under Douglas Strachan remained undefeated — a most creditable record for any Master in charge of cricket to enjoy.

In 1967 the squash courts were built and Colin coached squash from the start. Then in 1968 he married Anne, who some years previously had been a most popular and efficient sister in the San, which at that time was a real focal point for the staff — especially the bachelors! Colin's sense of fun in the Common Room will never be forgotten by contemporaries of those years; we were all taken in by his memorable beer-can trick! In 1969 he took over golf, and who better than a left-handed champion?

In 1975 he became Housemaster of Leburn House until his tenure expired in August, 1990. Leburn House, in its 21 years of existence became very much identified with Colin and Anne, and every Leburn boy who was with him benefited enormously from his caring, patient, wise and unruffled guidance.

A large number of members of the School, Old Strathallians, colleagues, relations and friends attended his funeral on the morning of 19th November, 1990. The route between the Chapel and Forgandenny Churchyard was lined by members of the School. The pallbearers, all ex-Leburn, were David Gritten, Rhessa Obineche, Piers du Cane Wilkinson, Ian Kelly, Richard McAlister and Max Adam. The piper was Jonathan Frame. Not only those who attended the service but also those who stayed silent in their Houses paid their final respects. For an hour or so the whole School seemed to

hold its breath in a strange atmosphere of love and respect.

The Colin Addison Memorial Lecture is being instituted at the three-yearly National Meetings of the Lymphoma Group and the first such lecture will be given at the Heriot Watt Conference Centre in November 1992.

At Speech Day 1991, The Chairman of Governors summed it all up in these words:

Whilst it has been a good year overall it has been overshadowed for all of us by Colin Addison's sudden death in November. Colin, a physicist, came to Strathallan in 1961 and was Housemaster of Leburn for the 15 years prior to its

closure last year. One of our key members of staff, his devotion and loyal service will be difficult to match. At his very moving funeral service in the Chapel, over 400 members of the School, past and present, were represented in addition to many from outwith the immediate community.

Eight of his former house captains managed to attend, inevitably at very short notice, having travelled from all over the UK, and this alone demonstrated the enormous affection and respect in which his Leburn boys held him. Now, as then, our love and deepest sympathy go to Anne and to Bruce (1988) and Gillian (1990).



Above: The stone archway into Forgandenny Churchyard.

Two short tributes follow from David Williams and George Kitson:—

COLIN — The Golfer

On the golf course, Colin was a true gentleman and a truly gentle man. He was such easy company to play with and his wit and humour were always in the best possible taste. In the three years we played together I never once saw him lose his temper and yet this most placid of exteriors was combined with the inner competitive edge of a true sportsman.

Colin was a wonderful judge of the "Gimme" (to the uninitiated a gimme is a conceded putt). He knew exactly when and where to apply the pressure on the opposition and, whereas putts of thirty inches were generously conceded early on in a round, the knees would be knocking over putts as little as fifteen inches towards the end.

For a golfer of considerable expertise his modesty was most endearing and nobody I have ever met achieved the combination of camaraderie and competition better than Colin.

When N du B and I play at Rosemount these days we often think of him and I suspect we always will. We would not want to forget the many happy hours we spent together chasing that little white ball.

G.K.

COLIN — The Cricketer

Colin was a founder-member of the Strathallan Occasionals in the early 1960s, and he continued playing until the 1990 season.

He was a brilliant and elegant left-hand bat, and a master of the cover drive. I remember particularly a match against West Lothian, when the first four balls of the match were imperiously dispatched to the boundary leaving cover-point floundering. In his prime he was an attacking fast medium bowler. As the years went by he added the art of containment and, with occasional reversion to offspin, he became a regular breaker of partnerships. He was a superb fielder anywhere; his amazing reflexes made him invaluable close to the bat and led to some extraordinary catches off his own bowling.

He was a great tourer, grand company on and off the field, and he frequently showed that his skills extended to nine-pin bowling and shove ha'penny.

He was an exceptionally shrewd observer of the game, and his comments were always constructive. His words of wisdom to younger players, as befits a great schoolmaster, were always listened to keenly.

All in all he played for the Occasionals 132 times, and his all-round record speaks for itself.

Runs 2232; Average 25.21.

Wickets 138; Average 16.07.

Catches 66.

D.A.R.W.

A FEW NOTES ON LIFE AT STRATHALLAN IN WARTIME

In the spring of 1939, the prospect of war with Germany cast a long shadow. A rumour went around at that time that Strath was to have an Officers' Training Corps, and that it would be compulsory to join it. We thought, wrongly, that it would mean service, if it had to be, in the Army, rather than in the Royal Navy or Royal Air Force, which many would prefer.

Mr Riley always made himself accessible, pacing the grounds in his voluminous gown. I approached him one day in the drive.

"Yes, what is it?"

"Sir, there is a rumour that Strath is to have an OTC. Will it be compulsory?"

Mr Riley was Headmaster, Owner and Founder. When he spoke, it was ex cathedra.

"Hm Hm. There are only two things compulsory at my school — to do your work and to wash in the morning. Now run along." Exit OTC.

War came in September. The school opened at once, in case parents were joining up, closing houses, or moving businesses, but most of us came back at the proper time, some ten days later. Two changes were obvious. Blackout blinds, in wooden slides, were at every window, a major piece of work by Mr Bain's staff; and the trenches had been dug.

These ran transversely across the slope to the west of the rugby stripping rooms, in a row down the hill. Each had its ladder, and a notice board on a post, with a letter of the alphabet. It seemed we were to clamber down into them if an air raid took place, though nobody said so in a formal way. The idea of squelching about in them on a wet January day (or night!) was not attractive. They might have served against strafing by machine guns in first-world-war style, but perhaps they were token defences, at any rate against air attack. Mr Riley was a Yorkshireman, and would have remembered that Scarborough had been shelled by German naval ships in that earlier war. He may have had shelling from the Tay in mind.

Food rationing came in piecemeal. Butter was an early casualty. The whole school was assembled for demonstration, by Mr Riley, of his latest gadget, the butter patting machine, to cope with rationing. You put butter, or margarine, in at one end, wound a handle, and out came a host of rectangular pats of precise weight. "Hm Hm. It counts the right number for every table," he said. It could be heard clacking away in the servery before meals. Eventually, the job of winding it fell to a new recruit, Tailspin Tam, who became adept at running into the dining room whilst

pushing trolleys of food, doing a rapid 180° turn to park at the tables without allowing the inertia of the soup to let it rise over the brim of its bowl. This skill was much admired.

For a long time, sweets were rationed. Instead, supplies simply vanished, until manufacturers started a quota system. Months went by whilst the tuck shop stayed shut. One morning, the school horse and cart hove into view, and Archie the driver unloaded large cardboard boxes labelled, "Cadbury" and "Fry". Profound effects upon morale. Saturday came. No tuck shop. No boxes! Boys, in those days, would believe anything provided they had thought it up for themselves. Somebody convinced us that Mr Riley, a non-smoker, was secretly eating the entire quota for the school in his study. Despite close observation, he remained obstinately not a whit fatter, and it is really more likely that he exchanged the sweets for other equally unrationed, but scarce foods.

Morale remained excellent. With the invasion of Norway in April 1940, shadows began to fall. The casualty lists began to include old boys, and relatives of present pupils, and the news became worse daily, till the culmination of Dunkirk. Despite that, when it became known that one or two realists on the staff had suggested that we might even lose the war, nearly everyone evinced sheer outrage at the idea.

Masters joined up. Some were never replaced. History, for me, stopped when Mr Wenham went to the Army. We had just reached Cardinal Wolsey by then, and over the years I have often wondered what has happened since.

One new master came into the classroom. "Good morning, gentlemen. My name is Craven." Gentlemen! This was unheard of. We listened with close attention to his splendid lecturing, but off he went in a few weeks and soon afterwards was killed.

The parents of one boy asked that he be sent to join them in China, because of the hazards in Britain. We said our goodbyes and later that week were astonished to see a whole front page picture of him, sitting lugubriously on a barrow in Gourock station. His ship had been torpedoed in the Atlantic, and back he came. Mr Riley was asked to send him by the next ship, but we were told he had refused, being in loco parentis. The next ship, The City of Benares, was sunk with heavy loss of life among the children.

One night in May 1941, we were wakened up. "There is an air raid warning and your are to take your dressing gowns and quilts downstairs," we were told. The trenches at last! But no. We were astounded to be shown

instead to the cellars which we didn't know existed. There we sat while overhead the de-synchronized engines of the bombers went Grumph-Grumph-Grumph. Once we were installed, Mr Riley was not to be seen. His reasonable attitude that the bombers would never manage the distance had been turned on its head by the capture of Norway, whence these came: but where was he? The answer was, "Up on the roof, watching the glow in the sky to the south west". Greenock was burning nearly 60 miles away.

An Air Training Corps and a Home Guard were raised. The ATC was splendid. We flew in aeroplanes. We learned aircraft recognition, and were lectured on the subject by one of Britain's leading experts, the editor of the Joint Services Journal on the subject (a Strathallian, of course!). The physics master, suddenly unbending, passed on his considerable knowledge of radio and how to make and mend such things. He even ran a course in soldering. One photograph shows him instructing a group of assorted sub-prefects and other authority in the correct way to put out incendiary bombs with a stirrup-pump.

Work went on. Exams were passed. The place got colder and darker at night as the one-cylinder paraffin engine ran less often to generate our 100 volt electricity. Somehow, the food remained tolerable, and as a grand finale in 1942, the ATC summer camp at Leuchars, shared with many other ATC squadrons, kept us back for a couple of nights after the end of term before we set off to it.

A note about photography. There was no formal darkroom, but occasionally permission was given to use a small (preparation) room behind the labs. It had a sink, and like everywhere else, a blackout blind. Pinholes in the blind turned the whole room into a camera obscura, projecting upside-down images of branches waving in the breeze on to the wall. Film was scarce as was paper. The thermometer was broken and development was guesswork.

During 1942, Mr Riley became progressively more ill, and was seldom seen. Before the Autumn term began, he had died. In retrospect, the whole period of which I have written presents an air of such normality, despite the enormous turmoil of war that beset the whole land, that one views with considerable humility how little acknowledgement we made of the efforts that were made to achieve it. Certainly, most of us did feel that the heavy stress carried by the man at the top could well have hastened his early demise.

I.H.H.Fraser (1942)



Trenches at Strathallan, Sept 1939.



The finest sight of the year — the two minutes to eight a.m. train at Forgandenny station, taking us home for the Christmas holidays, December 1941. The sense of pleasure is still there after 50 years.



Stirrup-pump training conducted by Mr W. H. Ward, Vice-principal.

Mr B. S. Roberson, now living in East Finchley, London, taught Geography and coached Rugby at Strathallan in the early 1930s. He has kindly sent us some memories of Strathallan in his day.

STRATH IN '33

The only classrooms in 1933 were in two single-storied buildings arranged at an angle, with an office block making the third side of a triangle [Ed: Still the Riley courtyard!] In the centre was a pedestal with a globe on top. Behind the office were two more classrooms and a small commonroom for the staff, of whom there were nine or ten. Across a green was the science block, new and well-equipped, with physics, chemistry and biology labs. Somewhere around was the San., and during 1934 the Rugby Fives Courts appeared. The Eton Fives Courts were already in use [Ed: Both now replaced by Squash].

Above two classes for very small boys, came J1, J2 and J3, who took the Cambridge Junior at about 14. Then came S1, S2 and S3 who took the Cambridge Senior. Above this was the Sixth, mostly scientists, and the Business Class [Ed: Strathallan was very ahead of the times with its Business Classes. They disappeared, but we re-introduced Business Studies in 1990!]. These were the rather lean years of the Depression. The numbers were barely 200, though there was room for more. The fees were £44 per term, with younger brothers £40. The whole School trooped across the foot-bridge over the burn twice a day from the house, and once on Sundays for letter-writing.

The Main House was the core of School life. The dormitories were grouped in houses: Ruthven on the upper floors at the Chapel end — this was then inside the house — Freeland below and on the ground floor. At the Bridge of Earn end, the upper floors were Simpson, with Nicol spread around in between [Ed: And they remained much the same until this very year!].

The bulk of the School spent its free time in the Common room, then above the swimming bath. It had several very long narrow tables, on which an idiosyncratic table tennis was played. The rattle of balls was constant, and a characteristic sound.

The first move upwards in the hierarchy was to the Grub Room, and I know not if the reference is alimentary or biological. Here, some twenty or thirty boys had a little more privacy, some armchairs and even a correct size tennis table. Above this were the House Pres — say four or five — housed in a cubby-hole off the main common room. Above them were the Sub Pres, and above them the Full Pres who had a room downstairs near the Chapel.

The dining room was then on the ground floor at the east end. The food was brought in on trolleys from the

kitchen, and served by a prefect at the head of each table. Nothing might be left on a plate, but orders were passed up to obtain the right amount. These had a language of their own, "small potato with ", "ordinary without" and other arcane phrases were heard.

One could tell the day of the week by the meals. Tuesday breakfasts were "cork mats" — thick and rather dry slices of breakfast sausage. Friday lunch was fish and chips, with great mounds of chips. This was popular [Ed: Still is!]. Even more popular was the salmon which occasionally appeared when F.P.s were visiting. One regular pudding was "shape" — a dull white blancmange with a (small) dollop of jam. A bowl of fruit — apple or orange — was passed down at breakfast, and most boys kept this for the morning break. The prefect, with a micrometer eye, got the largest.

The tea came, ready-made in metal jugs. I once said to a boy "It must be hard on those who don't take sugar?" "It's harder on those who do, sir!" was the reply. Boys late for breakfast had to present their excuse to the Housemaster. The commonest was "Please sir, I've been at Nurse." I asked what the treatments were. "Och, sir, it's always cascara. If you broke your arm you'd get cascara." [Ed: Happily this evil-tasting all-cure draught has long since disappeared, it was good for the bowels!].

After tea the whole school returned to the dining room for prep, even on Sunday evenings — an innovation which made F.P.s shudder. This was nominally in complete silence, but order rather depended on how much the prefect at the end of the table had to do himself. A master was also on duty and help could be requested. The amount received varied with the master's specialism.

Baths were on Friday night — a noisy, steamy affair, managed by prefects. Morning daily washing was at a row of hand-basins in a middle corridor. Most boys had a bedside "wireless" with headphones, and listening after lights out was a penal offence, often incurred. A routine penalty was the slipper — readily available as shoes were always changed on entering the house. The boot room was at the east end, and the clip clip of slippers was another characteristic sound. On Saturday mornings from early dawn gramophones were allowed — then the old wind-up kind. One top record was "Shuffle off to Buffalo". One got to know it.

Finally games. Although numbers were small, Strath held its own with many much larger schools; Glasgow High, Hillhead, Allan Glen's, both the Aber-

deen schools, Daniel Stewart's and others in Edinburgh, Dollar too, once, mixed even in those days. "Plus fours" trousers were then a commoner dress than today, and it was the custom for the 1st XV to wear rugger socks with them. Bands of yellow and blue went oddly with Harris tweed.

In '33-'34 big Jack Breckenridge, the captain, who would have been a tower of strength, had an illness, and we had a thin time. In '34-'35 Springy Forrest was coming into view. The next year, with his long rangy stride, he was unstoppable in school Rugby, and we had a great season. Stanley Knox, a stocky Northumbrian who taught English and Music, was a good club stand-off half, and kept Springy quiet enough to balance up practice games. He got a Blue at Cambridge immediately, and I think a Scottish cap — or did the war intervene? [Ed: Sadly Springy Forrest was killed during the war.].

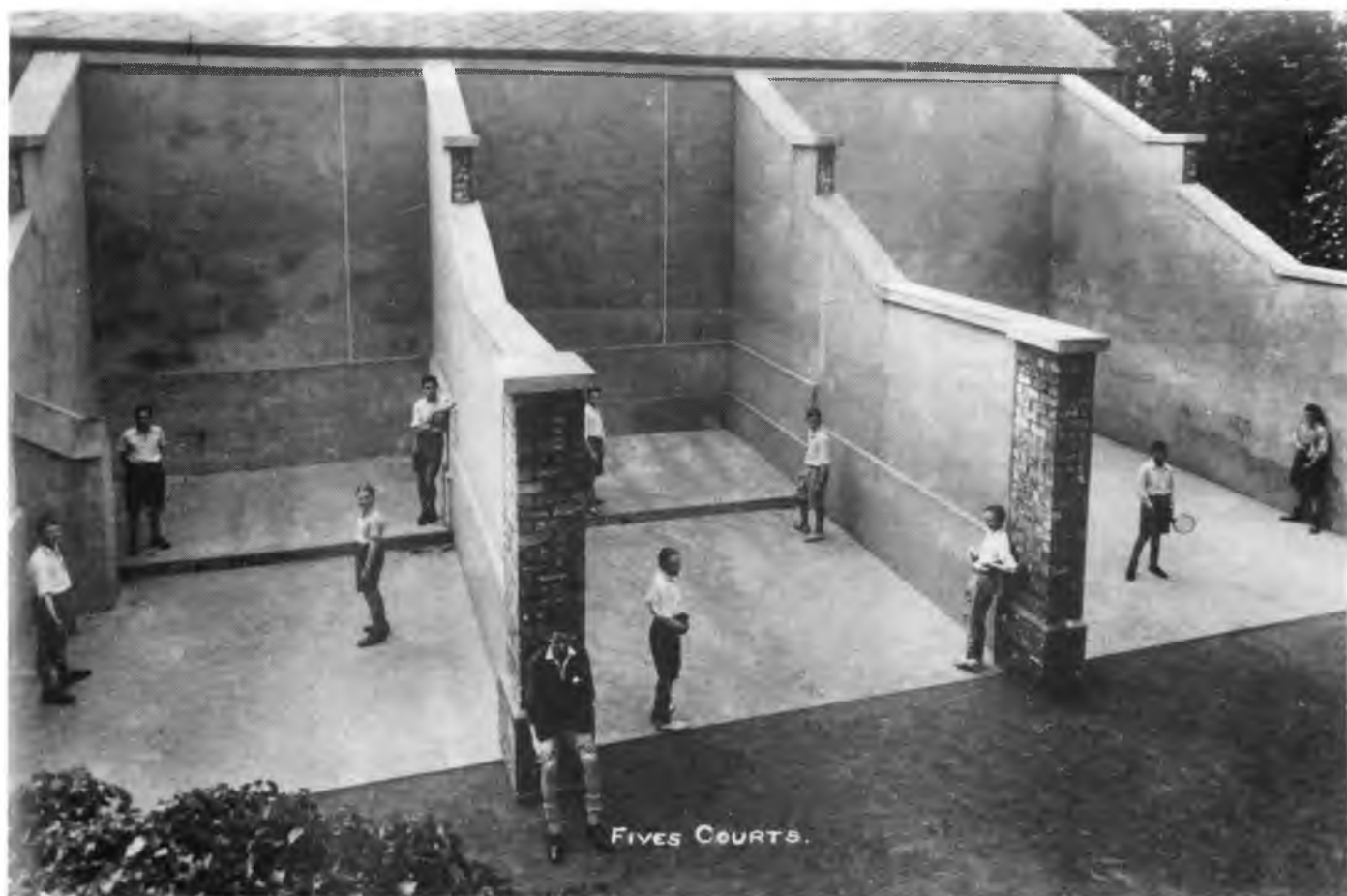
In summer, besides cricket, coached by R. G. Cole (chemistry) there was an evening six-a-side soccer league on the lawn; Grub Room, Prefects and Staff. Great fun. On one occasion a visiting XI included Jack Hobbs, then well past his prime. His scoring was in 4s and 1s. He walked the singles, brilliantly placed, and stayed put for the boundaries.

And so to the end of term. The rule was that all must stay the night of the last day, but could leave at first light. The early train to Glasgow was about 7.30. By nine the School was deserted.

Below is a poem from 'Swingtime' recently published in Cambridge by Strathallian James Wood (1987).

DECEMBER

The mad flowers, slow in dying,
Have long since whispered their leaves
Away through the myriad-minded
Crispness. Black lakes cry for new year,
Falling through the seasons to here, a
Type of true living, death. Allwheres
End here, where all lies flat under
The crescent-lighting bloody moon.
Never the sun will shine in this cold
Place; the darkling spots of ash shall fall
Fading from the dreamy fires. For
neither
The mystic player of broken parts,
Nor the hot-blooded blue lightning rain
Can squeeze the heat from the cloudy
heart
Of this land, or crack the star-tight
heavens again.



STRATHALLIAN CLUB

The next time your solicitor successfully completes the purchase and sale of your house it will probably be largely due to this year's president. Since 1970 John has been almost single-handedly responsible for the teaching of conveyancing at Strathclyde University and has built up the reputation of the 'Glasgow Tec' as arguably the foremost legal teaching unit in Scotland. He is an acknowledged expert on the law and practice of conveyancing in Scotland having published a best seller and numerous papers and articles on the subject. If you have any problems with the conveyancing of your house or houses it is more than likely that your solicitor has not received the benefit of John's teaching and expertise but it may not yet be too late to send him (or more likely her) along to John's classes.

In addition to lecturing at Strathclyde, writing books and publications on conveyancing John runs his own practice in Glasgow.

He is well-known in Glasgow legal circles as the Clerk, Treasurer, Fiscal and general factotum to the Royal Faculty of Procurators.

John left Strathallan in 1954 and, unusually for a Strathallian, has the honesty to accept that he was 'congenitally' incompetent at games, but after a B.A. at Queen's University Belfast and LL.B. at Glasgow University he started in private practice before taking over the then very small department of conveyancing at Strathclyde.

It is a comforting thought that the affairs of the club are in the hands of a conveyancer whose meticulous attention to wording and punctuation makes him admirably suited to the onerous task of President of the club.

The only other qualification for President is one which John possesses in abundance — a sense of humour.

A.G.J.

Ed. Congratulations to John on his appointment to the Professorship, after the above appreciation was written.



JOHN SINCLAIR— PRESIDENT OF THE STRATHALLIAN CLUB 1990/91

THE LONDON DINNER

A Strathallian Club dinner was held in the Caledonian Club on 21st March, 1991, under the Chairmanship of Michael Bucher, which proved a most enjoyable evening. A few informal remarks were made by the three visitors from Scotland, James Dinsmore (1957) Chairman of Governors, Cosmo Fairbairn, Second Master and John Sinclair (1954) President of the Strathallian Club, but there are no official speeches. A similar dinner will be

held in the Caledonian Club on Friday 6th March 1992. Strathallians living in the London area — girls too please — do keep in contact with David Anderson, The Old Rectory, Lamarsh, Bures, Suffolk.

Those accepting the invitation were: David Anderson (56), Tony Bucher (63), Michael Bucher (60), Richard Darvell (46), James Dinsmore (57), Cosmo Fair-

bairn, Alistair George (63), Tim Harrison (59), Bill Jack (32), Steven Leckie (84), Tim Lunan (71), Angus Macmillan (64), James McVittie (86), Frank Mills (67), Andrew Nelson-Cole (62), Jim Nairn (62), Alastair Pate (61), Stewart Ritchie (44), Donald Sinclair (55), John Sinclair (54), Michael Steele (72), Fred Stroyan (84), Russell Thomas (50), Gavin Vernon (60).

NEWS OF OLD STRATHALLIANS

- AITKEN D. S. (1986) He has graduated B.A. Hons in Geography at Strathclyde University.
- ALLINGHAM M. J. de G. (1983) He was selected to play for Scotland B v. Ireland, but sadly was unable to play because of injury. He was a member of the Scotland Benson and Hedges cricket squad and also won a full cap. Congratulations.
- ARCHER G. M. (1982) He is a Flight Lieutenant in the Royal Air Force and a Tornado pilot in an operational squadron. He is married too.
- BANNATYNE A. R. (1987) He has graduated with 2/1 in Honours Law at the University of Durham.
- BANNERMAN C. M. (1985) Congratulations to Calum on winning his blue playing for Cambridge on 11 December, 1990. He had a good Scottish following down at Twickenham for the match.
- BARBOUR H. M. (1974) Himself a TV producer, he married Muriel Gray at 6.30 a.m. on the shore of the Isle of Harris on 29th June 1991.
- BARR A. B. D. (1987) He is now a Ll.B. of Aberdeen University.
- BARGON M. A. (1988) He has been studying for a B.A. in Business Studies at Napier College.
- BEALE P. K. (1987) She has successfully completed a four year B.Ed. Honours Geography course at Cambridge and she has a teaching post in New Zealand for a year.
- BELCH K. F. (1985) She graduated from the Grampian School of Physiotherapy in 1989.
- BELCH L. (1980) She married Eric McLean in September, 1989 and is now living in Madrid. She may well have a baby by the time you read this.
- BLACKLAWS F. W. (1947) He has retired from his teaching post at Banchory Academy. Since 1984 he has been a lay reader in the Episcopal Church and he has now been ordained and is working as Assistant Chaplain to the Aberdeen Hospitals as well as assisting in two churches.
- BOWRING, S. A. C. (1988). Congratulations to Sharon on gaining 1st Class Honours in her B.A. in Medical Science from Downing College, Cambridge. She is starting her clinical in Oxford and is attached to Wadham College.
- BUCHER M. J. (1960) He presided at The London Dinner and is desperately looking for literate Scots to join the business community in the South.
- CALDER, M. L. (1988) She is taking her HND in Office Studies with languages at Napier College.
- CAMERON A. (1982) He is in the film industry and is a film/video director of Promo Videos for whom he made All Together Now. In March, 1991 he won an award as Young Director of the Year, and he has directed a top-rating documentary for Channel 4.
- CARRUTHERS M. (1986) Margaret was married in the Chapel on 27th July.
- CHRISTIE J. M. A. (1981) She is now Mrs Jocelyn Glebocki, and indeed has been since 1986! Their son Christopher is 2½. She and her husband are involved in the family business running Balgedie Toll Tavern near Kinross. They live in Abernethy. Next time, the entry will be under G!
- CHRISTIE T. S. (1989) Well done passing the R.C.B.
- CLARK, G. J. M. (1987) He has graduated B.Sc. Eng. at Glasgow University and congratulations on winning the Tom Howie prize for his dissertation on Acid Rain. He then went off to Spain to perfect his Spanish!
- CLARK J. M. (1956) He has retired from farming and spends much of his time with boats! He and his wife were present at a Royal Gala Concert in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh on 21st May which raised some £28,000 for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Funds. Jim was amongst those chosen to be presented to Princess Diana to talk about cancer care. In June he wrote a letter to the Galloway News taking his local district council to task for their unwillingness to contribute to an appeal for funds for Edinburgh's Western General Infirmary Cancer Unit. Anyone interested in further information about the appeal should contact Jim at Ilala, Kippford, by Dalbeattie, DG5 4LW.
- CLARK L. W. (1988) She is in charge of the Property Division with solicitors in Dumfries.
- CLARK N. F. (1958) He and his wife Mary and two daughters are still living in Australia. He has retired from farming and now runs a Computer Service called Farm Facts, which gives detailed information to all those interested in every aspect of farming — a service not yet established in Scotland!
- CLAYTON G. V. F. (1984) He is one of the fraternity of Strathallians in Jersey, and he is working for Barclay-trust.
- CLEMENT M. J. (1990) Congratulations on winning the John F. Milne History prize at Aberdeen University.
- CLUNIE I. S. R. (1986) He is studying for his H.N.D. in Journalism Studies at Napier College.
- COOK A. S. (1960) He is the Strathallian Club representative on the Board of Governors. He had a trip to South Africa and brought back very jolly photos of self with Tommy Taylor (1961) and Mike Dawson (1964) who both send kind regards.
- CORBETT G. R. F. (1984) and Corbett N. L. (1987) have both visited their uncle Ian Gray (1961) in Sydney.
- CORBISHLEY G. S. A. (1947) He has returned from Kenya and is living in Cheadle Hulme. He has officially retired but does quite a lot of consultancies which entail nice trips abroad!
- CORNISH R. M. (1989) He passed out of Sandhurst on the Sovereign's Parade in April 1991 in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen.
- CRAN M. W. H. (1970) He has left the Army and is the manager of Laings the jeweller in Edinburgh.
- CRANSTON D. A. (1964) He is now Brigadier Commanding Aviation BAOR with H.Q. Army Air Corps. He still has responsibilities for the Army Nordic Skiing and visits Scotland quite frequently to see his daughter at Edinburgh University.
- CRAWFORD C. J. K. (1978) He is married with a small son. He qualified as a Chartered Civil and a Structural Engineer and works with Ove Arup and Partners in Edinburgh.
- CRAWFORD H. B. (1938) Since retiring from farming he has become a Fellow of the Royal Gemmological Association. He is living in Castle Douglas.
- CRISPIN L. (1985) Congratulations to Lucy on her 1st in English at Newnham College, Cambridge. After a postgraduate teacher training course she is teaching in London.
- DAWSON R. D. (1985) After graduating in medicine at Aberdeen University he is training in General Practice in Dumfries.
- DE LA HAYE B. D. (1973) He was at the Ministry of Defence for 18 months but has now been posted to the Canadian Infantry Training Centre at Gagetown, New Brunswick where he and his family will be spending two years.
- DEWAR A. C. (1989) Napier College again! He is reading for a B.Eng. in Engineering with Management.
- DUNBAR C. A. B. (1990) Another B.Eng. student in Engineering with Management; yes at Napier College.
- DUNCAN K. E. W. (1986) Katherine has graduated B.L.E. from Aberdeen University.

- DUNCAN R. J. (1980) All those watching the world Skiing Championships in Austria on T.V. (repeated on Ski Sunday, of course) were horrified to see Ronald crashing out of the race and being airlifted away by helicopter. Happily when he visited us shortly after, we discovered that his injuries were in a place unlikely to prevent future skiing, though immediate seating was painful. Anyone in a position to sponsor him for further skiing training for the Scottish Team, please contact Mr Clayton at School. Congratulations on his success in the Chilean National Championships in August.
- EDIE C. J. (1985) Caroline qualified as a Registered General Nurse at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and has since been working there as a Staff nurse on an orthopaedic ward. She is thinking of starting a totally new career, however, soon.
- ELDER R. A. (1973) We are most grateful for the gift of "5000 Nights at the Opera" (Sir Rudolf Bing's Memoirs) and books on Puccini and Rossini for the library.
- FAGG J. D. (1986) Congratulations to Joanna on gaining 1st class Honours in Psychology at St. Andrews. She is now off to Manchester University to take a M.Sc. in Audiology.
- FAIRBAIRN A. C. (1980) He has been on a world tour and stayed for some time with Gary McLean (1980) in Hong Kong. He tutored the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Pipe Band while out there.
- FAIRBAIRN J. N. (1983) He has returned from four years tropical agricultural research in Colombia to take a Ph.D. at Reading University. He married Diana Perez of Cali, Colombia, on 28th August 91.
- FEA A. W. S. (1966) He lives in Inverness, and if by any chance you want a new Mercedes-Benz, contact him at Ruthven Car and Commercial, of which he is Managing Director.
- FLEMING J. N. (1958) After many years in Canada he has come back to the UK and at present has a posting with the Army in Edinburgh. Jim Clark met him recently and recognised him immediately after a gap of about 35 years!
- FRASER J. (1985) Jenny has got her M.B., Ch.B. at Edinburgh University, and is now a House Physician at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.
- FULLER J. (1985) He is working with Esso in London having graduated in Mechanical Engineering at Edinburgh University.
- GAULT D. R. (1990) He spent a year working under the GAP scheme as a House Tutor in All Saints College, Bathurst, Australia.
- GOODBOURN B. M. (1981) He is working in Reading but commutes for miles!
- GOODBOURN M. G. (1981) He is working for Ove Arup consulting engineers in Birmingham. He is living near Warwick.
- GOWERS A. G. C. (1989) He is living in Edinburgh and is reading Engineering at Edinburgh University.
- GRANT P. M. (1962) Congratulations on his appointment as Professor in the chair of Electronic Signal Processing at the University of Edinburgh. As well as teaching students he has responsibility for research in the design of communication and radar systems.
- GRANT W. J. S. (1968) He lives in Drymen and is a professional musician working with a variety of live and studio projects in Scotland, France and the U.S.A. He also has a music promotion and management business in the West of Scotland. Don't you remember, he drove us all mad with his drum-kit?
- GRAY I. S. (1961) He would like to hear more news from Strathallians in the magazine, especially from those abroad, so please get out your pens and write to us! Like Alan Cook (1960) he too had a visit to Tommy Taylor (1961) in South Africa at the same time as Alastair Pate (1961). Ian is still in Australia, apart from his annual visit to play in the R. & A. autumn meeting and he is proud to have won the Knock-out singles. Anyone going through Sydney should contact him.
- GRAY M. H. (1981) and Gray I. (1981) (Irene Mason). They stayed with Patrick Russell (1981) on their far-eastern walkabout as a rest from computers in Edinburgh. They also met Martin Russell (1978) at opera rehearsals.
- GUY W. (1984) He was Scottish Assistants Golf Champion in 1990 and retained the title in 1991. He was runner-up in the Scottish P.G.A. too. Congratulations on winning the Gore-Tex Scottish under-25s Open at Deer Park in July.
- HAMILTON E. W. (1979) He and his wife June have moved to start a new life in Australia, where they will be found at 36 Alfreton Way, Duncraig, Perth. Good luck to you both. They would welcome any Strathallians visiting Western Australia.
- HARRISON R. D. (1988) He is still at Durham University and reports that his expedition to the rain forest in Peru was extremely successful. They divided their time between Cuzco Amazonico Lodge, a lodge in Tambopata region and the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado. They made a small fish collection for the British Natural History Museum and conducted surveys on the birds and mammals of the region particularly collecting information on the problems facing its conservation.
- HEADRICK D. J. (1979) He is working with Trans World Airlines as Duty Manager for Airport Services at London Gatwick.
- HOLST M. J. (1985) Congratulations to Mark on his 1st in Civil Engineering — B.Eng. degree at Edinburgh University.
- HOUSTON A. G. (1963) He emigrated to Australia in 1968 and did some farming in the outback of Western Australia before joining the R.A.A.F. He is a Wing Commander based in Canberra flying jets and helicopters. Tours have recently taken him to Singapore and the U.S.A. He is married with three sons.
- HOUSTON I. A. (1967) Brother of A. G. above, he is a Director of Charterhouse Bank Ltd., based in London. He lives in Hertford and is married with three sons.
- HUBBARD T. F. (1969) We noticed that The Mercat Anthology of Contemporary Poetry in Scots entitled The New Makars is edited by Tom.
- JAMIESON A. M. (1977) The eternal student, he is taking an ICSA company secretarial and share registration course at Napier College.
- JAMIESON R. (1990) He is studying Marine Resource Management at Aberdeen University with a Royal Navy Bursary.
- JOHNSON A. G. (1990) He has been teaching English in Brazil, while waiting to go up to Balliol College, Oxford. Congratulations on being the Dux. We were glad to welcome his grand-parents to Speech Day to hear his name read out. A recent letter he wrote to the Headmaster about what he has been doing in his year out is elsewhere in the magazine.
- JOHNSTON M. (1990) He has been in Australia for a year and now he is at Cirencester Agricultural College.
- JUDGE S. C. F. (1986) has graduated B.Sc. from Aberdeen University.
- KELLY I. C. (1986) He is studying Electronic and Electrical Engineering at Napier College.

- KERR R. I. M. (1958) He lives in Bristol and he spent a week at Strathallan in August for the hot-air balloon competitions. The whole neighbourhood was thrilled at the wonderful spectacle of some thirty hot-air balloons sailing up and down the Earn Valley in a week of sun.
- KING K. B. (1968) He works at Highlands College, Jersey and is much involved in amateur dramatics.
- KIRKLAND R. L. (1975) He has graduated from the Army Staff College and is serving as Chief of Staff of 24 Airmobile Brigade in Catterick in the rank of Major. His wife Helen recently gave birth to their first daughter. With family responsibilities, carrycots etc. the Porsche has had to be replaced by a more sedate estate car!
- LAGERBORG A. I. L. (1985) He graduated from the University of London with 2nd class Honours in Political and Economic History in 1989. He is living in Putney and is reading for a M.Sc. in Applied Computing Technology (sounds to us like a nice pad to get a bed for the night in London)!
- LEWIS I. D. (1970) He was awarded the M.B.A. in June at Calgary University, to add to his M.A. (Cantab) and C.A. He is the proud father of a 2-year-old daughter.
- LIDDELL S. J. (1986) He graduated in New Zealand but he and his family have moved to New York.
- LOCHORE A. D. (1990) Keen-eyed viewers spotted him leading horses at the Grand National.
- LOW L. M. (1985) He is working for a firm of solicitors in Glasgow, having graduated in Law with a 2/1 from Dundee University, where he also gained a Diploma in Legal Practice.
- MACDONALD M. J. (1974) He and his wife live in Atlanta, Georgia. After graduating from the Royal Dick Vet College, Edinburgh, he worked in Mombasa, Kenya and in Georgia. He then undertook post-graduate studies at the Veterinary School of the University of Pennsylvania. Not content with treating animals, he is now studying for a M.D. at the Emory Medical School in Atlanta, where he hopes to start on humans next May!
- MACDONALD R. H. (1980) He and his sister got out of Kuwait, though his parents were trapped there. He is a pilot for British Airways.
- MACFARLANE D. S. (1966) Now a Colonel, he is with HQ 4th Armoured Division.
- MACKAY N. J. (1978) He was married to Alison James in September.
- MACKIE J. G. (1937) Congratulations on his award, summa cum laude, of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration from California Western University. In his letter of appointment Irving Dlugatch Ph.D., Dean of Students of the University writes: "It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on your exceptionally fine record with the University and commend you for the very professional and scholarly Dissertation which you presented."
- MACLELLAN A. R. (1986) He graduated B.A. in Sports Studies at St. John's College, York, and is now a Sports Development Officer. He plays rugby for Edinburgh Accies.
- MACLELLAN D. R. (1982) He had the great chance of working as a physiotherapist at the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, and now is working at Leicester General Hospital.
- MARTIN R. L. (1983) He was elected as an Associate Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors in November 1990 and is still working with Cyril Sweett and Partners in London.
- MCBRIDE J. N. (1989) He is studying for a B.A. in Export Studies and Languages at Napier College.
- MCALL-SMITH C. D. (1987) He gained a 2/1 in his B.Sc. in Agriculture from Aberdeen University.
- MCCAUSLAND I. H. M. (1981) We last heard of him on an extended sojourn in the Far East, mainly Hong Kong.
- MCINTYRE B. A. (1986) He is studying at Barcelona University and Gavin Clark (1987) went to stay with him.
- McKEE N. H. (1984) He was a member of the Bristol XV who defeated Bath away. This was Bath's first defeat at home in the Schweppes Trophy.
- MEIKLE K. (1988) He has been working for Tesco, prior to joining The Metropolitan Police. He is getting married in December.
- MENNIE N. R. (1981) He is working for Allied Dunbar in London and has "two kids, so must be all right", according to Patrick Russell (1981).
- MOIR R. (1991) At the Royal Navy's ski championships in Bereges, Midshipman Robert Moir (BRNC Dartmouth) won all three major races (command slalom, giant slalom, and super-G). He accompanied the R.N. ski team for training at Courchevel and for the British Services International Ski Championships at Megeve. Join the Navy and see the snow!
- MONTGOMERIE C. S. (1975) He is having a successful time as a professional golfer. He was defeated in the play off by S. Ballesteros in the Volvo P.G.A. Tournament. Congratulations on winning the Scandinavian Masters Tournament, and on playing for the European Ryder Cup Team.
- MONTGOMERY B. D. (1981) He married Luci Pena Mendez of Barcelona on 9 December 1989. To confuse us all they were married in Milan where they now live.
- MONTGOMERY G. F. (1983) He continues his career in photography in London.
- MOODIE A. C. G. (1971) He is head of Information Systems for Morgan Grenfell in Jersey.
- MOODIE I. A. G. (1968) He is General Manager of BAI Trust Ltd. in Jersey and would welcome any Strathallian visitors to the island.
- MUIR A. A. (1979) He has been to the Maldives on his boat en route to Asia and Australia. We do not know exactly where he is just now!
- MUIR D. S. (1978) He is still working hard in Derby.
- MUIR G. L. (1986) He has graduated Ll.B. at Aberdeen University.
- MUIR K. H. (1980) He is engaged to a lovely Australian School Teacher (whose name he did not tell us) and they have both been working for the Scottish Youth Hostels Association. He is going to take a H.N.D. in Forestry at the Scottish School of Forestry.
- MUIR P. L. (1980) He has responsibility for the whole of Scotland and the North of England for his steel firm and professes to be enjoying hard work!
- NEISH S. (1988) He is taking his HND in Business Studies at Napier College.
- NIVEN A. D. (1963) He was married in the Chapel on 24 May 91.
- NIVEN G. M. (1984) Gillian did her foundation course at Cumbria College of Art and Design and got 1st Class Honours from Winchester School of Art. She also has a M.A. from Manchester. She worked on Glasgow's Glasgow and has exhibited in Edinburgh and in Perth. Our advice is to invest in her pictures now!
- NIVEN P. D. (1989) He is described as Scotland's leading jump jockey. He was 4th in the National Hunt Jockeys Table with 86 winners and rode in the Grand National, but we think he did not finish the course!
- PATE A. M. (1961) He is a director of the Calor Gas group in London.
- PATE S. M. (1989) He is studying for a B.Sc. in Mathematics with Engineering Technology.
- PATERSON D. P. (1989) He has been studying flute and voice at the London College of Music and was due to go to the Royal Academy in September, where he should now be studying under Kenneth Bowen. He brought the Regency Singers on a Scottish Tour in April and once again performed in St. John's Kirk.

- PATERSON R. W. (1986) He has graduated from Glasgow University with a 2/1 in Political Economy and is hoping to make a career in International Relief and Development work. He had a very exciting 3-month tour of Latin America visiting his brother Dirk (1989) who was with the Project Trust in Honduras, then going to Guatemala (idyllic), Argentina, where he worked with a EUSA missionary society and Paraguay, where he went to the Iguazu Falls, featured in 'The Mission'. They make Niagara Falls look like a miserable dribble! Finally he went to Bolivia, the land of all the highest. Now at home, he would be glad to catch up with old Strathallian friends.
- PEARSON H. F. (1986), who joined the University Bridge Club as soon as she went to Cambridge, was married to her partner, Mr Franco Carloti, on 15 December 1990. They compete in various tournaments and reached the final of the 1991 Guardian under-25 pairs, where they also met Allan Bannatyne (1987).
- PETERS J. R. (1958) He is recovering well from his hip replacement operation.
- PICKARD E. (1963) He is director of Finance at Invergordon Distillers in Edinburgh.
- POWRIE G. C. R. (1982) He appeared in 'An Inspector Calls' and 'The Steamie' at Perth Theatre and was admired by large numbers of the School. Form III did a project on the production of 'An Inspector calls'.
- POWRIE R. A. D. (1974) He has left the Army and is working for Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Ltd. in Hong Kong.
- REAH R. E. H. (1986) He has been playing rugby for Durham City, is engaged to be married and has been in the Fire Brigade for the last 2½ years and loves every minute.
- REDSHAW P. F. W. (1985) He will be found at Luton International Airport with Lucas Aerospace.
- REID D. W. (1982) He is living in London working for Qantas Airways, so he travels a lot! He still sails, though has given up racing.
- REID T. A. A. (1986) He is a freelance journalist living in Glasgow.
- REYNOLDS D. J. M. (1982) He got married on 11 May 1990 and lives in Glasgow. He is Commercial Manager of R. A. MacKay Printers Ltd. of Cumbernauld.
- REYNOLDS G. W. D. (1980) He has opened his own restaurant in the Blue Mountains near Sydney where he lives with his wife Judy.
- ROBB S. (1987) Susan has graduated B.Sc. at Edinburgh University.
- ROGER G. (1982) He served with his Regiment in the Gulf.
- ROSS I. C. (1964) He has retired from the R.A.F. as Wing Commander after 25 years of service. His last tour was in charge of operations at R.A.F. Honington. Now, he is working for British Aerospace in Saudi Arabia.
- RUSSELL P. D. (1981) He writes from Singapore: "The new houses look very luxurious, but I expect they will soon have the stuffing knocked out of them. It's quite sad to think of the old study block's demise. It may have been a bit of a dump, but it had a certain amount of character." Oddly enough we have heard quite a number of Old Strathallians echoing Patrick's sentiments! He is still with W. I. Carr.
- RUSSELL P. T. (1982) He has been doing a sandwich course in marketing and engineering at Huddersfield Polytechnic arranging his industrial placement year with Hewlett Packard in Amsterdam.
- SMITH K. D. (1987) He is off to Australia for a sporting beano!
- SMITH M. C. S. (1981) He is working for Clifford Chance, solicitors in London.
- SMITH N. J. (1986) She has gained an upper 2nd in her B.Sc. in Clinical Communication Studies at City University. We think she must be the first Strathallian to take this degree.
- SMITH R. M. (1985) He is working with Esso in London, sharing a house with James Fuller (1985). He is a graduate in Electrical Engineering of Edinburgh University.
- STEELE J. M. (1987) Another of the Napier fraternity aiming for a H.N.D. in Communication Studies.
- STEVEN W. R. (1936) He has retired and is living in Newlands.
- STEWART L. A. (1974) He and his wife Annie run a design and manufacturing company Anta, based on a hundred and one things you can do with tartan. The Independent had a long article and a photo with their son Archie, in February 1991 — Lachie junior was not in the photo. They have a shop in Spitalfields Market in London, a ceramics factory in Rickmansworth and a croft in Fearn on Ross. They are also restoring Ballone Castle. If you want the Stewarts to design you a complete tartan house, just ring 071-229-5077, though they themselves live in Ross-shire and commute!
- THOMSON A. A. (1981) He married an Italian girl, Benedetta on 23 June 91 and he has his own business in Lucca. He is becoming a parachuting expert in his spare time.
- THOMSON S. J. (1986) He graduated last year with a 2/1 as B.Eng. in Chemical Engineering at Heriot-Watt University. He is now working as a Process Engineer with Elf Enterprise Caledonia Ltd. in Aberdeen with trips to London, Flotta in Orkney and off-shore. He keeps himself busy with squash, skiing, photography and girlfriend.
- TILLEY B. A. M. (1989) He landed on a refuelling stop in Kuwait Airport, was taken hostage and was one of those paraded on television by Saddam Hussein. Fortunately he was allowed to be repatriated to take up a place at University and arrived home safely.
- TRUTER G. W. A. (1984) He started with the Pitlochry Festival Theatre in summer 91 and moved on to act in Anouilh's, *Becket* with Derek Jacobi, finishing up in the West End.
- TYSON N. D. (1987) She is now a M.A. of Aberdeen University.
- WALKER H. M. (1987) She has graduated MA Honours in Art History at St. Andrews.
- WATSON P. C. G. (1982) He is married, living near Helensburgh, and is a submariner engineer in the Royal Navy.
- WHITTON D. J. (1941) His novel Zama has been shortlisted for the South African novel prize of 1991. The announcement of the winner was announced on Friday 13th September, so by the time this is in print he will know the winner. Fingers crossed!
- WILLIAMS R. H. (1986) He is still working with Lloyd's Bank in Jersey and has moved to Irie, King's Close, Le Hocq, St. Clement.
- WILLIAMSON R. I. (1969) He has been living in Jersey for the last few years and is a senior planner with the Island Development Committee. He plays golf with Iain Moodie (1968) and was selected to represent the island for golf in 1990, and in June 1991 represented Jersey in the Island Games in Åland, Finland.
- WOOD J. W. (1987) He has published poems in a title 'Swingtime' with Tim Bucher and Mark Tranter, and he was good enough to come to School and give a reading of them in March.
- YOUNG A. C. (1967) He is living in Nada-Ku, Kobe, Japan, and would be very glad to re-establish contact with colleagues of his years. He wrote to register a son in 2003!

STRATHALLIAN-LONDON UPDATE

COMPILED BY SARAH BEATON-BROWN

SARAH BEATON-BROWN (formerly Sarah Brown) (1984). After completing a 2½ year business degree (with honours) in the States she is now based in Fulham, London and works in The City, Underwriting Credit Risk. In her spare time she enjoys pursuits such as playing polo, and teaching aerobics. She is often spotted at Tramp on Saturday nights! She is renowned for her BBQ/Karaoke Parties at home. If you want to get invited Tel. 071 385 8377 (H) or 071 283 2526 (W).

PETER BEATON-BROWN (Butch Brown to his mates) (1985). After a three year apprenticeship at Bonhams the Auction House, he now runs the family business Beaton-Brown Fine Paintings based in Belgravia. The Gallery specialises in British/European paintings of the 19th and early 20th Century, with an emphasis on Victorian Paintings. He has been referred to in The Times newspaper as "a framing expert" but is better known in the trade as LoveJoy II. He enjoys all hedonistic pursuits, and is often spotted at Annabels. If you want to buy or sell a painting please telephone for Free Advice (to all Strathallians) on 071 823 2240.

BECKMAN JAMES N. (1983). Spent two months in the Soviet Union after graduating from Aberdeen University, and has spent the last nine months working in the family textile business in London.

PETER BULLARD (1983). After 4 years 6 months in London (six months as a salesman for Life Insurance) he packed his rucksack and fled from continent to continent. He has been in Sydney for four months, but has no further plans to settle down or save money, so he is now bound for India and 'the dreaded delly belly'. His aim is to find that pot of gold under the rainbow, which he thinks is somewhere waiting for him in Hong Kong.

DEBBIE BULLOUGH (1984). Since leaving school, Debbie has been based in London and worked for various Advertising contractors, she is now Ad. Manager for Pearl & Dean Publishing for The Gleneagles Hotel and The Dorchester Hotel Magazine. In between her high-flying career path, Debbie took two years off for an "Extensive World Tour". She recently announced her engagement.

ALASTAIR CAUSH (1984). Having gained an honours degree in Economics and Finance, Alastair is currently an Investment Banker for Banque Indosuez merchant bank, in their International Trade and Commodity Finance department. London based for two to three years he will then move to another financial centre possibly Hong Kong or Johannesburg, as a specialised operations executive. He seems on the right corporate path to an early management role — keep an eye out for him in the F.T. and Wall Street. For a bit-on-the-side Alastair and Tony Russell are pursuing Corporate Golfing Breaks in Scotland aimed at the Japanese market. They will let you know when they make their first million.

GRANT S. B. CORBETT (1983). Based in the "Big Smoke" he is now working extremely hard as a financial consultant for a private stockbroking firm, with very little time for any social engagements. He does, however, find just enough time for a few holes of golf with Messrs Beckman and Kilpatrick, rugby at London Scottish, the odd Highland Ball, to beat RJWP on the 'cradle', and to advise Steve Watt (Ruthven, left 1981) on how to lose two stone (not easy!!). As in the past, his lifestyle is still very low key!

NIGEL KILPATRICK (1985). After three years as General Manager for All-American restaurant and bar T.J.'s in North London (Gazza's Local) he has now taken the ultimate challenge in the industry and is Manager for The Grand Hotel in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., where he befriended Boris Yeltsin.

RUSSELL KILPATRICK (1983). After University he embarked straight on a career path in the City as a Lloyds Insurance Broker for three years. He is currently an Underwriter.

GILBERT E. McLUNG (1983). Qualified as a solicitor in March, 1991 with leading London solicitors, Slaughter and May. In spite of the demands of corporate life, he still finds time to play the occasional game of rugby at London Scottish, cricket, golf and squash, but has no time whatsoever to sample the London nightlife!

LINDA-JANE McMILLAN (1983). After Dundee University L.J. has been working within County Nat-West's South East Asian division as a stockbroker for 2½ years. Her work takes her to exotic countries throughout S.E. Asia. She still remains a close colleague to Russell Kilpatrick, and acts as his personal consultant for his excess weight-gain problem. (Too many liquid lunches!). After inviting Grant Corbett 20 times to one of her many social do's she recently had the momentous occasion of being at Grant's (First) Dinner Party, where the food had a distinctively Skippers-style taste (it must run in the family — good cuisine that is!). L.J. Has been nominated by contemporary Strathallians the prize for giving the very best at home dinner parties.

TONY RUSSELL is to wed next year.

If you have news of yourself or Strathallian friends for the next magazine, please write to the Editor at School.

Please let The School know of any change in your address.

If you wish to know the address of any contemporary, write to the Headmaster's Secretary and we will help if we can.

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OBITUARY

ANDERSON C. E. L. (1922) on 7th July 1990. He lived in Crowle, Worcestershire.

BROOK J. S. (1931) on February 7th 1991. He left School in 1931 and lived in Derbyshire.

CAMPBELL W. M. (1934). He lived in Portpatrick.

CLEMENT J. G. (1946) in October 1990. His sons James (1988), Michael (1990), and Douglas are all Strathallians.

GRANT W. J. M. (1935) in 1988. He lived in Bearsden.

KIRKPATRICK H. C. (1980) on 20th February 1991. Hamish was in Simpson and lived in Sussex.

McEWEN I. (1929) on 12th November 1990, of the Kraesult, Callander. He was a director of D. & J. MacEwen & Co. Ltd.

MEIKLE J. (1946) in 1988. He lived in East Lothian.

MOLISON J. D. (1940) in August 1990. He lived at Nether Balchandy, Pitlochry.

MUIR G. D. (1932) on 28th October 1990. He lived at Bargrennan, Newton Stewart. We were most grateful to his executors for presenting a cup that was in Douglas Muir's possession, which is inscribed Nicol House, Rugby Champions 1931/32.

ROGER W. P. (1953) in June 1991 as the result of an accident at the Scottish Carriage Driving Championships. He farmed Kenly Green, Boarshill and Peikie, and was a keen member of the Fife Hunt. He was a Past President of the Fife Agricultural Society and of the Rotary Club of St Andrews. He was an elder of Duniro parish Church.

ROY W. C. (1933) in March 1990 in the British Virgin Islands. Father of Bill Roy (1964).

SCOTT J. M. (1941) on 12th August, 1991. After leaving School he graduated B.Comm. at London University and qualified as a C.A. His business career was mainly in London, but latterly he had been living in St. Andrews.

SELWOOD M. D. (1981) in a climbing accident on 27th January 1991. A short tribute to him is elsewhere in the magazine.

TAYLOR W. O. G. (1929) in September 1989. A separate obituary will be found elsewhere in the magazine.

WALLACE R. B. (1927) on 5th March 1991. Mr Wallace was a well-known councillor and restaurant owner in Dundee. His Auld Dundee Pie Shop was originally where the Caird hall stands before moving to Castle Street. He served on Dundee Town Council and became a magistrate and was a distinguished bowler. We are most grateful to his daughter Mrs Davidson

for the gift of athletic medals that he won at Strathallan in the 1920s.

DR W. O. G. TAYLOR (1929)

W. O. G. Taylor graduated in medicine at Glasgow University in 1935. He had been interested in ophthalmology as a student, and apart from a brief period in general practice he devoted his entire career to being an Eye Specialist. He served in the army in this capacity, and after a spell at the Glasgow Eye Infirmary he came to Ayrshire in 1947, and was appointed Consultant Ophthalmologist in Ayrshire at the commencement of the National Health Service.

In 1945 he had become a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and in 1965, when the Glasgow Faculty had become a Royal College, he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (Glasgow) — an elite honour, conferred, not sought.

Over a period of thirty years he built up the ophthalmic service in Ayrshire from nothing, and in the face of stringency which many of us have forgotten and of which most never were aware.

Throughout his professional life he was a keen observer, a prolific reader, and constantly seeking knowledge where knowledge lay. He published a multitude of scientific papers, many of which he presented at scientific meetings.

Some years before he retired he began to develop an interest in colour vision, and this led to an interest in albinism. It was this last subject which occupied his retiral years so fully. He was the founder of the "Albino Fellowship" which became a forum for the consideration of albinism, not just by those with a scientific interest in the subject but also for individuals who suffered from the condition and for their families. This work resulted in the publication of many more papers, and in the delivery of lectures, in this country, in North America and in Australia.

But his greatest satisfaction must have been in the eye service which he established and expanded. He attracted staff to help him because his service was good,

and he retained his staff because he was ever mindful of their individual needs and of their future careers.

Dr Hector Cameron

A. MURRAY GORDON (1939)

Dr F. R. Hood (D.R. to his friends) has kindly answered our queries about Murray Gordon in last year's Strathallian. Murray was School Captain in 1939 when Dr Hood was Vice-captain. He qualified in Medicine in 1944 and he died aged 62 in 1983.

DR MARK D. SELWOOD M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P. (1981)

Mark died after a climbing accident in the Cairngorms on 27th January 1991, aged 27. Although he was in Freeland only in the VIth Form, and not very well known throughout the School, we are proud to have been associated with him. His mother speaks of his short time at Strathallan enriching his life, and the family's lasting memories of the School are Mark's contributions to the music in the concert for the Headmaster's Musick and, in her words, "the beautiful candle-lit Carol Service in the Chapel."

His passions in life were three Ms — Medicine, Mountains and Music. After leaving Strathallan he graduated M.B., Ch. B., and in June 1990 became M.R.C.P. At the time of his death he was a Medical Registrar at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness. In between times however, he had spent three months in a leprosy hospital in Nepal — combining his first two Ms — and six months in New Zealand, where he made a winter ascent on Mt. Aspiring and Mt. Cook. He was passionately concerned with the plight of rural communities in third world countries, and the Mark Selwood Memorial Fund (75 James Street, Helensburgh) has been set up in his memory to provide medical help for them.

FORMER MEMBERS OF STAFF AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

All Strathallians who were here with her will be sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Robbie Fairbairn who was Sister in the San from 1972-79. She had a long connection with the School as her son Douglas (1966) and her grandson Struan are both Strathallians. We offer them our deep sympathy. We were most touched by the legacy that she left to the School in her will, to be used for Riley House.

JENNY WILLIAMS

Jenny, daughter of David and Kay Williams, died on the 11th March 1991, aged 30, after a long and brave struggle against cancer. She was a dedicated nurse herself and fully realised her medical condition. Her determination and pluck were an inspiration to her many friends. We offer our deepest sympathy to her parents and her brother Richard (1986).



DAVID I. MUIR (1951)

David Muir was the President of the Strathallian Club in 1984. He died on the 25th September, 1991. The Reverend William J. Morris of The Cathedral, Glasgow, included the following as part of his tribute to David at his funeral service:—

“David was one of that small select group of Glasgow businessmen who claim to have begun their education in one or other of Glasgow’s schools for girls — Craigholme, in David’s case. From there he went for three or four years to the still all-male High School of Glasgow in Elmbank Street, but his main schooling was at Strathallan. In return he served as President of the Strathallian Club and for a time was on the Governing Board of the school.

From school he went to Glasgow University and graduated Master of Arts in languages, Latin and French.

At the age of 24 he was called into the family business, which his father had built up with a widely respected reputation, Muir Salon Limited. David was also a director of Toy Master, the national toy-buying group, and of Cyclemaster.

In business David showed the whole-hearted energy and the meticulous care and concern for detail which he brought to the many and varied activities in which he engaged and where he was always a welcome and valued partner and a lively and friendly companion on the social side.

In the Rotary Club of Glasgow, in the Trades House, where he was a Past Deacon of the Incorporation of Weavers, and a Past President of the Association of Deacons, he made a wide circle of friends.

He never lost sight of the needs of other people and was a welcome visitor among the pensioners of his Craft, not merely for the Christmas parcels and other gifts he brought them, but for his cheerful personality.

He was also a member of the Merchants’ House and Chairman of the Glassford Sheltered Housing Association, while as Chairman of the Executive Committee of Glasgow YMCA he, together with the present Chief Executive, led that organisation’s recovery and redirection, subsequently being made a Vice-President.

The Glasgow Junior Chamber of Commerce was another scene of his activity and service to the community. He was Past Chairman and Senator, one of its highest honours.

In the field of education he was Chairman of Glasgow College of Commerce and he took an active leading part in the Scottish Business and Scottish Vocational Education Councils.

In sport he loved curling, was a good swimmer and enjoyed walking, especially with his beloved and devoted dogs, while on holiday he liked nothing better than to

go exploring with a camera. Whatever he was doing, David was always learning.

But it was in golf that he was most widely known, being a Past President of the Glasgow Golf Union, Chairman of the Finance Executive of the Scottish Golf Union, and currently Captain of the Scotland Youth Team. Travelling with the team in Europe he became well known wherever golf was played on the continent.

He will, of course be most grievously missed in his own home, for he was a wonderful family man and a caring and devoted husband, father and grandfather, very down to earth, sensible and level-headed but with a tremendous sense of fun and even of the ridiculous.



with a warmth that could turn any meeting of friends into an uproarious party of memorable amusement.

The last news he received was of the birth of his grand-daughter, and we who celebrated with him the birth and christening of his grandson, Alexander, know how he would have rejoiced and shared his joy with us all in the arrival of Karen’s baby girl.

We give to all his family our love and our heartfelt sympathy and support, to Lillian who has been such a source of joy and strength to him, both in his public life and among their many friends, to Karen and Debbie, enriching his family with their own family circles, and Martin, like him, a proud Strathallian.”

IAN TURNER (1929)

By the death of Ian Turner, in his eightieth year, Strathallan has lost one of its most illustrious and eminent former pupils. Arriving at Forgandenny in 1923,

when the school was still in its infancy, he established himself as an outstanding pupil, culminating in his serving as Captain of the School in 1929, and playing in the First Fifteen. On leaving school he chose Accountancy as a career, becoming a Chartered Accountant in 1936, and joining the firm of Turner & Houston, C.A. in Glasgow. His practice was interrupted by the War, in which he served first as a private in the Argylls and later as a Commissioned Officer in the Royal Scots Fusiliers and Black Watch. He fought in North Africa, Sicily and France, being wounded twice. After the War he returned to practice and quickly earned a reputation as an industrious and wise financial adviser becoming a director in numerous companies. He retired from practice in 1977. He served as a member of the Wool Marketing Board from its inception in 1960 until he retired in 1975. For his services to industry in Scotland he was awarded the O.B.E. in 1965. His noted and lengthy public service included membership of the Council of Tribunals, of the Committee on Rules of Conduct in Local Government, of his local community council and of his church Congregational Board. He was President of the Kilmarnock Burns Club in 1967.

In his younger days he played rugby for Kilmarnock Rugby Club being Captain in 1938, and later Hon. President of the Club. He was a keen and vigorous golfer and a great competitor and partner on the course. He was also a keen curler, a stalwart of the Club’s rink, and an enthusiastic angler. His presence on the course, rink and loch, was a joy to those sharing his sport.

Strathallan is much indebted to Ian for the services he rendered to the School in the immediate post-war years. He became the financial adviser to the Board at its first meeting in January 1947, and was later instrumental in the incorporation of the School Company, for which he acted as Auditor until he retired. He was a regular attender at the annual A.G.M. and Dinner of the Club.

Ian will long be remembered by those who knew him for his gaiety of spirit, and his ever-present cheerfulness, for the sincerity of his companionship, for his willingness to assist others without looking for thanks or praise, and for the modesty which, despite his achievements, he displayed at all times. He was a generous host, and a true friend.

To his devoted wife Ann, with whom he shared a happy marriage for almost fifty years, and to his family, we extend our deepest sympathy on their sad loss.

R.S.J.

MRS ETHEL LAWSON

Mrs Lawson, the widow of Grant Lawson who was Bursar for many years, died at Easter 1991 at a ripe old age. It was nice to see their son Gordon who visited the School in March.

Dear Mr Pighills,

I would like to thank you, the board of governors and the members of staff at Strathallan very much indeed for awarding me the Dux prize for 1990/91, which my grandparents tell me is a Book Token. It would be nice to think that I could use the Book Token to buy some books that I would actually like to read, but I should not delude myself in this way — a very big, very thick and very dusty law tome seems far more likely!

My grandparents recently wrote to me saying how much they had enjoyed this year's Speech Day and lunch. It certainly does not seem like a year since I left school; I hope the rest of my life does not pass this quickly as I do not yet feel quite ready for retirement!

I find it quite ironic that 'red' flag-waving 'Cap'n Bob Maxwell also owns Berlitz. Perhaps socialism begins at home, or is a very convenient cover to keep attention drawn away from one's own "exploitative capitalism", but it certainly does not apply in Brazil. Due to the hyper-inflation here, I saw my real salary drop by about 50 per cent in two months, while the students' fees rose in December by 130 per cent, so I resigned just before Christmas.

For one week in December, and five weeks in January and February I took a Teaching English as a Foreign Language Teacher Training Course at the British school, IBI. I am now a fully qualified TEFL teacher, albeit at the Introductory level. I was to have got a job with them, but the recession here made such acts of charity unfeasible, so I began to teach privately under the name "Embassy English Course" (it sounds better in Portuguese!) with the help of IBI for text books and materials. The course will be passed over to a fellow trainee at IBI when I leave Brazil.

I will not be doing quite as much travelling as I had hoped as a friend of mine from England backed down at the last minute. However, I was in Chile in February which was very nice indeed. The far south was as I had pictured the Falklands to be — very cold (it was mid-summer for us and about 10°C), grey, bleak and treeless.

Looking out over the Straights of Magellan to Tierra del Fuego I realised that this was probably the least hospitable place that I had ever been to. Santiago was nice — a "real city with a "real" centre and "real" things to buy had become quite a novelty after so long in the concrete nightmare that is Brasilia — in fact, except for the traffic, terrible smog and atrocious "International" airport, it was very elegant. The highlight though was Easter Island which was very interesting indeed, as well as being remote — the nearest other inhabited island is Pitcairn. I understand that the Rugby team is going there (Chile) this August — I am sure that it will be really great for them, although quite seriously I should point out that this is mid-winter. I think that the team will prefer Argentina and Chile to Brazil as the people are much more civilized, and they are not nearly as likely to get knifed between the ribs for small change whilst walking on the beach!

I am going to Buenos Aires myself for two weeks in July, and Sao Paulo for another two weeks in August where believe it or not I will be staying with Brazil's first All-Brazilian PIPER. At the annual Cricket Club Ball recently I was surprised to see a lone kilted piper march in, complete with dirk, skeandhu, plaid and brooch. He studied at the School of Piping in Glasgow, and is now apparently a St Andrews Night and Burns Night regular at the St Andrews Clubs in both Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. I have no idea what makes a Brazilian want to become a piper, but I suppose it must be lucrative given all Brazilians' obsession with all things Scots/Scotch. Whisky is a major status symbol here, which makes duty-free bottles the ideal gift both for the giver as well as the receiver!

My other job is at the Embassy, where I manage the imported food and duty-free shop. It is perfect as the pay is in Pounds and it is only three hours a week... I have to order, unpack, price, check, stock, sell and bill monthly the 26 families who are entitled to use the shop. Presumably for nostalgia value, the most popular goods are Baked Beans — a snip to you sir at only 38p a tin!

The last order of food came by HMY Britannia, as did the Prince and Princess of Wales. There was a Royal reception at the Ambassador's Residence. Despite being probably, if not definitely the least important person to be invited, I was presented and exchanged a few words with Princess Diana (the words "conversation" or even "chat" would not do justice to the brevity of this exchange!). The Prince's aide told me that Charles "wasn't very taken" with Brasilia's architecture, which was unsurprising, as every office, building, ministry and palace seems to vie with all the other buildings for sheer tastlessness. A good example until recently was the Soviet Embassy — an oblong concrete block — which was painted bright red. Now white it is no longer even amusing and is just another lifeless edifice in what is really quite a soul-less city. Still, I would rather be here than most other places in the world!

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