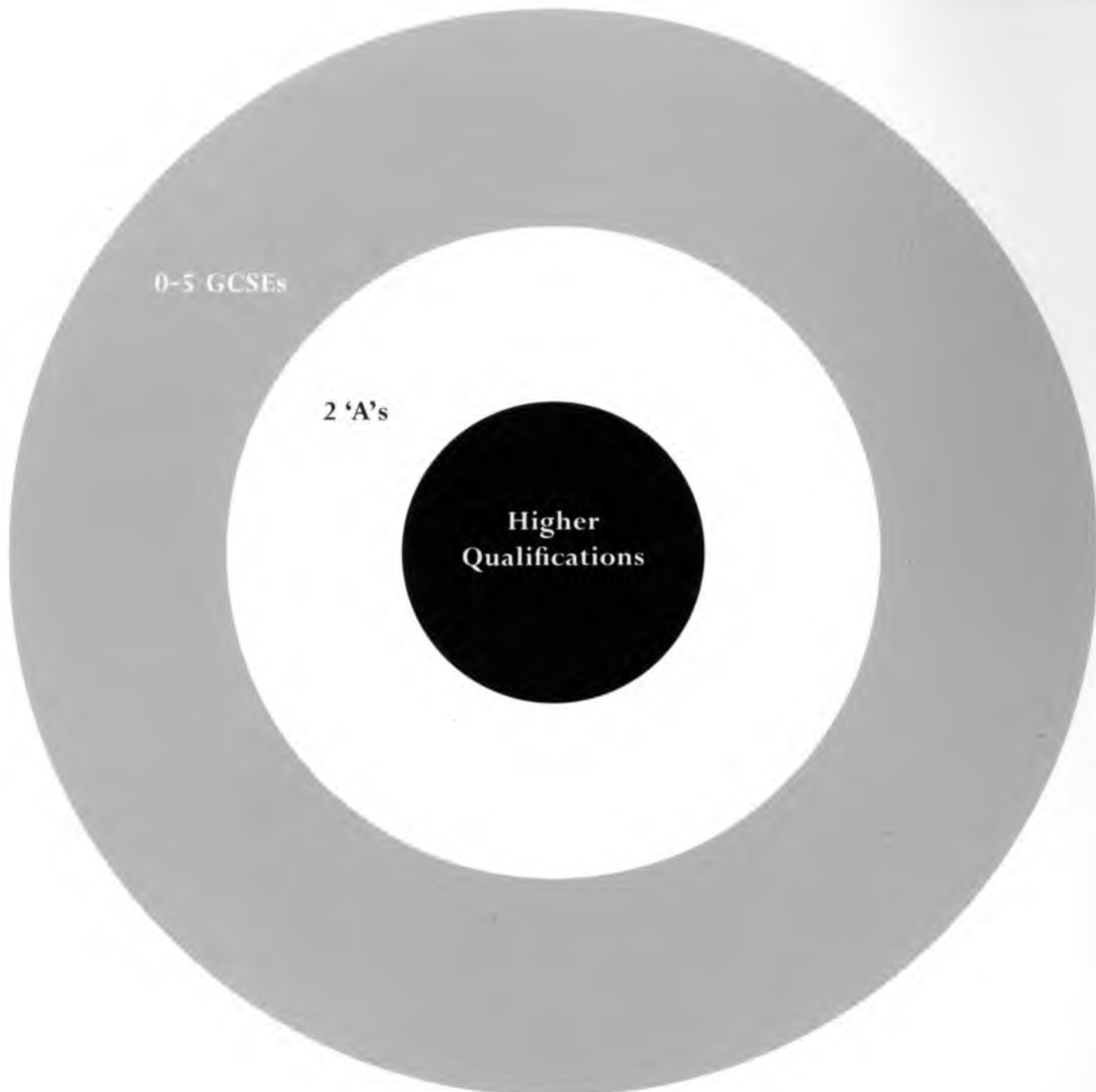


The Strathallian 94 95





AIM HIGH

Score:

0-5 GCSEs. There are dozens of jobs within the RAF. Many of them require no exam passes at all. However, for some of the more specialised trades you'll need up to five GCSEs in relevant subjects.

2 or more 'A' levels. This is the minimum qualification for commission as an officer. With these you could also qualify for sponsorship through university while you study for your degree.

Higher Qualifications. With higher qualifications (HND, degree etc.) you increase your chances of acceptance for commission as an officer, in fact some branches require specific qualifications.

Whatever you score. There is no such thing as a bad job in the RAF. Every single one is stimulating, rewarding and potentially vital to the defence of the nation.

To find out more, ask to see the RAF Careers Liaison Officer who can be reached through your Careers Teacher, or contact the nearest RAF Careers Information Office (address in the telephone book under Royal Air Force).



ROYAL AIR FORCE

THE STRATHALLIAN

1995
Vol 16 No 6

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Miss E A England	P M Vallot

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M Wilson	Royal Navy	

Subject

English	
Physics	
Biology	
English	Housemaster Simpson
Geography/Maths	Housemaster Ruthven
Chemistry/Music	Head of Department
English	Dir. Studies (Arts)
Mathematics	
Computing	
Geography/Economics	
English	Housemaster Freeland
French/Spanish	
History	
French	
Science	
Music	
Design & Technology	Head of Department
Geography	*HM Thornbank Jan 96
History	
Careers	
Mathematics/PE	
German/French	
French/Spanish	
Mathematics	Head of Department
Geography	
Science	
Classics	Head of Department
Art	
Piping	
Design & Technology	
English/PE	Head of Department
English/Drama	
Mathematics	
Divinity/PSE	Chaplain
English	
Economics/Bus.Studies	
English/Learning Support	
Art	Head of Department
English/Philosophy	Head of Department
History	
Maths/Learning Support	
Design & Technology	
Chemistry	Dir. Studies (Science)
History	Senior Master
Mathematics	
Computing/Biology	Head of Department
PE/CCF	
PE/Computing	**Housemistress N Smith
Head of Department	
Mathematics	
French/German	Housemaster Woodlands
Physics	Head of Department
Physics	
English/Philosophy	Housemaster Riley
History	Head of Department
Biology/Chemistry	Housemaster Nicol
Biology	Head of Department
Geography	Head of Department
French	
Design & Technology	

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M Tod	BSc	Aberdeen	Art

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* Housemistress Thornbank from January 96

** Senior Mistress from January 96

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Mrs R G Walker
Dr A P D Wilkinson MD BSc ChB
Bursar and Clerk to the Governors:
Major Keith G Legge MIPD

SALVETE

RILEY

A Bartlett, W Bowry, L-G Broadfoot, Z Buchan, R W Clarke, S J C Flatman, A L Gdula, A Holman, L M Hunter, E L T Irving, V H Kennedy, O A I Lane, G Leslie, A R C Lewis, S Nelson, A Nicolson, F J Niven, M H G Petzsch, S D Potter-Leung, N C E Robertson, P R M Scales, H L Smith, A G M Speirs, A W Stewart, D C Stewart, D R Stewart, R O Sutherland, A L Turner, L M Wallace, J J Watson, C E Williamson.

FREELAND

H Forbes, A S Gibson, M Markus, R M Paterson, S Raeder, M A G Roger.

NICOL

G Baillie, P C G Bennet, C W J Beveridge, R G M Broadfoot, G A Herd, B W Kass, I G Millar, N W Seume, S Winter.

RUTHVEN

G Baxter, K G Bretz, M A Browne, J I Buchan, J de Meza-Aslan, T J Dover, R Gibson, J McDougall, A G Potter-Leung, M L Webb, F M Whitelaw, M Wilson.

SIMPSON

N C Adam, B T T Bartlett, M W F Chaussey, D A Crowe, G P Davidson, D R Forbes, R S Mackenzie, R A Neil, F D Nicolson.

THORNBANK

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WOODLANDS

L Bruderlin, A Chevenix-Trench, L P Dover, N Elliott, G E Greenwood, F C Hunter, F J Lamont, S J Malcolm, S A C Mazur, S Miller, C A Reed, J N D Scales, K R Senior.

SCHOOL AUTHORITY

ACADEMIC YEAR 1994/95

Captain of School:	A H Scott
Head of Freeland	G J McKendry
Head of Nicol	I A Macdonald
Head of Ruthven	D M Robertson
Head of Simpson	D G O Fergusson
Head of Thornbank	K L Fowler
Head of Woodlands	S F McPherson

School Prefects

D B Clement, E O Dooley,
D G Forbes, C A Jones, C M Lochore,
L C MacKenzie, J C Malcolm,
D Man, E O Sutherland, B S Ward

ACADEMIC YEAR 1995/96

Captain of School:	N C D Morley
Head of Freeland	A L Robertson
Head of Nicol	R G McMillan
Head of Ruthven	E A Mackay
Head of Simpson	A D Reekie
Head of Thornbank	K G Lawson
Head of Woodlands	A C Blair Oliphant

School Prefects

K L Hodgson, D W Macleod,
S L Murray, N R Scales, L R Walker,
A R J Chown, S M Connell,
B J Martin, H M Ross,
R A Connell, C L Macdonell,
J C Matheson, G C Wood

STAFF NOTES

The end of the School year sees the departure of seven full time members of staff. Heading the list is David Williams, who leaves after thirty-seven years at Strathallan and I will not steal the thunder from another whose tribute appears elsewhere in the magazine. Nick Reed, Director of Music for thirteen years also departs and he is accompanied by three peripatetic members of the Music staff, Joy Taylor, Bill Baxter and Gordon West (formerly Director of Music himself). Their service to the School totals an amazing 67 years and we wish them every success in their retirement or work elsewhere.

Julie Nixon, House tutor at Woodlands, and a member of the Modern Languages Department since January, moves back to Oxfordshire and she is joined by another residential House tutor, Pam Carlisle, who leaves Thornbank to teach English at The High School of Glasgow and to get married (in that order). Adrian Phillips joins the Design and Technology Department at Birkenhead School, having taught at Strathallan and helped with the CCF since 1989, and last, but by no means least, Robert Clark, who has taken rugby, run the Sixth Form Social Committee and been a tutor in Simpson, leaves to become Head of Business Studies at St John's School, Leatherhead.

In their place come seven full time and two part time staff. David Read, at present Director of Music of King William's College on the Isle of Man, will become Director of Music in January 1996. Mark Higginbottom moves from Sedburgh to become Head of Classics and his wife Jackie will teach Maths on a part time basis. Two graduates join the English Department: Ian Kilpatrick arrives from Stirling University to become a resident tutor in Riley and Abigail Mason, who took her degree in Dundee, will join Woodlands. She will share the responsibilities of residential tutor with Brigitte Gnanou, who studied French and Spanish at the Sorbonne Nouvelle, and then took a PGCE at Jordanhill. Mark Ashmore joins the Biology Department, having graduated from Aberdeen, and will become a residential tutor in Freeland, and Deborah Kaye joins the Design Technology Department from Culford School. She will take over from Pam Carlisle as the resident tutor in Thornbank. The growth of the Computing Department in the School has led to the appointment of Richard Caves who has been the IT Co-ordinator at Rydal School for the past four and a half years. Finally,



New members of staff.

two part-time appointments have been made: Maureen O'Neill joins the Business Studies Department and Morc Tod, who made such an impact as Print Maker in Residence last year, joins the Art Department.

We are delighted to welcome all these new members of staff who bring with them a remarkable range of extra-curricular interests and skills.

Three part-time members of staff, Irene McFarlane (Learning Support), Liz Hamilton (Chemistry) and Fiona Ninham (Maths and Learning Support) have also joined the full time staff in recognition of their ever-increasing involvement.

It is the strength of the School that, in what we are told are uncertain times, we are increasing the size of the staff to provide ever smaller class sizes, and an enviable (1 to 8) full-time staff to pupil ratio.

Last, but by no means least, I should record the retirement of Bill Bullard, who joined the School as Bursar and Clerk to the Governors in 1979. Bill has done a remarkable job in overseeing the expansion of the School; he has been Bursar, Factor and Clerk of Works during an unparalleled growth of the School, and we wish him and Gwen a peaceful and enjoyable retirement.

Bill Bullard has been succeeded by Major Keith Legge who joins us from Hatherop Castle School where he was Bursar, following a career in the Gordon Highlanders. Major Legge attended Manchester Business School and brings with him a range of experience that will be invaluable. We wish him, his wife Felicity and their two children a very happy career at Strathallan.

PUBLIC EXAM RESULTS 1995

The headline just has to be the 100% pass rate that we registered at A Level. With 56.5% A and B grades it was strength at the top as well as in depth. Top of the tree was Peter Watson with 4 A's closely followed, if not equalled, by Iain Senior with 3A's, a 1 at S level and an A in his A/S Further Maths. Others to record three straight A's were David Robertson and Jo Malcolm, both of whom had A's in A/S Further Maths, and Christina Gilliver.

Once again our top scholars opted not to sit Highers. The 85.9% pass rate was marginally down on last year's 87% but still very creditable.

GCSE results surpassed those of 1994. We recorded an 89.3% pass rate and our rate of starred A's was, at 13.2%, more than four times the national average. Of our performance of 39.7% of results being A's or starred A's we can be justifiably proud. The straight A's were Angus Macdonald (F), John Osborne, Colin Perry, Alan Senior and Euan Southcott (N), Rosemary Clegg and Helen Nesbitt (T), Katie Butler and Jennifer Malcolm (W). Vying with his elder brother Iain for star billing, Alan Senior notched up no less than 6 starred A's out of a possible 7 – his eighth subject was English at Standard Grade where starred A's are not on the programme.

JFC

Best Exam Howler:

"China operates a single child programme called the One Child Polycell."

SPEECH DAY

The Chairman of Governors, Mr Ian Jones, opened Strathallan's Speech day by paying tribute to Mr James Dinsmore. Mr Dinsmore retired this year as Chairman of Governors after "the most successful nine years of the School". During these nine years over £10M had been spent largely on five new boarding houses, the CDT centre and the redevelopment of Riley – all of which Mr Dinsmore had overseen. His work was described as a magnificent example to the governors, and "unparalleled in Scottish education".

The Chairman reported that Strathallan's projects for the near future were: a new sanatorium, a music department, the redevelopment of the dining hall and that they would be "turning their attention" to the swimming pool.

Two retirements of Governors were announced: Professor Angus Kennedy and Professor John Parsons, who had both been Governors for nine years.

Mr Drummond Bone, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Glasgow University, and Professor Hugh Millar, an old Strathallian, have replaced them. He also announced that there was a newly elected governor, Mr Peter N Fairlie.

The Chairman paid tribute to Mr David Williams and Major Bill Bullard, the Bursar, who were also retiring from the School. Mr Williams started Economics at Strathallan, was Housemaster of Ruthven and Woodlands, and was the first to take the formal post of Careers Adviser. Major Bullard had worked with Strathallan for 17 years, diligently looking after Strathallan's affairs and doing the work of two or three people.

The Headmaster talked of a broader outlook to opportunities both in academic choice and the growth of 'minor' sports. He praised the School for the numerous charity events they had been involved in – collectively raising over £6,000.

Sir Charles Fraser, KVCO, WS, DL, the guest of honour, is a very well-established business man. He has held partnerships, chairmanships and directorships in many organisations. Educated first at Hamilton Academy, he went on to Edinburgh University. Now he is a keen gardener but also enjoys skiing, squash and piping. In his very amusing speech he used the analogy of his four sons and what school meant to them. He concluded that we are all learning and will continue to learn after our education.

Speech Day finished with various musical performances and the National Anthem. Unusually there were no drinks on the lawn this year – unfortunately the weather was not kind to us.

Robert Dundas and Robin Lee



The Chairman of the Board of Governors.

PRIZES

THE SMITH CUP FOR CAPTAIN OF SCHOOL
 THE HOUSTON PRIZE FOR ALL ROUND MERIT
 THE SCANLON CUP FOR MERIT (GIRLS)
 DUX
 THE WILLIAM TATTERSALL ART PRIZE
 THE ROBT BARR MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MUSIC
 THE PATRICK GRANDISON PRIZE FOR STRINGS
 WILLIAM PASFIELD SALVER FOR MUSIC
 THE WILFRED HOARE SENIOR READING PRIZE
 THE RICHARD MOFFAT PRIZE FOR HISTORY
 THE DAVID BOGIE PRIZE FOR ECONOMICS
 THE LORD KINCRAIG PRIZE FOR ENGLISH
 THE ROBERT RANKIN PRIZE FOR MATHS
 ELLIOTT TROPHY - DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
 ENGLISH
 HISTORY
 GEOGRAPHY
 FRENCH
 GERMAN
 MATHEMATICS
 CHEMISTRY
 PHYSICS
 BIOLOGY
 ART
 COMPUTING
 DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
 BUSINESS STUDIES
 MANAGEMENT & INFORMATION STUDIES

ANDREW SCOTT
 DUNCAN FORBES
 JO MALCOLM
 RAJ ARUMUGAM/HILARY MOORE
 KATIE YELLOWLEES
 DUNCAN SMITH
 AGNES BRADLEY
 DUNCAN FORBES
 CATRIONA MACLEAN
 CATHERINE COCHRAN
 CHRISTOPHER DORMAN
 CATHERINE COCHRAN
 DAVID ROBERTSON
 EUAN HARRISON
 KANANU KIRIMI
 PETER WATSON
 KATHERINE HIGH
 CHRISTINA GILLIVER
 CHRISTINA GILLIVER
 EUAN SUTHERLAND
 IAIN SENIOR
 IAIN SENIOR
 PETER YEATES
 CATHERINE CAMPBELL-LOW
 DUNCAN SMITH
 GEORGE AYKROYD
 LUCY-ANN BRYANS/CATHERINE CAMPBELL-LOW
 REBECCA DOVER

FIFTH FORM

ENGLISH	HELEN NESBITT
HISTORY	
GERMAN	KATIE BUTLER
FRENCH	
GEOGRAPHY	JOHN OSBORNE
MATHS	
COMPUTING	ALAN SENIOR
PHYSICS	GILLIAN WALLACE
CHEMISTRY	
ART	KIRSTY GLIMM
BIOLOGY	STUART CATTO
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	GEOFFREY WHEELDON

FOURTH FORM

ENGLISH	HARRY BIRD
HISTORY	
PHYSICS	
CHEMISTRY	JENNY MAXWELL
FRENCH	
GERMAN	EMMA READMAN
GEOGRAPHY	JENNY PERRY
MATHS	
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	SIMON DAVIDSON-DELL
COMPUTING	
ART	JAMES DINNING
BIOLOGY	JONATHAN BUTLER

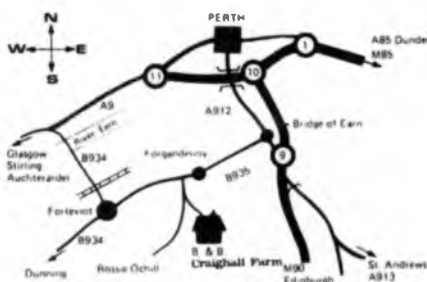
THIRD FORM

ADAM RACKLEY



Jenny Maxwell, Jo Malcolm and Duncan Forbes.

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Enjoy a friendly, relaxed stay in our farmhouse in lovely Earn Valley, 6 miles south of Perth and ½ mile west from Forgardenny. True Highland hospitality. Substantial farmhouse breakfast. Open all year. The farm is within easy reach of Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Glasgow and Pitlochry. Golf, tennis and swimming locally; hill walking and lovely scenery. Golfers always welcome. Accommodation comprises some en suite facilities; others with H. & C.; all with tea/coffee making facilities. Lounge with colour TV. Children welcome: cot, high chair, babysitting/reduced rates. Sorry no pets. Suitable for disabled guests. C.H. B&B from £12.50. Midweek bookings taken.

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RILEY

As soon as the cars rolled up onto Riley Paddock on September 2nd, chaos broke out. Trunks were everywhere, and little brothers and sisters got under everyone's feet. After a few coffees in the smartly polished Main common room, goodbyes were said, and the new term had begun.

The girls were still in the old dorms and very indignant that the boys had the new ones. This was made up for later in the term however, when the new arrivals, the Colleys, threw a pizza party for the girls. Two weeks after getting back, they moved into the new dorms (Mr Keith's old flat) and were put in threes, fours and fives.

To help us through the move, was Muriel Skinner, known to most as the 'Difflam Queen', but at the end of the Autumn term, there were tears in everyone's eyes as she left for her retirement. (She has since been spotted driving a big white Range Rover around Inverness!)

Freda Stewart (the new Matron) and her two cats have since taken over, and quite a few dorms have had mid-night scares from the pair of felines. A lot of new unheard of medicines like Calpol and Paracetamol have made a nice change to the normal Sudafed and Difflam.

Mr Thomson as usual coped very well throughout the year, despite the stress of moving. At Easter, he went on a well-deserved break to Crete, but seemed to take the Scottish weather with him: it snowed!!

Again it was another good year. It produced some brilliant displays of drama and music, including the Buggy Malone performance, a talent show, inter divisional and class plays and Riley Parents' Day Concert. Also the non-uniform day in February was a great success, although the weather was freezing. We had punks, duvet men, pop stars, the Queen and even Andy Pandy in our House meeting. All proceeds from this went to SHIP (the School for Handicapped in Perth). There was also a 14km hill run to raise money for a new children's hospice in Kinross. Over £1,000 was raised, and after the steep run, the hospice had a few more people on its waiting list!!

Several people have taken up different new instruments including the French horn, oboe, trombone and trumpet, to name but a few. Lyndsey Higgins described herself at the beginning of the year, as "not having a musical note in her body" and is now well on the way playing the oboe!

As the year draws to an end, the old Gnomes are preparing to enter the Senior School, though we're sure everybody will miss Riley and all the Riley masters and we will look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

And finally, all of Riley would like to wish Mr Keith all the best for his new life in Kuwait and thank him for eleven years of devoted service to the House.

BOYS' SPORTS

Rugby

This year the boys thought they were in their stride. The A's rugby team could have done well but early in the season were so generous, that they gave away four matches. The match that describes the season the best was the last, against Hutchensons Academy. We were 6 tries to nil down at the end of the first half, but came back to win 7 tries to 6. With the B's well, they tried, and got one impressive win.

Hockey

In the hockey season we played well enough, but unfortunately came second more often than first. The sixes again was a bit hit with Strathallan this year having to enter two teams, a boys' and a girls', as one of the others schools pulled out. Both teams did very well, reaching the quarter finals. The girls felt they had bettered the boys, as they drew with the team that beat the boys. But they were just lucky!!

Cricket

The Summer Term brought the cricket season in which the A's only lost one match, winning two and drawing the rest. They played what must have been the most boring game of their lives. We batted well getting 129 for four and then began bowling. We sat back and watched the other team score 7 runs off the bat in 30 overs. The under-12s, coached by Mr Murray and Mr Colley, won twice in two days this year and it very nearly proved too much for Mr Murray's heart.



Gnomes' sausage sizzle.

GIRLS' GAMES

Hockey

One day in early September, our first hockey practice showed that only half of the girls had ever played before. Those girls were taken off into a quiet corner of the paddock and were coached by Mrs Segaud. The rest were taken by Mrs Lamont. A few weeks later we joined together and formed a team. This included two people from the beginners' group. With this team we had a very good season: we were unbeaten! We had quite a few nine-a-side games as well, which we took two teams to. We did get beaten by one team though, an English touring team who beat us 7-0. This wasn't exactly our fault as we were playing on St Johnston's practice pitch, and Mr Thomson does support them!

Netball

Our Netball team wasn't quite as successful as we only practised once a week. We had one very disappointing game against New Park when they beat us at home 21-24. Our excuse for this is the fact that they have the best junior Netball team around. But just to show

that we are not that bad, we did have a 12-0 win, but in case of embarrassment, we won't mention the team's name. Not everyone played netball, as half of the girls played hockey on a Wednesday instead.

Tennis

Our Tennis team was also very successful especially with the weather. It was always very sunny and hot. Often we would come home with not only a win but also with very bad sunburn and great sock marks. We had two very successful tournaments, one of which our first couple won for the under 12s. It was the New Park tournament which up until then New Park had always won. We also had a second team who played whenever we were double-booked. They only had to fill in once and they lost. The Tennis team had a lot of matches as well as tournaments and they won all of them except the one versus New Park, which we reckon is quite good, even if the team didn't.

Rounders

We didn't actually win any rounders matches but we came pretty close with a 24-5 loss! Our excuse for three out of the

four matches we played was the fact that the tennis team were off playing tennis and that left us with only three people from the original rounders team. It meant we had to bring on a lot of subs and our team ended up being quite weak.

Music

Throughout the year, the music in Riley has got better and better. You could almost say *crescendoed*! We have had two choirs, an orchestra, a rock band, a wind band and a jazz band. One of the choirs has sung on many occasions, including Perth Festival, where they came first singing "I Dreamed a Dream". There was only one problem though, there was no-one else to compete with! The orchestra has done very well, playing in Riley mini-concerts, Headmaster's Music, and the Riley Entertainment. The mini-concerts have been great fun, especially when the masters decided to perform one for us, and completely embarrassed themselves! A big congratulations to Sarah Currie for passing Grade 8 bicycle horn with Distinction!

Written and Edited by
the Gnominal News Team

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FREELAND

Outside the conservatory windows a big, bald summer's moon is bright and apparently silent. I know that, not because I have left my desk, but because I had walked the dog at about midnight and there was a lot of light around, considering all the Freeland windows were strangely unilluminated. I say 'apparently utterly silent' because I am listening very intently now and I am beginning to hear things. There is a great backdrop of noise that you don't usually notice, not when your mind is busy and the House full of boys. Most obviously, there's the pumping of all that fluid around the body, then the kind of 'silent' crackling of electricity that charges the nerves and the very air that surrounds you. Sometimes your radio picks it up and magnifies it, together with extraordinary beeping noises that seem to come from satellites or just deep space itself – messages unknowable and even indecipherable. Certainly this noise has something to do with some vast electric generator of which the moon is only some small dial that glows to show that something big, beyond the display unit, is switched on. **The night is mothy and warm but I begin to feel a little chilled and want things back in familiarly unmanageable proportions.**

Two weeks or so ago those proportions did seem utterly unmanageable for my mind was full. The Upper Sixth were no longer under the discipline of meeting the Examiner's demands and for a few days occupied a space where they were still schoolboys but only a short step away from being Old Strathallians. I had hoped they were still watching a video or going to sleep and not erecting a kiddies' slide on the roof of the library or finding a new location for the bear, or even the School Secretary's Office. If they had been planning such an adventure I was certainly too tired to go and watch, even if asked. The Fifth Form had completed their GCSEs and were probably in bed thinking of new and better ways of leaving their mark as Sixth Formers, should they be lucky enough to qualify. Third Form were probably talking about what they would do once they had their own studies and sharing brochures about sound systems, mini-TVs that could pass as computer display screens, and illegal heaters that could be concealed in odd spaces where no one would dream of looking. If I could have been bothered to go upstairs I might have picked up a few tips. The Fourth Form were probably cosily huddled around a TV computer display screen watching the late-night movie and wondering how they could get



Fourth Formers dreaming up fun.

Sky without my noticing. Worst of all, I had thought of those Third Form beds that were only one holiday away from offering space to mini-hoodlums of dangerous and desperate dispositions. A whole year of demonised Flash Gordons! No wonder I wasn't listening to the night and wouldn't go to sleep until my eyelids refused to hold up the light any longer. **Still, I had survived the 'unmanageable' for nearly another year.**

When I think of it now – the pages beginning to fill and the noise far off – I had probably got it all wrong. If I hadn't, how was it that the end-of-term had passed-off without a bear occupying the School Secretary's Office?

The Cross-country, Junior Rugby, Debating, Skiing, Basketball and Indoor Hockey caps are not won without some determination to succeed in a constructive way. Ewan Harrison did not win the Design & Technology Prize for his ability to place traffic cones on seemingly inaccessible pinnacles, or did Mr Elliott know something I didn't. Duncan Forbes did not get the Award for All-round Merit for his knowledge of Neighbours, though Dengus may yet. Pete Watson, surely, did not win the Senior History Prize for his study of Simon Bolivar. Luckily Houses are not made in the pattern of a tired Housemaster's late night speculations about the worst but, rather of Graham McKendry's unflinching sense of duty, Duncan Elder's determination to do his best, Jack Finlay's ambition to take a part in every single House Competition and George Aykroyd's desire to get the most out of life in a constructive way, despite the pressures to do otherwise. There are

always difficulties, but they aren't like those messages from dark spaces or distant stars: Bart may have the lunatic tendencies of a health-farmed Billy Bunter, Alan will go as an assistant to an Australian School with all the knowledge of a poacher turned gamekeeper, James will have the deft turn-of-phrase of a character from Pulp Fiction and Ross will remain simply and unalterably Ross. Things like that keep me distracted and send me to my bed very tired. They also tire the excellent set of tutors that Freeland has.

But these things aren't indecipherable, they aren't cold noises from unknown sources. Listening to them from my study some two weeks ago is somehow, oddly, a happy memory.

CNC



Mr Court on the ball.

As I sit down at the end of a busy first year, my overall feeling is that the House has been a happy place and the majority of the inhabitants have been positive and hard-working. All this was in no small way due to the hard work put in by Mr Ford over the last fifteen years. I would like to thank him for handing over such a well-balanced, relaxed and co-operative House.

This year began with a Nicolite as the new Captain of School and, like his father before him, Andrew Scott was also Captain of the 1st XV and Pipe Major. The academic traditions of the House were also upheld, with Raj Arumugam gaining entry to Cambridge to study Law; he was also School Dux this year. In the Fifth Form the GCSE results were excellent too, with Douglas Patterson gaining the best GCSE results in the School.

The first term was punctuated by near misses on the rugby field where the Senior VII triumphed over the eventual winners of the competition but failed to maintain their concentration for the other games; (the fifteen-a-side event would have been our stronger suit had it been played, but as before we were never given the chance, much to the disappointment of our Seniors). Meanwhile the Junior XV, ably led by David Russell, lost narrowly to a good Freeland side in the final after beating Ruthven in extra time in the semi-final. Well done to all involved. Nicol was well represented on the School sides at all levels, especially in the Senior XVs.

The Junior House Drama Competition was again a success, if a little ad hoc in its preparation. Chris Charlier, Andrew Hall, Scott McMillan and Neil Hutton, under the excellent direction of David Man, were very unlucky not to win the competition – I think they were the 'people's choice'. Others who excelled in the Arts side of life were Nick Morley, Chris Bradley, Mark Hunter and Alan Senior, all musicians who performed admirably on the two nights of Headmaster's Music. Peter Wilkinson played the Last Post on Remembrance Sunday.

The annual House Entertainment was held at the end of the Autumn Term, where the format was changed slightly so that each year group had to perform for the rest of the House. The Third Form gave us review of all House staff, while the fourth Form, led by James 'Cilla Black' Dinning, gave us their version of Blind Date. The Fifth Form, under the director of Colin Perry, produced Not the Strathallan School Video. Unfortunately the Lower Sixth left Nick Morley to do all the hard work for them; while the Upper

Sixth showed a more religious side to their characters with a video of congregational practice and an alternative look Through the Keyhole sketch.

The Easter term saw trial exams very much in the minds of the Upper Sixth and skiing in the mind of everybody else. Most noteworthy were Euan Gilles and Tristan Ranger on two skis while Barry Corbett and Noel Charlier chose to go on one big one.

The Indoor Hockey Competitions took place in the evenings and we lost out to Freeland in both the Senior and Junior Competitions, despite a good effort from both sides. The Cross-country was well supported, but we failed to break Freeland's dominance of the event.

On the stage the House was well represented in both the Junior Play *Bugsy Malone* with Andrew Turner and Peter Wilkinson performing on stage and Nick Morley and Chris Bradley playing the backing music. In the Senior Play, Colin Perry and Noel Charlier trod the boards yet again and Fraser Currie again helped with the lighting. On the sporting front, Nicol boys represented the School at Cross-country, 7s Rugby, Senior and Junior Hockey XIs, Basketball and Shooting. David Taylor again led the way and reached new heights in the discipline of Shooting. **The Junior Team won the Basketball Competition;** Graeme Antczak, Andrew Hall, Andrew Bishop, David Russell, Ian Crocks, Barry Corbett and James Dinning – with coaches James Steel and Jon Vivers.

In the Summer Term the good weather allowed more outdoor activities and I was pleased to see so many of the members of the House using their time wisely, be it on the golf course or tennis courts. If practice makes perfect, then expect to see Chris Bradley at 'The Open' in the near future, while Andrew Hall and David Russell will be on the centre court at Wimbledon. The Junior cricketers did not perform to expectations in the House Competition but the Senior Six performed above expectations. **Our Swimming Team, led by Chris Burnett, again won the House Competition** (five in a row), while our Tennis Team was narrowly beaten by Ruthven in the semi-finals.

Ken Mackay jointly organised the Kinross Charity run with David McLeod in aid of SHIP and helped raise £2,500 pounds in the process. I was very proud of the many members of the House who took part in both this and the other charity walk to Auchterarder later in the term. Well done!

Athletics competitions took up much of the free time of the House and I thank them for their effort – we were unlucky not to win the Standards Competition. Robert Mawdsley took on the unenviable task of organising the House Athletics and I would like to thank him for all his effort in this area.

Finally, Speech Day saw the House pick off thirteen prizes in all, including: A Scott, R Arumugam, C Dorman, I Senior, P Yeates, J Osborne, A Senior, G Wheeldon and J Dinning. Well done to all.

PMV



School hand-over in Nicol – Andrew to Nick.

RUTHVEN

In his inaugural address, President John F. Kennedy said "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country". For country read School – the community in which we spend the majority of the year – and you have an excellent rule of thumb for a happy and successful career at Strathallan!

David Robertson, as Head of House, did a first class job, occasionally under very tricky circumstances, and we wish him well in his endeavours to secure corporate sponsorship for his University engineering career. Euan Sutherland, who we hope will be reading Law at Edinburgh next term, kept us entertained with his sporting prowess, whilst at the same time, keeping his younger brother on the straight and narrow! Ben Ward kept us all in order in Chapel, was never short of an opinion and finally scored that elusive 50 for the First XI at the Cricket Festival. To the House Prefects as well as School Prefects, a very big Thank You! Your support for and encouragement of the members of the House was greatly appreciated. Good luck to Colin Stephen in his bid to read Computer Science at Peterhouse, Cambridge and to Alexis McGregor, who, despite his pessimism, will gain a place at Dundee to study dentistry!

Academically, the House demonstrated its usual broad spectrum of ability: Finn Syme's efforts to unravel the mysteries of Higher Maths and Physics, Gordon Duncan's ability to master languages native or otherwise, the Fifth Form's collective artistic talents. We all have our strengths and weaknesses and it has been encouraging to note the excellent level of effort and application from the majority.

Ruthven's contribution on the cultural front continues to be strong. Alasdair MacDonell was our senior Pipe Band member, managing to balance the heavy band commitments with the demands of University entrance exams. We wish him luck in his time as a Tutor at Scot's College, Wellington, New Zealand next year and congratulate him, Robbie Gemmill and Tim Elliott on their part in the Scottish Schools Championship winning Pipe Band! Waiting in the wings are the likes of the Bird Brothers and Michael Govind. In Finn Syme, we were lucky to have an extremely talented artist. His work proved an inspiration to many younger members of the House and, nurtured by Mr McMorris, the artistic future of Ruthven looks secure! Messrs Macleod and McDonald, ably supported by the younger Masters Peattie and Silver

have demonstrated their musical prowess and will doubtless be joined by many more Musicians and Choral Society Members emerging from the shadows as next year unfolds! Our Junior House Play was ambitious and our entire Third Form seemed to be involved in some way with the excellent production of Bugsy, Nick Coaton and Scott Harvey leading the way. It was encouraging to see several Ruthvenites taking their LAMDA Exams., with particular success for John Matthew Court. The Edinburgh and Perth Verse Speaking Festivals saw the House well represented via Gordon Duncan, Robbie Gemmill and Scott Harvey.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme has proved very popular again, with five of the Lower Sixth aiming for their Gold Award and many more working towards more modest targets. As a spin-off from the Award, David Macleod headed the organisation of Fund-raising for two local charities (Support the Handicapped in Perthshire (SHIP) and Children's Hospice Association of Scotland (CHAS)), the Strathallan community raising a total of £4,500! The CCF, and particularly the Marines section under Messrs Greshon, Lamont and Robertson, held its usual attraction for the dedicated among the House, throwing up its usual exceptional range of opportunities! Andrew Chown's enjoyment of the Wintex expedition is testimony to this!

On the Sports field, this has been another fine year for the House. James Barlow Captained the School Athletics team and won the Silver Medal in the Scottish Schools Pentathlon

Championships. We put up an impressive performance on Sports Day, coming second to a stronger, if less diverse Simpson team but retained the Rowan Cup for Standards – an excellent barometer of the collective endeavour of the House – thanks to Euan Mackay for his organisation. We were beaten into second place in the cross-country by an outstanding Freeland team and came second in the Swimming but fought Nicol every inch of the way! The Seniors won the Inter-House Rugby Sevens with a superb display of skill and commitment. The Juniors fought hard to keep a grasp on the Junior Rugby Cup but were defeated in a tense and exciting replay. We retained the Junior indoor Hockey, Richard Jones and Ian Stewart turning on the style in the final, ably guided by coach Mike Smith. We retained the Tennis trophy, Sixth Form to Third Form playing their part, and dominated the Golf season! The inter-House Golf Trophy was secured,

Bruce McClure won the stroke play and Bruce Martin was selected for the Perth and Kinross team which played in the Scottish Championships. The Seniors entertained in the Cricket Sixes, the Juniors dominated their competition with an outstanding display in the final and congratulations go to Ian Stewart on his selection for the Scottish U15 Cricket XI.

The achievements above are but a small sample of the individual, group and collective achievements of the House.

So, we look forward to another year of growth and achievement. In the words of Robert Browning, "Youth shows but half the best is yet to be"!

DJB



Mr Barnes shows his true colours.



Alasdair MacDonell gets ready to leave.



Dougal Fergusson.

This has been a year of considerable success in Simpson. My report last year used 'fledgling' as an adjective to describe me as Housemaster. Although still not yet able to fly, my enjoyment in the post, (and the relatively smooth course of the last twelve months) is due in no small part to the tremendous group of young men with whom I work in Simpson.

The House was very ably led by Dougal Fergusson and his deputy, Logie Mackenzie. I was continually impressed by their loyalty to their friends and to the House. Active in all facets of School life, I congratulate both for the fine example they provided for the junior members of Simpson. Being able to defer various pieces of organisation to Dougal and his team gave me a break, and ensured that maximum involvement was elicited from the body of the House in the many activities that complete the school year.

Simpsonites continued to show flair in a variety of fields. Our juniors displayed their talent early in the Autumn Term when they won the Junior House Drama Competition. Coached by our 'pro' Ally Duncan and Duncan Smith, Harry's Dream revealed a wealth of talent in our junior ranks. Whilst Harry Crump played 'Harry', the talent of Adam Rackley, Bjorn Tveit and Andrew Thwaites, to name just a few, was unearthed. Our thespians were successful in School productions as well. Harry Crump had the lead in Bugsy, whilst Ally Duncan starred in An Inspector Calls. Long may this artistic flair flourish.

Once again, Simpson did well on the sporting front. House teams contested

many sporting finals, and collected their fair share of trophies. Our footballers did very well, sweeping both the Junior and Senior competitions. Dougal Fergusson and Stewart Connell figured prominently in the Senior match, whilst Philip Culbert scored the winning goal in the Junior final. The Senior cricketers won their competition in an exciting final against Freeland. The high standard of Inter-House sport was evident as we lost our grip on the skiing, basketball, and golf cups. **Evident in all of the sporting endeavours of the House was a great enthusiasm which characterises so many in Simpson.**

Nowhere was this enthusiasm more evident than at Sports Day. Simpsonites had achieved modest success during the Standards Competition, and this had not provided a preview for the excitement that would come on the culmination of the athletics season – Sports Day. We expected some middle distance success from our Fifth Formers, and thought it possible that our Junior sprinters would also do well. What transpired was a tremendous display of both individual and team performances. In all but the longer distance running events, Simpsonites figured dominantly. In the field events, both Lee Walker and Leon Webb captured the Junior and Senior throwing events, whilst another newcomer to the House, Ross Connell, scored highly in the Senior long jump. The relays encapsulated the excellence displayed on the day. Simpson runners swept the field in both the Junior and Senior 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 relays. The expression on Doug Clement's face as he held-off a determined challenge by James Barlow in the 4 x 400 metre event

provided a fitting summary of our athletes' efforts. Leon Webb won the Junior Victor Ludorum Trophy, and Simpson won the day.

The esprit de corps evident on Sports Day has, gratifyingly, permeated the House this year. I am encouraged by the community that has developed within the House – something for which Simpson was renowned before I took over. I am fortunate to have an effervescent group in my charge who will not only offer ideas as to how the House can be improved, but who are also willing to pitch in and make things happen.

Apart from the sporting and thespian highlights of the year, we have enjoyed many relaxed, social events. Simpson has a predilection for barbecues (there must be something antipodean about that!), and our many 'cookouts' have allowed the boys in the House to mix informally with their tutors (and their Housemaster), as well as Caitlin and Toddy. The tradition will continue!!

Sadly though, we said farewell to Mr Clark at the end of the year. Robert was a meticulous tutor, and, as any boy in the Lower Sixth will attest, kept his finger well and truly on the pulse of what they were doing. Simpson will miss his cheery visage, his readiness to be involved, and his devotion to his pupils.

Simpson finished the year in an ebullient mood. I can only be encouraged by that fact. A year ago, I thanked the boys in the House for accepting us so warmly. What has developed this year confirms my view that **Simpsonites possess the zest school life needs to be both rewarding and good fun. Well done!**

ARB



Simpson hopefuls at Speech Day.

THORNBANK

When Thornbank was under construction over 6 years ago, the then Headmaster, Mr Pighills, decided a hand rail should be placed on top of the wooden facing on the exit from upstairs south wing to west wing. I clearly remember stating, probably sounding like Miss Jean Brodie, that this would not be necessary as "my gels would not slide down on the wood". The experienced school master, with years of housemastering behind him smiled, raised an eyebrow and looking at the raw housemistress retorted "And I suppose they will all be the creme de la creme".

Well, of course they would. They would all be tidy, punctual, hardworking, sporty and appreciate the arts and music. They would all succeed academically and socially. After all, I was there, like Jean Brodie, "dedicating my prime to the girls in my care... putting old heads on young shoulders".

Six years on, and by the time this is being read, with only a short time to go before moving on to a new position in the School, I am not so raw; I still feel in my prime but possibly I have an even older head on my shoulders, judged purely on the ever growing number of grey hairs.

It is encouraging that I can think back to the construction of the New Girls' House, as it was once known, as if it were only yesterday, but as I wrote on someone's final report in the summer, "a lot of water has gone through the valley" since Thornbank opened.

Mrs Barnes got us all ship-shape and amongst many things designed the picture display - many of her own making. I think I should take the one depicting me as the Thorn Witch in my packing! Is it too much to hope that Molly will one day be on a Thornbank House list?

Many residents have lived in the tutor's flat. Dr McLay was the first house tutor. With her wit, enthusiasm and frequently escaping cat, she helped me greatly in the first year to bring organisation to chaos. Her affinity with the House was such that she seemed loathe to announce that a promoted post back at her previous school had come up and that she would accept. She is presently Mr Forster's Director of Music down in Moreton Hall. In the second year of the House, the flat was occupied by the Head of School and Head of House. For those who may think that I had progressive ideas, this was only because Nicky Robb was the first girl Head of School - I was not encouraging co-

habitation. Of course, the flat really became a Sixth Form common room and I can still smell the beautifully cooked breakfasts on Sunday mornings. Thankfully, I was without a tutor for only a year, but what a year. Then Miss Rodgers arrived. Everything good, they say, comes in small bundles, and good she was. The next two years seemed to go in a flash and sadly she had to leave due to personal tragedy but I can now happily report she is married and by publication will be having sleepless nights and many washings to do as the patter of little feet will have entered her life. Next occupant - Miss Carlisle, for the next two years. Her book and plant collection will stay in my mind as will her love of massive jig-saws and ice cream from the freezer. As well as being an excellent tutor, she is a good friend. She has just left to take up a post at The High School of Glasgow and will find time to prepare lessons in between thumbing through copies of *Bride*.

Mrs Watson has been with the House, as an academic tutor and then as Senior tutor over the six years. I have found her support and advice invaluable and our late evening chats a great comfort during some sticky patches. Other tutors have come and gone but we will be complete again when Mrs Summersgill returns and Mr Smith continues holding extra Business Studies classes in the common room.

Well, so they weren't all punctual. But they would all work hard and enjoy their sport. Success in sport has seen many Thornbank girls gain awards: Sonya Reid, Clodagh Meiklejohn and Lynn MacLennan in Scottish hockey; Sonya, Flo Griffiths, Julie Clark, Sarah Semple and of course Alison Edmonds in Scottish schoolgirls' athletics. It has also seen the House compete enthusiastically in all inter-house competitions and I hope it can maintain its unbeaten record in the hockey again this year.

Academically, we have had Nicola Robb and Claire Tomlin study at Cambridge; Claire, Lyndsay Grant and Louise Weston gained 3 A levels at A grade in a vintage year when all candidates gained A-C grades, with one, Judith Morris also picking up 5 Highers at A grade as well as her 3 A levels in the same summer sitting. On the arts side, Heather and her sister Lesley-Anne Dewar, Rowan Pearman and Angela Higgins have delighted us on stage. The Senior Inter-House Drama winning team in their production of *The Steamie* was an example of astonishing talent. At the House musical evening during the year

everyone was treated to a vast array of instrumental ability. On the walls of the House, providing the hard nails hold, many pieces of art hang. An addition this year will be Clare Lochore's print depicting the lions at the front of the main building.

As I think back over the years I would have to say that the girls from Thornbank are a little like the Brodie set. They are "immediately recognisable, being vastly informed on a lot of subjects irrelevant to the authorised curriculum" "the girls who loitered beneath the tree, shoulder to shoulder, very close to each other because of the boys, were all famous for something" but unlike the Brodie set they were and are not "useless to the school as a school". They have character, are independent and are individuals. This, at times, of course, has led to clashes with me but in later life I am sure many of these girls will quote to friends, husbands and even their own children some of the 'words of comfort' I have used in my attempt to put old heads on young shoulders.

LJS



Miss Smith signs off.

WOODLANDS

This has been a year of changes in the School, and perhaps then it is not surprising that Woodlands has seen its fair share of them. At this remove from the end of the school year, however, it is never easy to recall the events of a year which started some fifteen months before the appearance of the Strathallian which records them. Who would remember now that the timetable changed in September 94, shortening the Lower Sixth's morning lie-in; that Wendy Rankin won the first ever table-tennis competition; that Mrs Auchterlonie became our first Matron shortly before Christmas, or indeed that Suzi McPherson discovered at Edinburgh Airport that she had lost her passport. Well, all these things did happen, and (as they say in the best articles) much more.

The House Hockey Competition was uneven at the junior level, but the Senior Team produced a thrilling contest which ended in a draw. This year Miss England was around to see that the Netballers made a sensible selection of time and players, and they were rewarded with a good win in an entertaining match. Although the Ski Team were widely fancied to do well in one of the few events in which the girls can compete on a level with the boys, this was not to be our year despite good individual performances. The Cross-Country race, on the other hand, that bane of all teenagers' lives, was a great success: Susan Balfour won the Junior Girls' race, Melissa Gillingham the Senior while Claire Duckworth was second in the Intermediate. In the summer, the turnout for Standards was good as was the effort of the participants. (Rumours of bribes made to the Fifth and Upper Sixth to encourage them to take part, are quite untrue.) As I write, I still do not know the outcome of the competition – but this year's Standards was surely the best for a long time. Yet, the most impressive sporting achievement this year was the third place gained by the Swimming Team, beating not only Thornbank but also Simpson and Freeland. Strong individual performances in sports brought House Colours to Amelia, Hilary and Jenni Malcolm for Netball, Tamsin Stevens for Hockey and Fiona Hamilton for Shooting.

The Arts of all kinds have not been neglected, be they in the form of the Tutors' contribution to the Christmas Party, or in more palatable form, the sudden wealth of prints which have emerged from Mr McMorris's new empire to brighten up the House. Just before the May half-term Anne Wilson organised our first concert, mainly aimed

at the parents of Woodlanders. It was a fine event which reflected well on those participating, and it was very pleasing to see that parents had come quite considerable distances to attend. I hope that this will be the first of many such occasions.

Personalities make the community, and their arrivals and departures deserve mention. We welcomed a strong group into the Third Form, and also Rebecca Haverson (5th Form) and Helen Stewart (L 6th). This was just the first wave, as the New Year saw two new arrivals in Gillian Armstrong (4th Form) and Kirsty Partridge, the latter taking Laura's place. At this end of the year we have yet to hear how the A Levels have treated the Upper Sixth, but can already say that the Highers candidates did extremely well. We also say goodbye to Katie Butler and to Emelye Kerr, both off to pastures new.

Many thanks, finally, to everyone who has worked so hard in Woodlands this year. It has been a successful and pleasant year in so many ways, and I am sure that this will continue.

ACWS-J



Mrs Stratfeild-James in her Flower-Power kit.



Non-Uniform Day in the West Wing.

CHAPEL NOTES



The Chaplain.

Glancing at the Leader page of *The Times* on the last day of the Summer Term, my eye was caught by the third headline: "Scripture Classes". The Leader was commenting upon the fact that the Tory Government gave "spiritual education" the first billing in the educational categories which it defined in the 1988 Act. In spite of that, there is an underlying uneasiness about the concept.

I think that there is a balancing act to be executed with care in this area. There is a tension between high-minded and ancient purposes ("Godliness and Good Learning") and the experience and convictions of the average member of the Common Room. Many are just not happy promoting the idea that Christianity is The Truth, and enthusiasm has slipped away from Christian proselytism in favour of a value-neutral PSE (Personal and Social Education).

There are two strands in my faith: one embodies the historic faith of the Church of Scotland, conveyed through the lives of individuals and enhanced by the beauty of high-Anglican worship in England both at school and at university; the other is my personal awareness of that which is beyond time. It is the latter which I find supremely my own and is what I would call "the Spiritual Dimension".

I have known three moments in my life when I passed from the sphere of time into the sphere of the timeless. The first occurred during a Church Service in England on Trinity Sunday. I had been ordained a year and at the second of three services we were singing the processional hymn: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God

Almighty". There was no particular reason why this moment of insight should have happened when it did. For a period of time which I cannot begin to guess – it may have been one second or two, three, ten, thirty – I became part of the whole. I knew what "The Holy Trinity" meant, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I was taken up into certainty: all problems and doubts, the world's as well as my own, were done away in the certainty of the One.

The second was in the historic Kirk of St John the Baptist, Perth. The Kirk was filled to capacity: civic representatives, school pupils, members of the medical profession, three headmasters, Strathallians, ministers and members of the public. Outside were the press, TV cameras and radio mikes. Frankly, I was terrified by the prospect that I was to conduct such an important service.

As I began the "Call to Worship" by saying that we had gathered "as others had done down through the centuries in this historic place" I was suddenly conscious of the angels surrounding everyone and filling every space of that beautiful building. I knew, then, that in spite of our communal grief, "those that were with us were more than those against us."

The third such occasion was in the School Chapel during a Taizé Service. Many, including myself, were caught up in the simplicity of the harmonics of voices and instruments, and were carried up into the spheres of heaven.

I have read many accounts of similar experiences when time was not and the timeless moment was lived. Alister Hardy, in the introduction to his book *The Spiritual Nature of Man* describes his childhood experience of "a power in which I could be wholly confident": "I was suddenly seized with an extraordinary sense of great joy and exaltation Life with a capital L, and all the beings around me. All delight and power, all things living, all time fused in a brief second."

Tristram Beresford, in an unpublished essay on T S Elliot, wrote "while walking in Boston, he saw the streets 'suddenly shrink and divide'. His everyday pre-occupations, his past, all the claims of the future fell away and he was enfolded in a great silence."

The great Thomas Traherne, in *Centuries of Meditations* wrote: "You never enjoy the world aright, till the sea itself floweth in your veins, till you are clothed with the heavens, and crowned with the stars Till your spirit filleth

the whole world, and the stars are your jewels; till you delight in God for being good to all: you never enjoy the world."

These experiences were given, not sought. They do not pretend to have the authority of the experiences of the great mystics whose life is prayer and contemplation. They do, however, represent for me a certainty which has given some sense of direction and confidence to my life.

It is my hope and prayer that through the worship in the Chapel, in words and in song, pupils may be given the opportunity to experience for themselves, this "spiritual dimension". If the new songs as sung by Riley, the Taizé music of the Senior School, and the new words from Common Order are anything to go by, then it may happen.

PREACHERS IN CHAPEL –

Autumn Term: The Rev.Dr A S Todd, Chaplain to HM The Queen, Convener, Panel on Doctrine; formerly St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen); The Rev. Gavin J Elliott (Daliburgh and Howmore, South Uist); The Rev.Callum T O'Donnell (Troon Old); The Rev.J Harkness, CB, OBE (Chaplain General; Chaplain to HM The Queen); The Rev.David Mill (Clerk to the Presbytery of Greenock); The Rev.Dr Dan Bradley (University of Aberdeen); The Rev.Robert Watt (Collace and Burrelton); **Remembrance Sunday:** The Very Rev Dr W G McDonald (Moderator, 1989 formerly Edinburgh Mayfield); The Rev.Henry Sefton (University of Aberdeen); Advent: The Rev.Richard Frazer (St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen); The Very Rev.Dr W B R Macmillan (Chaplain to HM The Queen, Moderator 1991, formerly Dundee St Mary's).

Spring Term: The Rev.C R Williamson (Aberdalgie and Dupplin); The Rev.G G Stewart (Trinity with St Leonard's, Perth); The Rev.Charles Robertson (Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh); The Rev.D D Ogston (St John's Kirk, Perth).

Summer Term: The Rev.David Hamilton (Curriculum Officer, Church of Scotland); The Rev.David MacFarlane (Minister of Peebles); The Rev.Maxwell Craig (General Secretary ACTS); **Trinity Sunday:** The Rev.Keith Angus (Domestic Chaplain to HM The Queen); **Confirmation Service:** The Very Rev.Professor Robin A S Barbour, KCVO; Founder's Day and Valedictory Service: The Rt Rev. Stanley Booth-Clibborn (former Bishop of Manchester).

TGL

SCRIPTURE UNION

It has been a most interesting year at **Scripture Union**. November saw the Christian Focus Week where Andy Bennett brought a team of four from Scripture Union Scotland to challenge pupils spiritually. They were well received in the week that they were with us and most certainly achieved their goal of making people think about why we are all here and where we may be moving on to.

Scripture Union meetings were held twice a week, where possible, and regularly had upwards of fifteen participants. The group is lively, committed and has grown in confidence at both group and individual level. Everyone has experienced leading the

meetings at some time, whether it be in songs of praise, scripture study or role-play situations. We had a visit from a Christian Folk group led by Lindsay Honeyman where the group played their own music and gave testimonies of faith. It was good to see youngsters encouraging other youngsters, with whom they can often more easily identify, in faith.

We finished off with the annual barbecue as last year and were again blessed with fine weather for this happy occasion. We said goodbye to our three Upper Sixth Form members, Peter Yeates, Ian Senior and Jo Malcolm and our heartfelt thanks and best wishes go to them for

their leadership and the example they have set the younger members of the group.

Finally, our thanks must also go to San. Sister, Isobel Stead, who, I have no doubt, is the driving force behind the whole operation. On top of a very busy workload she devotes much time and energy to Scripture Union and we would be immeasurably poorer without her. **We look forward to the new academic year and to welcoming new members – so do come along and see how the Lord can change your life!**

GCK

Letter From Africa

c/o Mombasa Baptist High
PO Box 90452, Mombasa
27th.6.95

Dear Longmuir, (Chaplain)

We are much grateful for your letter of 14th June and indeed we are thankful for the donation you sent to Fr Lewis towards out education welfare.

I'm Walker Ouiti, as you might have heard from our previous letter, I'm in form '3' and in our class we are 45 pupils, in Form three alone we have 3 streams each with 45 pupils. Our education system is based on 8.4.4 system, 8 years in Primary level, 4 in Secondary and another 4 years in University. 8.4.4. system has not proved to be the best but there is no otherwise, upon completing my 4th form next year I wished to do my form 5 and 6 in Uganda or if possible here in Kenya but here there are a bit expensive.

In school we do 8 subjects, I choosed to do Geography, English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, History, Commerce and Kiswahili. At school we speaks only

English but could also speak Kiswahili, this is a language which developed long ago in E.Africa especially here in Mombasa. It emerged as the Arabs who were trading along the coast intermarried the local Bantu speaking group found here in Mombasa, this give rise a new race called Swahili people who now occupies most part of coastal areas, they are Muslim people by religion.

We are Nilotic speaking group who came home in the early centuary. Our ancient grand parents migrated from Southern Sudan now the war tone of Sudan then come and settle in a place called Pabungu Patuscel (?) in Uganda before coming further to Kenya through a great mountain called Mr Ramogi, we believe that there is where our God rested, by the way I 'm also Nilotic.

Our main occupation is fishing. Long ago my great grand parent lived near the shore of L.Victoria, but suddenly in the early 1963 there was a huge flood which flooded the whole area forcing them to live the area and look for any where to stay. We came to live here in Kisumu a few kilometers from now the town centre.

The flooden water has not gone back upto this time, my Dad bought a piece of land where now we do stay.

In School, I'm much interested in sports like Hockey, where we presented our school in District Championship. We are still going to hold another tournament before closing. Also I'm a member of our Wildlife Club. During the Holidays we will go for a wildlife tour to Tsauo National Park.

In future, I would be much interested in doing journalism. Surelly this is the best proffession that I've been dreaming of. In one of our Dailies I sometimes contribute a funny articles especially in the column of jokes and laughter – it is know as "Madd-World".

Warm greetings to you all at school and all the members of the school who made this kind of donation successful.

Yours sincerely

Walter Otieno Oulti



Inyathi Link

Since Inyathi Mission School took delivery of the new Gestetner copier and the test books and BBC computers we sent last year, the machines and the books have been working overtime. Charles Bird from the Foreign Office's African Department visited the school to make a formal hand-over of the equipment and was given the red carpet treatment when everybody in the school

was presented to him. The choir sang, a native dance was performed in full battle dress and his video of the whole day was fascinating. **It served as a stark reminder that things we take for granted like water, books, paper and pencils, are rare and precious commodities in other parts of the world.**

We have been busy raising money again this year. We teamed up with Paul Crosfield for the Children in Need Fundraising Day and next term hope to

host the Première evening for the new Strathallan Cinema. We are at present in the process of matching up pen-pals and about fifteen pupils from Strathallan will be finding out from their correspondents what life is really like in Zimbabwe. We have yet to look at any student exchanges in detail, but I'm sure this is one of the many challenges awaiting us next year.

GCK

CONSERVATOIRES OR CONSERVATORIES

Strathallan has a Conservatory. It is Victorian. It is quite small, but has expensive half-inch plate-glass windows which act as long-stops to cricket balls from time to time. It is no longer full of orchids or ferns, and faded are the echoes of the Schottisches and waltzes from the dance-floor beyond.

Music has been made there, much to the annoyance of the sportsmen, whose silent vigils on the square were interrupted by the offending arpeggios. Yet photographed with waxed lenses, intended to create the hazy, lazy days of yore, it still has a use.

More apt is the reminder that plants and plantsmen, and Man and Music have much in common. Music needs nurturing like young plants. At one moment it is a tender blossom, the next, a rambling rose. Music has its beautiful weeds. It has wonderful crossings of one style with another; its hybrids. It has sounds which are the equivalent of plants, attacked by mutating viruses. Whatever the variety, they must all be fed and watered, cared and tended, potted on to bigger pots before their roots hit the sides, and the vigour diminishes. They must be kept clean from attacking hordes of greenfly, or the insidious white fly, wine weevils, rats, mice, rabbits and a thousand other warring challengers. Good light must be given, or a plant grows itself to death seeking sunshine; air and heat must be applied in the right quantity or it wilts and rots with stale soil around its roots.

Apply the correct conditions to plants, or people, and the results are satisfactory; deny any one of them and problems begin for the parallel is clear.

It is not for nothing that musical centres of learning are called conservatoires! In our green music-house, growth has been made, new seeds have germinated, cuttings have been rooted, and all the horticultural management techniques applied.

Our blossoms have been out on the show bench. Certificates of merit and distinction have been awarded by the judges. Associated Board examination results have been respectable, with a few distinctions, but more merits than most years. The teachers have put down the almost common concern for the lack of practice to the strictures of the refashioned timetable and activities programme, which certainly seems to leave little genuine spare time for time-consuming tasks such as music practice.

The young seedlings and tender perennials in Riley have made a very



Mr Reid congratulates Anne Smith after a fine performance at the Headmaster's Music.

good show this year, with concert appearances in November at the HM's Music, and in a series of their own "Mini-concerts" spaced throughout the year. They have displayed what talents they have already, and also the promise of things to come. Their group performances, rehearsed at specific times in the timetable has had the desired effect, and these augur well for the future. Riley's away match at the Prep Schools' Orchestral day was a great success, and the musicians covered themselves with glory. Their performances at the Perth Festival concert of three Scottish working songs, and their music-making in Bugsy Malone, demonstrate clearly that the advantages of staffing these groups on a more full-time basis plays handsome dividends, and my thanks are due to Stephen Dutton and Joy Taylor for their part in these successes.

If these performances could be likened to the gems of the alpine scree gardens, the hot, startling colours of the annual

bedding schemes have had their equivalent in the vibrant displays of Nick Morley's Jazz group, and the Pop group led by Peter Yeates. Directed by Tim Klus and Nick Andrew respectively, both highly skilled and regularly performing musicians, the players have reached dizzy heights in both areas. My congratulations to all concerned for bringing off these successes, and in areas which have laid fallow for years.

The Choral Society created one splendid flowering with their performance of Poulenc Gloria, Haydn Te Deum and Handel Coronation anthems. Their sensitivity to the varied demands of these very widely-differing styles was most impressive, a fact not missed by the appreciative, if small, audience. The Chapel Choir, whose performances at weekends are devastated by Sunday leave-outs, have continued to explore the riches of the demanding Cathedral repertoire. The ladies have continued to grapple with the art of

Gaelic pronunciation, and part-song singing. Their enthusiasm has been much appreciated by the author, and their sense of honour and duty in their attendance and support of the group has been exemplary. Just as Victorian lairds and their ladies once wandered through their orchid houses, drinking in the scents and sights of the rare blossoms, so the chance of singing the great pieces of the repertoire has been a similar weekly pleasure. I thank and congratulate all those who have contributed to this weekly musical "fix".

Duncan Smith must be singled out as an outstanding "bloomer", on both the horn and the piano (in both classical and modern idioms) and computer keyboard. Nimbleness of mind and finger, and combing musical awareness and sensitivity have produced some spectacular performances, many from

memory, at various concerts. The echoing tones of Strauss horn concertos through the corridors of an evening, will remain in the memory. He has given equal pleasure to his coterie in the practice-shed, and is a well-deserved winner of the

Robert Barr Memorial Prize. Agnes Bradley wins the Patrick Gradison Prize for Strings, and her performances are the musical equivalent of the spectacular climbing plant – Ipomea, or Morning Glory. They stun the beholder, and as fast as they emerge, they fade, only to be replaced by another the next day. Her playing of the Lutoslawski Paganini Variations, and Rachmaninov's 2nd Piano Suite would grace any show-bench. Duncan Forbes wins the William Pasfield Plate.

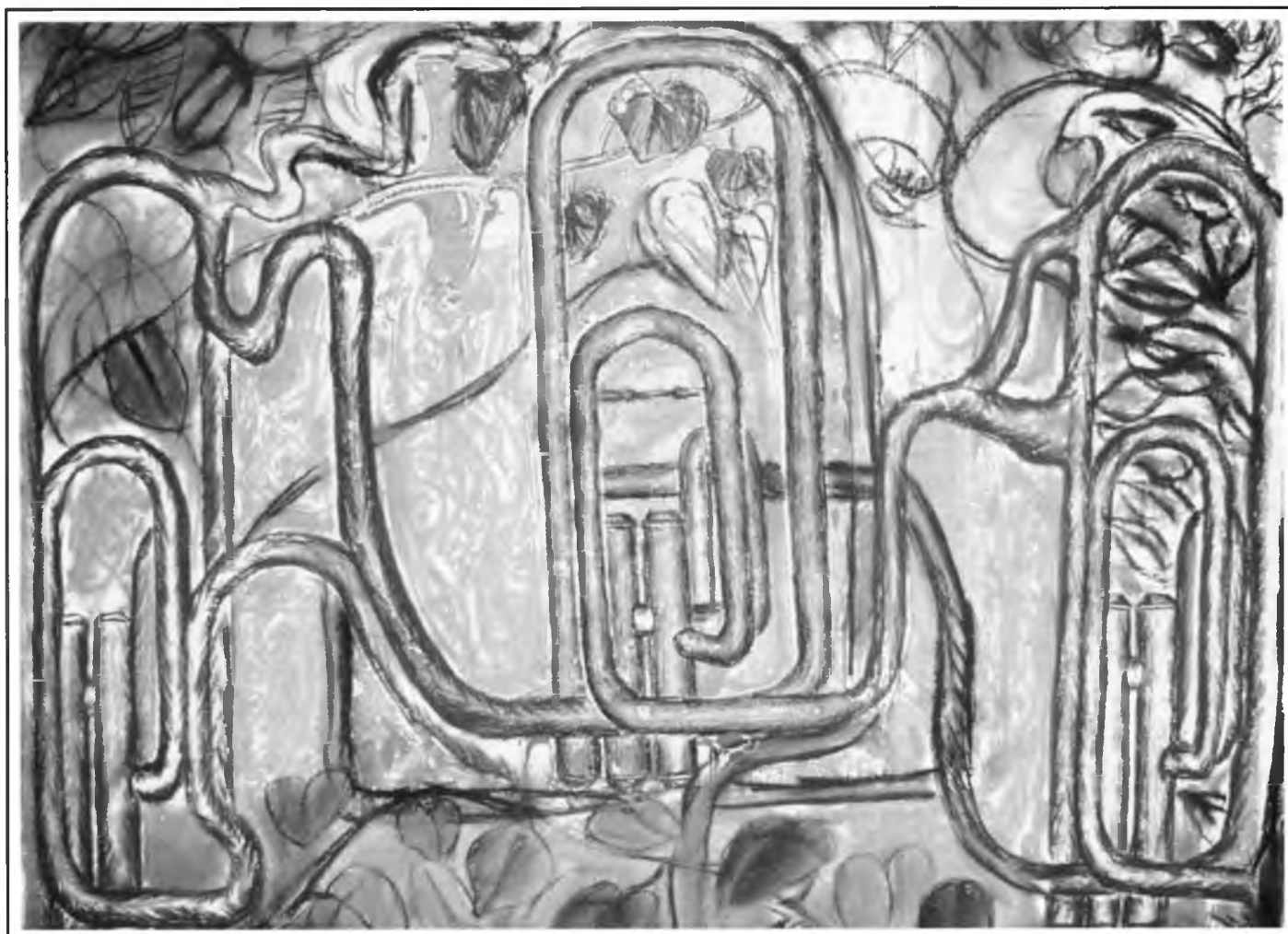
Bill Pasfield was Director of Music at Strathallan during the war years, and came to a number of concerts over the last few years. On the strength of the pleasure these concerts gave him, and of the hospitality he had enjoyed from various colleagues when visiting, he promised to endow a music award and scholarship. True to his word, Dr Bill, as he was known by his many grateful students from his teaching days at the London College of Music, bequeathed also his library of music, and his clavichord in addition. I have no doubt that many generations of music students will benefit from this

collection of music, as they did from his fund of knowledge and good stories.

We may not be the Conservatoire that Mr Bill taught in, but we would be nothing at all without the support and expertise of the dedicated team of musicians. Of these Gordon West, Bill Baxter and Joy Taylor deserve an extra special thank you as they collect up their pencils and head off to retirement, or, as in Bill Baxter's case, new pastures in St Andrews. We have welcomed Susan Boyd (flute and piano), Lorna Fulford (piano), Peter Hamilton (percussion), Nick Andrew (electric guitars) and Tim Ewart (violin), and wish them well in the future. To all members of the part-time musical staff I would like to extend my grateful thanks for all their support and help over the years, for it is time for this head propagator to try his hand in the peaty, fertile soil of Mull.

May all the blossoms, tender and otherwise, prosper in the future, and continue to put on great shows.

FNR



Drawing by Jack Finlay.

PIPE BAND

The Band has had a busy and successful year – working hard to master a large number of new tunes for use at engagements and competitions.

The engagements began in January with two pipers (Andrew Scott and Ewan McMaster) playing at Pitreavie Castle for the 76 Engineer Regiment (Volunteers) Burns' Night. The piping was very well received. Tim Elliott played at Kilgraston School Burns' Night giving a good account of himself and gaining valuable experience. Tim was to play again at a Scots' Night in Perth along with other musicians and verse speakers from the School, but was taken ill at the last moment, so Ewan McMaster stepped into the breach and played well at such short notice.

The Band was once again invited to play at both the Scottish and World Junior Curling Championships at Dewars Ice Rink, Perth, giving a commendable display on each occasion.

On the competing side, the Band has had a good deal of success. Ewan McMaster won the KOSB Shield for marching and deportment at the Craigmount High School Pipe Band Solo Piping & Drumming Competition at the beginning of December 1994. Four pipers from the Band took part in the RSPBA (Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association) Chanter and Solo Piping Competition. They excelled themselves to win three prizes, against competitors from all over Scotland and the north of England: Robbie Whytock came 1st for Chanter Section 1. Carrick Allison came 3rd for Chanter Section 2. Tim Elliott came 2nd in Solo Piping under 14 years. Ewan McMaster was 4 points behind 4th place in Solo Piping under 17 years

The Band also entered the RSPBA Mini-Band Championships held in Calderhead High School, Shotts and won the Novice Juvenile Grade at their first attempt, a remarkable achievement.

The 'A' team players were as follows:- Pipers – J S R Hutcheon, Andrew Scott, Ross Cumming and Ewan McMaster. Drummers – David Heslop, Michael Govind, Christopher Dorman and David Smith.

They later gave a repeat performance to win the Stirling branch (RSPBA) Mini-Band Championship at Denny at the beginning of the Summer Term, carrying off the Grangemouth Advertiser Cup.

Speech Day was the Band's next outing where despite adverse weather conditions they put on the varied display of tunes they had mastered since September.

During the month of June the Band took part in a number of Pipe Band Competitions. The first was at Shotts Highland Games where they took 5th prize in their grade, winning the Ambassador Windows Cup. They also had the opportunity to listen to some of the best bands in the country, an experience they enjoyed very much. The next outing was to the Bearsden and Milngavie Highland Games where they took 2nd Prize in their grade. The also "played up" to Grade 3 to give them an opportunity to try the March, Strathspey and Reel set under competition conditions in preparation for the Scottish Schools CCF Championship. This proved to be an invaluable exercise. **At the Scottish Schools' CCF Championship the Band won the Pipe Band Competition and also took the Drill & Turnout Trophy**, so all the pressing of kilts, jackets, plaids and Glengarry ribbons, along with the polishing of shoes and belts and whitening of spats was well worth the effort! The trophies carried off were the Scottish Schools' OTC Cup and the Melville Cup, Pipe Sergeant Ross Cumming just missed a prize in the senior solo piping, finishing in fourth place. The Band celebrated along with the School by playing on the Chapel Lawn before the evening service, then played off afterwards to Rothesay Pier to finish off a wonderful day.



Andrew Scott heads for Pitreavie.

The last outing as a full band was to Stirling for the Scottish Pipe Band Championships. On an extremely hot day the band excelled themselves to finish just out of the prize list in 7th place, a wonderful achievement on their first attempt! Once again, the band members had the opportunity to listen to the best bands, not only in the country but in the world! With over 120 bands taking part the massed bands alone was an experience not to be missed, it took over an hour to get all the bands into the arena for the prize giving.

The last big event of the year was the Strathallan School Solo Piping & Drumming Competition which was held on Wednesday, 28th June, out of doors on a beautiful sunny afternoon. Our judge for the afternoon was Mr Roderick Barron, son of Pipe Major Bert Barron. The events began with the Chanter Competition which was judged by Andrew Scott, Ross Cumming and Alasdair Macdonell. Five competitors took part and all gave a good account of themselves but Jonathan Stone won. The main events started with a Novice Piping Section with the competitors playing a slow air or slow march. The winner was Robbie Whytock. The next event was the open Piobaireachd which attracted 7 competitors: Andrew Scott was the winner and best junior not on the prize list was Robbie Whytock. Senior March, Strathspey & Reel was the next event, won by Ross Cumming. The Junior March came next again with an entry of seven players and Tim Elliott won. The last event in Piping was the hornpipe and jig which was very enjoyable and was closely contested, Ross Cumming coming out top.

The pipers who have not yet made it into the competition band are working at their own pace in "improvers" groups with a view to joining in when they have gained more experience and are more proficient.

The Solo Drumming events were also well contested although fewer players were involved. Aisla Stringer won the Junior Section and David Smith, the Senior Section. The last event was the Bass and Tenor Drumming Section which again produced a fairly high standard. Jenny Perry was the winner.

The President's Cup for the person doing most for the Pipe Band over the year, went to Andrew Scott.

JSRH



The Pipe Band at the Scottish Schools' CCF Championship.

ST ANDREW'S NIGHT

Mr Broadfoot began the "anything but formal" evening slightly behind time in the true tradition of all good concerts. We were celebrating the Robert Louis Stevenson Centenary – a theme reflected by the programme.

Two special guests were invited to speak – or sing, as the case was. The story teller was Dr Sheila Douglas, the author of *Fair Upon Tay* among other books and the president of the Scots Language Society. Our audience was captured first by a good old fashioned fire-side ghost story of the body snatchers from the past and later by a song. The second guest was Mr Taff Jeffrey who sang *Fi Taff* for us prior to Dr

Douglas's second performance.

Highlights of the evening were provided by some Strathallan pupils. Ruth Mazur gave an impeccable solo rendition of *T'eillan Muillach*. As a result of the Burns Club Competition in Perth this winter, Lucy Kitson recited her trophy winning *Dream* by William Soutar.

A lively playing of *Circassian Circle* began the evening to which all and sundry stamped their feet. The ladies' choir repertoire included songs by Chopin which were, surprisingly, influenced by his love of Scotland. Later we were to hear Brahms and some Gaelic music. The Fourth Year also contributed by giving us

their comical versions of *The Spey Wife* and *A Mile and a Bittock*. Riley delighted all with their group interpretations of Soutar and Stevenson poetry. Chopin also appeared in the form of *Prelude in E Minor* played on the piano by Ruth Sharp.

No St Andrew's Night would be complete without Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* read by Pete Watson and *Thrawn Janet* represented Nicol Nicholson's contribution. The evening was rounded off with our new Piping Instructor, Miss Hutcheon, giving a toe-tapping exhibition.

Lyndsay Allison

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THE GARY ROGERS' CREATIVE WRITING PRIZE

..... Wherever Faye and her male friend had gone I was sure they would return soon. Faye wouldn't just leave me here – drinks in hand. But then doubt began to shadow my mind. Once on a day trip to France (her idea) she had disappeared for over an hour 'on deck' as she put it. Poor Faye, nice as Michael seemed he was neither easy on the eye or, well intellectually intact! Sadder than that I was convinced of his having no real interest in her (though he hadn't exactly stroked my leg under the table I was well aware of his creeping forward in his seat – it was merely a matter of seconds). That, in fact, was the real reason for my leaping up so suddenly for drinks. Faye was bound to be disappointed in love but I, as a friend, would not be party to such a disappointment. Still, she could be very silly.

When they did return Faye looked a fright – her hair, tousled by the wind, was wild and her face pink and swollen. Apologising profusely for their absence, she complimented the cut of my Harris Tweed blazer and I graciously acknowledged the forced flattery. Michael looked decidedly sheepish and sidled in next to her on the burgundy vinyl high-backed seating. Faye and I had been out together every Thursday night for years now – Michael's appearance was becoming more frequent though. I was not altogether opposed to his intrusion, more puzzled as to where the appeal lay in tagging along with the two of us. The logical answer was Faye – the logical answer I suddenly became aware that Michael was addressing me and Faye was radiating those familiar waves of uncomfortable tension.

"We were thinking about a picnic lunch sometime next week – up at the waterfall at Foyers."

"Impossible," I was frank. Why hadn't Faye told him? "I had a letter – I'm doing jury duty." Michael didn't look in the least surprised – the picture was clear – I was not one of their concerns.

"And how will you get there?" I demanded of stupid Faye, who never thought things through (no matter how abominable the weather forecast she frequently forgot to put two – rather than one – Mackintoshes in the boot, and as for Wellingtons!)

"Mike has a motorcycle."

"Unleaded is it?" Faye is a vegetarian and wears rubber shoes. Her face, panic stricken, turned towards him. We all knew the answer.

I would have patted her hand in

consolation but as I moved to do so noticed it was already involved in a sticky clasp with one of Michael's – instead I nudged the strap of my handbag further over my shoulder.

"Thanks for the drink." said Faye quietly.

"That's quite all right."

Michael stood up suddenly. Faye was alarmed I could see – that is the difference between her and myself, I can anticipate such things – she cannot.

"Margie," I knew he was addressing me but winced at his inappropriate (and rather loud) use of the name used solely by my father.

"Margie!" This time louder still, "I would like to buy you a drink."

"That really isn't necessary Michael." Was he tipsy? His tone was quite odd. Faye urged him to sit down but he pulled her hand away, surprisingly gently.

"What'll it be, Margie? Hmm?" His facial expression was contorted slightly and his red cheeks grew redder. "How about, a bitter lemon?"

The room felt significantly less noisy. I didn't understand. If there was some joke it was not to my taste in humour. It was of no consequence though, he sat down again. It was Faye that I felt sorry for – how humiliating to have a grown man behave in such a way. Understandably, she went to powder her nose (the Shame!).

I had always been aware that Michael was in some sense in awe of me. He was unaware as to how to conduct conversation in my presence. To ease his discomfort I broke the atmosphere with a light, jovial tone, "Really Michael, I don't know what you were thinking of – how on earth would you have found Foyer's Falls without an old hand like me!" But his response was disappointingly negative.

"Margaret, have you forgotten that Faye and I are engaged?"

Oh yes, the engagement. Faye had mumbled something to that effect. I smiled and nodded, "Oh no, I'm quite aware Michael."

"Then why won't you leave us alone?" I was not altogether taken aback, Faye's almost childlike devotion to me was bound to be confusing.

"I think you should talk to Faye if you find that my relationship with her in any way undermines your own." He looked quite fixedly at me as I spoke. He was tiresomely relentless. I continued –

"Perhaps you would like me to ask her to explain?" He shook his head, gazing into his lap, then slowly raised it,

"She wanted me to explain"

"What?" Quite suddenly I found myself mystified. What was he talking about? As friends, Faye and I had always talked frankly and now, it seemed, we could no longer communicate, since Michael's arrival. "Has Faye got something to tell me?" He didn't answer, he looked exhausted. I laid a hand on his and he shot me a strange glare.

"Poor Michael," I smiled. "It's not worth your while getting mixed up in this – though I must say, I'm rather confused myself."

He slipped his hand out from under mine.

"Margaret, Faye is too shy and too kind to say this, so I have to. She doesn't want your presence looming round every corner she turns in her life. Nor does she want these these" he spluttered and faltered like a child, "these Thursday nightly treks to, to twee little pubs like two little spinsters caught up in an episode of Miss Marple."

I scoffed. "I suppose she wants to tear around the countryside risking life and limb on your moped!"

"Well, whatever Faye wants it's got nothing to do with you!"

"Is that right?"

"Yes."

The appallingly juvenile path the conversation was taking embarrassed me. "Well, Michael, you can't have her!"

"I've already got her, Margaret – that's what I'm saying – it's just time it sank in. So for God's sake stop leaving those damned post-it notes all over the place for her telling her where and at what time you're doing whatever it is that you do!"

I was surprised that he should bring up such a meagre detail. I admit I would occasionally leave the odd note but he spoke as if they were a regular occurrence.

Faye had been gone a conspicuously long time. I began to wonder

..... I felt somehow detached from the goings on around me now – a strange tranquillity – and I heard myself say – "Faye will no doubt hear the voice of reason." As she scuttled towards the table I once again became aware of the ridiculous situation and leapt in quickly – "Michael and I are at loggerheads over you," her eyes darted from one of us to the other with amusing terror.

"Dear God, Faye, sit down and stop shaking." Michael was such an irritable fellow.

"Let her shake if she wants to," I was smiling at her but she didn't look up. "Oh, for Pete's sake let's get this sorted out" – my radical move prompted both bowed heads to be raised – "Well, come on Michael, give her the ultimatum – her or me, me or her, Well – come on."

I glanced over to the neighbouring table with a finely constructed air of indifference. I was at my best in situations such as these. Someone nearby was singing a familiar song, but they didn't know the words – not if you listened closely.

"Margaret," the strained tone was hers – like a trapped woodland animal – plump and spineless with big, shiny dark eyes. I turned slowly and engaged eye contact with her – "Faye?"

"It's true what Mike said, we want to be on our own."

"Anyone would think I climbed into bed with the two of you the way you're carrying on!"

That threw them. Faye dissolved into her seat and Michael's nostrils billowed (what fun!) She couldn't do it, not to me and she couldn't because she didn't want to, not deep down.

"Margaret, I don't think we should be friends any longer and it's not just Michael. You see we never actually talk to one another – you and I. I can't help feeling it would be best."

"For you."

"Yes." That sense of detachment returned. I walked swiftly through the round tables and the spiralling threads of cigarette smoke towards the door. People turned, giving looks which made me feel somehow, distantly ashamed.

No matter. It is passed. Certain things change 'Que sera, sera ...' but not everything. I knew she would follow me. From the moment I stepped into the cool evening air, I was sure. Michael was a phase but friendships like ours are made of more solid stuff. As I speak she's making the tea and later we'll watch 'Catch Phrase' – she's good at that, I'll give her that much.

Catriona Maclean



Illustration by Nick Dalley.

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BUGSY MALONE



Richard Crawford as Fat Sam.

The logistics of organising and keeping tabs on over one hundred stage-struck members of the Junior School is the stuff of nightmares. However, Music Director, Mr Dutton and Director Mr Broadfoot took it all in their stride as *Bugsy* got under way. Weeks later, the final performances provided a spirit-raising conclusion to the Spring Half Term and were enjoyed by audiences young and old as well as very obviously by the budding actors, actresses, singers and dancers of this star-studded cast.

Harry Crump rallied his voice on performance nights to produce a natty, confident *Bugsy* while Katherine Charlier was excellent as Blousy trying to make her career break-through. Tara Laing

bought a cool sophistication to the character of Tallulah and Richard Crawford as the beleaguered Fat Sam was outstanding, ably supported by a comic gaggle of incompetent thugs, namely Scott Harvey, Adam Constable, Hamish Campbell-Jack, Neil McIlwraith, Giles Sneddon and Greg Mouat. The rival gang, led by Jonathan Dalley's (very dandy) Dandy Dan, was obviously the more tightly organised, brighter bunch and was played menacingly by James Duncan, Duncan Walker, Simon Haverson, Jamie Laux and Duncan Broadfoot. Lyn Gemmel was outstandingly funny as the bored waitress asking, "Are ya eatin' – or are ya meetin'?" and a startlingly effervescent performance from Laura Crooks as Bangles deserves a particular mention.

Taking a leaf from the professional's book, the pre-performance touches enticed the audience quickly into the time and the atmosphere of *Bugsy Malone*. The programmes, printed by Mark Stringer and Laura Morley in the form of a 1928 Herald & Tribune, were authentically delivered by paper boys calling out the news. In addition Morley's Moonlighters ensured that the audience was transported back in time about seventy years with the creditable execution of Jazz and 'all that'.

The multi-level stage set was designed by Mr Ross and built by Mr O'Neill and his merry team. The 'flats' depicted the seedy side of this period of our century and were created by Mr McMorris, though the scene painters must have been seeing bullet holes in their sleep.

Sustaining this atmosphere of 1920s 'Gangland' called for elaborate lighting effects and the incredible 1000 'lamp changes' pushed Mr Goody almost to breaking point (thank goodness the holidays were close at hand). Costumes for this huge cast must have produced a headache of migraine proportions for Mrs Clayton and the wardrobe team, but the actors really looked the part on the night, much credit to her.

Thanks to Mr Tony Ellis's choreography the dancers and singers were a slick set of vamps, admirably aged by the make-up squad led by Mrs Hunter. However, behaviour backstage belied the painted faces as various members of the cast used elaborate ruses to get their hands on the SPLURGE. Tom Hayward (boss of props) had a hard time in the face of this onslaught, to keep hold of his ammo (silly string) though I believe even he succumbed to temptation and "Let 'em have it". Call girls Emma Dooley and Lucy-Anne Bryans admirably handled this potentially explosive situation, getting everyone smoothly on and off stage for 72 scene changes, night after night.

The rousing strains of the finale provided, as it should, the highlight of the performance with all of the cast on stage. It created a positive and encouraging end to the tale, stating that "You can be anything that you want to be" and calling for friendship and trust. However, there was precious little of that on display backstage on the final night when the splurge was flying. Mr Broadfoot and Mr O'Neill made the fatal error of turning their backs and I am afraid they didn't stand a chance!

PC

JUNIOR HOUSE DRAMA

This was the tenth successive year in which the competition was held. Involving the majority of III and IV Formers and assisted by senior pupils, each House is required to write and produce a twenty minute play. The competition has always been an opportunity early in the School year for younger pupils, particularly new pupils, to get to know others in their Houses.

This year the theme was "Dreams" and the response was an ingenious and fascinating range of interpretations which revealed stagecraft and acting of impressive originality and quality.

Simpson House, who subsequently won the coveted Best Production Award, were first to tread the boards with *Harry's Dream*, a re-working of the Walter Mitty myth but with an original twist at the end. Characterisation was strong and use of music very effective. Harry Crump won a Best Actor Award.

Thornbank House offered the audience an attack on gender stereotyping: the male chauvinist got his come-uppance in this often witty fantasy which saw downtrodden husbands subject to the cruel whim of their utterly self-centred "wives". Natalie Young well deserved her Best Actress Award.

The Wizard of Oz became *The Wizard of Strath* as Freeland House went in search of the Lost Tuck Shop. An ingenious minimalist set (in the great Freeland tradition) provided a backdrop against which a colourful range of characters engaged in their great quest. Notable were Jonathan Dalley as Weedman and Hamish Campbell-Jack who received a Best Actor Award for his portrayal of the Scottish gnome.

Ruthven House embarked on an epic production, *An Essex Affair*, written by Nicol Nicolson, which suffered somewhat by having to be cut to the required twenty minutes. However, no-one could fault the commitment of the cast and production team. Notable was Alex Blackstock as the cook.

Woodlands House used dance as the principal medium for their interpretation of the theme. Two dancers in pursuit of their dreams of success produced a blend of aerobics, disco dancing and even ballet. Memorable performances came from Gerry Kerr and Amy Little and few will forget the entrance of Jennifer Maxwell to an ecstatic reception.

Finally, *The Nightmare Has Begun* from Nicol House provided a splendid climax to the evening. This was a sharp-edged

political satire which signalled a clear pupil response to the new timetable. Judging from the audience's response, the production articulated clearly the views of many. The script was witty, and the delivery and timing of the four actors unerring. All four were masters of their material, but Neil Hutton was singled out as Best Actor. His return to Nicol after 'double chemi-bio' will long linger in the memories of those present at this splendid evening's entertainment.

JLB



Fine acting at Nicol House entertainment.

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ANOTHER OPENING ANOTHER SHOW?

This year saw the pilot programme for the Strathallan Theatre Company, the purpose of which is to provide realistic theatre work experience and to encourage the acceptance of responsibility in a relatively controlled environment.

The session started with a round of interviews for all of the jobs involved in the backstage aspects of a production. This was a challenge since we were scheduled to put on two major productions for the coming season instead of the usual one. For the pilot programme, the crew was recruited from those successful at formal interview. Each person worked to a detailed job description and held responsibility for different areas in the two productions. The team comprised:

David Christie	Assistant Stage Manager
Tom Hayward	Properties Manager
Neil Melville	Set construction and backstage crew
Robbie Gemmell	Set construction and backstage crew
Ray Duffy	Set construction and backstage crew
George Aykroyd	Set construction and sound
Alex Macmillan	Set construction and sound
Ewan Harrison	Set construction

Bugsy Malone, the first of the two productions, had a cast of over seventy Junior pupils and required the manufacture of a five-level set. Technical difficulties mainly revolved around the safety aspects of a flying walkway but, by limiting the number of cast on the walkway at any one time – in itself a triumph of co-operation between the Producer and Production Manager – the problem was solved with no danger to cast or crew.

At this point enter Tom Hayward as the Properties Manager. In all my years involved in the theatre I cannot remember a Props Manager like Tom. He negotiated the props for both plays with the producers, and then discreetly acquired the relevant objects with the stealth of a cat burglar. I would have been happier, though, if he had not chosen to test the IRA splurge guns (on loan from Inverness Royal Academy) on Mr Proctor and myself. However, his justification of his actions on purely professional grounds was hard to dispute.

The others all contributed above and beyond the call of duty when they

finished off *Bugsy* and immediately launched into the Senior Play, *An Inspector Calls*. It was in this play that the crew members met their baptism by fire as I literally took a back seat and let David Christie run the show. Apart from a slight paling of his skin and a momentary widening of the eyes, David accepted the challenge without a murmur. His ready acceptance of this level of responsibility reminded me of the first time I abseiled – terrified, but having done it once I just

had to do it again. David ended up stage-managing the rest of the run and grew ever more confident as he got to grips with the hectic schedule and minor crises that affect even the most professional of productions.

I would like to thank all of the participants, both on and behind the stage, for all their hard work and also for the way in which they worked together as a team to make our double bill a success.

LAO'N



The Five-level set for 'Bugsy'.



Edwardian interior for 'An Inspector Calls'.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS

What can I say? Somehow the cast and crew survived hours of rehearsals, regardless of Mr O'Neill's mid-scene stage adjustments, endless bribes to avoid prompts being recorded and tallied, fingers being clipped in ring-binder folders ("Why is Mr Murray pulling that face? Is he just impersonating a hysterical Mrs Birling, or has he hurt himself?") and constant warnings about corpsing, finishing in a five-hour dress rehearsal on Saturday night. But it was worth the hard work, and the curtain opened on this year's School play, *An Inspector Calls*.

The performance began with an imaginative frame play, which updated and added an extra dimension to the original script fulfilling J B Priestley's own wishes. Written by Messrs Court and Murray, the stage (within a stage) was set with members of an Amateur Dramatics Society rehearsing a production of the play. It is interrupted due to the lighting crew missing a cue (can it be?!) Poor Ruth (Gerry Kerr) is driven to quitting by the pragmatic director (Noel "Is there a joke?" Charlier), curiously resembling a member of the English department. The story emerges of how the rather over-confident, arrogant Romeo, Julian (Colin "Quentin" Perry) has cruelly picked up and dropped Ruth, without a second thought. Only "St" Catherine (Catriona "Veteran" Maclean") appears to have any sympathy for Ruth.

This story mirrors the original play, which follows. An Inspector (John "nice suit, nice non-entry" Butler) Calls, surprisingly enough, and interrupts the celebration of the engagement of Sheila Burling (Catriona Maclean) and Gerald Croft (Robin "Shut up" Lee). The Inspector interrogates the entire group, unearthing various secrets concerning their respective connections with a young girl. Eva Smith, a.k.a. Daisy Renton, who has apparently just committed suicide. Mr Birling, the successful businessman, magistrate and general important person, (alias Ali "How's my belly?" Duncan) admits to having had Eva sacked from his works. But this is only the beginning. Sheila has had her sacked from her next job, Gerald has had an affair with her, and broken it off to return to Sheila. Eric Birling, the drunken son (another convincing performance by Colin "Give that boy an Oscar" Perry) got her pregnant, and, to cap it all, Mrs Birling, the "Pillar of the Community", (Amelia "Thought of it off 'the spur of my head" (!!) Blair Oliphant) refuses to let her committee help her. Phew! What a family!

And what a detective to work out all this.

After several inquiries, it becomes apparent that the Inspector was "by Jingo – a fake!" – (Great line Ali) so the family feel they are in the clear. No one's committed suicide – the series of events have, in fact, happened to different girls. Cue Richards (Adam), assisted by Edna

(Jemma Hepworth) for some more drinks and a few more of those delightful herbal cigarettes (rather reminiscent of the fog in last year's *Dream* for the unfortunate occupants of the front ten

rows). But Sheila reminds them all of the Inspector's sobering words that "there are millions and millions of Eva Smiths and John Smiths in all walks of life, suffering similar problems." Although no girl had "drunk strong suicide" (according to Robin) she could have – they were all to blame for ruining her.

The rehearsal is again plunged into confusion, when the telephone rings at the wrong time (surely not due to the incompetence of the the lighting crew?!) and Ruth rises in her death robes, slit wrists in full view, pointing an accusatory finger at the entire cast, echoing the Inspector's words.

And so ended an all-round excellent School production. Thanks to Gordon Thompson and Farquar, alias Ali and Noel, without whom we probably wouldn't have survived the rehearsals. A special mention must go to Robin, for his incredible ability to not quite catch on "Robin, go and get my folder from my car" 20 minutes later, Robin returns "Sir, which one's your car?" Thanks also to Caitlin Ball for the (rather temperamental) mobile phone. Thanks to everyone back stage – lighting crew included.

Finally, on behalf of everyone, thank you Mr Murray. All we can say is you've been there, done that, and you have, indeed, got the hideous yellow T-shirt!

Fiona Nicolson



Colin Perry as Eric.



Mrs Birling (Amelia Blair-Oliphant) interviews the Inspector (John Butler) while Sheila (Catriona MacLean) looks on.

MAKING A DRAMA OUT OF VERSE



Olivia Wands with Riley choral-verse speakers.

This year more pupils than ever have been involved in reciting poetry in competitions, exams and public performance. In March, as part of the weekly drama lesson programme for the 6 classes, the entire Riley House competed in the Perth Festival's Choral Verse Speaking (with mime). Top marks went to the Headmaster's Second Form Drama class who 'stole the show' with an imaginative and amusing 'acted' performance of the story of *Sisyphus*, in Robert Garioch's "braid Scots" version.

1994 was the Robert Louis Stevenson Centenary Year. This was a theme for the annual St Andrew's Night. As part of this 1J became a steam train for *From a Railway Carriage* and shadows for *My Shadow*. 1J also won the Poem – acted (open) class at the Edinburgh Festival in May, with *My Shadow*.

At the Perth Burns Club's annual festival in November, Duncan Broadfoot came 3rd in the Under 15 class and Nicol Nicolson, 2nd. Gordon Duncan and Jenny Watson were 2nd (equal) in the Over 15 class, but 'Honours' that day went to Lucy Kitson, who also won The Archibald Morrison Memorial Quaich. For their performances, Lucy (with The Twa Dogs and Nicol (with Willie Wastle) were invited to form part of the evening's entertainment at the Burns Club's annual dinner in January. Following that evening a Perth councillor who had been a dinner

guest wrote to the Headmaster: "I think these two young people were a great credit to your school. Their performances on stage were outstanding."

Another 'first' this year was an invitation to take part in a 'schuils' night' organised by the Perth Branch of The Scots Language Society, the theme of which was the words and music of Perthshire. James Duncan, Gordon Duncan, Arlette Lafayeedney and Lucy Kitson performed verse and prose. Harry Crump played the fiddle, Laura Morley, the clarsach and Ewan McMaster, the bagpipes.

As well as in choral verse classes, a large number of pupils took part in solo competitions in the Perth and Edinburgh Festivals. There were fine performances from Duncan Walker (3rd in Bible Reading), Gordon Duncan (1st in Burns (Senior), Lucy Kitson (2nd in Burns (Senior) and 1st in Soutar (Senior) and Giles Seddon and James Duncan (both 3rd in 10-12 age group classes). Duncan McCredie was 3rd in the Shakespeare class and Lucy Green and Nick Gdula, 1st and 2nd in the Soutar (Junior) class. For fine recitations of Vernon Scannel's *Hide and Seek*, John-Matthew Court and Arlette Lafayeedney came 3rd and 1st.

At the Edinburgh Festival there were 'Excellent' performances from Kris Burr (Prose Reading, Gordon Duncan and Lucy

Kitson (Burns) and James Duncan (Scots poems). Lyndsay Allison and Sam Prentice gained an 'Excellent' certificate for their rendering (in French!) of Catherine and Alice's scene from Henry V.

Many members of the Drama Club have taken part in the Festivals. Other Drama Club activities have included workshops with TAG Theatre from Glasgow, theatre visits, drama games and improvisations and a tour of Perth Theatre. Almost everyone this year, for the first time, took part in graded exams assessed by LAMDA (The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts). All candidates passed; 'Distinctions' in 'The Speaking of Verse and Prose' went to Rebecca Perret, Kris Burr, James Duncan, Claire Ketcher and Arlette Lafayeedney and 'Distinctions' in Duologue Acting went to Kerry Martin, Ruth Mazur, Arlette Lafayeedney and Amy Little and in Solo Acting to Lyn Gemmell and Duncan McCredie. Group Actors, Chris Appleby, Brian Sneddon and Chris Charlier gained 'Distinctions', but a magnificent 'Honours' mark of 86 went to Clare Proctor in Senior Acting Grade Six Duologue.

We look forward to entering pupils for the Gold Medal in the not too distant future!

IMcF

JUNIOR DEBATING

This year's debating at Third and Fourth Form level got off to a good start with some lively **Inter-House competition**. In the Fourth Form section final, where the motion was **'This House believes that Scotland should be for the Scottish'** Freeland 'A' (Sam Bateman and Duncan McCredie) beat Ruthven 'A' (Richard Jones and Harry Bird) into second place, with Freeland 'B' (Jon Butler and Shaun Buchan) coming third. Richard and Harry opened the debate with some forceful speeches but Sam and Duncan won largely on their ability to make points of information and their strength in rebuttal. In the Third Form final, debating

the motion, **'This House believes the State should help the Homeless'**, Freeland 'B' (Adam Constable and Hamish Campbell-Jack) beat Ruthven 'B' (John-Matthew Court and Nicholas Coaton) into second place. Freeland 'B's' ability to speak without a heavy reliance on a script, saw them home in this event. Overall the winners were Freeland.

Perhaps the highlight of the year came in the Summer Term when Strathallan was host to a demonstration debate between Scottish and North American school teams. Both teams produced past, present and future

international debaters and the audience was highly impressed with the quality of the speakers. The motion, **'This House believes that Sixteen is old enough for anything'** was a difficult, and perhaps dangerous, one to propose. As a result the debate became one of a sophisticated definition of terms, the proposers feeling forced to pinch more and more of the opposition's ground. The latter, Scotland, were having none of it and won the contest on the narrowest of margins, based on votes from The Floor.

CNC

THE SCHOOL ARCHIVES

In January, the Headmaster asked me to take on the role of School Archivist. As such, my task is to catalogue the existing School records, covering all aspects of the School's history, since its inception. There is a wealth of varied information detailing the development of the School, the acquisition of its first premises, the move to Forgandenny, the building of various facilities and accommodation, the acceptance of girls and many other momentous milestones over the past decades! As well as this, the archive records tell of past sporting achievements, foreign tours and successful play productions: in fact, the life of the School is minutely documented and makes fascinating reading for anyone with an interest in Strathallan.

It was with the intention of making this vast body of information available that the Headmaster suggested that I mount some displays of articles from the Archives in the new display cases which were delivered in time for Speech Day – just! The first display, entitled "Strathallan at War" documented the School between 1939 and 1945, and illustrated various aspects of the impact of the war upon the School community: rationing, shortages, Home Guard Duty and the threat of invasion, all affected Strathallan, but chiefly the sacrifice of numerous Old Boys, who gave their lives on active service, touched the community and at the time of the 50th Anniversary of VE Day it seemed appropriate to remember them. Further displays, dealing with different themes, are planned for the Autumn and hopefully these will prove to be both enjoyable and informative.

As Strathallan continues to thrive, it is to be hoped that the archives will continue to record our developments and achievements as a community. We have a

history all of our own, which reflects the changing times around us, but which is uniquely the story of our School.

LHN



Finn Syme's thoughtful self-portrait.

COLOGNE

When does a habit become a tradition? Can we, after only four years of exchange with Cologne, begin to regard this programme as a tradition? I sincerely hope so, because the benefits for both schools by far outweigh the inconvenience caused by the appearance of foreign bodies in the classroom; and as we settle down into a fairly smooth routine, the advantages will become ever more apparent.

The party from Cologne stayed with us for ten days at the beginning of the Summer Term 1994. The German pupils attended classes during the morning and pursued a programme of cultural and social activities in the afternoons and evenings. Thanks to the kind generosity of some of the Strathallan parents, they also managed to visit some other parts of Scotland and enjoyed some traditional Scottish hospitality.

When they departed, sadness was tempered by the knowledge that we would meet up again very soon, as the return visit to Cologne was scheduled for the beginning of September.

Our hosts collected us at the Airport in Düsseldorf and took us to our various destinations. Some of us were accommodated in the outskirts of Köln, a fact which we did not really appreciate until the next morning when we had to get up at some ungodly hour (our German hosts thought nothing of it) in order to get to Liebfrauen School for eight o'clock.

The school is situated more or less in the centre of Cologne; it is a purpose-built edifice which houses around 900 pupils, girls and boys. The School was originally run by nuns, but nowadays the connection with the Church is hardly noticeable. We found the classes quite demanding – some of the subjects would have been difficult even if the teachers had spoken English – which they didn't.

The first morning left us completely zapped; being surrounded by a non-stop barrage of German caused our eyes to glaze over and we were mightily relieved when we could huddle together during the intervals and get back to hearing familiar noises. But our hosts were great, not only did they speak good English (better than our German, anyway), they also made sure that we were looked after by their friends and that we found our way around the maze of classrooms.

At about one o'clock some of us went home for lunch, while others, who lived a bit further out or had already made plans for some sight-seeing, stayed in town and grabbed a quick bite. Cologne does have a McDonald's, and a Big Mac is a Big Mac in any language, thank goodness!

Later on we all met up for a rally; we had to find certain landmarks in Cologne and use our skill and initiative to find out all about them. This, once again, taxed our linguistic abilities to the limit. **One realises rather quickly that the phrases that were learnt for GCSE may help when you wish to book a double room**

with shower (the opportunity did not actually arise), but are pretty useless when you are trying to find out why the Schmitz Monument was built in a side street off the old Market place.

Some of the things we saw and did were truly amazing – the tour of the Cathedral by night, from the vaults and crypts with the archaeological digs to the awe-inspiring heights of the roof (to which we gained access by means of a rickety builders' lift and endless spiral staircases) was something we shall never forget. A trip on the Rhine for which the sun actually came out, a visit to the gigantic open-cast mine, a wide range of fascinating museums – all these added up to a worthwhile experience.

How quickly the days passed – we were just getting used to the life style and the rather solid German bread and we had just found out how to work Stuart's folding bed, when we had to start thinking of departing for dear old Strathallan.

I am sure that I speak for everybody when I say a sincere 'thank you' to host parents and pupils, our own parents and members of our staff, for having given us this opportunity to find out that there is much more to German and Germany than we would ever have learnt from our textbooks.

Gordon Duncan

KRUZHOK

Russian is deceptive. Lured by the promise of onion domes, the Red Army Chorus and a justification for mass vodka consumption, you naively start out optimistic and grossly over-confident. You ignore the fact that the words are long and unpronounceable and even the alphabet looks like it was created by a dyslexic on speed. Cruising through the first few chapters of the manual you convince yourself that "Here's an atom", "That's a comet" and "Boris Yeltsin's on the table" are essential Russian phrases. However, four months later when a basic conversation risks lockjaw, or spitting in your teacher's face, and your conversational capability extends only as far as "Greetings – I'm a tractor" or "Gosh, that's a big potato", you realise the truth. Russian is a beast of a language.

But once progress is made and you finally manage to pronounce a word with four consonants in a row, you can afford to feel extremely pleased with yourself. Despite its multiple difficulties, Russian beats the likes of French and German hands down. Thus encouraged, some of us go on to take Modules and Highers in Russian. Thanks must go to Madame Duncan and Madame Watson for all the time and help they gave us.

Claire Duckworth



Illustration by Nick Dalley.

ENTENTE CORDIALE

Now in its third successful year, our exchange with the Collège la Madeleine in Montbrison continues to thrive and this year saw a happy band of Third Formers slightly nervously dipping their toes into French culture and then, ten days later, when it was time to leave, positively wallowing in it.

We arrived just in time for Easter celebrations and the pupils were immediately thrown into Easter à la française, which seemed to involve hunting in gardens for eggs in appalling climatic conditions (we'd left the sun behind in Scotland, ironically enough) and then joining in huge Pascal feasts with extended families. Our hosts were generous indeed in organising a whole variety of activities and outings and I was delighted to witness the steady increase in confidence among our pupils, to the point where jokes were being shared and meals were no longer the periods of awkward silence and embarrassing misunderstandings, but were full of banter and

laughter.

As in previous years, there was plenty of entertainment over the ten days. Hamish Campbell-Jack, something of a football fanatic at the best of times, spent a day at the St Etienne club, watching the players practise. He thought all his Christmases had come at once and reappeared festooned with green scarves, shirts and banners. Dirkja Hannsson-Bolt was whisked off to Paris for the day in a TGV and was lucky enough to see many of the sights of that elegant capital. One may not readily associate Andrew Thwaites with such a landlubber's pursuit as rock climbing, but under Bernadette Fournial's eagle eye, he valiantly scaled a cliff and then abseiled down, visibly relieved to have his feet on terra firma again. Mme de Bengy, the English teacher at La Madeleine, treated us all to a magnificent pancake party at her house and we fitted in a stroll round the area first, to work up an appetite for the mind-boggling array of fillings on offer.

If we arrived as France celebrated, we left them chewing their finger-nails after the first round of the Presidential elections. At that stage, Chirac and Jospin were neck and neck and there was much debate about the final outcome. It was a fascinating time to be in France and we were able to see first hand exactly how much emotion the whole business stirs up. I was impressed the next day to discover that all our pupils knew the names of the candidates and what they stood for; even I had found it quite hard to sort the wheat from the chaff as the debates raged on.

Our thanks must go to Alice de Bengy for organising everything so well in France and to the host families for being so kind and patient. We very much look forward to welcoming all the French pupils over here at the end of June.

PJC



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15 MINUTES FROM STRATHALLAN SCHOOL



Our sixth formers at the Lycée Bellevue.

Following the success of the Third Form French exchange, it seemed a logical step to launch one in the Sixth Form. Thus it was that links were established with the Lycée Bellevue, Alès, one of whose distinguished former pupils, Marie-Laure Crane, joined our staff here in 1994. A very encouraging number of applicants meant that there was copious enthusiasm for the venture on all sides from the very beginning.

At the end of March, the party set out to Alès, Southern France and all were an immediate success with their host families. The sun beat down from the azure sky for most of the days we were there and time took wings. Pupils followed lessons in the lycée on some days and were invited to contribute to many, which put their French to the test straight away. They were quick to notice the considerable work load that the correspondents had and were certainly glad of the opportunity to relax in town and sample some of the local "colour".

It was not all work, however. Mlle

Benoit, of the English department there, had organised a busy and energetic programme for us which covered many aspects of the region; cultural, historical and physical. The party returned from a 25km hike across the Cevennes hills feeling deeply satisfied with their achievement, whilst a trip to the Pont du Gard (a Roman construction of breathtaking proportions) made a great impact with the pupils. The visit to a mineral museum was made entertaining only because the guide himself seemed to blend in remarkably well with the fossils he was holding in his tremulous hand, the pupils' sharp intakes of breath being an indication of how near he came to dropping them all, rather than a mark of astonishment at these grey lumps of stone.

A mining museum was much more enlightening, however, and everyone enjoyed crawling through the dank tunnels seeing what mining life was like until frighteningly recently. We were underground again when we travelled to nearby Trabuc to see the famous caves

there – veritable cathedrals of eerie rocks, stalactites and deep, clear pools of water.

One of the highlights for everyone was undoubtedly the trip to Nîmes, a Roman town with its famous amphitheatre, remarkably intact after 2000 years, and its bustling, lively city centre. Not content to leave it at that the school laid on a huge banquet for us, to which all parents and friends were invited. About 100 people congregated on the eve of our departure and the music played well into the night.

All our pupils were looked after handsomely by their host families and struck up real friendships with their correspondents and those they met in France. The fortnight was relaxed and informal and pupils were able to spread their wings a little bit; I heard nothing but praise from host families for the way in which their visitors had adapted to life in France and had improved their French so much. I was able to testify to this when we were invited to make a recording in school for a local radio programme. The school librarian interviewed us in French and elicited all kinds of interesting responses from our pupils, who showed no qualms about launching into a discussion of the cultural differences they had encountered.

Buoyed up by the success of our first visit to Alès, it is hoped to repeat this in the Spring of '96; the French will be visiting Strathallan just before half-term in October, so we look forward to returning all their kind hospitality. I must thank Marie-Laure Crane for all her inspiration and support in the setting up of this project and also Mado Benuit, whose dynamism and powers of organisation kept the cogs moving so smoothly while we were in France.

PJC

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KONNICHIIWA

- or - Hello - as the Japanese would say. At the start of last session some 45 pupils joined the new Japanese Society and gained an insight into the culture and business language of Japan as well as some of the more esoteric pastimes enjoyed by the Japanese population. The Club will continue next year with twenty Fifth Form pupils carrying through to a year of Japanese language and martial arts while the new intake from Fourth Form will follow the introductory course launched this year.

A link with Isahaya Commercial High School in Nagasaki provided pen pals for

Society members and allowed our pupils to discover for themselves what life is like for their counterparts in a Japanese School. The news of the earthquake which devastated Kobe and surrounding areas in January became more than just news of another disaster from a remote part of the world for our pupils. Messages of sympathy and goodwill flowed from Strathallan to those in Nagasaki who had family and friends involved in the disaster. Fortunately communications with Isahaya also included some lighter moments. When Isahaya sent us a collection of video messages from pen

pals - all in perfectly grammatical English - several Strathallan girls discovered to their horror that their 'female' pen pals were in fact boys!

Of several speakers who were kind enough to share with us their experiences of Japan, the most notable was Professor Moran, Director of the Scottish Centre for Japanese Studies at Stirling University. Mr Ball (Simpson House) also recounted some of his experiences as a gai-jin (foreigner) living in Japan and, thanks to him, we have every confidence that no Society members visiting Japan in the future would ever make the mistake of blowing their noses in public or wearing slippers (intended purely for toilet use) while eating dinner!

As well as learning about the influence of the Japanese on European art from Mrs Hunter, pupils also participated in a short introduction to martial arts. Emphasising self-defence techniques rather than attack, the short course allowed Mrs Hunter and Mrs O'Neill to delight in watching Mr O'Neill being thrown to the ground by the slender form of Nicky Malcolm who is returning next year to learn more about throwing teachers about. Mrs O'Neill's demonstration of punch control on Tenyon Latter unfortunately still causes him to flinch every time he sees her but he assures everyone that he thoroughly enjoyed being used as target practice, not only by Mrs O'Neill but by several of the girls too.

The year was rounded off by a visit to Moshi Moshi, a Japanese restaurant in Glasgow which specialises in authentic Japanese street cuisine. Furnished like a Japanese sushi bar, the small restaurant was packed to capacity by Strathallan pupils who tucked bravely into raw fish, seaweed, squid and aubergine tempura. Struggling manfully with chopsticks and a piece of squid, one pupil summed it all up by saying in somewhat hesitant Japanese 'Oishii desu ne' (It's good, isn't it?)

LAON
DS

GEOGSMILE

"The increase in population is beginning to decrease so future increases will be negative increases resulting in either a small increase or no increase so that population decrease will increase until fewer people are born until they die at which point the increase will stop. Decrease sets in straight away and this is what affects (sic) the population pyramid"(Ed - All clear?)



BIOLOGY

Over the last few terms workmen have been hurrying around the class room area in order to finish the new Biology block on schedule. The total cost of this building was £284,000 and it has only taken eight months to complete. The new facilities are impressive.

The building consists of three large class rooms which will mainly be used by junior and GCSE classes and two smaller Sixth form class rooms which will be used by Higher and A level students. Most pupils think the highlight of the new department will be the two aquariums: one salt and one fresh water. In addition, there is a store room, a preparation room and a staff room. This all means that there is much more room than in the previous block, resulting in more storage space for apparatus, specimens and other equipment.

The renovations also improve the appearance of the classroom campus. Outside the building there will be a large computer-controlled greenhouse and a small pond will be adjacent to it.

Everyone is pleased with the new department and hopefully Strathallians will no longer think of the Biology block as draughty classrooms requiring Bunsen burners to heat them up in winter.

Claire Halliday
Lesley McMullan

THE SALMON

Bubbles.
King rises,
Pulled from the Sky,
By the Fisherman.
Thrashing,
Running,
Like a dog on Leash.
Rises
For the second time,
Muscles Bulging,
Jaws Pulsing.
It beats the Water.
As it is bragged,
Deathly Eyes,
Gills flapping.
Looks dead,
Sees the net,
Bolts.
Into deep blue darkness,
No longer halted
By that cord of
Death.

Laurence Court

SHARKS

Swiftly,
Quietly,
Stalking the shoal.
Silence.
Crack,
Like electric voltage.
The shark
Jumps to life.
Crunch.
Fish bones break,
Water red,
Silver struggles.
Teeth like blades,
Triangular,
Sharp,
Pointed.
Crunch.
Bones now powder,
Silver to black,
Shark still swimming.
Swiftly,
Quietly,
Silence.
All is quiet again.

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

This has been both a very busy and a very exciting year for the Design & Technology department as we presented our first candidates for the new National Curriculum Technology GCSE examinations.

Five hard-working sets have prepared themselves very well indeed for what has proved to be a worthwhile and much improved course, and we look forward to even greater things next year with five even bigger sets coming through.

One of the most significant and welcome changes has been the introduction of industrial and commercial relevance to many aspects of the course, and we are very grateful to both

C.R.Smith and to Petroleum Engineering Services for giving us so much of their valuable time to provide an experience that none will forget.

This year has also seen the introduction of the Arkwright Scholarship to the Sixth Form A level Design & Technology course. Applications for this Scholarship are rigorously assessed by both examination and a two-day interview and presentation by the candidates. Congratulations go to **Jenny Littleford** and **Kevin Eadie** who have both been successful in their applications. Very well done!



PJE

Jenny Littleford and Kevin Eadie.

SIXTH FORM TALKS

The School was fortunate enough, once again, to attract a variety of outside speakers. As before, there was a sequence of general talks designed to introduce senior pupils to topics of wider interest they might not have come across in their academic courses. During the two winter terms there were five such lectures. **Patrick Gordon-Duff-Pennington**, former President of the Scottish Landowners' Federation and currently Chairman of the Scottish Red Deer Commission, spoke of the problems of conservation and control in the countryside. **Peter Burt**, Treasurer and Chief General Manager of the Bank of Scotland, explained the changing functions of modern banking. **Peter Brand** from the Department of Astrology, University of Edinburgh, brought us up to date with some of the exciting developments in his subject. We were also pleased to welcome back, for a return visit, the presentation team from Perth Prison, **Jim Kelly** and **Andy Stewart**. **Duncan Spinner**, a Strathallian in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, gave us a serving officer's views on the peace process in Northern Ireland. Our programme ended on a slightly different military note with the visit of **General Sir Michael Rose** who lectured on his views of the peace-keeping roles of the United Nations throughout the world in recent years.

Such a varied programme was unlikely necessarily to appeal to all the Sixth Form on each occasion, but it was hoped that, at the least, most of the

audiences would have gleaned some interesting ideas about new and important areas of public life.

Similarly, the History talks were not intended to buttress what had been covered in the classroom; they were planned to offer a platform for historians to remind us of the basic appeal and interest of the subject.

Our programme began with a fascinating talk by **Professor Ted Carne**, the new Professor of Scottish History at the University of Glasgow. His inspirational lecture on Scottish Popular Culture, 1500-1800 was particularly interesting on the phenomenon of witchcraft. He was followed by **Professor Robert Bartlett** of the University of St Andrews who spoke very well on Saint-making in the Middle Ages. Our other speakers were both from the University of Edinburgh, **Dr Garry Dickson** whose enthusiastic lecture on the People's Crusade was very well-received, and **Professor Harry Dickenson**, whose talk on the Jacobites was full of interest for non-specialist and expert alike.

Early in the Summer term before public examinations began in earnest, Strathallan hosted a History Conference that was planned to re-charge over-worked batteries as well as offering new ideas on significant parts of the Higher and A level syllabi.

We started with two general talks by **Professor Hew Strachan** (University of Glasgow) who offered a number of

thought-provoking interpretations on the degrees of responsibility to be attached to Vienna and Berlin for 1914 and **Mr James Cant** (also from the University of Glasgow) who spoke on his researches into the Cold War. After lunch there was a choice of mediaeval or modern and it was encouraging to note that a significant number of teachers and pupils from the attending schools opted for a talk not connected with what they had been teaching or working on for their public examinations.

The two mediaeval lectures were given by **Dr David King** (University of Lancaster) on the First Crusade and **Dr Matthew Strickland** (University of Glasgow) on the Third Crusade. Two different focuses on significant areas of the twentieth century came from **Dr Robert Mawdsley** (University of Glasgow) on Stalin's Russia and **Dr Anthony McGellicott** (University of St Andrews) on Resistance and Justice in the Third Reich. The conference ended with an overview given by someone who had studied both History and Law, **Sir Malcolm Innes**, the Lord Lyon King at Arms; his judicious comments brought what seemed to have been a useful and relevant conference to a close.

AT

Another Exam Howler:

"Some places get flooding e.g. China and North Muirton."

CAREERS

Over 95% of our pupils go on to higher education, give or take a gap year, and virtually all the remainder go to further education. Anecdotal evidence indicates that most of this latter group aspire to higher education and may well be successful in using a qualification gained in further education for later entry to a university or higher education college.

The current UCAS Handbook lists 197 member institutions, and a conservative guess suggests they offer over 80,000 courses. To this we can add colleges of further education in every population centre, offering literally thousands more courses. It can be a bewildering prospect.

To help pupils find the right course we have many aids: talks, prospectuses, directories, computer programs, videos, visits, interview experience, courses, individual discussion and advice. Many make very good use of this, and the numbers attending or applying for different experiences and opportunities are very healthy.

And yet if we look at those in the Lower Sixth this year who have been on careers experience courses, asked for an interview with the ISCO Director, or come forward for interview practice, we find that 40% volunteered for nothing. The girls have been a bit better than the boys: 33% against 44%. Full marks to those who have made good use of what is on offer – but the rest? "The hunter must stand still for a long time before a roast duck flies into his mouth." (Danish proverb).

Let me applaud those who come to a talk armed with notepad and pen, and who don't feel they must draw attention to themselves; those who use an Open Day to ferret out information that will help them, and who don't regard it as a chance to slip off to the pub; those who give up part of their holiday on a long and sometimes expensive trip to learn more of a profession, and who don't moan when a visiting speaker overruns and cuts fifteen minutes off their leisure time. They are the majority, and they are the ones who will succeed.

The Careers Adviser's job is to advise, and for the most part this means advising those who seek advice. I have thoroughly enjoyed this role, dealing in the main with those who actively want help, and I hope I have been able to provide that help from time to time. Perhaps my successor will be able to persuade a greater number of pupils – and parents – to use what I believe is a very comprehensive service.

DARW



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Malcolm Lamont takes on Sydney Boys' High School.

1st XV

ARB and I started the season with great expectations! We had a solid side which had developed during the summer tour of Australia and Hong Kong. My only concern was the youth of the team as the strongest players were more often than not found to be in the Lower Sixth. We seemed to have a better balanced side than the year before: strong but small forwards and good young backs. **Andrew Scott** was chosen as captain because he stood head and shoulders above his contemporaries on the tour to Australia. Scotty fulfilled our expectations by improving greatly on the playing front and was a fine captain who did more than was asked of him.

Our first game was played at **Rannoch**. It was no easy way to start the season after the long journey there. The boys rose to the occasion, however, and ran out comfortable winners by 50-0. Doug Clement made an excellent start to the season and scored three good tries. Despite the satisfying score line there were a few concerns: the back row lacked pace and there was a fair degree of softness in the team. They also

seemed to lack aggression; they should have beaten Rannoch by more points.

Next game up was against the **Grange School from Chile**. It was good to renew contacts once more with the side who looked after James Henderson so well after his accident on the tour to South America in 1991. They were not going to be easy opposition. The boys tried hard to move the ball at every opportunity but they became predictable by trying to give Doug Clement too much scope. This was to be a problem throughout the season. There needed to be a great deal more softening up and variation within out forward and back play. The game fizzled out as a consequence and we had to settle with a 3-3 draw. A lack of belief in their ability was coming to the surface in the team.

We then played **Glasgow Academy** at Forgardenny. Strathallan seemed to play with little sparkle and they worked hard to score two good tries through Wood and Reekie. They ran out eventual winners by 17-8. Again they seemed to lack the killer instinct and they should have scored more points.

Next on the agenda was **Loretto**. The Loretto team started the stronger and they were admirably led by Nick Outlaw (who played back row for the SSRU). They raced away to a fifteen point lead and before we started to work our way back, the game was out of sight. We scored a good try through Doug Clement but it was too late. It was very disappointing and in many ways it was the turning point of the season. We lost 8-15.

We then travelled to Glasgow for a fixture with St Aloysius. It was in the morning and the boys seemed to be still asleep. St Aloysius scored good tries through James Craig (the SSRU winger and son of Lisbon Lion Jim) and the team once more left their fight-back too late although they scored two excellent tries through Richard Wallace and Doug Clement. They lost, however, 12-15.

A bright point came when we met **Fettes College at Forgardenny** and ran out comfortable winners 20-9. There were good tries from Wallace, Duncan, MacKay and Lee Walker. But once more we seemed to lack drive and desire to win. Lack of support out wide caused us a great deal of difficulty.

It was a very wet day that greeted our performance up at **Glenalmond** but the boys responded well and ran out winners 16-0 through a good try by Ali Duncan. It was a satisfying win because we had not won at Glenalmond for several years. The boys did not 'freeze' which had been a feature of the past games there.

Next up was the **North Midlands U18** looking for revenge after last half-season. They had a mammoth set of forwards and they were going to cause us obvious difficulties. Again the lack of pace in the back row and the boys' persistent attempts to maul the ball against much stronger opponents caused us problems. However, this was an admirable performance because the boys stuck to the task and played very well against a group of very talented players. Logie MacKenzie was to the fore in the forward exchanges, closely followed by Lee Walker and Euan MacKay. The North and Midlands ran out eventual winners by 17-5.

After the break we played **Merchiston Castle at Forgandenny**. Again the boys played well against very strong opposition. They very rarely allowed Merchiston into their half but they were only rewarded with two penalty goals by Euan MacKay. Merchiston scored two tries in the final few minutes to win by 16-6. Ali Reekie came of age and played very well in closing down the SSRU Merchiston centres.

Next, we went to **Edinburgh** to play the **Academy** who were having a fine season. The forwards dominated the tight exchanges after a slow start, but an injury to Duncan Forbes meant that Euan MacKay had to move from Loose Head Prop to Fly Half. Sadly, as Duncan was off the field, the Academy managed to score the decisive try. Again the lack of link between the forwards and backs was obvious. The Academy ran out winners by 13-0.

We then played **Morrison's Academy** and made a total hash of the game. We were missing Lee Walker who was on duty for the SSRU against the Scottish Youth at Murrayfield. Despite good tries from Clement and Seymour the team seemed to have lost momentum and the previous defeats had knocked the stuffing out of them. Despite this, we won by 16-8 although it was another game where we could have scored a great many more points.

We then played **Dollar** and the boys put a great deal of effort into the game but tried to maul too much and once more they gave away far too many turnovers.

This took the momentum out of the team and Dollar scored a last-minute try which saw them win by 5-3. It was a disappointing end to the match in which they had worked very hard although they were very naive.

In Glasgow we met **Hutchesons' Grammar School**, a side we had never played previously. This was the day of the non-tackler – with the exception of Lee Walker and Andrew Scott. The backs showed some flair in attack but were at best very poor in defence. This was very disappointing because it had been a strong point throughout the year. Hutchesons' took their chances well and ran out winners 35-8. I am sure the score line will be much closer in the future.

Next came our game against **Sydney Boys' High School (Australia)**. It was a great credit to Andrew Scott that he was able to pick the boys up and they produced a stirring display to only go down 16-8 against very strong opposition. It was a game where they returned to an aggressive rucking style and this proved to be very effective against the boys from Sydney. Reekie and Horsfall were once more an effective partnership in the centre and they defended very well.

After the Christmas holidays we were a much weakened side against **Robert Gordon's College** but the boys played very well and ran out comfortable winners by 44-6. They once more attempted to play a fast rucking game and this meant that Robert Gordon's were run off the field. There were good tries from

Clement, Wood, Hensman, Horsfall, Sutherland and Seymour.

The following boys were selected to play for the President's XV: L Walker, D Clement, A Reekie, A Hall, R Barr, H Horsfall.

Lee Walker was selected to play for the SSRU against the Scottish Youth. (He scored a try in this game which was played at Murrayfield), Wales, France, Australia and New Zealand. (He would have been selected for others but was injured against New Zealand and he missed the rest of the season.)

The following boys were awarded full colours: A Scott (Captain), L MacKenzie, G McKendry, R Cumming, D Forbes, L Walker, D Clement.

The Best and Fairest Trophy was awarded to Andrew Scott.

The Best Tackle Trophy was awarded to R Horsfall.

Record v Scottish Schools: Played 12, Won 6, Lost 6, For 200, Against 130.

Record v Touring sides: Played 2, Won 0, Drew 1, Lost 1, For 11, Against 17

Record v Representative sides: Played 1, Lost 1, For 5, Against 17.

Despite some poor results this season the School's circuit was very strong. Stronger than I can remember! Our boys played with a lot of heart and they were a great bunch to work with. I wish all those who are leaving well in the future and hope that they keep the rugby up.



1st XV ready to form a scrum.

Senior Rugby

There were good results from most of the other Senior teams in the Rugby Club, the exception being the 7th XV. The 2nd XV once more had an outstanding season losing only three games but the highlight for them was beating Sydney Boys' High School 19-16. There was a good spirit within the 3rd/4th XV squad and they produced some excellent wins throughout the season. The 5th XV, admirably coached by GK and AJHW, had a mixed season but to their obvious delight they reversed a 5-42 defeat to a 26-5 victory over Loretto.

Junior Rugby

The Junior Section had a very mixed season as the U15 'A' team suffered heavy defeats. Despite this, they hung on and recorded a 10-9 victory against Hutchesons' in the last game of the season. This, I am sure, is a sign of things to come. The U15 'B' Team once more recorded some fine victories and I am sure many of the boys will feature in the years to come. NTHDuB did not have another nightmare this year; his young U14 side produced some very fine performances. They seem to be strong in the right areas: in the back row, scrum half and fly half.

Finally, many thanks to all the coaches for promoting the fifteen-man running game: we can only build on this in the future.



Eric Herbert (Orange Free State Captain) gives some tips.

PRAG



Nicol v. Ruthven in Junior House Rugby.

SPRINGBOK 'WANNABES' VISIT



Rising Springbok star, Hunter, gives our Juniors some tips.

In November, we were privileged to have a visit from six members of the South African Rugby Union's Development Squad. This squad shadowed the senior Springbok team on its British tour last season. Ian Kirkpatrick, one of the Republic's top coaches, is also an old friend of Mr Clark – hence the visit to Strathallan.

The players were on a tight schedule, but still provided us with some entertaining drills and activities. Coach Kirkpatrick certainly has a way with words! Significantly, the Development Squad is comprised of many non-white players, so perhaps we met the beginning of a new face of South African Rugby.

Our rugby teams were treated to some new ideas and the chance to rub shoulders with one of the best coaches in the world, and possible future Springboks. One of the visiting players was Eric Herbert who captains the Orange Free State in both Currie Cup and Super Ten matches. It has transpired that Marius Hurter, the Northern Transvaal prop who also visited Strathallan, received his first cap against Romania in the World Cup.

ARB

FOOTBALL

This year, an increased number of pupils opted for football and the season extended to cover most of the Spring Term. As usual the weather was something of a problem, particularly for the 2nd XI and U15 teams, where most of their matches were re-arranged or cancelled altogether. Nevertheless, a good number of matches were possible and the score lines reflected well the improved standard of play this year.

Many thanks to staff coaching football: Mr Fitzsimmons, Mr Mayes and Mr Smith.

GB

1st XI Matches

v	St Serfs	10-0	Won
v	Merchiston	3-2	Won
v	Glenalmond	8-1	Won
v	Stewart Melville	7-2	Won
v	MCR	4-1	Won
v	QVS	5-1	Won
v	Glenalmond	3-2	Won
v	Stewart Melville	3-0	Won

2nd XI Matches

v	QVS	1-4	Lost
v	Stewart Melville	6-2	Won
v	St Serfs	9-7	Won



Football XI.



Action replay.

HOCKEY

Indoor

Comfortable victories over Glenalmond and Rannoch led us, in a confident mood, into the Glenalmond Challenge. With victories over Edinburgh Academy and Robert Gordon's and a draw against George Watsons, we won our group to face Glenalmond in the semi-final in which we ran out 3-0 winners. With Watson's defeating Loretto in the other semi we were all set for a repeat of last year's final. Superb goalkeeping from Parker and with taking our chances in front of goal, a 5-2 victory was well deserved. We not only retained the trophy but became the first team to win the tournament for the second time.

Outdoor

Our first game of the season against Edinburgh Academy was lost to the weather. This brought us against Monifieth U18s with little preparation. A Clement goal kept us in the hunt, 2-1 down at half time, but they hit us hard after the break and ran out comfortable 7-2 winners. Next came Glenalmond and an ill-disciplined performance led to a 1-0 defeat. Confidence was low when we played Gordonstoun the next day, still shell-shocked, we were 2-0 down at half time. We began to dominate the second half and a goal from Barr reduced the deficit. Pushing for the equaliser, Gordonstoun scored a breakaway goal to win 3-1.

Away to Fettes, we felt we had something to prove. With goals from Clement (4), Ward B (2) and Barr (2) a 8-0 victory was just reward for a disciplined show of passing hockey. At home against Aberdeen Grammar, in a game played at a high pace, we kept possession – keeping the ball in their half – and were unlucky only to win 3-0 with goals from Clement (2) and Ward J. In our only game to be played on the hard court we were pitted against Loretto and in a tense game which could have gone either way we lost out by a single goal. Away to George Watson's, on grass, a surface which suited neither team, it took a superb reverse-stick goal from Ward J to bring the game to life. A dip in concentration led to Watson's equalising from a short corner. Against Monifieth School we played our best hockey of the season and goals from Macdonell, Clement and Horsfall earned us a well-disciplined 3-1 victory. Against the Old Strathallians any hopes of a social game were soon dampened when we found ourselves 3-0 down at half time. Getting our act together in the second half we got back to 3-2 with goals from Ward B

and Elder and, but for some superb keeping from Tim Hunter in the Old Boys' goal, we were unlucky not to come away with a result. Our final match of the school season brought us against Grove Academy. Against a talented but ill-disciplined side we kept our heads to win 3-1.

The season promised much but we only really showed glimpses of our true capability. The players learned the need to play a passing game and to keep discipline as on too many occasions we defeated ourselves. Of the players, mention should go to Kim Parker who has admirably filled the gap left by Tim Hunter; Ben Ward, who learned from his mistakes to become an effective captain; Duncan Elder and Doug Clement who both played for Midlands U18s; Jonathan Ward who showed he has the commitment to go with his obvious skill; Jack Finlay who showed he has a real future as an attacking mid-fielder; Robert Horsfall who has progressed into an effective striker and, finally, Robert Barr who kept his head throughout the season, remaining calm under pressure and who should make an admirable captain next season. Places are up for grabs next season but Chris Burnett, Andrew Chown, Richard Wallace, Donald Matheson and Marcus Honig have all staked worthwhile claims.

Of the other teams, the 2nd XI never really gelled but showed they could play entertaining hockey under the guidance of coach, Mr Vallot. Under the stewardship of Mr Ross, the 3rd XI formed a competitive entertaining unit. Mr Proctor returned to coaching and, assisted by Mr Court, led the U16s to an

unbeaten season culminating with an impressive victory over the 1994 Scottish U16 champions. The U15 'A' only lost out to two over-age sides, the 'B' XI having a 100% record. Credit must go to the enthusiasm of their coaches, Mr Ford and Mr Tod.

I must thank those mentioned above, Mr Wands, the Catering staff and the Grounds staff for ensuring the season ran smoothly and, finally, Mr Armitage – new to the staff this year – who brought a professional quality to the umpiring of the 1st XI games.

The Astro will be with us for next season, which has also been extended, so hopefully the weather will not play such an infuriating role in curtailing practice and all teams should be better prepared to meet the rigours of next season and beyond.

Full Colours were awarded to: Robert Barr, Doug Clement, Duncan Elder, Jack Finlay and Logie MacKenzie.

Half Colours were awarded to: Robert Barr, Jack Finlay, Alasdair Macdonell, Kim Parker and Jonathan Ward.

Representative Honours:

Scottish Chameleons

U18: Robert Barr, Doug Clement, Duncan Elder* (Captain), Jack Finlay, Alasdair Macdonell, Logie MacKenzie

U16: Harry Bird**, Alex Blackstock, James Donald, Marcus Honig**, Angus Macdonald, Donald Matheson, Richard Wallace

Scottish U18 Trialist *

Scottish U16 Trialist **



Ruthven retained the Junior Indoor Hockey Trophy.

CRICKET

The 1995 cricket season began towards the end of April in bitterly cold weather and ended in a heatwave. In between, for the most part, the weather was warm and dry making for some very entertaining games, particularly at Junior level. Jupiter Pluvius was back to haunt us with the cancellation of 1st XI fixtures against Dollar Academy and Stewarts Melville, but thankfully these were the only weather-induced cancellations in a potential sixty games at all levels.

Thanks are due to the coaches, at all levels, who put in an enormous amount of time running nets (often in evenings) and umpiring: once again this year, we have also had the services of the Scotland opening batsman **Iain Philip** in a coaching capacity – we hope that this association continues in the future. Finally, I must thank, in particular, Robert Proctor, my predecessor as Master i/c Cricket, who saved me from many potential mistakes and who helped me to ease gently into Festival life at Downside.

RHF

FIRST XI

Annoyingly, very good performances were recorded for Club matches and the disasters were reserved for the Inter-School games. We lost to Loretto, Fettes and Edinburgh Academy because of ridiculous batting collapses and tried to do the same against Merchiston. Only against Glenalmond did we bat properly (after an initial collapse) and then, ironically, we lost by bowling badly for the first time in an Inter-school game. All this is made the more infuriating by a really good team performance at the Downside Festival. Why should a side collapse from 84-3 to 127 all out (Loretto), 100 all out (Fettes), 110 all out (Edinburgh Academy), 91-7 (Merchiston) and, against equally strong bowling attacks, score 191-2 (Creiff), 162-4 (XL Club), 210 (Glenalmond), 204-3 (Dulwich) ? The bowling was not strong enough in depth but too often the bowlers were not given enough of a chance.

Individually the season also had its disappointments. Dougal Fergusson looked superb on occasion and really impressed those watching at Downside but his season's total of 450 (ave. 32.14) did not reflect his ability. Duncan Forbes, Ben Ward (a superb fielder once relieved of the gloves) and Ali Macdonell were all in the same category – a few good innings but not, until the festival, when they really mattered. Robert Barr had an excellent season on paper (462 runs, ave. 42.00) and indeed played some really fine innings

but (and here we go again) scored only 17 runs in total against other schools in Scotland. The tail-enders, particularly Duncan Camilleri (73 v Glenalmond), did something to restore the situation.

Of the bowlers the two openers, Duncan Elder and Peter Watson, bore the bulk of the strain. Duncan Elder, in particular, was tireless and his 25 over spell against Lancaster RGS in the baking heat was typical of his determination throughout the season. His 35 wickets at 19.82 are far from flattering. Towards the end of the season Robin Dicke emerged as a genuine first change bowler and weathered a nightmare festival initiation match to perform really well against Downside and Lancaster. The spinners, however, never really got going. Duncan Camilleri, out for the last few matches with injury, never found his rhythm and Jonathan Ward lacked the self-confidence necessary to compete with batsmen.

Other players made useful contributions. Kim Parker played one or

two near innings and will make a good opener; Andrew Chapman bowled very well at Loretto and should secure a permanent place next year; Harry Hensman will (he tells me) respond to an extended spell in the First XI and Logie Mackenzie returned from the hills.

The next season's prospects are difficult to predict but certainly there are players of ability waiting for the chance to forge places for themselves in the side. For this season I would like to record my thanks to the captain and players who took the setbacks well and ended with a real flourish; to Nick du Boulay who presided at the crease with continued magnificence and to Richard Fitzsimmons who has taken on, as Master in charge of Cricket, the thankless task of administration which it has taken me a mere 15 years to discard. For the time being I shall continue with the First XI.

RJWP



Ben Ward – 50 runs in the Bath Cricket Festival 1st XV.

THE YEAR IN COLOUR



Sixth Form Shakespeare theatre workshop in Stratford.



Anne Wilson at the Headmaster's Music.



Beginners find the slope at Glenshee.



CCF terrorists negotiating with General Sir Michael Rose.



Mr Clark's happier twin brother?



A big moment for Leon Webb - Junior Victor Ludorum.



" We finally caught him! "



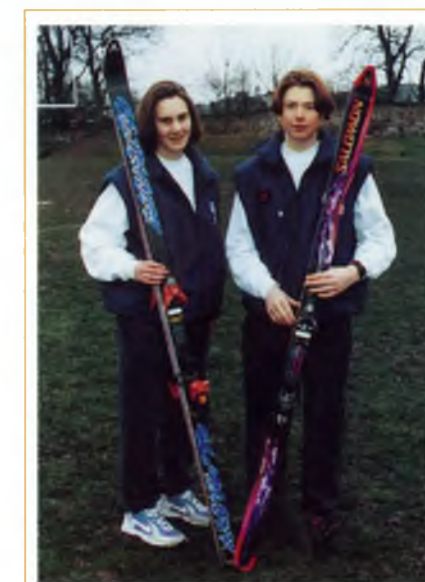
Pygmy tribe attack lone RAF bassoonist.



The Award-winning Pipe Band.



Bugsy mobsters hit Strathallan.



Louisa Graham-Campbell and Gareth Trayner:
Scottish schools' skiers.



The Cross-country hare takes a rest.



Iain Senior cycles UP hill.



" I am the Law! "



The Leavers' Dinner pauses for a photo.



The Tennis Team Trophies.



Strathallan Wanabees with Springbok visitor.



Cameron High looks a good prospect for the team.



Doug Clement and James Barlow give it their all.



Alastair Sutherland in action.

Cricket cont'd

First XI Results

Strathallan 181-3: Perth Northern 131
Strathallan 187-7: Occasionals 178-6
Crieff 191-6: Strathallan 192-2
Strathallan 127: Loretto 129-7
Fettes 187-8: Strathallan 100
Wayfarers 107: Strathallan 111-9
XL Club 161-9: Strathallan 162/4
Strathallan 110: Edinburgh Academy 112-5
MCC 230-4: Strathallan 143
Merchiston 166-9: Strathallan 91-7
Old Strathallians 229-9: Strathallan 148-2
Strathallan 210: Glenalmond 212-3
Clubsport XI 247-5: Strathallan 201
Dulwich 232-7: Strathallan 204-3
Downside 105: Strathallan 109-2
Strathallan 190: Lancaster RGS 192-8

Second XI

Enthusiastically and shrewdly led by Logie Mackenzie, the 2nd XI had an excellent season. **With the exception of Edinburgh Academy (which boasted a fine leg-spinner/batsman) all the opposition sides were outplayed. Both the drawn games were very much 'winning draws'.**

Until injury, the bulk of the bowling was done by Michael Greshon, whose accuracy and swing always posed problems. Latterly, Andrew Chapman produced some equally good performances. Malcolm Elder bowled keenly but without much luck and Andrew Chown quickly developed both as a bowler and a batsman. The 'class' runs came from Harry Hensman and, once established as an opener, from Logie Mackenzie, though everyone in the side had some pretensions to batting. At times, Philip Price kept outstandingly, but a late loss of form was disappointing. Calum Stevens deputised promisingly in the last game.

This was a cheerful side with the right blend of sensible old-stagers like Euan Sutherland and young players with potential, such as his younger brother Alastair. It was a group which it was a pleasure to coach.

JNF

Senior Colts

If there was one quality which characterised this age group, it was certainly determination. Despite not having any really outstanding players (and using 19 in total), this side achieved the creditable tally of – played 9, won 2, lost 5, drawn 2 – at first sight disappointing, until the point is made that the two draws were very much 'winning draws' and that two defeats came in the final over. The victory over Fettes (42 all out) was the result of good bowling by legspinner Richard Jones (5 wickets for 9 runs) and a solid batting performance. The final game of the season indicated just how far this team had improved and progressed, resulting in a victory over **Gordonstoun** (189-9) which was based on a well-timed run chase led by Robin Dicke (74) and the explosive Lil Thapa (43 not out). Certainly, with a little more application and confidence, many of the players of this squad should do well next year in senior cricket.

DRG

Junior Colts

From meagre beginnings, a six wicket defeat at the hands of **Merchiston** (though with Merchiston 69-4 the game could have gone either way), the side advanced steadily through a one wicket defeat at the hands of **Loretto** to a high-scoring and evenly balanced draw against Fettes; then came the better of the draw against **Glenalmond** and, eventually, the long-awaited victory was achieved against **Edinburgh Academy**.

The second half of term began with another game against **Merchiston**; this would be an indicator of how far the side had progressed. However, the game turned out to be a low-scoring, though nail-biting, flop. Despite being all out for 40, the game could have gone the other way when we reduced Merchiston to 20 for 5 and were in with a chance. After the disappointment of losing, the team did well in maintaining its momentum and there were some creditable individual performances in the remaining two drawn games.

Despite having an overall tally of played 8, won 1, drawn 4 and lost 3, the Junior Colts were nevertheless quite a talented if inexperienced, side. With a little more bowling penetration, the draws against **Glenalmond** (97-9) and **Dollar** (37-7) could have produced comfortable wins. The batting depended largely on captain Gareth Trayner (147 runs), Scott Harvey (186 runs) and Ian Stewart (151 runs). In

the bowling, all three figured highly: Harvey (15 wickets), Trayner (13 wickets) and Stewart (13 wickets).

Ian Stewart is also to be congratulated for making it through to the Scottish U15 side in mid-July, a fine achievement both for himself and the School.

ALKD



MR ED McDONALD

The Head Groundsman of Strathallan School has provided a friendly wave and pleasant word to visitors and residents alike for nearly nineteen years.

Unlike the teaching staff and pupils, he can't just stop for the holidays as everything continues to grow just the same. So perhaps we should remember that whilst we are all away on our holidays Mr McDonald and his staff will be preparing the grounds and pitches for our return, as usual.

Steven Kilfedder

GEOGSMILE

"If people set out in boats 100 years ago from Rye by the time 1970 came round they would not be able to get back in due to silting. The fish would of (sic) gone off – it wouldn't really matter anyway as Rye harbour is now 3 miles inland." (Ed. – longshore drift?)

BOYS' TENNIS

A fine run in the Scottish School's Cup to reach the last sixteen was the best feature of a rather mixed season. Excellent victories away to Grantown and Montrose set up a home tie against Robert Gordons for a place in the quarter finals. Despite some splendid tennis and well-contested matches, we were well beaten by the Aberdeen school. Both Richard Wallace and Alex Blackstock deserve special mention for the quality and determination of their singles play in this competition.

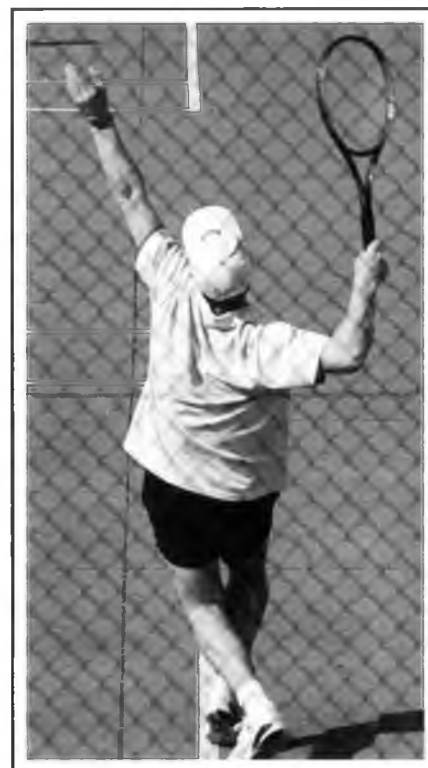
In the Glenalmond invitation mixed doubles tournament, Melissa Gillingham and Richard Wallace won convincingly, dropping only three games in their six matches. Our second pair, Gillian Anderson and Alan Hall, rounded off a very successful afternoon by winning the trophy for runners-up in the Group B tourney.

In our regular fixtures there were good wins against Loretto, Edinburgh Academy and a very strong Rannoch side, where victory depended on both the second and third pairs winning their decider third sets. Our match with Glenalmond clashed with a Cup match in Montrose and our 'six' contained four

players new to the team. They were well beaten but played with spirit and determination and the experience gained will be useful next year. Team selection was affected several times by examinations and injury but this was not wholly responsible for disappointing results at Merchiston and Stewarts Melville. It continues to be difficult to maintain a full fixture list in this busy term, and this year the Fettes fixture followed the path of Gordonstoun, Watson's and Morrison's.

The whole squad continues to benefit from the experience and advice of Richard Wallace, our top player for the past four seasons. In particular, Alan Hall's service and Alex Blackstock's volley have developed very effectively. Alan Hall has captained the side this year; his quiet encouragement and calmness under pressure have been a feature of the season!

The team was selected from: A Hall, R Wallace, A Blackstock, S Fairbairn, R MacMillan, R Cumming, B Corbett and R Dundas.



Alex Blackstock serving.

DJR

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BADMINTON

Badminton Club again ran for Third Years through to Sixth Formers throughout the Winter and Spring terms with one major difference this year – a heated Sports Hall! What luxury it seemed to be playing in such a comfortable environment, when we remember how it used to be vital to keep on the move before hypothermia set in.

To be honest, the turnout was a little disappointing this year, especially from the Third Form, but those who did come

were keen and made good progress. Tim Elliott and John Cameron both played with great enthusiasm and finally discovered that part of the art of playing is to put the shuttle where the opposition can't get to it. Elise Rankin from the Fourth Form, showed what a natural talent she has for racket sports, while at Senior level Mark Hunter, Struan Fairbairn, Robert Dundas and Louis Ma all developed well over the season. Mark and Struan entered the **Perth & Kinross**

Schools' Tournament and found out just how high the standard is in these parts. Junior internationals seemed to be playing on every court they looked at and although they couldn't quite register a win they said they enjoyed the experience. **We look forward to continuing the fun we've had and to welcoming new members next year.**

GLK

BASKETBALL

For many years Basketball has held the Monday late night activity slot in the Sports' Hall. Only the most committed enthusiast has been able to last the pace of a full Monday and then work at the pace needed for a basketball game. This year, **Riley pupils** have got in on the act for the first time with their new Friday evening activity slot and **Juniors** have been able to cover the basic skills more regularly within the new PE lesson structure. **Seniors** have also taken extra time at weekends to play the game as a social sport.

The House competitions showed a marked improvement in skill and fitness though advice on dress sense had to be more strict. Serious training and preparation by the House coaches showed

to advantage in the close elimination games and **Gilbert Stevenson's Simpson side was eventually an easy final winner and retained their Senior Trophy for a fifth year.** The Simpson Juniors were surprised, however, by a keen and able Nicol side led enthusiastically by Barry Corbett and unconventionally coached by James Steel and John Vivers. I understand that celebrations went on for some time.

The School team was a young side this year and had been learning the trade. Games against Morrison's, Dollar and Rannoch had to be cancelled due to time or weather in the Spring Term and a late cancellation against Kinross was a disappointment. However, we did get to **Glenalmond** where Gilbert Stevenson led a good side on to the court. Lack of match

practice told against us in the end but this was a sound lesson in team work. Gregor Nim worked hard at post, supported by Stewart and Ross Connell. Lauren Gibb and Colin Miller made up for a lack of height by consistent hard work.

Our annual **Invitation Tournament** went ahead for the eighth year, the second as a full Friday. U18 school teams from Strathallan, Kinross, Rannoch, Arbroath, Blairgowrie and Morrison's went through the elimination matches in two groups. Eventual finalists were Arbroath and Kinross with Strathallan runners-up in their group. The final winners, Scotland Coach John Grant's Arbroath, were presented with the trophy by Mr McPhail.

GRMR

GOLF

On paper the Golf team looked weaker than in previous years with Messrs Mitchell, Garvie et al now playing their golf elsewhere. However, as we all know, the game is not played on paper and the team produced some spirited performances and, much to our surprise, they played so well that they almost clinched the League title – losing out by one point to defending champions Glenalmond, despite beating them in our home match against them.

For the first time in my five years in charge of the Golf Team, we fielded an unchanged side for all our league matches and all the players had identical records: played 5, won 3, drawn 1, lost 1.

So much for the 'bald' statistics. They do not reveal some fighting performances, particularly against some of the schools we could have expected to lose to – on paper, but the player who made the most

progress was Bruce Martin, who when playing at No.1 in the team, achieved some excellent victories against tough opponents. The experienced Andrew Milne fought hard in all his games and twice sank long putts on the final green to win matches. Bruce McClure's game showed more maturity as the season progressed. All in all this was an excellent team performance. Well done!

Bruce Martin qualified to play in the **Scottish Schools' Golf Championships** at Carnoustie by virtue of his third place in the **Perth and Kinross Individual Championships** at Taymouth Castle – a superb performance from a player who began the season with a handicap of 12!

The Inter-House Golf Competition at Auchterarder was won by a strong **Ruthven** side with **Bruce McClure** winning the individual title with a fine 74 (+8), despite being 6 over after 3 holes.

A School Match-Play Competition was played over 12 holes of the School Course for both Seniors and Juniors. In the Senior competition – the battle of the Bruce's was won by Martin (R) over McClure (R), whilst in the Juniors it was R Jones (R) who narrowly beat I Smith (R) to emphasise Ruthven's dominance of School golf this year.

We are pleased to welcome a new teaching professional this year, **Mr Steven Harrier**, who has taken over from Frank Smith at Craigie Hill. While we shall all miss Frank's humour, we have already been impressed by Steven's golfing knowledge and attention to detail. Watch out for him on the Tartan Tour!

NS

CROSS-COUNTRY



Our team sizing up the opposition.

It is always most encouraging to see growing numbers of people showing an interest in this exhilarating sport. Any outdoor sport undertaken in the winter at Strathallan is going to entail a certain degree of struggle with the elements, but all those who take part so willingly in cross-country remain cheerful and seem to shrug off the icy blasts and the lashing rain as "part of the fun".

This year, **Nicholas Scales** took over the mantle of Captain and had an extremely successful season himself, winning many of the races. His determination has been an inspiration to others in the team and I have been grateful to him for organising the team so efficiently.

Heavy rain had turned the cross-country course into something of a quagmire, but still the teams turned out for the annual **Inter-House** competition. They slithered their way round the fields and turned in some respectable times, though no records were broken, needless to say, in such appalling conditions. Nick Scales maintained a substantial lead over rivals to win the Senior category, whilst Christopher Wands moved from Junior winner last year to Middle winner this year. David Fisher was the fastest Junior runner and the three girls' categories were won by, respectively, Melissa Gillingham, Kirstine Lawson and Susan Balfour. **Freeland** managed a comfortable win over **Ruthven**, who had been victors over the previous two seasons.

It was perhaps a little optimistic to hope to win our first fixture against such formidable opposition as Sedburgh.

Nonetheless, we met them on home ground and challenged them to the notorious fort run, rather than the slightly tame School course. The fort run involves running from the village up to the wild heights of Culteuchar Hill via woods, farms and ankle-deep mud and then all the way down again. Thirty-eight minutes after setting the two teams off, the front runners reappeared, tired and spattered with mud, but very pleased with a varied and taxing course. Sedburgh, used to leaping over fells, won the competition, but there were some excellent performances from our team: Nick Scales came in 4th and the Wands twins kept our score to a respectable total.

With a strong middles team, we appeared at **Rannoch** and took on some wiry-looking runners from QVS, Rannoch and Glenalmond, all traditionally strong running schools. The **Strathallan** team achieved one of its first wins in a long time when the Wands twins, Stephen Scales, Ewen Adam, Adrian Beaumont and Roddy Murray all galloped round the course in excellent times. We didn't do quite so well in the Senior or the Girls race, so failed to win the match overall. A similar team took on Fettes, at home again on a shortened fort run, and beat them convincingly, gaining all the first nine places bar two, thus securing a second victory.

There is perhaps a slight element of eccentricity in a cross-country runner as displayed very clearly on two occasions this year. However loathe he may be to admit it, every runner nurtures a longing to be an Eric Liddle and splash his way

along the beach at St Andrews. This has now become a tradition and so this year we made our way to the beach of *Chariots of Fire* fame. However, by the time we arrived, there was a howling gale and the rain was practically horizontal. Quite undeterred, the runners nonetheless performed the ritual and then plunged into the icy sea in the swimming trunks they had thoughtfully brought with them.

Sedburgh's 10 miles Wilson Run has a similar fatal attraction about it, which appeals to the foolhardy. Arriving in beautiful weather after a three hour car journey, everyone was in excellent spirits and set off up the fells full of good cheer and optimism. It wasn't until we emerged onto the moor that the blizzard closed in on us and the temperature with wind chill dropped to -11c. We managed to evacuate and return by a shorter route before we became tabloid headlines and, of course, once a warm shower and good food had brought everyone back to normality, the whole adventure had gained epic status and seemed rather exciting in retrospect.

The season ended with the by now traditional party for all those who contributed to the enjoyable and convivial atmosphere of the group. It has been gratifying to have so many taking part and I am most grateful not only to those who ran so well, but also to those who were so efficient in being markers up on the hill in freezing conditions and who didn't moan once. **Many thanks to all, however great or small your contribution.**

PJC



Scott Mitchell.

SPORTS DAY AND ATHLETICS

This year saw **Sports Day** return to its usual format: all the events on one day and competitors being chosen for their Houses in relation to their Standards performance.

Three girls' field events records were broken: Rhona Chapman, in the **Junior Discus**; Hannah Krannenburg in the **Senior Discus** and Kirsty Buchanan in the **Senior Javelin**. Thornbank also broke the old East Wing **4 x 100 Junior Relay** record. Thornbank were eventual winners of the **Girls' Sports Day Trophy**.

In the **Boys' Inter-House** event, **Simpson** were run-away victors owing, in no small part, to winning all the relay races and breaking the records in the Junior and Middle **4 x 400m**. The competition was summed up when J Barlow (R) chased D Clement (S) in the final leg of the **Senior 4 x 400m**. Doug Clement held on to win at the last gasp. It was a great end to a remarkable day. Special mention must go to the **House Captains of Athletics** who always do a fantastic job in getting teams ready for Standards and Sports Day: J Matheson, K Hodgson, C Wood, R Mawdsley, R Connell, E MacKay.

The Boys' Captain, J Barlow, was fantastic. He led by example and was very enthusiastic despite a hectic examination year. He won a silver in the **Scottish Schools Pentathlon Championships** which was a great achievement and a fine reward for his efforts. **Catherine Campbell-Low** also performed miracles by managing to field a very competitive Girls' side despite the small numbers opting for Games. In no small part this was due to a very strong Junior Girls' section in which R Chapman (despite an aversion to training) and K Finlay excelled!

On a sad note, Angus MacDonald's record in the 200m was not to be. They started in the wrong place. Sorry Gus!

Full colours were awarded to: J Matheson, P Hodgson, J Barlow.

Victor Ludorum:

L Webb	Junior
A MacDonald	Mid
J Barlow	Senior

Vitrix Ludorum

R Chapman	Junior
H Scott	Senior

PRAG



James Barlow, School Captain of Athletics and Silver Medallist in the Scottish Schools' Pentathlon.



Mrs McPhail presented the prizes.

GIRLS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist	Record	Holder	Year
100m	J	Finlay J K	13.85	13.00	Streule K	1982
100m	S	Scott H	15.16	12.12	Edmunds A	1990
200m	J	Finlay J K	28.56	27.79	Reid S	1988
200m	S	Murray S	28.41	25.20	Edmunds A	1990
400m	J	Finlay L	1.10.61	66.00	Reid S / Taylor R	1987/1990
400m	S	Scott H	1.10.38	60.00	Reid S	1990
800m	J	Balfour S	2.46.04	2.32.10	Taylor R	1990
800m	S	Matheson J	2.46.63	2.35.06	Taylor R	1993
1500m	J	Balfour S	5.51.34	5.14.09	Barlow A	1992
1500m	S	Murray S	5.50.00	5.09.10	Meiklejohn C	1990
High Jump	J	Chapman R	1.25m	1.45m	Orr K	1984
High Jump	S	Yellowlees K	1.35m	1.55m	Rutherford R	1987
Long Jump	J	Partridge K	4m	4.46m	Gordons S	1985
Long Jump	S	Yellowlees K	3.87m	4.58m	Carruthers C	1989
Shot	J	Wallace G	7.73m	10.23m	Sang T	1992
Shot	S	Sang T	7.38m	9.49m	Edmunds A	1990
Discus	J	Chapman R	25.10m	25.10m	Chapman R	1995
Discus	S	Krannenburg H	24.59m	24.59m	Krannenburg H	1995
Javelin	J	Buchanan K	23.39m	23.39m	Buchanan K	1995
Javelin	S	Bruce M	22.42m	22.80m	Buchanan K	1995
4x100m	J	Thornbank	55.65	55.65	Thornbank	1995
4x100m	S	Thornbank	57.35	54.54	Thornbank	1990
4x400m	J	Woodlands	4.50.21	4.39.37	Thornbank	1992
4x400m	S	Thornbank	4.47.85	4.43.83	Thornbank	1993

BOYS' RESULTS

Event	Age	Winner	Time/Dist	Record	Holder	Year
100m	J	Webb L	12.86	12.10	Ling T	1971
100m	M	McDonald A	12.34	10.90	Oglivie	1978
100m	S	Wood C	12.64	11.00	Lochart/Ling/Smellie/ Kirkland	1971/1978
200m	J	Smith I	26.20	24.00	Wallace R	1993
200m	M	McDonald A		23.03	23.20	
200m	S	Hodgson P	23.26	22.80	Ling T	1974
400m	J	Young K	59.12	56.50	Cook C	1987
400m	M	Kettle G	57.63	52.50	Millar	1977
400m	S	Clement D	53.90	50.30	Roger G	1982
800m	J	Kennedy R	2.34.6	2.12.90	Lawrence C	1984
800m	M	Murray R	2.06.58	2.03.06	Lawrence C	1985
800m	S	Barlow J	2.03.81	1.55.02	Roger C	1982
1500m	J	Fisher D	5.02.20	4.32.07	Lawrence C	1985
1500m	M	Stone D	4.30.69	4.14.05	Bond R	1988
1500m	S	Scales N	4.36.34	4.09.02	Bond R	1989
High Jump	J	Harvey S	1.45m	1.63m	Holmes	1965
High Jump	M	Blackstock A	1.55m	1.775m	Cuthbertson	1984
High Jump	S	Clement D	1.58m	1.895m	Roger G	1982
Long Jump	J	Webb L	5.13m	5.55m	Lear C	1967
Long Jump	M	Wallace R	5.38m	6.17m	Lawson	1967
Long Jump	S	Barlow J	6.04m	6.52m	Smellie D	1978
Shot	J	Trayner G	9.65m	12.83m	Walker L	1992
Shot	M	King R	11.45m	14.73m	McKenzie G	1973
Shot	S	Walker L	10.70m	12.90m	Callander	1979
Discus	J	Webb L	21.58m	36.27m	Knox S	1974
Discus	M	King R	30.35m	42.00m	Knox S	1976
Discus	S	Walker L	30.10m	40.26m	McKenzie G	1974
Javelin	J	Trayner G	33.41m	49.81m	McBride J	1969
Javelin	M	Elder M	39.30m	49.81m	McBride J	1969
Javelin	S	Wood C	42.10m	57.07m	McBride J	1971
4x100m	J	Simpson	52.34	50.50	Ruthven	1987
4x100m	M	Simpson	48.15	46.60	Simpson	1972
4x100m	S	Simpson	46.59	45.50	Freeland	1981
4x400m	J	Simpson	4.09.07	4.09.07	Simpson	1995
4x400m	M	Simpson	3.58.49	3.53.49	Simpson	1995
4x400m	S	Simpson	3.44.07	3.41.03	Freeland	1992

GIRLS' GAMES

I am often asked by parents, in a House connection, what the girls do for sport. Do they compete against well-known schools, big schools, and what is their success rate? You will read from the reports below that they compete at all ages and stages in local fixtures, as well as fixtures further afield and have the chance to represent school, District and country whenever and wherever possible. Their success rate depends on two things – time and effort. The girls take their sport as seriously as the boys. They are willing to put in the time and their effort when it comes to playing well, whether a win is the end result or not, cannot be faulted.

Helping in their achievements are the efforts of the staff who make up the girls' games team – Miss England, Mrs Dorward, Mrs Lamont, Mrs Segaud, Mrs Duncan, Miss Neale, Mr Giles, Mr Shore, Mr Glimm and Miss Carlisle who leaves us this year and will be replaced by Mr Armitage. My grateful thanks to them. Without their willing help I would not be able to assure parents that the success rate of girls' games is high, but as both the girls and the staff know, I am always looking for the next season being even better!

LJS

From a Thornbank point of view, a mad frenzy certainly swept through our House when at 2pm on Wednesday, 24th May, the Tannoy interrupted our lunch by announcing the girls' 100 m and long jump. Athletes dashed from the House to their first event and the pace didn't slacken throughout the afternoon.

Within an hour, a wave of panic swept through both Miss Smith and Miss Carlisle as the Tannoy announced that Thornbank was three points behind Woodlands. Surely, 1995 was not to be the first time in eight years that Woodlands were to triumph over Thornbank for the Inter-House Cup!

The Junior relay team, consisting of Lisa and Kim Finlay, Rhona Chapman and Gillian Wallace helped to prevent this. Kirsty Buchanan and Hannah Krannenburg, who broke the School junior javelin and senior discus records respectively, ensured this was not the case. Miss Smith's mind was finally set at rest. The junior Victor Ludorum was won by a Thornbanker – Rhona Chapman. However, the senior one was awarded to Heather Scott in Woodlands.

Jo Matheson



Sarah Murray in the Relay Race.

GIRLS' HOCKEY

When asked by a fellow committee member of Scottish Schoolgirls at Hockey Camp this summer what was the high point of Strathallan girls' hockey in season 94/95, I had to think long and hard. Not because I had to dream up an answer but had to select, out of many success stories, the one which meant the most.

The season began the day after the term began with trials. There were seven spaces to fill in the 1st XI. Two days later we were taking part in the **Midlands 1st XI Tournament**, a tall order when we had just touched the surface of set pieces in a late Friday evening practice. However the forwards barely needed to rely on these as they fired balls into the goal from every angle and the team lifted the splendid trophy. Goal scoring was not to be a problem during the season but winning fixtures was to prove difficult with scores regularly of 2-4 and 2-3. **Dundee High School** treated us to a magnificent display of hockey and more than gained revenge on the aforementioned tournament by defeating us 1-8 in our annual match. From that moment on the team realised there was much to work on and that they could not always rely on the goal scorers. After much discussion and openness we set about tackling the season in a positive frame of mind and a willingness to work to keep places in the team.

By October the outdoor District sides were selected. No player had made the final cut at U18, but two – Kim Finlay and Gillian Wallace – were to play in the **Inter-District Tournament** in Aberdeen at U16 level. Despite appalling weather conditions over the weekend, both girls worked hard and I clearly remember thinking, as I wrung out my selector's sheets at the end of the tournament, that only months before Kim had undergone brain surgery after a cycling accident and here she was playing for Midlands with a chance of Scottish selection.

The Independent Trophy – a trophy we had held since its inception 10 years ago – was the next hurdle. Our fixtures with the competing teams showed that we had to be on top form on the day. What better preparation than to travel to Burgie House the previous evening and spend a most pleasant time in the company of the Lochore family. Their hospitality did the trick and with the run along the beach before the semi-finals to calm the nerves, we came out on top in the final and retained the quaiach.

Touring sides are always fun to have at school. A 1-0 victory over the **Grange School, Chile**, a vast improvement on

previous scores; a 2-1 win against **Greenwich Academy**, Connecticut and Riley only losing 1-2 to **Mowden Hall** who come up each year, all helped to boost morale as teams on tour are usually well prepared and at the peak of their season.

The New Year saw us in the semi-finals of the **Midlands Cup** after a bye as last year's winners and a win over **Glenalmond**. **Monifieth High School** put paid to a repeat appearance at the Scottish outdoor finals in a superb game on the astroturf at **McDermid Park**, where both teams played flowing hockey – Monifieth scoring the only goal of the match. **Tamsin Stevens** gained a place in **Midlands' Indoor squad**. As the organiser of the Inter-District Indoor tournament, I was pleased to see her play and delighted when Midlands retained the trophy and Tamsin gained a winner's medal.

If we were not destined to appear in the Outdoor Scottish finals then what about the Indoor Scottish finals? 14 goals at the **Midlands' Indoor Tournament** saw us reach the final against who else but **Dundee High School**. The team had to put to the back of their minds that the High School had qualified for the outdoor finals and had beaten us badly after our first tournament win against them. At the end of full time the score was 0-0 and we were into penalties. Football managers have the incentive of huge money bonuses to ensure victory. The offer of chips and ice cream in Cupar on the way home seemed to do the trick – we won on strokes and would represent the District at the Youth finals at Bells Sports Centre in February. With the support of the Headmaster, parents and friends, we were runners-up in our section to the High School of Glasgow. A twist of fate found us playing **Dundee High School** in the semi-finals, called in at the eleventh hour

to fill a slot in the draw. Our reputation in tournaments gave us an advantage but when the score was 1-1 with the minutes ticking away, as coach I just had to sit back and place all my trust in the players believing in themselves. 2-1 saw us into the final, Hannah scoring as only Hannah can, to meet none other than the High School of Glasgow, who in the section games, beat us 3-1. Over the 20 minute Scottish final, goals were scored every two and a half minutes: 8 in total, sadly 5 to the High School and only 3 to Strathallan. **It was a great match and although disappointed and exhausted, the team brought a lump to my throat when they raised an unprompted and rousing three cheers for the winners after the medal presentations.**

Despite a valiant effort at the Heriot's 7's in March, our season was not to end with another trophy. My hesitation in answering the question is clear. How do you select one high spot? The question was posed in early August, with the sun beating down on our new astroturf pitch as I stood and watched a Scottish Schoolgirls' hockey camp select team containing our own Sarah Murray who will captain the 1st XI in season 95/96, being given a tactical point before going on the pitch by Wendy Fraser bronze medalist in the GB team at the last Olympics. Sarah was to play alongside Susan McDonald, a present GB player and many other well known schoolgirl, senior district and international players against the South African U18 National hockey team. It was hard to believe all these players were at Strathallan, playing on our new pitch and quite obviously having a superb camp with the South Africans who were having a marvellous start to their tour of Britain. **I can't think I am wrong in hoping there will be many more high points for girls' hockey at Strathallan in the years to come.**

LJS



Scottish Schools' YHC v. South Africa U 18 in the first game on the new astroturf.

NETBALL



The Netball Team

It was a year of great individual achievement: Jenni Malcolm played for Fife U16s; Hilary Ross and Amelia Blair Oliphant were members (and still are) of the Scottish U18 Development Squad and but for the fact that she was born and educated in the wrong place at the wrong time, Vikki Henderson would almost certainly have been there too. Instead she was an enthusiastic and determined captain who played to the highest level. It will be difficult to find someone who can intimidate the opposition in quite the same way. She will be missed!

Individual efforts are excellent but it should be remembered that netball is the ultimate team game. The rules, by

restricting players to specific zones on the court, create a situation in which all team members must be involved and no single one can dominate. I must therefore congratulate the girls on what must have been the ultimate team season. Illness and injury and other commitments meant that the Firsts did not field the same seven for any two School fixtures. That they had an unbeaten season speaks well of the players' ability to adjust to new team members and credit should go to those who filled the empty slots so competently – notably Elise Rankin and Pip Blair Oliphant who deputised so effectively in the shooting circle. On the tournament front the Independent Schools' Trophy was retained and the Firsts were seventh

in the National U18 Youth Tournament: the highest-placed school amongst a host of club sides with a much wider catchment than our own. We took the only seven players available on the day – who knows how well we might have done had Hilary, the crack shooter, not been injured.

The Seconds had a limited season but all played with enthusiasm to stretch the Firsts in training. The Juniors had a variety of fixtures in which they did creditably. Most notable was their performance in the Independent Schools' Tournament where they gave a few shocks to their much older opponents, especially Gordonstoun who were decidedly rattled to only be 2-0 up at half time.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Mrs Anne Dorward who has done so well coaching the Juniors, and all the girls. Their cheerful enthusiasm in often adverse conditions – a slippery hard court surface in the Autumn term and limited Sports Hall and Gym slots in the Spring Term – have been a source of inspiration to both of us. I myself would particularly like to thank the Firsts who let me play in their team in the Perth Ladies' League. Commitment in that area – even in the holidays – meant that we finished eighth of the fourteen teams. Well done, all who played, and especially those who, in fear and trepidation, umpired – you were well worth those chips!

Colours were awarded as follows:

Full colours: Hilary Ross

Half-colours: Amelia Blair Oliphant, Wendy Rankin, Jenni Malcolm.

EAE

GIRLS' TENNIS

It was only when I came to writing up the season's results I realised that in what is effectively a nine week term, 13 fixtures had been played and 3 tournaments attended. The 1st VI, captained by Melissa, won all fixtures – be it, in the majority, narrowly – 5-4. Over 30 girls represented School on the courts this season at all ages, and it is a credit to their play and their organisation that they also managed to fit in prep, musical appearances and examination revision.

Matches in early May saw track-suits on and spectators wrapped in anoraks and gloves. By late June tans were being worked on, while juice and water were being drunk as regularly as at the change-

overs at Wimbledon. Melissa and her partner Richard Wallace proved convincing winners in the Glenalmond Mixed Doubles Tournament; Gillian Anderson and her partner Alan Hall were worthy runners-up in the plate at the same event.

Towards the end of June, two under 12s from Riley appeared in Thornbank quite keen to show me a rather splendid quaich which was the winning trophy at the New Park Tournament. Aneka Laux and Laura Morley are the first pairing to do so well for School in this most enjoyable tournament and are obviously our hopes for the future.

After the runners-up success at every age group last year in the Kilgraston Tournament, great things were to happen this year. However, Dollar Academy were on top form with an excellent team and Melissa, with her partner Gillian, had to settle for a semi-final placing. Numbers on the tennis courts continue to increase and I can only hope that with the extra facility of 9 courts on the astro for use next summer that tennis practice time will increase for non-team as well as team players. From this, playing ability and standards will rise and I look forward to filing next year's results.

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STRATHSKI

There was much biting of nails amongst Scottish Ski enthusiasts as the season got off to a slow start with Glenshee not opening until the end of January. However, only one Thursday ski day was lost and as the season progressed the snow conditions improved with the best skiing, typically, to be had after half term.

Both School Ski teams enjoyed a successful season. It was prophesied in the last ski report that the boys were "going to have their work cut out this year". However, with the promising new addition to the team, Gareth Trayner (who finished 4th and 5th in the Scottish and British Schools' Races respectively) and Phil Hodgson's efforts, they finished 4th in the Scottish Schools' Race (Glenshee) and 8th in the British Schools' Race (Aonach Mor). Phil behaved 'impeccably' this season (much to JFC's surprise) and I greatly appreciated his help as Boys' Captain. He received well-deserved colours after 5 years of racing for the School.

JOHN CLAYTON

Master i/c Strathski: 1965 – 1995

This is a tribute to John's thirty-year enthusiastic and meticulous setting up and running of Strathski.

Arriving in Perthshire, fresh-faced and already a devotee of skiing – having taught in France – there was no better choice than JFC to initiate what must be the most popular voluntary minor (sic!) sport at Strathallan.

From its earliest beginnings, Strathallians journeyed to Glenshee and slid, fell, snow-ploughed, fell, picked themselves up, and started all over again, in Butchart's Coire. John and Helen's garden shed burst at its seams as the Strathski stock grew, through careful and skilful management.

John, not noted as an "early riser", nevertheless was there on Rothesay Pier, counting pupils onto the transport on Sunday mornings long before the lark rose.

No doubt his records will state exactly how many Strathallians skied through his hands. If one 'guess-timates' forty pupils per Sunday over thirty years, one comes to the total of 1,200. If one adds to that the seven ski buses on Thurski Days (his latter-day piece de resistance) then one comes to the total of approximately 300 pupils (over 5 years ?) and one hazards that a further 900 pupils took advantage of his expertise. **If my sums are correct (and he will gently tell me if they aren't) that will bring the total of Strath-skiers who passed through his poles to over 2,000.**

Louisa Graham-Cambell had two great races, finishing 4th in both the Scottish and British Schools' Races. In the end girls were not shown up by the boys' team results and, much to our delight, finished 5th in the Scottish Schools' Race and 4th in the British Schools' Race.

Thanks to all participants in the teams for their efforts – the early starts, as well as the much-enjoyed days off lessons! Our successes this year have been greatly contributed to by Claire Bailey who gave us (much needed in some cases!) race training and remained enthusiastic even after standing for hours at the top of the race courses! Many thanks go to Claire who was very encouraging and I certainly felt her input to the School skiing was invaluable. I hope she puts up with some future aspiring Strathallan skiers!

The House race looked doubtful for a while as the snow seemed to be vanishing as rapidly as the assigned Thursday approached. However, the temperature

unexpectedly dropped and we were faced with a Giant Slalom course down a hard-packed icy Cairnwell Slalom track. Colin Eadie surprised us all with a superb run which gained him 1st place. Phil finished second, leaving myself close behind in 3rd place, much to his delight!

This year we had the first ever official snowboarders with the School. About twelve intrepid boarding-dudes had lessons whilst the old hands at snowboarding searched Glenshee for the biggest and most 'radical' jumps.

It was a pleasure to be captain of skiing this year and I hope, since we are in the age of equal rights, future girls will follow in my path.

Melissa Gillingham

BRITISH SCHOOLS' RESULT

Gareth Trayner: Children's Giant Slalom 1st

Children's Combined 3rd

Are you, as an Old Strathallian, one of those who owe a tremendous debt to JFC?

And what of Staff, who like me, were 'dominoed' on the Woodlands slope by JFC? Who, subsequently were cajoled into taking the 'Tiger Chair' and encouraged/bullied/steered towards Butchart's?

Great lessons were learned from JFC. Not least to test one's courage, to improve one's ability, and to encounter risk and know how to deal with the unexpected. To accompany JFC to a Scottish ski resort is an amazing, if not time-consuming, experience. At every fifth or sixth step someone stops him to discuss either Scottish skiing Schools' Racing, the International Skiing scene or technical current ski developments.

And what of the Scottish Schools' – and British – scene? If a race is to be organised then JFC is called upon, to set

the course, to be Chief of Race, referee or compute the results.

On the international scene JFC is a guru. Serving on all the committees that matter, often as Chairman, his knowledge, expertise and wisdom stand unchallenged.

Like 1,000+ others, I owe an immeasurable debt to JFC, as do the 'Soup Dragons', 'Ticket Purchasers/Distributors', 'Checkers on and off buses' and 'Riley Supervisors'.

Although he has handed Strathski over to a tentative (and slow) disciple, I am confident that the name of Strathallan will continue to feature on the national and international scene, not least because his parting/retiring move was to persuade Claire Bailey (nee Booth) to become our Coach.

TGL



DEEP DRY POWDER

Eventually, we arrived in Mayrhofen (Austria). Eventually, I say, for the Rev. was stopped in the airport metal detector several times. Indeed, it was only later we discovered he had a metal knee brace on his leg.

At breakfast, on our first morning, we scoured the piste map. Gazing upon its astonishing 427km of pistes, peaks to 3500 metres and powder like never before, we argued incessantly about where to go. Mindlessly, we put a finger on the map to reveal our estimated destination, "Enough sitting around chatting though – let's go!" we shouted. Filling our pockets with a few rolls for lunch, we slung back the hot chocolate and hurried up the Rev.

As we hit the slopes the silence shattered – the peace not to return for a week or so (certainly not while we were there). The first run down was great (2 miles or so, perfect powder, blue sky) I wish I could say as much for the second

Indeed, by the time we were five minutes into the second run there was already one less skier on the slopes and the Rev's trusty first aid kit was out again. One foreigner down, only 20 million to go!!! Fortunately, the School pupils remained unhurt and the party continued as content as before.

As a group we looked good. I say this because the whole idea behind Winter Sports is the image. For this reason alone, the Rev. was a complete poser – indeed, his new nickname soon became 'Oakley'.

The skiing in Austria was fantastic. There had been plenty of snow the past few weeks and even more most nights during our stay. The length of the runs was phenomenal – but slightly infuriating when we were skiing with the Rev. – the only word to sum him up is SLOW.

After the first day we were all wrecked – sore in every imaginable place. Fortunately, the hotel in which we stayed had a leisure centre, health suite and

gymnasium. As for the gym – we were miles too tired but the sauna and Turkish baths were very inviting. Yet by the time we had been there five seconds the place was deserted and we began to think that people didn't care for us much. Pity!

Back in the hotel, with no one willing to share a room with the Rev., the four of us crashed out together in a two-man room. Cosy as it was, our floor was soon knee-deep in mess. Indeed, it was only as we packed up to leave that we noticed what colour the carpet was!

The week had flown by. We reflected upon great weather and snow, much excitement and some of the greatest skiing imaginable.

However, the Rev. was sure a Strathallan School party would soon return to Mayrhofen. Thanks, Sir.

Richard and Christopher Wands,
Jonathon Goody and James Cessford



Colin Eadie winning for Freeland at Glenshee.

SHOOTING

This has been an odd year for the Club: active and enterprising in parts but lacklustre in others.

We did compete as usual in the Perthshire Leagues from October to March, and some fine performances in all three teams could have been turned into success were it not for the fact that if any one person misses a match, it makes it impossible to win. The carefully selected Junior Teams who were entered so willingly for the British Schools Leagues had an absence level of sixty percent, and failed to win even one match.

Those who really did turn up and practise and compete, did well. In the

Spring Term, Fiona Hamilton won the National Junior Ladies' and also the Open C Class Ladies' title, while David Taylor won the Scottish Junior Short-Range trophy. At the Scottish Open in July, Jenny Littleford won the Scottish Junior Outdoor Championship. As usual, we attended the Watsonians' Open in December and the Perth Open in the Spring, picking up the odd cup along the way, and the amount of silverware on the team photo looks pretty respectable. Five members shot for the Scottish Schools against England and Wales: David Taylor, Jennie Littleford and Katie Butler in the "A" and Alastair Dundas and Fiona Hamilton in the "B" Team. Scotland "A"

came in 2nd to England by 8 points, while the "B" Team won their side of the competition.

The high point of the year was our first tour, to Aschaffenburg in Germany. I must thank Robbie and Adrienne Taylor, without whose help the entire undertaking would have been impossible, and also record that with mine and Robbie's help the team recovered from the initial shock of meeting German Junior Champions who scored things like 597 with their eyes shut, to eventually win the last match. We have been invited back, by the way!

ACWS-J

ASSCHAFFENBURG

Mr Streatfeild-James took the following team: David Taylor, Alistair Dundas, Neil Melville, Iain Senior and Nicky Malcolm. Mr and Mrs Taylor came along to liven everything up.

We stayed in an hotel in Aschaffenburg and went to clubs in other towns to shoot. Mr Taylor drove us around in a disgusting avocado-coloured rented van. I am sure it was the colour that caught the policeman's eye when he gave us a ticket for parking on the pavement!

When we went to the first club, we discovered it to be very different from the range at School as it had no roof, apart from where we were lying down. (It was the same at all three clubs, and we were all quite glad of some protection at least because during the week we had sun, rain, snow and hail.)

The next club we went to was in Miltenburg. It started snowing there, so we had a snowball fight which soon came to a halt when someone threw a snowball and hit the President of Miltenburg by mistake. It was at this club that, after shooting, they made us a meal. We had German sausages, and who should Mr Taylor be sitting right next to but the son of a butcher who sold 100 varieties of sausage. So we went back to his house to see them – which was a bad idea. I think most people have gone vegetarian since!

At each of the clubs we gave our hosts tartan scarves, and the club a crystal thistle. Alistair presented them, and at the final club he was persuaded to give the girls he presented with scarves a kiss on

the cheek.

The best part of this trip was probably black-powder shooting. When you fired the gun you fell head-over-heels, and if that didn't happen you would get an extremely painful shoulder. It was very loud, and there were lots of sparks.

At the airport on the way home we had a final entertainment – our ammunition box lacked a padlock! The security men would not let us take it on board the plane, so we presented it to our hosts as a final thank you for an action-packed week.

Nichola Malcolm



The team in Germany

CLAY PIGEON CLUB

For the first time this year the School entered the Scottish Schools' Clay Pigeon Competition. The competition is run by Donnie Allan, sponsored by the BASC and held at Castlelandhill Farm on the 6th November.

As the School Club is still in its infancy to say the least, we were unsure of our abilities and the depth of our talent. To assess these factors we were helped by an ex-Nicolite John Lascelles (74-78) who runs an extensive clay pigeon range on his farm at Balmachie Farm, Carnoustie.

With the expert tuition of his resident SCTA coach, Andy Thomson, Mr Wands and I took seven members of the Sixth Form for intensive training for two nights in the week leading up to the competition. This group was then whittled down to a team of three: Andrew Marsham, Peter Seymour and Struan Cochran.

On the day John again came to our aid, providing not only all the guns and cartridges for the competition, but also Andy and Jock (Petrie) as personal coaches. In the event the effort was worth it as we finished second in the competition overall, as well as Struan

being second in the High Gun and Andrew being second in the pull-trap individual competitions.

Many thanks to John Lascelles and

Andy and I hope we can go one better next year on Sunday, 15th October. All support welcome!

PMV



Clay Pigeon team at the Scottish Schools' competition.

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MINOR SPORTS

CYCLING

After hot Summer days of sawing through raw metal and drilling teeth-rattling holes, we finally managed to make our trailer road-worthy and it now merrily bowls along behind the car or bus, to enable the cyclists to venture beyond the limits of the School grounds.

Cycling has become a Wednesday afternoon activity this year and pupils have been exploring such routes as the muddy tracks of Pitmedden Forest or the spectacular Wallace Road, a track which crosses the Ochil Hills behind School. We have even ventured up to Dunkeld where we have negotiated forests and open hillside in a route full of variety and different terrain.

The weather has not been on our side, however, and we have been caught in torrential rain, icy winds and snow before now, so it is likely that next year cycling on a Wednesday will be a Summer/Autumn activity when the weather affords the cyclist rather more pleasure.

PJC

FENCING

There are two major events in the fencing calendar: the annual fencing competition at School and the fencing evening with Morrisons.

At school Cristina Burns won the Titheredge QuaiCh for Senior Girls and Iain Senior the Henderson Tankard for Senior Boys. Emma Anderson and Jeremy McDougall won the Junior prizes.

The fencing evening with Morrisons was also a big success with everyone enjoying themselves and gaining valuable experience. A great time was had by all.

This year both Cristina Burns and Iain Senior gained their colours and Elizabeth Watson and Louise Duncan were made captain for six months each, for the next year.

Cristina Burns

RIDING

Riding started last September with a group of senior girls. We had a number of casualties, thankfully none bad. Karina Combe and Kate Miller were two of the unfortunates but they did not compare to Jenny Watson's spectacular fall in which both she and her mount ended up on the ground: both were unhurt. Everybody seemed to improve dramatically quickly:

Ruth Mazur jumped for the first time and Fiona Elder seemed to get better and better at handling one of the more tricky horses.

In the Summer Term, Riley joined us and it seemed that Perth Equine Centre was overrun with Strathallan pupils. Riley had their fair share of fallers too, Laura Morley being one of the more frequent – well done to her for her huge improvement in such a short time.

We saw three "new recruits" for some post-Highers sessions: Mr Steel, Mr Marsham and Miss Dutton all enjoyed their somewhat fast hacks!

Perth Equine Centre must be thanked for their endless patience, pleasant and helpful staff and wonderfully wide variety of horses.

Suzi McPherson

FALCONRY

This year the Falconry group continued to enjoy the excellent facilities at Finderslie and furthered their skills. They enjoyed making jesses and hoods themselves and, in particular flying some of the birds. They are now hunting with Harris hawks and can boast several rabbits, a squirrel and a stoat as part of their bag. Several of them are also now learning to fly falcons to the lure, a tricky business for margins of error are not great and a mistake can lead to a face full of swooping Peregrine. Many thanks go to Mr Eadie, Adrian and David for all their generosity and help.

CNC

SWIMMING

It has been said in this column before, that sheer physical strength and raw talent are no real substitute for regular training. As we have seen once again this year, the boys who turn up for fixtures against other schools, have the talent and would probably be able to achieve really impressive results, but in the final analysis it is the steady, solid input from the girls that allows us to come away from such meetings with our heads held high (or at least with some hope for the future).

I would like to thank the out-going Captain of Swimming, Rebecca, for all the hard work that she has done and for her highly efficient management of the often reluctant boy-swimmers. I would also like to mention some of our weakest swimmers who arrived in September, barely able to avoid drowning, and who have shown such determination and perseverance throughout the year. To see the improvement in their skill and stamina has made this session particularly rewarding. Well done!

The Inter-House swimming was again held on a Sunday in order to avoid clashes with the many sports and activities that make claims on everybody's time. The final points don't always show how closely fought the event normally is with fractions of a second separating the first from the last. But somebody has to win, and this year it was Nicol with 113 points.

Congratulations to all who took part in the competition and gave Nicol such a good run for their money.

KG

CANOEING



LAND MANAGEMENT

Last year saw a division of the group into two sets of pupils. One group of Seniors did their own work and planning, keeping very much to themselves. The other group of Seniors made more of their time, directing Junior pupils into separate enterprises. **What we all had in common was that pupils initiated and directed their own work within the Coventrees area and the effect is slowly being seen as an emerging garden.**

Karen Wilson and Rosie Clegg spent the Spring Term planting a variety of bulbs which should break through soon. Clearing up each year is becoming easier and the last of the sycamores have been removed from the east garden area by the main path. The pond area has been fully cleared and will be laid out with paths next year. The Coventrees pond area has been a special project for two Senior boys, Alan Clark and Tom Edwards, who have now left. Under the leadership of Logie Mackenzie, the whole group has spent a lot of their own time keeping the area clear and we will continue with this over the coming years. The area between the East garden and the pond has begun to take shape and the Rose Garden has had special attention. Most of the old roses are coming back and will benefit from their second pruning this year. The stream has

been deepened and the path along the stream has been well drained and cleared. The whole area will be ready officially sooner than expected.

I must thank Ali White and his team for their work in the valley area. They have finished the old paths in record time and, apart from the continued expansion of material from a dumping area, the work has been of great value. The stream has been cleared back in this area as well.

As a final note, **I would like to ask everyone who now uses the area to observe a few natural laws.** We are trying to attract new wildlife into the area so anything that is seen has a relevance to this project. Piles of logs and timbers are not firewood but carefully constructed animal shelters, windbreaks and food sources. New plants like the azaleas, magnolias and rhododendrons have been especially selected and planted by pupils to complement existing planting schemes. Paths are walk ways and will be destroyed by bikes very quickly. **The changes that the pupils have brought about are meant to be enjoyed by everyone and it is their hope that this will be for a long time to come. Please help by respecting their work.**

GRMR

THE SLUG

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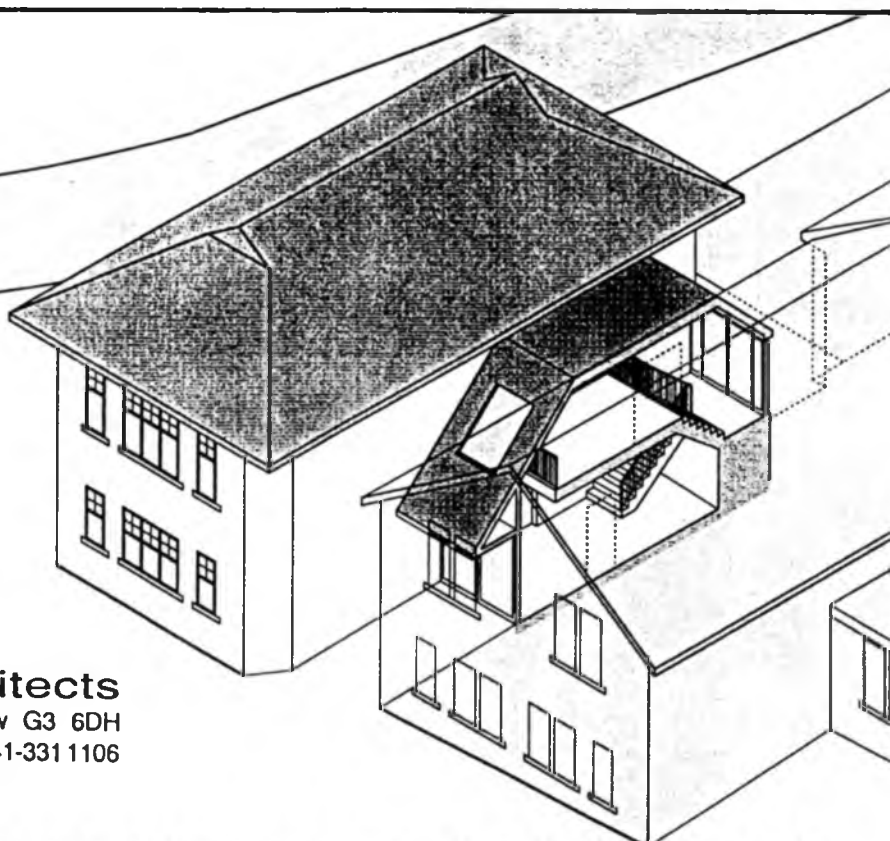
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CONTINGENT COMMANDER'S REPORT

Our new SSI Phil Shore has made a big difference in the way our administration of training is conducted and has many personal contacts from his Service days which are now bearing fruit.

This year all new entrants went through a two-term Recruit phase. Thirty-two out of the thirty-six entrants finally passed out to their chosen sections, only four being unable to achieve the required standard to go forward. The Under Officer and his team of NCOs are to be congratulated on their input to this course. It is my clear intention to give cadets responsibility for training whenever possible. To enable cadets to achieve this aim a Methods of Instruction Cadre was run and seven senior cadets will be directly involved in instructing the 1995-96 Recruit intake.

The Naval cadets also stretched themselves afloat and we now have a team of qualified power coxswains able to take charge of our four power boats and help in training new crews next year. It has been a case of help-and-do-it-yourself afloat as there is little support given by the RN locally. An indication of the lack of

support was the fact that we loaned our 4m dory Catharen to CCF HQ so that they could have a sailing fortnight at Port Edgar, there being no other boats available due to the closure of the RIB School.

Biennial Inspection was carried out by General Scott (GOC Scotland) and the contingent obtained a very good report.

Easter holidays saw eleven cadets and two staff at sea on the Firth of Clyde, on board RMAS Cricklade, learning to navigate and cope with life at sea. For one in particular this involved, in his eyes, a great deal of time washing dishes. Honestly, the watch bill was fair Harry – you were just unlucky to be on watch after we had all eaten.

Orienteering has begun to become competitive and congratulations are due to Cadets Bateman and Phillips for winning the Recruit Orienteering Competition.

A caving trip to Yorkshire was successfully organised by SSI Shore and all eight senior cadets returned much

wiser about the art of underground navigation.

June saw an informal visit by General Sir Michael Rose to the CCF on a normal training day. From my standpoint this was another mini-inspection, but all went well and all cadets attended a talk on his experiences as a peace-keeper in Bosnia.

Summer camps and courses went well and next year Army Camp will be in Snowdonia and the Navy will run a power boats camp based on the Isle of Mull.

We look forward to possibly three new officers next year (2 Army, 1 Navy) and the CCF linked to a challenging whole-school activity programme.

Sadly, we say goodbye to Adrian Phillips who moves on to Birkenhead School (wise choice, Adrian!). Adrian has been a loyal officer who has given much of his time to recruits of all sections. Thank you – and best wishes for the future.

CNW



Captain Glimm RM receiving the CCF medal from GOC Scotland.

ARMY

The year began with the now usual last-minute training for HCTC where we again put in two teams, one girls' and one boys'. The boys' team was experienced and we had high hopes, while the girls' team was relatively inexperienced and a little lacking in self-confidence. The competition was held at Fort George and on the Black Isle and both teams acquitted themselves well. The boys' team, led by U/O Steel was 3rd in the CCF competition and 6th overall while the girls, led by Cpl Scott, finished 3rd in the girls' competition.

On 19th October we welcomed Major-General Scott to the School to carry out the bi-ennial inspection of the whole section. The Army held an inter-platoon competition throughout the day and the General was impressed with the range of activities and the performance and effort of the cadets.

Throughout the remainder of the term the section took part in a wide range of adventurous training, including orienteering, canoeing and climbing, along with the remainder of the military syllabus.

As part of the section's training all cadets now go through a Method of Instruction cadre before they can gain promotion in the section. The preparation for this took up much of the Easter term and all the senior cadets passed the course and know what it can be like on the other side of the desk! Each week two senior cadets went to help U/O Steel with recruit training and thus were able to use their newly-found skills. During the remainder of the term the seniors took part in general HCTC training in preparation for next year.

At the end of the term the recruits 'passed out' into their respective sections, thus our numbers swelled with the arrival of the juniors. All who had tried passed their weapons test and they joined their new platoons or sections with varying degrees of enthusiasm. I must say it does worry me somewhat that some pupils find it difficult to stick with a decision once it is made and make the best of it. I fought along with many others to make CCF voluntary and find it hard to bear that some individuals can now choose to join, making a commitment for two years and then change their mind when things don't go exactly as expected. Like most other areas of School life, you get out of the CCF what you put into it.

In the Summer Term, Mr Shore organised two major events in addition to the normal adventurous and military



Keen recruit.

training programme. The first was the junior exercise which was a great success held up on Glenearn Farm land (thank you Rhoda). The weekend was reasonably fine and the two-site exercise was enjoyed by all – even the less enthusiastic! Ailsa Grant's protection of 'the flag' could have earned the VC in war time and will-o'-the-wisp Mr Ross turned up when least expected. The enthusiasm shown by all concerned was both refreshing and a tonic to all the staff. Well done.

Mr Shore also organised a caving trip for the seniors to Yorkshire at the start of June. The weekend went very well and some of the individuals tested their limits of endurance and resilience. I chickened out!

We were also privileged to have a visit from General Sir Michael Rose on 7th June to give the inaugural Ernst & Young Lecture on his experiences as O/C the UN troops in Bosnia. Like most great men, he talked at ease with cadets in his pre-lecture visit to the section and in his lecture he both informed us and made us think about our responsibility to fellow humans.

The year ended with our annual sortie to Cultybraggan. We only took a small group as most of the recruits had planes to catch! I look forward to their company on next year's camp. Those brave and few that did attend had an enjoyable time and maintained the reputation of the School as one where people work hard and play hard. When we left we were 2nd in the March and Shoot Competition and 3rd in the Assault Course.

On the training side we took part in climbing, canoeing, abseiling and signal training. The 36 hour exercise was tiring but enjoyable and very good practice for the infantry training next term. Those who went to camp excelled in many fields and they were ably led and cajoled by James Steel and Iain Senior. The weather

was good overall and this seemed to bring the best out of all. Ian Crooks' knowledge of the Cadet GP is encyclopaedic, Ailsa's climbing was fly-like, Scott and Chris C's tidiness and enthusiasm were a joy to behold (no excuses next year), James D's overall approach was excellent as ever, while James W and Andrew W now know what it feels like to run a March and Shoot Competition in full kit!

I would like to end by thanking all at 23 CTT and Sgt Hall in particular, for his support and help throughout his time with us and we wish him all the best in civvy street. To the senior cadets James Steel and David Man, thank you for your enthusiasm and support. To the sergeants Pete Seymour and Lucy-Anne Bryans and Iain Senior, thanks for keeping the training going and the commitment high; and thanks to all the other NCOs and cadets for their efforts throughout the year.

PMV



Lucy-Anne Bryans with General Rose.

ROYAL MARINES

When CCF became voluntary there was some concern that the numbers would drop dramatically. I should not have worried – as it turned out, the Marines Detachment remained as popular as ever. Not that we made any concessions on the standard of the entry qualifications, either, so when the newly-accepted Marines joined us in September we could be confident of their potential and of their dedication.

Once again, we look back on a year of solid training and good, clean fun. The training was geared towards our participation in the Pringle Trophy Competition in November, at which we had not been represented for about ten years.

This time we managed to overcome the problems of Rugby fixtures – the fact that the members of the Detachment are usually involved at the higher levels of the game has normally meant that they could not be spared and released for an entire weekend. Thanks to a lot of co-operation from the Rugby fraternity, however, we got the much needed break.

We went down to Lymestone to meet the other 14 teams and, quite honestly, we did not hope for very much by way of results. After all, we had been out of contention for a very long time and were by no means familiar with the procedures, requirements or standards that have been established over the years.

Our team approached the competition cheerfully and positively – being the under-dogs has its distinct advantage – expecting nothing, so that we would not be disappointed. In view of the rather daunting and varied range of tests this was probably the best attitude to adopt and caused us to be pleasantly surprised to find, that when it came to field-craft and camp-craft, we could hold our own quite competently.

In the more formal aspects of drill we did not meet the high standards set by the other teams, but this particular weakness has always been our strength, as we have always placed more emphasis on the development of practical skills and on self-reliance under adverse circumstances. This, coupled with a display of determination and commitment, eventually swung things in our favour and we ended up in fifth position, about ten places higher than we had realistically hoped for!

Of the many things that have happened I would like to single out the Half Term Winter Exercise in Glenmoidart. The general idea was to turn the exercise into a spot of Winter Survival and both the location and the weather combined into making it an interesting challenge.

Having been deprived of the usual comforts of protective clothing, food and shelter, we established ourselves on a

wooded hill side. Branches and moss and buddy-buddy body warmth helped us survive a night of -8C, which is chilly in most people's understanding. The next day brought a slight rise in temperature and with it the rain. This, more than the cold, tested our resolve and stamina. We set our snares and we laid out our fishing lines – to no avail. The rabbits were not so daft as to get themselves cold and wet by obligingly wandering about in search of our traps.

The Summer Term saw a few changes again, with a batch of recruits fighting and competing for vacancies in the Detachment. In the end, I think we have got it right and have once more taken in some young Marines who will be hard-working, dedicated and loyal, like the group of seniors who are leaving us after three years of service, during which time they have made such a valuable contribution to the Detachment. We all appreciate what you have done, with us and for us, and the efficient way in which you have helped to run the Section. All the best for the future, lads, and many thanks!

Many thanks also to the gentlemen of the Training Team as well as the Regulars from Arbroath, without whose steady support things would not have gone half as smoothly.

KG



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ROYAL NAVY

In an attempt to revive interest and enthusiasm in the Navy Section, training was given a new slant this year. More activities of the 'outward-bound' style were included and formalities were kept to a minimum during the Autumn Term. During this time we were fortunate in being supported frequently and generously by Lt Lunn and Lt Cdr Gaunt from HMS Edinburgh, and thus managed to keep the fool-factor under control.

The Spring Term brought, of necessity, a return to more Navy-specific training. This seemed to remind some members of the Section too much of hard work and problems began to creep in again. What these cadets fail to appreciate is the fact that in the modern Navy, with its highly technical requirements and shrinking resources, a lot more positive thinking is essential!

Accompanied by Captain Walker, Sub-Lieutenant Phillips and Mr Wilson, some cadets went to sea in a Clyde Fleet Tender at the beginning of the Easter holidays; from all accounts a very good time was had, despite the complications brought on by having to learn how to navigate whilst fighting down the sea-sickness.

The Summer Term began with all the power boats ready for use, an achievement of which Messrs Walker and Wilson can rightly be proud. Captain Walker and Mr Wilson decided to concentrate on training the willing and able senior cadets. They were brought up to a level of proficiency which will enable them to drive the boats without supervision and to pass on their skills to others.

Come next term, we will have a cadre of NCOs who will be able to instruct other cadets and help them to find a sense of direction and purpose.

We are saying goodbye to S/Lt Philips who is leaving the Section (and the School) after five years of faithful service; his place will be taken by a new member of staff whose physique resembles a certain Mr Lomu and who will be more than ready to take on the challenge.

I would like to express our thanks to Chief Petty Officer Kay who, in the absence of a parent establishment, managed single-handedly to maintain a respectable level of drill for ceremonial occasions and to keep us supplied with the essentials throughout the year.

KG



Well-camouflaged troops.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

This year some seventy pupils have been involved in the scheme, with thirty attempting Bronze, twenty-eight Silver and fourteen Gold. Particular congratulations go to Alastair Dundas, Jo Malcolm and Iain Senior who have completed their Gold Awards. At the time of writing, many others are close to finishing the Bronze and Silver levels although the cancellation of one expedition (due to the sudden, if temporary, demise of the minibus) means that some of the Fourth Form must wait until next term to finish their award.

As ever, expeditions have taken place in a wide variety of locations. For the first time we headed south of the border to the Lake District for a Gold training to avoid the stalking season in the Highlands. After a night camping in Upper Eskdale, the highest point in England (Scafell Pike) was successfully ascended. The other Gold training occurred at the end of the Easter holidays on Skye. The weather was far from kind, forcing rain, hail and snow to be our fairly constant companions and even Nick Morley was forced out of his

shorts to keep warm. At least the sun shone as we negotiated the notorious 'bad step' on the path to Loch Coruisk in the heart of the Cuillin hills. The assessment on Mull at half-term saw more sun, less rain and a very successful trip.

Bronze trips took place near Blair Atholl and Aviemore with Silver training expeditions in the Cairngorms near Braemar. The two Silver assessments both started in Glen Nevis near Fort William and wandered through the hills to Fersit, which proved to be the warmest place in Britain on the second trip at 29° C (while Tenerife was shivering at a mere 25°). Mind you, on the first trip it had been about the coldest place in Britain with tents frozen solid by eleven in the evening.

A variety of activities was undertaken in the Service section. Twenty-nine of the Bronze candidates successfully completed the St Andrew's Ambulance Junior First Aid Certificate and courses laid on by the Police and Fire Brigade proved popular with those doing Silver. Some have worked with the School's Community

Service group, others have been in leading roles in the CCF and there have been those who have organised activities in their home areas during the holidays.

Next year will see a major change in the running of the Scheme when it will become a purely voluntary activity rather than one of the 'Wednesday Afternoon' options. This has been something I have wished to see for a number of years for two main reasons. Firstly, it is more in keeping with the philosophy of the Scheme as a challenge to young people to get involved in a range of activities on their own initiative and on an entirely voluntary basis. Secondly, I hope it will avoid situations which have arisen in the past of people being unable to take up the Scheme because of other commitments on a Wednesday.

Finally, many thanks to all who have responded positively to the question "Please Sir, can I do this for my D of E?"

JSB



Gold training on Skye.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year, girls and boys in the Sixth Form have continued to help out in the community in a variety of ways. Mrs Adam has kindly been ferrying people into Perth in order for them to carry out good works in the hospitals, nursing homes and charity shops, whilst the elderly people in the village appreciate their weekly visit from our senior pupils and the local primary schools have once again been kind enough to give many of our pupils an insight into that sphere of work.

The School, as a whole, set a very encouraging standard this year by raising over £5,000 for outside charities. Non-Uniform day was a charity day many will remember for a while but we also organised a sponsored work-out, a fun run to Kinross to raise money for the new children's hospice there as well as collections for local charities such as SHIP (Support the Handicapped in Perth). Many thanks to all the pupils and colleagues who have given so much of their time and effort over the year.

PJC

Support the handicapped in Perthshire (SHIP) is a local charity dedicated to improving the quality of life of handicapped young people in the Perthshire area. In this context, youngsters suffering from a wide range of physical, mental, degenerative and life-threatening conditions are offered support, encouragement and financial assistance in order that they might have access to opportunities which others might take for granted.

Strathallan has begun an association with SHIP in which we hope to be able to offer both financial and physical support. Via collections at School Drama Productions, David Macleod and Kenneth MacKay, two members of the Lower Sixth, managed to collect £800 in donations! This will go towards helping to equip the new centre, the ground floor of a building on Perth's North Inch, which SHIP have managed to acquire from the local council. Pupils from the School will help to decorate the building, their artistic talents being in particular demand for such things as wall murals! We hope that this will prove to be the start of a long and productive relationship between the Strathallan Community and SHIP!

DJB



Road Relay Runners in Kinross.

On Sunday May 21st, around two hundred members of the School community (pupils, staff and staff families) took part in a fund-raising road relay event between the School and the site of the new Scottish Children's Hospice, some 14 miles across the Ochils in Kinross!

The event was organised by two members of the Lower Sixth Form, David Macleod and Kenneth Mackay. Together, they masterminded the organisation of the teams of seven runners (each running at least a two-mile leg — although several decided to run the whole thing on the day). They persuaded local bus

companies to donate transport to return the runners after each stage and they organised the barbecue for the hungry participants afterwards. Thanks to their efforts, and the efforts of many parents, pupils and members of staff, the event went very smoothly with a group of around thirty runners arriving at the Hospice not too much the worse for wear.

Many thanks to all those who participated in the event and also to those who sponsored our runners to the tune of £2,700 !! Can we do better next year?

DJB



David Macleod and Kenneth MacKay hand over the Hospice cheque.

NON-UNIFORM DAY

March 3rd saw Strathallan transformed into a bizarre madhouse of fancy dress costumes and colourful casuals as pupils and staff raised money for charity by paying to leave their uniforms hanging in the wardrobe. Through the morning, the School was populated by punks, teddy boys, pirates and a pantomime cow; even the Queen herself made an appearance.

For the first time this year, the carnival atmosphere was continued into the afternoon in the form of a mini-fete. We were fortunate indeed to have a brilliantly sunny, crisp day and this meant everyone could be outside, enjoying all the various stalls and attractions which had been laid on. To start the afternoon off, the pupils played the staff at football (and won in an exciting match). The stocks proved popular as pupils lined up to chuck freezing cold sponges at foolhardy staff. Pillow fights on a slippery beam also attracted great crowds and eager would-be gladiators were itching to have a go. Other attractions included a tombola, quizzes, a Khabadi contest and freshly made pancakes whose creators were working flat out to keep up with the demand.

By the end of the day everyone had had great fun and we had raised £1,450, which was donated to UNICEF, SHIP (Support the Handicapped in Perth) and to the Inyathi School in Africa. I am most grateful to everyone, both staff and pupils, for their time, energy and inspiration in helping to make this a most successful day.

PJC



Baby-face Morley.



A passing tourist from Texas?



Andy Pandy Keir.

THE SIXTH FORM

This academic year has been the first full year of activities since the refurbishment of the Sixth Form Common Room. The emphasis of the committee has moved towards arranging weekend events rather than concentrating on day to day happenings.

A number of evenings of a social nature have been based in the Common Room. The Quiz Night proved to be somewhat demanding and there may well be differences as to what constitutes fair questions, especially given the age of the question setters. The Karaoke evening posed little fear for Pavarotti, or a threat to George Michael's comeback, and Thornbank Upper Sixth gave reason to think that the Righteous Sisters would have had a bigger hit (or splash, in Miss Smith's eyes, as the rendition drifted across Chapel Lawn later).

There were four dance gigs (?), raves (?) in the Theatre – lighting provided by Goody Enterprises, who also ensured that the seating was put away inch-perfect. The previous year's group (George Kitson et al) played twice and were both highly popular and gentle to an old man's ears. The Disco Evening was much more to the liking of the race, rap and pyrotechnic departments, but then Beethoven was not received with uncritical enthusiasm. Finally, School musicians provided entertainment – a combination (combo?) of jazz (Nick Morley, Duncan Smith, Ali Duncan and Duncan Forbes) and group (Fraser Currie, Peter Yeates et al) all of whom have become more musical as the year persists (although I am not yet convinced that *Hey Jude* was meant to last for about an hour).

The other musical event (a more correct use of 'music' here) was held in the Music School (strangely logical). Clare Lochore, Fiona Nicolson and Melissa Gillingham organised a willing crew to prepare food (although in these politically correct days more males would have been appropriate). The music was provided by the Morley Combo, augmented by Andrew Scott's, Alasdair MacDonell's and Ross Cumming's piping and the Headmaster plus guitar and voice. Personally, I felt that this was an incredibly vibrant evening, and it was a pity that the staff did not mount a promised return. I believe that Mr Streatfeild-James's rendition of *Wild Thing* would reduce the Duncan/Charlier version to also-rans (or so he tells me).

The elements were braved in the summer for a barbecue (without Mr Ball but plus Toddie) in Mr Proctor's garden and a barbecue plus games evening on

Garden Pitch, (marred by a certain lack of thought by some). Andrew Robertson, especially, showed excellent culinary skills and is obviously ripe for an Australian exchange. Malcolm Lamont and Ewan Harrison spent much time rigging up a suitable jousting pole (for which, no thanks, as I was the first victim).

Apart from the social evenings and the Ball an experimental trip was taken to the Dundee Megabowl. The Zap Zone proved a painful experience as some of the ladies present made Boadicea look like a pacifist!

The Committee also spent time putting forward a paper on the future of the Sixth Form and discussed it with the

Head, both pros and cons being given a fair hearing.

Two committees served during the year: Melissa Gillingham, Andrew Scott, Hannah Kranenburg, Logie MacKenzie, Fiona Nicolson, Alasdair MacDonell and Alan Hall. They were succeeded by: Fiona Nicolson, Alistair Reekie, Morag Bruce, Chris Burnett, Zoe Halliday, Michael Smith, Emelye Kerr and Andrew Robertson. They have all given freely of a lot of time. To them and to many others who have helped at various times of the year, our thanks.

RCBC



THE BALL

This year's Ball was the main event for the Sixth Form. The Kilgraston girls came, as they do every year, and caused havoc amongst our innocent Strathallan boys, on account of their miniscule skirts.

The Scottish Country Dancing was interesting. We benefited greatly from Mr Clark's practice sessions, although Jack Finlay's "different" version of the Gay Gordons was one not to be missed! The Masters had just as much fun as the pupils, if not more, which was a good sign.

The food aroused our tastebuds if not our appetite, and the cider was quite nice too. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to give us a good time.

The Sixth Form events allowed us to talk to people we don't usually talk to and to be treated as adults. It is also something to look forward to throughout the week and is as eagerly anticipated as Mr Clark's smile.

Helen Stewart
Heather Swinn



POST HIGHERS

Post-Highers took a different form this year: the West Coast was deserted for an opt-in system from the School.

The range of activities offered was varied: boating on the Firth of Forth, canoeing, and white water rafting on the aquatic side; shore-based activities such as gardening, walking, Edinburgh tours, the Royal Highland Show, sea and barbecue trips; sporting introductions from zap-zoning, ten pin bowling, riding, fishing, ice skating and clay pigeon shooting and Scotland v West Indies and, finally, social events such as the much enjoyed wine tasting and a Chinese meal which was also offered to the less cerebral A level students on the last night of term.

Some of the experiences are described below but, as in 'the best laid plans', at the end of term not all copy appeared. Of those not covered, Dr Tod's tour of Edinburgh reached the parts that other tours don't reach (mainly along the Royal Mile); Mr Proctor cooked furiously and nearly caused the North Sea to rise by immersion (at becoming born-again); James Steel was nearly offered a job as a wine connoisseur; Mr Ball brought skills acquired in the Orient to Chinese evenings; Malcolm Lamont made Capability Brown really second-rate, and Mr Elliott managed to nurse people into possible roles in a remake of *The Last of the Mohicans*.

I think most people enjoyed themselves or else they all know how to smile sweetly (a moral there for somebody!)

RCBC

One of the post-Highers activities was a trip to the ice rink. Although Mr Clark's driving left much to be desired, we eventually got to Perth, even if shaken.

Having gone through the palaver of getting the right size of skates and managing to eventually tie the laces up (after half an hour) we wearily wobbled onto the ice when we promptly fell over! Many of us were beginners (apart from Alexis!) but after a few games of 'tig' we were all up to Torvill and Dean standard (excluding the impatient Malcolm who was more interested in the liquid diet provided at the bar). Mr Clark was obviously more shaken by the effects of his driving than we were as he refused to join us on the ice.

Left absolutely exhausted and

desperate for something to eat and drink, we recuperated in McDonald's by consuming several cheeseburgers and strawberry milkshakes. Thanks, Mr Clark!

Katie

Another one of the many post-Highers activities took place at the **Perth Equine Centre**. Three of us went several times and **we enjoyed being able to spend an hour each time either out in the country on a hack or in the school having a lesson.**

James Steel was the rather more experienced rider and whilst he and Mrs Vallot went galloping off into the distance, Andrew and I were left to catch up at a far more leisurely pace. Although I suspect Andrew would have preferred a bit of a speedier ride!

Susie

Mr Ball took the post-Highers groups to "Ballo" fisheries. There we were equipped with a boat, electric motor and, ambitiously, a landing net. We set out up the loch and fished till lunch (not disheartened by the apparent disinterest of the fish towards our flies) which consisted of a very welcome Safeway's sandwich and, amongst other things, "tangy cheese-flavoured Doritos". Fishing picked up a little more in the afternoon as we all claimed to have a fish or two on our line but no-one managed to land anything. As time passed, we noticed the exhausted electric motor was not coping with travelling up wind. So everyone was happy to lend a hand rowing as it warmed us up a little.

Euan

All the post Higher activities were wonderful experiences but perhaps the one most enjoyed was the wine-tasting in Mr Clark's flat. Experts were hired from a local off-licence to educate our inexperienced palates – I think even the regulars from the Masters' Common Room discovered new methods for appreciating quality wines. There were six bottles to sample: three white, three red. The speaker emphasised that everyone was entitled to their own opinion when describing the texture and

flavour of their wines – this was a catalyst for many superfluous adjectives from fellow post-Higher contemporaries, namely James Steel and Andrew Marsham. Mr Clark generously provided complements to the wine with such things as cheese and bread (which seemed more interesting to Logie than the wine itself!)

I feel that this activity was highly beneficial and I am most grateful to Mr Clark for enabling us to have had such an opportunity to taste wine in a professional manner before we enter the real world .

Katherine

White water rafting was as good as the post-Highers group had. We set off for Croft-na-caber on the idyllic setting of Loch Tay, although the rafting was done on the River Tay. After being kitted-out with wet suits and life jackets we received the first surprise of the day when we found out that Kilgraston were coming with us.

The rafting was fun, although the water level was low at the time and there wasn't so much of the white water, but there were running battles between all the rafts which inevitably ended with people in the water. Mr Clark seemed to be in his prime – armed with a paddle and with plenty of targets to hit he seemed to enjoy himself immensely until he fell out into the rapids. This produced a lot of laughs from the group and the sight of Mr Clark clinging to a rock with a look of terror on his face seemed to cheer up the rest of us no end. Glad you survived, Sir.

Andrew

Our third successful Friday trip was to the Royal Highland Show. Again, it was such a hot day (some mistake surely?) with thick crowds that could hardly move, so there was nothing that we could do but find a space and cool ourselves down with ice cream and drinks. Obviously, cows and tractors were not our main objective of the day, but had Logie been there it might have been a different story

None of this would have been possible without Mr Clark and Mr Proctor. We all enjoyed our last few weeks of freedom at School. Thank you!

Olivia

SURVIVAL



The greatest survivor of them all.

Not many people are aware of the existence of an island off the Scottish West Coast called Carn na Burgh Mhor. And not many people have set foot on it since the last garrison of the Lords of the Isles was withdrawn when the threat of Viking incursions receded.

In July 1994 a group of ten would-be survivors set out to make this 500 by 500 metre rock their home for a week, armed with snares, fish hooks and ingenuity. The immediate problems of finding shelter and water were quickly overcome: the communal accommodation was set up in the ruins of what must have been the palace in the olden days, because it had clearly boasted two fair-sized rooms. Water was a bit tricky and a bit muddy, but drinkable with care.

We had pressing needs and considerations to occupy our minds. Therefore, rather than exploring the cultural heritage, we went off in search of fuel and food. Once again the complete absence of trees or shrubs meant that the only fuel available was the driftwood washed up among the rocks, and beach-combing became a necessary pastime.

As per usual, food dominated the issue. Or rather, the lack of food! Like so many of these little islands, Cairn na Burch does not have a jetty or a similarly convenient natural spot from where one could cast ones lines in the comfortable hope of catching something edible. Our attempts at fishing therefore drew a big blank, and had it not been for a passing lobster fisher tossing a couple of mackerels ashore for bait, we would never have tasted fish all week.

But there is always the good old stand-by, bird life. While I personally can say no to even the most beautifully grilled piece of sea-gull, after two or three days out there the permanently nagging feeling in the pit of one's stomach tells one quite clearly that there is little to be gained from being too fussy.

It is a bit sad that I cannot report that we had a week of brilliant sunshine; most of the dark colour that we had acquired came off in the first wash back in civilisation, but the weather-beaten aspect of the trim figures showed clearly that we had spent a successful week, Robinson-Crusoe-style.

The tan fades, the pounds go back on to the waist-line, but something remains: the knowledge of having achieved something that most people would only dream about, and the membership of one of the more exclusive clubs - Strathallan Survivors.

KG

STRATHALLAN SURVIVORS' CLUB

Here is an urgent message to all Club Members: It has been suggested that we should all meet for a Survivors' Dinner at the School. A possible date would be the end of the Spring Term 1996, the Venue the School Dining Hall and the Menu definitely not Sea-gull.

If you are interested in such an event, please drop me a line with your current address as soon as possible so that I can organise things at our end. Even if you cannot come, why don't you get in touch and let me know how you are getting on with survival out in the big, bad world.

K.G.

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VALETE

D A R WILLIAMS

David Williams was typical of many of Wilfred Hoare's appointments, an all round man with a pedigree. He was educated at Repton and St John's College, Cambridge and polished by two years of National Service in Germany.

He arrived in Forgandenny 37 years ago to teach some languages, play in the Orchestra and coach some cricket. His career has evolved somewhat. Junior languages metamorphosed and re-emerged as the Economics Department which he ran as a one man band for over twenty years. Maybe he did not always teach the cream of the School's academia, but he certainly provided a home and solace for the 1st XV after a hard afternoon's training. In turn Economics gave way to the ever growing demands of Careers. His credentials were unrivalled: a thorough knowledge of the demands of Universities and Colleges, a mastery of organisation and administration, and a capacity for unleashing paper. Woe betide the colleague who tried to shortcut the system. He would be told exactly what he needed to know.

To Strathallians he will be best remembered as Housemaster of Ruthven

and Woodlands. As with anything he ran, he was immaculate. Everyone knew exactly where they stood. Nothing was ever forgotten. At the same time he mastered the art of turning a blind eye. Many a rogue, but not a criminal, was guided through the difficult years of adolescence. For the able he cultivated several Oxbridge tutors and many of his candidates should be grateful for a helpful nudge. However, each and every boy or girl was treated as an individual, whilst they were all cherished and nurtured by Kay. Successes and failures were taken realistically and the cult of the superstar was quietly discouraged. The tragic loss of their own daughter Jenny, was taken with considerable sadness but equal stoicism.

Others will remember David Williams, the cricketer. He arrived as a leg spinner to which the Scottish climate is not conducive, and quickly decided to convert. He remained a competent but modest bat ever happy to take a place at the bottom of the order, a prehensile but static slip, but became a formidable swing and seam bowler, who thought out the best of batsmen. The cynic might observe that in his later years his suspect back was a little more vulnerable when the wicket was particularly good. His record for the

Occasionals as a bowler surpasses all rivals by a margin.

David's immaculate white hair, his pipe and his tales of yore will be missed. However, David and Kay are only moving as far as Dunning and would undoubtedly be delighted to greet any visitors.



MAJOR W A BULLARD

Strathallan's grounds are impressive. On the main drive even the trees and shrubs seems to be standing to attention. Perhaps this is because for the past 16 years the upkeep of the School's Estate has been the responsibility of Major W A Bullard. Frequently, he was seen briskly striding along, with his upright military walk, engaged in a tour of inspection, always with a dog at his heels.

Bill, by profession, was an Army Officer serving throughout the World with the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Trucal Oman Scouts and the Royal Australian Army. On leaving the Forces, with typical determination, he passed the examinations required to become a member of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, whilst working with a shipping firm in Grangemouth.

His character, training and civilian experience qualified him well for the position of School Bursar – he was appointed in 1979.

He moved to Forgandenny and his three sons, Peter, Michael and Andrew, became pupils at Strathallan where they completed their secondary education.

The role of Bursar in a large school is a demanding one but Bill has never been dismayed by long hours and hard work. As well as being Factor, he was also in control of the School's budget and Clerk to the Board of Governors. His considerable contribution to the successful management of the recent large capital programme has been much appreciated.

In many crisis situations his resourcefulness and ingenuity were tested to the limit. He set in motion the School's own generators during a power cut, rolled up his sleeves to coax a reluctant boiler system back to life and few temperamental machines fail to respond to his skilful touch. His splendid ancient Land Rover proves this point.

During the school holidays the routine changes to repairs, maintenance and the supervision of the hiring contracts of its modern facilities. As well as the different demands of business conferences, student groups, the Diabetic Association and the Balloonist championships were all met with Bill's special blend of tact and dedication. Any head master would have been delighted to have such a loyal colleague at his right hand.

On 1st August 1995, Bill exchanged this hectic life for the delights of a Dumfriesshire sheep farm – hardly retirement. We would like to thank him for his time with us and wish him, and his wife Gwen, every happiness in their new life.



FREELAND

UVI

AYKROYD G J: Came 1989; II; House Prefect; House Colours; D & T Prize; Capt. Fishing; Curling Team; Orchestra; School Plays; House Plays. RN Coxwain; Cushnie, Auchterless, Turriff, Aberdeen.

BOOTH J A: Came 1990; III House Prefect; Athletics; 3rd XI Hockey; 3rd XI Cricket; 3rd XV Rugby; Tennis Team; Sailing; House Play, RN; Estrayer Park Cottage, Tavistock Road, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 4LR.

DUNDAS A B B: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Shooting Team (Capt)(Colours); Scottish Schools' Team; Cross-country Team; D of E Bronze, Silver, Gold; Corporal Army; HCTC Team; Comrie House, Comrie, Perthshire, PH6 2LR.

ELDER D R G: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; House Colours; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey (Colours); Chameleons; 3rd XV Rugby; ISIS Hockey XI U16 (Capt); Football XI (Capt); Pipe Band; Rose Cottage, Bridge of Feugh, Banchory, Kincardine.

FORBES D G: Came 1988; I; School Prefect; Deputy Head of House; Houston Prize; Strings Prize; 1st XI Cricket (Vice Capt) (Colours); Scot. U15XI Cricket; 1st XV Rugby (Colours); Orchestra; String Orchestra; Cello; Piano; Double Bass; School and House Plays; RM Cpl; 8 Lansdowne Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 5EQ.

GARDNER R T: Came 1987; I; House Prefect; Curling Team; House Basketball; Verse Speaking Perth Festival; House Plays; D of E Bronze. Ashlea, Vicarage Close, Upper Stoke, Near Rochester, Kent, ME3 9SB.

HALL A D: Came 1989; II; House Prefect (Colours); 1st XV Rugby (Colours); 3rd XI Hockey; Tennis Team (Capt); Mondhuie, Nethy Bridge, Inverness-shire, PH25 3DF.

HARRISON E A: Came 1993, LVI; House Prefect (Colours); Elliott Trophy; 3rd/6th XV Rugby; Cross-country; Fishing Secretary House Plays; D of E Silver; Douglas Bridge, Ordhead, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 7QS.

McKENDRY G J: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Head of House (Colours); 1st XI Hockey; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XV Rugby (Colours); Australian Tour; 82 Forsyth Street, Greenock, Inverclyde, PA16 8QY.

WATSON P J: Came 1992; V; House Prefect (Colours); History Prize; 1st XI

Cricket (Colours); 1st XI Soccer (Colours); 2nd XV Rugby; Swimming Team; Basketball Team; SLA; Clarinet; School Play. Rua do Dr Melo Leote 12-6 ES, 4050 Porto, Portugal.

V

REID C I A: Came 1992; III; Canoeing. The Parish Manse, Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9AA.

NICOL

UVI

CAMILLERI D M A: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; 2nd XV Rugby; 1st XI Soccer (Colours); D of E Bronze, Silver. 59 Denview Road, Potterton, AB23 8ZL.

CUMMING R A: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby (Colours); Swimming Team; Tennis Team; Australian Tour; Sailing; Soccer; Pipe Band Sgt. PO Box 758, Blantyre, Malawi.

DORMAN A C N: Came 1991; IV; House Prefect; Economics Prize; Golf Team; Pipe Band – Scottish Junior Championship; House Plays. Shawhill House, Galston Road, Hurlford, By Kilmarnock, KA1 5HZ.

MACDONALD I A: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Head of House; 5th XV Rugby; 1st XI Soccer (Colours); U18 Shooting Team; D of E Bronze, Silver. 64 Kinghorne Street. Arbroath, DD11 2LZ.

MAN D: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Deputy Head of House; Choir; Fauré; Mozart, HM's Music; House Plays; UKLF Leadership Course; Army WO1; D of E Bronze, Silver. 5/3 Ferry Road Place, Edinburgh, EH4 4AX.

MARSHAM A C B: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 3rd XV Rugby; 3rd XI Cricket; 3rd XI Hockey; Shooting B Team; House Skiing; Sailing; Clay Pigeon Shooting. Army Cpl. Rispond, Durness, By Lairg, Sutherland, IV27 4QE.

MELVILLE N E L: Came 1990; III; Cross Country Team; Shooting B Team (Vice-Capt) (Colours); Athletics Team; 5th XV Rugby; Stage Management; D of E Bronze; First Aid. Strowan, Crieff, Perthshire, PH7 4HU.

SCOTT A H: Came 1990; III; Head of School; 1st XV Rugby (Capt.Colours); 1st XI Soccer; Australian Tour; Pipe Band Pipe Major, Schools' Band Competition Prizes. Radley, Prieston Road, Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire, PA11 3AW.

SENIOR I D: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Physics and Chemistry Prizes; 5th XV Rugby; Fencing (Ch. Boys' Captain); Shooting B Team; Clarinet; UK Physics Challenge (top 15, top Scot); Army Sgt; D

of E Gold. 12 Hoomside, Cumnock, Ayrshire, KA18 1AP.

SEYMOUR P C J: Came 1992; V; 1st XV Rugby; Golf Team (Capt); Clay Pigeon Shooting Team (Capt); School Play (Tech); Army Sgt. Thorntree, Arnprior, By Stirling, FK8 3AH.

STEEL J A B: Came 1988; I; House Prefect; 1st XV Rugby; 2nd XV Rugby (Capt); 2nd XI Hockey (Capt); Skiing; Shooting; Squash; Sailing; Badminton; Golf; Pipe Band (Drum Major); Choir, Choral Society; Clarinet; House and School Plays. Under Officer; Head of CCF. Groenendaelslaan 29, 3090 Overijse, Belgium.

TURNER J D: Came 1990; III; 3rd XV Rugby; Shooting B Team (Colours); D of E Bronze, Silver. Yewtrees, Ayr Street, Moniaive, Dumfries, DG3 4HP.

VIVERS J R C: Came 1994; LVI; Schools' Maths Challenge Gold Medal. 1 Bank Brae, Alford, Aberdeenshire, AB33 8QG.

YEATES P J A: Came 1987; I; House Prefect (Colours); Biology Prize; 5th/6th XV Rugby; 3rd XI Hockey; Curling B Team; Guitar Rock Band; D of E Bronze, Silver, Gold; SU. c/o RTL/4 Rayong Refinery Co Ltd, PO Box 34, Map Ta Phut, Rayong 21150, Thailand.

LVI

CHARLIER N A: Came 1990; II; 1st XV Rugby; U16 7s; 3rd XI Cricket; School Plays; Director House Plays; Guitar; Royal Navy (LS); D of E Bronze. Dunmoine, Salen, Aros, Isle of Mull, PA72 6JL.

III

SNEDDON B M: Came 1993; II; U14 XV Rugby; Cricket; U15 XI Hockey; Basketball; Athletics. 47 Kingsley Avenue, Stenhousemuir, Larbert, FK5 4LE.

RUTHVEN

UVI

BARLOW P J: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; House Colours; 1st XV Rugby; Cross-country Team; Basketball Team; Squash (Capt); Athletics (Capt Colours); SSAC 800m; Australian Tour. 12 Candlemakers Lane, Loch Street, Aberdeen, AB1 1DF.

GRESHON M D: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 2nd XV Rugby; Midlands U15 XV Rugby; 2nd XI Cricket; Cross Country Team; Athletics Team; Australian Tour; Royal Marines 2i/c. Glenhelenbank Residential Home, Luncarty, Perth, PH1 3EP.

JONES S Q: Came 1990; III; 5th XV Rugby; 2nd XI Football; RN Fishing; Land Management. **24 Ann Street, Edinburgh, EH4 1PJ.**

LAMONT M D: Came 1993; LVI; House Prefect (Colours); 2nd XV Rugby; Athletics Team; Royal Marines; Craigview, Abernethy, Perth, PH2 9JZ.

MACDONELL A J: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey; 2nd XV Rugby; Australian Tour; Pipe Band. **Am Fasgadh, Ferintosh, Conan Brisfw, Ross & Cromarty; IV7 8HZ.**

MCGREGOR A R: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Badminton; Canoeing; Piano; D of E Silver. **30 St Ternans Road, Newtonhill, Stonehaven, Kincardineshire, AB3 2PF.**

ROBERTSON D M: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Head of House (Colours); Maths Prize; 3rd XV Rugby (Capt); Rugby 7s; Athletics Team; i/c Royal Marines. **Shamal, Upper Cullernie, Balloch, Inverness-shire, IV1 2HU.**

STEPHEN C J: Came 1988; I; House Prefect (Colours); 6th XV Rugby; Cross-country; Guitar; Choral Society. **Esmond, 34 Mayne Road, Elgin, Morayshire.**

SUTHERLAND E O: Came 1988; I; School Prefect; Maths Prize; 2nd XV Rugby; Rugby 7s; Australian Tour; Clifton Lodge, Culduthel Road, Inverness, IV1 2AD.

SYME F W S: Came 1992; V; House Prefect (Colours); 5th XV Rugby; Athletics Team; Fishing; School Play; Rock Band (lead singer); Art. **North Carthar, Collin, Dumfries, DG1 3SA.**

WARD B S: Came 1988; I; School Prefect; 1st XI Cricket (Colours); 2nd XV Rugby (Capt); 1st XI Hockey (Capt); Australian Tour. **Eastwood, Bellevue, Delgany, County Wicklow, Ireland.**

V

WHYTE A P: Came 1991; III; Shoregate House, Bowness on Solway, Carlisle, CA5 5BH.

IV

ALLEN R C W: Came 1993; III; U14 XV Rugby; B Cricket XI. **1 Harviestoun Road, Dollar, FK14 7EH.**

NICOLSON N A: Came 1991; I; piano; clarinet; Burns Society Reading Prize; House Plays. **Kirkland House, Cananbie, Dumfriesshire, DG14 0RA.**

SIMPSON

UVI

CLARK A S: Came 1988; I; House

Prefect (Colours); 2nd XV Rugby; Midlands U15 XV Rugby; Curling Team (colours); 1st XI Soccer; U16 1st XI Hockey; House Plays; Royal Navy (AB); Land Management. **Little Lun Farm, Windygates, Fife, KY8 5RU.**

CLEMENT D B: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; 1st XV Rugby (Colours); Midlands & Presidents XVs; Australian Tour; 1st XI Cricket (House Colours); 1st XI Hockey (Colours); Golf Team (Capt) (Colours); Athletics Team; Curling Team; Royal Navy (AB). **Carvenom House, Anstruther, Fife, KY10 3JU.**

COOPER C J: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 5th XV Rugby; Ski Team; Creative Writer Prizes; D of E Silver; Army (Cpl). **The Dreisch, 51 Muirend Road, Perth, PH1 1JD.**

DUNCAN A J Y: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 1st XV Rugby; 1st XI Cricket; Austrlian Tour; School Plays. **St Leonards, 4 South Feus, Upper Largo, KY8 6EQ.**

EDWARDS Thomas H H: Came 1989; II; House Prefect (Colours); Curling Team (Colours); Philosophy; D of E Bronze; Land Management. **South Craig, Hollybush, Ayr, KA6 6HB.**

FERGUSSON D G O: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XI Cricket (Capt) (Colours); Wayfarers (Capt); U16 XI Cricket; Scottish U19XI Cricket; Kent CCC; Club & Ground XI; 1st XI Soccer (Capt) (Colours); 4th XV Rugby; RN; Alton Albany, Barr. Girvan. **KA26 9TJ.**

HODGSON P D: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); Ski Team (Colours); 3rd XV Rugby; Athletics Team; Art – Edinburgh Exhibition; D of E Bronze; Royal Marines (Cpl). **Quothquan Lodge, Biggar, Lanarkshire, ML12 6NB.**

MacKENZIE L C: Came 1988; I; School Prefect; Deputy Head of House; 1st XV Rugby (Colours); President's Trial; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey (House Colours); Golf Team; Curling Team (Colours); Australian Tour; Royal Navy (AB); Land Management. **Woodside, Lentran, Inverness, IV3 6RJ.**

MacNAUGHTON G I: Came 1993; LVI; 2nd XI Soccer; CCF Flat 2, Glendale, 8 Deep Water Bay Drive, Shouson Hill, Hong Kong.

SMITH D J A: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); Computing and R Barr Prizes; Piano; French Horn; Choir; Orchestra; JazzBand; Rock Band; Director House Play; D of E Silver. **10 Scott Street, Largs, Ayrshire, KA30 9NU.**

STEWART W M: Came 1990; III;

House Prefect (Colours); 3rd XV Rugby; Curling Team (Colours); Army (Cpl); Land Management; D of E Bronze. **Mains of Pittendreich, Meikleour, Perthshire, PH2 6EL.**

LVI

DEVINE M J: Came 1990; III; Golf VIII; Royal Navy. **c/o PO Box 1056, Aramco 31311, Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia.**

STEVENSON G B: Came 1993; V; 1st XI Soccer; Basketball Team; Pipes. **c/o PO Box 1188, Saudi Aramco, Abqaiq 31311, Saudi Arabia.**

V

SMITH M A: Came 1992; III; The Old Sidings, Ballathie, Kinclaven, PH1 4QJ.

THORNBANK

UVI

BRYANS L-A: Came 1988; I; House Prefect; Business Studies Prize; 1st XI Hockey (House Colours); Hockey Tours – Hong Kong, Barbados, Holland; Rounders Team; Piano; Flute; School Play; Stage Management; House Play Prod/Act; Army (Sgt); Community Service. **Hatton House, Leven, Fife, KY8 5QD.**

BURRELL S L: Came 1988; I; Swimming Team; 1st XI Hockey (House Colours); HockeyTours – Hong Kong, Barbados; School Play (Dancing) ; House Play Stage Management; Survival Week. **The Grange, Church Street, Galashiels, TD1 3JN.**

CAMPBELL-LOW C L: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Business Studies and Art Prizes; 1st XI Hockey (Capt) (House Colours); Midlands U16 Hockey XI (Capt); Victrix Ludorum '93; Scottish U16 Hockey Trial; Hockey Tours – Hong Kong, Barbados, Holland; Tennis Team; Athletics Team (Capt) (Colours); Junior House Plays; Art – Edinburgh Exhibition. **Brightwater House, Lucklaw Hill, Balmullo, Near St Andrews, KY16 0BQ.**

COCHRAN C J: Came 1993; LVI; House Prefect; English and History Prizes; Swimming Team; Philosophy; Backstage School Play; Youth Enterprise. **West Pines, 4 Strathean Road, North Berwick, EH39 5BZ.**

DOOLEY E J : Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Tennis Team; Netball 2nd Team; Rounders Team; Backstage School Play. **Highfield, Evelix Road, Dornoch, Sutherland, IV25 9HR.**

FOWLER K L: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Head of House; Tennis Team; Netball Team; Backstage School Play; Verse Speaking Perth Festival; Cumminity

Service; Youth Enterprise Prize. 70 Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen, AB2 4AJ.

HENDERSON V A: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Netball Team (Capt) (Colours); Swimming Team; Rounders Team; House Plays; Piano; D of E Bronze. Scrabster House, Thurso, Caithness, KW14 7UN.

KRANENBURG H C: Came 1990; House Prefect; 1st XI Hockey (Colours); Midlands U16 Hockey XI; Tennis Team; Athletics Team; Riley Victrix Ludorum; House Plays; Verse Speaking; Bronze D of E Bronze, Silver; Community Service; Youth Enterprise. Ulva House, Bunessan, Isle of Mull, PA67 6DG.

LOCHORE C H: Came 1993; LVI; School Prefect; Deputy Head of House; 1st XI Hockey; Hockey Tour Barbados; Lacrosse Team; Athletics Team; Youth Enterprise; Shooting Team. Burgie House, Forres, Morayshire, IV36 0QU.

PEARMAN R C: Came 1989, II; Librarian; House Prefect; School Play; Creative Writing; House Plays (Author/Director); Verse Speaking; Community service; Youth Enterprise (MD). The Old Bank House, Brown Street, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

SANG T P A: Came 1989; II; Athletics Team; Junior Netball Team; S L Award; School Play (Wardrobe); Violin; Piano; Cello; Community service; Youth Enterprise. 4B Resdience Le Golf, Trou Aux Biches, Mauritius.

WANDS O C: Came 1989; II; 3rd XI Hockey; Athletics Team; Piano; Choir; School Play (piano); Verse Speaking Edinburgh; Army (L/Cpl); HCTC teams. The Airds, Forgandenny, Perth, PH2 9EL.

V

WATSON J M: Came 1994; V; Tennis; Riding; Badminton; Guitar; Rock Band; Verse Speaking – Perth Festival. 76 Leggart Terrace, Aberdeen, AB1 5UD.

III

ROBBINS R M: Came 1994; III; Junior Netball Team; Junior Tennis Team; House Play. 7 Birnam Terrace. Dunkeld, PH8 0DR.

WOODLANDS

UVI

BURNS C J: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Fencing (Capt); Rounders Team (Capt); Piano, Scottish Country Dancing; Junior School Plays; Community Service; D of E Bronze. Rannachan, Murray Drive, Crief. PH7 3DG.

DOVER R C: Came 1988, I; House Prefect (Colours); Netball Team; Swimming Team (Capt) (Colours); Choir; House Plays, D of E Bronze. c/o P T Jakarta Land, PO Box 84, 26/KBYMP, Jakarta, Indonesia.

DUTTON S M: Came 1987; I; House Colours; 2nd XI Hockey, Tennis Team; Lacrosse Team; Choir; School Play; D of E Bronze, Silver, Gold; Community Service. Jacaranda, Forgandenny, PH2 9EN.

GILLINGHAM M J: Came 1990; III; House Prefect (Colours); 1st XI Hockey (Vice Captain) (House Colours); Hockey Tour Holland; Ski Team (Capt); Cross-country Team; Tennis Team (Capt) (Colours x 2); won Kilgraston Tournament U14 and U16; Swimming Team; Cricket XI; Junior House Play. Riversdale, Main Street, Bridgend, Perth, PH2 7HB.

GILLIVER C C L: Came 1991; IV; Squash Team; House Athletics; School Play (backstage); Clarinet; D of E Bronze, Silver; Youth Enterprise. Blumenstrasse 24. D77971 Kippenheim, Germany.

HIGH K L A: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Athletics Team; Hockey 2nd Team; Junior Swimming Team; Choir; Junior and House Plays; Verse Speaking Prizes Perth & Edinburgh Festivals; D of E Bronze, Silver, Gold. Priory Cottage, Priory Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire, SL5 9RH.

JONES C A: Came 1991; IV; School Prefect; Squash; School Plays; Choir; Creative Writing; D of E Bronze, Silver. Youth Enterprise. 8 Linden Drive, Chalfont Heights, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, SL9 9UP.

KIRIMI K M: Came 1989; II; House Prefect; Netball Team; Athletics Team; Choir; School Play; Bagpipes; Saxophone; Verse Speaking 2nd – Edinburgh; Verse Speaking 1st – Perth; D of E Bronze, Silver; Philosophy. Dharmasala, Braeintr, By Achmore, Ross-shire, IV53 8UP.

MACLEAN C M: Came 1990; III; Netball 2nd Team (Capt); House Athletics Team; School Plays; Creative Writing; House Plays; Choral Society; Philosophy. Lovat Arms Hotel, Fort Augustus, Inverness-shire, PH32 4BE.

MALCOLM J C: Came 1990; III; School Prefect; Deputy Head of House; Athletics Team; Badminton team; Cross-country (Scottish Schools' Championships); Piano; Choral Society; School Play; D of E Bronze, Silver, Gold; Community Service. Waalsdorperweg 50, 2597 JC, Den Haag, The Netherlands.

McPHERSON S F: Came 1991; IV; School Prefect; Head of House; Flute; Quartet; Wind Band; Jazz Band; D of E Gold; Community Service. House No 3, Watersmeet, Tai Tan Village, Lot 71 DD 292, Sai Kung Country Park, Sai Kung, Hong Kong.

WANLESS J S: Came 1988; I; House Prefect; Fencing Team (Capt); Swimming Team (Colours); Tennis; Choral Society; Scottish Country Dancing; D of E Bronze; Community Service. 22 Ochill Gardens, Dunning, Perthshire, PH2 0SR.

YELLOWLEES K E: Came 1990; III; House Prefect; Tennis Team; 2nd XI Hockey (Capt); Junior Shooting Team; School Plays; Creative Writing; Philosophy; Art; Verse Speaking – Edinburgh Festival; D of E Silver; Community Service. Gannochy Farm; Perth; PH2 7JH.

LVI

KERR E F T: Came 1991; III; Dance; Piano; Art; Computers. Twomerkland, Moniaive, Thornhill, Dumfries, DG3 4EN

TYLDESLEY I J: Came 1991; III; 2nd Netball; Jnr and Midlands Tennis Teams; violin, House Plays; Royal Navy; D of E Bronze. Craighuadh, Inchberry Road, Fochabers, IV32 7QA.



Line-up of Leavers.

STRATHALLIAN CLUB

JAMES ROBERT MARSHALL

President 1994/95

James attended Strathallan from 1957 to 1961, as a member of Freeland House, after Warrison Boys' Preparatory School in Moffat. James lays no particular claim to fame at school, but advises that he was president of the Young Farmers' Club and a member of the Royal Corps of Signals detachment.

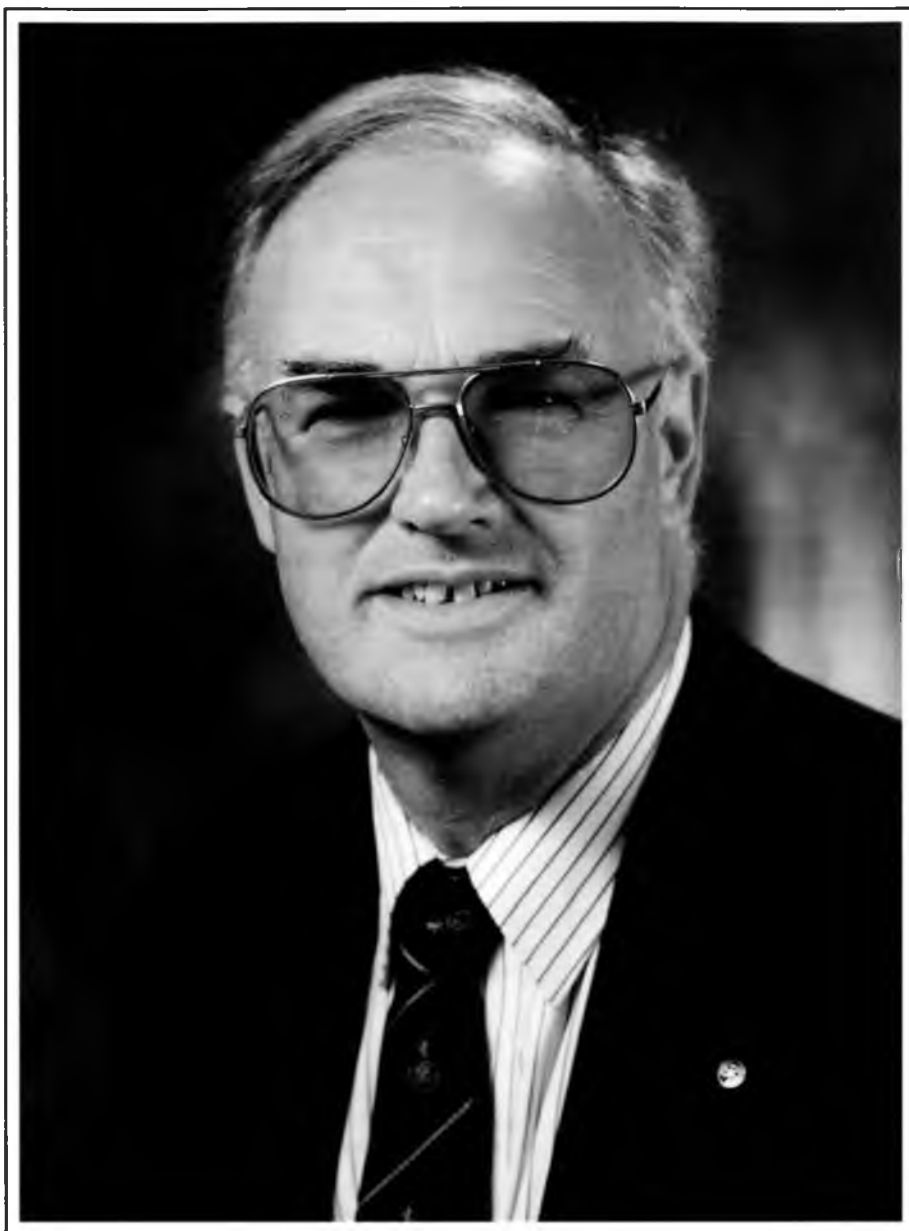
On leaving School, James attended the Agricultural College at Craigstone in Aberdeen, where he gained his Certificate in Agriculture and thereafter farmed at Dunning with his father.

Apart from farming on 400 acres, James breeds ewes for fat lamb production and operates a garden machinery sales, service and hire business. Outwith his daily activities, however, he has found time to be Past President of the Perth Branch of the National Farmers Union, and Chairman of the Virus Tested Stem Cutting Association.

Away from business, James is a keen Rotarian and is a Past President of Auchterarder & District Rotary Club. In addition, he fishes, shoot and plays a little golf. In winter, theatre and country dancing activities are the thing.

James takes a continuing interest in the affairs of Strathallan and in matters of an educational nature, and has been the Chairman of Governors of Craigclowan Preparatory School since 1982. He is currently a member of the Board of Aberuthven Primary School.

James married his wife Wilma in the School Chapel – the first old boy ever to do so – and has three sons, two of whom were in Nicol House.



SIR JOHN SHAW

Our congratulations must go to Sir John Shaw, better known to us as "Jack", who was created Knight Bachelor in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours. Jack was at Strathallan between 1943 and 1949 and was Dux of the School in 1947/48. Jack has many recollections of his School days especially of his commitment to School drama and music and to the School 3rd XV. Old Boys may also remember Jack's father who taught at the School between 1930 and 1960 as a French Master and thereafter progressively as Housemaster, Second Master and for a time in the early 1950's as Acting Headmaster.

Jack studied Law and Accountancy and his career has been distinguished by his presence as a member of a number of leading Scottish financial institutions. He became a partner in Deloitte Haskins & Sells in 1960 but retired from there in 1986 to become the first Chief Executive of Scottish Financial Enterprise. He held the Johnstone Smith Chair of Accountancy at Glasgow University for 6 years until 1982 although he is still a Visiting Professor there. He was President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland in 1983-84. Jack is currently Chairman of the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council and is also Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland.

Accounts

The accounts produced a deficit of £2,536.83 on 31 May 1995. Life Membership subscriptions of £5,550 left the Club with a net inflow of funds during the year. The value of the Club investments amount to £80,955 and the Club contributed £2,200 to the War Memorial Scholarship Trust.

STRATHALLIAN CLUB

CONTACTS ABROAD

The following Strathallians have agreed to be representatives of the Club abroad, and will happily help any Strathallians planning to visit their part of the world

Australia:

Iain S Gray (1961)
Iona House, 10 Yarranabbe Road,
Darling Point, 2027, Sydney.
Eric W Hamilton (1979)
1 Airdrie Corner, Kinross 6028, Perth,
W.Australia.
John A McArthur (1970)
10 Jenolan Close, Hornsby Heights,
NSW 2077.
Gordon Reynolds (1980)
18 Letitia Street, Katoomba, 2780.

Botswana:

David J Watson (1980)
PO Box 655, Gaborone.

Canada:

Ian D Lewis (1970)
420 Coach Light Bay SW, Calgary,
Alberta T3H 1Z2. Tel: 403 246 6121
Stephen W Geddes (1987)
100 Lamont Boulevard, Winnipeg,
Manitoba, R3P 0E6.
Rahul Suri (1983)
942 Logan Avenue, Toronto,
Ontario, M4K 3E4.

Hong Kong:

G Vivien Cornish (1987)
The Smith Madden Group, Level 21,
Universal Trade Centre,
Arbuthnot Road, Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: 2869 8663 (work) Fax: 2530 1252.:

Italy:

Fiona J Mowat (1991)
La Casetta 70/A, 53017 Radda in Chianti,
Siena.

Nigeria:

R Gary Walker (1978)
c/o Chevron Nigeria Ltd. PMB 12825,
Lagos, Nigeria.
Tel: 260 0600 ext 8377(work); ext 7649
(home); fax: 260-0395.

Singapore:

Thomas A Kerr (1952)
82 Grange Road, Les Colonnades,
Singapore 1024.
Patrick D Russell (1981)
24 Bukit Chernin Road, Singapore 0410.
Tel: 2243001 (work); fax: 2250669.

South Africa:

Michael I Dawson (1964)
459 Currie Road, Durban 4001.
William B Melville (1966)
72 Catherine Road, Fontainebleau,
Randburg 2194.
Tommy R Taylor (1961)
9 Uve Road, Kloof, Natal.

USA:

John Brough (1956)
29142 Dean Street, Laguna Niguel, CA
92677. Tel: 714 495 3376. Fax: 714 495 2004.
Michael J Dobbie (1983)
1761 Coventry Road, Decatur, Georgia,
USA, 30030.
Richard H Lester (1978)
5450 Sterling Way, Lake Oswego,
Oregon 97035.
Walter G McFarlane (1978)
931 Shattuck Lane, Schaumburg,
Illinois, 60194. Tel: 708 885 3367.
Work: 708 428 7171.
David E Uprichard (1984)
30 Ivy Hill Road, Chappaqua,
New York 10514. Tel: 914 241 1283.

FOR SALE

New Old Strathallian Ties with Pure Silk, broad gold and navy diagonal stripes	£15.50
Original Old Strathallian Ties (multiple badge)	£7.00
Old Strathallian Scarves	£15.50
Old Strathallian Cufflinks (double ovals with enamelled stripes)	£9.00
School Sweatshirts with embroidered badge M L XL sizes	£15.00
Box of 6 melamine Placemats (black on white: 6 different views of Strathallan)	£18.00
Melamine Cheeseboard (black on white: School from Lawn)	£7.00
Coasters (black on white melamine with School Crest) or 6 for	£1.50 each £8.00
Blue leather Key-ring with Crest in gold	£1.00
Black leather Key-ring with enamelled Crest	£2.00
Tiny Crest on Pin Badge	£2.00
Print of School (view from Lawn) by T J Macleod	£2.00
All including postage. Apply to Matron at School.	
Golf Umbrella – gold, navy and royal panels - navy School Crest on one gold panel	£16.00
(Personal collection only from Matron)	

LETTER FROM ZULULAND

66 Elgro
Worlds View Road
Doonside
South Africa

- There is an old Bushman poem which goes

"When we die, the wind comes,
To wipe us out, the traces of our feet.
The wind makes dust which covers
The traces where we had walked."

It stands to reason, therefore, that if we are to ensure continuity of human existence we should try to place the footsteps of those who follow us in the traces of our feet before those traces are wiped out.

Since I was listed among the 'Valeté' at Strathallan (1941) I have enjoyed a number of careers: Royal Air Force (1941-46), the Foreign Office (1950-65), University Lecturer in Australia (1965-83) and novelist in South Africa (1984-).

I have often been asked why I appear to hold such great store by my school experience, as if nothing of significance has happened in my life since then. This sort of comment has made me think and try to rationalise.

Summed up, my experience at Strathallan did two things for me; it built a new, more positive and much more acceptable 'me' and also it provided me with a portable fine mesh 'accept/reject' seeding system.

Throughout my life I have derived great comfort and confidence from the knowledge that my 'seeding system' has never let me down – not once.

If this reflection in the smallest degree helps today's pupils to realise how much of what happens in their future will depend on what is happening to them today – then 53 years of ploughing the globe will have been very much worth while.

Best wishes –
DAVID WHITTON (1937-41)

WORLD TELEMAR SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

at Hafjell, Norway in March 1995
Dougie (DRD) Low (Ri/R 65-71)
Bronze Medal in Masters category

STRATHALLIAN CLUB NEWS

ADDISON G D (1990): Gillian has graduated with a 2.1 at Aberdeen University.

BUTCHART D J (1973): He is living in Edinburgh and is still skiing.

CARGILL L W (Clark) (1988): Lynn and her husband Richard have been to Australia visiting relations. They live in Kircudbright.

CLARK G J M (1987): He is living in Glasgow working for a marketing company called Direct Distribution.

CLARK N F (1958): Uncle of Gavin above, he lives in Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.

CLAYTON G V F (1984): He married Jennifer Pallot on 13 May 1995 in St Saviour's, Jersey. The Piper in attendance was Capt. Mike Bullard (1984). He is a Trust Executive with Barclays International in St Helier. He is Captain of St Ouen's C C and plays for Jersey Island CC as well.

CORNISH G V (1986): Vivien is a Business Development Manager for Smith Madden Group (Interior Designs) in Hong Kong. She previously worked in New York. She has taken over from Rod Powrie as the Strathallian Club representative in Hong Kong.

CRAN M W H (1970): Congratulations to Mike and Cheryl on the birth of their daughter Sarah on 11 November 1994. They have moved from Edinburgh to near Winchester. Mike works for Rolex and Cheryl is in the Army.

CRANSTON D A (1964): He has retired as Brigadier from the Army, and has been appointed as Head of the Member Relations Division of the Personal Investment Authority. His role will be to monitor investment firms' activities and ensure high standards of ethical behaviour.

CRAWFORD I M (1980): He is the Proprietor of Crawford Education Development Associates in Bagshot.

CUMMING A H (1977): He has worked in Edinburgh, Aden and Kuwait over the years, and he is now a computer consultant and trainer in London. He has a son at Leeds University and a daughter in stable management.

DAVIDSON J J W (1962): He is alive and well, working in a hotel near Blairgowrie, where he has sometimes fed Peter Barker, his former Chemistry Master. John had a change of career and took a chef's course, which he says was the hardest work he has ever done in his life!

DEWAR P J (1986): He is club Manager of the Heritage Club in Bangkok.

DOBBIE M J (1983): He lives in Decatur, Georgia, and is an accountant for

New World Sales and Marketing Inc, the national advertising representative firm for New World Television.

FITCHIE M (1993): A report of his adventures with Raleigh International appears on page 82.



FLEMING W A (1988): Wendy was married on the 22nd June 1995. She is now working at the British Embassy in Jakarta, and would welcome Strathallian visitors.

FORD J R (1992): He has graduated with a 2.1 at Newcastle University.

FORSYTH A M (1984): Aileen married David Emery in the School Chapel on 15 July 1995.

FYFE F W (1984): He works for Dalgety Agriculture in Bristol.

GAULT D (1990): He is working for Cathay Pacific in Hong Kong.

GILLANDERS F G R (1974): has been promoted to Commander and is representing the RN at Supreme Allied Command (Atlantic) Warfare Division in Norfolk, Virginia. His family have accompanied him on his 2 1/2 year posting and his pipes are much in demand at social functions.

GOODY P T (1992): He is at Queen Margaret College studying Information Management. He has joined the Royal Naval Reserve. In Summer 1994 he took part in a Camp America scheme in Massachusetts.

GRANT P M (1962): He is Professor of Electrical Engineering at Edinburgh University.

GREEN A J (1987): He is working with BNFL and living in Fulwood, Preston with his wife Fenella. He is an Associate Member of the I.Mech.E. and is studying part-time for an Engineering Management Diploma.

GREEN E J (1991): Our best congratulations to Elspeth on gaining 1st

Class Honours in Engineering, Manufacture and Management at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, and on being awarded The Department of Mechanical Engineering Exceptional Achievement Prize for 1994/95. She has completed the Green 'hat-trick' of M.Eng. Hons Degrees at UMIST. She is now about to embark on her career as an Optimised Operations Engineer with 3M at Clitheroe. These successes are all the more praiseworthy because Elspeth has written to us telling us:

"I am especially pleased with these achievements as I was suffering Hodgkin's Disease, a lymphatic cancer, during my third year and the majority of my fourth year. This meant that I had to undergo eight months of chemotherapy and one month of radiotherapy and missed several weeks of lectures. Although this was a difficult experience it was also a positive one as I gained a lot of support from my family and friends, including old School friends, and I managed to lead a full and almost normal life. I am now healthy and in complete remission, the only visible change being a head of curly hair!"

Our best wishes go to her for her future career.

GREEN J P (1989): He is working for Nuclear Electric in the Waste and Decommissioning Division and he is living in Gloucester. He is still enjoying rugby, playing for a local team.

HALL I D (Mason) (1981): Irene and her husband have moved to Ripon. In spite of that she still works for Standard Life in Edinburgh as a new breed of 'teleworkers' from home, with a fortnightly visit to the office. They have two young children.

HANNAY D R (1965): He is living in Princeton, New Jersey.

HARRISON A A (1989): Abigail married in November 1994 and is now Mrs Jack. They live in Inverness. Her brother Rhett (1988) is working abroad.

KEECH J R N (1964): He is now back in the UK after many years living on the continent and in the USA. He works for New Holland, the agricultural equipment arm of the Fiat Group as director responsible for the Far East and Australasia.

LEWIS I: Still lives in Calgary. Following the take-over of Bow Valley Energy inc., he is employed as Senior Planner in the Planning and Commercial Department of Talisman Inc.

LOCKE A J H (1977): He visited Strathallan in 1994 on his first visit to Scotland from Canada since 1983. He enjoyed showing his two sons round the

School. He was just about to move to California on a job transfer.

LOCKE J M O C (1982): Jennifer is a dental hygienist living in Canada.

LOCKE J W (1971): He and his wife Rebecca are both doctors in Dundee.

LOCKE H L (1973): He is practising architecture in Naniamo, Canada.

MacDONALD W J R (1984): He lived in Australia for five years mainly playing rugby, and on returning home he ran a fitness centre and gave free-lance classes. He has been appointed Assistant Resort Management at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Macau. (Hong Kong fitness fanatics, please note!)

MacDONALD W M (1984): He has recently set up his own computer company in California.

MacKAY E P (1965): He has left Hong Kong and is living in Carnbo, Kinross-shire. He has just opened the Horizons Gallery in Perth.

MacKAY J D C (1966): He is living in Bonhill, Alexandria. As the first winner of the School Golf Championship over the Mudflats course, he was most interested to read an article in *The Sun* in June about Strathallan golfers Montgomerie and Guy.

MAGILL A W B (1976): He is a Financial Adviser with Moray Firth Financial Services Ltd in Elgin. He lives in Inverness.

MARSHALL L (1990): Laura has written her own play and has had it performed in Dublin and Dijon.

MAXWELL J (1990): He is studying for a PhD on Picasso and Gertrude Stein at the University of Kent, in Canterbury. He is a member of the Royal Marines Reserve and President of the University Fencing Club.

McCLUNG F R (1983): He married Julia Robinson in March 1995.

McCRACKEN P N (1990): Pauline did her A levels at Felsted and is now reading Geography at Liverpool University. She took a Gap year travelling round Southern Africa and then working as a sailing instructor in Greece for Sovereign Sailing. She still works for them every summer.

McINROY A S (1965): He is a Stockbroker with Allied Provincial Securities Ltd, Dundee.

MOWAT F J (1991): Fiona is living in Siena, Italy, working in the wine business and tourism. She would be most happy to help any Strathallians looking for a Gap experience or a holiday job in the grape or olive harvests. Her address will be found in the "Contacts Abroad" section. She would love to trace Katie Pattinson (1990) but sadly we have no address for her. Can anyone help?

NOBLET C J (McClung) (1985): Celia and her husband have moved to New York.

PATIDAR S (1980): He lives in Holzgerlingen, Germany and is an Export Engineer with Hewlett Packard.

PEACOCK J E (1962): He is Professor of the Hospitality and Tourism Division at Niagara College, Canada.

POWRIE G C R (1982): He was married in December 1994. He appeared in *The Happiest Days of Your Life* in Perth Theatre in April/May 1995.

POWRIE R A D (1974): He has moved from Hong Kong to New York but he is still working for Merrill Lynch. He would be very happy to contact other Strathallians living there.

REID D S (1979): He works with a firm of architects in Dunfermline. He is married with three children and lives in Edinburgh.

RICHARDS D A (1967): He lives in Woodbridge, Australia where he works for the Queensland State Public Service as a Senior Officer in the Registrar General's Office (Births, Marriages and Deaths). He is also a Marriage Celebrant in that office.

RIDDOCH G E (1990): Gillian is in her final year at Edinburgh University studying for her MEng. She spent nine months as an Erasmus Exchange Student at the ETH in Zurich.

ROBB D: (1947) Visited the School in September. Thoroughly enjoyed his school days even though he reckons he was the most caned boy at that time. He is a Computer Consultant and lives in Tampe, Florida.

SHAW J C (1949): Congratulations on his Knighthood awarded in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. He is a Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland and a leading member of the accountancy profession.

SKEA K (1983): Karen is a Director of Rockhopper Productions, a TV production company specialising in Education, Science and Technology programming for broadcast and video. Their most recent production was *Technology for Today* – an INSET programme for Channel Four Schools.

STROYAN M R C (1983): He is Managing Director of Fred Stroyan, New England Lobsters International Ltd in Smugglers Way, Wandsworth.

TORNOS J A (1992): He graduated from Newcastle University in July. Congratulations on his award of a 1st Class Honours degree in Chemistry and winning the Friere-Marreco Medal. He is moving to Nottingham University to study for a PhD in Organic Chemistry. He is appalled to find out that Ruthven has

Sky TV! His home address is in Llandudno.

TOSH A (1984): He has been in the Army since 1986 and has served all over the world. He works in the Close Protection (Bodyguard) section which is responsible for the personal security and protection of VIPs and their families. He has worked in Northern Ireland, East Africa, the Lebanon and North Africa. He has escaped death after being shot at several times. He married in August.

VAN BEUSEKOM (1989): He is a graduate of the University of Abertay in Business Studies. His course included 6-month attachments with Shell UK in Aberdeen and Hoechst Holland NV in Eindhoven. He is now working for the Clydesdale Bank in Dundee.

WALKER C W D (1986): He lives in Sheffield but he bicycles to work every day in Chesterfield (only 10 miles) where he is an expert in sorting out computer problems.

WALKER H M (1987): Hannah lives in Barcelona where she teaches English and publishes a magazine in Spanish and English for Spaniards learning English and British learning Spanish.

WALKER P J M (1989): He has bought a small narrow canal boat where he lives in Bristol docks. He works for a charity and paints Doc Marten boots to order! He managed an Edinburgh Festival Theatre on the Fringe last year.

WALKER R G (1978): He has moved from California to Nigeria where he is working for Chevron (UK) Ltd.

WATT G A (1978): He is living in Cliddesden, Hants.

WEBB B D (1991): He gained a 2:1 in Chemical Engineering at Edinburgh University and is now working at the Grangemouth Refinery for BP Oil.

WHITELAW D E (1984): He lives in Bath where he pursues a career in Vascular Surgery. Congratulations to him on his election as a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in December 1994.

WHITTON D (1941): A letter from Zululand is printed on page 79.

Angling Section

The Angling Section continues with small numbers and is looking for new recruits. It participated in two outings this year, the first at the Lake of Monteith, where they were just beaten by Phoenix, and then in late August to Lochindorb, where about a dozen people attended, with a good time being had by all. The Club Champion, Stuart Biggart, goes through to the Scottish National Prelims. Secretary: Alistair Biggart, co Erdman Lewis, 19 Blythswood Square, Glasgow 2 (Tel: 0141 307 6666).

Curling Section

Unfortunately, the Curling Section is now at, or just below, critical mass and is struggling hard to survive. The section can only continue with the help of new members to allow it to take off again. A reduced programme of fixtures has again been arranged this season by the

Secretary, Robin Turner, Roseland, 44 Irvine Road, Kilmaurs, Ayrshire, KA3 2RL (Tel: Home 01563 38288).

Golf Section

The Golf Section has enjoyed a good season. Players took part in the Wayfarers match at Elie where they drew with Glenalmond and beat the holders, the Merchistonians. In the Grafton Morris they very nearly qualified for the final stages, finishing 6th out of the 10 schools taking part. They also did very well by reaching the quarter finals of the Queen Elizabeth Coronation Trophy at Burgess where they were knocked out by Kelvinside on 23 and 24 September. Twenty three people turned up for the annual outing at Prestwick on 6 August and a game has been arranged to take place against the School at Panmure on 8 October. The section always likes to hear from new people that might be

interested in playing. Please contact the Secretary: Fergus Macmillan, 72 Falcon Avenue, Edinburgh, EH10 4AW (Tel: 0131 447 6326) for details.

Ski Section

Anyone interested in getting the Ski Section off the ground should contact Hamish Steedman, Woodlands, 6 High Buckstone, Fairmilehead, Edinburgh, EH10 6XS (Tel: 0131 445 5366). He will be in touch with all interested members next season with a suitable venue when (if?) the snow arrives

Scottish Wayfarers' Cub

Membership of this Club is open to all Strathallians without charge. The Club promotes sporting links with former pupils of Strathallan, Edinburgh Academy, Fettes, Glenalmond, Loretto and Merchiston.

Martin Fitchie (O.S. 1994) took part in a Raleigh International Expedition to Sabah, Malaysia from July to September 1994, and sent the following vivid report of his experience:

"With some initial help from a few friends including DJB, Mr Todd and Mr Glimm and with invaluable advice from Rod ("Always shake your boots out before you put them on") I got to Malaysia. I thought I had escaped all Strathallan's influence but later I was to meet the Rugby Tour at Heathrow and then receive a message from a Strathallian who was also in Borneo!

Within a week of leaving cold Scotland, our intrepid groups ventured out into the steamy jungle for amazing once-in-a-life-time experiences that none of us could have ever imagined. As we became aware of our surroundings we began to discover with whom and what we shared the jungle. A sudden scream usually meant that someone had become an acquaintance of an enormous spider or had become victim of their first leech! It soon became a way of life. Leeches turned from blood-sucking fiends to every-day pests and it was an enjoyable challenge to find methods of killing them. Screams changed to "It's only a spider." I categorised the ants into three classes: small ones (like in the UK), big ones and Super Arnold Schwarzenegger Ants (S.A.S. Ants, as they were fondly known, which came in at around 5cm). Beetles, birds and even the occasional elephant made sure

that we never had a "quiet night" by providing an intense racket of buzzing, humming, clicking, barking, squeaking

Our first task was to clear a path to the summit of the 4,330ft Raphalasias Hill – home of the largest flower in the world, the Raphalasias. After we cleared the summit a second group fitted a radio transmitter tower. This now allows the Danum Valley Field Center (the top rain forest research center in East Asia) essential communications with the 'outside world'.

Project 2 appealed to me most of all. Thirteen of us marked and cut a trail round Mt Numbutukong (5½ thousand feet) so that scientists and adventurous tourists could walk it and gain access to its natural properties, including a bat cave.

Surviving became a tough necessity. At around 2,500 feet the ground turned to leech city. I was lucky to only experience leeches on my ankles, toes, neck and between my fingers! Then the relatively easy going of the tall dry jungle gave way to treacherous interwoven roots and shrubbery of montane jungle. We were the first Westerners to reach the summit. On our days off we let the old women from the village show us how to play volleyball. Then we would teach the young children how to sing "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes" in the school that Raleigh had previously built.

The altitude of Mt Kinabalu (14½ thousand feet) left us 20-30 degrees C cooler than at sea level and presented our greatest challenge yet – to find a new route up to the unexplored NE face in order to relieve pressure from the main tourist route. Once again the undergrowth was intense and along with our bulky 25kg packs (12 pounds more with the radio) slowed us down to under 2km per day!

On day 4 we followed a wild boar trail down a ridge to 8,300ft. To reach the summit we needed to cross a gigantic and very steep valley with undergrowth worse than any we had already seen. Hidden in the undergrowth were 50ft crags and beyond that towered an intimidating view up the notorious Low's Gulley where the fateful army expedition took place.

Remaining food and water supplies left us with a dilemma -without a helicopter re-supply or knowledge of what was in that valley, it was too risky to continue. So we left the depths of the jungle and sailed out for our final project on the remote, peaceful island of Banggi. Here we constructed a water system to supply the local people with water in the dry season. We piped the water from a natural spring, some 3km in the jungle, to two concrete tanks near the village.

My memories are all disappearing into the past and I am now adapting to the urban jungle of Glasgow

OBITUARIES

BEVERIDGE J (1931): In January 1995, aged 81. He lived at Gairney Bridge Farm, Kinross.

BENNIE A J (1944): In 1944. He lived in Camberley where he was Managing Director of a Steel Stockholding Co. until his retirement. He leaves a wife, two daughters and a son.

BLACKLAWS Rev. F W (1947): In 1994. He lived in Banchory.

CAMPBELL Rev. K (1949): In March 1994. He was one of three brothers at Strathallan. After leaving School he went to Glasgow University, where he graduated first in Science and then in Divinity. He was minister at St Aidan's Parish Church, Broughty Ferry.

CLARK J M (1956): On 11 January 1995 after a brave and determined fight against cancer for 13 years. He managed the family haulage firm of M R Clark & Sons, Kirkgunzeon, and had his own business Corra Marine, which allowed him to work with what he loved most – boats. He started off at Strathallan building Cadets and went on from there. He had made many lifelong friends at Strathallan and was a loyal supporter of Club Dinners, at which he was enormous fun. He displayed a remarkable interest in his illness and he set up a fantastic relationship with his medical teams, undergoing great pain at times to help in the search for a cure for cancer. Sadly, he was only 55 at the time of his death, and we offer our deepest sympathy to his family – his widow Betty, his children Margaret, Gavin (1987) and Lynn (1988) and his brother Neil (1958).

COWIE A (1989): In October 1995. Sadly, Alex was killed in a motor-bike accident.

DOW J A (1935): On 2 February 1995. He had two elder brothers at Strathallan, and all had outstanding sporting careers. Alastair was a great supporter of the Strathallian Club and was President in 1951/52. He lived in Giffnock.

FENTON D J (1945): He lived in Broughty Ferry.

FORBES A G (1936): On 10 March 1995 in Jamaica, where he was visiting his son. He was born in Trinidad and was one of the early contingent of Trinidadians who came to Strathallan. He lived in Penn, Buckinghamshire.

GROSSET J S (1934): On 15 January 1995 at home in Leven. He was a solicitor. His son Alec (1962) is also a Strathallian.

LINDSAY D G (1925): In August 1994. He studied in Glasgow after leaving School, and then worked in Colombo, Ceylon. In 1936 he went to Australia and

he took up farming at Cucumgilliga, Cowra, New South Wales, where he remained until his death aged 86.

MacKAY Dr E V (1936): In January 1995. He was the third of three brothers at Strathallan. Vondé was School Captain for two years from 1934-36. He went to St John's College, Cambridge and he practised medicine in Suffolk.

MASON D L (1946): In December 1994. His late brother David was also at Strathallan. He lived in Heyshott, Midhurst, Surrey.

MEARNS D S (1936): In 1995. He died in London.

MacCALLUM D S (1956): In 1995. Captain of School, Captain of Rugby, Cricket XI, Pipe Band. He served in the R.M.M.E with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. In his many roles as a Scotsman, Army Officer, Sportsman and Doctor in Moss Side, Manchester, he was much loved and respected. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

McINROY G S (1923): On 4 January 1995. He was a pupil at Strathallan when it moved from Bridge of Allan to Forgandenny with Harry Riley. In his day, boys at Strathallan golfed at Gleneagles, where a new hotel was in the process of being built. He played county golf for Perthshire for many years after leaving School. He lived in Dundee for the last 48 years of his life. His son, Andrew, left Strathallan in 1965.

PHILP Dr T (1940): On 18 December 1994. He graduated in medicine at Edinburgh University and did his National Service in the RAMC. He was appointed a consultant at The Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh in 1956 and became Head of the Department of Radiology in 1986. Among other honours, he was awarded a WHO Fellowship in Japan in 1971. He was an inspiring teacher of aspiring radiologists.

ROBERTSON C J (1971): Suddenly in November 1995. Head of School, Dux, Captain of Skiing, Rugby colours. Read Natural Science at Magdalene College, Cambridge. He died in Aberdeen, leaving a wife and young family.

SINCLAIR E C (1929) : On 18 February 1995. He was born in Shanghai. He captained the School XV in 1928/9 and was also in the 1st XI in the same years. He last visited Strathallan for the Senior Strathallians lunch in 1992 and thereafter presented the School with the cricket ball with which he had taken ten wickets for eleven runs in a match against Auchterarder. The ball is on display in the Saloon. After leaving School he captained

Finchley Rugby Club and he played for Middlesex and the London Scottish. He served as Captain in the Staffordshire Yeomanry during the War, with the 8th Army in the desert, and landing in the D-Day landings. After continuous action for 28 days his tank was hit on the 29th, but the only casualty was his bottle of Scotch. He lived in Radlett and worked in the Insurance Industry after the War, finally retiring to Aberfeldy.

STEWART J F (1925): On 13 September 1993. He lived in Broughty Ferry.

THOMSON A S (1918): In May 1995. He left Strathallan before it moved from Bridge of Allan, though he came over with Mr Riley to view the new Freeland Estate. He was School Captain in 1917-18. He last visited the School with several members of his family as the Guest of Honour at the lunch for Senior Strathallians in 1992. Members of the School Choir along with the Chaplain took part in his funeral service at Aberdalgie Church on 31 May. The Club was represented by the President. He lived in Craigend, Perth. He came from a very well-known Perth family and was the oldest member of the Strathallian Club.

WALLACE W D R (1974): In 1995. He was from a well-known Fife farming family. He was an outstanding Rugby player, representing Howe of Fife and North Midlands. He died in Australia, to where he had emigrated some years ago.

YOUNG Dr J H (1921): On 25 August 1994. He lived in Frint.



**The School has no current address for the following
Old Strathallians. If you should be in contact with any of them and
they wish to be on the mailing list, please send an update or fax to:**

N T H Du Boulay, Strathallan School, Forgandenny, Perth, PH2 9EG.

Fax No: 01738 812549

G R Addison N 91
D W E Agnew F 61
M Agnew S 80
A J Ainslie F 66
G R Aitken N 68
F P Allan 48
C A Allardyce L 84
E G E Allison F 70
C B H Anderson F 66
H G Anderson R 78
I D S Anderson 49
J M Anderson N 57
K M Anderson N 43
G C H Archibald S 69
P J Arkless S 74
A M Arnot F 60
J C Atherton F 64
G S Austick N 87
G E Bailey S 69
C A Baillie F 80
K A Baird R 52
G W Balfour R 68
R A Balfour R 65
K D Ballantyne F 58
W Q Ballantyne F 82
I C Bamber R 89
J R Barcroft L 81
P le Page Barnett R 67
D R Barns-Graham S 70
M D Barns-Graham S 68
A B D Barr R 87
J G Barrack N 85
V A Barron N 63
C F Baur F 59
N R Baxter 47
R Baxter 47
H S Beano L 79
D Beath R 57
D Beattie N 61
S S Beattie N 66
A G Beaton S 66

R E Belcher R 76
L W Bell S 64
G I Bennet S 74
R E Benny R 62
A A Benton L 88
K B Bibi L 82
N B Bibi L 82
A J Biggart R 82
R S Bigham N 77
Miss H Billington W 84
S C Billington R 86
A A Bird S 75
A M Bisset F 80
S B Bisset F 81
J H S Black R 66
G R Blackley F 74
A J Blades F 84
W L Blanshard L 86
T J Blaxter R 76
F R Bowie S 81
J M Boxwell R 58
I T Brabbs S 78
S J Brabbs S 80
A I Braid 49
G S M Brand R 24
R J Brewster S 79
N P Brookes R 91
G S C Brown R 93
G I M Brown R 65
G R Brown N 80
I W L Brown S 63
J D A Brown R 64
K C Brown S 78
W N Brown 43
I R Browne R 65
J A Bruce R 62
H Bryson F 50
R D Buchanan S 74
W M S Buchanan S 58
G C Bull N 69
P J Bunting N 66

D W Burden 49
A J Burnett R 66
J M Burnett N 70
K M Burnett R 70
M A Caban L 82
W M Calderwood 42
C W Caldwell S 65
J B Callender R 79
A I G Campbell F51
D F Campbell 46
J Campbell 31
K D Campbell 39
C C D Carmichael N 74
T Carswell R 65
C G Carver S 67
K Casses S 71
P D S Caush L 83
P Chaimetha N 90
G A Chalmers N 72
I S Chalmers N 74
S R Chalmers S 56
B P Channell S 87
W Chapel N 58
C R D Chatwin R 79
C F Chicken 29
J M Christie N 54
I A Clark N 89
J B Clark S 44
J T M Clark S 48
M G Clark F 65
R F L Clark F 67
W M Clark S 79
J H Cleland 27
B A Climie N 47
D T Cochrane N 74
G K Cochrane L 76
D E Collier L 90
C M Coughbrough R 62
E J Coulter N 62
A E G Cousins S 60
J Coutts S 85

N Coutts S 84
 Miss C J Coyle W 83
 D N M Craik N 80
 K J Crawford F 77
 K M Crawford S 55
 B Crerar R 57
 C A Crone S 78
 M A Crooks L 82
 Miss C I Crowe W 83
 A J Cruikshank 19
 D Cullen S 52
 A H Cumming F 77
 Miss G M Currie W 84
 J Currie N 76
 S A Currie N 88
 A J Cuthill F 81
 J Cuthill F 77
 D Da Costa R 91
 L D Dalgleish S 73
 J L Dalgleish N 67
 B W Davidson S 85
 D W Davidson R 84
 E A Davidson R 56
 H J Davidson R 60
 P Davidson R 54
 A J Davies F 80
 D Dawes F 90
 M R A Devlin S 79
 D J Dewar F 75
 P J Deward S 86
 C H Dewhurst F 78
 A S Dickie F 58
 C I M Dixon L 80
 G Dobbie L 80
 A G Dodd F 65
 T J Dodd 39
 G C Donald 46
 J S Donald S 65
 N S Donaldson R 86
 J W Drummond S 34
 M Drummond S 84
 N J Drumond S 87
 W G Drybrough N 57
 D G Dryden S 84
 T G Duff N 60
 S Duncan S 90
 S J Duncan L 83
 J K Dunlop 40
 Dr J F Dyet F 59
 G Eadie L 79
 G E Eadie S 65

G R Eadie 65
 Miss A J Edmonds T 91
 R D Eglinton L 82
 M B Ellen L 82
 K D Evans N 78
 J R K Ewing L 89
 A J Fagg F 85
 Miss J D Fagg W 86
 C D Fairweather L 84
 G J Fairweather F 83
 G V Farmer N 69
 T R Fawcett F 66
 L W Fearn N 69
 T R Fellowes-Prynn R 80
 R C Fergie S 70
 G M Fergusson R 57
 N J B Fielding F 71
 A K Findlay N 45
 T M D Finlayson S 76
 J A Fisher F 67
 P W Fisher R 83
 J M S Fleming N 63
 D J Fletcher L 76
 A E Forbes F 81
 D Franklin S 64
 A G Fraser R 82
 D J Fraser S 92
 H G Fraser N 71
 I N Fraser 46
 Miss J Fraser W 85
 J S Fraser S 81
 N Fraser N 65
 B N Fyall S 84
 F W Fyfe S 84
 L S Gage L 90
 W M Gair
 W R Galbraith S 57
 H Galt N 60
 D F Garden R 62
 R W Garden R 63
 A W Gardner S 67
 A J Gask F 65
 M B Gee R 80
 P A S Gelzer R 76
 R J Gemmell F 65
 A I George R 63
 P R Gibb S 83
 R J Gibb R 88
 S R Gibb R 90
 Miss S J Fibley W 88
 C J Gibson S 80

C K Gibson F 72
 C H Filfillan L 73
 P D Gill F 85
 D M N Gillanders R 77
 Mrs C Gillespie W 86
 B L Gilmore F 62
 H W Gilmour 32
 J M Gilmour N 62
 M A Gilmour S 63
 M D Glass L 82
 J D Glen R 41
 R N Gloag R 60
 P T Goodall N 60
 B M Goodbourn S 81
 J N Goodbourn S 79
 M G Goodbourn S 81
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